

Social Wellness Hub
proposed for East Side

Page 3

Tali Rev. Amaama i le talosaga
Ekalesia Aoao e fa'aleaoga ai...

Le Lali

A'asa forced to pull out from
heavyweight fight of his life

Sports

Some of the youngsters currently enrolled in the 4H program, hosted by the ASCC Land Grant, which kicked off Monday and ends today.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



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MASI finalizing plans for 25th anniversary celebration

"TOE TEPA TASI" - LOOKING BACK AT PREVIOUS PAGEANT WINNERS

by Samoa News staff

Miss American Samoa Incorporated (M.A.S.I.) is celebrating its silver jubilee this year.

Part of the 25th anniversary bash will include the participation of all former Miss American Samoa title holders in this year's pageant, set to be held next month.

Current MASI president Simeafou Imo told Samoa News yesterday that MASI was first established on Sept. 12, 1991 by a group of people who wanted to form an organization "to cater to the young lady (pageant winner) and her preparations for the Miss South Pacific pageant, and also to assist Miss American Samoa with her annual activities."

The original MASI membership included Juliette Spencer-Sword, Pelenatete Langkilde, Lusila Hudson, Sia Spencer, Hans Langkilde, and Sinira Fuimaono.

This year's theme, according to Imo, will be "Toe Tepa Tasi" because "we want to recognize the hard work everyone has put into supporting this organization."

Imo said, "We want to acknowledge all the beautiful women who participated in the annual pageants, as well as former MASI presidents who served to empower the young women of Amer-

(Continued on page 6)

Pili sui ai fa'asalaga mo i latou solia tulafono fualaau fa'asaina

tusia Ausage Fausia

Ua i luma nei o le maota maualuga a le Senate se pili sa fa'aulufale e le afioga i le ali'i Peresetene o le Senate ia Gaoteote Palaie Tofau, mo se tulafono e sui ai le gagana poo le fa'aupuga o le fa'asalaga e maua e le tagata e ta'usala e le fa'amasinoga, i lona soliina lea o tulafono tau fualaau fa'asaina a Amerika Samoa. O le suiga e pei ona taua i le pili tau fa'aofi, o lo o taua ai le tulaga lea, soo se tasi na te solia pe le usitaia lea vaega o le tulafono, e ala i lona umia, tufaina atu, fa'atau pe gaosia fo'i tulaga o fualaau fa'asaina, e tataua ona fa'asala i le fa'asalaga falepuipui e le itiiti ifo ma le 5 tausaga, e le sili atu

foi ma le 20 tausaga lona umi.

O le gagana o le tulafono o lo o i ai i le taimi nei, soo se tasi e ta'usala i lona soliina o le tulafono o fualaau fa'asaina i Amerika Samoa, e ala i lona umia, fa'atau atu, gaosi pe i ai fo'i ia te ia fualaau fa'asaina, e mafai ona fa'asalaina lea tagata i se fa'asalaga fa'a falepuipui ia le silia ma le 20 tausaga le umi.

O le to'atele o tagatanu'u ua ta'usala e le fa'amasinoga i lenei solitulafono, e fa'asalaina e le fa'amasinoga i latou i fa'asalaga fa'anofovaavaaia, e aofia ai lo latou tuliina lea o le tasi o vaetolu (1/3) o le 5 tausaga i le falepuipui, tusa lea e 20 masina.

O ni isi o taimi e fa'aleo ai e

le afioga i le Fa'amasino Sili ana saunoaga e fa'atatau i fa'asalaga ua mae'a ona fa'atulaga e le Fono Faitulafono, fa'asaga ia i latou e ta'usala i le soliina o tulafono tau fualaau fa'asaina a le malo, ona ua saisaitia ai le fa'amasinoga mai lona tu'uina atu o se fa'asalaga talafeagai mo i latou o loo molia.

Na taua e ni isi o afioga i Senatoa sa fesiligia i le Samoa News e uiga i lenei mataupu e fa'apea, o se tasi o agaga autu ua mafua ai ona manatu le Fono e faia se suiga i le tulafono o lo o i ai nei, ina ia fai ma aoaoga i le to'atele o tagata o loo fiafia e umia, fa'atau ma gaosi fo'i fualaau fa'asaina, e le o se mea lelei lo latou faia o lea tulaga.



The 2017 Summer Health Academy, headed by the American Samoa Area Health Education Center (ASAHEC) under the American Samoa Community College, was one of the most promising and exciting programs our island had this summer. See story inside.

[photo: Mark Espiritu]

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Proposed Port bill gives Port director authority to review & change fees every 5 years

ALSO RAISES FEES ON SEVERAL PORT SERVICES

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

The government has proposed fee hikes on several Port services, through a bill now pending in the Fono.

The measure gives the Department of Port Administration director the authority to review fees and charges every five years, and if necessary, initiate modification.

The ASG Revenue Task Force during a presentation to the Fono early last month as well as Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga during his address on July 11th to a joint Fono session, touched on the bill, which raises port fees in American Samoa, increases the existing charges on wharf, and allows Port fees to be amended through rule-making authority.

According to the Task Force presentation, ASG collects over \$4.5 million annually under current Port fees and charges; but under the proposed hikes, the government is looking to collect just over \$7.11 million per year.

In his letter to Fono leaders, the governor pointed out that the territory has maintained the current port fees for over 30 years without any changes. However, he said the costs of maintenance, equipment, human resources, and services have drastically increased in that interim.

According to the administration, the territory's needs at the Port continue to grow, and the costs of those needs should mirror such growth as well. Furthermore, the territory's current Port fees are well below comparable fees in other neighboring Pacific Islands.

Samoa News understands that some local businesses including the canneries have sought input from their shippers on estimate costs of doing business, if the proposed hikes go into effect.

One big concern is that the hikes will be passed on to consumers and some business owners — who asked not be identified — have serious concerns that the hikes will have another impact on the canneries.

StarKist Samoa executive Taotasi Archie Soliai, who is also the Chamber of Commerce president, said at last week's Chamber meeting that the canneries is looking into the impact to the company's operations on the fees and charges being proposed at the Port.

Among the proposed hikes, the established license fees for master or engineer of boat carrying passengers, currently at \$5 will increase to \$8.50

The administration is proposing several amendments to a provision of the law (20.1403) — titled, Determination of Fees, which is based on the draft of a

vessel. Current pilotage fees are \$350 for all vessels plus an additional fee of \$3 per foot of draft or fraction thereof for all vessels over 12 feet. Notwithstanding the above, when the services of a pilot are actually required for a deep draft vessel the minimum charge shall be \$100.

The administration is proposing the current pilotage fees cut down to \$85 but up to \$5.10 per foot for all vessels over 12 feet.

Additionally, when the services of a pilot are actually required for a deep draft vessel, the minimum charge will be \$170.

The bill also proposes to set the "base rate for pilot tows fees... at \$85 for all vessels; and \$5.10 per foot for all vessels over 12 feet."

Other fees will change — for example — moving vessels in harbor from \$100 to \$170 for each move; from \$100 to \$170 for each anchoring.

Current law states that yachts with less than 12-foot draft shall be exempt from pilot fees unless the services are actually performed. The bill proposes to set the fees at \$17 per foot for services actually performed.

Additionally, yachts of over 12-foot draft shall be charged non-pilotage fees of \$8.50 per foot for yachts that do not require actual services.

Other highlights:

- loading and unloading of cargo — currently \$2 — shall be charged \$3.40 per 40 cubic foot for each ton of cargo or fraction thereof, whichever is greater. For shipments under one ton, the wharfage charge is pro-rated with a minimum charge of 85-cents for each 40 cubic feet of cargo.

- outgoing cargo, a fee of \$1.70 per 40 cubic feet or fraction thereof. The current fee is \$1 per 40 cubic feet.

- goods stored in a government warehouse or other areas in excess of 72 hours will be charged \$3.40 for the first three days, up from \$2; and after 3 days the rate shall be \$6.80 — up from \$4.

- inbound containers, increased from 50-cents per day to 85-cents per day when 120 hours have passed after arrival and the containers haven't left the dock. After 3 days the fee jumps to \$1.70 per day. The same fee will apply to outbound containers. Containers belonging to the canneries are exempt from these fees if used within 30 days after arrival or if these containers have canned fish. After 30 days a charge of 85-cents per container shall be applied for 31 days and beginning on the 32nd day, charges will go up to \$1.70 per container, per day.

The administration is pro-

(Continued on page 8)



Dozens of young people participated in the "It Takes a Village to Educate a Child- Build a Better World Program" — a six-week summer event held in Nu'uuli and hosted by the Aoelua/ Fanene sisters. Pictured are some of the kids during the 'mentoring' segment of the program.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

Social Wellness Hub proposed for east side

LOCATION NOT YET CONFIRMED

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

Samoa award winning film director, Queen Muhammad Ali, is looking at next year, to kick start the Social Wellness Hub on the east side of Tutuila, serving the entire community, with many local residents already embracing the project, which includes various art forms.

