



Some of the local nurses during the American Samoa Nurse's Week celebration back in 2014. The shortage of nurses in the territory is so bad, that some retired nurses have told Samoa News that LBJ officials have contacted them — asking if they can return to work. A LBJ senior official says the nurse shortage is not new, and they did not make any such calls. See story below.

[file photo: AF]



ONLINE @ SAMOANEWS.COM



# samoa news

DAILY CIRCULATION 7,000

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2017

\$1.00



Francine Iopu from ASCC Students' Association for FaaSamoa and Intersections Taiala Peer Leader met the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) Acting Commissioner Stacey Ecoffey after the Native Youth Leadership Panel.

Iopu was the Pacific Region representative on the panel, held during the ANA Grantee Conference last week in Crystal City, VA.

Intersections, Inc. was one of five organizations that were initially awarded a grant under this funding program.

During the conference, ANA tasked five of its grantees for Initiative for Leadership, Empowerment, and Development (ILEAD) with a digital storytelling project titled "Getting to Know our Hopes and Dreams" to be created and produced by youth participants. Iopu presented their video project at the ANA workshop. The video can be viewed on the following link: <[https://youtu.be/cW39-7p\\_uk4](https://youtu.be/cW39-7p_uk4)>

[courtesy photo]

## Retired nurses say they are being called back to work due to nurse shortage

**BUT, LBJ SENIOR OFFICIAL SAYS NOT A NEW PROBLEM, AND RETIRED NURSES ARE NOT BEING CALLED**

by Ausage Fausia  
Samoa News Reporter

Samoa News received reports this week that the longstanding shortage of nurses at the LBJ Medical Center is still not resolved and as a result, some retired nurses claim they have been asked to return to duty.

A senior LBJ staffer told Samoa News that the shortage of nurses is not a new problem.

Efforts to obtain comments from LBJ Hospital CEO Faumuina Taufete'e J. Faumuina yesterday were unsuccessful. Faumuina was not at his office when Samoa News stopped by yesterday, and his secretary told Samoa News that the CEO is the only person who can reveal any information regarding the shortage of nurses.

Several retired nurses who have worked in the field for over 25 years told Samoa News that they have been in contact with some senior officials at LBJ, who have asked if they could come back to work because there is a need for more nurses, especially during this time of year.

A 68-year-old retired nurse from Faleniu told Samoa News that she was contacted by a LBJ Nursing Association official last month, asking her if she can return to work, because the hospital needs more nurses.

"This is my field and I love to offer my service for American Samoa. If this is God's will for me, to go back to work for the hospital, I would love to offer my service," said the retired nurse.

Another 58-year-old former nurse, who medically retired earlier this year, confirmed that she too, has been contacted by a former supervisor about returning to work.

She told Samoa News that she worked at LBJ for over 26 years but retired because of a medical condition.

"I want to go back and work for the LBJ, but I have to be careful because of my health. Also, I don't want to lose my Social Security benefits," said the former nurse.

A senior official from LBJ confirmed to Samoa News that there is a need for more nurses at the hospital right now. During a brief telephone interview yesterday, the official said the problem is not a new one, it has been around for years but still, they try to do everything in their power to ensure that the service is still there for the people.

She however denied reports that they are calling retired nurses to ask them to return to work.

When Samoa News asked the LBJ senior official about what needs to be done to fix the problem, she said the only person who can provide the right answer is the LBJ CEO.

She declined to comment further when Samoa News asked more questions regarding the issue.

In an interview with Faumuina earlier this year in May, he said the LBJ Hospital doesn't have enough locals who want to become nurses and this has forced them to hire people from off island.

According to Faumuina, the local nursing staff cannot meet the growing number of ill people in the territory.

Commenting on condition of anonymity, one nurse told Samoa News that that only way to fix the growing problem is to have government leaders urge parents to enroll their children in nursing studies at the American Samoa Community College. She said the hospital can't function without nurses.





# Turkey tails and mayo prices increase, chicken and fresh eggs decline

**'SUPPLY AND DEMAND' IS THE CULPRIT, SAYS THE COMMERCE DEPT.**

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

High demand along with reduced supply is among the reasons for the increase in price of turkey tail products sold in American Samoa last month, while the decline in the price of fresh eggs is attributed to possible over supply, says Commerce Department director Keniseli Lafaele.

In the Basic Food Index report, released Nov. 2nd, DOC said the BFI for October 2017 is registered at 104.6 points — a decrease of 0.04% from the September Index of 104.7 points.

Furthermore, the BFI report said eight food commodities — chicken legs, fresh fish, rice, pork ribs, eggs, sugar, butter and ice cream — contributed to the decline in the food index.

“Fresh eggs registered a substantial decline of 3.1% and the rest with minimal decreases of less than a percent each,” it says.

The decline in the price index is of help to local consumers, who seeks to gets the lowest price in some of the basic commodities, such as chicken, rice, and sugar, according to local two local business officials, who also told Samoa News that with the economy faced with many challenges — the major one is that some 1,600 cannery workers are temporarily without jobs — any drop in price is helping families deal with their purchases.

The BFI report also says that turkey tails increased by 2.3% in October while mayonnaise has continued to rise since August this year — with another 0.5%.

DOC notes six major food outlets were selected by the monthly survey.

However, DOC doesn't provide any other details, or an explanation on why the increase in turkey tails and mayonnaise. Samoa News raised questions with Lafaele to get a better picture regarding contributing factors for not only the increases in price, but, any decreases.

Since early September up to last week, a case of turkey tails, has increased slightly while a case of chicken has a slight decrease in cost, according to three local retailers contacted by Samoa News last week in an effort to get more details on these popular food items for local consumption.

For example, an average price for a case of turkey tails was about \$14 but has increased to nearly \$15 as of last week. For a case of chicken, it dropped to an average of \$12 last week compared to about \$13 in the latter part of September into October.

“Perhaps very important now to consumers are prices

of the food items, with the approaching holiday season,” said one of the store officials contacted by Samoa News. “Food will become a priority purchase for the holidays.”

Responding to Samoa News inquiries, Lafaele explained that the variations in both domestic and international supply and demand, account for the monthly increases and declines in each price category.

“It is important to note that the cost of importing goods, and eventually the prices paid by consumers, are heavily influenced by the price of other commodities, such as crude oil,” he further explained. “The drivers of the price increases on the goods that you specified in your request are summarized below, along with related commodities.”

## CRUDE OIL

Regarding crude oil, Lafaele said the price of crude oil “is explicitly tied to the cost of transportation and freight... Relative to prices paid for much of the time between 2007 and 2014, petroleum product prices are up significantly since their recent lows in early- 2016.”

He continued, “In fact, the price of crude oil has been trending up over the last several months,” adding that the futures price of a barrel of Brent Crude Oil grew from approximately \$46 in July 2017 to more than \$60 by the end of October 2017 — an increase of over 30%.

The DOC director points to the price of crude oil as one of the main contributors to the increase in prices of turkey tails and mayonnaise.

## TURKEY TAILS

The reasons for the “month-over-month increase” in the price of turkey tails is two-fold — “higher demand for the product that has become ubiquitous with the culture of the Samoan Islands, along with a reduced supply, as a result of external factors,” Lafaele told Samoa News yesterday.

He said the recent increases in the global price of petroleum products has put upward pressure on transportation costs for all goods, including premium cuts of beef, pork, and poultry.

Therefore, increased transportation costs are passed on to wholesalers, retailers, and eventually consumers.

Furthermore, higher prices for premium cuts — “Premium Goods” — tend to drive consumers to more affordable cuts of meat (Normal Goods) in an effort to maintain purchasing power in other spending categories.

“This is sometimes referred to as the ‘Substitution Effect’,” he explained. “Because turkey tail is a normal good, higher

(Continued on page 6)



Rancho Tehama school shooting survivor, first-grader Aileen Favela, 6, poses for a photo outside the post office in Corning, Calif., Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2017. Favela received a small cut over her left eye from flying glass. (Read story page 8)

(AP Photo/Don Thompson)



# ATTENTION!!

**Island-Wide Territorial Spelling Bee  
will be held on Wed, Mar. 7, 2018**

**TO ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SPELLING BEE WINNERS FOR 2018,  
please email your Biographies and a Photo to  
maelynnsamoanews@gmail.com/samoanews.ads@gmail.com.**

**OR drop it off at our office, located across from the ASG Port.  
We are open from 8:00am until 4:00pm Monday through Friday.**

**For more information please contact 633-5599.**



samoa news



**Department of  
EDUCATION**



# COMMUNITY BRIEFS

by Ausage Fausia  
Samoa News Reporter

## RAYMOND VALAAU

The 38-year-old man from Tafuna accused of using a machete to assault another man has been arrested and charged with second degree assault — a felony, punishable by not more than 5 years imprisonment, and/or a fine of not more than \$5,000 of both; and two misdemeanor charges — unlawful use of a weapon and public peace disturbance.

The charges against Raymond Valaau stem from an incident that occurred last week in Tafuna, during which he allegedly used a machete to assault and severely injure another man.

According to the police report, Valaau and the victim had gotten into a disagreement. The victim allegedly attempted to assault Valaau and when he failed to do so, the defendant turned around and assaulted the victim with a machete.

Valaau made his initial appearance in the District Court this week, where he waived his right to a preliminary examination hearing.

His next court appearance is today at 9:00 a.m. in the High Court, where he is expected to enter a not guilty plea to the charges.

Valaau's attorney, Assistant Public Defender, Ryan Nelson, asked the court for a reduction in bail — from \$5,000 to \$1,000. Nelson told the court that Valaau is a hard workingman, and he is the only member of his family who works to provide for his wife and two children. Nelson said his client is not a flight risk; he has no intention of leaving his family.

Prosecutor Jillian Sadler opposed the defense's motion, saying the bail set by the court is the right amount for the offense the defendant is accused of committing.

The defense motion was denied and bail remains at \$5,000; and because he is unable to post bond, Valaau remains in

custody at the TCF.

## JACOB SIAFOLAU

A young man that was convicted of misdemeanor stealing has been ordered to serve 60 days at Tafuna Correctional Facility, as a condition of a 12-month probation sentence.

Jacob Siafolau has been in custody since September. He was initially charged with public peace disturbance, stealing, and third degree assault.

However, in a plea agreement with the government, Siafolau pled guilty to stealing and the remaining charges were dismissed.

When he appeared before Judge Fiti Sunia this week for sentencing, Siafolau apologized for his actions and begged for a second chance to return home to care for his parents and serve his family and church.

He also apologized to the victim and asked for forgiveness. The defendant said he is truly remorseful for what he did and assured the judge that he will never break any laws, adding that if given another chance, he will do everything he can to change his life.

Judge Sunia asked the defendant what happened to the many chances the court gave him when he appeared 4 times for previous court cases. Siafolau said he messed up — he was trying his best to abide by the law, but he failed.

Attorneys from both sides asked the court to sentence the defendant to 12 months probation, under the condition that he attend and complete alcohol counseling, and refrain from consuming alcohol.

Judge Sunia was not in the mood for 'second' chances when he handed down his sentence.

He told Siafolau that the court gave him a lot of chances before, but it appears that he's not learning his lesson. A report from the Probation Office states that Siafolau has completed alcohol counseling that was ordered by the court, as a condition of a previous matter.

"You're not new in this court, this is the 5th time you've come before this Court. You have been convicted of public peace disturbance three times. You've also been convicted of driving under the influence (DUI) and now you're convicted of stealing. Who knows, maybe your next criminal act will be a felony?" Judge Sunia said to Siafolau.

According to court records, Siafolau was placed on 12-months probation earlier this year in April, after he was convicted of a DUI. A few months later, he was arrested and charged with misdemeanor stealing.

Judge Sunia revoked Siafolau's 12-month probation sentence from the DUI matter, and ordered him to serve the suspended sentence of 60 days. He will be credited for the 51 days he's already spent in confinement.

For the stealing case, Siafolau has been sentenced to serve 12 months at the TCF.

The sentence is suspended however, and he is placed on probation for 12 months, under the condition that he serves 120 days behind bars.

Judge Sunia ordered the defendant to serve only 60 days, and the remaining term is stayed, if he complies with all the conditions probation.

This sentence will run consecutively with the 9 days he needs to serve for probation revocation.

Siafolau is also ordered to pay a \$100 fine within 30 days, and he must be gainfully employed after he is released from prison next year.



United States Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, left, with Mexico's Secretary of Economy Ildefonso Guajardo Villarreal, right, speaks during the conclusion of the fourth round of negotiations for a new North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2017.

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

## Mexico open to 5-year NAFTA reviews, but not 'sunset clause'

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico said Wednesday it is open to a thorough evaluation of the North American Free Trade Agreement every five years, but not the kind of "sunset clause" the United States is reportedly seeking.

The comment came as delegations from Mexico, the U.S. and Canada were in Mexico City engaging in the fifth round of talks on renegotiating NAFTA.

The administration of U.S. President Donald Trump reportedly proposed allowing the treaty to lapse after five years until all countries decided to renew it. But Mexico's economy secretary, Ildefonso Guajardo, says his country opposes any "sudden death" clause.

"We are going with a counter-proposal: Let's put more force into evaluations,

but let's not establish an automatic phase-out mechanism," Guajardo said. "Let's establish a commitment that every five years we will evaluate what is happening, an analysis, what effects the agreement is having. And based on those results, each country can decide what to do in the future."

None of the three countries' trade representatives or economy secretaries will directly participate in the latest talks. The round is to formally open Friday and run through Tuesday, but the U.S. Trade Representative's office said Wednesday that 30 groups of lower-level negotiators already have been meeting in Mexico City this week.

Talks involving upper-level officials were held this month at the Asia-Pacific APEC meetings in Vietnam.

## Philippine economy grows 6.9 percent in last quarter

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Officials say the Philippine economy grew at a faster than expected 6.9 percent annual pace in the July-September quarter, helped by increased public spending on pay hikes for government personnel.

Economic Planning Secretary Ernesto Pernia described the growth reported on Thursday as "spectacular." It surpassed a market consensus forecast of 6.6 percent and was an improvement on 6.7 percent growth in April-June.

Growth in July-September last year was 7.1 percent.

Pernia said public spending would ratchet higher as the government embarks on a massive infrastructure construction program. Household consumption is expected to pick at the end of the year with the Christmas season.

Still, civil strife in the southern third of the country has taken a toll as seen in the dismal performance of the Philippine peso this year.

## Win a Turkey & Other Prizes!

Registration is now open!

Public (Ages 14 & up): \$5.00  
LHS Staff/Students: \$3.00  
Deadline: Nov. 21, 4:00PM @ School Office  
Late Reg.: Nov. 22, 3:00AM @ Gym: \$10.00

## Categories

- ❖ Professional Runners
- ❖ Amateur Runners
- ❖ Power Walkers
- ❖ Senior Citizens (Age 60+)
- ❖ LHS Students
- ❖ LHS Teachers

Turkey Run will be followed by a Zumba sesh by Tori, Turkey Float Competition, Canned Food Drive Competition, & many more.

For more information or to register, please call.

# Hawaii acknowledges failures after dangerous patient escapes

HONOLULU (AP) — A dangerous Hawaii psychiatric patient who escaped a state hospital and flew to California before being captured Wednesday has prompted an investigation into why employees appeared to fail to do their jobs.

Dr. Virginia Pressler, director of the Hawaii Department of Health, said an internal inquiry indicated that workers inadvertently or intentionally neglected to supervise Randall Saito and notify their supervisors. The apparent failures were spread through several shifts of workers, she said.

Seven hospital staff members were being placed on unpaid leave Wednesday for 30 days and more may be identified as the investigation continues, the department said in a statement. Saito was gone at least eight hours before hospital staff alerted authorities.

Saito on Sunday left the 202-bed Hawaii State Hospital outside Honolulu, where he has been committed for 36 years since being acquitted of murder by reason of insanity. He took a taxi to a chartered plane bound for the island of Maui and then boarded another plane to San Jose, California, authorities said. It wasn't immediately known how he was able to charter a plane, and police wouldn't provide details about his flight to California. Attorney General Doug Chin said the escape was planned and an investigation would include an examination of whether Saito had any accomplices.

