

Port seeks hike in fees and charges after 33 years

Page 2

Heavyweight champ Parker hits the road to boost profile

In Sports

Lagolagoina Maota o Sui pili si'i ai tau o tofogi i luga o le uafu

Le Lali B-9

Samoana High School hosted 'Curriculum Day' yesterday for its faculty and staff, and students were dismissed at noon. Pictured are the Sharks' Special Education (SPED) teachers, along with their resource specialists, Julia Seiuli-Ierome and Tepora Tuilagi.

[photo: BC]



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# samoa news

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2017

\$1.00

## Immigration Office is no longer authorized to issue any approved entry permits

INCLUDING THOSE FOR CITIZENS OF SAMOA



Attorney General Talauega Eleasalo Ale shaking hands with senators earlier this week. The AG has clarified that the Immigration Office no longer has the authority to issue entry permits for any foreigners, even citizens of Samoa. See story for details.

[photo: FS]

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

Attorney General Talauega Eleasalo Ale has provided more details, such as examples of permitted and prohibited activities, under the new entry requirements for citizens of 38 countries listed on the American Samoa Entry Permit Waiver Program (EPWP).

Talauega stresses that the Immigration Office no longer has the authority to issue entry permits for foreigners — including citizens of Samoa — to enter American Samoa. "To be clear, the Immigration Office is no longer authorized to issue any approved entry permits," he said.

The AG provided further details on these issues, in two separate memorandums dated Sept. 18th, pursuant to Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga's Aug. 29th memorandum, "Policies to Combat Illegal Immigration in American Samoa". (See yesterday's edition for details)

### EPWP DETAILS

According to the AG's first memo, the passport of a citizen of a country under the EPWP must be valid for at least six months "after planned departure from American Samoa" and the round trip ticket or onward passage must be "confirmed".

The document and payment — a \$20 fee — must be provided to the AG's Office or Immigration Office at least 48 hours before travel.

However, "Payment may be made at the airport upon arrival," Talauega said, adding that if the materials are in order the AG's

(Continued on page 8)

## Senate hikes misc excise tax to 10%, tables sales tax

REPEALS 2% WAGE TAX & INCREASES FONOS BUDGET

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

The Senate has agreed to hike the current 5% miscellaneous excise tax, instead of gradually repealing it — as proposed by the Lolo Administration — as well as repeal the 2% wage tax, which is paid by wage earners only.

The Senate has also approved in second reading its version of the fiscal year 2018 budget, after increasing the Fono's budget by \$500,000 by reallocating funds from five projects under the FY 2018 Budget Special Programs, overseen by the Governor's Office.

### EXCISE TAX

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee, after hearing from the ASG Revenue Task Force and several top executives of local major businesses, met yesterday to debate and decide the fate of two Administration revenue measures.

One measure seeks to implement a 7% sales tax, which upon approval would also repeal the 2% wage tax, effective January 2018.

The second bill gradually phases out over a five-year period the 5% miscellaneous excise tax, starting January 2019.

Committee chairman Sen. Magalei Logovi'i told senators he believes that sufficient testimonies — from ASG and the private sector — have been presented on these two measures.

To start off discussions, Magalei suggested focusing on the excise tax measure while setting aside the sales tax, which has raised concerns from the private sector, as far as implementation and collection.

For the excise tax, he said procedures are already in place for collection, which is done at the port. Business representatives also noted this during their testimonies.

Top executives of Haleck Enterprises and Neil's ACE Home Center suggested last week during a committee hearing to increase the 5% excise tax up by 2% or 3%, instead of implementing a 7% sales tax, which they say is too high and would require businesses to spend additional money to upgrade computer software to effectively collect a sales tax, and hire additional personnel. (See Samoa News Sept. 18th edition for details)

Similar testimonies were provided by other

(Continued on page 6)



A postcard from Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, where 7 local athletes are representing American Samoa — for the first time ever — in the 5th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games. Samoa News extends it thanks to Carl's Jr. for sponsoring "Postcards from Ashgabat".

Pictured are ASNOC Secretary General Ethan Lake, members of the AS Wrestling Team, and Coach Irene Kane before they head out for training. Weigh-ins will be held Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017 before competition starts Sunday, Sept. 24th.

[Photo: Terry Custodio Auva'a]



**In The High Court of American Samoa FAMILY, DRUG AND ALCOHOL COURT DIVISIONS**  
FDA/JR No. 57-16  
IN RE: A CHILD  
**NOTICE/FA'AALIGA**

TO: Mr. Maverick Ueni  
Petesa Tafuna Village  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to above-named respondent that a petition has been filed before the High Court of American Samoa to terminate your parental rights in a male child born on June 30, 2013, at LBJ Tropical Medical Center, Fagaalu, American Samoa. A hearing will be held after two months and ten days from the date of the first publication of this notice, in which the Court may enter an order that you have not acquired any parental rights to the minor child and place the child for adoption. If you have any objection, or wish to claim or assert your parental rights, you must appear within two months and ten days from the date of the first publication of this notice and file an objection or a claim with the Court.

O LE FA'AALIGA E TUUINAATU ia te oe, le ua ta'ua i luga, ua iai se talosaga ua failaina i le Fa'amasinoga Mauaialuga o Amerika Samoa e iloilo ai ou aia fa'a-matua i se tamaititi sa fanau o ia ile aso 30 o luni, 2013, i le Falemai i Fagaalu, Amerika Samoa. O lenei iloilo e faia pe a tuana'i le lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le aso o le ulula'i faasalalauga o lenei faaaliga, ma e ono tuuina atu ai se poloa'iga a le Fa'amasinoga e faailoa ai ua leai ni ou aia faa-matua i lenei tamaititi. Afai ete tete'e, pe ete finagalo e faamaonia ou aia faa-matua, ia e failaina se talosaga tete'e i le Fa'amasinoga i totonu o le lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le ulula'i faasalalauga o lenei faaaliga.

Dated/Aso: March 28, 2017

CLERK OF COURTS

Published: 8/24 & 9/22

**In The High Court of American Samoa FAMILY, DRUG AND ALCOHOL COURT DIVISIONS**  
FDA/JR No. 30-17  
IN RE: A CHILD  
**NOTICE/FA'AALIGA**

TO: Mr. Siatu Rambo Kerita  
Aua Village  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to above-named respondent that a petition has been filed before the High Court of American Samoa to terminate your parental rights in a male child born on May 5, 2017, at LBJ Tropical Medical Center, Fagaalu, American Samoa. A hearing will be held after two months and ten days from the date of the first publication of this notice, in which the Court may enter an order that you have not acquired any parental rights to the minor child and place the child for adoption. If you have any objection, or wish to claim or assert your parental rights, you must appear within two months and ten days from the date of the first publication of this notice and file an objection or a claim with the Court.

O LE FA'AALIGA E TUUINAATU ia te oe, le ua ta'ua i luga, ua iai se talosaga ua failaina i le Fa'amasinoga Mauaialuga o Amerika Samoa e iloilo ai ou aia fa'a-matua i se tamaititi sa fanau o ia ile aso 5 o Me, 2017, i le Falemai i Fagaalu, Amerika Samoa. O lenei iloilo e faia pe a tuana'i le lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le aso o le ulula'i faasalalauga o lenei faaaliga, ma e ono tuuina atu ai se poloa'iga a le Fa'amasinoga e faailoa ai ua leai ni ou aia faa-matua i lenei tamaititi. Afai ete tete'e, pe ete finagalo e faamaonia ou aia faa-matua, ia e failaina se talosaga tete'e i le Fa'amasinoga i totonu o le lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le ulula'i faasalalauga o lenei faaaliga.

Dated/Aso: August 23, 2017

CLERK OF COURTS

Published: 9/22 & 10/20

# Port seeks hike in fees and charges after 33 years

### SENATORS NOTE THAT IN THE END THE CONSUMER PAYS FOR THE INCREASES

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

Some senators have voiced their support of an Administration bill seeking to increase port fees and charges, which has remained the same for more than three decades.

At the same time, a handful of senators noted that like all new taxes and fees as well as any increase in taxes and fees, it's the consumer who will — in the end — pay for it.

Senators' reactions and public comments were made Tuesday during the Senate Transportation/Port Committee hearing where Port Administration director Taimalelagi Dr. Claire Poumele explained that current fees and rates have been unchanged for 33 years.

Responding to a committee question on whether public hearings were held on the proposed fees, as required by local statute, Taimalelagi said this was carried out in 2015 as required by the American Samoa Administrative Procedures provision, as part of a regulation of local law.

