



American Samoa's 2017-2018 Territorial Teacher of the Year, Rosalee Tela Shoulders (far left) of Nu'uuli VocTech High School, is pictured here with Sal Khan (second from left), founder of Khan Academy of California, along with three other Teachers of the Year from other states. This photo was provided by Shoulders and was taken early last month (January) at the National Teacher of the Year conference in Palto Alto, California.

[courtesy photo]

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samoa news

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2018

\$1.00

Senate wants more office expense money for legislators — temporarily

SAYS THEY ARE WORKING AT HOME AFTER FONO BUILDING DEMOLISHED

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

To help cover costs of renting temporary office space until the proposed new Fono building is completed, the Senate — through a non-binding resolution — is requesting to the governor for a “temporary office stipend” of \$500 a month for each legislator.

Introduced on Wednesday, the resolution noted current law that provides office expense funding for each lawmaker. However, the resolution contends that “it is not sufficient to cover expenses of renting a separate office space and cover all expenses relating to or resulting from the discharging of their office duties.”

The law states that the Senate President and the House Speaker each receive \$40,000 per annum as an office expense fund; while each lawmaker — including the Swains Island delegate — get \$30,000 a year. And while the office expense fund is non-taxable, a lawmaker can elect to claim this for tax purposes.

According to the resolution, when the old Fono building was demolished last October, their offices were also taken down and lawmakers were instructed to move their legislative offices to their homes.

Most lawmakers live in the traditional Samoan lifestyle in communal homes where they have various extended family members live with them, the measure says, adding that due to the communal nature of Samoan life, lawmakers do not have a separate room in their homes to house their legislative office.

(Continued on page 7)

Latest misconduct allegation at Juvie Detention taken seriously, says Commish

LE'I TALKS ONE-ON-ONE WITH SAMOA NEWS REPORTER

by Ausage Fausia
Samoa News Reporter

Police Commissioner Le'i Sonny Thompson told Samoa News that DPS is treating the alleged misconduct case involving a male DPS officer assigned to the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) seriously, and he will do everything in his power to make sure the person or persons involved face prosecution.

“This is not a case that we're taking lightly, no, it's a serious case and it included a serious life threat,” said Le'i during a one-on-one interview with Samoa News at his office yesterday morning.

The incident happened around October of last year, when a male police officer at the JDC allegedly allowed a male detainee to leave the JDC in the middle of the night. The detainee is a 17-year-old male, who was also one of the key witnesses in a previous matter that was filed in District Court on April 2017, where four DPS officers assigned to JDC in Tafuna have been charged with various crimes.

Samoa News was unable to obtain a comment from the Commissioner earlier this week when he was asked about this case. Yesterday morning, the Commissioner was available for an interview after he was briefed on the matter and he

commented about the case and the ongoing investigation.

Le'i confirmed to Samoa News that the mother of the detainee came to his office to see him last month, instead he instructed her to go and see his Deputy Commissioner Falana'ipupu Taase Sagapolutele.

“Everything pertaining to investigations has to go to the Deputy Commissioner's office, they are the ones who prepare the investigation and make the final report that is forwarded to my office for my review,” said Le'i.

The police commish said that he had not been informed about the details of the case at the JDC. “All I was told was that, there is an investigation, in regards to alleged misconduct at the JDC. I was never briefed about the details of the case. After hearing a lot of information about this case this morning (yesterday morning), it seems to me that DPS will not take this case lightly, it's a serious allegation which involves serious death threats that we need to look into very quickly.”

Le'i mentioned to Samoa News the name of the male police officer who is in the center of all the allegations at the JDC.

“CID (Criminal Investigating Division) is working on the case right now. I was told that their investigation is still continuing, and they

(Continued on page 11)



Students at Marist St. Francis Elementary School in Lepua shown in this group photo on Wednesday as they cheer for the camera, for Catholic Education Week in American Samoa. The week started on Monday, with speakers talking to students at all Catholics schools on island and included other events as part of the celebration.

[courtesy photo]





[l-r] Fatima Langkilde, Michael Leau, and Lucia Bartley were speakers on Wednesday at Marist St. Francis Elementary School in Lepua as part of the school's Catholic Education Week event, which is for all Catholic schools on island. [courtesy photo]

Laser was not fired from Leone, says ASDHS director

HAWAIIAN SAYS LASER HAD "NO EFFECT" ON ITS COCKPIT CREW OR THE FLIGHT..."

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

The local Homeland Security Department (ASDHS) is conducting an investigation into the laser incident, which occurred the evening of Jan. 19 while a Hawaiian Airlines aircraft was heading for landing at Pago Pago International Airport.

Hawaiian spokesperson, Ann Botticelli told Samoa News early last week that the flight's pilot reported that a bright green laser was pointed at the aircraft about 9:38 local time from the village of Leone. (See Samoa News edition Jan. 26 for details.)

This incident, which has angered many in the community, was raised by Sen. Levu Solaita during a Senate Public Safety/Homeland Security Committee hearing on Wednesday. He wanted to know from local officials about this matter.

ASDHS director Samana Semo Ve'ave'a said his department had received a report from the captain of the Hawaiian flight and it was then presented to his "agents for an investigation."

Samana said the laser was fired from Leone — around the area of the bridge in Leone. He said twice now his agents have been to the area, the bridge, during the night time when Hawaiian comes in for landing and ASDHS believes that the bridge was not where the laser was fired from.

He says the agents observed the flight path used by the plane heading to the airport and that there is no way that a laser could be fired from that direction of the bridge.

Samana says the agents are now looking at another area — around Malaeloa — as the possible site of the laser incident, adding that the Leone bridge

area is too far out from the flight path of the plane.

He said ASDHS agents continue to investigate from where exactly the laser was fired.

Sen. Levu said this matter "is not a game" as it's very serious, adding that the culprit(s) should be found.

Responding to recent Samoa News inquiries, Hawaiian local station manager Tuli Fruean provided early this week new updates, saying that the laser incident had "no effect" on the cockpit crew or the flight, "other than it (laser) was focused directly at the flight deck and the aircraft," which was carrying 230 passengers and 12 crew members.

Airport manager, Tavita Fuimaono told Samoa News early last week that an airport safety officer was notified of the laser incident around 10:27p.m. on Jan. 19 by Fruean and this was about 30 minutes after the plane's arrival.

Asked as to why it took 30 minutes before the Airport Division was notified of the incident, Fruean explained that upon plane's arrival, "it took us close to 17 minutes to deplane our guests" — or passengers — and this includes all wheelchair passengers as well.

As he proceeded to board the aircraft, he said he was approached by the flight's captain, who "advised me of the incident [and] our conversation took some time as I gathered more information as to the location and times."

Fruean points out, "I contacted the Airport Safety Officer immediately after our conversation and passed this information along right away."

FAA had already confirmed the laser incident and has referred the matter to local airport officials for a report.

Trump falsely claims most-watched State of Union

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump says the ratings for his first State of the Union address this week are "the highest number in history," but that is not true.

Nielsen reports that about 45.6 million tuned in to watch Trump Tuesday night. That's below viewership for President Barack Obama's first State of the Union, which was about 48 million, and Trump's own joint

address to Congress last year.

It also trails the 46.8 million viewers who tuned into President Bill Clinton's first State of the Union speech, and the 51.7 million who watched President George W. Bush's 2002 address.

Trump falsely argued last year that his inauguration was the most well-attended one ever.



**American Samoa Government
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT**

INVITATION FOR BIDS IFB-010-2018

Issuance Date: February 2, 2018

Closing Date: February 13, 2018

No later than 2:00p.m. (local time)

1. INVITATION

Sealed bids are invited from qualified firms to provide "Utulei, Su'igaula and Faga'alu Park Shoreline Protection" for the Office of Parks and Recreation.

2. RECEIPT & OPENING OF BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by the Chief Procurement Officer, American Samoa Government, Tafuna, American Samoa 96799, until 2:00 p.m. (local time), **Friday, February 13, 2018** at which time and place the sealed bids will be publicly opened and read.

3. MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING

A **MANDATORY** Pre-Bid Meeting for all contractors will be held on February 9, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Procurement-Conference Room. Bids will not be accepted from bidders who are not present at the pre-bid meeting.

4. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

Electronic copies of contract documents, including Plans and Scope of Work can be examined or obtained from the Office of Procurement during regular business hours free of charge.

5. The American Samoa Government reserves the right not to accept the lowest or any bid.

6. The American Samoa Government reserves the right to waive any informality in bidding as may be in the best interest of American Samoa Government.

DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON
Chief Procurement Officer

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COURT REPORT...

by *Ausage Fausia*
Samoa News Reporter

MELCHOR ALAMIS

The government is going forward with their case against Melchor Alamis even without what could have been one of their strongest pieces of evidence — the results of a DNA test. Investigators recently discovered that the sample for the DNA test that was sent over to the LBJ Lab for testing has been destroyed.

When asked about their next move, prosecutor Christy Dunn stated that the jury trial will continue to move forward, and the government will present other physical evidence to support its case.

The case was continued from last month after the court granted the government's motion for a two-week continuance, so that they could finalize their investigation — particularly the results from the DNA test.

Dunn told the court that when police officers went to LBJ last week to follow up on their investigation, that's when they were informed that the samples had been destroyed.

Acting Associate Chief Justice Elvis P. Patea acknowledged the government's statement about what happened and noted that "one piece of evidence is less for the government, but I'm assured that there is other evidence in order for the government to move forward with this trial." Dunn responded, "Yes Your Honor."

Deputy Public Defender Michael White asked the court for a two-week continuance, to give him more time to look at all the evidence in the case and to see what motions he needs to file before the trial begins. Patea granted the defense's motion and continued the case to Feb. 15 at 8:30 a.m.

Alamis is charged with sexual abuse in the first degree, a class D felony; and endangering the welfare of a child, a class A misdemeanor.

The government alleges that around June 2017, the defendant sexually abused a 12-year-old girl by touching her in a sexual manner while she was sleeping.

Alamis has been in custody since his arrest, unable to post a \$10,000 surety bond.

AUSTIN FANENE

"You need to finish school and graduate this year because if you're not going to graduate, you're in violation of your 12-month probation, and you will be sent to jail for up to 12 months. Make sure you abide with all the conditions of your probation including the curfew the court has imposed, obey your parents and don't you ever mess up with the law again" — this was the warning from District Court Judge Fiti Sunia to a 18-year-old student from Samoana High School, who was convicted of stealing items from the Pago Pago Coleman Elementary School in April of last year.

Austin Fanene, who is a senior at Samoana was initially charged with one count of felony stealing, and he appeared in front of Sunia on Wednesday afternoon for his preliminary hearing. However, prosecutor, Robert Morris informed the court that the government is looking at amending the charge against Fanene, from a felony stealing to misdemeanor stealing.

Morris explained to the court that based on the information the government received, all the items that were stolen by the defendant were returned to the school. This was confirmed by the defendant's attorney, Assistant Public Defender Ryan Anderson.

Furthermore, Morris informed the court that they also reached an agreement with the defendant, where he agreed to the single misdemeanor stealing count, under the recommendation that he will be sentenced to a 12-month probation without any jail term.

When asked about their agreement with the government, Fanene, who appeared in court in his school uniform told the court interpreter he did not understand what the Judge had said to him.

"Do you understand the terms of your agreement with the government," Sunia asked the defendant, and the defendant

responded in Samoan, "I don't understand your question."

Sunia shook his head and looked at the defendant's attorney and asked, "Where is your translator?" Anderson responded that his translator is busy with other work.

After a brief recess, the defense attorney was able to communicate with his client again, with the help of the clerk interpreter, so that Fanene was able to understand what was going on in his case.

When he was questioned again by Sunia, Fanene told the court that he understands the terms of the agreement with the government, and he wished to enter a guilty plea to the stealing charge.

Sunia accepted Fanene's admission and sentenced him to a 12-month probation with special conditions, including a curfew. He has to be inside his parent's house from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. and he is ordered to pay a fine of \$100.

FORMER WESTERN UNION EMPLOYEES WAIVE RIGHT TO A PX

Two former Western Union employees, who are charged with stealing and embezzlement, waived their right to a preliminary examination (PX) and their case is now bound over to the High Court for arraignment.

Both Lagavale Julia Sasa and Judy Leilua Tautalaga entered not guilty pleas to the charges against them. Sasa and Tautalaga have each been charged with two counts of embezzlement and two counts of stealing. Both defendants are represented by attorneys from the Public Defenders Office. Their next court appearance is scheduled for March 2018.

The two former employees have been charged with stealing thousands of dollars from two Asian customers. Sasa is accused of stealing a total of \$10,000, while Tautalaga is accused of stealing a total of \$14,000.

Sasa has been released from jail after she posted her \$15,000 bond, while Tautalaga is still in jail unable to post her \$35,000 bond.

Van carrying gas tanks plows into pedestrians in Shanghai

SHANGHAI (AP) — A minivan plowed into pedestrians on a sidewalk in downtown Shanghai on Friday, sending 18 people to hospitals.

Three people suffered serious injuries when the van veered onto a sidewalk and burst into flames around 9 a.m.

near People's Park in the heart of the Chinese financial hub, the city government said on its social media account. The cause is under investigation.

Local media reported the vehicle was carrying six people and several tanks of gas when it swerved off the road.

Videos on social media showed people lying unconscious on the pavement next to a Starbucks cafe and firefighters trying to extinguish a blaze inside the van.

The crash comes as British Prime Minister Theresa May is scheduled to speak in Shanghai.

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BEACH ADVISORY



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AS-EPA

Release Date: January 31, 2017

Contact: AS-EPA Water Program at (684) 633-2304

The American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency (AS-EPA) advises the public that on January 30, 2017, the following recreational beaches tested positive for Enterococci bacteria levels that exceed American Samoa Water Quality Standards:

- Asili
- Nuuuli Pala Lagoon
- Nuuuli Pala Spring
- Nuuuli Coconut Point
- Avau
- Fatumafuti
- Fagaalu
- Gataivai
- Fagasa-Fagalea
- Afono
- Vatia

- Aua Stream Mouth
- Aua-A&M
- Laulii Stream Mouth
- Alega Beach
- Alega Stream Mouth
- Auto
- Fagaitua
- Masefau
- Aoa
- Auasi Harbor
- Onoea

AS-EPA beach advisories inform the public about current water conditions. When a beach advisory is issued, it is because water samples indicate that the American Samoa Water Quality Standard for Enterococci has been exceeded. This advisory is in effect until further sampling and laboratory analyses indicate that Enterococci concentrations are within acceptable water quality standards.

The presence of Enterococci in the water indicates contamination by human and/or animal wastes. Swimming in water with high levels of Enterococci may cause stomach problems, skin rashes, and ear, eye, and wound infections. To reduce your risk: avoid swallowing beach water, be sure to rinse or towel off after a swim, and shower once at home. If you are ill, or think you may be ill, AS-EPA advises that you consult a physician before making any water contact in the beaches cited above.

Note: AS-EPA monitors the water quality of 44 recreational beaches on Tutuila, the wharf in Aunu'u, and five beaches on Manu'a. Tutuila advisories are issued weekly on Wednesdays. Aunu'u and Manu'a advisories are issued monthly. Advisories are issued when bacteria concentrations exceed levels determined safe for human exposure. Should you have any questions, please contact the AS-EPA Water Program at 633-2304.

CIA defends meeting with Russian spy officials

WASHINGTON (AP) — CIA Director Mike Pompeo said Thursday there was nothing “untoward” about his meeting with top Russian spy chiefs, saying that even though Moscow remains an adversary, ignoring chances to cooperate on security issues would endanger American lives.

Pompeo sent a letter on Thursday to Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, who had raised questions about the meeting. Schumer said it was suspicious because it came just days before the Trump administration decided not to issue new sanctions at this time against Russian politicians and oligarchs over Russian interference in the election.

Pompeo told Schumer that U.S. intelligence officials meet periodically with their Russian counterparts to discuss various topics, including counterterrorism, aviation security and preventing foreign fighters from returning to both nations.

Pompeo did not identify the Russians he met with in Washington last week, but two U.S. officials identified them as Sergei Naryshkin, head of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service, and Alexander Bortnikov, who directs the top KGB successor agency known as the Federal Security Service. The officials were not authorized to disclose the information and spoke on condition of anonymity. The two Russian intelligence officials were sanctioned in 2014 in response to Russian aggression in eastern Ukraine — Naryshkin by the U.S. and Bortnikov by the European Union.

Schumer said sanctions against Naryshkin impose severe financial penalties and prohibit his entry into the U.S. without a waiver.

In his letter, Pompeo said the meetings with the Russians were not without discord.

“When those meetings take place, you and the American people should rest assured that we cover very difficult subjects in which American and Russian interests do not align,” Pompeo wrote.

“Neither side is bashful about raising concerns relating to our intelligence relationships and the interests of our respective nations. We vigorously defend America in these encounters and pull no punches — we never will.”

The CIA said any interactions with foreign intelligence officials would have been conducted in accordance with U.S. law and in consultation with appropriate departments and agencies. Government agencies at times need to secure waivers to get certain individuals into the country, according to a U.S. official, who agreed to discuss the process only on condition of anonymity. The official said law enforcement agencies, for instance, might need a waiver to allow a witness in an arms trafficking case to travel to the United States. Other U.S. agencies might need to speak with officials from an enemy nation.

