

## Hawaiian Air Pilot says laser beam was aimed from Leone Village

Page 2

## CJ Floor Wins his latest MMA fight

In Sports

## To'atolu ua molia fa'aaoga fa'asolitulafono pepa 'ai mai Food Stamp

Le Lali

Maro Bonsu-Marō of Tupapa Maraerenga FC trying to control his way around Veitongo FC full-back Tuia Falepapalangi during the opening half of their OFC Champions League Qualifiers Tuesday afternoon. Tupapa Maraerenga FC won 9-2. All tourney games are played at the Pago Soccer Field and the final day was yesterday. Read Samoa News sports section next Tuesday for complete details of today's games, with photos.

Coverage is sponsored by Congresswoman Aumua Amata.

[photo: TG]



ONLINE @ SAMOANEWS.COM

DAILY CIRCULATION 7,000

# samoa news

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2018

\$1.00

## Two Western Union employees charged with stealing thousands of dollars

WESTERN UNION HAS REIMBURSED ALL CUSTOMERS AFFECTED

by Ausage Fausia  
Samoa News Reporter

Police have arrested and charged two former Western Union employees for crimes they allegedly committed a year and a half ago involving thousands of dollars stolen from WU customers. Meanwhile, Western Union has reimbursed all the customers who were affected.

Lagavale Angelina Sasa and Judy Leilua Tautalaga have each been charged with two counts of embezzlement and two counts of stealing. Embezzlement and stealing are both class C felonies, punishable by a term not to exceed 7 years imprisonment, a fine of \$5,000, or, pursuant to A.S.C.A 46.2101, a fine equal to twice the amount of gain from the commission of said crime, up to a maximum of \$20,000, or both such fine and imprisonment.

The women made their initial appearances in District Court this week, and they are set to appear for a preliminary examination next Tuesday.

District Court Judge Fiti Sunia set bail for Sasa at \$15,000 and \$35,000 for Tautalaga.

If they are able to post bond, they are to abide by certain conditions that include no contact with the government witnesses, including the victims in this case, and they are not permitted to leave the territory while their cases are pending.

According to government's affidavit, the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) was contacted on Monday, July 11, 2016 by the Western Union Company Group Risk and Compliance Manager, who travelled from New Zealand.

The company representative, at that time, told police that while looking into a complaint filed by a customer involving US \$7,000, Tautalaga allegedly confessed to one of the company's senior employees that she stole the money and used it for her sister's funeral.

The representative also told police that while reviewing the complaint, it was revealed that another employee by the name of Lana (co-defendant Lagavale Sasa) was also stealing money from the company.

On Friday, July 5th 2016, police interviewed Sasa, who pro-

(Continued on page 8)

## FBI says they are 'not conducting' probe into alleged food stamp scheme

MEANWHILE, LOLO OFFERS NO COMMENT UNTIL THE PROBE IS COMPLETE

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

Because of the ongoing investigation into the alleged fraud and counterfeiting of food stamp vouchers, Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga offers no comment at this time until the probe is complete and he receives a full briefing of the incident.

This is according to the Governor's Executive Assistant, Iulogologo Joseph Pereira.

Two employees of the Department of Human and Social Service (DHSS) and one local Asian businessman were arrested last week in connection with an alleged scheme to defraud the food stamp program — the American Samoa Nutrition Assistance Program (ASNAP) — which is funded by the US Department of Agriculture's Nutrition Assistance Program Division.

As a result of the arrests, there is growing local concerns — raised with Samoa News — on the impact the case will have on food stamp recipients. Some of them are asking whether

there is enough money in the program for recipients for the rest of fiscal year 2018. Even more concerning, they say, is the federal grantor possibly placing a hold on funding.

There have also been questions on the governor's reaction to the matter, which has already painted a negative picture for American Samoa — although Samoa News points out that these are only allegations at this time.

"This incident is regrettable and certainly unwelcome, given possible adverse impact on the recipients of the ASNAP Program," said Iulogologo in response to Samoa News inquires. "Since the alleged fraud is being investigated it would be premature for the Governor to comment until he is fully briefed on the outcome of the investigation."

Rumors circulated over the weekend that "federal agents" were to arrive on island Monday night for the US government probe into the

(Continued on page 9)



Four Department of Public Safety officers completed and passed the Police Motorcycle Instructor Final and one was re-certified this past week. The new motorcycle instructors are Filemoni Amituana'i, Aukuso Lafaele, Mareko Fale, and Savelio Vaofanua, while Lt. Tolia "Tony" Solaita received his recertification this past weekend. The training was overseen by two Arizona State Troopers (pictured, center) who were part of a delegation that arrived earlier this month to conduct DUI courses for over 30 local cops. The police motorcycle instructor course was an add-on to the ARIDE training course and resulted in the off island instructors having to stay a week longer.

[photo: courtesy]

Samoa News will not publish on Monday, January 29, 2018; but our business office will be opened at regular hours of 8a.m.- 4p.m.

We will publish on Tuesday, Jan. 30. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause our readers.





# Hawaiian Air pilot says laser beam was aimed from Leone village

**FAA IS REQUESTING A DETAILED REPORT FROM LOCAL AIRPORT OFFICIALS**

by Fili Sagapolutele

*Samoa News Correspondent*

The US Federal Aviation Administration has requested a detailed report from officials at the Pago Pago International Airport regarding the “laser incident” last Friday night when a Hawaiian Airlines aircraft was attempting to land.

Meanwhile, Hawaiian Airlines says the pilot reported the laser beam being fired from the Leone area.

The laser incident has sparked anger from the community on why someone would do such a thing, which jeopardized the safety of those on board the Boeing 767 plane, which Samoa News understands was carrying some 200 passengers — not including the crew.

Responding to Samoa News inquiries, FAA spokesman Ian Gregor said this week that

Hawaiian Airlines has reported the laser incident to the FAA.

“We forwarded it to the Pago Pago International Airport safety officer and asked them to inform the police and get a pilot’s report with details about what happened,” Gregor said from Los Angeles. He referred further inquiries to Hawaiian.

A local resident, who was a “frightened passenger” on board the flight, described the laser as “green and extremely bright”, saying “it was very alarming.”

What remains unclear — an issue of speculation since the weekend — is the area on the ground where the laser came from. Some have assumed it came from around the Tualauta area — from one of the villages in the flight path of the landing jet — while others alleged it was further out on the Western side of Tutuila.

“The pilot reported that a bright green laser was pointed at our aircraft about 9:38 local time from the village of Leone. He reported that the laser lasted approximately one minute,” Hawaiian spokesperson Ann Botticelli told Samoa News yesterday in the latest update from the airline.

Department of Port Administration’s Airport Manager, Tavita Fuimaono told Samoa News on Monday that an airport safety officer was notified of the laser incident around 10:27p.m Friday by the local Hawaiian Air station manager and this was about 30 minutes after the plane’s arrival. (See Samoa News Jan. 23rd edition for details.)

The last known laser incident involving a Hawaiian flight while landing at the Tafuna Airport was in the latter part of March 2011.

When asked if FAA had any data on this type of incident happening in Pago Pago, Gregor said, “Our 2017 and 2016 laser reports don’t show any reports for Pago Pago International Airport or American Samoa.”

“However, the report might only include events at airports in the 50 states plus Puerto Rico,” he added.

Local officials have noted the need for people to understand that aiming a laser at an aircraft is a federal crime and it’s very dangerous.

According to federal law, enacted in 2012, it’s illegal to aim laser pointer beams at an aircraft or their flight path. Penalty for violating this law is up to 5 years in prison and up to a \$250,000 fine.

## Police corral urban herd after midnight Los Angeles stroll

WEST COVINA, Calif. (AP) — It was less an arrest than a roundup.

Police say a donkey led more than a dozen sheep and goats on a stroll through a suburban West Covina neighborhood east of Los Angeles.

Police were called around 12:30 a.m. Thursday by reports of a herd of animals walking the streets.

The animals were finally corralled with the help of the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department.

Authorities say the animals escaped their owners’ property in neighboring Valinda through an unsecured gate.

The owner was contacted and took the herd back home.

No injuries were reported but police say it raised a few eyebrows among officers who thought they’d seen it all.

This photo provided by the West Covina, Calif., Police Department shows a donkey that led about a dozen sheep and goats strolling through the suburban West Covina neighborhood east of Los Angeles on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2018. Authorities say the animals escaped their owners’ property in neighboring Valinda through an unsecured gate. The owner was contacted and took the herd back home. (West Covina Police Department)

American Samoa Government  
Department of Commerce

Community Development Block Grant Program

## ADA Accessible Homes Initiative



**Do you or someone you know have a disability?  
&  
Do you need assistance in making your home  
to become or more accessible?**

**For more information please call  
DOC for Tangelo at 633-5155 Ext. 248**



# Request for more Tualauta faipule seats is “not” in conflict with US law

TAPAAU SAYS PROPOSAL IS CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL RULE: “ONE-MAN ONE-VOTE”



ASG Office of Political Status, Constitutional Review and Federal Relations executive director, Tapaau Dr. Daniel Aga.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

by Fili Sagapolutele

Samoa News Correspondent

ASG Office of Political Status, Constitutional Review and Federal Relations executive director Tapaau Dr. Daniel Aga has shared with senators the six criteria that are reviewed by his office when there are questions pertaining to proposed amendments to the American Samoa Constitution.

Tapaau appeared yesterday before the Senate Rules Committee to testify on a House Joint Resolution, seeking to add one more seat for Tualauta (referred to as “Ma’upu” in the Constitution), Representative District No. 15 which currently has two faipule in the House.

As previously reported by Samoa News over the years, any changes to the Constitution is subject to approval by the US Congress.

During his testimony, Tapaau first pointed out that there are criteria his office uses if there is a request for review of the Constitution, or proposal for amendments to the Constitution.

The first criteria is whether such a change is “consistent” with the current Constitution or any other law. “I believe it’s consistent,” Tapaau said, adding that the next criteria is whether the proposal is “not” in conflict

with US law.

He pointed to a federal court decision, which cites “one-man one-vote” and based on the 2010 census, the proposal is consistent.

Responding to Samoa News inquiries after the hearing, Tapaau noted that Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution states the “Legislature shall have authority to pass legislation with respect of subjects of local application, except that: No such legislation may be inconsistent with, this Constitution or the laws of the United States applicable to American Samoa.”

Does the proposal amendment conflict or is it consistent with the Constitution of American Samoa? And does it conflict or is it consistent with the laws of the US?

“Of course we can’t know with absolute certainty until this reaches Congress or is examined by the federal government,” he told Samoa News.

During the Senate hearing, Tapaau pointed out that criteria 3 and 4 are difficult. He said based on the 2010 Census, American Samoa’s population stands at 55,519 — with 19,017 people living in Tualauta county.

“That means 34% of the total

population — under the 2010 Census — lives in Tualauta,” he added, but there are 20 elected House members, not including the non-voting Delegate from Swains Island.

Under criteria three — Tapaau’s office looks at the question — “Is this a step in the right direction?”

“So, is adding one more faipule for Tualauta a step in the right direction?” he asked and he answered, “Yes. It is an attempt to address the imbalance between the number of representatives (in Maupu/Tualauta district No. 15) and its population.”

Criteria 4 asks: Is it a complete or comprehensive solution to the imbalance?

“Not really. It does not address the larger problem,” said Tapaau, adding that during the 2010 Constitutional Conventional there was a multitude of districts that wanted to add more faipule and senators.

“It does not address the fact that according to the 2010 US Census, the population of Maupu district represents 34% of American Samoa’s total population,” he said and noted that the Constitution allows the reapportionment of House seats every five years, but he can’t recall this ever being done.

So the question then becomes, “Is it time to consider a limit to the number of faipule in the House and re-apportionment as provided for in the Constitution?” he asked.

Under criteria 5, the question is, will this measure, if passed, negatively impact Samoan lands and culture? Tapaau doesn’t believe there will be a major impact, and noted the “one-man, one-vote” in a democratic form of government.

The final and 6th criteria deals with costs. What are the costs involved if this measure is passed and is there a cost analysis?

“Can the Fono absorb this additional cost” when it comes to an additional salary? He said, another cost of consideration is if there is another seat added in the House, there will be changes to the proposed Fono building (another office, another seat).

Tapaau deferred the issue to the Senate.

Samoa News will report next week on the rest of the hearing.

# Museum changes name of Patriots Gallery to Eagles Gallery

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A Philadelphia museum dedicated to America’s revolutionary patriots is temporarily renaming its biggest gallery in honor of the city’s Super Bowl-bound football team. The Museum of the American Rev-

olution on Thursday rechristened its Patriots Gallery as the Eagles Gallery. The new name will stay through Super Bowl Sunday when the Eagles face the New England Patriots. Museum President Michael Quinn says the Super Bowl is a

fitting analogy for Philadelphia because the city was the birthplace of the revolt that pitted underdog colonists against the vaunted British army in the American Revolution. Now, 242 years later, Quinn says, “Philadelphia is again the underdog.”

# FOR LEASE

2,400 SF Warehouse space (new)

6,900 SF Warehouse space

21’ High ceilings with

10’ wide awnings in the front

May be leased separately or together

Secure gated lot, large parking area

Conveniently located across

from Procurement

For information call 252-1735 or 258-4471



# AUTO NATION

NU’UULI: (684) 699-7168 • FAX: (684) 699-7175

## NEW ARRIVALS



starting at \$89



starting at \$109



\$9.99



\$5.95



Room AC \$149



Heavy Duty Oil \$7.50



Engine Oil starting at \$4.00



Axess Speaker \$49.99

We're now selling Tools, Room AC and Tires in a very low price. Please come and Join us.  
**Business Hours:**  
Monday - Friday 7:30am - 5:00pm  
Saturday 8:00am - 1:00pm

# FOR SALE

## EXECUTIVE HOUSE AND 0.229 ACRES OF LAND

This house and land are located in Pava’ia’i. The house has 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, a modern kitchen, large living and dining area, family room and a two-car garage. The property is fenced. The house is offered for sale with the following items included:

- 6 split unit air-conditioners
- Refrigerator/ freezer
- Washing machine
- Dryer
- Stove / Oven
- dishwasher
- 3-piece lounge suite
- 1 dining room table and chairs
- Master bedroom dresser
- Display cabinet / living room
- Microwave

This house is offered for sale “as is”.  
For an appointment to view the house and property email: [contact@mwsrose.com](mailto:contact@mwsrose.com) or call 699- 2100.

# COMMUNITY BRIEFS

by Samoa News Staff

## COPS UNDERGO TRAINING TO DETECT DRUNK AND DRUGGED DRIVERS

Close to three dozen cops from the Department of Public Safety underwent training earlier this month under a program funded by the DPS Office of Highway Safety (OHS).

Law enforcement experts in the field of detecting drunk and drugged drivers arrived from Phoenix, Arizona to carry out the five-day training that involved two courses.

Local cops were schooled on the proper way to conduct standard field sobriety tests (SFST), to weed out impaired drivers assumed to be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.

32 police officers took the course.

The course is expected to be one of many in the pipeline for the local police force as efforts are underway to get local cops properly trained and armed with skills needed to carry out their sworn duties.

## LEALA PETER REID FOUNDATION DONATES \$50K TO LOCAL CATHOLIC DIOCESE

A donation of \$50,000 from the Leala Peter Reid Foundation was presented earlier this week to Bishop Peter Brown, head of the Diocese of Samoa Pago Pago, to assist the local Catholic schools and Hope House.

Foundation official Olivia Reid made the presentation.

The donation is broken down as follows: \$20,000 will go to Hope House to fund repairs and maintenance, as the structure

is beginning to leak. Part of the money will also be used to upgrade the rooms and sitting areas for the residents.

The remaining \$30,000 will go towards the various Catholic school campuses on island, to assist with maintaining the buildings and school grounds, in addition to repairing and replacing old desks, chairs, and equipment.

Bishop Brown expressed his sincerest gratitude for the generous donation, and he touched briefly on several changes that will be made to develop the schools as they progress towards the future.

Over the years, the Reid family has made it a common practice to donate generously to the Diocese of Samoa Pago Pago.

# Congressman who settled complaint won't seek re-election

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — A Republican congressman from Pennsylvania who settled a former aide's sexual harassment complaint with taxpayer money informed party and campaign officials Thursday that he will not seek re-election, a decision that came as party officials had begun to search for a replacement candidate.

The complaint by a former aide three decades younger than U.S. Rep. Pat Meehan came to light Jan. 20 in a New York Times report, citing unnamed people. The accuser's lawyer, Alexis Ronickher, called the allegations "well-grounded" and a "serious sexual harassment claim." Meehan, 62, is a four-term congressman and former U.S. attorney in Philadelphia. In an effort to fend off the accusation, the married father of three had described the woman in an interview as a "soul mate," and acknowledged that he had lashed out when he discovered she had begun dating another man. But he contended that he had done nothing wrong and had never sought a romantic relationship with her.

Meehan's decision came as he faced calls from Democrats and rallies outside his district office demanding his resignation, and as Republicans began to lose confidence that Meehan could win re-election in the closely divided district in moderate southeastern Pennsylvania where Republicans fear an anti-Trump wave. On Wednesday night, the comedian Stephen Colbert skewered Meehan in a four-minute monologue on his show.

"Unfortunately, recent

events concerning my office and the settlement of certain harassment allegations have become a major distraction," he wrote in a letter to his campaign chairman. "I need to own it because it is my own conduct that fueled the matter." The Times report spurred Republican House Speaker Paul Ryan to call for an Ethics Committee investigation and Meehan's removal from the committee. Ryan also told Meehan to repay the money and the Ethics Committee opened an investigation into whether Meehan sexually harassed the woman and misused official resources. Meehan is the fifth member of Congress to resign or say he won't run again amid a national reckoning over sexual misconduct in the workplace. The chairman of the Pennsylvania Republican Party, Val DiGiorgio, said Meehan "made the right decision" for the voters of his district and for himself. DiGiorgio called it a "sad ending to what was an otherwise noteworthy career of a dedicated public servant leader."

U.S. Rep. Steve Stivers, R-Ohio, the chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, thanked Meehan for his dedication, but said, "we must always hold ourselves to the highest possible standard — especially while serving in Congress."

The former aide made the complaint last summer to the congressional Office of Compliance after Meehan became hostile toward her when she did not reciprocate his romantic interest in her, and she left the job, the Times reported.

The settlement had been kept secret, and Meehan has continually refused to say how much taxpayer money he paid as part of the agreement. Meehan said he followed the advice of House lawyers and Ethics Committee guidance in agreeing to the payment. He said he had developed strong feelings for the woman in the seven years she had worked for him, and that he reacted badly when he discovered that she had a romantic interest in another man. He told reporters that while he had struggled with his feelings, he also insisted that he had kept their relationship professional. Initially, Meehan had said he would run for a fifth term. But even after he aired his side of the story, Republicans quietly looked for other candidates, believing that Meehan could not regain voter confidence after he used taxpayer money to settle the case.

Meehan represents a badly contorted district criticized as being among the nation's most gerrymandered.

Drawn by Republicans before the 2012 election in a bid to help Meehan win re-election, it is a huge liability for Republicans and could change dramatically in a court-ordered redrawing of Pennsylvania's congressional boundaries that is being contested at the U.S. Supreme Court.

Democrat Hillary Clinton narrowly won the district in the 2016 presidential election, and winning it likely becomes an even bigger target for Democrats animated by anti-Trump fervor in Philadelphia's suburbs, and more difficult for Republicans.

# Gay candidate barred from running for sheriff by Alabama GOP

ATHENS, Ala. (AP) — A gay businessman and one-time police officer who is married to another man says GOP leaders in a north Alabama county refused to let him run for sheriff after a review that included questions about his sexual orientation.

Jason White told the News-Courier of Athens that members of the Limestone County Republican Executive Committee voted Tuesday to deny his bid for sheriff in a decision he believes is linked to the fact he is gay.

"I think it is obvious," he said.