She shared with the committee a May 21, 2015 "Notice of Intended Action" letter sent to Lt. Gov. Lemanu Peleti Muga, the Secretary of American Samoa, regarding the proposal to increase port fees.

Among the requirements of the Administrative Procedures, is that the agency is to hold a public hearing, and the letter states that a hearing was held Apr. 23, 2015. Additionally, the department allowed an additional 20-days for all interested parties to submit written comments. Further, the department, as required by the Administrative Procedures, fully reviewed and considered all oral and written submissions.

Port Administration "has determined that the need to raise port fees, in an effort to enhance the port services, is not only warranted, but needs to be implemented within the next six months," according to the letter, which also says port was looking at implementing the fee changes, after the proper Executive and Legislative approval processes.

It also says that Port Administration, in collaboration with the Commerce Department, completed its review of the rates and fees and has successfully completed a rate study with viable solutions to increasing revenues for port operations.

During her testimony in the House more than a week ago, Taimalelagi said Port worked with DOC on the rate structure and study. Additionally, there was also another public hearing — with port users — held last year (aside from the 2015

(Continued on page 10)



Port Administration director Taimalelagi Dr. Claire Poumele (left) and Attorney General Talauega Eleasalo Ale (right) during Tuesday's Senate Transportation/Port Committee on the proposed hikes in port fees and charges.

[photo: FS]

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# “TUPULAGA MO TAEAO” —YOUTH FOR TOMORROW

compiled by Samoa News staff

The 2017 Hawaii Samoa Youth Symposium slated for tomorrow (Saturday, Sept. 23) will bring together Samoan youth in the state of Hawaii, family members, community members, church communities in Hawaii, educators, community groups, students, artists, and cultural practitioners in order to create learning environments for Samoan youth that will perpetuate the language and culture of Samoa.

The symposium is spearheaded by Le Fetuao SLC, and co-sponsored by the University of Hawaii’s Indo-Pacific Languages and Literature department of UH Manoa, Department of Psychology, and Pacific International Training Desk.

Keynote speaker is American Samoa’s Hotavia Gingerlei Porter. Gingerlei is from Auasi,

Am. Samoa and is the Associate Director of the Pacific International Training Desk working with various weather services throughout the Pacific Region. She is also a PhD student with the Dept. of Urban and Regional Planning at the Univ. of Hawaii.

This one-day youth symposium takes place Saturday from 8a.m. -2:30p.m. at the University of Hawai’i at the Shidler Business Building, Room - 101

The program is designed to:

1. Promote the value of learning Gagana Samoa & Aganuu (Samoan Language & Culture) and its importance in the 21st century.

2. Provide a space for young researchers and college students to share their work in the community.

3. Provide an opportunity for youth to engage with Aoga Samoa (Samoan Schools) based

in Hawaii that teach the Samoan language and culture.

## AFIO MAI I LE 2017 FONO MO TUPULAGA:

Please join us at the 2017 Hawaii Samoa Youth Symposium

### BACKGROUND

The 2017 Hawaii Samoa Youth Symposium is a concept developed by Le Fetuao Samoan Language Center (Le Fetuao SLC) as part of its sustainability plan to further enhance its community-based Samoan language and culture program. The mission of Le Fetuao SLC is to increase literacy of the Samoan language among our community’s children, youth, and parents while also contributing towards the understanding of Samoan culture and the development of Samoan identity.

[Source: Le Fetuao Samoan Language Center]

# Amata welcomes \$125,000 drug-free communities grant

Washington, D.C. – Thursday, Sept. 21, 2017 - Congresswoman Aumua Amata was pleased to welcome a \$125,000 grant destined for American Samoa from the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) as part of the Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program.

“These are welcome federal funds for youth education and safety, and this grant is a recognition of the prevention efforts already taking place in American Samoa,” said Aumua Amata. “Congratulations to the Foho County Coalition and Fa’ivae A. Godinet on earning this support through your valued work to help school-aged American Samoans make healthy choices.”

This continuation grant is designated to the Foho County Coalition, and funds ongoing work to prevent youth substance use, including prescription drugs, marijuana, tobacco, and alcohol.

### BACKGROUND ON THE

### DFC

The Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program, created by Congress through the Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997, mobilizes communities to prevent youth substance use. Directed by ONDCP, in partnership with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the program is providing 719 grants totaling \$89 million to community coalitions to reduce local youth substance use.

“Our local DFC coalitions are a key part of this effort because they are bringing together parents groups, schools, healthcare professionals, law enforcement, businesses, and others to prevent drug use and improve the health of the community,” said Richard Baum, Acting Director of National Drug Control Policy.

“SAMHSA looks forward to working with its community partners in implementing evidence-based practices to impact the community and help youth,”

said Dr. Elinore McCance-Katz, Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use.

Nationally, an estimated 3,200 young people per day between the ages of 12 and 17 used drugs for the first time in the preceding year. Research also indicates that high school seniors are more likely to smoke marijuana than cigarettes, and 16% of high school seniors in 2016 reported binge drinking (5 or more drinks in a row) in the past two weeks, according to 2016 data.

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P.O Box 1630, Pago Pago AS 96799.

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Attend our 3-day Project Planning and Development training at the Tradewinds Hotel, presented free by the U.S. Administration for Native Americans (ANA). Come with an idea, leave with a plan.

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# Letter to the Editor

"DPS COMMISSIONER, CLEAN YOUR HOUSE FIRST!"

Dear Editor,

I read today's article w/both astonishment and disbelief. Is our esteemed commish of public safety for real? Stiffer sentences he says?! That's all and well, were it not for the fact that he needs to clean his own house first and foremost.

Is he even remotely aware that many of his own officers are alleged to both use and deal in both "Ice" and marijuana???

Is he aware of the availability of those drugs at the T.C.F.? I have a friend who is incarcerated and he says there are so much drugs inside the jail it's insane. And how are they being delivered you may ask? It's alleged by the very guards themselves.

Now I have to ask how is it that our Fono Speaker, whose vehicle was recently found to contain a quantity of drugs, and yet not one charge was filed? "Oh it was my son-in-law" was his reply. Now if the average chump on the street were to be in the same situation do you think he would receive the same pass that this titled faipule was and has been given?

Mr. Le'i are you that insulated from reality that you really are not aware that our island's drug problem starts at the very top, and trickles down to the average Joe on the street? We have a double standard at play here, and it's the dirty little secret that is known by all.

Mr. Commish... America's war on drugs should tell you it's been a long lost cause, and the corruption and greed that fuel the drug trade here in Am. Samoa will NEVER disappear as long as the demand remains as high as it does.

Not one mention in the article was made of education, beginning in the early years of school. Education is the fundamental key to the epidemic you so wish to eradicate. Supply and demand are what fuels this problem, and not one effort is made to decrease the demand.

The supply is far too lucrative. And where are the Rehab programs that can begin to address this issue? Nothing exists in any form in that regard. It sure sounds good to take the tough stand our esteemed Fono members have done. But they are not living in reality.

Start with them when it comes to drug testing, stop giving them the free pass at the airport to walk thru with no screening of any kind. Make them live up to the standards they demand of the general population.

Drug screening, customs screening, they should be held even more accountable than Mr. and Mrs. Average who come into the territory if they wish to set an example.

Oh, but no... as titled privileged people, they get the free pass. Right Mr. Speaker? With your drug filled truck? Funny thing about this is that I am not saying anything that EVERYONE doesn't already know here on our island.

Corruption is a way of life, and has been for generations. Think it shall change soon? Not when the money is as good as it is.

Thank you and may the Lord bless and keep us all, though not even He can stop the juggernaut that is the growing drug problem we face.

Alfred Kolmer

*(Editor's Note: The 'drug-filled' vehicle was recently seen on the road — does this mean no charges are being filed — against the son-in-law or against the owner of the vehicle, the Speaker of the House? Shame on us for accepting this — it makes a mockery of the Commissioner and the Fono's stand on drugs.*

*Here's a thought: Let's just legalize it all, ASG can then tax it, and there's the "missing money" the governor keeps talking about for his Supplemental Budget — GONG! ra)*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Samoa News welcomes and encourages Letters to the Editor. Please send them to our

email [news.newsroom@samoatelco.com](mailto:news.newsroom@samoatelco.com)

Box 909, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799.

Contact us by Telephone at (684) 633-5599

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Please send correspondences to: OF, dba Samoa News, Box 909, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799.