Still, Schumer wants to know why the visit was allowed, who approved it, which other Russian officials were in the delegation and whether they also are under sanctions. Schumer wrote his own letter on Thursday to National Intelligence Director Dan Coats, calling on him to disclose what was discussed at the meetings and whether the Russians also met with Trump administration officials at the White House, State or Defense departments or the National Security Council.

“Did the U.S. officials who met with Mr. Naryshkin raise Russia’s interference in the 2016 elections? If not, why was this not raised? If raised, what was his response?” Schumer asked.



This undated photo provided by the Sword family, shows the late former Miss South Pacific, Juliette Caroline Sword, who passed away on Jan. 28, 2017 in Hawai’i. She will be laid to rest in Hawai’i.

[photo: Sword family]

“Julie” Sword, the first Miss South Pacific, remembered

Taulapapa William Sword has confirmed the passing of his wife, Juliette Caroline Sword, the first Miss South Pacific (1987), who was Miss American Samoa at the time.

Her final church service will be at the Mililani Mortuary Makai Chapel on the island of Oahu in Hawai’i, and is set for 9:30a.m. Feb 11, according to Taulapapa in an email from Honolulu this week.

The following is an obituary prepared for her funeral service and shared with Samoa News by Taulapapa:

Juliette Caroline Sword passed away at her home in Mililani, Hawai’i at 7 p.m. Sunday night, January 28, surrounded by family and friends.

She had been fighting pancreatic cancer since she was diagnosed in October 2016. After having a tumor removed with the “whipple” procedure, she went through chemotherapy and radiation — to no avail.

Juliette was only 56 years old, born Oct. 27, 1961, and was born and raised in Gataivai, American Samoa. Her life was full of achievements and constructive efforts. She started her working life at Spencers store in Pago Pago and then attended a business school in Hawai’i.

She was a trained flight attendant for Samoa Air. Juliette Spencer won the inaugural Miss South Pacific — now the Miss Pacific pageant — title in 1987. When she was crowned Miss South Pacific, which touted the sarong and a sand runway, she was humble in her achievement and proceeded to represent the Samoas and the Pacific in many events.

Juliette then became a member of the Miss South Pacific Board in Samoa, and established

MASI (Miss American Samoa, Inc.) to recruit, prepare and counsel young ladies for the Miss South Pacific Pageants. She did this for 10 years and mentored many young ladies, three of whom became Miss South Pacific.

She became the model for many young ladies and gave much back to society in later years by being involved in pageants, ladies paddling groups, aerobics events and other charitable events.

Later she was a registered aerobics instructor, physical education instructor for the ASCC, physical education teacher for South Pacific Academy and later a registered Samoan interpreter in Hawai’i. Juliette has been written about in several publications about young ladies in American Samoa.

In November of 2017, during her illness, she travelled to Paris (visiting the Louvre, had lunch on the Eiffel tower, toured Notre Dame Cathedral and had dinner on the Seine), Rome (tour and lunch in the Vatican, St. Peters Basilica, and the Coliseum) and Tuscany, visiting Florence, Sienna, Pisa and Venice (enjoyed a gondola ride with a singing tenor accompanied by an accordion player) — her dream trip.

She is survived by her husband of 29 years Taulapapa William Sword, and her proudest achievement was raising sons Will J, John, and Spencer.

She is the daughter of Sia and Denver Spencer (deceased) and was raised by her grandparents Tuugaelagi and Tauamo Tarrant (deceased). She leaves behind many friends, relatives and colleagues in American Samoa, Samoa, and Hawai’i.



House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi of California talks with Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York before the State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)



Bill providing drug testing for govt employees tabled for more review & debate

QUESTION ABOUT "ELECTED OFFICIALS" TESTING: DOES THAT MEAN SENATORS & FAIPULE?

by Ausage Fausia
Samoa News Reporter

The Senate Public Safety committee has tabled for more review and debate a bill authorizing the government to test its own employees — including 'elected officials' — for alcohol and drugs. The question of whether or not senators and faipule are to be tested too — being included as 'elected officials' — is part of the ongoing debate.

Testifying on the bill last week were the director of the Department of Human Resources Eseneiaso Liu and Deputy Director Kenneth Kuaea, along with Senate Counsel Mitzie Jessop-Taase.

After the hearing that lasted for 40 minutes, members of the committee supported a motion raised by the committee chairman, Sen. Faamausili Mau Jr, calling for more discussion and debate on the bill before making a final decision. Faamausili told senators that there should be more hearings on this particular bill because there are certain issues that need to be addressed before the bill is passed.

The Senate bill was introduced last year August and was sponsored by Sens. Paepae Iosefa Fai'ai and Nuanuaolefegaiga Saoluaga T. Nua. (See Aug. 22, 2017 story for details.)

According to the Senate bill, the proposed law would allow ASG, including semi-autonomous agencies, to provide for appropriate and uniform alcohol and drug testing procedures for all government employees, applicants for ASG employment, elected officials, political appointees, contractors, and subcontractors.

An elected official is defined in the bill as any person who is elected to office for either ASG or any political office in the territory. A political appointee means any person appointed to a position, with or without compensation with either ASG, or any semi-autonomous authority.

It is the definition of an 'elected' official in the bill that prompted questions from Sen. Tualo M. Fruen and Sen. Magalei Logovi'i, among others, during Monday's hearing.

Both senators asked witnesses to clarify whether or not drug testing of elected officials includes senators and faipule.

The DHR director replied that based on the bill, senators and faipule are not considered "elected officials", because they are appointed by each district.

Magalei responded that senators are selected by traditional leaders of their respective counties, and faipule are elected by their constituents.

The senator further asked

if the bill is constitutional, to which the DHR deputy director pointed out that many states have drug testing laws when it comes to government employees, because of the belief that a job in government is "not a right" but a "privilege".

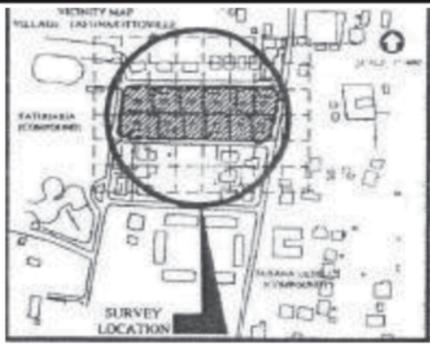
Kuaea said the privilege to work in government comes with certain requirements, and this is probably the belief of the senators who sponsored the bill, as well as the Senate legal counsel, who looked into the language of the proposed law and drafted the bill.

Magalei asked what happens if the employee refuses to be tested? Kuaea said if a person refuses the test, then the privilege to work in government is

(Continued on page 10)



DHR Director, Eseneiaso Liu (middle) with her deputy, Kenneth Kuaea (left) and the Senate Counsel, Mitzie Jessop-Taase during the Senate Public Safety committee hearing last week on a Senate bill for alcohol and drug testing of ASG leaders and employees. [photo by AF]



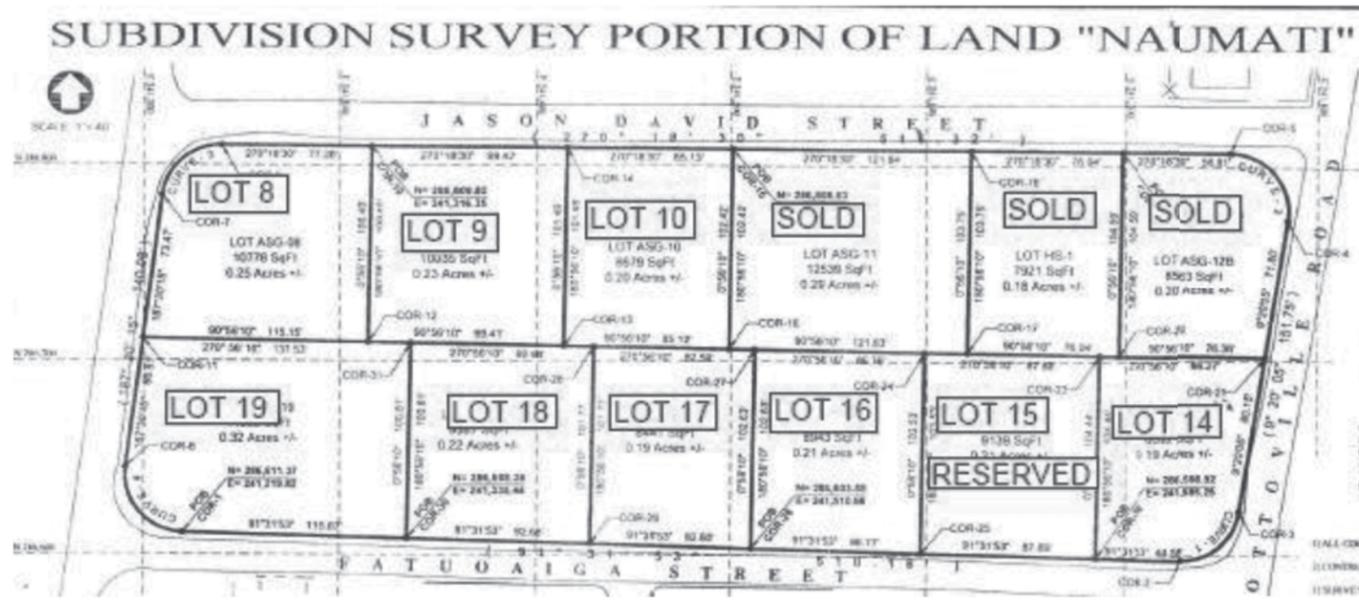
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Congresswoman Amata with Captain Lefaoeseu.

[courtesy photo]

Amata congratulates Captain Afu Lefaoeseu at Change of Command Ceremony

Washington, D.C. — Last Saturday, Congresswoman Aumua Amata was pleased to give remarks at the Change of Command Ceremony transferring command of the "Hitmen" Company of the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment, 442nd Infantry Regiment, to Captain Afu Lefaoeseu III. He is from Pago Pago, and is another of our own making American Samoa proud.

"Congratulations to Captain Afu Lefaoeseu as he takes command of this company, and continues the tremendous heritage of the famous 442nd Infantry," said Aumua Amata.

"It was a real pleasure to be there, and say a few words. Captain Lefaoeseu is one of our own. He'll continue to make us proud, and we're proud of everyone from our islands that chooses this honorable profession," she said.

Under the leadership of Lieutenant Colonel Matthew L. Cloud, on January 27, 2018, the Change of Command from Captain Vancamp J. Popese to Captain Lefaoeseu was held at Fort Shafter Flats Parade Field, Honolulu, Hawai'i.

Captain Lefaoeseu and the "Hitmen" company is part of a great tradition.

In the entire history of the U.S. military, the 442nd Infantry Regiment, known for its motto "Go for Broke," became the most decorated American unit for its size and length of service in World War II. At the time, the U.S. regiment comprised Japanese

(Continued on page 11)



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Senate...

Continued from page 1

It claims that “legislators have done their best to carve out space in their homes to conduct legislative business, and it’s a difficult task.” Furthermore, the traditional Samoan home “is not conducive to conducting legislative business.”

The measure, sponsored by Sens. Tuaolo Manaia Fruean, Nuanuaolefeagaiga Saoluaga Nua, Fa’amausili Mau Mau Jr., and Magalei Logovi’i, was the subject of a Senate committee hearing yesterday.

Except for Magalei, who chaired the committee hearing, the other three sponsors of the resolution were witnesses, with Tuaolo first noting that legislators’ offices at home have resulted in no privacy for lawmakers, who have constituents visiting them at home.

Tuaolo cited the Governor’s Special Program as funding for the stipend, which he says will only be in utilized by lawmakers until the new Fono building is opened. He also said that the stipend could help defray expenses — such as electricity — for lawmakers who use their homes as offices for legislative business.

Nuanuaolefeagagia pointed out that the Senate President and House Speaker currently have offices at the two-story building on the Fono compound, but not senators. Without offices, he said he has observed senators waiting in their vehicles for a long time prior to the start of the Senate’s work-day agenda.

According to the Manu’a senator, there are many office spaces around the town area, closer to the Fono compound that can be used by senators as temporary offices, making them more accessible, especially to off island visitors looking for a specific legislator.

For example, he said a US Army Corps official was on island recently and came looking for

him, and not only did he have no office but no phone number for the official to make contact.

Nuanuaolefeagagia says money is not important — but for the health and safety of senators — they need offices to carry out their legislative duties.

Fa’amausili made a motion, which was not approved by the committee, to hike the stipend from \$500 to \$800, saying that not only is the cost of electricity to be considered with offices at home, but lawmakers also serve food to their constituents who visit them.

Sen. Fonoti Tafa’aifa Aufata said this matter should have been discussed and addressed prior to the old Fono building being demolished.

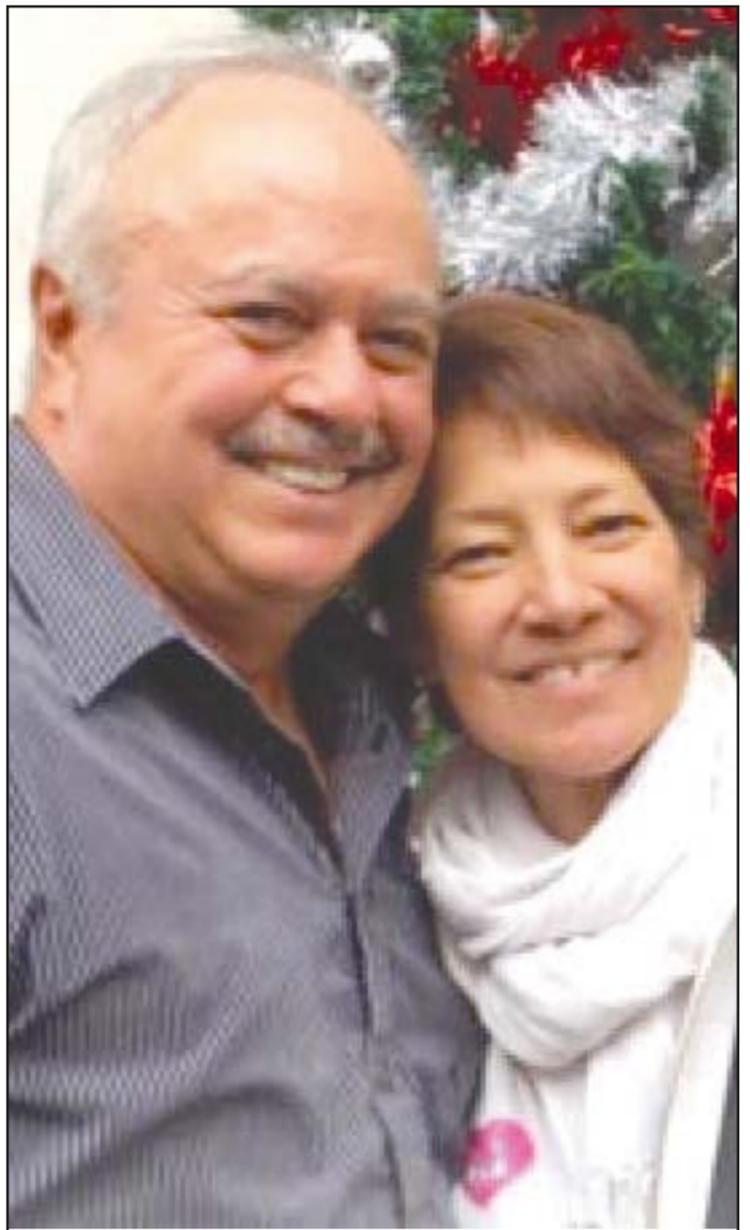
At the end of yesterday’s hearing, the committee agreed to amend the resolution to a Senate Concurrent Resolution, with the measure including the House of Representatives as well as their review and endorsement of the measure, which is expected to be presented soon to the Senate floor for a final vote.

BACKGROUND

Annually, the Senate President and the House Speaker each receive a \$30,000 a year salary, while each lawmaker gets \$25,000 annually — except for the Swains Island delegate, whose salary is \$20,000, according to local law. These salaries are subject to taxes.

Optional to taxation are the office expenses of the lawmakers as noted with \$40,000 a year for Fono leadership, and \$30,000 to the rest. Currently, for leadership that’s around \$3334.00 per month, and \$2,500 for the others.

With the office stipend the lawmakers are now asking the governor to grant, that’s another \$6,000 per year/ at \$500 per month — nontaxable.



This 2017 Sword family photo posted on social media, shows the late Mrs. Juliette Caroline Sword (right) with her husband of 29 years, Taulapapa William Sword. [photo: Sword family]



Fish Salads

includes your choice of Italian or Ranch dressing



**In The High Court
of American Samoa
TRIAL DIVISION**

HCPR NO. 55-17

In the Matter of the Estate of

HELENA LIUFAU,
Decedent

ELENA LIUFAU AND MA'AM LIUFAU,
Petitioners

**AMENDED NOTICE OF
HEARING ON PETITION
FOR LETTERS OF
ADMINISTRATION**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a petition for letters of administration has been filed in the High Court of American Samoa, Territory of American Samoa by ELENA LIUFAU and MA'AM LIUFAU to serve as co-administrators for the Estate of Helena Liufau (Deceased) who died on November 6, 2016.

A hearing on the petition will be held on March 12, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. before the Trial Division of the High Court of American Samoa at the Courthouse in Fagatogo, American Samoa.

All interested parties may appear before the Court on said date to respond to this petition.

Dated: February 01, 2018

CLERK OF COURTS

Published: 02/02, 02/09 & 02/16/18



Destiny being interviewed by a Sports Illustrated reporter.

