

**Paramount Builders
praised for its work on
new Power Plant** Page 3

**Ta'amilosaga ta'ito'a
7 mo le aso malolo,
Tuugamau** Le Lali

**Both JPS Vikings
Division 1 & 2
lose in playoffs** Sports



Pictured together are the members of the Junior Golfer's Association and the Tina Drabble Junior Golfer's Foundation after they donated a check of \$3,000, and golf bags and miscellaneous golfing supplies for the junior golfers to use in their golf training and games. This donation is in time for a delegation of 5 junior golfers and two coaches to compete in the Galaxy World Junior Golfer's Program San Diego, California during this summer's Junior World Program. See story inside today's Sports section. [photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



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FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2017

\$1.00

NEW SATALA POWER PLANT DEDICATED



[l-r] American Samoa Power Authority board chairman Fonoti Perelini Perelini; Louis Berger Group official Raymond Mardini, and ASPA executive director Utu Abe Malae at yesterday's dedication ceremony for the new Satala Power Plant.

The project's prime contractor is Louis Berger, who sub-contracted to local building

construction company, Paramount Builders. Mardini, senior vice president for operations at Berger Group's Power division, praised Paramount Builders' local Samoan workforce for the successful completion of the new multi-million dollar new Satala Power Plant project, during

(Continued on page 4)

Paramount BUILDERS, INC.
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Congratulations
Class of 2017

Manumalo Academy graduates 35 who will be "Moving On"

*by Blue Chen-Fruenan
Samoa News Correspondent*

Thirty-five of the territory's future leaders were recognized yesterday during Manumalo Academy's 8th grade graduation ceremony, held in the school chapel, and attended by dozens of teary-eyed parents, proud teachers, and beaming family members and friends.

The program was led by the school's kindergarten principal, Puamemea Ifopo.

The highlight of the ceremony was a powerful keynote address delivered by Dr. Rosevonne Makaiwi-Pato, the current president of the American Samoa Community College (ASCC).

In her remarks, Dr. Makaiwi-Pato referred to the school's logo: a burning red flame, and she challenged the graduates to continuously "add fuel to the fire — keep it burning."

The ASCC president said fire needs a few key elements in order for it to continue burning, one of them being oxygen.

(Continued on page 3)



*Jade Kruse
- 1st Honorable mention.*



*Jewel Kruse
- 2nd Honorable mention.*



Jennifer Liang - 3rd Honorable mention.

[photos: Blue Chen-Fruenan]





The ASPA crew, who work at the Satala Power Plant, during yesterday's dedication ceremony in Satala. It's easy to forget sometimes that it's the workers — in the trenches — that move us forward daily. [photo: FS]

Paramount Builders praised for its work on new Satala Power Plant

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by Fili Sagapolutele

Samoa News Correspondent

Paramount Builders' local Samoan workforce has been praised for the successful completion of the new multi-million dollar new Satala Power Plant project, during yesterday's official dedication ceremony at the American Samoa Power Authority's compound at Satala.

US based Louis Berger Group was the prime contractor for the \$56 million project, while Paramount Builders was the local building construction for the facility, located around the same area as the old plant, which was destroyed in the 2009 tsunami.

The facility is "very complicated. It has very complex engineering... from the structure, to the marine environment, and to the electrical components to it," said Raymond J. Mardini, senior vice president for operations at Berger Group's Power division, in his remarks at yesterday's dedication.

"And what you see here was actually built by local Samoans for American Samoa," he said to the applause from the audience, which included Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga, Secretary of Samoan Affairs Mauga T. Asuega, several cabinet directors and others.

"We are grateful to our on-the-ground partner, Paramount Builders," Mardini

said.

In his speech on the overview of the project, ASPA executive director Utu Abe Malae said, "I take my hat off" to Paramount and its owner Papali'i Lauli'i Alofa as well as Louis Berger for the hard work as well as completing the concrete project facility "improving the concrete workers skills."

During his special remarks, Lolo also thanked Louis Berger and Paramount for getting the project completed, and it was only achieved through the collaboration between the prime contractor and our local contractor, and ASPA.

As part of his brief speech, Mardini thanked ASPA and Utu for their partnership and friendship "in this great undertaking" and Louis Berger is "honored and humbled by your trust in us."

He said that yesterday's event was not just "dedicating a power plant, but honoring everyone who made this state-of-the-art plant a reality". And, in close partnership with ASPA, "we hope we have helped fulfill the promise of a brighter American Samoa," he said, adding that the new power plant, "will bring a permanent, reliable and resilient source of power to the island."

He explained that the power plant is built on higher ground, has storm doors — there are two of them — to

mitigate future flooding and earthquake resistant. He says the plant also potentially will lower energy costs for American Samoans and businesses.

"We hope this will stimulate economic development and investment in this beautiful island and its welcoming people," he said. "It is also our hope that this cleaner burning, more efficient plant will serve as a bridge to American Samoa's goal of 50% renewable energy by 2025 and 100% renewable energy by 2040.

He noted Louis Berger Power's slogan, which is "Solutions for a Better World."

"As a global firm with experience working in remote and island locations, we hope that in coming to American Samoa, we have brought our solutions to create a better world for every American Samoan on this island," he said.

"We want to leave the communities in which we work with greater economic opportunity, a more reliable source of power and a better trained workforce," said Mardini. "We came to American Samoa to work on a project and will be leaving with a greater sense of community and purpose."

"For that, and your faith in us, we thank you for allowing us to be part of this important project to fuel your future," he concluded.

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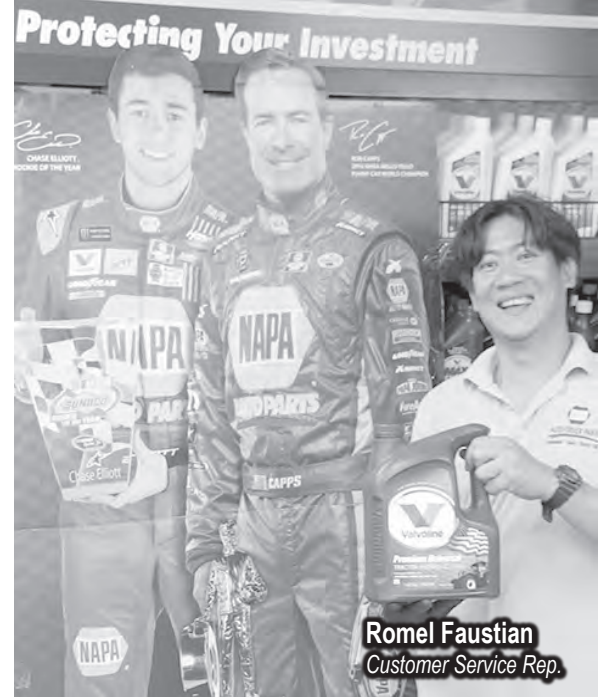


Aaron and Cindy Forsgren were among the group of proud parents who gathered at the Manumalo chapel yesterday morning for the school's 8th grade graduation ceremony, of which their son Seth was a part. [photo: Blue Chen-Fruean]



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▶ Manumalo Academy graduates 35 who...

Continued from page 1

Dr. Makaiwi-Pato told the graduates that the oxygen they need in order to move on in life consists of "your parents, God, culture, and family." She added that oxygen is useless if there is no wood, which she said comes in the form of education (extra-curricular activities, curriculum, etc).

She warned the graduates about the struggles they will face in high school, the peer pressure they will encounter, and the obstacles they will have to overcome as the work gets harder and giving up will seem like the only option.

"Somebody ignited the flame in you all many years ago and it was your parents, your first teachers," she said, adding that the fire must keep burning as they keep "moving on."

This year, three students — all females and all members of the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) — took home the Top Three honors.

First honorable mention was awarded to Jade Kruse, with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.98

Jade, who placed first overall in her category during the recent Territorial Science Fair, told Samoa News that she aims to work as a criminal investigator in the future.

The older of Pastor Don and Hope Kruse's twin girls, Jade and her identical twin Jewel have consistently gone head-to-

head in academics.

This year was no exception. The second honorable mention was presented to Jewel Kruse who placed first overall in the Territorial Math Competition and has her sight set on becoming a civil engineer.

The Kruse sisters have excelled not only in the classroom, but also in sports.

The two were part of Manumalo Academy's JV Girls Basketball Team that took

home the championship title last month, the school's first time entering a team into the ASHSAA program.

Third honorable mention went to Jennifer Liang, one of three children born to Chinese immigrants Guo Jun Liang and Li Hong Ying.

The 13-year-old from Fagaima was also a part of the Flames JV girls basketball championship team and she placed in the Top Three overall

during the Territorial Math Competition.

The other two awards that were presented yesterday were the Citizenship Award, presented to Chloe Joan Villorante, and the Leadership Award, presented to Jade Kruse.

Vice chairperson of the Manumalo Academy school board, Mrs. Donna Gurr, confirmed the graduates, after they were presented their diplomas.

Today, the Home of the Flames will host the last of its three scheduled graduations, when five seniors walk across the stage to receive their high

school diplomas in a ceremony set to start at 9 a.m.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MANUMALO ACADEMY 8TH GRADE CLASS OF 2017:

- Alofa Seumanu
- Apollonia Sevaetasi
- Charles Supapo
- Chloe Joan Villorante
- Dennis Guevara
- Denzel Guevarra
- Elinah Liaina
- Faith Young
- Fengyun Chen
- Jade Kruse
- James Tooala
- Janella Maribelle Musni
- Jaron Asalele
- Jemuel Cuison
- Jennifer Liang
- Jewel Kruse
- Jianne Abulon
- John Brown Va'a
- June Marie Devesi
- Junina Suali'i
- Kehaulagi Fa'alili
- Lana-Lei Fiaui
- Loloma Melta Salani
- Mason Mata'afa
- Nathalia Trinidad
- Oliver Paga
- Sam Logoai
- Samuel Amituana'i
- Seth Forsgren
- Shane Tinae
- Shirlon Abadia
- Su'e Poloai
- Tacoma Laurenson
- Themis Palemene
- Tuani Jennings

"Loyal sons, and loyal daughters, more than conquerors are we; face life's battles as a warrior — to us belongs the victory" — Manumalo school song



Chloe Villorante was presented the "Citizenship Award" yesterday during Manumalo Academy's 8th grade graduation ceremony, held in the school chapel. [photo: Blue Chen-Fruean]

▶ NEW SATALA...

Continued from page 1

yesterday's official dedication ceremony at the American Samoa Power Authority's compound at Satala.

Utu in his remarks, providing the overview of the project, also noted Paramount's work, saying, "I take my hat off" to Paramount and its owner Papali'i Lau'i Alofa as well as Louis Berger for the hard work as well as completing the concrete project facility "improving the concrete workers skill."

The ASPA executive director said the new plant is the replacement to the one destroyed in the 2009 tsunami, only it's located on higher ground and has new design features. "For example, it is quieter and so less of a nuisance to our neighbors. There is a horizontal portcullis to protect the engine room from flooding," he said, adding that the engines burn Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel, which results in cleaner emissions.

"In fact, very soon all the ASPA diesel power plants will be burning that kind of fuel," he pointed out and noted that he has been told that the Environmental Protection Agency is "pleased with that development and so should we all." He shared that the procurement process was complicated and difficult to coordinate. For example, there are two contracts: one for the power generating equipment and the other for everything else. "You start building the structure to house the engines which arrive on island at a later time," he said. "I do not recommend this kind of arrangement unless you are a masochist. Imagine shopping first for the chassis and frame of a pick-up truck, sans engine, and then bidding out for the engine to be installed at a later time?"

For the generating sets, three engine manufacturers were short listed in the bidding —Korean, Japanese and American companies. All were excellent proposals but General Electric USA edged out the other two in the end.

He said the GE engines fuel consumption efficiency is about 20% better than that of the generating sets at Tafuna Power Plant. Another US company, Texas Power, did the power plant equipment installation.

"We held a town hall meeting for the Satala neighborhood in late 2013 and listened to the concerns of the families: There were three things of primary concern: the noise, the smoke, and the access road that needed improvement. We took care of all three major concerns," he said.

For the total project cost of \$56 million, there were three funding sources: \$36.5 million from US Federal Emergency Management Agency; \$17.5 million from insurance proceeds, \$2.5 million from ASPA.

"I believe this a sizable project for a small place such as ours," he said and went on to thank the many to contribute to the successful completion of the project. (See elsewhere in today's edition for more photos and reports on ASPA's Satala Plant dedication.)

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

Changes continue to spotlight ASTCA

By Rhonda Annesley, Editor

The latest change happening with the government owned communications agency, American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA), is that the former President and Chief Executive of the Bluesky Pacific Group, Aoe'e Adolfo Monetenegro, will soon officially be a 'consultant' for ASTCA, according to a report out of the Samoa Observer.

"Aoe'e is being hired as an ASG Consultant for the Governor's office and for the government owned American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA). This was confirmed during a telephone interview with American Samoa Governor Lolo Matalasi Moliga," the Observer said.

Gov. Lolo told the Samoa Observer that Aoe'e will be working at the Governor's office and given his vast knowledge in the field of communications, his arrival is timely.

"He's to help improve ASTCA, but the contract has yet to be signed given that he's currently off island," said Lolo. The Governor pointed out the government has shares with the American Samoa Hawaii (ASH) Cable and wants to develop those shares.

He did not go into details, but noted that Aoe'e is the one to do that.

Last week, AST Telecom LLC, dba Bluesky Communications filed a civil suit against Aoe'e and his company, ACMA Management Consulting Inc. in American Samoa.

The lawsuit is for compensatory, consequential and punitive damages

and alleges among other things that Aoe'e diverted plaintiffs business funds for personal use, and that he continued to sabotage, hamper and disrupt the sale of Bluesky Communications Pacific Group, while he was still its CEO.

Aoe'e vehemently denies the allegations.

The Observer reported that asked for a comment regarding the civil suit against Aoe'e, Lolo said: "The hiring of Aoe'e has nothing to do with the Bluesky issue, its totally different and that will have no bearing on ASG's decision.

"Once he returns from off island, the process will be completed."

Governor Lolo is adamant that they are making the right decision in terms of hiring of Aoe'e, the Observer said.

Aoe'e's services to Bluesky were terminated by Bluesky's parent company, Amper S.A, and as reported in the media, Aoe'e is suing both Amper and Bluesky, while Bluesky is suing Aoe'e and his management company.

BACKGROUND

Pulelei'ite Li'a Tufele Jr. has been appointed Interim Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA).

In an inter-office memorandum dated May 22, 2017, Pulelei'ite, as Chairman of the Board for ASTCA, informed everyone that the ASTCA Board of Directors has approved a resolution appointing him as CEO and Interim Executive Director, replacing Alex

Sene Jr., "who will assume his new role as the Chief Technical Officer."

Samoa News should point out that it has not been confirmed that Alex Sene Jr. has assumed the role of Chief Technical Officer. Queries were not answered as of press time.

Gov. Lolo officially introduced Pulelei'ite as CEO and Interim Executive Director of ASTCA in Tuesday's cabinet meeting.