"We were dismayed to learn that Hawaii State Hospital escapee Randall Saito used an alias to charter a flight on one of our planes from Honolulu to Maui on Sunday," said a statement Wednesday from luxury charter flight company Royal Pacific Air. Video footage from inside the taxi that drove Saito to the chartered flight shows him using a cellphone after climbing in with a large backpack. He tells the driver he's in a rush to catch a flight.

During the ride, he made two calls. "I'm on my way," Saito said to someone he called Mickey. "We just made the freeway, so, um, we should be there very shortly."

A few minutes later he made another call: "Is this the captain that's going to fly to Maui today? Hi. Hi, it's me. I'm on my way." Saito was captured in Stockton on Wednesday morning as the result of a tip from an alert taxi driver, the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department said. The agency posted a photo on social media showing Saito surrounded by three deputies at a gas station.

Saito has been charged with felony escape, and the attorney general said the breakout was

not planned by someone suffering from a "mental defect."

Hospital workers had called 911 to report Saito's disappearance shortly after 7:30 p.m. Sunday — two hours after he landed in California, Honolulu police said. An all-points bulletin went out an hour later.

Gov. David Ige said authorities and the public should have been notified much sooner and directed Chin to investigate.

He said the state has started reviewing patient privileges and public visitation policies at the hospital to determine if they are appropriate. It's also boosting the frequency of unannounced patient searches and ordering more fencing. Saito was sent to the hospital in 1981 after acknowledging he shot Sandra Yamashiro with a pellet gun and then repeatedly stabbed her in her car, which was parked at a shopping mall, according to court records. "He is a very dangerous individual," said Wayne Tashima, a Honolulu prosecutor who argued in 2015 against Saito receiving passes to leave the hospital grounds without an escort. Defense attorneys sought to have Saito released in 2000. But Jeff Albert, a deputy city prosecutor, objected, saying Saito "fills all the criteria of a classic serial killer."

In 1993, a court denied Saito's request for conditional release, saying he still suffered from sexual sadism and necrophilia.

Psychiatrists who evaluated him over the years also said he could be personable, charming and had good social skills.

Dr. Gene Altman, who evaluated Saito in 2010, said he had six significant relationships since being committed in 1981. Three of those were reportedly with hospital staff members and the others were with women in the community, including Saito's first and second wives, according to Altman's assessment, filed in court records.

Irving Tam, who has lived near the hospital for about 30 years, said he heard about the escape from a neighbor, not the police, hospital or media, and that patients have gotten out several times in the past.

"When they do escape, especially someone with this kind of a record, there is a high degree of concern, he could be violent and who knows," Tam said Tuesday.



Retired US Coast Guard Capt. Sean Mahoney is the new chief executive officer for the American Red Cross of San Diego and Imperial counties in California, under which the American Red Cross American Samoa (ARCAS) falls. See story below for details. [Courtesy photo]

## Retired USCG officer is the new regional CEO for Red Cross, including American Samoa

by Samoa News Staff

Retired US Coast Guard Capt. Sean Mahoney is the new chief executive officer for the American Red Cross of San Diego and Imperial counties in California, under which the American Red Cross American Samoa (ARCAS) falls.

Mahoney's appointment was first announced in a news conference held yesterday morning in San Diego, followed by an official news release, which states in part that Mahoney will fill the regional executive position effective Dec. 18th.

Responding to Samoa News questions, ARCAS chairman, Vaito'a Hans Langkilde said he was informed early this week about the new CEO, with the official notification received yesterday. "Look forward to working with the new CEO to further the mission of the American Red Cross in our community," Vaito'a said.

Red Cross of San Diego/Imperial counties board chairman Dave Geier said in a news release that Mahoney's "skills and experience align with many of the Red Cross services including the emphasis on supporting our military and effective disaster response, as well as fundraising to be able to fulfill our mission."

Mahoney recently served as executive director of "zero8hundred", a nonprofit organization he launched in 2015 to assist military members and their families as they transition to civilian life

following the completion of military service.

He served for 27 years in the USCG before retiring. His Coast Guard assignments included piloting helicopters in San Diego and Houston. According to the news release, local Red Cross will benefit from Mahoney's experience in disaster response as he managed hurricane responses while assigned as the Commanding Officer of Air Station Houston. He also previously directed governmental and public relations efforts for the Coast Guard's 40-state Atlantic Area.

"The Red Cross is an outstanding organization dedicated to supporting people during some of their most trying times," Mahoney said in the news release. "I am excited to be taking on this role and joining such a dedicated group of staff and volunteers."

Mahoney was selected following a competitive nationwide search and replaces Charlene Zettel, who has served in the interim regional executive role since July 2017. Mahoney, who has lived in San Diego since 2011, is a 1987 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Government. He is the chair of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce's Defense, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee, and is a member of the San Diego Military Advisory Council.



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Samoa News welcomes and encourages Letters to the Editor. Please send them to our email [news.newsroom@samoatelco.com](mailto:news.newsroom@samoatelco.com) Box 909, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799. Contact us by Telephone at (684) 633-5599 Contact us by Fax at (684) 633-4864 or by Email at [news@samoanews.com](mailto:news@samoanews.com) Normal business hours are Mon. thru Fri. 8am to 5pm. Permission to reproduce editorial and/or advertisements, in whole or in part, is required. Please address such requests to the Publisher at the address provided above.



### © OSINI FALEATASI INC. RESERVES ALL RIGHTS.

dba Samoa News is published Monday through Friday, except for some local and federal holidays. Please send correspondences to: OF, dba Samoa News, Box 909, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799. Telephone at (684) 633-5599 • Fax at (684) 633-4864 Email advertisements to [ads@samoanews.com](mailto:ads@samoanews.com) Email the newsroom at [news@samoanews.com](mailto:news@samoanews.com) Normal business hours are Mon. thru Fri. 8am to 5pm. Permission to reproduce editorial and/or advertisements, in whole or in part, is required. Please address such requests to the Publisher at the address provided above. Please visit [samoanews.com](http://samoanews.com) for weekend updates.



# Polynesian tattoos symbolize identity and tell cultural stories

by Meghan Kliewer, Daily Titan — the student voice of Cal State Fullerton

Reprinted with permission

Large black strips of spearhead and turtle shell patterns, parallel lines, waves made out of negative space and other geometric shapes are only a few of the designs that cover the skin of many Pacific Islanders.

“The Samoan tatau very intricately describes the philosophy of the Samoan people and how we came to discern Samoan, describes how we’re supposed to be tied to the land and our families, and the duties we’re supposed to take on as a person,” said Sulu’ape Si’i Liufau, owner and operator of A-Town Tattoo in Garden Grove.

Traditionally, the tattoo process among Pacific Islanders, including those of the Philippines and Polynesia, is an art form signifying a right of passage, as well as a way to preserve ancient history and practices.

The art of Samoan tatau is traditionally passed down through two family lineages that carry the tradition: the Su’a and Tulou’ena families. Anyone outside of those names must apprentice under a relative of those two lines to master tatau. Liufau’s mentors were of the Su’a Sulu’ape.

Traditional tatau is done with handmade stick tools, a plain stick to tap with and a comb usually made from animal bone.

The process is a feat to accomplish, for both the person getting the tattoo and the artist because of the intense pain, risk of disease and many hours over days — or even months — to finish.

The same exact tools are sometimes used on multiple people so staph infection is common among those receiving the tattoo in Samoa, but to not finish would be dishonorable.

“You’re expected to survive your tatau, survive your infection, finish regardless of whatever. It brought me to tears, but I finished it,” Liufau said.

Tattoos done with traditional tools are very binding to the significance they hold and people may be intimidated to make the commitment to wear them, Liufau said.

Those who aren’t ready to devote themselves to all that a traditional tatau entails often get the contemporary version done with a machine.

Regardless of which type they get, many Pacific Islanders do it to honor their people, have pride in their culture and have a sense of identity.

For Nathin Mabale, a 21-year-old Cal State Fullerton student with a Filipino heritage, his Polynesian tribal tattoo began on his shoulder and grew

into a half sleeve after three sessions spanning over a year.

Growing up seeing his father and uncle’s Polynesian and Filipino tribal tattoos inspired Mabale to get his own.

“I kind of wanted something more about my heritage. Honestly, I know pretty much nothing about my Filipino side. I just grew into the American society,” Mabale said.

He, his brother and father have all gotten work done by the same person at Spiritual Journey Tattoo, a Filipino tattoo parlor in Stanton, California. However, the artist is no longer there.

Mabale told the artist he wanted his tattoo to represent him as a person and described himself as “tough on the outside, soft on the inside.” Based

(Continued on page 7)

## The Samoan Gospel Homecoming Singers

presents

# 3rd Annual Thanksgiving Concert

featuring

The Harvest Time Singers, Mose Katina, Praising Voices, Toe Tootoo, The Ponausia Family, Suva Bohanak, The Paaga Family, John & Dorothy Marsh, the Homecoming Singers Choir, and the Strings of Psalms of Calvary Temple AOG

### Featured Hymns

There Will Be Peace in the Valley, Sometimes Alleluia, Redemption Draweth Nigh, Mansion Over the Hilltop, Just a Little Talk with Jesus, Lead Me, I Go to the Rock, Iesu e, Se’i e Faatasi Mai...and much more



Wednesday, November 21, 2017

Governor Rex Lee Auditorium

Utulei, American Samoa

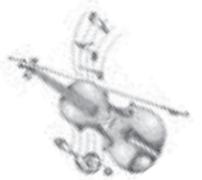
Doors Open at 6:00 p.m.

Admissions: FREE

For More Information Contact:

Vickie Haleck 258-8298 or

Poe Mageo 770-9119



## LOCAL COMMUNITIES LOOKING FORWARD TO PALOLO RISING THIS MONTH



October and November is the period of the annual rising/swarming of the *palolo* worm. As usual, local communities are expecting a harvest and an event for celebration. During the rising, many residents make their way to the reef early in the morning to await the spawning of *palolo* worms. Although it may vary, *palolo* rising usually occurs around the third-quarter moon in October and/or November or seven days after the full moon. This would put the *palolo* rising around Oct. 12 and Nov. 11.

The *palolo* worm is considered a seafood delicacy in the Samoan culture, and during the rising people come together to harvest and feast. During this period, the worms usually back up from their burrows and release their reproductive segments or ‘epitoke’ that contain their gametes into the water column. The epitoke is what actually is referred to as *palolo*. The epitoke upon release from the worms twirls upward to the water surface like a dancing noodle. It ‘swims’ upwards as it is attracted to light through its own sensor. As it rises to the water surface, it is collected in buckets and baskets using hand nets by the local communities. Blue-green epitoke indicates female and brown epitoke signifies male. As day breaks, the epitoke disintegrates and it releases the male and the female gametes. It is advised that people go out to the reef two to three nights before peak harvest dates (Oct. 12th and Nov. 11th) to check for early signs of *palolo* spawning.

The *palolo* rising is a classic example of synchronous (same time) mass spawning of a marine organism. The timing of the rising/swarming varies and suggests that other factors are involved than the lunar cycle. Other factors that may play a role in spawning include sea water temperature, tides, and wind. It is not known whether the quality or integrity of the coral reef habitat affects *palolo* rising. During the *palolo* rising, assigned staff of the Department of Marine and Wildlife will be conducting surveys and interviews on weight of catch per person to track annual trends in the amount of *palolo* released.

We kindly ask the public to please call Maria Vaofanua (mariavaofanua@hotmail.com) at 633-4465 ext. 241 to report any sightings of *palolo*.



## ▶ Turkey tails and mayo...

Continued from page 2

prices in the premium cuts of beef, pork and poultry typically lead to increased demand for turkey tails, exacerbating the rise in prices.

“Additionally, the regional supply of turkey tails has been somewhat restricted in recent months, as a result of bird flu outbreaks in areas that supply poultry to the South Pacific Islands.

“In our competitive economy, where market prices are largely set through a delicate balance of supply and demand, both the marginal increase in demand for turkey tails over the last few months, along with a decrease in the supply from producers over a similar period of time, prices rose to a level that is more consistent with market equilibrium,” he explained.

In the coming months, he said, it is anticipated that turkey tail prices will continue to rise on the back of increased transportation costs.

“Supply is expected to normalize, which should help to offset some of increased costs of transportation,” he added.

### MAYONNAISE

Regarding to the increased price of mayonnaise, Lafaele said the hike “was almost exclusively due to an increase in the cost of inputs to the producer. Specifically, the global price of commodities, such as soybeans and other ingredients used to produce mayonnaise have been on the rise. The increased costs to the producer is passed on to wholesale buyers, and eventually to retailers

and consumers.”

However he points to the rise in price of petroleum being the main factor.

“With the forecast increase in the price of Crude Oil over the next few years, it stands to reason that the prices of these commodities will also experience some upward pressure over the same period of time, though the extend of the pressure is unknown at this time,” he said.

### EGGS

Regarding the decline in eggs, Lafaele said the decrease could be attributed to a current over-supply of egg-producing chickens in the areas that provide the South Pacific region with fresh eggs.

“Interestingly, the supply of chickens being raised for meat is relatively low at this time, which has led to recent increases in the price of whole chickens,” he said. “This has created a quasi-paradox, in which the price of eggs is decreasing while the price of whole chickens is simultaneously increasing.”

“Because poultry, such as chicken, have relatively short gestation periods, and time to sexual maturity, the lopsided supply of egg-laying chickens and meat chickens is anticipated to begin to rebalance over the next several months, as producers execute revised breeding and culling plans,” he points out.

For more information on the BFI contact the DOC Statistics Division at 633-5155 or online

[www.doc.as.gov](http://www.doc.as.gov)

This Sunday, Nov. 12, 2017, image made from a video camera inside a Charley's Taxi shows escaped mental patient Randall Saito using a personal device inside a taxi in Honolulu, en route to Honolulu airport and a flight from Oahu to the neighboring island of Maui, then boarding another plane to San Jose, Calif. Saito on Sunday left the 202-bed Hawaii State Hospital outside Honolulu, where he has been committed for 36 years since being acquitted of murder by reason of insanity. Saito was captured in Stockton, Calif., Wednesday. (Read story page 4)

(Charley's Taxi via AP)



# KS MART

“Something for Everyone”

699-5241 • 699-4727



Happy Thanksgiving American Samoa!



## \$49.95

Stuffing, Turkey Gravy,  
Cranberry Sauce & Pumpkin  
Mini Pie

\*limited supply please preorder your turkeys now for Thanksgiving on Nov 23rd\*

## New Arrivals:

 <p><b>Lin Sugar</b></p> <p>1KG - SINGLE .99¢    25/1KG \$21.99 2KG - SINGLE \$2.10    6/2KG \$11.50</p>	 <p><b>Daia Detergent/Softener</b></p> <p>2.4 KG    SINGLE \$5.80    6/2.4KG \$30.99 3.9 KG    SINGLE \$9.30    4/3.9KG \$32.99 LIQUID 2L    SINGLE \$6.20    6/2L \$32.99</p>	 <p><b>Boom Detergent</b></p> <p>450G \$0.95    3KG \$5.25 900G \$1.69    400G \$0.85</p>	 <p><b>Bath Soap</b></p> <p>150G .50¢</p>
---	--	--	--

# ▶ Polynesian tattoos...

Continued from page 5

on that, his tattoo artist drew an alligator eye and centered the rest of the tattoo around it, using 50 patterns and sharp designs.

“With the traditional men’s malofie or the women’s malu, those are done with cultural expectations,” Liufau said. “The choice of designs is not so much per person, what the person wants or how we choose to decorate them, but all the designs reflect the different attributes that they’re expected to have within the culture.”

For machine tattoos, the designs are often fused from a knowledge of the different motifs in Samoan, Hawaiian, Maori and other Polynesian cultures, but many are pan-Pacific and commonly used in communities across the Pacific Ocean, Liufau said.

The tattoos vary a bit in appearance between these cultures because they depict the people’s lifestyle and cultural history, practices and responsibilities.

Because of colonization, missionaries and conversion to Christianity, many Polynesian Islanders lost much of the history of their tattoos, even after only one generation, but Samoa has been fortunate enough to not have had their tattoo history disrupted, Liufau said.

