

HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY

9

There are 9 more days left until
THANKSGIVING DAY.
Celebrate our unique American
holiday by sharing our bounty
with each other —
in prayer and by our deeds.



Fresh turkey tails packaged for sale in the southeast U.S. See story below — “The strange story of turkey tails”.

[photo: Royal Foods Company]



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PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2017

\$1.00

The strange story of turkey tails

IT SPEAKS VOLUMES ABOUT OUR GLOBALIZED FOOD SYSTEM

by Michael Carolan, Colorado State University

Intensive livestock farming is a huge global industry that serves up millions of tons of beef, pork and poultry every year. When I asked one producer recently to name something his industry thinks about that consumers don't, he replied, “Beaks and butts.” This was his shorthand for animal parts that consumers — especially in wealthy nations — don't choose to eat.

On Thanksgiving, turkeys will adorn close to 90 percent of U.S. dinner tables. But one part of the bird never makes it to the groaning board, or even to the giblet bag: the tail. The fate of this fatty chunk of meat shows us the bizarre inner workings of our global food system, where eating more of one food produces less-desirable cuts and parts. This then creates demand elsewhere — so successfully in some instances that the foreign part becomes, over time, a national delicacy.

SPARE PARTS

Industrial-scale livestock production evolved after World War II, supported by scientific advances such as antibiotics, growth hormones and, in the case of the turkey, artificial insemination. (The bigger the tom, the harder it is for him to do what he's supposed to do: procreate.)

U.S. commercial turkey production increased from 16 million pounds in January 1960 to 500 million pounds in January 2017. Total production this year is projected at 245 million birds.

That includes a quarter-billion turkey tails, also known as the parson's nose, pope's nose or sultan's nose. The tail is actually a gland that attaches the turkey's feathers to its body. It is filled with oil that the bird uses to preen itself, so about 75 percent of its calories come from fat.

It's not clear why turkeys arrive at U.S. stores tailless. Industry insiders have suggested to me that it may simply have been an economic decision. Turkey consumption was a novelty for most consumers before World War II, so few developed a taste for the tail, although the curious can find recipes online. Turkeys have become larger, averaging around 30 pounds today compared to 13 pounds in the 1930s. We've also been breeding for breast size, due to the American love affair with white meat: One prized early big-breasted variety was called Bronze Mae West. Yet the tail remains.

SAVORED IN SAMOA

Rather than letting turkey tails go to waste, the poultry industry saw a business opportunity. The target: Pacific Island communities, where animal protein was scarce. In the 1950s U.S. poultry firms began dumping turkey tails, along with chicken backs, into markets in Samoa. (Not to be outdone, New Zealand and Australia exported “mutton flaps,” also known as sheep bellies, to the Pacific Islands.) With this strategy, the turkey industry turned waste into gold.

By 2007 the average Samoan was consuming more than 44 pounds of turkey tails every year — a food that had been unknown there less than a century earlier. That's nearly triple Americans' annual per capita turkey consumption.

When I interviewed Samoans recently for my book “No One

(Continued on page 6)

Drugs, weapons, and lots of \$\$\$ confiscated during police raids

THREE MEN HAVE BEEN CHARGED — ONE IS A FORMER COP

by Ausage Fausia
Samoa News Reporter

Drugs, weapons, and a huge amount of cash were confiscated by armed detectives of the DPS Vice & Narcotics Unit during the early morning hours last Thursday, when they executed a search warrant on two homes — one in Taputimu, the other in Alofa'u — and on a taxi on the main road, suspected to contain illegal drugs.

Acting Police Commissioner, Falana'ipupu Ta'ase Sagapolutele, during a press conference yesterday, confirmed that the police raids were part of the Vice & Narcotics Unit's sting operation — ongoing for quite some time.

Three individuals — including a former cop — have been arrested as a result of last week's raids and this was the final piece of a puzzle that police have been trying to put together for a while.

Confiscated items include a large quantity of methamphetamine, with an estimated street value between \$50,000 and \$55,000; marijuana with a street value between \$20,000 to \$25,000;

3 guns (12-gauge shotgun, 357 magnum, and a pellet gun — all fully loaded); 144 bullets for the 357 magnum; various stolen items; and drug paraphernalia.

The three defendants are former DPS officer Steve Tuatoo from Alofa'u; Taputimu resident Cody Christian Wood; and taxi driver Lemalie Taisia.

Cash of \$54,003 was confiscated from the home in Taputimu, in addition to \$459 found on Wood.

The three defendants are being charged separately for unlawful possession of a controlled substance, and unlawful possession of a controlled substance with the intent to distribute.

The trio made their initial appearance before District Court Judge Fiti Sunia this past Monday.

Bail amount for Wood is set at \$200,000 while Tuatoo's bail is set at \$25,000

Taisia is being held on \$5,000 bail.

None of the men have been able to post bond; therefore, they remain in custody at TCF.

(Continued on page 6)



Tapumanaia Galu Satele Jr., who spearheads the “Love Thy Neighbor” program, was able to prepare 1800 care packages for StarKist Samoa workers and 50 for Talofa Systems employees, affected by the 5-week cannery shutdown.

It took 5 hours to complete the registration and distribution process last Saturday but everyone went home happy. In addition to care packages, milk from Panamex Pacific, coupons from Cost-U-Less, sodas from PPTC, and other ‘specialty items’ were also given out to help families affected by the shutdown. See story inside for details.

[photo: courtesy]



1850 care packages, in addition to other specialty items, soda, and milk were distributed last Saturday to the employees of StarKist and Talofa Systems, who are affected by the 5-week shutdown.

[photo: courtesy]

Hawaiian Air Airbus A330 plane set to begin service to Pago in February 2018

LARGER PLANE, MORE COMFORTABLE FLIGHT, ADDS 30 SEATS PER FLIGHT...

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

Hawaiian Airlines will be adjusting its Friday flights starting March 2018 as the Honolulu-based carrier moves to introduce to the Pago Pago route, its Airbus aircraft, which provides more seats compared to the current Boeing 767 plane used in the American Samoa market.

Currently, Hawaiian operates to and from Pago Pago on Fridays and Mondays but Samoa News recently learned from both local and off island travelers that the airline will change the Friday flight to Thursday — starting March 2018.

A test booking that Samoa News made on Hawaiian's online reservation shows that the Friday flight will change to Thursday, beginning Mar. 22, 2018.

Responding to Samoa News inquiries, Hawaiian spokesperson Ann Botticelli explained that the airline will start flying the Airbus A330 aircraft to Pago Pago on Feb. 5, 2018.

"In order to switch to that aircraft, we had to adjust our schedule to Pago Pago and move the Friday flight, back to Thursday. That will start March 22, 2018," Botticelli said yesterday from Honolulu. (Hawaiian in the past had operated on Thursdays and Mondays but later changed the Thursday flight to Fridays.)

"The A330 fleet is being upgraded to provide full lie-flat seats in the front cabin and more extra comfort seats in the main cabin (or economy class)," she said. "The A330 will have a few more total seats than the B767."

"It's a very nice upgrade for the American Samoa market," she continued.

Hawaiian Air, which celebrated last Saturday, Nov. 11th, its 88th anniversary, said the A330 aircraft's seating capacity is 294, and that's 30 more seats than the B767, which translates to - over the course of a year - 11,000 additional seats per route.

Additionally, the spacious front cabin — first class or premier cabin — features 18 lie-flat leather seats that extend into 180-degree beds at a roomy 20.5 inches wide and 76 inches long. Aligned in a 2-2-2 configuration, the seats are ideally

tailored to leisure guests such as couples, families and honeymooners, while offering superior functionality to the business traveler.

Seating configuration in the main cabin, or economy-class, is 2-4-2, according to information on the airline's website, which points out that, maybe most important, "everyone gets a personal LCD touch-screen monitor."

American Samoa Visitors Bureau executive director David Vaeafe says the A330 planes are used by Hawaiian on all its international and US mainland destinations and now the territory will be included.

"Frequent travelers on Hawaiian Air will have consistency when traveling on Hawaiian either from Pago Pago to the US mainland or from the US mainland to American Samoa, using the same A330 aircraft, instead of the B767 just on the Pago Pago route," Vaeafe said yesterday. "Customers like consistency on products. And Hawaiian is providing that consistency to customers."

In terms of benefits for American Samoa using the A330, he said the Pago Pago route will have 60 extra seats a week — or 30-extra seats per flight.

Additionally, A330 configuration provides extra comfortable room on the plane, said Vaeafe, who has traveled on Hawaiian's A330 aircraft between Honolulu and the US mainland. "Overall, the A330 will benefit our American Samoa market," he said.

A local business representative who traveled to the mainland recently describes the A330 as "great", with a little extra legroom, making for a comfortable flight. "I do really hope the A330 aircraft will further improve our tourism industry with more visitors from the US, thereby improving our economy. We really need a big boost to our economy."

Some industry officials told Samoa News last week the A330 aircraft will be of great benefit to the American Samoa market during the busy long-summer break, when "travel is at its peak and hard to get a confirmed seat" as well as Christmas and New Year's holidays.