White, 40, said he now plans to run for sheriff as an independent, and Republicans must find another candidate if they want an opponent for longtime incumbent Mike Blakely, a Democrat.

"I'm disappointed, but I'm not deterred," said White, who spent 22 years in law enforcement and co-owns a private security company in Huntsville.

Noah Wahl, chairman of the county GOP executive committee, said in a statement late Thursday that White's lack of involvement as a Republican, not his sexual orientation, was the reason for his rejection.

A former Athens police officer, White qualified to run for Limestone County sheriff in 2002 but lost in the primary. White said all he had to do to qualify as a candidate then was complete qualifying papers and pay a qualifying fee.

White, who was married to a woman at the time, has since divorced and married former Navy SEAL Brett Jones in Indiana; the two men live in the county and have a teenage son. Jones has published a book about coming out as gay and leaving the military.

In qualifying to run this year, White had to fill out a form that includes questions about whether candidates have ever voted for a Democrat; if they believe "in the traditional definition of marriage"; and if they were "committed to protecting life at all ages."

About two weeks before the vote, White said a county Republican steering committee asked for an interview in which he was asked to name two weaknesses as a candidate.

"I said the fact I was fired and that I'm gay," White said. White said members then had a lengthy conversation that included remarks like, "We don't think we'd be able to raise any money for you," and "We're a small Southern town; how are we going to get around that?"

White said the committee spent more time talking about his sexual orientation than his dismissal by the Athens Police Department in 2012 over allegations he wrongly used a state crime database to look up information linked to his ex-wife.

Before the vote Tuesday, White said members of the county committee asked whether he voted for Donald Trump for president.

"I said, 'No, I voted for (Libertarian candidate) Gary Johnson,'" White said. "You'd think I had stabbed them."

Wahl said two-thirds of the 34-person committee voted against letting White run. In the statement, he pointed out White's lack of support for Trump and his not contributing to other GOP candidates.

"The challenge to Mr. White's request for candidacy as a Republican was simple, was he a Republican? After careful deliberation the committee could not answer that question with a yes," Wahl said.

Republicans could still get someone in the race since prospective candidates have until Feb. 9 to file qualifying papers.



FILE - In this March 20, 2013, file photo, Rep. Patrick Meehan, R-Pa. speaks on Capitol Hill in Washington. A spokesman for House Republican U.S. Rep. Pat Meehan of Pennsylvania, who settled a former aide's sexual harassment complaint with taxpayer money, told House Speaker Paul Ryan on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2018 that he will not seek another term in Congress.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin, File)

# Emotional residents return to California mudslide area



Residents Paige Beard, left, and Curtis Skene search for belongings near East Valley Road lost in the Jan. 9 storm and mudslides in Montecito, Calif., Thursday, Jan. 25, 2018. Santa Barbara County officials finally lifted evacuation orders this week for about 1,600 people in the hillside enclave of Montecito, while thousands of others still waited for word that it was safe to return. The owners of those that were heavily damaged or destroyed were allowed to briefly search the rubble for precious belongings.

(AP Photo/Daniel Dreifuss)

MONTECITO, Calif. (AP) — Taking stock of their lives and remembering those who were lost, emotional residents on Thursday trickled back to the California coastal town that was devastated two weeks ago by mudslides that killed at least 21 people and destroyed more than a hundred homes.

Santa Barbara County officials finally lifted evacuation orders this week for about 1,600 people in the hillside enclave of Montecito, while thousands of others still waited for word that it was safe to return.

Sheriff's deputies drove vans full of evacuees back to their homes. The owners of those that were heavily damaged or destroyed were allowed to briefly search the rubble for precious belongings.

Curtis Skene fought back tears as firefighters uncovered old photographs of his father in the ruins of his home.

"You have to be grateful you're OK," Skene said. "It's just stuff."

Eric and Pamela Arneson found their home still standing. While he dug through their refrigerator, throwing away spoiled food and chuckling at how bad it smelled, she took notes on each item to submit to their insurance company.

The couple initially remained in their home after the mudslides but later stayed with friends and in a hotel when their electricity was shut off a few days later.

"We can't feel sorry for ourselves. Our lives are OK. Our house is OK," Eric Arneson said.

The couple bought their home in 1972 and had attended church with John McManigal, who died in the mudslides.

"He was the rock of our church," Pamela Arneson said.

Authorities warned that the returns would be gradual and many people would have to stay out until at least the end of the month.

The town's narrow streets were clogged with bulldozers and utility trucks as crews remove mud and boulders and

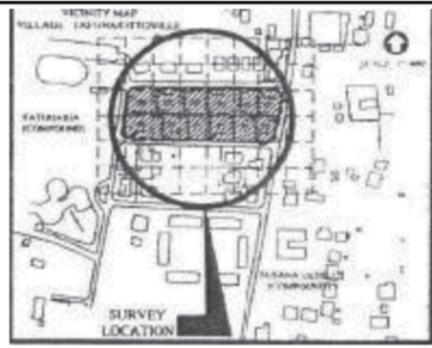
electricity.

Montecito was hit by debris-laden flash floods on Jan. 9 when downpours from a storm hit mountain slopes burned bare by a huge wildfire. Hundreds of homes were damaged. A 17-year-old boy and 2-year-old girl remain missing.

The majority of residents and businesses in and around the town of about 9,000 people have yet to receive an all-clear advisory.

On Thursday attorneys announced a class-action lawsuit they have filed on behalf of a group of Montecito residents and business owners. They are suing the utility Southern California Edison, saying it had a role in starting the fire that led to the subsequent displacement and devastation. It comes after a similar lawsuit filed last week that names Edison and a Montecito local utility.

rebuild drainage pipes and power lines. Utility workers are also busy restoring water and sewage pipes, gas service and



## Chamber of Commerce ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Agenda:**  
Election of Board  
Membership Drive

**Keynote Speaker:**  
Rep. Sam Meleisea,  
Chairman, House Commerce Committee

**Report to Members**  
ASTCA, Bluesky, ASPA  
Progress, Plans, Prospects, 2018

**Wednesday, January 31, 2018 • 6:00pm**  
Sadies by the Sea

Membership forms available at the door

Paul Michael Young, Board Chairman  
Info: 733-0833

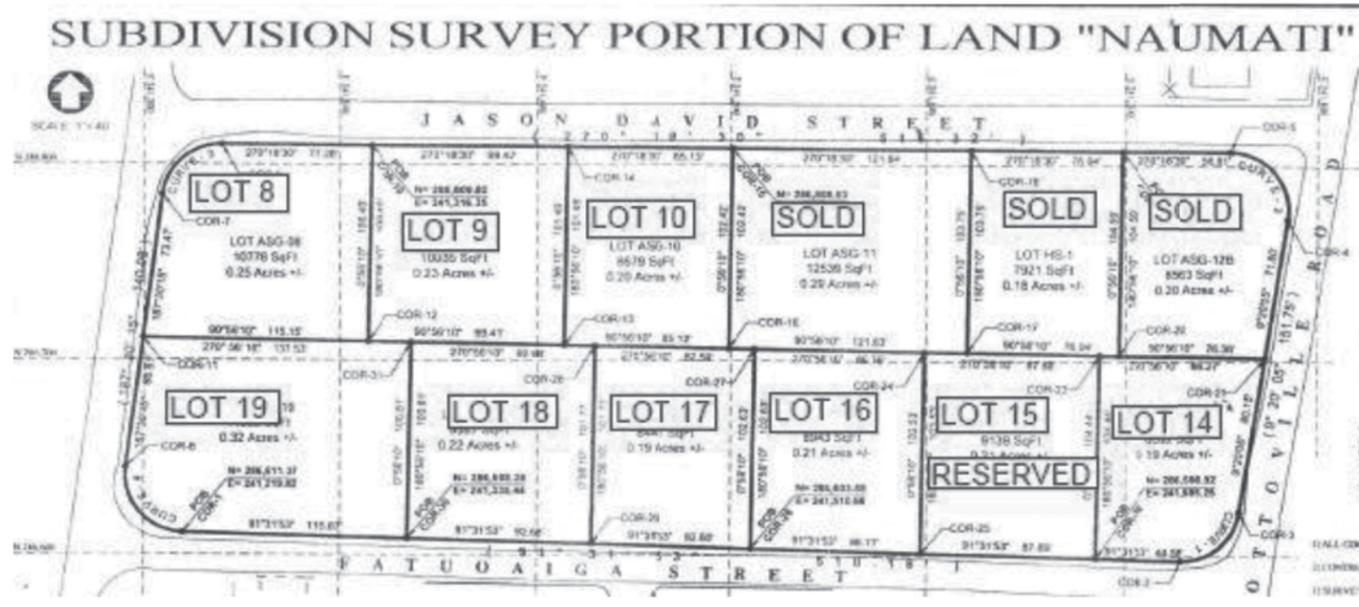
## INVEST IN REAL ESTATE OTTOVILLE, AMERICAN SAMOA

**FOR A LIMITED TIME, OTTOVILLE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY (AN HEI COMPANY) IS OFFERING A NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL HOUSES AND LOTS FOR SALE IN OTTOVILLE. LOTS ARE LOCATED IN BETWEEN FATUOAIGA AND JASON DAVID STREETS. CLOSE TO PACIFIC HORIZON SCHOOL, SHOPPING AND SEVERAL CHURCH DENOMINATIONS. LOTS ARE OFFERED IN INDIVIDUAL OWNERSHIP. PRICES VARY DEPENDING ON LOT SIZES FROM LOW \$200'S TO MID \$300'S. CONTACT JAMES AT (684) 688-1922 OR [jfrancisco@haleck.com](mailto:jfrancisco@haleck.com) FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

**WE MAY FINANCE YOUR PURCHASE WITH A 30% DEPOSIT OF PURCHASE PRICE AND REMAINING BALANCE WITH INTEREST OVER 10 TO 15 YEARS (ON APPROVED CREDIT, CONDITIONS APPLY, RESTRICTIONS APPLY).**

**LONG TERM LAND LEASES ARE AVAILABLE WITH PURCHASE FOR NON AMERICAN SAMOANS.**

**VETERANS WELCOMED. SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY PLEASE.**





# COOLstuff

## BROWNELL'S RETRO TRIBUTE

by Barry Markowitz

The new Brownell's modern replica of the first famous M16, that featured no chrome barrel, no forward assist, and no cleaning kit, is very special.

Fortunately the Brownell's version works superbly as a civilian semi automatic AR (available to civilians in most US States) with the OD Green "furniture" and look of the M16 select fire.

Due to foolish US Government frugality, the compromised Eugene Stoner genius design resulted in lots of "failure to feed" ammunition, and failure to fire. Sadly lots of our young soldiers lost their lives to a few dollars saved.

Roy Hill shared with Cool Stuff US Army Veteran family member emotional moments in

his recent experience launching this tribute.

American Samoa US Vets will have good and bad original M16 remembrances.

Prominent actor, TV Military Show host, R. Lee Ermy, told Cool Stuff, "I refused that original M16 and kept my old school M14. I upset a lot of folks, but if I had foolishly kept the M16 and tossed my M14 I wouldn't be here talking to you guys today."

This working Brownell's replica is a wonderful recognition of our Vietnam Vets that suffered in country, on return to America, with medical issues, and the American public's lack of recognition of the Vets PTSD suffering.

We cannot deny the important historic symbolism, good and bad, of the M16. We must never forget the significant heroism and brave contribution by American Samoa's and ethnic US Stateside Samoan, Vietnam Veterans.



At the 2018 SHOT Show in Las Vegas, Roy Hill, Brownell's Public Relations specialist understood when I told him his company's newly announced "Retro" models would bring tears to the eyes of American Samoa's Vietnam Era veterans.

[Photo: Barry Markowitz, 1/24/18]

# SUPERIOR 7 SPECIAL

GIVES YOU 1GB FREE ON

**E-CHARGE \$7 TO GET IT NOW!**

www.bluesky.as   
 blueskyAmericanSamoa   
 @blueskyamsamoa

\* Available to Prepaid & Capped customers only • Ends January 31st, 2018 • Free Viber applies to Viber usage. It does not include any 3rd party extensions/videos • Viber usage includes video calls, calls, sms • Customers can choose to eCharge BY debit pay to receive a new allocation • Total data allocation on Viber plan is 1GB for 7 days • The free 1GB of data will expire at 11:59pm on the 7th day from date of echarge. It does not rollover or accumulate. • Prepaid out of plan rate is \$0.50cents per MB • Bluesky reserves the right to end or amend the promotion at any given time and will advise customers accordingly • The 1GB of data will expire on January 31st, 2018, otherwise does not rollover to the next month.

## Man killed by FBI agent in Houston raid was kidnap victim

HOUSTON (AP) — An FBI agent fatally shot the victim of a kidnapping during a raid early Thursday at a Houston home, authorities said.

FBI spokeswoman Christina Garza said the agent shot the man shortly before 4 a.m. during an "operation" at the home. The man, whose name wasn't immediately released, died later at a hospital.

Police in Conroe, about 40 miles (64 kilometers) north of Houston, confirmed the man had been kidnapped and held for ransom.

"The system failed. Whether it was accidental or not, the man is not going home to his family," Conroe Police Chief Philip Dupuis said.

Two men and one woman are charged with aggravated kidnapping, police said. The men also are charged with aggravated robbery.

Police said the men broke into a home in Conroe and abducted the man. His 12-year-old son called police, who called the FBI for assistance.

The FBI followed cell-phone signals to a motel near Houston, where two suspects — both of them men — were found. The suspects directed FBI agents and police officers to a house where another suspect — a woman — was located along with the man who was being held captive. Other people, including children, also were at the home, according to authorities.



# Amata welcomes Senator Hatch's companion bill to her Air Service Legislation

Washington, D.C. – Thursday, January 25, 2018 - Congresswoman Aumua Amata welcomed newly introduced companion legislation from the honorable Senator Orrin Hatch of Utah, the President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate, that mirrors her bill to ensure reliable air service in American Samoa.

Congresswoman Amata's bill, H.R. 276, was already passed by the House of Representatives early last year, and that same objective is now making new progress in the Senate with Senator Hatch's introduction of the companion bill, S. 2348.

This legislative effort by Senator Hatch and Congresswoman Amata would amend Title 49, United States Code, so that American Samoa can count on air service between islands.

"I'm very pleased that our legislative effort to ensure reliable air service in American Samoa has earned the backing of Senator Hatch, who introduced the companion bill in the Senate," Aumua Amata said.

"Senator Hatch's support for this priority is great news, and essential to establishing the momentum to proceed through the Senate and become law in the near future.

I deeply appreciate Senator Hatch's friendship for American Samoa, and his support of several such priorities for the territory, including the American Samoa Economic Development Credit and the territorial bank."

Specifically, H.R. 276, changes the requirement of foreign carriers who service the routes between Tutuila and Manu'a to streamline unnecessarily burdensome paperwork. Currently, the carrier must apply for a waiver every 30 days, but the bill reduces that application requirement to every six months – a change to a requirement known as cabotage. Congresswoman Amata's measure passed the House by unanimous consent about one year ago.

"American Samoa relies on air service between the islands of Tutuila and Manu'a from carriers that are not based in the U.S. or American Samoa, and it is reasonable to streamline the permitting process so that we can depend on these flights," continued Congresswoman Amata.

"A constant process of re-applying for permits is an unnecessary discouragement to the current carriers and any others that might consider local services in the future.

Reducing this burden makes sense, especially since there's not a U.S. or American Samoan competitor involved. Hopefully, this change will help hold down travel costs or eventually increase the options for travel from island to island."

"This bill is important to the people of American Samoa, and I want to thank Senator Hatch for his leadership on this effort in the Senate," concluded Amata.

"Also, on the House side, we rapidly passed the bill because of the strong support of Chairman Shuster, Subcommittee Chairman LoBiondo, and other Members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee."



Amata with Sen. Orrin Hatch, President pro tempore of the Senate

[Courtesy photo]

**BEAT THE HEAT**  
NOW THROUGH SATURDAY, FEB. 10TH

**50% OFF**  
ALL PIONEER AC SPLIT UNITS  
BTU 8K, 18K, 24K, 36K.

**10% OFF**  
ALL WINDOW AND PORTABLE AC UNITS

**Amara**

**15% OFF**  
SELECT GAS RANGES

**cool down**  
LOOK FOR THE ORANGE TAGS

**20% OFF**  
VINYL WOOD PLANKS AND BAMBEO FLOORING

**15% OFF**  
ALL VINYL MINI BLINDS & WINDOW SHADE EXG

**15% OFF**  
SELECT WATER BOTTLES

**shoot the breeze**

**15% OFF**  
DRYING RACKS & CAROUSELS

**10% OFF**  
SELECT FANS

609-8770 / Monday through Friday 8-5, Sat 7:30-2 / www.neilshomecenter.com / Like & follow us on Facebook



# East Timor president calls new elections to break deadlock



Spain's Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy arrives to a news conference following to the last Cabinet meeting of the year at the Moncloa palace in Madrid, Friday, Dec. 29, 2017. Rajoy said he intends calling the first session for the new parliament of Spain's restive region of Catalonia on Jan. 17. (AP Photo/Francisco Seco)

DILI, East Timor (AP) — East Timor will hold new elections after the minority government formed last year was unable to get its policy program and budget through parliament, the country's president said Friday.

President Francisco "Lulo" Guterres said he had dissolved the parliament. He has yet to announce an election date.

"I ask the people to vote again. We will all go to vote.

We will all go to elections to improve our democracy," he said.

The decision was supported by the two biggest parties in parliament, Fretilin, which led the minority government, and the National Congress for Timorese Reconstruction party of independence hero Xanana Gusmao, or CNRT.

"We have told the president that he should make any decision, whatever it is, to solve the current political crisis," said

Taur Matan Ruak, leader of a minor party and spokesman for the opposition alliance in parliament.

Previously, Fretilin was part of a national unity government with the CNRT. In the July parliamentary election, CNRT lost support and Fretilin narrowly became the largest party. Opponents said its minority government was unconstitutional.

The government's 2018 budget was rejected by parliament in December, its second defeat after its policy program was rejected in October.

East Timor, a former Portuguese colony, was occupied by Indonesia for a quarter century. It gained independence after a U.N.-sponsored referendum in 1999 but reprisals by the Indonesian military devastated the East Timorese half of the island of Timor.

Today, the country of 1.3 million people still faces desperate poverty. Leaders have focused on big-ticket infrastructure projects to develop the economy, funding them from a dwindling supply of former oil riches, but progress is slow.

Parliamentary and presidential elections held last year were the first without U.N. supervision since peacekeepers left in 2012.

## Two Western...

Continued from page 1

vided both a verbal and a written statement regarding the matter.

According to Sasa, she took money from two transactions — made by two separate customers — to cover up for the money Tautalaga allegedly took 30 days earlier.

She said that after Tautalaga was suspended from work, she called Tautalaga to let her know of the complaints made by customers about monies their families had yet to receive.

Sasa told police that Tautalaga allegedly asked her to take money from other transactions to cover up for the money she took.

According to court documents, Sasa said she did as Tautalaga asked, by taking money from 2 separate transactions that were made 3 days apart (June 10 and 14, 2016) totaling \$14,000.

According to Sasa's statement, co-defendant Tautalaga was relieved when she did as she asked.

The company eventually had to reimburse the customers whose money transfers were taken by Sasa, according to court records.

It was revealed during the police investigation that Tautalaga processed three transactions — each for \$7,000 — on May 25th, 31st and June 2, 2016, for a total of \$21,000.

According to the affidavit, a senior official of Western Union discovered the transaction handled by Sasa on July 14, 2016 for an Asian customer.

The company official told police that Sasa allegedly confessed to taking the money — keeping \$3,000 for herself and giving Tautalaga \$4,000

Investigators were able to interview one of the victims who made a \$7,000 transaction.

According to the victim, it was on May 25, 2016 that he met Sasa at the Western Union office in Nuuli to process a transaction for \$7,000

Based on court documents, the victim told police that Sasa provided him with a receipt and told him the funds would be released one month later.

