

Birth rate on the decline while deaths average 5 per week in AS
Page 2

Saili aufaifa'atoaga Samoa se maketi fou e la'u i ai a latou talo
Le Lali

Broncos in no hurry to choose their starting quarterback
Sports

Some of the girls learning how to play the ukulele at the Jean P. Haydon Museum during the Summer Cultural Maintenance Program being hosted by the American Samoa Council on Arts and Humanities.

[photo: Mark Espiritu]



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THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2017

\$1.00

Lolo points to fishery woes as impacting ASG/ LBJ financially

“AT THE CORE OF LBJ’S CHALLENGES, IS AN INSUFFICIENT FUNDING STREAM FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT”

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

Expansion of national marine sanctuaries as well as prohibition placed on fishing in the high seas are two federal policies that Gov. Lolo Matatalasi Moliga says have impacted the development of the local economy and are taking away local revenues that could help the LBJ Medical Center.

This is according to US Rep. Bruce Westerman during the US House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs hearing this past Tuesday, assessing the current conditions and challenges at LBJ.

Testifying at the hearing, which was streamed live (4a.m. American Samoa time) were LBJ chief executive officer Taufete’e John Faumuina, ASG Medicaid Agency executive director Sandra King-Young, and US Interior Department’s Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) director of budget, Thomas Bussanich. Two other local officials, who were invited, did not attend the hearing.

Westerman, a Republican from Arkansas,

noted that Bussanich had testified at the start of the hearing about OIA’s primary goals, with the first being to “create economic opportunities” to improve the quality of life for residents of the insular areas.

He said he was a member of the Congressional Delegation (CODEL) that visited American Samoa early this year, “and I can testify it’s a long ways from here [D.C.] to there. It’s a very isolated part of the world.”

Westerman referred to testimony submitted for the record by the governor, who said major issues are still lingering from policies under the Obama Administration.

“The governor described those as federal over regulation that has crippled the territory’s ability to develop a strong economy and thus has stymied local funding, that would otherwise be directed towards the LBJ hospital,” Westerman said.

“Those are the governor’s words,” he continued, and noted that two of the federal policy issues cited by the governor, falls directly under jurisdiction of the committee — national ocean

(Continued on page 5)

Summer F.I.T. kids get rare in depth look at Aunu’u Island

by Blue Chen-Fruean
Samoa News Correspondent

From exciting site visits to learning about traditional Samoan taro planting methods, the three dozen kids currently participating in the 2017 Summer F.I.T. Camp will be taking with them so much more than they expected.

FIT, which stands for “Functional. Interactive. Training” is a three-week summer camp being hosted by South Pacific Watersports, in collaboration with local partners including the National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa (NMSAS), the Territorial Administration on Aging (TAOA), and local artists Master Tufuga Wilson and Reggie Meredith Fitiao.

Most of the kids came to the camp thinking they were only

going to learn about ways to stay healthy, exercising, and eating right.

But other activities geared towards building self-confidence, caring for our coast, and crash courses in cultural arts have made the summer program a huge hit not only with the participants, but also their parents who say they can’t wait for another program like this to be offered.

“It’s been such an excellent experience for my kid,” said one of the parents. “Thanks to the FIT camp, my daughter now enjoys exercising and she has developed an appreciation for the Samoan arts.”

Earlier this month, in partnership with the folks at the Tauese P.F. Sunia Ocean Center, the FIT kids were able to see and

(Continued on page 7)



FFAS executive committee member Saili Ott hands out a school bag filled with school supplies to one of 500 lucky participants as FFAS President, Sen. Faiivae Iuli Alex Godinet looks on, during the closing of the 2017 FFAS Summer Youth League on July 15 at Pago Park Soccer Stadium. See story and more photos in today’s Sports section of Samoa News.

[FFAS MEDIA/Brian Vitolio]



Selling fish on the roadside is becoming a family affair, as seen most Saturdays around the island. The practice was recently discussed during a Senate Communications/Fisheries/Marine and Wildlife Committee hearing earlier this month after some lawmakers voiced health concerns regarding local residents selling fish exposed on the roadside. According to the health department, only low income families are allowed to sell fish ‘outside’ — and they make sure it’s done in coolers. Questions have also been asked about the source of the fish — local or from Samoa.

[photo:THA]



Some of the kids who are taking part in this year’s Summer Cultural Maintenance Program being held at the Jean P. Haydon Museum in Fagatogo.

[photo: Mark Espiritu]



PUBLIC HEARING

This is to inform the public of American Samoa that the American Samoa Community College (ASCC) will exercise its powers under American Samoa Code, Sections 16.2002 (12) to implement the following new fees:

Course Administration Fee	\$25.00 per course
300/400 Level Courses	\$175 Tuition Per Credit
300/400 Level Courses	\$8 Technology Fee per credit
Lab Fees	(available at Public Hearing)

The proposed new Fees are scheduled to be implemented Fall 2017.

The proposed new Fees Public Hearing is to take place on Monday, August 7, 2017 – 4:00p.m. Local Time at the ASCC Lecture Hall.

If any organization or individual wishes to have an oral hearing in accordance to American Samoa Code 16.1005, please send your request to the American Samoa Community College President’s Office by July 31, 2017:

PO Box 2609, Pago Pago AS 96799, or hand deliver it to the President’s Office at American Samoa Community College campus, in the village of Mapusaga.

Respectfully,
Dr. Rosevonne M. Pato
President
American Samoa Community College (ASCC)

Birth rate on the decline while deaths average five per week in American Samoa

INCREASE OF 100 PEOPLE FROM SAME TIME LAST YEAR

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

American Samoa’s population has a slight increase of 100 persons since July last year, according to the “2017 Mid-Year Population estimate” released early this week by the ASG Commerce Department.

The estimated population for American Samoa is 60,300 according to DOC data - which shows that the territory has more females - totaling 30,643 - compared to the male population of 29,657

Data further shows that the 25 to 64 age group has the highest population count at 26,759 with 14,079 females and only 12,680 males.

The next highest age group, 6 to 13 years old, totaled 10,564 with more males (5,424) compared to females (5,140).

The age group of less than 1 year old, has the smallest population count, totaling 1,178 - 592 males and 586 females. For the 1-2 age group, the total count is 2,457 - with 1,367 males and 1,090 females.

For the much older generation - 65 years old and over - the total estimated count totaled 3,582 with 1,982 females and 1,600 males.

According to DOC, the population estimate is derived from the Balancing Equation Method, taking into account the net migration of residents, births, and deaths. “These are the only three forces that can change a population count,” DOC noted, adding that recent fertility trends continue to decline as the number of births dropped from about 1,800 ten years ago to a little over 1,000 last year.

On the other hand, the number of deaths has gone up, averaging about 280 deaths a year - 23 deaths a month - or 5 deaths a week.

Net migration is the most difficult to assess due to the lack of quality data, DOC notes.

“However, tracking net migration using Immigration arrival/departure statistics suggests that we may have lost about 6,000 residents in the past 10 years.

“This is a big loss in the indigenous population but at the same time we might have gained about 7,000 from those visiting families and relatives in the same period.”

DOC revealed that residents seeking authorization to reside in American Samoa are not captured as a primary reason of travel but are, if not all, arriving as VRFs (visiting relatives and friends).

“Between July 2016 and June 2017, the population growth, births minus deaths, amounted to plus 707,” DOC explained. “Net migration using the two categories of residents and visiting relatives/ families amounted to minus 600.”

DOC announced last summer that as of July 1, 2016 the territory’s mid-year population estimate was at 60,200 with 30,603 females and 29,597 males. The US Census Bureau announced in August 2011 that American Samoa’s total population in 2010 — during the 2010 Census count — was 55,519 and this is a decline of 3.1% or 1,772 people between 2000 and 2010.

The next national census for all states and territories will be in 2020.

LGBT outrage over Trump ban on transgender military service

NEW YORK (AP) — Most LGBT-rights activists never believed Donald Trump’s campaign promises to be their friend. But with his move Wednesday to ban transgender people from military service, on top of other actions and appointments, they now see him as openly hostile. Leaders of major advocacy groups depicted Trump’s Twitter pronouncement as an appeal to the portion of his conservative base that opposes the recent civil-rights gains by the LGBT community.

“His administration will stop at nothing to implement its anti-LGBTQ ideology within our government — even if it

means denying some of our bravest Americans the right to serve and protect our nation,” said Sarah Kate Ellis, president of the LGBT-rights group GLAAD.

Transgender service members have been able to serve openly since last year, after a move by then-Defense Secretary Ash Carter. Trump’s vow to end that policy was the latest, and perhaps the most stinging, of a string of actions since his election that have dismayed supporters of LGBT rights.

Some examples:

— The administration rescinded federal guidance advising school districts to let

(Continued on page 9)

Govt auction a success

NO REPORT ON HOW MUCH \$\$ WAS COLLECTED, AS SOME BIDS DISQUALIFIED

by Blue Chen-Fruean
Samoa News Correspondent

Because several winning bidders have been unable to cough up the remaining 90% of their total bid package submitted on items that were up for sale during the government auction two weeks ago, an exact dollar amount of what ASG stands to collect is still not known.

Hundreds of items — including vehicles, commercial coolers, office equipment, jet skis, boats, and convection ovens — were auctioned off at the Office of Property Management earlier this month and as usual, all monies from the sales are funneled into the ASG general fund. When contacted for comments yesterday, PMO deputy director Poleen Asalele said an exact amount of what was collected from the auction is not yet known, as some of the winning bidders had to forfeit because they were unable to pay the remaining 90% of their total bid package.

The auction worked like this: All bids were sealed and must include 10% of the bidding price when it is submitted. No exceptions. Once the bidder is notified that they have won, they may make full payment on auction day, otherwise, they have five days to pay up. Payments must be made in the form of cash or check, which is verified by the Treasury Department- Revenue Division.

According to Asalele, winners have to pay the full amount of the bid to Revenue Office staff, who then provides a receipt to be presented to OPM before the item is released.

“No receipt, no release,” said

Asalele, who added that those who are disqualified do not get their 10% deposit reimbursed but instead, the money is used for OPM auction expenses.

In a nutshell, said Asalele, some of the bidders who had to forfeit “bid so high, but they can’t pay.”

