



Kanana Fou High School students participated in yesterday's Island-wide National History Day Competition for the secondary division.

Local private and public high schools displayed their best projects during the event, which was held at the LDS Ottoville Stake Center. GHC Reid and Co. Ltd. is the competition's major sponsor, along with donations from Congresswoman Aumua Amata and Neil's Ace Home Center.

Today the three-day event concludes with the announcement of the overall winner and the awards ceremony.

[photo: Blue Chen-Fruean]

ONLINE @ SAMOANEWS.COM

DAILY CIRCULATION 7,000

Immigration says they did not force deport a 7-month pregnant Filipino

CLAIMS SHE LIED ABOUT HER OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS, MARITAL STATUS, AND EVEN HER PREGNANCY

by Ausage Fausia

Samoa News Reporter

The issue about the forced deportation of a 7-month pregnant Filipino immigrant and her 5-year-old son last month is not true, according to Chief Immigration Officer (CIO), Peseta Dennis Fuimaono during an interview with Samoa News at his office yesterday morning.

"The woman and her son were both overstayers," Peseta said. "She came here on a 30-day permit which expired a long time ago and our staff tried to locate her, but she ran from us for almost 3 months before we finally found her."

"So the information that was provided to the Philippine Consul General which caused her to write a letter to our Attorney General is inaccurate. The woman was never force-deported, she was also not 7-months pregnant at the time she left the territory, and she does not have a husband on island as stated in the letter," the CIO told Samoa News.

Merlin Gerin Lloren, a Filipino national and her son were deported on March 1, 2018 on the grounds that she overstayed. This is according to a March 28 letter from the Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines, Honolulu, to ASG Attorney

(Continued on page 10)



A Samoana High School alumnus is now the president of the Student Government Association at North Park University in the Windy City.

Rakiiba Va'alele, a college senior majoring in Business Management, is a Class of 2015 graduate of the Blue Empire, where her mother Foa currently serves as a Special Education

teacher.

In a joint message co-authored by Rakiiba and Daniel Strom, her second-in-charge, the newly elected SGA officials wrote, "At the beginning of this race we promised to be your voice and to work on your behalf."

The pair said the reason they decided to run for office in the first place was "because we

knew that not enough students felt like they were connected to something greater than themselves. We love North Park University and know it can be a home to everyone, if only we work to hear everyone's voice, value everyone's contribution, and leave no one behind."

Va'alele and Strom continued, "This vision for North Park was affirmed by so many of you, inspiring you to vote, attend debates, and get buttons and business cards. Your vision of purpose, promise, and progress - of a campus that values diversity and inclusion and community - won the day."

"To all who voted and told their friends to vote, to all who encouraged us and believed in us, we extend our deepest gratitude; none of this was possible without the community that stayed with us."

"Because that's what this is all about- the idea that we do not walk alone. We do not achieve anything alone. We are united as one community, dedicated to you and excited for the next chapter in this place we call home," the pair concluded.

[photo: courtesy]

U.S. Army and Bluesky Communications join forces

(BASED ON A PRESS RELEASE) — Pago Pago, AS — The U.S. Army and Bluesky Communications are scheduled to sign a partnership agreement at the Army Reserve Center at 10am on April 18, 2018, as part of the U.S. Army Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) program.

The PaYS Program is a strategic partnership between the Army and a cross section of private industry, academia and federal, state and local public institutes. It guarantees soldiers a job interview and possible employment after their service in the Army.



Celebrating
THE PARTNERSHIP OF

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Youth Success



The program is designed to help soldiers prepare for a career after the Army by connecting them with employers who understand the skills, discipline, and work ethic, which military service members can bring to a business.

The PaYS Program is part of a long-term U.S. Army effort

to help soldiers forge professional relationships with businesses and encourage business owners to look to the Army as a plentiful and reliable recruiting

source.

Since PaYS began in 2000, more than 620 employers have partnered with the program.



FA'ASILASILAGA

O le a taoto ia le laau ma ona la, i ou paia sautuafafafa Amerika Samoa. E leai se vave na te gafataulima ou sa ma faiga. Ua taoto a'o se i'a mai vasa ua maea ona tuulaupua. E le faagaloina foi le au faigaluega paia a le Atua o loo nono manū ma faafaletuluia i fata faitaulaga e fia o si o tatou atunuu. Ona o le tauasuina o le ipu vai o le ola. Auā se manuia mo Samoa ia e le aunoa.

Tulou Tulou Tulouna lava.

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SATURDAY AT 10AM

APRIL 14, 2018

PLACE: ILIILICATHOLICCHURCH

Ae matou te fa'asilasila atu ai ma le ava tele, i le paia o si o tatou atunuu ae maise o le mamalu i paia o Ekalesia taitasi. O lo'o tauaaoina pepa lucky number a si o matou Ekalesia Iesu le Malamalama. Fa'amolemole matou te faamoemoe i lo outou aao mafola ae maise o lo outou lima foai, ua amata nei ona fa'amaopopoina a tatou pepa lucky number. Silasila ane i le faleoo o le CBT i Nuuli po'o fale ie o lo'o i le maketi i Fagatogo, Po'o le ASPA i Tafuna, Po'o le telefoni 733-5344 po'o le 733-1001 mo le silafia o le a se'iina le tatou lucky number ma faataunuua lea faamoemoe ia Aperila 14, 2018 i le itula e 10 i le taeao.

PLACE: Iliili Catholic Church

Afio mai ma talamai aao. Ma le fa'aaloalo lava, Sainia Susuga i le Fa'afeagaiga, ma le mamalu o le Ekalesia Iesu Le Malamalama.

StarKist donating money, cases of tuna in honor of Flag Day

EMPLOYEES WILL ALSO WALK DURING THE FLAG DAY PARADE

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

StarKist Inc. will make not only a monetary donation but they will also donate cases of tuna in support of the Flag Day 2018 organizing committee — with StarKist Samoa employees taking only two days off next week to celebrate the 118 years since American Samoa became a US territory. In past years, StarKist Samoa would usually shut down for one week during Flag Day week, with the cannery carrying out maintenance at the plant while its employees participate in the parade for the annual celebration.

