Luuk Magazine

2nd Quarter

Volume 3

palau pacific resort
like no other island dream!

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The Luuk Nature Center display panels of high biological diversity from ridge to reef. The Tropical Rainforest Tour, Pristine Snorkeling Tour, Botanical Garden Tour are offered everyday. Activities such as weaving, soap making, jewelry workshop are also offered as well. The fish pond contain turtles, fish, corals, giant clams and sea cucumbers. Guests are invited to visit.

Earth Day 2026

The Luuk Nature Center with partners conducted a Reef Restoration with coral planting and clam planting activities. The location was in Ngerkebesang Marine Protected Area in front of Palau Pacific Resort. The corals planted were heat tolerant species of acropora branching corals. The corals were tied to reef stars and placed in areas without corals. This proactive activity is in

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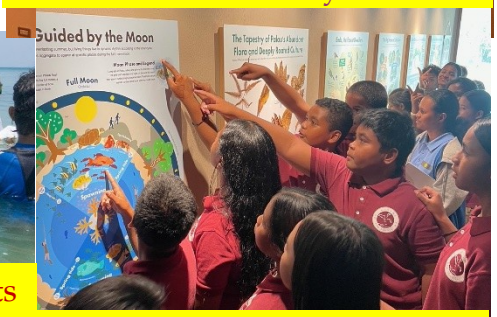
preparation for the projected warm water during the anticipated El Nino event which could cause coral bleaching. Fifty pieces of Bear claw clams were planted in the Clam Nursery on the east side of the pier. These activities are part of the Earth Day 2026, but were postponed to June 6, 2026, due to the presence of Portuguese man`-o-war in the water of Palau Pacific Resort. This activity was a collaboration with the youth group of Ngerkebesang community, Palau Earth Day committee members such as Palau International Coral Reef Center, Environmental Quality Protection Board, Palau Conservation Society including students from Meyuns Elementary School. Another partner agency was the Asian Development Bank that pilots the Coral Nursery project here at PPR.

Briefing inside the Pacific Room before coral and clam planting

Lecture about corals by PICRC

Ngerkebesang community members tying corals to reef stars

PICRC researcher teach students on how to tie corals on reef star



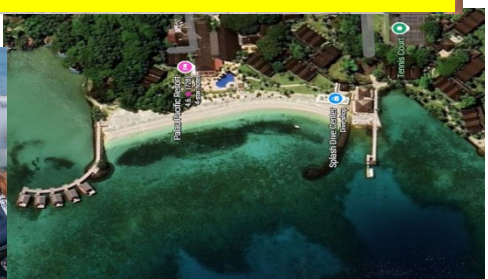
5th Grade students from Meyuns Elementary School visit the Luuk Nature Center

Students learning about coral

Justin Van Klaveren giving instructions of how to spot Crown of thorn starfish

Student participation

PPR guests participation



Aerial photo of Ngerkebesang Conservation Area

Let's Learn About the Coconut Tree!

Fun fact about coconut palm #2: Coconuts are NOT nuts! They are actually classified botanically as a DRUPE. Meaning, they are part of the stone-fruit family because a hard shell encloses the seeds. Other stone-fruits include peaches, cherries, nectarines and plums!

In this Volume, we will talk about another use for coconuts, which is culinary uses. Coconuts are widely used in food preparation and cooking. Most popular is the coconut water which is often enjoyed as a refreshing and hydrating beverage.

Coconut meat can also be eaten raw, roasted, shredded and used in desserts or eaten as a snack. It can also be shredded/grounded and squeezed to get coconut milk or the milk is cooked to make coconut oil and these can be used as ingredients for various cuisines in the world.