Letters are now being sent to the second highest bidders, notifying them that they have won the item(s).

The highest amount paid for an auction item this time around was \$4,500, and it was for one of the vehicles.

All three jet skis that were up for sale were sold and a local resident reported that they’d seen one of the jet skis in the water last week.

Two boats — the Tautua II and the Tatoso II — were also put up for auction, and sold.

All the items were sold on an ‘as is’ basis so nobody — even the OPM staff — had any idea if the items were operable or not.

A date for another auction is dependent on the ‘survey items’ that are brought in by government departments and agencies.

According to Asalele, the majority of the items that were put up for bid have been sold, with the exception of a few small office electronics that have been donated to several non-profit organizations to use for educational purposes. The government auctions have been an additional source of revenue for ASG. The first auction held during the Lolo Lemanu Administration’s first term in office brought in about \$33,000 and since then, a total of over \$200K has been deposited into the ASG general fund as a result of these public auctions.



Some of the office equipment that was up for grabs during the government’s public auction held two weeks ago at the Office of Property Management. The majority of the items were sold, except for a few small electronic devices which have been donated to local non-profit organizations. See story for full details.

[photo: Blue Chen-Fruean]

DEVELOPMENT BANK OF AMERICAN SAMOA EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Position: Grant Writer (re-advertised)

Responsibilities:

- Research and explore US Federal grants and funding sources available to the bank either directly or through the American Samoa Government.
- Develop and prepare proposals and grant applications and perform professional and administrative work in researching, identifying, developing and comply with all follow up grants reporting as required by the funding agencies.
- Develop and monitor procedures for complying with grant requirements, guidelines, and regulations of funding programs.
- Work closely with the staff in developing and transforming ideas into grant proposals
- Assist with the management of grant programs and submit required monthly, quarterly or annual financial reports as mandated by the funding agencies.
- Maintain a calendar to ensure timely submission of letters of inquiry, proposal deadlines and reports.
- Prioritize projects to keep multiple proposals moving in a timely manner, meet deadlines and manage material required for proposals
- Establish and maintain relationships with the funding agencies and program officers.
- Function as a point of contact for DBAS with the funding agencies and establish working relationship with their designated officials.
- Develop and monitor budget for grants and funded programs.
- Prepare quarterly and annual reports and submit to the President and Board of Directors summarizing the evaluation of all grants and funded programs.
- Organize training programs for DBAS staff prior to implementation of new grant or funded programs.
- Liaison with agencies or departments of ASG to implement and administer “pass through” funding programs.
- Maintain a database of various funding agencies and grant programs for the bank.
- Assume any other duties as assigned by the President.

Qualifications:

Education/Experience/Qualification:

Bachelors Degree in Business Administration, Finance, Management or related field with a minimum of 2 years grant writing experience.

Skills/Abilities:

Professional appearance and attitude.

Excellent writing, analytical and research skills are essential.

Highly level computer literacy required with excellent Microsoft office application use.

Must be self motivated, detail oriented, highly organized, and have experience using online Database.

Be proficient in research, interpreting and analyzing diverse data and posses the ability to work collaboratively and independently to achieve stated goals.

Must have solid knowledge of creating budgets as they relate to the proposals and grants.

Ability to maintain confidentiality.

Please submit your Resume & Application to the Development Bank of American Samoa located in Pago Pago - 2nd floor. This job posting will expire Thursday – August 3, 2017.



Protestors gather in Times Square, Wednesday, July 26, 2017, in New York. A rally was held in Times Square after President Donald Trump’s announcement of a ban on transgender troops serving anywhere in the U.S. military. (AP Photo/Frank Franklin II)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

by Samoa News staff

ANOTHER DROP IN FUEL PRICES FOR AMERICAN SAMOA

American Samoa is seeing another drop across the board on all fuel products sold in the territory thanks to a decrease in crude oil price last month, according to the latest data from the ASG Office of Petroleum Management (OPM).

The new fuel prices for American Samoa became effective July 15 and will extend to Aug 14, when OPM releases the new maximum allowable price (MAP) — or the wholesale price, which is set by the government.

OPM petroleum officer, Sione Kava says the wholesale prices for American Samoa has dropped two months in a row.

Citing data from global markets, Kava says the cost of crude oil, Spot Singapore (MOPS) dropped by an average of \$4 a barrel from last month. The drop in the crude oil price per barrel can be partly attributed to increasing crude oil stocks. He explained that for American Samoa, the dated Brent Crude dropped another \$4 a barrel from last month bringing down the Singapore MOPS to an average of 8 cents per gallon. However, transportation costs, which is the cost of transporting oil via tanker, went up by a couple of dollars per metric ton.

Kava, again, reminds the public the Base Price and the Transportation cost account for over 57% of the MAP on diesel, and 61% of gasoline and jet fuel

sold on island. These costs, says Kava, are determined by the global market, and American Samoa and the rest of the region, for that matter, have very little to do with it.

The drop in the new MAP, means a decrease across the board for all petroleum products sold in the territory. Based on the current MAP — July 15-Aug. 14 — released early this week by OPM, gasoline prices decreased by 9.8 cents per gallon while diesel fuel — road diesel, boilers/generators, commercial fishing vessel and other marine diesel — dropped by 8.3 cents per gallon.

The MAP for Ultra-Low Sulfur Diesel for road diesel (which is used by new school buses) and boilers and generators (used by new generators at the Satala Power Plant) dropped by 7.8 cents per gallon, while it's a 8.6 cent per gallon decrease in the MAP for jet fuel and kerosene. Kava reminds motorists and local consumers that ASG/OPM has no control over the retail price at the gas stations, as that is determined by the owners. He says the average at the gas station for gasoline is \$2.98 per gallon and road diesel is \$3.04 per gallon.

BANK OF HAWAII GRANT PROJECTS

With a commitment to “seeing our communities grow and thrive by encouraging economic development,” Bank of Hawaii is again offering the “Atina’e Manuia mo Amerika Samoa Grant”,

which is awarded to projects that will foster small business development and economic activity within American Samoa.

“We understand that economic development isn’t always easy, so we are investing in grants to help stimulate small business development in American Samoa,” said BoH, which noted that the grant program is being offered to small business owners to promote new businesses and to encourage existing small businesses to expand.

“Our ultimate goal is to create economic stability and maintain a superior quality of life for families in American Samoa,” BoH said.

Grants of \$5,000 are awarded on the basis of impact to the business and economic benefit to the community. Past grant awardees are not eligible for this year’s program as BoH is seeking new requests from businesses it has not yet assisted. For more information contact the American Samoa office manger at 633-5068. Deadline for grant applications is Aug. 11.

12 AMERICAN SAMOA LONGLINE ENTRY PERMITS AVAILABLE

The US National Marine Fisheries Service announced last week that 12 American Samoa pelagic longline limited entry permits in three vessel size classes are available for 2017. NMFS must receive completed permit applica-

tions and payment by Nov. 20, 2017.

Federal regulations allows NMFS to issue new permits for the American Samoa pelagic longline limited entry program if the number of permits in a size class falls below the maximum allowed. At least 12 permits are available for issuance, as follows: Ten in Class A (vessels less than or equal to 40 ft in overall length); One in Class B (over 40 ft to 50 ft); and One in Class C (over 50 to 70 ft).

NMFS notes that the number of available permits may change before the application period closes. Furthermore, NMFS will only consider complete applications, which must include the completed and signed application form, evidence of documented participation in the fishery, and non-refundable payment for the application-processing fee.

Applicants with the earliest documented participation in the fishery on a Class A sized vessel will receive the highest priorities for obtaining permits in any size class, followed by applicants with the earliest documented participation in Classes B, C, and D, in that order.

For detailed information contact: Walter Ikehara, Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS PIR, tel 808-725-5175, fax 808-725-5215, or email PIRO-permits@noaa.gov.

Details are also available on federal portals - www.regulations.gov and www.federalregister.gov



SAMOA FROZEN AGRO-EXPORTS — NOT EXCLUSIVE TO TARO

Frozen taro is not the only export agro commodity on demand overseas.

In fact, according to the Minister of Agriculture Laaulialemalietoa Leuatea Polataivao Fosi, who returned last week from launching the Samoa frozen taro in New Zealand, distributors there are demanding other frozen produce from Samoa such as yams, (taamu) cassavas, (manioka, ufi) and breadfruit, (ulu) bananas, (fai) all processed locally at the ministry’s Nu’u location.

“The container of mixed frozen products shipped to New Zealand sold like hot cupcakes,” said the Minister. “And they want more.” To that effect, the Minister has tasked the Nu’u Crops Division in charge of the frozen export drive for all systems go.

Laaulialemalietoa says that with the new export outlet secured, regular shipments will be made to New Zealand. The next shipment will be arriving in Auckland on August 9th.

While for Wellington and Christchurch the 20-foot container from Apia should arrive on September 16th.

Added the Agriculture Minister,

“The frozen technology has opened the gateway for our agricultural exports however we need to look at sustainability and consistency.” Government long ago knew that there were markets waiting for Samoa but we did not have enough local crops to meet that market.

“Through the Samoa frozen concept, markets in Sydney and Brisbane Australia have been secured for Samoa’s frozen agro produce. Three 20-foot containers are shipping to Australia on a monthly basis. The Minister concluded, “More export markets translate to more income for our taro farmers. Government will continue to work with our agricultural stakeholders to improve the income power that will contribute to our foreign reserves. “To that end, the message from government to our farmers is simple. “We are opening up the export market for your benefit and farmers must do their part by working the land to take advantage of our new markets. “The benefits for our farmers are astronomical,” he concluded.

[Source: M.P.M.C. Press Secretary]

NATIONAL HIV, AIDS AND STI POLICY APPROVED BY SAMOA CABINET

The Samoa Cabinet has approved the National HIV, AIDS and STI Policy for

2017 - 2022. The policy is designed to guide multi sectoral response for the prevention and elimination of HIV/AIDS and the transmission of Sexual Transmitted Infections.