The victim said he returned a month later and was informed that the money was still not in the system, and the manager assisted him with the problem.

A company official told police that she resolved the problem and the company paid for the transaction.

Investigators were able to speak to yet another victim in this case — also an Asian customer — on July 22, 2016 at the DPS main station in Fagatogo.

According to the second victim, he went to Western Union on June 9 & 10, 2016 to make two separate transactions

— each for \$7,000 — to be sent to a friend in China.

The victim told police one transaction went through but the other was put on hold by Sasa, who told him the money would be available on June 20, 2016.

On that day, the victim returned to Western Union where he was told by Sasa that his money was still not ready, but to check back on June 30.

On June 23, the same victim went to Western Union to make another transaction but did not see Sasa there. He said he then spoke with a supervisor, who informed him that his money was taken out the same day of the transaction.

Court documents note that a follow-up interview with a senior official of Western Union revealed that the second victim's money was paid back to him by the company on June 27.

The WU official added that Sasa allegedly confessed to her about taking the money because she was trying to help Tautalaga.

She told police she spoke with both Sasa and Tautalaga about the transaction, and both women confessed to her about allegedly taking \$7,000 from one transaction.

The same official further told police that Sasa also allegedly confessed to taking a total of \$10,000 through a fraudulent transaction, while Tautalaga allegedly confessed to taking \$14,000.

According to court filings, when questioned by police, Tautalaga allegedly said she used the \$14,000 on various things that she wanted, but did not provide details on the items.

She also is alleged to have told police that she was going to pay the money back, adding that when she was terminated from her job at Western Union, she sought Sasa's help in getting \$7,000 and Sasa agreed to it.

Upon further questioning, Tautalaga, according to court records, admitted to police that she took \$14,000 from two transactions.

When asked about the other questionable transactions, Tautalaga said others are able to use her Operator Identification and while it was used, she denies any knowledge of the other transactions.

She allegedly told police she doesn't know how much money was actually taken, because she didn't keep track, and all she wanted to do was tell the truth.

Court records note Tautalaga as saying there was an incident where she had given a Control Number to Sasa to retrieve money from a transaction to cover for another transaction.



### 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

# Kentucky shooting suspect ordered held; vigil for victims

BENTON, Ky. (AP) — The 15-year-old boy accused of gunning down classmates at a western Kentucky high school was ordered held on murder and assault charges as the shaken community where it happened strained to cope with the devastation.

On Thursday, a juvenile court judge found probable cause to keep detaining the teenager as authorities gather evidence to support trying him as an adult for the attack at Marshall County High School, Assistant Marshall County Attorney Jason Darnall said. Authorities, meanwhile, are seeking to gather evidence for a grand jury, hoping to discover why a handgun was turned on a crowd of classmates, all 14 to 18, as they waited for the morning bell Tuesday.

Although the legal process has begun for the suspect, others in the small rural community

sought to overcome the shock of Tuesday's shooting with a show of solidarity. Hundreds gathered amid flickering candles after nightfall Thursday to honor the victims as many wept.

Nearly 300 people, many with faces visibly etched with pain, thronged a park as firefighters raised a large American flag in the crisp night air. Many teens, cupping candles in their palms, hugged and looked on somberly. One girl's candle shook in her hands as she sobbed, and others cried when another girl sang "Amazing Grace."

"It always happens somewhere else, you know, but this week it was our community," said Misti Drew, an organizer of the vigil. With faces aglow from the candles, participants lofted banners and some wore T-shirts embossed with the words, "Marshall Strong."

Earlier, Vicki Jo Reed

Painted a "Marshall Strong" sign on a storefront, and reflected on her grandson's close call.

"This is one of the hardest things for me to ever have to paint," she said. "Had a grandson that was in the commons area through the whole thing, and he, like all the other kids, is not handling it very good."

Reed said her grandson is also 15, like the shooting suspect and their two slain classmates, and is haunted by the horror he saw.

"He wakes up to the gunshots every morning," Reed said.

The mother of Bailey Nicole Holt, who died at the scene, said she got a call from her daughter's phone but couldn't hear her. "She called me, and all I could hear was voices and chaos in the background and she couldn't say anything," Secret Holt told WKRN-TV in Nashville.



People attend a vigil for the victims of a fatal shooting at Marshall County High School on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2018, at Mike Miller County Park in Benton, Ky. The 15-year-old accused of the fatal shooting on Tuesday, which left over a dozen injured, was ordered held Thursday on preliminary charges of murder and assault. (AP Photo/Robert Ray)

## FBI...

Continued from page 1

case. This week, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) was mentioned as being the federal agency conducting an investigation.

Responding to Samoa News inquiries, FBI Honolulu Office spokesman Special Agent Arnold La'anui said the "FBI is currently 'not conducting' a fraud investigation into Food Stamps on American Samoa."

(Samoa News notes that other "federal agents" could be investigators from the USDA and its Office of Inspector General.)

The DHSS budget for fiscal year 2018 totals \$21.87 million with the ASNAP program allocated \$7.58 million - which includes \$6.25 million for ASNAP benefits (food coupons) paid to participants, according to the ASG FY 2018 budget document.

DHSS director, Muavaefa'atasi John Suisala didn't immediately respond to Samoa News questions - including those pertaining to adequate funding for ASNAP, as well as new measures - if any - put in place by the department to ensure such incidents don't occur in the future.

Several years ago, the food stamp program was among the several federally funded programs designated as "high risk" by federal agencies. However, the designation was lifted for ASNAP during the Togiola Administration, after steps were taken to ensure proper accounting and compliance with the program.

Concerns over the impact of ASNAP funding also surfaced in the Senate this week and is the subject of a Senate Human and Social Services Committee hearing next Monday. Witnesses expected to appear include Muavaefa'atasi.

**CHANNEL 47** \* (E) English Subtitles  
\* (L) Live Programming/News  
\* (R) Rerun

"Channel 47" KBS WORLD Program of American Samoa

\*The programs listed below may change without notice due to copyright issues. (Jan 28 ~ Feb 3, 2018) \*

Time of American Samoa	Sunday (1/28)	Monday (1/29)	Tuesday (1/30)	Wednesday (1/31)	Thursday (2/1)	Friday (2/2)	Saturday (2/3)
10 : am	K-pop World Festiv'	Hello Counselor (E,R)	Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance	The Unit	Happy Together (E,R)	Music Bank	Encore Drama
11 : am	Battle Trip (E,R)	Encore Drama Discovery of Love			Jisook's Table for O'	The Beauty	Discovery of Love
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	Radio Romance Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)	Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance	The Unit	Black Knight Wed-Thu Drama (E,R)	Battle Trip (E,R)	K-RUSH (E,R) 30'
3 : pm	Encore Drama Lovers of Music (E,R)	Hello Counselor (E,R)	Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance	Happy Together (E,R)	My Golden Life (E,R)	Music Bank	30'
4 : pm	Encore Drama Lovers of Music (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Jugglers (E,R)	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Black Knight (E,R)	The Unit	My Golden Life Weekend Drama (E,R)	50'
5 : pm	Encore Drama Lovers of Music (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Jugglers (E,R)	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Black Knight (E,R)	(E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama	Wed-Thu Drama
6 : pm	Encore Drama Lovers of Music (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Jugglers (E,R)	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Black Knight (E,R)	The Swan Club (E,R)	Radio Romance (E,R)	Black Knight (E,R)
7 : pm	#14, 15, 16. Final	# 14, 15, 16.	#38, 39, 40.	# 14, 15, 16.	Jisook's Table for O'	Hello Counselor (E,R) 20'	
8 : pm	Gag Concert	Daily Drama "The Secret of My Love" (E,R)					
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)	Battle Trip (E,R)	40'
10 : pm	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Hello Counselor (E,R)	The Swan Club	The Unit	K-RUSH (E,R)	Gag Concert (E)	"The Return of Superman" (E) 00'
11 : pm	Daily Drama "The Secret of My Love" (E,R)						Wook'Food Odyssey 20'
12 : 00	Daily Drama "Love Returns" (E)						Immortal Songs 2 (E,R) 40'
Next Day	KBS 9 News (Live)						Two Days and One Night (E) 40'
1 : am	KBS 9 News (Live)						My Golden Life Weekend Drama (E) 20'
2 : am	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Radio Romance Mon-Tue Drama (E)	Black Knight Wed-Thu Drama (E)				
3 : am	Hello Counselor	Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance (E,R)	The Unit	Happy Together	Music Bank (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Radio Romance (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Black Knight (E,R)
4 : am	Encore Drama Discovery of Love (E,R)						The Swan Club (E,R)
5 : am	Heritage Tomorrow						Gag Concert (E,R)
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)	The Return of Superman (E,R)	50'
7 : am	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Gag Concert (E,R)	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	The Swan Club (E,R)	Battle Trip (E,R)	Two Days and One Night (E,R)	30'
8 : am	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Radio Romance Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)	Black Knight Wed-Thu Drama (E,R)	K-pop World Festival Global Audition			
9 : am	Hello Counselor	Dragon's Club Over'	The Unit	Happy Together	Music Bank	My Golden Life Weekend Drama (E,R)	50'
						Discovery of Love (E,R)	The Beauty 00'
						Guerilla Date (E)	50'

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

**"TRUTH of DOKDO & EAST SEA"**

< <http://www.truthofdokdo.com> >

< <http://www.forthenexgeneration.com> >

# Hospital fire kills more than 30 people in South Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A fire swept through a hospital for the elderly in southeastern South Korea on Friday, killing more than 30 people and injuring dozens in one of the country's deadliest fires in recent years. The fire at Sejong Hospital in the city of Miryang killed 31 people and injured 81, 14 of them in critical condition, the state-run National Fire Agency said. Agency officials said the death toll could increase. Details of the fire including its cause were unknown. But local Miryang fire officials said they put out the blaze at 10:26 a.m., nearly three hours after it started at the first-floor emergency room of the hospital. A National Fire Agency official said many of the deaths were confirmed after the victims were taken to nearby hospitals while being put on artificial ventilators. But he said he has no further details including the identification of the dead. The official spoke on condition of anonymity saying he wasn't authorized to speak to media. A total of 194 people had been hospitalized in two buildings of Sejong Hospital, including 94 elderly people who were hospitalized in the nursing hospital, before the fire broke out, Miryang fire official Choi Choi Man-wu said in an earlier televised briefing.

Sejong Hospital has a nursing hospital for the elderly and also offers regular medical services. The hospital has 193 beds including 98 beds for the elderly who needs nursing care with 35 medical staff, according to Yonhap news agency. South Korea is one of the fastest-aging countries in the world and has many nursing hospitals, which are preferred for elderly people who need long-term doctors' care. President Moon Jae-in convened an emergency meeting with senior advisers and expressed regret over the blaze. He ordered officials to provide necessary medical supports to those rescued, find the exact cause of the fire and work out measures to prevent future fires, according to his spokesman Park Su-hyun. Several recent fires in South Korea have been deadly. In late December, 29 people were killed in a building fire in central Seoul, which was the country's deadliest blaze over the past decade before the hospital fire. Last weekend, a fire at a Seoul motel killed six people, and police arrested a man who allegedly set it ablaze in anger because he had been denied a room for being heavily drunk. In 2014, a fire set by an 81-year-old dementia patient killed 21 at another hospital for the elderly.

# Detective: Neighbors heard ex-con kill mother, stepfather



FILE - Rene Cooksey, 56, is seen in this undated file photo provided by the Phoenix Police Department. Cooksey and her husband were both found shot to death in their Phoenix apartment on Dec. 17, 2017. Cleophus Cooksey Jr., a convicted felon accused of serial killings in Arizona fatally shot Rene, his mother, in the apartment they shared and then had an argument with his stepfather before killing him, a police detective testified Thursday, Jan. 25, 2018.

(Phoenix Police Department/Arizona Motor Vehicle Department via AP, File)

PHOENIX (AP) — A convicted felon accused of serial killings in Arizona fatally shot his mother in the apartment they

shared and then had an argument with his stepfather before killing him, a police detective testified Thursday.

Neighbors of Cleophus Cooksey Jr., 35, heard the gunshots on Dec. 17 that are believed to have killed his mother, Rene Cooksey, according to Detective Michelle Cervantes. Then they heard a tense exchange of words between Cooksey and his stepfather, Edward Nunn, followed by more gunshots, Cervantes said at a bail hearing.

While the reason for the argument is unknown, the detective said a neighbor reported hearing someone in the Cooksey apartment saying something about "the devil, evil (and) Satan" before the second volley of gunfire. It was unclear from the testimony who made the comment and how it fits into the argument.

The detective was the only witness to testify at a court hearing where prosecutors were asking for Cooksey to be denied bail.

It was set at \$1 million after his arrest in the deaths of his mother and stepfather. It was upped to \$5 million last week after police said he killed seven others, though no charges have been filed in those deaths.

Cooksey is accused of car-

rying out the serial killings in metro Phoenix from late November until mid-December. They say ballistics and other evidence tie him to the slayings. Investigators say Cooksey knew some of the victims but were still trying to determine motives in a few of the attacks.

Maricopa County Superior Court Judge Michael Kemp hasn't yet made a decision on whether Cooksey should be jailed until trial. The judge said he must first read grand jury transcripts from the case.

Cooksey, who has pleaded not guilty, chose not to attend Thursday's hearing. One of his lawyers, Gary Beren, declined to comment.

Prosecutors say state law denies bail to people charged with crimes eligible for the death penalty. Authorities haven't said whether they will seek the death penalty.

Cooksey's attorneys say prosecutors can't show why the deaths of Cooksey's mother and stepfather could lead to the death penalty.

Four months before the killings started, Cooksey was released from prison on a manslaughter conviction for his participation in a 2001 robbery of a strip club where an accomplice was fatally shot.

# Factories make unexpected legacy for Ivanka Trump in China



In this Dec. 18, 2017, photo, Chinese labor activist Hua Haifeng, adjusts the backpack of his son Bo Bo, 4, as he takes him to school on the outskirts of Xiangyang in central China's Hubei Province. Apple Inc. and Ivanka Trump's brand both rely on Chinese suppliers that have been criticized for workplace abuses. But they've taken contrasting approaches to dealing with supply chain problems. When Apple learned thousands of student workers at an iPhone supplier had been underpaid, it helped them get their money back. After three men investigating labor abuses at factories that made Ivanka Trump shoes were arrested last year, neither Ivanka Trump nor her brand spoke out.

(AP Photo/Mark Schiefelbein)

XIANGYANG, China (AP) — The young woman, new to the grind of Chinese factory life, knew the man who called himself Kalen only by the photo on his chat profile. It showed him with a pressed smile holding a paper cup in a swank skyscraper somewhere late at night.

Yu Chunyan and her friends didn't know what to make of him. Some thought his eyes were shifty. Others said he

looked handsome in a heroic sort of way. Yu was among the doubters. The daughter of factory workers, Yu paid her way through college by working in factories herself. She and thousands of other students had toiled through the summer of 2016 assembling iPhones at a supplier for Apple Inc., but they hadn't been paid their full wages. Kalen was offering to help — and asking nothing in

return. This struck Yu as suspicious. If there was one thing she had learned in her 23 years it was this: "There's no free lunch." Disputes like these often don't go well for workers in China. But over the years, suicides and sweatshop scandals have pushed some companies, like Apple, to reconsider their approach to workplace fairness.

Today, a growing number of brands, including Apple, Nike Inc., Gap Inc., Levi Strauss & Co., and the H&M Group prioritize transparency and take public responsibility for conditions throughout their global supply chains. Labor rights groups like the one Kalen worked for, China Labor Watch, can play a useful watchdog role for these companies, by helping them understand what's really going on at their suppliers.

But not everyone has embraced this new approach.

When China Labor Watch confronted Ivanka Trump's brand with charges of labor abuses at its Chinese suppliers, her company refused to engage. It made no public effort to investigate the allegations: forced overtime, pay as low as \$1 an hour, and crude verbal and physical abuse — including one incident in which a man was hit in the head with the sharp end of a high-heeled shoe.

## BEACH ADVISORY

Supporting efforts to clean our shores

**Release Date: January 24, 2017**

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

The American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency (AS-EPA) advises the public that on January 23, 2017, the following recreational beaches tested positive for Enterococci bacteria levels that exceed American Samoa Water Quality Standards:

- Vatia
- Afono
- Fagasa-Fagale'a
- Utulei
- Utulei-DDW
- Fagaalu
- Nuuuli Pala Lagoon

- Asili Stream Mouth
- Aua Stream Mouth
- Aua-Pouesi
- Laulii Stream Mouth
- Fagaitua
- Aoa

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.

# Trump plan offers citizenship path to 1.8 million immigrants



**FILE - In this Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017, file photo, Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., right, with Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., speak during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, to discuss their bipartisan Dream Act. A 12-year pathway to citizenship for young immigrants brought to the U.S. as children and who are here illegally is part of a bipartisan immigration proposal by senators to prevent deportation of hundreds of thousands of so-called Dreamers. The Associated Press on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018 obtained details of the agreement between three Republican and three Democratic senators. The deal also calls for allocating \$1.6 billion for structures including a wall for border security.**

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta, File)

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House unveiled a proposal Thursday that provides a pathway to citizenship for 1.8 million young immigrants living in the country illegally, in exchange for new restrictions on legal immigration and \$25 billion in border security. The plan was applauded by some in Congress, but blasted by conservative activists as “amnesty” and slammed by a slew of Democrats, who accused President Donald Trump of holding “Dreamers” hostage to his hard-line immigration agenda.

Senior White House officials cast the plan as a centrist compromise that could win support from both parties and enough votes to pass the Senate. But it comes with a long list of concessions that many Democrats, and also conservative Republicans, especially in the House, may find impossible to swallow.

The plan would provide a pathway to citizenship for the roughly 690,000 younger immigrants protected from deportation by the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program — as well as hundreds of thousands of others who independent estimates say qualify for the program, but never applied.

Trump announced last year that he was doing away with the program, but gave Congress until March to come up with a legislative fix.

The plan would not allow parents of those immigrants to seek lawful status, the officials said.

In exchange, Trump’s plan would dramatically overhaul the legal immigration system. Immigrants would only be allowed to sponsor their spouses and underage children to join them in the U.S., and not their parents, adult children or sib-

lings. The officials said it would only end new applications for visas, allowing those already in the pipeline to be processed. Still, immigration activists said the move could cut legal immigration in half.

It would also end a visa lottery aimed at diversity, which drew Trump’s attention after the New York City truck attack last year, redirecting the allotment to bringing down the existing backlog in visa applications.

The officials spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss the plan before its release.

On Wednesday, Trump said he was open to a pathway to citizenship for the younger immigrants. “We’re going to morph into it,” Trump told reporters. “It’s going to happen, at some point in the future, over a period of 10 to 12 years.” It was a reversal for the president, who had previously said he opposed a pathway to citizenship for Dreamer immigrants.

Under the plan, recipients could have their legal status revoked due to criminal behavior or national security threats, the officials said, and eventual citizenship would require still-unspecified work and education requirements — and a finding that the immigrants are of “good moral character.”The nonpartisan Migration Policy Institute said it believes the largest share of the White House’s 1.8 million people who’d be eligible for citizenship — 1.3 million — are people who currently meet all of DACA’s eligibility requirements. These include years in the U.S., their ages now and when they entered this country, and whether they have a high school or equivalent education.

Another 400,000 are people

who’d be eligible for DACA protection but for their education. And 100,000 more are people who are under age 15 — the minimum age allowed for most people requesting protection under the program.

Trump ended the DACA program in September, setting a March 5 deadline for Congress to provide legal protections or the program’s recipients would once again be subject to deportation. The officials said Trump would only sign legislation providing those protections if the other immigration changes he is proposing are implemented.

