



In honor of Veterans Day, the Samoa News office in Fagatogo is closed today, Friday Nov. 10th. We will be open for business on Monday, Nov 13th. **HAPPY VETERANS DAY!**



Retired US Army SPC Jared Vaina Tuvale of Laulii and Aoloau competed in the Dept. of Defense Warriors Games, hosted in Chicago, Illinois this past summer. A graduate of Faga’itua High School, Tuvale’s military career was cut short after he was diagnosed with bone cancer last year. See story for details.

[photo: courtesy]



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# samoa news

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2017

\$1.00

## Amata recognizes Veterans and their Families

Washington, D.C. – Congresswoman Aumua Amata issued the following statement in recognition of Veterans Day 2017:

“Thank you to everyone who has served in our nation’s armed forces, and thank you also to every family of those who served.

“Veterans Day is particularly important on our beautiful islands. We can take pride in the fact that American Samoa has the highest enlistment rate in the U.S. Army – higher than any other state or territory – along with many of our own serving in the Navy, and others in the Marines, Air Force or Coast Guard.

“That means we have a great many veterans here in American Samoa, and a great many more American Samoan veterans (Continued on page 10)

## Local amputee — retired US Army SPC — displays true Samoan warrior spirit

“ALWAYS HAVE A POSITIVE ATTITUDE NO MATTER WHAT YOU ARE GOING THROUGH”

by Blue Chen-Fruean  
Samoa News Correspondent

Jarred Vaina Tuvale is the true definition of a warrior. After being diagnosed with bone cancer last year, which resulted in his left leg being amputated, the 21-year-old from Laulii and Aoloau didn’t waste time moping and feeling sorry for himself.

Instead, he opted to find a means of releasing his emotions and he found the answer in sports.

This past summer, Jarred participated in the Department of Defense (DOD) Warrior Games hosted in Chicago, Illinois. At the event, the former

infantryman competed in various sports competitions, including sitting volleyball, cycling, shooting, track, and wheelchair basketball.

The DOD Warrior Games is an annual event that is open to wounded, ill, and injured service members and veterans in Palalympic-style sports including archery, cycling, field shooting, sitting volleyball, swimming, track, and wheelchair basketball.

“For as long as I can remember, my son has always been athletic,” said Jarred’s mother, Lole Tuvale, a nurse at the LBJ-TMC dialysis unit.

Lole and her husband Pat-

(Continued on page 10)

## Jury finds former schoolteacher not guilty for striking a student with a wooden paddle

THE ACTION WAS OUT OF LOVE — NOT ANGER — ARGUED THE DEFENSE

by Ausage Fausia  
Samoa News Reporter

A six-member, all-female jury delivered a ‘not guilty’ verdict in the case against a former Coleman Elementary School teacher this week, who was charged with one count of child abuse, a felony, and one count of endangering the welfare of a child, a misdemeanor. The charges stem from an incident involving an 11-year-old student Tony Leatualevao, 39, struck with a wooden paddle late last year.

Upon acquittal, Leatualevao, who was out on a \$5,000 surety bond, broke down a cried — in front of the jury and the judges.

His wife, who was sitting a few feet behind him inside the courtroom, was also in tears when she heard the verdict.

Chief Justice Michael Kruse thanked and acknowledged the jury for their hard work.

After dismissal, Leatualevao hugged his defense team — Public Defender Douglas Fiaui

and PD’s lead investigator.

When asked for a comment about the verdict outside the courthouse, prosecutor Robert Morris said — in a loud voice while walking away from Samoa News — “I respect the jury’s verdict.”

Fiaui told Samoa News that he appreciates the jury’s service.

“I’m glad they were able to follow the evidence and the law, and I appreciate them for that. This is what our jury system is all about and it’s a great system,” he said.

Speaking of the verdict, Leatualevao praised God for answering his prayers, through the work of the jury, his defense team, and everyone who supported him.

“It was a sweet sound to hear when I heard the verdict. I broke down, and it was the feeling of joy and happiness, because this was the moment I was waiting for,” Leatualevao told Samoa News outside the courtroom, after the verdict.

### LEATUALEVAO’S TESTIMONY

Leatualevao was the last of three witnesses the defense called to the stand. A teacher for over a decade, he told the jury teaching is his passion.

He admitted that he spanked the victim 2 times, because he wanted him to learn a lesson, so he can be an honest and reliable student, and most of all, to put a stop to his disrespectful behavior.

“I treat my students as my own children. I want them to be well behaved in class so they can learn something good from me. I show them love because I do care about them. I act as a teacher, a father, and a friend to them.”

### CLOSING ARGUMENT

Counsel Morris said the case against Leatualevao stemmed from an incident where he used unreasonable force to discipline an 11-year-old student, resulting in life threatening

(Continued on page 10)

### ASG VET CLINIC PET OF THE WEEK — HE NEEDS A HOME

“MUFASA” is a large, male adult dog looking for a home. Mufasa is a little shy at first, but warms up when shown some kindness.

Mufasa is available at the Veterinary Clinic in Tafuna. There is no adoption fee for Mufasa; and he has been neutered, dewormed, vaccinated, and treated for fleas and ticks. Please call 699-9445 or stop by the veterinary clinic at the Department of Agriculture if you want to meet Mufasa.

[courtesy photo]





In The High Court  
of American Samoa  
FAMILY, DRUG AND ALCOHOL  
COURT DIVISIONS  
FDA/JR No. 39-17  
IN RE: A CHILD  
NOTICE/FA'AALIGA

TO: Mr. Paulo (unknown last name)  
Pago Pagot Village  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the above-name respondent that a petition has been filed before the High Court of American Samoa to terminate your parental rights in a female child born on April 22, 2017, at LBJ Tropical Medical Center, Fagaalu, American Samoa. A hearing will be held after two months and ten days from the date of the first publication of this notice, in which the Court may enter an order that you have not acquired any parental rights to the minor child and place the child for adoption. If you have any objection, or wish to claim or assert your parental rights, you must appear within two months and ten days from the first publication of this notice and file an objection or a claim with the Court.

O LE FA'AALIGA E TUUINA ATU ia te oe, le ua ta'ua i luga, ua iai se talosaga ua failaina i le Fa'amasinoga Maua'uga o Amerika Samoa e iloilo ai ou aia fa'a-matua i se teineitiiti sa fanau o ia i le aso 22 o Aperila, 2017, i le Falemai i Fagaalu, Amerika Samoa. O leinei iloilo e faia pe a tuana'i le lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le aso o le ulula'i faasalalauga o leinei faaaliga, ma e ono tuuina atu ai se poloa'iga a le Fa'amasinoga e faailoa ai ua leai ni ou aia fa'a-matua i leinei teneitiiti. Afai ete tete'e, pe e te finagalo e faamaonia ou aia faa-matua, ia e failaina se talosaga tete'e i le Fa'amasinoga i totonu o le lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le ulula'i faasalalauga o leinei fa'aaliga.

Dated/Aso: October 25, 2017

CLERK OF COURTS

Published: 11/10 & 12/11/17

# Coriana Ifopo to change plea in filing false IRS tax returns for local residents

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

An American Samoan woman accused of filing false tax returns with the US Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for local residents intends to change her plea, according to her attorney in recent court filings at the federal court in Anchorage, Alaska.

Coriana Ifopo, 54, was arrested in Honolulu on July 11, 2017 and charged under a 28-count indictment handed down June 20th by a federal grand jury in Anchorage, where she appeared on July 14th and entered a 'not guilty' plea to filing fraudulent tax returns with the IRS for local residents, who do not qualify for the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

The indictment shows 28 individuals, identified in court documents by their initials, with the dates of when the returns were filed with the IRS or when the IRS refunds were issued.

Total loss to the IRS — shown in the indictment — based on the amounts for the 28 individuals is \$167,000, although the US Justice Department had an estimated loss of more than \$1.3 million.

The government alleges that Ifopo's crime occurred between 2013 and 2015 with the first IRS refund check issued May 20, 2014 and the last one on Feb. 20, 2016. US Assistant Attorney, Aunnie Steward said Ifopo filed tax returns on behalf of over 200 other individuals living in American Samoa - all these individuals don't qualify for the EITC.

Late last week, Ifopo's attorney, Assistant Federal Defender Jamie McGrady, filed a notice with the court about the defendant's "intent to change her plea in this matter and intends to proceed without a written plea agreement."

Final pretrial conference and trial are scheduled for Nov. 27, 2017 while a status hearing is presently scheduled for Nov. 13th, according to McGrady's notice.

Ifopo requests that the final pretrial conference and trial scheduled for Nov. 27 be vacated and a proposed change of plea hearing be set for a date and time convenient to the Court and parties in late November, it says.

Early this week the court vacated all hearings set for this month and scheduled

the "change of plea hearing" for Dec. 6th before US District Court Judge, Timothy M. Burgess.

Earlier court filings by the defense estimate the "actual loss in false tax returns paid out by the IRS is \$167,000" due to the Ifopo's alleged crime; however "the intended loss could exceed \$1 million." It also notes the large volume of discovery of over 8,000 pages and 121 financial spreadsheets.

Ifopo, who resides in Waipahu, Hawai'i, is released on her own recognizance and travel is prohibited to the island of Oahu, Hawai'i and Alaska, according to court documents, which also outlined various conditions of release. The defendant may "voluntarily participate in stress and anxiety counseling" as arranged by Pretrial Services.

According to the US Justice Department, the law provides for a maximum sentence of five years in prison for each count and a \$250,000 fine or both. Under federal sentencing statutes, the actual sentence imposed will be based upon the seriousness of the offenses and the prior criminal history, if any, of the defendant.

Ifopo is so far the second known case of a American Samoan charged by the federal government for falsely filing tax returns with the IRS for local residents, in order to claim the EITC. The first case was against Pepe Anetipa in December 2014 - also at the Anchorage federal court. In November 2015, Anetipa was sentenced to 30 months in prison and ordered to pay restitution of more than \$200,000 to the IRS.

## SOME AMERICAN SAMOA FILERS STILL WILLING TO TAKE THE RISK

Despite these two cases, Samoa News continues to receive reports about some local residents still filing taxes through the IRS, using another person and an address in the US.

As the new tax filing season nears, there are still residents, willing to take the risk of filing taxes in the US - all for the purpose of getting a "huge tax refund check" by claiming the EITC, according to local residents who either contacted Samoa News or were contacted by the paper.

"When people are desperate they do stupid things, even violating the law," said a local male resident, who claims to know of at least three local tax payers planning "to again" file taxes through their "connection" in the US.

"The local economy is not doing well and people are getting less money to spend. They are looking at ways to get additional income," said the male resident.

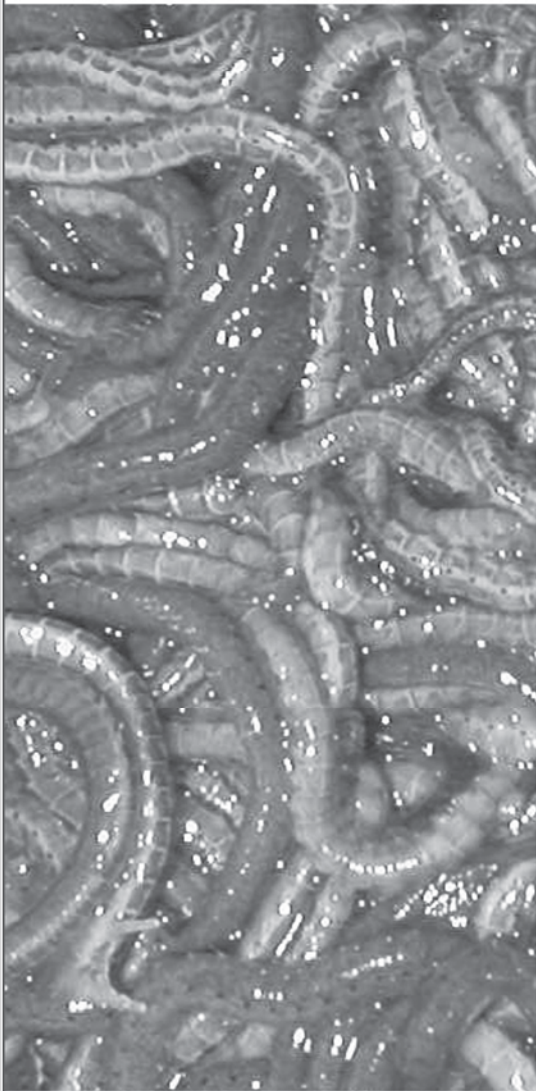
Another local resident said yesterday that "local tax payers who are able to get away with getting huge refunds, show off their illegal gains by telling other family members or friends, who then want to do the same thing: file taxes in America."

"It all comes down to the large amount of tax refund as the reason people file taxes off island," said a local attorney, who only commented as part of background information for this story. "It's illegal but people are

(Continued on page 12)



## LOCAL COMMUNITIES LOOKING FORWARD TO PALOLO RISING THIS MONTH



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

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

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

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



# DPS Commish attending Pacific Transnational Crime Network Conference in Hawai'i

... A FIRST FOR AMERICAN SAMOA

by Ausage Fausia  
Samoa News Reporter

DPS Commissioner Le'i Sonny Thompson is attending the Pacific Transnational Crime Network Conference (PTCN) in Honolulu this week, representing the American Samoa Department of Public Safety at the annual event.

The workshop provides an important opportunity for PTCN team leaders to collectively discuss and develop strategies to address transitional crime priorities in the Pacific region, and for leaders to enhance their professional networks, which promotes greater cooperation between the region's Transnational Crime Units (TCUs), the PTCCC, and other key law enforcement stakeholders involved in combating transnational crime in the Pacific.

In a letter to Gov. Lolo Matatalasi Moliga, Le'i said American Samoa's participation is fully funded by the Australian Federal Police (AFP), and this includes airfare, a daily allowance, and all conference costs.

On March 27, 2017, the American Samoa DPS served as host to the PTNC Conference, composed of the US Department of Homeland Security and law enforcement agencies from Samoa, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Australia, and the Solomon Islands.

The conference focused on each agency's role as collectors of intelligence, gathering infor-

mation, which in turn creates an opportunity to build relationships and collaboration.

The Commissioner thanks Lolo and Lt. Gov. Lemanu Palepoi Mauga for making this long overdue affiliation and association with the island nations of the Pacific a reality.

The Pacific Transnational Crime Network (PTCN) comprises more than 25 Pacific Island Law Enforcement entities.

And, this is the first time American Samoa has become a part of this vital and much necessary team of experts in law enforcement. Their mission is to share information across the Pacific to combat the influx of illicit drugs, prostitution, money laundering, and other crimes from entering our shores.

Commissioner Egon Keil of Samoa is the current chair of the Network, and the Australian Government funded the conference in full.

Also attending the conference are federal agents from Homeland Security; Drug Enforcement Agency; Coast Guard; and members of the Joint Interagency Task Force West; all working together to prevent and disrupt illegal activities in the Pacific.

As part of this effort, DPS can expect numerous training and federal interventions and assistance in the effort to combat drugs within the next month, and going forward.

## Ex-officer who shot unarmed teen had history of aggression

DALLAS (AP) — A white former suburban Dallas police officer fired and charged with murder after killing an unarmed black teen has a long history of hostile and aggressive behavior, according to a court record filed Thursday.

The most recent instance was a night last April when former Balch Springs police officer Roy Oliver "flipped off" the vehicle in which 15-year-old Jordan Edwards sat, dead from Oliver's gunfire, according to the "notice of extraneous offenses" filed by the Dallas County District Attorney's Office. Prosecutors state in the three-page filing that they will detail the former officer's behavior for a Dallas County jury hearing the murder case.

Oliver's attorney, Jim Lane, did not return messages seeking comment. The earliest entry in the record shows that in eighth grade, Oliver carried a knife and a stun gun, wore paramilitary clothing and was a member of a group called "Caucasians in Effect," in which he posted swastikas in public places and hated anyone who wasn't Caucasian, according to

prosecutors.

The court document also quoted from a 2011 pre-law enforcement employment psychological examination Oliver took. The assessment said Oliver "may feel so insensitive to threat that his judgment may be impaired in evaluating the risk of danger," and that "his sense of entitlement may be so strong that the possibility of his behaving in an antisocial manner must be considered."

In 2013, while testifying before a jury in Dallas County, the filing said Oliver was "uncooperative and used profanity" in his responses to an attorney's questions. He also used profanity and "communicated aggressively" with prosecutors and their staff.

Two weeks before Edward's death, he was accused of committing aggravated assault on two women during which he displayed a firearm.

The night Edwards died, Oliver and his partner were responding to a report of drunken teens at a party. When they entered the home where the party was, the officers heard rapid gunfire outside.



Samoa Police Commissioner, Egon Keil, and DPS Commissioner, Le'i Sonny Thompson during last year's PTCN conference in American Samoa. [photo: AF]

## Church shooting victims face many obstacles in court

CHICAGO (AP) — Texas church shooting victims and their families could have a hard time successfully suing the government over the Air Force's failure to submit the gunman's criminal history to the FBI — a step that would have blocked him from legally buying weapons.