Ali was named as one of the 70 finalists of the 2017 National Creative Placemaking Fund (NCPF), according to a June news release from Art-Place America, which identified her project for the community in Faga’itua as “Manuia Samoa”.

The proposal is a solar powered Social Wellness Hub dedicated to the health, nutrition, and creativity of the people on the beautiful, but health epidemic stricken islands of American Samoa. (See Samoa News June 12th edition for details.)

Ali, who is from the Le’ioto family of Faga’itua, shared her project during an interview Tuesday with Samoa News, accompanied by her mother, Marie Olioli Leiato Tuiasosopo, and her husband, Hakeem Khaaliq.

While on island for more than a week, Ali met with the Faga’itua community including Faga’itua High School principal Suaese “Pooch” Ta’ase, the football team, and others who came to hear her Aug. 3rd presentation regarding the project.

“The reaction was so much love from the community,” Ali said. “They loved it and they can’t wait until we actually get into the development of it.”

When asked why she specifically chose Faga’itua, Ali said she wanted to set up something on the east side because there’s not much development there, compared to the bay area.

“I thought it would be good because Faga’itua High School is the only high school on the eastern side of Tutuila, to have another place where they can express themselves in art and also health and wellness,” she said.

“I thought it would be something they would love and they actually did love it and got great response from the community.”

There has been a lot of positive reaction from the community on the proposed project, as Ali spoke to students during a gathering at the Pago Pago Youth Center, as well as making rounds at the local radio stations.

When asked if she was surprised with the positive feedback, Ali said, “I wasn’t surprised, but I was very happy. It was overwhelming, it was just beautiful.”

She acknowledged the love and support from local leaders, including Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga, Lt. Gov. Lemanu Peleti Mauga, Department of Youth

and Women’s Affairs deputy director Pa’u Roy Ausage, and FHS principal Ta’ase.

Ali said she is working on funding sources for the project, as well as more ways to get additional money, including grant opportunities.

“Because I’m not a millionaire, I can’t pay for all of it. But we’re putting a lot of our own money into this project.

Hopefully by January or February, we’ll be able to come back and start on the initial stages of development,” said Ali, who was on island four years ago and had visited Faga’itua HS students while conducting work on a film.

The “Manuia Samoa” project, according to her, is a social wellness hub, a place where “people can also express their art.”

(Continued on page 7)



Samoa award film director, Queen Muhammad Ali (middle), with her husband, Hakeem Khaaliq (left), and her mother Marie Olioli Leiato Tuiasosopo (right), following an interview at the Samoa News office on Tuesday. See story for full details.

[photo: FS]

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Over three-dozen young people are participating in the 4H summer program being hosted at the ASCC gymnasium.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

Postal Service may get more freedom to raise stamp prices

WASHINGTON (AP) — It may be time to stock up on Forever stamps.

Regulators appear likely to accept the financially beleaguered Postal Service's request for more freedom to raise the price of mailing letters. It would be the biggest change in the Postal Service's pricing system in nearly a half-century, allowing stamp prices to rise beyond the rate of inflation.

After a 10-year review, the Postal Regulatory Commission could make its decision next month. It might limit how high prices could go, but the cost of a first-class stamp, now 49 cents, could jump. It's not known how much.

Financial analysts praise the plan, but it has raised the ire of the mail-order industry, which

could pay millions more for sending items like prescription drugs and magazines and pass the costs onto consumers.

The Postal Service is trying to stay financially afloat as it seeks to invest billions in new delivery trucks to get packages more nimbly to American homes.

An independent agency of government, the Postal Service has lost money for 10 consecutive years. While online shopping has led to years of double-digit growth in its package-delivery business, it hasn't offset declines in first-class mail. Overall mail volume, which makes up more than two-thirds of postal revenue, dropped 27 percent over the last decade as people rely more on email and online bill payments.

Congress' failure to address the Postal Service's underlying financial woes, such as onerous requirements to pre-fund retiree health benefits, has left the commission more likely to embrace the request for more pricing freedom. The Postal Service has ruled out closing post offices and ending Saturday delivery to reduce costs.

"We are calling for action from Congress, but we'll do what we have to, based on the reality of what is," Robert Taub, the Republican chairman of the regulatory commission, said in a telephone interview.

He declined to comment on the upcoming decision, but stressed a need to fix the balance sheet at the 242-year-old Postal Service, which generates \$71 billion in annual revenue.

GONG SHOW

"A MATTER OF TRUST"



by Rhonda Annesley, Editor

It's a matter of trust — in the case of why the veto override amendment that is once again on the Fono agenda, is bound again for failure.

Currently, two senators have proposed a measure that would give the Fono the authority to override the governor's veto of legislation that's been approved by the Fono.

And, because the measure seeks to amend the local Constitution, it will require approval by voters as well as the U.S. Congress.

For those who don't remember — this will be the Fono's fourth attempt to get the right to override the veto of the governor on legislation they have passed.

The first was in 2008, which was narrowly defeated by 22 votes — with a yes vote of 6,137 and a no vote of 6,159. The defeat was said to be the lack of public awareness and understanding of the issue.

The second was in 2010 when the veto override amendment was included in the more than a dozen proposed amendments to the constitution approved in the 2010 ConCon that were put together in a package vote of "yes" or "no" — they were not individually presented. The package vote resoundingly rejected all the amendments.

The third was in 2014, which also saw an overwhelming "no" vote of 74%. The defeat was said to be the way public awareness was handled, with the one-sided explanations by the administration, which supported the referendum.

However, even more importantly was the opinion voiced by the public in discussions that took place in 2014 — that members of the Senate are not elected by popular vote, but selected by traditional leaders of their respective county councils; and therefore the public was hesitant to give the senators the right to override the governor's veto, as it was seen as a by-pass of their (voters') right to have a say in governing.

Moreover the feel of the 'no' movement was directed at the Fono, as a whole — meaning the public did not seem to trust the Legislative Branch of Government to 'do' the right thing with this 'veto override' power; and instead would use it as a way to ram their agenda down the governor's throat, which indirectly was 'our' throats — the voters.

And while the governor was not necessarily trust worthy than the Legislative politicians, at least he was elected by the majority of the general vote — one of our voices to governance.

So — in simple terms, I think the issue begs the question: Whom do you trust to have your back?

I know, who I trust... GONG!

And then there are the new taxes and fees the government is looking at implementing through proposed bills currently before the Fono.

Here's what I would like know: When did it become acceptable to us that government can raise taxes and fees to finance its overspending without giving us some serious discussion — let's see an itemized list, with value included — about 'cut backs' on ASG spending.

Government is saying that their monthly nut is \$10Mil, and their collections are only around \$7Mil — God bless them for their honesty. However, while it is admirable, I think it should be a 'no go'.

Why? I can honestly say: it's a matter of trust! Do we believe they are going to follow up after the taxes and fees are raised with expense cutting measures?

Honestly? When even the Legislators are asking for a pay raise? And, only stopped short of giving themselves one last year, after the people staged public protests?

Maybe this is the carrot on the stick the Administration is offering the Fono — pass the revenue raising bills, and you'll get your raise?

Who knows? After all — it's a matter of trust... GONG!

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The 2017 Summer Health Academy a delightful success

By Mark Espiritu
Special to Samoa News
The 2017 Summer Health Academy, headed by the American Samoa Area Health Education Center (ASAHEC), under the American Samoa Community College, was one of the most promising and exciting programs our island had this summer.

According to ASAHEC Program Coordinator Monica Afalava, it not only influenced the lives of the students who participated and the people around them, but it also positively affects the future of healthcare in American Samoa. The Summer Health Academy helped raise awareness about our dire need for more healthcare professionals to assist and develop the local health workforce, she noted.

The academy was a 2-week program held July 24 to August 4, Monday to Friday, from 9am-3pm. The target group was high school juniors and seniors, or students ages 16-18. There were no application, registration, or enrollment fees.

However, students were required to write an essay expressing their interest and/or experience in the health field,

and accepted applicants were expected to attend all 10 days of the program.

Fourteen students were accepted into the academy, where they met health professionals from nurses to doctors, psychologists to licensed clinical social workers, and massage therapists to fitness instructors.

They also learned about the importance of nutrition and exercise, because in this field, most people become so busy with taking care of others, they often neglect to take care of themselves.

The students, in addition, engaged in physical activities such as Zumba Fitness and swimming, they learned life-saving skills such as CPR and Self-Defense techniques, and even learned how to spine-board.

Activities in the academy included trips to healthcare facilities including the LBJ Tropical Medical Center, Veterans Affairs Community Based Outpatient Clinic, and the ASG Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Clinic.

