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**Fa'ailoa e se ali'i pagota
Fa'amasinoga faiga sau a o loo
tutupu Falepuipui** Le Lali



The 2017-2018 Miss Pacific Islands, Matabuina G. Toomalatai (left), who is also the reigning Miss American Samoa, pictured with Lupe Kanape Aumavae Tauanu'u, who is a former Miss American Samoa as well as former Miss South Pacific Islands, (which has been renamed Miss Pacific Islands) at last Saturday's celebration event at Matai's Restaurant. The event, hosted by MASL, is the official celebration of Toomalatai's return home with the Miss Pacific Islands title. [photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

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AG's Office reviewing complaint about abuse of power by two senior police officers

by Ausage Fausia
Samoa News Reporter

The Attorney General's Office is reviewing a complaint from a concerned citizen, accusing two senior police officers of abusing their powers of law enforcement over an incident that began with one of the senior officers, who was off-duty at the time, and escalated into threats of arrest of the complainant at the Fagatogo Police Station by the other.

Sources confirmed to Samoa News that Attorney General Talauega Eleasalo Ale has assigned one of his attorneys to review the complaint and see what sort of action, if any, needs to be taken.

The complaint letter was sent to the Attorney General's office and cc'd to the Department of Public Safety. Samoa News obtained a copy of the letter.

Efforts to obtain a comment from the Police Commissioner Le'i Sonny Thompson about the incident were unsuccessful, as of press time.

The two officers named in the complaint are both male senior police officers. One of the officers holds the rank of Captain, while the other is a senior officer. The alleged incident took place on the ASCC campus, in front of the nursing building, on Feb. 01, 2018.

According to the complainant, her sister — who was the driver of the vehicle — reversed it, while in the ASCC parking lot, to pick up her up. The senior police officer's vehicle, which was behind their car, honked his car horn at them. The officer, who the complainant recognized as a police officer, was off duty.

"Our car was not close to his car yet he was still honking. I didn't see what the problem was since we had leeway and he could have easily driven to the left side of our car, which had space for him to drive out if he wanted to," according to the complaint.

The complainant explained that while she was standing at the side of their car looking back at the car the off-duty police officer was driving — who continued to beep his car's horn — the man rolled down his window and told her they're blocking the road, which according to her, they were not.

"I politely told him — to be patient as I am getting into the car. He then yelled back that he's not patient and I didn't fully hear what else he was yelling out afterwards. So as I got into the back seat and we're about to drive off onto the main road — the officer was still honking his horn at our car for which my sister honked back and he continued honking," according to the complaint.

Frustrated, annoyed and angry with the man continuing to honk his car horn, the complainant then rolled down her window and "flipped him off", while their vehicle continued on to make their way to the hospital.

At some point, she noticed that the off-duty's officer's vehicle

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It's official: No fautasi race for this year's Flag Dag celebration

by Ausage Fausia
Samoa News Reporter

Many people of American Samoa have been wondering if a celebration will be held to commemorate the 118 years since the territory became part of the United States family on April 17, and the Flag Day Committee has officially given its answer.

There is no fautasi race scheduled for this year Flag Day celebration; and, the Flag Day Samoan cricket competition has been cancelled as well.

However, there will be Pese & Siva as part of the Flag Day celebration, including a group from Samoa.

FLAG DAY FAUTASI REGATTA

The decision, re the Flag Day Fautasi Regatta, was made during a meeting with fautasi captains last Friday afternoon, held at the Samoan Affairs conference room, in Utulei.

The meeting was led by Paramount Chief Mauga Tasi Asuega, who is Flag Day Committee Co-Chairman, and he was accompanied by two

District Governors, Alo Dr. Paul Stevenson of the Western District and Fuamatu J.V Fuamatu of the Eastern District. Representatives of all villages with fautasi were in attendance.

The motion to cancel the race was voiced by the Flag Day Committee Co-Chairman, Paramount Chief Mauga Tasi Asuega, and was fully supported by all fautasi captains who were present during the meeting.

During the meeting, Mauga informed fautasi captains that Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga, together with Lt. Gov. Lemanu Palepoi Peleti Mauga, who is also the Flag Day Committee Co-Chairman and their cabinet are more concerned with finding ways to help those who are affected by tropical storm Gita.

"We all understand our government's financial situation right now, our economy is not in a good position and we also have a lot of responsibility that needs to be fulfilled. Our government's first priority is to reach out to our people and help them to rebuild their homes and families.

(Continued on page 11)



US Army Reserve officials pictured here were among the VIPs and special guests who attended last Friday's dedication ceremony of the new church building for the Congregational Christian Church of Jesus in Samoa (CCCJS) Fagatogo.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

Tafuna Elem. School forced to evacuate during drug raid on home next to the school

SOME VOICE THEIR ANGER, OTHERS SAY ‘MALO LAVA’ TO POLICE FOR DOING THEIR JOB

by Ausage Fausia
Samoa News Reporter

Armed DPS police officers participated in executing a search warrant during a raid on a house in Petesa last Thursday afternoon, looking for prohibited weapons, ammunition and illegal drugs.

The raid was carried out by DPS Vice & Narcotics unit — all armed, together with other armed police officers, who were called in to assist with the mission. Also involved in the raid were police K-9 dogs, trained to search for drugs and weapons.

The police raid caused a lot of frustration, anger and also complaint from members of the community especially parents for the Tafuna Elementary School, for putting children and everyone’s lives at risk after the students and all the school personnel were forced to evacuate from the campus during the police raid.

When asked for a comment, Police Commissioner Le’i Sonny Thompson confirmed to Samoa News that a raid by DPS police was launched Thursday afternoon near the location of Tafuna Elementary School.

Here is the short email from the police commissioner in response to Samoa News inquiries about the raid:

“The police were executing a Search Warrant signed by the High Court of assault in the first degree; attempted murder in the first degree; possession of a prohibited weapons and unlawful use of weapons. No gunshots were fired. No further comments at this time. Respectfully. Le’i S. Thompson.”

A source close to the investigation that wishes to remain anonymous, said the police raid was an ongoing part of their investigation into the incident where two gunshots were fired at a police unit at the back of the ASTCA compound in Tafuna last year.

A frustrated mother with two children who attend Tafuna Elementary school spoke to Samoa News about the ordeal her children faced when they were forced to evacuate the school campus. She said that police shouldn’t have done their raid during school hours.

Another parent described the incident as a “scary environment” when she arrived at

the area to pick up her daughter and saw armed police officers around the area.

A retired cop who was in the police force for over 30 years and is familiar with conducting police raids and executing search warrants from the court, stated that the commissioner and his armed police should have planned their mission well before executing it.

“If this is a search warrant from the court, then DPS already knew their target from their investigation, and they should have planned their mission well before they executed it, set up a good time to avoid any inconvenience for the public. They can conduct it early in the morning before school starts,” the retired police said.

Others have voiced their support of the police commissioner and his team for putting up the effort to minimize criminal acts

inside the island.

“I support the raid that was carried out by DPS police officers. Tracking down a suspect[s] can’t wait until school is over or wait until the weekend comes, once DPS find their lead and receives a warrant from the court, it’s their duty to execute that warrant as soon as possible,” said a caller.

Another caller, an elderly woman who lives in the area where police conducted their raid voiced her support for the commissioner and his team for working hard to combat illegal activities in the community.

“Teachers, school personnel and parent should have prepared themselves to face this types of circumstances way back. We are living in the end of time and we have seen a lot of changes in our youth right now. A lot of gang violence now-a-days, young people doing

drugs, burglarizing homes and stealing people’s property — and our only hope is our sons and daughters who have been sworn-in as police officers to carry out the hard tasks,” the elderly woman said.

“I believe that police should not wait until school is over or wait until the weekend comes to conduct their duty — the commissioner and his teams were ordered by the court to execute the warrant and they must do it as soon as possible.

“I salute Le’i and his team for carrying out their task wisely without hurting anyone.


“I want to see those people who are responsible for committing criminal acts arrested and locked up in jail for the rest of their life. Prohibited weapons and illegal drugs ... must be confiscated and destroyed by police,” she concluded.