However, Samoa News learned last week from representatives of businesses that serve the canneries, that StarKist Samoa will only be

closed for two days — including Flag Day, Apr. 17th — instead of the whole week. This is great news to the businesses that serve the canneries, as well as StarKist employees, who spoke with Samoa News. Responding to a Samoa News request for comments, StarKist corporate spokesperson Michelle Faist said Wednesday the StarKist Samoa management and team will proudly participate in this year's Flag Day festivities. "To show our full commitment, there will be no production on Monday, April 16, and Tuesday, April 17," she said, in a company statement, adding, "StarKist will donate \$5,000 in financial support, as well as cases of tuna, in honor of the celebration."

"As a long-standing member of the American Samoa community, we are extremely proud of our deep roots and commitment to the territory," she said.

"We recognize that StarKist's success would not be possible without the hard work of our employees, or the support and leadership" of Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga, his administration, the Fono, and Congresswoman Aumua Amata, according to the statement. "American Samoa and its people are patriotic and proud of their heritage with the United States. We know this year's celebration will be outstanding. Congratulations and wishing everyone a successful Flag Day celebration," said StarKist, the largest private employer in the territory with some 2,000 workers.

THE 2018 FLAG DAY THEME IS 'THE YOUTH OF THE FUTURE'.

In his Flag Day proclamation, the governor said the most important building block for the future is the "investment we make in our children today through education and providing a nurturing home and a supportive community that encourages their growth and development into motivated and successful young people."

"While we can invest in the future well-being of our young people, only they have the ultimate power to seize the opportunity to make that future a bright one for all," said the governor, who is calling on the government and people of American Samoa "to join in a better future for the territory by vigorously supporting the efforts of our youth to achieve their goals and desires."The Flag Day ceremony will be held at Veterans Memorial Stadium in Tafuna on Tuesday, while this Sunday, Apr. 15, is the Flag Day church service at the Gov. Rex Lee Auditorium at 3p.m.

The official Flag Day program at the stadium should be available soon.

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KBS WORLD

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CHANNEL 47

* (E) English Subtitles

* (L) Live Programming/News

* (R) Rerun

"Channel 47" KBS WORLD Program of American Samoa

*The programs listed below may change without notice due to copyright issues. (Apr 15 ~ 21, 2018) *

Time of American Samoa	Sunday (4/15)	Monday (4/16)	Tuesday (4/17)	Wednesday (4/18)	Thursday (4/19)	min	Friday (4/20)	Saturday (4/21)	min
10 : am	The Beauty A Week	Helio Counselor (E,R)	One Night Sleepover Trip (E,R)	Hyena on The Keyboard (E,R)	Happy Together (E,R)	00'	Music Bank	Encore Drama	00'
11 : am	Battle Trip (E,R)	Encore Drama Naeil's Cantabile (E,R)				00'	The Beauty Season2	Naeil's Cantabile	00'
12 NOON	Music Bank (E,R)	Daily Drama "Mysterious Personal Shopper" (E,R)				50'	The Beauty A Week		
1 : pm	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Daily Drama "Love Returns" (E,R)							
2 : pm		Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	The Miracle We Met Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)		Queen of Myystery 2 Wed-Thu Drama (E,R)			K-RUSH Season 3	30'
3 : pm	Happy Together (E,R)	Helio Counselor (E,R)	One Night Sleepover Trip (E,R)	Hyena on The Keyboard (E,R)	Happy Together (E,R)	30'	Battle Trip (E,R)	Music Bank	30'
4 : pm	Encore Drama Naeil's Cantabile (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama The Miracle We Met	Weekend Drama Marry Me Now? (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Queen of Myystery 2 (E,R)	Hyena on The Keyboard (E,R)	50'	Marry Me Now? Weekend Drama (E,R)		50'
5 : pm	Encore Drama Naeil's Cantabile (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama The Miracle We Met	Weekend Drama Marry Me Now? (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Queen of Myystery 2 (E,R)	My Neighbor Charles (E,R)	00'	Mon-Tue Drama	Wed-Thu Drama	00'
6 : pm	Encore Drama Naeil's Cantabile (E,R) # 6, 7, 8.	Mon-Tue Drama The Miracle We Met (E,R) #2, 3, 4.	Weekend Drama Marry Me Now? (E,R) # 6, 7, 8.	Wed-Thu Drama Queen of Myystery 2 (E,R) # 12, 13, 14.	Yu Huiyeol's Sketchbook (E,R)		The Mirado We Met (E,R)	Queen of Mystery 2 (E,R)	
7 : pm	Gag Concert	Daily Drama "Mysterious Personal Shopper" (E,R)						Helio Counselor (E,R)	20'
8 : pm	KBS World News Today					40'	Yu Huiyeol's Sketchbook (E)	Battle Trip (E,R)	40'
9 : pm	The Beauty Season 2	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	The Miracle We Met Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)		Music Bank (Live)				
10 : pm	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Helio Counselor (E,R)	One Night Sleepover Trip (E,R)	Hyena on The Keyboard (E,R)	K-RUSH Season 3 Danding Beauty(E,R) Office Watch Season The Beauty A Week	00'	Gag Concert (E)	"The Return of Superman" (E)	00'
11 : pm	Daily Drama "Mysterious Personal Shopper" (E,R)					20'	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Two Day and One Night (E)	40'
12 : 00	Daily Drama "Love Returns" (E)								
Next Day	KBS 9 News (Live)				KBS 9 News (Live)		KBS 9 News (Live)		00'
1 : am	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)				Queen of Myystery 2 Wed-Thu Drama (E)		Marry Me Now? Weekend Drama (E)		20'
2 : am	Helio Counselor (E)				Happy Together (E)	Music Bank (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama The Miracle We Met (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Queen of Myystery 2 (E,R)	30'
3 : am	Encore Drama Naeil's Cantabile (E,R)					K-RUSH Season 3			
4 : am	KBS World e-Today					The Beauty Season2			
5 : am	The Beauty Season 2				Battle Trip (E,R)	The Beauty A Week	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)		
6 : am	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)				Gag Concert (E,R)	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Yu Huiyeol's Sketchbook (E,R)	Battle Trip (E,R)	
7 : am	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)				Queen of Myystery 2 Wed-Thu Drama (E,R)		Marry Me Now? Weekend Drama (E,R)		50'
8 : am	Helio Counselor				One Night Sleepover	Hyena on Keyboard	Happy Together	Music Bank	00'
9 : am									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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Three defendants told to renew their immigration status ASAP