Relatives of the more than two dozen churchgoers killed in Sunday's attack would face major obstacles, including protections written into law to shield the military from certain legal action. An easier route might be to seek help from Congress, which could pass a law acknowledging the Air Force's mistake and offering compensation.

A look at some of the key issues involved:

### WHO TO SUE

There are just two plausible targets for a lawsuit, legal experts say: Devin Patrick Kelley's estate and the Air Force. Suing for Kelley's assets would be an easy legal win. But it is likely to result in payments of no more than a few hundred dollars to each of the families whose loved ones were killed or wounded. Targeting the Air Force means taking on the U.S. government. The United States, not the Air Force, would be named in any lawsuit as the defendant. Lawyers from the Department of Justice would represent the government.

At issue would be Kelly's

purchase of the Ruger AR-15 used in the attack. The Air Force did not report his 2012 court-martial for abusing his wife and her child to a federal database used for background checks on gun purchasers. Had that conviction been entered into the database, as required by Pentagon rules, Kelley's legal purchase of any gun would have been denied. Kelley, who worked in logistics at the Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico starting in 2010, was given 12 months of confinement followed by a bad-conduct discharge in 2014.

### CAUSE AND EFFECT

The question at the core of any civil case would be: Did the clerical failure by the Air Force cause the deaths in Texas?

Proving such a direct link wouldn't be easy, said Tony Romanucci, a leading personal injury attorney based in Chicago.

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# Trump thinks US, China could jointly solve world's problems

BEIJING (AP) — President Donald Trump set aside his blistering rhetoric in favor of friendly overtures to China on Thursday, trying to flatter his hosts into establishing a more balanced trade relationship and doing more to blunt North Korea's nuclear ambitions.

Winding down his two days in Beijing, Trump suggested that if the U.S. and China jointly took on the world's problems, "I believe we can solve almost all of them, and probably all of them."

In the name of furthering that relationship, Trump largely shelved his campaign complaints about China, at least in public. He focused on exhorting Beijing to help with North Korea, an effort expected again to take center stage at an international summit in Vietnam on Friday.

The Chinese rolled out a lavish welcome for the American president. Trump returned the kindness, heaping praise on China's Xi Jinping and predicting the two powers would work around entrenched differences. On Twitter later, Trump called his meetings with Xi "very productive on both trade and the subject of North Korea."

On trade, Trump criticized the "very one-sided and unfair" relationship between the U.S. and China. But unlike his approach during the campaign, when he castigated China for what he contended were inappropriate trade practices, Trump said Thursday that he didn't blame the Chinese for having taken advantage of the U.S. in the past.

Trump said China "must immediately address the unfair trade practices" that drive a "shockingly" large trade deficit, along with barriers to market access, forced technology transfers and intellectual property theft.

"But I don't blame China," he said. "After all, who can blame a country for being able to take advantage of another country for the benefit of its citizens?"

To applause, Trump said, "I give China great credit."

Reacting from afar, Sen. Bob Menendez, D-N.J., said Trump's comments "make the United States look weak and as if we are bowing to China's whim. ... Instead of giving

China credit for stealing American jobs, the president should be holding China accountable." Menendez, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, is on trial for bribery.

U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson offered a blunt assessment of China's trade surplus with the United States, which in October widened by 12.2 percent from a year earlier to \$26.6 billion. The total surplus with the United States for the first 10 months of the year was \$223 billion.

"I think the best way to characterize it is that while we appreciate the long hours and the effort that our Chinese counterparts have put into those trade discussions, quite frankly in the grand scheme of a \$300- to \$500-billion trade deficit, the things that have been achieved are pretty small," Tillerson told reporters in Beijing.

Tillerson also acknowledged there were differences in "tactics and the timing and how far to go with pressure" on North Korea. But he insisted that the two countries shared common objectives.

"There is no disagreement on North Korea," he said.

The comments by Trump and his top diplomat came after lengthy meetings with Xi. The day included announcements that the U.S. and China had signed agreements valued at more than \$250 billion for products including U.S.-made jet engines, auto parts, liquefied natural gas and beef.

Such contract signings, a fixture of foreign leaders' visits to Beijing, are intended to defuse complaints about China's trade policies.

Xi promised a more open business environment for foreign companies in China and said his country was committed to further opening its economy to outside investment.

"China will not close its doors" and will open them "even wider," he said, pledging that foreign companies in China, including American ones, would find the market "more open, more transparent and more orderly."

It is unclear how far China will go to fulfill its pledges. Previous U.S. administrations have hailed market-opening promises only to be left disappointed.

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U.S. President Donald Trump and China's President Xi Jinping attend at a state dinner at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China, Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017. (Thomas Peter/Pool Photo via AP)

# Chobani grows in 'Silicon Valley of food' despite turmoil

TWIN FALLS, Idaho (AP) — The founder and CEO of Chobani has no regrets about moving his Greek yogurt company to south-central Idaho, a region embroiled in the national debate over refugee resettlement that spread to company boycotts by far-right bloggers and conspiracy theorists.

"I hear the conversations here and there, but it's a peaceful community that we all love," said Hamdi Ulukaya, a Turkish immigrant. "It's the home of Chobani."

Ulukaya spoke to The Associated Press before a Thursday announcement of a \$20 million expansion of the company's facility in the city of Twin Falls — the world's largest yogurt plant — to serve as its global research and development center tackling how yogurt is made and consumed.

It's a project Ulukaya says he's been planning for several years. As to what innovations the company plans for the 70,000-square-foot facility, Ulukaya isn't sharing yet. He said the focus will be on offering natural and non-synthetic products.

The project follows a series of expansion efforts by Chobani since opening its Idaho plant in 2012. The \$450 million, 1 million-square-foot plant is the company's second after Ulukaya started Chobani in New York. The company employs 2,000 workers, including 300 refugees. However, Chobani's time in Idaho also has taken a darker turn as anti-immigrant advocates have seized on the company's open stance on refugees. Fringe websites have falsely claimed that Ulukaya wanted to "drown the United

States in Muslims." Other websites, like Breitbart News, falsely attempted to link Chobani's hiring of refugees to an uptick in tuberculosis cases in Idaho. To counteract the hateful rhetoric, Chobani sued right-wing radio host Alex Jones earlier this year, saying that Jones and his InfoWars website posted fabricated stories linking Ulukaya and the company to a sexual assault case involving refugee children in Twin Falls. Jones originally promised to never back down in his fight against the yogurt giant but eventually retracted his statements in a settlement.

Ulukaya declined to comment on the Jones lawsuit but said the rise in anti-refugee sentiment has never delayed a project he wanted to pursue. And he says he is committed to being a welcoming company.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Samoa News welcomes and encourages Letters to the Editor. Please send them to our

email [news.newsroom@samoatelco.com](mailto:news.newsroom@samoatelco.com)  
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Please visit [samoanews.com](http://samoanews.com) for weekend updates.





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# Amata Highlights Active Week of Veterans Legislation in the House

Washington, D.C. – Wednesday, November 8, 2017 — Congresswoman Aumua Amata highlighted a week of veterans’ legislative activity as the nation prepares to observe Veterans Day this weekend.

This week, the House passed a bill (H.R. 3656) sponsored by Rep. Jim Banks of Indiana, with Congresswoman Aumua Amata as the sole co-sponsor, that would help family members of veterans have a place in cemeteries with their loved ones.

Specifically, the bill establishes a consistent applicability date for VA provision of memorial headstones and markers for eligible family members of veterans who die on or after November 11, 1998, so that in these cases, the family member can be buried or interred with

their loved one according to their wishes.

Congresswoman Amata is an original co-sponsor of two other veterans’ bills introduced since Nov. 3:

The VA AIR Act is a bill to examine Veterans Health Administration assets, which would fulfill one of the major recommendations made by a bipartisan Commission on Care, which urged the creation of an unbiased, non-partisan panel to thoroughly look at the VA’s health infrastructure, and discover where resources can better focus on underserved veterans.

“The VA has enormous responsibility for infrastructure throughout the nation, and this bill creates a better way to review how those assets

are serving veterans and what improvements can be made,” said Aumua Amata. “I’m pleased to support this effort to ensure veterans funding is well spent on the services our veterans need most, and I appreciate Chairman Roe and the Members of this Committee for their commitment to getting the most for our veterans out of these resources.”

The bipartisan VA Care in the Community Act, introduced by Chairman Phil Roe, to improve community care options. On Friday, Congresswoman Amata announced her support and co-sponsoring of this effort to streamline veteran access to community care, previously handled under the CHOICE Program, including more options and removal of the

(Continued on page 11)



Amata with local veterans and Jennifer Gutowski – Director of US VA Pacific Islands Healthcare. [courtesy photo]

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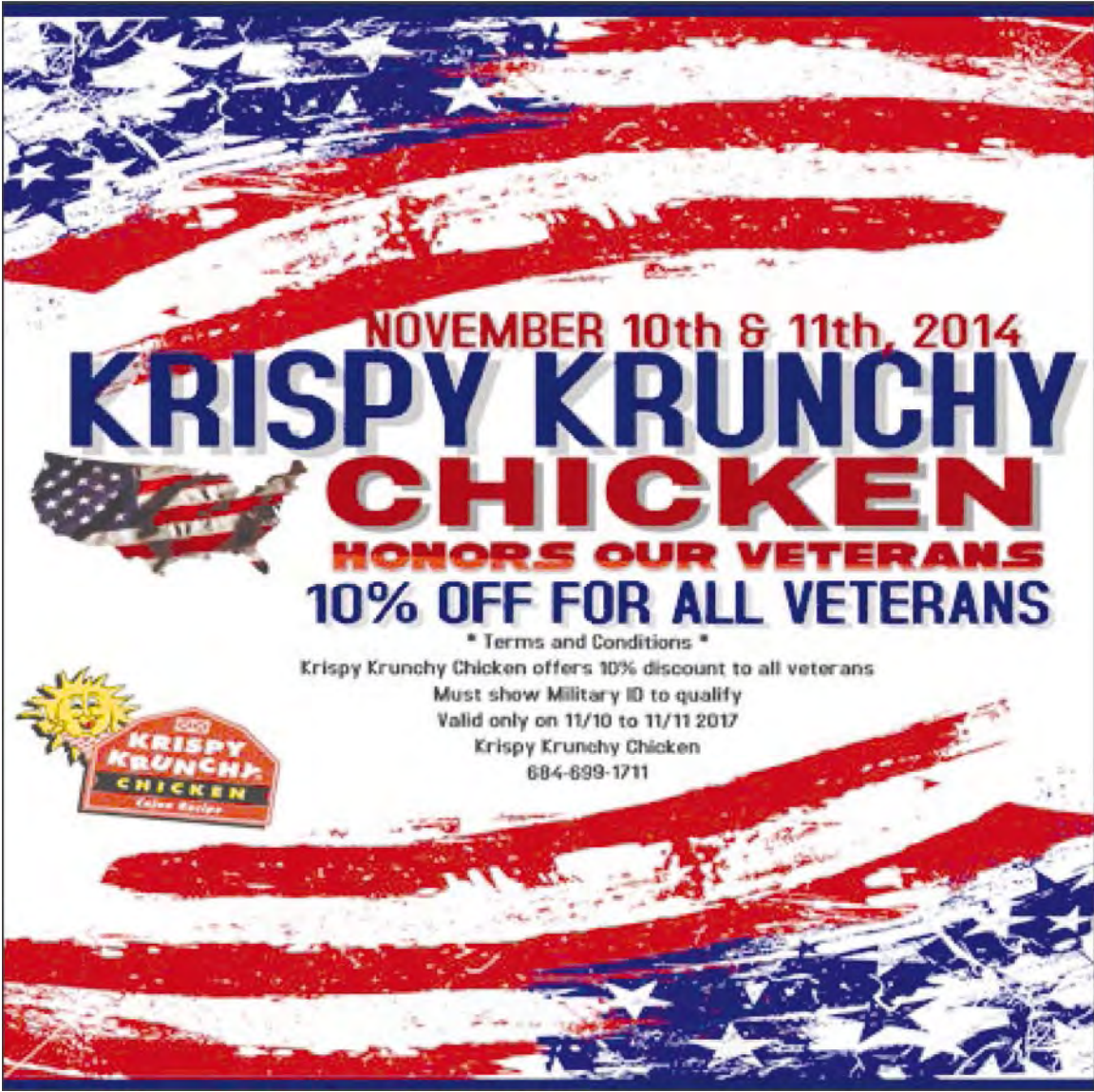
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# Attorney General speaks to ASCC Political Science Club

by James Kneubuhl, ASCC Press Officer

For their fall 2017 club activity, the Political Science Club at the American Samoa Community College (ASCC) welcomed Attorney General Eleasaro Ale as their guest speaker last week.

“We invite prominent members of the community in related careers to share with students the advantages of studying Political Science and ways in which a degree in the subject can enhance their role as citizens through involvement with their government and society,” said ASCC Social Sciences chairperson Lilian Temese.

Political Science Club student president Ken Tupua welcomed the audience, which included students, faculty, and ASCC administrators. Club vice

president Aiava Talaeai offered a brief prayer before Social Sciences faculty member and club advisor Adrian Moana introduced the Attorney General.

Ale began by discussing his own views on Political Science and the importance of a degree in the subject. Ale recalled his own childhood curiosity about American Samoa’s traditional politics and social system, and spoke of how he and his young friends would sometimes perform monologues, which gave him the opportunity to play the role of lawyer or judge.

“Political science is the art of politics,” Ale reflected. “It is how society functions to aggregate and distribute its resources to its people.”

He talked about the different political systems that one studies in college, such as the U.S. democratic system, Samoa’s parliamentary system, the British monarch system, and even the totalitarian regimes found in some countries. As his talk transitioned from political systems in general to his personal experience, Ale recalled how he graduated from college in the early 90’s, then, went directly into law school, which led to him practicing law in the state of Minnesota. During all that time, he said, he had moments of yearning to return home to American Samoa.

Ale reflected how in his current role as the Territory’s Attorney General, he often feels like a politician as he negotiates controversial economic issues and strategizes the necessary litigation to solve institutional problems within the government.

He said he misses handling cases firsthand in the courtroom.

When Ale opened the floor to questions and answers, question touched on a range of subjects such as the risk of the Retirement Fund loans, revisions for our local tax laws, whether the federal government ought to limit its involvement in local matters such as land and ocean rights, immigration, and citizenship.

Ale said he believes that regardless of what political direction we choose to take in the future, more should be done to protect our islands and way of life. He also offered the opinion that government needs to be kept small so it can provide the people better access and streamline the decision process.

Social Sciences chairperson Temese relayed that according to an Academic Affairs Office survey conducted following Ale’s guest talk, most of the students surveyed expressed satisfaction with the subject content presented, the expertise of the presenter, the effective

(Continued on page 13)



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**FILE** - In this Jan. 30, 2017 file photo, Fox News Channel chief news anchor Shepard Smith broadcasts from The Fox News Deck during his “Shepard Smith Reporting” program, in New York. While Fox News Channel has spent hours talking about Hillary Clinton and an Obama-era uranium deal in recent weeks, its news anchor Smith avoided the story entirely. Fresh evidence that Smith is an island unto himself at the news network came in research released Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017, by the liberal watchdog group Media Matters for America. (AP Photo/Richard Drew, File)



God Bless Our Veterans! [Courtesy photo]

## Amata recognizes...

Continued from page 1

living throughout the rest of the country. We also have many currently serving, and young people making plans to join the military – these are our future veterans. We owe them all a great debt.

“Veterans Day should be a celebration of lives well lived, as veterans contribute so much to our communities, and a grave reminder that many have made great sacrifices and carry heavy burdens from their years of ser-

vice. For those serving, perhaps far away from loved ones, you are in our thoughts and prayers. For those families missing someone special to you, we appreciate your patriotism.

This is a day to recognize our veterans and all they mean to us. It is also a day to celebrate freedom, because that’s the ultimate selfless cause of all who serve. God bless the United States, and God bless each one of you – our veterans.

## Local amputee...

Continued from page 1

rick Tuvale have 3 children — two girls and one son, Jarred.

Jarred and his sister Jayne made local news when they went off to basic military training together. Samoan siblings serving in the military is not uncommon, but having them go through boot camp together is. Both signed up as US Army reservists. Jarred has medically retired while Jayne is serving in Hawai’i, where she also works and takes classes at Chaminade University. Their sister Patrina is a US Army veteran.

“We are just thankful that Jarred has been able to receive the treatment he needs and we are happy that he stays positive, always finding things to do, to stay active,” said Lole.

According to her, when Jarred first enlisted in the US Army, he complained of pain in his leg. He underwent two biopsies locally and doctors told him everything was okay. After boot camp, he again sought medical attention for his aching leg — this time, in Hawai’i — and was told nothing was wrong. It wasn’t until he attended a training exercise in Louisiana that doctors found a tumor. “They said he had cancer,” Lole shared. Naturally, any parent who receives such devastating news would be heartbroken. And the Tuvalas are no different. When the recommendation was made to amputate Jarred’s left leg, Patrick and Lole put their emotions to the side and fought the uphill battle head-on with their only son. The couple took turns caring for him during the rehabilitation stages, often traveling off island to be by Jarred’s side in Texas, at Fort Sam Houston.