Recently within the Polynesian and Filipino community, there has been a revival of the Filipino Visayan tattoo, which is their traditional, anciently practiced tattoo done with the same tools as Samoan tatau.

Liufau thinks it would be fun to collaborate with the Filipino community and learn more about the specifics of their traditional tattoo process and ceremony, as they vary between the cultures.

Both forms of the Polynesian tattoo are special in meaning for the person and the tattoo artist, but Liufau finds finishing a tatau more gratifying.

Once the tattoo is finished, the artist gives the person a blessing, or sama. They rub them with coconut oil, break an egg on their head, remind them of their commitment to the responsibilities the tattoo represents and acknowledge them for the pain they went through.

“I think going through those moments is just priceless,” Liufau said.



Shoulder sleeve tattoo

[photo: Meghan Kliever / Daily Titan]



## Top Indonesia official escapes arrest by anti-graft police

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Indonesia’s anti-graft commission said Thursday it will declare the speaker of parliament a fugitive if he doesn’t turn himself in after being accused of involvement in the theft of \$170 million of public funds.

Local TV reported that Corruption Eradication Commission officials and paramilitary police went to Setya Novanto’s home late Wednesday night in a failed bid to arrest him and were met instead by his wife and lawyer. Commission spokesman Febri Diansyah said its law enforcement team is still searching for Novanto, who was once hailed by President Donald Trump as one of Indonesia’s most powerful men.

“We urge him to surrender,” Diansyah said in a text message to The Associated Press. “We’ll consider declaring him a fugitive if he is uncooperative.”

Anti-corruption police allege that a network of about 80 people, mostly officials and legislators, and several companies used the introduction of a \$440 million electronic identity card system in 2011 and 2012 to steal more than a third of the funds. Novanto, also chairman of the Golkar party, which is part of Indonesia’s governing coalition, has denied any wrongdoing.





**Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm**  
**Saturday 8:30 am - 12:00 pm**

**Located @ Pago Plaza**  
**cj.homeware@gmail.com**



**Veterans Discount**

## Outdoor Furniture & Lighting




Available Sizes: Super King | King | Queen | Super Single



**Sealy Posturepedic**

Whatever you do in bed, Sealy supports it!

**4 Types of Quality Pillows Available**

Contoured Memory Foam | Latex | Down Feather | Microfibre

Exclusive Distributor of the Pacific








# Leonardo da Vinci's Christ painting sells for record \$450M

NEW YORK (AP) — A painting of Christ by the Renaissance master Leonardo da Vinci sold for a record \$450 million (380 million euros) at auction on Wednesday, smashing previous records for artworks sold at auction or privately. The painting, “Salvator Mundi,” Latin for “Savior of the World,” is one of fewer than 20 paintings by Leonardo known to exist and the only one in private hands. It was sold by Christie’s auction house, which didn’t immediately identify the buyer. “Salvator Mundi” is a painting of the most iconic figure in the world by the most important artist of all time,” said Loic Gouzer, co-chairman of post-war and contemporary art at Christie’s. “The opportunity to bring this masterpiece to the market is an honor that comes around once in a lifetime.”

The highest price paid for a work of art at auction had been \$179 million (152 million euros), for Pablo Picasso’s painting “Women of Algiers (Version O)” in May 2015, also at Christie’s in New York. The highest known sale price for any artwork had been \$300 million (253 million euros), for Willem de Kooning’s painting “Interchange,” sold privately in September 2015 by the David Geffen Foundation to hedge fund manager Kenneth

C. Griffin. A backer of the “Salvator Mundi” auction had guaranteed a bid of at least \$100 million (85 million euros). The bidding opened at \$75 million and ran for 19 minutes. The price hit \$300 million about halfway through the bidding.

People in the auction house gallery applauded and cheered when the bidding reached \$300 million and when the hammer came down on the final bid, \$400 million. The record sale price of \$450 million includes the buyer’s premium, a fee paid by the winner to the auction house. The 26-inch-tall (66-centimeter-tall) Leonardo painting dates from around 1500 and shows Christ dressed in Renaissance-style robes, his right hand raised in blessing as his left hand holds a crystal sphere.

Its path from Leonardo’s workshop to the auction block at Christie’s was not smooth. Once owned by King Charles I of England, it disappeared from view until 1900, when it resurfaced and was acquired by a British collector. At that time it was attributed to a Leonardo disciple, rather than to the master himself. The painting was sold again in 1958 and then was acquired in 2005, badly damaged and partly painted over, by a consortium of art dealers who paid less than \$10,000 (8,445 euros).

Bidding representatives react after Leonardo da Vinci’s “Salvator Mundi” sold for \$400 million at Christie’s, Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2017, in New York.

(AP Photo/Julie Jacobson)



## American Samoa Government OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

### REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) RFQ-009-2018

Issuance Date: November 13, 2017

Date & Time Due: December 13, 2017

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

The American Samoa Government (ASG) issues a Request For Qualification (RFQ) from qualified firms to provide:

**“Professional Services to Provide Specifications for ARFF Vehicles for Fitiuta & Ofu Airport”**

**Submission**

Original and five copies of the Qualifications must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: “RFQ: Professional Services to Provide Specifications for ARFF Vehicles for Fitiuta & Ofu Airport.” Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), December 13, 2017:

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

Any qualifications 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 RFQ Scope of Work outlining the qualification requirements is available at the Office of Procurement, Tafuna, American Samoa, during normal working hours.

**Review**

Request for Qualification data will be thoroughly reviewed by an appointed Source Evaluation Board under the auspices of the Chief Procurement, 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, as may be in the best interest of the American Samoa Government or the Public.

**DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON**  
Chief Procurement Officer

Equal Opportunity Employer / Affirmative Action

## Quick-thinking school staff saved kids at California school

RANCHO TEHAMA RESERVE, Calif. (AP) — A school secretary at a tiny elementary school rushed out to shoo children inside. A custodian swooped in, yelling “get into the classrooms,” at kids in the play yard.

Inside Rancho Tehama Elementary School, children and some parents huddled under desks as bullets riddled the tan and teal portable classrooms.

“I didn’t know what was happening and this boy was like, ‘Get down, get down!’ He did not want some people to get hurt,” 6-year-old Aileen Favela recalled Wednesday.

She was in her class with about 15 first- and second-graders when shots came through the window Tuesday during the shooting rampage by 44-year-old Kevin Neal. Favela ducked under her desk as she heard shots — “like a lot.”

Randy Morehouse, the district’s maintenance and operations head, said Neal “tried and tried and tried and tried to get into the kindergarten door,” but it was locked.

Neal then went to the back side of the cafeteria and reloaded, Morehouse said. He

came onto the playground and shot at a passing car before running back to his vehicle and driving off.

Authorities credited the quick action of school personnel, who jumped into lockdown mode, for saving dozens of students at the school with a student population of about 100 students 130 miles north of Sacramento.

“I really, truly believe we would have had a horrific bloodbath at that school if that school hadn’t taken the action that it did,” Assistant Tehama County Sheriff Phil Johnston said.

Corning Union Elementary School District Superintendent Richard Fitzpatrick said there were many heroics during Tuesday’s incident, starting with the school secretary quickly recognizing the threat.

He said it “made all the difference between 100 kids being around today and dozens being shot or killed.” One student was injured.

Fitzpatrick said he met with teachers, aides and staff Wednesday. He said they did not want to talk to reporters and did not want their names made public.

# Samoa Airways debuts in Auckland

With the Auckland-Faleolo international route generating revenues in the neighborhood of NZ\$50-to NZ \$60 million a year, government is heedful that Samoa Airways has a fighting chance to survive the grueling dog eat dog international air services competition.

The promising lucrative revenues coupled with being double-crossed by its partners in the airline industry have prompted government to say enough is enough.

It has also incited confidence in government to launch its rebranded Samoa Airways (formerly Polynesian Airlines) in the international arena zooming in to the Faleolo-Auckland route. At the exclusive all Samoan community event at the Maota o Samoa's Consulate Office in Mangere Auckland Tuesday evening to launch the rebranded Samoa Airways return to the international limelight, Prime Minister Tuilaepa Lufesi said. Sailele Malielegaoi reassured Samoans in New Zealand and worldwide that the buck stops here with the return of Samoa Airways as the country's flag carrier. And he reminisced on past shortcomings by the national carrier and the lessons by government.

"We will no longer be taken for a ride when it comes to affordable airfares for our people to commute," reaffirms the Prime Minister.

"Our past shortcomings are regrettable and your government has learned a treasure to come to the conclusion that the fate of our national carriers is in our hands," continued the Prime Minister.

"But for Samoa Airways to survive, it's a must for us to clean up our act. "Samoa Airways will operate on cash up front basis, (similar to pre-paid cash power and mobile phone credit systems) without exceptions.

"We have learned from past experiences that giving credit to our Men of the Cloth to fly fundraising groups to New Zealand and even MPs to fly supporters overseas were the demise of our the old airline. Rest assured when I say this, that practice of the old will no longer be accepted."

On that note, the Prime Minister is calling on his countrymen and women to support Samoa Airways to survive.

"Samoa Airways represents more than just tourists who can afford to pay airfares to visit Samoa and inject fresh cash into

our economy.

"It translates to food on the table for handicraft vendors, taxi and bus drivers, farmers, accommodation stakeholders and a range of our tourism service providers not to mention new employment for hundreds of school graduates," he added, noting that tourism revenues is the main of Samoa's economy.

A few hiccups did happen during the inaugural flight out of New Zealand — one is that boarding passes were handwritten, which led Samoa Airways' General Manager Seiuli Alvin Tuala to say in answer to criticism that "Rome was not built overnight".

He said, "It's a teething problem and it's being dealt with. We should alleviate the setback as soon as possible and remove any inconvenience to our passengers and travelling public."

But what is important is that Samoa has an airline of her own to be proud of, Seiuli added. "This is your airline and we must appreciate that sense of ownership that Samoa Airways is 150% Samoan and for Samoans. "We deeply need your support and patience," the GM said. (Source: Samoa Press Secretariat)



Debris from a collapsed wall that destroyed a vehicle is scattered in front of a kindergarten after an earthquake in Pohang, South Korea, Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2017. A 5.4-magnitude earthquake struck off South Korea's southeastern coast Wednesday afternoon, but no casualties were immediately reported. (Kim Jun-beom/Yonhap via AP)

## Quake in South Korea left 1,500 homeless, dozens injured

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A 5.4 magnitude earthquake that was South Korea's second-strongest in decades damaged infrastructure, injured dozens of people and left about 1,500 homeless, officials said Thursday. No deaths have been reported since the quake rattled the southeastern coastal region around the port city of Pohang on Wednesday afternoon.

As of Thursday morning, 1,536 people had been forced to evacuate their homes and 57 people were injured, the Ministry of the Interior and Safety said in a statement.

More than 1,000 houses and dozens of other buildings and cars were damaged or destroyed, and cracks and other damage were found in military facilities, bridges, port facilities and water supply facilities. Media images showed crumbled walls piled on damaged cars, broken windows and cracks in buildings.

The quake also forced the education ministry to put off

the university entrance exam for one week because some buildings chosen as test venues had cracks and students in the southeastern region were displaced from their homes and complained of anxieties. The annual test administered by the government is a huge national event in South Korea, where diplomas from top colleges often guarantee better jobs and spouses. It's the second-strongest quake in South Korea since the country officially began monitoring them in 1978. The biggest quake occurred in September 2016, when a 5.8 magnitude occurred near the ancient city of Gyeongju, which is close to Pohang. That quake also caused injuries but no deaths.

South Korea's state-run Korea Meteorological Administration said the epicenter of Wednesday's quake was inside Pohang while the U.S. Geological Survey said it was centered about 9.3 kilometers (5.8 miles) northwest of the port city.



Samoa's delegation receiving the traditional Maori welcome to Auckland.

Pictured are Prime Minister Tuilaepa Lufesi, Cabinet Minister of Polynesian Airlines Lautafi Fio Sela, Board Chairman Feesago Fepulea'i, Board Members - General Manager Seiuli Alvin Tuala, AG Lemalu Herman Retzlaff, CEOs Agafili Shem Leo Prime Minister and Cabinet, Samoa Tourism Authority Papalii Sonya Hunter, STA Board Chairperson Adele Kruse, Samoa's head of mission to New Zealand; and High Commissioner Leasi Papalii Tommy Scanlan.

[courtesy photo]

## Asian stocks, oil prices steady

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Asian stock markets were mostly firm on Thursday and oil prices were steady, despite a second straight day of losses on Wall Street overnight. But analysts said it was too early to say risk sentiment was back after a day of heavy losses in Asia. Other than on-going worries about the prospect of the U.S. tax reform plan and the pace of the Federal Reserve's rate hike, there were little market-moving headlines. KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 rose 0.8 percent to

22,210.45 and South Korea's Kospi advanced 0.5 percent to 2,531.74. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index gained 0.4 percent to 28,979.81. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 added 0.2 percent to 5,943.50. But China's Shanghai Composite Index fell 0.2 percent to 3,395.46. Stocks in Southeast Asia were mostly higher. ANALYST'S VIEW: While the Federal Reserve's rate hike in December is "a done deal," Rob Carnell, head of research, Asia, at ING, said in a daily commentary that the latest share price declines and

lower commodity prices "raise worries about growth and the pace of tightening in 2018."

FED WATCH: Analysts said the U.S. retail sales data and consumer prices figures gave a green light to the Fed to raise rates next month. U.S. retail sales rose 0.2 percent in October, a healthy rate, and consumer prices rose 0.1 percent last month.

WALL STREET: U.S. stock markets finished lower on Wednesday, led by a decline in tech stocks. The Standard & Poor's 500.

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### Skilled Carpenters & Foremen

LDS Project, Pago Pago

#### Skilled Carpenter

- No less than 5 years experience in Commercial Construction as Carpenter
- Qualifications & Reference letters is a Bonus!
- Must have worked previously for high profile commercial companies & Referees from reputable companies
- Able to read the drawings & specifications is a Bonus!
- Willing to match for a better rate based on references



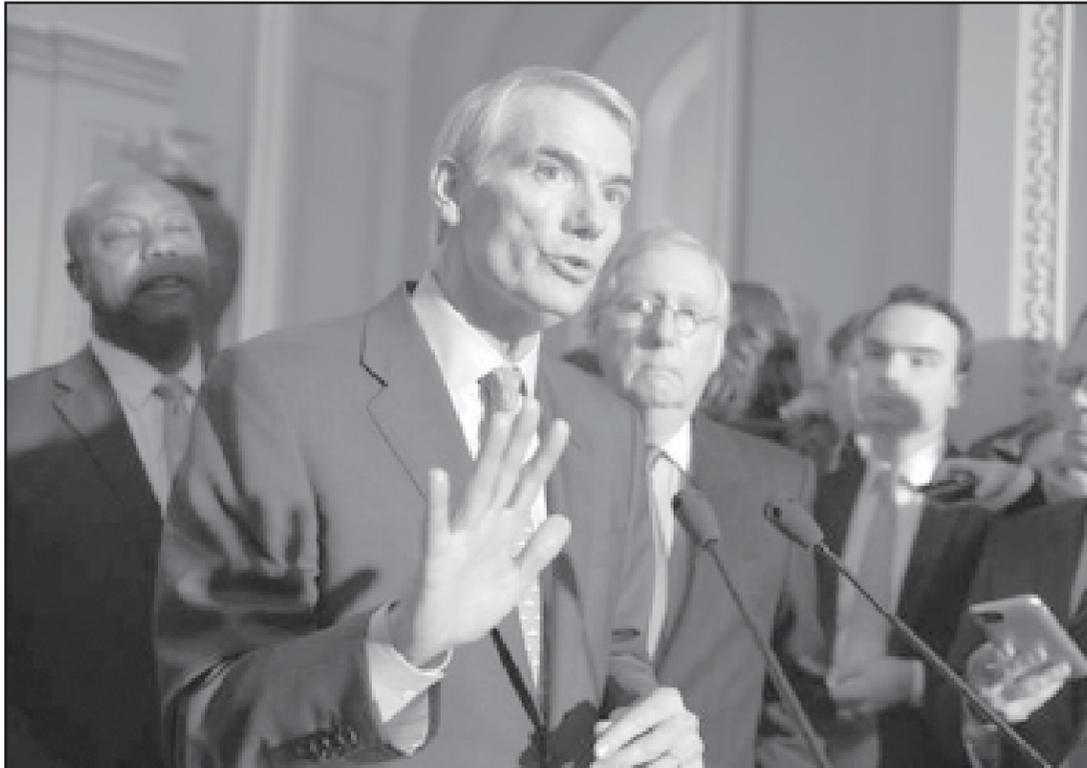
Craig Construction Corporation, American Samoa

Email all applications to [jashua.craigconstruction@gmail.com](mailto:jashua.craigconstruction@gmail.com)  
Qualifications & References must be included  
(Contact: Jashua Aiono 256-5943)



# IN THE COMMUNITY

(Photos: Leua)



Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, a member of the Senate Finance Committee, joins Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., left, and Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., to talk about work on overhauling the nation's tax code, on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

## 1st GOP senator opposes tax bill in early sign of problems

WASHINGTON (AP) — Wisconsin's Ron Johnson on Wednesday became the first Republican senator to say he opposes his party's tax bill, signaling potential problems for GOP leaders. Passage of a similar package seemed certain Thursday in the House, where a handful of dissidents conceded they expected to be steamrolled by a GOP frantic to claim its first major legislative victory of the year.