First Lady, Cythia Malala Moliga cuts the ribbon at last Friday’s dedication ceremony of the new church building for the Congregational Christian Church of Jesus in Samoa (CCCJS) Fagatogo. The new church is built on the same site as the original one, which was constructed in 1963.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

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MO MATAFAGA



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ASEPA

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Fa'afeso'ota'i: AS-EPA Polokalama a le Vai – 633-2304

Fa'asilasilaga mai le Ofisa o le Puipuiga o le Si'osi'omaga mo le mamalu o le atunu'u: sa faia su'esu'ega o gataifale ia Fepuari 27, 2018, ma fa'amaonia ai le i ai o siama (Enterococci) i gataifale o alalafaga nei:

Utumea West	Fagatogo Stream Mouth
Asili Stream Mouth	Fagasa-Fagale'a
Leone Pala	Aoa Stream Mouth
Taputimu Leala Beach	Afono Stream Mouth
Nuuuli Pala Lagoon	Aua Stream Mouth
Nuuuli Pala Spring	Aua - A&M
Fagaalu Beach	Aua - Pouesi
Utulei – DDW	Alega Stream Mouth
Utulei Beach	Fagaitua Stream Mouth

E fautuaina le mamalu o le atunu'u o lo'o fa'aaogaina ia ogasami mo ta'elega ma fagotaga: talu ai ona o su'esu'ega o ia vaega o ogasami sa faia i le vaiaso ua mavae, sa molimauina ai le mauuluga o le faitau aofa'i o siama (Enterococci) mai numera ua fa'atapula'aina i le tulafono i ia vaega o ogasami. O nei siama e afua mai otaota po'o suavai lafoa'i o tagata ma meaola. Afai ae o'o atu le faitau aofa'i o siama mai numera ua fa'atapula'aina, o lona uiga, e i ai le avanoa e ono afaina ai lou soifua maloloina ini fa'ama'i e pei o le manava-tatā, o fofoga fa'apea fa'i ma manu'a o le tino pe a sao i ai le siama. Mo lou saogalemu: 'ava le inuina le suasami, ia fa'alanu lelei, ma fa'amālū pe a mae'a ta'elega. O le fautuaga mai le Ofisa o le AS-EPA, fa'afeso'ota'i muamua se foma'i, a'o le'i fa'aaogaina ia ogasami, auā le puipuiga o lou soifua maloloina.

Fa'amolemole, fa'autagia mai nei fautuaga. O le a toe maua atu se isi ripoti, pe a mae'a nisi o su'esu'ega mai le Potu Su'esu'e a le AS-EPA i le vaiaso fou. O lo'o i lalo o le va'ava'aiga a le AS-EPA matafaga mo tafaoga e 44 i le motu o Tutuila, e 5 i Manua ma le uafu i Aunu'u. O fa'asalalauga mo fautuaga mo le motu o Tutuila o lo'o auina atu i vaiaso ta'itasi, ae o Manu'a ma Aunu'u e fa'asalalau atu i masina ta'itasi. Mo ni fesili pe fia malamalama atili, fa'amolemole, vala'au mai i le telefoni (684) 633-2304.

Hawaiki Cable: Month of June will probably be “Ready-For-Service” date

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

The vessel, CS Responder, laying the undersea fiber optical cable for Hawaiki Submarine Cable LP is scheduled to arrive in Pago Pago next month, with plans to still launch the new cable service in the territory in June this year.

Hawaiki will link Australia and New Zealand to the US mainland, as well as Hawaii and American Samoa, with options to expand to additional South Pacific islands.

American Samoa Tele-Communications Authority (ASTCA) signed an agreement with Hawaiki more than a year ago to bring the cable spur landing to the territory. Hawaiki had announced last year that it was to start the cable laying operations the second week of October 2017 and plans to install the American Samoa spur, which is already manufactured and loaded onto the cable ship, in the first quarter of 2018.

ASTCA project manager for Hawaiki, Ted Leiato said that plans are on track to bring the new undersea fiber optic cable to the American Samoa and that will result in faster Internet connectivity for the territory.

In providing an update on the Hawaiki cable, Leiato explained that the northern half of the cable is already laid from Pacific City, Oregon to Kapolei on Oahu island in Hawai'i, and up to near Tokelau. “That’s the first half of the cable,” he said in a Samoa News interview last Thursday.

For the southern half of the cable, laying operations have already begun with cable already laid from Coogee — a beachside suburb southeast of Sydney, Australia — to Mangawhai Heads, which is north of

Auckland, New Zealand.

Leiato explained that after the cable is laid the crew goes back to conduct a final survey, checking on the cable that’s already laid. “And then they start the deep sea laying of the cable, that heads over towards us,” he said adding that the cable-laying vessel is now between New Zealand and American Samoa.

“And the vessel will be here next month, April,” he said and noted that prior to the cable landing here, a team involved with the cable is expected to arrive sometime later this month, to put in the land cable. The team’s arrival coincides with the cable landing by the vessel.

After the cable lands here (which is at Fogagogo), Leiato said the team would start testing the cable and this would take about a period of one-month. “And then around June, is the Ready-For-Service or RFS date,” he said, referring to when the new cable is operational.

He also says that ASTCA has already installed the cable landing station equipment. He explained that an off island team was on island for about three to four weeks early this year conducting site inspection and tests. “So that’s completed. And two weeks ago they finished training nine ASTCA employees on the operation and maintenance of the cable landing equipment,” he notes.

ASTCA announced on Oct. 3, 2017 that it had signed with Hawaiki an amendment to their original agreement for the installation of a spur connecting American Samoa to the Hawaiki cable and the provision of international capacity to the US mainland.

One of the key outcomes

of the agreement includes the provision of 200 Gigabits of Internet bandwidth — more than 150 times the capacity currently available in American Samoa — giving ASTCA access to a large volume of capacity at a very competitive cost.

Increased capacity was also echoed by Leiato, who explained that Hawaiki would bring “200 times faster” Internet service than the current speed. With faster Internet service, new opportunities happen for American Samoa such as Distance Learning and Tele-medicine as well as future business opportunities such as call centers, he pointed out.

“You’re looking at vast opportunities for our people through the internet with Hawaiki,” he said.

“So at this point, the cable landing station is in place, the equipment is already installed, training of nine ASTCA personnel to maintain and operate is done,” he explained. “The next phase is land cable installation and that’s sometime this month. And then the cable-laying vessel comes in April and June is the RFS date.”

Speaking on behalf of the ASTCA team, Leiato said ASTCA thanks the public for their patience and expresses appreciation to the tremendous support from the governor, the administration, the Fono, and the community.

Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga said late last year that the Hawaiki project “will help to bridge the digital divide and allow American Samoa to truly participate in the digital economy, as well as taking advantage of e-health and e-education initiatives to improve opportunities for our people.”

On guns, companies are getting out ahead of the politicians

By ALEXANDRA OLSON, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — In 1960, black students staged sit-ins that forced Woolworth’s to desegregate its lunch counters, and other stores and restaurants followed suit. In 1986, General Motors, Coca-Cola and dozens of other U.S. corporations pulled out of apartheid-era South Africa after years of pressure from activists, college students and investors.

This week, four major retailers slapped restrictions on gun sales that are stronger than federal law.

Those are all rare examples of American companies get-

ting out ahead of the politicians and the law on socially explosive issues. Such decisions are almost always made reluctantly, under huge pressure and with an eye toward minimizing the effect on the bottom line.

The Feb. 14 massacre of 17 students and teachers at a Florida high school has set off a response from U.S. businesses unlike any previous mass shooting.

Major corporations, including MetLife, Hertz and Delta Air Lines, have cut ties to the National Rifle Association. Walmart, Kroger, L.L. Bean and Dick’s Sporting Goods announced they will no longer

sell guns to anyone under 21. Dick’s also banned the sale of assault-style rifles, a step Walmart took in 2015. And Dick’s CEO went even further by calling for tougher gun laws.

Those actions amounted to an act of defiance against the NRA and its allies in Washington who have vehemently opposed any ban on AR-15s and other semi-automatic weapons or a higher age limit for gun purchases.

“What we are seeing is a real shift,” said Mimi Chakravorti, executive director of strategy at the brand consulting firm Landor. “I think right now,

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Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga (left) shakes hands with Inter Island Airways chief executive officer Alex Sene (right) after the governor signed the payment voucher last Wednesday providing \$400,000 to the airline from the American Samoa Venture Fund (ASVF) program, which is funded by the US Treasury Department’s State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) and administered locally by the Commerce Department.

According to a news released from the Governor’s Office last Thursday afternoon, the \$400,000 is to supplement the airline’s total investment of \$8.5 million to purchase an aircraft for air service for the Manu’a island later this year.

⊗ In signing the payment voucher, the airline is expected to receive the cash in a week or two, the governor said he is happy and pleased that after many years trying to find a permanent solution to the air service challenge to Manu’a “we are now able to do so through a partnership” with the airline.

Inter Island Air’s application, is the first one to be approved and funded under the ASVF, and the application was reviewed and approved by DOC, the ASVF fund manager Marshall Ashley, the SSBCI investment committee and compliance team. According to the Governor’s Office, the application also met “stringent requirements” of having private investment dollars to achieve the overall program goals.

Lolo says he has instructed DOC director Keniseli Lafaele to work closely with the airline to “assure that this initiative is successful.”

Sene extended appreciation to the governor “for having confidence” in the locally based carrier to re-launch air service to Manu’a. He also thanked the wide community support, patience and prayers “in our efforts...”

The Samoa government owned Samoa Airways has been providing air service for Manu’a under a federal cabotage waiver, as Inter Island Air has not operated since three years ago.

Lolo extends his appreciation to Samoa Air for responding to air transportation needs of Manu’a residents, along with special requests from ASG for this service. (See Samoa News edition last Friday for more details.)

[photo: DOC]

Police investigate why student gunned down his parents



This undated photo provided by Central Michigan University shows James Eric Davis Jr., who police identified as the shooting suspect at a Central Michigan University residence hall on Friday, March 2, 2018. Investigators said neither victim was a student and described the shooting as a “family-type domestic situation.”