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Former Miss American Samoa 2016 – 2017 Antonina Lilomaiava, Marlene Mulipola, Aoge Moto, President of M.A.S.I. Simeafou Imo, President of S.S.A.B. Fiti Leung Wai, Matesina Willis and Assistant Director of H.R.D. of LBJ Hospital Dr. Akenese Nikolao. [photo: Marlene Mulipola]

### Compiled by Samoa News staff S.S.A.B. HELPS MAKE MISS AM. SAMOA'S DREAM POSSIBLE

Former Miss American Samoa, Antonina Lilomaiava, joined forces with S.S.A.B. Pago Inc. and Miss American Samoa Inc. (M.A.S.I.) to donate more than \$8,000 worth of reading books, toys, educational games, puzzles, book shelves, kid's desk and chairs to the LBJ Tropical Medical Center last week Friday.

According to S.S.A.B's Procurement and Sales Manager, Marlene Mulipola, the initiative is that of the former Miss American Samoa.

"She wanted to donate some books and toys to the LBJ Break Room/Kids Room," said Ms. Mulipola.

"She sought the assistance of S.S.A.B's President and C.E.O. Fiti Leung Wai for this project as S.S.A.B. was not only her sponsor during the pageant in 2016 (through our S.S.A.B Pago Inc. Branch), but also because we are a strong advocate of Literacy in Samoa."

(Source: Samoa Observer)

### SAMOA MAN JAILED FOR DOUBLE MANSLAUGHTER

The Supreme Court in Samoa has sentenced a 42-year-old man to more than seven years in jail for a car accident that killed two people. Sinei Aunei pleaded guilty to manslaughter and negligent driving causing injuries.

He was the driver of a delivery truck which collided with a minivan in June this year on Savai'i island, killing a woman and her four-year-old son. The woman's 17-year-old son, who was the driver at the time, received serious injuries.

According to the police summary of facts, Aunei had been drinking home-brew with a friend, and was drunk before he drove the truck. Aunei's employer paid for the funeral of the two victims, and bought a new car for the family.

Aunei's family also made a traditional ifoga or apology.

(Source: RNZI)

### INTERIOR GRANTS \$75,045 FOR AM. SAMOA PARKS

WASHINGTON – U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke on Thursday announced that \$75,045 will be distributed to American Samoa for outdoor recreation and conservation projects from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which is funded through offshore oil and gas leasing. This was part of \$94.3 million distributed across all 50 states, U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.

These funds are awarded through federal matching grants that leverage public and private investment in America's state and local public parks.

"The Land and Water Conservation Fund state grant program has been a resounding success that makes physical investments in our communities," Secretary Zinke said. "From Detroit, Michigan, to Pago Pago, American Samoa, the program benefits citizens across the nation by helping state and local governments make infrastructure investments in urban, suburban, and rural parks. By advancing the Administration's offshore energy goals, we will be able to generate more revenue for the fund to improve conservation and recreation opportunities for generations to come."

The LWCF was established by Congress in 1965 to ensure access to outdoor recreation resources for present and future generations. The funds enable state and local governments to improve existing parks and other recreation areas in their communities through rehabilitation and upgrade projects. These funds are also used to create new parks in places that have none and to develop and expand trail systems that link communities and add recreation opportunities.

Since the inception of the LWCF, more than \$4.1 billion has been made available to state and local governments to fund more than 42,000 projects throughout the nation.

### GUAM GOVERNOR WARNS NORTH KOREA WOULD BE DESTROYED

The governor of Guam Eddie Calvo says North Korea would be destroyed by the United States if it fires missiles at the US territory.

President Donald Trump made a similar threat in an address to the United Nations General Assembly this week in which he referred to the North Korean leader Kim Jong-un as "rocketman".

Last month, Pyongyang threatened to fire missiles towards Guam, which is home to three US military bases.

Calvo told Pacific Daily News he was glad President Trump was using strong language in response to the North Korean threat.

"Any attack on Guam, I want Kim Jong-un to know that would probably mean the destruction of North Korea," he said.

"I would hate to see so much destruction of life, but for someone as crazy as Kim Jong-un you've got to do it in as simple and as primal a sense as possible. And I don't know how it could be more simpler than that."

Guam is about 3400 kilometres from North Korea and within range of a missile it recently fired over Japan.

(Source: RNZI)

### PACIFIC CHOCOLATE AND COFFEE ON SHOW IN AUCKLAND

Coffee and chocolate products from five Pacific countries will be showcased this weekend on Auckland's waterfront at the fourth Chocolate and Coffee Show.

Tonga's Tupu'anga Coffee, Solomons Gold, Paradise Foods from Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu's Tanna Coffee were

(Continued on page 12)



Miss American Samoa, Inc.

# Thank You FA'AFETAI TELE



**Congratulations Matauaina Gwendolyn To'omalatai**

On behalf of the President, officers and members of the Miss American Samoa Inc. we extend our greatest appreciation to all who have generously contributed and supported us for this years' 25th Silver Jubilee Celebration "Toe Tepa Tasi".

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- Matauaina To'omalatai – Lalelei (Christina Lutu-Sanchez)
- Feiloai Lusia Thompson – Families & Friends (Dalton Gaoteote)

### SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- Governor Lolo Matalasi Moliga & First Lady Chynthia Moliga
- Lt. Governor Lemanu Peleti Mauga
- Nana's Company
- Samoan Affairs – Mauga Tasi Asuega
- Public Safety – Le'i Sonny Thompson
- Public Information – Tuimavave Tauapai Laupola
- Environment Protection Agency – Ameko Pato & Faamao Asalele
- Department of Commerce – Keniseli Lafaele; Toma (market)
- Parks & Recreation – Pili Gaoteote & Ken Tupua
- SSAB Pago Inc. – Ming & Fiti Leung Wai
- KHJ/V103 – Joey Cummings (John, Sia & Rev. Fa'amasino)
- Vaimaoga
- Samoa News
- Samoa Cultural Day, Seattle, Washington – Faaluaina Pritchard & Daniel Pritchard
- Northwest Tattoo Festival – Whitey Chen
- LBJ Hospital Pediatric Ward
- Hope House – Beatrice Block-Mageo

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- Sharane Smith Family
- Toa Samoa Recruiting Station
- Isalei Iuli & Family
- Solar Inc
- Department of Commerce (DOC)
- Jacinta Fuamatu –Mailo & Family
- National Pacific Insurance
- Hope Kruse for Shalom R. Moana
- Steven & Sons –Shalhout Family
- Congresswoman Amata's Office
- Ave Designs
- Pauline Asalele for Salamasina

### IN-KIND SERVICES & DONATIONS

- Father Maresa –Aua Catholic Parish
- Rev. Aukustino Paaniani & Faletua
- Aua Catholic Parish
- Choreographer Cinta & Saia Mailo
- SSAB PAGO INC. – Former Miss Am. Samoa Antonina Literacy Project
- Former Miss American Samoa – Antonina Lilomaia & Her Parents (Leaupepe Tali & Koleka Vito Lilomaia)
- MC Wil Thompson
- MC Maotaoalii Savusa

### JUDGES:

- Head Judge – Lupe Aumavae-Tauanuu
- Judge 2 –Francine Gaisoa-Liulevaega
- Judge 3-Ben Sauvao
- Judge 4-Fiti Leung Wai
- Judge 5-Li'atama Sotoa

### SCRUTINEERS:

- #1-Shivaun Wulf
- #2- Christine Kim
- #3- Alisha Richardson (Collector)

### ENTERTAINMENT - Former Miss Cindy Silao - Fagatogo Boys

- Nana's Company – Blanche Tua & Crew/ All Day service
- Congresswoman Amata's Office
- Panamex
- Island Smile Dental Clinic
- Mata's Restaurant
- Vai's Flowers
- Zeeks Treats
- KHJ/V103
- KS Mart
- Tutuila Printing
- Tautai Rentals – Float & Rental
- Shoe Tree
- Mocheta's

- Matauaina Toomalatai's Family
- Salamasina Aumua's Family
- Fa'atamalii Center
- Shan J (Mia)
- TAOA – Evelyn Satele
- Sandra King – Float Judge
- Reggie Meredith –Float Judge
- Photogenix
- Star Struck
- Falesoa's Apparel – Shanette Tilo
- Island Image Creation
- Lupe Aumavae – Tauanuu
- Maliu Mai Beach Resort
- Heaven's Touch
- Talofa Airways – Jefferey Hunter
- Trophies-N-Things