The students were given opportunities to shadow healthcare professionals at LBJ, where

they experienced and observed things that have opened their eyes. The academy has also allowed them to visit agencies and sites that they've never been to before, like the Vaipito Microfiltration Plant in Pago Pago.

ASAHEC Program Coordinator Monica Afalava designed the academy to highlight holistic health: rather than only focusing on illness or specific parts of the body, one should consider the whole person and how she or he interacts with his or her environment.

The students were introduced to mental and emotional health professionals, as well as agencies involved with protecting the environment.

They learned about how the American Samoa Power Authority provides power and water to their homes, and even about how the American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency regulates laws that protect our environment and evidently, our health.

She noted that public health is everyone's business, and we all have a part to play in enhancing the lives of our community.

Manumalo Academy, a Christian-based WASC accredited institute in Malaeimi, is looking to hire for the following positions:

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What next for North Korea, Guam and Trump? Experts weigh in

SAN JOSE, California (AP) — Threatening language between the U.S. and North Korea is flaring this week. After President Donald Trump vowed to respond with “fire and fury” if Pyongyang continued to threaten the U.S., the North’s military said it is finalizing a plan to fire four midrange missiles to hit waters near the strategic U.S. territory of Guam.

Below, North Korea experts reached Wednesday in the U.S. discuss the gravity of the moment and where both countries, and the world, could go from here:

CLOSER TO THE BRINK, TALKS ESSENTIAL

Srinivasan Sitaraman, political scientist at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts:

Despite Secretary of State Rex Tillerson’s efforts to play down Trump’s statements on unleashing “fire and fury” on the North, “it seems that Mr. Trump either deliberately or inadvertently threatened nuclear annihilation of North Korea. One of the consequences of this war of words and the associated escalation postures is that it would be very hard for both the United States and North Korea to back down after having quickly pushed each other close to the brink.

“Despite this escalation it is my belief that the possi-

bility of a nuclear exchange, although higher than normal, is still below the threshold of actual usage. ... It is absolutely essential to find ways to bring North Korea to the negotiating table and engage them in talks and remove the cloud of nuclear war that is hanging over the world. Getting the North Koreans to the negotiating table is not something that could be achieved in the short term, but the Six Parties (the U.S., North Korea, South Korea, Japan, China and Russia) and the U.N. Security Council must work towards laying the groundwork towards this objective.”

PLAYING INTO KIM’S HANDS?

Tony Talbott, interim executive director of the University of Dayton Human Rights Center in Ohio:

“Both leaders are primarily speaking to their domestic audiences. Trump wants or needs to appear strong to fit his image and previous rhetoric. Kim needs to maintain the illusion of him being the only possible savior of his country and people — an island of virtue adrift in a sea of brutal enemies. With China and Russia agreeing to the (U.N. Security Council) sanctions against DPRK (the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the North’s official name), Kim truly looks and

feels alone and will increase his strident rhetoric. Engaging in this theater with him, escalating the intensity and threat of our responses, will be detrimental and actually plays into Kim’s hands, regarding maintaining control of the regime.”

‘NO GOOD MILITARY OPTIONS’

Raymond Kuo, political scientist at Fordham University in New York: There are “no good military options that wouldn’t result in deaths of thousands in the first day, and even then it might not eliminate DPRK capability.” He said the world “may ultimately have to rely on mutually assured destruction — that nukes self-deter and no one goes to nuclear war. But that will also create great instability on a conventional and unconventional warfare level. Ironically, it may be Trump that escalates and causes war.”

GUAM ATTACK UNLIKELY; TWEETS ‘IRRESPONSIBLE’

Margaret E. Kosal, director of the Sam Nunn Security Program and Military Fellows Program at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta:

Could North Korea truly attack Guam? “It’s likely no. No one outside of a small number of people in the DPRK can know for sure.

Nonetheless, that capability

(Continued on page 7)



FILE - This combination of photos show North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on April 15, 2017, in Pyongyang, North Korea, left, and U.S. President Donald Trump in Washington on April 29, 2017. Threatening language between the U.S. and North Korea is flaring. After Trump vowed to respond with „Äufire and fury,Ä if Pyongyang continued to threaten the U.S., the North,Äôs military said it is finalizing a plan to fire four midrange missiles to hit waters near the strategic U.S. territory of Guam.

(AP Photo/Wong Maye-E, Pablo Martinez Monsivais, Files)



American Samoa Government
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

INVITATION FOR BIDS
IFB-2413-17

Issuance Date: August 01, 2017

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No later than 10:00am (local time)

1. INVITATION

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3. BID DOCUMENTS

Bid documents, including Specifications, may be examined at the Office of Procurement or obtained there from free of charge during normal hours of operation.

4. CONDITIONS

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Dr. Oreta Mapu Crichton

DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON
Chief Procurement Officer

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► MASI finalizing...

Continued from page 1

ican Samoa.”

Past MASI presidents are Juliette Spencer-Sword, Lusila Hudson, Lupe Laussen and her husband, the late Ben Laussen, Susing Alivia, and Monty Tupuola. This year, a slide-show featuring snapshots of all former Miss American Samoa beauties — who have all been formally invited to the event — will be in the spotlight during next month’s pageant.

THEY INCLUDE:

Fatima Langkilde, Pina Ofoia, Ann Liu, Maria Tia, Salote Auelua, Juliette Spencer Sword, Julie Kunkel, Amy Aetui, Lorelei Haleck, Faleosina Faiai Voigt, Leilua Stevenson, Lorena Elizabeth Tiapula Cruz, Rochelle Reid, Tapuitea Fanene-Sola’ita (relinquished title to Sieni Skelton), Simeamativa Peleiupu Kruse, Vaisa’asa’a Ofisa Galea’I, Helen Afatasi Burke, Vitalina Samoata Anne Kline, Lupe Ane Kenape Aumavae (relinquished crown to Marianne Laurenson), Etelagi Atia’e, Trixy Theresa Taua, Faith Toilolo, Charity Apineru Gregory, Wilhelmina

Elisapeta Saelua (relinquished crown to Faasilitama’ita’i Shanett Pualani Tilo), Loris Mata’utia, Cindy Silao, Skyline Nua, Arrielle Maloata, Eleitino Tuiasosopo, Anneliese Sword, and Suluga Taliau Five of the former Miss American Samoa title holders went on to win the Miss South Pacific crown. They are: Juliette Spencer-Sword (held the Miss Tausala title and won the first ever Miss South Pacific pageant), Leilua Stevenson, Rochelle Reid, Helen Burke, and Lupe Ane Kenape Aumavae. Young women interested in competing for the 2017-2018 Miss American Samoa title are reminded that the deadline for applications has been extended to next Tuesday, August 15th. Meanwhile, the reigning Miss American Samoa, Antonina Lilomaiaava, is working on the finishing touches of her last project as the territory’s ambassador — a library for children at the LBJ Medical Center’s Pediatric Ward, which will offer reading material for kids, to encourage literacy.



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samoa news

Mom says she didn't want incident to define Swift's life

DENVER (AP) — Taylor Swift's mother and confidante took the witness stand Wednesday, saying she and her daughter's managers had told the bosses of a disc jockey accused of groping the singer-songwriter that they hoped he would be fired but didn't ask them to do so. Andrea Swift said during her emotional testimony at a civil trial in federal court in Denver that she had no doubt about what happened during a pre-concert photo op, based on a conversation with her daughter.

"She said, 'Mom, a guy just grabbed my ass.' ... She was really shaken. She was humiliated," a tearful Andrea Swift told jurors.

Andrea Swift is a co-defendant in the lawsuit filed by David Mueller.

What next...

Continued from page 5

is beyond anything that they have demonstrated thus far. Guam is a non-credible threat; Seoul and Japan is a credible threat. She called Trump's comments on Twitter "irresponsible. It does nothing to help the U.S. or our allies. It increases instability. Our diplomats need to be empowered to do their jobs."

A NEED FOR TACTIC

Tyler Weaver, a professor of political science at University of Nebraska-Lincoln:

"Trump's statements seem to mirror Kim's language. Is he trying to talk to Kim in words he understands? Is this just the way Trump talks? Is Trump trying to be unpredictable and thus change China's calculation and raise the cost for supporting Kim? It is honestly hard to say. But the rest of the national secu-

rity establishment in the U.S. seems to be walking Trump's rhetoric back a bit today.

"The hope is that Kim feels compelled to come back to the negotiating table. One possible way to do that would be to make him think that the U.S. is feeling less constrained to act. That of course carries big risks that he might pre-emptively strike. However, it seems clear to me that Kim's nuclear program is a tool for keeping his regime in power and engaging in a nuclear exchange with the U.S. will be an existential issue for him. So I doubt Kim will be inclined to strike first. If that is Trump's assessment as well he might simply be attempting to create uncertainty in Kim and hopefully get him to start negotiating."

Social wellness...