Samoa News notes that it has been long rumored that Aoe'e was consulting for the ASG, via the Department of Commerce. His participation in issues pertaining to ASTCA duly noted.

When the ASTCA board was recently re-constituted and Pulelei'ite appointed as Chair of the board, and later as CEO of ASTCA, it came no surprise to many in the community, who remember Pulelei'ite from his work with Bluesky Communications when Aoe'e was CEO of the Pacific Group.

In the meantime, the new Hawaiki cable that ASTCA has contracted to bring in — it got a loan of about \$4Mil to help fund the project from the ASG Employees Retirement Fund— is slated to happen later this year.

The governor, during the last 2Samoas Talks, is reported to have said ASG will not be contracting with Samoa for their new Tui Cable service, as there are possible FCC concerns.

Unconfirmed rumors are pointing to these events leading to ASTCA eventually being privatized, which some in the private sector have said should have already happened.



ASCC Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Lina Galea'i-Scanlan (left) presents spring 2017 graduate Nafanua R. Tialu with the semester's Trades & Technology Award during the Graduate Banquet held last week. The event recognizes academic achievement and leadership in the diverse areas of study offered at ASCC.

[Photo: J. Kneubuhl]

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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STEM summit starts tomorrow: will show what's available for students here & abroad

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

The American Samoa Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) summit convenes tomorrow, Saturday, for one-day at the Gov. Rex Lee Auditorium, where the community will be informed of the different STEM programs that are available for students here and abroad, says Education director Dr. Ruth Matagi-Tofiga.

The event is hosted by American Samoa's STEM partners, which include public and private sector entities, and is chaired by the American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA), while the ASDOE is vice chair, according to Matagi-Tofiga.

"The importance of STEM is summarized in the theme of [the] event, 'Exploring STEM College, Career & Trades Through Partnership'," ASPA executive director Utu Abe Malae said yesterday responding to Samoa News inquiries as to the importance of the summit to students and the future of American Samoa.

"You cannot argue against providing opportunities to young people to become medical doctors, nurses, energy engineers, electricians, land surveyors, robotic technicians, computer programmers, scientific researchers, oceanographers, fisheries experts... there is so much at stake here," he pointed out.

"But we need to do basics first, by providing an excellent K-12 education and training. After that, apprenticeship opportunities and a two-year program for trades or four-year for the college bound," Utu said. He has been over the years a strong advocate of STEM.

During his remarks at yesterday's dedication of the new Satala Power Plant, Utu noted tomorrow's STEM summit and asked those in the audience "to stop by and consider the STEM career opportunities for your children."

He said STEM people are responsible for:

- PV renewable projects in Ofu and Ta'u in Manu'a,
- for the wastewater and water projects,
- for health care — LBJ hospital and Department of Health, for Public Works and infrastructure,
- for EPA — local and San Francisco,
- for the oil companies and Utulei tank farm,

And for the new Manu'atele boat, the new jet fuel tank farm at the airport, and "indeed for all the things that make a modern life possible," Utu said.

Moreover, STEM people are responsible for designing and building the new power plant. For example, he said the main contractor's (Louis

Berger) vice president for projects is a chemical engineer. The ASPA board chairman is a mechanical engineer. The project manager for the utility is an electrical engineer. The managing director is a mathematician and actuary. The Director of Public Works is a Civil engineer.

"All the trades people and technicians are in STEM vocations," he declared.

ASDOE DIRECTOR

Asked about the importance of the summit, Matagi-Tofiga told Samoa News yesterday "STEM's goal is to inspire our students for post secondary studies and the workforce.

"By doing so we provide them with learning opportunities in Math and Science — from kindergarten to high school inspire them through hands on and experimental opportunities — incite students curiosity in understanding and applying STEM skills to everyday life," she said.

"Students must recognize, appreciate, and utilize connections among disciplines to understand and solace challenges that cannot be resolved by any one disciplinary approach," she explained. "Through public and private partners we aim for a STEM literate workforce, this is critical for American Samoa."

"Our Territory's advancement is dependant on workers with the ability

to solve complex challenges," she said.

Early this week, Matagi-Tofiga said that the community is invited to the event, which is free and opens around 8a.m.

It will feature a STEM facility in the Utulei area, hands on activities for children from K to high school, information and exhibit booths from STEM partners. "This family oriented educational event is a great opportunity for the community to be informed of the different STEM programs that are available for our students here and abroad," Matagi-Tofiga said Wednesday.

The last time a STEM event was held in the territory was about three years ago, during the tenure of then Education director Vaitinasa Dr. Salu Hunkin-Finau, with booths at the Samoana High School field.

Among the agencies, organizations and businesses in the partnership are: American Samoa Community Cancer Coalition; American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency, Le Tausagi Group, ASTCA, Bluesky Communications, Commerce Department, Port Administration, US National Marine Sanctuary, StarKist Com., and Toe Afua Mai Matua, according to a list that was included in the online registration for those to participate at the STEM summit.



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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position Title	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)	Posting Date	May 23, 2017
Position Type	Contractual	Deadline	June 7, 2017/4pm
Job Opening	One (1)	Starting Salary	Salary Commensurate with Experience/expertise
Report to:	ASTCA Board of Directors	Status	Exempt

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA in partnership with the Board is responsible for the success of ASTCA. Together, the Board and CEO assure ASTCA's relevance to the community, the accomplishment of ASTCA's mission and vision, and the accountability of ASTCA to its stakeholders.

Major Responsibilities:

The Board delegates responsibility for management and day to day operations to the CEO, and he has the authority to carry out these responsibilities, in accordance with the direction and policies established by the Board. The CEO provides direction to the Board as it carries out its governance functions of:

- Setting strategy and vision;
- Building culture;
- Team-building; and
- Capital allocation

Minimum Requirements & Qualifications

Education/Experience: Must possess a Master's Degree from an accredited college or university with major study in Business, Finance, Engineering, or equivalent Post Professional Degree in related field. Minimum of (10) years of proven senior executive management experience in telecommunications or related area, and possess excellent management competencies to deal with ASTCA compliance, the business sector, and the general community.

The Chief Executive Officer accountabilities will include, but not limited to:

Mission, policy and planning:

- Helps the Board of Directors monitor ASTCA's values, mission, vision, and short and long-term goals.
- Helps the Board monitor and evaluate ASTCA's relevancy to its stakeholders, effectiveness and results.
- Keeps the Board fully informed on the condition of ASTCA and on all the important factors influencing it.
- Identifies problems and opportunities and addresses them; brings those which are appropriate to the Board and/or its committees; and facilitates discussion and deliberation.
- Informs the Board and its committees about trends, issues, problems and activities in order to facilitate policy-making. Recommends policy positions.
- Keep informed of developments in human services, management and governance and telecommunication industry.

Management and Administration:

- Provides general oversight of all ASTCA activities, manages the day-to-day operations, and assures a smoothly functioning, efficient organization.
- Assures program quality and organizational stability through development and implementation of standards and controls, systems and procedures, and regular evaluation.
- Assures work environment that recruits, retains and supports quality staff.
- Recommends staffing and financing to the Board. In accordance with Board action, recruits personnel, negotiates professional contracts, and sees that appropriate salary structures are developed and maintained.
- Specifies accountabilities for management personnel and evaluates performance regularly.

Governance:

- Helps the Board articulate its own role and accountabilities and that of its committees and individual members, and helps evaluate performance regularly.
- Works with the Board Chair to enable the Board to fulfill its governance functions and facilitates the optimum performance by the Board, its committees and individual Board members.
- With the Board Chair, focuses Board attention on long-range strategic issues.
- Manages the Board's due diligence process to assure timely attention to core issues.
- Works with the Board officers and committee chairs to get the best thinking to give his or her best.

Financing:

- Promotes programs and services that are produced in a cost-effective manner, employing economy while maintaining an acceptable level of quality.
- Oversees the fiscal activities of the organization including budgeting, reporting and audit.
- Works with Board to ensure financing to support short-and long-term goals.
- Participates actively in identifying, cultivating and soliciting prospective customer.
- Help the Board to identify and procure an independent audit firm commencing FY2016.

Community Relations:

- Facilitates the integration of ASTCA into the fabric of the community by using effective marketing and communications activities.
- Acts as an advocate for issues relevant to ASTCA, its services and stakeholder.
- Listens to clients, volunteers, donors and the community in order to improve services.
- Serves as chief spokesperson for ASTCA, assuring proper presentation of ASTCA.
- Initiates, develops and maintains cooperative relationships with key stakeholders.
- Works with legislators, regulatory agencies and stakeholders to promote legislative and regulatory policies that the issues of ASTCA's stakeholders.

Legal Compliance:

- Assures the filing of all legal and regulatory documents and monitors compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

Qualified Applicants Apply To:	Human Resources Division American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (A.S.T.C.A.) P.O. Box M Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799	Tel: (684) 699-1121 ext. 408 Fax: (684) 699-9026 Email inquiries: hr@astca.net
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Government continues to look for ways to increase its revenue base

TAXES, CHANGES TO LAWS, ETC. ALL BEING EXPLORED

by *Fili Sagapolutele*
Samoa News Correspondent

Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga has called on his cabinet for the government to depend on itself when it comes to financial resources for projects to expand the local economy, but not on the federal government, which should only be asked when it comes to major projects.

Lolo made the call during Tuesday's cabinet meeting when he spoke about the ASG Revenue Task Force — chaired by Attorney General Talauega Eleasalo V. Ale — putting together a presentation next month to the Fono on ways to increase ASG's revenue base.

Established by the governor in January this year, the six-member task force is charged with reviewing and assessing the effectiveness of all existing revenue generating legislation with respect to the existing economic and financial environment.

The task force then recommends amendments to existing revenue generating legislation deemed to be obsolete and irrelevant in maximizing revenue generation.

At the cabinet meeting, the governor said this “maybe the biggest challenge of this administration in the next four years” — referring to generating revenue.

He also said that he and Lt. Gov. Lemanu Palepoi Peleti Mauga hope that the outcome of the task force's work will improve ASG's financial resources as well as expand the local economy, by the end of their current four-year term.

And that when the current administration leaves, the next administration will have sufficient financial resources available to them to ensure a continued prosperous future for the people and government of American Samoa, Lolo said.

He asked directors not to depend solely on the federal government, which should only be sought if there are major projects, “but things that we can do ourselves, we should give it all our strength and best to get them done.”

Additionally, it's the goal of the administration to

“expand the government's revenue base” in order to get additional financial resources to improve government service.

Lolo then announced that the task force is preparing to make a presentation to the Fono, next month, on ways to increase ASG's revenue base, including changes to current law, taxes — to ensure sufficient financial resources for ASG in the future.

He said sufficient financial resources has been the most difficult issue for any administration, including the Lolo/Lemanu Administration, but the important task now is to find solid solutions to expand ASG's revenue base and improve the local economy moving forward.

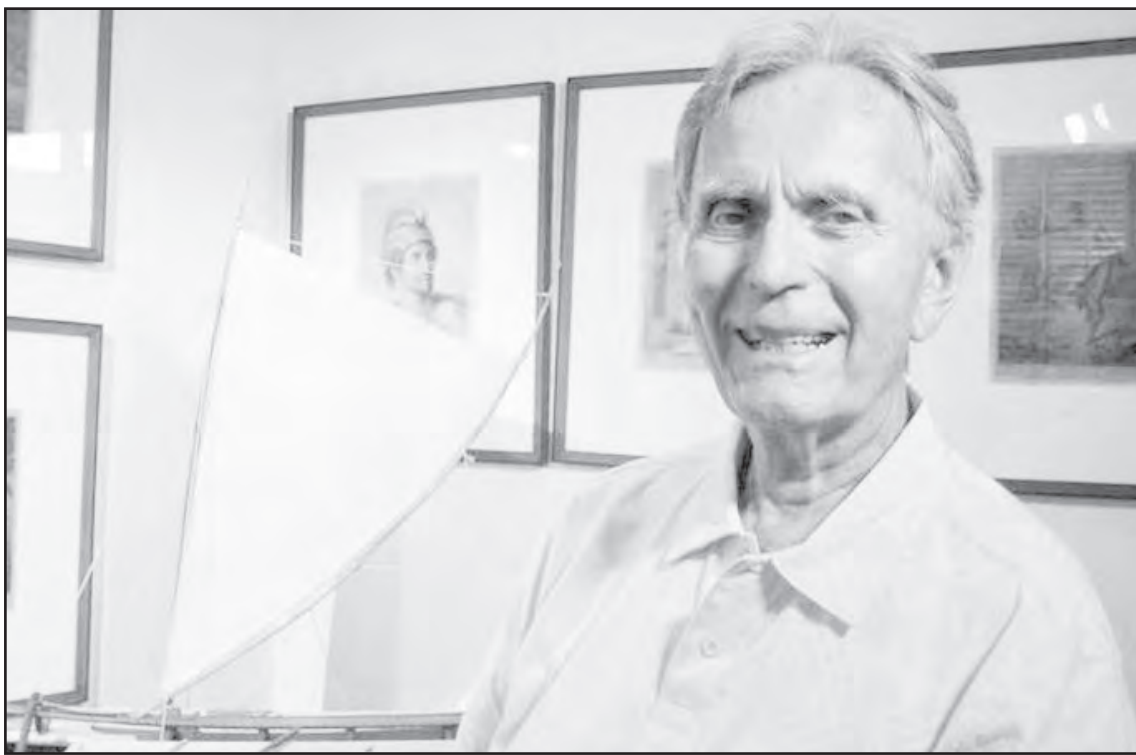
After the Fono presentation, the task force will then work on a time frame for a presentation to the Chamber of Commerce; he said adding that input from the Chamber will also be sought.

Lolo said directors will be informed of the actual date of the Fono presentation and they are requested to attend.

In appointing the task force, the governor said the existence of legal measures for the generation and collection of revenues were enacted years ago, and yet the economic and business dynamics have changed continuously, compelling “doubt over their legal sufficiency with respect to maximizing revenue generation for the government.”

Lolo pointed out that in the last four years ASG has begun the process of assessing these revenue measures; and changes have been made to some — such as business licensing fees, corporate tax rates reduction and others.

Besides Talauega, other task force members are ASG Treasurer Uelinitone Tonumaiepa; Budget and Planning Office director Catherine Aigamaua Saelua; Commerce Department director Keniseli Lafaele; Port Administration director Taimalelagi Dr. Claire Tuia-Poumele; Deputy Treasury for Revenue, Keith Gebauer; and the governor's executive assistant Iulogologo Joseph Pereira.



A co-founder of the Polynesian Voyaging Society, Ben Finney. January 2012. [Photo: Star Advertiser/ Gary Kubota via RNZI]

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Pacific Island News in Brief

Compiled by Samoa News staff

AMATA ATTENDS ASIAN-PACIFIC HERITAGE FESTIVITIES AT ANDREWS AFB

Washington, D.C. –Thursday, Congresswoman Aumua Amata attended an Asian Pacific Heritage Month Celebration at Andrews Air Force Base, yesterday, where she gave a speech in honor of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans across the country.