Trump earlier this month had deferred to a bipartisan, bicameral group of lawmakers to craft an immigration proposal, saying he would sign whatever they passed. But as talks on Capitol Hill broke down — in part because of controversy Trump ginned up using vulgar language to describe African countries — the White House decided to offer its own framework.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and others had also complained the president had failed to sufficiently lay out his priorities, leaving them guessing about what he might be willing to sign. One official said the Thursday release represents a plan for the Senate, with the administration expecting a different bill to pass the House. McConnell thanked the president and his aides for providing the outline. “I am hopeful that as discussions continue in the Senate on the subject of immigration, Members on both sides of the aisle will look to this framework for guidance as they work towards an agreement,” he said in a statement.

Doug Andres, a spokesman for House Speaker Paul Ryan, echoed the sentiment saying: “We’re grateful for the president showing leadership on this issue and believe his ideas will help us ultimately reach a balanced solution.”Rep. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., an immigration hard-liner, called Trump’s plan “generous and humane, while also being responsible” and said he’d work toward its passage. He said that besides protecting DACA recipients, “It also will prevent us from ending up back here in five years by securing the border and putting an end to extended-family chain migration.”But some of Congress’ more conservative members seemed unwilling to open the citizenship door for the Dreamers.“DACA itself didn’t have a pathway to citizenship,” said Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, who battled Trump in 2016 for the GOP presidential nomination. “So I think it would be a profound mistake and not consistent with the promises we made to the voters to enact a pathway to citizenship to DACA recipients or to others who are here illegally.”

## NOTICE FOR SEPARATION AGREEMENT

TO Members of the SAMANA Family and to all whom these present may come!  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that SAMANA SEMO VEAVEA JR. of LEONE has offered for recording in this office an instrument in writing which seeks to separate a certain structure which is or to be erected, on land PAEPAETELE allegedly belonging to SAMANA FAMILY of the village of LEONE. Said land PAEPAETELE is situated in or near the village of LEONE in the County of FOFO, Island of TUTUILA, American Samoa.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any interested person may object to the recording of such instrument by filing in the Territorial Registrar’s Office in Fagatogo, a written objection to the recording of said instrument. Any objections thereto must be filed with in 30 days from the date of posting of this notice.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that if no such objections are filed within the said 30 day period, the instrument will be recorded and shall be valid and binding on all persons. The said instrument may be examined at any time at the Territorial Registrar’s Office.

POSTED: JANUARY 23, 2018 thru FEBRUARY 22, 2018

SIGNED: Taito S.B. White, Territorial Registrar

## FA’AALIGA O LE FEAGAIGA MO SE TU’U’ESEINA

I tagata o le aiga sa SAMANA, ma i latou uma e silasila ma lauiloaina lenei faaaliga!  
O le faaaliga lenei ona o SAMANA SEMO VEAVEA JR. o le nu’u o LEONE ua ia faaulufaleina mai i lenei ofisa se feagaiga tusitusi e faailoa ai se mana’oga fia tu’u’eseina o se fale ua/po o le a, faatuuina i luga o le fanua o PAEPAETELE e faasino i le aiga sa SAMANA, o le nu’u o LEONE. O lenei fanua e totonu pe latalata ane i le nu’u o LEONE, itumalo o FOFO, ile motu o TUTUILA, Amerika Samoa.

O le faaaliga fo’i e faapea, so o se tasi e iai sona aia i lenei mata’upu e mafai ona faatuu’iese ile faamauina o lenei feagaiga pe a auina mai i le ofisa ole Resitara o le Teritori of Amerika Samoa i Fagatogo, sana faatuu’ese tusitusia. O faatuu’eseiga uma lava e ao ona faaulufaleina mai i totonu o aso e 30 faitauina mai i le aso na faaaliga ai lenei faaaliga.

Afai ole a leai se faatuu’eseiga e faaulufaleina i totonu o aso 30 e pei ona ta’ua i luga, o le faamauina loa lenei feagaiga e taualoaina ma a’afia ai tagata uma. 01/26 & 02/09/18



**NATIONAL PACIFIC INSURANCE LIMITED**

“Working with the Community”

TEL: 633-4266 OR 699-1267 • FAX: 633-2964 OR 699-1263

## NATIONAL PACIFIC INSURANCE LTD

Invites written tenders for 1 only damaged 2008 FORD RANGER XL LIC# 6635 on “as is, where is” basis. Viewing appointments can be scheduled with Accords Collision & Towing Inc Shop in Tafuna on 699-1633 or 731-3883

All Tenders sealed in envelope and addressed to:

Tender - 68226847

Agnes Polu

Country Manager

National Pacific Insurance Ltd

P O Box 1386

Utulei, Centennial Building

Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Highest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

Tender closes at 4pm on February 1st, 2018

For any further details please contact Fatu Matamua.

Phone#: 633-4266 or 699-1267



**TRADEWINDS HOTEL**

AMERICAN SAMOA

## VACANCY

American Samoa’s leading resort is seeking an honest, trustworthy and suitably qualified individual for the position of **STAFF ACCOUNTANT**.

### Requirements:

- College/University graduate with a strong background in Accounting,
- 5 or more years equivalent experience.
- Have a sound knowledge of Accounting functions and principles.
- Computer literate and familiar with Financial Management Systems.
- Have experience in Accounts Payables/Receivables and Payroll.
- Able to work under minimal supervision.
- Must display a willingness to learn and work within a team environment.
- Must have excellent communication skills.

Application forms are to be picked up from the Front Desk at Tradewinds Hotel and to be submitted no later than January 31, 2018 with a resume, copies of certificates and at least three (3) references. All applications are to be submitted to:

Tradewinds Hotel  
P O Box 999  
Pago Pago AS 96799  
(Phone: 684-699-1000, Ext 716)



# Meet A Spelling Champ!

The student at the right will represent St. Theresa School in the American Samoa Spelling Bee to be held March 07, 2018. The winner of that Bee will represent American Samoa in the 90th annual Scripps Howard Spelling Bee to be held in Washington, D.C.



## BIOGRAPHY OF A 2018 SPELLING BEE FINALIST

What is your name?  
**Mineva Seaga**  
What is your school name?  
**St. Theresa Elementary School**  
What grade are you in?  
**Grade 8**  
Who is your English Teacher?  
**Myra Ioane**  
Who are your parents?  
**John & Soavi Cendrowski**  
What village are you from?  
**Aasu**  
What was your winning word?  
**LABYRINTHINE**

Spelling Bee Winners, if you've not filled out your biography and had your picture taken, please come in to Samoa News.



**Territorial Spelling Bee**

**Major Sponsor**



**McDonald's**

*in conjunction with*



**Department of EDUCATION**

American Samoa

## Ex-detective: Rogue police tipped off about investigation

BALTIMORE (AP) — Members of the Baltimore Police Department's Gun Trace Task Force were tipped off about investigations into the rogue unit's illegal activities, a former city detective testified Thursday. Maurice Ward, an indicted former detective who has alleged rampant police corruption at this week's start of a high-profile racketeering trial, said unit supervisor Sgt. Wayne Jenkins was informed by a fellow police officer that two task force members were being investigated for robberies and drug dealing. On the stand in U.S. District Court in Baltimore, Ward identified the officer as Sgt. Ryan Guinn, asserting he shared the information with Jenkins after talking to two federal agents.

Kevin Davis, who was fired last week, has said Suiter was duped by Jenkins into discovering the planted narcotics.

On Thursday, Ward also testified that Detective Marcus Taylor, one of two officers on trial, was additionally tipped off by a source in Baltimore police's internal affairs division who told him that the Gun Trace Task Force was in investigators' crosshairs.

The indictments of the Gun Trace Task Force members announced in March by the U.S. attorney's office reads more like a Hollywood movie script than a routine charging document, as federal agents followed what they described as a squad of renegade officers committing brazen robberies and staging cover-ups to avoid detection.

Guinn, who works at the department's training academy, was part of an April 2010 arrest of a man who prosecutors revealed late last year had a cache of heroin planted in his car, allegedly by Jenkins.

One of the indicted detectives, Momodu Gondo, is accused of dealing drugs and protecting his operation by tipping off drug dealers about law-enforcement tactics.

That 2010 arrest also involved Detective Sean Suiter, who was shot in the head with his own gun a day before he was set to testify before a grand jury investigating the Gun Trace Task Force. His November murder is unsolved; there have been no arrests. Former Police Commissioner

Taylor and Detective Daniel Hersl are fighting federal racketeering and robbery charges.

Five other indicted detectives — all task force members — have pleaded guilty in recent months. Four, including Ward, will testify as witnesses for the government during the ongoing trial of two detectives who have pleaded not guilty.




**NEW**

# Daily Double Cheeseburgers

Deluxe Double Cheeseburger

Bacon Double Cheeseburger

Limited Time Only

\* Available as a side order or in a meal and served after 10:30am Daily




# To'atolu ua molia fa'aaoga fa'asolitulafono pepa 'ai mai Food Stamp



tusia Ausage Fausia

O le mataupu e pei ona molia ai ni tagata se to'atolu i lo latou faaoga fa'asolitulafono pepa 'ai mai le polokalame o le Food Stamp a le Matagaluega o Auunaga ma Tautua Lautele a le malo (DHSS), ua maua ai e le Ofisa o Leoleo mai a latou su'esu'ega le tele o fa'amatalaga eseese e uiga i lenei mataupu.

O i latou e to'atolu ua molia i lenei mataupu e aofia ai tagata faigaluega e to'alua a le DHSS, o le ali'i o Vincent Toeava ma le tama'ita'i o Jane Vasa, fa'apea ai le ali'i Faipisinisi Asia o Liren Zhang, poo Kevin fo'i e pei ona iloa ai o ia e le to'atele.

E \$10,000 lea ua fa'atulaga e totogi ona fa'atoa mafai lea ona tatala Vasa i tua mai le toese i Tafuna, ae ta'i \$450,000 mo Toeava ma Zhang. O lo o taofia pea i latou uma nei e to'atolu i le Falepuipui i Tafuna.

O le toe fa'aauuina lenei o le ripoti a le Samoa News sa auina atu i le aso ananafi, e tusa ai o suesuega a Leoleo e uiga i lenei mataupu.

Na faamatala e Zhang i Leoleo e fa'apea, i se taimi o le masina o Setema 2017, na aga'i atu ai Toeava i le faleoloa o Zhang, le JFL Malae Store i Vailoa ma le anoanoa'i o pepa 'ai mai le Food Stamp (food coupons), o lo o tusia ai i luga o pepa 'ai nei igoa o isi Faleoloa.

Na fa'atonu e Toeava ia Zhang e fesoasoani atu ia te ia i le tape eseina lea o igoa o isi Faleoloa o lo o tusia i luga o pepa 'ai eseese uma nei, ae tusi ai le igoa o lana Faleoloa, le 'JFL Malae Store', ona alu lea e ave i le Faletupe ina ia maua mai ai se tupe. Na fai fo'i Toeava ia Zhang, la te vaelua tutusa i le tupe e maua mai i pepa 'ai nei.

Na taua e Zhang i Leoleo lona popole i le tulaga e pei ona fai atu ai Toeava ia te ia, ae ina ua toe fa'apea atu Toeava ia te ia, e aua le popole i se mea e tasi, o le a faitalia lava 'Papa Meki' (Taeaoafua Dr. Meki Solomon) ma fesoasoani atu ia tei laua, na te'a ese ai loa le popole o Zhang ma ia fesoasoani ai i le fa'atinoina o lenei gaioga fa'asolitulafono, lea na mafai ai ona la maua le tupe e \$86,854.00.

Na alu Zhang ma momoli pepa 'ai ia ua uma ona la toe suia igoa i le pito i luga i le Faletupe o le ANZ Bank, ma fa'atino tulaga uma e pei ona masani ai, o le teuina lea i le teutupe ma le fa'amoemoe ina ia maua mai ai le tupe e \$86,854.00. E lei taliaina e le Faletupe pepa 'ai sa auina atu e Zhang, ona o suiga e pei ona faia i luga o pepa.

Na fa'ailoa e Zhang ia Toeava le fa'afitauli ua tula'i mai, i le le taliaina lea e le Faletupe o pepa 'ai na alu atu ma ia, ma fa'atonuina ai loa e Toeava ia Zhang e fa'atali mai pea i le Faletupe, ae sei taumafai e saili se auala e maua ai se fesoasoani mo i laua.

E lei umi ae vaaia e Zhang ia Toeava ua savali atu i totonu o le Faletupe o le ANZ Bank ma se tusi o lo o u'u i lona lima. E le i umi ae toe vaaia e Zhang ia Toeava ua ulufafo mai ma le Faletupe, ma ia fa'atonuina loa o ia e tago i le taga o lo o i ai pepa 'ai na teena e le Faletupe e toe ave i totonu o le Faletupe, ma sauni e talia le tupe o le a totogi atu e le Faletupe ia te ia.

Na alu Zhang i totonu o le Faletupe ma le taga o lo o i ai pepa 'ai ma toe ave i totonu o le Faletupe, ae fo'i mai i fafo ma le tupe e \$86,854.00 i lona lima.

Na maua i suesuega a Leoleo, o le tusi lea na alu atu ma Toeava ma ave i le Faletupe, o se tusi sa fa'agaoi lona faia. Sa ia faamalosi fo'i ona saina ai le suafa o le Ta'ita'i o le Polokalame a le Food Stamp. E lei fa'aaogaina fo'i i le pepa na tusia ai le tusi se faailoga a le Ofisa o le DHSS (letterhead).

O upu ia o le tusi na alu ma Toeava i le Faletupe ina ia mafai ai ona talia pepa 'ai na alu atu ma Zhang, ma totogi mai ai e le Faletupe le tupe e pei ona la mauaina:

"E fia fa'ailoa atu fa'amolemole, o le ali'i faipisinisi o lo o alu atu ma pepa 'ai mai le polokalame a le Food Stamp, ua mae'a ona fa'amaonia i a matou suesuega tulaga uma e uiga i pepa 'ai o lo o alu atu ma ia. Sa matou su'esu'eina ma le toto'a vaega uma o lo o tusia i luga o pepa 'ai ta'itasi, ma fa'amaonia ai tulaga uma o lo o lelei ma fa'amaoni. Ua uma fo'i ona matou telefoni i tagata ta'itasi e ana pepa 'ai na alu atu ma le ali'i Faipisinisi, ma ua latou fa'amaonia mai fo'i i le matou Ofisa, sa latou fa'atau mai taumafa ma oloa i faleoloa a le ali'i Faipisinisi lena. O le mea lea e talosaga atu ai fa'amolemole, ina ia talia pepa 'ai e pei ona alu atu ma le ali'i Faipisinisi lena. Afai e i ai ni isi tulaga e fiamalamalama atili ai i lenei mataupu, fa'amolemole fa'afeso'ota'i le ali'i Pule i le vaega o le polokalame ia Vincent Toeava i le telefoni 254-7753".

Talu mai lava le taimi lea, e lei toe misi le aga'i atu o le ali'i Faipisinisi o Zhang i le Faletupe ma le taga e tumu i pepa 'ai, ma maua mai ai le faitau afe ma afe o tupe i masina ta'itasi.

I le vaiaso mulimuli o Setema 2017, na faia ai galuega a le DHSS mo le toe fa'afuina o le pusa o lo o teu ai pepa 'ai i totonu o le polokalame a le Food Stamp. I lea gaiogia, sa maitauina ai le tele o pusa o pepa 'ai sa teu i totonu o le pusa ua leaga ma ua sao i ai le vai, ma faia ai loa le fa'aiuga ina ia lafoa'i uma i le lapisi pusa uma nei.

O le aso Lua o le vaiaso fou lea ua fa'amoemoe e tu'uina atu ai le vaega mulimuli o lenei ripoti e tusa ai o lenei mataupu.



I luga o le itu ua mae'a fa'afou o le Uafu Tele i Fagatogo, ua tutula'i ai lana afioga Kovana Lolo Moliga ma ua i ona tua atu le 'MV Manu'atele' o sona mana'oga tupito sa fa'aleo i le taimi na suaina ai le eleele mo le amataga o lea galuega ia Setema 2015, peita'i sa mana'o ina ia mae'a i le 12 masina lea galuega. Ua le maua lea taimi, ae ua fa'ato'a maua mai ia Ianuari 25, 2018.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

## AMERICAN SAMOA

Explore... Experience... Enjoy!

### Future Plans

- Increase accommodation capacity by up to 250 rooms
- Attract additional airlines (US & Foreign)
- Increase our Cruise Ship Visits
- Develop new business / market opportunities – Wedding Tourism, Sports Tourism, Shopping Tourism, WWII Tourism, etcetera
- Open up the Manu'a Islands to Expedition Cruise Lines (300 pax or less ships)
- Joint Pacific Island Destination Partnerships – Two Samoas, Hawaii & American Samoa, Two Samoas + Tonga, Two Samoas + Tonga + Fiji, etcetera
- Strengthening our Tourism Public Private Sector Partnership
- Sustainable Tourism Development for our future generations

O lo'o ua fa'ailoa atu i lenei lisi fuafuaga mo le lumana'i o Turisi i le tatou malo. Ia fa'ateleina potu e alaala ai tagata i faletalimalo i le 250 potu. Ia fa'aopoopo nisi kamupani va'alele tetele mai fafo e ses'e mai ma pasese i le tatou atunu'u, fa'ateleina atili va'a la'u pasese po'o meli tetele i le tatou Uafu, fa'ateleina pisinisi e tautuaina Turisi i so'o se itu i le atunu'u, tatala mai ni asiasiga maimoa a tagata turisi i motu o le Manu'atele, ia auai fo'i le tatou Malo o se tasi o malo e tulaueleele i ai muamua turisi a'o le'i afea Samoa, Tonga ma Fiti ma isi, fa'amalosia atili le so'otaga i le va o pisinisi maoti ma le Malo e faaleleia atili le tautuaina o tagata maimoa mai fafo, ia fa'aaoga le tatou aganu'u, soifua fiafia ma le talimalo lelei ae maise lo tatou siomaga e ave ma ala o pisinisi e tautua ai ma fa'alauiloa ai le tatou atunu'u i tagata asiasi mai.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



## WHY TOURISM STATISTICS MATTERS



- Business Planning
- Designing Marketing Strategies
- Policy formulation
- Facilitate comparison across countries/regions
- Monitor Tourism Impact and progress

O le fesili ua tula'i mai, aisea e taua ai fa'amaumauga? Ina ia fuafua ai le lumana'i o lau pisinisi, fuafua ai ala e maketi ai lau pisinisi, ia fa'amautu au fuafuaga, fa'atusatusa ai lau taumafaiga i si malo i totonu o le alamoana ma ia fa'amautu atili le aofai o turisi e asia i tatou ma le aga'i i luma o tautua o lo'o feagai ma i latou pe a fa'ato'ai mai.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

# Fa'ataua auauunaga o turisi & fa'ateline ai tupe maua mai ai

tusia: Leua Aiono Frost

Na toe fa'atautaia le fonotaga fa'alea'oa'oga a le vasega o pisinisi e feso'ota'i ma le tautuaina o tagata maimoa ma asiasi mai fafo i le atunu'u. O le fonotaga faaleaoaoga sa mafai ona fetufa'i ai vasega o e faigaluega i le South Pacific Tourism Office i Suva Fiti, lea e aofia ai Amerika Samoa o se totino, i ala e mafai ona fa'aleleia atili pisinisi, fesosoani mai fo'i i latou i au taumafaiga ina ia maua le tamaoaga e faalautele atili ai lau pisinisi ma ala e maketi ai lau pisinisi i fafo ina ia asiasi mai tagata.

E le fou i le to'atele o le aufaipisinisi nei ala uma sa talanoaina, peita'i, sa fou i le iloa ma le ma'atua, e ao ina latou fa'aaogaina tatau le avefa ai o Amerika Samoa ma totino o le SPTO ina ia maketi vave ai fo'i i latou i kamupani o va'a meli tetele o lo'o asia i tatou ma le anoanoa'i o pasese, lua e ao ina tutu fa'atasi uma le aufaipisinisi fa'a-turisi a le atunuu.