Throughout the ordeal, Jarred’s family members and friends kept him in prayers as

the once athletic boy was now down to one leg. But Jarred’s persistence and determination did not allow him to stay in bed long. He got his prosthetic leg and after physical therapy and months of recuperating, the free spirited soldier was back on his feet, doing what he loves most: playing sports. “Always have a positive attitude, no matter what you are going through.” These are Jarred’s words of advice.

When highlights of Jarred’s achievements at the 2017 DOD Warrior Games made national news, his parents — and the rest of his supporters — were ecstatic. The event brought in 265 athletes representing the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, the US Special Operations (SOCOM), as well as the United Kingdom Armed Forces, and the Australian Defense Force. Competitors included those with upper-body, lower-body, and spinal cord injuries; traumatic brain injuries; visual impairment; serious illnesses; and post-traumatic stress. According to the dodwarriorgames.com, the Warrior Games exist to provide an opportunity for athletes to grow physically, mentally, and spiritually from the sportsmanship and camaraderie gained by representing their respective service teams in a friendly and spirited competition.

“It is an opportunity for athletes to showcase their enduring warrior spirit in the presence of their families and a grateful nation.” Established in 2010, the Warrior Games is a “way to enhance the recovery and rehabilitation of wounded warriors and to expose them to adaptive sports.” Jarred is currently in the Aloha State, competing in sporting events sanctioned by the military.

## Jury finds former...

Continued from page 1

bruises to his buttocks, which made him unable to walk for almost 3 weeks.

Morris said a lot has been said about the victim’s misbehavior in school but regardless, the defendant’s action was not justified and he was not allowed under the school’s policy to use unreasonable force to discipline any student.

The prosecutor claimed the main reason why the defendant ‘sasa’ the victim with the wooden paddle, was because the victim disobeyed him and not because the child broke any school rules or misbehaved in class. He added that the “sasa” was for fighting after school, which happened off campus.

Morris reminded the jury of the victim and his mother’s testimony — that the child was struck five times by the defen-

dant — and asked the jury to consider the photos of the victim’s injuries, and other evidence such as the written statement by the defendant and the wooden paddle that was used.

Morris pointed out that using unreasonable force to discipline students is not allowed under the law, and that’s why Coleman Elementary School has a zero tolerance policy for corporal punishment.

“We must put a stop to this type of action, and the only way we can put a stop to it, is for you to find this former teacher guilty of both counts,” the prosecutor said.

When it was his turn, Fiaui told jurors that Leatualevao did his very best to teach, advise, and discipline the victim so he could become a better person in the future. He said the victim

has a history of misbehaving, and it was almost every day that Leatualevao had to talk to him about his behavior problem.

“Leatualevao is a qualified teacher, and his action was justified under the law.

He disciplined this young victim out of love, not anger. He wanted him to learn a good lesson so he will become a good example for other students,” Fiaui said.

According to Fiaui, one of the reasons why this case was brought before the court was because the victim’s parents failed to play their part as quoted in the Bible.

Opening the Bible that was on the witness table, Fiaui read Proverbs 13:24 in Samoan: “Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.”

# FAASALALAUGA O LE SUAFA TUI TELELEAPAGA O LEONE

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

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

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

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

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

Sainia,

**Nofoatoo & Tausi o le Aiga o Tuiteleleapaga i Leone.**





Amata with veterans, including Mata'u, Fa'asala, Tauai Suiiaunoa, discussing access to VA health care. Our veterans often must travel to Honolulu for health services. [courtesy photo]

Amata...

Continued from page 7

30-day, 40-mile requirement.

“Veterans in American Samoa often have difficulty accessing the quality care they deserve because of both the price of medical services and the travel to facilities,” continued Congresswoman Amata.

“I’m pleased that the legislative agenda in Congress reflects a growing awareness of the need for lower costs, more options, and better care in remote areas.”

Other bipartisan veterans’ bills that passed the House of Representatives this week:

The VA Management Alignment Act of 2017, H.R. 1066, would require VA to submit a report regarding the roles, responsibility, and accountability of elements and individuals of VA, using the findings of the Independent Assessment, the Commission on Care, and relevant GAO reports as resources.

The Veterans Care Financial Protection Act of 2017, H.R. 3122, directs VA to work with federal agencies and states to develop and implement standards that protect individuals who are eligible for this increased pension from dishonest, predatory or otherwise unlawful practices.

H.R. 3562, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish assistance for adaptations of residences of veterans in rehabilitation programs.

H.R. 3657, a bill to expand authority for the VA to provide headstones and markers to eligible spouses and dependents buried or interred in tribal veterans’ cemeteries.

\$3.00  
A Block

RAFFLE

+

IESU LE MALAMALAMA

+

BINGO

6 19 36  
4 24 37  
10 21 60

No.

1st B \$20,000	2nd I \$20,000	3rd N \$20,000	4th G \$20,000	5th O \$20,000
1	16	31	46	61
2	17	32	47	62
3	18	33	48	63
4	19	34	49	64
5	20	35	50	65
6	21	36	51	66
7	22	37	52	67
8	23	38	53	68
9	24	39	54	69
10	25	40	55	70
11	26	41	56	71
12	27	42	57	72
13	28	43	58	73
14	29	44	59	74
15	30	45	60	75
6th \$20,000	7th \$20,000	8th \$20,000	9th \$20,000	10th \$20,000

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Location: Ilili Catholic Church  
November 23, 2017  
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RAFFLE

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Good Luck





French President Emmanuel Macron talks to the journalists during a press conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017. (AP Photo/Kamran Jebreili)

## Scores more Saudis detained in \$100 billion corruption sweep

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Dozens more people have been taken into custody by Saudi authorities, the kingdom said Thursday, bringing to 201 the number detained in a sweep that investigators say has uncovered at least \$100 billion in corruption. Saudi critics and experts have called the unprecedented purge of top princes and businessmen a bold and risky move by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman aimed at consolidating power as he keeps an eye on the throne, sidelining potential rivals and dismantling alliances built with other branches of the royal family. The sweep comes at a time of increased tensions between Saudi Arabia and its main regional rival, Iran, over the ongoing conflict and suffering in Yemen and a newly erupting political crisis in Lebanon.

Saudi Attorney General Saud al-Mojeb said 208 people had been called in for questioning, and that seven were released without charge, leaving 201 in custody. The new figure is far larger than what was previously reported by the government, reflecting a continuing series of arrests throughout the week. The stunning purge began overnight Saturday, initially catching 11 princes and 38 officials, military officers and business leaders. They are being held at five-star hotels, including the Ritz-Carlton in Riyadh. The 32-year-old crown prince, who is the son of King Salman and is popularly known by his initials MBS, is leading the investigation as head of a newly formed anti-corruption committee. Among those detained are billionaire Prince Alwaleed bin Talal and two sons of the

late King Abdullah, including Prince Miteb, who until Saturday had headed the powerful National Guard. Several years ago, he was considered a contender for the throne and was believed to have opposed MBS becoming crown prince.

The government declined to identify many of the other individuals being questioned, saying it is respecting their privacy during this phase of the investigation. An estimated 1,700 individual bank accounts have been frozen. “The potential scale of corrupt practices which have been uncovered is very large,” al-Mojeb said, adding that based on investigations in the past three years, at least \$100 billion has been misused through corruption and embezzlement. Al-Mojeb confirmed that action was taken to suspend personal bank accounts.

## ► Fa’afetai tele lava...

Continued from page 6

American Samoa.

According to feedback of the successful event, team commitment and hard work made the festival this year; a peaceful and rewarding experience for ourselves, our community, and off island visitors and working guests. Our team included

Bear, Candyman, Bam, Easter, Maria, Princess and Ingrid. Congratulations!

“The fest was an amazing experience; the artists, the art, local organic food, people and the awesome venue! I loved it!” said Tiffany. Su’a Fitiao and Reggie Meredith Fitiao along

with their Apaula team laid the first step at the Fest this year, sailing the ‘alia canoe to grace the festival with their presence. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

Fa’afetai ma ia manuia le folauga a le Tatau ma Apaula. **See you next October.**

## ► Coriana Ifopo...

Continued from page 2

desperate. Take a look at the current economic situation, people are temporarily out of jobs, while others have working hours reduced.”

Those who spoke with Samoa News believe the only way for local residents to halt filing taxes in the US is when the federal government starts “arresting these local residents” and teaching them a lesson.

“Your newspaper and other media can report all you want about these illegal tax filings with the IRS, but people will still do it, unless the federal government gets to the root of the problem — the local residents themselves,” said one of the individuals, who has worked in ASG for many years and continues to hear about people filing

taxes off island.

It remains unclear whether or not the federal government will ever go after these local residents with prosecutors targeting the tax preparers — such as Ifopo and Anetipa — to recoup IRS losses.

According to the indictment against Ifopo, there were eight tax refund claims or checks issued that were more than \$8,000 with the highest tax refund in the amount of \$8,918 for “M.L” filed or issued around Mar. 2, 2015. There were several checks with refunds of more than \$7,000; \$6,000 and \$5,000. The smallest tax refund filed or check issued for a refund was \$1,043.



# Hawaii boat wreck shows eco-risk of fishing fleet practices

HONOLULU (AP) — Just offshore from Waikiki’s pristine white sand beaches, a fishing boat transporting foreign workers destined for low-paying jobs in Hawaii’s fishing fleet smashed into a shallow reef last month.

The stranded boat has been leaking oil and diesel ever since in an area prized by swimmers and surfers, and there was a visible sheen around the boat this week.

The crash of the 79-foot (24-meter) Pacific Paradise illustrates a potential environmental impact of the Hawaii fishing fleet’s practice of transporting foreign workers by boat.

The industry already faced criticism following a 2016 Associated Press investigation revealing that the workers from Southeast Asia and Pacific nations work without visas, some making less than \$1 an hour and living in squalid conditions.

Swimmers and surfers say they feel and smell the petroleum even when they’re in the water far from the wreck site. Some visitors mistakenly assume the crippled boat is a tourist attraction.

The wrecked vessel had about 1,500 gallons (5,700 liters) of diesel and hydraulic oil left in its tanks after the vessel caught fire days after the October 10 crash.

Coast Guard spokesman Lt. Cmdr. Scott Carr on Wednesday minimized the possibility of environmental damage, saying

there is a sheen on the water but that diesel fuel evaporates quickly and that surf breaks it apart.

“The environment is fairly resilient,” Carr said.

Efforts to remove the boat have failed so far, but swimmer Chris McDonough said more should be done. He said his surfer friends can smell and feel the fuel in the water hundreds of yards (meters) away from the wreckage at a popular surfing spot.

“I could feel it on my skin,” the Honolulu resident said, adding that the boat removal attempts so far seem “like an inadequate response.”

The boat is a longline tuna fishing boat that somehow crashed into the shallow reef in the middle of the night as it headed to drop off the foreign workers for their transfer to other fishing boats.

No one aboard called for help when it ran aground and the Coast Guard is investigating the cause of the crash. The crew members were taken into U.S. Customs and Border Protection custody and released to the boats that had contracted to bring them to the state.

While a salvage crew was preparing to tow the boat away, it caught fire and sent thick black smoke over tourists in Waikiki as the workers jumped off the burning deck and into the ocean. Another attempt using a powerful tug boat and specially designed cables also failed.



*This Nov. 1, 2017 drone photo shows the fishing boat Pacific Paradise, leaking oil and diesel fuel just offshore of hotels on Waikiki’s pristine white sand beaches with Diamond Head in the background in Honolulu. The fishing boat transporting foreign workers destined for low-paying jobs in Hawaii’s fishing fleet smashed into a shallow reef last month. The crash of the 79-foot (24-meter) boat illustrates a potential environmental impact of the Hawaii fishing fleet’s practice of*



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Position Title	Operator I	Posting Date	October 30, 2017
Department	Engineering	Deadline	November 10, 2017, 4:00 pm
Division	Environmental Services Division	Starting Rate	\$7.28/hr
Position Type	Career Service - 12 months probation		
Reports To	Water Distribution Supervisor	Job Grade/Status	D/1/A, Non-Exempt

### Major Duties & Responsibilities

his position is an entry level/trainee position within the Water Distribution Operator series. Will assist in the maintenance, repair, and construction work on the potable water treatment and distribution system of the Water Division; will assist in operating maintenance and construction tools and equipment; assist in a variety of maintenance tasks relative to water distribution and treatment. We are looking for a thorough worker that will have good attendance and is resourceful in completing assignments.

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Education	1-year vocational certificate or 2-year associate’s degree
Experience	Detail-oriented; able to work with data, make decisions, understand mechanics. Previous experience in related work environment. Fluently speaks and writes in English. Basic computer knowledge and word processing skills. Ability to obtain a Water Distribution System Operator Level 1 certification within 12 months of hire.
Knowledge, Skills & Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Assists in handling water quality and low pressure complaints. Assist in completing service orders assigned to complaints, or provide necessary information to request further work to another branch of division if solution cannot be completed under his/her scope.</li><li>Participates in all phases of water supply, treatment, distribution, such as pumps, controls, valves, addition of chemicals, inspection of water surface elevation; determination of loss of head, meter and gauge readings; repairing feed equipment and valves;</li><li>Assists Level I, Level II, Level III and Level IV operators in guaranteeing the adequate production, treatment and delivery to the water distribution system a potable water in substantial quantities and high quality;</li><li>Assists with establishing maintenance schedules with routine daily lubrication of equipment;</li><li>Assists Level I, Level II, Level III and Level IV operators in normal and emergency service situations;</li><li>Assists in conducting field laboratory tests, and sampling required to assure efficient operation of the water supply and treatment;</li><li>Learn how to identify service and main leaks; and assist in operating pipe locator</li><li>Learn to read and update water distribution maps and as-built plans and blueprints.</li><li>Assist in repairs, maintenance and installation of water meters and related service lines; read meters; turn services off and on as necessary.</li><li>Assist in underground service alert locating, marking and notification.</li><li>Assists other personnel as necessary under the direction of the Chief Operator;</li><li>Ability to communicate orally with co-workers is important and be able to write and converse fluently in both English and Samoan languages.</li><li>Demonstrates the ability and willingness to work in a team environment in the course of daily activities.</li><li>Good manual dexterity for the use of common tools is required. Standing for extended periods is common. Hearing and vision within normal ranges is important.</li><li>Lifting of up to 50lbs. is required.</li><li>Enters and works in a confined space;</li><li>Be available to work after hours and on weekends, holidays, whenever necessary.</li></ul>

**Qualified applicants:** Please submit a completed ASPA Employment Application with a copy of your resume to ASPA (address listed above) 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 employment drug test. ASPA reserves the right to waive education and experience requirements as necessary.

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*American Samoa Attorney General, Talauega Eleasaro Ale speaking to the ASCC Political Science Club last week.*

[photo: T. Ropeti-Leo]

## Continued...

Continued from page 8

delivery of the presentation and the answers given to audience questions.

In addition, most of the students recommended having another presentation from Ale in the near future.

Temese also credited Social Science Department faculty Adrian Moana and Sheldon Seigafu for assisting the Political Science Club with organizing this event.



# I AM AVB A VICTORIOUS BEAUTY

Talofa! Greetings! All the way from Northern California!  
Our Cast and Staff are excited for our trip to American Samoa the first week of November 2017. We are truly blessed to have Choices Team working out the details to bring this simple and amazing Play/Monologue to our island. It has been said (in testimonies) that 'Choices' is Life-changing and empowers men and women to heal from their past. The testimonies speak loud. Our prayer is that American Samoa will be equally blessed by Choices.

Fa'afetai mo lenei avanoa e tatau ai. Ia maualuga pea le viiga ole Atua i mea uma tatou te faia!

**Isaiah 43:4** God's word says: "I AM PRECIOUS IN GOD'S SIGHT-ACCEPTED AND VALUED!" "AUA NA FA'APELEPELEINA OE E A'U, UA 'OU FA'AMAMALUINA AI OE."

On behalf of CHOICES Cast & Staff - We thank you all! Fiaau Lagi Toeaina, AVB

## CHOICES THE WOMAN IN THE MIRROR CAST



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### A VICTORIOUS BEAUTY (AVB)

**VISION:** TO EMPOWER, STRENGTHEN, INSPIRE, HEAL TO ACHIEVE.

**MISSION:** EVERY WOMAN WILL KNOW - THEY ARE AVB (A VICTORIOUS BEAUTY)!

**ESTABLISHED:** May 1, 2012 (Unofficial 2004)

#### A Victorious Beauty consist of:

- \* **Ladies Night** – hanging out on the streets at 9:00PM-12midnight with women of the night in prostitution, drug dealing, etc. Distribute care bags (hygiene items).
- \* **Pearl Status** – Middle School, High School, College – empowering young girls to know their worth in these turbulent times. Going against the flow of todays standard. Teaching morals, ethics, values and respect for authority.
- \* **Ageless Beauties** – Elderly Women in senior homes, convalescence homes, widows needing assistance. Building relationships and assist with errands and shopping.
- \* **Peculiar Princess** – Elementary School (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grades) – program promotes good choices, to bring awareness of peer pressure, bullying, preparing for Middle School.
- \* **Dance & Drama** - Cultural and modern dances. Spreading positive messages through skits and spoken word.
- \* **Theatre Arts** -Play and Monologues to empower and impact with positive messages of real life (sexual abuse, depression, suicidal thoughts, mental health).
- \* **Voice Lessons:** Contact Eunice Felise @ [www.voiceswithnunu.com](http://www.voiceswithnunu.com)
- \* **EXQUISITE Women's Conference** (held annually every 1<sup>st</sup> week of May)

#### Future Goals:

- \* Women Rehabilitation Homes
- \* Women with Children Transition Homes
- \* Youth Sports Training Facility

### CHOICES "The Woman In The Mirror"

in American Samoa! November 10, 2017  
Rex Lee Auditorium in Utulei at 6:00PM



### CHOICES AMERICAN SAMOA TEAM

Choices American Samoa Team has been diligently working alongside with AVB to bring CHOICES-The Woman In The Mirror to the beautiful island Tutuila, American Samoa. Our prayers is to partner and collaborate with churches, schools, government, community based organizations and local businesses. As we build strong relationships together for this common goal is to succeed in bringing our community in unity.