JUDGE SUNIA SAYS NOT PAYING THEIR HOSPITAL BILLS IS NOT AN EXCUSE

by Ausage Fausia
Samoa News Reporter

“Not paying your hospital bills is not an excuse for not renewing your Immigration ID. When your ID expires, you become an illegal immigrant here in the territory. If you become an illegal immigrant then you can’t work; and if you can’t work, you don’t get paid and you end up stealing someone’s property. And if you come to court with an expired immigration I.D you cannot leave the court. So renew your Immigration status.”

This was the direct message from District Court Judge Fiti Sunia to three defendants who appeared in court yesterday for their hearings. All three defendants have expired Immigration IDs and were ordered by Sunia to renew them before their next court date — which is May 2.

Two of the defendants, Analisa Matthew and Nancy Lopa — both females — appeared in court for their pretrial conference. The third defendant, Mikaele Felise, was making his initial appearance.

According to the report presented to the court by an Immigration officer during a hearing this week, all three defendants have expired immigration IDs, and the Immigration Office is working closely with the sponsors to make sure their IDs are renewed.

When Judge Sunia asked each defendant separately why they didn’t renew their immigration ID, they all provided the same answer: their outstanding hospital bills make it impossible for them to renew their immigration status.

“When I went to the hospital to get my clearance, I was told by the LBJ Finance Office that I have to pay my outstanding bill first, before I can get my clearance. The clearance is one of the requirements to renew my immigration status,” Lopa told the court.

Sunia told the defendant that not paying her hospital bill is not an excuse for not renewing her immigration status.

“Right now you’re an illegal immigrant and the law states that an illegal immigrant must not be allowed to stay in the territory,” Sunia told Lopa. “You have to take care of your bill and renew your immigration status.”

When the cases of the other two defendants were called, the pair gave Sunia the same explanation on why their IDs were not renewed.

After hearing statements from Matthew and Felise, Judge Sunia paused for a moment, before asking the Immigration officer if their office ever notified the sponsors about the situation. The Immigration officer

said they are working very closely with the sponsors to make sure the outstanding hospital bills are paid off so these immigrants can renew their immigration status.

Both female defendants are charged with public peace disturbance. The charges stem from an incident that occurred in Tafuna last month, when a group of young men and women engaged in a street fight. Police arrested four individuals, Lopa and Matthew included.

Felise was arrested by police on Tuesday evening and he made his initial appearance Wednesday morning in District Court, where he entered a ‘not guilty’ plea to a single count of misdemeanor stealing.

According to the government’s case, police responded to

a call from Pago Pago regarding a man who was drunk and allegedly assaulting another man. Police arrived at the scene and noticed a crowd of people gathering in front of a store in Pago around 11pm.

A man, who was later identified as the defendant, walked over to the police unit and told officers, “It was me.” Witnesses told police Felise got mad when the victim made fun of him, and Felise grabbed the victim’s neck and allegedly punched him in the face.

All three defendants were released under the supervision of the Immigration office, with the special condition that they must each provide a valid immigration ID when they appear in court on May 02.

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Fa'afetai tele lava!

The Castaway Cancer Fundraiser held on April 6th at the Nighthawk Malii Mai was a resounding success thanks to donations provided by businesses and individuals, and the attendance of over 100 people supporting local cancer patients.

We thank Vai and Sina Levaula and their awesome staff for hosting our event! If you have not been to Malii Mai lately, you are missing out on the most beautiful and hospitable venue on the westside! Please visit them for daily happy hour on the beach!