O i latou na auai e aofia ai le vasega o e fai faletalimalo, pisinisi o matafaga e maimoa ai turisi ma le au faipisinisi tau maimoaga lea e matele ina fa'aaogaina pasi ma ta'avale laiti, o le vasega o pisinisi tusi pasese, ma faleoloa o galuega alofilima a le atunu'u fa'atasi ai ma le vasega o afio'aga ma aiga o lo'o faia latou fa'afiafiaga fa'asamoa i taimi e taula mai ai meli la'u pasese tetele.

O le tama'ita'i o Christina Leala Gale mai Samoa, o ia lea sa nafa ma le folasaga e fa'alauiloa ai le aoga tele o le SPTO mo i tatou malo o lo'ua fa'ato'a mafuli atu e tau'ave le mau, "O le Turisi o le atina'e sili ona taua i le lumana'i o malo, pe afai e galulue fa'atasi fa'apa'aga ma isi atumotu o lo'o latou aofia fa'atasi i le latou Alamoana! O le taumafaiga lea, ua mafua ai ona vave tula'i mai fo'i taumafaiga a Samoa latou i

le tulaga ua i ai nei.

"E tatau ona mautalitonuina e malo uma ua so'ofa'atasi i lenei taumafaiga, ia taofia fo'i le tele o isi aiaiga fa'alemalo, e ono fa'aitiitia atili ai avanoa matala e femalaga'i mai ai tagata asiasi mai fafo." O nisi ia o saunoaga sa fa'a'ailo e Leala-Gale.

"Ina ia una'ia malosi le taumafaiga a le aufaipisinisi e fa'aleleia atili le auauunaga mo Turisi ina ia fa'ateleina le aotelega o le seleni e toe maua mai ai e i latou ma lo tatou malo, e ao ina mua'i fa'ava'aia i latou i le fua o galuega ua mae'a faia! Ona mafai lea ona galue malosi le tagata faipisinisi e faalautele lana auauunaga ma ia faia i le agaga ua aga'i i ai le taumafaiga i fonotaga fa'apenei, ma avefa ma auau fa'atasi o le au faipisinisi atoa ua i le atunu'u." O le isi lea mau taua tele na fa'a'ailo, o le galulue fa'atasi uma o i latou ua aotelega le auauunaga mo le tautuaina o turisi i Amerika Samoa. Peita'i i le ata na fa'asalalauina fa'alaua'itele mai sui na auai i lenei fonotaga, e le'i to'atele faletalimalo na auai ni o latou sui, e le'i to'atele fo'i le vasega o pisinisi fa'atau galuega taulima ma measina a le atunu'u na auai, e le'i to'atele fo'i ni au fai ta'avale la'u pasese sa auai, e o'o lava i le vasega fo'i o faipisinisi tau Matafaga ma falesamoa fa'atalia pasese, ma le au fa'afiafia. I le vasega o aiaiga fa'alemalo e mafai ona taofiofia le ulufale mai o tagata maimoa i le atunu'u, sa o'o ane ai folasaga i le tulaga o Femalaga'iga ma latou tulafofono tau pemitia e ulufale mai ai tagata maimoa ma tagata fia fa'atau i le tatou malo.

"O le taimi nei ua fa'amalosia ai le tulafono e ao le \$20 mai so'o se tagata e fia ulufale mai i Amerika Samoa ae o lo'o tau'avefa le tusi folau Niu Sila ma Ausetalia. O le taimi muamua sa matala e leai se taofi po'o se tupe e totogia i le malae

vaalele pe a ulufale mai. O lea ua tete'i i matou ua totogi nei tupe, ae lei i ai se tala ua fa'a'ailo atu ia i latou le 'au faipisinisi e fa'a'ailo ia matou tagata ulufale mai, e ao ina totogia nei tupe, fa'a'ailo mai ma le ala e fa'aaogaina ai nei tupe?," o se tala lea a se tasi o le au faipisinisi na aofia i le fonotaga.

I le taimi nei ua tele fo'i aiaiga o pemitia mo tagata o atumotu e le o aofia i le lisi o atunu'u e 38 lea e ulufale mai e leai ni pemitia, ae na'o se tinoitupe e totogia i le malae va'alele pe ulufale mai. O le fesili a nisi, sa mua'i pasia mai e le fonotaga faitulafono nei pili totogi ma suiga o pemitia e ulufale mai ai tagata mai fafo i le tatou malo?

"Ua iloga mai, e le o mau talitonuina e le Malo o Amerika Samoa, o le Turisi e avefa ma se tasi o ala e matua fa'ateleina ai le tamaoaga o le tou malo. Ua i ai mea e matua fia maimoaina e tagata i le tou atunu'u, ae tatau ona galulue fa'atasi le Malo ma outou le aufaipisinisi e tautuaina tagata turisi i so'o se ala, ina ia fia ulufale mai pea, ma ia toe fo'i fa'afia mai, ma fai atu fo'i i latou i nisi e asiasi mai i le tatou nei malo," o se tala lea a Leala-Gale. Ina ia maua le tulaga fa'aa'ua'ua pea ona fa'aleleia auauunaga o turisi, ma ia le so'ona vaivai ai ma le tulaga o le ava fatafata ma nisi o agaifanua a le atunu'u, e tatau ona va'ai toto'a le aufaipisinisi nei i ala e maua ai le paleni lea. Aua ne'i sopoloa le tautua i tu ma aga e le talafeagai ai ma le aganu'u a Samoa. Ia tausia lelei fo'i o tatou apitagalumu ma le va'aiga lautele i o tatou laufanua ma fa'amama tatou matafaga ia fa'atutu ai ni faleuia e le mamalu o e maimoa mai, ma ia tausia lelei tulaga uma o le soifua maloloina ma fa'amatagofie atili i togala'au ma la'au paolo e malolo i ai e tafafao mai ma i tatou fo'i.

# Toe taoto le pili e faaopoopo ai le nofoa mo Tualauta sei toe iloilo

tusia Ausage Fausia

Na fulisia finagalo o afoaga i Senatoa i le taeao ananafi ina ua mae'a se iloiloaga sa faatautaia e le Komiti o Tulafono a le Maota, o le a le vave faia sa latou faaiuga i le pili lea ua pasia e afoaga i Faipule e faaopoopo ai se isi nofoa mo le itumalo o Tualauta i le Maota o Sui.

O le pili e pei ona talanoaina e le Senate, na faaulufale e le afoaga i le Tama'ita'i Faipule mai le itumalo o Tualauta, Vui Florence Saulo.

O le afoaga a Tapaau Dr. Dan Aga, o le Faatonusili lea o le Ofisa e Gafa ma le Suesueina o Tulaga o le Va i Fafo o le faigamalo a Amerika Samoa, na molimau i le iloiloaga.

Na faamanino e Tapaau i luma o le Komiti le tele o tulaga e ao ona taula'i i ai la latou silasila, a o le i faia se faaiuga mautu e faatatau i lenei tulafono. Sa ia taua fo'i e fa'apea, e taua tele le tulafono e pei ona pasia e Faipule, pe a fuafua i le tulaga to'atele ua i ai le faitau aofa'i o tagata o le itumalo i Tualauta.

O ni isi o tulaga na faamanino e Tapaau na aga'i i ai suesuega a lona Ofisa e uiga i lenei tulafono, pe i ai se feteenaiga ma Tulafono ma le Faavae o Amerika Samoa, faapea ai ma Tulafono ma Faavae o le Iunaitete Setete o lo'o lima ta'ita'iina ai galuega fa'atino a Amerika Samoa. Sa ia taua e fa'apea, e leai se tulaga e feteena'i ai lenei tulafono ma vaega e pei ona ia taua, sei vagana ai ni nai vaega laiti e ao ona toe silasila toto'a i ai.

O isi tulaga na aofia i le folasaga a Tapaau, poo suiga ua fuafua e faia e aafia ai le tulaga o le paketi a le Fono Faitulafono, atoa ai ma le soifua manuia o tagata o le atunu'u i le lumana'i.

Na faamanino atili fo'i e Tapaau e faapea, i lalo o le Fa'avae o Amerika Samoa, o lo'o taua ai le tatau lea ona ta'i

5 tausaga ma toe fa'atulaga le aofa'i o faipule i le Fono Faitulafono. E ui e le i faia lava le tulaga, ae o se tulaga taua le tatau loa ona fuafua lea vaega o le Fa'avae, ina ia mafai ai loa ona fa'atulaga le aofa'i o sui e tatau ona i ai i le maota o sui.

Na fesili le Ta'ita'i Komiti, afoaga i le Sui Peresetene ia Nuanuaolefeagaiga S. Nua, pe talafeagai le talanoaina na o suiga mo le itumalo e tasi, pe tatau fo'i ona aofia ai ma isi uma itumalo, ae na saunoa Tapaau e fa'apea, o se fesili e faigata tele ona ia taliina lea fesili.

Sa ia toe faatepa le Komiti i le Fono o le Faavae sa usua i le 2010, lea na talanoaina ai ni isi o suiga mo Senatoa ma Faipule. I lea suiga, toetititi lava oo i le 50 le aofa'i o le Fono Faitulafono, ma o se tulaga e matua maoa'e lea numera.

Saunoa le afoaga i le ali'i Senatoa mai Tualauta ia Magalei Logovi'i e fa'apea, afai e le faia se faiga ina ia faatapula'a ai le aofa'i o sui o le maota o sui, lona uiga e sui lava le aofa'i o faipule i tausaga ta'itasi.

I lana fautuaga, ua tatau ona faamalosi le fautauga a le Faavae, e faatulaga ai ma faatapula'a le aofa'i o faipule i le maota o sui, e aofia ai ma le faatulaga pe to'afia le aofa'i o tagata e sui e le faipule e to'atasi.

Saunoa atili Magalei e faapea, e mananao uma lava itumalo e faaopoopo a latou sui i le maota o sui, ae afai e le faatapula'aina le aofai o sui mo itumalo taitasi e tatau ona i ai, e ono avefa ma faafitauli lenei mataupu i le lumana'i.

Sa fesiligia fo'i le tulaga o le maota maua'uga, pe tatau ona aofia ai i le faatulagaina o ona sui e tatau ona i ai, peita'i na saunoa Nua, e le tatau ona aofia ai ma le Senate, ona o afoaga i Senatoa o lo'o filifilia mai e itumalo taitasi, ae o faipule o lo'o palotaina e le atunu'u.



**AMERICAN SAMOA**  
Explore... Experience... Enjoy!

American Samoa Visitors Bureau  
Email: [info@americansamoa.travel](mailto:info@americansamoa.travel)  
[www.americansamoa.travel](http://www.americansamoa.travel)

O le fa'alauiloaga lea o Upega Tafailagi e mafai ona e feso'ota'i ai i le Ofisa o Turisi ma maua ai sau so'otaga ma isi lala uma e aofia ai le SPTO ma nisi pisinisi o lo'o tou galulue fa'atasi i auauunaga mo turisi i le atunu'u.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

# Cardi B celebrates Grammy nods, hit songs at label party



board Hot 100 chart, including three in the Top 10 (“Finesse” is No. 4; “No Limit” is No. 7; and “MotorSport” with Migos and Nicki Minaj is No. 10).

Her major label debut single, “Bodak Yellow (Money Moves),” topped the Hot 100 last year and made her the first solo female rapper to reach the feat since Lauryn Hill did in 1998. The song is nominated for two Grammys on Sunday — best rap song and best rap performance — pitting her against Jay-Z and Kendrick Lamar.

“It’s the Grammys — hope a (girl) take one. Let me take it to the Bronx,” she said to the crowd.

Cardi B thanked her label, Atlantic Records, at the event, where attendees included singers Kelly Clarkson, Janelle Monae, Rita Ora, Ciara, Kimbra and Bebe Rexha; country music group Little Big Town; Oscar- and Tony-winning songwriters Benj Pasek and Justin Paul; rapper Gucci Mane; music industry players and press.

The rapper said before she signed to Atlantic “a lot of these labels were trying to play me ... they were trying to sign me for \$50,000.”

“‘Love and Hip Hop’ was paying me that,” said Cardi B to laughs, referring to the VH1 reality show she starred on, which helped her fame grow after the former stripper developed a following on social media.

Cardi B, who has released several mixtapes, is set to release her debut album this year. She will perform with Mars at the Grammys, airing live on CBS from Madison Square Garden.

“Y’all wanna know something y’all rich (people), if I (mess) up tomorrow I can still go to the strip club,” she said.

a performance of her five hit songs, also giving the audience a dose of her humor and likable personality.

She was energetic as she kicked off the performance with her verse on the remix to Bruno Mars’ anthemic and upbeat song, “Finesse.” In a black ensemble, she worked the stage with two background dancers, running through her hits that have dominated on radio and on streaming services, from “Bartier Cardi” to “No Limit,” a collaboration with G-Eazy and A\$AP Rocky.

Cardi B currently has five songs in the Top 20 on the Bill-

Rapper Cardi B attends the Warner Music Group pre-Grammy party at The Grill/The Pool on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2018, in New York. (Photo by Evan Agostini/Invision/AP)

NEW YORK (AP) — Tell Cardi B she’s nominated for a Grammy and the breakthrough rapper will quickly remind you: She’s nominated for “two of them.”

The chart-topping rapper performed late Thursday at a pre-Grammy party held by her record label’s parent company, Warner Music Group. And when the DJ said she “got nominated for a Grammy,” she corrected him.

“Two of them,” she said.

The 25-year-old performer celebrated her first pair of Grammy nominations at The Grill in New York City with



FILE - In this Feb. 14, 2016 file photo, Barry Manilow, from left, Carly Simon and Clive Davis arrive at the 2016 Clive Davis Pre-Grammy Gala in Beverly Hills, Calif. Davis, Æ gala, held a day before the 2018 Grammy Awards, launched the careers of Whitney Houston and Alicia Keys, and have featured all-stars like Aretha Franklin, Carole King, Smokey Robinson and Carly Simon. He first held the gala 42 years ago. (Photo by John Salangsang/Invision/AP, File)

# Davis says its hard turning people down for pre-Grammy gala

NEW YORK (AP) — Clive Davis’ pre-Grammy gala is so white-hot you can’t purchase tickets, and he said it has been hard letting some longtime attendees know they can’t be invited back.

Davis’ Saturday night event, held a day before the 2018 Grammy Awards, launched the careers of Whitney Houston and Alicia Keys, and have featured all-stars like Aretha Franklin, Carole King, Smokey Robinson and Carly Simon. He first held the gala 42 years ago.

Davis said “there’s no such thing as a ticket ... you can’t buy a ticket for \$50,000.”

“You’re invited to attend, so it’s painful because people used to be going 25, 30 years ago, I have to make room for Tim Cook of Apple and Daniel Ek of Spotify,” he said in an interview at the Sheraton Times Square, where the gala will take place. “You want the new people as well, new (song)writers, new producers. It’s very painful because it comes a point where you say this is not a lifetime pass.” Past attendees at the event include Johnny Depp, Quincy Jones, Sting, Joni Mitchell, Di’Franco, January 26, 2018, Sylvester Stallone, Jane Fonda, Herbie Hancock, Carly Simon, Michael Keaton, Jamie Foxx, Chris Rock, Barry Manilow and more.

The music executive was tight-lipped, per usual, about who would perform this year. Jay-Z, who is the top contender at the Grammys with eight nominations, will receive the Grammy Salute To Industry

Icons Award at the gala.

Davis said the event will also pay tribute to New York City, where the Grammys have returned for its 60th anniversary after 15 years in Los Angeles.

“You’re going to see Broadway given special attention too because the last few years have been so incredible for Broadway (with) ‘Hamilton’ and ‘Dear Evan Hanson,’” he said.

Rapper Logic, who had a huge hit last year with the suicide prevention attention “1-800-273-8255,” will perform at Davis’ gala for the first time. He’s also a first-time Grammy nominee, competing for song of the year and best music video.

“It’s very surreal to see what’s happened with the song,” said Logic, sitting with Davis. Along with the song’s co-stars Alessia Cara and Khalid, Logic will perform the track a day later at the Grammys with a group of suicide attempt and loss survivors selected by the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. “Just think about that for a minute, like this is the biggest night of my entire life. As an artist I only get to do this for the first time once, so I’ve been just really trying to do my best to really live in the moment and tell myself, ‘Enjoy it, enjoy it. Don’t focus too much on wanting to win or wanting to this, just really enjoy that that you’re here and this song has done its job,’” Logic said.

The Grammys will air live on CBS from Madison Square Garden at 7:30 p.m.



Little Big Town, from left, Phillip Sweet, Kimberly Schlapman, Karen Fairchild and Jimi Westbrook attend the Warner Music Group pre-Grammy party at The Grill/The Pool on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2018, in New York. (Photo by Evan Agostini/Invision/AP)

## LAND COMMISSION

NOTICE is hereby given that ELIA ESERA TAVAI of UTULEI, American Samoa, has executed a LEASE AGREEMENT to a certain parcel of land commonly known as VAILOA which is situated in the village of UTULEI, in the County of MAOPUTASI, EASTERN District, Island of TUTUILA, American Samoa. Said LEASE AGREEMENT is now on file with the Territorial Registrar to be forwarded to the Governor respecting his approval or disapproval thereof according to the laws of American Samoa. Said instrument names TASILA TASILA & LAISARINI TASILA as LESSEES.

Any person who wish, may file his objection in writing with the Secretary of the Land Commission before the 26TH day of MARCH, 2018. It should be noted that any objection must clearly state the grounds therefor.

POSTED: JANUARY 23, 2018 thru MARCH 26, 2018

SIGNED: Taito S.B. White, Territorial Registrar

## KOMISI O LAU'ELE'ELE

O LE FAASALALAUAGA leni ua faia ona o ELIA ESERA TAVAI ole nu'u o UTULEI, Amerika Samoa, ua ia faia se FEAGAIGA LISI, i se fanua ua lauiloa o VAILOA, e i le nu'u o UTULEI i le itumalo o MAOPUTASI, Falelima i SASA'E ole Motu o TUTUILA Amerika Samoa. O lea FEAGAIGA LISI ua i ai nei i teuga pepa ale Resitara o Amerika Samoa e fia auina atu ile Kovana Sili mo sana fa'amaoniga e tusa ai ma le Tulafono a Amerika Samoa. O lea mata'upu o lo'o ta'ua ai TASILA TASILA & LAISARINI TASILA.

A iai se tasi e fia fa'atu'iesea i lea mata'upu, ia fa'aulufaleina mai sa na fa'atu'iesega tusitusia ile Failautusi o lea Komisi ae le'i oo ile aso 26 o MATI, 2018. Ia manatua, o fa'atu'iesega uma lava ia tusitusia manino mai ala uma e fa'atu'iesea ai.

01/26 & 02/26/18

# Parents of gymnasts feel guilt, wonder how they missed abuse



Krista Wakeman, right, comforts her mother Monday, Jan. 22, 2018, after Krista addressed Larry Nassar during the fifth day of victim impact statements against Nassar in Ingham County Circuit Court. Nassar has admitted molesting athletes during treatment when he was employed by Michigan State University and USA Gymnastics, which trains Olympians. He will be sentenced on seven sexual assault charges this week. (Matthew Dae Smith/Lansing)

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Some parents thought they were misinterpreting the doctor's techniques. Others assumed their children were lying or mistaken.

But as more details emerged, the mothers and fathers had to face an awful truth: A renowned sports doctor had molested their daughters.

These parents, many fighting back tears, confronted Larry Nassar during his long sentencing hearing, lamenting their deep feelings of guilt and wondering how they could have missed the abuse that sometimes happened when they were in the same room.

"I willingly took my most precious gift in this world to you, and you hurt her, physically, mentally and emotionally. And she was only 8," Anne Swinehart told Nassar. "I will never get rid of the guilt that I have about this experience."

Many of the young athletes had come to Nassar seeking help with gymnastics injuries. He was sentenced Wednesday to up to 175 years in prison after admitting sexually assaulting patients under the guise of medical treatment while employed by Michigan State University and USA Gymnastics, the sport's governing body, which also trains Olympians.

