

# WAM sails program to Ebeye

## GIFF JOHNSON

For the first time in its 15-year existence, Waan Aelon in Majel is launching a six-month canoe building and life-skills training program at Ebeye.

WAM Director Alson Kelen flew to Kwajalein last weekend to complete groundwork for launching the new program with 25 Ebeye young men and women. The training program is expected to start later this month with the support of National Training Council funding.

Kwajalein Senator and Iroij Mike Kabua is putting his weight behind the training, which is to be held on his property at South Loi, the island to the north of Ebeye.

"Iroij Mike has been part of WAM since the beginning," said Kelen. "He is keen to ensure the culture doesn't die and gets passed onto the younger generation."

To prepare the ground for the Ebeye training, WAM brought in two Marshallese men from Ebeye and two from Lae to train with WAM in Majuro. Manto Samuel, a master carver who has been building canoes for a long time, and Aaron Jeik will be the main trainers heading the Ebeye program, Kelen said.



Alson Kelen, left, is in Ebeye organizing the first WAM six-month canoe building training program on the island, similar to what it has run over the years in Majuro, right.



During the coming week, he expects to review applicants, interview potential trainees and select the 25 to participate. When the Ebeye training is completed late this year, WAM plans to turn its attention to Lae for its first outer islands-based canoe building training program.

Ebeye will benefit from the many years that WAM has been operating a six-month program that integrates carpentry skills, academic learning and life-skills development for the trainees. "It

will be a copy of what do in Majuro," he said. "It took us years to build up the Majuro program."

But Kelen sees the WAM effort at Ebeye as much more than a WAM-run program. He is working on a coordinated effort to bring several NGOs to the table to coordinate programs this summer.

"We plan to partner with NGO programs on Ebeye," he said. "We're working with the Single State Agency, Youth to Youth in Health, Women United Together Marshall Islands, the Wellness

Center and others. "If we work as a team, we can accomplish our goals," he said.

"We're all dealing with different youth groups but working for the same goal," Kelen said of the various NGOs. "Working together we can have fun, and promote culture, health, pride and self-esteem. What a package.

"If we don't do this, it is rice and corned beef every day," he said in reference to the status quo way of thinking. "But we're the 'garlic and green beans team.' We come

in and add to the mix, making it tastier and healthier."

WAM has already received an enthusiastic response from many agencies, including MEC, which is helping to ship WAM materials to Ebeye, the US Embassy and USAKA, Ebeye Hospital, Bank of Marshall Islands and others. Kelen noted that Youth to Youth in Health is running an art training course on Ebeye, also funded by NTC, that aims to train about 20 young people. "This is a big opportunity for Ebeye," he said.



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS  
**MARSHALL ISLANDS  
MARINE RESOURCES AUTHORITY**

P.O. Box 860, Majuro, MH 96966  
Phone: (692) 625-8262/5632 Fax: (692) 625-5447  
Email: mimra@ntamar.net • Website: <http://www.mimra.com>

## KOJJELA NAN ARMIJ

Kojjela in ej non kenaanik public ikkijien an MIMRA lemnak in wonmaanlok im komman jet oktak non kakien eo im nae etan "Sea Cucumber Regulations" ko an yio in 2012.

Bedbed wot iion im ekkar non Section 120 in Title 51 MIRC 1, MIMRA eo elon an maron in komman kakien ikkijien kejarok im lali menin jerammon ko adwoj ilo malo in Majol.

Ilo tukadru in, wun leplep in kakien in ej non komman juon kakien kaal im kameejlok wewein kab kilen aini ak ebbok, im wia kaki non elikin Majol, jibenben ko jen ebelakin Republic in an Marshall Islands in. Jabdrewot eo ewor an itok limo in lale im etale copy in kakien in kenono kake ej ruwainene in kebaaklok office ko an Chief Secretary eo ilo Majuro im iion Ebeye im bareinwot office eo an MIMRA ijoko im copy kein rej available non public.

Naan in kakkobaba im ko eierlok remaron in itok ilo jeje im address non Director eo an MIMRA ilo awa in jermal ko jen Mandre non Bolaidre ren jab rumijlok jen 5 awa elkin raele in 4 June 2012.



## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Public is hereby notified that the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA), established under the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Act (51 MIRC 1), is intending to introduce a new regulation entitled "Sea Cucumber Regulations of 2012".

Pursuant to section 120 of the 51 MIRC 1, MIMRA has the authority to promulgate Regulation for the purposes of conservation, management and sustainable development of fish in the Fishery Waters.

Generally, the purpose of the proposed Regulations is to prescribe terms and condition for the harvest and collections, and sales and exportation of sea cucumber species collected from within the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Copies of the proposed Regulation are available for reading at the offices of the Chief Secretary in Majuro, Representative Office in Ebeye, and at MIMRA.

Comments on the proposed Regulation may be submitted in writing, addressing it to Director of MIMRA during working hours. Comments must be received by no later than 5 p.m. on 4 June 2012.