Eager to act before opposition groups could sow doubts among the rank-and-file, Republican leaders were anxious to hand Donald Trump the first crowning bill of his presidency by Christmas. Trump planned to visit House GOP lawmakers Thursday at the Capitol in what seemed likely to be a pep rally, not a rescue mission.

"Big vote tomorrow in the House. Tax cuts are getting close!" Trump enthused in a tweet Wednesday. "Why are Democrats fighting massive tax cuts for the middle class and business (jobs)? The reason: Obstruction and Delay!"

The two chambers' plans would slash the 35 percent corporate tax rate to 20 percent, trim personal income tax rates and diminish some deductions and credits — while adding nearly \$1.5 trillion to the coming decade's federal deficits. Republicans promised tax breaks for millions of families and companies left with more money to produce more jobs.

"It represents a bold path forward that will allow us as a nation to break out of the slow-growth status quo once and for all," said House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady, R-Texas, as his chamber debated the bill.

Democrats said the measures would bestow the bulk of their benefits on higher earners and corporations. In the Senate Finance Committee, they focused their attacks on two provisions designed by Republicans to save money.

One would repeal President Barack Obama's health law requirement that people buy coverage or pay a fine, a move the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office projects would result in 13 million more uninsured people by 2027. The other would end the personal income tax cuts in 2026 while keeping the corporate reductions permanent.

"We should be working together to find ways to cut taxes for hardworking middle-class families, not taking health care away from millions of people just to give huge tax cuts to the largest corporations," said Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla.

The Republican-led Finance panel was on track to approve its proposal by week's end. It shut down Democrats' initial efforts Wednesday to modify the Senate bill, voting along party lines against amendments aimed at protecting health

care coverage for veterans or people with disabilities, mental illness or opioid addiction if the insurance mandate is ended.

But with GOP leaders hoping for full Senate passage early next month, concerns by Johnson and perhaps others would have to be addressed.

Republicans controlling the Senate 52-48 can approve the legislation with just 50 votes, plus tie-breaking support from Vice President Mike Pence. With solid Democratic opposition likely, they can lose just two GOP votes.

Besides Johnson, Republican Sens. Susan Collins of Maine, Jeff Flake of Arizona and Bob Corker of Tennessee have yet to commit to backing the tax measure.

Johnson complained the bills were more generous to publicly traded corporations than to so-called pass-through entities. Those are millions of partnerships and specially organized corporations whose owners pay levies using individual, not corporate, tax rates. While details of the House and Senate bills differ, many pass-through owners would owe more than 20 percent in taxes for much of their income.

"These businesses truly are the engines of innovation and job creation throughout our economy, and they should not be left behind," Johnson said. But he left the door open to changes "so I can support the final version."

A small group of House Republicans largely from New York and New Jersey was rebelling because the House plan would erase tax deductions for state and local income and sales taxes and limit property tax deductions to \$10,000.

Their numbers seemed insufficient to derail the bill. Asked if they could stop it, Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., shook his head and said, "I don't think so."

Repealing the "Obamacare" individual mandate would save \$338 billion over the coming decade because fewer people would be pressured into getting government-paid coverage like Medicaid. Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, used the savings to make his bill's personal tax reductions modestly more generous.

Ending the bill's personal income tax cuts in 2026, derided by Democrats as a gimmick, was designed to pare the bill's long-term costs. Legislation cannot boost budget deficits after 10 years if it is to qualify for Senate procedures barring bill-killing filibusters. Those delays take 60 votes to block, numbers Republicans lack.

"To pay for these handouts to multinational corporations, millions of Americans are going to lose their health care," said Sen. Ron Wyden of Oregon, top Democrat on the Finance panel.





Standing between attorney Timothy Zerillo and attorney Amy Fairfield, Anthony Sanborn is overcome with emotion while addressing Justice Joyce Wheeler after reaching an agreement with the state on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2017 that allowed him to walk out of court a free man. Sanborn, who was convicted of the 1989 murder of 16-year-old Jessica Briggs, served 27 years of his 70-year sentence. He and the state reached a deal Wednesday after a weeks-long post-conviction review in which his attorneys questioned the integrity of the police investigation, and several witnesses recanted. At right are Assistant Attorneys General Paul Rucha and Meg Elam. (Gregory Rec/Portland Press Herald via AP)

# Review of old court cases continues in Ferguson

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP) — Officials in Ferguson, Missouri, are still poring over old municipal court cases trying to determine which should be dismissed as part of an agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice to reform police and court practices, residents were told Wednesday.

About 90 people showed up for the Justice Department's update on a consent agreement with the St. Louis suburb where Michael Brown died in a 2014 police shooting that was a catalyst for the national Black Lives Matter movement.

Several residents questioned the progress being made toward handling the backlog of municipal court cases. They urged officials to speed up the review.

"People's lives are getting caught up by a simple case of running a stop sign," Alicia Street, 32, said.

Ferguson officials are looking at pre-2014 cases. They said they don't know how long the review of cases will take.

City Manager De'Carlon Seewood said more than 10,000 old cases are still being reviewed by the city prosecutor with plans to dismiss charges for minor infractions such as traffic violations.

Justice Department attorney Jude Volek said 32,000 cases have previously been dismissed. Many were for failure to appear in court — a citation often criticized as one that helps the city of about 20,000 residents generate revenue largely on the backs of poor and minority residents.

"We recognize some of the urgency to get through these

cases," another Justice Department attorney, Sharon Brett, said. "We understand what's at stake here."

The meeting was held at the Ferguson Community Empowerment Center, which opened over the summer on property where a QuikTrip convenience store was burned during rioting after Brown's death. QuikTrip demolished the building and donated the site to the Urban League, which now runs a job training and placement service there.

Brown, a black, unarmed 18-year-old, was fatally shot by a white Ferguson officer, Darren Wilson, on Aug. 9, 2014. The shooting led to months of protests that sometimes turned violent. A St. Louis County grand jury declined to indict Wilson, and the Justice Department opted against civil rights charges. Wilson resigned in November 2014.

The protests prompted the Justice Department to scrutinize Ferguson, uncovering troubling instances of racial bias in its court system and law enforcement. The Justice Department filed a civil rights lawsuit that was settled last year in the consent agreement overseen by a federal judge.

In the more than three years since the shooting, Ferguson — where about two-thirds of the residents are black — has replaced its white city manager, police chief and municipal judge with black men. The police force remains largely white, though, partly because Ferguson still struggles to attract qualified minority appli-

cants. Authorities have said that stems from other departments offering better pay.

Brett, the Justice Department attorney, said the emphasis now is on developing policies in three areas: recruitment, use of police cameras and use of force.

"We're really excited about the progress that's being made, mindful of a lot of work that's still left to be done," said Volek, the other Justice Department attorney.

## Matai Restaurant

Special!! SUNDAY ONLY

\$150 MENU FOR 10 PEOPLE INCLUDING DRINKS

699-0202

Mon - Sat 9:00am - 10:00pm  
Sunday 9:00am - 2:00pm



## MegaBugs

PEST CONTROL

Ph. 252-2964

Location: Room 209, Tedi of Samoa - Fagatogo

Office Hrs. 9am to 2pm

(684) 633-0179

Family Owned & Operated since 1998. We are American Samoa's only full time Pest Control Company. We provide a very affordable and friendly service.

Do you have ROACH, ANT, FLEAS, TICKS, TERMITE, RATS, AND OTHER PEST PROBLEMS?

- Call for a FREE PEST EVALUATION OR NO OBLIGATION INSPECTION
- We do GROUND TERMITE TREATMENT & CONSTRUCTION PRE\_TREATMENTS
- We provide services for Houses, Boats, Cars, Offices, Warehouses, Storage, Restaurants, Furniture pieces, stores and cafeteria and health clinics.



## WE'RE HIRING!

Position: MERCHANDISING REP

### Responsibilities:

- Daily stock merchandising for store shelves
- Set up and maintenance of displays
- Point of Sale (bin) assembly
- Following planograms
- Communicating with store staff and owners
- Daily detailed reporting (emails & forms)

### Requirements:

- Valid ID & Social Security
- Must have a valid Driver's License (Private/Commercial)
- Must be computer literate
- Honest & Reliable
- Organized & Enthusiastic
- Self-Motivated & Friendly
- Able to work unsupervised

Apply in person at our office in Tafuna, Fagaima Road across Hong Laundromat. Only applicants required for interview will be contacted after reviewing applications.

Please call 699-8086 or 699-8297 for details on location only!



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
**American Samoa**  
Department of Health



# MOSQUITO ACTION DAY

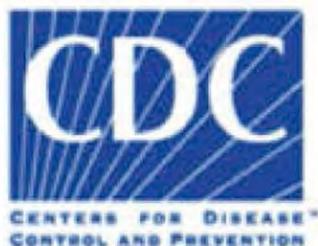
## NOVEMBER 18, 2017

## MALAE O LE TALU, FAGATOGO 8:00AM - 12 NOON

# MOSQUITO ACTION DAY EVENTS

- **Registration**
- **Program Booths**
- **Display and Distribution of Zika, Dengue and Chikungunya materials (shirts & brochures)**
- **Raffle - Turkey Give-away**
- **Free hot dogs/burgers and chips**
- **Music for your entertainment**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DIVISION HOTLINE AT 699-8690.



Sponsored by DOH, Emergency Preparedness & Response Division, CDC and ASPR.

# Tele fualaau fa'asaina, tupe ma fana na maua osofaiga a Leoleo

tusia Ausage Fausia

Ua fa'amaonia mai e le Komesina le Tumau o le Matagaluega o Leoleo, le maua i le osofaiga a Leoleo i le vaiaso na te'a nei o se vaega tele o fualaau fa'asaina, a'upega ma pulu fana, fa'apea ai ma se tinoitupe tele ina ua osofa'i e Leoleo ni fale se 2 i lalo o se poloaiga mai le Fa'amasinoga.

Na fa'amaonia mai e le afioga a Falana'ipupu Taase Sagapolutele i le Samoa News e fa'apea, e to'atolu ni ali'i ua taofia ma molia e le malo, e mafua mai i le osofaiga sa faia e Leoleo Suesue mai le Vaega a le Vice & Narcotics Units i le vavea o le aso Tofi o le vaiaso na te'a nei i Taputimu ma Alofau.

O lea osofaiga e pei ona saunoa Falana'ipupu, o le taunuga lea o se suesuega ua leva ona fa'agasolo mai a le Vaega o Leoleo Suesue, e fa'atatau i le fa'afitauli o fualaau fa'asaina o lo o gaosia ma fa'atau solo i totonu o le atunu'u.

O le mae'a ai ona fa'amautu e Leoleo o mau fa'amaonia o le latou suesuega, na talosagaina ai loa se poloaiga mai le Fa'amasinoga e sailia ai fale o i latou ua masalomia i leni solitulafono.

Na muamua osofa'i e Leoleo

se fale i Taputimu, ma taofia mai ai se ali'i se to'atasi, o ia lea o Cody Christian Wood. I lea osofaiga, e le gata sa maua ai vaega o fualaau fa'asaina, ae sa maua ai fo'i ma se tinoitupe e tusa ma le \$54,003, lea e aofia ai le \$495 sa maua i le tino o Wood.

O le fale na osofa'i e Leoleo i Alofau, na taofia mai ai le ali'i o Steve Tuatoo, o se ali'i sa avea ma Leoleo a le malo, sa ia umia fo'i le tulaga o le Satini. O le ali'i lona tolu na taofia e Leoleo i leni osofaiga, o se ali'i ave taxi la'u pasese i luga o le alatele, o ia lea o Lemalie Taisia.

O isi mea na maua i le osofaiga e aofia ai ni fana se tolu, le ituaiga o le 12 shot gun; 357mm, ma le ituaiga o le ballet shotgun. O ia fana na maua ua mae'a ona utu i pulufana. Sa maua ai fo'i e Leoleo ututau e 144 o le fana o le 357mm, faapea ai ma le anoanoa'i o meatotino a tagata eseese o le atunu'u sa masalomia le gaioia ae ave e fa'atau mai ai fualaau fa'asaina.

O vaega o le pauta faasaina o le aisa sa maua i leni osofaiga, e tusa lona tau ma le \$50,000 i le \$55,000, ae o mariuana sa maua, e tusa lona tau ma le

(Faaauau itulau 15)



O se va'iga i nisi o le fanau o lo'o tau'avea mataupu fa'apisinisi i le Kolisi Tu'ufa'atasi a Amerika Samoa. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

# TSM MART

## THANKSGIVING

### Specials

CHICKEN LEG 20LB.....	\$12.50/cs	TURKEY WING.....	\$11.15/lb	OIL 5 GAL.....	\$24.75/pc	DIAMOND RICE - 10 LB .....	\$6.55/pc
SAUSAGE 10LB.....	\$12.50/cs	PORK BUTT .....	\$1.79/lb	ICE CREAM - 3 GAL .....	\$22.99/pc	DIAMOND RICE - 5 LB .....	\$3.55/pc
BONELESS BEEF .....	\$2.99/lb	PORK RIBS.....	\$1.25/lb	SF FLOUR - 2 LB .....	\$1.05/pc	DIAMOND RICE - 25 LB .....	\$13.95/pc
LAMB FLAP.....	\$3.59/lb	SHRIMP 3-40 PDT ON - 2LB .....	\$12.25/pk	SF FLOUR - 5 LB .....	\$2.20/pc	DIAMOND RICE - 15 LB .....	\$6.55/pc
LAMB NECK.....	\$2.50/lb	WHOLE TURKEY .....	\$1.99/lb	SF FLOUR - 10 LB .....	\$4.35/pc	RFC SPECIAL BLEND - 40LB .....	\$20.95/pc
SHRIMP 16-20 PDT ON - 2LB .....	\$16.50/pk	EGG- MEDIUM .....	\$1.59/dz	SF OIL - 24 OZ .....	\$1.45/pc	RFC SPECIAL BLEND - 20LB .....	\$9.99/pc
SWAII FILLET.....	\$2.65/lb	SUGAR 1/2/4KG .....	\$19.75/ble	SF OIL - 40 OZ .....	\$2.25/pc	ARMOUR SAUSAGE - 9.25 OZ.....	\$1.99/pc
BEEF BACK RIB .....	\$1.35/lb	BIGLOAF .....	\$23.95/ble	SF OIL - 64 OZ .....	\$3.55/pc	ARMOUR SAUSAGE - 4.6 OZ.....	\$.80/pc
PORK BANGER.....	\$14.50/pk	SMART MILK .....	\$9.99/cs	SF OIL - 128 OZ .....	\$7.10/pc	STARKIST EATWELL TUNA 12/5 OZ.....	\$13.95

Happy Thanksgiving, American Samoa

PO Box 4487, Pago Pago, AS 96799  
Ph: 684-699-6312





“Mana’omia ona mua’i talitonu atoatoa Ta’ita’i i le Atua ma lona mana, e fa’auia mai ai manuia mo ona tagata lautele. Aua o le fe’au e aumaia e le Atua e uia mai ona ta’ita’i ua talitonu ma fa’atuatua ia te Ia, ona fa’ao’o mai ai lea i ona tagata. E afua mai mauga manuia o le nu’u!” O le mau lena o le ta’ita’iga a le Congress na toe afea ai le tatou atunu’u ma faia le fa’atasiga i le taeao o le aso Gafua i le Naumati Room, Tradewinds Hotel. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

# Fa’atasiga fa’apitoa a matua ma fanau tau’avea kosi pisinisi 2017

tusia: *Leua Aiono Frost*

Ao le’i o’o mai le taimi o fa’au’uga o le Tau Malulu (Winter Graduation), ma ua tapena fo’i fanau uma e a’o’oga ma tau’avea kosi fa’apisinisi i le tatou Kolisi Tu’ufa’atasi a Amerika ia ausia maka lelei e fa’au’u mai ai, ua fa’atasia i latou ma latou faia’oga fa’apea ma le vasega o matua, ae maise o le Fa’aululuga o le Kolisi, le Peresetele o Dr. Rosevonne Pato.

