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Le Lali - 9

Cook Islands & Samoa win big in Day 2 of OFC Champions League  
Sports

Newly sworn-in Monterey County Deputy Sheriff, Tautaimatapala Anthony Langkilde with family members and a friend, following his graduation ceremony last month.  
A native of American Samoa, Langkilde is the son of Tamatoa Tony (far left) and the late Bernadette "Pele" Scanlan. He was among the Dec. 17, 2017 graduates of the South Bay Regional Academy. See story inside for details.  
[photo: Langkilde family]



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THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2018

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## PORT OF PAGO PAGO'S NEW SERVICE WHARF DEDICATED

With the multi-million-dollar MV Manu'atele in the background, Port Administration employees, with director Taimalelagi Dr. Claire Poumele and deputy director Christopher King, are pictured at the Port of Pago Pago's new service wharf, which was dedicated yesterday. The project, carried out by Fletcher Construction, came with a price tag of \$596,799 for the design; \$534,150 for construction management; and \$8.46 million for construction. The US Department of Interior and Capital Improvement Projects provided funding for the project, which took 24 months.

Lolo informed lawmakers early this month that the project will improve inter-island services and enhance safety within the harbor, as more docking space will be available for both inter-island and fishing vessels. USDOl announced in late 2015 that the project is part of the territory's Five-Year and Long-Term Facilities Plans, providing a new wharf for servicing ships and facilitating port operations in Pago Pago Harbor. The existing service wharf, which was built in the 1950s on sediment instead of a solid basalt foundation, has deteriorated to a state that is unsafe for port operations and is slowly sinking, it says.

Dean Hudson of Fletcher Construction, in his remarks, explained the work involved in ensuring a solid foundation for the wharf, which is now 256 feet deep, with additional re-enforcement concrete of nine inches and support on solid rocks.

He said Samoa Maritime supplied the stronger-cement mix used for the project, to ensure it will last for many years, and added that one of the issues they faced was the fact that they couldn't work during high tide. According to the USDOl, initial plans to renovate the wharf were scrapped following geotechnical investigations which recommended new construction as the safest option.

"The lifeline of our economy is dependent on transportation, communication and trade," Taimalelagi told Samoa News after the ceremony, adding that the service wharf will allow the ASG-Port to provide additional services for vessels that visit the territory.

"Once we remove the sunken vessel in front of the service wharf, we will have an extended area for dockage," she said and noted that during the groundbreaking in 2015 it was mentioned that it took 8 years for the government to secure adequate funding from DOI for this project. Taimalelagi, as part of her remarks yesterday, informed the governor that Port didn't use any of its funding for the dedication reception, including food, as it was provided by Fletcher.

[photo: LF]

## Retailer tries to hide high food stamp transactions

AFFIDAVIT LAYOUTS \$650K

by Ausage Fausia  
Samoa News Reporter

The government's case against two employees of the Department of Human and Social Services (DHSS) and an Asian businessman over an alleged scheme to defraud the food stamp program reveals that another businessman — yet to be arrested and charged — was lured into the alleged scam, and was never paid or collected money for providing assistance to his 'good friend'.

Included as part of the government's affidavit of support is Information from a spreadsheet created by the DHSS inquiry team into the alleged scheme, which points to questionable transactions in the six-figure range spread out among three retail stores.

(Samoa News has chosen not to reveal the name of the second store owner until such time he is arrested and charged formally.)

The three defendants in this case — so far — are Vincent Toeava, Jane Vasa, and Liren Zhang a.k.a Kevin, owner of JFL Malae Store and Fast By Food Mart.

The trio remains in custody at the TCF, unable to post bond. Vasa's bail is set at \$10,000 while Toeava and Kevin are being held at \$450,000 each.

According to court documents, sometime during October 2017, defendant Kevin approached the other business owner's wife and asked for help in depositing food stamp coupons in their store account and giving him the redemption. Kevin allegedly told the woman that he had too many customers with food stamps that he needed help with.

The woman allegedly agreed.

Kevin told police that last November, when the store owner returned from China, he approached the store owner and asked him to do the same.

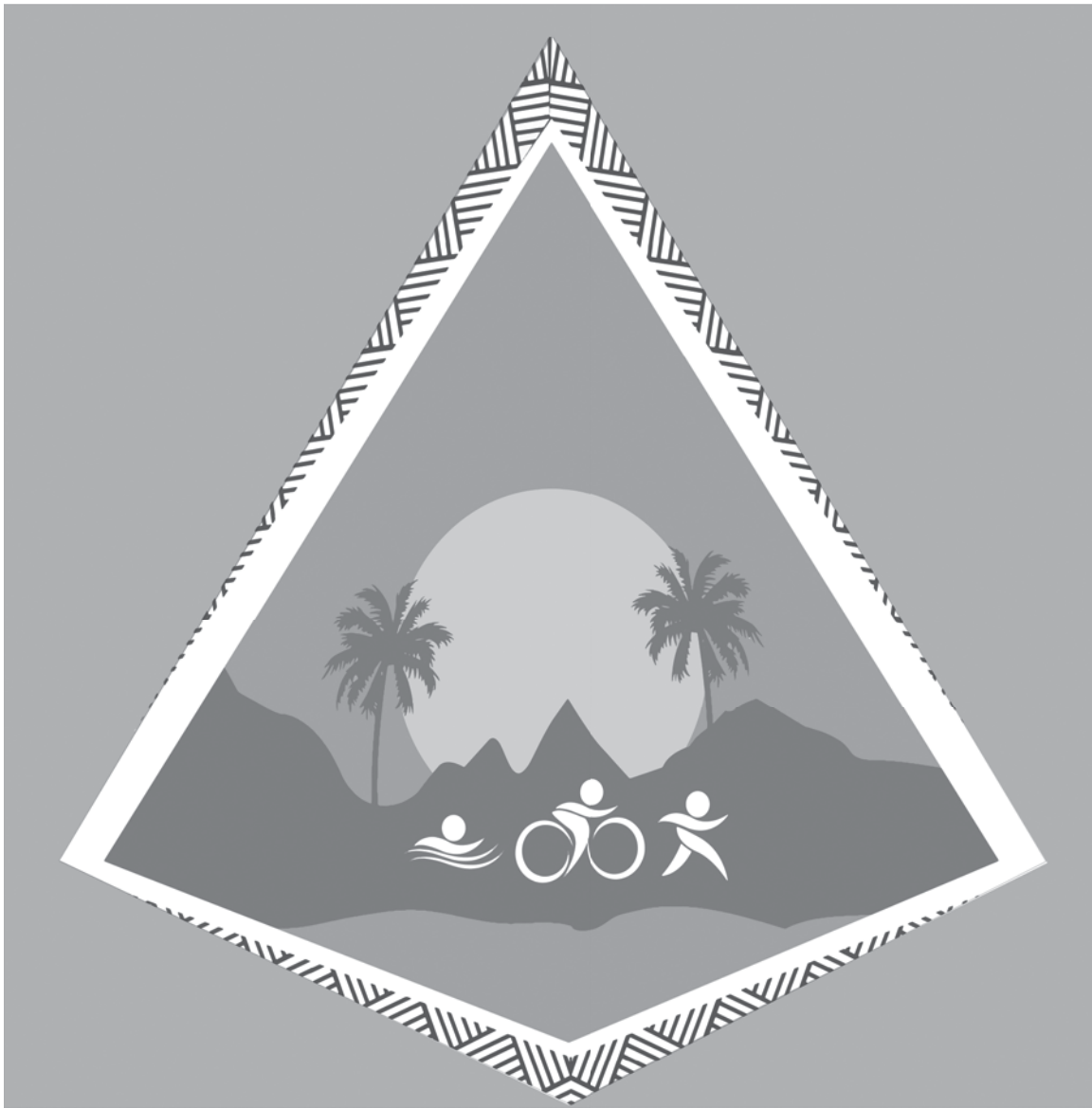
The store owner told police he agreed to do it because Kevin is "a good friend". He added that he was not paid nor did he collect any money for providing said assistance.

In the affidavit, Kevin told police that he spoke to his business acquaintance to

(Continued on page 6)







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## COURT REPORT...

*by Fili Sagapolutele*  
*Samoa News Correspondent*  
**WISE GAUTA**

A man whose trial was “aborted” after the complaining witness failed to show up to testify, has pled guilty to a misdemeanor charge in connection with an alleged shooting in Vaitogi early last year, and has been sentenced to two years probation.

Vise Gauta appeared Monday in High Court for sentencing.

He was initially charged with one count each of first-degree assault and unlawful use of a weapon for a shooting in Vaitogi last January.

Gathered from testimonies and through hearsay, Chief Justice Michael Kruse said the underlying case was that is was a “family scrapple” that could have “gotten serious”. He said it’s troubling to the court that resources were spent on this case and then the trial was aborted.

Gauta told the court the matter has resulted in his home being burned and his cars damaged, but he will accept any sentence handed down by the court.

Public Defender Douglas Fiaui said his client had already served 6 months of pre-trial confinement before he made bail.

He requested a probative sentence without any further jail term.

Assistant Attorney General, Woodrow Pengelly said the government does not disagree with the defense. He said he spoke to the victim, who said the defendant has apologize and “the apology was sincere.”

Kruse quickly interjected and said the victim — the complaining witness — didn’t even show up for trial, although “you subpoenaed her.”

According to the victim, the defendant is very remorseful, said Pengelly, adding that the government requests to suspend any jail time and place Gauta on 24-months probation. He noted that the defendant “has some history” in District Court, but didn’t elaborate further.

Kruse ordered that a two-year jail term be suspended and the defendant is placed on probation during that period.

#### **TUA JARRET LEILUA**

The High Court has reluctantly given another chance to Tua Jarret Leilua, who violated conditions of his probation after he tested positive for meth.

Leilua was convicted of stealing about \$1,500 from his stepmother’s bank account last August.

He was sentenced to 28 months in jail, but execution of the sentence was suspended and he was ordered to serve 7 years probation under several conditions, which included serving 6

months in prison.

The six-months prison term ended Aug. 15, 2017 and the defendant was released.

Information revealed during Monday’s court hearing indicate that Leilua has been in custody for 52 days for violation of probation, after he tested positive for drugs.

Leilua apologized for violating probation, and asked for a chance to return home to be with his parents.

Public Defender, Douglas Fiaui explained that although Leilua tested positive for meth, he was trying his best to comply with conditions set by the court. For example, Leilua had already paid about \$800 in court ordered restitution.

“He squandered away that opportunity when he tested positive,” Fiaui said of his client, and requested the court to defer any lengthy jail time for Leilua as stipulated by the court for violating provisions of probation.

Assistant Attorney General Robert Morris said the government agrees with the Probation Office’s report and with the defense’s recommendation.

“Do you have enough saimin to feed another mouth [at TCF]?” Kruse asked Morris, who responded that he would defer that question to the Territorial Correction Facility (TCF) warden. Kruse noted that there’s “one too many” prisoners walking about and suggested that government agencies involved in these matters “should talk to each other.”

With Leilua already serving 52 days in jail for violating his probation, the court added an additional 38 days at TCF, while the remainder of the 22 months in jail (from the original sentence last year) is deferred, under several conditions.

Among them, said Kruse, is that Leilua must find gainful employment within the next 30 days. “If not, you are back to the [TCF] warden to eat more saimin,” he told Leilua. “We are reluctantly giving you another chance because of your addiction. Your parents are not happy with you... violating probation.”

#### **IOSEFA ALO**

The government’s case against a public elementary school teacher, who is one of the two defendants in a drug case that surfaced last year and led to two Tafuna High School (THS) students being taken into custody, is going to trial after both sides failed to reach a resolution.

Iosefa Alo is facing one felony count of unlawful distribution of a controlled substance - methamphetamine. He appeared in High Court last Friday for a pretrial conference where his attorney, Public Defender Douglas Fiaui, said

*(Continued on page 7)*



# Study findings will enhance services for visitors to Am. Samoa, says ASVB director

“PRIVATE-PUBLIC SECTOR-PARTNERSHIP” DRIVES TOURISM DEVELOPMENT BY ASVB

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

Findings of the first ever intensive study of visitors arrival and departure at the Pago Pago International Airport will help improve the quality and enhance services for visitors to American Samoa, says American Samoa Visitors Bureau (ASVB) executive director David Vaeafe.