He counted on his charm and reputation to deflect any questions. He was so brazen that he sometimes molested patients in front of their parents, shielding the young girls with his body or a sheet. His clinic on the university campus was decorated with signed photos of Olympic stars, bolstering his credentials to star-struck athletes and their families.

Parents who voiced concern say Nassar dismissed their questions. The mother of one 12-year-old victim said she questioned Nassar about not wearing gloves and he "answered in a way that made me feel stupid for asking."

"I told myself, 'He's an Olympic doctor, be quiet,'" the woman said. "The guilt that I feel, and that my husband feels, that we could not protect our child, is crippling."

Some victims said they were so young that they did not understand they had been abused until they were adults, so did not tell anyone.

What's more, coaches told the parents that Nassar was the best and could help their daughters achieve their dreams.

Paul DerOhanessian, a former prosecutor in New York who has written a book on sexual assault trials, said abusers in positions of authority often hold "tremendous power" over both children and parents. Some parents also fear what will happen to their child if they report abuse, and children often have difficulty talking to parents about anything sexual.

"It shouldn't turn into a situation where we blame parents," DerOhanessian said.

But even when Nassar's abuse was reported to coaches and law enforcement authorities, many of them did not believe Nassar had done anything wrong, causing many parents and girls to second-guess themselves.

Donna Markham recounted how her then-12-year-old daughter Chelsey began sobbing in the car as they were headed home after a session with Nassar.

Her daughter said, "Mom, he put his fingers in me and they weren't gloved," then begged her mother not to confront Nassar, fearing it would derail her gymnastics career.

The next day, Donna Markham told her daughter's coach, who did not believe it. Markham said she also asked other mothers if their daughters had mentioned inappropriate touching by Nassar. "They gave me a look like, 'You're lying to me,'" she told the judge, choking back tears.

Chelsey Markham quit gymnastics not long afterward and entered a "path of destruction" and self-loathing and eventually killed herself.

"It all started with him," Markham told the judge. "It has destroyed our family. We used to be so close. ... I went through four years of intense therapy trying to deal with all this, until I could finally accept the fact that this was not my fault."

Some parents did not believe their daughters at first, finding it incomprehensible that the man they trusted could have done anything wrong.

Kyle Stephens, whose family was close with Nassar's, said he repeatedly abused her from age 6 to 12 during family visits to his home near Lansing, Michigan. But her parents did not believe her when she finally told them and made her apologize to Nassar.

Years later, her father realized she was telling the truth, and she blamed his 2016 suicide partly on the guilt he felt.

"Perhaps you have figured it out by now, but little girls don't stay little forever," Stephens told Nassar. "They grow into strong women that return to destroy your world."

Dancer Olivia Venuto, who said Nassar abused her from 2006, when she was 12, until 2013, said her parents did not believe her at first and sent Nassar messages of support after a 2016 Indianapolis Star investigation revealed the abuse. Swinehart said that when her 15-year-old daughter, Jillian, told her she had been abused, "I tried to believe that there was some medical necessity for this treatment," she said. "The alternative was just too horrific, to think that I had let this happen to my child when I was sitting right there."

Police in Michigan investigated Nassar twice. One inquiry from 2004 concluded that his actions were medically appropriate. Another investigation in 2014 and 2015 did not result in charges. Judge Rosemarie Aquilina, who sentenced Nassar, told parents not to feel guilty. "The red flags may have been there, but they were designed to be hidden," she said.

Swinehart said other people can't know how they would have reacted in the same situation.

Neil's  
**ACE**  
Home Center

When it comes to being helpful, Ace is the place!

We are proud to be locally owned, serving the community for over 30 years.

### We are now hiring for an OFFICE CLERK

This person will be expected to handle a wide range of administrative tasks and must be able to work independently with little or no supervision. This person must be extremely well organized and be able to interact with staff at all levels, in a fast paced environment. Must be proactive, resourceful and efficient with a high level of professionalism.

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS include the following:

- Must have an accounting background. A degree is a plus.
- Honest and detail oriented.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills and attention to detail are very important
- Proficiency in Quickbooks, Microsoft Windows, MS Word, Excel, and other computer software is a must.
- Ability and willingness to work flexible hours including evenings, weekends and holidays to meet the needs of the business.

### Reports to: Bookkeeper

Consider joining our Ace team where our friendly atmosphere, competitive wages, and a positive team are just a few of the advantages we offer. This is an excellent opportunity for an organized individual who is interested in Retail and Business Administration.

Please pick up an application TODAY from our Customer Service Counter and be part of a captivating team! Or visit our website [www.neilshomecenter.com](http://www.neilshomecenter.com) and print an application.

For this position, please also include a cover letter and full resume.

Tel 699-2482, email [Monique@neilshomecenter.com](mailto:Monique@neilshomecenter.com)

**ACE HARDWARE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

Neil's  
**ACE**  
Home Center

When it comes to being helpful, Ace is the place!

We are proud to be locally owned, serving the community for over 30 years.

### Now Hiring for Full Time Position: SALES ASSOCIATE

The primary responsibilities of a Sales Associate are to maintain outstanding customer service, generate sales, merchandise product, and support the store management team.

### Requirements

- Helpful Customer service skills
- Willingness to work flexible hours
- Strong verbal and written communication skills with the ability to multi-task
- Ability to lift at least 40lbs and stand for extended periods of time
- Previous retail experience a plus but will train the right candidate
- We will train you so join our Ace Team TODAY! We have a friendly atmosphere; we offer competitive wages, regular training and annual performance reviews.

Pick up an application TODAY from our Customer Service Counter, or visit our website [www.neilshomecenter.com](http://www.neilshomecenter.com) to print an employment application. Drop off, or email, completed applications to [Monique@neilshomecenter.com](mailto:Monique@neilshomecenter.com).

**ACE HARDWARE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

# Report: Trump wanted Mueller fired, backed off

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump ordered the firing of special counsel Robert Mueller last June, but he backed off the order after White House lawyer Don McGahn threatened to resign, according to a report Thursday in The New York Times.

The newspaper reports that Trump demanded Mueller's firing just weeks after the special counsel was first appointed by Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein.

McGahn said he would not deliver the order to the Justice Department, according to The Times, which cites four people familiar with the request by the president.

Trump argued at the time that Mueller could not be fair because of a dispute over golf club fees that he said Mueller owed at a Trump golf club in Sterling, Va. The president also believed Mueller he had a conflict of interest because he worked for the same law firm that was representing Trump's son-in-law and adviser Jared Kushner.

Peter Carr, a spokesman for Mueller, did not immediately return a call for comment Thursday night. Ty Cobb, a White House lawyer working on the response to the Russia probe, declined comment Thursday night.

The response from Democrats was nearly immediate. Sen. Mark Warner, D-Va., vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, said that if the report in The Times is true, Trump has crossed a "red line."

"Any attempt to remove the Special Counsel, pardon key witnesses or otherwise interfere in the investigation would be a gross abuse of power, and all members of Congress, from both parties, have a responsibility to our Constitution and to our country to make that clear immediately," Warner said.

The report comes as Mueller moves ever closer to interviewing Trump himself. The president said Wednesday that he would gladly testify under oath — although a White House official quickly said afterward that Trump did not mean he was volunteering to testify.

Last June, when Trump was considering how to fire Mueller, the special counsel's probe had not progressed far, at least not in public.

At that time he had yet to call on any major witnesses to testify and had not yet issued any charges or signed any plea deals. But that would change just a few months later, when

federal agents would arrest former Trump campaign adviser George Papadopoulos and ultimately turn him into a cooperating witness.

Since then, Trump has largely stopped talking about explicitly trying to fire Mueller, but has instead shifted to accusing Mueller and his team of being biased and unable to complete a fair investigation.

The latest evidence the president has cited was a string of text messages from a former agent on Mueller's probe, which show that agent vociferously opposing the president. But Mueller swiftly removed the agent, Peter Strzok, from his probe after learning about his texts.

Former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort and former Trump adviser Rick Gates were charged by Mueller with criminal conspiracy related to millions of dollars they earned while working for a pro-Kremlin Ukrainian political party. And former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn agreed to cooperate with investigators in a plea deal revealed two months ago. Flynn was charged with lying to the FBI.

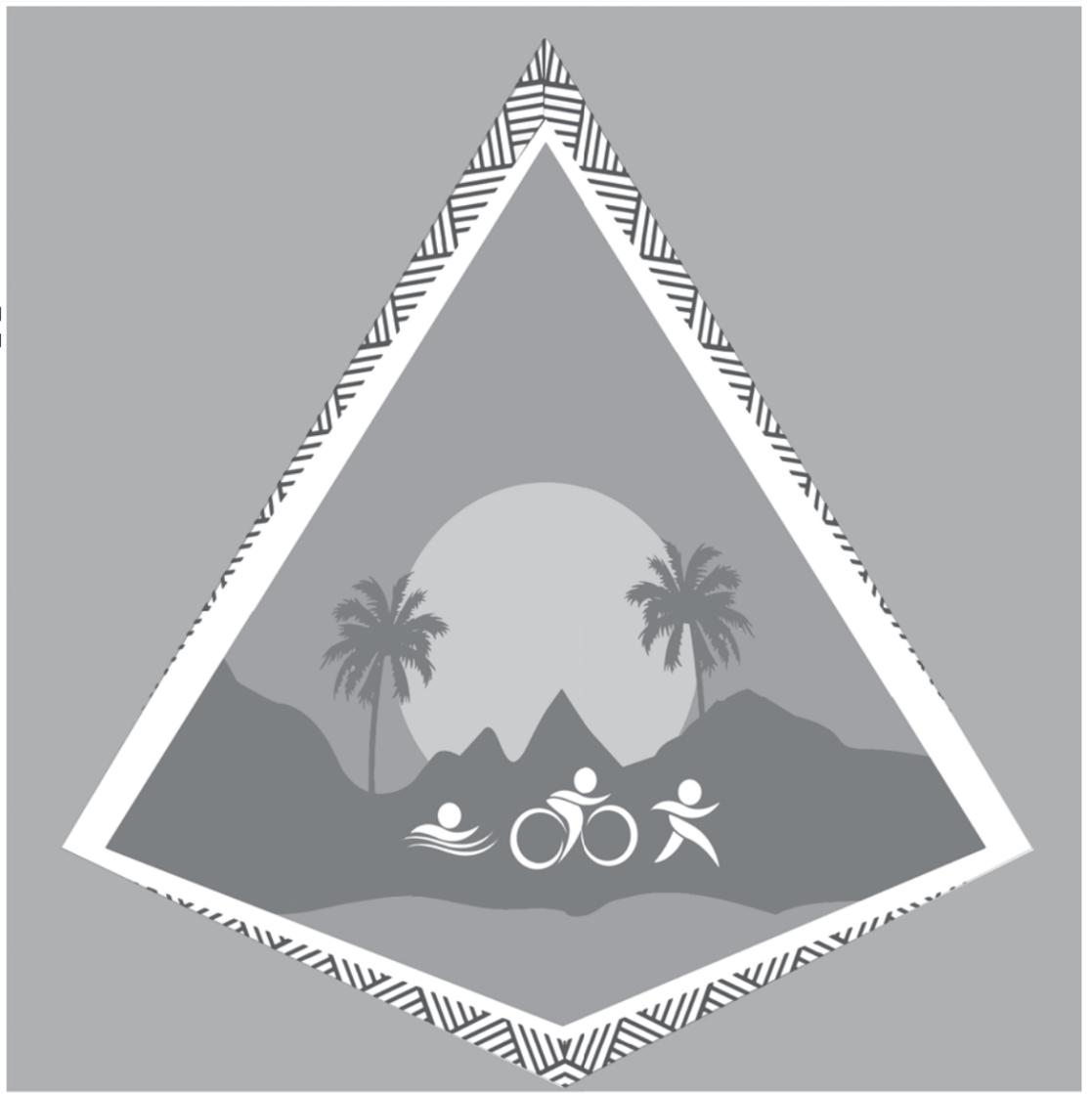
Mueller's investigators have been focusing their inquiry on questions surrounding Trump's firing of Flynn and also his firing of former FBI Director James Comey. They have slowly been calling in more witnesses closer to the president himself and, recently, began negotiating the terms of a possible interview with the president.

On Thursday, Trump's lawyer said that more than 20 White House employees have given interviews to the special counsel in his probe of possible obstruction of justice and Trump campaign ties to Russian election interference.

John Dowd, Trump's attorney, said the White House, in an unprecedented display of cooperation with Mueller's investigation, has turned over more than 20,000 pages of records. The president's 2016 campaign has turned over more than 1.4 million pages.

The number of voluntary interviews included eight people from the White House counsel's office.

An additional 28 people affiliated with the Trump campaign have also been interviewed by either the special counsel or congressional committees probing Russian election meddling. Dowd's disclosure did only not name the people nor provide a breakdown of how many were interviewed only by Mueller's team.



## TRI FOR YOUR LIFE

# American Samoa AMERICAN SAMOA TRIATHLON

### OLYMPIC, SPRINT, & RELAY TRIATHLON

**WHEN: January 27, 2018**

**WHERE: UTULEI BEACH PARK**

**WHY: DIABETES AWARENESS**

**PRE-REGISTER AT SPW IN UTULEI**

**CALL SPW at 633-3050 for more information**

*Sponsored by*

- Samoa Prosthetics,
- South Pacific Watersports & Fitness,
- ASG Dept. of Health

**ALSO HAPPENING THIS YEAR:  
Special Olympics Open Water  
Swim Competition**

**WHEN: SAME DAY @ 8:30AM**

**WHO: OUR SPECIAL NEEDS ATHLETES!**

**Call Sandy at 731-3959 for details!**

*"This ad was paid by the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant at the Department of Health"*





# Police: Detroit-area bank hostage situation ends peacefully

CANTON TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — A hostage situation at a suburban Detroit bank lasted more than four hours Thursday before ending peacefully with a suspect in custody, authorities said.

A man armed with a handgun who had announced a robbery surrendered after releasing his hostages Thursday evening, said Joshua Meier, director of public safety for Canton Township.

“When officers arrived on scene, the suspect had barricaded himself inside the bank along with an undisclosed number of hostages,” Meier said at a news conference.

Earlier Thursday, township police spokeswoman Barb Caruso said the suspect had released three hostages.

Meier did not disclose the suspect’s name or any criminal charges he might face. He said the incident remains under investigation by police and the FBI.

Citizens Bank branch in Canton Township, 30 miles west of Detroit.

“Sir, if you come out, no one will get hurt. We just want to talk to you,” an officer with a megaphone said during the standoff.

Power went out at the bank, but it wasn’t cut by police, Caruso said.

Some roads surrounding the bank were closed to traffic, and police asked residents to avoid the area. The incident began around 3 p.m.

“I watched two ladies run out the side and a cop took them to safety,” witness Hanna Gocaj said.

Rose’s Restaurant next door to the bank was evacuated by owner Richard Costantino, who called it a “tense” situation.

“They have a good lockdown on it,” he said of police, “and we evacuated the restaurant for the safety of our patrons and canceled our reservations.”

The drama unfolded at a

⊗ Authorities respond to reports of a robbery at Citizens Bank in Canton Township, Mich., Thursday, Jan. 25, 2018. Police in suburban Detroit say they’re negotiating with a man holding hostages inside the Citizens Bank branch following a failed robbery. (Kaylee McGhee/Detroit News via AP)



# TSM SPECIALS

TOMORROW 'TIL  
**FRIDAY**  
**JANUARY**  
**29th**

	<table border="0" style="font-size: 0.8em;"> <tr><td>SMOKE PICNIC HAM .....</td><td>\$ 1.69/lb</td></tr> <tr><td>WHOLE CHICKEN .....</td><td>\$ 1.25/lb</td></tr> <tr><td>SHRIMP 16-20 PDT ON 2LB .....</td><td>\$16.39/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>SHRIMP 21-25 PDT ON 2LB .....</td><td>\$14.25/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>SHRIMP 31-40 PDT ON 2LB .....</td><td>\$12.55/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>SAUSAGE LS .....</td><td>\$ 5.85/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>BAR S BACON 16oz .....</td><td>\$ 3.60/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>ALL AM BEEF PATTIES 3lb .....</td><td>\$ 7.40/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>ICE CREAM 3gal .....</td><td>\$23.95/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>LAMB NECK .....</td><td>\$ 2.75/lb</td></tr> <tr><td>LAMB FLAP .....</td><td>\$ 3.60/lb</td></tr> <tr><td>BONELESS BEEF .....</td><td>\$ 2.75/lb</td></tr> <tr><td>PORK SPARE RIBS .....</td><td>\$ 1.25/lb</td></tr> <tr><td>PORK CHOP B/I .....</td><td>\$ 1.59/lb</td></tr> <tr><td>PORK BUTT BONELESS .....</td><td>\$ 1.70/lb</td></tr> <tr><td>BEEF SPARE RIBS .....</td><td>\$ 2.25/lb</td></tr> <tr><td>TURKEY WING .....</td><td>\$ .89/lb</td></tr> <tr><td>MUSSEL MEAT 1kg .....</td><td>\$ 5.45/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>SAMOAN PORK BANGER 5l .....</td><td>\$13.95/pk</td></tr> </table>	SMOKE PICNIC HAM .....	\$ 1.69/lb	WHOLE CHICKEN .....	\$ 1.25/lb	SHRIMP 16-20 PDT ON 2LB .....	\$16.39/pk	SHRIMP 21-25 PDT ON 2LB .....	\$14.25/pk	SHRIMP 31-40 PDT ON 2LB .....	\$12.55/pk	SAUSAGE LS .....	\$ 5.85/pk	BAR S BACON 16oz .....	\$ 3.60/pk	ALL AM BEEF PATTIES 3lb .....	\$ 7.40/pk	ICE CREAM 3gal .....	\$23.95/pk	LAMB NECK .....	\$ 2.75/lb	LAMB FLAP .....	\$ 3.60/lb	BONELESS BEEF .....	\$ 2.75/lb	PORK SPARE RIBS .....	\$ 1.25/lb	PORK CHOP B/I .....	\$ 1.59/lb	PORK BUTT BONELESS .....	\$ 1.70/lb	BEEF SPARE RIBS .....	\$ 2.25/lb	TURKEY WING .....	\$ .89/lb	MUSSEL MEAT 1kg .....	\$ 5.45/pk	SAMOAN PORK BANGER 5l .....	\$13.95/pk	
SMOKE PICNIC HAM .....	\$ 1.69/lb																																							
WHOLE CHICKEN .....	\$ 1.25/lb																																							
SHRIMP 16-20 PDT ON 2LB .....	\$16.39/pk																																							
SHRIMP 21-25 PDT ON 2LB .....	\$14.25/pk																																							
SHRIMP 31-40 PDT ON 2LB .....	\$12.55/pk																																							
SAUSAGE LS .....	\$ 5.85/pk																																							
BAR S BACON 16oz .....	\$ 3.60/pk																																							
ALL AM BEEF PATTIES 3lb .....	\$ 7.40/pk																																							
ICE CREAM 3gal .....	\$23.95/pk																																							
LAMB NECK .....	\$ 2.75/lb																																							
LAMB FLAP .....	\$ 3.60/lb																																							
BONELESS BEEF .....	\$ 2.75/lb																																							
PORK SPARE RIBS .....	\$ 1.25/lb																																							
PORK CHOP B/I .....	\$ 1.59/lb																																							
PORK BUTT BONELESS .....	\$ 1.70/lb																																							
BEEF SPARE RIBS .....	\$ 2.25/lb																																							
TURKEY WING .....	\$ .89/lb																																							
MUSSEL MEAT 1kg .....	\$ 5.45/pk																																							
SAMOAN PORK BANGER 5l .....	\$13.95/pk																																							
	<table border="0" style="font-size: 0.8em;"> <tr><td>BF MAYONNAISE 15oz .....</td><td>\$ 2.75/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>BF MAYONNAISE 30oz .....</td><td>\$ 4.75/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>BF MAYONNAISE 48oz .....</td><td>\$ 6.75/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>BF MAYONNAISE 64oz .....</td><td>\$ 8.30/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>BF MAYONNAISE 1gal .....</td><td>\$12.95/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>KIKKOMAN 20oz .....</td><td>\$ 2.95/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>KIKKOMAN 1.25qt .....</td><td>\$ 4.60/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>KIKKOMAN 2qt .....</td><td>\$ 6.10/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>KIKKOMAN 1gal .....</td><td>\$11.95/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>LIPTON TEA 50ct .....</td><td>\$ 2.99/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>ARMOUR TREET LITE 12oz .....</td><td>\$ 2.15/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>ARMOUR TREET ORIG 12oz .....</td><td>\$ 2.15/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>SF FLOUR 10lb .....</td><td>\$ 4.40/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>SF OIL 40oz .....</td><td>\$ 2.19/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>SF OIL 64oz .....</td><td>\$ 3.45/pk</td></tr> <tr><td>SF OIL 1gal .....</td><td>\$ 6.95/pk</td></tr> </table>	BF MAYONNAISE 15oz .....	\$ 2.75/pk	BF MAYONNAISE 30oz .....	\$ 4.75/pk	BF MAYONNAISE 48oz .....	\$ 6.75/pk	BF MAYONNAISE 64oz .....	\$ 8.30/pk	BF MAYONNAISE 1gal .....	\$12.95/pk	KIKKOMAN 20oz .....	\$ 2.95/pk	KIKKOMAN 1.25qt .....	\$ 4.60/pk	KIKKOMAN 2qt .....	\$ 6.10/pk	KIKKOMAN 1gal .....	\$11.95/pk	LIPTON TEA 50ct .....	\$ 2.99/pk	ARMOUR TREET LITE 12oz .....	\$ 2.15/pk	ARMOUR TREET ORIG 12oz .....	\$ 2.15/pk	SF FLOUR 10lb .....	\$ 4.40/pk	SF OIL 40oz .....	\$ 2.19/pk	SF OIL 64oz .....	\$ 3.45/pk	SF OIL 1gal .....	\$ 6.95/pk							
BF MAYONNAISE 15oz .....	\$ 2.75/pk																																							
BF MAYONNAISE 30oz .....	\$ 4.75/pk																																							
BF MAYONNAISE 48oz .....	\$ 6.75/pk																																							
BF MAYONNAISE 64oz .....	\$ 8.30/pk																																							
BF MAYONNAISE 1gal .....	\$12.95/pk																																							
KIKKOMAN 20oz .....	\$ 2.95/pk																																							
KIKKOMAN 1.25qt .....	\$ 4.60/pk																																							
KIKKOMAN 2qt .....	\$ 6.10/pk																																							
KIKKOMAN 1gal .....	\$11.95/pk																																							
LIPTON TEA 50ct .....	\$ 2.99/pk																																							
ARMOUR TREET LITE 12oz .....	\$ 2.15/pk																																							
ARMOUR TREET ORIG 12oz .....	\$ 2.15/pk																																							
SF FLOUR 10lb .....	\$ 4.40/pk																																							
SF OIL 40oz .....	\$ 2.19/pk																																							
SF OIL 64oz .....	\$ 3.45/pk																																							
SF OIL 1gal .....	\$ 6.95/pk																																							