If you would like to help with this event, donate or have any inquiries please contact our Choices American Samoa Team below:

Choices-American Samoa, P.O. Box 1231, Fagatogo, American Samoa 96799

Contact: Nancy Tagaloa (684) 733-9660 or email: [ntagaloa@gmail.com](mailto:ntagaloa@gmail.com) / Mareta Savusa (684) 258-9954 or email: [mareta.savusa@gmail.com](mailto:mareta.savusa@gmail.com)

E momoli atu le fa'afetai tele i le 'aufaigaluega a le Atua, mamalu ole atunu'u i tupu ma e'e, ma le lautelega ole atunu'u. Fa'afetai i le 'au faipisinisi, ma matou pa'aga i le sapaapaiaina o lenei fa'amoemoe. Fa'amanuia tele le Atua.



**Friday November 10, 2017  
6 pm  
Lee Auditorium**

**Saturday November 11, 2017  
2 pm  
Kanana Fou Auditorium**

**Corporate Tables \$400  
Tickets \$25**



## Denver may soon require environment-friendly ‘green’ roofs

DENVER (AP) — Denver may become the latest city to require rooftop gardens or solar panels on big new buildings, which backers say will keep the outdoor air cooler, make storm water easier to manage and reduce the amount of energy burned by air conditioners.

A ballot initiative mandating environment-friendly roofs in Denver had 53 percent approval in unofficial returns Thursday, with about 85 percent of the votes counted.

If it passes, Denver would join San Francisco, New York, Paris, London and other global cities that require or encourage builders to put “green roofs” on large new buildings.

Rooftop gardens and solar panels absorb some of the sun’s heat or put it to work generating electricity. Greenery absorbs rainwater and releases it more slowly, so storm sewer systems aren’t overwhelmed, advocates say.

“The world-class cities are realizing that roof space is an asset for the city’s residents and for the building owners, so they’re either requiring, or incentivizing or both the use of that roof space,” said Steven Peck, founder and president of Green Roofs for Healthy Cities in Toronto.

Denver’s measure goes further than most, requiring many existing buildings to be retrofitted with green roofs whenever the old roof wears out and is replaced. Older buildings that can’t support the heavier weight of a green roof could get an exemption.

Opponents worry the mandate would be costly and hurt nonprofits and affordable housing programs. They also argued the city should have tried incentives to encourage green roofs, not require them.

Advocates concede green roofs cost more, but they argue that they pay for themselves in about six years by keeping buildings cooler, resulting in lower utility bills, and they protect underlying roof materials from wear, so they last longer.

Proponents also say green roofs can help cool off urban “heat islands,” which occur when dark, exposed city surfaces bake in the sun all day and release the heat into the air at night.

Peck and others claim a host of other benefits: Rooftop gardens are amenities for building residents and office workers, they raise the value of the property and they make buildings more attractive to tenants.

Opponents said it can cost up to \$27 a square foot (0.1 square meter) more just to make a new building strong enough to support the weight of a green roof. That doesn’t include the price of the soil and plants or the cost of watering the plants in a dry climate like Denver’s, said Kathie Barstnar, co-chairwoman of Citizens for a Responsible Denver, a coalition that campaigned against the measure.

Barstnar also said the wording of the measure means owners of older buildings that are exempt from the green roof mandate must pay a fee every time they replace the old roof with a new conventional one.

Barstnar said her group has not decided what to do next but has not ruled out some type of legal challenge.

Brandon Rietheimer, who managed the Denver Green Roof Initiative campaign, acknowledged the wording is confusing. He said backers never intended to make owners of existing buildings pay for an exemption, and they will ask city officials to clarify that.

## Report: 5 women accuse Louis C.K. of sexual misconduct



NEW YORK (AP) — Comedian Louis C.K. has been accused of sexual misconduct toward several women, including masturbating in front of them to their horror and embarrassment, according to a report in The New York Times.

Comedians Dana Min Goodman, Abby Schachner, Julia Wolov, Rebecca Corry allege the Emmy-winning star of FX’s “Louie” either pleased himself in front of them, asked to do it or did so over the phone. A fifth woman detailed her allegations against C.K. to the paper but was not identified.

A lawyer for C.K. did not immediately respond to comment from The Associated Press, but a representative for

the comedian said Thursday that C.K. would issue a written statement in the coming days.

Another publicist told the Times the comedian would not respond to their reporting. Schachner, who said she heard C.K. masturbating on the phone in 2003, declined comment to The AP and representatives for the other three named women did not immediately return messages seeking comment.

Corry alleges the comedian, while she was working on TV pilot in 2005, asked “if we could go to my dressing room so he could masturbate in front of me.” She declined “and he told me he had issues.” The show’s executive producers, Courteney Cox and David Arquette confirmed Corry’s account to the Times. Cindy Guagenti, Arquette’s representative, told The AP her client had nothing more to add.

In anticipation of the report, the New York premiere of Louis C.K.’s new film “I Love You, DaFriday, November 10, 2017” was canceled on Thursday night and C.K.’s scheduled Friday appearance on “The Late Show With Stephen Colbert” also has been scrapped. The small distribution company handling the release of “I Love You DaFriday, November 10, 2017”

said it is reviewing the situation and giving careful consideration to the timing and release of the film.

HBO announced Thursday that C.K. would no longer be participating in “Night of Too Many Stars: America Unites for Autism Programs,” set to air on the cable channel November 18. HBO also said it will remove C.K.’s past projects from its video on demand services.

C.K. is among the latest Hollywood figures to be accused of misconduct in a wave that began when dozens of sexual harassment allegations were reported last month against film mogul Harvey Weinstein.

Known for his candid, warts-and-all personal humor, which often includes talk of bodily fluids and sex, C.K. grew up outside Boston. He performed stand-up sets in New York and eventually landed writing gigs on Conan O’Brien’s “Late Night” and David Letterman’s “Late Show.”

He went on to become the head writer of “The Dana Carvey Show” from 1995-96 and contributed to the animated “TV Funhouse” vignettes on “Saturday Night Live.”

He was a writer on “The Chris Rock Show” and voiced patients on the Comedy Cen-



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American Samoa 96799  
Phone No: (684) 248-1234 Option #5  
humanresource@aspower.com

### PUBLIC JOB POSTING

Position Title	Construction Worker I	Posting Date	October 30, 2017
Department	Engineering	Deadline	November 10, 2017, 4:00 pm
Division	Environmental Service Division (ESD)	Pay Rate	\$6.51/hr - \$8.50/hr
Position Type	1 Year Contract	Job Grade/Status	C/1/B - C/5/A, Non-Exempt
Reports To	ESD Construction Project Engineer		

#### Major Duties & Responsibilities

Install and maintain pumps, pipes and manholes. Complete construction work on assigned projects; ensure maximum usage of ASPA resources to complete projects on time and within budgets; perform other duties as assigned and needed.

#### Minimum Requirements

Education	High School diploma or GED certificate preferred. Solid, related work experience in construction can be considered in place of the minimum educational requirement.
Experience	Minimum of two (2) years of successful construction work experience with some plumbing construction experience. Pipe fitting experience preferred.
Knowledge, Skills & Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Manual labor involved in the construction and maintenance of ASPA Waste Water (WW) facilities.</li><li>Familiar with construction safety standards. Confined Space training a plus.</li><li>Operates a variety of hand and power tools to perform WW construction work including digging and filling ditches and trenches, loading and unloading of cinders, sewer pipes and other material.</li><li>Have special skills to use power tools to assemble on-site septic tanks.</li><li>Familiar with maintenance of equipment and tools.</li><li>Quickly handle &amp; solve related problems.</li><li>Good attendance record; Communicate effectively in both Samoan and English languages.</li></ul>

**Qualified applicants:** Please submit a completed ASPA Employment Application with a copy of your resume to ASPA Tafuna (address listed above) 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. ASPA reserves the right to waive education and experience requirements as necessary. **No phone inquiries accepted.**

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FILE - In this Feb. 14, 2017 file photo, a rooftop is covered with solar panels at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, in New York. Denver may become the latest city to require rooftop gardens or solar panels on big new buildings, which backers say will keep the outdoor air cooler, make storm water easier to manage and reduce the amount of energy burned by air conditioners. A ballot initiative mandating environment-friendly roofs in Denver had 53 percent approval in unofficial returns Thursday, with about 85 percent of the votes counted.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan, File)



# FA'AFETAI, FA'AFETAI, FA'AFETAI TELE LAVA

IN HELPING US CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF OUR BELOVED

*Galumalemana William Guthrie Satele*

*"In everything, give thanks."*

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18

First, we would like to give praise and thanks to our Heavenly Father for all He has provided and blessed us with. With Him - everything is possible. We are overwhelmed with the love that's been shown and for that, we are forever grateful for all of you. To our Spiritual Parents: Tamā Faletoi Lago'o Uso and Tinā Violina Uso, fa'afetai i mea uma lava. Your guidance, words of wisdom and the light you shed upon us warmed our hearts. We would also like to say thanks to all the servants of God who shared in the celebration of our father's life. To our dear HTC Fa'aua'a K.P. and Katerina Elisara, there are no words that could express our heartfelt appreciation for your love and support in making sure our father's last wishes were fulfilled.

Honorable Governor Lolo Matalasi Moliga & First Lady Cynthia Moliga | Honorable Lt. Governor Lemanu Peleti Mauga | Chief Justice Michael J. & Gail Meredith Kruse | Judge Salā Jr. & Amy Mamea | HC Afoa & Ete Lutu | HC Fai'ivae & Ilaisa Godinet | HC Fanene Morris & Saeu with Shanna Scanlan | HC Fanene Erda Wyberski and Family | HC I'aulualo Maileoi | HC Le'i & Vera Thompson and Family | HC Leasa'i Samuelu & Tinei Leasa'i and Family | HC Pulu Ae Ae Jr. | HC Soliai Tuipine | HC Su'a & Salote and Schuster Family with Grandkids Casey, Carl & Suka Satele | HC Sualevai & Nerisa Sualevai and Family | HC Tuia Esera and Family | HC Uagalelei Lealofi and Family | HC Utu Abe Malae | HTC Fagaima & Sola Solaita and Family | Taulaupapa William & Juliette Sword and Family | Tuala Mike Salā | Vaitinasa Salu Hunkin-Finau | Alice Meredith | Alice T. Soa-Asalele and Family | Annie Fuavai | Ali Samuelu | Betty Gapteote | Cathie Haleck-Pala | Charles Perolini and Family | Charlie Moon Ho | Christinna Lutu-Sanchez | Corabelle Langford | Daleen Vaivai | Elinor Lutu-McMoore | Fiatagata Galea'i | Fiti Fa'alepo | John & Luao Wasko | Florence Wasko | Gabrielle Fa'ai'uafo | George Hunkin | George Neru | Irene Fritz | Julius Lauvao | Loli Ma'o | La-Finne Meredith | Junior & Lina Petaia-Suisala with Doralei | Marian & Salo Ale with Tuahine | Meleke Forsythe | Melanie Solaita | Meri-Mine Lu-Clarke and Family | Olenamuaiaio Lutu | Paul Michael Young | Rosita Leoso Foma'i | Ruth Tuato'o | Salima Eucharist Reupena | Sharon Nelson-Lepou | Si'upolu Smith | Tiresa Lutu | Toaali'i Scanlan | Tuala Kennedy Nofogagatoto'a | Tui I'aulualo | Tuli Fruean | Tyrone Atuatai | Alex Baker and Kathy Baker-Fitisona | Alex & Rowena Jennings | Ben & Tutuila Chen-Sauvao | Case & Tuai-Auva'a Mua | Chuck & Leute Leota and Family | Claire Poumele-Tuia and Tuia Family | Esther & Pule Alofaituli and Children | Fanau a Fagaoali'i Satele-Sunia | Fatima, Tami and Connor Langkilde | Fau Robert & Poulima | Fia & Fa'afua Fa'atoafe | Hong Family | Jeremiah & Tavai Jeremiah | Isa-Lei Iuli and Family | Jason & Emma Pritchard | Joseph & Grace Seko and Family | Lago'o & Tinei Olo | Hyun & Sook Lee of Paradise Inc. | Lei & Malo Auelua and Children | Lotomau & Tali Peau | Luana and Tuilei Scanlan | Malia Vaita and Family | Manu'a & Michelle Chen | Matt & Emelia Le'i | Mauigoa Reupena Tagaloa and Family | Meleke & Clara Leasa'i and Family

Mike & Elizabeth Schoniger and Family | Michael & Paula Stevenson-McDonald | Michael & Sereima Asifoa and Family | Ngaire & Ukulele Ho Ching and Family | N.U.U. | Pita & Donna Gurr | Peter & Lydia Normura | Pito Vimoto and Te'o Family | Ronald & Genevieve Pickering | Roy & Jackie Hall | Sa & Olive Mavaega with Zoe | Sam & Nancy Kupa and Family | Sandra & Blanche Fruean | Satu Peleti with Tani & Daniel Whitcombe | Taito & Ali'itasi Mauga and Starstruck Staff | Tui & Flea Fernando with Tali | Willie, Tim and Myers Teleso | Tony & Joy Pereira | Tony & Rasela Feliciano and Family | Tunoa & Vaitafao Lui | Va'asa Amoa and Children | Vincent & Line Kruse | Victor & A'ano Tolaeono | Jennifer Tolaeono and Va'a Tolaeono | Wallace & Ruta Thompson | ACNR (Land Grant) | All-Star Signs | American Samoa Power Authority | D.D.W. Café | Hawaiian Airlines | I.B.C. | Island Flowers by Liana | K.S. Mart and Korner Kitchen | LBJ mortuary staff | LYJ. in Taputimu | Manu'a's | McConnell Dowell (Lee Stewart, Murray Holmes and staff) | Morris Scanlan Gas Station | Neil's ACE Home Center | Pacific Direct Line | Pago Pago Trading Company, Ltd. | Photogenix | Puanani's Boutique | Purse Seine Samoa | Samoa Pacific Shipping | Samu's Ice Cream | Scotland Rentals | South Pacific Academy Board | Sunrise Oil | Trans Am Shipping | Tri-Marine Inc. | Tutuila Printing | U-16 American Samoa National Team

*"Yea, though I walk the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."*  
PSALM 23:4



Again, we are so grateful for the comfort you all provided during our time of sorrow. Your expressions of sympathy, love, support and thoughtfulness has truly touched each and every single one of us. From the bottom of our hearts we appreciate you. Please forgive us if we forgot to mention you personally, know that your acts of love have not been overlooked. We will keep you all in our hearts and pray that God's grace and love blankets all of you - tenfold.

**Fa'afetai Tele Lava.** Alofa Atu,  
*Nancy L. Satele*  
ma le fanau





# Aloaia le tautua a Fitafta o le taua ma o latou aiga



tusia Ausage Fausia

O se tasi o vaega o le polokalame a le malo mo le fa'atauaina o le tautua a Fitafta o le taua mo lenei tausaga, o le aofia atu ai lea ma le fa'atauaina o latou aiga, e pei ona fa'amaonia mai e le Taitai o le Ofisa o Fitafta Tuai a le malo, susuga Rosie Fualaau Tago Lancaster.

O le itula e 9:00 i le taeao nei i le nofoaga autu o Fitafta tuai i le Tafuna Industrial Park, ua fa'amoemoe e fa'atau'u aloaia ai le sauniga e fa'amanatu ai soifua o Fitafta o le taua, e pei fo'i ona fa'amanatuina i totonu o le malo tele o Amerika ia Novema 11 o tausaga ta'itasi.

Saunoa Lancaster e fa'apea, e ui o lo o aloaia pea aiga o fitafta o le taua i tausaga ta'itasi, peita'i o se fuafuaga mo le polokalame mo lenei tausaga, o le avea lea o le sauniga e fa'amanatu ai le tautua sa ofoina atu e fitafta o le taua ua maliliu, o se sauniga fa'aleaiga, ina ia mafai ai ona aloaia le sao ma le tautua a aiga.

O le polokalame masani lava e pei ona fa'atinoina i tausaga uma, lea fo'i ua fa'amoemoe e fa'agasolo i le taeao nei.