[photo: AFI Review]



**AMERICAN SAMOA
POWER AUTHORITY**

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American Samoa 96799
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Email: humanresource@aspower.com
Website: www.aspower.com

PUBLIC JOB POSTING

Position Title	HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC	Posting Date	February 2, 2018
Department	Equipment	Deadline	February 15, 2018, 4:00 p.m.
Division	Support Services	Pay Rate	\$8.89/hr - \$9.25/hr
Position Type	Career Service (12 months probation)	Job Grade/Status	D/6/A - D/7/A, Non-Exempt
Reports To	Heavy Equipment Supervisor		

Major Duties & Responsibilities

A Heavy Equipment Mechanic performs skilled tasks in the mechanical repair and maintenance of heavy trucks, earth moving, and related construction equipment, gasoline and diesel powered tractors, garbage trucks, dump trucks, and dozers. A Heavy Equipment Mechanic is primarily responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of heavy equipment. The incumbent will be required to repair any heavy equipment that might break down, fix/adjust hydraulic pumps and safety valves, inspect repairs, and adjust diesel power units, hydraulic systems, injection valves and systems, and mold boards. He/she must also inspect, adjust, and repair gasoline/diesel machinery, vehicles, or equipment as well as any hydraulic/cable operated attachments. This position will repair and maintain trenching machines and set proper grade. This position is also required to perform incidental welding operations on equipment; install, replace, or adjust filters, belts, or similar objects to maintain equipment; and make skillful, controlled manipulations of small objects to repair equipment. He/she must also communicate any unsafe conditions or accidents/injuries in a timely manner to the supervisor in order to facilitate prompt correction or reporting, must demonstrate continuous effort to improve operations, decrease turnaround times, streamline work processes, and work cooperatively and jointly to provide quality seamless customer service.

Minimum Requirements

Education	High school diploma or equivalent.
Experience	Must have five (5) years of experience in heavy equipment maintenance and repair. Welding knowledge or experience is a plus. Must also be able to successfully operate or use heavy equipment.
Knowledge, Skills & Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be knowledgeable in heavy equipment maintenance and repair, hydraulics, the construction and operation of internal combustion and diesel engines. • Must have knowledge of the tools and equipment used in the diagnosis, overhaul, repair and adjustment of heavy equipment. • Must have knowledge of auto electronics and on-board computers and how to access them for diagnosing problems. • Must be able to remain in a standing position for extended periods of time. • Must be capable of lifting arms above shoulder level to install and remove transmission components as well as bend or stoop repeatedly over time to check air pressure on tires. • Must be capable of manipulating tools in areas of limited spaces. • Must be able to move heavy objects, fifty pounds or more, across long distances. • Must be able to work safely without presenting a direct threat to self or others. • Must be knowledgeable of the hazards of the job and is trained in safety precautions of the trade. • Must have skills in the care and use of hand and power tools employed in all phases of heavy equipment mechanical maintenance and repair work. • Must have skills to use automotive servicing equipment such as A/C recycler, hydraulic jack, or emission analyzer. • Must be able to diagnose defects in heavy duty equipment. • Must be able to understand and carry out oral and written instructions in the English or Samoan language. • Must have ability to complete forms to record or report information in standard format as specified by the form and observe or monitor objects to determine compliance with prescribed operating or safety standards. • Must be able to read, understand and apply information from charts, graphs, and manuals.

Qualified applicants: Please submit a completed ASPA Employment Application with a copy of your resume to ASPA Human Resources (address listed above) by the deadline. Please attach copies of credentials and transcripts. Candidates selected for hire must pass examination (when applicable), pre-employment clearances & test negative on pre-employment drug test. ASPA reserves the right to waive education and experience requirements as necessary.

*An Equal Opportunity Employer * A Drug Free Workplace*



**AM SAMOAN HOPING A
SUPER BOWL RING IS HIS
"DESTINY"**

Destiny Vaeao was impossible to miss at the Super Bowl 52 Opening Night as he wandered down from a stage at the Xcel Energy Arena to the floor hosting many of the 5,800 media, credentialed for this season's NFL season showpiece.

The Philadelphia Eagles had just been introduced to the throng of reporters and an excited fan audience as their first exposure to the excitement that is media week. For the next hour, they would be peppered with questions ranging from the benign to the ridiculous. Earlier that evening, Sunday's opponents the New England Patriots had undergone similar inquisition.

"It's been a great experience so far," said the American Samoan, who had spent the first few minutes of the event broadcasting live via Facebook from his smartphone, while towering over most attendees. "Minneapolis has been great with their hospitality and everyone here has been good to us."

The Eagles had arrived the previous day and settled into a team hotel unusually close to the hub of Super Bowl activity, the Media Center.

This year, the Patriots are located at one end of the Mall of America, which is hosting those charged with informing the world about anything and everything that happens during the build-up to 52, while the Eagles reside across the way.

Usually teams are housed in relative obscurity, but Minnesota has featured several

changes, including the hustle and bustle of Radio Row, where stations report to listeners 24/7, being in the middle of the mall with complete viewing access for the general public.

If Vaeao was as excited as the fans who mill around the Media Center, growing in numbers with every day that passes, he wasn't showing it.

"It means a lot to the players and the organization and the fans to be here in the Super Bowl," he said nonchalantly. "We just need to do what we do to win. We'll play football and try to win this for the city of Philadelphia."

The defensive tackle is part of a statistical anomaly, with 34 American Samoans having played in the NFL, which is an impressive number considering their homeland has a population of only 55,000 and a 77 square-mile land mass.

"I think we were built for the game and we love the game of football," he explained. "Coming to play in the NFL is a great opportunity and is great for our families and the people back home. We can help the family out back home by playing in the NFL. It's something that you grew up watching and you wanted to be a part of. Football is that way you can be successful."

Naturally, those back home in the U.S. territory will be pulling for their compatriot on Sunday, just as they do every week, with the time difference creating the luxury of a 12.30pm local time kickoff.

"I know people in Samoa are going to watch," said Vaeao. "I appreciate their love and sup-

(Continued on page 11)



JULIE ANN SORENSEN

June 25, 1974 - February 4, 2008



Ten years have passed since you returned back to God. And while our hearts broke with your sudden passing, we still feel your spirit around us and take comfort in knowing that death is not the end, for love goes on. Since then our family has grown and brought some peace from your physical absence. We have no doubt you are proud of your children and the beautiful men and women they have become, and the precious grandchildren you now have. Our bond that grew between each of us will go on for always and we cannot wait to see you again.



We miss and love you always, Julie.



Parents: Stan Sorensen & Taula'ituli Grabe
 Aunty: Alofa
 Siblings: Kurt, Heidi & D, Aseli & Daniel
 Nieces & Nephews: Kyla, Payten, Maheyla; Noa, and Penelope
 Children: Darwin & Anita, Ace & Fou, Stan, and Alicia
 Grandchildren: Alexander & Julieanne



"For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." - Corinthians 4:17-18



Girl in Slender Man stabbing gets maximum mental commitment

WAUKESHA, Wis. (AP) — A Wisconsin girl who stabbed a classmate to curry favor with the fictional horror character Slender Man will be committed to a mental hospital for 40 years, a judge ordered Thursday, explaining his decision as “an issue of community protection.”

Judge Michael Bohren granted the maximum penalty that prosecutors had sought and discounted Morgan Geyser’s youth — she was just 12 — at the time of the attack in 2014.

“What we can’t forget is this was an attempted murder,” Bohren said. Earlier, he heard from four doctors who talked about how Geyser is making progress with her mental illness, to various degrees. But Bohren called the teenager “a fragile person” whose long history suffering from delusions make her a risk to hurt herself and others.

Geyser, now 15, spoke briefly before she was sentenced, breaking down in tears as she apologized to the girl she stabbed, Payton Leutner.

“I just want to let Bella and her family know that I’m sorry,” she said, using a nickname for Leutner. “And I hope she’s doing well.”

Geyser and another girl, Anissa Weier, admitted that they lured Leutner into some woods near a suburban Milwaukee park. Geyser stabbed Leutner 19 times while Weier urged her on, according to investigators. They left Leutner for dead but she crawled out of the woods and got help from a passing bicyclist. All three girls were 12 at the time.

“Really judge, it’s a miracle that Peyton is still with us, that she survived this,” said prosecutor Ted Szczupakiewicz.

Geyser and Weier said they carried out the attack to appease Slender Man, a fictional online horror character who they said they feared would otherwise harm them and their families. Slender Man is often typified by spidery limbs and a blank white face.

Weier was sentenced to 25 years in a mental hospital in December. She pleaded guilty in August to being a party to attempted second-degree intentional homicide, but she claimed she wasn’t responsible for her actions because she was mentally ill. In September, a jury agreed.

Molested gymnasts blast coach who sent them to see doctor

CHARLOTTE, Mich. (AP) — The young athletes who confronted Larry Nassar about molesting them at an elite Michigan gymnastics club saved some of their harshest words for a person who was not in the courtroom: an Olympic coach who for years sent teenage girls to see the now-disgraced doctor.

John Geddert operated the Twistars club, where Nassar offered treatments on Monday nights. His victims complained that the coach created an ultra-competitive atmosphere, was indifferent to injuries and rarely

offered gymnasts any choice to see a different doctor.

“Coaching by fear, intimidation and shame and explicit favoritism was the norm,” recalled Annie Labrie. She said it was “no surprise” that Nassar was able to continue his practices as long as he did. “We were conditioned for years to obey at all costs.” Nassar was in court Wednesday for his third and final sentencing hearing, this time for the abuse that happened at Twistars. The nearly 30 victims who gave statements included women familiar with

the club’s environment. One also alleged that Geddert was aware in the late 1990s that Nassar had performed an “inappropriate procedure” on her when she was 16. The victim said she told her mother in 1998 that Nassar had sexually assaulted her during an appointment at the Michigan State University sports medicine clinic. Her mother talked to Geddert, and the two agreed that Nassar would not treat her daughter in private appointments again, according to the accuser, whose anonymous statement.

Bill...

Continued from page 5

taken away. The senator said he is not against the bill because it’s a good bill, but his only concern is the fact that Senators didn’t seek a job in the government, nor do they apply for a job. “It (becoming a Senator) is by the choices made by their constituents,” Magalei stated.

Sen. Tuala M. Fruean echoed Magalei’s statements and advised government witnesses that they must be careful in this type of legislation.

He said that the bill is too broad and there are changes that need to be made in the bill before the Fono passes it.

“What happens if I refuse to

take the test, what is going to happen to me?” asked Tuala.

The DHR director replied that his privilege to hold the job would be taken away.

“What happens if a governor tests positive right after he is elected by the voters, are you telling me that we are going to elect another new governor?”

There was no response from the witness table.

Tuala said he believes that the test must be done before the person becomes a government employee and he advised tabling the bill for more research.

Liu reiterated, “My understanding about the bill, sena-

tors and faipule are not considered elected officials, as they are selected by each district, so they must be excluded from the drug test.” Sen. Muagututia M. Tauoa smiled after Liu’s response and told the witness that the bill is a good bill and he supports drug testing also for senators and representatives.

“I don’t think senators and representatives should be excluded from the drug test.

“If we believe that we are leaders of the country, we must lead by examples. Allow us to have drug tests and then we will see who is doing what,” said Muagututia.

The American Samoa Council on **ARTS, CULTURE, & HUMANITIES** is proud to present the

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Performing Arts Festival

APRIL 11 - 13, 2018

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ART WORKS.
 arts.gov

This project is supported in part by an award from the **NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS**

► Pacific...

Continued from page 8

port throughout the season.”

(Source: AFI Review)

SAMOA'S ICONIC BUSES LOOK SET TO GO

The iconic colorful Samoan wooden buses may soon be but a memory to many travelers and visitors following a tragic accident last weekend, which took three lives.

The Chief Executive of the Land Transport Authority, Leasi John Galuvao, told the Samoa Observer that he believes it is time the buses were phased out. The government introduced measures in 2000 to phase out the buses with locally manufactured cabins built on truck chassis. But due to the high cost of imported buses and existing used vehicles not meeting a 12-year 'age' criteria set by government, the local buses were accepted but under more stringent safety standards.

(Source: RNZI)

WOMAN DEFRAUDS EMPLOYERS OF THOUSANDS

A young Queensland mother has pleaded guilty to stealing hundreds of thousands of dollars from two employers and splashing the cash on a luxurious and extravagant lifestyle including flights to her overseas wedding for her family. Christine Tupu, 26, siphoned more than \$341,000 from her employers Electrolux and Toll, by telling people the bank account details for payment had changed and giving them her and her husband's personal account details.

The cash is now long gone — spent on hotels, cruises, furniture and international flights to Samoa for 31 of her friends and relatives.

She also created fake invoices and helped herself to a microwave, vacuum cleaners, fridges and air conditioners, which she had delivered to her in-laws' residence but never paid for. Her lawyer claimed she had an "addiction to gambling" but the judge slammed her actions as "pure greed".

Tupu was yesterday sentenced to five years and six months in jail but could be paroled as early as March next year. In court she was surrounded by a large group of family and friends, some of whom had flown in from overseas to support Tupu.

Her husband Hekeai Piutau has been cleared of any involvement in the sophisticated scamming.

Outside Court, Mr Piutau told reporters "what's done is done". He said, "There's nothing we can change about it, the decision's been made."

(Source: 9NewsSydney & Samoa Observer)

SAMOA CANOE INVITED TO A NZ WAKA EVENT

The Samoa Voyaging Society is in New Zealand to promote a part of their culture that is at risk of dying.

The New Zealand festival will be opened by a work called 'A Waka Odyssey', which celebrates Maori and Pacific navi-

gation from ancestors to the voyagers of today.

President of the Samoa Voyaging Society Schannel van Dijken said the canoe or va'atele called Gaulofa is a floating classroom that educates people on the country's history. Mr. van Dijken said when Samoan people learn of how the ancestors worked at sea, it brings a sense of pride in their culture.

"Our ancestors already learnt all these lessons and knew how to live in a sustainable way and have proper stewardship over the resources that they have and we're losing that now in this day and age," he said. "We're here not only to revive our dying ancient practices of the skills of wayfinding and navigating by the stars, but also the way our ancestors lived. "It's about being wise caretakers and stewards of the environment, living within our means, like our ancestors did," he said. Samoa is the only Pacific nation, and one of five canoes traveling to Wellington for the three-week festival.

"The waka enables us to teach others about our culture and how carrying it around can inspire people to help financially because it does cost a lot of finance to operate this waka.

"A lot of them have visited the waka and all you see are smiling faces," he said.

The waka related events in the New Zealand festival will run from the 23 February to 4 March.

(Source: RNZI)

PM TUILAEPA EMBROILED IN CYBER SPACE WAR

A war of words between Prime Minister Tuilaepa Dr. Sa'ilele Malielegaoi and two of his biggest online critics has broken out in cyber space.

The heated exchange follows Tuilaepa's decision to attack Lawyer and Government critic, Maua Faleauto, and self-proclaimed "private investigative blogger", Dennis A. Smith, during an interview with the government-owned Savali Newspaper, later released to the media.

Both Maua and Mr. Smith are not backing down, firing back at Prime Minister Tuilaepa with their own accusations. They say he is not someone to be trusted with the administration of the country.

The Prime Minister was asked about people who constantly criticize every decision the government makes when Maua Faleauto's name popped up. Tuilaepa said Maua is a member of his extended Fatialofa family.

"I knew his grandparents well and also his father Leifi Faleauto," Tuilaepa is quoted as saying. Tuilaepa said he discussed Maua's behavior with his brother.

"I did but after I heard something about Maua being a loose cannon, I understood immediately," Tuilaepa said.

Which is a pity, he said, given that "he is a qualified lawyer."

(Source: Samoa Observer)

► Latest...

Continued from page 1

need to interview more witnesses about what allegedly happen. Once the investigation is complete, then a report will be filed to my office and I will get a chance to look at the report and review it," said Le'i.

"I just want to let the public know that once the investigation is complete, I will make the final call. Everyone involved in this alleged case will be prosecuted and will be brought to justice according to the law. Whether you're a police officer or a citizen of this country, you will face consequences for your

actions. These types of actions will not be tolerated, and I again assure the public that DPS will get to the bottom of this case as soon as possible."

Samoa News understands that the police officer has been transferred from the JDC to the TCF.

Sources told Samoa News that the detainee in this case will be turning 18 years old today, and he will be released from JDC today. Because he is one of the key witnesses in the matter that was filed in District Court in April 2017, his family told Samoa News that they have received threats, including death threats from members of the community, including

family members of the four police officers who are charged in the first case.

The detainee's mother told Samoa News with tears in her eyes that she is so concerned about the safety of her son, especially since he's being released from JDC this week. She said that she doesn't want to see anything worse happen to her son, all she wants is for the government and the police to protect her son while the case of the four police officers is still pending in court.

The family consulted a private attorney this week about this case, and right now they are waiting for his release from JDC.

► Amata...

Continued from page 6

Americans, and they were involved in heavy fighting in 1944 in Europe. In all, out of 18,000 soldiers, the regiment earned 9,486 Purple Hearts, 21 Medals of Honor and seven presidential unit citations. Since World War II, they've continued serving admirably. "Speaking to soldiers and attending military events like this are among the most meaningful moments I experience as a Member of Congress — because of what

their service means to this great country," continued Congresswoman Amata. "To each of you serving, we're thinking of you all, and we deeply appreciate what you're doing for all of us," she concluded. Amara's father, the late former Governor Tali Peter T. Coleman served in the 100th Battalion 442nd Infantry and she was especially delighted to take part in the Change of Command Ceremony.