“It is my pleasure and honor to be invited to Andrews Air Force Base to help celebrate and recognize the many contributions and achievements that Asian-Pacific Americans have made to our great nation. From our unique culture, culinary practices and art, to the construction of vital infrastructure and contributions to science and technology, APA’s have always been at the forefront of American innovation,” stated Amata. “It is because of this proud heritage that I arrived where I am today. I couldn’t be more thankful for the influence and contributions of those who came before me, and I couldn’t be more hopeful for the young Asian-Pacific Americans who will continue to build a brighter future for all of us,” Amata continued.

In 1977, Congress declared the first week of May as Asian-Pacific American Heritage week; and in 1992 passed a resolution that set aside the entire month to recognize APA’s and the many contributions that they have made to American culture, science and industry. The celebrations at Andrews Air Force base included traditional APA food and drink as well as performances such as traditional dancing and a martial arts demonstration.

“I want to thank the folks at Andrews AFB for inviting me and putting on such a wonderful display of our APA culture, and I want to extend a special thank you to TSgt Sonny Vaa, Jr. and Colonel Roberts for their work at the event,” concluded Amata.

(Source: US Congresswoman Aumua Amata Office)

VOYAGING CANOE LEGEND DIES IN HAWAII

A co-founder of the Polynesian Voyaging Society, Ben Finney, has died.

An anthropologist and pioneer in the reconstruction and sailing of Polynesian voyaging canoes, Mr Finney had first dreamed of building a canoe and sailing it to Tahiti while a student at the University of Hawai’i in 1958.

He later built Nalehia, a replica of a Hawaiian double canoe that provided the basic information on sailing performance that went into planning for the ocean going Hokulea’s first voyage to Tahiti in 1976.

Mr Finney, who set out to show Hawaiians could intentionally sail long-distances without modern instruments, eventually sailed across the Pacific a number of time. As well as French Polynesia, he visited the Cook Islands and New Zealand.

(Continued on page 8)



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► **Pacific Isl News in Brief...**

Continued from page 7

The president of the Polynesian Voyaging Society, Nainoa Thompson, said Hawaii, the Pacific and the world was indebted to the work of Ben Finney.
 (Source: RNZI)

AQUATIC CENTER AND APIA PARK SPORTS COMPLEX TO BE UPGRADED

The new grant funding endorsed by the People's Republic of China to finance the maintenance and to revitalize the Olympic swimming pool and the Aquatic Centre at Tu'anaimato as well as the Apia Park Sports Complex could not have come at a better time for Samoa.

Inked by China's Ambassador to Samoa, Wang Xuefeng and Prime Minister Tuilaepa Lupesoliai Sailele Malielegaoi in Apia this week, the assistance provides leverage for Samoa to host future international and regional games in Apia.

Said the Prime Minister, "As always, the Government of Samoa remains indebted to the People's Republic of China for their continued generosity and trust in our government and the people of Samoa."

"It will also retain Samoa's international profile that we still have the best in sports facilities and we are more than prepared and ready to host any international sporting event."

(Source: Samoa Observer)



POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT FOR SOME YAZAKI WORKERS

More than 200 employees of Yazaki Samoa will be retained through to October and then between 60- 90 will continue working through to November 2017.

This was confirmed by President — Yazaki EDS Samoa Ltd and Managing Director — Australian Arrow Pty Ltd; Graig O'donohue, yesterday.

Based on their final customer schedules and delivery lead-time, YES will conclude its mainstream wire harness production on 18 August in order to meet the final shipping schedules currently planned to leave Samoa on 19 August.

"This will mean that work for a large number of YES associates will finish at that time where all severance payments will be paid and support programmes delivered to those affected commencing from August 25th," he said.

"We must however, be mindful, our customers 'last car' production will continue through to October 3rd therefore, YES will need to retain a number of people to continue to support Toyota until at least that date.

"Then a further team will be retained to attend to the final factory wrap up and make good of our property that we expect to be completed on or before November 30 this year."

YES has been waiting to receive these final



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Price of single item posted on menu board. © 2017 McDonald's

(Continued on page 10)

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Buns



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IN THE COMMUNITY

(Photos: Maelyn)



Colonel Roberts presents the Congresswoman with an American Flag and accompanying plaque. [Courtesy photo]

▶ Pacific Island News in Brief...

Continued from page 8

production schedules for some time to determine these dates with reliability to communicate with all associates which has been communicated today.

“To confirm recent discussions with all YES associates at our last internal meeting on May 4 Yazaki Samoa has just this month received the final production order schedules from Toyota Camry manufactured in wAustralia,” he said.

“This required to meet their own production requirements following the announcement of their final build of the Australian made Toyota Camry manufactured in Australia as at October 3rd 2017.

(Source: Samoa Observer)

SCHOOLS UP TO 50% OVER CAPACITY

Some schools have enrolled as many as 50 percent more children than they have classroom space for, New Zealand Education Ministry documents show.

The reports, obtained by the Labor Party under the Official Information Act, listed about 200 schools that were over capacity last year and nearly 500 others that were in

danger of becoming overcrowded.

Some principals told RNZ News children were learning in libraries and computer rooms, and others warned new classrooms were bringing only temporary relief.

Other schools told RNZ News they had received new classrooms and no longer had a problem, but some expected overcrowding would soon return to dog them.

Meanwhile, Education Minister Nikki Kaye said the ministry’s figures published by the Labor Party were now out of date and did not take into account classrooms and buildings that had been paid for by schools’ boards of trustees.

She said she was not aware of any schools where overcrowding had breached health and safety regulations.

Kaye said many of the schools listed in the reports had since received new classrooms and their figures had changed.

Labor Party education spokesperson Chris Hipkins, who obtained the documents, said they showed the government had been “late to the party” in addressing critical infrastructure problems.

(Source: RNZ)



Academic Achievement recognized at ASCC Graduate Banquet

By James Kneubuhl,
ASCC Press Officer

As each semester nears its end at the American Samoa Community College (ASCC), the Division of Student Services hosts its Graduate Banquet, a social occasion for the graduating students which includes recognition of outstanding academic achievement. The spring 2017 ASCC Graduate Banquet took place on Wednesday, May 17th, at the Fiafia Restaurant in Tafuna, and once again featured a celebration of the graduating class as a whole, as well as individual accomplishments in the diverse areas of study offered by the College.

Mr. Peteru Lam Yuen of the ASCC Financial Aid Office served as the evening's Master of Ceremonies, and called on Dr. Larry Purcell of the Teacher Education Department to give the ceremony's opening prayer. Vice President of Student and Academic Affairs Dr. Lina Galea'i-Scanlan gave the welcoming remarks; advising the assembled graduates, "Don't let this be the end! An exciting life awaits you as you continue with your life either off-island or here at home."

Mrs. Pauline Tuitele-McFall of Agriculture, Community and Natural Resources (ACNR)/Land Grant gave the first awards of the evening, recognizing Jennet Chang as Outstanding ACNR Student of the Semester, and also recognized Logomalu Papalii, June Talamoni, Fatima Aneki, Iosefa Leifi and Pesamino Poyer for completing their Associate of Science degree in General Agriculture. Dr. Faofua Faatoafe of the Business Department continued the ceremony by recognizing the seven graduates from her department: Simanu Lili'o, Lusua Vaaiga, James Lauama, Oriana Leason, Edwina Tanielu, Pila Patu, and Helena Levi.

Next, Criminal Justice Department chairperson Mrs. Rosie Ah Chee-Toeava presented this semester's award for outstanding achievement to Vaimalu Vaiau. Representing the office of Congresswoman Aumua Amata, Education Coordinator Mr. Howard Howard addressed the graduates, explaining that each of them would receive a Congressional Award from the Congresswoman, but in the interest of saving time these certificates would be available for pickup from the Student Services office. Mr. Howard relayed Congresswoman Aumua's wishes of good luck to all of the graduates

For the Health & Human Services Department, Mr. Derek Helsham presented departmental awards to Motutama Sipelii, Tausaafia Uiagalelei and Yean Ji Jung. Then, Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) honor



Spring 2017 ASCC graduate Salome L. Saili displays her award from the Samoan Studies Department during the Graduate Banquet held last week. The event recognizes academic achievement and leadership in the diverse areas of study offered at ASCC.

[Photo: J. Kneubuhl]

society advisor Mr. Kuki Tuia-sosopo announced the society's outstanding achievers for the semester, with Lusua Vaaiga winning the Community Service Award, Leilani Vili receiving the Academic Achievement

Award, and Simanu Lili'o taking the Fellowship Award. Mr. Tuia-sosopo also acknowledged graduating PTK members Motutama Sipelii, Jennet Chang, Irene Tan, Evander Kitiona, Yean Ji Jung, Jema-

lanie Amataga, Naifou Meafou and Jonah Choi.

Mr. Anthony Felise of the Math Department presented the award for achievement to John Scanlan. Next was a special presentation by Mrs. Delores Tau-

tolo Galea'i, Chief Financial Officer of McDonalds American Samoa, who announced that the prestigious McDonalds Scholarship of \$20,000 would go this semester to a Jennet Chang. Mr. Elisaia Mailo of the Samoan Studies Department presented the award for spring 2017 to Salome Saili, and Science instructor Dr. Randel DeWees called yet again on Jennet Chang to receive her third major recognition of the evening, the Science Department Award.

Mrs. Lilian Temese announced the spring 2017 recipients of the Social Science Department Awards as Noelani Semaia, Mary Nautu and Garrett Seumalo. Next, Director of Teacher Education Shirley Delarosa and Dr. Larry Purcell recognized the seven students who have completed their Associate of Arts (AA) degree in Teacher Education, and the seven more who have earned their Bachelors in Education (B.Ed.). This semester's AA graduates are Eseta Alailesulu, Leala Ieremia, Omeka Tagoai, Dorothy Tini, Jasmine Tupe, Leilani Vili and Wanita Iosefa-Pone, while completing the four-year BEd program are Herthalina Aumoeualogo, Valasi Finauga, Mereane Laumatia, Paul Manuma, Tofoipupuelemeise Pula, Jessebeth Ropeti, and Hillary Purcell.

For the Trades & Technology Division, instructor Mr. Ernie Seiuli presented the award for the semester's highest grade point average to Nafanua R. Tialu, followed by the presentation of the Peer Tutor award by Lead Tutor Mr. Isaako Aмоса to June Talamoni. Representatives Norman Puipui and Danielle Sagiao from the Student Government Association (SGA) bestowed the ceremonial medallion, hood, certificate and gift of appreciation on graduating members Yeah Ji Jung, Salome Saili, Siigavaa Falealii, Mary Hail Nautu, Kevin Feliua'i, Sonny Tuia, Motu Sipeli'i and Meleane Savusa, with the latter two individuals also receiving awards for outstanding leadership.

The SGA also presented a token of appreciation to Dean of Student Services Dr. Emilia Le'i in recognition of her work on behalf of not only the Association but, the student body as a whole. Dr. Le'i's acceptance of the SGA's gift provided a natural transition into her special remarks to round off the evening. "Wherever your journey takes you," she encouraged the soon-to-be graduates, "always remember your time at ASCC." Dr. Le'i also took the opportunity to remind the students that the College now has a four-year program in Teacher Education should they choose that path in the future.



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Sri Lankan sex abuse in Haiti reveals cracks in United Nation system

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — When a Haitian teenager alleged that she had been raped and sodomized by a Sri Lankan peacekeeper, the government here dispatched a high-ranking general suspected of war crimes to lead the investigation.

He didn't interview the accuser or medical staff who examined her, but he cleared the peacekeeper — who remained in the Sri Lankan military.

"A suspected war criminal is the wrong person to conduct an investigation into alleged crimes committed by a peacekeeper," said Andreas Schuller of the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights, a Berlin-based group that helped launch the complaint.

It wasn't the first time that accusations against Sri Lankan peacekeepers were swept aside. In 2007, a group of orphaned Haitian children identified 134 Sri Lankans who gave them food for sex in a child sex ring that went on for three years, an Associated Press investigation found.

In that case, which was corroborated by U.N. investigators, the Sri Lankan military repatriated 114 of the peacekeepers, but none was ever jailed.

In fact, Sri Lanka has never prosecuted a single soldier for sexual misconduct while serving in a peacekeeping mission abroad, the AP found.

A culture of impunity that arose during Sri Lanka's civil war has seeped into its peacekeeping missions. The government has consistently refused calls for independent inves-



In this Sept. 13, 2016 photo, Sri Lanka Air Force airmen train for U.N. peacekeeping deployment at the Institute of Peace Support Operations Training in Kukuleganga. The jungle training camp opened in 2004, just before the country sent its U.N. deployment to Haiti.

(AP Photo/Eranga Jayawardena)

tigations into its generation-long internal conflict, marked by widespread reports of rape camps, torture, mass killings and other alleged war crimes by its troops.

Despite those unresolved allegations, the U.N. has deployed thousands of peacekeepers from Sri Lanka. This is a pattern repeated around the world: Strapped for troops, the U.N. draws recruits from many countries with poor human rights records for its peacekeeping program, budgeted at nearly \$8 billion this year.

An AP investigation last month found that, in the past 12

years, an estimated 2,000 such allegations have been leveled at U.N. peacekeepers and personnel. That tally could change as U.N. officials update their records and reconcile data from old files.

Many of today's 110,000 or so peacekeepers come from unstable and violent countries. Congolese troops, for example, also have been accused of rape, torture and killings during the longstanding war in their country; as peacekeepers, they have faced allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation.

Robert O. Blake, who served as the U.S. ambassador to Sri

Lanka from 2006 to 2009, was one of many officials who pressed the Sri Lankan government for more transparency into alleged wartime abuses. As for the peacekeepers, he said, "You are there to keep the peace. If they themselves are guilty of atrocities, clearly they are not suitable candidates for peacekeeping operations."

Eight years after Sri Lanka's war ended in 2009, people who have fled the country are increasingly coming forward to give horrific accounts of camps where they say they were gang-raped.

One woman said in testimony shared with the AP that she was kidnapped by masked men, taken to what she believes was an army camp, and repeatedly raped.

One of her tormentors was brought to the room she shared with four other women. "He was asked to take his pick," she told the International Truth and Justice Project. "He looked around and chose me. And took me to another room and raped me."

She identified him from a series of photographs. The AP found that the soldier, an officer, went on to become a U.N. peacekeeper.

During the last months of the civil war that ended eight years ago, Maj. Gen. Jagath Dias led an army division whose troops were accused of attacking civilians and bombing a church, a hospital and other humanitarian outposts. Nevertheless, when a teenager said she was raped by a peacekeeper in Haiti, Dias was dispatched to investigate the 2013 case.

In an interview in the garden of his mother's home here, he explained the charges were groundless, even though he never interviewed the woman. He also flatly denied the allegations of war crimes at home,

telling AP that his 57th Division only targeted areas where rebels were firing on troops.