(Courtesy of Central Michigan University via AP)

By RICK CALLAHAN, Associated Press

Investigators were trying to figure out why a Central Michigan University student charged with fatally shooting his parents acted so strangely the day before the killings that he was taken to a hospital.

The shooting happened Friday after James Eric Davis Jr.’s parents picked him up from that

hospital and brought him to his dorm to pack up for spring break. University police Chief Bill Yeagley said the 19-year-old can be seen on video in the dorm’s parking lot with the gun before he entered the residence hall where his parents were shot around 8:30 a.m.

Davis Jr. has been charged with two counts of murder and a weapons charge in the shootings of his father, Eric Davis Sr., and mother, Diva Davis, university spokeswoman Heather Smith said. Davis Sr. was a part-time police officer in Bellwood, Illinois, and Yeagley said the gun used by Davis Jr. belonged to his father. At a press conference Saturday, Yeagley declined to say whether drugs were found in Davis Jr.’s system. He declined to say what type of gun was used or whether it was his father’s service revolver. Davis Jr. was initially taken to a hospital after his arrest early Saturday but will be moved to a jail once he’s discharged. It was not immediately clear when he will make his first court appearance.

Authorities said Davis Jr. fled after the shootings, prompting an intensive manhunt in the area. He was arrested without incident shortly after midnight when someone aboard a train spotted a person along railroad tracks in Mount Pleasant, and called police, Yeagley said.

Central Michigan is at Mount Pleasant, about a 285-mile (460-kilometer) drive from the fam-

(Continued on page 12)

Allegations about 40 gay priests in Italy sent to Vatican

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The archdiocese of Naples says it has sent the Vatican a 1,200-page dossier compiled by a male escort identifying 40 actively gay priests and seminarians in Italy.

In a statement on the diocesan website, Cardinal Crescenzo Sepe said none of the identified priests worked in Naples. But he said he decided to forward the file to the Vatican because “there remains the gravity of the cases for which those who have erred must pay the price, and be helped to repent for the harm done.”

The dossier, containing WhatsApp chats and other evidence, was compiled by a self-proclaimed gay escort, Francesco Mangiacapra. He has told Italian media that he outed the priests because he

couldn’t stand their hypocrisy any longer.

None of the 34 priests or six seminarians was accused of having sex with minors, Mangiacapra was quoted as saying in the diocesan statement.

“We’re talking about sins, not crimes,” the escort was quoted as saying in the statement. It’s the latest sex scandal to convulse the Italian church and the Vatican.

Last month, a Vatican judge pleaded guilty in a Rome tribunal to having child porn on his computer after police were brought in when he allegedly tried to fondle an 18-year-old man. Monsignor Pietro Amenta was a judge on the Roman Rota, the Holy See tribunal that hears marriage annulment cases, as well as a consultant to various Vatican congregations.





Pacific Island News in Brief



NZ Festival

[Photo: RNZ / Koroi Hawkins]

compiled by Samoa News staff
**NZ ANNOUNCES NZ\$3
MILLION RECOVERY
PACKAGE FOR SAMOA**

The New Zealand Prime Minister has been welcomed in Samoa by a full military band at her first stop in her Pacific Mission trip.

Foreign Minister Winston Peters is accompanying Jacinda Ardern on a weeklong trip to Samoa, Niue, Tonga and the Cook Islands.

A sudden downpour of rain in Samoa on Monday (yesterday in Samoa) sent the media and delegations scrambling, but stopped just in time for Ms Ardern to inspect the guard of honor.

Ardern also announced that NZ \$3 million worth of extra funding has been committed to Samoa to help with the recovery from Cyclone Gita last month.

She said the country suffered damage to business and homes, as well as a large landslide that will cost a lot to clean up.

In a joint news conference with Samoa's Prime Minister, Ardern emphasized the importance of the relationship between the two countries.

Ardern said they discussed a range of issues in their meeting, including how to improve the seasonal worker scheme.

She also announced a NZ \$6.5 million package to boost employment and investment in small businesses in Samoa.

This year's annual Pacific Mission trip will focus on recovery and resilience; Samoa and Tonga in particular are still struggling to recover from Cyclone Gita.

Ardern said earlier climate change and economic development will also be discussed.

This will be Ardern's first time visiting the Pacific as

Prime Minister and give her a chance to meet the leaders of the countries before the Pacific Islands Forum later in the year.

(Source RNZI)

**SAMOA GOVT. TO BAN
CHILD SLAVERY**

A proposed Bill on the Rights of the Child by the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development could ban children under 14 years old from being street vendors.

The proposed Bill is part of the Ministry's plan to address core issues that deal directly with child labor and street vendors in Samoa.

This was confirmed by the outgoing C.E.O, Fuimapoao Beth Onesemo-Tuilaepa, during an interview with the Samoa Observer.

Last week, the United States Bureau of International Labor Affairs, named Samoa as one of the countries with some of the "worst forms of child labor".

A copy of the report obtained by the Samoa Observer highlights the fact that children in Samoa perform "dangerous tasks" such as street vending at all hours of night and day.

"In 2016, Samoa made a moderate advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor," the report reads.

Fuimapoao told the Samoa Observer the issue is difficult and challenging.

"We have put emphasis on putting together a comprehensive legal framework which looks at the children's care, but ultimately the aim is for the parents to have the ability to support their children in areas they are not at risk," she said.

"We piloted a program in 2016 called the Samoa Supporting Children initiative; this is all part of addressing core

issues of child labor.

"These programs we have worked with 11 families in giving them pathways to create their own businesses and for the children to return to school.

"The first thing we have set aside is being judgmental and to be quite honest, unless you have walked in the shoes of these parents or mothers, you cannot pass judgment.

"We don't want our parents to feel stigmatized because that can draw different reactions and most of them are negative and we also don't want to stigmatize these children because if you talk to them, they see it as their duty to help their parents out.

"I know everyone is concerned about this issue, but please don't judge because we don't want to stigmatize them.

"We need to be looking at what is the root causes of these issues and a lot is around economic opportunities.

"Also sometimes these parents they go back to educational opportunities they themselves had.

"So part of what we are working is to develop different pathways either for the parents or the children to get back into businesses and educational opportunities.

"But ultimately the aim is for the parents to have the ability to support their children in areas they are not at risk.

(Source: Samoa Observer)
**BANANA EXPORTS
BREAKTHROUGH FOR
SAMOA**

Samoa can officially begin exporting fresh banana and plantains to New Zealand again.

The breakthrough comes under a new export plan the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and New Zealand

(Continued on page 12)



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Seoul envoy to raise nuclear disarmament on North Korea trip



In this Feb. 21, 2018, photo, South Korea's national security director Chung Eui-yong speaks at the National Assembly in Seoul, South Korea. President Moon Jae-in will send a delegation led by Chung to North Korea on Monday, March 5, 2018, for talks on how to ease nuclear tensions and help arrange the restart of dialogue between Pyongyang and Washington, officials said Sunday. (Hong Hyo-shick/Newsis via AP)

By **HYUNG-JIN KIM**, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A special envoy for South Korean President Moon Jae-in said Monday he'll relay Moon's hopes for North Korean nuclear disarmament and a permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula when he meets this week with North Korean officials.

Moon's national security director, Chung Eui-yong, spoke to reporters ahead of a two-day trip that may include talks with leader Kim Jong Un. If that meeting is realized, Chung would become the first South Korean official to meet Kim in person since he took power upon his dictator father's death in late 2011.

Kim's barrage of weapons tests over the last year has raised fears of war. But Moon is pressing what he sees as momentum created by North Korea's participation in last month's Pyeongchang Winter Olympics. Kim's sister, Kim

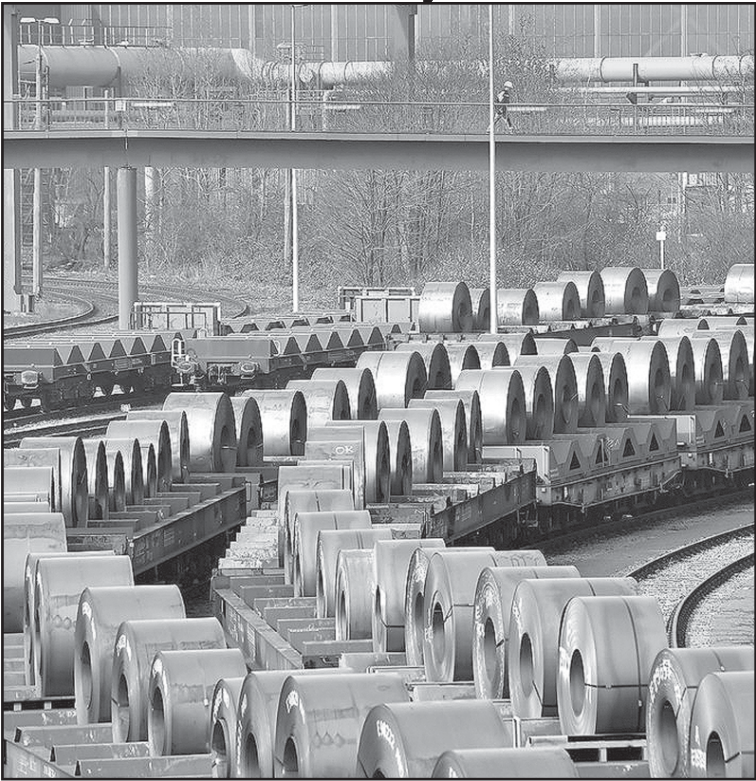
Yo Jong, led a high-level delegation south. If North Korea shows a willingness to disarm, it could indicate a restart of dialogue between Pyongyang and Washington to defuse the North Korean nuclear standoff.