“American Samoa’s tourism industry and product is unique and continued research will assist our Territory in developing and refining a strong and sustainable tourism sector for future generations to come”, he said, noting that the survey results “are very encouraging.”

He reiterated that “private-public sector-partnership” drives tourism development by ASVB and the whole government approach in the sector in achieving the desired results.

The American Samoa International Visitor Survey 2017 report, which was commissioned by ASVB and delivered by Fiji-based South Pacific Tourism Organization (SPTO), was officially released Monday during a presentation in the Lupelele Room at the Tradewinds Hotel.

The 69-page report, is the result of field work carried out at Pago Pago International Airport from Dec. 1, 2016 to Aug. 30, 2017 through funding from the US Department of Interior’s Office of Insular Areas.

Divided into 13 sections, the report covers various issues, including who visits the territory; how long they stay, and how much they spend. It also presents information on each of these issues through info graphics — detailed pieces of information, accompanied by charts and tables.

The report notes that the term “tourist” refers to visitors traveling for all purposes — holiday/leisure, visiting friends and relatives, business, religions, transit and others. Day visitors, as well as all persons who live in American Samoa, regardless of their nationality, were excluded from the survey. Persons employed by American Samoa companies were also excluded.

According to the ASVB, the survey report is a key measure of visitors that will be used by the government and the private sector to make complex strategic decisions regarding planning, marketing, policy formulation and regulations within the tourism sector.

“It is important to understand

that all visitors contribute to the American Samoa economy and they also participate in recreational activities,” it says.

Among the key findings of the report, is that in 2016, a total of 20,050 visitors were recorded by the Commerce Department’s Statistics Division. And “visiting friends and relatives (VFR)” accounted for the majority of all visitors at 55%.

The U.S. (excluding Hawai’i) is the biggest source market at 42.3%; followed by Pacific island countries at 21%; Hawai’i with 11.3%; and New Zealand at 10.1%

The survey shows that over 17% of tourist arrivals from the US reside in California, with 4.9% from Utah and 3.7% from Washington state. More than half of all tourist arrivals from the US reside in other states.

### REASONS FOR VISITING

According to the survey, the main reason for visiting the territory was for business at 37.6%. Of this group, the main reason of visit was for business and conferences at 28%.

Leisure, the second main reason, was dominated by people who mostly visited cafes and restaurants (59.7%), shopping (44.7%) and independent sightseeing (44.2%). On VFR, family fa’alavelave dominated the segment at 29%.

### LENGTH OF STAY

The average length of stay was 8.1 nights, according to the report, which notes that Samoan and German visitors stayed the longest with an average of 19.7 and 19 nights, respectively.

Business tourists stayed for an average of 11.9 days; holiday/leisure tourists an average of 10.4 nights; and VFR an average of 7.9 nights

### FIRST & PREVIOUS VISITS

The survey also found that 46% of all visitors to American Samoa were first time visitors. However, those from Europe (85%) and other Asian countries (84.6%) were more likely to be traveling to American Samoa for the first time than those from Australia and other Pacific countries. Additionally, visitors from Hawai’i and Samoa were the least likely to be first time visitors — i.e most likely to have visited before.

For previous visitors, the report says 56% visited American Samoa before. This is higher for those from Samoa (76.5%), Hawai’i (68.3%), other Pacific islands (56%), Australia (52%), New Zealand (48.6%) and the US (47.9%) — excluding Hawai’i.

It is lower from those long

haul markets of continental Europe (15%) and other Asian countries (15.4%), according to the report. (Samoa News will report later this week on other key findings in the report.)

Key findings of the survey were presented during the Monday gathering by SPTO chief executive officer, Christopher Cocker, who traveled to the territory with three other STPO officials, to host a two-day Statistics and Sustainable Tourism Training Workshop for stakeholders and government at the Tradewinds Hotel earlier this week.

The training, in partnership with ASVB, is part of SPTO’s work program and plans to provide technical assistance to American Samoa — one of the founding members of SPTO.

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## AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Department of Agriculture Community and Natural Resources (ACNR)

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position Title: HEALTH AND FITNESS SPECIALIST  
Employment Status: Full Time 12 months (Career Service)

### General Description:

The ACNR Health and Fitness Specialist will work with ACNR Extension professionals to develop and deliver a variety of health fitness and program-specific physical fitness activities and promote an active, healthy lifestyle in the community. In addition, he/she will oversee the operation of the ASCC-ACNR Wellness Exercise Center to orient, assess, instruct, educate, and direct clients and visitors in a path that will correctly lead them to a healthier lifestyle. He/she will also be responsible for the Center scheduling, purchase requisitions, inventory, data, assessments, inquiries, maintenance, and reporting.

### Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Oversee the operation of the Wellness Center including, but not limited to, open/closing, schedules, purchase requisition, inventory, data, client recruitment and retention, assessments, attendance, reassessments, data collection, maintenance, and reporting.
- Supervise and oversee the correct use and operation of equipment and apparatus within the Center.
- Develop and deliver program-specific physical activities and actively promote and coordinate approved wellness activities and programs to increase adoption of healthy, active lifestyles in the community. Lead various exercise session requests for tours and outreach programs.
- Prepare and submit an updated plan of work and schedule and all biweekly, monthly, and annual reports for the Center.
- Enforce and document compliance on the part of the exercise facility and program as well as its clients to all legal and pre-exercise waivers and questionnaires and other health and safety requirements.
- Work with clients to assess physical health needs to ensure safe and effective exercise regime and conduct regular assessments to monitor progress and prescribe appropriate exercise programming.
- Develop a Wellness Program that can incorporate ASCC-ACNR as a team and that will implement interventions.
- Perform other relevant duties as assigned by supervisor or Director of ACNR.

### Minimum Requirements:

- Bachelor degree in Health, Fitness, or related field.
- At least one year of experience in community-based promotion of active, healthy living; leading group exercise sessions; fitness assessments; and providing professional service to individuals to meet their health and fitness needs.
- Shows competence to properly operate and maintain fitness equipment.
- ACSM (American College of Sports Medicine), NASM (National Academy of Sports Medicine), NSCA (National Strength and Conditioning Academy) AFAA (Aerobics Fitness Association of America), or any NCCA- National Commission Certifying Agency recognized certification. Current CPR/AED and First Aid.

**Salary:** Salary to be commensurate with experience, qualification, and credentials.

**Application Deadline:** January 26, 2018 no later than 4:00pm.

Applications are available from American Samoa Community College, Human Resources Office at 699-9155 Ext. 403/335/436 or by emailing Silaulelei Saofaigaalii at s.saofaigaalii@amsamoa.edu or ascchumanresources@amsamoa.edu.

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# Faasao Marist HS grad gets promoted to deputy sheriff in Monterey, CA

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

Tautaimatapala Anthony Langkilde was promoted from officer to Deputy Sheriff of California's Monterey County Sheriff's Office following his graduation from South Bay Academy on Dec. 17, 2017.

A native of American Samoa, Langkilde is the son of Tamatoa Tony and the late Bernadette "Pele" Scanlan.

"This is really great, I'm so proud of him," said Tamatoa who attended his son's graduation with his daughter Teumalo, her husband Joseph Joey Willrodt, and the couple's young son.

"Tautai was determined to join the law enforcement profession. He was contemplating going back to the Navy to become an officer, but decided to take this route instead," Tamatoa told Samoa News. "Tautai

has a plan going forth with his life, and he likes law enforcement, which was also part of his duty before leaving the US Navy."

He added, "My son wants to help people in his job as a law enforcement officer."

Tautai is a 2005 graduate of Fa'asao Marist High School where he was voted by his class as Outstanding Student of the Year, receiving the HTC Olo Letuli Award.

After high school, he attended the American Samoa Community College for a year before joining the US Navy as Master at Arms in November 2006. From 2006 to 2008, he was stationed in Bahrain in the Middle East including an 8-month tour in Iraq. He was later assigned to Sasebo, Japan in 2009- 2011 — 2009 was the same year his mother "Pele" passed away.

Tautai opted to leave the US Navy after a 5-year contract and decided to stay home for about a year, according to Tamatoa. In 2012, Tautai left home and enrolled at the University of Hawaii, Manoa, where he graduated in December 2015 with a bachelor's degree in political science.

He moved to Salinas, California to become a law enforcement officer with the hope of joining his brother-in-law Joseph "Joey" Willrodt at the Sheriff's Office in Monterey County.

Last July, Tautai enrolled in the South Bay Regional Academy, an organization made up of a consortium of academies that teaches curriculums prescribed by POST (Peace Officer Standards Training), which are recognized statewide in California.



Tautaimatapala Anthony Langkilde with his commander during the South Bay Academy graduation ceremony last month, after which Langkilde was promoted to deputy sheriff of the Monterey County Sheriff's Office.

[photo: Langkilde family]



Marshall County Schools Superintendent Trent Lovett, left, speaks as attorney Jason Darnall and Sheriff Kevin Byars listen during a press conference Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2014, near Benton, Ky. Elementary and middles school students will return to school Thursday. (AP Photo/Stephen Lance Dennee)



Newly sworn-in Monterey County Deputy Sheriff, Tautaimatapala Anthony Langkilde, getting pinned by his friend, Brianna during the South Bay Academy graduation ceremony on Dec. 17, 2017. Upon graduation, Tautaimatapala was promoted from officer to deputy sheriff of the Monterey County Sheriff's Office in California.

[photo: Langkilde family]

## ⊗ Kentucky community grapples with cause of school shooting

BENTON, Ky. (AP) — Stunned by a deadly school shooting, a grief-stricken Kentucky community is struggling to answer an agonizing question: How could one of its own have unleashed such terror?

Police have not publicly identified the 15-year-old accused of opening fire Tuesday at Marshall County High School. With few details coming from authorities, people are left to wonder what triggered the attack that killed two teenagers, injured 18 and sent hundreds fleeing from a place many considered immune from violence.

"I do know that no one with compassion and love and of a clear head could walk in and just hurt so many people randomly," said Ashley Graham, whose daughter was a close friend of one of the children killed. "There's no way."

Police officers said the gunman walked into the commons area where many students gather before classes and started shooting. Witnesses said he fired a single shot, paused, and then emptied the handgun of ammunition before he tried to escape and was arrested.

On Wednesday, authorities said the suspect faces preliminary charges of murder and assault while police investigate what might have prompted the mass shooting.

Throughout a community where practically everyone knows each other — Benton, the

nearest town, has about 4,300 residents — people reacted at first by saying, "We can't believe this is happening to us," church youth director Patrick Adamson said Wednesday.

Now, as disbelief gives way to grief, Adamson said people are turning to bigger questions: "What are we going to do about it? How are we going to come together?"

Many are leaning on their faith, he said.

In nearby counties, students gathered in prayer circles before classes began Wednesday. President Donald Trump sent his "thoughts and prayers" in a tweet more than 24 hours after the shootings and shared his condolences with Gov. Matt Bevin in a phone call Wednesday.

Dominico Caporali, whose 16-year-old daughter watched her classmate repeatedly pull the trigger, struggled to make sense of what happened in such a comfortable, familiar place.

"This community doesn't have violence that most communities do. All these kids know each other; they hang out with each other," he said.

His daughter, Alexandria, agreed that people tend to be nice to each other.

"It's not a bad place," she said. "Not a lot of bullying goes on."

But no community is immune to society's ills — not even Marshall County, where

(Continued on page 8)



# ASCC recognizes faculty service to students and community

by James Kneubuhl, ASCC Press Officer

As its spring 2018 semester got underway, the American Samoa Community College (ASCC) took the opportunity to recognize the many service projects for students and the community that its academic departments engaged in during 2017.

The College’s Academic Affairs division hosted a Faculty Awards luncheon to highlight the variety of ways in which the faculty provides enhanced learning opportunities which often go beyond the classroom and frequently include community involvement.