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

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**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

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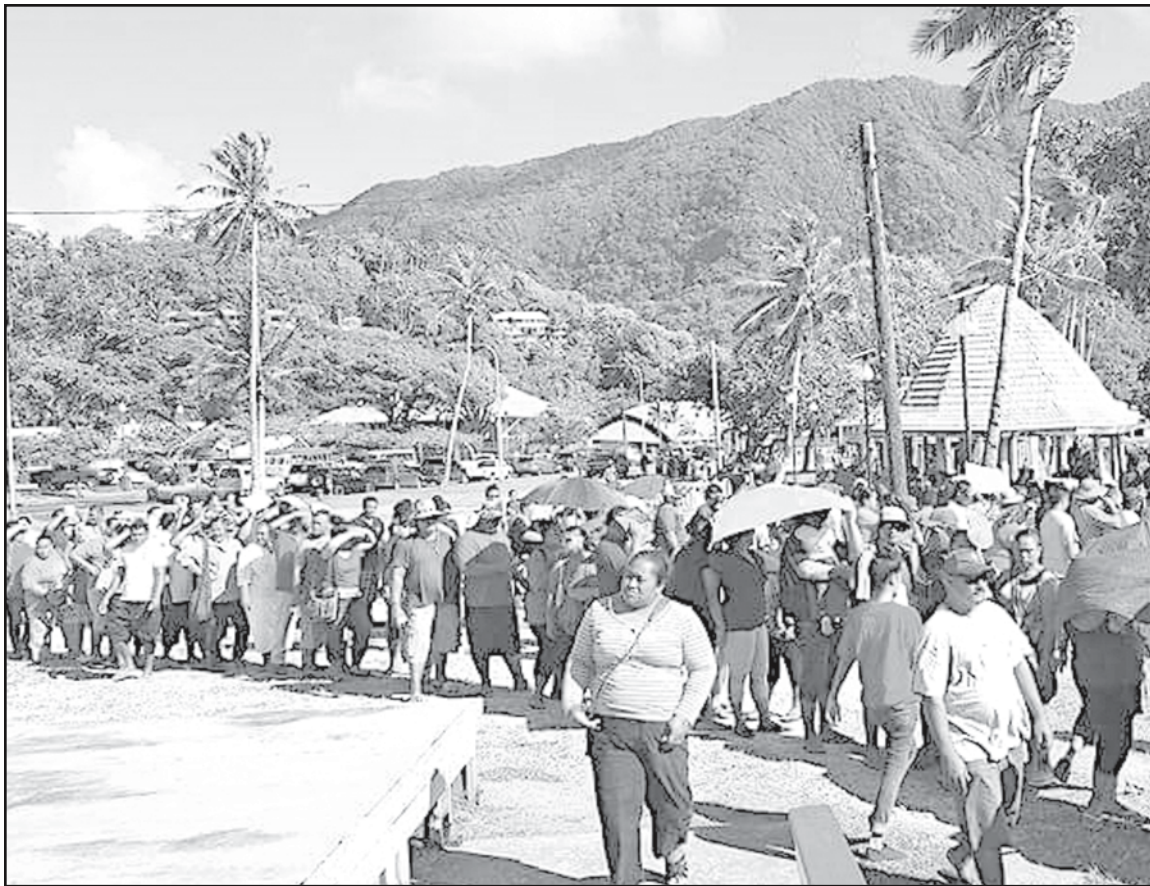


ACCURACY
We make an issue of it every day.

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call Samoa News at 633-5599*



COMMUNITY BRIEFS



In the sweltering heat, hundreds of employees from StarKist Samoa and Talofa Systems were at the Suigaula Ole Atuvasa Beach Park this past Saturday to pick up their care packages and other items donated by "Love Thy Neighbor" and other local businesses. [photo: courtesy]

Compiled by Samoa News Staff
"LOVE THY NEIGHBOR" DISTRIBUTES OVER 1600 CARE PACKAGES FOR CANNERY WORKERS

Families affected by the 5-week StarKist Samoa shutdown got a sigh of relief last Saturday when close to 1700 care packages containing non-perishable food items were distributed to them — thanks to the efforts of Tapumanaia Galu Satele Jr. and everyone who donated to the "Love Thy Neighbor" program.

Hundreds of employees from StarKist and Talofa Systems gathered at the Suigaula Ole Atuvasa Beach Park in Utulei on Saturday to pick up their care packages.

According to Tapumanaia, 1800 care packages were assembled for StarKist workers, and another 50 were prepared for Talofa Systems employees.

Officials from StarKist Samoa, including Taotasi Archie Soliai and Cassandra Satele were on hand to help with the registration process, which took over an hour to complete.

Tapumanaia told Samoa News yesterday that altogether, 1,687 care packages were distributed and the leftovers will be donated to another worthy cause, he will confirm which one sometime in the future.

Speaking about Saturday's event, Tapumanaia said, "The turnout was pretty good." In addition to the care packages, he said there were about 900 "specialty items" such as detergent, toiletries, cooking oil, and cereal. "We didn't have enough of these specialty items for everyone so we decided to distribute them using a raffle format."

Randomly, tickets numbers

would be called out and whoever held the winning ticket, that person would be presented a specialty item in addition to the care package and other items provided by local businesses.

Cartons of milk from Panamex Pacific were distributed and local wholesaling giant Cost-U-Less also played a huge role in the event, handing out 5% discount coupons. The company also made a generous \$5,000 donation that Tapumanaia used to purchase canned food items.

Another local business, Pago Pago Trading Company, came through with 100 cases of soda for the event.

Tapumanaia solicited the help of the LDS Pago West Stake's relief society, under the leadership of president, Adney Reid. The volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints assisted during Saturday's event, which lasted over 5 hours. Tapumanaia is grateful for the overwhelming support from the community and private sector, which made the event a success. "There are two objectives for my doing this project," he said. "To honor the Lord's commandment to love one another, and to teach my children the value of love and compassion for those in need."

He continued, "Helping the StarKist workers was the aim; but the bigger picture is to promote love for your neighbor not just for this canned food drive, but everyday. There's a greater lesson involved and it's my prayer that my taking on this project was being an example to people that we can all help each other out. When we care for those around us struggling, we empower them to get by and to find strength to make it through the hard times."

Tapumanaia concluded, "I am thankful and blessed that people have put their trust in me to donate so much to make this possible. Without their trust in me, none of this would be possible. The volunteers of the Pago West Stake played a big role in helping to sort and bag the packages. That took a lot of time and sacrifice from their own families to help make this project a success."

AMATA WELCOMES \$17 MILLION DOT CONTINUING GRANT FOR 2009 TSUNAMI RECOVERY AT PUBLIC WORKS

Washington, D.C. — Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017 — Congresswoman Aumua Amata was pleased to welcome a \$17.9 million continuing grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) for ongoing 2009 tsunami recovery efforts through the American Samoa Department of Public Works.

"The tsunami of 2009 had a significant and long-lasting impact on American Samoa, but our people responded with determination," said Amata. "I welcome this ongoing federal funding to continue the recovery efforts to completion, and strengthen our economy and infrastructure."

Congress authorizes specifically this \$17.92 million grant through an Emergency Relief program within the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, for the repair or reconstruction of Federal-aid highways and roads on Federal lands that have suffered serious damage as a result of natural disasters.

These funds are awarded to the territory based on the prior formal emergency declaration for the cost of damages to its eli-

(Continued on page 7)

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

PALA LAGOON SWIMMING CENTER, Inc.
 Lyons Park, American Samoa

PLSC is seeking qualified candidates to support the operation of the soon-to-be-opened swimming center. Five (5) positions open:

Pool Manager:

Manage swimming pool operations, human resource selection & development, pool maintenance, public relations, safety requirements, swimming programs. PM will publicize and market aquatic programs; develop fund raising activities; plan and conduct special aquatic events.

Assistant Pool Manager:

Assists Pool Manager to supervise the daily operation of the swimming center ensuring safety rules and swimming center policies are enforced. APM will also manage the daily sales activities to ensure PLSC funds are secure and accounted for.

Facilities Assistant:

Provide operational and administrative support to the PLSC team, which includes the Pool Manager and the PLSC board of directors.

Pool Attendant:

Oversee the pool area, enforce pool rules, make safety announcements, keep pool areas clean, maintain an inventory of poolside equipment to be available for use at all times.

Lifeguard:

Monitor pool activities and ensure safety through enforcement. Must hold lifeguard and CPR certification and first aid responsibilities. Perform additional duties like incident reports and pool maintenance.

If this opportunity interests you, and you have the skills and qualifications, please email your resume to: nkupa@hotmail.com by November 24, 2017.

Detailed position descriptions available for more information.

Trump in Asia: A break from the past but uncertain results

President Donald Trump declared his first Asian tour “tremendously successful” as he hopped on a plane bound for Washington. But when he landed at the White House late Tuesday he arrived with few concrete accomplishments in hand.

As he jetted across the region, to five nations, six cities and three summits over 12 days, Trump pushed regional leaders to reshape trade deals to America’s liking, but he won no firm commitments from his hosts. He opened the door to negotiations with North Korea, but then seemed to shut it again by deriding the dictator Kim Jong Un as “short and fat.”

He did not try to push leaders to end human rights abuses.

Trump has said he’ll have more to say about the trip’s achievements in a “major statement” at the White House this week. The White House would not discuss the details in advance.

The trip did reveal much about Trump’s traveling style. He soaked up the pageantry and was well practiced at the art of flattery.

For all his tough campaign talk on trade, Trump appeared reluctant to take a confrontational stance. He cajoled and flattered leaders in Tokyo and Seoul without eliciting firm commitments for a more balanced economic relationship. At a summit in Vietnam, he vowed to hold rising superpower China accountable for unfair business and trade practices. Yet in Beijing, the president said, “I don’t blame China” for a growing trade gap.

In the White House view, Trump accomplished what he set out to do: strengthen relationships with world leaders and lay the groundwork for more equitable trading deals.

“I think the fruits of our

labor are going to be incredible, whether it’s the security of our nations, whether it’s security of the world or whether it’s trade,” Trump said before leaving the Philippines on Tuesday bound for home.

But across the Pacific, Trump was reminded of the challenges that were awaiting him in Washington.

As Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping wrapped up their joint statements to the press in Beijing, they ignored shouted questions from American reporters in the Great Hall of the People. When they ducked backstage, Xi summoned his interpreter and posed an inquiry to Trump:

“Who is Roy Moore?” Xi asked.

That moment, described by two White House officials who weren’t authorized to speak publicly about private conversations, underscores Trump’s domestic challenges. He must grapple with the uncertain fate of his tax cut plan, face the threat of a government shutdown and decide whether to cut ties with Moore, the Republican candidate in Alabama’s special Senate race, who is accused of sexually assaulting underage girls decades ago.