**AMERICAN SAMOA
POWER AUTHORITY**

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Website: www.aspower.com

PUBLIC JOB POSTING

Position Title	AUTO MECHANIC I	Posting Date	February 2, 2018
Department	Auto Shop	Deadline	February 15, 2018, 4:00 p.m.
Division	Facilities, Security & Maintenance	Pay Rate	\$7.28 - \$7.58/hr
Position Type	Career Service (12 month probation)	Job Grade/Status	D/1/A-D/2/A, Non-Exempt
Reports To	Auto Shop Supervisor		

Major Duties & Responsibilities

Perform skilled maintenance and repair work on all vehicles, light and heavy equipment fleets; disassemble and assemble engines and hydraulic units; perform minor or major overhaul and repair work re: mechanical components, electrical system, brakes, fuel system, clutch, cooling system, air conditioning, differential, transmission, etc; provide call-out/emergency repair services as required; assist in ensuring adequate inventory of high-usage parts and supplies; assist in ensuring maintenance and repair work is cost effective and efficient; perform other tasks as assigned.

Minimum Requirements

Education	HS Diploma with Certification in Automotive Mechanics — trade & technology required; AS degree in Automotive Technology with Certification preferred
Experience	Five years (5) work experience in automotive field. Experience and skills in safely operating a heavy duty lathe machine would be an added advantage. Computer skills in ProDemand Automotive Repair online program is also a plus.

Knowledge, Skills & Abilities

Must be knowledgeable of:

- vehicle painting procedures and protocols
- hydraulics and in using diagnostic scanning tools for troubleshooting and identifying vehicle electronic problems
- tools and equipment used in the diagnosis, overhaul, repair and adjustment of vehicle, light and heavy equipment
- auto-electronics, on-board computers, and how to access them for diagnosing problems hazards and safety precautions involved with the work

Must have skills:

- in automotive body repair and repainting work
- in diagnosis of vehicle, light and heavy problems
- to lubricate and service equipment as per maintenance schedule
- to fabricate parts and panel where safe and acceptable options are available
- to perform welding work where required
- in the use of automotive mechanical and electronic tools (air/power) and equipment

Must have ability to:

- work rotating shifts, weekends and holidays when required
- read and understand technical manuals, reports and instructions including schematic drawings and diagrams
- establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work
- read and follow manuals and standardized procedures in service and maintenance of vehicles/equipment
- be a team player and willing to offer assistance on critical matters and issues pertaining to the Auto Shop
- ensure safe working practices at all times
- assist in maintaining appropriate records
- be proactive and responsible
- perform housekeeping duties in keeping workshop clean and tidy

Qualified applicants: Please submit a completed ASPA Employment Application with a copy of your resume to ASPA Human Resources (address listed above) by the deadline. Please attach copies of credentials and transcripts. Candidates selected for hire must pass examination (when applicable), pre-employment clearances & test negative on pre-employment drug test. ASPA reserves the right to waive education and experience requirements as necessary.

An Equal Opportunity Employer * A Drug Free Workplace



“But silently on the roadside I stand. No one sees me, no one waves, no one remembers me for the road I made. Slowly, I walk back to the warmth of my wife and family. When is it to me my day?”

Happy Birthday Dad.... We miss you dearly.....



FA'AFETAI TELE

Fa'afetai Tele Lava mo lo outou Amaalofa ma le Agalelei, aemaise Talosaga mo le Tama ia ETI SA'AGA.

- HTC Faiivae Alex & Ilaisa Godinet and Family
- Rev. Ruperake & Malia Petaia and Family
- Rev. Lotu & Ane Uele and Family
- Pastor Don & Hope Kruse and Family
- The late Faleomavaega Eni Hunkin and Staff
- The late Aleki & Fa'aletino Sene and Family
- The late Kava & Seipata and Family
- Dr. Aloiamoa & Marilyn Anesi
- Dr. Oreta & Clarence Crichton
- Cathie Haleck Pa'ala & Family:
- Tradewinds Hotel Management and Staff
- Alex & Flo Sene and Family
- Barney Sene and Family
- Iupeli & Ta'I Kava and Family
- Taitu'uga Malo & Faletua and Family
- Vila & Epenesa A'etonu and Family
- Carl & Neitini Sene and Family
- Dennis & Tina and Family
- Esther & Tevita Prescott and Family
- Monica Miller and Family
- Phillip & Aloma Langford and Family
- Akenese Ilalio and Family
- Sepp & Terri Steffany and Family
- Debbie Suhren and Family
- Arona & Suli Gabriel and Family
- Jesse & Potoa'e Yandall and Family
- Okesene Ale and Family
- Niusulu Ale and Family
- Tapual'i & Fuatino Tupua and Family
- Kelly and Liki Reed and Family
- Pa'I & Janet Su'a and Family
- Toko & Sema Sipeli'I and Family
- Joanne Kimoto & Tali Iakopo and Family
- Tomasi & Tasi Grey and Family
- Fa'afuti Maggie Craddick and Family
- Leua Aiono Frost and Family
- Corabelle Langford and Kids
- Sally Ili Umaga
- Mark Aumua (Tofaga Malu Funeral Sevices) and Staff
- Tala Papali'I Michaels (GM Funeral Director Woolsey Mortuary Services)
- LBJ Personnel and Staff.
- Baha'I Faith
- Tuai and Case Mua and Staff (All Star Signs and Graphics)
- Chico, Ulale, Feti, Doug, Isaako, Tapu, Victor, the late Harry Miller (Dad's Band of Friends)
- KSBS FM 92.1 Radio Station
- 93 KHJ/V103 FM Radio Station
- Samoa News Management and Staff
- Darlene & KS Mart Catering
- Afioga Matiu Lemalie & Family.
- The Hunkin Family: US, Hawaii, Samoa, A. Samoa, NZ, Australia.
- Savea Sano & Jean Malifa (Samoa Observer) and Family
- Albert Wendt and Family
- Uelese Petaia and Family
- Lance Polu and Family
- Taito & Maxine Philip and Family
- Ale Vena & Mo'o and Family
- Jeffrey & Maria Hunter and Family
- David & Sonja Hunter and Family
- Lauulu Seu & Fusipala Taefu and Family
- Seine & Tusipa and Family
- The Fa'alogo Family
- Asela Simeona and Family
- Talamua Newswire
- Talanei Newswire
- The SAAGA Family: US, Hawaii, American Samoa, Fiji, NZ, Australia, and Samoa...

Thank You all for your continuous support and love for our father Eti. Our sincere appreciation for all your generosity and loving Spirit, and we pray for God's blessings on you all.
FA'AFETAI, FA'AFETAI TELE LAVA.

Alofaaga from Eti's Children & Grandchildren and Fuamolli.



Ta'usala ali'i 62 tausaga faia uiga mataga i se fafine 52 tausaga



Teutupe a le EFKAS, le faletua ia Fiasili Haleck, ma nisi o faletua o le Ekalesia i le nofoaga i Kanana Fou. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

tusia Ausage Fausia

O le itula e 8:30 i le taeo nei lea ua fa'atulaga e lau ai le fa'asalaga a se Tama matua e 62 tausaga mai Amaluia i luma o le Fa'amasinoga Maua-luga, i le mae'a ai lea ona ta'usala o ia e ali'i Fa'amasino i lona faia o uiga mataga i se Fafine e 52 tausaga le matua mai Amaluia lava.

O le susuga a Michael Agasiva, lea sa faailoa e lana loia ia Joshua Rovelli, o ia o se tasi o Matai taua ua mae'a ona lesitala i totonu o Amaluia, na ulua'i tu'uaia e le malo i le moliaga mamafa o le tagofia o itutinosa o se tamaitai i le tulaga muamua, atoa ai ma moliaga mama e lua o le soli fua o le fale o le isi aiga e aunoa ma se fa'atanaga, atoa ai ma le faaoolima i le tulaga tolu.

I lalo o se malilie na sainia e Agasiva ma le malo, lea fo'i na talia e le Fa'amasinoga, na suia ai e le malo le moliaga mamafa o le tagofia o itutinosa o se tamaitai i le tulaga muamua, ae avea ma moliaga mama o le tagofia o itutinosa o se tamaitai i le tulaga lua.

I le tali ioe ai o Agasiva i le moliaga e pei ona ta'usala ai o ia e le Fa'amasinoga, sa ia ta'utino ai e fa'apea, i se taimi o le vaveao o le Tausaga Fou o le tausaga e 2017, na ia faia ai ni uiga mataga i le Fafine na a'afia, e ala i lona susu'e i lona o lona ofu sa fai ae tago i vaega o ona itutinosa.

Epeionatauaifa'amaumauga a le Fa'amasinoga, o le po o le Tausaga Fou i le tausaga na te'a nei, sa faia ai se fiafia a le aiga o le Fafine na a'afia, ma valaaulia atu ai fo'i ma aiga tuaoi. Na amata mai lava le fiafia i le po seia oo i le taeo na sosoo ai.

I se taimi o le vaveao i le aso o le Tausaga Fou, na manatu ai loa le Fafine na a'afia o le a alu i le fale e fai sana malologa.

Na aga'i atu o ia i totonu o lona fale, ma taoto ai i luga o le nofoa umi o lo o i totonu o le potu malolo ma i'u ina moe atu ai lava, ae o le taimi lea o lo o i ai pea lava lana fanau i totonu o le fale.

Ina ua tuua e tamaiti le fale ma o ese atu, sa galo ona latou loka le faitoto'a, ma maua ai loa le avanoa o Agasiva e ulu-fale faamalosi ai i totonu o le fale i se taimi o le vaveao, ma ia fa'atino le solitulafono e pei ona ta'usala ai o ia.

O le faateia o le Fafine na aafia ina ua ia faalogoia se tagata o lo o tago atu i lona fatafata, na mafua ai loa ona ia ala i luga ma ia vaaia ai Agasiva i ona tafatafa, ma ia e e atu i ai e alu ese ma le fale. Na usita'i Agasiva ma ia tuua le fale o le Fafine na a'afia.

O le taimi lava na ulufafo ai Agasiva mai le fale o le Fafine na a'afia, na ia alu atu ai ma tapuni le faitoto'a, ma ia faafesoatai ai loa Leoleo mo se fesoasoani.

Ina ua fesili le afiga i le ali'i Faamasino ia Elvis P. Patea ia Agasiva e ta'u atu agava'a o loo ia te ia, na taua ai e le ua molia, o lo o ia umia le faailoga o le BA i le Fa'a Faaoga mai le Iunivesite o Hawaii.

E le o se taimi muamua lenei ua a'afia ai Agasiva i lalo o le tulafono. O le faalavelave lata mai e pei ona ta'usala ai o ia, o le faalavelave lea na ia fa'aaogaina ai se agaese e faaoo ai manu'a i se ali'i i le aso 29 Setema 2009, lea na ta'usala ai o ia e le Fa'amasinoga Maua-luga i le moliaga mamafa o le fa'aoolima i le tulaga lua, ma poloaina ai loa le fa'asala o ia i le toese mo le umi e 5 tausaga.

O lo o taofia pea Agasiva i le toese i Tafuna e faatali ai le taimi lea ua faamoemoe e fofoga aloaia ai lana faasalaga i le taeo nei.



O se va'aiga i susuga o ali'i Ao'ao o sailia o latou tofi fa'afai'efau i le Aoga Fa'afai'efau Seminare i Kanana Fou. Ua fiafia fa'atasi i latou ua amatalia fo'i le galuega toe fa'afou o le "Ua Taunu'u" i le latou laumua. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



Va'ai i ai i le taumafaiga e fe'avea'i Apa fa'atasi ma tagata faigaluega i luga o lea ituaiga lifi ua mae'a agava'a ai le Paramount Builders. O lo ua va'ia le fa'afaigofieina o galuega fa'apenei ona ua laga taoso fo'i lea Kamupani ua tele fo'i fale tetele ua latou mae'a fausia ma toe fa'afou. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



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O se vaaiga i faiaoga e toalua a Marist St. Francis Elementary ma i latou e to'atolu sa saunoa fa'apitoa i lenei aoga i Lepua i le vaiaso o aooaoga a le Ekalesia Katoliko i Amerika Samoa.

[ata foai]

Alia'e fo'i isi tu'uaiga fou fa'asaga i Leoleo o le Falepuipui o Tamaiti

tusia Ausage Fausia

O lo o fa'agasolo i le taimi nei suesuega a le Vaega Suesue a le Ofisa o Leoleo, i tu'uaiga fou ua alia'e mai i le Falepuipui o Tamaiti i Tafuna, fa'asaga i se ali'i Leoleo sa ia fa'ataga se ali'i talavou o lo o loka i le Falepuipui a Tamaiti e alu i tua mai le lotoa i le leva o le po.

O tu'uaiga e aofia ai le fa'ataga e le ali'i Leoleo lea o le tamaititi e 17 tausaga le matua e alu i tua i le po e feiloa'i ma lana uo tama'ita'i o lo o fa'atali mai i le vaega o lo o i ai le Ofisa o Galuega a le malo.

Na faamaonia mai e ni isi e silafia lenei mataupu, le mae'a lea ona saunia e le Pule o le Falepuipui o Tamaiti o sana ripoti e uiga i lenei mataupu, ma ua tu'uina atu i le Komesina o Leoleo e silasila i ai.

O le mataupu lenei na tofua mai i le Samoa News, ina ua talosagaina e le Tina o le ali'i e 17 tausaga o lo o a'afia se fesoasoani a le nusipepa e faalauiloa ai tulaga uma e faatatau i le mataupu a si ana tama, ina ua fiu e fesiligia le Ofisa o Leoleo mo se fesoasoani.

O le mataupu lenei na mafai ona silafia e le Tina, ina ua alu atu o ia e asi lana tama i le aso 2 Novema 2017 i le falepuipui, ae fa'afuase'i ai ona ia vaaia Leoleo mai le Vaega Suesue a le Ofisa o Leoleo, faapea ai ma se loia a le malo na aga'i atu e fesiligia ma su'esu'e lana tama e uiga i lenei mataupu.

O le le talitonuina e le Tina o Leoleo ma le loia a le malo latou te fesiligia ma suesue lana tama, na mafua ai ona ia talosagaina le tatau lea ona i ai se Loia e tula'i mo lana tama i le taimi o le suesuega.

Na faafesootai e le loia a le malo le tama'ita'i loia ia Kate Hannaher mai le Ofisa o Loia Fautua, ma mafai ai loa ona aga'i atu o ia e auai i le fa'atalatalanoaga sa faia. O le mae'a ai o le fa'atalatalanoaga sa faia, na fa'amatala uma ai

loa e le tamaititi o lo o a'afia mea uma sa tutupu, e aofia ai ma le fa'ataga o ia e le Leoleo e alu i tua ma le lotoa i le po e vaai lana uo tama'ita'i.

O le tama'ita'i e pei ona taua i lenei ripoti, sa taofia fo'i o ia i totonu o le Falepuipui a Tamaiti. Na taua e le Tina i le Samoa News e fa'apea, o lona popolega e uiga i lenei mataupu, o le saogalemu o lana tama.

"O lea sa tuu mai la'u tama atoa ai ma isi tamaiti o lo o taofia i le Falepuipui e vaai ma leoleo fa'alelei, ae foliga mai ua le fa'amaoni Leoleo i le fa'atinoina o a latou tiute. O le latou tiute o le tauti ma vaai faalelei pagota, ae le o le fa'ataga e o i tua i le leva o le po. Faapefea la pe ana tula'i mai se fa'alavelave ma oti ai la'u tama ina ua tatala i tua e le Leoleo, o ai e tu'uaia i lenei mataupu," o le saunoaga lea a le Tina.

O tu'uaiga e pei ona alia'e mai i le Falepuipui a Tamaiti, e tutusa lelei lava fo'i ma tu'uaiga na alia'e muamua mai i le tausaga na te'a nei, lea na mafua ai ona molia ni Leoleo se to'afa i le masina o Aperila o le tausaga na te'a nei, ma tu'uaia i moliaga eseese e aofia ai le fa'asosola i tua o pagota, atoa ai ma le faia o uiga mataga i pagota tama'ita'i.

Na faamaonia mai e le tama'ita'i Loia ia Hannaher i le Samoa News, le mae'a lea ona ia talanoa i loia a le malo e uiga i lenei mataupu, ma ua tatau fo'i ona faia sa latou faaiuga e fa'atatau i tu'uaiga o lo o alia'e mai i totonu o le Falepuipui o Tamaiti.

O se tasi o itu o lo o pito sili ona popole i ai lagona o le tama'ita'i loia o Hannaher, o le saogalemu o fanau o lo o taofia i le falepuipui. Sa ia taua fo'i le tele o fa'aletonu o lo o tula'i mai i le tulaga o le falepuipui i le taimi nei, e pei o le leai lea o ni faailoilo pe a tutupu ni afi.

O lo o faagasolo pea i le taimi nei suesuega a Leoleo e uiga i lenei mataupu.

TALA I VAIFANUA

tusia: Leua Aiono Frost

TATALA GALUEGA TOE FA'AFU MALUMALU KANANA FOU

O le taeao o le aso Lulu na fa'ataunu'u ai le sauniga pu'upu'u ma le taua ina ia tapua'ia ai faiva o le afoiga le Agaiotupu ma le falefa o le latou aiga Salemalama, lea ua toina nei i le susuga Papali'itele Lau'i Alofa ma lana pisinisi faufale o le Paramount Builders.