Yet evidence presented against Dias by two human rights groups in Europe led authorities to threaten a criminal investigation in 2011 while Dias was serving as a deputy ambassador to Germany, Switzerland and the Vatican. He was soon recalled to Sri Lanka, where he was later promoted to army chief of staff — the country's second-highest military post. He retired a few months later and now runs a private security business. Dias described the barrage of allegations against Sri Lanka's soldiers as unfair.

"If a soldier has raped a woman, he should be court-martialed, no doubt about it," he said. "But where is the evidence? Allegations are just allegations."

Dias also said the sex ring charges in Haiti were likely invented to damage Sri Lanka's reputation abroad — even though the U.N. corroborated the stories of the nine children, one of whom was 12 when peacekeepers started giving her food for sex. Another victim, a teenager, said he had sex with 100 peacekeepers.

"None of the cases was, to my knowledge, serious at all. And none of the soldiers was ever prosecuted," Dias said. "We didn't find any person guilty on those accusations, right?"

Why would the U.N. rely on a country with Sri Lanka's history of abuse allegations, both in its civil war and its peacekeeping missions?

"Sometimes," former Secretary-General Kofi Annan told AP, "the U.N. needs troops. And they are so desperate that they accept troops that they will normally not accept if they had the choice."



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| Faaiu, Faletusiesile | Lefao, Tausagafou | Muliau, Samasoni | Silao, Kelemete | Tua, Valerie |
| Faaleo, James | Leituala, Maria | Mulitalo-Ieremia-Foster, Anna | Siliga, Marjorie | Tua, Meleane |
| Faaoa, Tuli | Leituala-Misiuepa, Ufanafana | Navelika, Onosa'i | Siofaga, Fetalaiga | Tua, Seneuefa |
| Faatamalii, Army | Lemautu, Pataua | Netane, Luki | Sio, Lyno | Tuiasosopo Saufaiga Cecilia |
| Faau, Tamara | Leo, Tuisamoa | Niumata, Nuusina | Skelton, Pepe | Tuigamala, Ropati |
| Faavi, Faamanu | Leoso, Serita | Noa, Finau | Solitua, Filiga | Tuiletufuga, Fonotaga |
| Faavi, Faavi Jr. | Leota, Imoa | Nuutai, Petaia | Sone, Ramona | Tuiloma, Isaia |
| Failafua, Tuisea | Leota, "PJ" Pule T | Nyel, Naomi | Sooto-Tua, Alofagia Va | Tuiolemotu-Malaga, Lovi |
| Failauga, Mavaeao | Lepupa, Matanofo | Onosai, Saisavaii | Sopi, Judie | Tulesa, Tina |
| Falaniko, Emanuele Jr | Letuuga, Reenae | Osa, Maria | Spitzenberg, Rose | Tunu, Laia |
| Falanai, Hana | Levasa, Petelo | Paepule, Lemusu | Sua, Faasasalu | Tupa Apelu, Losalina |
| Falefia, Nofo | Lilio, Ualesi | Paleafei, Toma | Sua, Finau | Tupe, Tavita |
| Faletolu, Sarai | Lilomaiava, Solomona | Palepoi, Faleata | Sualoa, Tuipine | Tupua, Mekiafa |
| Farani, Tanuma'i | Loa, Tuanai | Paopao, Christopher | Sue, Victoria | Tupua, Tuumuli |
| Fatuesi, Leeannah Y | Loa, Winnie | Paselio, Fiapapalagi | Suiaunua, Brian | Tupuola, Calvin |
| Faumuiina, Peniamina | Loe, Savelina | Pasikale, Siu'ii Matauifaga | Suisala, Taulua Jr. "Tuta" | Tuuga, Toeseimalo |
| Fautanu, Acorn & Valerie Sauni | Lokou, Poni | Passi, Simamao Katherine | Taalefili, Tui | Tuupo, Doris |
| Fea, Lalofau | Loli, Taumatalliga | Pati, Apelu | Tafaese, Onoiva | Ufuti, Tilomai |
| Feagai, Fuata'i | Lolani, Pope Paulo | Paulo, Paulo | Tagaloa, Titae | Uikirifi, Krystellen "Faga" |
| Felise, Asofa | Loumoli, Itupa | Pene, Ann | Ta-Grey, Florence | Uluenga, Sione |
| Fetauai, Fomai | Luaifoa, Diane Melesete | Pene, Peleiuupu | Tago, Fuatai | Usu, Cadarra |
| Fetaui, Mollyvina | Luapo, Foster McKenzie | Peni, Suetena | Tagovailoa, Asofaafetai | Uu, Tineimala |
| Feulufa'i, Alfonso | Luki, Fiamaua | Peric, Taofegauiai | Tagovailoa, Valasi Aulava | Vaa, Sala |
| Feulufa'i, Analosa | Lui, Fiso 'Isabella' | Petelo, Anitelea | Taito, Pouvi | Vaesau, Asisione |
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| Fiaavae, Etuale | Maae, Talavave | Pine-Ah See, Taulaloese | Tali, Apiolefaga | Vaina, Misionare |
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A Filipino activist holds a toy military tank with a caricature of Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte as they oppose his recent declaration of martial law in Mindanao during a rally in Manila, Philippines on Friday, May 26, 2017. (AP Photo/Aaron Favila)

Philippines official: Terror suspect still in besieged city

ILIGAN, Philippines (AP) — One of Asia's most-wanted militants is still hiding out in a city in the southern Philippines where government forces backed by armored vehicles and helicopters are battling gunmen linked to the Islamic State group, the country's military chief said Friday. The city of Marawi, home to some 200,000 people, has been under siege by militants since a government raid Tuesday night on a suspected hideout of Isnilon Hapilon, who is on Washington's list of most-wanted terrorists.

"Right now, he is still inside (the city)," Gen. Eduardo Ano told The Associated Press. "We cannot just pinpoint the particular spot." Gunmen are trying to find a way to extricate Hapilon, who suffered a stroke after a government airstrike wounded him in January, Ano said. But soldiers have been going house-to-house to clear the city of militants.

"We will make this their cemetery," he said, estimating that the operation could take about a week. "We have to finish this."

At least 44 people have died in the fighting, including 31 militants and 11 soldiers, officials said Thursday. The violence has forced thousands of people to flee and raised fears of growing extremism in the country.

It was not immediately clear whether civilians were among the dead. President Rodrigo Duterte has imposed 60 days of martial law on the island of Mindanao, a traditional homeland of minority Muslims that encompasses the southern third of the nation and is home to 22 million people. In a sign that the long-standing problem of militancy in the south could be expanding, Solicitor General Jose Calida said foreigners were fighting alongside the gunmen in Marawi, including Indonesians and Malaysians.

Ano also said foreign fighters were believed to be inside, but he was more cautious. "We

suspect that but we're still validating," he said.

In a sign of the confusion over events inside the city, a local police chief told the AP on Friday that he was fine — two days after Duterte told journalists the police chief had been beheaded by militants.

Police Chief Romeo Enriquez said there may have been confusion because his predecessor in Malabang, a town near Marawi, was killed in the fighting on Tuesday, although he was not beheaded. Enriquez has been in the job for about two months.

The man at the center of the Marawi violence is Hapilon, an Arabic-speaking Islamic preacher known for his expertise in commando assaults. He is at the nexus of several militant groups that are trying to merge into a more powerful force.

Hapilon, who is a commander of the Abu Sayyaf militant group, pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group in 2014. He also heads an alliance that includes at least 10 smaller militant groups, including the Maute, which have a heavy presence in Marawi and were instrumental in fighting off government forces in this week's battles. All these groups are inspired by the Islamic State group, but so far there is no sign of significant, material ties.

"We have not seen any concrete evidence of material support from IS," military spokesman Brig. Gen. Resituto Padilla said Thursday. But he added that the smaller groups "are working to really get that recognition and funds, of course."

Washington has offered a \$5 million reward for information leading to Hapilon's capture, but he has proved elusive.

The army raided what it believed to be his hideout on Tuesday night in Marawi, but the militants called in reinforcements and were able to over-

(Continued on page 15)

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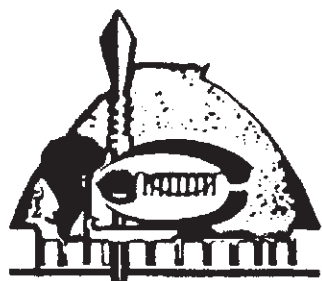
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► Terror...

Continued from page 14

power government forces. Once again, Hapilon escaped. The military said it believes Hapilon was still in Marawi.

Much of Marawi remains a no-go zone, but disturbing details have emerged.

Militants forced their way into the Marawi Cathedral and seized a Catholic priest, 10 worshippers and three church workers, according to the city's bishop, Edwin de la Pena. The black flags of the Islamic State group were planted atop buildings and flown from commandeered vehicles, including a government ambulance and an armored car, said Mamintal Alonto Adiong Jr., vice governor of Lanao del Sur province, of which Marawi is the capital.

More than half of the population of Marawi has cleared out, Adiong said.

The southern Philippines has been troubled by decades-long Muslim separatist uprisings in the predominantly Catholic nation. Duterte had repeatedly threatened to place the region under martial law, which allows him to use the armed forces to carry out arrests, searches and detentions more rapidly. But there are fears the expanded powers could further embolden a leader who already has been accused of allowing extrajudicial killings of thousands of people in his crackdown on illegal drugs.



Lanalei Fiaui graduated with high honors yesterday from Manumalo Academy. She is pictured with her proud parents following a special ceremony attended by dozens of family and friends.

[photo: Blue Chen-Fruean]

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Time: 7:30am - 2:30pm

This Event is hosted by American Samoa STEM Partners. For more information contact American Samoa STEM Partner Chair Person Edna Noga at: enoga@aspower.com

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Jerusalem still suffers from divisions, 50 years after war



In this Wednesday, May 17, 2017 photo, Shaft refugee camp is seen behind the security barrier in Jerusalem. Israel this week is marking the 50th anniversary of its capture of east Jerusalem in the 1967 Middle East war, an event it celebrates as the "unification" of the its eternal capital, but the city remains deeply divided in many ways. (AP Photo/Ariel Schalit)

POPULATION

The city has 883,000 residents as of the end of 2016, according to provisional figures provided by the Jerusalem Center for Policy Research, a research center that compiles data for the municipality.

Sixty-three percent of the population is Jewish,

(Continued on page 26)

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel is marking this week the 50th anniversary of its capture of east Jerusalem in the 1967 Middle East war — an event it celebrates as the "unification" of the its eternal capital.

Parades, light shows and festivals are being held throughout the city as Israeli Jews celebrate the capture of Jerusalem's Old City from Jordanian troops half a century ago.

The victory is widely seen as marking the symbolic return of control over Judaism's holiest sites after 2,000 years in exile.

The Old City is home to the Western Wall, the holiest site where Jews can pray, and the adjacent hilltop compound revered by Jews as the Temple Mount, the spot where the biblical Temples once stood. The Temple Mount is the holiest site in Jerusalem.

But for Palestinians, there is little to celebrate. They claim east Jerusalem as their capital, and revere the same hilltop compound as the "Noble Sanctuary." This compound, home to the Al Aqsa Mosque and gold-topped Dome of the Rock, is Islam's third-holiest site.

The conflicting claims to this tiny patch of land lie at the heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

They also have helped turn Jerusalem into a city of jarring contradictions — from beautifully restored archaeological sites, gleaming pedestrian malls and bustling nightspots in renovated Jewish areas to the potholed streets, overcrowded classrooms and impoverished neighborhoods in Arab sections of east Jerusalem.

Even after 50 years of Israeli control, Jerusalem remains deeply divided in many ways. Here is a look at the contradictions of modern Jerusalem:

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IN THE COMMUNITY

(Photos: Leua)



FILE - In this Sept. 27, 2016 file photo, 4th Circuit Court of Appeals, Chief Justice Roger Gregory, gestures during an interview in his office in Richmond, Va. The 4th U.S. Circuit of Appeals dealt another blow to President Donald Trump's revised travel ban targeting six-Muslim majority countries on Thursday, May 25, 2017, siding with groups that say the policy illegally targets Muslims. "Congress granted the president broad power to deny entry to aliens, but that power is not absolute. It cannot go unchecked when, as here, the president wields it through an executive edict that stands to cause irreparable harm to individuals across this nation," Gregory wrote. (AP Photo/Steve Helber, File)

Q&A: A look at latest legal loss for Trump travel ban

GENE JOHNSON,
Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — A Virginia-based federal appeals court pulled no punches in refusing to reinstate President Donald Trump's revised travel ban, with judges in the 10-3 majority calling the administration's action discriminatory and its reasoning nonsensical.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals opinion Thursday upheld a Maryland judge's decision to block the travel ban from taking effect. It was the first appeals court to weigh in on the travel ban.

A three-judge panel of the San Francisco-based 9th Circuit is expected to rule soon after hearing arguments in Seattle this month, and the issue is likely to reach the Supreme Court.

Here's a look at what the 4th Circuit decided and what might come next.

ARE TRUMP'S CAMPAIGN STATEMENTS RELEVANT?

According to at least eight of the judges in the majority, yes. Chief Judge Roger Gregory wrote that it was appropriate to consider Trump's comments calling for a Muslim ban.

But Gregory stressed there should be no bright-line rule governing when it's appropriate to consider an officeholder's campaign statements.

"A person's particular reli-

gious beliefs, her college essay on religious freedom, a speech she gave on the Free Exercise Clause — rarely, if ever, will such evidence reveal anything about that person's actions once in office," he wrote. "For a past statement to be relevant to the government's purpose, there must be a substantial, specific connection between it and the challenged government action."

The groups challenging the ban made a compelling case that the primary purpose of Trump's revised travel ban was to discriminate against Muslims, in violation of the Constitution's ban on the government favoring or disfavoring any religion, the majority said.

One judge, Stephanie Thacker, an appointee of President Barack Obama, said in a concurring opinion she would not consider statements by candidate Trump — but, she added, it wasn't necessary to. She cited Trump adviser Rudy Giuliani's comments following Trump's inauguration that the president had asked him to figure out how to legally implement a Muslim ban.

The three dissenting judges, Republican appointees Paul Niemeyer, Dennis Shedd and G. Steven Agee, accused the majority of "fabricating a new proposition of law." Campaign statements — often ambiguous, retracted, clarified and

politically charged — might provide fertile ground for anyone who wanted to recast the intent of an official's action in an effort to show discrimination, they said.

NATIONAL SECURITY

Acting Solicitor General Jeffrey Wall argued that the president's directive falls squarely within his duty to secure the nation's borders and that it does not discriminate against Muslims in its language or in its operation.

The majority didn't buy it.

The only examples Trump's order cited of immigrants born abroad and convicted of terrorism-related crimes in the United States include two Iraqis and a Somali refugee, Gregory wrote. Iraq is not among the six predominantly Muslim countries included in the travel ban, and the Somali came to the U.S. as a child and was radicalized here as an adult.