For most of the trip, Trump was able to leave domestic affairs behind, though he did reignite the Russia firestorm by revealing that President Vladimir Putin had insisted to him in Vietnam that Moscow didn’t hack the 2016 election. Trump added: “And I believe — I really believe — that when he tells me that, he means it.” Trump later clarified that he was “with” the U.S. intelligence agencies that concluded Russia was behind the interference.

In Seoul, Trump delivered a sharp warning to North Korea, saying: “Do not underestimate us. And do not try us.”

Samoa Govt. told to use church tax wisely

COLLECTION STARTS JANUARY 1, 2018

APIA, SAMOA — Church ministers who say the government’s move to explain the ramifications of new tax law governing their income is late, and they also have a message for Prime Minister Tuilaepa Sa’ilele Malielegaoi’s administration — use the church tax money wisely!

“There are countless families in Upolu especially at Aleipata who don’t have access to water and electricity,” Reverend Siaso Samuelu of the Catholic Church at Salua, Manono said.

“Use those monies to help those families. Use it wisely please but don’t abuse and waste them.”

Rev. Samuelu was among church ministers who attended a seminar at Manono-uta yesterday where the Ministry of Revenue was attempting to explain how the new law will work, starting January 1, 2018.

Passed by Parliament in June, the law removes the tax exemption clause for income generated by church ministers. This means that starting on the first day of 2018, all income earned by church ministers will be taxed — including monetary gifts they receive from funerals, weddings and other fa’alavelave.

According to Rev. Samuelu, the Ministry’s move to explain the law is counterproductive.

“We would’ve liked a bit more time on this, this is at such short notice,” he said.

“For your information we only heard this on the radio and newspapers but not from the government.”

“Now they’ve come and want to hear from us, personally, it’s a waste of time because the law has already been passed. What more do they want from us now?”

“They should’ve come before the Bill was being passed.”

Rev. Samuelu said he doesn’t object to the government’s plan but he wants to make it clear that common courtesy would have gone a long way.

In any case, now that he will pay tax just like everyone else, Rev. Samuelu wants to ensure the money is spent accordingly.

“Don’t spend it on road constructions where

in the next two years, they dig the road again,” he said. “That is a waste of taxpayers’ money. Stop wasting money on useless projects.

“They should look at solid developments, not another burden to everyone’s shoulders.”

During the seminar yesterday, it was revealed by the Ministry that one of the main reasons pastors are being taxed is because ‘the government has noticed that some pastors receive more than Chief Executives Officers (government officials).’ Government CEOs receive an annual salary of more than \$120,000 plus benefits.

In response to some concerns raised during the meeting, the Ministry of Revenue pointed out that the Bill was proposed two to three years ago.

“We’ve been discussing this with National Council of Churches, elders of the E.F.K.S., the Methodist church and other churches and this is the question... why?”

“The Bill is not new from our perspective; it’s been years since the government has been trying to put it in place.

“The government and the Ministry have noticed that some of the pastors receive more than a C.E.O. and that’s why we think it will be nice for pastors to lend a hand (tatau na velo sina sao o fa’afeagaiga).”

The Ministry also explained that “Epikopo” for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is excluded.

“The ‘sefulua’i’ of the Latter Day Saints is the same with taulaga and faigame to some churches,” the ministry revealed.

“They are not included under this Bill.”

But Rev. Sialaoa Pagamalie objected. He reminded the Ministry that “epikopo” is paid by the church. “To make it fair and square, the ministry should look into this,” he said.

“To ensure all the requirements of the Bill are met, epikopo should be taxed. That’s just a reminder for the Ministry.” The government organized the seminar for church ministers within sub district so they fully understand their obligations. The seminars continue today at Tafagamanu.

(Source: Samoa Observer)



President Donald Trump, center, gives a statement before leaving for the airport, an East Asia Summit at the Philippine International Convention Center, Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017, in Manila, Philippines. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson is seen at right while National Security Adviser H.R. McMaster is at left. Trump is on a five country trip through Asia traveling to Japan, South Korea, China, Vietnam and the Philippines. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Pacific Island News in Brief

Compiled by Samoa News staff

MISS AMERICAN SAMOA PREPARES FOR MISS PACIFIC ISLANDS

Miss American Samoa Matauaina Toomalatai heads to the Miss Pacific Islands Pageant in Nadi, Fiji at the end of this month.

Prayers and blessings will be offered for Matauaina at a church service at the Onenoa EFKAS which she attends before she leaves for Fiji.

Executive Director of the American Samoa Visitors Bureau, David Vaeafe, a member of the Miss Pacific Islands Board says the pageant is slated for December 1-9.

The new Miss will be crowned in an outdoor pageant at Charles Park in Nadi City on the final night.

The contest with the theme, "Climate change — action to sustain our islands," will be part of special celebrations for the city of Nadi, which has undergone a rebuilding program

After the pageant, Miss American Samoa heads to Port Villa, Vanuatu for the Pacific Mini Games scheduled for December 1-17.

(Source: talanei.com)

TWO ARRESTED AFTER MASSIVE METH BUST IN CHRISTCHURCH

The arrests were made after a joint police and Customs operation over the past two weeks.

Police said the drugs arrived into Christchurch in an air-freight consignment from Mexico on 1 November.

The drugs were hidden in a shipment of safety lights in 40 separate packages weighing 1-1.2kg each.

Police said the exact weight of the product was still to be determined, but said it was the largest-ever seizure of methamphetamine in the South Island.

The drugs had a potential street value of \$50 million.

Two Christchurch men - aged 25 and 31 - were arrested after several search warrants were carried out in Christchurch and Auckland.

They appeared in Christchurch District Court today on charges of importing a Class A drug, and possession of methamphetamine for supply.

They have both been remanded in custody to reappear later this month.

Detective Inspector Corrie Parnell said it was a significant result for police and Customs.

"These drugs, should they have made it to the streets, would have caused significant harm to people and communities, not just in Canterbury, but across the country."

Customs spokesperson Joe Cannon said the seizure was the result of risk-profiling and targeting work that Customs carried out for all goods, people and craft coming into New Zealand.

"We maintain a national per-

spective to protect our border, and will do everything possible to keep this hideous drug away from our communities."

(Source: RNZ)

DUNEDIN MOTORIST CAUGHT PLAYING BAGPIPES WHILE DRIVING

Officers working a road checkpoint in the city this morning discovered the motorist was more interested in making music than watching the road.

Acting Sergeant Bryce Johnson said police saw the man playing what appeared to be a clarinet or windpipes while driving.

"The driver didn't have their hands on the wheel at the time, and he was clearly playing the instrument while driving the car," he said.

"It's foolish to say the least. We are also concerned with the amount of drivers using mobile phones while driving. These also are major distractions for people. Neither of these things are a good idea."

After the motorist was stopped, it was revealed the man's instrument of choice was the chanter from a set of bagpipes.

The man was warned for his actions and sent on his way.

During the hour-long checkpoint operation, officers ticketed eight motorists and four others were warned for their driving, Johnson said.

"Always keep both hands on the wheel at all times, watch your speed and following distances and stick to the road rules," he said.

(Source: RNZ)

WORLD'S 'OLDEST WINE' FOUND IN 8000-YEAR-OLD JARS

Scientists say 8000-year-old pottery fragments have revealed the earliest evidence of grape wine making.

The earthenware jars containing residual wine compounds were found in two sites south of the Georgian capital, Tbilisi, researchers said.

Some of the jars bore images of grape clusters and a man dancing.

Previously, the earliest evidence of wine making was from pottery dating from about 7000 years ago found in northwestern Iran.

The finds were published in the journal "Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences" (PNAS).

"We believe this is the oldest example of the domestication of a wild-growing Eurasian grapevine solely for the production of wine," said co-author Stephen Batiuk, a senior researcher at the University of Toronto.

"Wine is central to civilization as we know it in the West. As a medicine, social lubricant, mind-altering substance and highly valued commodity, wine became the focus of religious

(Continued on page 8)



Almost 50kg of meth was seized by police after the Christchurch bust.

[photo: NZ Police]



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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

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IN THE COMMUNITY

(Photos: Courtesy)

▶ Turkey tail...

Continued from page 1

Eats Alone: Food as a Social Enterprise,” it was immediately clear that some considered this once-foreign food part of their island’s national cuisine. When I asked them to list popular “Samoan foods,” multiple people mentioned turkey tails – frequently washed down with a cold Budweiser.

How did imported turkey tails become a favorite among Samoa’s working class? Here lies a lesson for health educators: The tastes of iconic foods cannot be separated from the environments in which they are eaten. The more convivial the atmosphere, the more likely people will be to have positive associations with the food.

Food companies have known this for generations. It’s why Coca-Cola has been ubiquitous in baseball parks for more than a century, and why many McDonald’s have PlayPlaces. It also explains our attachment to turkey and other classics at Thanksgiving. The holidays can be stressful, but they also are a lot of fun.

As Julia, a 20-something Samoan, explained to me, “You have to understand that we eat turkey tails at home with family. It’s a social food, not something you’ll eat when you’re alone.”

Turkey tails also come up in discussions of the health epidemic gripping these islands. American Samoa has an obesity rate of 75 percent. Samoan officials grew so concerned that they banned turkey tail imports in 2007.

But asking Samoans to abandon this cherished food

overlooked its deep social attachments. Moreover, under World Trade Organization rules, countries and territories generally cannot unilaterally ban the import of commodities unless there are proven public health reasons for doing so. Samoa was forced to list its ban in 2013 as a condition of joining the WTO, notwithstanding its health worries.

EMBRACING THE WHOLE ANIMAL

If Americans were more interested in eating turkey tails, some of our supply might stay at home. Can we bring back so called nose-to-tail animal consumption? This trend has gained some ground in the United States, but mainly in a narrow foodie niche.