O lea sauniga sa ta'ita'ia lava e le susuga le Taitaifono o le Fonotele a le Ekalesia Fa'apotopotoga Kerisiano i Amerika Samoa, Faife'au Toeaina Mamoe Eveni.

O se tala o lea galuega, ua atoa le tauluga o le Malumalu "Ua Taunu'u" ma ua fa'aogaina ituaiga apa e mafai ona lolo'u ma ua aoga ona o le fausaga o le malumalu lenei e fa'apena lona atoapa.

I le talanoaga ma Eveni sa ia fa'aalia ai, "O lea ua toe fa'akonekarate le Paramount Builders ina ia toe fa'afouina le Malumalu...o le fa'ato'a fa'alua ai lenei ona fa'afou lea malumalu talu mai le tausaga na mae'a fausia ai. E tusa fo'i na'o le lua tausaga talu mai ona fa'afou muamua, peita'i ona o le tetele o matagi malolosi lea na afua ai ona ta'ei le fa'amalama tele i luma ma ua fai ma ala e ulu atu ai fo'i ma le vai i totonu i totoga o le fale. O le ala la lea ua toe fa'aiugafonoina ai, ina ia toe fa'aleleia le malumalu ma toe va'ai lelei ona apa e toe suia, ae i ai lava vaega o le tauluga e le tau toe suia fua."

O le galuega atoa lenei, o le a taga'i atoa lava le Paramount i vaega o le malumalu fa'atasi ai ma lona fola o le a ave'esea le kapete malulu lea e i ai, ae fa'ama'a atoa le fola i totonu. E suia ai fo'i ma nofoa uma o le malumalu, o lona uiga o le a tele lava se suiga e va'aia e le usugafono ia Iulai 2018 i le tino mai o le malumalu tele lenei."

O le tau na manumalo ai nei le Paramount i le tauofoga e \$450,000.

VAIASO FA'ATAUA AOOAGA EKALESIDA KATOLIKO

O le vaiaso lenei, talu mai le aso Gafua, sa fa'atautaia ai le vaiaso fa'apitoa o aooaoga a le Ekalesia Katoliko i Amerika Samoa - Catholic Education Week.

"O se tasi lava o mea muamua e mafai ona e maua i le a'oga a le Ekalesia, e le maua i a'oga a le Malo, o le a'oa'oina ai lea o le Upu a le Atua i se tasi o ana vasega i vaiaso ta'itasi. E fa'ataua lava le olaga a'oa'oina i le Tusi Pa'ia," o se tala lea a se tasi o faia'oga a le Ekalesia, Marist St Francis Elementary School i Lepua. E iloga fo'i le maualuga o le la'asaga o lo'o'o'i ai a'oa'oga a le fanau o lo'o'o'oga i a'oga a le Ekalesia Katoliko, e mafua lea, ona o latou faia'oga sa auina mai fafo, peita'i o lenei vaiasiga ua fa'aogaina lava faia'oga i le atunu'u. O nisi o polokalama o fa'atautaia i a'oga ta'itasi e

lima a le Ekalesia Katoliko e aofia ai Montessori e lua: Mary the Mother i Atuu ma le Hope House Montessori i Fatuoaiga; o Elementary Schools e lua lea e aofia ai Marist St Francis i Lepua ma le St Theresa i Malaaloa Pope Paulo II, ae maise o le A'oga Maualuga e tasi Fa'asao Marist High School i Lepuapua Leone; ua fa'atalatalanoa nisi o tama fanau a Amerika Samoa ua iloga a latou taumafaiga i galuega o lo'o galulue ai, ma ua tatau fo'i ona fa'apea ane, "Ua fa'amanuiaina latou taumafaiga." O nisi o nei sui ua aofia ai le tama'ita'i o Fatima Langkilde ma Lusina Bartley - o nisi o tama'ita'i sa tauva i le tofiga Faipule mai o la'ua afio'aga o alaala ai. Peita'i, e le'i fa'amanuiaina.

Na vala'aulia i la'ua nei e saunoa fa'apitoa i le Marist St Francis Elementary, lea e a'o'oga i ai le to'a 146 o fanau a'oga a le atunu'u.

Ua fa'aailoa mai fo'i e le Ofisa o le susuga le Taitai o le Ekalesia lea, Epikopo Peter Brown, "O le a i ai se taimi ona fa'alauiloa lea o le aoga o nei a'oga uma i le atunu'u e ala i taumafaiga a nisi o le fanau o lo'o a'oa'oina i a'oga a le matou Ekalesia, aua e moni lava le tala, e iloga le la'au i lona fua!" O lo'o tapenapena e le latou Ofisa atu le tele o tauvaga o lo'o tausinio ai fanau a'oga i le teritori, ma va'ai pe tua mani taumafaiga a fanau a'oga i latou a'oga tulaga muamua ma le lua.

I folasaga sa fofogaina e Bartley, sa fa'aailoa e ia le agaga fa'a-Katoliko, e tumau le fa'avae o le fa'akerisiano, e le maluelue. E ui fo'i ina tetele mea e fa'afeagai ma le tagata soifua e ola tauva fa'apolokiki, ae le tu'ua ai le alu e saili le filemu o le Atua e onosa'i ai i mea tiga. "O le ituaiga taua lena e le faigofie, e matua o'o mai le tiga o le faiai ma o'o mai ai le tulaga fia lalau atu i lea ma lea, ae se'i e manumalo ai. Peita'i o le finagalo o le Atua na a'oa'oina mai ai a'o la'ititi, ia ola fa'amagalo atu i nisi, ona fa'amagalo fo'i lea o oe e le Atua. Ia e onosa'i i mea e tiga ai, ona e maua lea o le manuia o le Atua." O le aotelega o fanau o lo'o a'oa'oina i a'oga a le Ekalesia Katoliko Roma ua fa'aailoa mai: Montessori Mary the Mother e to'a 46 fanauiti o i ai; Montessori Hope House i Fatuoaiga e 71 fanau iti o i ai; Marist St Francis i Lepua e to'a 146 fanau a'oga o i ai; St Theresa i Malaaloa e to'a 121 fanau a'oga o a'o'oga ai ma le Fa'asao Marist High School e tasi lava a le Ekalesia ua a'oa'oina ai le 310 o fanau a'oga talavou.

I tausaga ta'itasi fo'i e fa'ao'o atu ai e le malo i ona ta'ita'i ma le matagaluega o a'oga le fa'afetai i lea fo'i Ekalesia ma lona sao i le a'oa'oina o alo ma fanau a le atunu'u lautele, e le faigofie lea faiva i le Malo, ae fa'afetai i le lagalogosua a nei fo'i Ekalesia ua fa'atautaia a'oga, ona o le latou tau'au i lea tautua e aoga tele i le lumana'i o so'o se malo lava i le lalolagi atoa.

Man who drove van into Muslims in London convicted of murder



In this image issued by Metropolitan Police taken from a body worn video recorded following Darren Osborne's initial detention in the early hours of June 19 2017, showing Osborne in a police custody van. A Crown Court on Thursday Feb. 1, 2018, found Darren Osborne guilty of murder and attempted murder in the June 2017 attack in the city's Finsbury Park neighborhood.

(Metropolitan Police via AP)

LONDON (AP) — A man who steeped himself in far-right, anti-Muslim ideas before driving a van into a crowd of worshippers near a north London mosque was convicted Thursday of murder and attempted murder.

A jury at London's Woolwich Crown Court deliberated for just an hour before finding 48-year-old Darren Osborne guilty of the June 2017 attack in the city's Finsbury Park neighborhood.

A 51-year-old man, Makram Ali, was killed and 15 people were injured when a rented van plowed into worshippers gathering after evening prayers during Ramadan.

Prosecutors said Osborne was motivated by extreme Islamophobia and saw Muslims as extremists or rapists in pedophile gangs.

Several men who witnessed the attack pinned Osborne to the ground until police arrived. He was heard to say "I want to kill more Muslims," prosecutor Jonathan Rees told the jury during the 10-day trial.

Another witness reported Osborne saying, "I've done my job, you can kill me now."

Osborne, of Cardiff, Wales, had pleaded not guilty. He claimed a man named Dave was driving the van when it struck the crowd. Prosecutors argued that Dave did not exist, and no witnesses or video evidence were produced to indicate a second person in the van.

Prosecutors said Osborne was radicalized over just a few weeks, in part through online far-right propaganda. Searches for prominent extreme-right figures — including English Defense League founder Tommy Robinson and Britain First leader Paul Golding —

were found on his computer.

Osborne's partner, Sarah Andrews, told prosecutors he had become "brainwashed" and was a "ticking time bomb."

Prosecutors said they classified the crime as terrorism because Osborne acted to advance a political purpose.

A note found in the van and Osborne's comments to police mentioned a case in which a group of Muslim men were convicted of sexually exploiting women and girls in England, as well as the deadly Manchester Arena and London Bridge attacks carried out by Islamic radicals just weeks earlier.

Commander Dean Haydon, a senior counterterrorism officer with London's Metropolitan Police, said the case showed how "individuals can become radicalized really, really quickly" online.

"To be honest, some individuals could look at material today and decide to go and do an attack later on this evening," Haydon said.

Although he denied the murder charges, Osborne did not hide his aim to kill.

Giving evidence, he said he drove to London hoping to attack a pro-Palestinian march where his intended victims would have included Jeremy Corbyn, the left-wing leader of Britain's opposition Labour Party.

When he could not reach the march because roads were closed, Osborne went looking for a mosque instead.

Sue Hemming, head of counterterrorism at the Crown Prosecution Service, said Osborne "planned and carried out this attack because of his hatred of Muslims."

"We have been clear throughout that this was a terrorist attack, and he must now face the consequences of his actions," Hemming said.

Harun Khan, secretary general of the Muslim Council of Britain, welcomed the verdict but said "we cannot be complacent and regard this as a one-off terrorist incident." He said Islamophobia was "not only prevalent in far-right circles, but also made acceptable in our mainstream."

Most of the arrests and attacks classified as terrorism in Britain in recent years have been motivated by Islamic extremism, but police say there is a growing threat from the far right. In 2016 Labour lawmaker Jo Cox was shot and stabbed to death by an attacker with extreme right-wing views.

Cox's widower Brendan Cox called for action to curb right-wing radicalization.

"When islamists commit acts of terror we rightly hunt down the hate preachers who inspired them," he tweeted. "We should do the same for the far right."

US says Syria making new chemical weapons despite 2013 deal



Restaurant workers and police stand following a rocket attack, fired from inside Syria, in the border town of Kilis, Turkey, Thursday, Feb. 1, 2018. Kilis and the town of Reyhanli, both of which border Afrin, Syria, have been the target of multiple rocket attacks that have killed at least four people, including a teenage girl and injured dozens of others. Turkey launched a cross-border offensive into Afrin on Jan. 20 to clear the enclave of Syrian Kurdish militia which Ankara considers to be "terrorists."

(Can Erok/DHA-Depo Photos via AP)

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration on Thursday accused Syrian President Bashar Assad's government of producing and using "new kinds of weapons" to deliver deadly chemicals despite committing to abolish its program in 2013, and said the world must find a way to stop it.

President Donald Trump has not ruled out additional military action to deter attacks or punish Assad, administration officials said, although they did not suggest any action was imminent. They emphasized that the United States was seeking a new way to hold chemical weapons-users accountable and wanted cooperation from Russia, Assad's patron, in pressuring him to end the attacks.

Raising the alarm about the continued threat, U.S. officials said it was "highly likely" that Assad kept a hidden stockpile of chemical weapons after 2013 that he failed to properly disclose. They said information gathered from recent alleged attacks also suggested that Assad retained a "continued production capacity" — also banned under the 2013 deal.

There were no indications that the Syria government, after seven years of civil war, had developed new, deadlier chemicals. Rather, the officials said Assad's forces are using the same chemicals — chlorine and sarin — but in more sophisticated ways, potentially to evade international accountability by making the origins of attacks harder to trace.

Barrel bombs used earlier in the war to disperse chemicals indiscriminately, for example, have been replaced by ground-launched munitions, officials said. More recent attacks have involved both chlorine, which has nonchemical uses and is easier to acquire, and the more sophisticated chemical sarin, the officials said.

The officials weren't authorized to speak on the record and briefed reporters on condition of anonymity.

Though evidence-collection is different in the middle of a war zone, the officials said the U.S. has a firm understanding of the extent of chemical use in Syria through a combination of intelligence, sample testing by third countries, and social media and other open-source information, the officials said.

Assad's government has denied using chemical weapons. Syria's chief ally, Russia, has claimed that the reports are false attempts to pressure Syria's government or provocations perpetrated by opposition groups.

Syria and Russia have dismissed the conclusions of the Joint Investigative Mission, an expert

body set up by the United Nations and Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, that Assad's government used chlorine gas in 2014 and 2015, and sarin in April 2017. Late last year, Russia used its U.N. Security Council veto to prevent the investigative body from being renewed, arguing it had been discredited. That led the U.S. and other nations to accuse Moscow of covering for chemical use by Assad's forces.

Use of such widely deployed weapons comes with great risk for Assad, raising questions about why he would take the chance. But the officials said the U.S. believes Assad's government sees chemical attacks as an effective way to terrorize rebels and sympathetic populations into fleeing, therefore altering the demographic balance in the Alawite heartland where Assad is trying to consolidate control. Assad is a member of the Alawite sect, an offshoot of Shiite Islam that forms a minority of Syria's population.

Yet Syria's government isn't the only chemical weapons threat in the region, according to the officials. The Islamic State group continues to use them, they said, although the militants' arms are said to be more rudimentary.

Though IS no longer controls large parts of Syria or Iraq, the officials said the extremist group continues to use sulfur mustard, via artillery shells, and chlorine, delivered by improvised explosive devices. The officials noted that the underlying chemicals are easy to acquire or produce, and said the U.S. does not believe IS has gotten ahold of military stockpiles in either Iraq or Syria.

Years of efforts by two U.S. presidents have failed to end the harrowing reports on chemical weapons use in Syria.

Under President Barack Obama, the United States stopped short of striking Assad's forces in response, but brokered a deal with Russia to rid Syria of its stockpiles. After another alleged attack in April 2017, President Donald Trump ordered a retaliatory missile strike, but 10 months later, the U.S. and international observers say the weapons are still used.

Reports of chemical attacks have continued to stream in from Syria, including as recently as Thursday, when rescue workers in the rebel-held Damascus suburb of Douma reported what they described as a suspected chlorine gas attack that injured a number of civilians. The opposition-run Ghouta Media Center reported in a posting on its Facebook page that three people were killed and dozens suffered shortness of breath as a result of surface-to-surface missiles, some of them carrying chlorine gas.

Timberlake rules out 'N Sync reunion at Super Bowl show

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Justin Timberlake was asked about a bromance with Tom Brady, a possible 'N Sync reunion and serenaded with "Happy Birthday," but the superstar didn't get a question about the wardrobe malfunction that rocked the world during a press conference Thursday to promote his return to the Super Bowl halftime show.

Timberlake ruled out any chance his former boy band 'N Sync would join him Sunday or other potential special guests would show up — including Janet Jackson herself. Timberlake revealed only that his band, The Tennessee Kids, would join him onstage and predicted a show that will include things "never done before."

"It's a moment where you have the opportunity to bring so many people together through what I think is the greatest art form, which is music," he said. "And so that has been sort of the ethos of inspiration behind putting the set list together."

"And, you know, I like to make dance music so I hope everyone is dancing," he added.

Timberlake is returning to the halftime show 14 years after the "wardrobe malfunction" with Jackson caused a national controversy. He was not asked about the incident during the press availability. Timberlake was Jackson's special guest during her performance when he ripped off a piece of her clothing and revealed her bare, pierced nipple. Timberlake later described it as an unintended "wardrobe malfunction." CBS, which aired the Super Bowl that year, drew a \$550,000 fine from the Federal Communications Commission that was later overturned.

During his 20-minute press conference, Timberlake mentioned Jackson's name when he spoke about who people thought he would invite as a guest during the halftime show. He also named Jay-Z, Chris Stapleton and 'N Sync.

He also admitted he had a "man-crush" on Brady, the New England Patriots quarterback, complimenting his skills and hair. But when asked if he was rooting for the Patriots or the Philadelphia Eagles, he punted: "Go, Pack, go," he said, referencing the Green Bay Packers, who didn't make the playoffs at all.

Timberlake will be making his third Super Bowl musical appearance — a record. He first performed in 2001 when 'N Sync performed alongside Britney Spears, Aerosmith, Mary J. Blige and Nelly.

He praised Minneapolis-born Prince, calling the late superstar "in my opinion, the greatest all-around musician I can think of in popular culture."

"He's a huge influence on me. ... The time that I got to spend around him, with him, talking about music — those are memories that I will take with me forever because he's always been such a big idol of mine," Timberlake said.

Timberlake has a new album, "Man of the Woods," out Friday and will host a listening party Thursday night at Paisley Park, Prince's old estate.

"There's a lot of bucket list things that are happening this week for me and that's definitely at the top of that list," he said. "I get to walk the hallowed, sacred ground of Paisley Park."

Timberlake turned 37 years old on Wednesday, and some of the media serenaded him by singing "Happy Birthday" at the Hilton Minneapolis' Grand Ballroom.

When asked if he would let his son, Silas, perform at the Super Bowl and follow in his footsteps, Timberlake said, "I'd rather not think about it because he's about to turn three."

"But (Silas) did come to rehearsals yesterday and I was shocked at how quickly he could cover 100 yards," he said.