### VENDORS

- Sadies by the Sea –Catering
- Muchi, Tino & Ken – Decorations
- All Star – Banner
- Ave Designs – Table Numbers
- Security – Nana's Co.
- Stage Crew – Fagatogo Boys
- DJ – Raymond Keleti – Program music coordinator
- Matai's Restaurant – Contestant briefing
- DDW – Judges Briefing
- Local Delights – Pre-pageant Lunch
- Paradise Pizza & Restaurant – Sunday Toanai
- Tautai Rental – Car Rental
- Samoa News – Ads

### VOLUNTEERS

- Ofeira Toafa
- Sala McMoore
- Lana Sasa
- Meleisha Telefoni
- Moana Purcell
- Fagatogo Boys
- Moesha Bird
- Andre Pa'a

### FORMER MISSES (Attended)

- Fatima Langkilde
- Sinatoga Salavea-Moliga
- Salote Auelua-Fanene
- Lorelei Haleck
- Tapuitea Fanene-Solaita
- Vaisa'asa'a Galeai-Sunui
- Lupe Aumavae-Tauanuu
- Faith Toilolo-Afu
- Wilhemina Saelua-Togafau
- Shanette Tilo-Loto
- Cindy Silao
- Eleitino Tuiasosopo
- Antonina Lilomaia

We apologize if we have forgotten to mention anyone.



# PUBLIC NOTICE

FROM THE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF AMERICAN SAMOA

The Secretary of American Samoa wishes to inform the residents interested in obtaining a notary public commission, or in renewing a commission, that the next course on notary law and ethics will be offered on September 26th, 27th, and 28th, 2017 (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) from 5:30pm – 7:30pm, at the American Samoa Community College. As is required by the Notary Act of 2007, Public Law 30-18, as amended, anyone who wishes to obtain a Notary Public Commission must undergo and successfully complete a course on Notary law, procedure and ethics.

Please contact Melesete Haleck or Sally Faumuina at the Office of the Governor at 633-4116 to register and for more information, or visit the website [www.americansamoa.gov](http://www.americansamoa.gov), and click on the "Secretary of American Samoa" hyperlink to find out more.

## Senate hikes misc...

Continued from page 1

business executives, who also pointed out that Customs already has in place procedures to collect the excise tax and this is a very fair way of collecting this tax, in which all businesses pay the same amount, instead of a sales tax, where there is no guarantee that all monies collected by some businesses from the sales tax will be reported accurately to the government.

At yesterday's committee discussion, Sen. Nuanuaolefeagaiga introduced a motion to add on another 5% to the current miscellaneous excise tax, and agreed with Magalei to set the sales tax aside for now.

Sen. Fa'amausili Mau Mau Jr., supported Nuanuaolefeagaiga's motion, and so did Sen. Tuala Manaia Fruean who suggested repealing the 2% wage tax and adding this percentage on, along with another 3%, to total the 5% noted in the committee's amendments.

Tuala pointed out that the government is having difficulty collecting the wage tax and sus-

pects the same will happen with a sales tax.

Other senators joined in, supporting the committee's amendments, which calls for a 5% increase to the current 5% excise tax — that would make it 10% — to become effective in January 2018, the same time of the repeal of the 2% wage tax — which is currently included in the sales tax proposal.

The committee's amendments are now being worked on, to be included in the measure before reporting it to the Senate floor for a vote.

Also yesterday, the House Budget and Appropriations Committee discussed and agreed to amend the Administration's proposal hiking port fees and charges, with one amendment — deleting from the language of the bill, all provisions which gives the Port Administration director the authority to review all fees and charges every five years.

### FY 2018 BUDGET

During yesterday's session, the Senate approved in second reading its version of ASG's fiscal year 2018 budget totaling just over \$395 million with amendments, which reallocates \$500,000 from five projects under the Special Programs to the Fono.

The Senate cut \$50,000 each from the Governor's Mansion Restoration and Museum Restoration; \$100,000 each from the DPS Law Enforcement and Governor's Office Consultant Fees; and \$200,000 from the Western District Youth Multipurpose Center.

As it stands now, the Fono's budget increased from \$6.91 million to \$7.41 million. The amendments however, do not inflate the final budget total, because the funds were reallocated from Special Programs to the Fono.

Senate President Gaoteote Palaie Tofau requested that the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee move forward the House version of the bill, to include the Senate's amendments.

He asked that the House version be reported today to the floor for second reading, saying there is still time for the Fono to make a decision, in the event the House disagrees with the Senate amendments, to the House budget bill.

The Fono must approve one version of the budget bill and send it to the governor for review and approval before the start of the new FY 2018 at 12:01a.m on Oct. 1st.

Magalei then announced that the newspaper — referring to Samoa News — was wrong in its reporting yesterday, regarding the discussion on the \$700,000 in the FY 2018 Budget's Special Program.

He said the committee discussion, held Wednesday, focused on the \$700,000 that the Administration put in the Supplemental Budget for the Fono.

# Fa'afetai Tele Lava

May is  
**Mental Health Awareness Month**

1 in 4 people will suffer from some form of mental illness in any given year

Break the Silence  
Break the Stigma

Not all pain is physical and not all wounds are visible

Out of the Ashes / FB

The Mental Health Awareness Month Planning Committee would like to thank the following organizations for their tireless support of our efforts to promote mental health in American Samoa. We look forward to continued partnerships in the future! Malo lava, fa'afetai!

- LDS Malaeimi Stake
- President Sonny Aiono
- McConnell Dowell
- Nana's Construction
- BlueSky Communications
- YSJ, Inc. (Fly Inc)
- Daily Store
- Sadies by the Sea
- GHC Reid & CO
- Steven & Sons
- Rep. Meauta Lauoi
- Pacific Basin Nursery
- Mrs. Kolopa Tuiasosopo
- Happy World
- ABC Fax
- KT Mart
- Rep. Sam Meleisea
- Social Security Administration
- Dr. Peni Biukoto
- Dr. Monita Adip
- Robert Toelupe, LCSW
- Jung Lee

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*30th Jubilee Celebration &*

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**



**FRIDAY, SEPT 29TH • Registration Time 11:30am - Tee Off 12noon**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH • 6:30am Registration**

**6:30am • Tee Off - Shotgun start**

**HOLE IN ONE PRIZE!**

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**\$250 Corporate Team (3 per Team)**

**\$100 Hole Sponsor**

**\$40 Individuals**

*Come & Enjoy a fun filled day of golf & help support a good cause!*

Hope House urgently needs your help to enable it to continue to provide service to our community by providing care for the elderly, terminally ill and children with severe disabilities. 100% donation will be given to Hope House.

**HOPE HOUSE RAFFLE PRIZES**

- Two (2) Winners to Win Round Trip Tickets to Hawaii
- Whirlpool Gas Range – Value \$1000 (by Neil's Ace Home Center)
- Flat Screen Colored TV – (by Island Cargo Service)
- Echo Trimmer & Blower – (by Tool Shop Inc.)
- Rattan Patio Set – (by Sepp's Furniture)
- One (1) Round Trip Ticket to Apia – (Talofa Air)
- One (1) Round Trip Ticket to Apia – (Polynesian Air)
- Table Top 2 Burner (Origin Energy)
- 3 Complete Golf Club Sets
- 3 Golf Drivers
- 3 Golf Cart Bags
- 3 Golf Putters/Umbrellas
- 3 Golf Stand Bags
- Nike Golf Balls and many more.



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Larry Sanitoa: 733-3501  
Teri Steffany: 258-2981  
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bluesky

# RISE TO THE TOP!

Bluesky is an established telecommunications company in American Samoa, Samoa & Cook Islands. Our success comes through innovation and customer experience where our purpose is to apply technology and service excellence to advance and improve the lives of our customers.

Looking for a new exciting career with an innovative company? Be part of a company where employees have a chance to do exciting work and make a difference! Bluesky is currently accepting applications for the following vacant position.