Beyond Americans’ general squeamishness toward offal and tails, we have a knowledge problem. Who even knows how to carve a turkey anymore? Challenging diners to select, prepare and eat whole animals is a pretty big ask.

Google’s digitization of old cookbooks shows us that it wasn’t always so. “The American Home Cook Book,” published in 1864, instructs readers when choosing lamb to “observe the neck vein in the fore quarter, which should be of an azure-blue to denote quality and sweetness.” Or when selecting venison, “pass a knife along the bones of the haunches of the shoulders; if it smell [sic] sweet, the meat is new and good; if tainted, the fleshy parts of the side will look discolored, and the darker in proportion

to its staleness.” Clearly, our ancestors knew food very differently than we do today.

It is not that we don’t know how to judge quality anymore. But the yardstick we use is calibrated – intentionally, as I’ve learned – against a different standard. The modern industrial food system has trained consumers to prioritize quantity and convenience, and to judge freshness based on sell-by-date stickers. Food that is processed and sold in convenient portions takes a lot of the thinking process out of eating.

If this picture is bothersome, think about taking steps to recalibrate that yardstick. Maybe add a few heirloom ingredients to beloved holiday dishes and talk about what makes them special, perhaps while showing the kids how to judge a fruit or vegetable’s ripeness. Or even roast some turkey tails.

(Originally published on The Conversation website, which granted permission to reprint. Author, Michael Carolan is a Professor of Sociology and Associate Dean for Research, College of Liberal Arts, Colorado State University.)

[Editor’s Note: Samoa News publishes this story to begin its celebration of November as “Thanksgiving” month; because have you noticed how the retail stores – in the US and here in the territory – seem to be skipping Thanksgiving Day and jumping straight to Black Friday (the day after Thanksgiving) and then Christmas? Apparently there’s not enough money in the ‘holiday’... ra]



▶ Drugs, weapons, and lots...

Continued from page 1

If they are able to post bond, Judge Sunia has informed them of conditions of release, which include refraining from consuming alcohol or being in possession of any illegal drugs, and they are ordered to surrender themselves to random drug and alcohol testing.

A preliminary examination hearing for Wood is set for next Monday, Nov. 20th at 10:00 a.m. while Tuatoo and Taisia are scheduled to appear in court tomorrow.

Falana’ipupu said police are still continuing their investigations, to ensure drugs and illegal activities are weeded out from homes, villages and the community.

Combating the drug problem in American Samoa is the main purpose behind Police Commissioner Le’i Sonny Thompson’s plan to re-establish the Vice & Narcotics Tactical Unit earlier this year.

In an earlier interview with Samoa News, Le’i said that one week after the Vice & Narcotics Unit was officially re-established, back in July of this year, a few police officers resigned from their posts.

These same police officers,

according to Le’i, are the ones who were under the microscope when he became Commissioner, because there were suspicions they were involved with and engaged in alleged illegal activities – including drugs – in the territory.

Le’i said the expansion of the DPS Vice & Narcotics Tactical Unit is their commitment to combatting the infiltration of the territory by illegal drugs.

During Monday’s court proceedings, the District Court was packed with family members and local residents.

One woman told Samoa News outside of the courthouse that she praises the great effort by police to find those who are allegedly distributing drugs in the community, and charging them, because it will put a stop to this increasing problem.

She said she is a victim of the drug problem because police arrested and charged her son for allegedly selling drugs to other people.

She said she didn’t know anything about her son being involved in drugs until police officers came to her house a few months ago and informed her that they have arrested

him for unlawful possession of a controlled substance – methamphetamine.



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Congresswoman Amata and USVI Governor Mapp, before a Natural Resources Committee hearing on several shared challenges territories face. [courtesy photo]

► Community briefs...

Continued from page 3

gible highways and roadways. Eligible work includes repairs needed to restore essential traffic, minimize the extent of damage, or protect the remaining facilities as well as permanent repairs necessary to restore the highway to its pre-disaster condition.

"I appreciate the DOT's continuing support for American Samoa's reconstructive efforts," Congresswoman Amata continued. "Congratulations especially to everyone at the Department of Public Works involved in this grant, and to Director Faleosina Voigt and the rest of the leadership of the department."

AMATA EMPHASIZES TERRITORIES' SHARED CHALLENGES

Washington, D.C. — Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017 — Congresswoman Aumua Amata emphasized in the Natural Resources Committee hearing several shared challenges territories face.

In her questioning of witnesses, she urged support for strong infrastructure in the territories and equitable health care treatment with the states, and highlighted American Samoa's shared need with the

U.S. Virgin Islands for a 2019 Medicaid extension to spend down funds. Finally, the territories also share a similar need for economic development tax credit initiatives in any final major tax legislation.

"While Irma and Maria were two of the worst hurricanes in recent history, the fact remains that the insular territories are no strangers to natural disasters," said Aumua Amata. "Hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunamis, and other disasters are an unfortunate part of the natural order of living on an island, making it imperative that we do all we can to prepare for them in advance.

"The insular territories are particularly susceptible, as they are isolated from receiving help from the rest of the country and often suffer more damage from disasters based on their relative size. We will do everything we can to help Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands get back on their feet, but we cannot stop there. We need to strengthen infrastructure and foster stability in all the territories before the next disaster," she said.

On Nov. 14, the Committee on Natural Resources held an oversight hearing titled "The Need for Transparent Financial

Accountability in Territories' Disaster Recovery Efforts."

The Committee heard testimony directly from the two territories' governors: The Honorable Ricardo Rosselló, Governor of Puerto Rico; and the Honorable Kenneth Mapp, Governor of the United States Virgin Islands. The hearing focused on where recovery support is most needed, and efforts to prevent spending waste through oversight.

In her exchange of remarks with Governor Mapp, Congresswoman Amata focused attention on American Samoa and the Virgin Islands shared difficulty spending down Medicaid funds granted under the ACA, due to lack of resources and matching fund requirements, and the concept of an extension for the funds expiring in 2019, along with the need for equitable treatment with the states.

Mall of America stabbing suspect has mental illness history

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A man charged with stabbing two shoppers at the Mall of America has a history of mental illness.

Prosecutors charged 20-year-old Mahad Abdiraham with two counts of assault causing great bodily harm.

The complaint says Abdiraham began slashing a 19-year-old man as the victim was coming out of a dressing room Sunday at Macy's.

The man was cut in the face, head and arms and had to

undergo a blood transfusion.

The complaint says the victim's 25-year-old brother tried to help and was cut in the hands and back, requiring 42 stitches.

Abdiraham's initial court appearance is Wednesday. It's unclear if he has an attorney.

Abdiraham was charged with stabbing two staff members with a pen last year at an in-patient psychiatric unit.

Court records show he was acquitted due to mental illness.



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Senate panel approves Trump choice to lead Homeland Security

WASHINGTON (AP) — A key Senate committee on Tuesday approved President Donald Trump's choice to lead the Department of Homeland Security. The Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee approved Kirstjen Nielsen's nomination, 11-4. The panel's chairman, Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., said the full Senate could vote on Nielsen's nomination by the end of November. Nielsen, 45, is a former staffer at DHS who now serves as deputy White House chief of staff. Democrats complained that she lacked the experience needed to run a major agency with 240,000 employees. They also cited concerns about possible White House interference in a recent DHS decision to send home thousands of Nicaraguans long granted U.S. protection.

Johnson dismissed those concerns and said Nielsen's boss, White House chief of staff John Kelly, has called her a "superstar."

The Homeland Security post "is a very big job. Probably no one is fully qualified for it. I think she has some good qualifications," Johnson said, adding that it was important to fill the post as soon as possible.



FILE - In this Oct. 12, 2017, file photo, President Donald Trump, left, listens as Kirstjen Nielsen, right, a cybersecurity expert and deputy White House chief of staff, speaks in the East Room of the White House in Washington after Trump announced that she is his choice to be the next Homeland Security Secretary. Nielsen was tapped to help shepherd Trump's Department of Homeland Security secretary pick through his Senate confirmation process. Now she's got her own team shepherding her. The Senate Homeland Security Committee will hold a confirmation hearing for Nielsen on Wednesday, Nov. 8. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh, File)

▶ Pacific Brief...

Continued from page 5

cults, pharmacopoeias, cuisines, economies and society in the ancient Near East."

The pottery jars were discovered in two Neolithic villages, called Gadachrili Gora and Shulaveris Gora, about 50km south of Tbilisi, researchers said.

Telltale chemical signs of wine were discovered in eight jars, the oldest one dating from about 5980 BC.

Large jars called qvevri, similar to the ancient ones, are still used for wine-making in Georgia, said David Lordkipanidze, director of the Georgian National Museum who helped

lead the research.

Batiuk said the wine was probably made in a similar way to the qvevri method today "where the grapes are crushed and the fruit, stems and seeds are all fermented together."

Previously, the earliest evidence of grape wine-making had been found in the Zagros Mountains of Iran and dated to 5400-5000 BC.

The world's earliest non-grape based wine is believed to be a fermented alcoholic beverage of rice, honey and fruit found in China and dating to about 7000 BC. (Source: RNZ)

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Tatala ofisa fou DOH Fagaalu mo talavai fa'afou o kilia ma'i

tusia: *Leua Aiono Frost*

Ua matagofie le fa'afaigofie ona fa'ataunuu uma lava tiute o tama'ita'i o lo'o tautuaina le mamalu lautele o i latou e gasolo atu i le Fale fou mo Talavai e fa'afou ai Kilia Fai-galuega mo e faigaluega i galuega i fale'aiga ma fale gaosia meataumafa o so'o se ituaiga, e pei o Kamupani I'a atoa ai ma fale'aiga fa'atau atu i le mamalu lautele i le Maketi po'o isi nofoaga tumau.

"Ona o le tulaga o le mana'omia ona fa'aaoga vave le Ofisa fou, ua tatala vave ai loa le falefou leni. Ua mana'omia ona vave le fa'asologa o tagata e talosaga latou kili o le soifua maloloina, e mafai ai ona galulue," o se tala lea mai se sui o le Matagaluega o le Soifua Maloloina, ona sa tele fonotaga a le Fa'atonusili, Motusa Tuileama Nua i le aso ananafi.