There are eight principles to guide the implementation of the National Policy:

1. Law, confidentiality and the Rights of people living with HIV/AIDS;
2. Prevention;
3. HIV and STI testing;
4. HIV and STI Treatment and Care;
5. Gender Based Violence and Sexual Reproductive Health Services;
6. Research, surveillance, monitoring and evaluation;
7. Sectoral role and finances;
8. National Strategy and 2016-2017 Plan of Action

[Source: M.P.M.C. Press Secretary]

HAWAIIAN AIRLINES PROFIT CLIMBS 1% IN SECOND QUARTER

Hawaiian Airlines earnings rose just over 1 percent during the second quarter of 2017, according to the Star Advertiser.

It notes that Hawaiian Holdings Inc., the parent company of the state’s largest carrier, reported that it had net income of \$80.4 million, or \$1.50 per share, compared with \$79.6 million, or \$1.48 per share, in the same period a year ago.

Revenue rose 13.6 percent to just over \$675 million from nearly \$595 million in the second quarter of 2016. “Our string of outstanding results continued into the second quarter,” said Mark Dunkerley, Hawaiian Airlines president and CEO, in a statement.

“These results have come courtesy of strong demand for the Hawaii vacation, low fuel prices, moderate industry capacity, and an excellent job done by my colleagues in finding new ways to strengthen our performance. My thanks go to all of Hawaiian’s employees who contributed to our terrific financial and operational performance.”

Hawaiian, which is in its 88th year of service, offers nonstop service to Hawai’i from 11 U.S. cities, along with service from Japan, South Korea, China, Australia, New Zealand, American Samoa and Tahiti. [Source: Star Bulletin]

PACIFIC COMMUNITY FOCUSES ON DEVELOPMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

NOUMEA, NEW CALEDONIA — July 26, 2017 - More than 40 member country representatives and development partners are attending the 10th Conference of the Pacific Community (SPC) for the next two days in Noumea.

(Continued on page 6)



A screen shot from live video of the US House Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs hearing on Tuesday, shows US Interior Department official Thomas Bussanich responding to questions from US Rep. Bruce Westerman, regarding the impact of federal policies — ocean monuments and sanctuaries expansions — on American Samoa.

[photo: US House subcommittee video]

► Lolo points to fishery...

Continued from page 1

monuments and sanctuaries expansion; and prohibition placed on fishing on high seas.

“I know when we were [in American Samoa] the issue of fishing on the high seas was discussed and there were questions about whether that was even doing anything to help the tuna population as other countries were coming in and overfishing those areas,” Westerman said, before directing a question to Bussanich.

“Do you agree with the governor’s claim that if the federal over regulation, still lingering from the previous administration, is left in place, the territory will be unable to develop a sustainable economy and thus will be forced to continue underfunding LBJ hospital?” he asked.

Bussanich responded, “I think that the question is kind of beyond the view of my office.” He said the example on “fishery, which was a subject of the Obama Administration, was not part of OIA. We certainly are an advocate for American Samoa within that administration and the current administration.”

Westerman asked Bussanich to share with the subcommittee “any efforts OIA has begun in the new Trump Administration to review policies regarding marine monument expansion in

American Samoa.”

Bussanich replied, “I would have to deflect that to the appropriate bureau or office” in DOI, because OIA itself does not participate in those ‘regulatory schemes’.”

In his written testimony submitted for the hearing, Lolo informed the subcommittee that there cannot be a discussion of LBJ without discussing the geopolitical environment that places a burden on the only hospital on island.

“At the core of LBJ’s challenges, is an insufficient funding stream from the local government,” Lolo wrote. “A major part of this insufficiency is a consequence of federal over regulation that has crippled our territory’s ability to develop a strong economy.”

The governor then outlined several examples:

- The automatic minimum wage increases imposed by Congress;
- The elimination of federal incentives such as the IRC Section 936, 30(A) Tax Credit;
- The watered down Headnote 3(a);
- National ocean monuments and sanctuaries expansions;
- The prohibition placed on fishing in the high seas;
- The thwarting impact of the cabotage and essential air

service policies on tourism development;

- The statutory Medicaid cap that is only imposed on the territories; and
- The international trade agreements and other federal issues have effectively stymied our economic development efforts.

“The financial needs of the hospital are directly impacted by our weak economy that relies heavily on funding from federal grants,” Lolo explained. “With approximately 80% of the population below the federal poverty level, there are few options for revenue generation based on local taxes.”

The congressional panel was also informed that “currently, local revenues are insufficient to cover the costs of government operations and that results in our inability to pay for the monthly subsidies to the LBJ hospital.” When the US Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issues findings against the hospital, “we do not have the local funds to remedy CMS findings nor does CMS allocate funds to implement corrective measures to mitigate the deficiencies at LBJ,” the governor pointed out.

Samoa News will report in later editions on the governor’s official statement to the subcommittee.

MOSOOI BUSINESS CENTER

New Commercial Building located in Tafuna adjacent to the Tradewinds Hotel now available for LEASE.

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For more information please inquire at: mosooibctr@gmail.com.

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Personal Assistant: Must have previous experience, we will provide on the job training, must be computer proficient. Must be able to work some weekends and be flexible with hours. Please lable resume “PERSONAL ASSISTANT” and send to P.O Box 1238, Pago Pago, AS 96799.

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**In The High Court
of American Samoa
FAMILY, DRUG AND ALCOHOL
COURT DIVISIONS**
FDA/JR No. 19-17
THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY
OF AMERICAN SAMOA,
Petitioner
IN RE: A CHILD
NOTICE/FA'AALIGA

TO: Mr. Malaki Tavita
Vaigaga Village
Upolu, Samoa

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the above-named respondent that a petition has been filed before the High Court of American Samoa to terminate your parental rights in a male child born on September 25, 2012 at LBJ Tropical Medical Center, Faga'alu, American Samoa. A hearing will be held after two months and ten days from the date of the first publication of this notice, in which the Court may enter an order that you have not acquired any parental rights to the minor child and place the child for adoption. If you have any objection, or wish to claim or assert your parental rights, you must appear within two months and ten days from the date of the first publication of this notice and file an objection or a claim with the Court.

O LE FA'AALIGA E TUUINA ATU ia te oe, le ua ta'ua i luga, ua iai se talosaga ua failaina i le Fa'amasinoga Maua'uga o Amerika Samoa e lilo ai ou aia fa'a-matua i se tamaititi sa fanau o ia i le aso 25 o Setema, 2012, i le Falema'i i Faga'alu, Amerika Samoa. O lenei ilologa e faia pe a tuana'i le lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le aso o le ulua'i fa'asalalauga o lenei fa'aaliga, ma e ono tuna atu ai se polovaiga a le Fa'amasinoga e faailoa ai ua leai ni ou aia fa'a-matua i lenei tamaititi. Afai e te tete'e, pe e te finagalo e faamaonia ou aia fa'amatua, ia e failaina se talosaga tete'e i le Fa'amasinoga i totonu o le lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le ulua'i fa'asalalauga o lenei fa'aaliga.

Dated/Aso: 05/03/17

CLERK/FAILAUTUSI HIGH COURT OF American Samoa
07/20 & 07/27/17



Members of the Aufaipesa #2 of Maria Fatima Catholic Parish in Aua are taking a tour of Savaii, where they were able to visit the Sisters of the Visitation of Holy Mary (VHM), led by Mamea Sister Angela Maria Lofa. The small community includes 8 nuns — 4 older sisters and 4 new postulants. Seven of the 8 nuns are all from Savaii and the oldest of the group is from South America.

[Courtesy photo]

► **Pacific ...**

Continued from page 4

The theme for the high-level dialogue for this Conference, which will also mark SPC's 70th anniversary, is "Innovative Partnerships for Sustainable Development." A series of key-note speakers will take the floor to contribute to the dialogue, including, H.E. Hilda Heine, President of the Republic of Marshall Islands; Yukiya Amano, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency; Pascal Lamy, High Level Facilitator for outreach activities on the Post-Cotonou Agreement.

The Director-General of the Pacific Community, Dr Colin Tukuitonga said the high-level meeting this week is crucial for sustaining the strategic direction of the Pacific region's largest development organisation.

"This year SPC marks its 70th Anniversary and we're delighted to celebrate this milestone during our governing body conference here at the SPC Headquarters in Noumea. The Pacific Community exists to support the development aspirations of our Pacific Island members and it is therefore paramount that we engage our member delegations and our partners to steer the strategic direction of the organisation and ensure the effective delivery of work," Dr Tukuitonga said.

The Chair of 10th Conference, Mr Philippe Germain, President of the New Caledonia Government, said "This is the first time that a president of the Government of New Caledonia is chairing this Conference.

It is a lofty mission that I view as a powerful lever for our contribution to the region's development and outreach.

I see chairing this very important Pacific island inter-governmental organisation as an opportunity to move to a new level.

To do that, I will have two years during which I intend to propose a roadmap that is both ambitious and needed to strengthen our 'regionalism'."

The Conference comes after two days of the organisation's annual governance meeting, the 47th Meeting of the Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations (CRGA 47).

High on the agenda for this meeting was the implementation of key priorities for the Framework for Pacific Regionalism and a high-level discussion on the Pacific Youth Development Framework, a regional approach to youth-centred development in the Pacific, coordinated by SPC and the Pacific Youth Council and discussions around the continued effective implementation and monitoring of SPC's five-year strategic plan. SPC will also celebrate its 70th anniversary with its 26 member countries and territories and partners at a Gala Dinner on Friday, 28 July. [Source: Media release, SPC]

4-H STEM CAMP
"Learn by Doing"



Date: August 7-10, 2017

Time: 8:00am – 12:00pm

Venue: ASCC ACNR Division

Ages: 8-12

Registration: July 26 – August 2, 2017

Contact: ASCC 4-H office (699-1575...ext 236/242)

Nellie Fuimaono (fuinellie@yahoo.com), Marcella Maugalei (daisysamoa@yahoo.com), Ali'imau Petaia (mau.petaia@gmail.com), Molly Lagai (mlagai@yahoo.com).



Boat captain for the NMSAS research vessel - RV Manuma - Peter Taliva'a making a brief presentation on the traditional way to maintain a healthy taufusi (taro plantation). See story for full details. [Courtesy photo]

► Summer F.I.T. kids...

Continued from page 1

tour Fogama'a, one of the sanctuary sites in the NMSAS system. They also got to travel by boat to Aunu'u where they visited various sites and learned about the importance of safeguarding traditional Samoan farming practices.