Continued from page 3

Ali has also met some local traditional healers — or Samoan fofo — and wants to include them as part of the "Manuia Samoa" facility.

"We want to work with them to teach the art of natural healing. Also, there will be an art gallery for other artists such as painters," she explained. "Really, the main focus is health and wellness."

She pointed out that in the U.S "everyone is trying to go back to the natural way, instead of traditional western medicine. They want to find more ways to be healthy naturally — natural medicine, herbal healing, massages. We want to focus on that at this facility too, and help teach it here."

Samoa News observed during the interview that Ali was happy and very passionate in discussing her project, especially with her roots in American Samoa — her great uncle is Eteuati Leiato and her grandmother is Masaniai Leiato.

"A lot of people have been very responsive and actually have been very helpful with this project," Ali said, adding that she isn't the only one involved in the project. "I work with the community, from the development and construction of the

facility, to the operation. It is a community effort and community project.

I want to work with the people to build something not for myself, but for the entire community."

When asked what she would consider a great achievement for her, as a woman, film maker, and a person of Samoan ancestry working on this a project, Ali responded, "What I would like to see achieved, is the community being able to express themselves artistically, not only through one medium of arts but all mediums, including health and wellness because I think it's important for us as Samoans to go back to the original way of not eating a lot of processed foods, not taking all these pills and things, but thinking about what we get from the land, that God gave us."


She continued, "I want to make sure that a lot of the youth who are not accustomed to that, will learn to respect the fofo and a lot of the traditional medicine and arts."

As to the actual site for the facility, Ali said it was proposed to be in Faga'itua but there is no confirmed location — for now — but it's definitely going to be on the east side of Tutuila.



Ian Simpson, right, of Provo, Ut., gives a kiss to his wife, Lauren, as they wait at the head of the line for the public wait to get courtroom seats to view the third day of a civil trial to determine whether a radio host groped pop singer Taylor Swift in a case in federal court Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017, in Denver. former DJ David Mueller, who sued Swift after she said he touched her backside before a concert in Denver in 2013. He's seeking at least \$3 million. Swift countersued for sexual assault and is seeking \$1.

(AP Photo/David Zalubowski)



AMERICAN SAMOA
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Website: www.aspower.com

PUBLIC JOB POSTING

Position Title	Staff Accountant	Posting Date	August 10, 2017
Department	Accounting	Deadline	4:00PM; August 17, 2017
Division	Support Services	Pay Rate	\$13.08 to \$15.04 per hour
Position Type	Career Service - 12 months probation	Job Grade/Status	G/6/C – G/10/A, Non-Exempt
Reports To	Accounting Supervisor		

Major Duties & Responsibilities

Incumbent must be able to produce accurate and complete reconciliations for the preparation of monthly financial reports for the Board and appropriate government entities; complete monthly journal entries as part of the close process; and ensure all schedules are completed for each month and the year-end financial audit. Incumbent should have good time management and organizational skills, be analytical and detail-oriented, computer proficient, possess good interpersonal skills as well as excellent written and verbal communication skills.

	<h4>Minimum Requirements</h4>
Education	Bachelor of Arts/Science Degree in Accounting / Commerce or Associate of Arts Degree (AA) in Accounting with experience. Knowledge of US GAAP and GASB as well as of automated accounting and financial information systems.
Experience	Minimum of five (5) years related work experience in financial reporting is required in addition to the minimum educational requirement having been obtained.
Knowledge, Skills & Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain and balance an automated consolidation system by inputting data; scheduling required jobs; verifying data.• Analyze information and options by developing spreadsheet reports.• Prepare general ledger entries by maintaining records and files; reconciling accounts.• Prepare payments by utilizing the accounts payable system, be able to accrue expenses and maintain a prepayment schedule; assign account numbers; process disbursements.• Develop and implement accounting procedures by analyzing current procedures; recommend changes and be able to write standard operating procedures.• Answer accounting and financial questions by researching and interpreting data.• Interact with auditors as required, providing analysis, reports and data as requested during audits.• Provide accounting support by reviewing financial information; converting data to the general ledger system; and obtain supplementary information for preparing financial statements.• Perform other duties and projects as assigned by the Accounting Supervisor and/or Controller including but not limited to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Financial analysiso Reconciliations of major balance sheet accountso Coordinating and organizing the semi-annual inventory and fixed asset counts• Protect the organization's value by keeping information confidential as necessary and required.• Update job knowledge by participating in educational opportunities; reading professional publications; maintaining personal networks; participating in professional organizations.• Accomplish the department's and organization's mission by completing related results as needed.

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Instruction Begins	September 5

For more information regarding 2017 Fall semester dates, call 699-9155 ext. 333, 380 or 313, email info@amsamoa.edu, or visit www.amsamoa.edu online.

US oil industry pushes back on sanctions against Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — The Trump administration’s decision on Wednesday to slap sanctions on eight members of Venezuela’s all-powerful constitutional assembly brings to 30 the number of government loyalists targeted for human rights abuses and violations of democratic norms since anti-government protests began in April. But even as the list of targeted individuals grows longer, promised economic sanctions have yet to materialize amid an outcry by the U.S. oil industry that a potential ban on petroleum imports from Venezuela — the third-largest supplier to the U.S. — would hurt U.S. jobs and drive up gas costs.

The sanctions announced Wednesday focused on current or former Venezuelan government officials accused by the U.S. of supporting President Nicolas Maduro’s creation of a special assembly charged with rewriting Venezuela’s constitution — a move the U.S. says is

an attempt by Maduro to shore up his grip on power.

Since its election last month, the 545-member assembly has declared itself superior to all other government institutions and ousted Venezuela’s chief prosecutor, a vocal critic of Maduro.

The U.S. Treasury Department took the unusual step of sanctioning Maduro himself last month, freezing any assets he may have in the U.S. and blocking Americans from doing business with him.

The newest additions on Wednesday include Adan Chavez, the older brother of Hugo Chavez, who is credited with introducing the late president to Marxist ideology in the 1970s, and a national guard colonel lionized by the government after he physically shoved congress President Julio Borges during a heated exchange caught on video. Former Foreign Minister Delcy Rodriguez, who is leading the assembly but has so far escaped being sanctioned, said the latest U.S. action seeks to “spread fear” among delegates and please government opponents she described as “criminals” and “unpatriotic.”

While most Venezuelan officials wear U.S. sanctions as a badge of honor — and are frequently rewarded with promotions as a result — Maduro faces a far greater threat if Trump follows through on economic sanctions against the OPEC nation.

For all of Maduro’s anti-capitalist rhetoric, Venezuela, which sits atop the world’s largest oil reserves, remains highly dependent on oil exports to the U.S., especially for importing food and medicine — items in short supply as crude prices have fallen and triple-digit inflation wreaks havoc on the economy. The Trump administration warned last month that it would take “strong and swift economic actions” against Maduro if he went ahead with plans to seat the constitutional assembly.

But since the election last month, no such action has materialized, leading some of Maduro’s opponents to wonder whether the U.S. president has lost his nerve.



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► Proposed...

Continued from page 2

posing that such fees and charges may be modified every five years and the Port director shall review these fees every 5 years and if necessary, initiate modification of fees and charges through the Administration process.

Due to the current high costs and expenses of Port projects and the strain on government funds, this bill must be effective immediately upon passage by the Legislature and approval by the Governor, according to the bill’s language.



US scientists contradict Trump’s climate claims

WASHINGTON (AP) — As President Donald Trump touts new oil pipelines and pledges to revive the nation’s struggling coal mines, federal scientists are warning that burning fossil fuels is already driving a steep increase in the United States of heat waves, droughts and floods.

It is the latest example of collisions between Trump’s environmental policies and the facts presented by his government’s experts.

Contradicting Trump’s claims that climate change is a “hoax,” the draft report representing the consensus of 13 federal agencies concludes that the evidence global warming is being driven by human activities is “unambiguous.” That directly undercuts statements by Trump and his Cabinet casting doubt on whether the warming observed around the globe is being primarily driven by man-made carbon pollution.

“There are no alternative explanations, and no natural cycles are found in the observational record that can explain the observed changes in climate,” says the report, citing thousands of peer-reviewed studies.

“Evidence for a changing climate abounds, from the top of the atmosphere to the depths of the oceans.”

Faced with reams of evidence compiled by federal scientists that conflicts with their policy positions, Trump and his advisers frequently cite the work of industry-funded think tanks. Environmental Protection Agency chief Scott Pruitt and Energy Secretary Rick Perry have championed the formation of a “red-team, blue-team” exercise where climate-change skeptics would publicly debate mainstream climate scientists.

Submitted as part of the upcoming National Climate Assessment, the draft federal report sends the overriding message that failing to curb carbon pollution now will exacerbate negative consequences in the future.