"I will certainly deliver President Moon's firm resolve to achieve a denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and genuine and permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula," Chung said. He said he'll push for "in-depth" talks to find ways to help arrange the restart of dialogue between Pyongyang and Washington. Chung, a longtime diplomat, heads a 10-member delegation that includes intelligence chief Suh Hoon and vice Unification Minister Chun Haesung. The presidential Blue House said the high-profile delegation is to reciprocate the trip by Kim Yo Jong, who became the first member of the North's ruling Kim family to come to South Korea since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War.

Kim Yo Jong and other senior North Korean officials came to the start and close of the Olympics, during which they met Moon and conveyed Kim Jong Un's invitation to visit Pyongyang and expressed their willingness to hold talks with the United States.

After its Pyongyang trip, Chung's delegation is to fly to the United States to brief officials about the outcome of its talks with North Korean officials. North Korea has repeatedly said it won't put its nuclear program on a negotiating table, while the United States has made it clear that it doesn't want talks for the sake of talks and said all options, including military measures, are on the table. President Donald Trump said talks with North Korea will happen only "under the right conditions." Moon has yet to accept Kim's invitation to visit Pyongyang for what would be the third inter-Korean summit talks.

White House: No exemptions from steel, aluminum tariffs



Steel coils sit on wagons when leaving the thyssenkrupp steel factory in Duisburg, Germany, Friday, March 2, 2018. U.S. President Donald Trump risks sparking a trade war with his closest allies if he goes ahead with plans to impose steep tariffs on steel and aluminum imports, German officials and industry groups warned Friday. (AP Photo/Martin Meissner)

By **KEVIN FREKING and ZEKE MILLER**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's administration appears unbowed by broad domestic and international criticism of his planned import tariffs on steel and aluminum, saying Sunday that the president is not planning on exempting any countries from the stiff duties.

Speaking on CNN's "State of the Union," White House trade adviser Peter Navarro said: "At this point in time there's no country exclusions."

Trump's announcement Thursday that he would impose tariffs of 25 percent and 10 percent, respectively, on imported steel and aluminum, roiled markets, rankled allies and raised prospects for a trade war. While his rhetoric has been focused on China, the duties will also cover significant imports from Canada, Mexico, South Korea, Japan and the European Union.

Addressing criticism of the proposed action, Trump tweeted Sunday that American

"Steel and Aluminum industries are dead. Sorry, it's time for a change!"

The Pentagon had recommended that Trump only pursue targeted tariffs, so as not to upset American partners abroad. But Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said Sunday that was not the direction the president would take.

"He's talking about a fairly broad brush," Ross said on ABC's "This Week." He rejected threats of retaliation from American allies as "pretty trivial."

Few issues could blur the lines of partisanship in Trump-era Washington. Trade is one of them.

Labor unions and liberal Democrats are in the unusual position of applauding Trump's approach, while Republicans and an array of business groups are warning of dire economic and political consequences if he goes ahead with the tariffs.

Trade politics often cut along regional, rather than ideological, lines, as politicians

reflect the interests of the hometown industries and workers. But rarely does a debate open so wide a rift between a president and his party — leaving him almost exclusively with support from his ideological opposites.

"Good, finally," said Sen. Sherrod Brown, an Ohio Democrat and progressive as he cheered Trump's move. Sen. Bob Casey of Pennsylvania, a Democrat who has called for Trump to resign, agreed.

"I urge the administration to follow through and to take aggressive measures to ensure our workers can compete on a level playing field," Casey tweeted.

This moment of unusual alliance was long expected. As a candidate, Trump made his populist and protectionist positions on trade quite clear, at times hitting the same themes as one of the Democratic presidential candidates, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

"This wave of globalization has wiped out totally, totally our middle class," Trump told voters in the hard-hit steel town of Monessen, Pennsylvania, during one of his campaign stops. "It doesn't have to be this way."

Trump's criticism of trade agreements and China's trade policies found support with white working-class Americans whose wages had stagnated over the years. Victories in big steel-producing states such as Ohio, Pennsylvania and Indiana demonstrated that his tough trade talk had a receptive audience.

Both candidates in a March 13 House election in Pennsylvania have embraced the president's plans for tariffs. They addressed the topic Saturday in a debate that aired on WTAE in Pittsburgh.

"For too long, China has been making cheap steel and they've been flooding the market with it. It's not fair and it's not right. So I actually think this is long overdue," said Democratic candidate Conor Lamb.

"Unfortunately, many of our

(Continued on page 13)

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Polynesia	494	TBA	03/07	03/09	03/19	---	03/24	03/24	Polynesia	494	03/19	---	03/24	03/24
Cap Taputapu	039	TBA	03/23	03/25	04/05	---	04/10	04/10	Cap Taputapu	039	04/05	---	04/10	04/10
Polynesia	495	TBA	04/08	04/10	04/21	---	04/26	04/26	Polynesia	495	04/21	---	04/26	04/26
Cap Taputapu	040	TBA	04/24	04/26	05/06	---	05/11	05/11	Cap Taputapu	040	05/06	---	05/11	05/11

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In Texas GOP primary, it's who can love Trump the most



In this Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018, photo, Kerry Ledford mans a booth at a Republican congressional candidate forum, in New Braunfels, Texas. Texas holds the nation's first 2018 primary elections Tuesday, March 6, 2018, and the campaign is providing a vivid exhibition of the Trump effect in GOP politics.

(AP Photo/Eric Gay)

By PAUL J. WEBER, Associated Press

NEW BRAUNFELS, Texas (AP) — George P. Bush's campaign flyers in Texas declare that he's "standing beside our president" — the one who called his dad, Jeb, an embarrassment to his family and a pathetic person.

At a political forum outside San Antonio, another Republican candidate brags about his "bigly" wins over Democrats. Another hopeful in Houston, just days after a mass shooting at a Florida high school killed 17 people, sent voters a photo of herself holding an assault rifle — below the words "Kathaleen Wall stands with Trump."

Texas holds the nation's first 2018 primary elections Tuesday, and the campaign is providing a vivid exhibition of the Trump effect in GOP politics. Some races are playing out in a roadshow of one-upping emulation of the combative president, in which there's no such thing as cozying up too close or too ardently, regardless of his rough edges or low approval ratings nationwide.

"I'm Robert Stovall, and like President Trump, I realize the swamp is the problem," begins a campaign ad for Stovall, a San Antonio Republican Party leader now running for Congress. He stands in a literal swamp wearing a "Make America Great Again" hat and cocks a shotgun at the end.

It's like nothing seen before in Texas politics, even when a Texan was in the White House. Love of George W. Bush's style of big government conservatism wasn't a staple of campaigns here. A decade later, his nephew George P. Bush, the Texas land commissioner, is thanking President Donald Trump's son Donald Trump Jr. for endorsing him in his bid for re-election.

Texas candidates aren't alone in courting Trump die-hards who make up the GOP base — and who can be counted on to show up in typically

low-turnout primary elections. Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, who is running for governor, has trumpeted Trump's endorsement, while an outside group accuses his GOP rival of "abandoning" the president. In Indiana, three Republicans running for Senate are all portraying themselves as his most steadfast ally.

The impression of a Trump White House at war with its enemies is stoking the atmosphere. "It's about he's our Republican president and if we don't stand together and we don't defend the party and conservative ideas, no one is," said Brendan Steinhauser, an Austin-based Republican strategist. A Quinnipiac University survey in late February put Trump's approval rating at 86 percent among Republicans but just 37 percent overall.

As Republicans brace for a difficult election this November — the president's party typically loses congressional seats in the midterm cycle — they could not have asked for a gentler warm-up than Texas, where the GOP holds such a commanding edge that most election-year drama dissolves once the primaries are done. Democrats haven't won a statewide race since 1994 and are not seen as favored to flip any of six congressional seats opened up by GOP retirements on Capitol Hill.

Among those leaving is U.S. Rep. Lamar Smith, who in January lauded Trump's physical fitness and said Americans were better off getting their news straight from Trump than from the media. Some of the 18 Republicans trying to replace him don't stop there: Outsider candidate Mauro Garza says he is running because "Donald Trump said I could be here." Chip Roy, a former top aide to Republican U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, opens rallies by rhetorically asking how much better citizens' lives were a year into a Trump presidency.