Peter Taliva'a, the boat captain for the NMSAS research vessel - RV Manuma - who also operates a tour business in Aunu'u, escorted the kids around the island.

The collaboration between SPW and NMSAS brings together the "land and ocean connection - healthy people, healthy ocean."

While in Aunu'u, the FIT participants were taken to a taufusi (a taro plantation on top of a wetland).

"I wanted to show the kids why we have the best taro in Aunu'u," Taliva'a told Samoa News yesterday afternoon.

"It's because the taro plantation is on a wetland, where the soil is moist," he continued.

(Aunu'u taro has always been labeled as 'the best' because of its texture and taste).

According to Taliva'a, a taufusi requires a whole lot of maintenance, as dried leaves are placed on top of the soil to prevent it from being exposed to direct sunlight.

"Compost adds to the richness of the soil," he said. As the eager campers listened, Taliva'a explained - and demonstrated - traditional planting methods that were practiced in the past, and the steps being taken to continue those same practices today.

The campers were schooled on when to plant the taro, when to harvest, why taro is special, and why the ones from Aunu'u are the best.

FIT participants were able to visit the water wells and the tide pools, view the big crater "Vaisuatoto" and get a glimpse of the quicksand in Aunu'u.

They were also taken to a platform similar to a reef where they can get a view of Ofu, Manu'a. This is the site of the Sina and Tigilau legend, according to Taliva'a.

The tour culminated with Taliva'a and the kids celebrating over a feast of fresh food prepared in the 'umu.

As with the tour of Fogama'a, Taliva'a said the visit to Aunu'u was a way to share the sanctuary sites with the kids, talk to them about nature, and the importance of these things in our lives.

When contacted for comments, SPW's Paula Stevenson-McDonald said the FIT program aims to educate the youth not only on ways to live healthy, but the importance of taking care of our resources.

"We want the kids to know the consequences of marine debris, how it affects marine wildlife, and what they can do to help," she said.

The FIT camp concludes next week and Stevenson-McDonald is overwhelmed with the huge support she's received from local partners who have agreed to host the campers throughout the duration of the program.

A total of 37 young people are participating in the FIT camp and one of the things they are raving about, is the hands-on experience they got, working with the elderly at TAOA, as well as local artists Master Tufuga Wilson and Reggie Meredith-Fitiao who showed the kids how to 'elei using 'ulu leaves, fala, and potato stamps. In addition, the camp participants were able to learn about the different symbols, motifs, and their meanings.

The FIT program will say goodbye to their summer campers next week but one thing's for sure - the youngsters will go home happy and looking forward to what the next FIT camp has to offer.



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Bumble Bee to get \$111m reduction in fine for 'substantial' cooperation

compiled by Samoa News staff

Undercover News reported this week that prosecutors in the tuna price-fixing case say fining Bumble Bee Foods more than \$25 million would “jeopardize” the firm’s future and suggested giving the company a \$111m reduction in penalty from what federal guidelines otherwise suggest.

The firm will have five years to pay the \$25m under a proposed sentencing agreement filed with the federal court.

Bumble Bee could have faced a \$136m penalty if its ability to pay wasn't taken into account, DOJ officials wrote in a sentencing memorandum.

The company, which recently pleaded guilty to participating in a long-running conspiracy to fix the prices of shelf-stable tuna, is scheduled to appear before San Francisco judge Edward Chen to be sentenced on Aug. 2.

In the memo, according to Undercover, Bumble Bee will follow a five-year payment schedule for the fine: \$2m within 30 days of sentencing; another \$2m each at the sentencing's first and second anniversaries; \$4m after year three; \$6m in the fourth year and a final payment of \$7m in year five.

To calculate the proposed fine, prosecutors first determined how much shelf-stable tuna the company sold from 2011 to 2013: \$1.389 billion. That range was reduced by more than half to \$567.7m after “Bumble Bee provided two important categories of self-incriminating information that were previously unknown to the government.”

The public portion of the heavily redacted sentencing memo did not detail what those categories are.

Much of the document remains under the court's seal due to the ongoing investigation.

Judge Chen has final approval over the firm's sentence and whether to accept any plea agreement but typically prosecutors' recommendations carry a lot of weight.

BACKGROUND

Bumble Bee is the first and only company so far to be indicted in the DOJ's probe of the US packaged seafood sector.

(Two former Bumble Bee executives, Ken Worsham and Walter Cameron, have pleaded guilty as has Stephen Hodge, formerly of Starkist.)

At the time, Thai Union, which had planned to buy Bumble Bee for \$1.5bn, announced that the investigation prompted it to cancel a share offering it would have used to finance the merger.

That prompted a wave of litigation. Lawsuits filed against the canners allege that the price-fixing conspiracy ran for years and involved years of close cooperation between the companies.

The suits have alleged that the joint “Tuna the Wonderfish” advertising campaign, co-packing of Thai Union and Bumble Bee; and the companies’ participation in the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation also presented chances to collude.

The "Tuna the Wonderfish"

(Continued on page 12)

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ban on transgender...

Continued from page 2

transgender students use the bathrooms and locker rooms of their choice. It said state and local officials should decide the issue.

— Several of Trump’s high-level appointees have solid records as opponents of LGBT-rights advances, including Vice President Mike Pence, Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price.

— At Trump’s direction, Sessions is developing new guidance on religious liberty for federal agencies that is expected to make it easier for people with religious objections to refuse to recognize LGBT rights.

— The Department of Justice on Wednesday filed an amicus brief in a case to which it’s not a party, arguing that a federal civil-rights law doesn’t cover sexual orientation. The case was filed in 2010, when a skydiving instructor sued his employer, saying he was fired for his sexual orientation in violation of the law.

— Six members of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS resigned, asserting that Trump “simply does not care” about combating HIV and AIDS as it continues to beset the LGBT community.

The Human Rights Campaign, a national LGBT-rights group, depicted the Republican president’s tweets Wednesday as a “heinous and disgusting” attack on transgender service members. “It is also the latest effort by Trump and Mike Pence to undo our progress and drag LGBTQ people back into the closet by using our lives as political pawns,” said the group’s president, Chad Griffin.

Trump’s pronouncement was hailed by some conservatives who have long complained that the military was undermining its effectiveness by allowing gays, lesbians and transgender people to serve openly. Opponents also have contended that the military should not bear the cost of any medical procedures related to gender transition.

“Our troops shouldn’t be forced to endure hours of transgender sensitivity classes and politically correct distractions like this one,” said Tony Perkins, a former Marine who heads the conservative Family Research Council.

Mara Keisling, executive director of the National Center for Transgender Equality, denounced Trump’s declaration as “simple bigotry.”

“This attack has nothing to do with military readiness, reason or science,” she said. “It

is indefensible.”

Among those dismayed by Trump’s tweets was Lt. Cmdr. Blake Dremann, a transgender man who’s served in the Navy for 11 years and received his latest promotion after the policy change last year.

“Trans service members are continuing to do our jobs,” Dremann said. “People know who we are now and it becomes personal, especially when you’ve got families that are going to be affected by this.”

Another active-duty transgender soldier, Army Capt. Jennifer Peace, said she was concerned how a possible ban would affect her, her family and other transgender service members.

“My command has told me in the past the only thing that we should discriminate on is job performance, and I hope that military leadership will handle this issue the same way,” Peace said in an email.

Capt. Jacob Eleazer, a transgender man who serves in the Kentucky Army National Guard, said he was stunned by Trump’s action.

“Fired by tweet. It was honestly pretty shocking,” said Eleazer, who took the day off from his job as a therapist in Lexington, Kentucky, to assess the situation.

It’s unclear whether Eleazer’s career will be affected.

Eleazer, 31, has been in the military since 2006. In 2014, he told his superior officer he was transgender, and he got full support.

Attorney Sasha Buchert, a transgender woman who works for the LGBT-rights group Lambda Legal, recalled feelings of fear and isolation while serving in the Marines in the 1980s, decades before her gender transition.

“It’s not a question of whether transgender people will serve,” she said. “It’s a question of whether they’ll be serving openly or will be hiding like they did in the old days.”

Another transgender veteran, retired Army Col. Sheri Swokowski, said it’s important for transgender people and their allies to push back against Trump’s decree.

Swokowski, 67, of Windsor, Wisconsin, transitioned to female after retiring from the military in 2004.

“The military has taught us to fight and this administration shouldn’t be surprised when we do,” she said. “We need to impress upon the administration that we’re not living in the dark ages.”



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call Samoa News at 633-5599





Denis O'Connor, left, who said he was raped by Paul Shanley in the 1960s, speaks Wednesday, July 26, 2017, at a news conference in Boston about Shanley's expected release from prison Friday.

(AP Photo/Denise Lavoie)

Sex abuse victims seek help to track ex-priest's whereabouts

BOSTON (AP) — In the 1960s and '70s, Paul Shanley was a popular street priest who counseled gay and troubled youths.

Decades later, he was convicted of raping a boy at a Newton church in the 1980s and sentenced to 12 years in prison. Shanley, now 86, is due to be released Friday, prompting a firestorm of protest from sexual abuse victims.

On Wednesday, two men who are among dozens to accuse Shanley of sexual abuse appeared at a news conference with their lawyers and victim advocates to warn the public about Shanley's release and to ask for help in monitoring him.

John Harris said he was a 21-year-old struggling with his decision to reveal his homosexuality in 1979 when someone suggested he go see Shanley for counseling.

"He raped me under the pre-

tense of helping me," Harris said.

Denis O'Connor said he was 14 when Shanley sodomized him in the late 1960s.

"If he's released, we've got more children that will be abused," O'Connor said.

Boston attorneys Mitchell Garabedian and Carmen Durso said they represent dozens of men who allege that Shanley sexually abused them as children.

Prosecutors sought to hold Shanley in custody beyond his sentence under a law that allows civil commitment of people who are deemed to be sexually dangerous. But two experts hired by the state found that he did not meet the legal criteria to continue to hold him.

Durso said he was told by prosecutors that the experts cited his advanced age as one reason he is no longer dangerous.

"We believe that he con-

tinues to pose a threat," Durso said.

"If Paul Shanley doesn't qualify as a sexually dangerous person, then nobody will qualify," he said.