Individual Special Awards for faculty who excelled in Student Centeredness went to Dr. Faofua Faato’afe for her coordination of the student club Business Ambassadors of ASCC (BAOA); Mrs. Elisapeta Faalafi Jones for her advising the ASCC Christian Club; Mr. Kuki Tuiasosopo for advising the Phi Theta Kappa honor society; Mr. Poe Mageo as chairman of the Faculty Senate; Mrs. Regina Meredith-Fitiaio for her project with the National Park Service “Perpetuate Samoan Traditions by Teaching Traditional Practices II”; Mr. Derek Helsham for coordinating the Health Service initiative Build to Exit; and to Dr. Randel DeWees as the campus coordinator for the Science initiative Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation.

Additional recipients of the Individual Special Awards included Ms. Lele Ah Mu for her work in Disaster Awareness; Mrs. Ann Longnecker for work in CPR and Standard First Aid; and Mrs. Shirley De La Rosa, Dr. Larry A. Purcell, Mrs. Regina Meredith-Fitiaio and Ms. Monica Afalava for practical skills for faculty.

Awards for Outstanding Student and Community Activities went to 14 of the College’s departments and divisions:

The Agriculture, Community and Natural Resources/Land Grant (ACNR) division (Mr. Pauline McFall, Mr. Ionatana Faasavalu and Dr. Michael Otto Hansell) was recognized for its involvement in last year’s Science Symposium and other Community Outreach projects.

The Fine Arts Department (Mr. Kuki Tuiasosopo, Mrs. Regina Meredith-Fitiaio, Mr. Poe Mageo and Ms. Loretta Pua’auli) were awarded for a number of activities, including their spring 2017 musical production, the Tatau Forum, their Prelude to a Musical, and their involvement in UN International Jazz Day.

The Criminal Justice Department (Mrs. Rosie Ah Chee-Toeava and Mr. Utumoe Alefosio) were recognized for their Food Drive, Can Drive, Halloween Treats, a Keep ASCC Clean project, and, their Legal Aid Presentation.

The Health and Human Ser-

vices Department (Mr. Derek Helsham) received recognition for a number of activities, including a Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Student Awareness Conference, a Food Drive, a Book Drive and a Toy Drive.

The Business Department (Dr. Faofua Faato’afe, Mr. Papalauena Ioapo Taua’i, and Mr. Lam Yuen Lam Yuen Jr.) were congratulated for Service to the Community, their activities involving BAOA, a trip to Samoa for students in the Marketing class, and hosting a Parents’ Night.

The Language and Literature Department (Mrs. Melelina Fiaui, Mr. Vesilu Matuu, Mr. Ben Goodwin, Mrs. Jocelyn Siologa, and Dr. Sybil Barnes Johnson) received commendations for their 2017 Literary Night.

The Samoan Studies Institute (Mr. Evile Feleti, Mrs. Alofa Nuusila, and Mrs. Tasia Talamoni) was credited for its Community Outreach.

The Nursing Department was recognized for organizing a Manu’a Outreach involving Nursing students.

The Science Department (Dr. Randel de Wees, Mr. Murali Gopalan, Mr. Alden Tagarino, Ms. Meagan Curtis, Ms. Kelly Anderson, and Ms. Ruby Tapuai) was commended for its well-received Science Symposium, as was the Trades & Technical Department (Mr. Fred Suisala, Ms. Valentine Talamoni Mr. Jeriecho Martinez) for its Apprenticeship and Workforce Development Program.

The Social Science Department Social Science (Mrs. Lilian Temese, Mrs. Adrian Vasai Moana, Ms. Sheldon Seigafo, Mrs. Tala Ropeti Leo, and Mr. Bryan Jackson) received recognition for its Political Science Students’ Forum with Attorney General Talauega Ale. Additional departments receiving awards included Computer Science (Mr. Ernie Seiuli, Mr. Reupena Lesa, and Ms. Juliet Fung Chen Pen); Physical Education (Mr. Ed Imo and Mr. Samoa Sione Samoa Jr.) and Reserve Officers Training Corps (SFC Kitzingen Moliga).

Three departments received awards for holding Professional Development Workshops in 2017 in addition to outreach and other community activities:

English CAPP (Dr. Sia-maua Ropeti, Mrs. Elisapeta Faalafi Jones, Mrs. Florangel Calumpang, Mrs. Edna Niedo-Zarraga, Mrs. Lise Sauni-Ale, Mrs. Pepe Lafaele, and Ms. Pio Tavai);

Mathematics CAPP (Mr. Tunufa’i Le’iato, Ms. Sinaita’aga J.A Mose-Peni, Mr. Laau S. Liufau, Mr. Marston Porter, Mr. Anthony Felise, Mr. Emau Tofilau, Mrs. Amete Moefiainu, and Ms. Ayva A.I. Mata’utia); and,

Teacher Education (Dr. Larry A. Purcell, Mr. Tero Tal-

(Continued on page 12)



Derek Helsham (center), chairperson of the ASCC Health & Human Services Department, receiving an award from Vice President Dr. Lina Scanlan, and Agriculture, Community and Natural Resources/Land Grant Director Aufa’i Ropeti Apulu Areta during the College’s Faculty Awards ceremony held at the beginning of the current semester.

[photo: J. Kneubuhl]



ASCC Director of Teacher Education, Shirley De La Rosa (left) celebrating her award with Dean of Student Services Dr. Emilia Le’i during the College’s Faculty Awards ceremony held at the beginning of the current semester.

[photo: J. Kneubuhl]



## AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT TERRITORIAL ADMINISTRATION ON AGING

# FA’ASILASILAGA TAUA

E fa’asilasila atu i a i latou o lo’o tusia o latou suafa i lenei fa’asalalauga, ua i ai nei avanoa e faigaluega ai i le polokalama a tagata matutua. Fa’amolemole susu mai i lo tatou ofisa i Pago Pago i le Aso Tofi 25 o Ianuari i le 9:00 i le taeao ma tauaao mai pepa nei mo le fa’atumuina o a outou pepa faigaluega.

1. Numera Saogalemu
2. Pepa Aso Fanau / Tusifolau
3. ID Nofomau
4. Pepa Fa’amaonia mai le Ofisa Saogalemu ma le Ofisa Ritaea a le malo mo tupe maua.

Evelyn Lili’o-Satele  
Director, TAOA

### EASTERN DISTRICT

1. Livi Mautofiga - Masefau
2. Matulino Liuia – Auto
3. Telesia Lemautu - Laulii
4. Amituana’i Ieremia - Masausi
5. Galu Topeto - Sailele
6. Salatifoti M. Salanoa – Tula

### CENTRAL DISTRICT

1. Afoa Usoalii - Nuuli
2. Meki Sikione - Utulei
3. Elenise Muasau – Pago Pago
4. Iakopo Taauta – Pago Pago
5. Victor Tuala – Leloaloe
6. Peleipu Leavasa – Aua
7. Kelekolio Hala –Pago Pago

### WESTERN DISTRICT

1. Sina Leasi – Tafuna
2. Faaumu Siafoi – Vaitogi
3. Samalauulu Fetisone - Petesa
4. Peleipu Tautala - Malaeloa
5. Asovale Taula – Pavaia’i
6. Fili Iulai – Aoloe
7. Makerita Maalaelu - Mesepa
8. Richard M. Passi – Leone
9. Etevis Tamafuta - Afao

### MANU’A DISTRICT

1. Aofia Faauila – Fitiuta Manu’a
2. Paoivaoese Tautala - Olosega





Congresswoman Amata with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt at the U.S. Capitol.

[photo: courtesy]

# Amata welcomes \$10.7 Million EPA investment in American Samoa

Washington, D.C. — Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018 — Congresswoman Aumua Amata welcomed a major \$10.7 million federal investment in American Samoa for environmental protection services.

“I’m pleased to welcome this extensive federal funding for environmental efforts and water infrastructure in American Samoa,” said Aumua Amata. “This is excellent news for American Samoa and will finance improvements to our water supply and environmental health. These federal resources are a welcome addition to these priorities, and the projects they

support are also helpful to the local economy.”

Specifically, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is awarding the American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) \$8.4 million for water infrastructure projects, and at the same time, the EPA is also awarding \$2.3 million to the American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency (AS-EPA) for its health and environmental efforts.

The EPA’s announcement will further detail these projects, ranging from major efforts to ensure potable drinking water to educational programs in Amer-

ican Samoa’s schools, such as the “Keep American Samoa Beautiful” campaign.

“Thank you to EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt for addressing these important needs on behalf of American Samoa’s water supply and environmental efforts,” continued Congresswoman Amata. “Congratulations to Utu Abe Malae, Executive Director of the American Samoa Power Authority, and to AS-EPA Director Ameko Pato, and everyone in their departments involved in these projects to improve the health and well-being of our people.”

## ► Retailer...

Continued from page 1

help him out with the deposits in October 2017 — hence the reason why the other business’ account didn’t spike until that month.

When asked why he even bothered to embark on this arrangement, Kevin told police the dollar amount of the food stamps he was getting was too much and he had to direct attention away from him.

He said his friend deposited the coupons and gave him the redemption via cash or check.

DHSS Director Muavaefa’atasi John Suisala told police this makes sense because if the redemption is too high, DHSS will start to question it.

### MONTHLY REDEMPTION SPREADSHEET INFO

Included in the government’s affidavit is information from a spreadsheet that reflects the monthly redemption amounts for each of the three stores.

The court affidavit notes that DHSS Director Muavaefa’atasi and an appointed inquiry team reviewed redemption figures for JFL Malae Store, Fast By Food Mart (both owned by Kevin) and the store belonging to the

unnamed business owner.

According to the spreadsheet, JFL Malae Store had a monthly redemption average of \$7,031.00 between Oct. 2014 and Sept. 2017.

But by October 2017, the store redeemed \$80,186.00. The following month (Nov. 2017) the redemption amount was \$63,997.00 and then last month, the redemption amount was \$80,789.00.

For the first week of Jan. 2018 (before the store was suspended from the Food Stamp program) the redemption amount was \$26,640.00, according to the court affidavit.

The second of Kevin’s stores, Fast By Food Mart, had an average redemption of \$9,524.00 from June 2017 to Sept. 2017 yet suddenly it had a redemption of \$26,161.00 for Oct. 2017.

In Nov. 2017, the redemption amount was \$56,695.00 and then in Dec. 2017, the redemption amount skyrocketed to \$105,464.00.

For the first week of Jan. 2018 (before being suspended from the Food Stamp program) the store had a redemption of

\$20,200.00.

According to the affidavit, the third store, which Kevin reached out to in October 2017 for assistance in depositing some of his food stamp coupons for redemption — as a way of subduing any attention to him relating to the amount of ‘obtained’ food stamp coupons — had an average redemption of \$1,188.00 from Feb. 2017 to Sept. 2017.

However, in Oct. 2017 the store’s redemption ballooned to \$30,722.00. In Nov. 2017, the redemption was \$52,000.00 and then in Dec. 2017, the redemption more than doubled to \$114,318.00.

For the first week of Jan. 2018 (before being disqualified from the Food Stamp program) the redemption amount was \$20,000.00.

### ANOTHER TRANSACTION

In addition to the food stamps, the affidavit also revealed a transaction between the late DHSS director Taeaofua Dr. Meki Solomona and Kevin.

(Continued on page 12)



# 6th woman alleges rape by Def Jam co-founder Russell Simmons



*FILE - In this Feb. 6, 2015, file photo, hip-hop mogul Russell Simmons presents the Vanguard Award on stage at the 46th NAACP Image Awards in Pasadena, Calif. A Los Angeles woman is suing Simmons, alleging he raped her at his home in 2016. An attorney for 37-year-old Jennifer Jarosik filed the lawsuit Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018.*

(Photo by Chris Pizzello/Invision/AP, File)

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A woman said in a lawsuit filed Wednesday that Russell Simmons raped her at his Los Angeles home in 2016, joining five other women who have publicly leveled rape allegations against the music mogul.

Simmons, a co-founder of Def Jam Recordings, denied the newest allegations as he did the previous ones.

The lawsuit, which was filed in federal court and seeks \$5 million in damages, says Jennifer Jarosik went to Simmons' home in August 2016 for a meeting about a documentary she was making and Simmons had agreed to help produce.