O le fale lea a'o le'i mae'a ona toe galuea'ina, sa fa'atautaia ai talavai mo Kilia o le Soifua Maloloina ma le Talavai a le "Well Baby Clinic" mo pepe ma fanaiti i a latou siakiga masani ma tui puipuia fa'alemasina se'ia mae'a le ta'i 14 tausaga o le matutua.

Lea ua toe tatala nei, ae ua faia ai Kilia mo le Soifua Maloloina o tagata faigaluega, ae o le talavai a le fanaiti ua taumafai ona fa'aa'e ane i le fale i tua atu o le falefou e pito i luma. E ese mai lea ua fuafua fo'i ina ia fa'atulaga fale tuai i tua atu o nei potu talavai, ia avea ma se nofoaga fa'apitoa mo gasegase tau le mafaufau, e nonofo mau ai.

"O i latou nei ua va'aia le momoe i nofoaga fa'atali pasi, ma luma o Ofisa po'o so'o se vaipanoa. O i latou fo'i o tagata o si o tatou atunu'u, peita'i ua afaina latou mafaufau, ma e tatau ona saunia se nofoaga e fiafia i latou e nonofo lelei ai," o se tala lea mai le sui o le matagaluega.

O lona uiga, o nei faletuai o le a toe fa'aleleia totonu, ina ia agava'a ona nofoia e i latou nei, ma e toe itiiti nei va'aia le fa'agasologa o galuega toe fausia lelei mo lea atufalega e pito i tua o le Matagaluega, i lona nofoaga i Fagaalu.

O le tinoitupe na fa'aaoga i le toe fausia o le Ofisa mo Talavai o Kilia Faigaluega, sa maua mai i le polokalame a le fetarale mo galuega tetele (CIP).

Ua fuafua nei le tatalaga aloia o lea galuega i le masina fou, peita'i, e muamua lava ona mautinoa o le a i ai ni ali'i

foma'i e to'atolu e mafai ona latou galulue i le Talavai a le Primary Care, lea e fa'atautaia lua mai ma siakiga o Kilia Ma'i mai le Soifua Maloloina e pei ona amatalia ai nei i le fale fou.

I le taimi nei, o talavai nei e le o totogia, e pei lava fo'i o talavai i Falema'i i Itumalo lea e aofia ai Tafuna, Leone ma Amouli.

O talavai uma nei o lo'o aofia i le fa'atulagaga a le Medi-
(Faaauau itulau 11)

O i latou o lo'o tautuaina le mamalu lautele i le Fale fou ua nofoia nei e le Talavai mo Kilia Ma'i a le Matagaluega o le Soifua Maloloina i Fagaalu. Matagofie le latou Ofisa fou fa'ato'a atoa le tolu vaiaso talu ona tatala. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

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Taliu mai i fanua aufusu ma pine 3 mo Amerika Samoa

Falepuipui le ali'i gaoi mo le 6 masina

tusia Ausage Fausia

O le faaiuga o le vaiaso na te'a nei na toe taliu mai ai i le atunu'u le aufusu e to'afa sa tausinio i le taamilosaga a le Tafatolu sa faia i Samoa i le vaiaso na te'a nei, ina ua manumalo i latou i pine e 3 mo Amerika Samoa.

O pine e 3 na maua e le aufusu a le atunu'u e aofia ai le pine siliva e tasi ma pine apa memea e 2.

O le ali'i o Alofa Mataafa na manumalo i le pine siliva mo Amerika Samoa, ina ua faia i le ali'i o Henry Tyrell o Samoa i se ta'aloga mataina ma le finau e sailia ai le pine auro.

O pine apa memea e 2 na mauaina lea e Alesana Alesana ma Orlando Taalo, o i laua uma o sui fou o le aufusu a le atunu'u, fa'atoa auai lea o i latou i ni ta'amilosaga fa'avaomalo faapenei.

E le i manuia taumafaiga a le tama'ita'i o Elizabeth Tuavale lea na to'afa i ai le aufusu a le atunu'u mo se pine, e ui sa mataina lana taumafaiga i le ta'amilosaga atoa.

O le ta'amilosaga Fa'avaomalo o le Tafatolu na talimalo ai Samoa i le vaiaso na te'a nei, sa aofia ai Niu Sila, Samoa ma Amerika Samoa. O le agaga atoa o lenei ta'amilosaga e pei ona taua e le Faiaoga o le aufusu a le atunu'u, afioga Sala

Sanele Etuale, o le taumafai lea ina ia si'itia tapenaga a ali'i ma tama'ita'i fusu e sauni ai mo ta'amilosaga tetele fa'avaomalo a le lalolagi.

Na taua e le afioga a Sala i le Samoa News e fa'apea, o se tasi o itu taua o le ta'amilosaga a le Tafatolu, o le a tapena atu ai le aufusu a le atunu'u mo ta'aloga Laiti a le Pasefika e faia i Vanuatu i le masina fou o Tesema.

Sa ia taua le mataina o le taumafaiga a le au fusu a le atunu'u i le ta'amilosaga o le Tafatolu, ma ua avea ai lea ta'amilosaga o se avanoa e toe fa'aleleia ai ni isi o vaega e moomia le toe fa'aleleia atili, a o lumana'i ai le Ta'aloga a le Pasefika i le masina fou.

E pei ona silafia, o le ta'amilosaga sa faia i Samoa i le masina o Setema na te'a atu nei, le Ta'amilosaga Fa'avaomalo lea o le Teuila, lea fo'i na malaga ai le aufusu a le atunu'u, na fo'i mai ai ma le Ipu o le siamupini, ina ua latou fa'ato'ilaloina le aufusu malosi a Samoa ma latou manumalo ai i fusuaga e 5 ae 4 Samoa.

Saunoa Sala e fa'apea, o ni isi o sui tuai o le aufusu a le atunu'u, e le i mafai ona malaga i laua i le ta'amilosaga o le Tafatolu lea na fa'atoa mae'a atu nei, ae ua sauni i laua e auai atu i ta'aloga i Vanuatu i le masina fou.

tusia Ausage Fausia

O le ali'i lea na ta'usala e le Fa'amasinoga Fa'aitumalo i le moliaga mama o le gaoi, ua fa'asalaina nei o ia e taofia i le toese i Tafuna mo le 6 masina, o se tasi lea o tuutuuga o lana nofovaavaaia e 12 masina, ina ua faamaonia e le Fa'amasinoga le moliaga o le gaoi sa tu'uaia ai o ia e le malo.

E pei ona manino i fa'amaumaga a le Fa'amasinoga, e le o se taimi muamua lea ua tula'i ai Iakopo Siafolau i luma o le Fa'amasinoga, ona o tu'uaiga i solitulafono eseese sa ia fa'atinoina.

O le fa'a 5 ai lea ona molia o ia e le malo ma tula'i i luma o le Fa'amasinoga. E fa'a 3 ona molia ma ta'usala o ia i moliaga mama o le fa'atupu vevesi i nofoaga faitele, fa'atasi ona molia i le ave ta'avale 'ona, ma moliaga o le gaoi e pei ona ta'usala ai o ia i le vaiaso nei.

"Na amata mai lava au solitulafono i mea laititi, na amata i le fa'atupu misa, sosoo ai ma le fusu, ave ta'avale 'ona, a o lea ua e fa'asolo atu i le gaoi.

O ai na iloa e le o toe mamao ae toe molia mai fo'i oe i se isi solitulafono e sili atu ona mamafa," o le saunoaga lea a Fiti Sunia ia Siafolau i le taimi

na lau ai lana fa'asalaga ananafi.

I ulua'i mataupu e 4 a Siafolau ua mae'a ona iloiloina e le Fa'amasinoga, sa tuuina atu ai le poloaiga e auai i aoaoga fa'afautua ina ia fa'ailoa atu ai ia te ia le leaga o le 'ava malosi.

O ripoti ua tuuina atu e le Ofisa Faanofovaavaaia i le Fa'amasinoga, o lo o taua ai le mae'a lea ona auai o le ua molia i aoaoga faa faufautua e pei ona taua, ma ua mae'a fo'i ona fa'au'u mai ai o ia i aoaoga uma nei.

Na fa'ailoa e Sunia ia Siafolau e fa'apea, e foliga mai o lea ua mae'a ana aoaoga sa fa'atonu o ia e fa'ataunu'u, ma e foliga mai e le o i ai lava se suiga i le fa'afitauli o le 'ava malosi o lo o a'afia ai o ia.

"O lea ua manino mai, e foliga mai e i ai lava le fa'afitauli o le 'ava malosi ia te oe, ma ua le toe i ai se isi avanoa e te toe aoga ai i nei aoaoga, aua o lea ua uma ona e fa'au'u mai ai, ao lea lava e te a'afia i le fa'afitauli o le 'ava malosi," o le saunoaga lea a Sunia.

I le mataupu a le ua molia na fa'atoa mae'a atu i ni nai masina e le i mamao atu, na fa'anofovaavaaia ai o ia mo le 12 masina, i lalo o tuutuuga e ao ona ia tuliina aso e 60 i le toese.

Peita'i na fa'amalumu lona

tuliina o aso e 60, fuafua lava i lona usitaia o poloaiga a le fa'amasinoga.

O lea la ua toe faamaonia le isi ana solitulafono, ma ua poloaina ai loa o ia na te tuliina aso e 60 ia sa fa'amalumu i le toese, mai lana mataupu o lo o nofovaavaaia ai o ia, e aofia ai ma aso e 51 lea ua mae'a ona ia tuliina i le toese, a o fa'atalitali ai se faaiuga o lana mataupu. Lona uiga, e toe 9 aso o lo o totoe ona mae'a lea o lana 60 aso lea ua faatulaga e tuli.