O le latou Asosi ua fa’aigoaina o le BAOA - Business Ambassadors of ASCC, ma sa latou vala’auina matua ina ia auai i se fa’atasiga fa’apitoa e fa’amalamalama ai e Faia’oga Pisinisi e to’atolu - Dr. Faofua Va’apu’u Fa’ato’afe, Professor Lam Yuen ma Profesor Taua’i - tulaga o lo’o togia ai mataupu tau’ave a le fanau.

Lona lua o le va’aiga lautele i le olaga a’oa’o ina fa’apitoa o fanau e tau’avea kosi fa’apisinisi, e ao ina la’ei sa’o i la’ei e talafeagai ma le a’oa’oga ae maise o le tofi “Faipisinisi” pe faigaluega i pisinisi.

O le vaega lona tolu o le amio ia matua sa’o ona fa’atulaga, e leai ni ta’aloga e auai ai, ae tatau ona lava suesuega e tausa’ilia ai maka mauululuga e pasi ai.

Afai e i ai se tasi e i ai se C- i lona le kuata mulimuli o lana a’oga, e le fa’au’u, ae toe nofo e fa’aleleia lona lea maka i le isi afa tausaga fa’ato’a fa’au’u ai.

Aisea e afua ai ona mata’alia faia’oga o lea itu o le Kolisi? Ona o le tulaga ma le va i fafo i nisi Iunivesite ma Kolisi e filifili le fanau a’oga e tau’avea ai ni a latou kosi mo fa’aailoga mauululuga.

Ia le toe kiki mai e le Kolisi i fafo latou tusi talosaga mo avanoa e a’oga ai, aua e mauululuga lona togia lena.

“E tatau fo’i i fanau e tauavea kosi fa’apisinisi ona fa’ataua tu ma agaifanua a nisi atunu’u o le lalolagi, aua e le mailoa lou alu atu i na malo e fa’afetaua’i i ai ni oloa, pe fa’afeso’ota’ia i ai ni au maketi e fia maua mo lau pisinisi, ae ua e malamalama lelei i tu ma agaifanua e fa’afaigofie ai lau sailiga po’o lou nofo ai i na malo,” o se toe talanoa lea a Dr Fa’atoafe i matua.

O avanoa fo’i sa tu’uina i faia’oga ta’ito’atasi ina ia fa’aailoa ni o latou taofi i matua, ia nofouta fo’i matua i le tulaga o a’oa’oga a fanau.

Na tula’i se tasi o tina ma fesiligia pe aisea e le avatua ai ni Ripoti o latou fanau e pei o fanau i a’oga mauululuga ma tulaga muamua.

O le tali mai faiaoga, “Ona o aia tatau a le fanau ua a’o’oga i Kolisi e taofia ia i latou lava latou togi, ua uma le pule a matua i le fanau ua i le Kolisi, ma ua i latou le faitalia pe avane o latou

togi i o latou matua, pe leai.”

O lea aiaiga o se aiaiga fa’a-aia tatau a le tamaititi a’oga ma e sapaia tele e le vaega o lo’o pulea Kolisi ma Iunivesite i le Iunaite Setete ma Teritori o Amerika.

O le isi fesili sa fa’afesiligia ai e matua faia’oga o le vaitau o le Summer lea e le mafai ona avea ai i si mataupu o totoe a latou fanau, ae tu’u lava se’ia o’o i le toe afa tausaga o le tausaga a’oga.

Na fa’aailoa atu e faia’oga, “Ona o le vaitau o le taumafanafana e pu’upu’u e le mafai ona a’oa’o ina ato ai le tele o mataupu tetele ma tele fo’i unite e maua ai e le fanau i na mataupu.

Afai ae faia i le summer na a’oga, e le taulia togi na i fafo i Iunivesite ma Kolisi pe a talosaga le fanau e fia fa’aauau latou a’oa’oga i fafo.”

Na fofola fo’i le Tusi o Fa’amaumauga a le vaega o A’oa’oga Fa’apisinisi, o lo’o fa’amaumau ai ata o le fanau sa tau’avea kosi fa’apisinisi, ma i’uga ua o’o i ai latou taumafaiga, ma galuega ua latou tutula’i mai ai i so’o se setete po’o teritori o a’o’oga ma alaalata’i ai.

“O lenei tasi e ta’i lua tausaga ma fa’afou ata o i ai i totonu, ua fa’amautu fo’i i nei fanau ina ia feso’ota’i mai ma fa’aailoa mai mea o i ai, po’o a latou tusipasi o lo’o tausaili, fa’ao’o mai ata o latou fa’au’uga, ao nisi o ata o latou galuega, ina ia fa’amaumau e avea ma pine o le galuega a lenei itu o le Kolisi Tu’ufa’atasi o Amerika Samoa,” o se tala lea a faiaoga.

Na va’aia fo’i le fiafia o le tama’ita’i peresetene o le Kolisi, ina ua ia va’aia, e le o fa’ataga faia le galuega a le Itu o Aoaoga Pisinisi, ua latou fa’amaumau suafa o fanau sa autova’a atu i le Kolisi Tuufaataasi.

Ua fa’aailoa mai, “Ua tusa ma le to’afa aiga ua saili mai iinei fa’amaumauga mo latou fanau sa mae’a a’oa’o ina i mataupu fa’apisinisi iinei, ina ia faia ai latou fa’amaumauga. O se mea sili lea ona matou fiafia ai.”

O lenei tausaga ua fa’aailoa mai, e to’alua sui sa a’o’oga atu i le Kolisi Tu’ufa’atasi i lea itu, ua sailia nei o la’ua tusi CPA, Peter Peko ma Jasmine Maiava.

E lauiloa lea vasega fa’apisinisi i le toniga matagofie e a’o’oga ai i aso ta’itasi, ae maise o le latou toniga mitiafu faikola lanu moana e lomua ai le latou fa’aailo, ae o le puletasi lanumoana fo’i mo latou sauniga fa’apitoa ma vala’aulia.

I le aso Faraile nei, o le malaga ese atu lo latou Pule o le Itu o Aoaoga Fa’apisinisi a le Kolisi mo togafitiga, ma ua latou avea lea fo’i mafutaga faatasi ma matua ma ta’ita’i o le Kolisi e fai ma se toe fa’atasiga a’o le’i tu’uva’a ese atu lo latou tina i le potu a’oga, Dr. Fa’atoafe.

## Tali le Kovana i fa’asea mai le aufai pisinisi fa’asaga i le malo

tusia *Ausage Fausia*

Na fa’aaoga e le ali’i kovana ia Lolo Matalasi Moliga i le fonotaga ma lana Kapeneta i le masina na te’a nei, e fa’aleo ai lana tali fa’asaga i fa’asea mai ni isi o le aufai pisinisi, lea o lo o tu’uaia ai le soona fa’a faigaluega e le malo o tagata faigaluega, ae le o lava ni tupe a le malo e totogi ai tagata faigaluega. Ona o lea tulaga ua manatu ai loa ni isi o le aufai pisinisi, ua avea le to’atele naua o tagata faigaluega ua faa faigaluega e le malo ma auala ua manaomia ai e le malo ni tupe se tele, ma i’u ina latou fuafua ai loa e si’i maualuga lafoga i oloa mo le aufai pisinisi. Saunoa Lolo e fa’apea, o le tiute o le malo o le fa’a faigaluega o tagata o le atunu’u.

E leai fo’i se Kovana e nofo i le nofoa o le ta’ita’i ae le mana’o e tatala le avanoa e maua ai e tagata o le atunu’u ni galuega. “Afai e i ai se kovana e sau i le nofoa ae le mana’o e fa’a faigaluega ni tagata se to’atele i le malo, e sili ai pe a toe fo’i i lona aiga e fai se isi galuega aoga,” o le saunoaga lea a le ali’i kovana i luma o le Kapeneta.

Saunoa Lolo e fa’apea, e tatau ona silafia e le aufaipisinisi ato ai ma le atunu’u ato, o lo o galulue malosai pea lava le malo e saili tupe e tautua ai le atunu’u.

“O le itu taua o lo o maua avanoa e fa’a faigaluega ai tagata ina ia maua tupe e tautua ai o latou aiga. O le mafua’aga lena e tiga lava ona soona fa’a faigaluega tagata a le Fono Faitulafono, ae le afaina lea tulaga, o le itu taua o lo o fa’a faiga-

luega nai o tatou tagata,” o le saunoaga lea a Lolo na tali e ai isi sui o le Kapeneta.

O le mataupu e fa’ataua i fa’asea mai pisinisi e fa’ataua i le soona fa’a faigaluegaina o tagata faigaluega e le malo, na aofia i le saunoaga a le kovana e fa’ataua i taumafaiga a le malo o lo o faia, ina ia si’itia ai le va feagai ma pisinisi aemaise ai isi vaega tumaoti a le malo.

Na fa’afetaia e le Kovana le itu aiga faiga malo o lo o i ai Amerika Samoa, le Faigamalo Faatemokarasi, e le gata e mafai ai e soo se tasi ona malamalama i gaioiga ma taualumaga a le malo o lo o fa’atautaia, ae faigofie ai fo’i ona amanaia aia tatau o tagata taitasi.

Sa ia fa’aailoa i lana Kapeneta le mafua’aga e ala ai ona i ai lana polokalame faapitoa, lea e tatala ai le avanoa i le au fa’asalalau ina ia oo atu e auai i fonotaga a le Kapeneta, ina ia mafai ai ona latou fa’asalalau ma ripoti atu i fafo mea o lo o tutupu i totonu o le faigamalo.

Saunoa Lolo e fa’apea, e tatau tele le tulaga lea i soo se faigamalo Faa Temokarasi, e le gata e fetufaa’i ai manatu o ta’ita’i, ae silafia ai e le atunu’u lautele mea o lo o tutupu i le malo.

Sa ia fautuaia lana Kapeneta ina ia fa’aauau pea ona galulue fa’atasi ma le aufai pisinisi, ona o i latou lea le isi vaega o le faigamalo fa’a Temokarasi, e amanaia fo’i la latou sao i soo se itu o le atina’e o le malo.

Sa ia taua atili e fa’apea, soo se faigamalo lava e lelei ma mautu lona atina’e, e mafua mai ona o lo o lagolago malosai atu i ai le aufai pisinisi .



FAIRNESS

We make an issue of it every day.

If you want to comment about our fairness, call Samoa News at 633-5599





O le tu ma aga a le Atunu'u tuaoi o Tonga - lea sa sa'asa'a ai le tama'ita'i talavou o Ms Taufusi e fa'aua ai agaifanua a le malo o Tonga. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

# IN THE COMMUNITY

(Photos: Leua)



## E LE O OE O SE SULI MONI

by Sam - Vaega 96

Ua fa'aitu alalua ali'i Leoleo o lo o tiute i le faitoto'a ae ulufale atu Meki ma lona aiga i totonu o le faitoto'a o le fale'aiga tele lea ua fa'amoemoe e faia ai le talisuaga ma le aiga o Laniselota. O le pito lava i luma o le faitoto'a i le itu e ulufale atu ai tagata, o lo o fa'apipi'i mai ai i le puipui ni ata se lua, e foliga mai o se ulugali'i, ma o ni tagata e foliga taualoga i laua e ala i o la ata o lo o fa'alauiloa i le pito i luma o le puipui e ulufale atu ai tagata asiasi. Ua fa'asolo le savaliga a le aiga mo le aga'i atu i totonu o le fale. O se fale e matua tele lava toe matagofie lona teuteuina. O le faitoto'a lona lua na ulufale atu ai le aiga, na fa'ateia ai i latou ina ua latou vaaia se ata tele o lo o fa'apipi'i i le puipui, ma o latou iloa ai, o le ata lea o le ali'i o Laneselota. O le taimi lava na vaaia ai e le aiga le ata, na latou tau fai tutu fa'atasi ai ae autilo le isi i le tasi, e foliga mai ua fa'ateia uma i latou i le vaaiga lea ua latou iloaina atu. "Ta'i manaia le ata o Laneselota o lo o fa'apipi'i mai i le puipui o le fale," o le tala musumusumu atu lea a le fafine o Lucy ma tago atu ua uu mau mai le lima o Ianeta, ae o le tama'ita'i o Ianeta i le taimi lea, ua tu ma tepa i tua i le auala na latou savavali mai ai, e foliga mai ua i ai se mea ua galo. "E i ai se mea ua fa'aletonu ua fa'apena ai lau tu ma lau

pupula," o le fesili fia malie lea a Meki i lona afafine, ae na tali Ianeta, "Afai o le ata lea o Laneselota, lona uiga o ata e lua o lo o pito i luma o le puipui na o tatou ui mai ai, o ata ia a ona matua pe afai e sa'o a'u." E leai se isi na gagana pe tali i le manatu o Ianeta, se'i vagana ai le toe fa'auau o le latou savaliga i le itu na fa'asino mai e le ali'i Leoleo latou te aga'i i ai. O le taimi na tatala ai e Meki le faitoto'a lona tolu o le a latou ulufale atu i le isi vaega o le fale, na latou vaaia ai se vaaiga uiga ese, i le matagofie o le teuteuina o le vaega lea o le fale'aiga, e foliga mai o le itu tonu lea o le a faia ai le talisuaga ma le aiga o Laneselota. Sa vaaia le pisi o tagata faigaluega ma o latou laei matagofie, ae fa'afuase'i loa lo latou vaaia o le aga'i ane o le ali'i o Laneselota ma ona laulou fiafia ma fa'afeiloa'i le aiga, ona fa'apea fo'i lea ona tali fiafia atu i ai le ulugali'i o Meki ma Lucy i le ofo alofa ane o le ali'i, seia oo atu loa ia Ianeta o lo o mulimuli atu i tua, ma ia fa'apea atu i ai, "Talofa i lau susuga a le Tama'ita'i Tusitala lauiloa i totonu o le malo." Na ata Ianeta ma ofo alofa atu fo'i i le ali'i o Laneselota. Na vave ona manatua e Ianeta le fugalaau o lo o uu i lona lima sa ia tauina mai i le togalaau o loo i le pito lava i luma o le faitoto'a. Ona ia fa'apea atu lea ia Lane-

selota, "O le fugalaau matagofie lenei sa ou tauina mai i luma o le pa laau e ulufale mai ai i le nofoaga nei, sa ou molimauina lona matagofie ma lona matala manaia mai, o lea na ou tauina ai e ave a o se mea alofa ou te ofo alofa atu ai ia te oe i lenei afiafi." E leai se mea na gata mai ai le fiafia o le ali'i o Laneselota ina ua ia vaaia ana malo fa'aalologia faapitoa, ma ua latou talanoa fiafia ai lava ma le ulugali'i ma Ianeta i luma o le laulau mo ni nai minute, ae fa'afuase'i loa ona fa'apea mai se leo, "O lea ua afio mai Laneselota II ma lona Faletua, tatou fa'afeiloa'i ia tei laua." O le taimi fo'i lea na vaaia ai le aga'i mai o le ulugali'i, o matua fo'i ia o Laneselota ma feiloa'i ma Ianeta ma lona aiga, ma ua pei ai le feiloaiga a aiga e lua o se mafutaga ua leva ona masani. Ina ua oo mai le fa'asologa o le fa'afeiloa'i a le Tina o Laneselota i le tama'ita'i o Ianeta, sa ia fusi le tama'ita'i ma ia fa'apea atu i ai, "Talofa Ianeta. Ae ou te lei feiloa'i atu ia te oe, ua ou iloaina uma tala e fa'atatau ia te oe, o taimi uma ma te fa'asoa ma talanoa ai ma Laneselota III, e le mapu lona fa'asoa mai o tala eseese uma e fa'atatau ia te oulua ma le lua masaniga, o le autu atoa fo'i lena o lenei feiloaiga, se'i o tatou feiloa'i ma mafuta fa'atasi ma oe ma ou matua."