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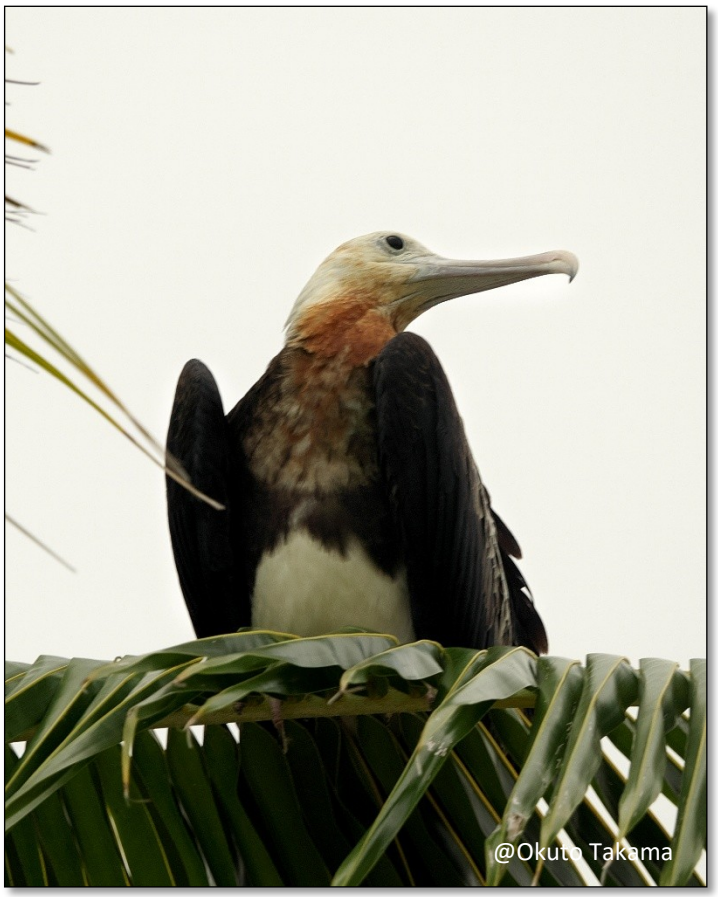
Rare Visitor On a Coconut Tree



As Carlos Sufix was watching the swimming pool and the beach, he noticed two big birds fly to the top of two coconut trees. He wondered what kind of birds they were? A guest in the swimming pool with his 3 kids named Chad Mariur, said to Carlos "they look like Frigatebirds". He was right. Carlos called the Luuk Nature Center and we checked it out. They were both right. The photo on the left is one of them by Okuto Takama, a Marine Biologist from Luuk Nature Center.

This bird is not often found in the main Palau islands. They are found only on the atoll islands of Helen Reef and Kayangel. We were lucky they visited the Palau Pacific Resort. A rare visitor. It is called the Lesser Frigatebird.

If you are interested in Bird Watching, please visit Luuk Nature Center and inquire.

Partners' Corner

PPR Underwater Video Series

The Stream Ocean, a partner with the Coral Nursery project by Asian Development Bank has started developing short underwater videos of the Coral Nursery at Palau Pacific Resort. The underwater videos are short film lasting shortly under 1 minute showing fish and partial part of the coral nursery. These short videos will be shared weekly on Palau Pacific Resort`s Instagram page. The social media page is Palau Pacific Resort on Facebook and Instagram.

Birding at Ngermalk Conservation Park

Every first Saturday of each month, from 6am to 7am, the Natural History Section of the Belau National Museum conducts birding activity at the Ngermalk Conservation Park. The Luuk Nature Center of Palau Pacific Resort invite guests to join this activity. Flyers are posted on the Public Bulletin Board next to the resort lobby for interested guests. Sign up sheets can be found by inquiry at the Front Desk. Drinking water, transportation and a guide picks up guests at the lobby for this birding activity. Proceeds are donated to Belau National Museum for the printing production of the State of Palau Birds 2025. Please visit the Luuk Nature Center for further details.

Rescued White Tailed Tropic Bird

This White tailed Tropic Bird was found floating in the water by a guest of the resort. The guest was able to capture it and brought it to the Luuk Nature Center. The staff were able to feed it take care of it for a week. It was discovered that its left wing was not working properly. After 5 days of eating well and exercise by trying to fly, it finally flew away. It is a good successful story of animal rescue and return back to the wild.

This bird is important to Palauan culture. The long tail feathers are used to decorate the hair of a woman during a hot bath ceremony after its first baby.