Mo lana mataupu fou e pei ona ta'usala ai o ia i le gaoi, ua faanofovaavaaia fo'i o ia mo le 12 masina i lalo o tuutuuga, e ao ona ia tuliina aso e 120 i le toese i Tafuna.

Ua manatu le fa'amasinoga, o le a fa'amalumu le tuliina e le ua molia o isi aso e 60, ae ua lava aso e 60 na te tuliina i le toese.

O le fa'asalaga fou e 60 aso a Siafolau, e fa'atoa tuli pe a mae'a ona tuli lana 60 aso lea na fa'amalumu mai lana mataupu tuai. Afai ae magalo mai o ia i le tausaga fou, ua faatonu o ia e le fa'amasinoga e alu e saili sana galuega tumau e galue ai.

Ua poloaina fo'i o ia e totogi le salatupe e \$100 i totonu o le ulua'i 30 aso o lana nofovaavaaia.



Sui i le Ami Fa'aleoleo i le taimi o le latou tula'i fa'aaloalo, ina ua mae'a ona tauaao e le Lutena Kovana ia Lemanu P. Mauga le teu fugalaau e aloaia ai le tautua a fitafita o le taua i le vaiaso na te'a nei.

[ata AF]

► Tatala ofisa fou...

Continued from page 9

care lea ua alu uma ai fa'atasi Falema'i Itumalo, e fa'auia le togotia o nei talavai uma i le Medicare.

Na fa'atuai ona fa'alauiloa lea tautua i Faga'alu, ona o le le'i mae'a ona tatala o lea fale fou mo Talavai tumau a le Primary Care ma siakiga mo Kilia Faigaluega.

E lima potu e faia ai siakiga o gasegase i le fale fou lenei, ae mana'omia lava ni Foma'i se to'atolu e fa'aogaina nei potu mo talavai. E to'atasi le foma'i, o lo'o fia siakiga mo Kilia a le Soifua Maloloina mo tagata faigaluega e mo'omia. O lona uiga o le tulaga fita lea e i ai nei mo le Matagaluega, o le fia maua o

ni Foma'i e fa'atautaia Talavai a le Primary Care i le togoti ua gafatia ona ofo atu ia i latou.

I le tulaga fo'i o talavai mo kili faigaluega o le Soifua Maloloina, e tuai lava le fa'asologa, ona o le foma'i lava e to'atasi, ma e na'o le 20 tagata talosaga mo nei kilia e talia i le aso e tasi. O le fa'atulagaga lea e ao ina usita'ia ai le aiaiga a le Medicare mo falema'i uma e togotia e i latou le talavai.

E fa'afa ona e asia ma fa'auau au talavai nei, ina ia mae'a ai ona taua'aoina lou ID.

O au talavai e mae'a ai Kilia Faigaluega mai lea Ofisa e ao fo'i ona i ai suesuega uma a le Laboratory e faia.

Gunman targets people at random in California town, kills 4

RANCHO TEHAMA RESERVE, Calif. (AP) — A gunman driving stolen vehicles and choosing his targets at random opened fire “without provocation” in a tiny rural Northern California town Tuesday, killing four people and wounding at least 10 others, including a student at an elementary school, before police shot him dead, authorities said.

The gunfire began shortly before 8 a.m. in the rural community of Rancho Tehama Reserve, a homeowners association of modest houses and trailers in rolling oak woodlands dotted with grazing cattle about 130 miles north of Sacramento.

Police offered no immediate word on the assailant's motive, but a sheriff's official said the shooter's neighbors had reported a domestic violence incident a day earlier. Brian Flint told the Record Searchlight newspaper in the city of Redding that his neighbor, whom he knows only as Kevin, was the gunman and that his roommate was among the victims. He said the shooter also stole his truck. “The crazy thing is that the neighbor has been shooting a lot of bullets lately, hundreds of rounds, large magazines,” Flint said. “We made it aware that this guy is crazy and he's been threatening us.” Tehama County Assistant Sheriff Phil Johnston said officials received multiple 911 calls about gunfire at an intersection of two dirt roads in the upper reaches of the sparsely populated neighborhood. Minutes later, more calls reporting shots flooded in from different locations, including a small elementary school. “It was very clear at the onset that we had an individual that was randomly picking targets,” Johnston said. Witnesses reported hearing gunshots and children screaming at Rancho Tehama Elementary School, which has one class of students from kindergarten through fifth grade.

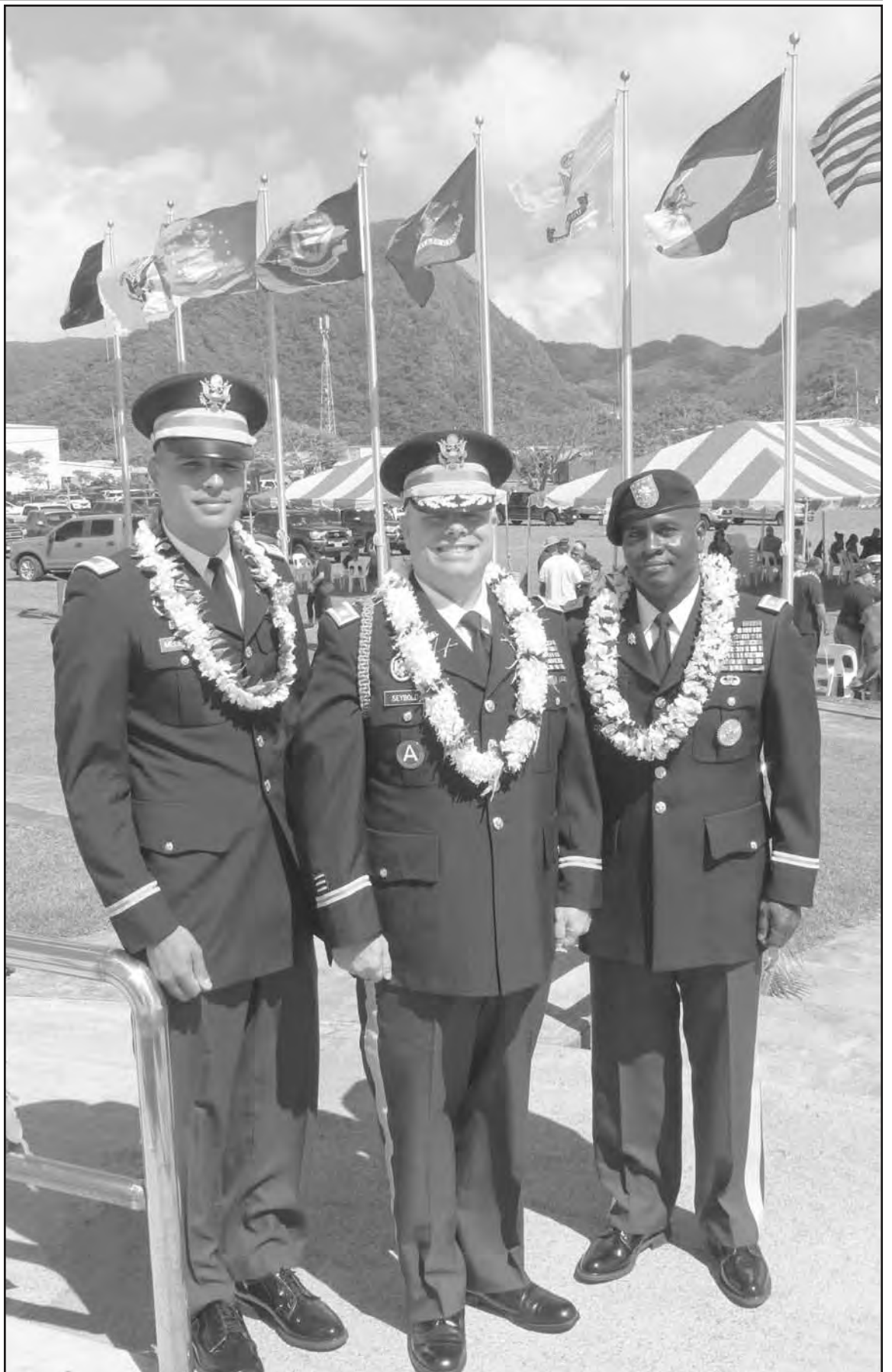
Johnston said one student was shot at the school and flown by helicopter to a hospital, and another student was wounded in a car on the way to school. He said no one was killed there.

“The shooter targeted the school from outside the school and shot inside the school with multiple rounds,” Johnston said.

The assistant sheriff said the school locked its doors, and students and staff “sheltered in place” until deputies ushered them onto a school bus and led it to safety under heavy guard.

Johnston said authorities believe they know the identity of the shooter but declined to release his name pending further investigation. He appears to have fired a semiautomatic rifle and two handguns at seven locations, authorities said.

The shooter initially stole a neighbor's truck and then carjacked a second vehicle before two deputies exchanged gunfire with him, Johnston said. No officers were hurt. Salvador Tello said the gunman fired at a truck in front of him as he went to drop off his three children at school. Tello said he was about three blocks from the school when bullets made “big holes” in the truck. He said he forced his children to duck down, slammed his vehicle into reverse and headed to the children's grandmother's house. “I put my kids down and put my truck in reverse and went out,” he said. “I don't believe it, because I wake up, take my kids, feed them cereal and put them in the truck and say, ‘Let's go to school like a normal day.’” On the way, he said he saw an apparent gunshot victim and police at another scene. The rural subdivision is described on its website as a “quiet private country community” where “the people are friendly and the pace is relaxed.” The homeowner association's website says there are 2,016 lots in the community and 1,346 voting members.



ILT Melendez, Jose o le 411th PSC, MAJ Ulisses, Taymes TSG American Samoa Det Executive Officer ma LTC Clinton, Seybold TSG American Samoa Det Commander sa auai i le sauniga mo vetereni i le aso Faraile ua te'a i Tafuna.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

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'aletalalelei, 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 faatuluu atu ai i le paia o suli ma feoi o le suafa 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 Tuitelele o le Faatuiolemotu, 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. la mamao ni ao taulia i le soifua o le afaigaluega 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.