## SYSTEMS ENGINEER - DATA AND CONTENT

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Manage and maintain server environment- MS 2008 – recent
- Administration of File/Print Server, printers, scanners, security system, etc
- Assists in the diagnosis and resolution of software problems
- Assist in new software/hardware rollouts
- Maintain internal network infrastructure
- Maintain backup processes/services according to company requirements and guidelines
- Handle tasks such as desktop deployment/support/upgrades
- Contribute to and maintain system standards.
- Develop and maintain installation and configuration procedures.
- Apply OS patches and upgrades on a regular basis, and upgrade administrative tools and utilities. Configure/add new services as necessary.
- Maintain data center environmental and monitoring equipment.
- Perform ongoing performance tuning, hardware upgrades, and resource optimization as required. Configure CPU, memory, and disk partitions as required.
- Perform periodic performance reporting to support capacity planning

### PRE-REQUISITES/QUALIFICATION

- Network Certifications (N+, CCNA, Etc)
- MS Certification in server-side technologies
- Bachelor's degree in relevant business field (Engineering, Computer Science, Business Management, Operations Management, etc.) a plus
- 3+ years experience in IT/Network administration and management
- Experience in Server deployment, management and upgrades
- Experience in network management
- Knowledge in desktop setup/deployment (client-server setup)
- Experience planning and complying with network security requirements
- Experience in documentation and maintaining records
- Ability to work with external and internal teams on a technical level

## TECHNICAL MANAGER - DATA AND CONTENT

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Manage company's off island data capacity and bandwidth
- Implement traffic shaping rules, policy and access controls for data
- Provide and manage key customer interface for service delivery and support
- Manage and maintain video content for company
- Provide and manage backup and routing capabilities for data bandwidth
- Maintain internal ICT and Data Infrastructure
- Implement and backup policies according to company guidelines
- Provide support for hosting Virtual Environment and storage network
- Manage and ensure effectiveness of security solutions, including firewalls, anti-virus solutions, and intrusion detection systems.
- Maintain and administer monitoring platform
- Management of DNS services
- Negotiate with vendors, outsourcers, and contractors to secure network products and services
- Conduct research and make recommendations on network products, services, protocols, and standards in support of network procurement and development efforts
- Test network performance and provide network performance statistics and reports; develop strategies for maintaining network infrastructure.

### PRE-REQUISITES/QUALIFICATION

- Knowledge of industry standard Policy Controllers such as Sandvine, Allot and Procera
- Network and Industry Certifications (CCNA, A+, HP, etc)
- Bachelor's degree in relevant business field (Engineering, Computer Science, Business Management, Operations Management, etc.) a plus
- 5+ years experience in IT/Network administration and management
- Advanced Networking, Security and Linux skills
- Sound knowledge of Data Center Operations and DR policies
- Knowledge of Network Monitoring technologies
- Experience in Caching and CDN technologies
- Knowledge in PCEF and PCRF
- Experience in Vendor Integration with core services
- Experience in WAN optimization technologies
- Experience in Project management tools
- Knowledge and understanding of system flow charts, data processing concepts, and telecommunications principles
- Ability to work with external and internal teams on a technical level
- Experience in management of IPTV/Multicast environments and digital content
- Knowledge of Middleware and provisioning systems
- Experience troubleshooting complex issues and resolving issues under minimum supervision
- Experience leading technical teams and managing staff

Please view our website [www.bluesky.as](http://www.bluesky.as) for the detailed job description. Company benefits include discounts on products and services, IRA retirement, medical insurance, annual leave, and many more. Bluesky is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Interested and qualified candidates must submit a cover letter and resume or curriculum vitae to the Human Resources Department by email at [as.jobs@blueskypacificgroup.com](mailto:as.jobs@blueskypacificgroup.com) or in person at the main office located in the Laufou Center 2nd Floor, Nuuli, Am. Samoa. We will continue to accept resumes until the position has been filled.

## Immigration...

Continued from page 1

Office will issue a conditional “OK to Board” — allowing entry into the territory. Failure to pay — upon arrival— will result in “denial of entry”.

“Eligibility under the EPWP does not guarantee entry into American Samoa,” Talauega said, adding that Immigration officers “may refuse entry at the port of entry based on local laws.” “Furthermore, a traveler who poses a threat to the welfare, health, safety or security of American Samoa will be denied entry and placed back on the arriving vessel to be returned to the point of origin,” he said. (*Samoa News notes that a vessel includes airlines.*)

It’s also made clear that travelers entering the territory to board fishing vessels or other commercial vessels are not eligible for the EPWP.

The AG said that the list of countries under the EPWP are the same countries also listed under the US State Department VISA Waiver Program.

Samoa News asked Talauega, if the Administration isn’t concerned that imposing a \$20 fee for EPWP countries, which include Australia and New Zealand, will result in them imposing the same fee for US Nationals from American Samoa, who are US passports holders, who enter their countries.

“We do not control how other countries go about controlling their borders. We can only control ours,” was Talauega’s reply yesterday.

Some local industry representatives said New Zealand and Australia have been providing good inbound tourists for the territory — those who come here after visiting Samoa. They claim that the \$20 fee, “may force” these tourists to skip the territory, which is still trying to develop its tourism industry.

In his memo, Talauega outlined examples of activities permitted while the person is in American Samoa on the EPWP. For business:

- Consult with business associates; negotiate a contract; and attend a scientific, educational, professional, or business convention or conference;

- Attend a short-term training — and the person “may not be paid by any source in American Samoa” with the exception of expenses incidental to the person’s stay. Another example, is tourism — which includes a person traveling as a tourist; on vacation; visit friends or relatives; medical treatment; participate in social events hosted by social or service organizations; participation by amateurs in musical, sports or similar events or contest, “if not paid for participation”; enrollment in a short recreational course of study that is not for credit towards a degree; and participation in cultural or religious exchanges.

Examples of “prohibited activities” includes study for credit towards a college degree; employment; applying for resi-

ducing; applying for extension of stay, except in emergency situations; and “work as a foreign press, radio, film, journalist, or other information media.”

Samoa News sought further clarification regarding foreign press members, considering the fact that in past years, journalists from news outlets — such as Radio New Zealand, Radio Australia — have traveled here for news reporting purposes. There were also travel writers from Europe who visited the territory to report about tourism in American Samoa. And their work is published in European or international travel magazines. When asked if the entry requirement means journalists from the EPWP cannot travel to the territory for news reporting purposes, Talauega replied, “foreign press are allowed to travel here under the regular entry permit process. As always for emergency cases they can contact the Attorney General’s Office for special arrangements.”

### ENTRY PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

In his second memo, Talauega said the permit requirements “are effective immediately” and reiterated what the governor stated in his Aug. 29th memo regarding entry permits requirements. (See yesterday’s edition for details)

Talauega provided additional provisions in his memo, for example, a local sponsor for a visitor. If the sponsor resides on private land, a land deed would be required, but if the sponsor lives on communal land, signatures of the family sa’o (leading chief) and village mayor are required on the application. This requirement applies to citizens of Samoa requiring a 30-day entry permit.

The memo also provides details of “limited exceptions to requirements for entry permit”. For citizens of Samoa, they may continue to apply for the 7-, 14-, or 30-day permits using the existing process “except” that the AG or his designee must now approve all permits for Samoa. Other requirements are: round trip ticket or onward ticket; \$40 fee; clearance from the High Court and LBJ hospital; and a valid passport or travel document.

For fishing crews, immigrants entering the territory to board a fishing or commercial vessel are required to get an entry permit approved by the AG or his designee. And the requirement for a 30-day entry permit for fishing crews includes having a local sponsor as well as clearance from LBJ and the High Court.

According to Talauega, the AG or his designee must approve all entry permits, and the “Immigration Office is no longer authorized to issue entry permits.” However, the Immigration Office is where one goes to apply for all entry permits, including submission of the supporting documents. The application with documents is then submitted to the AG’s office via the Immigration Office.





# ASCC Phi Theta Kappa inducts new members for Fall 2017

by James Kneubuhl, ASCC Press Officer

The Alpha Epsilon Mu Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) International Honor Society at the American Samoa Community College (ASCC) held its fall 2017 induction ceremony this past Thursday, September 14th, to induct 16 new members. As is traditional, family and friends of the new and current PTK members joined members of the College's administration and faculty for the ceremony, which this semester went by the theme "Learn & Serve."

ASCC administrators on hand to join in the celebration included President Dr. Rosevonne Pato, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Lina Galea'i Scanlan; Dean of Academic Affairs Mrs. Letupu Moananu; Dean of Student Services Dr. Emilia Le'i, Director of Curriculum and Assessment Mrs. Evelyn Gibbs Fruean, who also serves as Honorary PTK Advisor; Teacher Education Department Director Ms. Shirley De La Rosa; Office of Institutional Effectiveness Director Mr. Sonny Leomiti; and Financial Aid Officer Mr. Peteru Lam Yuen.