Congressional candidate

(Continued on page 14)



Miss American Samoa Inc. (MASI), president Meafou Imo (left) and 2017-2018 Miss Pacific Islands, Matauaina G. Toomalatai, who is also the reigning Miss American Samoa posed for a photo at last Saturday's celebration event at Matai's Restaurant. The event, hosted by MASI, is the official celebration of Toomalatai's return home with the Miss Pacific Islands title. [photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



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Jacinda Ardern inspects the Guard of Honor in Samoa.

[Pool photo / Michael Craig / New Zealand Herald]

PREMIUM BBQ DELUXE

A McDonald's advertisement featuring a Premium BBQ Deluxe burger with a sesame seed bun, lettuce, tomato, cheese, and a BBQ beef patty. It is served with a side of golden fries and a glass of Sprite. A small circular logo with 'BBQ' and the McDonald's 'M' is on the burger.

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► AG's office...

Continued from page 1

was one car behind them.

"As we were making our way, passing [through] Faga'alu — a cop truck pulled us aside going into the [Faga'alu] park's parking lot. We stopped and asked the officer if there was a problem — the officer looked confused and asked us if we had side-swiped a car in Tafuna.

"My sister replied telling the officer we didn't come from Tafuna. I then asked him if it was his colleague who called since I had recognized him (the off duty officer, who honked his car horn at us) — the officer replied he doesn't know exactly what's going on other than he received a call to track our car down and have it pulled over," according to the complainant.

She said in a minute or two, several police vehicles pulled over to their car (total of probably 5- 6 cars), and other cops approached their vehicle.

The complainant says the off duty police officer was also present — and he walked up to the right side of her car — opened the back door, pointed his finger at her and told her to get out of the car. She refused.

Other police officers who were surrounding the vehicle, and seemed not to know why their vehicle had been stopped, then told the complainant to head to the substation in Fagatogo to resolve the matter.

She says when they arrived at the Fagatogo police station, she and her sister walked inside the police station while the off duty police officer walked to the side of the building with another officer. The off duty police officer then walked inside the police station, sat in the couch across from complainant and asked her why she flipped him off.

In response, she asked the off duty police officer why had he kept honking his car horn at them — which he replied because they were blocking his way.

In the middle of the argument between her, her sister and the off duty police officer inside the Fagatogo police station, another senior officer — who is a Cap-

tain — asked the complainant if she had flipped her middle finger to the off duty officer, and she replied yes, telling her reasons for her actions.

The police captain asked her if she knew that the man she flipped off was a police officer. The victim replied yes and stated that being a police officer should have nothing to do with how things escalated the way it did.

The police captain then got frustrated with the complainant and her sister, for defending themselves, and told her sister that she has a smart mouth.

He then stood up and yelled at the complainant saying that he was going to lock her up in jail for disrespecting an officer and for public peace disturbance. He repeatedly said that he would take her to jail for what she did.

She told the police captain how offended and frustrated she was, on how the off duty officer abused his power to call his fellow cops who had no knowledge of what was going on, to track their car and pull them over. He has no right to come to her car, open the right door and call her to come out of her car to where he was standing, she stated.

According to the complainant, the police Captain did not reply to her complaint of harassment by the off duty officer, against not only her but also her sister as well.

"During our conversation, I did not hear the police captain ask the off duty officer for his reason for calling other cops to pull my car over, or as to why he touched my car and harassed me to get out. I felt that his judgment and action was biased and that interrogation were unnecessary and unjust," the complainant said in her letter.

The woman and her passengers later left the police station without any charges, however the complainant feels that further corrective action should take place especially since officers should be serving the public not harassing civilians.

► On guns...

Continued from page 3

companies are acting ahead of the government because they are seeing that the changes are too slow."

Still, business leaders are not exactly leading the charge for the stricter guns laws. Their actions came in response to protests by the students who survived the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and to growing calls by consumers for boycotts against companies that do business with the NRA or gun manufacturers.

And their decisions didn't represent much of a sacrifice from a strictly business point of view. Most of Dick's business, for instance, is in other types of sporting goods, such as sneakers and basketballs. Guns

and ammunition are estimated to account for only 8 percent of sales.

Walmart has not said how much of its business comes from guns, but when the company stopped offering AR-15s in 2015, it cited declining sales.

The actions of those retailers will have very little practical effect on the availability of guns. Roger Beahm, a professor of marketing at Wake Forest University School of Business, said smaller retailers will probably capitalize on the situation by selling the weapons the major chains will no longer handle. It remains to be seen what effect the corporate reaction will have on the wider gun debate.



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IN THE COMMUNITY

(Photos: Leua)



During Trump hotel strife, a 'Trump Mojito' but no water



FILE - In this Feb. 27, 2018 file photo, a police officer on a motorcycle leaves the Trump Ocean Club International Hotel and Tower in Panama City. The hotel remains open for business against a backdrop of service interruptions, bad press and a fight over Trump, Æs management contract that ended in fisticuffs and repeated police calls last week. , ÆúThis isn, Æôt what you expect from a luxury hotel,, Æù one guest was heard fuming when told Thursday, March 1, that access to running water would not be restored for hours.

(AP Photo/Arnulfo Franco, File)

By **MARK STEVENSON** and **JEFF HORWITZ**, Associated Press

PANAMA CITY (AP) — If you can overlook the intermittently running water, Friday's four-hour power outage and occasional police presence in the lobby, the Trump hotel in Panama City retains its status as one of the city's finest.

The hotel remains open for business against a backdrop of service interruptions, bad press and a fight over the Trump Organization's management contract that ended in fisticuffs and repeated police calls last week.

"This isn't what you expect from a luxury hotel," one guest was heard fuming when told Thursday that access to running water would not be restored for hours.

The hotel's lobby is notable mostly for its shortage of guests, compensated for by a generous allotment of reporters and security staff bracing for renewed confrontations after investor Orestes Fintiklis tried to wrest the administrative office back from the Trump Organization last week.

Armed with termination notices for the hotel's management, he met stiff resistance from Trump lawyers and security — the first skirmish in a battle for physical control of the hotel property.

Unlike the Trump International Hotel in Washington or the Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida, which draw guests hoping to bask in Donald Trump-style affluence, guests who spoke to The Associated Press seemed less enamored of the Panama City property's fondness for aggressive branding.

"I could really do without the Trump Mojito. There are like four or five Trump drinks on the menu," said Leanne Horning, a tourist from Chicago staying at the hotel because she got a good deal online.

Horning is "adamantly not" a supporter of the U.S. president and said it irked her that instead of ordering standard cocktails, guests had to choose from among the Tropical Trump, Trump Breeze and Trump Rose.

While Trump Meritage and Trump Chardonnay also were available, what was lacking a good chunk of this past week was Trump water, at least when guests turned on the hotel's faucets.

According to municipal authorities, Trump receptionists, housekeepers and a maintenance man, city workers spent much of last Tuesday and Wednesday repairing a damaged water main at the hotel. Though water was restored late Wednesday, the Trump Organization seized the opportunity to perform some additional maintenance, extending the cutoff into late Thursday.

A helpful worker distributed cases of Trump-branded bottled water to guests.

Fintiklis, who manages the Miami-based private equity fund Ithaca Capital, has alleged financial misconduct by Trump Hotels dating back years and has said Donald Trump's statements on immigration have destroyed his brand in Latin America. Fintiklis is waging a bitter battle to oust the Trump team from the hotel.

The dispute has left hotel employees not knowing from one day to the next who they should take orders from or whether they will have jobs when the dust settles.

"Many of us came to work at the hotel precisely because of the Trump brand — it meant quality" said one bellhop, who did not want his name used for fear of reprisals. "Now, we don't know. We just want to work."

Anibal Herrera, a lawyer for Fintiklis, said that while 10 Trump management employees had been fired — though they

refused to leave the property or attend labor hearings — none of the 230 other employees has anything to fear.

Representatives at Trump Hotels dispute the firings' validity.

Herrera did say that Fintiklis had control of the hotel's finances and would stop paying bills incurred by the Trump management team.

Under a decade-old agreement with the property's original developer, Trump Hotels was supposed to manage the property until at least 2031.

As part of a deal to sell 202 of the hotel's 369 condo units last year, the Trump team attempted to extract an ironclad concession from the buyer, Fintiklis, not to challenge that management contract.

That is precisely what Fintiklis is now doing. Whether the Trump business got a legally binding commitment is a matter of contention.

Trump Hotels maintains that the company will not give in to "mob style tactics" intended to remove it from the property until courts or arbitrators have settled the contractual matter.

"To be clear, Trump Hotels is highly confident that it will prevail in these proceedings," the company said in a statement released this week.

According to emails sent by Fintiklis to fellow owners of the hotel condo units, his units alone are running a six-figure monthly deficit.

"Our investment has no future so long as the hotel is managed by an incompetent operator whose brand has been tarnished beyond repair," Fintiklis wrote the owners in January.

During that month, supposedly the peak of Panama's high season, occupancy ran around 30 percent and hotel unit owners didn't make enough to cover their maintenance fees, he said.

Donald Trump's June 2017 financial disclosure shows his company earned a little over \$800,000 from the property during the previous 15 months — a paltry amount compared with the payout of between \$32 million and \$55 million that the company was on track to receive, according to a deal that emerged from the property's 2013 bankruptcy.