The suit says he tried to have sex with her at the meeting. He raped her when she refused, throwing her on the bed and at one point knocking her on the floor, the suit said.

Simmons said in a statement that the allegations in the suit are "absolutely untrue."

"I look forward to having my day in court — where, unlike the court of public opinion, I will have the ability to make use

of fair processes that ensure that justice will be done and that the full truth will be known," Simmons said in a statement.

He did not address the specific claims in Jarosik's lawsuit, saying, "I will not litigate this matter in the media."

But in the lengthy statement he says that the allegations of women against him range "from the patently untrue to the frivolous and hurtful."

"These horrific accusations have shocked me to my core and all of my relations have been consensual," Simmons said.

Three women told the New York Times in a story published in December that Simmons had raped them in the 1980s or 1990s, including an executive who answered to Simmons at his record label, Def Jam Recordings.

Two other women, a model and a screenwriter, previously alleged that Simmons raped them in 1991.

Jarosik had told friends about the rape but did not go public or call authorities because she partly blamed herself for not having the strength to fight him off, the suit said.

Jarosik, 37, said she was prompted to come forward after hearing other women's stories about Simmons.

The women's stories came in a cascade of serious allegations of sexual misconduct against powerful men in entertainment, media, politics and elsewhere.

Simmons, whose company Def Jam made stars of hip-hop artists such as LL Cool J, Slick Rick, The Beastie Boys and Public Enemy, is one of the few music industry icons caught up in the recent wave of allegations that so-far has struck mostly those in the movie industry, journalism and politics.

"The music industry and the hip-hop industry have a history of misogyny and the exploitation of women," Jarosik's attorney Perry Wander told The Associated Press. "It's time that they faced the music."



Port Administration director Taimalelagi Dr. Claire Poumele (seated) with some of her staff at yesterday's dedication ceremony for the Service Wharf rehabilitation project at the Port of Pago.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



American Samoa Government  
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

RFP No: RFP 026-2018

Issuance Date: January 16, 2018

Date & Time Due: January 25, 2018

No later than 2:00 p.m. local time

The American Samoa Government (ASG) issues a Request For Proposals (RFP) from qualified firms to provide:

**"Janitorial and Maintenance Services for Rex Lee Auditorium"**

### SUBMISSION

Original and five copies of the Proposal must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: **"Janitorial and Maintenance Services for Rex Lee Auditorium"** Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), **Thursday, January 25, 2018:**

Office of Procurement  
American Samoa Government  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799  
attn: Dr. Oreta Mapu Crichton, CPO

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

### DOCUMENT

The RFP Scope of Work, outlining the proposal requirements is available at the Office of Procurement, Tafuna, American Samoa, during normal working hours.

### REVIEW

Request for Proposal data will be thoroughly reviewed by an appointed Source Evaluation Board under the auspices of the Chief Procurement Officer, Office of Procurement, ASG.

### RIGHT OF REJECTION

The American Samoa Government reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals and to waive any irregularities and/or informalities in the submitted proposals that are not in the best interests of the American Samoa Government or the public.

DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON  
Chief Procurement Officer

Equal Opportunity Employer / Affirmative Action

## ▶ Court...

Continued from page 2

the defense has received discovery from the government.

However, he said, the defense is unable to reach an agreement with the government and therefore, his client will go to trial.

Based on information at the hearing, the trial is set for 2020, but Chief Justice Michael Kruse said the court will work on an earlier trial date and for both sides to be prepared. Kruse also reiterated to the government that the drugs involved in these cases should be sent off island

right away to be tested so these cases can move forward.

Alo's co-defendant is Galu Nofoa, who pled guilty three weeks ago to giving marijuana to a minor last October. The fifty-year-old Nofoa will be sentenced Feb. 9th.

The government alleges that on Oct. 6, 2017, Alo gave a minor a glass pipe loaded with 'ice' and told him to sell it for \$30 cash or for marijuana joints in return for the 'ice' inside the pipe.



► **Kentucky...**

*Continued from page 4*

over a four-year stretch ending with the 2016-17 school year, the high school had 317 reports of bullying and other harassment, one first-degree assault and nine other assaults or acts of violence, according to the Kentucky Department of Education.

The school also had seven arrests involving 22 charges, 285 incidents involving drugs and 30 reports involving alcohol.

Kentucky's database shows that among all 1,253 public schools grades K-12 in the state, there were an average 58 acts of harassment per school during those four years.

The grief is overwhelming for the families of Bailey Nicole Holt and Preston Ryan Cope, the two 15-year-olds killed. Secret Holt told KFVS her daughter was a "perfect sweet soul" and said the shooting was "just unbearable" for her family.

Ashley Graham's daughter, 15-year-old Johanna Davis, was close friends with Bailey Holt, though Johanna attends a different school.

"I just can't imagine at all what Secret's going through right now," Graham said of Bailey's mother. "It's a small community. Everyone knows everyone and ... you just try to think of what you can do to help the mom, but then you don't want to bother her."

At Vanderbilt University

Children's Hospital, one patient was released Wednesday, and three male patients in the adult hospital were upgraded to stable condition, spokeswoman Kristin Smart said. A fourth male remained in critical but stable condition.

Schools were closed county-wide Wednesday, but elementary and middle schools will reopen Thursday, Superintendent Trent Lovett said.

"Across the nation, we've been listening to some advice, and they think we need to get back to normalcy as quickly as possible," he explained.

But Lovett said he still can't say when the high school will reopen. Its main entrance remained blocked by yellow police tape Wednesday as investigators continue to explore possible motives.

Without an explanation of why he did it, a prosecutor said Wednesday, they can't yet add charges of attempted murder to the two murder charges he faces, even though more than a dozen other students suffered bullet wounds.

Assistant Marshall County Attorney Jason Darnall said the preliminary charges for wounding the other classmates will be first-degree assault, which carries the same penalty.

"Attempted murder is an offense which takes into account motive and specific intent," but why he did it is still being investigated, Darnall said. Assault simply requires a "serious physical injury by means of a dangerous instrument."

# Erupting Philippine volcano still swelling with magma below



*A masked farmer removes the volcanic ash off the grass used for grazing by his water buffalo following the sporadic eruptions of the Mayon volcano, Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018, in the Guinobatan township, Albay province, roughly 200 miles (340 kilometers) southeast of Manila, Philippines, Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018.*

(AP Photo/Bullit Marquez)

LEGAZPI, Philippines (AP) — A volcano that's been erupting for almost two weeks in the Philippines still appears to be swelling with magma under the surface, scientists said Thursday.

More than 74,000 people are staying in dozens of emergency shelters as Mount Mayon continues to belch lava, ash and superheated gas and rocks. Officials are worried the eruption may last months, affecting

the education, health and livelihoods of people in its shadow.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said tremors, pyroclastic flows and emissions of sulfur dioxide were detected Wednesday and early Thursday.

Lava erupting up to 500 meters (1,640 feet) high was spilling down the slope, with one lava flow extending 3 kilometers (1.8 miles) from the crater. Ash plumes still rising

up to 5 kilometers (3 miles) high have spread ash onto farms and towns nearby, darkening the skies and forcing villagers to wear masks.

The institute said GPS and other measurements indicated a sustained swelling or inflation of the mountain surface, which was consistent with magma rising and creating pressure.

The alert level for Mayon remains four on a scale of five, indicating a violent eruption may be imminent.

There have been no reports of injuries, but law enforcers have struggled to keep villagers and tourists from sneaking into the danger zone, which extends 8 kilometers from the crater.

Although Mayon, in northeastern Albay province, has erupted about 50 times in the last 500 years, it has remained popular among climbers and tourists.

In 2013, an ash eruption killed five climbers who had ventured near the summit despite warnings.

The Philippines has about 22 active volcanoes. The explosion of Mount Pinatubo in 1991 was one of the biggest volcanic eruptions of the 20th century, killing hundreds.



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# To'atolu molia fa'aaoga fa'asolitulafono pepa 'ai mai Food Stamp

tusia Ausage Fausia

E to'atolu i latou ua taofia ma molia e le malo i moliaga mamafa eseese, e mafua mai i le mataupu e pei ona fa'aaoga fa'asolitulafono ai pepa 'ai mai le polokalame o le Food Stamp a le Matagaluega o Auaunaga ma Tautua Eseese (DHSS).

O i latou e to'atolu e aofia ai tagata faigaluega a le DHSS, o le ali'i o Vincent Toeava ma le tama'ita'i o Jane Vasa, fa'aapea ai ma le ali'i faipisinisi Asia ia Liren Zhang poo Kevin fo'i e pei ona iloa ai o ia e le to'atele.

E \$10,000 le tupe lea ua faatulaga e le ali'i Fa'amasino ia Fiti Sunia e totogi ona faatoa mafai lea ona tatala i tua Vasa, ae o Toeava ma Zhang e ta'i \$450,000 lea ua fa'atulaga e tatala ai i laua i tua.

O le mataupu lenei na tofu atu i le Ofisa o Leoleo, ina ua maitauina e le Sui Faatonusili o le DHSS se suiga fa'afuase'i i le tulaga o tupe o loo totogi atu i le polokalame o le Food Stamp, e tusa ai i pepa 'ai ua mae'a ona tufatufa atu i tagata, i masina fa'ai'u e tolu o le tausaga na te'a nei, pe a fa'atusatusa i le aofa'i o le tupe e masani ona totogi atu i le tele o masina o le tausaga.

O le pulega a le Faletupe o le ANZ Bank sa latou faailoaina i le DHSS le tulaga mata'utia e pei ona maitauina, i le mae'a ai lea ona totogi atu e le Faletupe i pisinisi o lo'o latou taliaina pepa 'ai mai le Food Stamp le vaega tupe e tusa ma le \$667,555 mai le masina o Oketopa e oo mai ia Tesema o le tausaga na te'a nei.

I le taulimaina ai e le DHSS o le ripoti mai le Faletupe, na logoina ai loa le Fa'atonusili o le Matagaluega i le aso 4 Ianuari 2018. O le taeao o le aso 11 Ianuari na tauaalo aloaia atu ai loa e le Komesina o Leoleo le suesueina o lenei mataupu i le ali'i Leoleo ia Capt. Pierre R.G Clements, o ia lea o lo'o fa'auluulu i ai le Ofisa o Suesuega Lotoifale a le Ofisa o Leoleo (Internal Affairs Section).

I suesuega sa fa'atautaia e le ali'i Leoleo na mafai ai ona maua le tulaga lea, e tolu lava Faleoloa sa latou tuuina atu pepa 'ai uma nei o lo'o masalomia le faia i ai o gaioiga fa'asolitulafono i le Faletupe. O Faleoloa e 2, o le 'JFL Malae Store' ma le 'Fast By Food Mart' e pulea lea e le ali'i faipisinisi o Zhang, o le isi lea o loo molia i lenei mataupu. Ae o le Faleoloa o le 'Harbor View Mart' e pulea lea e Feng Xiao Guo, o se ali'i faipisinisi fo'i mai Asia.

Na faailoa e se tagata faigaluega a le DHSS i Leoleo, le taumafai o le ali'i o Toeava e tauanau se tama'ita'i faigaluega o le Food Stamp, mo se avanoa na te tuuina atu ai kopi o pepa 'ai e le o lolomia ai ni faaupuga i luga, ina ia fesoasoani ai i le taumafaiga o lana pisinisi fou o lo'o tau amata. Na folafola e Toeava i le tama'ita'i faigaluega lea, o le a la fai paaga i

lana pisinisi pe afai ae mautu ma solosolo lelei. Na taua e le tama'ita'i faigaluega i Leoleo lona teena o le ofa a Toeava, i lalo o lona talitonuga e le tusa ma le tulafono lona manaoga.

O le ali'i faipisinisi o Zhang e pei ona taua i fa'amaumauga a le fa'amasinoga, o i ai lana pisinisi Taavale Mautotogi e taua o le Malae Rental na amata i le 2016. E 2 lava ta'avale na amata mai ai lea pisinisi, o le Nissan Rogue o le 2013 ma le 2015.