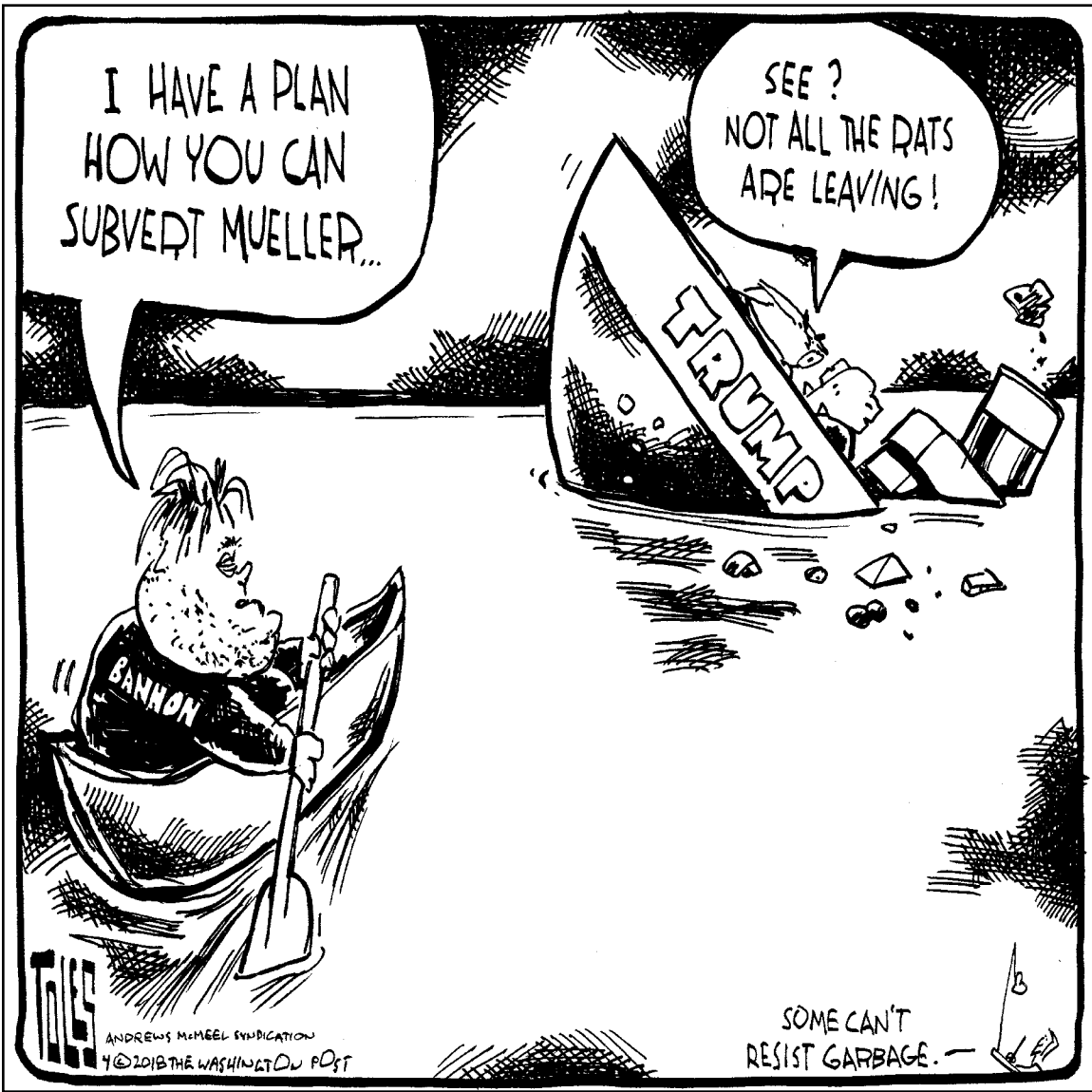
We also thank the following businesses who generously answered our calls for help:

- Pago Printshop
- KS Mart
- GHC Reid
- Cost-U-Less
- TMO Beverages
- SoPac Distributors
- KHJ & V103 SouthSeas Broadcasting
- American Samoa Filipino Community Association

And the following individuals who provided everything from bottled water to whole fish for the oka to constructing an actual BAR for our event:

- Mr. John Cabral
- Mrs. Maria Nimpha Duchnak
- Mrs. Rochelle Reid
- The Taufa'asau Aiga
- Ulale Pusi, Angie Afo & the Vibe, and the Nighthawk Band
- Mr. David Betham
- Mrs. Lupelele Lausen
- Tisa's Barefoot Bar
- Mrs. Carol Samoa
- Our ASCC volunteers: Angelyn, Patti, Jackie

The Coalition has provided 287 stipends to local cancer patients over the last 10 years. Additionally, we advocate for cancer healthcare service provision and conduct research to improve health literacy and cancer screening rates. Thank you, Community for your continued support! Our cancer patients thank you!



American Samoa granted “Opportunity Zone” status by US Treasury Dept.

PROVIDES TAX INCENTIVES TO INVESTORS WHO INVEST IN AM SAMOA

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

The US Treasury Department has granted American Samoa’s request for the entire territory to be designated as an “Opportunity Zone” — a federal program created under the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act “to spur investment in distressed communities throughout” the US.

The US Treasury and its bureau, Internal Revenue Service (IRS) made the official announcement Monday in a national news release announcing the designation of Opportunity Zones to American Samoa and 17 other states and territories.

“This is good news for American Samoa as it pro-

vides us with another tool to incentivize investment into American Samoa,” wrote Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga in a statement dated Apr. 9th but released Wednesday afternoon, Apr. 11th.

According to the US Treasury, new investments in Opportunity Zones can receive preferential tax treatment.

“With the approval of our request, all of American Samoa is now eligible to benefit from this development program,” which provides tax incentives to investors who invest in an opportunity zone, said Lolo, adding that individual and corporate investors are given the opportunity to defer capital gains taxes when they invest their earnings in the territory.

According to Lolo, additional incentives accrue over five, seven, and ten years if these investments are maintained, thereby promoting the kind of capital that underserved communities so often lack.

The governor said there are trillions of dollars worth of unrealized gains in the capital markets today. If even a portion of those gains is moved to invest in opportunity zones and distressed communities, the program could have a transformative impact.

“Our job now is to capitalize on the program,” Lolo said, adding that he has instructed Commerce Department director Keniseli Lafaele to “take the necessary steps to include this program in the current development initiatives.”

“We must use every tool at our disposal to advance our efforts to diversify our economy and strengthen our infrastructure,” Lolo continued. “We are grateful for this new opportunity and look forward to making it work for the American Samoan people.”

In the national news release, US Secretary of Treasury, Steven T. Mnuchin said “the Trump Administration will continue working with States — including territories — and the private sector to encourage investment and development in Opportunity Zones and other economically disadvantaged areas and boost economic growth and job creation.”

“Attracting needed private investment into these low-income communities will lead to their economic revitalization, and ensure economic growth is experienced throughout the nation,” he continued.

According to a US Treasury information sheet, qualified Opportunity Zones retain this designation for 10 years. Furthermore, investors can defer tax on any prior gains until no later than December 31, 2026,

BLUESKY’S FUTURE OF AMERICAN SAMOA SCHOLARSHIP

We are proud to continue Bluesky’s Future of American Samoa Scholarship Program again this year to provide educational opportunities to academically talented students from American Samoa who are pursuing a higher education either off island or at the Am. Samoa Community College.

WE ARE OFFERING TWO TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS:

AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

There will be up to two \$4000 scholarships awarded to students attending American Samoa Community College. The \$4,000 scholarship will be paid out over a two year period at \$2000 per academic school year assuming the scholarship recipient(s) satisfactorily meets the academic requirements at the end of each school year.