Shanley, who was convicted in 2005, will be placed on probation for 10 years after he is released. Garabedian said Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan told him that Shanley will not be required to wear an electronic tracking device. He will be required to register as a Level 3, or high-risk, sex offender, a designation that means his photo and other information about him will be posted on the state Sex Offender Registry Board's website.

Garabedian said Shanley's upcoming release "has caused many victims to have their wounds reopened." He urged anyone who sees Shanley to contact the local police department to report his whereabouts so authorities can track his movements.

Rodney Ford, whose son said he was sexually abused by Shanley as a child in the 1980s, agreed.

"There's nothing more that we can do than to harass Paul Shanley," he said.

Robert Shaw Jr., an attorney who represented Shanley in his appeal, said Shanley is now "extremely frail."

"The fact that certain persons in our community are calling for the harassment and tracking of Paul Shanley by the public strikes me as an issue for law enforcement," he said.

"It's outrageous. It's deeply disturbing. We don't permit vigilantism in this country. Stalking and harassment are crimes," he said.

The clergy sex abuse scandal exploded in Boston in 2002 after The Boston Globe revealed that dozens of priests had molested and raped children for decades while church supervisors covered it up and shuffled abusive priests from parish to parish.

Shanley was defrocked by the Vatican in 2004 after dozens of men came forward and reported being sexually abused by him. During his trial, his lawyer challenged the reliability of the accuser's repressed memories.

Internal church records that were made public during the scandal contained documents indicating Shanley had attended a forum with other people who later went on to form the North American Man-Boy Love Association, or NAMBLA, a pedophile advocacy organization.

It was not immediately clear where Shanley will live after he's released. The state Department of Correction declined to comment.

The Archdiocese of Boston, the fourth-largest archdiocese in the country, with more than 1.8 million Catholics, called Shanley's crimes against children "reprehensible."



American Samoa
Power Authority

July 26, 2017

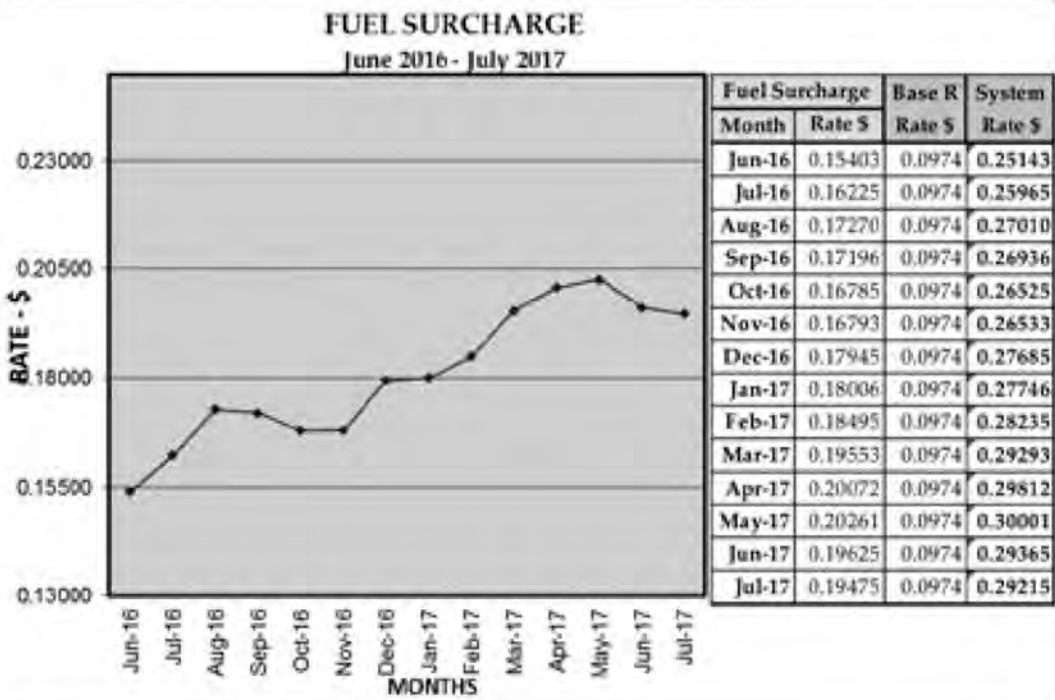
Monthly Fuel Surcharge Notification

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



Fuel Surcharge and System Rate for July 2017			
Rate - \$	Residential	Small General	Large General
Calculated Fuel Surcharge	0.19924	0.19924	0.19924
Renewable Reduction	-0.00449	-0.00449	-0.00449
Fuel Surcharge	0.19475	0.19475	0.19475
Fixed Electric Base Rate	0.09740	0.10650	0.08960
Electric System Rate (kWh)	0.29215	0.30125	0.28435

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.

Trump to nominate Kan. Gov. Brownback to serve as ambassador

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Five years ago, Gov. Sam Brownback made Kansas an economic laboratory for the nation by aggressively cutting taxes. He's expected to leave office with his Kansas reputation in tatters and his home state an example of trickle-down economics that didn't work.

The White House on Wednesday announced that President Donald Trump plans to nominate Brownback to serve as ambassador-at-large for international religious freedom. If confirmed by the Senate, he'll run the State Department's Office of International Religious Freedom.

Officials in Kansas expect Brownback to step down as governor, but his office would not immediately discuss future plans Wednesday evening.

Brownback, 60, would also leave a Kansas legacy of far tougher restrictions on abortion and fewer limits on gun owners than when he won the first of his two terms in 2010. Brownback refused to expand the Medicaid health program for the poor in line with former President Barack Obama's signature health care law even as several other Republican governors went ahead.

His departure would automatically elevate fellow conservative Lt. Gov. Jeff Colyer to governor.

Brownback will be most remembered for championing cuts in Kansas personal income taxes starting in 2012. The state was supposed to get a "shot of adrenaline to the heart" of its economy.

He described it as a state-level experiment that would demonstrate the benefits of tax-cutting theory that dates back to Ronald Reagan's administration, with Kansas even hiring Reagan economist Arthur Laffer to provide advice and promote the results. Cutting taxes — in particular for business owners — would spur hiring, creating wealth that would trickle down to everyone.

It's still GOP orthodoxy, and Trump has set similar tax cutting goals. But in Kansas, the cuts failed to deliver the economic growth the governor had promised.

With the state's economy struggling, Brownback won re-election with less than 50 percent of the vote in 2014 by suggesting the state could have it all. Kansas could keep his core income tax cuts without sacrificing spending on schools or social services. Instead, the state muddled along with temporary budget patches, raiding highway funds, shorting public pensions and then boosting sales and cigarette taxes.

Fellow Republicans across the nation watched the Kansas experiment closely and were

not impressed. GOP lawmakers in Missouri enacted tax cuts but went slower and tied them to growth in tax revenues. In South Carolina, an unsuccessful pitch for tax cuts prompted then-Gov. Nikki Haley to say, "We are not doing what Kansas did."

Trump carried Kansas easily in 2016, but voters turned on Brownback and his allies, ousting two dozen of his conservative allies from the Legislature and giving Democrats and GOP moderates more power.

The Kansas Legislature repudiated Brownback's program in June, rolling back most of those past tax cuts, raising rates and ending an exemption for more than 330,000 farmers and business owners to raise \$1.2 billion over two years. Brownback vetoed their bill, and they overrode his action.

It was a far cry from the promise of his first term.

He won the governor's office in 2010 as a U.S. senator on a wave of voter frustration in ruby red Kansas with Obama and other Democrats in Washington, aided by the rise of the tea party movement. Brownback won 63 percent of the vote and Republicans swept all statewide and congressional races on the ballot.

Brownback grew up on a family farm in eastern Kansas, trained as lawyer and was the state's agriculture secretary from 1986 to 1993, taking a year off to serve as a White House fellow. He was elected to the U.S. House in 1994, part of the so-called Republican revolution that gave the GOP control of both the House and the Senate for the first time in 40 years.

Two years later, he won election to the Senate, capturing the seat held by Bob Dole, who'd resigned to run for president. Brownback won a full six-year term in 1998 and another in 2004.

Brownback has long been a favorite of Christian conservatives for his strong stances as a U.S. senator against abortion and same-sex marriage. He also gained some attention as a vocal critic of the entertainment industry.

He started running in 2007 for the Republican presidential nomination but dropped out before primaries and caucuses began in 2008.

Brownback converted to Catholicism in 2002 after having been a Methodist, and his religious devotion and commitment to helping the poor in other nations has led him in the past to break the mold of classic conservatives.

He was an early advocate of U.S. action to stop genocide in Sudan's Darfur region and visited Congo and Rwanda as a senator to decry humanitarian crises and call for better coordination in foreign aid programs.

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DEPARTMENT of COMMERCE Project Notification & Review System Legal Notice PNRS BOARD HEARING AUGUST 2, 2017

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Commerce/American Samoa Coastal Management Program has received a Land Use Permit application from the following individuals.

1. **J.V. Fuamatu Fuamatu**17-4759-L
Proposal for land filling - Afao
2. **SPA School c/o Korina Lee**17-4812-L
Proposal for walkway - Tafuna
3. **Tasila Tasila**.....17-4821-L
Proposal for demolition and new construction with utilities - Utulei
4. **Willis Wang**.....17-4805-LVB
Proposal to convert existing to commercial Laundromat - Pava'ia'i
5. **Carls Jr. c/o Phillip Love**.....17-4826-LVB
Proposal to repair commercial structure - Nu'uuli
6. **Anthony Tauvela**17-4807-LVB
Proposal to convert existing to commercial use - Aoloau (Recording Studio)

Persons interested in or affected by a proposed project are invited to review the project file and provide comments based on environmental issues by contacting Peniamina Siatunu'u of the Department of Commerce in Utulei at 633-5155 during regular ASG working hours. Public comments must be received no later than **4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 01, 2017**. Interested individuals are also invited to attend a **Public Hearing at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, August 02, 2017** at the DOC Conference Room on the 2nd Floor of the Executive Office Building in Utulei.