O le afioga i le Lutena Kovana ia Lemanu P. Mauga lea ua fa'amoemoe e saunoa i le saunoaga autu o le aso, e fai ai ma sui o le afioga i le Kovana ia Lolo M. Moliga ma le malo o Amerika Samoa, e le o auai ona o lo o toesea i fonotaga i le laumua i Uosigitone.



Le afioga i le Lutena Kovana lea ua sauni e saunoa i le aso faapitoa mo Fitafta i le taeao nei.

[ata AF]

HAPPY VETERAN'S DAY

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O i latou na fa’atinoa maia le tala’aga o Hawaii ma latou tu ma aga ae maise o ala o fa’afiafiaga i siva ma pesega ae maise o mea taumafa.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

# Tete’e Faaili Matau i tu’uaiga a le malo



tusia Ausage Fausia

O le aso 29 Tesema lea ua fa’atulaga i ai le isi iloilogaga o le mataupu a le ali’i o Faaili Matau, i le mae’a ai lea o lona teena o moliaga mamafa e 2 ua faila e le malo fa’asaga ia te ia, i le mae’a ai lea o lana ulua’i iloilogaga sa faia i luma o le Fa’amasinoga Maua-luga i le vaiaso nei.

O lo o tu’uaia e le malo le ali’i o Matau i moliaga mamafa e lua o lona umia fa’asolitulafono o vaega o le pauta fa’asaina o le aisa, atoa ai ma lona umia fa’asolitulafono o vaega o le laau fa’asaina o le mariuana. O ia solitulafono, o ni solitulafono o le vaega D i le fa’atulagaina o solitulafono mamafa, lea e mafai ona fa’asala ai se tasi i le toese mo le umi e le silia i le 5 tausaga, poo le fa’asalagatupe e le silia i le \$5,000, pe fa’asala fo’i i fa’asalaga uma ia e lua.

O le mataupu e pei ona tu’uaia ai Matau na alia’e mai i le faalavelave lea na tula’i mai i Tafuna i le aso 20 Oketopa pe tusa o le itula e 4:40 i le vaveao, ina ua maua atu e Leoleo sa tiute i luga o le alatele se ali’i o loo moe taliaga mai i se tasi o Fale Fa’atalipasi i Tafuna, ma aga’i atu ai loa Leoleo ma taumafai e fafagu i luga lea ali’i.

Sa maitauina e Leoleo se tama’i container lanu meamata o loo uu i le isi lima o le ali’i o lo o moe. E pei ona taua i fa’amaumauga a le fa’amasinoga e fa’apea, na ona ala a’e lava i luga o le ali’i sa moe, muamua loa tago i se naifi sa taoto ai i luga ma uu loa i

lona lima, peita’i sa fautuaina o ia e Leoleo e aveese le naifi.

Na ave le masalosalo o Leoleo i mea o loo i totonu o le tama’i container o loo u’u e le ali’i sa moe, ma itu na talo-sagaina ai loa o ia e avatu le container se’i latou vaavaai i ai. Ae ina ua tatala e Leoleo le con-tainer, na tu’uaia ai loa lo latou maua i ai o ni tama’i taga pepa iila o lo o i ai pauta papa’e, lea na faia i ai se suesuega ma iloa mulimuli ane ai, o vaega ia o le pauta oona o le aisa.

O i isi mea o lo o tu’uaia e le malo na maua i totonu o le container, e aofia ai se sikaleti mariuana, o isi pepa iila o lo o i ai vaega o le pauta fa’asaina o le aisa, faapea ai ma se pepa taai. Na saili e Leoleo le tino o le ali’i sa moe ma maua i ai i le taga o lona ofu se paipa e ula ai le pauta o le aisa.

Ina ua fesiligia e Leoleo le ali’i lea po o ai lona igoa, sa ia fa’ailoa i Leoleo, o ia o Faaili Matau, poo “Whistle” e pei ona iloa ai o ia e le to’atele.

E \$5,000 lea ua fa’atulaga e le fa’amasinoga e totogi ona fa’atoa mafai lea ona tatala le ua molia i tua mai le toese. Afai ae mafai ona tatala o ia i tua, ua poloaina o ia ina ia aua ne’i ona toe tagofia vaega o fualaau fa’asaina poo le ‘ava malosi, ua fa’asa fo’i ona ia toe soli se tula-fono a le malo.

O se tasi o tuutuuga na faaopoopo e le Fa’amasinoga Maua-luga i tuutuuga e tatala ai Matau, o le totogi uma lea o ana salatupe o lo o i ai i le Fa’amasinoga Fa’aitumalo.

tusia: Leua Aiono Frost

## MALAGA MAI VAIASO A SAU FOMAI MAI LE SHRINERS

Ua fa’ailoa mai o le a o’o mai fo’i le asiasiga masani a Foma’i mai le Shriners i Hawaii, i le falema’i o le LBJ Medical Center i Faga’alu i le vaiaso a sau nei.

Ua matauina o lenei tautua e faia lava e foma’i mai le Shriners i tausaga ta’itasi ma e matele lava ina fesoasoani e toe siakia gasegase sa faia taotoga ma togafitiga muamua, po’o le va’aia fo’i o nisi gasegase fou mo i latou.

Ua fa’ailoa mai o lenei auau-naga ua ofoina mo le fanau e 18 tausaga ma le laiti mai lea matutua. Ua o’o lava i le lau-gutu atia, tulaga fa’aletonu i ivi, le maeaalio, mu ma isi gas-egase uma e ao ina taoto e toe fa’aleleia o latou itu tino, e tatau ona faia talavai ma va’aia nei foma’i fa’apitoa e malaga mai e to’afa i latou.

O talavai ua fa’atulaga mo Novema 14 - 17 ma e faia i le LBJ i le vaega a le Surgical Clinic. Ua fa’alauiloa mai lenei tautua, ina ia utagia e tagata lautele, afai o i ai ni afaina i tino o fanau e ao ina va’aia e foma’i nei, ona fa’ao’o ane lea i le lisi o talavai a le Shriners i lea vaiaso.

O le vala’au i le vaega a le Surgical Clinic e mafai ona fa’ailoa ane ai le taimi ma le aso e va’aia ai e lou alo.

## ASI VAVE LE PALOLO - LEILOA LAVA LE OSO VAVE MAI

Ua lolofi le atunuu ina ia vave

ona tapena mea uma e tatalia ai le l’a. O le tau ua sagatonu ma le fa’amoemoe, aua o le timuga so’o ma le tau malulu toe vevela fo’i le la i so’o se taimi e suluia mai ai ona ave malolosi.

Ua fua fo’i le Moso’oi ma le Laga’ali, o fa’ailo ia o le vao e fa’ailoa ai, e feso’ota’i lona tau ma le taina o le i’a e fa’alua lava i le tausaga ona tatalia. Ua lou-loua pea uiga o le tau, e le o se mea fou i lona vaitau lenei, ae iloga, o Tutuila e le’i tetele le tataga o le palolo ia Oketopa, lea ua tatalia i’umaea o le toe aso nai Moamoa i le fa’amoemoe e maua se vaega o le tataga e lofia ai le mata’ai mo se Palolo.

O lo ua o mai sa’o lava le vaega o lo’o suesueina fa’asae-anisi le olaga o i’a e matai’ai ai Samoa, ina ia tatou le tausamia i’a nei ma fai ma mea e mafua ai ona vave mou ese atu mai o tatou ogasami.

Peita’i, o lo’o latou sailia fo’i vaitau tonu o le soifuaga atoa ma lona lapo’a ma le umi o nei i’a, ona mafaia lea ona tu’ufua ma fofoa mai ai nisi i’a e tele mo le fofoga taumafa o le atunu’u.

Ua tatou iloa fo’i o le palolo, o le vaitau tonu lea e feusua’i ai fuafanau o i’a ina ia mafai ona fa’ateleina i’a o le sami atoa o Samoa.

Lea ua tatou lofia fa’atasi ma nei sui Sae-anisi, e fia molima-uina fo’i e i latou nei e to’atolu, se taga palolo a le atunu’u, aua ua latou iloa lelei, e tatau fo’i ona ta le palolo i isi motu uma o le pasefika e aofia ai ma Hawaii lea e alaala tumau

ai i latou.

“Ona o le fofoa o i’a e le o se mea na’o Samoa e tupu ai, e tatau ai fo’i ona maua i Hawaii, Tonga, Fiti, ma isi motu uma o le vasa Pasefika po’o le Ala-moana,” o se tala lea a Ken Longenecker.

O le isi lea latou poloketi o le a taumafai e iloa patino, le uiga o le tau, taimi e atoa ai le masina, va’aia fuga o la’au o le vao e manogi, e ao ina fa’aosofia fa’anatura le fofoa o i’a fou i le gataifale.

Manatua aua nei galo sau fa’asolo manogi o le laga’ali po’o le Moso’oi, ina ia fa’aosofia le sau atili o le i’a i lenei toe tataga o le tausaga 2017.

## SAMOA AIRWAYS - SUIA AI LE IGEOA POLYNESIAN AIRLINES

Ua amata ona fa’amasani le atunu’u i le igoa fou o le Kamupani Va’alele a Samoa, lea sa masani ona tatou laulauvivilu ai i le igoa “Polynesian Airlines” lele ua fa’ailoa mai, ua ave ma “Samoa Airways.”

Afai fo’i e te toe vala’au i laina o pisinisi sa masani ona fa’ailo mai o le Polynesian Air-lines, ua tali mai lau vala’au i le “Samoa Airways.”

O le aso 14 o Novema e amata aloaia ai malaga a le Samoa Airways i le va o Apia ma Niu Sila, e faaogaina ai le va’alele fausaga B737-800 e lisi mai i se kamupani va’alele i Eropa. Ua faamoemoe foi le Samoa Airways mo malaga i le va o Samoa ma Sini, Aus-

(Faaauau itulau 19)





O nisi o matua o lo’o auai i le TAMMS lea ua toe talia e le DOE e alo atu e avefa faufautua i fanau i totonu o latou lotoa i taimi o a’oga. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

## ► Tala Vaifanua...

Mai itulau 18

etalia. O se taimi o le taeao nei e taunu’u ai i Samoa le va’alele fou a le Samoa Airways. Ua i ai fo’i ma le fa’aletonu tau le talosaga ma pasia o visa e malaga ai tagata i Niu Sila ma Ausetalia, lea ua toe fa’alauiloa mai, ua le toe mafai ona fa’aulu se talosaga mo malaga i Niu Sila mai le Ofisa o le Kone-

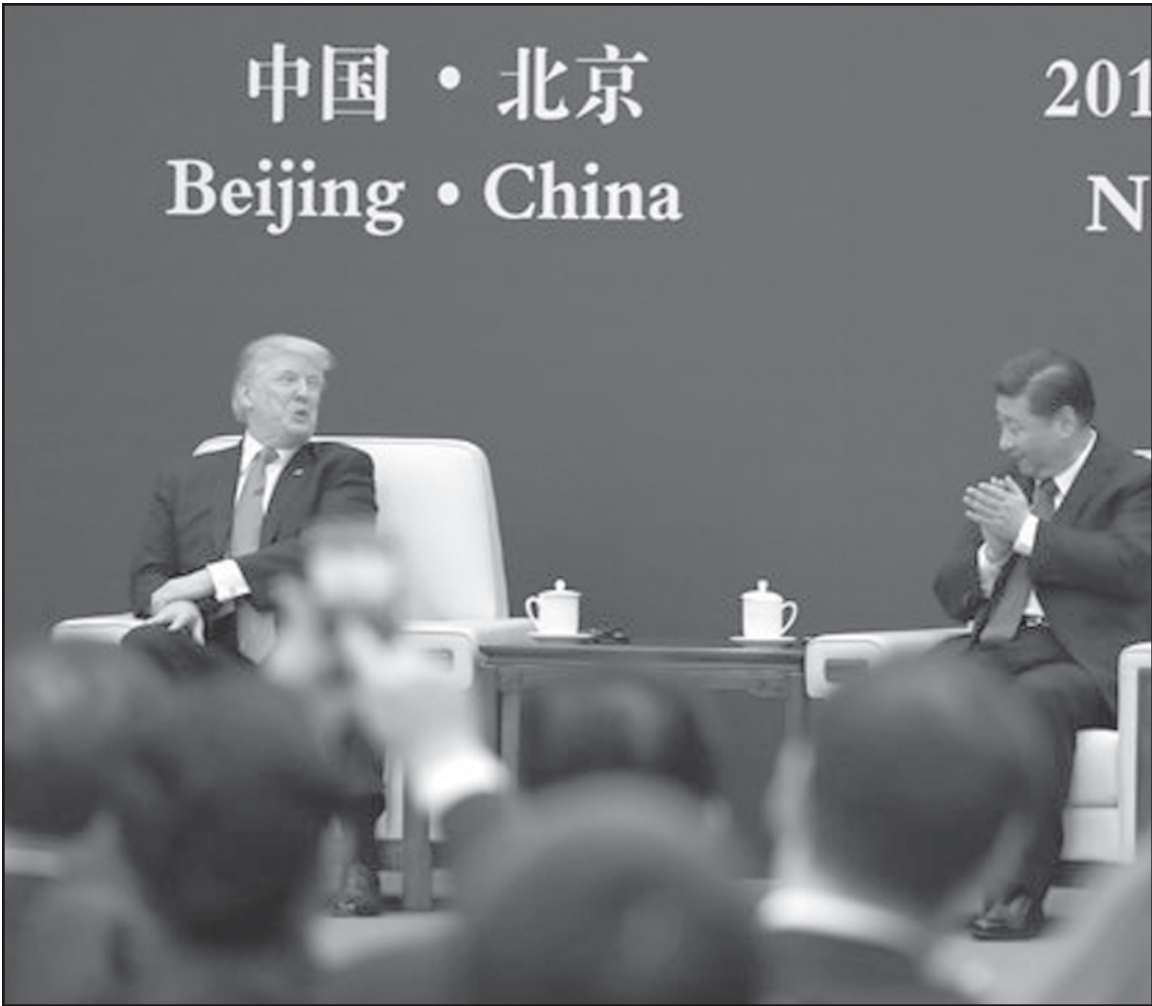


O le vaega o le vasega fa’apisinisi sa latou talatala maia le talafa’asolopito o Aferika i Saute ma latou fo’i tu ma agaifanua. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

## County in Oregon asserts greater role in use of federal land

PRINEVILLE, Ore. (AP) — Encouraged by the Trump administration’s pro-development policies, an Oregon county wants to take some control over federal lands that cover half of the high desert, mountains and forests within its borders. The three-member Crook County Court governing body unanimously approved the Natural Resources Policy after a public meeting Wednesday in which people spoke passionately for and against the policy. A sign at the building’s entrance asked attendees to leave their weapons in their cars, and they were told by County Judge Seth Crawford to be respectful of each other. Crawford is the elected county administrator, not a courtroom judge. The policy notes that “timber harvest, ranching, farming, and mining are the lifeblood of Crook County’s economy” and that “humans are entitled to an equal opportunity to use federal and private lands for both recreation and economic growth.” At least two other counties — Owyhee County in Idaho and Baker County in Oregon — have enacted similar provisions. The Crook County policy was drafted by a political action committee created by a group known as Central Oregon Patriots that backed Crawford in the election a year ago. His rival had opposed an earlier version of the land-use plan. “This plan puts Crook County front and center in an aggressive challenge of federal authority on public lands,” said Sarah CuFriday, November 10, 2017, of the environmental group Oregon Wild who attended the meeting. Patrick Lair, a spokesman for the Ochoco National Forest, said the Forest Service would have to wait and see how the county pursues the new policy. The county’s opinions are valued but are just a part of federal considerations, he said. “As a federal agency, we have obligations to take input from all citizens and stakeholders, not just those who live closest,” Lair said. The 1,330 square-mile (3,448 sq. kilometer) national forest features stands of majestic Ponderosa pines that were once used to feed five sawmills. All the mills were shuttered years ago as logging took a plunge. County Commissioner Jerry Brummer said after the meeting that he believes the Trump administration will be receptive to the county’s attempt to assert its authority in helping manage federal lands. “We’ve got to go up the ladder. A lot of this is policy change,” Brummer said. Crook County Court previously considered the policy more than a year ago — before elections shifted the political landscape. Federal Bureau of Land Management district head Carol Benkosky warned it would create an adversarial relationship with federal agencies. Since then, Wyoming lawyer Karen Budd-Falen, a key figure in the county supremacy movement, advised the county about modifying the plan. Budd-Falen served on President Donald Trump’s transition team and has been mentioned as a possible nominee to lead the Bureau of Land Management. The movement that Budd-Falen has championed since the 1980s pushed to ensure federal land managers’ plans were consistent with the “customs and cultures” of the counties in which the federal lands were located, said R. McGregor Cawley, a professor of environmental politics and public administration at the University of Wyoming. Opponents of the Crook County policy predicted federal agencies will ignore it, and they fear it could spark an armed takeover such as the one at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge two years ago. Pete Sharp, a member of the Central Oregon Patriots and the polit-





# China, US sign more business deals during Trump visit

BEIJING (AP) — China have signed a series of multi-billion-dollar business agreements during President Donald Trump’s visit in a tradition aimed at blunting criticism of Beijing’s trade policies.