Unlike Trump Hotels' exit from buildings in Toronto and New York — in which hotel owners and the Trump team negotiated a muted departure and compensation for the Trump Organization — the Panama dispute seems set to end only when Fintiklis or the Trump family business suffers a public defeat.

In the meantime, the stalemate is a source of distress for hotel unit owners and Panama at large.

(Continued on page 14)

► It's official...

Our government really needs money to assist our people, and the only way we can save our money is to minimize our spending,” Mauga said.

He pointed out that one of the ways the government can save money is to cancel all of its Flag Day activities such as fautasi race and the Samoan cricket competition, and use the money that would be spent on cash prizes and awards for Gita recovery efforts.

“Our first priority is to help to rebuild our country, our government, and lend a hand to all families who were affected by the cyclone. If the federal government is reaching out to us to help with money and supplies, why don't we do the same, by reaching out to our own people and helping them by providing all the help they need,” Mauga said. He thanked the federal government and other agencies such as the Red Cross for doing a great job to help our people.

According to Mauga, the Flag Day Committee was planning to continue on with the fautasi race, and let the High School students from all villages who have fautasi row their boat instead of the aumaga and the young men. However, the DOE director advised Lolo and the Flag Day Committee to reconsider their decision, because high school students need to focus on their studies.

“We were advised that final exams and graduation for our high school students is near, and they need to catch up with their classes because they missed a lot of school days because of the cyclone,” the Paramount chief said. Soliai T. Fuimaono, appearing for the Manulele Tausala 1 & 2 supported the plan, saying that Nuuli had already made a decision that their two fautasi would not compete in this year's Flag Day races. “I support the decision by the Flag Day Committee,” Soliai said. “Our people are suffering and we need to save more money to help them. We have to support the governor's decision that our first priority is to lend our hands to help our people. Let us show to the federal government that we care more for our people than spending money on social activities. We are leaders and we need to set good examples for our people to follow.” Soliai said that he's not sure if there are any pese & siva for the Flag Day, but he's thinking that it would be good if the Flag Day Committee also put a hold on pese & siva.

He recommended that the only important event for the Flag Day is a short prayer to thank God for his guidance upon American Samoa, the raising of the flags and special remarks from the governor.

The Matasaua representative, Malaepule Saite Moliga commented that the fautasi race is the main event during every Flag Day celebration, and if this is the governor's decision to stop the fautasi race for

this year's celebration, then he believes that pese & siva should also be stopped, especially the dance group from Samoa, to save the money and instead to help those who were affected by the cyclone. “If this is the government's decision, then I support Soliai's advice to let us focus on a brief prayer ceremony and the raising of the flags,” Malaepule said.

All other fautasi representatives who attended the meeting supported the Committee's

decision. However, Mauga explained that the Committee notified Samoa Prime Minister, Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi of the governor's decision, but the response from the PM was that his dancing group has already prepared for the Flag Day.

Therefore, there will be pese & siva at this year's Flag Day celebrations, which will include not only the group from Samoa, but also three pese & siva groups from: Fagaitua High School, Faasao Marist High School.

Continued from page 1

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Time of American Samoa	Sunday (3/04)	Monday (3/05)	Tuesday (3/06)	Wednesday (3/07)	Thursday (3/08)	min	Friday (3/09)	Saturday (3/10)	min
10 : am	00' The Beauty A Week		Small Town Cinema	The Unit	Happy Together	00'	Music Bank	Encore Drama	00'
11 : am	10' Battle Trip (E,R)	Hello Counselor (E,R)	Overgrown Bromance	Jisook's Table for O'			My Neighbor Charles	Blade Man	
12 NOON	30' Music Bank (E,R)		Encore Drama Blade Man			50'	The Beauty A Week		
1 : pm	50' Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Daily Drama "Mysterious Personal Shopper" (E,R)							
2 : pm	30' Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Radio Romance Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)	Queen of Myystery 2 Wed-Thu Drama (E)				The Beauty Guerrilla Date (E)	30'
3 : pm	50' Encore Drama Blade Man (E,R)	Hello Counselor (E,R)	Small Town Cinema Overgrown Bromance	The Unit	Happy Together (E,R)			Music Bank	30'
4 : pm	10' K-pop World Festiva	Mon-Tue Drama Radio Romance (E,R)	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Queen of Myystery 2 (E,R)		40'	Please Find Her	My Golden Life Weekend Drama (E,R)	50'
5 : pm	00' Encore Drama Blade Man (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Radio Romance (E,R)	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Queen of Myystery 2 (E,R)	The Unit (E,R)	00'	Mon-Tue Drama Radio Romance (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Queen of Myystery 2 (E,R)	00'
6 : pm	10' Encore Drama Blade Man (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Radio Romance (E,R)	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Queen of Myystery 2 (E,R)	Yu Huiyeol's Sketchbook (E,R)				10'
7 : pm	20' # 2, 3, 4.	# 8, 9, 10.	# 46, 47, 48.	# 00, 1, 2.	Dancing Beauty				
8 : pm	40' Gag Concert	Daily Drama "Mysterious Personal Shopper" (E,R)							20'
9 : pm	00' The Beauty	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Radio Romance Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)	Music Bank (Live)		40'	Happy Together (E,R)	Battle Trip (E,R)	40'
10 : pm	00' Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Hello Counselor (E,R)	Yu Huiyeol's Sketchbook	The Unit	The Beauty	00'	Gag Concert (E)	Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance	00'
11 : pm	40' Jisook's Table for O'				Office Watch Season	20'			
12 : 00	Daily Drama "Mysterious Personal Shopper" (E,R)							Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	"The Return of Superman" (E)
Next Day	Daily Drama "Love Returns" (E)								
1 : am	KBS 9 News (Live)						KBS 9 News (Live)		
2 : am	50' Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Radio Romance Mon-Tue Drama (E)	Queen of Myystery 2 Wed-Thu Drama (E)			20'	My Golden Life Weekend Drama (E)		20'
3 : am	00' Hello Counselor	Small Town Cinema Overgrown Bromance (E,R)	The Unit	Happy Together	Music Bank (E,R)	30'	Mon-Tue Drama Radio Romance (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Queen of Myystery 2 (E,R)	30'
4 : am	20' Encore Drama Blade Man (E,R)		Jisook's Table for O'		Yu Huiyeol's Sketchbook (E,R)	50'		The Return of Superman (E,R)	50'
5 : am	30' Dancing Beauty				Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	10'	Gag Concert (E,R)	Two Day and One Night (E,R)	30'
6 : am	40' The Beauty	Battle Trip (E,R)	The Beauty A Week	My Neighbor Charles			Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)		
7 : am	40' Music Bank	Gag Concert (E,R)	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Yu Huiyeol's Sketchbook (E,R)	Battle Trip (E,R)	50'	My Golden Life Weekend Drama (E,R)		
8 : am	20' Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Radio Romance Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)	Queen of Myystery 2 Wed-Thu Drama (E,R)			00'	Blade Man (E,R)	My Neighbor Charles	00'
9 : am	30' Hello Counselor	Small Town Cinema	The Unit	Happy Together	Music Bank		Guerilla Date (E)		50'

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

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Authorities say man shoots himself to death near White House

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Secret Service says a man shot himself to death Saturday as he stood near the fence along the north side of the White House.

President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump were in Florida at the time. The White House says Trump has been briefed on the shooting.

Authorities are seeking to notify the man’s relatives and haven’t released his name.

Speaking for the Secret Service, Mason F. Brayman says the man approached the fence shortly before noon and fired several rounds from a handgun. Brayman says none of the shots appear to have been directed toward the White House.

Secret Service officers set up a perimeter around the White House grounds Saturday afternoon, limiting access and rerouting tourists as they investigated.

Pacific...

Ministry of Primary Industries have agreed upon.

The good news for banana farmers come after a long hiatus since Samoa stopped exporting fresh bananas to New Zealand because of issues concerning pests and diseases as well as inconsistencies with supplies.

This resulted in other Asian, Australian and South American countries stepping in to meet the demands of the New Zealand market.

In the past two years, the M.A.F. have been in discussions with the New Zealand Ministry of Primary Industries through its bilateral Quarantine Agreement meetings with an outcome that will see Samoa’s banana exports developing and growing again, but under strict import bio security requirements from New Zealand.

According to a press release from M.A.F, the New Zealand

Ministry of Primary Industries will conduct audit visits of both pathways and will work closely with the M.A.F. as part of the Bilateral Quarantine Agreement within one and a half years of trade commencement. A formal signing of the export plan will take place during the next bilateral meeting.

Speaking to the Samoa Observer, C.E.O of M.A.F. Tilafono David Hunter said they expected the number of banana growers to increase given the market opportunity.

He also stressed that the nascent stages of this bilateral trade is crucial and their Ministry will work to ensure that they support banana growers to pursue their full potential.

(Source: Samoa Observer)
NZ FESTIVAL: WATER-FRONT CELEBRATION WELCOMES SAILING CANOES

A fleet of double-hulled waka hourua is expected to be welcomed to the shores of Wellington Harbour tonight (Monday night NZ time) with kapa haka, song, and theatre, to open the New Zealand Festival.