The travel ban "appears to be a post hoc, secondary justification for an executive action rooted in religious animus and intended to bar Muslims from this country," he wrote.

In her concurrence, Thacker called the government's reasoning untenable. She noted that two non-Muslim nations, the Philippines and Venezuela, weren't included among the

(Continued on page 24)



People gesture as they attend a vigil in Trafalgar Square, London Tuesday May 23, 2017 for the victims of the attack which killed over 20 people as fans left a pop concert by Ariana Grande in Manchester on Monday night. (Victoria Jones/PA via AP)



Military presence stepped up as Britain faces raised threat

LONDON (AP) — Britons will find armed troops at vital locations Wednesday after the official threat level was raised to its highest point following a suicide bombing that killed 22, as new details emerged about the bomber.

Home Secretary Amber Rudd said bomber Salman Abedi was known “up to a point” to the British intelligence services and police.

France’s interior minister said Abedi is believed to have traveled to Syria and had “proven” links with the Islamic State group.

Gerard Collomb said on BFM television Wednesday that British and French intelligence have information that the British-born attacker had been to Syria. He did not provide details, and said it is unclear whether Abedi was part of a larger network of attackers.

Collomb, who spoke with British Prime Minister Theresa May after the attack, said the two countries should continue cooperating closely on counter-terrorism efforts despite Britain’s pending exit from the European Union.

Rudd said Britain’s increased official threat

level will remain at “critical” as the investigation proceeds. It will not be lowered until security services are convinced there is no active plot in place, she said.


Following the increase in the threat level, officials say soldiers will be deployed to places like Buckingham Palace, 10 Downing Street and Parliament. They will replace armed police as Operation Temperer takes effect Wednesday.

Officials believe this will free up police to fight the threat of further extremist action against civilian targets, amid fears that another attack may be imminent.

London Police Commander Jane Connors said the goal is to “make our city as hostile an environment as possible for terrorists to plan and operate.”

She said the “reality” of the situation is that police must be ready to respond quickly with armed officers. Armed police walking patrols have been added, she said.

The government Tuesday night raised the threat to “critical”, its highest level, following an emergency Cabinet session.



American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

<i>Position Title</i>	SENIOR ACCOUNTANT	<i>Posting Date</i>	May 23, 2017
<i>Position Type</i>	Career Service/Probation	<i>Deadline</i>	June 7, 2017/4pm
<i>Job Opening</i>	One (1)	<i>Starting Salary</i>	GS:13/01 \$23,970.00 to GS: 13/25 \$50,397.00
<i>Report to:</i>	Accounting Manager	<i>FLSA</i>	Non-Exempt
<i>Location of Position</i>	This position is located in the Accounting Division of the American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA).		

Minimum Requirements & Qualifications

<i>Education/ Experience:</i>	Must possess a Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university with a major study in Accounting or Business Administration of any other related field. Minimum of six (6) years of progressive finance and accounting experience. Thorough understanding of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), strong analytical and accounting skills, excellent verbal, written communication and interpersonal skills.
<i>Skills</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in preparation of monthly management report and accompanying schedules, worksheets and narratives, including “budget vs. actual” variance reports. • Assist in providing follow-up and documentation of significant variances; • Assist in completion of the quarterly and annual regulatory filings; • Preparation of assigned quarterly and annual statutory statement schedules; • Assist with annual external audit; • Assist in preparing assigned schedules for the annual and interim audit; • Coordinate and resolve various issues with bank such as cleared check differences, bank fee anomalies, targeted balance calculations and enhancements; • Prepares consolidated internal and external financial statements by gathering and analyzing information from the general ledger system and from ASTCA department(s). • Prepares general ledger entries by maintaining records and files; reconciling accounts. • Develop and implement accounting procedures by analyzing current procedures; recommending changes. • Answers accounting and financial questions by researching and interpreting data. • Provides accounting support for mergers and acquisitions by reviewing financial information; converting data to the general ledger system; obtaining supplementary information for preparing financial statements. • Protects the organization’s value by keeping information confidential. • Accomplishes accounting and organization mission by completing related tasks as needed. • Works with accounts payable and receivable. • Review month end journal entries. • Leads and assist with projects as assigned. • Forecast revenue and analyze ledgers. • Perform all other responsibilities as assigned by higher authority. • Trained to complete periodic filings for timely submission to regulatory authorities.

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PROCLAMATION

WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY MAY 31, 2017

THEME: "Tobacco - A Threat To Development"

WHEREAS, Every Year, on May 31, WHO, CDC and partners mark World No Tobacco Day (WNTD), highlighting the health and additional risks associated with tobacco use, and advocating for effective policies to reduce tobacco consumption; and

WHEREAS, about 6 million people die from tobacco use every year, a figure that is predicted to grow to more than 8 million a year by 2030 without intensified action. Tobacco use is a threat to any person, regardless of gender, age, race, cultural or educational background. It bring suffering, disease, and death, impoverishing families and hurting economies; and

WHEREAS,, the WHO Framework Convention or Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) guides the global fight against tobacco epidemic; and

WHEREAS, one of the goals for this campaign is to Highlight the links between the use of tobacco products, tobacco control and sustainable development, and to encourage countries to include tobacco in their national responses to 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda; and

WHEREAS, Support Member States are combating tobacco industry interference in political processes, in turn leading to stronger national tobacco control action and encourage broader public and partner participation in national, regional and global efforts to develop and implement development strategies and plans and achieve goals that prioritize action on tobacco control; and

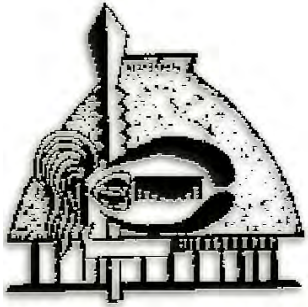
WHEREAS, individuals can contribute to making a sustainable, tobacco-free world, either by committing to never taking up tobacco products, or by quitting the habit. Through increasing cigarette taxes worldwide by US\$1, an extra US\$190 billion could be raised for development. High tobacco taxes contribute to revenue generation for governments, reduce demand for tobacco and offer an important revenue stream to finance development activities.

WHEREAS, because of the tremendous toll in human suffering and death, directly caused by tobacco use, therefore, for World No Tobacco Day 2017, we are calling on our people and government leaders to join the World No Tobacco Day (WNTD) awareness-raising campaign through social media, and to amplify messages that governments and WHO will be issuing.

NOW THEREFORE, I, LOLO MATALASI MOLIGA, Governor of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim the 31st day of May 2017, to be observed as the "World No Tobacco Day" in American Samoa. I urge all smokers to refrain from smoking on this day in hope, that it is a beginning of a life as a non-smoker. Further, I urge people of American Samoa, to support the activities planned by the Department of Health, Tobacco/Diabetes Prevention Control Programs, Tobacco/Diabetes Prevention Coalition Board and various Government agencies.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of my office on this 12th Day of May, in the year of our Lord, two thousand seventeen.

LOLO M. MOLIGA
Governor of American Samoa



AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ANNUAL SCHEDULE OF COURSE OFFERINGS SUMMER SEMESTER 2017

#	COURSE ALPHA	SEC	TITLE	DAYS	TIME	CR	ROOM	INSTRUCTOR
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AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCE

1	AGR 100 I	01	Practical Job Experience	Daily	09:00-10:20	1	208	IFAASAVALU
2	AGR 100 II	01	Practical Job Experience	Daily	09:00-10:20	1	210	PMCFALL

ARTS & HUMANITIES

1	ART 160	01	Design Fundamentals	Daily	10:00-12:50	3	B8	RMEREDITH
2	MUS 150	01	Music Fundamentals	Daily	12:00-01:20	3	29	LPAAULI
3	MUS 160	01	Music Literature	Daily	02:00-03:20	3	29	LPAAULI
4	SPH 153	01	Introduction to Speech	Daily	08:00-09:20	3	30	KTUIASOSOPO
5	SPH 153	02	Introduction to Speech	Daily	10:00-11:20	3	30	KTUIASOSOPO

BUSINESS

1	BUS 103	01	Introduction to Business	Daily	08:00-09:20	3	23	FFAATOAFE
2	BUS 150	01	Financial Math	Daily	11:00-12:20	3	23	FFAATOAFE

COLLEGE LIFE PLANNING

1	CLP 150	01	College and Life Planning	Daily	09:30-10:50	3	TBA	APANAMA
2	CLP 150	02	College and Life Planning	Daily	11:00-12:20	3	TBA	TLEO

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

1	CJ230	01	Criminal Justice Administration and Organization	Daily	09:00-10:20	3	18	RTOEAVA
2	CJ210	01	Constitutional Law and Procedures	Daily	11:00-12:20	3	18	RTOEAVA

HISTORY

1	HIS 150	01	American History I	Daily	09:00-10:20	3	7	AMOANA
2	HIS 151	01	American History II	Daily	12:00-01:20	3	7	AMOANA
3	HIS 162	01	Pacific History	Daily	02:00-03:20	3	9	EFELETI
4	HIS 162	02	Pacific History	Daily	08:00-09:20	3	8	LTEMESE
5	HIS 170	01	World Civilization I	Daily	08:00-09:20	3	9	EZODIACAL
6	HIS 171	01	World Civilization II	Daily	11:00-12:20	3	9	LTEMESE SSEIGAFO

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

1	ENG 150	01	Introduction to Literature	Daily	08:00-09:20	3	26	BGOODWIN
3	ENG 151	01	Freeman Composition	Daily	09:30-10:50	3	26	BGOODWIN
5	ENG 250	01	Survey of Literature	Daily	08:00-09:20	3	27	MTAAMU
6	ENG 251	01	Sophomore Composition	Daily	09:30-10:50	3	27	MTAAMU

MATHEMATICS

1	MAT 151	01	Intermediate Algebra	Daily	08:00-09:20	3	A35	AMOEFIANU
2	MAT 151	02	Intermediate Algebra	Daily	09:30-10:50	3	A35	AFELISE
3	MAT 151	03	Intermediate Algebra	Daily	11:00-12:20	3	A35	AFELISE
4	MAT 151	04	Intermediate Algebra	Daily	12:30-01:50	3	A35	TLEIATO
5	MAT 250	01	College Algebra & Trigonometry	Daily	10:00-11:50	4	A40	TLEIATO
6	MAT 250	02	College Algebra & Trigonometry	Daily	01:00-02:50	4	A5	LLIUFAU

SCIENCE

5	PHSCI 150	01	Physical Science	Daily	12:30-01:50	3	A30	RDEWEES
6	PHSCI 150L	01	Physical Science Laboratory	Daily	02:00-03:20	1	A30	RDEWEES
7	PHSCI 150	02	Physical Science	Daily	09:30-10:50	3	A45	MGOPALAN
8	PHSCI 150L	02	Physical Science M 1	Daily	11:00-12:20	1	A45	MGOPALAN

STUDIES OF SAMOA & THE PACIFIC

1	SAM 101A	01	Conversational Samoan I	Daily	02:00-03:20	3	M4	TTALAMONI
2	SAM 111	01	Introduction to Samoan Language	Daily	09:30-10:50	3	M4	EFELETI
3	SAM 151	01	Freshman Samoan	Daily	09:30-10:50	3	M3	ANUUSILA
4	SAM 151L	01	Freshman Samoan Laboratory	Daily	11:00-12:20	1	M3	ANUUSILA

SOCIAL SCIENCE

1	POL 150	01	Introduction to American Government	Daily	10:00-11:20	3	TBA	SSEIGAFO
2	SOC 150	01	Introduction to Sociology	Daily	12:00-01:20	3	20	SSEIGAFO
2	PSY 150	01	Introduction to Psychology	Daily	09:00-10:20	3	19	FJOHNSON
3	PSY 150	02	Introduction to Psychology	Daily	12:00-01:20	3	19	FJOHNSON

TRADES & TECHNOLOGY

1	ICT 150	01	Introduction to Computers	Daily	08:00-10:20	3	LAB-A	ESEIULI
2	ICT 150	02	Introduction to Computers	Daily	10:30-12:50	3	LAB-A	RLESA

COLLEGE ACCELERATED PREPARATORY PROGRAM (C.A.P.P.)

CAPP ENGLISH:

1	ENG 070	151	Beginning Reading	Daily	08:00-09:20	3	E1	PLAFAELE
2	ENG 071	151	Beginning Reading	Daily	09:30-10:50	3	E1	PLAFAELE
3	ENG 080	151	Intermediate Reading	Daily	09:30-10:50	3	E2	LSAUNI
4	ENG 080	152	Intermediate Reading	Daily	11:00-12:20	3	E2	ESOKIMI
5	ENG 081	151	Intermediate Writing	Daily	11:00-12:20	3	E1	LSAUNI
6	ENG 081	152	Intermediate Writing	Daily	08:00-09:20	3	E2	ESOKIMI
7	ENG 090	151	Advanced Reading	Daily	09:30-10:50	3	E3	FCALUMPANG

#	COURSE ALPHA	SEC	TITLE	DAYS	TIME	CR	ROOM	INSTRUCTOR
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8	ENG 090	152	Advanced Reading	Daily	08:00-09:20	3	E3	SROPETI
9	ENG 091	151	Advanced Writing	Daily	08:00-09:20	3	E4	FCALUMANG
10	ENG 091	152	Advanced Writing	Daily	09:30-10:50	3	E4	SROPETI

CAPP MATH:

1	MAT 080	151	Preparatory Math	Daily	08:00-09:50	4	A14	ETOFILAU
2	MAT 080	152	Preparatory Math	Daily	10:00-11:50	4	A14	MPORTER
3	MAT 080	153	Preparatory Math	Daily	12:00-01:50	4	M12A	AMATAUTIA
4	MAT 080	154	Preparatory Math	Daily	10:00-11:50	4	M12A	ETOFILAU
5	MAT 080	155	Preparatory Math	Daily	12:00-01:50	4	A14	MPORTER
6	MAT 090	151	Elementary Algebra	Daily	12:00-01:50	4	A40	SMOSE
7	MAT 090	152	Elementary Algebra	Daily	08:00-09:50	4	A40	AMATAUTIA
8	MAT 090	153	Elementary Algebra	Daily	10:00-11:50	4	A45	AMOEFIANU

ASDOE TED 1ST/2ND SESSION

TED 1st Session (MAY 30-JUNE 30, 2017)

