



These nine students in the ASCC Practical Nursing Program, along with instructor Lele Ah Mu (back, far right), traveled to Ofu and Olosega in mid-November to conduct a Community Outreach Project. Read story inside for details.

[Photo: J. Kneubuhl]

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samoa news

DAILY CIRCULATION 7,000

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2017

\$1.00

CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN: 11 DAYS

HOLIDAY EVENTS

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CARL'S JR. — \$10 GIFTS FOR THEIR 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Ten years ago this week the Forsgren Family fulfilled their dream of opening an American Fast Food Franchise, a major investment that brought to American Samoa's shores the Carl's Jr. franchise.

Yes. 10 years since we first tasted the big juicy Carl's Junior Burgers.

Seems like just yesterday huh?

Along the way they added the Green Burrito, a Mexican food offering that we all love and today Carl's Jr. in American Samoa is their largest volume outlet in the United States because of you their loyal customers.

One of their biggest accomplishments so far has been being able to incorporate local produce into their burgers and salads according to Carl's Jr. CEO Barry Forsgren.

Carl's Jr. employs 55 people.

In 2018, Carl's Junior will be expanding the restaurant adding a children's play area with additional seating. Included in the bigger Carl's Jr. will be a kids' party play area, which will include a kids' play gym with a party/ conference room. This new children's area



will be separate yet a part of the main restaurant so parents and guardians can eat and watch their children enjoying themselves in a secure area.

To celebrate its 10th Anniversary Carl's Jr. is offering some great food bundles at... you guessed it — \$10.

These Bundles include the Shake, Criss Cut fries and Super Star Burger for \$10; 2 Spicy Chicken & a cheeseburger with drink and Fries for \$10; and, Chili

(Continued on page 12)

Man slammed with \$100K cash bond after crime

...AFTER HIS ARREST

by Ausage Fausia
Samoa News reporter

A 27-year-old man who escaped from the District Court last week during his initial appearance has been slammed by District Court Judge Fiti Sunia with a \$100,000 cash bond, after the government filed additional charges against him.

Police arrested Timata Naea last week, after a long chase by police officers on the west side of the island.

Naea was accused of stealing a vehicle from a family member, and police were contacted for assistance. He was initially charged with stealing, a felony and public peace disturbance, a misdemeanor; as well as with several traffic violations, including reckless driving and careless driving.

The defendant made his initial appearance last week Tuesday where he was ordered by the Court to re-appear on the following day for his

preliminary examination. The Court also set his bail at \$5,000 under special conditions including no contact with the government witnesses and the victim.

During his PX hearing, on Wednesday, Naea's attorney Ryan Anderson informed the Court that the defendant wished to waive his right for a PX hearing, after which his case would be bound over to the High Court.

However, when Sunia asked the defendant if he wished to waive his right for a PX hearing and have his case bound over to the High Court, the defendant shook his head and replied, "I didn't say anything to my lawyer because I don't understand."

After the Court heard the defendant's statement, Sunia then instructed the public defenders' attorney to take more time to communicate with his client, and his case was rescheduled to the fol-

(Continued on page 10)



HAPPY 10TH ANNIVERSARY CARL'S JR.

Mr. Anders Forsgren and Mrs. Leone Forsgren, President and Vice President of Forsgren Foods Inc. who own the Carl's Junior Franchise are all smiles here along with some of the 55 Carl's Jr. employees and the delectable anniversary cake that featured an edible hamburger made of cake, during their 10th anniversary celebrations yesterday at the Carl's Jr. Restaurant in Nu'uuli.

[Photo: THA]

MON - SAT
8:30am - 7:00pm
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10:am - 7pm





COURT REPORT...

by Ausage Fausia
Samoa News Reporter

MAN ACCUSED OF
ASSAULTING HIS WIFE

A 34-year-old man who has been wanted by the District Court since May of last year for not appearing at many of his court hearings was arrested by police this week after he allegedly assaulted his wife in the presence of his two young daughters.

The defendant made his initial appearance before the District Court yesterday morning, where he entered a not guilty plea to third degree assault and domestic violence — both misdemeanors.

According to court records, District Court Judge Fiti Sunia issued two bench warrants for the defendant in May of last year, after he failed to appear on two separate DUI cases. Police and the Court Marshal tried to locate the defendant several times but he was nowhere to be found.

For this case, around 10:40 p.m. on Monday this week, the defendant's mother contacted the Tafuna Police station for assistance, after her son (defendant) allegedly assaulted his wife in the presence of his two young children. Three police officers responded to the call and met up with the defendant's wife, who is identified as the victim in the case. According to a court affidavit, the defendant fled the house before police arrived.

The defendant's mother told police officers that her son assaulted his wife during an argument. She tried very hard to calm her son down but was unsuccessful, and that's why she contacted police for assistance.