I le masina o Me 2017, na alu ai Zhang ma talanoa ia Toeaoafua Meki Solomona ao avea o ia ma Faatonusili o le DHSS, ma faailoa i ai tulaga faaletonu o lana pisinisi o Taavale Mautotogi, ona e le tausi mea lelei tagata Samoa i le tele o taimi latou te fa'aaogaina

(Faaauau itulau 11)



Mo le saogalemu o i latou o galulue ma galuega fo'i o lo'o fa'atautaia i luga o le Uafu tele i Fagatogo, o lo'o mataituina e le vasega o leoleo fa'apitoa o le Uafu o lo'o tiute, fa'afetai mo la outou tautua!

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

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O le laulau pitoalumua o le afioga le Kovana Lolo Moliga ma lana faigamalo ma ua sasao ai fo'i ma le susuga le Fa'afeagaiga Iasepi Ulu mo le ta'ita'iga o le sauniga e tatala fa'apitoa ai le Uafu i Fagatogo mo lona fa'aaogaina.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

# Tatala galuega toe fa'aleleia vaega o le uafu Fagatogo

tusia: Leua Aiono Frost

O le tatalaga o le Itu o le Uafu Tele a le tatou Malo sa toe fa'aleleia atili ina ia fa'aopoopo nisi tausaga e fa'aaogaina ai na fa'ataunu'u i le taeao ananafi. E pei ona mua'i manatu ai Kovana Lolo Moliga, e ao ina tatala lea galuega ia Novema 4, 2016, ae ua tutula'i ai ma le va'a mo feoa'iga i le Manu'atele, sa usia'ia lea tulaga ae suia lona aso i le aso ananafi.

O le tau aofa'i na fa'ailoa e le Matagaluega o Uafu ma Malevaalele e \$9,595,471.22: tau o le ata \$576,799.50; o le tau o lona fausaga e \$534,150.00 ae o le tau o konekarate mo le galuega \$8,464,521.22.

O le umi o le galuega e 24 masina, ina fa'amautu lelei ai le sima o le galuega ma fa'ato'a tatala ai mo le fa'aaogaina.

Saunoa le susuga ia Dean Hudson, Pule o le Fletcher Construction lea sa manumalo i le tauofoga mo lea galuega, Dean Hudson, o le fausaga o lenei galuega e le faigofie lava. "O le toe eliga ia loloto atili le Uafu ua tula'i mai ai le loloto ua fa'amautu atili i ai pou i le taimi nei e 256 futu ua i ai nei. Ina ua mae'a la'u ese mai uma le tele o le lapisi ma toe eli fa'aloloto ina ia tau i le papa le uafu, ua maua ai lea loloto mo le fa'amoemoe e taula ai va'a tetele. Ua fa'amafiafia atili le sima ua mae'a fa'amalo atili i le 9 inisi ma ua iloga fo'i lona malosi mo le vaitau o lumana'i, ae o galuega o le a fela'ua'i ai ma feoa'i ai ta'avale tetele ma le mamafa. O le Uafu i le fausaga ua i ai, e tele ni tausaga o le a fa'aaogaina ai e le Malo o Amerika Samoa, ma o se sao lena o galuega fa'apenei, ia mautu ma lelei umi aua le fa'amoemoe mo fela'ua'iga," o se tala lea a Hudson.

Na ia fa'ailoa fo'i le afuaga ona suia o nisi o aiaiga tamau o le galuega e afua i le tulaga, "E le mafai ona faia matou galuega i lalo o lenei fola i so'o se taimi e sua tutu'i mai ai le tai, e tatau ona faia i le taimi ua maulalo ai le suasami atoa fo'i ma vaitau e louloua ai le tau i timuga tetele ma matagi malolosi."

O lana tala mai, "O le galuega ua mae'a, na toe suia le taimi ma ua talafeagai, ma ua fa'afetaia fo'i sa talafeagai fo'i ma le tau na tauofo ai la'u Kamupani. Peita'i e ui ina ua umi, ae o se taimi e tatau ona talafeagai mo fausaga mautu e ao ina fausia ai le uatu, aua e tele fo'i tausaga o le a aoga ai."

Sa ia fa'afetaia lava le sui o le Initeria i le tatou nei malo, Lydia Faleafine Nomura, "Fa'afetai aua sa tele feuiuia'iga ma aiaiga e ao ina usitaia ma feutaga'i, ae sa le fa'avaivai lou taumafai atili, ia maua le seleni ma ia gaoioia lava lenei galuega ia mae'a e pei ona i ai nei, fa'afetai i lou mala-malama ma lau pitola'au i le fa'atupega, sa e tu malosi ma fai le faiva se'ia uma le fa'amoemoe

ma ua lelei mea uma!"

Sa saunoa fo'i le Fa'atonusili o Uafu ma Malaeva'alele Taimalelagi Claire Tuia-Poumele a'o sasao le aofia, ua aotelega i ai le fono faitulafono, le vasega o le faigamalo, le matagaluega fa'apea le mamalu lautele ma le aufaipese EFKAS Fagatogo sa latou usuina pese o le sauniga.

Ina ua saunoa Taimalelagi sa ia mua'i fa'afetaia Hudson mo lana aufaigaluega mo le galuega mae'ae'a ma le matagofie. Ona ia fa'afetaia fo'i lea o Hudson mo le taligamalo i le fa'amoemoe ua fa'atautaia nei, aua sa ia fa'ailoa mai, o lo'o ua saunia fa'atasi atu ai ma le 'aiga ma faleie, nofoa ma laulau e le Agaiotupu ma lana aufaigaluega. Ua le fa'aaogaina ai se tupe a le Matagaluega.

E tusa ai le fa'atonuga a le Kovana mai le amataga o lenei galuega ia Setema 2015 na suaina ai le eleele, sa ia fa'ailoa atu ai i le Fa'atonusili, "Ia leai ni suiga o le galuega e toe fa'alavelave i le taimi e tatau ona fa'amae'a ai e le Konekarate ia Novema 4, 2016. Peita'i, ua fa'afofoga i le folasaga a le Agaiotupu i le galuega, na feagai i latou ma tele o lu'iga a'o fa'atautaia le galuega i lona taimi atofa, e le talafeagai ai ma se galuega o lea ituaiga ona mae'a ma lelei pe afai e manatu i tatou i galuega lelei ona fausia o se Uafu e fa'aaogaina mo se taimi umi a'o aoga pea."

Na toe fa'atepa e ia le faigamalo ma tagata uma sa aofia i le galuega tele ua mae'a ma tatalaina fo'i a le Kolisi e tusa o le lua vaiaso ua te'a, "O lea galuega sa tulei mai le Kovana, o nei galuega fa'apenei ua tatou fausia e le mo i tatou i le taimi nei, ae o taeao ma le lumana'i mo isi fanau o le a amata soloa'i mai e fa'aaoga."

"O lena le agaga o lenei galuega, o fausaga matua mautu ina ia le fa'aleagaina gofie e le tau, sousou o le vasa, po'o le vela tele o le la e pei ona tatou molimauina suiga tetele o feagai ma i tatou o le Tau. Ua fausia nei galuega, ae mataituina le lumana'i ia tagolima i o latou faiva."

O lana fa'afetai i uso a fa'atonusili sa tula'i mai ina ua i ai le mana'omia. Muamua le fa'afetai i le Ofisa o le Initeria ma Nomura. "Fa'afetai tele mo le tele o feso'ota'iga tau emeli mo le taumafaiga ia sa'o ma lelei le iuga o lenei galuega, lea ua mae'a fa'afetai tele mo lau fesoasoani, lou iloa o le galuega ma le manatu mai fo'i ina mae'a ma lelei le galuega."

Lona lua o le fa'afetai ia Faleosina Voigt, "I lou fa'aauaina ona siakia lelei o le tatou galuega, talu mai Setema 2017, ona ua tula'i ese atu ai le Inisinia fa'apitoa a le poloketi lenei, ua mae'a lona taimi na fa'atupe, ae fa'aauau mai e oe se'ia o'o i lona taunu'uga." Na ia fa'afetaia fo'i Inisinia tofia a le Matagaluega, James Tamasese ma

(Faaauau itulau 11)

# Pasia e afioga i Faipule pili tupe a le faigamalo

tusia Ausage Fausia

Ua pasia e afioga i Faipule o le Maota o Sui pili tupe e 2 sa fa'aulu e le faigamalo a Lolo ma Lemanu, e faia ai suiga i tulaga o lafoga e fesoasoani ai i tupe maua a le malo mole lumana'i.

O le fa'aiuga a le maota o sui e pei ona pasia ai pili tupe e 2 a le faigamalo, na faia lea ina ua mae'a se iloilogia sui o le Komiti Tupe a le afioga i le ali'i kovana ia Lolo Matalasi Moliga, mo le fa'amaninoina o auala e toe siitia ai tupe maua a le malo i luga o lafoga.

O pili tupe e 2 ua pasia e le maota o sui, e aofia ai le pili e sii ai le lafoga o oloa eseese mai le 5% i le 8%, atoa ai ma le pili e sii ai le lafoga mo oloa o le 'ava malosi ma le molo. O pili nei sa fa'aulu e le faigamalo a Lolo ma Lemanu i le tausaga ua mavae, a o lea fo'i ua toe tuuina mai i lenei tausaga e lalafo i ai finagalo o le Fono Faitulafono.

O sui o le malo na molimau i le iloilogia sa fa'atautaia e le Komiti o le Sailiga o le Tamaoaiga o le malo a le maota o sui, e aofia ai le Teutupe ia Ueligitone Tonumaie'a, o le sui Teutupe ia Keith Gebauer, o le Faatonusili o le Ofisa o le Paketi ia Cathy Saelua, ma le Loia Sili lagolago ia Loralei Meredith.

Na taua e Tonumaie'a i lana folasaga e fa'apea, o le tele o lafoga o oloa eseese a le malo o lo o i ai i le taimi nei, ua tele tausaga e le o toe faia i ai se suiga. O suiga e pei ona fuafua e le malo i lalo o tulafono tupe nei, o lo o fuafua e maua mai ai tupe fou e fesoasoani i le galuega faatino a le malo i le lumana'i, aemaise lava i le faatinoina o isi auaunaga e aofia ai le fa'aleleia o le soifua malo-

loina, atoa ai ma le faaleleia o le auaunaga a le Ofisa o Leoleo.

O le tupe e maua mai i le pili e sii ai lafoga o oloa eseese ua faatulaga, o le 75% e teu i le Teugatupe Tele a le malo, o le \$1 miliona e alu i le polokalame o Sikolasipi a fanau aoga, ma le tupe e totoo ai e faasoasoia i galuega e pei o le faaleleia atoa ai ma le faafouina o faleaoga a le malo, faapea ai ma isi mea faigaluega a le malo.

Mo le pili e sii ai le lafoga i le 'ava malosi ma le molo, na taua ai e le Teutupe e fa'apea, o le auala o lo o totogi ai le lafoga lenei i le malo i le taimi nei, e faigofie ona fai i ai e tagata gaioiga faasolitulafono, ina ia le mafai ai ona latou totogiina le lafoga sa'o e tatau ona totogi.

O lea faiga ua mafua ai ona le maua e le malo tupe sa'o sa tatau ona maua mai i le lafoga o le 'ava malosi ma le molo. O nei faiga ua mafua ai ona a'e se lagona i le malo, ua tatau ona faia se auala e puipuia mai ai le malo mai le aafia pea lea i faiga le sa'o faapenei.

O le suiga e pei ona faia e le malo i le latou pili tupe, ua aveese le 190% sa masani ona totogi i le ava malosi o loo ulufale mai i le atunu'u, ae o le a laugatasia faipisinisi uma i le lafoga e .35 sene i le aofai e 12 aunese o le apa pia mai fafo.

Saunoa le afioga i le ali'i faipule ia Vailoata E. Amituana'i e fa'apea, e taua le fuafuaga a le malo e fetuunai ai le lafoga mo le pia ma le molo, pau lona popolega, ina nei avea ma itu e aafia ai ni isi o faipisinisi o lo o latou aumaia le pia i le atunuu i le maualuga o le lafoga, ae o lo o tau atina'e a latou pisinisi fou.