IN THE COMMUNITY

(Photos: Courtesy)



Australian government senator Dean Smith, center, flanked by lawmakers who support marriage equality, speaks to journalists at Parliament House in Canberra, Australia Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2017. Smith has drafted the prime minister's referred bill that could legalize same-sex marriage this year. (AP Photo/Rod McGuirk)

Australians endorse gay marriage, ensuring Parliament bill

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — Australians supported gay marriage in a postal survey that ensures Parliament will consider legalizing same-sex weddings this year.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics said on Wednesday 62 percent of registered voters who responded in the unprecedented survey favored reform.

The conservative government promised to allow a bill creating marriage equality to be considered in Parliament in the final two-week session that is due to end on Dec. 7.

A “no” vote in the survey would have put marriage equality off the political agenda, perhaps for years. Thousands of marriage equality supporters waving rainbow flags gathered anxiously in city parks around the country and cheered when the results was announced.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, a vocal advocate of marriage equality, called on lawmakers to heed the “overwhelming” result and to commit to legislate for gay marriage by next month.

“They voted ‘yes’ for fairness, they voted ‘yes’ for commitment, they voted ‘yes’ for love,” Turnbull told reporters. “Now it is up to us here in the Parliament of Australia to get on with it, to get on with the job the Australian people have tasked us to do and get this done this year before Christmas — that must be our commitment.”

Some government lawmakers have vowed to vote down gay marriage regardless of the survey’s outcome. But the survey found a majority of voters in 133 of the 150 districts in the House of Representatives wanted reform.

Ireland is the only other country to put same-sex marriage to a popular vote, but that referendum was binding. Irish voters in 2015 changed their constitution to allow marriage equality.

In Australia, voting in elections and referenda is compulsory, but the Senate refused to fund a binding vote. Almost 80 percent of more than 16 million registered voters posted ballots in the voluntary survey, which gay marriage advocates opposed as an unnecessary obstacle and opponents derided as being about a boutique issue of little public interest.

The U.N. Human Rights Committee last week criticized Australia for putting gays and lesbians “through an unnecessary and divisive public opinion poll.” The committee called on Australia to legislate for marriage equality regardless of the survey’s outcome.

Lawmakers opposed to gay marriage are already moving to wind back anti-discrimination laws, with debate in Australia intensifying over the possibility of gay wedding boycotts and refusals to provide a celebrant, venue, flowers or a cake.

Several government lawmakers on Monday released a draft gay marriage bill, proposed by senator James Paterson, that critics argue would diminish current protections for gays against discrimination on the grounds of sexuality.

Government senator Dean Smith proposed a separate bill favored by Turnbull that ruled out any compromise that would cost gays and lesbians their existing protections against discrimination.

“If there are amendments, let’s see them, but let’s be clear about this: Australians did not participate in a survey to have one discrimination plank removed, to have other planks of discrimination piled upon them,” Smith told reporters.

Fiona McLeod, president of 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.”

Lyle Shelton, spokesman for Coalition for Marriage which lobbied against the reform, said her group favored Paterson’s bill.

“I don’t think anyone who voted in this postal survey wants to see their fellow Australians put up on hate speech charges,” Shelton said. “We need to protect freedom of speech, freedom of conscience and also freedom of religion.”

Rose McGowan surrenders to Virginia police on drug charge

WASHINGTON (AP) — Actress Rose McGowan, a leading voice against sexual harassment in Hollywood, has accepted an arrest warrant on a drug charge in a Washington suburb.

Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority spokesman Andrew Trull says in an email Tuesday night that McGowan has surrendered to Airports Authority Police. She is charged with possession of a controlled

substance. The felony charge stems from a police investigation of personal belongings left behind on a Jan. 20 flight that arrived at Washington Dulles International Airport in Virginia. Police say the items tested positive for narcotics. Airports Authority Police Department got the warrant on Feb. 1. McGowan was released on \$5,000 unsecured bond.

Police: Utah man shot wife and 2 kids, then killed himself

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Police say a Utah man fatally shot his wife and children before killing himself with guns he bought after the family moved from Switzerland months ago. Mapleton Police Chief John Jackson said in a statement Tuesday that 45-year-old Timothy Griffith used two guns, one to kill his family and the other to kill himself. He bought them in September, after they moved to the Utah town in July for his job

with Nestle. Griffith was found dead Thursday along with his 42-year-old wife, Jessica Griffith; 16-year-old stepdaughter, Samantha Badel; and 5-year-old son, Alexandre Griffith. The family dog also was killed. Jackson says police are still looking for a possible motive. The family was discovered after Timothy Griffith failed to show up for work and neighbors noticed their cars hadn't moved.



Members of the Mapleton Police Department and forensics gather evidence outside a home in Mapleton, Utah on Friday, Nov. 10, 2017. A Utah family of four and their dog have been found dead with gunshot wounds in an apparent murder-suicide, police said Friday. The bodies of a man, woman, teenage girl and young boy were found Thursday night inside their home in the northern city of Mapleton, police Chief John Jackson said. (Adam Fondren/The Deseret News via AP)

Colorado city settles case over warrantless police searches

DENVER (AP) — A Colorado city will pay more than \$200,000 in a settlement with residents of a subsidized housing apartment complex whose homes were searched by police without warrants. The settlement between the City of Longmont and four residents represented by the American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado also requires the city to take input from the ACLU on search policies, hold a public forum to address the incident and release a report on the May 2017 drug searches produced by a local sheriff's office. The tenants provided the ACLU with copies of notices that described the searches as a training opportunity for dogs in the police department's K-9 unit. But city officials said Tuesday that the officers involved weren't following department standards. ACLU attorney Rebecca Wallace said the four residents were particularly disturbed by officials' initial description of the searches as a way to reach people with drug addictions. "Our clients do not see themselves as needing caretaking," Wallace said. "The fact that they live in public

housing in no way diminishes their privacy rights." The tenants didn't file a lawsuit against the city. The settlement negotiations began when the city's top public safety official reached out and acknowledged problems with the searches, ACLU attorneys said. Wallace said the four residents still intend to sue the Longmont Housing Authority, which manages the building but operates independently from the city. "They certainly bear equal responsibility for inviting the police in and opening the door of residents," Wallace said. The city has said the Housing Authority requested the searches. The organization's executive director Michael Reis didn't immediately return a voicemail on Tuesday afternoon. Longmont's Mayor Brian Bagley, who was sworn into office on Monday, said he would consider changes on the housing authority's board. But he noted that board members appointments are determined by the entire city council. Bagley said he hadn't spoken to any housing authority officials about the incident. Wallace said the ACLU received no response after notifying the authority.



Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., arrives to speak to reporters following a closed-door strategy session on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

Senate GOP intent on scrapping health mandate in tax bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Republicans are intent on scrapping the Affordable Care Act's requirement that Americans get health insurance, targeting a repeal of the individual mandate to help finance deep tax cuts in their tax overhaul. The surprise renewal Tuesday of the failed effort to scrap the law's mandate came a day after President Donald Trump renewed pressure on GOP lawmakers to include the repeal in their tax legislation. It has sharp political stakes for

Trump, who lacks a major legislative achievement after nearly 10 months in office. The move by Republicans on the Senate Finance Committee upended the debate over the tax measure just as it was inching closer to passage following months of fine-tuning and compromise. It turned the debate into an angry partisan referendum on health care and President Barack Obama's signature law. Republican efforts to dismantle the law collapsed this past summer as moderate

Republicans joined with Democrats in rejecting the repeal — a bitter disappointment for Trump, who lashed out at the Senate GOP for failing. Adding the repeal of the mandate to the tax measure would combine two of Trump's legislative priorities. Beyond Trump's prodding, the repeal move also was dictated by the Republicans' need to find revenue sources for the massive tax-cut bill, which calls for steep reductions in the corporate tax rate and elimination of some popular tax breaks.

FA'ASILASILAGA

Talanoaga lona tolu o le Suafa ASOAU

O le a ou le toe tologā umuloa pe toe taia le tafa'itua i sa ma mamalu fa'aufigatā o lo tatou aiga Sa-Aso'au, e pei o le tala e fai i le Si'isi'ialafia ma lona aiga Salevaiolo. Ta'oto fo'i le fiso ma ona lau i taulaga tagata o lo tatou aiga ua ofo atu lo latou soifua galulue i le Atua ma lona finagalo, i le tauasuina o le tafa o le Talalelei. Fa'ata'alolo fo'i ma fa'alelepa foe i le savili, i pa'ia o le afio'aga, tainane le itumalo, auā o le atunu'u ua mae'a tofofi ma ua ta'otoga i'a sa, ta'oto fo'i a o se alao'o ma ona pa le solo, tulou, tulou, tulouna lava.

Ae fa'apito 'augafa ma su'itonu le mata o le niu e toe fofoga aloai'a ai lo tatou aiga, o suli ma feoi o le suafa Aso'au, tatou te toe lauluafesilafa'i ma fofoga fesaga'i i lo tatou aiga i Faleasao lava, i le aso 18 o Novema 2017, i le itula e 9 i le taeao, mo le toe soālaupuleina o le gasegase a malo o lo tatou aiga, o lo'o ta'oto pea i paga ma ta'a sa'olele e pei o le igafo i le moana. E fa'amoemoe le taofi vaivai, o le a fa'asopolia e le Atua o le fuā ma le telegese o lona to'asa lo outou soifua manuia i lea aso u lavasi ma tu'upoina, e faufau tele ai lo tatou sa i lou finagalo fa'ale-Atua. auā se tasi e tausia lo tatou aiga i Faleasao. O lou le afio mai, o le a lē tolopoina ai le finagalo 'autasi o aiga, auā o 'upu lava a le atunu'u, o le tele o sulu ma le fausa mu tele e maua ai figota, auā e le sua se lolo i se popo e tasi e aoao ai manogi mo le manuia o lo tatou aiga mo nei ma le lumana'i.