ASCC alumnus and former PTK member Ms. Wittenberg Marlana Ofeila Mariner gave the evening's keynote address. Ms. Mariner graduated from ASCC with an Associate of Science degree in Accounting in fall 2013, and during her time with the College she had the distinction of being the first and still the only ASCC student to receive the prestigious New Century Scholar Award. She went on to graduate from Chaminade University in Honolulu with her Bachelor's degree in Accounting in 2016, and now works for the American Samoa Government at the Department of Treasury as a staff accountant and grant analyst, while also pursuing her Masters of Accountancy degree from Keiser University.

For her keynote speech, Ms. Mariner offered her personal reflections on the evening's theme of "Learn & Serve," including the theme's similarity with Service Learning. "Before you out into communities and societies, one must prepare first," she said, "and this means to assemble as much learning as possible.

You may choose whatever way to further and expand your learning, but never stop. Albert Einstein said, 'Once you stop learning, you start dying.' Learn to not only better yourself, but also to reach out to others and share what you already know that they do not."

Following Ms. Mariner's speech, and assisted by Honorary PTK Advisor Mrs. Fruean,

the 12 new inductees took the oath to uphold the values of the PTK, and performed the ceremonial lighting of candles representing the mythical Greek "flame of knowledge."

Welcomed to the PTK this semester are Fevaea'i Mareko, Rianna Lafaele, Jingjing Jiang, Anastasia Magalo, Theresa Lafaele, Louaivasa La'ulu, Shalom Faiilagi, Vaotupu Tufele, Loreta Liu, Vanezza Alosio, Kyrstene Lin, Ming Ling Wang, Magalita Johnson, Amy Thrun, Anastasia Vaitele, and Elysha Samatua.

A student with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or above may apply to become a member of the PTK. In addition, the student must have completed ENG 150 and 151, and MAT 90, and the  
(Continued on page 12)



ASCC graduate and former Phi Theta Kappa honor society member Wittenberg Mariner (right) gave the keynote speech at the PTK Induction Ceremony last week, during which 16 new members joined the prestigious honor society. Also pictured is ASCC Director of Curriculum and Assessment, Evelyn Gibbs Fruean. [photo: J. Kneubuhl]

# Try our new Smoothies!

Limited time only.



# FAASALALAUGA O le Suafa "LEMAFA"

E muamua lava ona ou faatulou atu i le paia o Tutuila ma Manu'a, o le paia lava lea ia Sua ma le Vaifanua, Fofu ma Aitulagi, Ituau ma Alataua, Saole ma le Launiu Saelua ma Afioa i Ma'opu. O paia foi i Afioa i Faatui ma le Auv'a o Tootoo o le Faleula, ma le mamalu o le Manu'atele. O paia foi ia Tumua ma Pule i le malo tuto'atasi o Samoa, e faatulou atu. O paia foi o au'aua a le Atua, i fatafaitaulaga e fia, o lo o latou galulue i le ao ma le po, aua le laugaina ma faia'ogaina o le upu o le ola, aua se manuia mo Samoa ma le lalolagi atoa. Tulou, Tulou, Tulouna Lava.

O lenei fa'asalalauga e faapitoa augafa i sulii ma faletama uma o le suafa o sa **LEMAFA** i le afoaga i Aunu'u. Afo ai i laua Lupega, Susu le Sa'o, Susu le Ma'opu, Susu le Tamaaiga, mamalu oulua fetalaiga Fuiava ma Taufi, ma le fofoga o le Launatausala, Saole ma Saleaumua.

O le a faia le talanoaga a le tatou aiga se'i o tatou soalaupule ai le mataupu o le sailia o se tasi e tausia lo tatou aiga o **Sa LEMAFa** i Aunu'u lava, i le **Aso To'ona'i, Setema 23, 2017, i le itula e 9 i le taeao, i le maota o Saiaulama i Aunu'u.**

Ua faia lenei fa'aaliga ma le ava tele, ia talosia ia tatou faatasi i lea aso faamoemoeina.

O lou le auai o le a le taofia ai talanoaga o lenei mataupu taua ma faaiuga autasi a le tatou aiga.

Faia i le ava ma le fa'aaloalo e tatau ai,

**Sainia: Supply Seau**

Ma e o lo'o nonofo i le aiga i Aunu'u

## Port seeks hike...

*Continued from page 2*

hearing) about the proposed fees hikes.

At the Senate hearing this week Taimalelagi reiterated, that port fees have remained the same for over 30 years and this set off a round of support from senators for the proposed fee increases, saying they think this is necessary after so many years of no fee hikes.

While supportive of the measures, Sen. Tuiagamoia Tavai said he's worried that hiking fees and charges would result in a decrease in the number of vessels calling into Pago Pago port.

Taimalelagi said that in 2015 they looked at other neighboring countries, such as Samoa, New Zealand, as well as the state of Hawaii, for a comparison of fees. She said it was found that Pago Pago has the lowest rates and she doesn't believe the fee hikes will affect the number of vessels stopping in Pago Pago.

As to how all port fees are collected, Taimalelagi said the local agent for the vessel pays them, and all revenues go into

the ASG General Fund.

Sen. Magalei Logovi'i wanted to get a better understanding of why the fees will be hiked. For example, when the services of a pilot are actually required for a deep draft vessel, the minimum charge is hiked from \$100 to \$170. Additionally, the "base rate for pilot tow fees shall be \$85 for all vessels; and \$5.10 per foot for all vessels over 12 feet."

He suggested that port revisit some of the proposed fee hikes because the amount appears too high and vessels may end up bypassing American Samoa for other ports due to the high costs.

"All these fees," said Magalei, "will be passed on by the shipper to the business, to the public — all of us — who will in the end have to pay."

This was echoed by at least three other senators, who agreed that it's the public that will pay for all the increased costs, but the same senators were also supportive of the goal behind the bill. According to the bill, fees for inbound containers increase from 50-cents per day to 85-cents per day when 120 hours have passed after arrival and the containers haven't left the dock. After 3 days the fee jumps to \$1.70 per day. The same fee will apply to outbound containers. Asked by the committee if these fees also apply to StarKist Samoa containers, Taimalelagi said "no", adding that there are many empty StarKist containers on the dock, waiting to be filled for outbound shipment. Attorney General Talauega Eleasalo Ale, who was also present at the hearing, said StarKist's tax exemption covers many of these fees and charges. This prompted Sen. Satele Galu Satele Sr., to inquire about StarKist's tax exemption, to which Talauega repeated that the tax exemption certificate covers many taxes and includes port fees and charges.

Responding to a committee question, Taimalelagi estimates that the government collects about \$2.2 million annually under the current fees and charges, but if the new proposal is approved, an additional \$2 million is estimated to be collected.

The measure also gives the Port Administration director the authority to review fees and charges every five years, and if necessary, initiate modification. Sen. Nuanuaolefeagaiga inquired, for clarification, if the director does in fact have that authority. Talauega said, "no" and elaborated further on what is stated in the bill and that is, the director follows the Administrative Procedure process, which requires calling a public hearing. And if the public is against it, then there is no increase, said Talauega, who is also chairman of the ASG Revenue Task Force, which came up with the proposal as well as other revenue measures pending in the Fono.

Taimalelagi is also a member of this task force.



### DEVELOPMENT BANK OF AMERICAN SAMOA

P.O. BOX 9, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Office: (684) 633-4031 Fax: (684) 633-1163.

Website: [www.dbas.as](http://www.dbas.as)

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

**RFP:** Financial and Single Audit Services for 2017-2019  
**Date of issuance:** August 16, 2017  
**Date & Time Due:** October 30, 2017  
**No later than 2:00 pm local time**

DBAS requests proposals for financial audits and the related single audits for a period of three years, beginning with the audit of fiscal year 2017 through fiscal year 2019. Fiscal and calendar years are coincident at DBAS.

### DOCUMENT

Requests for proposal packet outlining requirements will be available for pick up at DBAS on Friday August 18, 2017 or emailing [charmaine@dbas.as](mailto:charmaine@dbas.as) for information regarding the RFP. It can also be accessed through the DBAS website: [www.dbas.as](http://www.dbas.as) (click public notice)

The Request for Proposals (RFP) describes the specifications for the services to be provided in sufficient details to permit competition and allow the interested party to properly respond to the RFP.

This RFP is issued under Title 28, Chapter 1, of the American Samoa Code Annotated.

DBAS invites the submission of proposals to include pricing and other details as indicated in the specifications. Attachments will be provided as an aid in presenting a comprehensive proposal consistent with the requirements of DBAS.