(Faaauau itulau 11)



O le taimi ua mae'a ona o'otia le lipine e le afioga le Kovana ae ua tatala fo'i e le tama'ita'i fa'atonu o Uafu, ma Malaeva'alele Taimalelagi Dr. Claire Poumele.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



## ► Toatolu...

Mai itulau 9

ai lana ta’avale. Sa faailoa fo’i e Zhang ia Taeaoafua lona manaomia o lana fesoasoani i se auala e toe faaolaola lelei ai lana pisinisi.

Na fai Taeaoafua ia Zhang, o se tulaga lelei ua ia talanoa atu ai, ona o loo mana’omia fo’i lona to’alua e fai sana pisinisi o Taavale Mautotogi. Ona o tulaga e pei ona talanoaina, na fai ai loa Taeaoafua ia Zhang e sili pe a talanoa i le to’alua o lona afafine o Toeava, mo le fa’amautuina o se la tonu i se la’asaga e tatau ona faia.

O le talanoaga a Zhang ma Toeava na faia ai loa se la maliliega, o le a liliu atu le pisinisi Taavale Mautotogi a Zhang e faatautaia e le tausi o Taeaoafua o Vaofu’a Solomona, poo ‘Mama’ fo’i e pei ona taua ai i totonu o fa’amaumauga a le fa’amasinoga. Na fai le laisene pisinisi a Mama ma fa’aalu i lalo o le igoa o Meki Tavita & Mikaele Rental. O tuutuuga o le maliliega sa faia, o le mae’a ai o le tausaga e tasi talu ona

fa’atautaia e Mama le pisinisi, ona maua loa lea e Zhang o le 40% o meatotino a le pisinisi. O le Kerisimasi fo’i o le 2017 o le a totogi atu ai e Mama ia Zhang le \$8,000 mo le ta’avale Nissan Rogue o le 2013 ma le \$10,000 mo le Nissan Rogue 2015.

E lei umi ona taulima e Mama le pisinisi, ae telefoni loa Taeaoafua ia Zhang ma faailoa i ai, ua mana’omia e le pisinisi nisi ta’avale fou se 3. Na alu Zhang ma fai lana nonogatupe, ma fa’atau mai ai ta’avale e 3 e pei ona talosagaina e Taeaoafua. O le Ford Escape mai le Samoa Motors e \$10,000 le tau; Hyndai mai le Samoa Ford e \$14,000 lona tau, ma le Ford Escape e \$15,000 lona tau.

O le a fa’aauau atu i le isi lomina le vaega lona lua o lenei ripoti. O lo o taofia pea i latou nei e to’atolu i le toese i Tafuna, e fa’atalitali ai taualumaga o a latou mataupu o lo o fa’agasolo i luma o le Fa’amasinoga Fa’aitumalo i le taimi nei.

## ► Tatala...

Mai itulau 10

Natalia Palamo, aua o i la’ua fo’i sa faia le la’ua vaega mo lenei poloketi. O lana fa’afetai mulimuli mo matua fa’aleagaga o le Port Administration, “Rev Iasepi Ulu ma Leone Ripley Ulu, avea lava oulua ma matua e tulivaeina lenei matagaluega i so’o se matou fa’amoemoe ma galuega fai, e a’amia lava oulua ma talosagaina lo oulua fa’atasi mai, Fa’afetai mo le aufaipese siufofoga malie i lenei taeao i vi’iga matagofie o le Atua.”

I le folasaga a le Kovana sili sa ia fa’aailoa ai lona agaga, “O le fa’afetai e si’i i le Atua e ona mea uma, o le tima’i fo’i lea a le Fa’afeagaiga i lenei taeao, o i tatou uma, na faia e le Atua, ia maua ai lava sona vi’iga, ae le o i tatou.”

“Fa’afetai ua mae’a le sao o le Malo mo ona tagata ma ana tautua mo le lautele, peita’i a mae’a mea uma, o i tatou o auaua le aoga i tatou. Ae si’i atu le fa’afetai i le Atua, ma vi’ia lava o ia. Peita’i e moni lelei le tala sa mua’i saunoa i ai le Fa’afeagaiga i le tatalaina o le galuega o le Vaita’ele i le Paka Liona, e sili le to’alua pe to’atolu nai lo le to’atasi, aua a pa’u le tasi e fa’atu i luga e le isi to’alua.”

“Lelei fo’i o lo’o pa’au mai

le fono faitulafono, aua a mae’a isi galuega, ona iloa lea o isi galuega uma e ao ina fa’atino ma fa’atautaia mo le atunu’u. Lea ua tele isi tatou galuega nei ua amata, ae le’i mautu mai se tupe e fa’atino ma fa’amae’a ai. E tusa ma le \$50 miliona e mo’omia e fa’atino ai isigaluega ua mae’a amata i le 2018. O le fale Leoleo lea na mu, lea ua toe fausia. O le fale Mata’aga lea ua amata, ae na’o le \$600,000 na faatulaga mai e le fono e fa’atino ai, e le mae’a ai le galuega pe lua Miliona le isi vaega tupe e fa’amaea lelei ai lona galuega.”

“Lea fo’i ua taoto mai le falefono o le Fono Faitulafono, e ao ina fausia ma fa’aleleia atili mo le soloa’i mai o nofoaiga aua le aiaiga o tulafono, fausia tulafono ma pasia tulafono e fa’atautaia ai le malo nei ae maise le lumana’i.”

“I le taimi nei ua faia lava le fautuaga fo’i lea, tatusi lava ata ma ta’atitia e o’o atu lava i ai ua maua tupe e faia ai na galuega i lona lava taimi. Peita’i fa’afetai mo i latou uma na tofusao mo lenei galuega ua mae’a ma o le a fa’aaogaina.”

O le ‘aiga fiafia na faai’u ai, ona fa’afetai fa’apitoa lea o Taimalelagi i lana Matagaluega sa latou fa’atasi i le fa’amoemoe, ona o le latou galuega faifaatasi ua mafai ona sao ma uli ai lea poloketi ua mae’a.

## ► Pasia...

Continued from page 10

Na fautua le afioga i le tamaitai faipule ia Vui Florence Saulo i molimau, ina ia silasila toto’a i ni isi o tagata faipisinisi o lo o latou fa’atauina mai le pia mai le faleoloa o le Militeli i totonu o le atunu’u, ona o lea ma toe fa’atau atu i a latou faleoloa. Saunoa Vui e fa’apea, o le isi lea faiga o lo o ma’imau ai lafoga e tatau ona maua e le malo.

I le tulaga o le lafoga i le sikaleti, na taua ai e le afioga

i le ali’i faipule ia Sataua Dr. Mataese Samuelu lona faanau-nauga o lo o i ai, ina ia aofia ai ma le sikaleti lea ua ta’atele i le taimi nei, le ‘e-cigarette’, ina ia maua ai fo’i se isi tupe mo le malo. Ua taoto atu nei i le maota maualuga pili tupe e 2 a le maota o sui ua mae’a ona pasia, mo le faia i ai o sa latou faaiuga, ae ua mae’a fo’i ona tauaao e le maota o sui pili tupe e 2 a le Senate na pasia i le vaiaso na te’a nei mo sa latou fa’aiuga.



O le itu sa sasao ai le sui mamalu o le US Coast Guard ma nisi o Fa’atonusili o matagaluega eseese o le tatou Malo.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



Matagofie tele vi’iga o le Atua na fa’afogaina i le lelei o le malu a le vaega lea. O i latou o le aufaipese a le fa’afeagaiga Iasepi Ulu ma le faletua o Leone Ulu mai le EFKAS i Fagatogo.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



NOTICE FOR SEPARATION AGREEMENT

TO Members of the MAIAVA Family and to all whom these present may come!

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that SOFALA, APAAU, MARANATHA, GRACE & MONALISA MAI-  
AVA of LEONE has offered for recording in this office an instrument in writing which seeks to separate  
a certain structure which is or to be erected, on land FUSI, allegedly belonging to MAIAVA FAMILY  
of the village of LEONE. Said land FUSI, is situated in or near the village of LEONE in the County of  
FOFO, Island of TUTUILA, American Samoa.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any interested person may object to the recording of such instru-  
ment by filing in the Territorial Registrar's Office in Fagatogo, a written objection to the recording of said  
instrument. Any objections thereto must be filed with in 30 days from the date of posting of this notice.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that if no such objections are filed within the said 30 day period, the  
instrument will be recorded and shall be valid and binding on all persons. The said instrument may be  
examined at any time at the Territorial Registrar's Office.

POSTED: JANUARY 8, 2018 thru FEBRUARY 7, 2018  
SIGNED: Taïto S.B. White, Territorial Registrar

FA'AALIGA O LE FEAGAIGA MO SE TU'U'ESEINA

I tagata o le aiga sa MAIAVA, ma i latou uma e silasila ma lauiloaina lenei fa'aaliga!  
O le fa'aaliga lenei ona o SOFALA, APAAU, MARANATHA, GRACE & MONALISA MAIAVA o  
le nu'u o LEONE ua ia fa'aulufaleina mai i lenei ofisa se feagaiga tusitusi e fa'ailoa ai se mana'oga fia  
tu'u'eseina o se fale ua/po o le a, fa'atuina i luga o le fanua o FUSI, e fa'asino i le aiga sa MALAVA, o le  
nu'u o LEONE. O lenei fanua e totonu pe latalata ane i le nu'u o LEONE, itumalo o FOFO, ile motu o  
TUTUILA, Amerika Samoa.

O le fa'aaliga fo'i e fa'apea, so o se tasi e iai sona aia i lenei mata'upu e mafai ona fa'atu'i'iese ile  
fa'amauiina o lenei feagaiga pe a auina mai i le ofisa ole Resitara o le Teritori of Amerika Samoa i  
Fagatogo, sana fa'atu'ese tusitusia. O fa'atu'iesega uma lava e ao ona fa'aulufaleina mai i totonu o aso e 30  
faitauiina mai i le aso na faiaalia ai lenei fa'aaliga.

Afai ole a leai se fa'atu'i'iesega e fa'aulufaleina i totonu o aso 30 e pei ona ta'ua i luga, o le a fa'amauiina  
loa lenei feagaiga e taualoaina ma 'aafia ai tagata uma.

01/11 & 01/25/18



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Pick up an application TODAY from our Customer Service Counter, or visit our website [www.neilshomecenter.com](http://www.neilshomecenter.com) to print an employment application. Drop off, or email, completed applications to [Monique@neilshomecenter.com](mailto:Monique@neilshomecenter.com).

**ACE HARDWARE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

In Davos, European leaders try to counterbalance Trump views

DAVOS, Switzerland (AP) — European leaders came to the defense of free trade and global cooperation on Wednesday, laying out a vision to counterbalance what many perceive as a rise in the more brash, nationalistic policies of U.S. President Donald Trump.

Trump’s expected arrival to the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, on Thursday overshadowed the event and many government leaders rushed to stand in contrast with Trump’s policies, particularly his move to revise free trade deals and drop out of a climate change pact.

“We believe that isolationism won’t take us forward,” German Chancellor Angela Merkel told the elite gathered in the snowy Alpine town. “We believe that we must cooperate, that protectionism is not the correct answer.”

Merkel stressed there is too much “national egoism” at the moment and that the World

Economic Forum’s motto of “creating a shared future in a fractured world” was “exactly right” for 2018.

Concerns that the U.S. is turning its back on the globalization — which many credit with increasing wealth but also creating inequality — were accentuated this week, when Trump backed new tariffs on imported solar-energy components and large washing machines. His combative commerce secretary, Wilbur Ross, conceded Wednesday that China could respond by imposing its own tariffs on U.S. products.

“There’s always potential for retribution or retaliation and that’s up to the Chinese to decide,” Ross told journalists as part of the largest-ever U.S. delegation to Davos. He warned that the U.S. itself could respond to any retaliation from Beijing.

The chorus of criticism of Trump’s commercial policies is unlikely to sway Trump, espe-

► Retailer...

*(Samoa News notes that defendant Toeava is Taeaoafua’s son-in-law and it was during Taeaoafua’s term as DHSS director that the alleged food stamp scheme took place. Also, Samoa News identifies Taeaoafua as Solomona in Kevin’s statement, as the defendant does not refer to the late DHSS director, using his matai title.)*

According to Kevin’s statement to police, he and Solomona were close friends and sometime during Nov. 2017, Solomona contacted him and asked if he wanted to buy his truck because he needed the money to see a doctor in the US and he wanted to leave on Dec. 05, 2017.