1	ED150	15	Introduction to Teaching	Daily	08:00-09:40	3	TED 1	LPEREIRA
2	ED 157	15	Introduction to Elementary Curriculum & Instruction	Daily	10:00-11:40	3	TE 1	LGLDOWSKI
3	ED 215	15	Introduction to Exceptional Children	Daily	08:00-09:40	3	TED 2	VTAAI
4	ED 280	15	Introduction to Multicultural Education	Daily	10:00-11:40	3	TED 1	LPEREIRA
5	ED 300	15	Foundations of Education	Daily	10:00-11:40	3	M7-C	LPURCELL
6	ED 301	15	Educational Psychology	Daily	12:00-01:40	3	TE-2	RPATO
7	ED 305	15	Foundations of Curriculum & Instruction (Ele. - K-8)	Daily	08:00-09:40	3	TE-1	FALAINUESE
8	ED 312	15	Teaching Language Arts to Elementary Teachers II	Daily	12:00-01:40	3	TED 2	LGLDOWSKI
9	ED 319	15	Children Literature	Daily	10:00-11:40	3	TE 2	FALAINUESE
10	ED 325	15	Principles of Child Development: The Samoan Child	Daily	12:00-01:40	3	M7-C	LPURCELL
11	ENG 151	15	Freshman Composition	Daily	04:30-06:10	3	27	BGOODWIN
12	HIS 170	15	World Civilization I	Daily	03:00-04:40	3	8	AMOANA
13	ICT 150	15	Introduction to Computers	Daily	04:00-06:50	3	LAB-A	EFRUEAN
14	PH 160	15	Introduction to Public Health	Daily	04:00-05:40	3	A1	ISASAU
15	PED 152	15	Beginning Aerobics	Daily	04:00-05:40	1	GYM	ITOMANOTI
16	PHSCI 150	15	Physical Science	Daily	02:30-04:10	3	A17	JROSE
17	PHSCI 150L	15	Physical Science Laboratory	Daily	04:30-06:10	1	A17	JROSE
18	SPH 153	15	Introduction to Speech	Daily	04:30-06:10	3	30	STAFF
19	MAT 080	15	Preparatory Math	Daily	03:00-05:20	4	A40	SMOSE
20	ENG 070	15	Beginning Reading	Daily	11:00-12:40	3	E3	PLAFAELE
21	ENG 081	15	Intermediate Writing	Daily	01:00-02:40	3	E1	ESOKIMI

TED 2nd Session (JULY 03 - AUGUST 04, 2017)

1	ED 150	16	Introduction to Teaching	Daily	08:00-09:40	3	TED 1	STAFF
2	ED 157	16	Introduction to Elementary Curriculum & Instruction	Daily	10:00-11:40	3	TE 1	LSCANLAN
3	ED 215	16	Introduction to Exceptional Children	Daily	08:00-09:40	3	TED 2	VTAAI
4	ED 240	16	Instructional Technologies	Daily	12:00-03:30	4	10	SLEOMITI
5	ED 280	16	Introduction to Multicultural Education	Daily	10:00-11:40	3	TED 1	APANAMA
6	ED 300	16	Foundations of Education	Daily	08:00-09:40	3	TE 2	FALAINUESE
7	ED 301	16	Educational Psychology	Daily	12:00-01:40	3	TE 2	RPATO
8	ED 305	16	Foundations of Curriculum & Instructions (Elem. - K-8)	Daily	10:00-11:40	3	M7-C	LPURCELL
9	ED 312	16	Teaching Language Arts to Elementary Teachers II	Daily	12:00-01:40	3	TED 2	L PURCELL
10	ED319	16	Children Literature	Daily	10:00-11:40	3	TE 2	FALAINUESE
11	BIO 180	15	Biology I	Daily	09:00-10:40	3	A17	CTUIONOULA
12	BIO 180L	15	Biology I Laboratory	Daily	11:00-12:40		A17	CTUIONOULA
13	ENG 251	15	Sophomore Composition	Daily	10:00-11:40	3	A1	MTAAMU
14	HIS 162	15	Pacific History	Daily	12:00-01:40	3	27	OFAUOLO
15	HIS 171	15	World Civilization II	Daily	01:00-02:40	3	18	LTEMESE
16	MAT 151	15	Intermediate Algebra	Daily	10:30-12:10	3	TBA	BGOPALAN
17	PSY 250	15	Human Development	Daily	11:00-12:40	3	TBA	DHELSHAM
18	SAM 151	15	Freshman Samoan	Daily	01:00-02:40	3	M3	ANUUSILA
19	SAM 151L	15	Freshman Samoan Laboratory	Daily	03:00-04:40	1	M3	ANUUSILA
20	ENG 091	15	Advanced Writing	Daily	11:00-12:40	3	E4	SROPETI
21	MAT 090	15	Elementary Algebra	Daily	04:00-06:20	4	A5	LLIUFAU



This photo supplied by Rocket Lab, shows the Electron rocket maneuvers to the launch pad on the Mahia Peninsula in the North Island of New Zealand, Thursday, May 25, 2017. California-based company Rocket Lab said Thursday it had launched a test rocket into space from its New Zealand launch pad, although the rocket didn't reach orbit as hoped.

(Rocket Lab via AP)

New Zealand test rocket makes it to space but not to orbit

NICK PERRY,
Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — California-based Rocket Lab said Thursday

it had launched a test Electron rocket into space from its New Zealand launch pad, although the rocket didn't reach orbit as hoped.

The company said its

immensely proud of our talented team," company founder Peter Beck said in a statement.

Beck, a New Zealander, said the early stages of the mission went well.

"We didn't quite reach orbit and we'll be investigating why, however reaching space in our first test puts us in an incredibly strong position," he said.

Rocket Lab was given official approval last week to conduct three test launches from the remote Mahia Peninsula on the North Island.

The company hopes to begin commercial launches later this year and eventually launch about one rocket every week.

The company said it will target getting to orbit on the second test and will look to carry the maximum payload.

New Zealand has never had a space program but officials hope regular launches could change perceptions of the South Pacific nation and generate hundreds of millions of dollars each year in revenue.

Rocket Lab plans to keep costs low by using lightweight, disposable rockets with 3D-printed engines. It sees an emerging market

orbit. The satellites would be used for everything from monitoring crops to providing internet service.

Politicians are rushing through new space laws and the government has set up a boutique space agency, which employs 10 people.

"So far, it's only superpowers that have gone into space," Simon Bridges,

New Zealand's economic development minister, told The Associated Press last week.

"For us to do it, and be in the first couple of handfuls of countries in the world, is pretty impressive."

Rocket Lab's Electron rocket is unusual in many respects. It carries only a small payload of about 150 kilograms (331 pounds). It's made from carbon fiber and uses an electric engine. Rocket Lab says each launch will cost just \$5 million, a tiny fraction of a typical rocket launch.

It's a different plan than some other space companies like Elon Musk's SpaceX, which uses larger rockets to carry bigger payloads.

Rocket Lab was founded by Beck and is privately held.

The company has received about \$150 million in venture capital funding.



AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

IFB No. ASCC# 004-2017
Date of Issuance: May 19, 2017

Due Date and Time: June 9, 2017
No Later than 2:00p.m. Local Time

The American Samoa Community College (ASCC) issues an Invitation for Bids (IFB) from qualified firms to submit bids for the following:

**"FURNITURE, FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT (FF&E)
FOR ASCC NEW MULTIPURPOSE CENTER BUILDING"**

SUBMISSION:

Original and five copies of the Invitation for Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: "ASCC IFB#004-2017 Furniture, Furnishings & Equipment for new Multipurpose Building" Bids are to be sent to the following address and will be received no later than 2:00p.m. local Time, Friday, June 9, 2017:

ASCC Procurement Office
Mapusaga Campus,
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
Attn: Jessie Su'esu'e, Procurement Officer

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

DOCUMENTS:

The IFB complete package detailing requirements is available at the ASCC Procurement Office, Mapusaga Campus during normal working hours and may also be obtained by emailing j.suesue@amsamoa.edu

RIGHT OF REJECTION:

The American Samoa Community College (ASCC) reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to waive any irregularities and/or informalities in the submitted bid proposals that are not in the best interest of the college or the public.

Approved for Issuance by;

Dr. Rosevonne Makaiwi Pato

President, American Samoa Community College (ASCC)



US diplomat: China tightened border controls with North Korea

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese officials have told the U.S. that they've tightened inspections and policing along the border with North Korea as part of U.N. sanctions aimed at halting Pyongyang's nuclear and missile activities, the top U.S. diplomat for East Asia said Friday.

Beijing's action reflects a growing awareness about the urgent need for China to pressure North Korea into halting its testing of missiles and nuclear bombs, Acting Assistant Secretary of State Susan Thornton told reporters in Beijing. President Donald Trump's administration has made a renewed push to enlist Beijing's help in those efforts following a meeting between Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping last month.

Touching on other areas of the relationship, Thornton said the new administration has not changed its commitment to greater engagement with countries in the Asia-Pacific region or its approach to naval operations in the disputed South China Sea. On North Korea, the U.S. has seen a "shift in emphasis" in China's approach to its fellow communist neighbor, Thornton said.

"They've said that they have stepped up border inspections, beefed up sort of the policing function on the border, stepped up customs inspections," she said. Beijing has also done "a number of other things on companies" that have dealings with North Korea, Thornton said, without giving details.

The U.S. has been talking to Beijing about taking action against specific firms and is waiting to see what sort of action China will take, she said.

China has signed on to U.N. sanctions and suspended coal imports from North Korea through the rest of the year, but has been generally reticent about what other steps it may be taking to use its leverage as Pyongyang's most important trading and diplomatic partner.

Asked about Thornton's remarks, Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Lu Kang said China remained committed to "strictly implementing" U.N. sanctions but offered no details or what other measures it might be taking.

Lu also reiterated China's call for a renewal of six-nation denuclearization talks that have been on ice since 2009, saying the parties should "be flexible, meet each other halfway, and return to the negotiating table as soon as possible."

Thornton said the U.S., China and others were also in talks on a future U.N. resolution on North Korea in order to cut the time needed to take action following another nuclear or missile test.

"So we're looking at trying to get going on the next set of



In this Wednesday, May 3, 2017 photo, a North Korean soldier looks through a pair of binoculars as he stands at a guard tower on the border near Chongsu in North Korea's North Pyongan Province, as seen from across the border in Dandong in northeastern China's Liaoning Province. The top U.S. diplomat for East Asia said Friday, May 26, 2017, that Chinese officials have told Washington they have tightened border controls with North Korea as part of U.N. sanctions aimed at halting Pyongyang's nuclear and missile activities. (Chinatopix via AP)

major measures that would be taken in the wake of another provocation," Thornton said. Such measures could include ratcheting up economic pressure on the North by targeting trade in consumer goods, possibly including textiles, she said.

Despite Lu's comments later in the day, Thornton said Beijing officials now realize more pressure is needed before dialogue can be restored.

"And so they know now that they don't have, I think, as much time to try to bring the North Koreans to the table, get their calculus changed and get them to the negotiating table as they may have previously thought," she said.

Adding to that, Beijing also seems to have recognized that North Korea's actions were "undermining China's own security in pretty major ways," Thornton said.

"They do recognize that it's going to be pretty hard to have a dialogue while the North Koreans are shooting off missiles," she said.

North Korea exploded two nuclear devices last year, one of which it claimed was a hydrogen bomb. Satellite imagery suggests it could be ready to conduct its next test — its sixth — at any time.

On Monday, Pyongyang said it is ready to start mass-producing a new medium-range missile after a weekend test-launch confirmed its combat readiness. The regime's oft-stated goal is to perfect a nuclear warhead that it can put

on a missile capable of hitting Washington or other U.S. cities.

Some outside the administration have been less sanguine about China's willingness to work with the U.S. on North Korea, while Beijing officials say their influence with Pyongyang has been exaggerated. China maintains that while it wants to neutralize North Korea as a threat, it opposes harsh sanctions or other measures that could bring down young leader Kim Jong Un's regime, leading to a potential outflow of refugees and South Korean and American troops on the Chinese border.

China continues to pay lip service to cracking down on North Korea but there's been "little evidence of actual pressure," said Dean Cheng of the Heritage Foundation think tank in Washington.

Cheng also criticized China for pressuring South Korea not to deploy a sophisticated U.S. anti-missile system aimed at countering North Korea. Beijing says the system threatens its own security with its ability to peer deep into northeastern China.

"In short, China has made clear that Seoul, even in the face of North Korean missile tests, should place Chinese concerns above the security of their own people," Cheng said.

While there have been reports that the Trump administration was reconsidering Barack Obama's "pivot" to Asia, Thornton said Washington has made no substantial

changes.

That followed the U.S. Navy's sailing a destroyer near a Chinese man-made island in the South China Sea on Thursday in a "freedom of navigation" operation aimed at challenging what the U.S. considers excessive territorial claims in the strategic waterway that Beijing claims

virtually in its entirety.

Washington's approach is "engagement with Asia to show that we're still present in the region, that we're going to keep our security commitments in the region, certainly support for our allies and with North Korea as a focal point on the security front," Thornton said.



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Yesterday morning, the Home of the Flames graduated thirty-five 8th graders, some of the territory's best and brightest.

[photo: Blue Chen-Fruean]




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▶ legal loss...

Continued from page 18

banned countries even though they are home to terrorist groups and fail to help verify information about people attempting to travel to the United States.

"The Government has not consistently applied the criteria it claims it used, and the reason seems obvious — and inappropriate," she wrote.

SUPREME COURT

Attorney General Jeff Sessions swiftly said the Justice Department will ask the Supreme Court to review the 4th Circuit's decision. Sessions says the Justice Department "strongly disagrees" and will continue to vigorously defend Trump's order. He says the court's ruling blocks Trump's "efforts to strengthen this country's national security."

The Supreme Court almost always has the final say when a lower court strikes down a federal law or presidential action. Trump could try to persuade the Supreme Court to allow the policy to take effect, even while the justices weigh whether to hear the case, by arguing that the court orders blocking the ban make the country less safe.

A vote on whether to grant that request could signal the court's ultimate decision.

It takes a majority of the court, five votes, to put a lower court ruling on hold. One factor in that first vote is whether the government is likely to win in the end. If at least five justices vote to let the travel ban take effect, there's a good chance they also would uphold the policy later on.

Conversely, it's hard to imagine that a majority would uphold the travel ban if there are not five votes to let it take effect pending a final ruling.



S. Korea OKs civilian contact with North Korea over malaria

HYUNG-JIN KIM, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea will allow a civic group to contact North Korea over help in fighting malaria, the first government approval on cross-border civilian exchanges since North Korea's fourth nuclear test in January 2016, officials said Friday.

The announcement is a sign that the liberal government led by new President Moon Jae-in is trying to restart stalled civilian aid and exchange programs as a way to improve strained ties with the rival North.

Moon's conservative predecessor, Park Geun-hye, hadn't endorsed any civilian contacts since the North's fourth nuclear test.

Seoul's Unification Ministry said the Seoul-based Korean Sharing Movement would be allowed to communicate with North Korea to discuss how to deal with malaria in North Korea.

"While the new government maintains a stance of firmly responding to North Korean provocations like missile launches, it's also clear that the current severance in ties between the South and North isn't ideal for stabilizing the situation in the Korean Peninsula," ministry spokeswoman Lee Eugene said.

The civic group said it will contact North Korea via email to try to provide North Korea with insecticides, diagnostic reagent kits and mosquito repellants and nets. Group officials said they last sent anti-malaria supplies to North Korea in 2011.

Despite the lack of South Korean assistance, North Korea has in recent years reported declining cases of malaria largely thanks to anti-malaria aid programs by international organizations.