Commerce Minister Zhong Shan said agreements signed Thursday at a ceremony attended by Trump and his Chinese counterpart, Xi Jinping, totaled \$253.4 billion, though many were memoranda of understanding or other arrangements that were less than firm contracts. Commercial sales announced appeared to total about \$65 billion, many involving goods Chinese companies routinely buy.

Such contract signings are a fixture of visits to Beijing by foreign leaders and are meant to defuse foreign complaints about China’s trade surpluses and market barriers. They often represent purchases already made by Chinese mobile phone makers, airlines and other cus-

tomers that are collected for the visit, which means they have little effect on the trade balance.

The contracts give Trump the opportunity to claim a rare political win following a first year in office marked by little legislative progress on health care and taxes. Trump has made narrowing the U.S. trade deficit with China — \$347 billion last year — a priority. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said that was a “central focus” of his talks with Xi.

The American Chamber of Commerce in China said ahead of Trump’s visit it welcomed such contracts but expressed concern his focus on trade in goods might mean the president paid less attention to equally important issues such as complaints about restrictions on access to finance, health care and other industries in China’s state-dominated economy.

Following the signing ceremony, Xi promised a more open business environment for foreign companies after Trump vowed to change unfair trade relations.

“China will not close its doors and will open even wider,” said Xi. He promised a “more open, more transparent and more orderly” market.

Previous administrations have celebrated similar market-opening promises only to be left disappointed. Both governments appeared to be doing their best to report the biggest total for contract signings for political benefit. The biggest agreements Thursday included a deal to cooperate on a gas project in Alaska valued at \$43 billion and a shale gas demonstration project in West Virginia valued at \$83.7 billion. There was no indication of how much money, if any, would change hands.

Firmer contracts signed Thursday included the Chinese purchase of 300 Boeing Co. jetliners for \$37 billion mobile phone chipsets from Qualcomm for \$12 billion, General Electric Co. jet engines for \$2.5 billion and soybeans for \$1.6 billion.

Ford Motor Co. committed to have its China joint venture import vehicles and auto parts worth \$9.5 billion over three years and General Motors Co. made a similar commitment valued at \$2.2 billion.

That was on top of agreements signed Wednesday totaling \$9 billion. Those included a pledge by China’s biggest online retailer, JD.com, to buy American beef and pork worth \$1.2 billion and a separate memorandum of understanding on possible soybean purchases worth up to \$3.4 billion.

The U.S. Commerce Department said the Alaska gas project would create 12,000 jobs during construction. Other agreements included memoranda of understanding, or a promise to discuss the possibility of firmer deals, on liquefied natural gas sales and industrial development cooperation.

U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping attend a business event at the Great Hall of the People, Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017, in Beijing. Trump is on a five-country trip through Asia traveling to Japan, South Korea, China, Vietnam and the Philippines.

(AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

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## "Channel 47" KBS WORLD Program of American Samoa

\*The programs listed below may change without notice due to copyright issues.(Nov 12 ~ 18, 2017)\*

Time of American Samoa	Sunday (11/12)	Monday (11/13)	Tuesday (11/14)	Wednesday (11/15)	Thursday (11/16)	min	Friday (11/17)	Saturday (11/18)	min
10 : am	00' K-pop World Festival	Hollo Counselor (E,R)	The Return of Superman (E,R)	2017 K-pop World Festival in Changwon	The Beauty K-RUSH (E,R)	00'	Music Bank (E,R)	Encore Drama	00'
11 : am	10' Quiz on Korea 2017 (E,R)		Jisook's Table for O'			00'	2017 K-pop World Festival	"Big Man"	
12 NOON	30' Music Bank (E,R)		Encore Drama "Big Man" (E,R)			50'			
1 : pm	50' The Return of Superman (E,R)	Drama Special 2017 (E,R)	Witch's Court Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)		Mad Dog Wed-Thu Drama (E,R)		K-RUSH (E,R)	K-RUSH (E,R)	30'
2 : pm	30' Two Days and One Night (E,R)	Hollo Counselor (E,R)	The Return of Superman (E,R)	2017 K-pop World Festival in Changwon	The Beauty K-RUSH	30'	Quiz on Korea 2017	Music Bank (E,R)	30'
3 : pm	50' Encore Drama "Big Man" (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Witch's Court (E,R)	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Manhole (E,R) Final	The Return of Superman (E,R)	50'	My Golden Life Weekend Drama (E,R)		50'
4 : pm	00' Encore Drama "Big Man" (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Witch's Court (E,R)	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Mad Dog (E,R)	Two Days and One Night (E,R)	00'	Mon-Tue Drama Witch's Court (E,R)	Mad Dog (E,R)	00'
5 : pm	10' Encore Drama "Big Man" (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Witch's Court (E,R)	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Mad Dog (E,R)	Jisook's Table for O'				
6 : pm	20' Gag Concert	Daily Drama "The Secret of My Love" (E,R)			K-RUSH (E,R)			2017 Dream Concert in Pyeongchang (E)	20'
7 : pm	40' Food Odyssey (E,R)	Drama Special 2017 (E,R)	Witch's Court Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)		Music Bank (Live)	40'	The Beauty (E,R)	K-RUSH	20'
8 : pm	00' Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Hollo Counselor (E,R)	The Return of Superman (E,R)	2017 K-pop World Festival in Changwon	K-RUSH (E,R)	30'	K-RUSH	Guide Map K-Road	50'
9 : pm	00' Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)		Jisook's Table for O'	Jisook's Table for O'	Heritage Tomorrow	00'	Gag Concert (E)	"The Return of Superman" (E)	00'
10 : pm	40' Daily Drama "The Secret of My Love" (E,R)				Week'Food Odyssey	20'	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Two Days and One Night (E)	40'
11 : pm	20' Daily Drama "Lovers in Bloom" (E)								
12 : 00									
Next Day									
1 : am	00' KBS 9 News (Live)						KBS 9 News (Live)	My Golden Life Weekend Drama (E)	00'
2 : am	50' Drama Special 2017	Witch's Court Mon-Tue Drama (E)			Mad Dog Wed-Thu Drama (E)	20'			20'
3 : am	00' Hollo Counselor (E)	The Return of Superman (E,R)	Quiz on Korea 2017 (E,R)	The Beauty K-RUSH (E,R)	Music Bank (E)	30'	Mon-Tue Drama Witch's Court (E,R)	Mad Dog (E,R)	30'
4 : am	20' Encore Drama "Big Man" (E)				"The Return of Superman" Special (E)	50'			50'
5 : am	30' Heritage Tomorrow				Drama Special 2017 (E,R)	10'	Gag Concert (E,R)	"The Return of Superman" (E,R)	50'
6 : am	40' Food Odyssey (E,R)	Quiz on Korea 2017 (E,R)	The Beauty (E,R)	K-RUSH (E,R)	Quiz on Korea 2017 (E,R)	50'	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Two Days and One Night (E,R)	30'
7 : am	40' Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Gag Concert (E,R)	"The Return of Superman" (E,R)	Two Days and One Night (E,R)	K-pop World Festival	50'			
8 : am	20' Drama Special 2017	Witch's Court Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)			Mad Dog Wed-Thu Drama (E,R)	00'	My Golden Life Weekend Drama (E,R)		50'
9 : am	00' Hollo Counselor (E,R)	The Return of Superman (E,R)	2017 K-Pop World	The Beauty	Music Bank (E,R)	00'	"Big Man" (E,R)	The Beauty (E,R)	00'

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

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In this Oct. 24, 2017, photo, a garment worker sews clothes at Pro Sports factory in Nam Dinh province, Vietnam. U.S. President Donald Trump’s decision to withdraw from a far-reaching Pacific Rim trade pact is having scant impact on fast-growing trade in the region.

(AP Photo/Hau Dinh)

# Pullout from Pacific Rim trade pact leaves US on sidelines

DANANG, Vietnam (AP) — President Donald Trump’s decision to withdraw from a far-reaching Pacific Rim trade pact has scarcely dented the push for freer trade in the region, judging from the frenetic growth of exports of clothing and shoes, cellphones and computers from booming Vietnam.

The nation of 95 million is thriving from surging trade and investment even without the advantage its exports might have gained from its participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement rejected by Trump. The changes are evident in Danang, a former battlefield transformed into a tourism and investment hub that is hosting this week’s annual summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum.

Leaders of the 11 remaining TPP members, representing roughly 13.5 percent of the global economy, are to meet

on the sidelines of the APEC summit to seek an agreement in principle that unlike the original accord would not require U.S. involvement. Meanwhile, a 16-member region-wide pact called the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership is also under negotiation. It encompasses China and India but also does not include the U.S.

“As all these countries around the world are moving forward on trade and are getting better deals for their economies, the U.S. is falling behind and that’s a real problem for American companies,” said Adam Sitkoff, executive director of the American Chamber of Commerce in Hanoi.

Vietnam’s export sector has blossomed as Chinese and other manufacturers of T-shirts, pants and other inexpensive clothing and shoes moved their factories to Southeast Asia to take advantage of the region’s lower wages and anticipated tariff cuts under the TPP. Much of the world’s production remains in China, but supply chains are stretching ever farther into Southeast Asia and beyond, into South Asia and Africa, in search of cheaper labor and new, faster growing markets.

Demand is surging so rapidly that factory bosses have a hard time finding and keeping skilled workers, said Phan Minh Chinh, president and CEO of Pro Sports Giao Thuy Joint Stock Co., a garment factory outside Vietnam’s capital, Hanoi.

“With or without TPP, Vietnam’s apparel exports to the U.S. continue to grow,” said Chinh, who counts among his customers brands such as Walmart, Zara and The North Face. “Even without TPP, our production continues and we still get many orders from our U.S. clients.”

Nearly a decade after the 2008 financial crisis, this region’s commitment to globalization — to weaving its economies ever more tightly into the web of world supply chains, consumer markets and finance — is unshaken. On a regional level, and in Vietnam, data show trade and investment growing faster than ever.

The administration of former President Barack Obama championed the TPP as a strategy for buttressing U.S. influence and growing markets in the booming Asia-Pacific region. Many businesses planned their investments in anticipation the deal would be ratified.

Without the U.S., the TPP runs the risk of being eclipsed by the 16-member RCEP (pronounced “are-cep”), which has fewer requirements than the TPP regarding labor rights, intellectual property and environmental protection. Its members hope to finalize an agreement by the end of this year.

The TPP was meant to be the

foundation for forging a free-trade zone akin to the EU in the Asia-Pacific. The RCEP could play a similar role: participating countries account for almost half of the world’s population and contribute about 30 percent of global GDP and over a quarter of world exports.

Vietnam is a member of both groupings. Now, the U.S. is not in either one.

“When we look at Asia, we see a noodle bowl of trade agreements already, all these countries negotiating all these things with each other, and unfortunately the U.S. was not in almost any of these agreements,” said Sitkoff.

While U.S. companies are agile enough to adjust their supply chains to take into account the pullout from the TPP, he said, it does put them at a disadvantage.

Both trade deals face conflicts over specific provisions. Critics say both give too much power to corporate interests at the expense of the environment and labor protections.

The current 11 TPP countries have said they are open to others joining, provided they accept the trade agreement’s higher standards on labor and environmental protection. And they are hoping the U.S. will eventually return to the pact.

Before leaving Washington for Asia, Trump dashed those hopes.

“Our trade deals are horrible. ... It’s very sad for our country. Every trade deal we have is disastrous. We’re renegotiating our trade deals,” he said.

While visiting Beijing earlier this week, Trump complained there was a “very one-sided and unfair” trade relationship with China.

His visit to Beijing coincided with announcements that the U.S. and China had signed agreements valued at more than \$250 billion for products including U.S.-made jet engines, auto parts, liquefied natural gas and beef. Such contract signings are routine with foreign leader visits to Beijing and are intended to defuse complaints about China’s trade policies.

But they are also in keeping with Trump’s preference for country-to-country dealings.

The Trump administration has shifted the U.S. strategy on trade in various ways other than insisting on bilateral deals instead of multi-country arrangement, imposing rarely used options such as actions based on national security concerns and initiating investigations that normally would be requested by companies, Chad Brown of the Peterson Institute for International Economics wrote in a report in June.

While the bureaucrats haggle over trade rules, the landscape of global commerce is ever changing.



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## PUBLIC JOB POSTING

Position Title	ICT Supervisor	Posting Date	October 30, 2017
Department	ICT	Deadline	November 10, 2017, 4:00 pm
Division	Support Services	Starting Rate	\$24.17/hr - \$29.49/hr
Position Type	Career Service - 12 months probation		
Reports To	ICT Manager	Job Grade/Status	M/3/C – M/8/C, Exempt

### Major Duties & Responsibilities

The primary objective of the position is to ensure proper functioning of the organization’s information systems and make upgrades as necessary. Helps assists and trains all divisions/departments on how to utilize the organization’s information systems to improve their efficiency. ICT Supervisor is responsible for maintaining all computer equipment, hardware, and software updated to meet organizational needs. ICT Supervisor is to follow appropriate programming procedures and guidelines for system support. Incumbent supervises all employees of the Information Communication Technology department in accordance with organizational policies and goals. This position directly reports to the ICT Manager.

### Minimum Requirements

Education	Bachelor’s degree in MIS, Computer Science, Information System Management or related field. Master’s degree in MIS, Computer Science, Information System Management or related field preferred.
Experience	1. Five (5) years of related experience in information technology AND 2. Two (2) years’ experience working in a managerial/supervisory role
Knowledge, Skills & Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Supervises staff performing information technology tasks, and directing teams and projects to successfully meet information technology goals and initiatives of the organization.</li><li>Selects, trains, mentors/guides, and evaluates information technology staff; provides recommendations for disciplinary actions and/or grievance resolutions; and oversees time management.</li><li>Exercises considerable independence, judgment, and initiative in supervising activities within assigned area(s) and the performance of other duties assigned; receives general administrative direction.</li><li>Provide weekly reports based on activities of projects, problems and functions of ICT staff.</li><li>Evaluating and verifying employee performances through performance evaluation techniques.</li><li>Researches information technology trends and operational best practices; monitors the progress and attainment of initiatives and goals, and effectiveness of organizational services.</li><li>Provides organizational oversight and strategic guidance in determining business system requirements, and protecting and defending information/assets.</li><li>Prioritizes and assigns projects and maintenance/enhancements relating to applications, current database and configuration, hardware/software upgrades and technical support for internal/external systems, communication/network systems, servers and associated storage devices, and design/functionality of web environments.</li><li>Provides organizational oversight in the preparation of project assessment quotation/bid specifications; reviews vendor proposals.</li><li>Implement improvements and processes for the whole organization.</li><li>Provides training and awareness to all divisions/departments on system updates and maximum use of software.</li><li>Performs other related work as assigned.</li></ul>

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Vice President Mike Pence, middle, Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta, left, and Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb listen during a meeting with local business leaders to discuss the need for tax reform, Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017, in Plainfield, Ind. (AP Photo/Darron Cummings)

# VP Pence touts GOP tax overhaul in Indiana

PLAINFIELD, Ind. (AP) — Vice President Mike Pence said Thursday that a GOP effort to overhaul the U.S. tax code for the first time in three decades is neither a Republican or a Democrat issue, but a “jobs issue.”

The former Indiana governor and congressman made the remarks in his home state, at a suburban Indianapolis business. It comes as the White House seeks to lure support from vulnerable Democrats seeking re-election in Republican states, including Democratic Indiana Sen. Joe Donnelly.

“Our biggest resource is our people, and the right kind of tax cuts will make it possible for American businesses to invest more in the American people,” Pence said.

The tax overhaul has been pitched by Republicans and President Donald Trump as way to rev the economy. But others are skeptical it will make much of a difference for the vast majority of people — and could cost some more.

Earlier Thursday, the Senate released its own version of the plan, while the House Ways and Means Committee approved its own version of the legislation.

An Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll taken last month found

that people by large margins believe the Trump-backed tax plan helps wealthy people and corporations. Just over four in 10 in the poll said they believe that it helps middle-income individuals and families, slightly more than the number who thinks it hurts them.

“In Indiana, the top 1 percent of earners are going to get 46 percent, or so, of tax cuts,” said Gregory Shufeldt, an assistant professor of political science at Butler University, who has reviewed Trump’s outline of the plan. “For the vast majority of Indiana residents, the benefits they might see from this type of policy would be about \$8 per week.”

Pence painted a considerably rosier picture Thursday, characterizing it as a “middle class miracle” focused on “working families.”

Either way, Shufeldt said it was smart politics for Republicans, who have struggled to get much done in Washington, despite controlling both chambers of Congress and the White House. By bringing the issue front and center in Indiana, it also ups the pressure on Donnelly.

“Even if this doesn’t move Sen. Donnelly’s vote, it’s starting to prime the discussion for next November,” Shufeldt said, alluding to midterm elections.

# Fox’s Smith avoids story covered heavily by colleagues

NEW YORK (AP) — While Fox News Channel has spent hours talking about Hillary Clinton and an Obama-era uranium deal in recent weeks, its news anchor Shepard Smith avoided the story entirely.

Fresh evidence that Smith is an island unto himself at the news network came in research released Thursday by the liberal watchdog group Media Matters for America. During the three weeks starting Oct. 17, Fox News spent just under 12 hours talking about the Uranium One deal, with 29 percent of that time on opinion host Sean Hannity’s prime-time show.