When interviewed by police officers, the victim explained that her husband when he came home argued about how the food was not ready by the time he got home. The victim told police that she then went to her sister-in-law's house and brought food for her husband. When she got back, the defendant dragged her around and punched her on the left side of her face.

He also burned all of his wife's important documents, before he left with their two daughters aged 10 and 6 years old, according to court documents.

It was Tuesday this week when the victim contacted the Tafuna Police station again and informed police officers that her husband has returned home and was acting disorderly again towards her. Several police officers responded to the defendant's house in Faleniu and arrested him.

During his initial hearing yesterday, his attorney, Ryan

Anderson asked the Court for a reduction in bail for his client, or to release him on his own recognizance. Prosecutor Bianca Lherisson opposed the defense's motion and asked the Court to maintain the bond at \$1,000, to which the Court agreed.

Sunia told Anderson that it took a year and a half for the Court to find his client, and it is the best decision to remand the defendant to prison, so that the Court will be able to find him for his next court appearance.

If the defendant is able to post his bond, he's not allow to have a direct or indirect contact with his wife and two children, he has to keep the peace and appear in Court at any time the Court orders him to appear.

RINTEL IATALA

A man who went to the Central Police station to talk to a police officer was arrested by police, after he allegedly acted disorderly, making unreasonable noise, including swearing at a senior police officer.

Police reports state that Rintel Iatala went to the Fagatogo police station around 10:20 p.m. on Tuesday night and asked for a person named "Fiaui".

When police officers, who were inside the station, asked him for the purpose of coming to the Police Station, the defendant said that he only wanted to talk to Fiaui.

The defendant got impatient and allegedly stormed out after not being able to get what he wanted, and suddenly swore at a senior police officer. He also made unreasonable noise by making a war cry (fa'aumu), and he also dropped to the ground when police officers were trying to arrest him.

Iatala made his initial appearance at the District Court yesterday morning, where he entered a not guilty plea on the single count of public peace disturbance.

He was released by Judge Fiti Sunia on his own recognizance, and was ordered not to go back to the Fagatogo Police station at any time until further order of the Court.

VINCENT FILELMU

A man who allegedly went to his neighbor's birthday party with a machete in his hand has been charged by the government with several misdemeanor charges including trespass, public peace disturbance, being armed with a deadly weapon and property damage in the third degree.

Vincent Filemu made his initial appearance at the District Court this week where he entered a not guilty plea to all four charges against him. He is now remanded into custody until he posts a \$1,000 bond,

while the government is determining whether they are going to file any additional charges against him.

Court Documents indicate the neighbor's birthday party was quiet and everyone was having fun until the defendant who was heading back home from a drinking session went over and disturbed the peace, which caused family members to contact police for assistance.

The defendant looked drunk while approaching the neighbor's party, where he was welcomed by his neighbor and they offered him food but not alcohol, because he was too intoxicated. Filemu got mad when one of his neighbors asked him to go home to have a rest, because he was starting to make unreasonable noise at the party, he then stood up and went home.

A few moments later, the defendant reappeared at his neighbor's party with a machete in his hand, and allegedly using the machete cut up two chairs.

Family members immediately contacted police for assistance and the defendant was taken into custody to await his court appearance on Monday.



In this image released by the Myanmar Ministry of Information and broadcast by Myanmar's MRTV, on Dec. 13, 2017, Reuters reporters Wa Lone, left, and Kyaw Soe Oo stand handcuffed in Myanmar. Reuters news agency called on Myanmar to immediately release its two journalists who were arrested for possessing "important secret papers" obtained from two policemen who had worked in Rakhine state, where violence widely blamed on security forces has forced more than 625,000 minority Rohingya Muslims to flee into neighboring Bangladesh.

(MRTV/Myanmar Ministry of Information via AP)

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Activism, charity sustain Sandy Hook families 5 years later

NEWTOWN, Conn. (AP) — Out of a senseless tragedy, they have sought ways to find meaning in advocacy.

Many relatives of the 26 children and educators killed five years ago at Sandy Hook Elementary School have dedicated themselves to charity, activism and other efforts to channel their grief and, in many cases, to help prevent violence.

“You have two choices,” said Rebecca Kowalski, whose 7-year-old son, Chase, died in Newtown. “I could be in the bottom of a bottle; I could not get out of my bed. Or, I could do what’s making us heal a little bit every day.”

Some organizations, like the Kowalski’s youth triathlon program, honor the passions of the children who were lost on Dec. 14, 2012.

Others have jumped into the policy fray to lobby for gun control or improved mental health care. In some cases, they have traveled the country, and even the world, as recognized experts in their fields, such as Jeremy Richman, a scientist whose Avielle Foundation for the study of brain health is named for his slain daughter.