DBAS will select a contractor who best meets the needs of DBAS. The factors for selection will include, but not be limited to the following: understanding of the requirements of the financial and single auditors; verifiable ability to perform well; good reputation; flexibility, including ability to respond quickly to needs of a small client in a remote location and throughout the year; and reasonability of costs.

The proposals will be reviewed by a committee consisting of representatives from DBAS management and board. The committee may request interviews with potential contractors after reviewing the proposals before the final selection is made.

Submission: Proposals must be received by DBAS no later than 2:00pm local time on October 30, 2017. They may be mailed or hand delivered in a sealed envelope to:

Development Bank of American Samoa  
 PO BOX 9  
 Attention: Charmaine Faleaana  
 Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

They may also be emailed to [charmaine@dbas.as](mailto:charmaine@dbas.as), as an attachment in Word Format with a confirming email required to confirm receipt; or faxed to DBAS at (684) 633-1163 with a confirming fax to confirm receipt. The original is to follow by airmail first class.

# CELEBRATING HOPE HOUSE 30TH JUBILEE

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EST. JANUARY 1987  
DIOCESE OF SAMOA - PAGO PAGO



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PAGO PAGO AMERICAN SAMOA 96799  
TEL: (684) 699-2101/2102

*Dear Brothers & Sisters,*

May the grace and peace of our Lord be with you.

This year marks the 30th Jubilee of the Nazareth House now renamed Hope House since its dedication in January 1987.

Hope House is the only home-care facility of its kind in our Territory, for the elderly patients, terminally ill and children with severe disabilities without regard for their denomination of faith.

As part of the 30th Jubilee program, the Hope House board has organized a week of events beginning with a Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, September 24th at 4:00 pm. There will also be a Fiafia Night program for our residents on the evening of Monday, September 25th at 6:00 pm at the Fatuoaiiga Malae.

Concluding the week long celebrations will be our annual fundraising golf tournament and raffle on September 30th, 2017 to raise the needed funds that help maintain Hope House.

We would be honored and look forward to your participation and support of Hope House 30th Jubilee celebrations. Please contact the following organizing committee members if you have any questions: Larry Sanitoa @ 733-3501, Ta'afano Joe Tavale @ 256-0362 or Teri Steffany @ 258-2981.

On behalf of the Diocese of Samoa Pago Pago and the Hope House board, I thank you for the tremendous support extended to Hope House these past 30 years.

*Sincerely in the Lord,*

**Most Reverend Peter Brown**  
Bishop of the Diocese of Samoa Pago Pago

## *30th Jubilee Celebrations* **SEPTEMBER 24TH - 30TH, 2017**

- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH 2017, 4:00 PM**  
MASS OF THANKSGIVING - DIOCESE OF SAMOA PAGO PAGO,  
HOLY FAMILY CATHEDRAL
- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH 2017, 6:00 PM**  
HOPE HOUSE FIAFIA NIGHT @ FATUOAIKA MALAE  
- Next to Holy Family Cathedral
- TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH 2017, 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM**  
HOPE HOUSE ROADSIDE WAVE - "THANK YOU AMERICAN SAMOA"  
- In front of Island Pizza & Tropical Chicken
- WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH 2017, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**  
HOPE HOUSE FACILITY TOUR - Confirmed & Scheduled Tours
- FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH 2017, 12:00 PM**  
HOPE HOUSE GOLF TOURNAMENT  
- 1ST Group of Confirmed Teams
- SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH 2017, 6:30 AM**  
HOPE HOUSE GOLF TOURNAMENT - Shotgun Tee-Off  
- All Teams & Individual Players
- HOPE HOUSE RAFFLE DRAWING @ 2:00 PM**



*Paid for by SO PAC in the spirit of community service*



# ROTARY CLUB OF PAGO PAGO

## TSUNAMI MEMORIAL REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 • 11:30am**  
**Lion's Park Tsunami Shelter**

The Rotary Club of Pago Pago and Hawaiian Air will host a  
Memorial Remembrance Service for the 34 Tsunami Victim's Immediate Family Members:

**Date: Saturday, September 30, 2017**

**Place: Tsunami Memorial Family Picnic Shelter at Lion's Park in Tafuna, AS**

**Time: 11:30am - 12:30pm**

*Members of the Public are invited to join with the families of the  
2009 Tsunami victims on this day.*

A memorial service will be conducted and all are invited to give testimonials to their lost  
family and friends who died on September 29, 2009.

At the end of the service light refreshments and food will be provided  
by Corporate partners of the Rotary Club of Pago Pago.

*This ad is paid for by ASPA / Tool Shop / CSL in the spirit of the community service*



*Sinei Aunei, second from right talking to his defense lawyer, after Justice Mata Keli Tuatagaloa sentenced him to more than 7 years in jail.*

[Photo: Autagavaia Tipi Autagavaia]

### ► Pacific briefs...

*Continued from page 4*

selected by the trade promotion organization Pacific Trade and Invest to participate in this weekend's event.

Wilex Samoa's chocolate product Koko Loa will also feature in the show. Wilex managing director Tautaituasi Tagaloa Eddie Wilson said his focus was not getting the product onto supermarket shelves, but into cafe chains.

"Koko Loa is one of those products that had been recommended by New Zealand Pacific Trade and Invest and it's ideal for the cafe coffee market, which is one of our main clientele," he said.

"The dark chocolates go well with coffee, and also our cocoa powder goes well with making the cappuccinos."

The featured companies are part of PTI NZ's Pacific Path to Market program, which is designed to help exporters from the Pacific Islands gain a better understanding of the New Zealand market. A specially designed Pacific-themed stand

titled the 'Pacific Hub' will house the Pacific companies and their products for the two-day show, on September 23 and 24 at The Cloud on Quay Street. PTI NZ Trade development manager Joe Fuavao, says most of the companies participated in the Auckland Food Show in July however their presence at the Chocolate and Coffee Show targets a specific product sector and audience and is another good opportunity for the Pacific companies to build their profile and presence in the New Zealand market.

Organizers are expecting more than 8000 passionate foodies to visit the show over Saturday and Sunday.

Earlier this year, PTI NZ featured Pacific Island exporters with 24 stands at the Pasifika festival, nine at the Auckland Food Show and four at the Auckland Spring Home and Gift Fair in August - all as part of the Path to Market program.

(Source: RNZI)

### ► ASCC PTK...

*Continued from page 9*

must have already earned 12 credits towards an Associate degree. Applicants must provide three letters of reference, and an official ASCC transcript.

The final selection process includes an interview conducted by the PTK head advisor.

Once the semester's selections have been finalized, an email is sent to prospective inductees requesting that they meet with the PTK officers and advisor the following day, at which time they receive official letters of acceptance and the PTK by-laws.

As the final step in becoming full-fledged PTK member, the inductees participate in the induction ceremony.

In addition to the spring 2017 inductees, the ASCC PTK currently includes Simaotua Tuia (President), Marilyn Thompson

(Vice President), Francine Iopu (Secretary), Maryjane Iosefo (PR Secretary), Samtara Atisano'e (Treasurer), Olivia Atisano'e, Ielu Acosta, Uelemaikalani Kwon, Etene Levi, Faamao Asafo, Luavaasiitia Esera, Faaiu Faalata, Genesis Lagai, Selesitina Iosia.

Mr. Kuki Tuiasosopo serves as their Head Advisor, assisted by Advisor Mr. Ernie Seiuli and Honorary Advisor Mrs. Fruean.

Nationwide, the PTK provides more than \$35 million worth of scholarships annually to its members. Each member is also enrolled in the PTK Transfer Database, which links senior institutions across the nation offering scholarships.

For more information about the nationwide activities of Phi Theta Kappa, visit their website <www.ptk.org>



# NEW ARRIVALS!

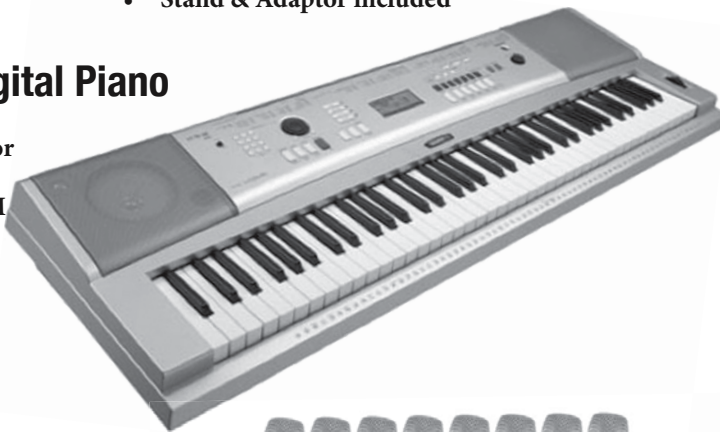


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# UN Peacekeepers: Congo leads world in sex abuse allegations

BUNIA, Congo (AP) — She had been orphaned by a brutal conflict, but the 14-year-old Congolese girl found refuge in a camp protected by United Nations peacekeepers.