### ► Tele fualaau fa'asaina...

Mai itulau 13

\$20,000 e oo atu i le \$25,000.

O le vaiaso nei lea na tau fai tutula'i uma ai i latou nei e to'atolu i luma o le fa'amasinoga mo a latou ulua'i iloilogaga, ma ua fa'atulaga ai nei le vaiaso fou e faia ai a latou iloilogaga autu.

E \$200,000 le vaega tupe lea ua faatulaga e tofogi ona fa'atoa mafai lea ona tatala le ali'i o Wood i tua, e \$25,000 lea ua fa'atulaga e tatala ai Tuatoo i tua, ae \$5,000 lea ua fa'atulaga e tatala ai le ali'i o Taisia i tua mai le toese i Tafuna.

Na taua e Falanaipupu le tulaga sa i ai lenei osofaiga tele a Leoleo, e le gata i le umi o le taimi na fuafua mai ai, ae o le galulue fa'atasi fo'i o Leoleo i le fa'atinoina o lenei galuega faigata.

Talu ona toe fa'avae mai le Vaega Suesue Faapitoa a Leoleo latou te sailia fualaau

fa'asaina, ua molimauina le to'atele o ni isi o Leoleo ua fa'amavae mai le galuega, e pei ona fa'amaonia mai e le Komesina o Leoleo ia Lei Sonny Thompson i se fa'atalatalanoaga ma le Samoa News i nai masina ua mavae atu.

Na taua e Le'i i le Samoa News i lea fa'atalatalanoaga e fa'apea, tusa lava poo ai e a'afia i lenei ituaiga solitulafono, o le taimi lava e faamaonia ai lona faatinoina o le solitulafono, o le taimi lava foi lena e taofia ai o ia ma molia i le tulafono.

O le ulua'i osofaiga tele lenei a Leoleo talu ona fa'aa'upegaina i latou i le masina na te'a nei, mo le fa'atinoina o le galuega e pei ona galulue ai i le ao ma le po, o le sailia lea o i latou o lo o fa'atinoina solitulafono eseese i le atunu'u.





In this Sept. 20, 2017, file photo, Sen. Richard Burr, R-N.C., listens on Capitol Hill in Washington. Burr and Sen. Thom Tillis issued statements Nov. 15, saying they will vote against Michael Dourson to serve as head of EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.

(AP Photo/Alex Brandon, File)

# GOP senators from NC come out against Trump EPA nominee

WASHINGTON (AP) — North Carolina's two Republican senators said Wednesday they oppose President Donald Trump's pick to oversee chemical safety at the Environmental Protection Agency, putting his nomination at serious risk.

Senators Richard Burr and Thom Tillis issued statements saying they will vote against Michael L. Dourson to serve as head of EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. Environmentalists and Senate Democrats have vehemently opposed Dourson, a toxicologist with close ties to the chemical industry. That means only one more Republican "no" vote would likely be needed to torpedo his nomination.

The White House and EPA did not respond to requests for comment Wednesday evening. Despite his lack of Senate confirmation, Dourson has already been working at the agency as a senior adviser to EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt.

The Associated Press reported in September that Dourson has for years accepted payments for criticizing studies that raised concerns about the safety of his clients' products, according to a review of financial records and his published work. Past corporate clients of Dourson and of a research group he ran include Dow Chemical Co., Koch Industries Inc. and Chevron Corp. His research has also been underwritten by industry trade and lobbying groups representing the makers of plastics, pesticides, processed foods and cigarettes.

Burr and Tillis, both of whom are considered reliably pro-business conservatives, cited Dourson's past work and worries among their home-state constituents about tainted drinking water in opposing his nomination. "Over the last several weeks, Senator Tillis has done his due diligence in reviewing Mr. Dourson's body of work," said statement said. "Senator Tillis still has serious concerns about his record and cannot support his nomination."

Marine veterans and their families blame decades-old contamination of wells at a North Carolina base with solvents and dry-cleaning chemicals for infant deaths and serious health problems that include cancer.

More recently, concerns have been raised about undisclosed discharges of chemicals used to manufacture Teflon and GoreTex into the Cape Fear River, a source of municipal drinking water for Wilmington and other southeastern North Carolina communities.

Dourson worked at the EPA for more than a decade, leaving in 1994 as the manager at a lab that assessed the health risks of exposure to chemicals. The

following year, he founded Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment, a private toxicity evaluation nonprofit organization that tests chemicals and produces reports on which chemicals are hazardous in what quantities.

Dourson's views toward industry are consistent with others Trump has selected as top federal regulators. Among them is EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, who in March overruled the findings of his agency's own scientists to reverse an effort to ban chlorpyrifos, one of the nation's most widely used pesticides.

Court records show Dourson and his work have often been called on when his corporate clients are seeking to fend off lawsuits. DuPont was accused of polluting a West Virginia town with Perfluorooctanoic acid, or PFOA, a chemical that the company's internal tests had long ago concluded were toxic. Corporate officials discussed hiring Dourson as part of a strategy to defend themselves.

Dourson led a team that found in 2002 that PFOA levels up to 150 parts per billion were safe, a level higher than was found in testing of 188 private wells and springs.

That was also well above the 1 part per billion Dupont's own scientists had concluded could be considered safe years before. The EPA now says that only 70 parts per trillion of PFOA are acceptable — or only 0.05 percent of what Dourson's team said was safe.

DuPont and a former subsidiary, Chemours Co., later paid \$761 million to settle 3,550 lawsuits stemming from its use of the chemical.

Chemours is the company whose spills of a chemical called GenX, a replacement for PFOA, are now at issue in North Carolina's Cape Fear River.

"I will not be supporting the nomination of Michael Dourson," said Burr, the state's senior senator. "With his record and our state's history of contamination at Camp Lejeune as well as the current GenX water issues in Wilmington, I am not confident he is the best choice for our country."

The stand was quickly praised by environmental advocacy groups that rarely find common ground with the two Tarheel Republicans.

"No one who has spent decades arguing on behalf of the chemical industry for weaker safety standards should be charged with reviewing chemicals for the EPA," said Scott Faber, a senior vice president for government affairs at the Environmental Working Group. "It would be like putting an arsonist in charge of the fire department."



## American Samoa Government OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

### REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) RFQ-018-2018

Issuance Date: November 13, 2017

Date & Time Due: December 13, 2017

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

The American Samoa Government (ASG) issues a Request For Qualification (RFQ) from qualified firms to provide:

**"Design of Pago Pago International Airport - Parking Lot Expansion"**

#### Submission

Original and five copies of the Qualifications must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: "RFQ: Design of Pago Pago International Airport - Parking Lot Expansion." Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), December 13, 2017:

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

Any qualifications 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

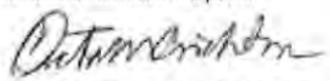
The RFQ Scope of Work outlining the qualification requirements is available at the Office of Procurement, Tafuna, American Samoa, during normal working hours.

#### Review

Request for Qualification data will be thoroughly reviewed by an appointed Source Evaluation Board under the auspices of the Chief Procurement, 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, as may be in the best interest of the American Samoa Government or the public.

  
**DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON**  
Chief Procurement Officer

Equal Opportunity Employer / Affirmative Action

# Texas sheriff concerned about truck with anti-Trump message

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston-area sheriff said Wednesday he's concerned the driver of a truck displaying an expletive filled message against President Donald Trump and those who voted for him is creating a situation that could lead to confrontations with people offended by the sign.

In a Facebook post, Fort Bend County Sheriff Troy Nehls said he discussed with a local prosecutor the possibility of a disorderly conduct charge — a misdemeanor — against the driver. But at a news conference later Wednesday, Nehls seemed to back down from that idea, saying he supports freedom of speech and acknowledging a 1971 Supreme Court case that overturned the conviction of a man for disturbing the peace for wearing a jacket with an expletive as part of an effort to protest the military draft and the Vietnam War. "We have not threatened anybody with arrest. We have not written any citations," Nehls said. "But I think now it would be a good time to have meaningful dialogue with that person and express the concerns out there regarding the language on the truck."

Authorities know who the driver is but have not yet spoken with the individual. Nehls did not name the driver at his news conference. The sheriff said he wants to avoid a situation where somebody could take offense to the sign on the truck, possibly leading to a confrontation.

"I don't want to see any-

# Police: Officer shoots Mississippi man who pulled knife

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Officials say a police officer in Mississippi shot and killed a man after he allegedly lunged at her with a knife.

Multiple media outlets report that Jackson police say the man approached the officer with his hands in his pockets about 5 p.m. Wednesday.

Police Chief Lee Vance says the officer twice told the man to take his hand out of his pockets. When he did, he pulled a 6-inch knife and lunged at the woman. Vance says that's when the officer shot the man in the chest.

The man was pronounced dead at an area hospital.

The officer was not injured. She has been placed on administrative leave with pay as a routine procedure.

The names and other details about the officer and the slain man have not been released.

thing happen to anyone," Nehls said. "With people's ... mindset today, that's the last thing we need, a breach of the peace."

Legal experts say the driver has a constitutionally protected right to express the message on the truck. "It would be dangerous to our freedoms if you start going that route where a sheriff has the right to start censoring people about what might be offensive," said Philip Hilder, a Houston criminal defense attorney and former federal prosecutor.

Hilder said he doesn't think Fort Bend County — located southwest of Houston — would have a case for disorderly conduct against the driver of the truck. "Is (the sign on the truck) tasteful? No. Is it dignified? No, but it's still a person's statement that is constitutionally protected," Hilder said.





GIVE THANKS WITH A SAMSUNG!

On our Superior 4G Plus network

 <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; align-items: center; gap: 5px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">SCREEN PROTECTOR \$10</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <b>SAMSUNG J1 MINI PRIME</b> </div> <div style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">\$149</div> <div style="border: 2px solid yellow; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">4G</div> </div>	 <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; align-items: center; gap: 5px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">SCREEN PROTECTOR \$10</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <b>SAMSUNG J2 PRIME</b> </div> <div style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">\$199</div> <div style="border: 2px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">3G</div> </div>	 <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; align-items: center; gap: 5px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">SCREEN PROTECTOR \$10</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <b>SAMSUNG GALAXY J3</b> </div> <div style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">\$229</div> <div style="border: 2px solid yellow; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">4G</div> </div>
 <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; align-items: center; gap: 5px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">SCREEN PROTECTOR \$5</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <b>SAMSUNG J5 LTE</b> </div> <div style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">\$265</div> <div style="border: 2px solid yellow; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">4G+</div> </div>	 <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; align-items: center; gap: 5px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">SCREEN PROTECTOR \$5</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <b>SAMSUNG J7 LTE</b> </div> <div style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">\$299</div> <div style="border: 2px solid yellow; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">4G+</div> </div>	 <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; align-items: center; gap: 5px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">SCREEN PROTECTOR \$5</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <b>SAMSUNG GALAXY S7</b> </div> <div style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">\$799</div> <div style="border: 2px solid yellow; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">4G+</div> </div>

[www.bluesky.as](http://www.bluesky.as)
f blueskyAmericanSamoa
@blueskyamsamoa

• Terms & Conditions Apply • While Supplies Last • Specials are limited to In-Store • Specials valid from November 01st - November 30th, 2017  
 • Special prices are subject to change • Bluesky reserves the right to change terms & conditions at any time • Call \*711 for more details





Members of the gay community and their supporters celebrate the result of a postal survey calling for gay marriage right in Sydney, Australia, Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2017. Australians supported gay marriage in a postal survey that ensures Parliament will consider legalizing same-sex weddings this year. (AP Photo/Rick Rycroft)

# Australian Senate debates gays rights in marriage bill

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — A gay lawmaker on Thursday started the Australian Parliament’s debate on legal recognition for same-sex marriage with an emotion speech in which he warned against winding back LGBT rights.

Dean Smith, a senator with the ruling conservative Liberal Party, has introduced a bill that would limit who could legally refuse to take part in same-sex marriage to churches, religious ministers and a new class of religious celebrants.

But many same-sex marriage opponents want amendments to broaden the range of businesses and individuals who can legally refuse to provide services such as cakes, flowers or a venue to same-sex couples and new free-speech protections for those who denounce gay marriage. Discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is illegal in Australia outside religious institutions.

“Let me be clear: Amendments that seek to address other issues, or which seek to deny gay and lesbian Australians the full rights, responsibilities and privileges that they already have will be strenuously opposed,” Smith told the Senate.

“Australians did not vote for equality before the law so that equality before the law that is already gained be stripped away,” he added.

Another Liberal Party senator, James Paterson, had won the support of lawmakers who oppose marriage reform with a proposed bill that offered “a limited right of conscientious objection to ensure no one is forced to participate in a same-sex wedding against their sincerely held beliefs.” It also would safeguard speaking out against gay marriage and would bar government agencies from acting against people who hold such views.

The Law Council Of Australia, the nation’s peak lawyers group, said Paterson’s bill “would encroach on Australia’s long-established anti-discrimination protections in a dangerous and unprecedented way.”

Paterson decided to not introduce his bill because senators favored Smith’s bill as the starting point for the debate, but many lawmakers will argue for contentious features of Paterson’s bill to be incorporated in Smith’s bill as amendments.

The Senate debate began a day after the release of a non-binding postal survey found that 62 percent of Australian respondents wanted reform. Prime Minister Malcom Turnbull wants gay marriage legislation rushed through by Dec. 7, the last day Parliament is to sit for the year.

The postal survey result sparked street parties across Australia overnight and most marriage equality opponents have accepted that the Parliament now has a clear mandate for change.

Cabinet Minister Christopher Pyne on Thursday suggested his Twitter account had been hacked overnight as a consequence of his vocal support for marriage equality.

Pyne said the hack explained his Twitter account liking a pornographic gay video.

“I was hacked overnight!” Pyne tweeted, adding that he was asleep at 2 a.m. local time when the “like” was posted.

“Someone tried to hack my social media yesterday. Maybe they are making mischief” over the postal survey, he said.

Smith came close to tears during his speech as he said he once thought Australia would never embrace marriage equality. “I never believed the day would come when my relationship would be judged by my country to be as meaningful and valued as any other,” Smith said. “The Australian people have proven me wrong.”



**Sheraton**  
SAMOA BEACH RESORT

## Polynesian Night

Join us every Tuesday for a journey around the Pacific with our Polynesian inspired buffet and talented performers featuring cultural dances from Samoa, Hawaii, & Tahiti!

Venue: Apolima Fale  
SHERATON RESORT - MULIFANUA

Buffet Price: WST 75 per person  
\*\*\*HALF PRICE for children ages 4-12 years\*\*\*

Buffet Opens at 6:00 PM and Entertainment begins at 6:45 PM

For more information call us on PH (+685) 45611



# Police knew 'madman' had guns before killing rampage



This Jan. 31, 2017 photo provided by the Tehama County Sheriff's Office shows Kevin Janson Neal, the gunman behind a rampage in Northern California. Authorities say Neal's wife was found dead inside their home. Tehama County Assistant Sheriff Phil Johnston says investigators found the body of Neal's wife hidden under the floor. Investigators believe the killing of his wife was the start of the rampage.