PO Box 4487,  
Pago Pago, AS 96799

Ph: 684-699-6312

● We're looking for a **BAKER!**



# Asian shares recoup losses, dollar steady as eyes on Trump

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Shares are modestly higher in Asia, recouping losses from earlier in the week as the dollar steadies against other currencies. Investors are watching for President Donald Trump's comments later Friday to the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

**KEEPING SCORE:** Japan's Nikkei 225 added 0.2 percent to 23,703.83 and South Korea's Kospi added 0.2 percent to 2,566.15. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index jumped 1.1 percent to 32,998.48 and the Shanghai Composite index added 0.3 percent to 3,559.23. Stocks in Southeast Asia were mixed. Australian markets were closed for a holiday.

**WORDS ON DOLLAR:** On Thursday, U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin sought to clarify earlier comments on the desirability of a weak dollar that had precipitated a dip in its value against other major currencies. In the long run, "I fundamentally believe in the strength of the dollar," Mnuchin said. The dollar steadied after that comment and one by Trump, who said that "ultimately, I want to see a strong dollar."

**CURRENCIES:** The dollar fell to 109.39 yen from 109.43 yen while the euro strengthened to \$1.2427 from \$1.2397.

**ANALYST'S TAKE:** "The plunge in the dollar (down 13 percent since the start of 2017) is basically a monetary easing for the U.S. and will further boost U.S. growth, profits and shares. However, it's working against Fed tightening, increasing the likelihood that it will get more hawkish and U.S. tariff hikes risk driving a stronger, not weaker, U.S. dollar," Shane

Oliver of AMP Capital said in a commentary.

**DATA WATCH:** The U.S. domestic product for the fourth-quarter of 2017 is due to be released Friday and is expected to show continued strong expansion of the world's largest economy.

**WALL STREET:** U.S. stocks finished mixed on Thursday. The Standard & Poor's 500 index inched up 0.1 percent to 2,839.25 and the Dow Jones industrial average gained 0.5 percent to 26,392.79. The Nasdaq composite fell 0.1 percent to 7,411.16. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks rose 0.1 percent to 1,601.67.

**OIL:** Benchmark U.S. crude lost 5 cents to \$65.46 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell 10 cents to close at \$65.51 a barrel on Thursday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, dropped 19 cents to \$70.23 per barrel in London.



A currency trader watches the computer monitors at the foreign exchange dealing room in Seoul, South Korea, Friday, Jan. 26, 2018. Shares are modestly higher in Asia, recouping losses from earlier in the week as the dollar steadies against other currencies. (AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)

## Thai military government readies for another election delay

BANGKOK (AP) — Thailand's long-delayed election appears in danger of further postponement after the military junta's appointed legislature voted to delay the implementation of a piece of legislation needed for the poll.

The National Legislative Assembly voted late Thursday to extend the start date for a new election law. The junta's top legal adviser said the extension could delay the election until as late as February 2019.

Thailand's junta toppled the elected government in 2014 and has repeatedly promised elections, first in 2015, only to never hold them as its appointees rewrite the nation's laws. The junta leader most recently said a poll would be held in November. Members of the ousted government on Friday accused the junta of maneuvering to ensure that it stays in power after any vote.

YOU HAVE BEEN ASKING and

# HOT DOGS

ARE BACK



with **KETCUP** or **MUSTARD**

**ADD RELISH AND ONION FROM OUR SALSA BAR**



**2 HOT DOG COMBO**

**\$5.95**

**HOT DOG only \$1.50**



# IN THE COMMUNITY

(Courtesy Photos)



In this picture taken Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018, Adnan Sabbagh stands in the door of his house that damaged by shelling in Aleppo, Syria. Thirteen months after government forces captured eastern rebel-held neighborhoods of Aleppo, life in the city has improved drastically with more security and more supplies of water and electricity. (AP Photo/Mstyslav Chernov)

## More than a year later, Syria's Aleppo still wrecked by war

ALEPPO, Syria (AP) — Aleppo's largest square was packed with people of all ages: young men performing a folk dance, children playing, others buying ice cream, popcorn, peanuts and salted pumpkin seeds. A giant sign spells out in colorful English letters, "I love Aleppo."

The scene in Saadallah al-Jabiri Square on a recent day was a complete turnaround from what it was during nearly four years of warfare that wracked the Syrian city. Rebel sniper fire and shelling — and a triple car bombing that killed dozens — made it a no-go zone. For much of the fighting, the square stood near the front line dividing the government-held western half of Aleppo from the rebel-held eastern half.

Thirteen months after government forces captured the east, crushing rebels, there have been some improvements in Aleppo. The guns are silent, allowing life to return to the streets. Water and electricity networks are improving. But the city has barely begun to recover from devastation so great and a civilian flight so big that residents find it difficult to imagine it could ever return to what it was.

Aleppo's eastern half remains in ruins. Its streets have been cleared of rubble but there's been little rebuilding of the blocks of destroyed or badly damaged buildings. Though some residents have trickled back, hundreds of thousands still have not returned to their homes in the east, either because their homes are wrecked or because they fear reprisals for their opposition loyalties.

Also, after the victory by the forces of President Bashar Assad, there's little sign of attempts at reconciliation in Syria's largest city or talk of how part of the city rose up

trying to bring down Assad's rule. To reporters, residents — whether out of genuine sentiment or fear of state reprisals — express only pro-Assad sentiment and dismiss the rebels as Islamic militants backed by foreign powers. Die-hard opposition sympathizers likely have not returned or keep it to themselves, and everyone is more focused on grappling with the destruction in the city.

"I feel very sad, I cry. Sometimes I cry in the morning because this was a very good neighborhood," said Adnan Sabbagh, standing on a balcony in his building in the once rebel-held eastern district of Sukkari.

The view from his balcony is a landscape of wreckage. Across the street is a pile of rubble a block long that used to be the Ein Jalout school compound that his three daughters and two sons once attended. Beyond it stand apartment buildings that have been sheared in half, their internal staircases jutting out exposed. The building adjacent to Sabbagh's has been levelled to a hill of broken concrete, rebar and stone.

Sabbagh's own six-story building still stands but the top three floors have had all their walls blasted away, leaving slabs of concrete floor dangling precariously.

The 47-year-old construction worker fled to live in the coastal town of Jableh five years ago as soon as the rebels overran Aleppo's east. All three of his daughters are married to soldiers in Assad's army, so he feared the fighters would not tolerate his presence.

In the autumn of last year, he returned home and fixed up his apartment on the second floor where he now lives with his wife and youngest son, Hamza. He relies on generators set up in the neighborhood because like most other parts of east Aleppo,

there's no electricity in Sukkari — the government is still working to reinstall electricity poles. But running water has been restored — though it's available only every other day, as is the case throughout the city east and west.

Aleppo, with a pre-war population of 2.3 million, was Syria's largest city and its commercial center. More than that, it was a culture all its own within Syria. Aleppans take enormous pride in their own accent of Syrian Arabic and their city's famed cuisine with its own styles of roast meats and mezze appetizers. The city's history spans millennia, and tourists were drawn by its historic citadel, Ummayyad Mosque and covered bazaar.

But it became one of the most vicious battlegrounds of Syria's still ongoing war.

In July 2012, rebels stormed eastern parts of the city where they found a welcome among many of its poorer residents. For the next few years, the opposition fighting Assad around the country saw their enclave in Aleppo as the jewel of their uprising, their strongest urban center. It tore Aleppo in two, however, with destructive battles between the two halves as tens of thousands fled the city.

In 2016, government forces backed by Russian airstrikes surrounded the enclave, besieging it for months, pounding it with barrages. By the end, the rebels and residents trapped with them in a shrinking area of neighborhoods faced either being crushed or starving. In December 2016, they surrendered. The rebels were sent to opposition territory elsewhere, while the few remaining residents were evacuated, leaving the eastern sector — once home to well over 1 million people — a shattered, empty shell.

(Continued on page 23)



# Trump turns again on immigration, allies bash 'Amnesty Don'

NEW YORK (AP) — Fearing betrayal on a signature campaign issue, President Donald Trump's loyalists across the country are lashing out against his proposal to create a path to citizenship for nearly 2 million "Dreamer" immigrants.

Trump-aligned candidates from Nevada and Virginia rejected the notion outright. The president's most loyal media ally, Breitbart News, attacked him as "Amnesty Don." And outside groups who cheered the hard-line rhetoric that dominated Trump's campaign warned of a fierce backlash against the president's party in November's midterm elections.

"There's a real potential for disaster," said Mark Krikorian, executive director of the far-right Center for Immigration Studies. "The president hasn't sold out his voters yet. But I think it's important that his supporters are making clear to him that they're keeping an eye on him."

The public scolding was aimed at a president who has change course under pressure before. Yet Trump has faced no greater test on a more significant issue than this one, which dominated his outsider candidacy and inspired a coalition of working-class voters that fueled his unlikely rise. Now, barely a year into his presidency, Trump can bend either to the will of his fiery base or the pressure to govern and compromise.

His leadership may determine the fate of hundreds of thousands of young immigrants and whether his party can improve its standing among a surging group of Hispanic voters. It may also alienate those who love him most.

"There's a Trump movement. And it's not necessarily about Donald Trump," said Corey Stewart, a Republican Senate candidate in Virginia and a vocal Trump ally. "It's about the things that Donald Trump campaigned and stood for during his campaign. Ultimately, every elected leader needs to stay true to the mes-

sage that they ran on, otherwise people will leave them."

The passionate response underscores the Republican Party's immigration dilemma in the age of Trump.

Much of the country, including independents and moderate Republicans, favor protections for thousands of young people brought to the country as children illegally and raised here through no fault of their own. But a vocal conservative faction emboldened by Trump's anti-immigrant rhetoric will never accept anything viewed as "amnesty." And many view legal protection for these young immigrants as just that. Trump's proposal includes billions for border security and significant changes to legal immigration long sought by hard-liners. Several Democrats and immigration activists rejected it outright. But his supporters' focus on "amnesty" for Dreamers highlights how dug in the base is and how little room Trump has to maneuver.

The president told reporters this week that he favored a pathway to citizenship for those immigrants, embracing a notion he once specifically rejected. Legal protection for roughly 700,000 immigrants enrolled in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, has emerged as the driving priority for Democrats, who forced a government shutdown over this issue last week. The businessman president appears to have set out to cut a deal.

"It is concerning why anyone would attempt to repeat history by granting amnesty," said Mississippi state Sen. Chris McDaniel, who is mulling a primary challenge against Republican Sen. Roger Wicker. McDaniel likened the Trump proposal to the "amnesty" granted in 1986 immigration overhaul backed by President Ronald Reagan.

Such a policy, he said, would harm American workers and "invite more illegals," while emboldening liberals in future

debates. Making a deal now would ensure that a future Congress will be "held hostage by open border advocates."

In Virginia, Stewart said "any amnesty, including an extension of DACA," would lead to a "humanitarian crisis" at the border and could draw millions of new immigrants into the country illegally.

"I'm not happy about it," he said. In Nevada, where Trump loyalty is the centerpiece of Republican Danny Tarkanian's primary challenge against Sen. Dean Heller, Tarkanian also broke from the president.

"It's his decision," Tarkanian said of Trump. "But I don't believe we should grant citizenship to people who have come to the country illegally."

He would, however, support permanent legal status for children who entered the country illegally, but said he draws the line at citizenship.

The consequences could be severe for the GOP as it struggles to energize voters heading into the 2018 midterm elections, when Republican majorities in the House and Senate are at stake. Recent Democratic victories in Alabama and Virginia suggest that the GOP has cause for concern — especially as Trump's approval number hover near record lows.

Protections for more immigration of these young immigrants could trigger wholesale revolt by Trump's base in November, said Bob Dane, executive director of the conservative Federation for American Immigration Reform.

"There's widespread fear that if Trump capitulates to the Democrats and fails to deliver on his campaign promises on immigration, there's not going to be any more campaign promises for the GOP to make in the future, because the base will inflict a scorched-earth policy in midterms," Dane said, noting that his organization has "a longstanding position of opposing amnesty in any form, including the extension of the DACA protections."

# Rap mogul Suge Knight's ex-lawyer arrested in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Authorities say a high-profile Los Angeles attorney who represented former rap mogul Marion "Suge" Knight was arrested Thursday on an unspecified warrant.

Los Angeles County sheriff's spokeswoman Nicole Nishida told The Associated Press that Matthew Fletcher was arrested but she did not have any additional details.

She said he was being booked at the county jail's inmate reception center. Jail records show Fletcher, 53, was arrested around 2 p.m. and is being held on \$1 million bail.

Authorities could not immediately provide any additional information about the nature of the charges or details about the warrant.

In a court filing in August, prosecutors accused Fletcher and Knight of witness tampering in the rap mogul's pending murder case. They said Knight tried to pay off potential witnesses with his lawyer's help.

A text message sent to Fletcher's cell phone was not immediately returned. A woman who answered the phone at Fletcher's office declined comment and hung up without giving her name.

Fletcher is one of several lawyers who has represented Knight, the Death Row Records co-founder, since he was charged with murder and attempted murder after he ran over two men outside a Compton burger stand in January 2015, killing one of them. Knight has pleaded not guilty and is scheduled to go on trial later this year.



This undated photo provided by the Dauphin County Judicial Center in Harrisburg, Pa., shows Shayla Pierce, arrested Thursday, Jan. 18, 2018. Law enforcement officers serving an arrest warrant were handcuffing Pierce on the first floor of a home Thursday when a man began firing from the second floor, killing Deputy U.S. Marshal Christopher David Hill and injuring a police officer, authorities said, before the gunman was shot to death by police when he exited the home. The U.S. attorney's office identified the shooter as Kevin Sturgis, of Philadelphia, but did not say what the relationship was between Pierce and the gunman.

(Dauphin County Judicial Center via AP)

		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	01/30	---	02/04	02/04	Cap Taputapu	037	01/30	---	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



For Local Enquiries, Contact  
**SAMOA PACIFIC SHIPPING, INC.**  
 P.O. Box 1417, Pago Pago, AS 96799  
 Telephone: (684) 633-4665 • Fax (684) 633-4667



"Our Service Sells Itself"

333 Market Street  
 Satellite Building  
 Suite 325  
 333 Bush Street  
 Suite# 2580  
 San Francisco, CA 94104  
 249 East Ocean Blvd Suite 200  
 Long Beach, CA 90802  
 Tel (562) 590-9021  
 Fax (562) 436-0404

Direct Independent Service Between North America, South Pacific Islands, Hawaii and New Zealand

## JOIN US @ ICEBREAKERS

- Closed on Mondays
- Home of the famous \$2 - Tuesday
- Karaoke-Rita-Wednesday's
- Thirsty Thursday for the ladies DJ 10pm - 2am
- Funk'd up Fridays - DJ 10pm - 2am
- Saturday Swag with Siliva Band 9pm - 12am
- DJ Vitaliano 12am - 2am



**"COME BREAK THE ICE AT ICE BREAKERS"**

Located on Ilili, Airport Road

- \$5 daily cocktail specials
- \$5 daily shot specials
- Take Away kitchen open Fridays & Saturdays 9pm - 3am
- Best Appetizer Menu on Island
- Happy Hour Mon - Fri 4pm - 7pm (Free Pupus)

Like us on Facebook

Book your functions with us  
252-5037, 258-9040 or 699-6969



# LIMA FESOASOANI

## QUICK FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

PO Box 308, Pago Pago, AS 96799

Tel: (684) 699-3848 or 633-3848

Fax: (684) 699-3849 or 633-3849

E-mail: [loan@limafesoasoani.com](mailto:loan@limafesoasoani.com)

The following account holders are encouraged to visit or contact our Collection Representative, Masi Manila at 633-3848 at our Fagatogo Office, regarding your delinquent account.