In recent weeks, the issue has been at the center of the nation’s

partisan divide. Hannity calls it “the real Russian conspiracy,” while Democrats suggest the story is used to distract from news about Robert Mueller’s investigation into President Donald Trump and ties to Russia. Conservatives contend that “mainstream” news outlets are obsessed with Mueller’s investigation.

Republicans have called for a probe into the 2010 purchase of American uranium mines by a Russian-backed company, noting some of the company’s investors had donated money to Clinton. The state department, then led by Clinton, was one of nine U.S. agencies with oversight of the deal, although she





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# Panama: Ex-president's sons got \$50M in 'undue payments'

PANAMA CITY (AP) — Panamanian prosecutors say two sons of ex-President Ricardo Martinelli are suspected of receiving more than \$50 million in “undue payments” from a Brazilian construction giant at the center of an international bribe scandal. The Attorney General’s Office says the allegations are based on information from a cooperating witness in the investigation, the former Panama manager for Brazil’s Odebrecht.

It said Thursday in a statement that multimillion-dollar transfers went to Ricardo Alberto and Luis Enriquez Martinelli through accounts in Panama and abroad in 2010-2014. The family has denied involvement by the sons in the bribery scandal, which has implicated people close to both the elder Martinelli and the current government. The former president is currently detained in the United States facing possible extradition on charges of embezzlement and political espionage.

# ‘Magnum, P.I.’ actor John Hillerman dies at 84

LOS ANGELES (AP) — John Hillerman, who played stuffed-shirt Higgins to Tom Selleck’s freewheeling detective Thomas Magnum in the 1980s TV series “Magnum, P.I.” has died, his nephew said Thursday. Hillerman was 84.

Hillerman, who had been in declining health, died Thursday of natural causes at his home in Houston, nephew Chris Tritico said. Besides playing manager of the Hawaiian estate that Magnum used as home base, Hillerman was known for his 1970s roles as arrogant radio show detective Simon Brimmer on the “Ellery Queen” series and the difficult boss on the sitcom “One Day at a Time.”

When Hillerman decided to retire about 17 years ago, the actor born in Denison, Texas, returned to his native state and was content leaving Hollywood behind, said his nephew. He remembered his uncle, an Air Force veteran, fondly. “He had an outstanding sense of humor and was one of the most well-read people I ever met. You couldn’t play Scrabble with him,” Tritico said. As for that quasi-British accent that Hillerman used on “Magnum” and elsewhere, his nephew said that was honed.

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In a Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2017 photo, Clark County District Court Judge Jennifer Togliatti holds out the execution manual that sets protocols for the execution of convicted murderer Scott Dozier during a hearing at the Regional Justice Center in Las Vegas. Togliatti said Wednesday she may cut a paralytic from the state's previously untried lethal injection plan, after hearing that it could mask movements reflecting awareness and pain by a death-row inmate who volunteered to become the first person executed in Nevada in 11 years.

(Michael Quine/Las Vegas Review-Journal via AP)

# Nevada execution postponed over dispute about paralytic drug

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Nevada's first inmate execution in 11 years was postponed Thursday after a state court judge ordered a paralytic drug removed from a never-before-used lethal injection plan that also includes the first use by a state of the powerful opioid fentanyl.

Prisons chief James Dzurenda called off the execution that had been set for Tuesday for twice-convicted murderer Scott Raymond Dozier after a solicitor for the state attorney general's office said the order would be appealed to the Nevada Supreme Court, prisons spokeswoman Brooke Keast said.

Dozier has given up appeals and repeatedly told Clark County District Court Judge Jennifer Togliatti he wants his death sentence carried out.

The judge said before issuing her order that she was "loath to stop" the process but was concerned the state plan to administer the three drugs could leave Dozier aware of pain and struggling with "air-hunger."

The state had planned to administer the muscle paralytic cisatracurium after injecting Dozier with high doses of the sedative diazepam and with fentanyl to depress and stop his breathing.

The judge pointed to testimony last week from Dr. David Waisel, a Harvard University anesthesia professor and pediatric anesthesiologist at Boston Children's Hospital. He said the paralytic should not be needed if the other two drugs are delivered properly in the lethal amounts in the state protocol.

"It's for the Supreme Court to decide," Togliatti said Thursday. "They're going to have to be the court to make that determination that we as a state are OK with a paralytic."

Togliatti said the execution could go forward with a two-drug combination. But, "If the state of Nevada is not comfortable with the fentanyl and diazepam alone, then it supports the argument that (cisatracurium) is being used for a mask and he could suffer," she said.

Dozier's execution can still happen once the state Supreme Court rules, Togliatti said.

She set a Dec. 7 date to check

the status of the case.

Waisel was hired by David Anthony, a deputy federal public defender who Dozier allowed to review the untried three-drug protocol.

Anthony contended the paralytic was being used not as a substitute for a heart-stopping drug like most death-penalty states use, but to prevent witnesses from seeing if Dozier experiences an unconstitutionally inhumane death.

Assistant state Solicitor General Jordan Smith did not present testimony from Dr. John DiMuro, an anesthesiologist and the state's chief medical officer who developed the diazepam-fentanyl-cisatracurium protocol.

DiMuro resigned last week from his position as the state's top doctor, but provided an affidavit to the court saying his departure had nothing to do with Dozier's execution.

DiMuro's brother and lawyer, Christopher DiMuro, said his brother carried out an assignment to develop an execution method using drugs that Nevada could obtain.

Invoice records show the drugs were delivered in late May to Nevada prisons from the usual pharmacy supplier, Cardinal Health, at a cost of \$482.52. A Cardinal Health spokeswoman didn't directly say whether the pharmaceutical wholesaler knew the intended use for the drugs.

John DiMuro wouldn't agree to an interview, Christopher DiMuro said, but he wouldn't disagree with Waisel that the paralytic could be unnecessary if the first two drugs are properly delivered at fatal doses.

"John is not on one side or another about the death penalty," the brother said from New Jersey.

Dozier also used the name Chad Wyatt. He would become the first person put to death in Nevada since 2006, when Daryl Mack asked to be put to death for his conviction in a 1988 rape and murder in Reno.

His would be the first lethal injection in a new execution chamber at Ely State Prison, 250 miles north of Las Vegas. It was completed in November 2016 at a cost of about \$854,000.

## Democrat leaders urge activists to stay politically involved

BURLINGTON, Vt. (AP) — U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders says it is imperative to get more people involved in the democratic process to revitalize America.

Sanders, an independent from Vermont, appeared Thursday evening at fundraiser for the Vermont Democratic Party with U.S. Rep. Keith

Ellison of Minnesota, who also serves as deputy chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

The two appeared along with top Vermont Democrats two days after Democrats across the U.S. made strong political gains. Sanders says Ellison has been traveling the country and

opening the doors of the Democratic party to young people, working people and people of every color, sexual orientation and gender no matter where they come from.

Ellison says Democrats must become regular fixtures in their communities, not just before elections.

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Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, right, leaves the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) CEO Summit in Danang, Vietnam, Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017. Talks aimed at salvaging a Pacific Rim trade pact rejected by President Donald Trump resumed Thursday on the sidelines of the annual summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum. (AP Photo/Mark Schiefelbein)

# France’s Macron heads to Riyadh from UAE in surprise trip

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — French President Emmanuel Macron made a surprise trip on Thursday night to Saudi Arabia, saying he wanted to speak to the kingdom’s young, assertive crown prince about Iran and the war in Yemen.

Macron said he made the decision earlier in the morning about heading to Saudi Arabia, in part over Shiite rebels in Yemen launching a ballistic missile that targeted Riyadh, the kingdom’s capital. He bluntly blamed Iran for the attack, saying that while he still supported Tehran’s 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, a new agreement needed to be reached over Iran’s missile program.

“The missile which was intercepted by Saudi Arabia launched from Yemen, which obviously is an Iranian missile, shows precisely the strength of their” program, Macron told journalists at a news conference held at a French school in Dubai. Iranian state media did not immediately report the remarks. Iranian officials, while backing the Shiite rebels known as Houthis in Yemen, have denied directly arming them.

Macron met with Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman late Thursday night and “expressed France’s condemnation of targeting Riyadh city by a ballistic missile,” according to a report on the state-run Saudi Press Agency.

The ballistic missile launched Saturday night flew near Riyadh’s international airport before Saudi officials said they shot it down. By early Monday, the kingdom responded by closing off Yemen’s land, sea and air ports and warning Iran the rebel missile launch could be “considered as an act of war.”

“I believe it’s important that we work with Saudi Arabia for the purpose of guaranteeing stability in the region and the fight

against terrorism,” Macron also said in the UAE.

Macron noticeably did not mention Saudi King Salman in his remarks Thursday night and Saudi officials reported no meeting between the two. It suggests France believes the king’s 32-year-old son, Prince Mohammed, now controls the levers of power in the kingdom amid rumors his father may abdicate.

Macron also was careful not to criticize an ongoing campaign of arrests in the kingdom in what it describes as an anti-corruption push. Saudi critics and experts have called the unprecedented purge of top princes and businessmen a bold and risky move by the crown prince aimed at consolidating his control of the oil-rich, ultra-conservative nation.

Despite criticizing Iran, Macron stressed France still stood by the nuclear deal, which now is under threat over President Donald Trump’s refusal to re-certify the accord.

“If we were to walk away from it, it would lead to either immediate war or an absence of control which would inevitably lead to a North Korean-situation, which I could not accept,” Macron said. The surprise trip to Saudi Arabia came at the end of a two-day trip by Macron to the United Arab Emirates, a federation of seven sheikhdoms on the Arabian Peninsula.

After focusing Wednesday on cultural ties between France and the UAE with the opening of the Louvre Abu Dhabi, Macron on Thursday toured a nearby French naval base and discussed the military cooperation between the two nations.

Macron visited the Camp Peace naval base at Abu Dhabi’s Port Zayed, which sits just across the waters of the Persian Gulf from the new Louvre. The museum’s saltshaker-like dome sits in sight of the base.

A military band played “La

Marseillaise” and an honor guard met Macron before he boarded and walked through the French frigate Jean Bart.

The French president later addressed gathered sailors there, noting their work to both battle extremists and stop smugglers and piracy in the Persian Gulf and surrounding waters.

“We have won in Raqqa and in the coming weeks, the coming months, I believe it strongly, we will completely win on the military level in the Iraqi-Syrian zone,” Macron said, referring to the one-time self-described capital of the Islamic State group that fell last month to the Western-backed Syrian Democratic Forces.

“France’s military capacity is at the heart of my ambitions for our country,” he added.

The French naval base opened in 2009, a reflection of France’s deepening military cooperation with the UAE. Macron later said some 700 French troops stay on the base.

France also stations troops and planes at Al-Dhafra Air Base, home to some of the 5,000 American troops stationed in the country. On the cultural front, Abu Dhabi agreed to pay France \$525 million for the use of the “Louvre” name for the next 30 years and six months for its new museum, plus another \$750 million to hire French managers to oversee the 300 loaned works of art. A center at Paris’ Louvre now bears the name of the late UAE President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, which was also part of the deal.

While Macron toured the naval base, his wife Brigitte visited Abu Dhabi’s Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, its gleaming white marble minarets and walls shining brightly in the desert sun. Out of respect, she covered her head with a brown, white and black scarf with an Arabic-inspired design while touring the mosque, walking across its carpeting with her bare feet.

# Talks on Pacific trade pact resume, progress uncertain

DANANG, Vietnam (AP) — The Pacific Rim trade pact abandoned by President Donald Trump remains in limbo, judging from differing reports on the status of Cabinet level talks on pushing ahead without the United States.

Japan’s minister on reviving the economy, Toshimitsu Motegi, told reporters that a revised Trans-Pacific Partnership deal was reached late Thursday. Leaders from New Zealand and Australia said the discussions were continuing.

There is “still more work to do, but we’re inching closer,” said Australia’s trade minister, Steve Ciobo.

The 11 remaining members of the TPP are trying to find a way forward without the U.S., the biggest economy and before Trump took office one of its most assertive supporters.

The negotiations are being held in Danang, Vietnam, alongside meetings of the 21-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, where Trump’s markedly different stance from past U.S. leaders was being felt even before his arrival Friday in the coastal resort city.

While most APEC members say they remain committed to their multi-country approach in weaving their economies ever closer together, many acknowledge that open trade is a mixed

bag: Not everyone benefits equally.

Trump is seeking to renegotiate several major trade agreements, most notably the North American Free Trade Agreement, to, he says, put “America First.”

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte told a business conference on the APEC sidelines that he believed Trump was pushing back because America was the first victim of globalization.


China’s decision to open its markets to the world under leader Deng Xiaoping attracted U.S. businesses eager to take advantage of the country’s low-cost environment. “And that is why Trump is trying to roll it back and say America First,” Duterte said.

Trade and foreign ministers of 11 members of the Trans-Pacific Partnership hope to agree in principle on a way forward without the U.S. after Trump pulled out earlier this year.

New Zealand Minister for Trade and Export Growth David Parker said the TPP talks being held at the ministerial level were more likely to progress if few changes are made to the original accord.

“The more the changes, the harder it may be to form a consensus,” Parker said in an interview on Thursday.

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The American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency (AS-EPA) advises the public that on November 7, 2017, the following recreational beaches tested positive for Enterococci bacteria levels that exceed American Samoa Water Quality Standards:

Afono Stream Mouth	Aua-Pouesi Beach	Aoa Stream Mouth
Vatia Stream Mouth	Aua Stream Mouth	Aganoa Beach
Fagasa-Fagalea Stream Mouth	Laulii Stream Mouth	Auasi Harbor
Utulei Beach	Alega Beach	Utumea-East Beach
Gataivai Beach	Alega Stream Mouth	Alao Beach
Fagaalu Beach	Avaio \$2 Beach	Tula Beach
Fatumafuti Beach	Fagaitua Stream Mouth	Onenoa Beach
Nuuuli Coconut Point	Sailele Beach	
Nuuuli Pala Lagoon	Masaui Stream Mouth	
Leone Pala	Masefau Stream Mouth	
Asili Stream Mouth	Alofau Stream Mouth	
	Amouli Beach	

AS-EPA beach advisories inform the public about current water conditions. When a beach advisory is issued, it is because water samples indicate that the American Samoa Water Quality Standard for Enterococci has been exceeded. This advisory is in effect until further sampling and laboratory analyses indicate that Enterococci concentrations are within acceptable water quality standards.

The presence of Enterococci in the water indicates contamination by human and/or animal wastes. Swimming in water with high levels of Enterococci may cause stomach problems, skin rashes, and ear, eye, and wound infections. To reduce your risk: avoid swallowing beach water, be sure to rinse or towel off after a swim, and shower once at home. If you are ill, or think you may be ill, AS-EPA advises that you consult a physician before making any water contact in the beaches cited above.

Note: AS-EPA monitors the water quality of 44 recreational beaches on Tutuila, the wharf in Aunu’u, and five beaches on Manu’a. Tutuila advisories are issued weekly on Wednesdays. Aunu’u and Manu’a advisories are issued monthly. Advisories are issued when bacteria concentrations exceed levels determined safe for human exposure. Should you have any questions, please contact the AS-EPA Water Program at 633-2304.







# HEALTH SURVEY 2017

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

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

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

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

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

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



# China signs on to Alaska gas pipeline, but it's far from set

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — The latest push in a decadeslong effort to commercialize vast stores of Alaska's natural gas got a boost when the state announced a deal with three Chinese companies. But the \$43 billion project is far from reality.

The agreement advances a project to move gas through a pipeline to the Alaska coast, where it would be liquefied and shipped to China and other points in Asia. U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping looked on as Alaska's governor and representatives from the companies signed the deal Thursday in Beijing.

But the fanfare does not ensure one shovelful of tundra gets overturned. Similar efforts to build a natural gas pipeline have fizzled repeatedly.

Here's a look at the new project:

### WHAT'S THE PLAN?

Alaska's prodigious North Slope is known for its vast deposit of oil, which fueled construction of the 800-mile trans-Alaska oil pipeline in the 1970s. Since then, oil production has declined, and the recession-racked state hopes to tap into natural gas to fill the gaps.

The North Slope has proven gas reserves over 35 trillion cubic feet, but no way to move it. State efforts to find partners willing to shell out billions for a pipeline have flopped over the years, with major oil companies the latest to step away.

Gov. Bill Walker has since courted Asian markets. Sinopec, the Bank of China and China Investment Corp. signed on, but financial terms have not been released. Walker said 75 percent of the gas would be earmarked for China, and Alaska would keep the rest to sell to other Asian markets.

The state would be the majority owner. Walker said he wants final agreements in place by the end of next year, with groundbreaking in 2019.

The plan includes building a gas treatment plant on the North Slope, a pipeline that would go 800 miles to the town of Nicksiki and a liquefaction plant there. Walker anticipates all of it to be running about five years later.

Larry Persily, former U.S. coordinator for Alaska natural gas projects, said it could cost \$1 billion to get to that point, and he doesn't think the timeline is realistic.

"But if the first tank left the dock in 2025 instead of 2023 or 2026, everyone would still be ecstatic," he said.