OFF ISLAND

There will be up to two \$14,000 scholarships awarded to students attending an accredited college or university in the United States. The \$14,000 scholarship will be paid out over a four year period at \$3500 per academic school year assuming the scholarship recipient(s) satisfactorily meets the academic requirements at the end of each school year. If an ASCC student receives the off-island scholarship award, the scholarship amount would be \$7000 which will be paid out over a two year period at \$3500 per academic year.

Please obtain a Scholarship Information and Application packet for specific scholarship details. To obtain a Scholarship Information and Application packet, please visit our main Bluesky office located on the second floor of the Laufou Shopping Center or download it from our website: www.bluesky.as. Scholarship application due date is on Monday, April 23, 2018 at 5:00 PM.

For more information, please contact the Human Resources Department at 699-2759 or via email at as.hr@blueskypacificgroup.com.





THE SAMOAN PROTESTANT AMR CHURCH IN HAWAI'I IS CELEBRATING ITS ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY.

Established on April 9, 2017, the church started off with three families and today it has grown to 10, and counting. Over 100 visitors, friends, and families have passed through, at one point or another.

The celebration began exactly how it was launched: a hike up Makapuu Mountain and a song of praise "Ua Soona Olioli Nei" just like a year ago.

Church members then went on a mission to feed some of the homeless in the Aloha State. It was their way of giving back to the community and "to give God the praises for what He has done for us during our one year of nurturing our ministry to where it stands today. All the praises and glory be unto Him who made it possible for us. God is on the throne and He will continue to grow this ministry to where it needs to be," said a church representative.

"Samoan Protestant AMR is a ministry that caters to the military community active duty members, reservists, retirees and their families, and we also welcome anyone who is looking for a place to worship."

It is under the leadership of SFC Mario Lefti.

"Thank you to all who have continued to support our ministry and for your endless prayers."

Pictured are church members in front of one of the few homeless shelters around Kakaako that houses women and children. The congregation recently paid a visit to the shelter, where members served food and drinks to the residents.

[courtesy photo]

Anchorage voters are 1st in US to defeat 'bathroom bill'

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Voters in Alaska's largest city have become the first in the U.S. to defeat a so-called bathroom bill referendum that asked them to require people to use public bathrooms and locker rooms consistent with their gender at birth.

Anchorage voters turned down a proposition that would have repealed part of a city ordinance that allowed people to

when tallying ends on Friday. Supporters of the referendum conceded defeat. Transgender activists hailed the victory, which they said could provide momentum ahead of similar upcoming votes, including one in Massachusetts in November. "Not only is this a victory for Anchorage, but a victory nationally," said Lillian Lennon, who campaigned against the Anchorage vote.



In this photo taken Monday, April 9, 2018, Lillian Lennon poses for a photo in Anchorage, Alaska. Lennon, a transgender teenager, was a field organizer who helped defeat a bathroom bill before Anchorage voters this month, the first-ever defeat of such a bill by voters in an election.

(AP Photo/Mark Thiessen)

use public bathroom and locker rooms according to their gender identity and would have instead required them to use those facilities according to their gender at birth.

Voting by mail and in person ended on April 3 and the repeal effort was losing 53-47 percent as of Monday, with nearly 78,000 votes counted and only several hundred to be counted

"Transgender discrimination is popping up everywhere, and this victory means that as a nation we can stand together against discrimination," she said. Currently 19 states plus the District of Columbia include gender identity as a protected class in statewide public accommodations laws, according to Colorado-based Family Policy Alliance, a public policy partner

of the conservative Focus on the Family organization. Researcher Autumn Stroup said in an email that tracking city regulations is more complicated.

The issue of transgender bathroom access moved into the national spotlight in 2015, after the Houston City Council adopted a nondiscrimination ordinance that included protections for transgender people using restrooms based on gender identity. Opponents of the ordinance gathered enough signatures for a repeal referendum, then mounted a campaign using the slogan "No Men in Women's Bathrooms." By a margin of 61 percent to 39 percent, the anti-bias ordinance was repealed.

In Massachusetts, voters will be asked in November whether they want to repeal a 2016 state law barring discrimination on the basis of gender identity in public accommodations, including allowing transgender people to use bathrooms and locker rooms that correspond to their gender identities.

Lennon was 14 when her parents sent her from Alaska to Utah for residential therapy, where conversion therapy was practiced and the transgender teen was placed in a boy's dorm.

"I was forced to go by pronouns and a name I didn't identify with, and was regularly harassed and bullied for who I was and simply not being able to be known as myself," she said.

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The Position

We are seeking a highly motivated and professional individual for the role of **Delivery Driver**. The position is based out of our Aua Terminal location.

Job purpose

To perform delivery duties for the distribution of our products to our customers across the island and to perform other general duties.

Duties

- Drive delivery trucks (delivering small exchange cylinders)
- Assist with delivery operations
- Assist with servicing & maintenance of delivery vehicles
- Assist in general terminal operational duties
- Follow all HSE policies & procedures

Qualifications

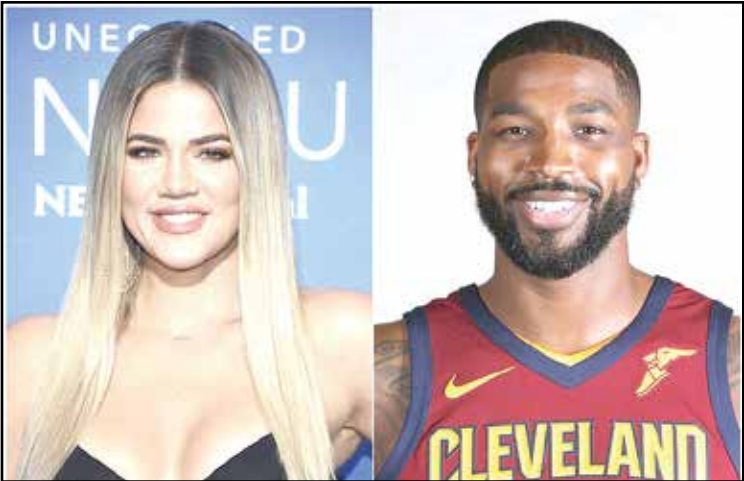
- Must have successfully completed High School
- Must have excellent communication skills (bilingual Samoan & English)
- Must have at least 2 years previous work experience in the position/role
- Must possess basic computer skills (basic knowledge in Microsoft Word & Excel)
- Must hold valid ID & driver's license (private & commercial)
- Preferably with a good driving record
- Must be in good health & capable of lifting 70lbs
- Agrees to random drug & alcohol testing

Compensation Package

- We offer excellent wages based on experience
- We also offer 401K, paid holidays, insurance package & many other benefits.