- |                               |                              |                               |                           |                             |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Adams, Michael                | Gaisoa, Valasi               | Maina, Leu                    | Safua, Fausaga            | Taumua, Pago Pago           |
| Aetui, Ernest Samoa           | Gaoa, Laupama                | Makiasi, Simativa             | Sagapolutele, Frank       | Tautala, Paoivaoese Jr      |
| Afemata, Easter               | Gaoteote, Dalton             | Malo, Maria                   | Sakaria, Paese            | Tautala, Paoivaoese Sr      |
| Afoa, Oganu                   | Gaoteote, Tupouamoa          | Maloa, Felicia                | Salaivao, Bernie          | Tautala, Tufue              |
| Afu, Iose (Josie)             | Gasetoto, Gasetoto Jr        | Maloa, Laloni                 | Salanoa, Segia            | Tautalafua, Tufatu          |
| Afusia, Easter                | Grey, Mark                   | Maligi, Taumanupepe           | Salausua Taaato           | Tautua, Alo                 |
| Agatonu, Tony                 | Gutu, Loia Sr                | Malila, Miriama               | Salueletaua, Lemo         | Taylor, Joe                 |
| Ah Hing, Sherry               | Hun Fen, Fagaalofa           | Maluia, Tiresa                | Samuelu, Amiogalelei      | Tavake, Loveni              |
| Ah Mu, Johnny                 | Husseini, Judy A             | Mapu, Loreta                  | Sao, Koreta               | Te'i, Lafoaina              |
| Aho, Tagiilima                | Ianu, Maanaema               | Mapu, Siaumau                 | Sao, Kuini                | Teve, Faaolaina             |
| Alaelua, Kapeteni             | Iavai, Siale "Cece"          | Mapu, Sineti                  | Saolele, Petelo           | Thiel, Mathew Vincent       |
| Alalamua, Danny               | Ieremia, Chanel              | Mapu-Togiola, Tuailavaola     | Sasa, Simoe               | Tili, Benjamin              |
| Alasi, Patric                 | Ieremia, Faaloloi            | Mapu, Vitale                  | Sasala, Isapela           | Tini, Timena                |
| Alesana, Simealai             | Ieremia, Mamere              | Mareko, Tairoto               | Satele, Suafai            | Tinoifili, Kanana           |
| Aliivaa, Taumasina            | Ieremia, Marlana             | Marquez, Aveta                | Satui, Lea                | Titilii, Millie             |
| Allen, Lidwina                | Ikenasio-Taliaoa, Ioane      | Masui, Junior                 | Sauaso, Joyce             | Tiumalu, Nafanua            |
| Alo, Tautua                   | Ilili, Laki                  | Matalima, Alieta              | Saufoi, Lauina            | Tiumalu, Saimua             |
| Alosio, Saline Ana            | Ilimaloata, Levelevi         | Matamua, Fitulua              | Sauia, Tanya              | Toala, Suilefaiga           |
| Alosio, Tuloto                | Ilimaloata, Mikaele          | Matamua, Lei                  | Saunoamalii, Maliliga     | Toatelegese, Nofogatoa      |
| Anoai, Pene                   | Ioapo, Calvin                | Matau, Esau                   | Sauta, Paul               | Toeava, Spencer             |
| Aporosa, Bridgette            | Isaia, Monte                 | Matau, Ramona                 | Savaiinaea, Aukuso        | Togiaso, Patisepa           |
| Atanoa, Soliga                | Iosefo, Makerita             | Matau, Tikeri                 | Save, Suani               | Toia, Solomua               |
| Atonio, Atonio                | Itulauifi, Bryan             | Mauga, Palepoi Ernie          | Savea, Edward             | Toilolo, Allen              |
| Atualevao, Patricia           | Iupeli, Pepelini Filemu      | Mauigoa, Seepa                | Scanlan, Penina           | Tolo, Salevalasi Vaiula     |
| Auelua, Caroline              | Kaulave, Vaigalepa           | Maulupe, Roanna               | Schwenke, Hanna           | Toomalatai, Ruta            |
| Auelua, Uaite                 | Koli, Inise                  | McGraw, Stephen               | Sea, Fiapapalagi          | Toomalatai, Vaesavali       |
| Aunai, Faafiu                 | Kolomaile, Epifano           | Mekuli, Asootama Lise         | Seaga, Liliu              | Toomata, Afereti            |
| Avia, Elaine                  | Kolone, Liuato               | Meli, Octavia                 | Seafa, Panini             | Toma, Faaliga               |
| Brown, Eric                   | Koroiaidi, Mary              | Meredith, Anthony             | Seigafo, Seko             | Tonga, Falakika             |
| Chung Sum, Utulafilafi        | Kuresa, Faavela              | Mika, Emele                   | Semeatu, Ernest Thomas    | Tovia, Sesilia (SKS)        |
| Correia, Martina              | Kuresa, Malialosa            | Mika, Maria                   | Semeatu, Meleane          | Tua, Alofagia               |
| Crosby, Miriama               | Kuresa-Sokimi, Christina     | Mika, Utumoeaau               | Seuteva, Taputaua         | Tua, Epi                    |
| Dixon, Mere                   | Lafaele, Lusia               | Minoneti, Lusila              | Sialofi, Taupale          | Tua, Valerie                |
| Eli, Kolotita                 | Laga, Tuamasaga              | Misiuepa, Sului faleese       | Siatu Kerita              | Tua, Meleane                |
| Eneliko, Faatu                | Laifaga, Teuaina             | Misivila, Sophia              | Silao, Kelemete           | Tua, Seneuefa               |
| Esau, Fauamoa                 | Lam Yuen, Lynn               | Moemoe, Tailua                | Silofau, Agnes            | Tuiasosopo Saufaiga Cecilia |
| Esera, Tauva                  | Lavea, Petelo                | Moliga-Eli, Saiaulama         | Siofaga, Fetalaiga        | Tuigamala, Ropati           |
| Eti, Lopa                     | Leala, Masunu                | Moliga-Taiepisi, Elsie        | Sio, Lyno                 | Tuiletufuga, Fonotaga       |
| Faaatuatu, Upuese             | Lealasola, Naomi             | Monaco, Thomas                | Sipili, Soama             | Tuiloma, Isaia              |
| Faagata Laisene               | Lealofi, Nafanua             | Moors, Harry                  | Skelton, Pepe             | Tuiloma, Ioramo             |
| Faaitu, Isaako                | Leaoa, Talavai               | Muao, Ropeti                  | Solitua, Filiga           | Tuiolemotu-Malaga, Lovi     |
| Faaii, Faletusiesile          | Leapai, Poe                  | Muliau, Samasoni              | Solomona, Andrew          | Tulesa, Tina                |
| Faalata, Leuafaalanu          | Leasiolagi, Galen            | Mulitalo-Jeremia-Foster, Anna | Sone, Ramona              | Tunu, Laia                  |
| Faaleo, James                 | Lefao, Tausagafou            | Navelika, Onosa'i             | Sooto-Tua, Alofagia Va    | Tupa Apelu, Losalina        |
| Faaoia, Tuli                  | Leituala, Maria              | Netane, Luki                  | Sopi, Judie               | Tupai, Olaiovavega          |
| Faatamalii, Army              | Leituala-Misiuepa, Ufanafana | Niumata, Nuusina              | Spitzenberg, Rose         | Tupe, Tavita                |
| Faatea, Maria                 | Lemautu, Pataua              | Noa, Finau                    | Sua, Faasasalu            | Tupua, Mekiafa              |
| Faatonu, Salevao              | Leo, Tuisamoa                | Nuutai, Petaia                | Sua, Finau                | Tupua, Tuumuli              |
| Faau, Tamara                  | Leoso, Serita                | Nyel, Naomi                   | Sualoa, Tuipine           | Tupuola, Calvin             |
| Faavi, Faamanu                | Leota, Imoa                  | Onosai, Saisavaai             | Sue, Victoria             | Tuuga, Toeseimalo           |
| Faavi, Faavi Jr.              | Leota, "PJ" Pule T           | Osa, Maria                    | Suiaunua, Brian           | Tuupo, Doris                |
| Failauga, Mavaeao             | Letuane, Mika                | Paepule, Lemusu               | Suitonu, Aigalesala       | Ufuti, Tilomai              |
| Falaniko, Emanuele Jr         | Letuuga, Reenae              | Paleafei, Toma                | Taalefili, Tui            | Uiato, Galo                 |
| Falanai, Hana                 | Letufuga, Pelepetua          | Palepoi, Faleata              | Taalogaa, Adrienne        | Uiato, Sanele               |
| Falefia, Nofo                 | Levasa, Petelo               | Paopao, Christopher           | Tafaese, Onoiva           | Uikirifi, Krystellen "Faga" |
| Faletolu, Sarai               | Lilio, Ualesi                | Paselio, Fiapapalagi          | Tagaloo, Titae            | Uluenga, Sione              |
| Fanene, Metita                | Lilomaiava, Solomona         | Pasikale, Siuii Matauifaga    | Ta-Grey, Florence         | Umi, Peni Jr                |
| Farani, Tanuma'i              | Liva, Eseta                  | Passi, Simamao Katherine      | Tago, Fuatai              | Usu, Cadarra                |
| Fatuesi, Leeannah Y           | Loa, Tuanai                  | Pati, Apelu                   | Tagovailoa, Asofaafetai   | Utuga, Samaauga             |
| Faumuina, Peniamina           | Loa, Winnie                  | Paulo, Paulo                  | Tagovailoa, Valasi Aulava | Uu, Tineimala               |
| Feagai, Fuata'i               | Loe, Savelina                | Pene, Ann                     | Taito, Pouvi              | Vaa, Sala                   |
| Fetauai, Fomai                | Lokou, Poni                  | Pene, Peleiupu                | Talaomana, Daniel         | Vaega, Tolotea              |
| Fetaui, Mollyvina             | Lolani, Pope Paulo           | Peni, Suetena                 | Talauoga Mataina          | Vaesau, Asisione            |
| Fiaalii, Niko                 | Lolofie, Pua                 | Peric, Taofegauiai            | Tali, Apiolefa            | Vaesau, Meli Sailele        |
| Fiaavae, Etuale               | Lopa, Tara Maketa            | Petelo, Anitelea              | Tali, Lemasianai          | Vaieli, Maselino            |
| Fili-Jungblut, Mele           | Loumoli, Itupa               | Petelo, Silaulelei            | Talopau, Toelau           | Vaifale, Luisa              |
| Filipo, Mareta                | Luaifoa, Diane Melesete      | Peters, Frank                 | Talosaga, Sandra          | Vaina, Misionare            |
| Finai, Fiapopo                | Luapo, Foster McKenzie       | Pine-Ah See, Taulaloese       | Tanielu, Soli             | Valoaga, Tagivale           |
| Finau, Tafaoata               | Luki, Fiamaua                | Poia, Paosia                  | Tapunuu, Pale             | Vasa, Jane                  |
| Fruean, Saena Samuelu         | Lui, Fiso 'Isabella'         | Poloa, Angel                  | Tapu, Luafitu             | Vasega, Savalivali          |
| Fualaau, Sootaga              | Lynch, Belynda               | Poloai, Faafetai              | Tauai, Usufono            | Vee, Meaalofa               |
| Fuimaono, Falesoa             | Maae, Talavave               | Posala, Talaesea              | Tauanuu, Faatiuga         | Viliamu, Filemoni           |
| Fuimaono, Mavaega             | Maanaima, Fereti             | Pule, Antonio Jr.             | Tauiliili, Motiana        | Viliamu, Seneuefa           |
| Fuimaono, Michelle            | Magalo, Julie                | Puni, Ioane                   | Taulafoga, Barbara        | Viliamu, Uli                |
| Fuimaono-Porotesano, Tuumafua | Maeataanoa, Sarai            | Purcell, Douglas              | Taulamago, Iuliana        | Visesio, David              |
| Fulu, Alamai                  | Maiava, Filisi               | Ripley, Faamalele Tagoai      | Taulelei, Tupuivao        | Vito, Yvonne                |
| Gagau, Iaeli                  | Maiava, Fitiuta              | Ropati, Suegafaafifeau        | Taumua, Alvin             | Wilson, Olafou              |

Nuuli Office: Laufou Shopping Center, Suite 204: 699-3848 • Lumana'i Building Suite 207 • Ph: 633-3848

BUSINESS HOURS: 10:00am - 4:00 pm • Monday to Friday

# Mass. Rep. Kennedy to deliver State of the Union response



## IN THE COMMUNITY

(Photos: Leua)



House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wis., presents the Congressional Gold Medal to former Sen. Bob Dole on Capitol Hill, Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2018, in Washington. Watching from left are Vice President Mike Pence, Rep. Lynn Jenkins, R-Kan., President Donald Trump, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Ky., Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of N.Y., and House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi of Calif. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. Joe Kennedy III of Massachusetts will deliver the Democratic response to President Donald Trump's State of the Union address next week.

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer made the announcement in a

statement Thursday night. They say Kennedy is "a relentless fighter for working Americans." The 37-year-old Kennedy is serving his third term in the House.

Pelosi and Schumer say Elizabeth Guzman of Virginia will deliver the Spanish-language response to Trump's speech. Guzman, 44, is an immigrant

from Peru who was recently elected to Virginia's House of Delegates.

The Democratic leaders say Kennedy and Guzman will emphasize that "Democrats are laser-focused on enacting policies to benefit middle-class Americans, not special interests or the wealthiest."

### More...

Continued from page 20

Since then, some have filtered back. The top U.N. official in Syria, Ali Al-Za'tari, said the numbers are uncertain but that the U.N is aware of close to 200,000 now living in the east, based on those who have registered for assistance.

Most of the factories in Aleppo's 15 industrial districts are still closed, many of them damaged either from looting or from bombardment by government forces when they were held by rebels. Despite the relative peace, insurgents on Aleppo's western outskirts fire shells occasionally. That has slowed the return of production at Lairamoun, an industrial district only few hundred meters (yards) from rebel positions.

Ghassan Nazi, owner of a textile factory in Lairamoun, said that once the rebels are pushed back, he will reopen his business. Touring the now silent factory, he said it was used as a prison by an Islamist rebel faction called the Badr Martyrs. He said he's suffered some \$5 million in losses.

He blames everything that tore apart his city on "neighboring countries" that he said plotted to destroy Aleppo as an economic engine. He didn't say which countries but many government supporters use the phrase to refer to opposition-backer Turkey. "They simply want to turn us from producers to consumers," he said.

In western Aleppo, where damage was much less, there's a feeling of liberation from life under warfare. Power comes several hours a day and will soon run around the clock. Sand berms that had been set up on many streets have been removed, and security checkpoints have been

pulled from the heart of the city to its entrances, freeing traffic.

Im el-Nour, a 51-year-old woman who drives a taxi — the only female cab driver in the city, she says — has seen a boost in work. She can now operate in the east, where conservative women call her for their errands to avoid riding with a male driver. El-Nour also works as a DJ at women-only parties or weddings, which have become more frequent now with the relative peace.

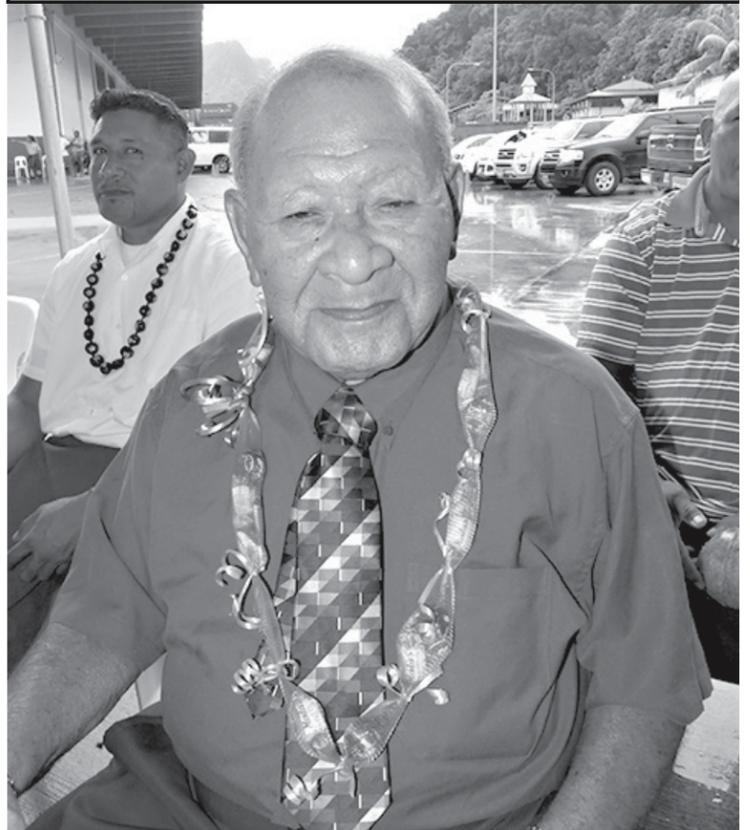
"One of the songs that I play a lot is Cheb Khaled's Cest La Vie," she said, referring to a popular Algerian singer. She added that Aleppo's women also like to dance to Canadian singer Celine Dion, Shakira and Lebanon's Najwa Karam.

Between her two jobs, el-Nour — who is divorced and who lost a son, killed while fighting as a soldier in Assad's army — makes more than \$100 a month, a bit more than a typical civil servant's salary. "Aleppo will again become the jewel of the Middle East," she boasted.

At Saadallah al-Jabiri Square, Mustafa Khodor churned out popcorn as parents lined up to buy from him. He said his sales have tripled. "The liberation of Aleppo was a turning point for us in this city. People now feel safe and go out," said the father of five.

Nearby, Abdullatif Maslawi, a 21-year-old law student, performed a traditional dance known as dabke with a group of his friends.

"Aleppo is my soul," he said. "Aleppo was wounded and now it is being cured."





# Casey Affleck will not attend Academy Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In another apparent consequence of the #MeToo movement, last year's best actor Oscar winner Casey Affleck will not be presenting at or attending the 90th Academy Awards.

Affleck's publicist said Thursday that the actor would not be at the ceremony on March 4 where, traditionally, he would have been expected to present the award for best actress as the reigning best actor winner. A film academy spokesperson said they "appreciate the decision to keep the focus on the show and on the great work of this year."

The "Manchester by the Sea" actor faced sexual harassment allegations in 2010 in two public civil suits during the production of the mockumentary "I'm Still Here." The suits were settled for undisclosed sums and Affleck has said that the terms of the settlement prevent him from discussing the matter.

While the lawsuits were covered in the press at the time, the allegations gained additional attention in 2016 following the ruination of "Birth of a Nation" director and star Nate Parker's awards chances after past rape allegations surfaced against him. Many wondered if there was a racially related double standard that would allow Affleck, despite past allegations, to go on to win the best actor award at the Oscars. Actress Brie Larson famously did not clap when presenting Affleck with the award at the 2017 ceremony.

When the Me Too movement exploded in October and the film academy revoked Harvey Weinstein's membership, the spotlight turned back to Affleck and other academy members who have been accused of misconduct.

John Oliver even took a moment on his HBO show talk about it.

"Yes, finally — the group that counts among its current members Roman Polanski, Bill Cosby and Mel Gibson has found the one guy who treated women badly and kicked him out," Oliver said in October. "So congratulations, Hollywood. See you at the next Oscars where — and this is true — Casey Affleck will be presenting Best Actress."

Hardly any aspect of the awards season has been unaffected by the Me Too movement, from who gets nominated to the content of acceptance speeches and red carpet interviews. No one knows exactly how the film academy plans to handle this moment of reckoning during the ceremony on March 4, but, with Affleck stepping down, one of the biggest questions has been answered.

## Brother's death prompts cancellation of Big Freedia's show

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Bounce artist Big Freedia has canceled her shows this weekend after her younger brother was shot and killed in New Orleans.

Freedia, in a statement, said her brother — 35-year-old Adam Ross — was killed "in a senseless act of violence" and would be canceling her shows scheduled Jan. 26 through Jan. 28. Police reported the shooting happened just before 10 p.m. Wednesday in New Orleans' Central City neighborhood. Police said officers responded to a call of aggravated battery by shooting and found the victim unresponsive on the sidewalk and "suffering from a gunshot wound to the head."

The Orleans Parish Coroner's Office confirmed Ross' identity Thursday.

FILE - In this Feb. 26, 2017 file photo, Casey Affleck arrives at the Oscars in Los Angeles. Affleck, who won the best actor award for his role in "Manchester By the Sea," will not be presenting at the 90th Academy Awards. Affleck's publicist confirmed Thursday that the actor is not attending the ceremony on March 4. Traditionally, the reigning best actor winner returns to present the best actress award.

(Photo by Jordan Strauss/Invision/AP, File)

**MICKEY'S**  
FINE MALT LIQUOR

*Get Stung.*

PROUDLY DISTRIBUTED BY: PPTC  
699-PPTC (7782)  
info@pptcas.com  
www.facebook.com/PPTCLtd