O lo'o iai i le Ofisa o Fa'afetauaina ni talosaga mo Pemita e Fa'atagaina ai le Fa'aaogaina o Fanua ma Laualeele e tusa ma ala o le Tulafono. A iai se tasi e fa'asea pe fia tusia se molimau i ni afaina o le si'osi'omaga pe a galueaina nei galuega, telefoni mai ia **Peniamina Siatunu'u i le 633-5155**. E mafai fo'i ona e auai i le fono a le Komiti Fa'afaoe ia **Aukuso 02, 2017**, ile itula e 9 ile taeao.

Zoning Board Public Notice

Zoning Board public hearing for August 10, 2017. The notice is hereby given the Zoning Board has received zoning variance applications from the following:

APPLICANT(S)	BUSINESS	LOCATION
Sione Kava & jinxu Shi	Retail Store	Nu'uuli
Sione Kava & Jinxu Shi	Window Fabrication & Installation	Malaeimi
Fogafoga Tai - Gray	Retail Store	Pava'ia'i
A.S.S., Inc. c/o Tony S. Ma'o, Koreti Letuli & Thi Lam	Fast Food, Retail & Restaurant	Faga'alu
Turtle & Shark Lodge	Lodge	Mili

Public comments and request to speak during the public hearing must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 2017. Interested individuals are also invited to attend the Public Hearing on August 10, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. in the Department of Commerce conference room located on the second floor of the Executive Office Building in Utulei.

For further information, please contact Aokusotino Mao or Tuulalo Farani of the Department of Commerce during normal working hours at 633-5155.

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- CRAB MEAT FLAKES 16oz - \$1.50/pk
- CRAB MEAT STICK 16oz - \$1.50/pk
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- YELLOW FIN - \$2.55/lb
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- KETCHUP 44oz - \$2.99/pc
- KETCHUP 24oz - \$1.85/pc
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- KIKKOMAN 10oz - \$1.70/bot
- KIKKOMAN 15oz - \$2.35/bot
- KIKKOMAN 20oz - \$2.95/bot
- KIKKOMAN 1.25qt - \$4.60/bot
- KIKKOMAN 2qt - \$5.99/bot
- KIKKOMAN 1gal - \$11.50/bot
- KIKKOMAN 1gal - \$12.50/can
- KIKKOMAN 5gal - \$41.75/bl
- SMART MILK - \$15.99/cs
- FULL CREAM MILK - \$14.99/cs
- REAL FRESH ILK - \$16.99/cs
- EATWELL TUNA 12/5oz - \$14.75/cs
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- TUNA POUCH

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FILE - In this Jan. 23, 2016 file photo, Orange County sheriff's deputies investigate after three jail inmates charged with violent crimes escaped from Central Men's Jail in Santa Ana, Calif. Video shot with a contraband cellphone shows the escape of the three inmates from the maximum-security wing of the jail last year, as well as scenes from their days on the run. Los Angeles news station KNBC-TV, which aired parts of the footage Tuesday, July 25, 2017, says it was provided by an attorney connected to the case, and not by prosecutors. They led authorities on a weeklong manhunt before they were recaptured.

(AP Photo/Kevin Warn, File)

Cellphone video shot by California inmates shows escape

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — Video shot by three inmates with a smuggled cellphone shows their methodical escape through a vent at the maximum-security wing of a Southern California jail last year, along with scenes from their days on the run.

The video was provided to The Associated Press on Wednesday by an attorney for escapee Adam Hossein Nayeri. The crisply edited video has a pop-music soundtrack and includes TV news clips about the escape and subsequent manhunt. It also contains voiceovers by Nayeri, recorded after their capture, giving his version of events and railing against the legal system.

One clip shows the inside of the maximum security dorm room, known as Module F, at the jail in Santa Ana. How the inmates got the cellphones and were able to record in jail is not clear.

“You know, a lot of people like to credit us with some Houdini escape act all in eight minutes flat. It’s an interesting myth,” Nayeri says in voiceover to the video. “In reality we did leave that mod after count. Not the one they’re claiming though. I left that module at least eight hours earlier the night before.”

Inmates in the cramped dorm seem to know Nayeri is recording, but do not react, except for fellow escapee Bac Duong, who flashes a grin. The video then shows the escape. Nayeri carefully lifts a sawed-off bunk bed leg, exposing a previously cut metal screen on a wall. The screen is set aside as he disappears into a vent.

The trio crawls through plumbing shafts within the walls. At one point Nayeri stops and gives a thumbs-up. Jonathan Tieu squints as the light of the cellphone is shined on his face. The inmates eventually reach the roof of the Orange County Jail. The video does not show how the inmates got to the ground. Previous reports said they rappelled down using bed linens. On the video, Nayeri says they had industrial rope, a toolbox, a duffel bag and new clothes.

The next clips show the men taking turns posing at the corner of Haight-Ashbury in San Francisco. There are scenes from inside a van where they were sleeping. “This is our casa for the moment. This is our crib. Water, all the basics,” Nayeri says. “Friday night in San Francisco, a special Friday night in San Francisco.”

A marijuana pipe is flashed. They hold up a bottle of Jack Daniels. The men led authorities on a weeklong manhunt before they were recaptured.

The video does not show their recapture. Instead, Nayeri narrates the final two minutes of the edited video. “We scared a lot of people and caused a lot of anxiety and fear and at the end of the day I can’t say I feel good about that. I can’t.”

In another section, Nayeri refers to Long Ma, the taxi driver they are charged with kidnapping, and who drove them north. “This man is truly a hero,” Nayeri says. “He just radiated this calm fatherly presence.” Photos show Ma with Tieu on a beach, appearing to pose for the camera. Nayeri’s attorney, Salvatore Ciulla, did not respond to questions Wednesday about why he was releasing the video, when the voiceover was recorded and who edited the recordings.

The video was first obtained and reported-on by KNBC-TV. Lt. Lane Lagaret, an Orange County Sheriff’s Department spokesman, has said the department wouldn’t comment on a video that “seeks to make light of criminal actions.” Lagaret did not answer questions from the AP about whether officials were aware the escape was recorded, how the phone was smuggled into the jail and what, if any, policy changes have been made since the escape. The Orange County district attorney’s office said it would be inappropriate to comment on the video because the case is in litigation.

► Continued...

Continued from page 8

advertising campaign, which ran from early 2011 through early 2012, was designed to stem the tide of declining sales. The deal was eventually canceled in December 2015 amid cheers from

the DOJ. (Based on a Monday, July 24, 2017 story published in Undercover News, a leading seafood business publication at www.undercovernews.com)

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GOP senators blink on a big chance to repeal ‘Obamacare’

WASHINGTON (AP) — After seven years of emphatic campaign promises, Senate Republicans demonstrated they didn’t have the stomach to repeal “Obamacare” on Wednesday when it actually counted. The Senate voted 55-45 to reject legislation to throw out major portions of Barack Obama’s law without replacing it.

Seven Republicans joined all Democrats in rejecting a measure by GOP Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky that would have repealed most of former President Obama’s health care law, with a two-year delay but no replacement. Congress passed nearly identical legislation in 2015 and sent it to Obama, who unsurprisingly vetoed it.

Yet this time, with Republican President Donald Trump in the White House itching to sign the bill, the measure failed on the Senate floor. The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that repealing “Obamacare” without replacing it would cost more than 30 million Americans their insurance coverage, and that was a key factor in driving away more Republican senators than Majority Leader Mitch McConnell could afford to lose in the closely divided Senate.

The result frustrated other GOP senators, some of whom expressed disbelief that their colleagues would flip-flop on legislation they had voted for only two years ago and long promised to voters. Of the current Republican senators, only moderate Susan Collins of Maine opposed the 2015 repeal bill.

“Make no mistake: Today’s vote is a major disappointment to people who were promised full repeal,” said Sen. Ben Sasse of Nebraska. “We still have a long, long way to go — both in health policy and in honesty.”

Yet the outcome was hardly a shock in a Senate that’s already shown that unity is elusive when it comes to dealing with Obamacare. The real-world implications of repeal have proven sobering to GOP senators answering to voters who’ve come to rely on expanded insurance coverage under the law.

It’s not over yet. But what the party’s senators might end up agreeing on instead is far from clear. They are plunging ahead with debate toward their unknown goal, pressured by an impatient president. By week’s end Republicans hope to reach agreement among themselves, and eventually with the House, on some kind of repeal and replacement for the Obama law they have reviled for so long.

“We have to keep working hard,” said McConnell, R-Ky. “We’re determined to do everything we can to succeed. We know our constituents are counting on us.”

One possibility taking shape in talks among senators was a “skinny repeal” that would abolish just a few of the key elements of Obama’s law including its mandates that everyone purchase insurance and its taxes that all GOP senators can agree to oppose. But in a sign of the general confusion, some said the tactic was aimed chiefly at moving the process forward into the purview of a committee of Senate-House bargainers while others expressed the hope that the House would swallow a “skinny bill” whole, freeing Congress to move on to other issues.

Either way, after weeks spent on the issue including false starts and near-death experiences that have eaten up months of Trump’s presidency, the realization was dawning on senators that they may be unable to pass anything more complex for now than a lowest-common-denominator bill.

“At the end of the day, we’ve got to start somewhere. This is a start,” said Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C.

The day’s proceedings began with prodding from Trump, who’s proven impatient and inconsistent throughout the health care debate and yet can claim some credit for resuscitating Senate talks after McConnell essentially declared them dead last week.

The president singled out Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski, who’d voted the day before against opening long-awaited debate on the legislation, and also opposed a wide-ranging McConnell amendment Tuesday that offered a replacement for Obamacare and went down to defeat.

“Senator @lisamurkowski of the Great State of Alaska really let the Republicans, and our country, down yesterday. Too bad!” Trump wrote.

“I don’t really follow Twitter that much,” Murkowski remarked to reporters later with a shrug.

Murkowski was also among the seven GOP senators who voted “no” Wednesday on the repeal-only bill. The others were Collins, Shelley Moore Capito of West Virginia, Dean Heller of Nevada, John McCain of Arizona, Rob Portman of Ohio and Lamar Alexander of Tennessee.

In a statement defending his vote, Portman wrote: “We need a rescue plan for Ohio families who are suffering under the status quo, not one that makes the health care system worse for Ohio families.”

Senators were working their way through 20 hours of debate. At week’s end, a “vote-a-rama” of rapid-fire voting on a mountain of amendments was expected before moving to final passage — of something.