Drivers say safety arms at crash site seemed to malfunction



Emergency personnel work at the scene of a train crash involving a garbage truck in Crozet, Va., on Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2018. An Amtrak passenger train carrying dozens of GOP lawmakers to a Republican retreat in West Virginia struck a garbage truck south of Charlottesville, Va. No lawmakers were believed injured. (Zack Wajsbgras/The Daily Progress via AP)

CROZET, Va. (AP) — The safety arms at a railroad crossing where a train carrying Republican lawmakers slammed into a garbage truck appeared to be malfunctioning the day before the deadly crash, drivers who regularly cross over the tracks at the crash scene said Thursday.

Gene Locke, who lives near the tracks in Crozet, said he pulled up to the crossing between 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Tuesday and saw that the safety arms were down and the signal light was flashing, but no train was approaching from either direction. After waiting a minute or so, he backed up, turned around and took a different route, assuming there was either a malfunction of the signal crossing or workers were testing it.

"I did not report this, as it was the first time this has happened in my observation since I have been using that crossing for several years," Locke told The Associated Press.

Jane Rogers, who lives about 2 miles (3 kilometers) from the crash site, said that when she arrived at the crossing Tuesday, the gate was down, even though there were no trains approaching. She said after waiting, one car in front of her and two cars behind her turned around. Then, as she started to turn around, the gate went up. One car then crossed the tracks, but Rogers said she waited another 30 seconds and the gate went down again. No trains passed, she said.

"It was a weird up-and-down thing," she said. "Then the next day, the accident happened at that intersection."

Pete Kotowski, the lead investigator for the National Transportation Safety Board, said it was too early to say whether the arms were working at the time of the accident, which killed an employee of the trash company and injured six others.

The train was traveling "about 61" miles per hour ("about 98" kph) only seconds before it slammed into the truck, Kotowski said. The speed limit at that crossing is 60 mph (97 kph), he said.

Investigators have spoken with four eyewitnesses, interviewed one of the crew members from the train and scheduled an interview with the engineer, Kotowski said. They are "in the process" of trying to interview the driver of the truck, he said.

The trash company, Time Disposal, has been in business for 33 years and has 17 drivers and 15 trucks, Kotowski said.

"The company has been subject to six roadside safety inspections with two of them resulting in vehicles being placed out of service," Kotowski said.

He also said the company had two reported crashes — one in 2015 and one in 2016 — but gave no further details on those accidents.

Wednesday's collision happened at an intersection that crosses the tracks at the top of a hill where visibility is limited.

Carrie Brown, human resources manager at Buckingham Branch Railroad, which leases the stretch of track and is responsible for maintenance, said Wednesday that she was unaware of any problems with equipment at the crossing. She declined further comment Thursday and referred all questions to the NTSB.

No safety inspection records for the crossing were immediately available.

The State Corporation Commission, which inspects railroad facilities including track and equipment, does not maintain inspection records but turns them over to the Federal Railroad Administration, SCC spokesman Andy Farmer said.



		SOUTHBOUND ARRIVAL							SOUTHBOUND ARRIVAL					
VESSEL	VOY	SEA	L/BEACH	OAK	PPT	NUKUALOFA	APIA	PAGO	VESSEL	VOY	PPT	N/ALOFA	APIA	PAGO
Cap Taputapu	037	TBA	SAILED	SAILED	SAILED	---	02/04	02/04	Cap Taputapu	037	SAILED	---	02/04	02/04
Polynesia	493	TBA	02/03	02/05	02/16	---	02/21	02/21	Polynesia	493	02/16	---	02/21	02/21
Cap Taputapu	038	TBA	02/18	02/20	03/03	---	03/08	03/08	Cap Taputapu	038	03/03	---	03/08	03/08
Polynesia	494	TBA	02/07	02/09	02/19	---	03/24	03/24	Polynesia	494	03/19	---	03/24	03/24
Cap Taputapu	039	TBA	03/23	03/25	04/05	---	04/10	04/10	Cap Taputapu	038	04/05	---	04/10	04/10

Note: All Schedule dates are estimated



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Young Writers' Essay Contest - JANUARY 2018

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| <p>K5:
Collin West, AFONO
Matalupe Tuinei, A.P.LUTALI
Fetu Aiono, COLEMAN
Sofa' Auelua, FAGALI'I
Mema Faleua, FITIUTA
Merilyn Lilo, LE'ATELE
Leonson Galo, LEONE MIDKIFF
Toltua Seuteva, LUPELELE
Anntione Taula, MATAFAO
Julie Lavasti, MT. ALAVA
Fa'ala'a Kitonia, PAVA'IAI
Ymancol Jagon, PAC. HORIZONS
Wesley Hannaher, SPA</p> <p>Level 1:
Alfainic Misaletua, AFONO
Victoria Matamea, ALOFAU
Laumua Nonumalo, A.P.LUTALI
Andrew Maloa, COLEMAN
Honcha Tipula, FAGALI'I
Mikaela Leulua'i, FALEASAO
Afi-Varanisese Korosavou, FITIUTA
Yichen Wu, LAULI'I
Nazim Fealofani, LE'ATELE
Selulu Fe'a, LEONE MIDKIFF</p> | <p>RoseAnn Ames, LUPELELE
Salala Iosua, MATAFAO
Jami Tagovaloa, MT. ALAVA
Aifili Tamasoali'i, PAC. HORIZ
Elisse C. Clemens, SPA
Emmanuel Sioka, TAFUNA ELEM.</p> <p>Level 2:
Doma Tafaoali'i, AFONO
Fa'apona Peagaua'i, ALOFAU
Janelle Fuiaua, A.P.LUTALI
Issace Losi, AUA
Zeziel Asato, COLEMAN
To'a Moeno, FAGALI'I
Seven Maui, FALEASAO
Lifuka Lifuka, FITIUTA
Frances Lavea, LAULI'I
Shanaya Tua, LE'ATELE
Filisita Atofau, LUPELELE
Jara Seto, MARIST ST. FRANCIS
Achesah Peau, MATAFAO
1Safina Mauigoa, MT. ALAVA
Leumana'ali'i Fatafata, PAVA'IAI
Kaitlyn Gaisoa, Pac. Horiz
Caroline Mata'utia, SPA
Dorian L. Seto, TAFUNA ELEM.</p> | <p>Level 3:
Pesamino Lome, AFONO
Julynn Aitui, ALATAUA II
Rosalina Ume, A.P.LUTALI
Tiarerosemalia T. Utuone, AUA
Keciah Tu'ufuili, FAGALI'I
Lesina Maui, FALEASAO
Merle D. Auve'a, LE'ATELE
Lemala Lafaele, LEONE MIDKIFF
Lei Suiaunoa, MANUMALO
Senoueta Pitt, MARIST ST. FR
Alexandra Parmor, MATAFAO
Reangella Iosua, MATATULA
Andrisa Masaniani, MT. ALAVA
Jacob Balorio, PAVA'IAI
Amui Sipe'i, PACIFIC HOR
David Liu, SILIAGA
Opetaia P. Filipo, SPA
Edward Amiltuanai'i, Taf ELEM.</p> <p>Level 4:
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Vai'au Filipo, ALATAUA II
United Asovale, A.P.LUTALI
Tala'e Toelupe, AUA
Ariel Matautia, COLEMAN</p> | <p>Jarett Pisamoa, FAGALI'I
Emma S. Mila, FALEASAO
Lilien Ve'e, FITIUTA
Michelle Lavea, LAULI'I
Emmanuel Tago, LE'ATELE
Maria Fatima, LEONE MIDKIFF
Princess Siaumau, LUPELELE
Hilda Devesi, MANUMALO
Katerina Matafao, MARIST ST. FR
Komisi Moliga, MATAFAO
1Jenna Ioramo, MATATULA
Amanda Mauigoa, MT. ALAVA
Lealaolealofa Pulu, OLOMOANA
Tautiale Fale, PAVA'IAI
Lisa Pedro, PACIFIC HORIZONS
Malaeola Cendrowski, SILIAGA
Talilagi Letuli, SPA
Kim Gerald, ST. THERESA
Ma'ufataga Taveuveu, TAFUNA ELEM.</p> <p>Level 5:
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Nadine Tai'ase, ALATAUA II
Nikatie Sagale, A.P.LUTALI
Lilian Ve'e, Fitiuta
Aisynia Mageo, COLEMAN</p> | <p>Faustina Toa, FAGALI'I
Emma S. Mila, FALEASAO
Lama T. Petelo, FITIUTA
Hazel Leo, IAKINA
Jaedah Sauni, LAULI'I
Iloi To, LE'ATELE
Princess Vaoga, LEONE MIDKIFF
Aisi Sua, LUPELELE
Andy Wang, MANUMALO
Brigitte Ta'aga, MARIST ST. FR
Joyce Grey Ta, MATAFAO
Zoala White, MATATULA
Elayna Ali'a, MT. ALAVA
Pule Toala, OLOMOANA
Tamara Aifese'i, PAVA'IAI
Aisali Vasa, SPA
BJ Fuiaua, ST. THERESA
Zetleydozeny Setu, TAFUNA EL.</p> <p>Level 6:
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Pio Maina, AUA
Dyanah Pila, COLEMAN
Joanne Mose, FAGALI'I</p> | <p>Levalea'i V. Maligi, FALEASAO
Romeo Vasega, FALEASAO
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Fanolua Tololo, LAULI'I
Tuitamaga Keresoma, LEONE MID
Maeva Koroi, MARIST ST. FRANCIS
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Leka Ioramo, MATATULA
Abigail To'omaga, MT. ALAVA
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Princess Viesca, ST. THERESA
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Fiti Tofiga, A.P.LUTALI
Zephariah Lafale, AUA
Kimo Tuivaiti, COLEMAN
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Melisa Filimigo, FALEASAO
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Malo Mata'u, LE'ATELE
Emma Fiu, LEONE MIDKIFF
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Ben Ateleua, MT. ALAVA
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Ruthann Wilson, PAVA'IAI
Oliver Auala, PACIFIC HORIZONS
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To'oto'o'ali'i Anoa'i, OLOMOANA
Michael Josefo, PAVA'IAI
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Va'afutu Va'afutu, SILIAGA
ZTao Asifoa, SPA
Monica Maeata'anoa, ST. THERESA
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M.J.Metuli, IAKINA
Tuamasaga Aetui, LHS
Brianna Ibulufui, NVTHS
Lutama Tofoano, PACIFIC HOR
Jessica A. Salete, SPA
Tavita Kuki, THS</p> <p>Level 10:
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Janillicah Harmon, LHS
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Michelle A. Wisneske, SPA
Athanasius Talaitana, THS</p> |
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Level K5

Anntione Taula
Matafao Elementary School

My Best Friend - My Sister

My sister is Katerina. She is my best friend. She is in Hawaii. She plays volleyball. I missed singing with her. I missed my sister.

Level 1

Emmanuel Sioka
Tafuna Elementary School

My Mom

My mom works at McDonalds. She likes her job. Somedays she brings home food. She goes to work everyday to buy what I need for school. I love my mom. She is the best.

Level 2

Kaitlyn Gaisoa
Pacific Horizons School

Team Salty

Mmmm! Look at those salty chips and that salty creamy dipping sauce. In my opinion, I love salty snacks better than sweet snacks. First, the reason why I chose salty snacks is because the chips make a loud munch sound. Munch! Another reason why I like salty snacks is because I don't have a sweet tooth. Lastly, the crispy potato chips are so delicious that I can't wait to eat! Mmmm! That is why I prefer salty snack.

Level 3

Opetaia Filipo
South Pacific Academy

Puppy Please

I found a puppy laying outside my backyard crying for help so I picked it up and took it to my home. I asked my mom if I could keep it. She said just for one week. I fed and showered him, and so I looked for a name. I did not come up with one.

The puppy was so thin. It was about to die. It was crying. The puppy needed shelter. It was so dirty. Its bones were broken. Its furs were falling off. It was bony. It was sick. It needed an owner. It was thirsty. It was hungry. So we went to go take it to the vet. We left it for 2 months and 10 days. We went to pick it up. To get the puppy, I would do all her chores. I would throw all her trash away. I would cook for her. I would wash and fold all the laundry.

Level 4

Vai'au Filipo
Alataua II Elementary School

A Brave Warrior

Brave means to show courage and fighting spirit. So, who is brave? My brave warrior is Rosaline Aitui. She is my favorite teacher. She can stop the students from fighting. Rosaline has many ways to teach students how to be a good person. She is also brave to tell everyone to stop bullying and to love one another. Sometimes, kids call her Wonder Woman and she laughs. To me, Rosaline is a brave warrior because she loves us.

Level 5

Lama Tugase Petelo
Fitiuta Elementary School

My Friend

As I grew up, I was taught different manners such as respect, love, say 'thank you', please, excuse me, and others. I was also able to socialize with my peers and people within my village. Also, I was able to talk and share with my neighbors. Sunday School, Youth, and church choir have made me open my eyes to what the world has to offer me. I made a lot of friends, but not all are the same. Some friends are good and some are bad. Others are nice while some love to bully and hurt the weak.

What is a friend? A friend is a person that accepts you for who you are. Some friends are only there when they need something from you. Sometimes when you need them the most, they abandon you. A friend is someone who supports you through the good and bad times. But, how do you know? You should choose your friends carefully. As for me, I would choose the person who is loyal or who will always be there for me no matter what. Through thick or thin, a friend will never leave your side. A friend will always be there to help me when asked and to agree on things.

A friend is someone who you trust and also trusts you back. There will be times when your friendship will be ruined because of people talking behind your back. My friends always say 'side chick', which is our language now. A friend is a person who you share your thought with based on the level of trust that you have. My friends also say something like, "Ride or Die". This also means that we are best friends forever no matter what.

As an eleven-year-old, this is the age where we make as much friends as we can. I have friends who love to spread rumors. I try to think positive and stay away from such negative ways. Gossiping could cause a lot of trouble. My friend and I try to keep rumors to ourselves because sometimes people spread false stories. It is good to stay away from friends who are not nice and who makes fun of those who are different from you.

In conclusion, friends will come and go. It is best to follow your heart when you have to choose which friends you will make. You should always choose friends that will always be there for you. Also, make friends with those that will pick you up when you are feeling down. Do not jump to conclusion because we always make human errors. Do not forget to forgive those who dislike you and those you do not like.

Level 6

Vatisi Langoa
Pava'ia'i Elementary School

Natural Disasters

My essay is about different types of natural disasters. They are dangerous and you could die in them. Natural disasters are major events that happen around the world. Some types of natural disasters

are tornadoes, tsunamis, hurricanes, floods, blizzards, landslides, volcanic eruption, and others. On November 29, 2009, American Samoa was hit by a tsunami. It was dangerous, and a lot of people died from the west and east sides of the island. The island of Hawaii has the most dangerous volcanic eruptions. The volcano in Hawaii always erupts on Maui. A huge hurricane hit Florida and many people died.

All different types of natural disasters are dangerous. In American Samoa, our biggest threats are earthquakes and tsunamis. That is why police officers put signs on the road, so that it will let the people know where to go for safety. We have to be careful if anything happens or if there is over a natural disaster. We have to get to high grounds or go on top of a mountain for safety.

Natural disasters can be very devastating for people, homes, and villages. We have to work together to be prepared in case of an emergency. In order to always be safe, no matter what natural disaster, have a plan of action and follow it. We can all be safe and prepared if we work together.

Level 7

Heleina Willis
St. Theresa School

New Year's Resolution

New year is all about new beginnings and new you. Resolutions are made every year by everyone to improve themselves. My new year's resolutions are to stay fit and healthy, improve my study habits, and start eating healthier meals.

Firstly, I want to stay healthy and fit. My performance in sports will improve; especially as a goalkeeper in soccer. It is very important to set a good example for my students in Just Play. Also, if I exercise daily, it will prevent unwanted weight gain.

My next resolution is to improve my study habits. It will help me allocate my time wisely. By doing this, I will be more prepared for quizzes, tests, and exams. It will also help me understand assignments given by the teachers. After, there will be more time for me to spend with the family.

Lastly, I need to start eating healthy. It will prevent the risks of non-communicable diseases such as obesity, diabetes, and heart disease. Nutrients from healthy foods will help my body grow and develop properly. I will also be able to have a better state of mind.

New year is all about new beginnings and a new you. My new year's resolutions are to stay fit and healthy, improve study habits, and start eating healthier meals. Make the best out of your year because you cannot turn back time.

Level 10

Janillicah Harmon
Leone High School

What is love?

What is love? Is it a thing? Is it a feeling or an ideal on affectionism? Love to me is such a powerful force. It is one of the things that build my character and my true self. It is pure and truthful. Love can drive out hate

and darkness. Nowadays, people misuse the word love in so many ways. To them it is another selfless word with no meaning. Yet, it runs much deeper than that. We need to stop "following the crowd" but to enhance the fact that love is all we got. Love is the boundary that sets everything in order.

Envisioning a peaceful life amongst each other is very difficult to picture. Reason being is that prejudice and discrimination still ignites throughout society. Will there ever be a day in which we can share the love? That is up to you and me to take control of. We all do not see eye to eye but with our affectionate emotion we can build many friendships. For once we can hold hands, have positive mindsets, and go forth to provide an upbringing deficiencies to society.