That assessment calls into question the wisdom of Trump’s environmental and energy policies, which seek to boost U.S. production and consumption of fossil fuels even as the world’s other leading economies promote cleaner sources of energy.

An early version of the report, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, was distributed widely in December for review by leading scientists. The New York Times published a copy Monday.

The U.S. Global Change Research Program, which will edit and produce the final climate report, did not respond to phone calls and emails seeking comment on Tuesday.

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders criticized the Times for reporting on the draft document “without first

verifying its contents with the White House or any of the federal agencies directly involved with climate and environmental policy.”

She then declined to comment on the report.

“The White House will withhold comment on any draft report before its scheduled release date,” Sanders said.

The assessment has generally been released every four years under a federal initiative mandated by Congress in 1990.

The current draft for 2018, targeted for release later this year, largely builds on the conclusions of the 2014 assessment released under the Obama administration. The assessment said global temperatures will continue to rise without steep reductions in the burning of fossil fuels, with increasingly dire effects on the lives of every American. Worldwide, 15 of the last 16 years have been the warmest years on record.



FILE - In this Sept. 28, 2016, file photo, vintage cars line a property after the Loma fire burned through Loma Chiquita Road near Morgan Hill, Calif. As President Donald Trump touts new oil pipelines and pledges to revive the nation’s struggling coal mines, federal scientists are warning that burning fossil fuels is already driving a steep increase in the United States of heat waves, droughts and floods.

(AP Photo/Noah Berger, File)




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Guam residents fear attack after North Korea statements

HAGATNA, Guam (AP) — Residents of the tiny Pacific island of Guam say they're afraid of being caught in the middle of escalating tensions between the U.S. and North Korea after Pyongyang announced it was examining plans for attacking the strategically important U.S. territory.

Though local officials downplayed any threat, people who live and work on the island, which serves as a launching pad for the U.S. military, said Wednesday they could no longer shrug off the idea of being a potential target.

"I'm a little worried, a little panicked. Is this really going to happen?" said Cecil Chugrad, a 37-year-old bus driver for a tour bus company in Guam. "If it's just me, I don't mind, but I have to worry about my son. I feel like moving (out of Guam) now." Guam is used to the threats from North Korea but advances

in the country's nuclear program paired with fiery rhetoric from President Donald Trump has raised the already high animosity and heightened worries that a miscalculation might spark conflict between the nuclear-armed nations.

Reports suggested North Korea mastered a technological hurdle needed to strike the U.S. with a nuclear missile. The advances were detailed in an official Japanese assessment and later a Washington Post story that cited U.S. intelligence officials and a confidential Defense Intelligence Agency report. In response, Trump on Tuesday threatened the communist country "with fire and fury." On Wednesday, the North Korean army said in a statement that it was studying a plan to create an "enveloping fire" in areas around Guam with medium- to long-range ballistic missiles. While it is extremely

unlikely that Pyongyang would risk the assured annihilation of its revered leadership with a preemptive attack on U.S. citizens, some residents are concerned.

"If anything happens, we all got to be ready, be prepared, and pray to God that it doesn't happen," Daisy Mendiola, 56, said after finishing lunch with her family at a restaurant near Hagatna. "Everyone's afraid, because we're dealing with powers that's beyond us."

Other residents are worried about the political atmosphere and the government's ability to find a peaceful solution.

Todd Thompson, a lawyer who lives on Guam, said he laughed off past threats because he "figured cooler heads in Washington would prevail, and it was just an idle threat."

"But I have to say, I'm not laughing now," Thompson said. "My concern is that things have changed in Washington."



FILE - In this May 13, 2017 file photo, Japanese soldiers use rubber rafts as part of an amphibious drill during joint military exercises between the U.S., Japan, France and the United Kingdom, on Naval Base Guam. North Korea says it is examining its operational plans for attacking Guam to contain U.S. bases there. The army said in a statement distributed Wednesday, Aug. 9 by the state-run news agency that it is studying a plan to create an "enveloping fire" in areas around Guam with medium- to long-range ballistic missiles. The U.S. territory is home to Andersen Air Force Base. The statement says the move is in response to a recent U.S. ICBM test.

(AP Photo/Haven Daley, File)

Kenya awaits vote results amid violence, hacking allegations

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Kenyan police opened fire Wednesday to disperse rioters in several areas after presidential challenger Raila Odinga alleged election fraud, saying hackers used the identity of a murdered official to infiltrate the database of the election commission and manipulate results in favor of President Uhuru Kenyatta. At least three people were killed.

As Kenyatta held a strong lead in provisional results with 96 percent of all polling stations counted, the election commission defended the voting system as secure, saying there were “no interferences before, during and after” Tuesday’s election.

Election officials were verifying the final tallies Wednesday night. It was unclear how long it would take, though by law election officials have up to a week from the election to announce the results.

Odinga, a former prime minister, blamed Kenyatta’s Jubilee Party for the alleged hacking. “The fraud Jubilee has perpetuated on Kenyans surpasses any level of voter theft in our country’s history. This time we caught them,” he tweeted.

Soon after Odinga claimed on television that the election had been rigged, angry protesters in the Nairobi slum of Mathare and poor areas in the opposition stronghold of Kisumu in the southwest burned tires, set up roadblocks and clashed with police.

Two people were shot dead in Nairobi as they took advantage of the protests to loot, Nairobi police chief Japheth Koome said. An Associated Press photographer said one was shot in the head. Police killed one person when they opened fire on protesters in another opposition stronghold in Kisii County, said Leonard Katana, a regional police commander.

Many parts of Kenya, East Africa’s commercial hub, remained calm, but the violence stirred memories of the unrest that followed the 2007 vote in which more than 1,000 people

were killed. Odinga lost that election; he also lost the 2013 vote to Kenyatta and took allegations of vote-tampering to the Supreme Court, which rejected his case.

Odinga on Wednesday claimed that hackers used the identity of Christopher Msando, an election official in charge of managing information technology systems. On July 31, officials announced that Msando had been tortured and killed, alarming Kenyans who feared a recurrence of political violence fueled by ethnic divisions.

Odinga posted online what he said were computer logs proving his allegation. A Tuesday morning entry in the purported computer logs that Odinga posted on Facebook reads: “Login failed for user ‘msando’. Reason: The password of the account must be changed.”

Rafael Tuju, a top official in Kenyatta’s party, said the opposition’s claims were unfounded, and Kenya’s election commission said it would investigate.

Amid the uncertainty, some Odinga supporters erupted.

“He is not accepting the results and that is why we are on the streets, but police have started shooting,” said demonstrator Sebastian Omolo in Kisumu, one of Kenya’s largest cities. The western port city on Lake Victoria has been a flashpoint in past elections.

Kisumu shopkeeper Festus Odhiambo said he was praying for peace even as protesters blocked roads into city slums with bonfires and boulders.

Kenya’s interior minister, Fred Matiangi, warned against the use of social media to stoke tensions. Officials have said it was unlikely they would shut down the internet but said they might shut down some social media if necessary.

“We assure Kenyans and all residents, the country is safe,” said Matiangi. “I urge everyone to go on freely with their daily chores.”



Residents of the Mathare area of Nairobi, Kenya, take to the streets by blocking roads with burning tyres to protest in support of Kenyan opposition leader and presidential candidate Raila Odinga, Wednesday Aug. 9, 2017. Odinga alleges that hackers manipulated the Tuesday election results which appear to show President Uhuru Kenyatta has a wide lead over Odinga.

(AP Photo. (AP Photo/Brian Inganga)



AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY COLLEGE Student Services – Financial Aid Office

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position Title:
Employment Status:

FINANCIAL AID COUNSELOR I
Full Time 12 months (Career Service)

General Description:

The Financial Aid Counselor 1 ensures the application of current federal guidelines while assisting students in their search and application for Student Financial Assistance. This includes counseling, assistance with filing out of forms, as well as academic status counseling. Processes all applications for funding, ensuring that submitted and on-file documents are complete and accurate. Completes year reporting – FISAP, FWS & FSEOG reconciliations to student files. Handles student counseling, assists students with their applications and is able to work independently. Counselor must be able to handle various aspects of financial assistance programs and have a good basic knowledge of all regulatory guidelines including federal and internal policies.