(Tehama County Sheriff via AP)

RANCHO TEHAMA RESERVE, Calif. (AP) — Police on Wednesday called the deadly shooting rampage in California a clear case of “a madman on the loose” while defending their decision not to arrest the man for previously violating a court order prohibiting him from having guns. At a tense news conference, police conceded that neighbors had repeatedly complained about Kevin Neal firing hundreds of rounds from his house among other erratic and violent behavior.

Tehama County Assistant Sheriff Phil Johnston said authorities responded to neighbors' calls several times, but the 44-year-old Neal wouldn't open the door, so they left.

“He was not law enforcement friendly. He would not come to the door,” Johnston said. “You have to understand we can't anticipate what people are going to do. We don't have a crystal ball.” On Tuesday, Neal shot and killed five people and wounded at least eight others at different locations around the rural community of Rancho Tehama Reserve. Police later shot and killed him.

Asked about Neal's motive, Johnston responded: “Madman on the loose. The case is remarkably clear. We will move forward and we will start the healing process.”

The evidence that emerged Wednesday, however, along with residents' statements raised questions about whether lawlessness was occasionally tolerated. Neal was also known to have violent squabbles with his neighbors and his wife, both of whom were among his first victims.

Police found the bullet-riddled body of Neal's wife stuffed under the floorboards of their home. They believe her slaying was the start of the rampage.

“We are confident that he murdered her,” Johnson said.

Neal then shot two of his neighbors in an apparent act of revenge before he went looking for random victims at different locations that included the community's elementary school. All those killed were adults and authorities have said that children were among the wounded.

At the time of the attack, Neal was out of custody on bail after being charged in January with stabbing one of the neighbors he later killed in the rampage.

After the January assault, a judge barred Neal from having guns, according to court records.

The records also show that Neal was charged with illegally firing a weapon and possessing an illegal assault rifle on Jan. 31.

He was charged with five felonies and two

misdemeanors. As part of a protective order that barred him from “owning, possessing, purchasing or attempting to purchase firearms,” Neal was ordered to stay away from the two female neighbors he had threatened.

The neighbor he was accused of stabbing obtained a restraining order against him in February, writing to the court that Neal fired guns to scare people in her house and alleging that he was “very unpredictable and unstable” and that he had “anger issues,” according to court documents. The gunman's sister, Sheridan Orr, said her brother had struggled with mental illness throughout his life and at times had a violent temper. She said Neal had “no business” owning firearms. At Wednesday's news conference, Johnston initially said Neal “was not prohibited from owning firearms” but later acknowledged the protective order against him.

Records show Neal certified that he surrendered his weapons in February, but Johnston said Wednesday they had recovered two homemade assault rifles and two handguns registered to someone else.

Laurie Levenson, a Loyola Law School professor, said police officers don't need to be eye-witnesses to take action when a person is suspected of violating a restraining order.

“You can have probable cause even if officers don't see a gun or hear shots,” she said. “They do not have to see the suspect with the weapon if all the circumstantial evidence indicates that he is violating the orders.”

Levenson said officers don't even need a warrant to search a suspect's home if they believe the caller and the evidence they are hearing and collecting indicate the suspect is firing a gun.

“If an officer believes there is someone with a weapon who is not entitled to have a weapon, the law permits the officer to go in,” she said.

During the rampage that lasted 25 minutes, Johnston said the gunman spent about six minutes shooting into Rancho Tehama Elementary School before driving off to keep shooting elsewhere.

Police said surveillance video shows the shooter unsuccessfully trying to enter the school after quick-thinking staff members locked the outside doors and barricaded themselves inside when they heard gunshots.

Witnesses reported hearing gunshots and children screaming at the school, which has about 100 students from kindergarten through fifth grade.

A heroic school custodian rushed children inside, yelling “get into the classrooms” before Neal could reach them, said Corning Union Elementary School District maintenance department head Randy Morehouse.

“At that point he was able to get everyone inside so there was no one left on the blacktop,” Morehouse said. “He's an absolute hero.”

The shooter “tried and tried and tried and tried to get into the kindergarten door,” he said.

The rampage ended when a patrol car rammed the stolen vehicle Neal was driving and police killed him in a shootout.

Dillon Elliott said he witnessed the rolling gun battle from a coffee shop and parking lot as the gunman and deputies screamed by.

“All hell broke loose. I mean I've never heard gunshots like that before,” he said.

Elliott's parents have lived in the sparsely populated area of rolling woodlands dotted with grazing cattle about 130 miles north of Sacramento since 1986. He moved away in 2001.

“There's hardly any police presence out here,” he said. “In all the time we've been out here there has been almost, I would say almost zero police presence. Every so often you'll see them if it's super bad.”

He said his father, who was on the homeowners' association board, was threatened in the late 80s and early 90s during a dispute with a neighbor and deputies never responded.

“It's almost like they think we're lawless out here and they just don't care,” he said.



We don't just fly you there  
We show you Samoa's beauty on the way

Fagalii-Pago-Fagalii WS\$380.00  
Pago-Fagalii-Pago US\$155.00

For bookings  
Apia: 685 22172 / 22173 Pago 684 6999126 / 6999127  
www.polynesianairlines.com

## \$2 SUNDAY SPECIAL!

on our Delicious MJ Pies

between 3:00pm - 6:00pm

Pick Up at Maliu Mai Beach Resort FREE DELIVERY FOR DOZEN OR MORE



Call 733-1683 or 733-0828

### NOTICE FOR SEPARATION AGREEMENT

TO Members of the MALUIA Family and to all whom these present may come!  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that VICTOR T. TOFAEONO JR. & TINA E. TOFAEONO of NU'UU-LI 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 ASOFTU allegedly belonging to MALUIA FAMILY of the village of NU'UULLI. Said land ASOFTU is situated in or near the village of NU'UULLI in the County of ITUAU, 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: NOVEMBER 9, 2017 thru DECEMBER 11, 2017  
SIGNED: Taito S.B. White, Territorial Registrar

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

I tagata o le aiga sa MALUIA, ma i latou uma e silasila ma lauiloaina leni faaaliga!  
O le faaaliga leni ona o VICTOR T. TOFAEONO JR. & TINA E. TOFAEONO o le nu'u o NU'UULLI ua ia faaulufaleina mai i leni ofisa se feagaiga tusitusi e faailoa ai se manaoga fia tu'ueseina o se fale ua/ po o le a, faatuuina i luga o le fanua o ASOFTU e faasino i le aiga sa MALUIA, o le nu'u o NU'UULLI. O leni fanua e totonu pe latalata ane i le nu'u o NU'UULLI, itumalo o ITUAU, ile motu o TUTUILA, Amerika Samoa.  
O le faaaliga fo'i e faapea, so o se tasi e iai sona aia i leni mata'upu e mafai ona faatu'i'iese ile faamauna o leni feagaiga pe a auina mai i le ofisa ole Resitara o le Teritori of Amerika Samoa i Fagatogo, sana faatu'ese tusitusia. O faatu'iesega uma lava e ao ona faaulufaleina mai i totonu c aso e 30 faitauina mai i le aso na faaaliga ai leni faaaliga.  
Afai ole a leai se faatu'iesega e faaulufaleina i totonu o aso 30 e pei ona ta'ua i luga, o le a faamauna loa leni feagaiga e taualoaina ma 'aafia ai tagata uma.

11/16 & 11/29/17

## AUTO NATION

NU'UULLI: (684) 699-7168 • FAX: (684) 699-7175

Available in Store



We are now accepting Credit & Debit Cards.

MONDAY TO FRIDAY: 7:30AM-5:00PM SATURDAY :8:00AM-1:00PM



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
American Samoa  
Department of Health

# HEALTH SURVEY 2017

*The Department of Human and Social Services and the Department of Health are working together to conduct a very important survey in the community.*

*This entails surveying a selection of adults ages 18 and older from each county. Adults will be selected based upon a random sample of electric meters of households throughout the island.*

*Representatives in blue will be out to identify electric meters, collect vitals signs and other information that relate to general and mental health.*

*By taking this survey, you are helping to paint a picture of health for our people.*

*If you are selected to participate, please help us to address the health needs of American Samoa by consenting to take part in the survey. For more information contact DHSS at 633-1157 or DOH at 633-1602.*

*Villages to be surveyed: Fagatogo, Utulei, Gataivai, Fagaalu, Malaeimi, Mapusaga, Mesepa, Nu'uuli & Tafuna.*



Pacific Community  
Communauté du Pacifique



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CDC 2017 Saving Lives. Protecting People™

# Nevada rancher's son tells US jury militia 'saved my life'

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The eldest son of a Nevada rancher and states' rights figure told a federal jury on Wednesday he believes protesters and self-styled militia members saved his life when they arrived in April 2014 after government agents used dogs and stun guns against his family members ahead of a gunpoint showdown that ended a cattle roundup.

"We didn't know who they were," Ryan Bundy said of the hundreds of people who answered a family call for support after news reports and internet accounts of family scuffles with agents and contract cowboys collecting cattle from hardscrabble rangeland northeast of Las Vegas.

"Yet here they were, protecting my life," he said. "They were heroes." Bundy, who is serving as his own lawyer in the trial in Las Vegas, spent more than an hour speaking with a projected image of his wife and eight children on the courtroom screen. He told his family history, declared his belief in states' rights over limited federal government, and professed his love of family, the land, God, Americans, liberty and freedom. "My family and I have been charged with some pretty grievous things," he said. "I want to tell you that they're not true and the evidence will show they are not." Yes, Cliven Bundy stopped paying grazing fees to the government in the 1990s, he said, echoing the family history told a day earlier by his father's lawyer, Bret Whipple. But that was after the U.S. Bureau of Land Management cut nearly in half the allotment of cows the family could turn out to graze in the vast public range surrounding the 160-acre ranch the Mormon family settled more than 140 years ago. Acting U.S. Attorney Steven Myhre on Tuesday cast 71-year-old Cliven Bundy as the leader of a conspiracy to enlist armed militia members to turn away federal agents trying to enforce federal court orders and remove what authorities termed "trespass cattle" from range including what is now Gold Butte National Monument.

The prosecutor told jurors they'll be asked at the end of the four-month trial to weigh the rule of law against the effect of force and violence "at the end of a gun." The first government witness called Wednesday was a Bureau of Land Management director, Mary Jo Rugwell, to testify about the decades-long dispute with Cliven Bundy.

Ryan Bundy earlier cast the government as intent on running his family off the land.

"If they become that which will not honor our rights, then they become the criminal," he said. "The government is our

servant, not we to them."

Government agents overreached and overreacted, Bundy said, spending untold millions of dollars to close a vast area to the public, designate corral-style "First Amendment Zones" for protesters and devote nearly 200 federal agents and contract cowboys to the cattle roundup.

He denied anyone conspired, coerced, threatened or impeded federal agents. "We were attacked. Our house was surrounded," Bundy said. "Surveillance cameras on one hill. Snipers aiming at the house." Bundy choked with emotion as he recalled people like co-defendant Ryan Payne, head of a self-styled militia group, arriving from Montana in response to a family call for help. "They saved my life," Bundy said, "for before they were there, I had a sniper pointing at me." Payne's lawyer, Ryan Norwood, described Payne as a U.S. Army veteran who lost four good friends during two deployments in Iraq who felt compelled after seeing reports of clashes and arrests of Bundy family members to leave his job as an electrician and his wife and children at home in Anaconda, Montana, and drive to the Bundy ranch. Norwood said jurors might not agree with his client's views on the law and constitutional rights, but, "Ryan Payne believed people were in danger, and if he didn't do something now it was going to get worse." Payne never pointed a gun at anyone and remained with Cliven Bundy on the day of the standoff, miles away from the clash point, Norwood said. "He worked to keep people safe," the attorney said. "Keeping people safe is not a crime." Attorneys for another Bundy son, Ammon Bundy, told Chief U.S. District Judge Gloria Navarro they would wait until after the prosecution evidence has been presented to make an opening statement.

Each defendant faces 15 felony charges including assault and threats against federal officers, obstruction and extortion. Convictions could carry the possibility of more than 170 years in prison.

**Good Morning!**  
*You know it's a good morning when you wake up with everything you need. Find us at a store near you!*

# Farm runoff and the worsening algae plague

Harmful algae blooms have become a top water polluter, fueled by fertilizers washing into lakes, streams and oceans. Federal and state programs have spent billions of dollars on cost-sharing payments to farmers to help prevent nutrient runoff, yet the problem is worsening in many places. Here's a look at the algae menace and what's being done:

## ANCIENT ORGANISMS, NEW THREAT

Among the oldest life forms, algae are simple aquatic plants that form key links in food chains. Some types of bacteria are also considered algae, including cyanobacteria, or "blue-green algae," which is increasingly common across the U.S. Scientists believe a combination of factors can trigger large blooms, including warm temperatures, slow water circulation and excessive nutrients, especially nitrogen and phosphorus. Among nutrient sources are runoff from farms and urban lawns as well as industrial wastes and sewage. Some blooms generate toxins such as microcystin, which can cause nausea, fever and liver damage in humans and kill animals. A federal study detected microcystin in nearly 40 percent of lakes sampled around the nation, although mostly at below-harmful levels. Even when blooms aren't toxic, they can turn waters ugly shades of green or other colors, stink like rotten vegetables, foul beaches and kill fish by sucking oxygen from the water as they decompose.

## A WORLDWIDE PROBLEM

The U.S. isn't alone. Many countries are experiencing "disturbing trends of increasing bloom incidence" and growing economic losses, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration says.

China's largest blooms on record washed onto beaches in 2013 from the Yellow Sea, as bulldozers scraped up rotting mats by the ton. A bloom the size of Mexico spreads across the Arabian Sea twice a year.

In Australia, blue-green algae extended more than 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) on the Murray River in 2016. A European Commission study says blooms in Greece, Italy and Spain cost the economy \$355 million (300 million euros) annually. University of Alberta researchers say microcystin has been detected in more than 240 Canadian water bodies. Lake Winnipeg algae blooms are so large that they're visible from space.

## IS CLIMATE CHANGE BEHIND THIS?

Many scientists believe global warming is making conditions more favorable for algae blooms, primarily by raising water temperatures and causing

heavier rainstorms that wash more nutrients into waterways.

A study in the journal Science this year said nitrogen runoff into lakes, rivers and bays could increase 19 percent by the end of the century if greenhouse gas emissions keep rising. Climate change research in the journal Environmental Science and Technology predicts the number of days U.S. reservoirs are infected with blue-green blooms could triple by 2050.

## PLAYING CATCH-UP

Congress first enacted legislation to deal with harmful algae in 1998 and has updated it several times, with another version pending. Critics say it's too little and too slow.

A White House report last year said progress had been made in forecasting blooms and issuing warnings. The Governmental Accountability Office

said 12 agencies had spent \$101 million on studies and monitoring between 2013 and 2015.

But only in 2014 was the law updated to make inland waters a priority; the focus previously had been on coastal areas and the Great Lakes. Even then, no funding was included for inland water study. And the law sidesteps the nutrient runoff problem, with no limits and no enforcement provisions.

## WHAT ABOUT GOVERNMENT CONSERVATION MEASURES?

The Associated Press obtained data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture about the costliest of several programs that help farmers avoid pollution. The agency awarded \$1.8 billion between 2009 and 2016 for use of 45 practices intended to prevent fertilizer runoff.