To conclude, hate is built within us but love can conquer it all. Love can set you free into a world of possibilities and not the nature of being accepted into love. No matter what color, shape, or size, love is within our spiritual selves. There are so many conflicts and problems happening around us but with love we can overcome it. Overthrow hatred into the depths of the deep blue sea. Love is our friend and our basic background that shapes our being. Without love, what is the use? Everything we do, it's based off on love, with it, all things come out in perfection. Love is all we got, and all we are. From this day forward, speak on love, teach on love, and perfect everything in all that is love.

Level 11

Lily S. Papali'i
Iakina Adventist Academy

"Dare the Heights"

To dare the heights is to face challenges head on with self-confidence and telling life to bring it on. We ought to overcome tribulations we daily face to become successful. Those who are successful in life did not get to the mountaintop by chance. It was through pain, inflicted upon them by their choice of defying the impossible that motivated them to achieve greatness. As a matter of fact, it is only when we risk failure that we will succeed and life would be meaningful.

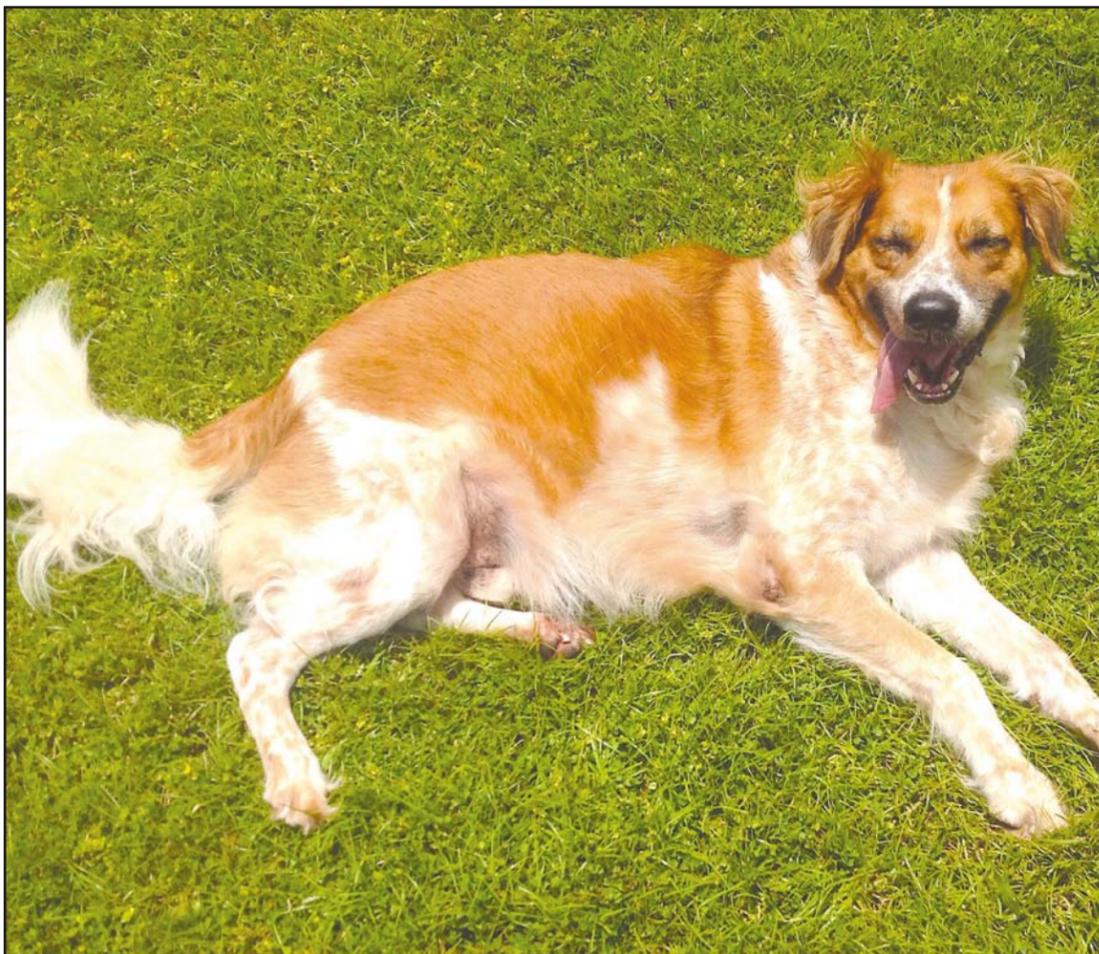
"Success belongs to those who dare to achieve it." When playing a game of dare, you are showcasing your bravery of doing the impossible to gain the public's praises. The crowd's approval is what most seek, but we must dare to be different, to just be yourself. To reach the top, believe in your abilities and dare the difficulties life throws your way. Choose to challenge your heights.

Robert F. Kennedy once said, "only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly". Before victory, we have to taste defeat. For failure enables us to discover things and it will be the sole reason of our achievement. It takes courage to become successful. Dare to tread that difficult road of failure and it will lead you to a beautiful destination.

Life is a daring adventure. We venture with passion down foreign roads, despite knowing the hazards we will encounter. Taking that one step which marks the beginning of a journey requires courage. It is your choice to be courageous to face that journey called life or not. Dare life's highs and lows to achieve success.

Tusigatala i le Gagana ma Aganu'u Samoa: IANUARI 2018

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| <p>Vasega Amata (K5)
Ropi Ta'ala, Fagali'i
Matavaosina Moi, Pava'ia'i
Revelation Maiava, Fitiuta</p> <p>Vasega 1:
Terry Lome, Afonotele
Amura Loto, Pava'ia'i
Taumafai Jr. Mata'utia, Fitiuta</p> <p>Vasega 2:</p> | <p>Maria Toa, Fagali'i
Ryahlyn Tumama, Afonotele
Silelao Tuitama, Pava'ia'i
Lifuka Lifuka, Fitiuta</p> <p>Vasega 3:
David Liu, Siliga
Keicah Tu'ufuili, Fagali'i
Serafi Ali'i'ua, Afonotele
Jeremiah Eliu, Mt. Alava</p> | <p>Marianna Enesa, Manulele
Fa'apaia Leota, Tafuna Elem.
Lindsay Visesio, Pava'ia'i
Jeremiah Sunu'i, Kanana Fou
Tavai Apineru, Fitiuta</p> <p>Vasega 4:
Leuma Fuiaua, Siliga
James Mapu, Fagali'i
Yolanda Matagaono, Afonotele</p> | <p>Amanda Mauigoa, Mt. Alava
Suipi Ta'ala, Manulele
Johnny Jr. Fa'i, Tafuna
Michelle La'auli, Pava'ia'i
Adreemee Loa, Kanana Fou
Lilian Ve'e, Fitiuta</p> <p>Vasega 5:
Hanna Meafou, Siliga
Mouana Ta'ala, Fagali'i</p> | <p>Peccalina Gray, Afonotele
T.J. Seuva'ia'i, Mt. Alava
Pio A'afia, Manulele
Sieddie Amilale, Tafuna
Del Seleselo, Pava'ia'i
Trinity Po'a, Kanana Fou
Lama Tugase, Fitiuta</p> <p>Vasega 6:
Ruth Fia'ava'e, Siliga</p> | <p>Joanne Mose, Fagali'i
Alova Tuiasa, Afonotele
Abigail To'omaga, Mt. Alava
Nadanyia Alopopo, Tafuna
Kilipa Samaeli, Pava'ia'i
Nomineta Tiatia, Kanana Fou
Mila Samuelu, Fitiuta</p> <p>Vasega 7:
Ikenasio Se'e, Siliga</p> | <p>Rosey L. Sakalia, Fagali'i
Miraculous Naitui, Afonotele
Kilipa Samaeli, Pava'ia'i
Nomineta Tiatia, Kanana Fou
Mila Samuelu, Fitiuta</p> <p>Vasega 8:
Sunia Sinisa, Siliga
Hannah Vivi, Fagali'i
Timena Aneseli, Afonotele</p> | <p>Leroy Tupa'i, Mt. Alava
Dora A. Mallia, Manulele
Uaea Siagega, Tafuna
Siulagi Sua, Pava'ia'i
Christallinn Ilmaleota, Kanana Fou
Lawrence Tautua, Fitiuta</p> <p>Vasega 280:
Salome Pulelitoto, Samoana
Makatala Vaisagote, Tafuna</p> | <p>Vasega 282:
Gracious Sotoa, Samoana
Daphne Taliua, Samoana
Lotonu'u G., Leone
Gingerlei Sali, Leone
Lawrence Tautua, Tafuna</p> <p>Vasega 286:
Catherine Mageo, Samoana
Mema Lama, Leone
Caroline Pati, Tafuna</p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



“GOLDEN”

SEVEN THINGS YOU CAN DO TO KEEP YOUR DOG HEALTHY

By Dr. Kristen Jensen
ASG Department of Agriculture
Veterinarian

People often look at my dog, “Golden”, and assume I brought him from off island because he is so big and healthy. He’s a Samoan dog, the best kind there is. As the territorial veterinarian, I am often asked how he stays so good looking and healthy. Here is a list of seven things you can do to help your dog thrive:

1. **VACCINATE:** Diseases like parvo virus and leptospirosis kill many dogs here in American Samoa. These diseases are **PREVENTABLE**. Puppies should receive a series of vaccinations starting at 6 weeks, and adult dogs should receive a booster yearly.

2. **DEWORM:** Dogs should receive a medication once a

month to kill any internal parasites they have been exposed to.

3. **STERILIZE:** Spaying and neutering your dog adds years to its life, helps prevent certain cancers, and prevents diseases transmitted through breeding.

4. **FLEA/TICK PREVENTION:** Many types of medications are available to keep fleas and ticks off your family friend. Aside from causing itchiness and skin problems, biting insects can transmit blood diseases that can cause serious illness and death.

The medications in many flea and tick collars have been around so long that many of these insects are resistant to them, and they don’t work well.

Here at the vet clinic, we find fipronil (the active ingredient in Frontline), and some of the newer oral flea/tick medications like Nexguard and Bravecto work best.

5. **GOOD DIET:** Good quality dog foods are the best thing to feed your dog. They have been formulated to provide all the nutrition and vitamins your dog needs to grow and stay healthy. Scraps are OK sometimes — but shouldn’t be the only thing your dog eats. Bones can cause constipation, obstructions, and internal injuries, and should not be fed to dogs.

6. **HEARTWORM PREVENTION:** Heartworms are a parasite transmitted by mosquitos between dogs. We have a high rate of heartworm disease here on island.

These parasites live in the heart and surrounding blood vessels and eventually cause heart failure, weight loss, coughing, and death.

Heartworms are easy to prevent with a once a month medication (often combined with a de-wormer). This medication can be purchased at the veterinary clinic or from on line pharmacies but does require a prescription from a veterinarian.

7. **KINDNESS:** Dogs need more than all of these above requirements to live a happy life.

They enjoy companionship, exercise, being clean, and a safe environment. They should always have access to shelter to get out of the rain and sun, and fresh water at all times.

The ASG Department of Agriculture Veterinary Clinic can help you with all of the above. Please contact us with any questions or to schedule an appointment at 699-9445.

DoA Director Filifaatali Mike Fuiava and Dr. Jensen continue to promote for healthy and happy pets, leading to healthy and happy pet owners.



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Arizona House kicks out Rep. Don Shooter over sex misconduct

PHOENIX (AP) — The Arizona House kicked out Republican Rep. Don Shooter on Thursday because of a lengthy pattern of sexual misconduct, making him the first state lawmaker in the U.S. to be expelled since the #MeToo movement emerged last year.

Other legislators nationwide have resigned or been stripped of their leadership posts after being accused of misconduct. But the expulsion marked a new escalation in handling such cases after a report ordered by the legislative leader of his own party showed Shooter engaged in a pattern of sexual harassment toward women.

The drama on Arizona's House floor lasted for about two hours, with bipartisan female lawmakers in red gathering in a circle, holding hands and hugging before the vote began. Then Shooter took center stage, saying he had said and done stupid things but "I stood on the carpet, I took it like a man, I apologized."

"It's been my honor to represent the people of District 13," Shooter said. "I have faithfully executed my duties. I've never taken bribes, I've never considered one way or another except on the merits of a bill."

At the end of his speech, he held his arm out, dropped the microphone on the floor and walked out. He was one of three lawmakers to vote against his ouster, with 56 House members supporting it.

The fallout comes months after Republican Rep. Michelle Ugenti-Rita said Shooter propositioned her for sex and repeatedly commented on her breasts. Many other women, including the then-publisher of Arizona's largest newspaper, then complained that he subjected them to inappropriate sexual comments or actions.

Shooter said earlier in the day that he deserved to be punished but did nothing to justify expulsion.

He had been facing censure, but Republican House Speaker J.D. Mesnard moved for a vote to expel him after the embattled lawmaker sent a letter to fellow legislators Thursday. It alleged that the investigative report Mesnard commissioned into Shooter's and Ugenti-Rita's behavior whitewashed accusations against another House member that were worse than the claims he faced.

Shooter wrote that the report omitted a young woman's complaint that another lawmaker subjected her to unwanted sexual advances. He would not name the lawmaker.

The report says Ugenti-Rita's boyfriend sent sexually explicit communications to someone. Investigators determined that happened but that there was no evidence Ugenti-Rita knew or was involved.

Mesnard said he talked to the woman and learned Shooter's description her concerns weren't true.

"It was then I realized Rep. Shooter's letter was nothing more than an effort to use this individual as a pawn," Mesnard said. "So he was not, in fact, standing up for the victim but rather further victimizing this person."

The House speaker told Shooter that the vote was now about expulsion and asked for any weapons he had with him. Mesnard said Shooter turned over a handgun. Firearms are banned at the Legislature, but lawmakers have been known to carry them in gun-friendly Arizona and the rule generally isn't enforced. Shooter was elected to the Senate in 2010, and moved to the House in 2016. The lawmaker from the southern Arizona city of Yuma was known around the Capitol as a politically incorrect jokester who threw booze-fueled parties in his office on the last day of legislative sessions.

The initial complaints against him came from Ugenti-Rita in mid-October.



Arizona state Rep. Michelle Ugenti-Rita, center, leaves the House speaker's office along with Reps. Jay Lawrence, left, and Vince Leach, right, in Phoenix, Ariz., Thursday, Feb. 1, 2018. The House is poised to consider a motion by Speaker J.D. Mesnard, (background right), to immediately expel Rep. Don Shooter following a sexual harassment investigation prompted by Ugenti-Rita's October complaint against him. (AP Photo/Bob Christie)

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In The High Court of American Samoa TRIAL DIVISION

HCPR NO. 55-17

In the Matter of the Estate of

HELENA LIUFAU,
Decedent

ELENA LIUFAU AND MA'AM LIUFAU,
Petitioners

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a petition for letters of administration has been filed in the High Court of American Samoa, Territory of American Samoa by ELENA LIUFAU and MA'AM LIUFAU to serve as co-administrators for the Estate of Helena Liufau (Deceased) who died on November 6, 2016.

A hearing on the petition will be held on March 12, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. before the Trial Division of the High Court of American Samoa at the Courthouse in Fagatogo, American Samoa.

All interested parties may appear before the Court on said date to respond to this petition.

Dated: February 01, 2018

CLERK OF COURTS

Published: 02/02, 02/09 & 02/16/18



New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern poses for a photo on Thursday, Feb. 1, 2018, in Wellington, New Zealand. Ardern told The Associated Press in an interview she supports sanctions against North Korea while also urging a "de-escalation" on the Korean Peninsula, and says her country should maintain close ties with the U.S. even if they don't always agree.

(AP Photo/Nick Perry)

New Zealand urges North Korea 'de-escalation'

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern expressed support Thursday for economic sanctions against North Korea while also urging a "de-escalation" on the Korean Peninsula, and said her country should maintain a close relationship with the United States even if they don't always agree.

Arden, 37, who this week will mark her first 100 days in office, made the comments in an interview with The Associated Press that also touched on her country's relationship with China and the intense interest surrounding her recently announced pregnancy.

She said that despite her country's small size, New Zealand would always use its voice to stand up for what it believes to be right.

She said the tensions surrounding North Korea were threatening regional security.

"We have spoken openly

about the need for there to be a de-escalation," she said. "Our huge opposition to the use of nuclear weapons. We've called on sanctions to be upheld and we've done what we can to enforce them in our region. And so yes, we've used the voice that we have."

She said New Zealand doesn't hold the view expressed by U.S. President Donald Trump in his State of the Union address this week that China is a rival.

"That is not how I would classify New Zealand's relationship with China at all," she said, emphasizing the last two words.

She said her country was not beholden to China despite its economic importance in buying New Zealand's milk exports. She said New Zealand should also keep working with the U.S. for its own gain and that the relationship was "incredibly important."

The possibility of Ardern giving birth while in office had become a point of contention from the time she became Labour Party leader last year, seven weeks before the election. She was twice asked by television hosts about her plans for children.

She responded that while she was happy to talk about her own plans, it was broadly an unacceptable question for women in the workplace. Her answers resonated with many people around the world.

Ardern said when she found out she was pregnant in October, two weeks before being sworn in as the nation's leader, it was a moment of "pure shock" because she and partner Clarke Gayford had been told they would struggle to conceive without fertility treatment.

Their first child is due in June, when Ardern plans to take a six-week break from her job. Deputy Prime Minister Winston Peters will fill in.

"I just happen to be doing what many, many other thousands of women are doing, but just in a very public way," she said. "I'm conscious, though, of not perpetuating this view that life's easy. And that we just all need to get on with it, and that women can do absolutely everything."

Ardern said she will get plenty of help, both from senior lawmakers who will take care of her political portfolios while she is absent and from her partner, who will become the primary caregiver for their child.