Responsibilities and Duties:

- Complies with office policies and procedures to ensure quality and effective management of campus based student files.
- Complies with developed procedures and assists in planning for the administration of the campus based programs.
- Assists in the compilation and reconciliation of end of year reporting: FWS & FSEOG.
- Reviews, evaluates and documents all eligible applicants, and calculates student academic progress
- Records all campus based transactions, including those of transfer students, on counselor spreadsheets for transfer monitoring reports to NSLDS.
- Makes sure ASCC complies with the “Refund” compliance requirements listed in Section II of the Student Federal Aid Guide.
- Maintains current federal updates on all Title IV Programs as well as program-related policy compliance within the Financial Aid Office.
- Assists in enforcing ASCC/FSA Financial Aid Policies and Procedures in the office and throughout campus.
- Conducts student counseling throughout the school year and advises students on a course of action to take regarding FA matters in order to better support their academic endeavors.
- Assists in Financial Aid presentations to high schools and at ASCC orientation for students and parents.
- Communicates with the Financial Aid Administrator in resolving matters on student academic and financial situations and/or appeals submitted by students or parents concerning their Camus Based Award.
- Assists in compiling NSLDS Enrollment Report, collecting IPEDS data for compilation by FA Officer, as well as providing assistance with other federal and institutionally required reports and surveys.
- Performs other tasks and duties assigned by Financial Aid Officer.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Some College, or Associate’s Degree or at least (2) years of experience in financial aid.

Salary Level I: GS GS 12/05-07: \$16,373.00 - \$17, 673.00

Level II: GS-13/05-10: \$19, 120.00 - \$23,020.00

Application Deadline: August 10, 2017 no later than 4:00pm.

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Glen Campbell said goodbye to his life, career through music

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Glen Campbell was a rare entertainer who got to say goodbye to his life and career in every way he knew how. Before his mind evaporated into Alzheimer’s disease, Campbell was able to go out on one last big tour, star in a documentary and record an album of his favorite songs, fittingly called “Adios.” Three of his children sing on the album, which was released earlier this summer.

The country superstar died

Tuesday morning in Nashville, Campbell’s family said. He was 81. “I owe him everything I am, and everything I ever will be,” daughter Ashley Campbell wrote on Twitter. “He will be remembered so well and with so much love.” A guitarist since age 4, Campbell’s musical talent, boyish looks and friendly charm brought him decades of success. He won five Grammys, sold more than 45 million records, had 12 gold albums and 75 chart hits.



French police officer carries a bag from the scene where French soldiers were hit and injured by a vehicle in the western Paris suburb of Levallois-Perret near Paris, France, Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017. French police are searching for a driver who slammed his BMW into a group of soldiers, injuring six of them in an apparent ambush before speeding away, officials said. The incident in Levallois, northwest of Paris, is the latest of several attacks targeting security forces in France.

(AP Photo/Kamil Zihnioglu)

Man ambushes French soldiers in car attack, later arrested

LEVALLOIS-PERRET, France (AP) — A man rammed his car into a group of soldiers near Paris, injuring six of them, and then was cornered by police in a highway manhunt - the latest in what's become a disturbingly familiar pattern of attacks targeting French security forces.

It's unclear what motivated the driver, who was hospitalized with bullet wounds after the calculated morning ambush and an hours-long police chase. Authorities said he deliberately accelerated his BMW into a cluster of soldiers in what prosecutors are investigating as a potential terrorist attack.

President Emmanuel Macron went to Twitter to express his "congratulations to the forces of order that apprehended the perpetrator of the attack," and also to urge continued vigilance across the country.

Macron's government painted the incident in the suburb of Levallois-Perret as proof of the need to approve a new security law that critics contend infringes on liberties and would put France in a permanent state of emergency.

Wednesday's attack caused no deaths and hurt no civilians, but still set nerves on edge: It was the seventh attempted attack on security forces guarding France this year alone. While others have targeted prominent sites like the Eiffel Tower, Wednesday's attack hit the leafy, relatively affluent suburb of Levallois-Perret that is home to France's main intelligence service, the DGSI, and its counterterrorism service.

"We know it was a deliberate act," Interior Minister Gerard Collomb said. Defense Minister Florence Parly called it a reminder that extra security measures imposed in recent years are "more necessary than ever." On a quiet summer morning, the suspect was seen waiting in a black BMW in a cul-de-sac near the Levallois city hall and a building used as a staging point for soldiers in France's operation to protect prominent sites, according to two police officials, who like others connected to the case weren't authorized to be publicly named because of the ongoing police operation.

A group of soldiers emerged from the building to board vehicles for a new shift when the car sped up and rammed into them, its force hurling the soldiers against their van, one of the officials said. Collomb said the car first approached slowly then sped up about five meters (yards) from its target.

A nearby resident described hearing an ear-piercing scream of pain, then soldiers chasing after the fleeing car.

Authorities checked video surveillance of the area and

police fanned out and stopped numerous cars as they searched for the attacker.

Then, on the A16 highway near the English Channel port of Calais, police stopped what Prime Minister Edouard Philippe called the "principal suspect." Images of the arrest scene showed emergency vehicles surrounding a black BMW with a damaged windshield, on a cordoned-off highway in the midst of verdant fields.

Police officers opened fire during the arrest to subdue the man, and the suspect was injured along with an officer hit by a stray police bullet, a judicial official said.

The suspect was hospitalized, the official said, but his condition wasn't immediately clear. One police official said the suspect may be an illegal North African immigrant in his 30s, while another said he was an Algerian with French residency papers. The government and prosecutors would not release information about his identity.

Heavily armed, masked police searched a building believed linked to the attacker in the Paris suburb of Bezons on Wednesday night.

The defense minister said she received "reassuring" news about the condition of the injured soldiers, and that their lives aren't in danger.

The soldiers were from the 35th infantry regiment and served in Operation Sentinelle, created to guard prominent French sites after a string of deadly Islamic extremist attacks in 2015. A witness to the car attack, Nadia LeProhon, was startled by a loud crash outside her building and rushed outside her seventh-floor window to see two soldiers on the ground. Other soldiers ran after a speeding car, shouting "After him! Follow that car!"

"I'll never forget that scream - a scream of pain and distress," she told The Associated Press.

Resident Jean-Claude Veillant said he saw two uniformed soldiers on the ground. "It was horrible," he said, adding that both soldiers appeared to be in bad shape and one of them was unconscious. The street is normally protected by retractable posts that are removed when vehicles move in and out, so the driver must have known exactly when to strike, Veillant said. "They must've really planned this," he said. Counterterrorism prosecutors opened an investigation on potential charges of attempted murder of security forces in connection with a terrorist enterprise, the Paris prosecutor's office said.

Philippe, the prime minister, said that despite a sustained "high threat" against France, the government is sticking to plans to lift a 21-month state of emergency.



SAMOA AIRWAYS - CABIN CREW

Polynesian Airlines trading as Samoa Airways is looking for dynamic, motivated and professional Flight Attendants to join our Cabin Crew team in September 2017. We are dedicated to providing a safe and efficient service and our Cabin Crew will be expected to meet the highest professional standards. Consider this an opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to Samoa through the service you will provide to people from all backgrounds who will choose to fly Samoa Airways.

Samoa Airways invites applications from suitably qualified and experienced persons for the above position based in Apia, Samoa.

The Ideal candidate must have the following:

- Previous experience in the airline and/or tourism industry
- Strong customer service focus with at least a minimum of 12 months experience working in a customer driven environment
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in both Samoan and English and must be able to communicate effectively with a diverse range of people
- Demonstrated ability to build and maintain relationships and work effectively within a team environment
- Willing to work flexible shift hours
- Be competent and confident in aircraft and airline safety compliances
- Display professional and well groomed appearance

Minimum Qualifications or willing to obtain

- Be at least 21 years of age
- Have attained a pass in Pacific Senior School Certificate (PSSC), or equivalent
- Hold a current machine-readable passport with at least 18 months validity
- Have an excellent level of health and fitness

Job Offer

- Start early-mid September 2017
- Training Opportunities

If you think you are the right person to join our team please submit a cover letter, CV, and a recent passport photo via email to hadmin@polynesianairlines.ws by no later than **4.00pm (local time) Friday 18 August 2017**

Please note the following:

- Our Cabin Crew opportunities are full time only.
- Visa conditions and accommodation for non-residents apply at own cost.
- Successful candidates will be required to submit a Clean Police Report and Full medical
- Polynesian Airlines thanks all applicants. However, please note only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

Pentagon: British firm billed US over \$50M for iffy expenses

WASHINGTON (AP) — A British company hired to train Afghan intelligence officers billed the U.S. government for high-end cars, including Porsches and an Aston Martin, and paid the “significant others” of the firm’s top executives six-figure salaries even though there’s no proof they did any work, according to details of a Pentagon audit made public Wednesday.

Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., said New Century Consulting also spent \$42,000 on automatic weapons, using cash to get around a prohibition in the contract on purchasing the firearms, and showered other personnel with hefty pay and bonuses they hadn’t earned. Overall, the military contractor “left taxpayers on the hook for over \$50 million in questionable costs,” McCaskill said in a statement. McCaskill, the top Democrat on the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, summarized the audit’s major findings in a letter to Defense Secretary Jim Mattis. She demanded to know which Defense Department office was responsible for overseeing the contractor, what steps are being taken to recover the disputed payments, and whether New Century Consulting will face disciplinary action.