The performance is inspired by the arrival of navigator and explorer Kupe to Aotearoa, and will feature more than 1000 kapa haka performers and a 250-strong choir.

They’re welcoming the four waka hourua that have travelled from as far as Samoa to be part of the opening of the New Zealand Festival.

At the final rehearsal at the Pacific Island Presbyterian church hall in Newtown it was the first time 100 Wellington Community Choir and the Pasifika Community Choir members had sung together.

Choir director Helen Tupai said it had been a great opportunity for her community of

Samoa, Tongan and Cook Island singers.

“It’s not every day that you’re in a choir that will be singing to 20,000 people.”

Composer and performer Warren Maxwell has written all the music, including individual pieces for each of the waka hourua, and he said it was all coming together.

“It is a waka, and we’re steering it, and it went in the right direction,” Mr Maxwell said.

“We’ve got all the kapa haka practices happening all around the city ... choir practices, there’s choreography, it’s a real kind of hive of excitement.

“It’s awesome.”
Final kapa haka rehearsals have also been underway for ‘Kupe Hautoa’, the haka especially composed by Mana whenua Te atiawa Taranaki Whānui.

One of group making up the 1000-strong haka is Te Kōhohete, a kapa haka group drawn from Wellington government departments.

They have been put through their final paces with haka composer Kura Moeahu.

“It initially started with 100 people performing the haka and I just said ‘well, why not 1000?’”

‘Kupe Hautoa’ will be performed by schools, kura kaupapa and community groups from Wellington, Hutt Valley, Porirua, and as far away as Wairarapa and Ōtaki.

“To see Māori, Pākehā, Asians, Pacific Islanders participating in this, that’s what Wellington is about,” Mr Moeahu said.

(Source: RNZI)

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American Samoa Government
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



PUBLIC NOTICE

The American Samoa Department of Health Early Intervention Program “Helping Hands” would like to inform the public that the Annual State Application under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act as amended in 2004 for Federal Fiscal Year 2018 is available for public comment for a period of 60 days.

A copy of the document is available to review at the DOH Helping Hands Office located in the Lumana’i building in Fagatogo.

Please call the DOH Helping Hands office at 633-8553 if you have any questions regarding this public notice.

Signed,

Ruth Te’o, DOH Part C Coordinator

Police...

Continued from page 4

ily’s hometown of Plainfield, Illinois, in south suburban Chicago. The shooting occurred on a day when parents were arriving to pick up students at the university for the beginning of a weeklong spring break. Yeagley said witness statements and video indicate that at the time they were shot, Davis Jr.’s parents were in his fourth-floor dorm at the campus’ Campbell Hall “simply packing up for spring break.” Davis Sr. had been a longtime member of the Illinois Army National Guard, serving in the Iraq War and later as a recruiter, according to Illinois National Guard spokesman Lt. Col. Brad Leighton. An officer was so concerned about Davis Jr.’s erratic behavior that he had spoken to his mother about possible drug use before

the parents arrived on campus.

“The mother said she too was concerned this could be drugs,” he said.

Yeagley said Davis Jr. had not been previously identified by campus officials as someone that others on campus were concerned about.

“Mr. Davis was not ever reported, and we had no interaction that we’re aware of with him in any negative fashion — with anybody — prior to this incident,” he said.

University President George E. Ross said the shooting had left the campus and surrounding community traumatized. “There were thousands of people who were sheltering in place yesterday and they will be dealing with this for the rest of their lives,” he said.



(l-r) ASCC President, Dr. Rosevonne Makaiwi Pato; 2017-2018 Miss Pacific Islands, Matauaina G. Toomalatai, who is also the reigning Miss American Samoa; and First Lady, Cynthia Malala Moliga at last Saturday's celebration event at Matai's Restaurant. The event, hosted by MASI, is the official celebration of Toomalatai's return home with the Miss Pacific Islands title.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

► White House...

Continued from page 6

competitors around the world have slanted the playing field, and their thumb has been on the scale, and I think President Trump is trying to even that scale back out," said Republican candidate Rick Saccone.

But Trump's GOP allies on Capitol Hill have little use for the tariff approach. They argue that other industries that rely on steel and aluminum products will suffer. The cost of new appliances, cars and buildings will rise if the president follows through, they warn, and other nations could retaliate. The end result could erode the president's base of support with rural America and even the blue-collar workers the president says he trying to help.

"There is always retaliation, and typically a lot of these countries single out agriculture when they do that. So, we're very concerned," said Sen. John Thune, R-S.D.

Gov. Scott Walker, R-Wis., asked the administration to reconsider its stance. He said American companies could move their operations abroad and not face retaliatory tariffs.

"This scenario would lead to the exact opposite outcome of the administration's stated

objective, which is to protect American jobs," Walker said.

The Business Roundtable's Josh Bolten, a chief of staff for President George W. Bush, called on Trump to have "the courage" to step back from his campaign rhetoric on trade.

"Sometimes a president needs to, you need to stick to your principles but you also need to recognize in cases where stuff you said in the campaign isn't right and ought to be drawn back," he said on "Fox News Sunday." "The president needs to have the courage to do that."

Tim Phillips, president of the Koch Brothers-backed Americans for Prosperity, noted that Trump narrowly won in Iowa and Wisconsin, two heavily rural states that could suffer if countries impose retaliatory tariffs on American agricultural goods.

"It hurts the administration politically because trade wars, protectionism, they lead to higher prices for individual Americans," Phillips said. "It's basically a tax increase."

The president wasn't backing down, at least on Twitter, where he posted this message: "Trade wars are good, and easy to win."



American Samoa Government OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

RFP No: RFP 036-2018
Issuance Date: February 28, 2018

Date & Time Due: March 16, 2018
No later than 2:00 p.m. local time

The American Samoa Government (ASG) Issues & Request For Proposals (RFP) from qualified firms to provide:

"E-Rate Year 21-ISP 50 Mb Services for the Department of Education"

SUBMISSION

Original and five copies of the Proposal must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: **"RFP: E-Rate Year 21 - ISP 50 Mb Services for the Department of Education."** Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), **March 16, 2018:**

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

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

DOCUMENT

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

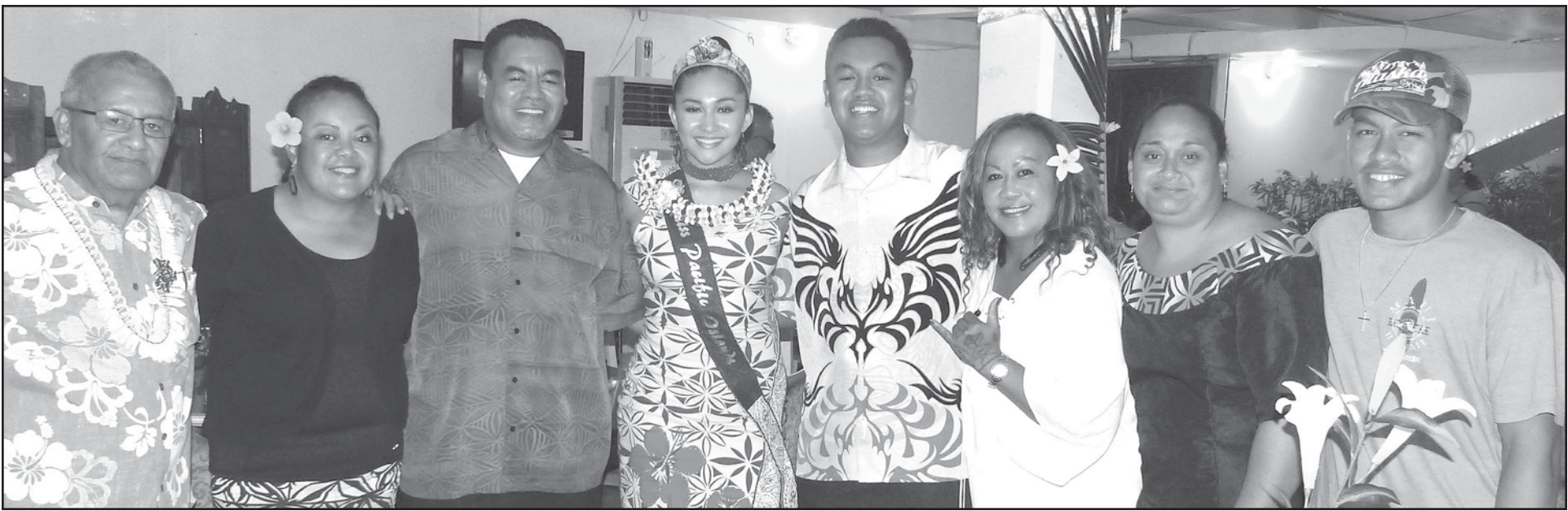
REVIEW

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

RIGHT OF REJECTION

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

DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON
Chief Procurement Officer



The 2017-2018 Miss Pacific Islands, Matauaina G. Toomalatai (fourth from left), who is also the reigning Miss American Samoa, pictured last Saturday at a celebration event with her relatives from Onenoa. The event, hosted by MASI, is the official celebration of Toomalatai's return home with the Miss Pacific Islands title.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

4 killed, 24 injured in Poland apartment building collapse

An apartment building collapsed Sunday in Poland's western city of Poznan, killing four people and injuring 24 others, officials said as firefighters and rescuers with dogs combed the rubble in search of more victims.