All interested persons qualified for the above position can apply in person at our Tafuna Office between the hours of 08:00am to 4:00pm. Deadline for applicants is 4:00pm on 20th of April 2018.

A new Kardashian arrives as Khloe gives birth to daughter



This combination photo shows television personality Khloe Kardashian at the NBCUniversal Network 2017 Upfront at Radio City Music Hall in New York on May 15, 2017, left, and Cleveland Cavaliers' Tristan Thompson at the NBA basketball team media day in Independence, Ohio, on Sept. 25, 2017. Various outlets have reported that the 33-year-old reality star has given birth to a baby girl, but her reps have not commented. Kardashian was expecting the baby with Thompson. The birth comes amid a torrent of tabloid speculation about the couple after surveillance video showed the basketball star with other women. There has been no comment from either Kardashian or Thompson on the matter.

(AP Photo)

NEW YORK (AP) — Khloe Kardashian has given birth to a daughter with Cleveland Cavaliers player Tristan Thompson.

The Cavaliers said Thursday they have excused Thompson from practice for the birth of his daughter. Kardashian's representatives have not commented on the birth, which was first reported by TMZ.

The birth comes amid a torrent of tabloid speculation

about the couple after surveillance video showed the basketball star making out with other women. There has been no comment from either Kardashian or Thompson about the video.

It is Thompson's second child and the first for Kardashian.

The "Keeping Up with the Kardashians" star has long talked about her desire to be a mother.



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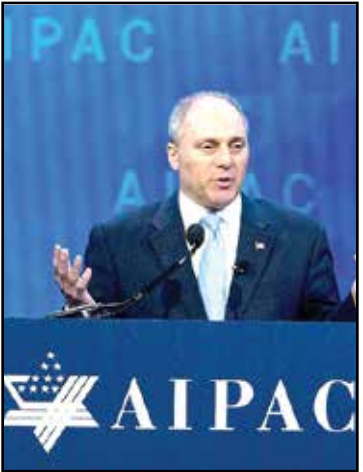


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Who'll follow Paul Ryan as speaker? Contest hums below radar

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some say it's a fight between West and South. Or who might win an endorsement from President Donald Trump. Or a test of who can woo conservatives.



FILE - In this March 6, 2018, file photo, House Republican Whip Steve Scalise speaks at the 2018 American Israel Public Affairs Committee .(AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana, File)

But one thing was clear Thursday: Any maneuvering in the brewing showdown between California Rep. Kevin McCarthy and Louisiana Rep. Steve Scalise for House speaker was occurring below the radar, and the leading players were choosing their words carefully.

"I've heard from none of the candidates, and all of the mentioned candidates are not just friends, they're close friends," said Rep. Bradley Byrne, R-Ala.

A day earlier, House Speaker Paul Ryan told colleagues he wouldn't seek re-election in November, implicitly starting the race to replace him. Disconcertingly for the GOP, Trump's unpopularity and early Democratic momentum leave it unclear whether Ryan's replacement will be speaker or minority leader.

For now, the chief contenders are McCarthy and Scalise, two affable lawmakers who knew each other as young party activists before arriving in Congress.

McCarthy, 53, is his party's No. 2 House leader and was one of the earliest and steadiest backers of Trump's presidential campaign.If Trump weighs into the contest, his clout could rally lawmakers behind his favored candidate, especially conservatives. But it could alienate moderates and others who want a leader who has their back, not necessarily the president's. It's uncertain whether Trump will intervene or for whom, though many suspect it would be McCarthy. White House officials declined comment.

McCarthy was elected in 2006 and rocketed into a leadership job in 2009, thanks to his campaigning for fellow Republicans. He replaced Eric Cantor as majority leader in 2014 after the Virginian unexpectedly lost a primary for his House seat and quit.

In 2015, McCarthy sought to succeed Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, who'd alienated conservatives who considered

him insufficiently doctrinaire. McCarthy abruptly left that contest days later after failing to line up enough votes, and Ryan accepted the post.

Scalise, 52, the House GOP vote counter and No. 3 leader, was first elected a decade ago and had little national name recognition until tragedy thrust him into headlines. He was shot at a congressional baseball practice last year and is still recovering from his injuries, an ordeal that's earned the conservative former state legislator broad respect.

"The strength he's shown with his injury, I think, has heightened where he is" among colleagues, said Rep. Phil Roe, R-Tenn.

Scalise aides say he and Trump speak frequently, but they provided no detail. Trump visited Scalise in the hospital after his June 2017 shooting. Rep. John Shimkus, R-Ill., Scalise's housemate in Washington, said Trump often calls Scalise out by name at events.

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- Banking functions.
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SR. CUSTOMER SERVICE / DOCUMENTATION MANAGER

- Accepting bookings from shippers and entering shipping details into the systems.
- Issuing bills of lading and producing of cargo manifests within deadlines.
- Processing import manifests.
- Issuing notice of arrival to consignees and arranging release of cargo.
- Providing supervisory duties to the Accounts Officer and Customer Service Assistant.
- Address day-to-day departmental needs.
- Liaising with agents and principals to solve issues in a timely and professional manner.

CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICER

- Accepting bookings from shippers and entering shipping details into the systems.
- Issuing bills of lading and producing of cargo manifests.
- Processing import manifests.
- Issuing notice of arrivals to consignees and arranging release of cargo.