Michael Grunberg, chief executive officer of New Century Consulting, said the company is being portrayed unfairly and that it strives to follow federal acquisition rules. Grunberg said it “is most unfair and is significantly inaccurate” that the executive assistants received excessive salaries.

He said the audit “questioned solely the use and depreciation treatment of vehicles” and that New Century Consulting “accounted for no more than three vehicles across the entire business at any one time.” The purchase of the weapons was done properly and at the direction of the U.S.-led command overseeing the training and equipping of the Afghan security forces, according to Grunberg.

McCaskill’s disclosure of the audit’s key findings is a rare glimpse into the opaque world of battlefield contracting. Contractors are indispensable in Afghanistan, handling security, transportation, construction and more. Yet the Defense Department has faced widespread criticism that it often fails to perform rigorous oversight of the companies and how exactly U.S. taxpayer dollars are spent.

The report also comes amid the tense debate inside the Trump administration over the way ahead in Afghanistan. Two of President Donald Trump’s most senior advisers — chief strategist Steve Bannon and

son-in-law Jared Kushner — have been advocating for military contractors to fight the war there instead of American forces. The United States has about 8,400 troops in Afghanistan, and so far Trump has resisted the Pentagon’s recommendations to send as many as 4,000 more. The Associated Press reported last week that Blackwater Worldwide founder Erik Prince, the brother of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, was approached by Trump’s top advisers to develop proposals to gradually swap out U.S. troops and put contractors in their place. The Defense Contract Audit Agency examined New Century Consulting’s invoices between fiscal years 2008 and 2013, when it was a subcontractor to another company, Imperatis Corporation. Among the costs charged to the U.S.



FILE - In this June 6, 2017, file photo, Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee ranking member Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., asks a question during a hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington. A British company hired to help train Afghan intelligence officers billed the U.S. government for more than \$50 million in questionable expenses that included luxury cars and exorbitant salaries paid to the “significant others” of the company, its top executives, according to a Pentagon audit. McCaskill summarized the audit’s major findings in a letter to Defense Secretary Jim Mattis that she was releasing on Aug. 9.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh, File)



American Samoa
Power Authority

July 26, 2017

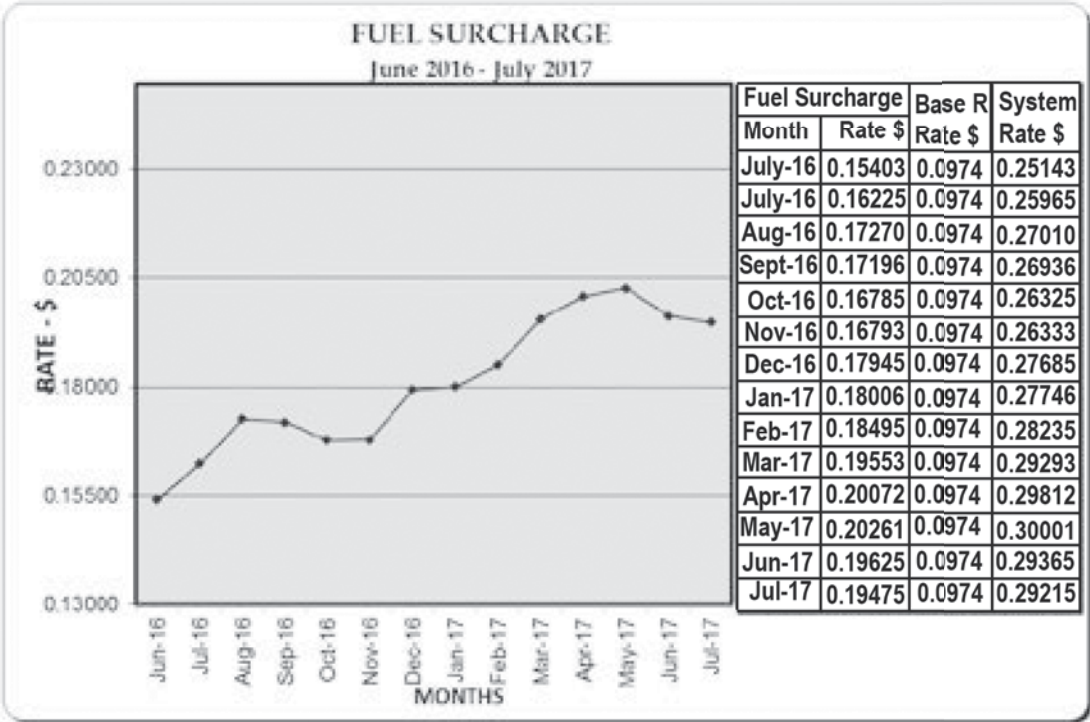
Monthly Fuel Surcharge Notification

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.”

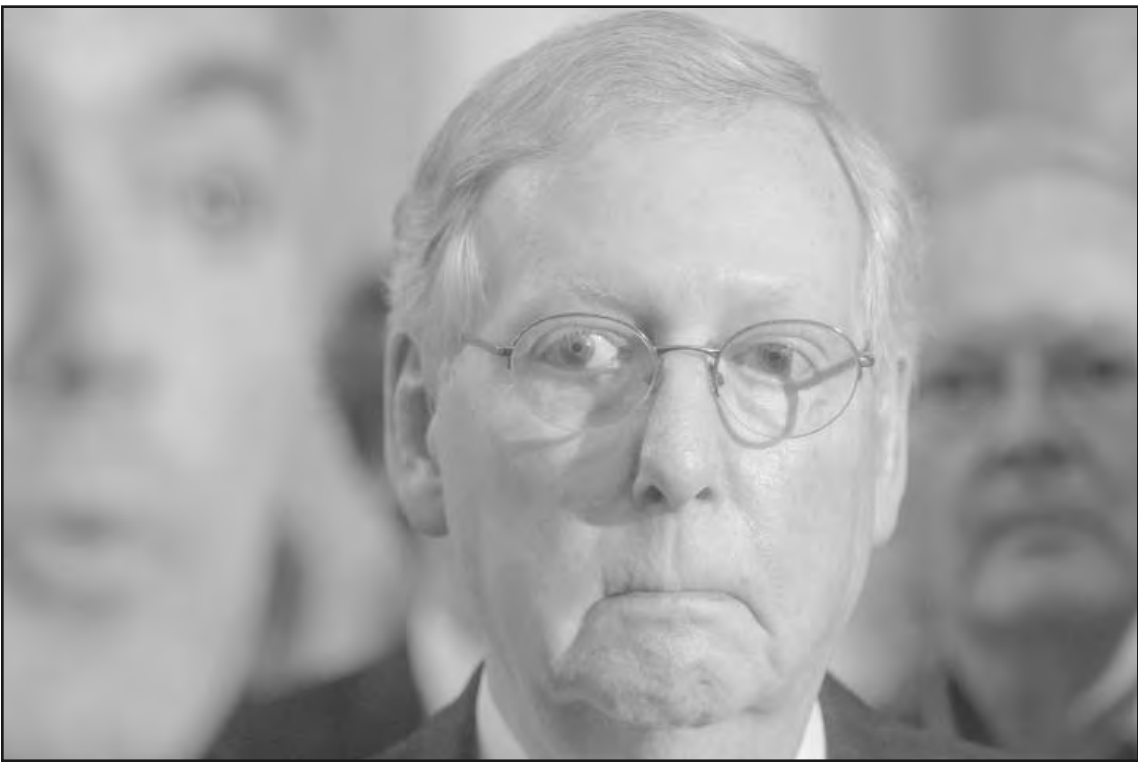
The base rate, which remains the same monthly for all electric customer classes, pays for ASPA’s operating costs and for infrastructure upgrades needed to get power to your home and business.

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 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.



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	0.09740	0.08960
Electric System Rate (kWh)	0.29215	0.29215	0.28435



FILE - In this Aug. 1, 2017 file photo, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell Ky. listens during a news conference on Capitol Hill Washington. A top White House aide and a Fox News host are criticizing McConnell after the Senate majority leader said people think Congress hasn't achieved anything this year partly because President Donald Trump has created "excessive expectations."
(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite, File)

Trump hits McConnell for Senate crash of Obama health repeal

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump scolded his own party's Senate leader on Wednesday for the crash of the Republican drive to repeal and rewrite the Obama health care law, using Twitter to demand of Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, "Why not done?"

Trump fired back at the Kentucky Republican for telling a home-state audience this week that the president had "not been in this line of work before, and I think had excessive expectations about how quickly things happen in the democratic process."

The exchange came less than two weeks after Senate rejection of the GOP effort to scuttle President Barack Obama's health care law, probably McConnell's most jolting defeat as leader and Trump's worst legislative loss. The House approved its version in May, but its Senate failure — thanks to defecting GOP senators — marked the collapse of the party's attempt to deliver on vows to erase Obama's statute it's showcased since the law's 2010 enactment.