In this Sept. 13, 2016 photo, Brent Peterson, who promotes runoff prevention in eastern Wisconsin, stands beside a creek in Brown County, Wis. The Fox River empties into the algae-plagued Green Bay, which contains less than 2 percent of Lake Michigan, but receives one-third of the entire lake's nutrient flow. (AP Photo/John Flesher)



# Holiday SPECIAL



## HALLOWEEN



## THANKSGIVING



**1/4 page**

**3x8 page**

**1/2 page**

**1/4pg \$25.00 B&W**

**3X8pg \$30.00 B&W**

**1/2pg \$50.00 B&W**

**COLOR  
ADDITIONAL  
\$50**

*We have other sizes and specials available!*

**Please call (684) 633-5599 (Ask for Advertising Department) or 258-3208 for more information**



FILE - In this Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2017, file photo, debris litters a concert festival grounds after a mass shooting in Las Vegas. Legal action stemming from the mass shooting at the concert is picking up with lawsuits filed Wednesday, Nov. 15, on behalf of 14 concertgoers. (AP Photo/John Locher, File)

# Las Vegas shooting lawsuits stack up with 14 more filed

CHICAGO (AP) — Legal action following the mass shooting at a Las Vegas concert is picking up with lawsuits filed Wednesday on behalf of 14 concertgoers, including some who were shot or injured trying to escape and one woman who is so traumatized that she has since mistaken the sound of rain for gunshots. The hotel-casino from where Stephen Paddock fired, concert organizers and the makers and sellers of a bump stock gun accessory that enabled him to fire rapidly are named as defendants. The court filings argue that they all share blame for the worst mass shooting in recent U.S. history. The 14 civil complaints, filed together in state court in Las Vegas, follow at least three others filed since Paddock opened fire Oct. 1 from the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay hotel and casino, killing 58 people and injuring hundreds of others. The lawsuit seeks unspecified compensation for both “physical and mental injuries.” The challenge for mass-shooting lawsuits is clearing a high legal bar to prove someone other than the shooter bears any responsibility. Such litigation typically drags for years and can end with victims and their families receiving little to nothing. One of those suing, Elisha Seng, described in a phone interview haunting images she can’t dispel — of bullets thudding around her on the concert grounds and of turning to see a young woman covered in blood after being shot, clutching her throat and falling forward.

The 64-year-old Paddock, who killed himself just before his room was stormed, is also named in a bid to seize assets from his estate.

Paddock was able to use VIP status conferred on him as a high-stakes gambler to stockpile more than 20 rifles in his hotel suite, including by using exclusive access to a service elevator over days, the filings say. They argue what should have been routine checks of Paddock’s bags and his room would have revealed his growing arsenal.

The filings name a leading bump stock maker, Texas-based Slide Fire Solutions, as a defendant. A lead attorney, Chicago-based Antonio Romanucci, said it wasn’t yet clear which manufacturer, wholesaler or retailer made and sold the specific bump stock that Paddock used, but that the idea was to hold “the entire supply chain” responsible. Messages seeking comment from Slide Fire weren’t returned. MGM Resorts International, the parent company of Mandalay Bay, called the shooting “a meticulously planned, evil ... act” in a statement Wednesday and added that it would respond to any allegations only through “the appropriate legal channels.” Live Nation, a concert organizer named in the filings, said in a statement it cannot comment on pending litigation, but that the company remains “heartbroken for the victims.” Bump stocks were originally created ostensibly to make it easier for people with disabilities to shoot. But the filings allege that Slide Fire geared its marketing to regular gun owners who wanted their semi-automatic rifles to mimic fully automatic weapons.

“I don’t sleep at night and, when I do, I have nightmares,” said the 46-year-old from Bartlett, Illinois, just outside Chicago. Recently, as heavy rain began to fall outside overnight, she jumped up from her bed. “I thought it was gunshots.” Seng, who wasn’t physically injured, returned to work as a sales representative, but said she quickly tires from her lack of sleep. Going to concert or sports halls can prompt flashbacks. She recently attended a Chicago Blackhawks game and found herself nervously calculating the best escape routes should someone open fire.

A Chicago law firm helped to prepare the filings, which include several plaintiffs from the Chicago area. Victims named in the suits also include a California man, Anthony Crisci, who was rushed to a hospital with a gunshot wound in a truck crowded with other victims.

Among deficiencies at the concert venue were poorly marked exits, Wednesday’s filings say. And the hotel, it says, should have had gunfire-location devices that pinpoint where shots are coming from.

Civil cases in mass shootings are becoming increasingly common. Romanucci has also filed a lawsuit on behalf of victims of the Pulse nightclub shooting that killed 49 people last year in Orlando, Florida. It alleges, among other things, that a security firm that once employed gunman Omar Mateen knew Mateen was mentally unstable and had threatened violence, and should have alerted authorities. Mateen was killed in a shootout with police.

The 2007 Virginia Tech campus shooting in which Seung-Hui Cho killed 32 people illustrated the difficulties posed by such lawsuits. In 2013, the Virginia Supreme Court overturned a jury verdict siding with parents of two victims who claimed the state was negligent. A statement from the state attorney general’s office at the time said the reversal showed what it had argued during years of litigation: “Cho was the lone person responsible for this tragedy.”

## FAASALALAUAGA O LE SUAFA TUI TELELEAPAGA O LEONE

Samoa e, e lē tau faamaupu'epu'eina 'auma fati loloa o le vasa i ou paia e afua mai Sava seia paia Analega. Matou te faapoipoi ma le faaete'ete le laau-tu-i-vanu i ou paia fa'aletalalei, mamalu faaleatunuu aemaise ou sã faalemalo, ina ne'i faitauina tautala o le puagagana i sa matou faamatalaga faatauavaa. Nuunuu atu ia i faleupolu o tofiga ma le 'au fueloloa o le atunuu outou sã ma faigã, auã o le latou gafa tausi vaatele lea. Tulou!

E matou te faatolou atu ai i le paia o suli ma feoi o le suafoa o Tuiteleleapaga i le afoaga o Leone, o loo alaala ma papa'a'ao i itu e fia o Samoa. Paia lava lea aua Laloifi ma Falesau o le Faleomavaega. Afio ai Tuitele o le Faatuilemotu, Susu ai Faiivae o le Maluolefale, Susu ai i la'ua Tama Matua ia Olo ma Leoso ma vae o le tootoo Fiu ma Maiava. Susu Tuiteleleapaga ma Avegalio. Afio Maava, ae puipuilu e le fetalaiga tumalele ia i la'ua Matua o Salave'a ma Salave'a. Mamalu na aua Fofu ma le aai talāluma o le Alataua. Tulou!

Ua tasi moemoe le finagalo o aiga i le maota o Leagaoso, e Afio ai le Sa'o ia Tuiteleleapaga ae pola puipui e le fetalaiga ia Tuisee ma Talivaa, mamalu i le nofoatoo ma tausi faapea le aai o le Aigaotuga ma le Fagaotua. O le a faia sa tatou talatalaga auã se tasi e ta'ita'ia lo tatou aiga i le:

- Aso: Novema 23, 2017
- Nofoaga: Maota o Leagaoso, Leone
- Taimi: 10:00am i le taeao

O lou lē auai mai o le a lē taofia ai le talanoaga. O le tatalo i le Atua ina ia o tatou maua le fealofani ma tatou toeseinuupotopoto aua lea faamoemoe ua tuupoina. Ia mamao ni ao taulia i le soifua o le aufaigaluega a le Atua, maua le soifua manuia aua tupu ma ee o le atunuu faapea le tapuaiga ia Samoa, ae matou ola i le alofa o le Atua.

Sainia,

Nofoatoo & Tausi o le Aiga o Tuiteleleapaga i Leone.

### H&H INC.

P.O. Box 3170, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799  
 Phone (684) 633 4567 - Mobile (684) 733 4567  
 Fax (684) 633 0163

**SPECIAL OFFER\***

**LAKES**

BTU	PRICE
9,000	\$ 550.00
12,000	\$ 588.00
18,000	\$ 688.00
24,000	\$ 788.00
36,000	\$ 1,499.00

\*A/C UNIT PRICE ONLY WITH 1-MONTH WARRANTY  
 ADDITIONAL \$200.00 FOR INSTALLATION AND ONE-YEAR WARRANTY FOR ALL UNITS EXCEPT 36,000 BTU (\$300.00)

**BEST PRICE**

**Midea**  
\$650.00

**BIG SALE**

**SAMSUNG**  
SMART INVERTER\*

BTU	PRICE
9,000	\$ 1,550.00
12,000	\$ 1,750.00
18,000	\$ 2,350.00
24,000	\$ 2,950.00
36,000	\$ 3,700.00

\*SAVES 30-50% ENERGY  
 A/C UNIT PRICE WITH FREE INSTALLATION AND ONE-YEAR WARRANTY

**Turbo air**  
TRUSTED AMERICAN BRAND

2-DOOR COOLER	3-DOOR COOLER
\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,000.00

**Cold Drinks**



# Drug firm founder indicted in opioid conspiracy due in court

BOSTON (AP) — The founder of a pharmaceutical company charged with leading a conspiracy to bribe doctors to prescribe a powerful opioid pain medication for people who didn't need it is due in court in Massachusetts.

John Kapoor of Insys Therapeutics Inc. was arrested in Arizona last month and is expected to make his first appearance in Boston's federal courthouse on Thursday.

Kapoor and other Insys

executives are accused of offering kickbacks to doctors to write large numbers of prescriptions for a fentanyl-based pain medication that's meant for cancer patients. Most people who received prescriptions did not have cancer.

Prosecutors say they also mislead insurance providers to get them to approve payment for the drug for non-cancer patients.

Kapoor's attorney has said his client is not guilty.



FILE - In this Oct. 26, 2017 file photo, Insys Therapeutics founder John Kapoor, center, is escorted from U.S. District Court in Phoenix. He had been charged with leading a conspiracy to bribe doctors to prescribe an opioid pain medication for people who didn't need it. Kapoor is scheduled for arraignment Thursday.

# Transgender woman sues over placement in male prison

BOSTON (AP) — A transgender woman behind bars at an all-male prison in Massachusetts filed a federal lawsuit Wednesday seeking to force the state to transfer her to a women's facility, saying she is routinely harassed by male inmates and lives in fear of being attacked.

The 52-year-old inmate, who is identified in the complaint only as Jane Doe, has gender dysphoria and has received hormone therapy for decades, including in prison, her attorneys say. Despite that, she has been forced to shower in the view of male prisoners and undergo strip searches by male correctional officers, "who routinely grope her breasts," the lawsuit says.

"She shouldn't be punished for being transgender and that's what's happening here," said Jennifer Levi, director of GLAD's Transgender Rights Project and one of the attorneys representing the inmate.

A spokeswoman for the Massachusetts Department of Correction declined to comment on the complaint.

The inmate, who is serving a

three-to-four-year sentence for a nonviolent drug offense, asked to be moved to the women's prison but was told she could not be sent there until she has genital surgery, the lawsuit says. She was diagnosed with gender dysphoria, which the American Psychiatric Association defines as a conflict between a person's physical gender and the gender with which they identify.

The lawsuit says prison staff once forced her to strip with her cell door open while male inmates watched outside and made inappropriate comments about her body. It also claims that male inmates "crowd into the bathroom excitedly" when she showers, harass her in the bathrooms and have tried to "physically force themselves on her."

"She is often afraid to leave her cell for fear of harassment and violence from DOC prisoners, staff and correctional officers," the lawsuit says.

Levi said that other states, such as California and Pennsylvania, have allowed transgender offenders to live with inmates of the sex with which they identify.

# Ex-members of church urge overturning of court agreement

SPINDALE, North Carolina (AP) — Former members of a controversial North Carolina-based church want the state to take legal action to overturn a court-ordered compromise they say has crippled child abuse investigations involving the sect.

The former congregants of Word of Faith Fellowship also want Rutherford County child protection agency director John Carroll to resign, saying he pushed for the 2005 settlement and has failed to protect children from abusive practices inside the church.

The ex-members said they are sending letters urging action to North Carolina's governor, attorney general and state and county child welfare officials.

Under the leadership of co-founder Jane Whaley, Word of Faith Fellowship has grown to about 750 congregants in Spindale and a total of nearly 2,000 members worldwide. An ongoing Associated Press investigation has exposed years of abuse in the evangelical sect, with dozens of former members saying congregants are regularly beaten, punched and choked in an effort to "purify" sinners.

The AP reported earlier this week that the state had opposed the agreement between Word of Faith and the county social services agency because it contains stipulations that limit such investigative tactics as what can trigger an abuse inquiry and how social workers can question minors.

Despite being warned the

settlement could have a "far reaching impact" in North Carolina, Rutherford County officials went "full steam ahead" with the compromise, according to a 2005 email to the state Department of Health and Human Services from a lawyer in the attorney general's office.

Former Word of Faith Fellowship member John Huddle said those who have fled the church were not aware the state had cautioned Carroll against entering into the agreement.

"In my opinion, this places the burden of the resulting abused WOFF members on his shoulders," said Huddle, who left the church in 2008.

Several former members have told the AP that Carroll's department has either cited the settlement in refusing to act on child abuse allegations or given Word of Faith members advance notice of investigations.

The settlement resulted from a federal lawsuit filed against the county agency in 2003 by 12 church families who contended they were being targeted because of their religious beliefs.

Carroll has repeatedly declined to discuss why he settled the suit, but he said the agreement "does not prevent us from fulfilling our statutory obligation to protect children."

As part of the compromise, the agency agreed to pay the church \$300,000 and guaranteed that abuse inquiries could no longer be solely based on objections to such core sect practices as "blasting," when congregants surround a church

member and shriek, sometimes for hours, in an attempt to expel demons.

The agreement also bars social workers from asking children about religious beliefs or practices.

Several experts who reviewed the stipulations at the AP's request called the agreement highly unusual and spoke of a potential chilling effect on investigations.

In letters they plan to send to state and federal officials, the former members — some of whom were plaintiffs in the lawsuit — implore North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein to motion for a judicial review of the compromise.

"Our lives as children and youth inside of WOFF cannot be changed or relived; our hopes are for the present generation of children inside WOFF to be afforded the lawful protections we did not enjoy," the letters say.

The January 2005 email from the attorney general's office reveals the state's serious concerns.

Kirk Randleman, acting as counsel to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, wrote that Carroll's department didn't have "authority to negotiate policy decisions, but they are proceeding full steam ahead."

Randleman also noted that the risk manager for a group that provides liability insurance to counties was so concerned about a precedent being set that he was willing to "defend the case to the hilt."

# Ex-Oklahoma seismologist felt pressured in earthquake work

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — Oklahoma's former lead seismologist says he felt pressured by a University of Oklahoma official to not link the state's surge in earthquakes to oil and gas production.

Austin Holland's sworn testimony came last month as part of a lawsuit filed in 2015 by Prague resident Jennifer Cooper against two oil companies for damages sustained during an earthquake in 2011, the Tulsa World reported. The 5.7 magnitude quake that hit the Prague area, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) east of Oklahoma City, was the largest in state history.

University President David Boren disputed Holland was ever pressured by the school.

Researchers have linked the spike in the number of earthquakes in parts of Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas and other states to the underground disposal of wastewater from oil and gas production. Holland said he was reprimanded for helping publish a peer-reviewed journal article on how to cope with such earthquakes.

When asked by the plaintiff's attorney who pressured him to avoid linking the 2011 quake with wastewater injection wells, Holland said Larry Grillot, the former dean of the university's Mewbourne College of Earth and Energy, and a former director of the Oklahoma Geological Survey influenced or altered wording in his research or presentations.

Grillot denied the accusation, telling the

newspaper: "If Dr. Holland is asserting that he received pressure from me to alter his research or conclusions, that's not true. ... That did not happen." Multiple attempts by the newspaper to reach the former Oklahoma Geological Survey official were unsuccessful. The survey is a state agency administered by the university.

Holland also detailed a meeting that allegedly took place with Boren and Harold Hamm, a billionaire oilman who has given millions of dollars to the university. Holland said he was called into Boren's office after he wrote the paper.

Holland said Boren "expressed to me that I had complete academic freedom, but that as part of being an employee of the state survey, I also have a need to listen to, you know, the people within the oil and gas industry."

Holland testified that Hamm told him "to be careful of the way in which I say things, that hydraulic fracturing is critical to the state's economy in Oklahoma, and that me publicly stating that earthquakes can be caused by hydraulic fracturing was — you know, could be misleading, and that he was nervous about the war on fossil fuels at the time." Boren has said the university was never compromised by Hamm or any other donor and that researchers weren't pressured to change or slow their research. The Tulsa World reported that its attempts to reach Hamm for comment were unsuccessful.



# ANOTHER FA'ALAVELAVE?

**KEEP P.A.L.M.**  
**CARRY ON** *Moana Lavea lea o le Palvelave*



C M  
Y K

C M  
Y K