OPERATIONS MANAGER

- Booking port services for vessels calling Pago Pago.
- Handling vessel entry and clearance with regulatory authorities.
- Ensuring vessel husbandry requirements are met.
- Coordinating smooth cargo operations in liaison with cargo planners, vessels and stevedores.
- Verifying and approving operations-related invoices.

OPERATIONS & CONTAINER YARD OFFICER

- Supporting the Operations Manager on vessel operations.
- Assisting in the booking of port services, vessels entrance and clearance formalities.
- Working closely with stevedores and trucking companies to ensure accurate information is given to the Logistics & Container Control Officer.

LOGISTICS & CONTAINER CONTROL OFFICER

- Maintaining updated details on container movements in the container tracking system.
- Providing container forecast to principals and ensuring optimum container fleet In Pago Pago.
- Release of containers to export shippers.
- Coordinating with stevedores on M&R to ensure availability of boxes for export shipments.
- Tracking and ensuring timely return of import containers from consignees.
- Performing detention recoveries by updating data on container movement and inventory in systems.

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- Possessing a detailed knowledge of the market and our client's needs to make Swire Shipping their partner of choice.
- Reviewing sales itinerary weekly and conducting targeted sales calls.
- Submitting weekly sales report.
- Liaising with overseas agents/principals and follow up on sales leads and cargo projects.

For all the above positions, a background in the shipping business would be preferred but may not be required provided the applicant has applicable skills that will cross over into the shipping business.

If you have the appropriate skills and qualifications, please send your current resume and cover letter by close of business by Monday, April 30th to:

Robert Hardman
Country Manager
Swire Shipping
P.O. Box 5680
Pago Pago | American Samoa 96799

Applicants can also send resume and cover letter via e-mail to: rob.hardman@swirecnco.com

Inspectors head to site of suspected gas attack in Syria

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — A team of inspectors from the international chemical weapons watchdog was on its way to Syria on Thursday to begin an investigation into a suspected chemical weapons attack near the capital that has brought the war-torn country to the brink of a wider conflict, amid Western threats of retaliation and Russian warnings of the potential for “a dangerous escalation.”

The fact-finding mission from the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons was expected to head to Douma, where the suspected attack took place and where Russia said rebels had now capitulated to government control. The Syrian government said it would facilitate the mission’s investigation, which was to begin Saturday.

Syria and its ally, Russia, deny any such attack, which activists say killed more than 43 people last weekend.

Speaking at the United Nations on Thursday, Russia’s U.N. ambassador, Vassily Nebenzia, said the top priority had to be to avert a wider war, and he didn’t rule out the possibility of a U.S.-Russia conflict. Speaking to reporters after a closed emergency meeting of the U.N. Security Council, Nebenzia said Russia was very concerned with “the dangerous

escalation” of the situation and “aggressive policies” and preparations that some governments were making — a clear reference to the Trump administration and its allies.

“We hope that there will be no point of no return — that the U.S. and their allies will refrain from military action against a sovereign state,” Nebenzia said, adding that “the danger of escalation is higher than simply Syria.”

The imminent arrival of the chemical weapons inspectors came as rebels in Douma surrendered their weapons and left the town for opposition-held areas in the north. Russia’s military said Thursday that Douma was now under full control of the Syrian government after a Russian-mediated deal secured the evacuation of the rebels and thousands of civilians after it was recaptured by Syrian forces.

Douma and the sprawling eastern Ghouta region near the capital, Damascus, had been under rebel control since 2012 and was a thorn in the side of President Bashar Assad’s government, threatening his seat of power with missiles and potential advances for years. The government’s capture of Douma, the last town held by the rebels in eastern Ghouta, marked a

(Continued on page 10)

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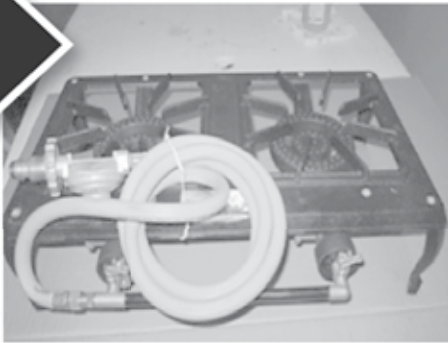
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American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position Title	RESIDENTIAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE	Posting Date	April 10, 2018
Position Type	Career Service	Deadline	April16, 2018/ 4 :00 pm
Job Opening	One (1)	Starting Salary	GS: 6/1 \$11,658.00 to GS:6/10 \$15,889.00
Report to:	Sales Manager	Status	Non-Exempt

Major Responsibilities:

This position is located in the Business Department of the American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA). Work is generally performed in a standard office environment, but also includes activities that occur in a variety of indoor and outdoor settings. Some exposure to varied weather conditions may be required.

Minimum Requirements & Qualifications

Education/ Experience:	Must possess a High School Diploma or GED equivalent from an accredited college or university or (2) years of related experience in sales, market, trends, and current campaigns. Attention to details, time management, planning and organizing
Duties & Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Improve on the sales of products and services and adhere to assigned sales quota and outlined guidelines;Approach prospective clients and showcase the best products and services offered by the organization to them;Highlight unique and special features of ASTCA's products or services to clients, giving them reasons the products/services are better than their competitors';Seek appointments with clients to showcase company products and services; and follow up on clients who show interest;Process sales data for record keeping and accurate balancing of sales account;Interact with clients and build a professional network that could yield good sales results in the long run, and also bring good recommendations;Initiate promotions to give customers incentives and bonuses as a form of appreciation for their patronage;Take ASTCA's products and services to the doorstep of clients when necessary to make the buying experience easier and convenient for them;Give detailed description of products/services to customers, as well as the various ways they can be used to obtain maximum satisfaction;Provide service information to local people of American SamoaAll other required responsibilities as requested by higher authority.