Kevin said he agreed and purchased Solomona’s truck for \$15,000

This wasn’t the first time the two engaged in a business transaction. Prior to this, according to Kevin, Solomona allegedly told

him he needed his help because ‘Mama’ (Solomona’s wife) wanted to start a rental car business. (See yesterday’s Samoa News edition for details.)

**JANE VASA**

When questioned by police on Jan. 16, 2018, defendant Vasa — assigned to the DHSS, ASNAP Issuance Office — said sometime during the first week of Dec. 2017, Toeava asked her to provide him with food stamp coupon papers because he needed the layout to create his business card.

According to the affidavit, Vast asserted that she was reluctant to accommodate Toeava’s request but acquiesced to it two days later, providing him with one unopened box of food stamp coupon paper. In return, Toeava gave her \$4,000 the following week.

**TAEAOAFUA PASSES AWAY**

On Dec. 11, 2017, Taeaoafua

passed away unexpectedly and the affidavit says Kevin never got paid for the two vehicles in the car rental fleet (\$18,000), nor for the three additional vehicles (totaling \$39,000) he purchased after taking out a bank loan at the late DHSS director Taeaoafua’s insistence.

In addition, Kevin’s 40% ownership of the car rental business never materialized.

According to Kevin, defendant Toeava told him that when the coupons are redeemed, they would split the money 50-50. He added that his friend, the unnamed business owner, didn’t get anything out of it, as he only did it as a favor.

The affidavit notes that from Sept. 2017 to Jan. 2018, “the 50% Kevin collected amounted to \$243,721.00.”

Samoa News will report more on this case later this week.

► ASCC...

amoa, Mrs. Feleni Alainuuese, Mr. Lance Glodowski, and Mrs. Moresa Langkilde).

For exemplary performance in organizational areas including the submission of agendas, meeting minutes, student learning outcome data, course schedules and course syllabi, awards certificates were presented to the chairpersons of the English CAPP, Language and Literature, Criminal Justice, and Teacher Education departments, and to the Samoan Studies Institute.

For the final round of awards, the Samoan Studies Institute

recognized its chairperson Mr. Evile Feleti for his recruiting efforts both on campus and in the high schools. Also recognized were Mrs. Alofa Nuusila for her commitment to building present and future Samoan language writers, and Mrs. Tasia Ti’a Talamoni for her customary instruction, in particular, endowing students and TAOA elders with knowledge of traditional weaving, craft making as well as local delicacy preparation.

“A component of the ASCC Mission is that we contribute to the social, cultural, economic

and environmental well-being of our community,” reflected Dean of Academic Affairs Mrs. Letupu Moananu. “Some examples of us putting this goal into practice are more obvious than others, but in the majority of ASCC activities you will find some aspect that serves the community as much as it does our students. Our Faculty Awards is our way of recognizing and celebrating these efforts.”

For more information on ASCC, visit its website at: [HYPERLINK “http://www.amsamoa.edu”](http://www.amsamoa.edu) [www.amsamoa.edu](http://www.amsamoa.edu).



# Gymnastics doctor sentenced to 40 to 175 years in prison

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — The former sports doctor who admitted molesting some of the nation’s top gymnasts for years under the guise of medical treatment was sentenced Wednesday to 40 to 175 years in prison by a judge who proudly told him, “I just signed your death warrant.”

The sentence capped a remarkable seven-day hearing in which more than 150 women and girls offered statements about being abused by Larry Nassar, a physician who was renowned for treating athletes at the sport’s highest levels. Many confronted him face to face in the Michigan courtroom.

“It is my honor and privilege to sentence you. You do not deserve to walk outside a prison ever again. You have done nothing to control those urges and anywhere you walk, destruction will occur to those most vulnerable,” Judge Rosemarie Aquilina said.

Nassar’s actions were “precise, calculated, manipulative, devious, despicable,” she said.

When the hearing ended, the courtroom broke into applause. Victims and prosecutors embraced at the conclusion of the grueling 16-month case.

But the anguish of the past week will have little, if any, practical effect on Nassar’s fate. Before serving the Michigan sentence, the 54-year-old must first serve a 60-year federal sentence for child pornography crimes. With credit for good behavior, he could complete that sentence in about 55 years. By then, he would be more than 100 years old if still alive.

He is also scheduled to be sentenced next week on more assault convictions in Eaton County, Michigan.

A prosecutor called Nassar “possibly the most prolific serial child sex abuser in history” and said competitive gymnastics provided the “perfect place” for his crimes because victims saw him as a “god.”

Prosecutor Angela Povilaitis also said Nassar “perfected a built-in excuse and defense” as a doctor, even though he was “performing hocus-pocus medicine.”

“It takes some kind of sick perversion to not only assault a child but to do so with her parent in the room, to do so while a lineup of eager young gymnasts waited,” Povilaitis said.

She urged people to believe young victims of sexual abuse no matter who they accuse and praised journalists, including those at the Indianapolis Star. The newspaper’s 2016 investigation of how the sport’s governing body handled sexual abuse allegations against coaches prompted a former gymnast to alert the paper to Nassar.

Although Nassar’s work with gymnasts received the most attention, the allegations against him spanned more than a dozen sports over 25 years.

At one point, Nassar turned

to the courtroom gallery to make a brief statement, saying that the victims’ accounts had “shaken me to my core.” He said “no words” can describe how sorry he is.

“I will carry your words with me for the rest of my days” he said as many of his accusers wept.

The judge then read from a letter that Nassar had written to her that raised questions about whether he was truly remorseful. The victims who packed the courtroom gasped as they heard passages that included “Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned” and another in which Nassar said the “stories” about him were fabricated.

He also defended his actions with the athletes as “medical, not sexual.”

“I was a good doctor because my treatment worked, and those patients that are now speaking out were the same ones that praised and came back over  
(Continued on page 15)



[l-r] Rep. Faimealelei Anthony Allen, Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga, Rep. Fatulegae’e Palepoi Mauga, and Lt. Gov. Lemanu Sialega Palepoi Mauga at yesterday’s dedication ceremony for the Service Wharf at the Port of Pago Pago.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



American Samoa Power Authority

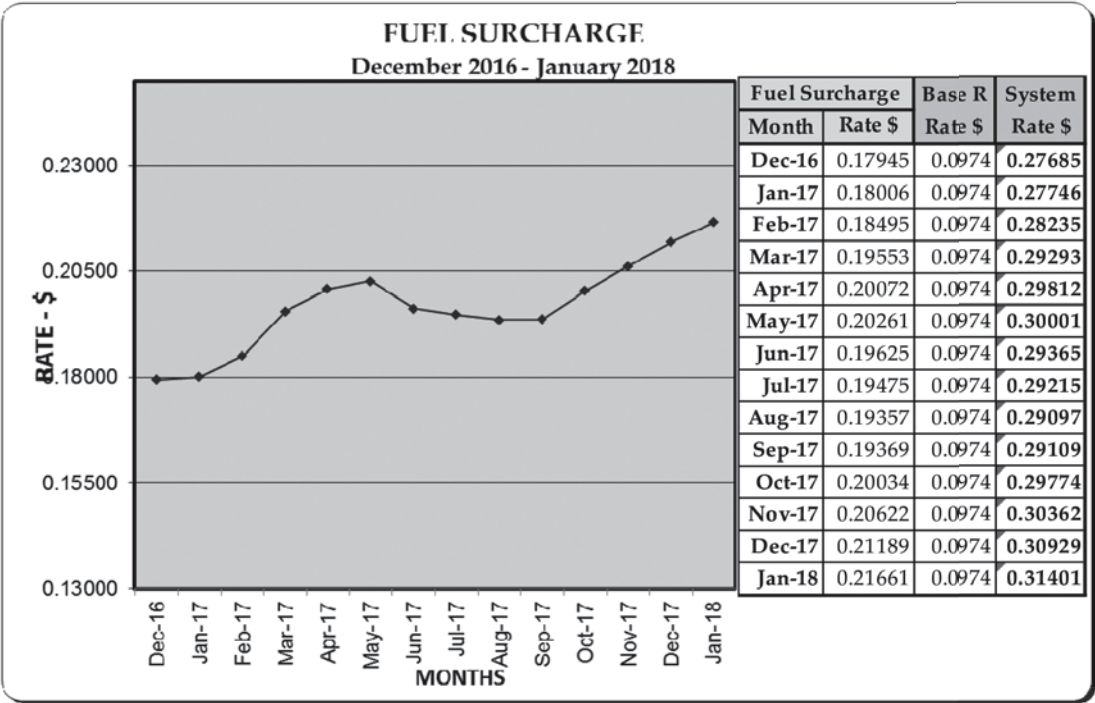
January 12, 2018

## 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 Aunu'u.



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 January 2018			
Rate - \$	Residential	Small General	Large General
Calculated Fuel Surcharge	0.22513	0.22513	0.22513
Renewable Reduction	-0.00852	-0.00852	-0.00852
Fuel Surcharge	0.21661	0.21661	0.21661
Fixed Electric Base Rate	0.09740	0.10650	0.08960
Electric System Rate (kWh)	0.31401	0.32311	0.30621

Reduction” savings. There are seven 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.




NOTICE FOR SEPARATION AGREEMENT

TO Members of the FAUTANU Family and to all whom these present may come!  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that FA'AAO & FONOTAGA FA'ANU of MASEFAU has offered for recording in this office an instrument in writing which seeks to separate a certain structure which is or to be erected, on land LALOFAU, allegedly belonging to FAUTANU FAMILY of the village of MASEFAU. Said land LALOFAU is situated in or near the village of MASEFAU in the County of SUA, Island of TUTUILA, American Samoa.  
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any interested person may object to the recording of such instrument by filing in the Territorial Registrar's Office in Fagatogo, a written objection to the recording of said instrument. Any objections thereto must be filed with in 30 days from the date of posting of this notice.  
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that if no such objections are filed within the said 30 day period, the instrument will be recorded and shall be valid and binding on all persons. The said instrument may be examined at any time at the Territorial Registrar's Office.  
POSTED: JANUARY 3, 2018 thru FEBRUARY 2, 2018  
SIGNED: Taito S.B. White, Territorial Registrar

FA'AALIGA O LE FEAGAIGA MO SE TU'U'ESEINA

I tagata o le aiga sa FAUTANU, ma i latou uma e silasila ma lauiloaina leni fa'aaliga!  
O le fa'aaliga leni ona o FA'AAO & FONOTAGA FA'ANU o le nu'u o MASEFAU ua ia fa'aulufaleina mai i leni ofisa se feagaiga tusitusi e fa'ailoa ai se mana'oga fia tu'u'eseina o se fale ua/po o le a, fa'atua i luga o le fanua o LALOFAU e fa'asino i le aiga sa FAUTANU, o le nu'u o MASEFAU. O leni fanua e totonu pe latalata ane i le nu'u o MASEFAU, itumalo o SUA, ile motu o TUTUILA, Amerika Samoa.  
O le fa'aaliga fo'i e fa'apea, so o se tasi e iai sona aia i leni mata'upu e mafai ona fa'atu'i'iese ile fa'amauna o leni feagaiga pe a auina mai i le ofisa ole Resitara o le Teritori of Amerika Samoa i Fagatogo, sana fa'atuesese tusitusia. O fa'atu'iesega uma lava e ao ona fa'aulufaleina mai i totonu o aso e 30 faitauina mai i le aso na fa'ailaia ai leni fa'aaliga.  
Afai ole a leai se fa'atu'iesega e fa'aulufaleina i totonu o aso 30 e pei ona ta'ua i luga, o le a fa'amauna loa leni feagaiga e taualoaina ma 'aafia ai tagata uma.  
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Congress members urge Trump to ease off legalized pot states



Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan, left, looks on as City Attorney Pete Holmes addresses a news conference about a Trump administration move that could lead to a federal crackdown on marijuana sales in states that have legalized the drug Thursday, Jan. 4, 2018, in Seattle. Attorney General Jeff Sessions has rescinded an Obama-era policy that paved the way for legalized marijuana to flourish in states across the country, creating new confusion about enforcement and use just three days after a new legalization law went into effect in California. (AP Photo/Elaine Thompson)

BOSTON (AP) — Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren and Colorado Rep. Jared Polis

are leading a bipartisan push urging President Donald Trump to reinstate an Obama-era policy

discouraging federal prosecutors from targeting individuals involved in the marijuana trade in states that have legalized the drug.  
The Democrats and 52 other members of Congress have written a letter dated Thursday to Trump, after Attorney General Jeff Sessions lifted the policy earlier this month. Sessions said he would leave it up to prosecutors whether to crack down.