"Senator Mitch McConnell said I had 'excessive expectations,' but I don't think so," Trump tweeted. "After 7 years of hearing Repeal & Replace, why not done?"

Trump had repeatedly used Twitter to pressure McConnell to find the votes to approve the health care bill, even saying hours after its failure that GOP senators "look like fools."

But his tweet Wednesday was an unusually personal reproach of the 33-year Senate veteran, who is deeply respected by GOP lawmakers.

Trump will need him to guide the next major Republican priority, a tax system overhaul, through the chamber. And he might be a useful White House ally as investigations progress into collusion between Russia and Trump's presidential campaign.

For his part, McConnell's statement was surprising because he is typically among the capital's most guarded politicians. When it comes to criticizing Trump, he's seldom gone further than saying he wishes he would stop tweeting, and often refused to chime in when Trump made widely condemned comments during last year's campaign.

McConnell told the Rotary Club of Florence, Kentucky, on Monday that people think Congress is underperforming partly because "artificial deadlines, unrelated to the reality of the complexity of legislating, may not have been fully understood." He added that 52 is "a challenging number," a reference to the GOP's scant 52-48 Senate majority. "You saw that on full display a couple of weeks ago," when McConnell failed to muster a majority to push three different Repub-

lican health care plans through the chamber.

McConnell's Kentucky remarks also drew a tweet from Dan Scavino Jr., the White House social media director.

"More excuses," wrote Scavino, one of Trump's more outspoken loyalists. "@SenateMajLdr must have needed another 4 years - in addition to the 7 years - to repeal and replace Obamacare."

Also joining the fray was Fox News Host Sean Hannity, a close Trump ally.

"@SenateMajLdr No Senator, YOU are a WEAK, SPINELESS leader who does not keep his word and you need to Retire!" Hannity tweeted.

Hard-right conservatives have long assailed McConnell for being insufficiently ideological.

Before taking office and after becoming president, Trump spoke often of moving legislation erasing Obama's law rapidly through Congress. On Jan. 10 — 10 days before taking office — he told The New York Times that Congress could approve a repeal bill "probably sometime next week," and a separate replacement measure would be passed "very quickly or simultaneously, very shortly thereafter."

Top congressional Republicans also fed expectations for quick work, placing health care atop their 2017 agenda. In January, House leaders unveiled a schedule calling for action by late March, and McConnell said in March that he wanted Senate passage by the April recess.

Congress has begun its summer break without passing any major legislation. It has passed bills buttressing veterans' health care and financing the Food and Drug Administration, and the Senate confirmed Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch.

McConnell told the Kentuckians that lawmakers should be judged when the current two-year Congress ends in January 2019.

Hours before Trump tweeted about McConnell, the president took his side when he tweeted his endorsement of Sen. Luther Strange, R-Ala., for next week's Senate GOP primary. McConnell has backed Strange in that multi-candidate race.

Yet one loyal Trump supporter donated \$300,000 this month to a political committee backing a primary opponent of Republican Sen. Jeff Flake of Arizona. Flake, expected to get establishment GOP backing, faces a competitive race next year and is one of the biggest thorns in the president's side.

Robert Mercer's check marked the "first major gift" this cycle to the committee backing Senate candidate Kelli Ward, said Doug McKee, chairman of Kelli PAC. Mercer has helped fund the vigorously pro-Trump Breitbart News.

FBI agents searched former Trump campaign chair's home

WASHINGTON (AP) — FBI agents looking for financial documents have searched one of the homes of President Donald Trump's former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, whose past foreign political work has been swept into the investigations into Russian interference in the 2016 election. A Manafort spokesman confirmed the search Wednesday.

Manafort spokesman Jason Maloni said in a statement that FBI agents had obtained a warrant and searched one of Manafort's homes, but he would not say when the search occurred or what it was for.

"Mr. Manafort has consistently cooperated with law enforcement and other serious inquiries and did so on this occasion as well," Maloni said.

The Associated Press has learned the warrant for the search on July 26 at Manafort's home in Alexandria, Virginia, sought information including tax documents and banking records.

The Washington Post first reported the raid.

Manafort has been a subject of a longstanding FBI investigation into his dealings in Ukraine and work for the country's former president, Viktor Yanukovich.

That investigation has been incorporated into the probe led by special counsel Robert Mueller, who is also scrutinizing Manafort's role in the Trump campaign as he looks into Russia's meddling in the 2016 election and any possible collusion with Trump associates.

Manafort, who led the Trump campaign for several months, has denied any wrongdoing.

He also spoke behind closed doors to Senate investigators for an interview just one day before the search of his home.

The use of a search warrant indicates that law enforcement officials have convinced a judge there is probable cause to believe a crime may have been committed.

A house raid can be seen as an aggressive tactic given that Manafort has been cooperating with congressional investigators and has turned over hundreds of pages of documents.

It could indicate law enforcement was looking for records beyond what Manafort provided.

Word of the raid is the latest revelation about Mueller's investigation, which had been operating in relative secrecy compared with numerous congressional probes looking at the election.

In recent days, it's become clear the former FBI director is using a grand jury in Washington as part of his investigation. A grand jury in the Eastern District of Virginia in recent

months has also been used by investigators looking into former Trump national security adviser Michael Flynn.

Also, FBI agents have been asking witnesses since the spring about \$530,000 worth of lobbying and investigative work carried out by Flynn's firm, Flynn Intel Group, according to a person familiar with the investigation.

That work sought the extradition of an exiled Turkish cleric living in the U.S. Through his attorney, Flynn has declined to comment on the investigation.

The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the sensitive details of the investigation, said FBI agents have also been asking about Flynn's business partner, Bijan Kian, who served on the Trump presidential transition.

Kian has not responded to multiple attempts to contact him over several months.

In recent months, Flynn and Manafort have turned over documents to congressional committees investigating the election interference.

One focus of the multiple probes, including Mueller's, is a June 2016 meeting Manafort attended with Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, and Donald Trump Jr. That meeting, held at Trump Tower in New York, was described to Trump Jr. in emails as part of a Russian government effort to help the Trump campaign by passing along information that could be used against Democrat Hillary Clinton.

During his Senate intelligence committee interview, Manafort provided his recollection of the Trump Tower meeting and turned over contemporaneous notes he took during the gathering.

The interview was confined to that meeting.

Manafort has also turned over other documents to the Senate intelligence committee as well as about 400 pages of records to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Meanwhile, the Judiciary Committee said Wednesday it has also received about 250 pages of documents from Trump Jr. and about 20,000 pages from the Trump campaign.

The content of the documents was not immediately clear.

The committee said it received the Manafort and Trump campaign documents on Aug. 2 and the records from Trump Jr. on Aug. 4.

Judiciary committee leaders have also been in talks with Trump Jr. and Manafort about private interviews.

The committee initially called for them to testify publicly, but lawmakers have since said they were negotiating the terms of their appearances.



FILE - In this July 18, 2016 file photo, then-Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort walks around the convention floor before the opening session of the Republican National Convention in Cleveland. A spokesman for President Donald Trump, the former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, says that FBI agents served a search warrant at one of his homes.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster, File)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Financial Manager

We are a local company involved in manufacturing, distributing, and retailing goods in the Territory. We require a new finance role based on our growth. The role will encompass financial control, business analysis, forecasting, as well as day to day financial and supervisory operations.

Specific responsibilities include:

- Ensure accuracy of the General Ledger to the previous day.
- Control and safeguard of all assets.
- Full responsibility of delivering reliable and accurate monthly financials on timely basis.
- Supervision of daily cycle counting, identifying and remedying weaknesses.
- Supervision of Accounts Payables and Accounts Receivables departments.
- Supervision of all Human Resource activities and Payroll.
- Supervise human and environmental safety compliance with applicable Federal and Territorial regulations.
- Controlling costs, ensuring costs within budget and monthly reconciliations of various balance sheet items.
- Year-End financial statements preparation for accountant's review.
- Assist management in data information and ad-hoc projects as may be required.

Requirements:

- Masters in Business Administration, or undergraduate degree in Accountancy / Finance or equivalent.
- 5 to 10 years related experience.
- Strong analytical skills and technical knowledge.
- Attention to detail and the ability to meet timelines, strict adherence to processes.
- Experience on large ERP Systems and normal office software tools.
- Proficiency with MS-Server 2012r2, MSSQL 2014, and Crystal Reports 2012 a plus.
- Ability to multi-task in a fast-paced environment on a schedule.
- Team player, as well as ability to work autonomously, and be proactive with strong problem solving and organizational skills.
- Good analytical, written and verbal communication skills in English, with additional fluency in Samoan preferred.
- If needed, able to work all seven days of the week and all hours as required by the job at hand.

Pay and benefits package commensurate with meeting minimum position requirements.
Reply with resume/CV to financepage@gmail.com



This past Tuesday, a beautiful view of the sunset from the Leone area.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