American Samoa Government DEPARTMENT of COMMERCE

Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
Tel: (684) 633-5155 • Fax: (684) 633-4195



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING & PUBLIC INSPECTION OF THE FFY 2018-2019 STATE PLAN

FOR THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

The Department of Commerce as the lead agency designated to administer American Samoa’s Community Services Block Grant Program (CSBG) will hold a public hearing at 10:00 am on Monday, August 28, 2017 inside the Department of Commerce Conference Room on the second floor of the AP Lutali Executive Office Building in Utulei to review and provide comments on the CSBG Application/State Plan for Federal Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019. Copies of the application/state plan are available for public inspection at the Department of Commerce headquarters on the second floor of the AP Lutali Executive Office Building in Utulei during normal business hours from 7:30am to 4:00pm.

For more information on this public notice, please contact Charlene Fa’alevao of the Department of Commerce at 633-5155.



Keniseli F. Lafaele
DIRECTOR



AMERICAN SAMOA POWER AUTHORITY

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PUBLIC JOB POSTING

Division/ Department	Support Services/Procurement	Posting Date	July 21, 2017
Position Title	PROCUREMENT SUPERVISOR	Deadline	4:00PM; July 28, 2017
Position Type	Career Service – 12 months probation	Compensation	\$45,512 - \$49,284 per year
Reports To	Procurement Manager	Position Status	M/1/A - M/3/A; Exempt

*Note: Salary will be commensurate with qualifications & experience

Major Duties & Responsibilities

Incumbent will support the Procurement manager in the delivery of a strategy to coordinate best purchasing practices and maximize benefits to the company. Incumbent will also be assisting Procurement Manager in the oversight of the contracts & leases, right-of-way functions as well as maintaining archives. Incumbent has supervisory responsibility for the Procurement team which is to manage the allocation of duties to team members to ensure that all deadlines are met in accordance with agreed service levels. Directly reports to Procurement Manager.

Minimum Requirements

Education	Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and/or related field. ASPA reserves the right to consider years of equivalent experience in lieu of the educational requirement.
Experience	Three (3) years of relevant work experience in procurement. Minimum of three years of Supervisory experience required.
Knowledge, Skills & Abilities	Must have knowledge of procurement rules, concepts, principles and practices. Must be computer literate and competent in using standard office software; be highly organized with the ability to manage multiple demands and deliver results on time and within budget; have excellent verbal and written communication skills as well as accounting and budget control skills. Must be familiar with sourcing and vendor management. Must have an interest in market dynamics along with business sense. Must have a knack for negotiating and networking. Must have an ability to gather and analyze data and work with figures. Must have solid judgment with ability to make good decisions. Must have strong leadership abilities. Must be honest and follow clear procurement rules, policies and guidelines. To provide procurement support for all areas and specific allocated budget/commodity areas. This will include: undertaking mini competitions using existing frameworks conducting low value tenders and requests for quotation taking into account whole life costing, sustainability and ethical purchasing category management contract managing existing framework including account management promote good procurement practice supporting requesters in allocated budget areas identify and deliver efficiency savings and improved contractual arrangements To supervise the purchase order processing activity: check validity of requests to purchase, obtaining any additional necessary paperwork and manage any non-compliance requests liaise with requesters/departmental contacts to ensure timely resolution of queries liaise with Accounts Payable to resolve supplier payment issues handle complaints To provide support in all Archives, Right-of-Way (ROW) as well as Contracts & Leases functions provide status reports to Procurement Manager on an agreed basis Perform other related duties as assigned by the Procurement Manager

Qualified applicants Please submit a completed ASPA Employment Application with a copy of your resume to ASPA Tafuna by the deadline listed above. Please attach copies of credentials and transcripts. Candidates selected for hire must pass examinations (when applicable), pre-employment clearances & test negative on drug test. ASPA reserves the right to waive education and experience requirements as necessary. No phone inquiries accepted.

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FILE - In a July 25, 2011, file photo, General Holiefield, Vice President and Director, United Auto Workers Chrysler Department, from left, UAW President Bob King; Alphons Iacobelli, Vice President Employee Relations, Chrysler and Scott Garberding, Senior Vice President, Chrysler Group, shake hands at a news conference at the start of national contract negotiations at Chrysler Group LLC headquarters in Auburn Hills, Mich. Iacobelli has been charged in Detroit with giving \$1.2 million in various gifts to a UAW vice president and other senior union managers. Iacobelli was indicted Wednesday, July 26, 2017, in an alleged conspiracy involving Holiefield and Holiefield's wife, Monica Morgan. Holiefield died in 2015.

(AP Photo/Paul Sancya, File)



**American Samoa Government
AMERICAN SAMOA
ENVIROMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

PUBLIC NOTICE

The American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency (AS-EPA) has developed the AS-EPA Nearshore Marine Water Quality Monitoring Plan that addresses the need to monitor for nonpoint source pollution in American Samoa. A main group of pollutants that cause water quality impairments in American Samoa are pathogen indicators, specifically enterococcus in coastal recreation waters. Two objectives of the AS-EPA Nearshore Marine Water Quality Monitoring Plan are to determine whether nearshore marine water quality meets the American Samoa Water Quality Standards (ASWQS) for enterococcus, and to inform the public when coastal recreation waters do not meet ASWQS for enterococcus, as well as the potential risks associated with the polluted waters.

The AS-EPA has created a file that contains the AS-EPA Nearshore Marine Water Quality Monitoring Plan, a summary of historical bacteriological data of coastal recreation waters, the American Samoa Water Quality standards, and the advisory format used to give notice to the public that the coastal recreation waters are not meeting or are not expected to meet applicable water quality standards for enterococci. These documents are available to the public at the AS-EPA office in Utulei. AS-EPA invites public comments concerning the monitoring and public notification program regarding: (1). The beach evaluation and classification process, including a list of waters to be monitored and beach ranking; (2) the sampling design and monitoring plan, including sampling location and sampling frequency; and (3) the public notification and risk communication plan, including methods to notify the public of a beach advisory. Comments must be submitted in writing within 30 days of the published date of this notice. Submit comments to the AS-EPA office or by mail to AS-EPA Water Program, P.O. Box PPA, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799. For more information, please contact Christianera Title at 633-2304 or christianera.tuitele@epa.as.gov.


AMEKO PATO
AS-EPA Director
July 25, 2017

Ex-Fiat Chrysler executive charged in union official payoff

DETROIT (AP) — A former Fiat Chrysler executive was charged Wednesday with looting a training center for blue-collar workers by giving \$1.2 million through a variety of ways to a UAW leader, his wife and other senior union officials.

Al Iacobelli was indicted in an alleged conspiracy involving United Auto Workers vice president General Holiefield and Holiefield's wife, Monica Morgan. Holiefield died in 2015.

The indictment describes a multiyear scheme to reward Holiefield and Morgan with first-class travel, designer clothing and jewelry. A \$262,000 mortgage on their home in suburban Detroit was paid off, according to the grand jury. Iacobelli treated himself to more than \$350,000 for a Ferrari, the government alleged.

The "indictment exposes a disturbing criminal collaboration that was ongoing for years between high ranking officials of FCA and the UAW," said David Gelios, head of the FBI in Detroit. FCA is Fiat Chrysler Automobiles. In June 2015, Iacobelli suddenly departed from Fiat Chrysler with little explanation. He was the company's North American labor relations chief and head of Mexico human resources. Holiefield was responsible for negotiating with Fiat Chrysler on behalf of the UAW.

The allegations call "into question the integrity of contracts negotiated during the course of this criminal conspiracy," Gelios said.

The government said the money came from the UAW-Chrysler National Training Center in Detroit, which was created to retrain auto workers. Fiat Chrysler made annual payments of \$13 million to \$28 million to the center, from 2009 to 2014. Iacobelli and Holie-

field were co-chairmen.

Morgan and Iacobelli are charged with conspiracy and tax crimes.

Iacobelli is also charged with making illegal payments to a union official.

Morgan's lawyer, Steve Fishman, declined to comment. A message seeking comment was left for Iacobelli's lawyer.

In separate statements, Fiat Chrysler and the UAW said they were unaware of the alleged scheme while it was unfolding. The automaker said it got rid of Iacobelli and Jerome Durden, who worked in finance, after "obtaining credible evidence of wrongdoing" in 2015.

"The UAW has zero tolerance for corruption or wrongdoing of this kind at any level," said union president Dennis Williams, who called the case a "betrayal of trust."

Iacobelli landed another job — at rival General Motors as executive director of labor relations. GM spokesman Tom Wickham said he didn't know his status after the indictment.

Iacobelli is accused of enriching himself, too.

The indictment said \$40,000 was transferred from the training center to complete the purchase of two solid gold Mont Blanc pens.

He also is accused of taking thousands more to install a pool, outdoor kitchen, spa and landscaping at his home in Rochester Hills, Michigan. Separately, prosecutors unsealed a conspiracy charge against Durden, who handled finances at the training center. The charge was filed as criminal "information," which means that a guilty plea is expected.

His lawyer declined to comment. The government alleges that a complex web of phony charities, sham corporations and credit cards was created to divert money from the training center.

Medical examiner: Judge in river died by suicide in drowning

NEW YORK (AP) — A prominent judge found in the Hudson River died by suicide in a drowning, according to findings issued by the city's medical examiner on Wednesday.

A police harbor unit recovered the body of 65-year-old Sheila Abdus-Salaam in April after she was reported missing. Initially after her body was found, family and friends raised the possibility of foul play and pushed back against the idea that she would have harmed herself. Her family disputed the notion that she suffered from depression.

Abdus-Salaam was the first black woman on New York state's highest court.

Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo appointed Abdus-Salaam to the state's Court of Appeals in 2013. He called her a "trailblazing jurist" whose legacy "will be felt for years to come."

Abdus-Salaam graduated from Barnard College and Columbia Law School.

She started her career as a staff attorney for East Brooklyn Legal Services. She served as a judge on the Manhattan state Supreme Court for 14 years.

Mexican government reuniting smuggling victims with families

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Mexican government officials said Wednesday they were working to reunite families with some of the survivors of a failed human smuggling operation and had been assured by U.S. immigration officials that they would not question relatives about their legal status in the United States.