"So I don't think women should feel this weight of expectation," she said. "I think what we should feel is this expectation from those around us to share the load a little more."

During the election campaign last year, Ardern's Labour Party set out a 17-point plan for its first 100 days in office. Ardern said she felt they'd achieved all they had promised, although it was only the beginning.

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"Channel 47" KBS WORLD Program of American Samoa

The programs listed below may change without notice due to copyright issues.(Feb 4 ~ 10, 2018)

Time of American Samoa	Sunday (2/4)	Monday (2/5)	Tuesday (2/6)	Wednesday (2/7)	Thursday (2/8)	min	Friday (2/9)	Saturday (2/10)	min	
10 : am	K-pop World Festiv'	Hello Counselor (E,R)	Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance	The Unit Jisook's Table for O'	Happy Together (E,R)	00'	Music Bank	Encore Drama	00'	
11 : am	Battle Trip (E,R)	Encore Drama Discovery of Love			The Beauty		00'	Discovery of Love (E,R)	50'	
12 NOON	Music Bank (E,R)	Daily Drama "The Secret of My Love" (E,R)								
1 : pm	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Daily Drama "Love Returns" (E,R)								
2 : pm	Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Radio Romance Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)	Black Knight Wed-Thu Drama (E,R)	K-RUSH (E,R)		30'	K-RUSH (E,R)	20'	
3 : pm	Encore Drama Discovery of Love (E,R)	Hello Counselor (E,R)	Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance	The Unit Jisook's Table for O'	Happy Together (E,R)	30'	Battle Trip (E,R)	Music Bank	30'	
4 : pm	Encore Drama Discovery of Love (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Jugglers (E,R) Final	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Black Knight (E,R)	The Unit (E,R)		50'	My Golden Life Weekend Drama (E,R)	50'	
5 : pm	Encore Drama Discovery of Love (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Radio Romance (E,R)	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Black Knight (E,R)	Yu Huiyeol's Sketchbook (E,R)		00'	Mon-Tue Drama Wed-Thu Drama	00'	
6 : pm	Encore Drama Discovery of Love (E,R) # 2, 3, 4.	Mon-Tue Drama Radio Romance (E,R) # 1, 2.	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R) #40, 41, 42.	Wed-Thu Drama Black Knight (E,R) # 16, 17, 18.	Guerilla Date (E,R)		10'	Black Knight (E,R)	10'	
7 : pm	Gag Concert	Daily Drama "The Secret of My Love" (E,R)								
8 : pm	KBS World News Today							40'	Hello Counselor (E,R)	20'
9 : pm	UHD UNESCO World Heritage Special (E,R)	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Radio Romance Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)	Music Bank (Live)	Happy Together (E,R)	40'	Battle Trip (E,R)	40'		
10 : pm	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Hello Counselor (E,R)	Yu Huiyeol's Sketchbook	The Unit Jisook's Table for O'	K-RUSH (E,R) Please Find Her(E,R) Guerilla Date (E,R)	00'	Gag Concert (E)	"The Return of Superman" (E)	00'	
11 : pm	Daily Drama "The Secret of My Love" (E,R)							20'	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	40'
12 : 00	Daily Drama "Love Returns" (E)							20'	Two Days and One Night (E)	40'
Next Day	KBS 9 News (Live)							00'	My Golden Life Weekend Drama (E)	20'
1 : am	KBS 9 News (Live)							20'	Mon-Tue Drama Wed-Thu Drama	30'
2 : am	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Radio Romance Mon-Tue Drama (E)	Black Knight Wed-Thu Drama (E)	Happy Together		30'	Radio Romance (E,R)	Black Knight (E,R)	30'	
3 : am	Hello Counselor	Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance (E,R)	The Unit Jisook's Table for O'	Happy Together	Music Bank (E,R)	30'	Mon-Tue Drama Wed-Thu Drama	30'		
4 : am	Encore Drama Discovery of Love (E,R)							50'	The Swan Club (E,R)	50'
5 : am	Heritage Tomorrow							10'	Gag Concert (E,R)	50'
6 : am	UHD UNESCO World Heritage	Battle Trip (E,R)	Jisook's Table for O' K-pop World Festiv'	The Beauty	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	10'	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Two Days and One Night (E,R)	30'	
7 : am	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Gag Concert (E,R)	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Yu Huiyeol's Sketchbook (E,R)	Battle Trip (E,R)	50'	My Golden Life Weekend Drama (E,R)	50'		
8 : am	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Radio Romance Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)	Black Knight Wed-Thu Drama (E,R)	Happy Together		00'	Discovery of Love (E,R)	The Beauty	00'	
9 : am	Hello Counselor	Dragon's Club Over'	The Unit	Happy Together	Music Bank	30'	Guerilla Date (E)	50'		

*Note: If you need this Schedule, e-mail <hyunhwilee@gmail.com>. and I will send it to you every week!

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California prosecutors dropping, reducing pot convictions



FILE--In this Jan. 1, 2018, file photo, marijuana plants are for sale at Harborside marijuana dispensary in Oakland, Calif. With pot now legal in California, prosecutors in San Francisco and San Diego are moving to erase thousands of marijuana convictions en masse, a step that could prove life-changing for some and could especially help minorities, who were more likely than whites to be arrested for such crimes.

(AP Photo/Mathew Sumner, file)

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — With pot now legal in California, prosecutors in San Francisco and San Diego are moving to erase thousands of marijuana convictions en masse, a step that could prove life-changing for some and could especially help minorities, who were more likely than whites to be arrested for such crimes.

“We want to address the wrongs that were caused by the failures of the war on drugs for many years in this country and begin to fix the harm that was done not only to the entire nation but specifically to communities of color,” San Francisco District Attorney George Gascon said. Advocates are calling on more counties to do the same. Gascon’s office said Thursday that other California district attorneys have called San Francisco for advice on handling marijuana cases.

Gascon said he hopes to spark a trend in California.

“That’s awesome. It’s wonderful and appropriate,” said Josh Freeman, a marijuana farmer who recently had his felony conviction for selling small bags of weed at a reggae concert reduced to a misdemeanor.

Freeman can now obtain permits to grow marijuana legally, something he couldn’t do with a felony record. He can also legally buy a gun and take up hunting again, he said.

In addition to being barred from owning guns, felons cannot vote and are disqualified from holding many professional licenses. Also, people with felony convictions often have difficulty finding work and housing. Californians voted in November 2016 to legalize recreational marijuana and abolish a host of pot-related crimes. California is among eight states that allow adults to use pot recreationally. The federal government still considers marijuana illegal.

California’s measure applied retroactively to hundreds of thousands of cases, but people who wanted to get their convictions erased or reduced had to petition the courts themselves. And fewer than 5,000 people

have gone through the time and expense involved.

Freeman, for example, hired an attorney to get his Monterey County conviction reduced, and it took several months and repeated visits to the court.

As a result, Gascon announced on Wednesday that his office will review nearly 8,000 cases dating to 1975 and that prosecutors will seek mass dismissals and reductions. Gascon said just 23 people filed petitions in San Francisco last year.

The National Conference of State Legislatures said nine states have marijuana laws that let people clear or modify their records.

African-Americans and other minorities have been arrested for marijuana crimes at far higher rates than whites, and as legalization spreads, states and cities are trying to redress that inequity. Across the San Francisco Bay, Oakland has set aside a number of marijuana sales permits for minorities convicted of specific pot-related crimes and requires some stores to be opened in low-income neighborhoods hard hit by arrests. “It was a huge relief,” said Ingrid Archie, a 37-year-old black woman who may have been the first person in the state to petition a court to reduce a felony marijuana conviction.

Archie was sentenced to three years in prison after police seized a pound of pot from her home. Four hours after the polls closed on election night in 2016, Archie said, she emailed her petition to a judge. Three months later, her marijuana conviction was turned into a misdemeanor. She now works for the Los Angeles nonprofit group A New Way of Life, which campaigned for legalization and helps those released from prison resettle in the community. Archie said more counties should follow the lead of San Francisco and San Diego and take it upon themselves to throw out or reduce convictions. San Diego District Attorney Summer Stephan said prosecutors in her office immediately reviewed all pending marijuana-related cases.



**American Samoa Government
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) RFP-024-2018

Issuance Date: January 16, 2018

Date & Time Due: February 16, 2018

No later than 2:00p.m (local time)

The American Samoa Government (ASG) issues a Request For Proposals (RFP) from qualified firms to provide:
“Development of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the American Samoa Government”

Submission

Original and five copies of the Qualifications must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: “RFP-024-2018: Development of CEDS for the ASG.” Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), February 16, 2018:

Office of Procurement
American Samoa Government
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
Attn: Dr. Oreta Mapu Crichton, CPO

Any proposal received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances. Late submissions will not be opened or considered and will be determined as being non-responsive.

Document

The RFP Scope of Work outlining the proposal requirements is available at the Office of Procurement, Tafuna, American Samoa, during normal working hours.

Review

Request for Proposal data will be thoroughly reviewed by an appointed Source Evaluation Board under the auspices of the Chief Procurement Officer, Office of Procurement, ASG.

Right of Rejection

The American Samoa Government reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals and to waive any irregularities and/or informalities in the submitted proposals that are not in the best interests of the American Samoa Government or the public.

DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON
Chief Procurement Officer

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**American Samoa Government
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT**

INVITATION FOR BIDS IFB-028-2018

Issuance Date: February 1, 2018

Closing Date: February 15, 2018

No later than 2:00p.m. (local time)

1. INVITATION

Sealed bids are invited from qualified firms to provide the “Department of Health-Tafuna Primary Health Center Repairs” located in the village of Tafuna, Territory of American Samoa.

2. RECEIPT & OPENING OF BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by the Chief Procurement Officer, American Samoa Government, Tafuna, American Samoa 96799, until 2:00 p.m. (local time), Thursday, February 15, 2018 at which time and place the sealed bids will be publicly opened and read.

3. MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING

A MANDATORY Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Office of Procurement Conference Room. Bids will not be accepted from bidders who are not present at the Pre-Bid Conference.

4. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

Electronic copies of contract documents, including Plans and Specifications may be examined or obtained at the Office of Procurement free of charge.

5. The American Samoa Government reserves the right not to accept the lowest or any bid.

6. The American Samoa Government reserves the right to waive any informality in bidding as may be in the best interest of American Samoa Government.

DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON
Chief Procurement Officer

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Trump will clear way for publication of classified memo



Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif., attends a speech by President Donald Trump at the 2018 House and Senate Republican Member Conference at The Greenbrier, in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., Thursday, Feb. 1, 2018. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

lines Monday to put the memo out, giving Trump five days to reject the release under committee rules. But Trump also has the power to declassify the document himself and either release it or hand it to Congress to release. One of the White House officials said the memo would be in "Congress' hands" after Trump declassified it and there were unlikely to be any redactions to the document.

Trump has said he wants the memo released even after the FBI declared Wednesday that it has "grave concerns" about its accuracy. The document was written as part of an effort to reveal what Republicans say are surveillance abuses by the FBI and the Justice Department early in Russia investigation, before special counsel Robert Mueller was appointed to take it over. Senior FBI officials have also made direct appeals to the White House, warning that it could set a dangerous precedent.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Over the strong objections of his own Justice Department, President Donald Trump will clear the way for the publication of a classified memo on the Russia investigation that Republicans say shows improper use of surveillance by the FBI, White House officials said Thursday.

The memo, prepared by Republicans on the House intelligence committee, is said to allege FBI misconduct in the initial stages of its investigation of potential ties between Russia and Trump's 2016 campaign. Trump's Justice Department and Democrats furiously lobbied Trump to stop the release, saying it could harm national security and mislead the public.

A White House official said Congress would probably be informed of the decision Friday, adding Trump was "OK" with its release. A second White House official said Trump was likely to declassify the congressional memo but the precise method for making it public was still being figured out. The officials were not authorized to be quoted about private deliberations and spoke on condition of anonymity. The FBI's stance means Trump, by allowing the memo's release, would be openly defying his own FBI director. It also suggests a clear willingness by FBI Director Christopher Wray, who in the early stretch of his tenure has been notably low-key, to challenge a president who just months ago fired his predecessor, James Comey.

Comey weighed in on Twitter Thursday night, writing, "All should appreciate the FBI speaking up. I wish more of our leaders would." He advised his former colleagues at the FBI to "take heart: American history shows that, in the long run, weasels and liars never hold the field, so long as good people stand up." The House intelligence panel voted along party

Democrats call the memo an attempt by Republicans to distract attention from the investigation into Russian meddling in the election that sent Trump to the White House. Democrats on the intelligence panel made a last-ditch effort Wednesday evening to stop the release, saying it had been "secretly altered" by the Republicans who wrote it. California Rep. Adam Schiff said in a letter to the House Intelligence Committee chairman, Republican Devin Nunes of California, that committee Democrats had discovered changes that were made after the vote Monday.

"The White House has therefore been reviewing a document since Monday night that the committee never approved for public release," Schiff said in the letter. Schiff asked Nunes for another vote on the memo, but Republicans didn't appear to waver. Nunes spokesman Jack Langer said the committee vote was "procedurally sound."

"To suggest otherwise is a bizarre distraction from the abuses detailed in the memo, which the public will hopefully soon be able to read for themselves," Langer said.

This all comes as special counsel Mueller is investigating whether the Trump campaign improperly coordinated with Russia and whether Trump sought to obstruct the inquiry by, among other actions, firing Comey. Republicans have intensified their pressure on the Justice Department as Mueller's probe has moved closer to Trump's inner circle.

Trump has been telling confidants in recent days that he believes the document will validate his concerns that the FBI and Justice Department conspired against him, according to one outside adviser familiar with those conversations but not authorized to speak publicly about private discussions.

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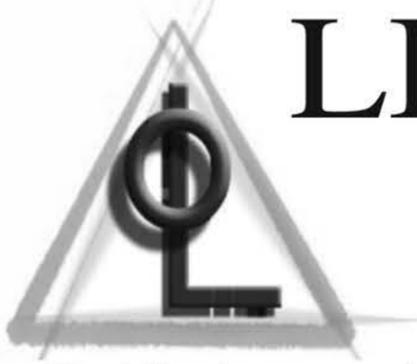
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Cuba state media: Fidel Castro's son has killed himself



FILE - In this Feb. 9, 2007 file photo, Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart, the oldest son of Cuba's President Fidel Castro, addresses the International Economists Conference on Globalization and Development Problems in Havana, Cuba. According to Cuban state media on Feb. 1, 2018, Diaz-Balart has killed himself.

(AP Photo/Javier Galeano, File)

HAVANA (AP) — The oldest son of late Cuban leader Fidel Castro killed himself on Thursday after months of treatment for depression, state media reported. He was 68.

Official website Cubadebate

said Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart had been in a "deeply depressed state." A brief note read on state television said his treatment had "required an initial hospitalization then outpatient follow-up."

The oldest son of Cuba's late revolutionary leader was known for his resemblance to his father, earning him the nickname Fidelito or Little Fidel.

Castro Diaz-Balart studied nuclear physics in the former Soviet Union and served as scientific adviser to the Council of State. He was vice president of the Cuban Academy of Sciences. He previously led Cuba's nuclear program.

Castro Diaz-Balart was born to Fidel Castro's first wife, Mirta Diaz-Balart, a woman from Cuba's aristocracy who Fidel married in his youth before beginning the revolutionary struggle that later brought him and his brother Raul to power.

Because of his maternal lineage, Castro Diaz-Balart is cousin to Republican Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart, who represents Cuban exiles in Florida.

Fidel Castro, the father, died in November 2016 at age 90.

Clashes in Maldives after court orders politicians released

MALE, Maldives (AP) — Opponents of the Maldives government clashed with police on the streets of the capital Friday, demanding the release of imprisoned politicians whose convictions were overturned by the Supreme Court.

The Thursday night court ruling ordered the release of the politicians, including exiled ex-President Mohamed Nasheed, saying their guilty verdicts had been influenced by the government.

Hundreds of people celebrated in Male, the Indian Ocean archipelago's capital, by waving the country's flag, but police dispersed the crowds using pepper spray and batons. Rocks were thrown at police and at least one injured officer was seen being carried to a hospital.

The ruling could allow Nasheed, the nation's first democratically elected president, to challenge President Yameen Abdul Gayoom when he seeks re-election later this year.

Atul Keshap, the U.S. ambassador to the Maldives, welcomed the Supreme Court order. "I urge the government and security services to respect this ruling, which bolsters democracy and rule of law for all Maldivians," he wrote on Twitter.

An archipelago known for its luxury tourist resorts, Maldives

became a multiparty democracy 10 years ago after decades of autocratic rule. But it lost much of its democratic gains after Gayoom was elected in 2013. He has maintained a tight grip on power, controlling institutions like the judiciary, police and the bureaucracy.

The court also reinstated 12 lawmakers who had been ousted for switching allegiance to the opposition. When those lawmakers return, Gayoom's Progressive Party of the Maldives will lose a majority in the 85-member Parliament.

The government said in a statement it was trying to "vet and clarify" the court's ruling and "will work to engage, and consult with, the Supreme Court in order to comply with the ruling in line with proper procedure and the rule of law."

The opposition alliance in a statement welcomed the ruling and called for Gayoom's resignation, saying the court's decision "effectively ends President Yameen's authoritarian rule."

Nasheed had been sentenced to 13 years in prison on terrorism charges but was allowed to get medical treatment in Britain, where he received asylum.

The ruling could lead to him becoming eligible to run in the presidential election expected to take place between August and November.