According to World Health Organization records, North Korea had 21,850 malaria cases in 2012, but 7,010 cases in 2015.

The presence of malaria in North Korea's southern regions also poses a health problem for South Koreans as malaria-carrying mosquitoes fly southward across the countries' heavily fortified border.

Since taking office earlier in May, Moon's government has said it will flexibly evaluate expanding civilian exchange

with North Korea. But many analysts say Moon won't likely push for any major rapprochement projects because North Korea has gone too far on its nuclear program.

North Korea conducted two ballistic missile test-launches since Moon's May 10 inauguration. It's pushing to build a nuclear-tipped missile that can reach the continental U.S., and as part of the goal the North carried out two nuclear tests last year — in January and September.



FILE - In this Sept. 9, 2016 file photo, a visitor uses binoculars to see the North Korean territory from the unification observatory in Paju, South Korea. South Korea approved Friday, May 26, 2017, a civic group to contact North Korea over aid programs, the first such approval since North Korea's nuclear test in January 2016. (AP Photo/Lee Jin-man. File)

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council announces the following public meetings on fisheries management in offshore waters of Hawai'i, American Samoa, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Pacific Remote Island Areas. For more information and complete agendas, go to www.wpcouncil.org or contact the Council by email at info.wpcouncil@noaa.gov, by fax at (808) 522-8226 or by phone at (808) 522-8220.

American Samoa Advisory Panel
 May 31 (Th) 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
 Pacific Petroleum Conference Room
 Utulei Village, American Samoa 96799

Major agenda item: American Samoa Fishery Ecosystem Plan Community Activities and Fishery Issues, American Samoa Large Vessel Prohibited Area, Options for Management Unit Species for Ecosystem Component Design, and Review of Options for Non-Fishing Impacts to Essential Fish Habitats.

Special Accommodations: The meeting location is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, (808) 522-8220 (voice) or (808) 522-8226 (fax), at least five days prior to the meeting date.

Jerusalem still suffers from divisions, 50...

Continued from page 17

while 37 percent are Palestinian Arabs. Jews tend to live in Jewish neighborhoods, while Palestinians live in Arab neighborhoods.

STATUS

Jewish Jerusalemites have automatic Israeli citizenship. Palestinians hold residency rights, allowing them to work and granting them access to Israeli health care and social benefits.

They also can vote in municipal elections, though most boycott the balloting. But they are not citizens and cannot vote in national elections.

A small but growing number of Jerusalem Palestinians have begun to apply for Israeli citizenship — a process that they

say is bureaucratic and far from certain.

POVERTY

Seventy-nine percent of Arab families lived in poverty in 2015, according to the Jerusalem center. That compared to 27 percent of Jewish families.

EDUCATION

The average class size in a Palestinian classroom is 37 students, compared to 22 in state-run Jewish schools, according to the center.

While the city has begun to build additional classrooms for Arab students, Ir Amim, an advocacy group that promotes coexistence and equality in the system, estimates that there is a shortage of 2,672 classrooms.

Some 13 percent of

Palestinians drop out of school, compared to 1 percent in state-run Jewish schools, the group says.

BUDGET

Just 10 percent of the municipal budget is devoted to Palestinian areas of the city, resulting in reduced services across the board, according to Ir Amim.

As a result, Palestinian areas receive disproportionately fewer services across the board, including education, fire and rescue and health care.

Among those hardest hit: the estimated 80,000 Palestinians living in neighborhoods placed behind the Israeli-built separation barrier.

Yair Assaf-Shapira, a researcher at the Jerusalem Institute for Policy Research, prefers to think of the city's problems as "gaps," not divisions.

"Are Jerusalem residents of all kinds and all groups receiving the proper level of services? Are there people who should be receiving specific help who are not receiving it?" he asked.

"This is the conversation we should have."

Assaf-Shapira said the problems plaguing the Palestinians include neglect and discrimination, but also go further.

A historically high birthrate and low participation in the work force, particularly among Arab women, have also contributed to the high poverty rate.

Jerusalem's ultra-Orthodox population also suffers from poverty, in large part because of the decision by many males to spend their days studying religious texts instead of working.

But Assaf-Shapira sees some hope for the city. Jews and Arabs mingle in public spaces like malls and playgrounds far more than they used to, the education rate is improving in the Arab sector and the birthrate among Palestinian women has slowed.

"The gaps are huge. Huge challenges are faced by the municipality and the state trying to narrow or close these gaps," he said. "Still, I think there are many reasons for optimism."



American Samoa Power Authority

May 25, 2017

Monthly Fuel Surcharge Notification

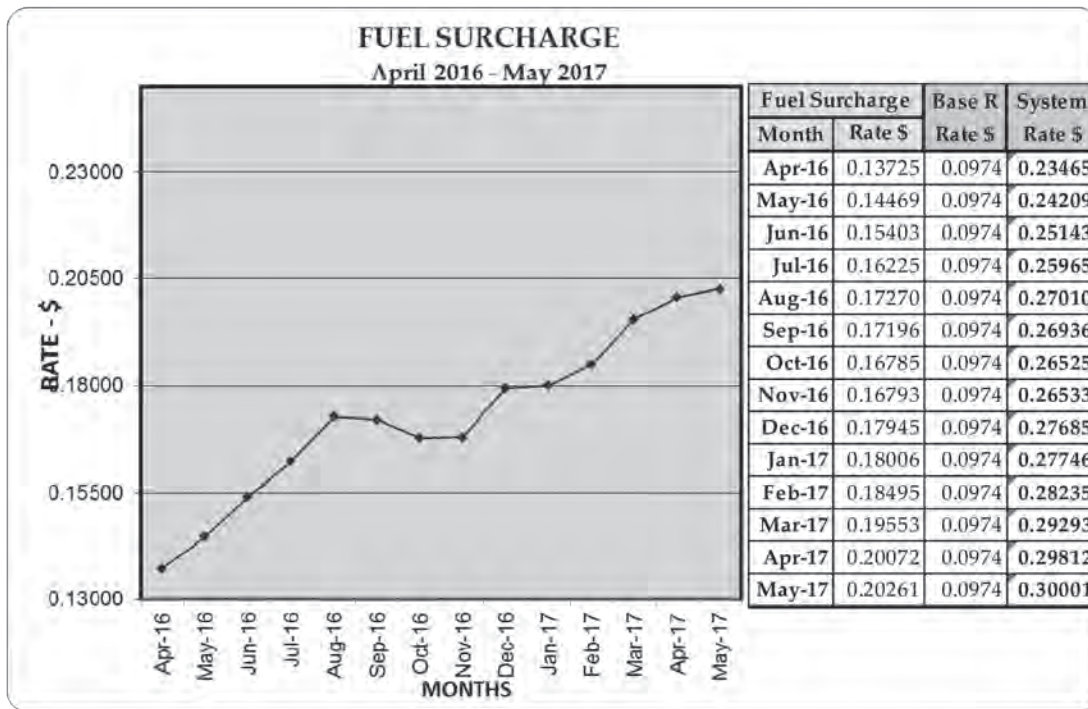
The American Samoa Power Authority is informing its customers about the monthly fuel surcharge rate, which is the direct cost of fuel to generate electricity. The charge for each kilowatt hour (kWh) comprises the "base rate" and the "fuel surcharge rate."

The base rate, which remains the same monthly for all electric customer classes, pays for ASPA's operating costs and for infrastructure upgrades needed to get power to your home and business.

The fuel surcharge rate changes monthly due to fluctuating fuel costs. The fuel surcharge is approximately 70%-

75% of the total kWh price. This is considered a "pass-through" revenue because it goes directly to pay the local fuel suppliers for diesel fuel consumed at the five power plants in Tutuila, Manua and Aunuu.

The fuel surcharge rate also includes the "Renewable Reduction" from electricity produced by the ASPA Photo Voltaic panels. The avoided fuel costs or fuel being saved from producing electricity through the Photo Voltaic panels, is passed on to customers as the "Renewable



Reduction" savings. There are six active sites, with more sites in progress to increase ASPA's renewable energy portfolio. As ASPA increases renewable energy capacity, more savings will be realized and passed on to customers.

Rate - \$	Residential	Small General	Large General
Calculated Fuel Surcharge	0.20939	0.20939	0.20939
Renewable Reduction	-0.00678	-0.00678	-0.00678
Fuel Surcharge	0.20261	0.20261	0.20261
Fixed Electric Base Rate	0.09740	0.10650	0.08960
Electric System Rate (kWh)	0.30001	0.30911	0.29221

As President Trump announces famine aid, relief funds face big cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — When President Donald Trump met Pope Francis this week, the U.S. leader renewed a commitment to fighting global famine and proudly announced a new multimillion-dollar American aid contribution to four African nations in crisis. Left unsaid by the president or the White House: His proposal to slash such funds by more than 40 percent in the next fiscal year.

While the Trump administration's 2018 spending plan does not eliminate money for emergency food aid, it ends a critical program by consolidating it into a broader account that covers all international disaster assistance. Doing so reduces the amount of money the U.S. dedicates to fighting famine to \$1.5 billion next year, from \$2.6 billion in 2016. The reduction is likely even steeper compared to 2017, but the administration hasn't calculated figures for this fiscal year because it doesn't end until Sept. 30 and more money may be allocated for famine relief before then.

Trump officials say the proposed changes will streamline U.S. aid programs, eliminate redundancies and increase efficiency. Relief organizations fear less U.S. money will mean an increase in famine and hunger-related deaths, particularly in Africa, if Congress approves the budget. Trump's overall proposal, however, is already prompting significant opposition from Republican and Democratic lawmakers.

Trump's aid announcement at the Vatican on Wednesday went largely unnoticed, tucked into the last paragraph of a brief White House readout of the meeting. And coverage of the president's papal audience was dominated by atmospherics between two men with widely divergent views on many issues.

Officials familiar with planning for the new assistance said the White House was seeking "a deliverable" to announce after Trump's discussions with the pope and settled on the additional famine relief for millions in South Sudan, Nigeria, Somalia and Yemen. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak about the issue publicly.

In the meeting, Trump "renewed the commitment of the United States to fighting global famine," the White

House said. "As he relayed at the Vatican, the United States is proud to announce more than \$300 million in anti-famine spending, focused on the crises in Yemen, (South) Sudan, Somalia and Nigeria."

The U.S. Agency for International Development, which along with the State Department could face a 31 percent budget cut, said the additional money brought total U.S. humanitarian assistance for those four countries to almost \$1.2 billion since last October. "The United States is one of the largest donors of humanitarian assistance in all four crises," it said, extolling the value of U.S. aid.

In what may have been a subtle reminder to the rest of Trump's administration, the agency's statement said: "The assistance we provide represents the best of America's generosity and goodwill, while improving our national security by strengthening relationships with nations and people around the world.

We will continue to work with our international and local partners to provide the life-saving aid needed to avert famine and to support surrounding countries that have been impacted by these crises."

Yet, that support and broader disaster relief assistance would face drastic cuts if the administration gets its way.

The proposed 2018 budget seeks \$2.5 billion for international disaster assistance. Of that total, \$1.5 billion would be for food aid.


In 2016, the United States provided \$2.6 billion in food aid through a combination of money from the disaster assistance fund and Title II of the "Food for Peace" program, which requires most of its money be spent on American food that is then shipped to areas in need. Trump's budget would eliminate that program, which accounted for \$1.7 billion worth of emergency food aid last year, calling it inefficient.

In its statement supporting the change, USAID said moving all famine aid to the disaster assistance account "allows USAID to both support the purchase of commodities in the U.S. and in markets overseas." The U.S. would end up providing food assistance "more efficiently and in a manner that uses the most appropriate tool for crises."



In this May 24, 2017, photo, Pope Francis meets with President Donald Trump at the Vatican. When Trump met Pope Francis, the U.S. leader renewed a commitment to fighting global famine and proudly announced a new multimillion-dollar American aid contribution to four African nations in crisis. Left unsaid by the president or the White House: His proposal to slash such funds by more than 40 percent in the next fiscal year.

(AP Photo/Alessandra Tarantino, Pool)



American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

<i>Position Title</i>	HUMAN RESOURCE GENERALIST	<i>Posting Date</i>	May 23, 2017
<i>Position Type</i>	Contractual	<i>Deadline</i>	June 13, 2017
<i>Job Opening</i>	One (1)	<i>Starting Salary</i>	Salary Commensurate with Experience/expertise
<i>Report to:</i>	Chief Executive Officer	<i>Status</i>	Exempt

Major Responsibilities:

The Human Resources Generalist is located in the Human Resource Division of the American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA). Work is generally performed in a standard office environment, but also includes activities that occur in a variety of indoor and outdoor settings.

Minimum Requirements & Qualifications

<i>Education/ Experience:</i>	Must possess a Master's Degree from an accredited college or university with major study in Human Resources, Business, organization Development or equivalent in related field. Minimum of (10) years of experience in Human Resource management experience or related area, and possess excellent management competencies to deal with ASTCA compliance, the business sector, and the general community.
<i>Skills</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist with the development and administration of programs, procedures, and guidelines to help align the workforce with strategic goals of the company; • Participates in developing department goals, objectives, and systems; • Participates in administrative staff meetings and attends other meetings and seminars; • Assist to establish departmental measurements that supports the accomplishment of ASTCA's strategic goals; • Assist in the monitoring of an annual budget; • Assist with the implementation of the performance management system that includes performance development plans and employee development programs; • Assist with establishment of an in-house training system that addresses the ASTCA's training needs including training needs assessment, new employee orientation or onboarding, management development, production cross-training, the measurement of training impact and training transfer; • Assists managers with the selection and contracting of external training programs and consultants; • Provides necessary education and materials to managers and employees including workshops, manuals, employee handbooks, and standardized reports; • Maintain employee training records; • Assist in conducting recruiting planning meetings when needed if staff is identified; • Assist in reviewing resumes for all candidates and interview nonexempt and exempt, when assigned candidates for employment; • Assist with monitoring of the company wage and salary structure and variable pay systems within ASTCA including bonuses and raises; • Assist in administering of disability and worker's compensation claims; • Complies with all existing governmental and labor legal and government reporting requirements including any related to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO); • Protects the interest of employees and the company in accordance with company HR policies

Qualified Applicants Apply To:	Human Resources Division American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (A.S.T.C.A.) P.O. Box M Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799	Tel: (684) 699-1121 ext. 408 Fax: (684) 699-9026 Email inquiries: hr@astca.net
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IN THE COMMUNITY

(Photos: Blue)



In this Tuesday, May 16, 2017 photo, Dr. Trivia Frazier, a graduate of Dillard University, works in her lab in New Orleans. Frazier returns to her alma mater frequently to inspire the next generation. Dillard University in New Orleans graduates more physics majors - and, notably, more female physics majors - than far bigger schools with more resources. (AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

Pound for pound, Dillard University is a physics powerhouse

ERRIN HAINES WHACK,
Associated Press

One of the smallest historically black colleges in the U.S. boasts a huge accomplishment: pound for pound, tiny Dillard University in New Orleans graduates more physics majors -- and, notably, more female physics majors -- than far bigger schools with more resources.