Qualified applicants: Please submit a completed ASTCA Employment Application with a copy of your resume to ASTCA (address listed below) by the deadline listed above. Please attach copies of credentials and transcripts. Candidates selected for hire must pass examinations (when applicable), pre-employment clearances & test negative on pre-employment drug test. ASTCA reserves the right to waive education and experience requirements as necessary.

Qualified Applicants Apply To:	Human Resources Division American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (A.S.T.C.A.) P.O. Box M Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799	Tel: (684) 633-9003 Ext. 9093 Fax: (684) 699-9032 Email inquiries: hr@astca.net
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American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position Title	CORPORATE SALES EXECUTIVE	Posting Date	April 10, 2018
Position Type	Career Service	Deadline	April16, 2018/ 4 :00 pm
Job Opening	One (1)	Starting Salary	GS: 8/1 \$12,878.00 to GS: 8/12 \$20,869.00
Report to:	Sales Manager	Status	Non-Exempt

Major Responsibilities:

This position is located in the Business Department of the American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA). Work is generally performed in a standard office environment, but also includes activities that occur in a variety of indoor and outdoor settings. Some exposure to varied weather conditions may be required.

Minimum Requirements & Qualifications

Education/ Experience:	Must possess an AA degree from an accredited college or university or (2) years of related experience in sales, market, trends, and current campaigns. Attention to details, time management, planning and organizing
Duties & Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assist in developing, building and managing a client base of corporate accounts;Monitor the sales process at each stage from quote, to purchasing to fulfillment and follow up;Target new and existing accounts within;Work with Marketing Department to develop and execute corporate sales initiatives;Prospect new clients via sales calls, direct mail, email and networking events;Work with suppliers to secure opportunity buys and availability of products;Coordinate product logo placement with contractors to meet the client's specifications;Analyze sales trends, track unit sales, and generate gross margin reports;Generate monthly budgets and sales forecasts;Participate in trade shows, conferences and community events to help promote the corporate program;Investigate and troubleshoot customer service issues;All other duties as required by higher authority

Qualified applicants: Please submit a completed ASTCA Employment Application with a copy of your resume to ASTCA (address listed below) by the deadline listed above. Please attach copies of credentials and transcripts. Candidates selected for hire must pass examinations (when applicable), pre-employment clearances & test negative on pre-employment drug test. ASTCA reserves the right to waive education and experience requirements as necessary.

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Immigration...

Continued from page 1

General Talauega Eleasalo Ale.

According to the CIO, the woman and her 5-year-old son entered American Samoa last year on a 30-day permit sponsored by H&H Company. When they arrived in American Samoa they stayed with the sponsor for a few weeks before running away from the sponsor and staying with Filipino friends and families.

The CIO said that according to the owner of H&H, the company sponsored the woman to do accounting work but when she was given work to do, she did not know anything about accounting, and that's why the company didn't want to hire her.

It was during the time the woman was living with other Filipino friends and families that she became pregnant by another Filipino man, who is married and owns a business in Nu'uuli, according to Peseta, who added the Lloren is not married, as noted in the Consulate General's letter to the AG.

The CIO told Samoa News that the case reached his office when the owner of H&H sought his help in finding the woman and sending her back to Manila because she was an overstayer. And also, she was spreading untrue rumors that he's the father of her unborn child.

In trying to enforce the law, Peseta explained that he ordered his staff to find the woman and bring her to the Immigration Office. It took his staff almost 3 months to locate Lloren and she was finally brought in for a meeting, during which her sponsor was also present.

"In that meeting, the woman agreed to leave American Samoa voluntarily with her son to Apia and continue to Manila. She was never force deported. We explained to her in front of her sponsor that if she left voluntarily, there would be another chance for her to come back after she gave birth," the CIO told Samoa News.

He added that during their meeting with the woman, her sponsor and several members of his staff, the woman told them she was 4 months pregnant. That was the reason why he allowed her to depart because she could still travel on the plane.

"So now the Consul General is requesting for her to come back to give birth in the territory, I don't think that is going to happen. If we allow her to come back she can't come because the airline will not allow her on the plane because she's pregnant. So now, they lied to the Consul General to make the subject seem like our office created the whole problem, but it's not. We did our job, but she was the problem", the CIO said.

There were people assigned by the Immigration office to pick up the woman and her son at Fagalii Airport, and assist them to Faleolo International Airport to catch their flight. But according to the CIO, when the assigned people went to pick up her up, Lloren and her son were being picked up by some of her Filipino friends and family who took them.

The CIO confirmed that the woman and her son are still in Apia — they do not want to go back to Manila.

American...

Continued from page 4

so long as the gain is reinvested in a Qualified Opportunity Fund, an investment vehicle organized to make investments in Qualified Opportunity Zones.

In addition, if the investor holds the investment in the Opportunity Fund for at least ten years, the investor would be eligible for an increase equal to the fair market value of the investment on the date that it is sold.

Treasury and the IRS plan to issue additional information on Qualified Opportunity Funds. The additional guidance will address the certification of Opportunity Funds, which are required to have at least 90% of fund assets invested in Opportunity Zones. More details and information on this program at <www.cdfifund.gov or www.irs.gov>

Inspectors...

Continued from page 9

major victory for Assad.

Residents in Damascus, who had lived on edge for years because of mortar shells lobbed from eastern Ghouta, celebrated the news. Vehicles carrying Syrian flags were seen driving from Damascus into Douma, chanting in support of the government.


"This is a victory for Syria and the allies of Syria," declared Abboud Mardini, a 38-year old merchant in Damascus. "Eastern Ghouta was the main source of ... terrorists who from there spread throughout Syria."

There was no official government announcement that Douma had been recaptured and no indication that Syrian forces had yet entered the town, where Russian military police were deployed to preserve the peace after an evacuation fraught with difficulties. A single government flag was raised, a war monitoring group said.



Hamza Bayraqdar, spokesman for Jaysh al-Islam, the main rebel group that once controlled Douma, said his fighters had all evacuated. They handed over their heavy and medium weapons, as well as maps of land mines and the tunnels they dug, according to Syrian state media.

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