The Sandy Hook families have created a website to share each of their stories and information about the various projects they have started in memory of their family members.

A look at some of them:

SEEKING SAFER SCHOOLS

Alissa Parker had Michele Gay’s phone number on her refrigerator because Parker’s daughter, Emilie, had been invited to a birthday party for Gay’s daughter, Josephine.

The day before the party was to be held, both children were killed.

Parker, who had lived in Newtown less than a year and didn’t know many other parents, called Gay. The two bonded over their shared loss and eventually teamed to form Safe and Sound Schools, a foundation that provides information and resources about school safety.

They travel, usually separately, to schools around the country, giving talks that detail their personal experiences on the day of the shooting and discussing in detail how their children died. They then talk about what can be done to make schools safer, everything from making sure that classrooms can be locked from the inside

to involving first responders in school emergency drills.

“I feel very solid that this is what Josephine wants me to be doing, and Alissa feels the same way about Emilie,” Gay said. “We made a deliberate choice to be guided by our children and their spirits. We wanted to be positive. We wanted to avoid the political and some of the hot button issues and be focused on the practical things that everybody can do to make the community safer.”

RUNNING FOR HEALING

Kowalski said her healing has come by organizing a children’s triathlon program, Race-4Chase , in memory of their son, who loved to race and had competed in a similar event the summer before the shooting.

The free day camps, run in conjunction with the YMCA, teach children the fundamentals of swimming, biking, running, nutrition, strength and flexibility. At the end of six weeks, campers come together for a sanctioned triathlon.

The program has grown to 20 locations in three states.

“We originally wanted a brick-and-mortar place where families could come and work out and be together,” Kowalski said. “We knew we were going somewhere, but we didn’t know where. Chase provided us with the direction. Now, we have 20 places, and people have really embraced what the program is all about.”

EMOTIONAL LEARNING

While some in Newtown avoid speaking the name of the shooter, Adam Lanza, Nelba Marquez-Greene freely discusses the social and emotional problems of the man who killed her 6-year-old daughter, Ana Grace.

“I want people to remember that Adam, the person who did this, was also once 6 and in a first-grade classroom and that if we had reached out earlier, then maybe this could have changed,” Marquez-Greene said. Marquez-Greene’s Ana Grace Project works with schools in New Britain, a city just west of Hartford, to teach empathy, combat bullying and help socially isolated children.

The foundation’s Love Wins campaign, created with a local teacher, builds on the existing curriculum and also brings therapists and interns into the schools to help identify children who need extra help with social skills.

EB-5 Investor program extended to Dec. 22

ASG HOPING FOR AN ADDITIONAL LONGER EXTENSION

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

Commerce Department director Keniseli Lafaele says the US Congress has extended the EB-5 Investor Immigrant Program to the end of next week, while two other ASG officials hope for a further extension of the program, that would attract foreign investors to American Samoa.

DOC announced in late October this year that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has approved a Regional Center under the EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program for American Samoa. And the approval was effective Oct. 12, 2017.

Lafaele said at the time that the EB-5 program was set to sunset on Dec. 8 unless extended by Congress. He also said that the EB-5 Regional Center is a key funding initiative for the Lolo Administration’s Economic Development Implementation Plan (EDIP).

Responding to Samoa News inquiries, Lafaele said yesterday that the program has been extended to Dec. 22 this year.

“With about \$9 billion of EB-5 investors funds in escrow — to be invested in the US — I’m inclined to think Congress will find a way to extend the program for another year or longer so these funds are invested in their home states and communities sooner than later,” he said, adding that Congress is also working on improving the program.

He explained that under the program, investors/entrepreneurs are eligible to apply for a green card if they: make the necessary investment in a commercial enterprise in the US, and plan to create or preserve 10 jobs for qualified US workers.

“Our EB-5 Regional Center is a well established regional center based in Washington

State, and has been active in engaging investors from Asia — primarily China, South Korea and Japan,” he said.

According to the DOC director the regional center would be the source that American Samoa could tap for major developments such as the old Rainmaker Hotel site and cable car rehabilitation. (Samoa News notes ASG has been trying for many years to find investors for these two development projects.)

Additionally, American Samoa is preparing proposals to be submitted to the Regional Center with the hope of attracting investors to the territory who could earn their US green cards with the investments.

Lafaele told Samoa News late last month that finding investors has been a real challenge for Philippines based company, AVM Bernado Engineering, which is setting up a multi-food processing plant in American Samoa.

However, he says that with the approval of the EB-5 regional center in Pago Pago, the ASG and AVM are looking for investors through that route.

Three other government officials say American Samoa can use the EB-5 program to entice foreign investors to the territory, to boost the local economy as well as diversification, after the economy has depended on the canneries for some 5 decades.