With an enrollment of 1,200, Dillard ranks second in the country in black physics undergrads.

The point was punctuated at Dillard's recent commencement exercises, which featured a keynote address from actress and singer Janelle Monae, one of the stars of "Hidden Figures." The award-winning film tells the story of the black women scientists who fought Jim Crow while doing essential mathematical calculations for America's space program.

"To see that we have this significant number of women representing (science and math) in the way that they are is a blessing to America and our future," Monae told The Associated Press in an interview before the May 13 graduation. "To have physicists coming out of New Orleans who are African-American women ... that's a huge deal."

Nine of the top 10 physics departments in the country -- at black or white schools -- producing the most African American undergraduates in physics are at HBCUs, according to the American Institute of Physics. Currently, the top producing school is Morehouse College, an all-male HBCU with nearly twice as many students as Dillard.

Dillard, the smallest on the list, ranked comparably with North Carolina A&T University, with more than 10,000 students. The private, liberal arts college has conferred 33 physics degrees since 2007, including nine to black women.

Degrees in physics are rare for women and minorities. That Dillard -- with a campus that is 73 percent female -- is outpacing its larger counterparts is significant, said University of Pennsylvania higher education professor Marybeth Gasman.

"They're taking a chance on these young women," said Gasman, director of Penn's Center for Minority-Serving Institutions and author of a forthcoming book on HBCUs and STEM -- science, technology, engineering and mathematics -- education. "They don't bring in people who they deem to be perfect. They bring people in who

they deem to have potential and they work with them to discover this talent."

Dillard President Walter Kimbrough is one of the biggest champions of the school's physics program.

"I'd never met a black female getting an undergraduate degree in physics in my life until I got to Dillard," Kimbrough said. "It broadens the narrative of what black women do."

Dillard's powerhouse program is the work of physics professor Abdalla Darwish, who frames his efforts to steer black women into the major as "a movement."

"I believe in women, especially minority women," said Darwish, who arrived in 1998 and has built a multi-million dollar laser lab for research. "They are not less than anybody else. Just give them the chance and they will be the best. Give them what they need, and they will do."

Founded in 1869, Dillard is best known for its nursing program, the oldest in the state. Physics was established as a major at Dillard in 1940.

"You had those areas where we've traditionally expected women: teachers and nurses," Kimbrough said. "Now, we're going to

(Continued on page 29)





(l-r) Pastor Lemmy Seumanu, ASCC President Dr. Rosevonne Makaiwi-Pato (keynote speaker), Donna Gurr -Vice Chairperson of the Manumalo Academy school board, and board member Tish Peau following the school's 8th grade graduation ceremony yesterday morning.

[photo: Blue Chen-Fruean]

► Pound for pound...

Continued from page 28

be known as one of the best in physics. When I go out and talk about Dillard, it's a 'wow' factor for us."

Trivia Frazier loved math from a young age, but in high school, she gravitated to science out of a curiosity for why things happen.

"When I saw you could put an equation to something to describe it in a quantitative way, that's what really drew me to this field," Frazier said.

She was the only person in her graduating high school class to pursue physics in college. She chose Dillard because of its eager, approachable recruiters — including Darwish, who talked to her about post-graduate studies.

She went from being the only black girl in her school interested in physics, to having three "sisters in physics" at Dillard.

"We were able to support each other and understand the quirks about being a physicist and not having the most popular major," Frazier said. "That was one of the most important components of my foundation."

As an undergraduate,

Frazier wondered what she would do with a physics degree, and considered adding mathematics to her major. Darwish was firm: A black woman in physics was special, he said.

"He told me, 'It's time for you to learn about the significance of where you are and who you can be,'" she recalled. "That conversation helped me to stay on track. It opened up my eyes in terms of understanding what was out there."

Darwish introduced her to other physicists. Frazier graduated with a degree in physics and pre-engineering in 2007 and went on to earn her doctorate in biomedical engineering in 2008 from Tulane University. She works at a bio innovation center in New Orleans as a tissue engineer, and returns to her alma mater frequently to inspire the next generation.

"Now, it's a part of my mission to let other young women know that this is possible," she said. "When you're aware of the opportunity, the future is just ... it's yours."



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POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE:	Staff Accountant	DEPARTMENT:	Finance
PAY SCALE:	\$19,000 up	APPROVED BY:	Board of Directors
FLSA STATUS:	Non-Exempt	JE POINTS:	

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

Position Reports To:	Finance Manager
Positions Supervised:	Nil

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIC DUTIES

- Assists Finance Manager in the preparation of daily, monthly, annual and other periodic financial statements and reports for DBAS.
- Research and resolve accounting errors and discrepancies
- Supervise billing, collection and posting of rents and lease payments for Lumanai Building tenants
- Organize and implement training programs for staff on a regular basis to upgrade their skills and knowledge,
- Ensure accounting functions are performed and completed in accordance with DBAS procedures and applicable regulations.
- Perform the reconciliation of cash and other general ledger accounts for DBAS.
- Assists the Finance Manager with month-end and year end closings of each fiscal year.
- Maintain the log of changes by journal entries and copies of all audit work papers.
- Perform any other duties as assigned by the Finance Manager

QUALIFICATIONS

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate Degree in Accounting or equivalent with two to five (2-5) years of experience. |
| SKILLS/ABILITIES: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of financial and accounting practices and procedures, and automated systems. • Strong communication abilities and excellent analytical abilities. • Sound organizational skills. • Analytical, financial, and budgeting skills. • Sound analytical, creative, and problem-solving abilities. • Ability to meet deadlines. |

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Philippines says foreigners among IS-linked gunmen in south

JIM GOMEZ, AP
TERESA CEROJANO, AP

ILIGAN, Philippines (AP) — Foreign fighters are among the militants linked to the Islamic State group who are battling government troops in the southern Philippines, an official said Friday.

Solicitor General Jose Calida said Indonesians and Malaysians are fighting alongside the gunmen who attacked Marawi, a city of some 200,000 people on Mindanao island.

“What is happening in Mindanao is no longer a rebellion of Filipino citizens,” Calida told reporters. “It has transmogrified into an invasion by foreign terrorists who heeded the clarion call of ISIS.”

Philippine troops backed by armored vehicles and rocket-firing helicopters are fighting to re-take control of Marawi, which has been under siege by gunmen linked to the IS group since a raid earlier this week failed to capture one of Asia’s most-wanted militants.

Rebels have torn through the streets of Marawi since Tuesday night, torching buildings, taking a priest and his worshippers hostage and sealing off much of the city. The violence forced thousands to flee and raised fears of growing extremism in the country.

At least 44 people have died in the fighting, including 31 militants and 11 soldiers, officials said Thursday.

It was not immediately clear whether civilians were among the dead.

In a sign of the confusion over events inside the city, a local police chief told The Associated Press on Friday that he was alive and well — two days after President Rodrigo Duterte told the media he had been beheaded by militants.

Police Chief Romeo Enriquez said there may have been confusion because his predecessor in Malabang, a town near Marawi, was killed in the fighting on Tuesday, although he was not beheaded.

As authorities worked to clear the city, residents spoke of their terror.

“At night we can hear the gunfire,” said Mohammad Usman, who watched from his home just outside Marawi as thousands of residents streamed out of the city Thursday. “I’m just praying that the bullets will not find their way to my house and hit us. I hope that the bombs will not land nearby and harm us.”

Duterte imposed 60 days of martial law Tuesday on the island of Mindanao, a traditional homeland of minority Muslims that encompasses the southern third of the nation and is home to 22 million people. Marawi has a population of around 200,000.



Government troops head for a continuing military operation against Muslim militants who lay siege in Marawi city Friday, May 26, 2017 at Bal-oi township, Lanao del Norte province in southern Philippines. Philippine army generals say dozens of Islamic State group-linked extremists have been killed in two days of fighting in a southern city that has been under siege since one of Asia’s most-wanted militants evaded capture and dozens of rebels came to his aid. (AP Photo/Bullit Marquez)

Duterte warned he may expand martial law nationwide, an unnerving development for many in the Philippines who lived through the rule of late dictator Ferdinand Marcos. Marcos declared martial law in 1972 and used it to maintain his grip on power for more than a decade.

The man at the center of the Marawi violence is Isnilon Hapilon, an Arabic-speaking Islamic preacher known for his expertise in commando assaults. He is at the nexus of several militant groups that are trying to merge into a more

powerful force. Hapilon, who is a commander of the Abu Sayyaf militant group, pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group in 2014. He also heads an alliance that includes at least 10 smaller militant groups, including the Maute, which have a heavy presence in Marawi and were instrumental in fighting off government forces in this week’s battles.

All these groups are inspired by the Islamic State group, but so far there is no sign of significant, material ties.

“We have not seen any

concrete evidence of material support from IS,” military spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla said Thursday. But he added that the smaller groups “are working to really get that recognition and funds, of course.”

Washington has offered a \$5 million reward for information leading to Hapilon’s capture, but he has proved elusive. The Philippines launched an airstrike that wounded him in January, but he got away.

The army raided what it believed to be his hideout on Tuesday night in Marawi, but

the operation quickly went wrong. Militants called in reinforcements and were able to overpower government forces. Once again, Hapilon escaped. The military said it believes Hapilon was still in Marawi.

Much of Marawi was still a no-go zone. Automatic gunfire and explosions could be heard clearly and plumes of black smoke rose from the direction of the city center. Air force helicopters swooped overhead.

As authorities tried to gain more control over the city, disturbing details have emerged.

Militants forced their way into the Marawi Cathedral and seized a Catholic priest, 10 worshippers and three church workers, according to the city’s bishop, Edwin de la Pena.

The black flags of the Islamic State group were planted atop buildings and flown from commandeered vehicles, including a government ambulance and an armored car, said Mamintal Alonto Adiong Jr., vice governor of Lanao del Sur province, of which Marawi is the capital.

More than half of the population of Marawi has cleared out, Adiong said.

The problem of militancy in the south, the scene of decades-long Muslim separatist uprisings in the predominantly Catholic nation, is not new.

Duterte had repeatedly threatened to place the region under martial law, which allows him to use the armed forces to carry out arrests, searches and detentions more rapidly. But human rights groups and others fear that martial law powers could further embolden the president, who already has been accused of allowing extrajudicial killings of thousands of people in his crackdown on illegal drugs.



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IN THE COMMUNITY
(Photos: Blue)



Greg Gianforte, right, and wife Susan, center, celebrate his win over Rob Quist for the open congressional seat at the Hilton Garden Inn Thursday night, May 25, 2017, in Bozeman, Mont. Gianforte, a technology entrepreneur, defeated Democrat Quist to continue the GOP's two-decade stronghold on the congressional seat. (Rachel Leathe/Bozeman Daily Chronicle via AP)

Was Montana's wild House race a Trump test? Not so much

BOZEMAN, Mont. (AP) — Greg Gianforte spent the day of his greatest political victory out of sight, avoiding questions about the assault charge filed against him on the eve of a congressional race that some cast as a referendum on Donald Trump's presidency.

In the end, though, the Republican emerged Thursday night as Montana's new congressman, a comfortable win that may temper Democrats' hopes for a massive anti-Trump wave to sweep them back into power in Washington in 2018.

Yet Gianforte's single-digit win paled to Trump's 20-point romp in Montana in November, a sign that Republicans will have to work hard to defend some of their most secure seats to maintain control of Congress.

The race ultimately turned on the weaknesses of both Gianforte and his opponent, folk singer and Democrat Rob Quist, making it tough to use as a barometer for the nation's political mood.

Gianforte was cited for misdemeanor assault Wednesday night after witnesses said he slammed to the ground a reporter who was asking him questions about the Republican health care bill. A technology entrepreneur who was widely regarded among even Republican strategists as an imperfect candidate, Gianforte could be heard on an audio tape yelling at the reporter, Ben Jacobs of The Guardian.

By the time sheriff's deputies arrived, more than half of voters had already cast their ballots in the race due to the state's mail-in voting law. It was difficult to determine on election night to what extent voters who cast a ballot Thursday were influenced by the altercation.

Gianforte's campaign issued a statement Wednesday blaming the reporter for the altercation. While polls were open Thursday, the Republican candidate canceled television interviews and stayed out of sight.

But after he was declared the winner, Gianforte apologized for the attack. "When you make a mistake, you have to own up to it. That's the Montana way," he said. "Last night, I made a mistake. I took an action I can't take back and I am not proud of what happened."

The chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, Rep. Steve Stivers, issued a statement hailing Gianforte's win, as well as his apology. "Now he needs to resolve his legal issue so that he can start off on the right foot serving his constituents," Stivers said.

Gianforte must appear in court by June 7 on the misdemeanor charge, which carries a maximum penalty of six months in jail and a \$500 fine.

Stivers' Democratic counterpart, Rep. Ben Lujan of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, contended in a statement that the election was "tainted" by the assault. "There's

no question in my mind that Gianforte should not be sworn into office," Lujan said. "Regardless of what happens next, we will be competing hard for this seat in 2018."

The assault allegation didn't seem to faze voters. Shaun Scott, a computer science professor at Carroll College in Helena, voted for Gianforte despite the assault charge, saying it was barely a factor in his decision.

"If you have somebody sticking a phone in your face, a mic in your face, over and over, and you don't know how to deal with the situation, you haven't really done that, you haven't dealt with that, I can see where it can ... make you a little angry," Scott said.

Gianforte had unsuccessfully challenged the state's Democratic governor in November, losing that race even as Trump won the state easily. Gianforte had held his party's nominee at an arm's length but during the special election, he embraced the president, welcoming Vice President Mike Pence and Donald Trump Jr. for campaign visits and using the president's "Drain the swamp" catchphrase.

His opponent, Quist, was previously best known as the singer in the Mission Mountain Wood Band. He surprised Democrats by nabbing his party's nomination at its convention in March. A supporter of Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, Quist had never run for office before. Democrats were initially hopeful that he'd appeal to Montana's right-leaning voters who have a history of electing Democratic mavericks.

But Republicans rapidly mounted a wilting attack on the airwaves over Quist's financial troubles, including a history of unpaid taxes and liens. They bashed him as a tool of liberal Democrats like House Majority Leader Nancy Pelosi. Quist eventually raised more than \$6 million but struggled to come back from the early onslaught of negative publicity and advertising. He attacked Gianforte as a transplant from New Jersey -- Gianforte moved to the state in the 1990s -- which was a potent issue during the gubernatorial race but not enough to get Quist across the finish line.

Gianforte's support came from people like Bozeman advertising executive Cailley Tonn, who voted early for Gianforte. After the alleged assault, she said she wouldn't have changed her vote. "I was disappointed to see he flew off the handle like that," she said.

But in the end, she added, she wanted to back the Republican party's platform.

Democrats made a late investment in the race. Hours after Gianforte's scuffle with the reporter, Democrats were blasting Facebook ads at Montana Democrats they thought might otherwise sit out election day. But it was too late to do any more advertising.





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