In the letter, the members say lifting the policy puts businesses, consumers and patients at risk.  
Alaska, California, Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, Nevada, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington and the District of Columbia have legalized the recreational use of marijuana by adults. Others have decriminalized marijuana or legalized its medicinal use.

Mom of starved 2-year-old girl sentenced to 15 years to life



CINCINNATI (AP) — The mother of a 2-year-old Ohio girl who was starved and beaten to death has been sentenced to 15 years to life in prison.  
Thirty-one-year-old Andrea Bradley was sentenced Wednesday in Cincinnati. She pleaded no contest earlier this month to murder and child endangering charges. Bradley and her boyfriend were both charged in the March 2015 death of their daughter, Glenara Bates.  
Hamilton County prosecutors

have said the child had belt and bite marks, bruises, head trauma and other injuries and weighed only 13 pounds when she died.  
The child's father, Glen Bates, was convicted of aggravated murder in 2016 and sentenced to death.  
Prosecutors have said Bates tortured the girl, and Bradley neglected and failed to feed her.  
Bradley's attorney told the judge Wednesday that Bates also abused Bradley.

Guatemala prosecutors detail probe into Odebrecht bribes

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) — Prosecutors revealed details Wednesday of an investigation into \$17.9 million in bribes allegedly paid by the Brazilian company Odebrecht to local officials, politicians and private citizens in Guatemala.  
Odebrecht has admitted paying bribes across Latin America to win government contracts, and Guatemalan chief prosecutor Thelma Aldana said at a news conference that inves-

tigators have records for bank accounts used for their payment and receipt in the Central American nation.  
Former Communications Minister Alejandro Sinibaldi is alleged to have coordinated receipt and distribution of the money and to have taken in \$9 million. Sinibaldi is currently a fugitive from justice.  
Also purportedly involved was former presidential candidate Manuel Baldizon, who

was detained recently in Florida on an international arrest warrant. Baldizon is alleged to have received at least \$1.3 million as a product of bribes.  
Another suspect is Arturo Batres Gil, an alleged frontman for businesspeople who is believed to have received \$4.9 million.  
Prosecutors have not ruled out that more people may have been involved.  
Aldana said two people of Brazilian origin acknowledged delivering bribes and paid \$68,000 in fines apiece. By law they could not be tried in Guatemala since they are already facing a legal case in Brazil.

HUD official apologizes after calling reporter 'Miss Piggy'

WASHINGTON (AP) — A former Trump campaign surrogate who now holds a job in the administration is apologizing after attacking a reporter on her personal Twitter account.  
Lynne Patton, who heads a regional office of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, referred to reporter April Ryan as "Miss Piggy" in a tweet Wednesday. Ryan is the White House correspondent for American Urban Radio Networks and frequently appears on CNN.

Patton later tweeted, "Tonight, I made an inexcusable comment on my personal Twitter account that I deeply regret & deleted on my own volition." Patton is apologizing to Ryan, HUD Secretary Ben Carson and the "#trump family."

Patton was an event planner for Donald Trump and his family before his 2016 presidential campaign.

# FOR SALE

## EXECUTIVE HOUSE AND 0.229 ACRES OF LAND

This house and land are located in Pava'ia'i. The house has 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, a modern kitchen, large living and dining area, family room and a two-car garage. The property is fenced. The house is offered for sale with the following items included:

- 6 split unit air-conditioners
- Refrigerator/ freezer
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- Dryer
- Stove / Oven
- dishwasher
- 3-piece lounge suite
- 1 dining room table and chairs
- Master bedroom dresser
- Display cabinet / living room
- Microwave

This house is offered for sale "as is".  
For an appointment to view the house and property  
email: [contact@mwsrose.com](mailto:contact@mwsrose.com) or call 699- 2100.



# Gymnastics...

Continued from page 13



Rachael Denhollander addresses Larry Nassar before his sentencing Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018, during the final day of victim impact statements in Lansing, Mich. The former sports doctor who admitted molesting some of the nation's top gymnasts for years was sentenced Wednesday to 40 to 175 years in prison as the judge declared: "I just signed your death warrant." The sentence capped a remarkable seven-day hearing in which scores of Nassar's victims were able to confront him face to face in the Michigan courtroom.

(Matthew Dae Smith/Lansing State Journal via AP)

and over, and referred family and friends to see me," Nassar wrote.

One of the first athletes to publicly accuse Nassar of sexual assault was the last victim to offer a statement at the hearing.

Rachael Denhollander is a Kentucky lawyer who stepped forward in 2016 after the sport's governing body, USA Gymnastics, was accused of mishandling sexual assault complaints. She said Nassar groped and fondled her when she was a 15-year-old gymnast in Michigan.

Denhollander's statements to Michigan State University police put the criminal investigation in high gear in 2016.

"You have become a man ruled by selfish and perverted desires," she told Nassar, who worked at the university and USA Gymnastics, which also trains Olympians.

Hours after the sentencing, MSU President Lou Anna

Simon said she was resigning amid mounting pressure over the way the university handled the Nassar case. That came shortly after Michigan lawmakers voted overwhelmingly for a nonbinding House resolution that sought her removal over allegations that the school missed chances to stop Nassar.

In her resignation letter, Simon said as tragedies are politicized, blame is inevitable. She acknowledged she was a natural focus of the anger as president.

Simon, who earned her doctorate at Michigan State in 1974, was promoted to school president in 2005.

Nassar pleaded guilty to assaulting seven people in the Lansing area, including in the basement of his home and at his campus office. But the sentencing hearing was open to anyone who said they were a victim.

Accusers said he would use his ungloved hands to penetrate them, often without explanation, while they were on a table seeking help for various injuries.

The accusers, many of whom were children, said they trusted Nassar and were in denial about what was happening or were afraid to speak up. He sometimes used a sheet or his body to block the view of any parent in the room.

Several elite former gymnasts talked about how Nassar won their allegiance with candy, Olympic trinkets and encouraging words while they were under constant scrutiny from demanding coaches.

The judge praised the victims who appeared in her court, calling them "sister survivors." The women included Olympians Aly Raisman, Jordyn Wieber and McKayla Maroney.

The judge also called for a broader investigation into how the abuse was allowed to go on for so long. She said justice "requires more" than what she can do.

The CEO of the U.S. Olympic Committee soon announced an independent inquiry. Scott Blackmun said the third-party investigation will attempt to determine "who knew what and when."

Brooke Hylek, a gymnast who plans to compete in college, heaped scorn on Nassar.

## Japan displays documents to defend claims to disputed isles

TOKYO (AP) — The Japanese government opened a small museum Thursday displaying maps and documents to defend its territorial claims against neighbors South Korea and China.

The Japanese minister in charge of territorial issues, Tetsuya Esaki, said it was important for Japan to improve how information about disputed islands "is transmitted both internally and externally, so as to ensure as widely as possible that our claims are understood correctly."

The National Museum of Territory and Sovereignty displays replicas of historic documents that Japan says show its ownership of two sets of uninhabited islands, one also

claimed by China and the other by South Korea.

The dispute with China has heated up in recent years, with Chinese coast guard ships sailing near the islands and their Japanese counterparts trying to chase them away.

The islands, which are near Taiwan, are known as the Senkaku in Japan and as the Diaoyu in China. Taiwan also claims them.

Japan has long feuded with South Korea over another group of tiny islands in the waters between the two countries. Japan calls them Takeshima, and South Korea calls them Dokdo.

South Korea opened a museum in central Seoul in 2012 to back its claim to Dokdo.



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samoa news



### American Samoa Government OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

## INVITATION FOR BIDS IFB-021-2018

Issuance Date: January 11, 2018

Closing Date: January 26, 2018

No later than 2:00p.m. (local time)

#### 1. INVITATION

Sealed bids are being solicited from qualified firms to provide "**Lawn and Groundskeeping Services for Eight (8) Public School Locations**" for the Department of Public Works.

#### 2. RECEIPT & OPENING OF BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by the Chief Procurement Officer, American Samoa Government, Tafuna, American Samoa 96799, until 2:00p.m. (local time), Friday, January 26, 2018 at which time and place the sealed bids will be publicly opened and read.

#### 3. MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING

A MANDATORY Pre-Bid Meeting for all contractors will be held on January 23, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Office of Procurement Conference Room. Bids will not be accepted from bidders who are not present at the pre-bid meeting.

#### 4. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

Electronic copies of contract documents, including Plans and Scope of Work can be examined or obtained from the Office of Procurement during regular business hours free of charge.

5. The American Samoa Government reserves the right not to accept the lowest or any bid.

6. The American Samoa Government reserves the right to waive any informality in bidding as may be in the best interest of the American Samoa Government.

*Dr. Oreta Mapu Crichton*

**DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON**  
Chief Procurement Officer

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# Meet A Spelling Champ!

The student at the right will represent Pavaiai Elem. School in the American Samoa Spelling Bee to be held March 07, 2018. The winner of that Bee will represent American Samoa in the 90th annual Scripps Howard Spelling Bee to be held in Washington, D.C.



## BIOGRAPHY OF A 2018 SPELLING BEE FINALIST

What is your name?  
**Maligi Latu**  
What is your school name?  
**Pavaiai Elementary School**  
What grade are you in?  
**Grade 8**  
Who is your English Teacher?  
**Ms. Christina Iosefo**  
Who are your parents?  
**Talalelei & Faleiva Latu**  
What village are you from?  
**Pava'ia'i**  
What was your winning word?  
**HORS-DE-COMBAT**

Spelling Bee Winners, if you've not filled out your biography and had your picture taken, please come in to Samoa News.

**Territorial Spelling Bee**

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American Samoa

# Bears burned in California wildfires go holistic for pain

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Veterinarians successfully used alternative medical treatments such as acupuncture on three wild animals burned in the Southern California wildfires, although one patient — a 5-month-old mountain lion — did keep eating his fish-skin and corn-husk bandages, vets at the University of California, Davis said Wednesday.

Rescuers brought two adult bears, one of them pregnant, and the young mountain lion to veterinarians with the state Department of Fish and Wildlife and the university after the animals were hurt in the largest wildfire in state history. They were found in the Los Padres National Forest, whose mountains stretch through badly burned areas of Santa Barbara and Ventura counties.

The bears had suffered third-degree burns on all their paws, said Jamie Peyton, chief of the Integrative Medicine Service at the university's vet school. The cub also burned all four paws.

Standard pain treatment is a problem for both the animals and their caregivers when it comes to wildlife with sharp teeth and claws, Peyton said. For safety, vets have to heavily sedate the animals every time they change their bandages or otherwise care for them.

"You can only anesthetize

them so many times," Peyton said. "It's hard on them. We can't do that to them every day."

Putting pain pills in food also is problematic, because there's no guarantee the animals will eat them, Peyton said.

Instead, Peyton and her colleagues used some of the alternative methods she already employs with other animals, including acupuncture, chiropractic treatment, and cold-laser therapy. Many health-insurance companies consider some of the treatments experimental or unproven, and do not always cover their costs in human patients.

Vets carried out the alternative treatments only on days when the bears and mountain lion were already anesthetized for bandage changes or other standard care.

"I adore them, but they're wild," Peyton explained.

Another form of treatment seemed most helpful of all for the bears, vets said.

The California vets stitched the fish skins to the animals' burned paws, then wrapped the treated feet with bandages of rice paper and corn husks, after reading about trials on human burn victims in Brazil that placed treated skins from tilapia, a ubiquitous species of fish, on burn victims to soothe pain and promote healing.



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