The building contained 18

apartments and housed 40 residents, according to firefighters' spokesman Slawomir Brandt, who gave the death toll.

Polish TV channel TVP INFO showed part of a four-story building in a heap and rescuers checking the debris in sub-freezing temperatures. The

search was expected to continue until Monday.

Police and prosecutors questioned witnesses at the site.

"We heard this loud bang and then terrible cries from people 'Save us! Save us!,'" ground floor resident Krzysztof Sledz told state news agency

(Continued on page 15)

During...

Continued from page 10

Algerd Monstavicius, a retired doctor from Nevada who owns a penthouse hotel unit, favors a change in management, citing the troubled Trump brand in Latin America.

"Trump has his name on almost everything from the

doors to the toothpaste," Monstavicius wrote to an Associated Press reporter. "Everything he says and does in respect to immigration will have an impact on my rental income."

Monstavicius said his condo formerly rented for \$1,200 a night, but was recently occupied for three days at a daily rate of \$118.

Panamanian authorities are striving to minimize the tumult at the hotel. Labor ministry officials have sought to ensure employees don't miss paychecks, and Panamanian police are poised to rush in at any sign of trouble.

Tourism officials are seeking to play down the bad publicity.

"This is private issue of administration and management," said Armando Rodriguez, president of Panama's association of hotels. "This doesn't affect Panamanian tourism because the tourism industry is much more than this."

Robert Eisenmann, a leading Panamanian businessman, also dismissed the significance of the dispute.

"There a lot of luxury hotels here where you can stay without these problems," he said.

In Texas...

Continued from page 7

Francisco Canseco cast the alternative in dark terms to one crowd in Comal County, which is sandwiched between Democratic-leaning San Antonio and liberal Austin and went more than 70 percent for Trump in 2016. "If Hillary had won last election, America would be gone. Our Republic as we know it would be lost. But we are blessed to have Donald Trump," he said. It was just what Al Torres, an undecided 64-year-old retired federal worker wearing a CIA jacket, needed to hear. His friends blame the news media for not giving Trump a fair shake and want a candidate on board with his agenda. "That was important to hear somebody say that they're not going there and fighting him, but supporting him," Torres said.



samoa news

Tropical Cyclone Gita

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West Virginia teachers: No raise, no school; strike goes on



FILE - In this March 1, 2018 file photo, Parry Casto, a fifth grade teacher at the Explorer Academy in Huntington, W.Va., dressed in an Uncle Sam costume leads hundreds of teachers in chants outside the state Senate chambers at the Capitol in Charleston, W.Va. The strike rolled into its second weekend with the state Senate planning to meet Saturday, March 3 after declining to take a vote on whether the teachers will get the 5 percent pay raise negotiated by Gov. Jim Justice and union leaders.

(AP Photo/John Raby)

By MICHAEL VIRTANEN, Associated Press

Unions representing West Virginia teachers and service personnel say they will stay out on strike after the state Senate voted to cut the 5 percent pay raise they had negotiated with the governor.

A joint legislative committee has been formed to address differences in the pay raise bills of the state Senate and House.

In a joint statement Saturday, the American Federation of Teachers-West Virginia, West Virginia Education Association and the School Service Personnel Association said Senate President Mitch Carmichael and his leadership team had left them with no choice after they voted to reduce the raise to 4 percent.

The statement said all public schools in West Virginia would be closed again Monday “and remain closed until the Senate honors the agreement that was made.” Teachers walked out of classrooms statewide starting Feb. 22.

The Republican-controlled Senate voted Saturday evening to approve the lower pay raise, bucking teachers, Republican Gov. Jim Justice and the Republican-controlled House, which approved the 5 percent raise Wednesday.

House members later Saturday wouldn’t agree to the Senate’s move, and the two

bills will now have to be reconciled by a legislative conference committee.

House of Delegates spokesman Jared Hunt said Sunday no meeting had been scheduled yet of the conference committee. It wasn’t yet clear when it would meet.

The committee will include Delegates Bill Anderson, R-Wood, and Brent Boggs, D-Braxton, and House Education Chairman Paul Espinosa, R-Jefferson; and Senate Majority Leader Ryan Ferns, R-Ohio, Senate Finance Chairman Craig Blair, R-Berkeley, and Sen. Robert Plymale, D-Wayne.

The Senate’s vote came as the teachers’ strike rolled into its second weekend. Republican Sen. Greg Boso of Nicholas introduced the amendment to lower the raise, which the full Senate adopted by a vote of 19-15.

Senate Republicans have repeatedly emphasized exercising restraint with state spending, while agreeing that teachers and West Virginia’s other public workers are all underpaid.

“That compensation increase is long overdue,” said Sen. Charles Trump, a Berkeley Springs Republican. “We’ve been able to do this without tax increases.”

Approving a 4 percent raise, instead of the 5 percent hike,

will save the state \$17 million, Boso said.

Democratic lawmakers said their Republican counterparts should approve the deal the governor negotiated with union leaders for a 5 percent raise.

“We’re all caught up in our egos,” said Democratic Sen. Douglas Facemire of Sutton. He noted the impact of the impasse on students, including those who depend on schools for their meals. “For 1 percent we’re going to let kids go hungry,” he said.

Teachers are protesting pay that’s among the lowest in the nation, rising health care costs and a previously approved 2 percent raise for next year after four years without any increase.

Justice told school superintendents gathered at the Capitol on Friday that he believed the votes for the raise were there. One administrator noted the impasse is affecting 277,000 students and 35,000 employees.

Protesting teachers have argued that education in West Virginia — where more than 700 classrooms lack fully certified full-time teachers — needs to be a higher priority among politicians. Pay starts at about \$33,000 a year, lower than in surrounding states.

Justice said in a statement Saturday night that his sole focus is “getting our children back to school. This wrangling needs to stop right now.”

4 killed...

Continued from page 14

PAP. “My wife and I dressed and left the apartment to help the neighbors.”

Sledz said they pulled their neighbor’s 2-year-old daughter from a bed strewn with rubble.

“I thought she was dead, she was blue. But they say she is in hospital,” Sledz said.

Hospital spokeswoman Urszula Laszynska said one young girl was hospitalized in stable condition, while two

other children were dismissed after being treated for bruises.

Displaced residents were offered shelter and food at a nearby hotel. Officials said the remaining part of the building was unsafe and would be torn down.

The government has promised shelter and financial support for the residents.

Regional governor Zbigniew Hoffman said it was too

early to determine the cause of the collapse, but added that a gas explosion was one possible explanation.

Gas service to the site was cut off, and the remaining part of the building closed.

Last April, six people were killed and four injured when a gas explosion caused a small apartment building to collapse in the southwestern Polish town of Swiebodzice.

‘Black Panther’ is box-office king for third straight week

By ANDREW DALTON, AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Wakanda’s reign shows no signs of waning. “Black Panther” is king of the box office for the third straight weekend.

The release from Marvel and Disney brought in \$65.7 million domestically this weekend, easily outpacing new releases “Red Sparrow” and “Death Wish,” according to studio estimates Sunday.

“Black Panther” has now grossed \$500 million domestically after three weeks of release. It’s the third fastest film to reach the \$500 million plateau.

“Disney is clearly on a roll with ‘Black Panther’ showing incredible strength as it posts the third biggest third-weekend gross of all time,” said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore, “and most notably becomes the 10th highest grossing movie of all time in North America after just 17 days in theaters.”

Fox’s “Red Sparrow,” featuring Jennifer Lawrence as a Russian ballerina-turned-super-spy, earned \$17 million in its first weekend.

Another new release, “Death Wish,” MGM’s reboot of the Charles Bronson action franchise starring Bruce Willis, was third with \$13 million.

“Both newcomers performed to expectations but had to compete in a marketplace totally dominated by ‘Black Panther,’” Dergarabedian said.

The totals come on a weekend when all industry eyes are on the Academy Awards, which will be handed out in Hollywood later Sunday.

None of the major nominees remain in the box office top 10, though some continue to bring in receipts. “Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri” reached \$52 million domestically through Sunday, and “The Shape of Water” passed \$57 million.

“Black Panther,” directed by Ryan Coogler and starring Chadwick Boseman and Michael B. Jordan, has become a groundbreaking cinematic phenomenon, giving unprecedented representation for a film of its kind to Africans and African-Americans while winning over every corner of the culture. It should soon shoot past the billion-dollar mark worldwide.

Wakanda’s king may finally be knocked from his box-office throne next weekend with the release of director Ava DuVernay’s “A Wrinkle in Time,” another Disney film that gives groundbreaking representation to African-Americans on both sides of the camera. “Disney wins no matter how you slice it with that film expected to have a strong debut as ‘Black Panther’ continues to draw big crowds,” Dergarabedian said.



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