Ten immigrants, including seven from Mexico, died after a sweltering ride from the Texas border city of Laredo in a tractor-trailer without air conditioning on Sunday. Another of the dead was identified as being from Guatemala; two others were not publicly identified.

At least 29 immigrants survived, according to U.S. officials. Twelve remained hospitalized Wednesday in San Antonio.

The driver of the big rig, James Matthew Bradley Jr., waived a detention hearing that had been scheduled for Thursday and remained in federal custody, charged with illegally transporting immigrants for financial gain, resulting in death. Federal court records indicated a new hearing was set for Aug. 23, when Bradley was expected to a give video deposition. The 60-year-old Florida trucker could face the death penalty, if convicted.

Latin American diplomats worked, meanwhile, to confirm names of the dead and injured, most of who were not publicly identified.

The top Mexican diplomatic official in San Antonio said relatives of some of the immigrants didn’t even know their family members had left for the United States. Consular

officials were working to notify families, repatriate bodies and arrange hospital visits for relatives of the survivors.

“We have to make sure everyone is informed and everyone knows where their children are,” said Reyna Torres Mendivil, the Mexican consul general for San Antonio.

U.S. immigration authorities assured her, she said, that any relatives escorted by consular officials on hospital visits would not be questioned about their legal status.

Thirteen immigrants were in federal custody, being held as material witnesses in the government’s case against Bradley, the U.S. Attorney’s office announced.

Their appointed attorney, Michael McCrum, said it was too early to know whether they would receive visas or be allowed to settle in the United States in consideration for their help.

“One of my concerns is that they begin to be treated as chips in a political game instead of real people who have been severely abused,” McCrum said.

It’s not clear how many immigrants in total were in the tractor-trailer. An unknown number fled once its doors were opened in a Walmart parking lot early Sunday, on foot or into six waiting black SUVs, according to a federal criminal complaint against the driver.

One victim, a 19-year-old who had been previously deported and was trying to get back to his family in Maryland, was identified as a Guatemalan national by diplomat Cristy Andrino.

Small plane misses cars but kills 4 aboard in highway crash

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A small plane crashed on a Utah highway Wednesday, killing two couples heading for a vacation but narrowly missing cars when it barreled across the lanes through a gap in traffic.

The plane went down shortly after takeoff from a municipal airport popular with private pilots north of Salt Lake City, Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Allen Kenitzer said. No injuries were reported on the ground after it snarled traffic and left behind blackened wreckage. Layne Clarke, 48, was flying his wife and two friends as they departed for a vacation, said family friend and colleague Jeff Henderson. Clarke owned an automotive paint business and had gotten his pilot’s license about five years ago after a friend got him interested in aviation, he said.

Clarke was a “very energetic, wonderful man,” Henderson said. Also killed in the crash was his wife, Diana Clarke, 46, of Taylor, Utah, and their friends Perry, 45, and Sarah Huffaker, 42, of West Haven, Utah, according to the Utah Department of Public Safety. The FAA and the National Transportation Safety Administration are investigating the cause of the crash. It closed most lanes of Interstate 15 in Riverdale, about 35 miles north of Salt Lake City. The Beech A36 Bonanza crashed about a half-mile from a nearby municipal airport. It hit on the edge of the interstate, went across the northbound lanes during an opening in traffic and landed in the median, Utah Highway Patrol Sgt. Todd Royce told the Standard-Examiner newspaper in Ogden.



Shoppers pass a group visiting a make-shift memorial in the parking lot of a Walmart store near the site where authorities Sunday discovered a tractor-trailer packed with immigrants outside a Walmart in San Antonio, Monday, July 24, 2017. Several people died and others hospitalized after being crammed into a sweltering tractor-trailer in the midsummer Texas heat, according to authorities in what they described as an immigrant-smuggling attempt gone wrong. (AP Photo/Eric Gay)

Fa’asalalauga Fa’alaua’itele SUAFA MALUIA Nu’uuli

A o’o ina malu o le taufa’anu’u pe a lukaluka le savili i le gataifale, ona atugalu lea o āfa le tauta pe tua ma ni a le fa’atamasoāli’iga. A tātā matalafi fo’i le agaiotupu ma le Falefa o lona aiga Sa-Lemalama, ona popo’e lea o le taufalemau ma tu’ufesili i le taufalefeagai lona mafua’aga. E tau tu’ufesili fa’aliu o va’a o tautai se lagona, e fafano ane ai o’u lima ne’i vaipa lo’u gutu, tulou, ma taufa’aetefimalie le vaogagana ma lape o ‘upu, auā o Samoa o le ao mamala i le fa’asouga o ao ma le atufolasa, o le i’a fo’i e iviivia, o le fue lavelave a’o se vao filifili, e leai se poto, po’o sē ma’ema’e e tavave fa’asesema i ulugalū, a’o se tufuga fa’afialima ma’ea’ea na toe toe atofuli fa’aleatoa le maota tulutulu i tao o Samoa atoa, ua so’o atuao lona ta’iao, tulou, tulou, tulouna lava.

E mua i malae le fa’atulou i auaina a le Atua, o lo’o talafa’auto ma fa’amutia agiagi i fata faitaulaga e fia o le atunu’u, ona o le asuina o le taufa o le Talalelei iā Keriso ma lana fa’aolataga. E fa’atulou atu i le pa’ia maualuga o le Faigamalo a Tutuila ma Manu’a, tainane lona Tafatolu Maoti. E fa’atulou atu fo’i i le mapu’epu’e o le Falesefulu, tainane le afio o Ma’opu. E fa’atulou atu i le Motu Sa, le afio o le La’aunaamotasi, ali’i Fa’atui ma le tapua’iga i To’oto’o. E fa’atulou atu i le tapua’iga i le Usoga iā Tumua ma Pule, Itu’au ma Alataua, Aiga i le Tai ma le Va’a o Fonoti, Tama ma Aiga o Aiga fo’i ma Tama, tainane ni o matou paolo na sa’ilimalo ma ni gafa na sausema, a’o ni mulivai fetafea’i ma ni taupega ‘afa matou te malu ai i itu e fia o Samoa.

E tauluga lo matou fa’atulou atu i le tupuatausi ma le la’o’ai o Nu’uuli. Le afio’aga o lo’o afiofi ai Ma’opu, Usoali’i ma Taumafaalofi, Ma le Mamalu i le latou To’afa ma ‘Upu i le Itu’au Malosi. Ne’i avea si ota lima e toe pa’ia ai si ota mata, e fa’atulou aloa’ia atu ai i suli o le suafa Maluia o le afio’aga o Nu’uuli, tulou, tulouna lava.

Ta’oto la fa’amaene i le tai loloto, a’o ni sava’e fo’i o le gataifale pa’ia fa’aufigatā ia, e le toe soli tapiga i sa matou fa’amatalaga vaivai, auā o Samoa o le atunu’u tofi, ua ulumea fatufala ona pa’ia i tiāvivau ma tiasa, ua ta’oto le lafialalo o ona sa ma faigā, e afua mai le Tai Samasama o le Tui Manu’a ma le Fagaoneone le ufitia, se’ia pa’ia le Tai ‘Ula’ula o Nafanua ma le Vai Salia o le Mavaega i Tūlāfāsa, na tauilo ai malo ae tali i lagi le ao o le Malo o Samoa.

Ae o le a fagatonu le u e pei o le ‘upu i le faiva o le tologa, ma vili pitotasi le ifi a Maina e fagasa’o ai le malama i le manulauti ua ta’oto ai i lagotonu lenei fa’asalalauga, e pei o ‘upu i le Si’isi’ialafia ma le aiga Sa-Levaiolo. E ta’alo atu ma le fa’aaloalo tele, i suli uma o le suafa Maluia, o gafa tau tupu, gafa tau malo, gafa o e’e, gafa tau pāpā, o gafa va-i-vanu ma le tifatō, e afiofi mai ma tala mai ‘a’ao, tou te silasila, maimoa ma sasa’a fa’aoti mai le utu o manuia i lē ua tasi i ai le finagalo o le aiga na te tausia lo tatou aiga. O lea, e taalo atu ai ma le fa’aaloalo tele, le ava ma le migao e tataui ai, tatou te fofoga fesilafa’i i le aso 29 o Iulai, Aso To’ona’i, 2017, i le Laoa o Maluia i Salele, i le itula e 9:00 i le taeao. Ina ia motu le pa ua silafia, o lou le afio mai, o le a le tu’ua pe tolopo ai le finagalo o aiga, ua mae’a ona soālaupule.

O la matou tatalo tauanau i le Atua lo tatou Mata’isau, ina ia fa’asopo atu lo outou soifua manuia i lea aso tu’upoina, tatou te tapisa ai, mimusa ma ‘ale’ale aitu i lea fa’amoemoe ua loa taimi o fau ao fau po ma lavasi i le finagalo o aiga.

Soifua,

O le Nofōato’o ma le pa’ia maualuga o lo tatou Aiga i Salele, i le afio’aga o Nu’uuli.



Local artist Reggie Meredith-Fitiao showing kids from the FIT summer program, how to 'elei using 'ulu leaves, fala, and potato stamps.

[Courtesy photo]

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Jumbo airtanker gets approval to fight US wildfires

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Federal officials have given a giant airtanker approval to fight wildfires in the U.S., but a lack of contracts currently limits the aircraft to California and one county in Colorado.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Interagency Airtanker Board issued the 17-month interim approval on Tuesday for the aircraft capable of carrying 19,200 gallons (72,700 liters) of liquid.

Global SuperTanker Services CEO Jim Wheeler said Wednesday the company is close to signing a contract with two states.

"The next step is for us to try to get a contract with the Forest Service," he said.

Such a contract would allow a state to be reimbursed by the federal government if the aircraft fought fires in that state. Wheeler said he hopes to get such a contract this year so the aircraft can fight fires across the West.

"The worst of the fire season is not over," he said. "It's just beginning."

During the interim approval, Global SuperTanker "must take steps to ensure its 747 aircraft delivers fire retardant in a manner that is effective and efficient and aids firefighting efforts on the ground," the Forest Service said in a statement Wednesday to The Associated Press.

The company has been fighting the Forest Service over a contract limiting firefighting aircraft to 5,000 gallons (18,900 liters).

"I scratch my head over that one," Wheeler said, noting the Forest Service has declined to give a reason for the limit.