### WHY DID OIL COMPANIES BACK OUT?

BP, ExxonMobil and ConocoPhillips had been working on the pipeline plan but backed away to concentrate on other

projects. That left pipeline skeptics wondering, Persily said.

"If companies don't think this is a good time to put their money into it, why should the state?" he said. "As the governor has explained, the state has an overriding interest in getting this done — companies have other places they can invest their money."

The Chinese companies also don't have the same shareholder pressures as U.S. firms.

"From what I've seen from China, they make decisions like this and they pursue them generally to completion as a matter of strategy and are less worried about some of the short-term economics," said Mark Barteau, director of the University of Michigan's Energy Institute.

### WHY CHINA?

It has an insatiable need for natural gas as it struggles with pollution and tries to end its reliance on coal.

"They have exhibited a long-term interest in having a large and secure gas supply, and I think this is just perhaps the largest — but by no means the first — step they've taken to achieve that," said Barteau, who also serves on the science advisory board for the National Institute of Clean and Low Carbon Energy in Beijing.

Charlie Riedl, executive director of Washington, D.C.-based advocacy group the Center for Liquefied Natural Gas, sees no reason to be skeptical, saying the Chinese have wanted to get involved in a natural gas project in the U.S. for some time.

The agreement "is a really positive indicator that there is demand, and there is an appetite in Asia for this gas, and the proximity to market being in Alaska is obviously a good thing," he said.

### WHAT ARE THE DOWNSIDES?

Without seeing the details of the agreement, some analysts pointed to the large amount of gas earmarked for China and the possible terms of the deal.

Barteau said he assumes it would guarantee pricing for a set period.

"If gas prices were to go way up, and we're locked in selling it at bargain basement prices, that wouldn't be such a good deal down the line," he said.

Persily said that if Alaska contracts to sell three-quarters of the gas to one nation, it would "be stuck with one big customer that you sink or swim with."

### WHAT DO ENVIRONMENTALISTS SAY?

The Center for Biological Survey called the project a "massively terrible idea" and expects legal action if the Trump administration fast-tracks it or skirts permit requirements in environmental laws.



# Tennessee gunfire: 2 police officers shot, suspect arrested

KINGSPORT, Tenn. (AP) — Police in Tennessee say two officers have been shot during an exchange of gunfire, and a suspect has been apprehended. Kingsport Police Department spokesman Tom Patton says officers went to serve warrants Thursday afternoon on a man in a subdivision who then barricaded himself inside his condominium. Patton says officers surrounded the condo, called in a SWAT team and were formulating a plan when shots were fired around 4:45 p.m. The Kingsport Times-News reports the injuries to the officers, who were taken for medical attention, do not appear to be life-threatening. Patton told broadcast outlet WJHL that the suspect was subsequently taken into custody about 6 p.m. in what he described as “a very fluid, volatile scene for a few minutes.” He didn’t elaborate, nor immediately disclose the man’s identity.

## Company that offered male higher wage than female sanctioned

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP) — Two teenagers whose firing from a Kansas pizza restaurant prompted a national discussion on pay inequality should receive back pay and the corporation that owned the restaurant must implement policies to ensure it follows equal pay laws, a federal judge ruled Thursday. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission sued last year on behalf of Jensen Walcott and Jake Reed, who were 17 when they applied to work at a Pizza Studio restaurant in Kansas City, Kansas. The Bonner Springs friends were hired for the same job but Jensen later discovered Reed was going to be paid 25 cents more per hour. When she complained, the manager said it was against company policy to discuss wages and withdrew the job offers. The controversy drew the attention of Hillary Clinton during the 2016 presidential campaign, and Reed and Walcott were invited to address the Democratic National Con-

vention about pay inequality. The pizza chain later dismissed the female manager and offered the teens their jobs back, with equal pay, but they had found other jobs. A federal judge on Thursday ordered PS Holding LLC to pay Reed and Walcott \$2,500 each in back pay and other compensation. The judge also ordered the Delaware-based company to implement new policies and conduct training to avoid violating the federal Equal Pay Act. The company also must collect, analyze and report data and complaints to the EEOC. PS Holding no longer owns the Kansas City restaurant but owns other Pizza Studio restaurants across the country. A phone call to the Pizza Studio’s corporate headquarters was not immediately returned Thursday. The Equal Pay Act makes it illegal to pay men and woman unequally for the same job, and prohibits retaliation against an employee who complains.

# Rian Johnson to create new ‘Star Wars’ trilogy

NEW YORK (AP) — The Walt Disney Co. announced Thursday that Rian Johnson will craft a new trilogy for the “Star Wars” universe, greatly expanding the director’s command over the ever-expanding space saga created by George Lucas. The announcement, made by Disney chief Bob Iger on a call with investment analysts, constituted the most ambitious new foray into the “Star Wars” galaxy, moving well beyond the original nine-film framework imagined by Lucas. Disney also announced a live-action “Star Wars” series that will debut on its streaming service which is set to launch in 2019. The new films will be separate from the Skywalker saga. “Johnson will introduce

new characters from a corner of the galaxy that Star Wars lore has never before explored,” Disney said in a statement. That Johnson will preside over a new “Star Wars” trilogy altogether confirms his status as the franchise’s new chief guardian. It’s a considerable amount of trust to be placed in the 43-year-old director of 2012’s “Looper,” even before audiences see his first “Star Wars” installment. J.J. Abrams, who kick-started the dormant franchise with “The Force Awakens,” is set to return for the untitled Episode IX — the third film in the current trilogy. “He’s a creative force, and watching him craft ‘The Last Jedi’ from start to finish was one of the great joys of my career.”



*In this photo released by Refugee Action Coalition, refugees and asylum seekers watch as immigration officials empty water tanks and turn over the water bins being used to collect the rain water at the Manus Island immigration detention center in Papua New Guinea Friday, Nov. 10, 2017. An Australian minister on Friday predicted a conflict between Papua New Guinea police and hundreds of asylum seekers who have refused to leave a decommissioned immigration camp where many hold out hope of resettling in the United States.*

(Refugee Action Coalition via AP)

## Australia predicts conflict between asylum seekers, police

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — An Australian minister on Friday predicted a conflict between Papua New Guinea police and hundreds of asylum seekers who have refused to leave a decommissioned immigration camp where many hold out hope of resettling in the United States. The camp inside a Manus Island navy base was declared closed on Oct. 31 based on the Papua New Guinea Supreme Court’s ruling last year that Australia’s policy of housing asylum seekers there was unconstitutional. But the men who have stayed at the male-only camp fear for their safety in the alternative shelters available in the nearby town of Lorengau because of threats from local residents. Australian Immigration and Border Protection Minister

Peter Dutton said he was discussing with the Papua New Guinea authorities what steps would be taken if the asylum seekers stay on without power or running water. “Our very strong preference is that people move of their own accord,” Dutton told Melbourne Radio 3AW. “We’ve got a group of core agitators, organizers, who will try and provide some sort of scene where there is a confrontation with police. They’ll do that because they want that footage broadcast back here,” Dutton added. The Australian activist group GetUp! released video on Friday of the squalid conditions on Manus. Dutton accused the asylum seekers of “trashing the place.” Local authorities posted a notice at the camp on Thursday, saying: “You are ... instructed

to vacate this compound immediately.” “If necessary, force may be used to relocate those who refuse to move voluntarily for your own sake,” the notice added. Iranian refugee Behrouz Boochani said the use of force was unacceptable. “We are not doing anything wrong. We are only resisting peacefully,” Boochani said. “We are asking again for freedom in a safe third country,” he added. Papua New Guinea police said buses and trucks had been brought to Manus on Friday to relocate the asylum seekers. Manus Provincial Police Commander Chief Inspector David Yapu said police were mindful that the transfers would be conducted “smoothly and orderly without use of force.”



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Gun shop owner Tiffany Teasdale-Causser points a Ruger AR-15 semi-automatic rifle, the same model, though in gray rather than black, used by the shooter in a Texas church massacre two days earlier, as she talks about the gun, Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2017, in Lynnwood, Wash. Gun-rights supporters have seized on the Texas church massacre as proof of the well-worn saying that the best answer to a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun. Gun-control advocates, meanwhile, say the tragedy shows once more that it is too easy to get a weapon in the U.S. (AP Photo/Elaine Thompson)

## Residents of Texas town feel helpless after church shooting

SUTHERLAND SPRINGS, Texas (AP) — Volunteers donated blood at a community hall and others stocked the refrigerator and laid out loaves of bread at a food pantry as the stunned community of Sutherland Springs struggled to recover from the shooting at a Baptist church that left more than two dozen dead.

Law enforcement officials reopened the intersection Thursday where the First Baptist Church sits, but black mesh material was tied to the chain-link fence surrounding it. With the church door open, a tall wooden cross could be seen at

the altar. Judy and Rod Green, who married at the church 15 years ago, prepared Thursday to open the By His Grace food pantry next door for a weekly Friday morning meal service.

A few blocks away, Alice Garcia, a Sutherland Springs native and the president of the unincorporated town’s community association, prepared with her husband, Oscar, the annual Veterans Day memorial on the grounds of the community hall, when the church victims with military backgrounds will receive a full military salute.

“Everyone in the community is doing what they can, but

honestly everyone feels so helpless,” 20-year-old Karyssa Calbert of neighboring Floresville, Texas, said at the hall.

Six months pregnant, Calbert couldn’t donate blood but came to the community hall to offer moral support. “People are donating time, donating money, donating prayers, but it still feels like it’s not enough,” she said. The church will be demolished, the pastor said.

Pastor Frank Pomeroy told leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention earlier this week that it would be too painful to continue using First Baptist Church as a place of worship.

Pomeroy discussed the state of the building with the denomination’s top executives, who traveled to the rural community in a show of support.

# Different laws and databases affect gun background checks

Devin Kelley, who carried out the massacre at a Texas church, was able to buy four guns even though he had been convicted in the Air Force of domestic violence. Yet he was denied a Texas permit to carry a firearm. Here’s a look at some of the complexities in the laws on buying and carrying guns.

**HOW DID KELLEY MANAGE TO BUY A GUN?**

Under federal law, anyone convicted of domestic violence cannot purchase a firearm. But the Air Force failed to inform federal law enforcement authorities that Kelley was court-martialed for assaulting his wife and cracking her son’s skull. When he tried to buy guns after his release from a military prison, his conviction was not in the database used to conduct background checks, and the purchases went through.

**HOW DOES FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT CHECK SOMEONE’S BACKGROUND FOR A GUN PURCHASE?**

A licensed gun dealer submits the paperwork to the FBI to run a background check. There are essentially three databases that combined make up what is known as the NICS, or National Instant Criminal Background Check System. Records are searched in the National Crime Information Center, which contains restraining orders and warrants; the Interstate Identification Index, which holds convictions; and the NICS Index, which has mental health commitments and dishonorable discharges from the military.

**SO WHY WAS HE FLAGGED WHEN HE APPLIED FOR A PERMIT TO CARRY A FIREARM IN TEXAS?**

State standards for who can carry a gun in public can be different from the federal standards for buying a weapon. And the background checks can be different.

In Texas, someone applying for a permit can be turned down for being charged with or con-

victed of certain misdemeanors or for being delinquent in child support — things that don’t prevent someone from buying a gun. Texas uses a variety of databases, including NICS as well as statewide criminal databases.

The Texas Department of Public Safety said Kelley sought a permit in 2015, but the application was delayed “due to a possibly disqualifying issue.” When Kelley failed to respond to the agency’s request for more information, he was denied. The “disqualifying issue” has not been identified, but his 2014 misdemeanor animal-cruelty conviction for beating his dog in Colorado could have been enough.

**WHAT ARE SOME OTHER REASONS PEOPLE CAN BE DENIED A CARRY PERMIT THAT WOULDN’T PROHIBIT THEM FROM BUYING A GUN?**

It varies from state to state. Some, such as Hawaii, have very strict standards. There you must demonstrate to the local police chief that you have an “exceptional case” and a very specific reason for needing to carry a gun in public. Other states, such as Vermont, don’t require a license to carry a firearm.

In some states, the agency that reviews such applications uses only NICS. Others might use other criminal databases that aren’t linked into the NICS system. Some might rely on local police reports and flag anything that suggests a history of violence, even if the charges did not result in a conviction.

**TEXAS IS AN “OPEN CARRY” STATE. DID KELLEY EVEN NEED A LICENSE TO CARRY HIS WEAPONS?**

Texas requires a permit to carry a handgun in public. No permit is required to carry a rifle or a shotgun. Kelley used an assault rifle in the church attack and was also found with two handguns.



Barbara Solano, center, places flowers at a makeshift memorial for the victims of the First Baptist Church shooting Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017, in Sutherland Springs, Texas. A man opened fire inside the church in the small South Texas community on Sunday, killing more than two dozen and injuring others. (AP Photo/David J. Phillip)





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# After IS collapse, Syria government faces US-backed Kurds

BEIRUT (AP) — With the fall of the Islamic State group’s last stronghold in Syria, Iranian and Russian-backed Syrian troops now turn to face off with rival U.S.-backed forces holding large oil fields and strategic territory in the country’s north and east.

This puts U.S. and Iranian forces at close proximity, across the Euphrates from each other, amid multiple hotspots that could turn violent, particularly in the absence of a clear American policy.

Iran has threatened that Syrian troops will advance toward Raqqa, IS’ former capital, which fell to the U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces in October, raising the potential for a clash there.

The Kurdish-led SDF also controls some of Syria’s largest oil fields, in the oil-rich eastern Deir el-Zour province, an essential resource the Syrian government also says it will take back.

# ‘Dukes of Hazzard’ star to face indecent assault charges

WALTHAM, Mass. (AP) — A former star of “The Dukes of Hazzard” accused of indecently assaulting two female members of a musical is facing a judge in Massachusetts.

Tom Wopat will be arraigned Friday at Waltham District Court on charges he assaulted a girl and a woman in July while rehearsing for the musical “42nd Street” at the Waltham-based Reagle Music Theatre of Greater Boston.

A police report says Wopat allegedly hit the girl’s buttocks with his script, saying “nice butt.” Wopat already has pleaded not guilty to groping the unidentified woman.

The 66-year-old actor played Luke Duke on the popular 1980s television show. He was supposed to play Julian Marsh in Reagle Music Theatre’s production of “42nd Street.” He’s since been replaced.

# Ohio State: 83 students used group messaging app to cheat

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Ohio State University has accused 83 undergraduate students of cheating on classwork using a group messaging app.

The school says the students violated the code of conduct for “unauthorized collaboration on graded assignments.”

A university spokesman says the use of group messaging apps is permitted, but is subject to the same rules as any other communication.

The university’s Committee on Academic Misconduct investigated after a professor in the business school reported the allegations in April.

Potential penalties range from warnings to expulsion.

# China to ease curbs on foreign business in finance, autos

BEIJING (AP) — China will ease restrictions on foreign ownership stakes in the financial sector and reduce tariffs on automotive imports, a senior Chinese official said Friday, following criticism from the U.S. and other trading partners.

Vice Finance Minister Zhu Guangyao said at a briefing following a state visit to China by President Donald Trump that China will lift limits on foreign ownership stakes in securities, fund managers and futures companies from 49 percent to 51 percent and end restrictions after three years. Zhu said. China would similarly raise such limits in insurance companies and eliminate curbs after five years, he added.

“In other words, foreign owners can have full ownership of such companies” after three to five years, Zhu told reporters.

The moves appeared aimed at addressing mounting foreign complaints about China’s trade surpluses and market barriers.

China will also “abolish” limits on foreign ownership stakes in banks, Zhu said, though he did not say when the move would take effect. Until now a single foreign investor could own no more than 20 percent of one bank, and a bank could have no more than 25 percent total foreign ownership.

Beijing will also gradually reduce tariffs on automotive imports, Zhu said, without providing details. “This opening up is decisive and the effect will be far-reaching,” Zhu told reporters.

Trump has made narrowing the U.S. trade deficit with China — \$347 billion last year — a priority. U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said that was a “central focus” of Trump’s talks with President Xi Jinping.

Prior to Trump’s visit, the American Chamber of Commerce had expressed concern the president’s focus on trade in goods might mean he paid less attention to equally important issues such as complaints about restrictions on access to finance, health care and other industries in China’s state-dominated economy.

During Trump’s visit, Chinese and American companies signed a series of multibillion-dollar business agreements in a tradition aimed at blunting criticism of Beijing’s trade policies.

Commerce Minister Zhong Shan said agreements signed Thursday at a ceremony attended by Trump and Xi totaled \$253.4 billion, though many were memoranda of understanding or other arrangements that were less than firm contracts. Commercial sales announced appeared to total about \$65 billion, many involving goods Chinese companies routinely buy.

Such contract signings are a fixture of visits to Beijing by foreign leaders and are meant to defuse foreign complaints about China’s trade surpluses and market barriers. They often represent purchases already made by Chinese mobile phone makers, airlines and other customers that are collected for the visit, which means they have little effect on the trade balance.

The contracts give Trump the opportunity to claim a rare political win following a first year in office marked by little legislative progress on health care and taxes.

China’s trade surplus with the United States in October widened by 12.2 percent from a year earlier to \$26.6 billion. The total surplus with the United States for the first 10 months of the year rose to \$223 billion.



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