The camp should have been safe the day she was raped. A delegation from the U.N. was paying a visit, and her grandmother had left her in charge of her siblings. That was the day, the girl says, that a Pakistani peacekeeper slipped inside their home and assaulted her in front of the other children.

But that was not the end of her story. Even though she reported the rape, the girl never got any help from the U.N. She did become pregnant, however, and had a baby.

If the U.N. sexual abuse crisis has an epicenter, it is the Congo, where the scope of the problem first emerged 13 years ago - and where promised reforms have most clearly fallen short. Of the 2,000 sexual abuse and exploitation complaints made against U.N. peacekeepers and personnel worldwide over the past 12 years, more than 700 occurred in Congo, The Associated Press found. The embattled African nation is home to the U.N.'s largest peacekeeping

force, which costs a staggering \$1 billion a year.

The raped teenager's experience is grimly emblematic of the underbelly of U.N. peacekeeping, and the organization as a whole. During a yearlong investigation, the AP found that despite promising reform for more than a decade, the U.N. failed to meet many of its pledges to stop the abuse or help victims, some of whom have been lost to a sprawling bureaucracy. Cases have disappeared or been handed off to the peacekeepers' home countries -- which often do nothing with them.

The attack on the 14-year-old was so brazen it still haunts the U.N.'s top human rights official more than a decade after hearing the girl's story.

"What on earth would it take for this soldier not to do it - to have all the heads of the U.N. together, and he still does it?" asked Zeid Ra'ad al Hussein, a member of the delegation that heard the girl's testimony in 2004. One year later, he helped write a landmark report intended to curb sexual abuse and exploitation within the U.N. system.



American Samoa Government  
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP-093-2017

Issuance Date: September 13, 2017

Closing Date: September 22, 2017  
No later than 2:00p.m (local time)

1. **INVITATION**

Sealed bids are invited from qualified firms to provide "Janitorial Services for Pago Pago International Airport" for the Department of Port Administration.

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), September 22, 2017 at which time and place the sealed bids will be publicly opened and read.

3. **MANDATORY- PRE-BID CONFERENCE**

A MANDATORY Pre-Bid Meeting and Site Visit for all contractors will be held on September 20, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Pago Pago International Airport-Conference Room. Bids will not be accepted from bidders who are not present at the pre-bid meeting.

4. **CONTRACT DOCUMENTS**

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 the American Samoa Government.

DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON  
Chief Procurement Officer

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## Former Australian prime minister says he was head-butted

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — Australia's prime minister on Friday urged restraint in the nation's same-sex marriage debate after a former prime minister who gave the people a direct say in the divisive issue said he was head-butted by a gay rights advocate while walking in a city street.

Former Prime Minister Tony Abbott said he sustained a swollen lip in the attack in the Tasmania state capital Hobart on Thursday as he walked to his hotel after attending an anti-gay marriage luncheon.

The altercation is one of several allegations of violence and vote-rigging that have marred an ongoing postal ballot on whether Australia should lift its prohibition on gay marriage. Australia and Ireland are the only countries to put the issue to the public to decide.

Abbott remains a government lawmaker and is a vocal advocate for the "no" vote. The two-month voting process began last week.

He reported to police that a man pretended to want to shake hands before clashing heads. The assailant fled after a brief scuffle with a lone Abbott staffer on the scene.

"It's a shock to have a fellow Australian seeking to shake your hand turn a handshake into an assault," Abbott told reporters on Friday.

"It's sad that this debate has come to that and my plea to everyone in the remaining weeks of this debate is to keep it courteous, keep it respectful, but above all else respect the values, the institutions which have shaped us since the beginning of our journey and which I think should continue to shape us," he added.

Tasmania Police Commander Tony Cerritelli said detectives were looking for a 40-year-old suspect of medium build, with spiky, fair hair and nose and ear piercings. He was wearing a "vote yes" badge and black leather jacket.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, a gay marriage supporter who replaced Abbott two years ago, said he had contacted the Australian Federal Police commissioner to urge that the assailant be charged with assault.

"This is a disgraceful incident and I condemn this assault on Tony and any violence coming into our political life is absolutely to be condemned," Turnbull told 3AW.

"Everyone should exercise calm and restraint, and people should recognize that they are not helping their cause by engaging in violent language, abusive language, let alone physically violent conduct ... as Tony suffered from last night," Turnbull added.

		SOUTHBOUND ARRIVAL							SOUTHBOUND ARRIVAL					
VESSEL	VOY	SEA	L/BEACH	OAK	PPT	NUKUALOFA	APIA	PAGO	VESSEL	VOY	PPT	N/ALOFA	APIA	PAGO
Cap Taputapu	033	TBA	SAILED	SAILED	09/23	---	09/28	09/28	Cap Taputapu	033	09/23	---	09/28	09/28
New Guinea Chief	489	TBA	09/27	09/29	10/10	---	10/15	10/15	New Guinea Chief	489	10/10	---	10/15	10/15
Cap Taputapu	034	TBA	10/13	10/15	10/26	---	10/31	10/31	Cap Taputapu	034	10/26	---	10/31	10/31
New Guinea Chief	490	TBA	10/29	10/31	11/11	---	11/16	11/16	New Guinea Chief	490	11/11	---	11/16	11/16
Cap Taputapu	035	TBA	11/14	11/16	11/27	---	12/02	12/02	Cap Taputapu	035	11/27	---	12/02	12/02

Note: All Schedule dates are estimated



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ROUTE	\$\$\$	ONE WAY	RETURN	ONE WAY	RETURN	
FAGALII TO TONGATAPU	WST	818.30	1,494.50	761.95	1,396.51	
	USD	334.00	610.00	311.00	570.00	
	TOP	701.40	1,281.00	653.10	1,197.00	
PAGOPAGO TO TONGATAPU	WST	761.95	1,445.50	761.95	1,396.51	
	USD	311.00	590.00	311.00	570.00	
	TOP	653.10	1,239.00	653.10	1,197.00	
TONGATAPU TO FAGALII	WST	901.60	1,494.50	845.25	1,396.50	
	USD	368.00	610.00	345.00	570.00	
	TOP	772.80	1,281.00	724.50	1,197.00	
TONGATAPU TO PAGOPAGO	WST	901.60	1,445.50	845.25	1,396.50	
	USD	368.00	590.00	345.00	570.00	
	TOP	772.80	1,239.00	724.50	1,197.00	

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| Afoa, Oganu                    | Gaoteote, Tupouamoa          | Maluia, Tiresa                | Sagapolutele, Frank       | Taulafoga, Barbara          |
| Afualo, Tuli                   | Gasetoto, Gasetoto Jr        | Mapu, Loreta                  | Sakaria, Paese            | Taulamago, Iuliana          |
| Agatonu, Tony                  | Grey, Mark                   | Mapu, Siaumau                 | Salaivao, Bernie          | Taulelei, Tupuivao          |
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| Aunai, Faafiu                  | Kuresa, Faavela              | Meredith, Anthony             | Save, Suani               | Tiumalu, Saimua             |
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| Faatatuatu, Upuese             | Leasiolagi, Galen            | Muafo, Ropeti                 | Siatu Kerita              | Tua, Alofagia               |
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| Faatamalii, Army               | Leota, Imoa                  | Nuutai, Petaia                | Solomona, Andrew          | Tuiletufuga, Fonotaga       |
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| Faui, Tamara                   | Lepupa, Matanofo             | Oloa, Iuliano                 | Sooto-Tua, Alofagia Va    | Tuiloma, Ioramo             |
| Faavi, Faamanu                 | Letuuga, Reenae              | Onosai, Saisavaii             | Sopi, Judie               | Tuiolemotu-Malaga, Lovi     |
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| Failauga, Mavaeao              | Lilio, Ualesi                | Paleafei, Toma                | Sua, Finau                | Tupa Apelu, Losalina        |
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