Faia ma le Fa'aaloalo e tatau ai

**Sainia: Ale A. Filoiali'i
 Le'aai M. Filoiali'i
 Fuiava B. Fuiava**





This Oct. 2017 photo taken by Jason Holt and released by his wife Laurie Holt, shows her posing for a photo with Wilmer Ruperti at a private jet airport in Salt Lake City, Utah. Laurie and Jason Holt say they are just grateful for the help being given by Ruperti, a wealthy Venezuelan businessman, after 16 months of confinement for their son Joshua Holt, who has been accused by government prosecutors of stockpiling weapons in a bizarre case that supporters say was a set up to retaliate against the U.S. as tensions between Washington and Caracas rise. (Jason Holt via AP)

Venezuelan tycoon funds jailed Utah man's defense

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — A Utah man's hopes for being freed from a Venezuelan jail, where he's lingered for more than a year in declining health, now lie with a wealthy shipping magnate closely linked to the country's socialist government.

Just why Wilmer Ruperti is funding the defense of former Mormon missionary Joshua Holt is not clear. The Venezuelan businessman is not talking, and Holt's parents say they are simply grateful for the help after 16 months of confinement for their son, who has been accused of stockpiling weapons in a bizarre case that Holt's supporters say was a set up to retaliate against the U.S. as tensions between Washington and Caracas rise.

The financial support for Holt's legal defense against government prosecutors is even more remarkable because Ruperti is also underwriting the defense of President Nicolas Maduro's two nephews in a separate, politically-charged U.S. narcotics trial, and he continues to do business with Maduro's administration. Last year, one of his companies won a \$138 million contract from the state oil company PDVSA to remove a 12 million metric ton dune of an oil byproduct used as fuel for power plants.

Ruperti, 57, declined a request for comment, but told the Wall Street Journal last year that he was helping defend the president's family because he thought the U.S. charges were an attempt to destabilize Venezuela by portraying it as a narco-state.

Maduro's nephews, Efrain Campos and Francisco Flores, were arrested by police in Haiti in 2015 and taken to New York, where they were convicted a year ago of conspiring to smuggle more than 1,700 pounds (800 kilograms) of cocaine into the U.S.

In the case of Holt, Ruperti has become convinced the American is being held unjustly as a political bargaining chip, people familiar with his involvement say. They say Ruperti, who has diligently lobbied officials for the American's release, is a devout Roman Catholic with children the same age as Holt.

Holt, 25, traveled to Venezuela in June 2016 and married a fellow Mormon he met online while practicing his Spanish. He had planned to spend several months in Caracas with her and her two daughters to secure visas for them so they could move to the U.S.

Instead he was arrested at his wife's apartment in a public housing complex. Police alleged he was hiding two assault rifles and grenades, and government officials later linked him to unspecified U.S. attempts to undermine Maduro's rule during a period of economic and political turbulence.

After staying silent for months about their son's unlikely legal benefactor, Laurie and Jason Holt now credit Ruperti with pushing along a case they feared was being shoved under the rug by President Donald Trump's rush to slap sanctions on both Venezuela and its senior officials.

Ruperti visited the Holt family at their home in Salt Lake City this year and has met Holt a few times at the Caracas prison where he is being held alongside some of Maduro's most prominent jailed political opponents. The businessman was also seen exiting a Caracas courthouse last week wearing a green #JusticeForJosh wristband given to him by Holt's family.

"He's like Josh's godfather," Laurie Holt told The Associated Press. "Anything Josh needs he tries to take care of."

Ruperti's seemingly contradictory positions offer a window into the tangled and often perplexing web of political and business connections that dominate decision making in Venezuela.

Ruperti, who worked as an oil tanker captain before starting his own shipping business, has longstanding ties to Venezuela's government. In 2002, he came to the rescue of then-President Hugo Chavez by chartering a fleet of Russian tankers to import gasoline after a workers' strike at state oil company PDVSA helped spur a fuel shortage in Venezuela.

For his efforts, he was decorated by Chavez with military honors and saw his business as a prized PDVSA contractor boom. Ruperti showed his gratitude by giving the leftist leader two pistols used by independence hero Simon Bolivar, which reportedly cost him \$1.6 million. Later, however, he was sued by a unit of the Russian shipping company for allegedly paying millions in bribes. That commercial dispute was settled last year.

The businessman became involved with Holt four months ago at the request of an American yachting buWednesday, November 15, 2017, Bill Duker, according to three people familiar with the case. They agreed to discuss the matter only if not quoted by name because of its politically sensitive nature. With Ruperti's financial backing, they said Duker solicited the help of his friend David Boies, whose blue-chip Manhattan law firm is also defending one of the two so-called "narco nephews" of Venezuelan First Lady Cilia Flores. Both defendants signed a conflict of interest waiver after U.S. prosecutors warned that any third party paying their bills might pursue a legal strategy not in their best interests. Their sentencing is slated for next month.

Meanwhile, Holt has also gotten his day in court under

House to adopt mandatory anti-sexual harassment training

WASHINGTON (AP) — Speaker Paul Ryan said Tuesday that the House will require anti-harassment and anti-discrimination training for all members and their staffs. The announcement came just hours after a hearing in which two female lawmakers spoke about sexual misconduct involving sitting members of Congress.

"Our goal is not only to raise awareness, but also make abundantly clear that harassment in any form has no place in this institution," said Ryan, R-Wis. "As we work with the Administration, Ethics, and Rules committees to implement mandatory training, we will continue our review to make sure the right policies and resources are in place to prevent and report harassment."

The policy change will happen through legislation.

The move comes days after the Senate unanimously approved a measure requiring

all senators, staff and interns to be trained on preventing sexual harassment.

During a House Administration hearing Tuesday on sexual harassment prevention, Rep. Barbara Comstock, R-Va., said she was recently told about a staffer who quit her job after a lawmaker asked her to bring work material to his house, then exposed himself.

"That kind of situation, what are we doing here for women, right now, who are dealing with someone like that?" Comstock asked. Comstock said there should be clear-cut rules about the kinds of relationships and behaviors that are off-limits and create a hostile work environment.

Comstock said the name of the lawmaker she mentioned wasn't disclosed to her, but she emphasized that naming names is an important step in promoting accountability and encouraging victims to come

forward.

At the same hearing, Rep. Jackie Speier said two current lawmakers have been involved in sexual harassment.

"In fact, there are two members of Congress, Republican and Democrat, who serve right now who have been subject to review, or not been subject to review, that have engaged in sexual harassment," Speier said.

The Democrat from California recently introduced legislation to make training to prevent sexual harassment mandatory for members of Congress after sharing her own story of being sexually assaulted by a male chief of staff. Her bill also includes a survey of the current situation in Congress and an overhaul of the processes by which members and staffers file harassment complaints.

The bill gained support from both Democratic and Republican lawmakers.

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Police wanted to arrest prep school deans in sex abuse case

EXETER, N.H. (AP) — Police recommended two deans from an elite prep school be arrested for failing to properly report allegations a male student groped a female classmate, a state police report shows.

The November 2016 state police report, obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press, shows arrest warrants were prepared for Phillips Exeter Academy's Arthur J. Cosgrove and Melissa D. Mischke.

The school is among several in New England that have been the focus of sexual-assault allegations.

Cosgrove and Mischke were accused of failing to contact the Department of Health and Human Services after a 17-year-old student told them of being attacked in 2015 by 18-year-old Chukwudi Ikpeazu, of Parkland, Florida, in a school church basement.

Prosecutors dropped sexual-assault charges against Ikpeazu in June. Ikpeazu's attorney, Richard Samdperil, said at the time that he maintained his innocence.

The warrants for the deans on misdemeanor charges of violating state reporting law were given to the Rockingham County attorney's office. The New York Times, which first reported the story, said the deans were not charged.

Rockingham County District Attorney Patricia Conway did not return a call seeking comment. Neither the deans nor a school spokeswoman returned emails seeking comment.

It's unclear why the deans were not charged, but the school reached with police in September an agreement saying suspected acts of sexual abuse involving children will

be reported to police and to the state Division of Children, Youth and Families.

The response of the two deans is likely to embolden critics who have long accused the school of mishandling abuse cases. In this case, the school came under fire after the campus minister, the Rev. Robert Thompson, urged the 17-year-old to reconcile with Ikpeazu and asked him to do "penance" by taking her weekly batches of his bread, which he baked and sold on campus.

Michael Whitfield Jones, an alumnus from New York who has raised awareness about the school's handling of sexual-abuse cases, said the two deans should "be removed."

Concerns about sex abuse at Exeter were first raised following revelations in March 2016 about former teacher Rick Schubart, who was forced to resign in 2011 after admitting sexual misconduct dating to the 1970s. Then, in April, another teacher was fired amid allegations he had sexual encounters with a student decades ago.

Soon after, a former admissions officer turned himself in to police over allegations he sexually assaulted a 14-year-old who was visiting the school in 1973. In May, Arthur Peekel pleaded guilty to sexual assault in the case and registered as a sex offender. Those cases prompted the school to launch its own investigation, leading to a report in which it identified five more former staff members accused of abuse. A law firm commissioned by Phillips Exeter identified four teachers and a psychologist accused of sexually inappropriate behavior involving eight students from 1966 to the 1980s.

Transgender service member gets gender reassignment surgery

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon says an active-duty service member has received gender-reassignment surgery, amid ongoing debate over whether transgender troops should be allowed to continue to serve in the military.

Defense Department spokeswoman Dana White says the surgery was done Tuesday in a private hospital. The surgery was paid for by the military's

health coverage because the doctor deemed it was medically necessary.

The Obama administration last year eliminated the ban on transgender individuals serving in the military. But President Donald Trump in August formally directed the Pentagon to extend the ban. He gave officials six months to determine what to do about those currently serving.



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.



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