The officials are hopeful that Congress extends the program beyond Dec. 22 and for a longer period of time, saying that American Samoa has always been faced with difficulties attracting US investors. “This program can really do a lot of good for our economy,” said one of the officials.

Congress created the EB-5 Program in 1990 to stimulate the U.S. economy through job creation and capital investment by foreign investors.

EPA chemical safety nominee drops out amid strong opposition



WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump’s pick to oversee chemical safety at the Environmental Protection Agency withdrew his nomination Wednesday after bipartisan opposition made his Senate confirmation unlikely.

Officials at the White House and the Senate told The Associated Press that Michael Dourson had sent a letter asking his name to be removed from consideration to serve as head of the EPA’s Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. The two officials were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

North Carolina’s two Republican senators, Richard Burr and Thom Tillis, said last month they would vote against Dourson’s nomination after The Associated Press and other media outlets detailed his past work as a toxicologist hired to defend major chemical companies. The Senate’s 48 Democrats were united in opposition, meaning only one more GOP defection would be needed to defeat Dourson’s nomination.

In his letter asking the president to withdraw his name from consideration, which was obtained by the AP, Dourson said his stepping aside “avoids unnecessarily politicizing the important environmental protection goals of Administrator Pruitt.” “I sincerely and deeply appreciate all the love and support by my family, friends and colleagues during this ‘surprising’ confirmation process,” he went on to say.

Sen. Tom Carper of Delaware, the top Democrat on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, said his staunch objections to Dourson’s nomination were never a matter of partisanship.

“I sincerely believe he is the wrong person to hold this important position, and it’s become clear that, even with a Republican majority in the Senate, he could not be confirmed,” Carper said. “Dourson, an individual who has spent most of his career promoting less protective chemical safety standards, had no business overseeing our nation’s chemical safety laws.”

The EPA’s press office did not respond to requests for comment Wednesday evening. Dourson has already been serving at the agency as a senior adviser to EPA administrator Scott Pruitt. It was not immediately clear whether he will continue in that role, which does not require Senate confirmation.

The AP reported in September that Dourson has for years accepted payments for criticizing studies that raised concerns about the safety of his clients’ products, according to a review of financial records and his published work.

Past corporate clients of Dourson and of a research group he ran include Dow Chemical Co., Koch Industries Inc. and Chevron Corp.

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THANK YOU! FA'AFETAI TELE LAVA!

2017 ASHSAA UNDISPUTED FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Psalm 106:1 "Praise the LORD! Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for HE is good! For HIS mercy endures forever."

The scripture tells us to be "thankful in everything, in all circumstances" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). I thank GOD and give HIM the glory for the completion of another high school football season. The 'Blue Empire' has been blessed to be the undisputed football champions in both the varsity and junior varsity divisions. So I thank GOD and the many individuals/families/organizations/sponsors that helped make this a memorable season for the 'Blue Empire.' It was through your prayers, support, donations, contributions, and love that the boys and coaches were able to 'bring it home' this year. "You will be enriched in every way that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to GOD. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the LORD's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to GOD" (2 Corinthians 9:11-12).

Thank you and God bless you, Coach Pati T. Pati



Rev. Elder Ioane & Tavai Evagelia
Rev. Viliamu & Vaotupua Leilua
Rev. Benson Mauga (Coaches shirts)
Rev. Iasepi & Leone Ulu
Honorable Governor Lolo M. Moliga
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Faoa & Elisapeta Sunia
Afoa & Etenauga Lutu
Island Breeze Water (Erica Galeai)
Tutuila Printing (Ben Sauvao)
Pacific Printing
Amy's Bakery (Andy & Denise Meredith)
Faauuga Mailo (Painted helmets)
Margaret Carruthers
Pepine & Sienna Lauvao
Kimo & Mao Tuivaiti (Ice)
Ricky Fiso (Coaches shirts)
All Poly Sports (Coach Alema Teo)
Coach Sa & Merwyden Suluai (AYFS Bears)

Coach Mataese Mataese (AYFS Rams)
Ammon Fepuleai (Photos)
Maelynn Aiava Aiono (Samoa News)
Samoana High School Alumni Association
Samoana High School PTA
SHS Football Parents
SHS Booster Club
• John Fuimaono (Pres.)
• Serina Misitana (VP)
• Gen Lelei (Sec.)
• Siligi Vaapuu (Treas.)
SHS Principal & Staff
• Principal Tupai Rod Atafua
• VP's Julie Ekeroma & Brenda Aisoli
SHS Janitors (Fitu, Tufue, Sa'a, Polesi)
SHS Student Body, SGA & Advisors
(Manino Reed & Don Maifala)
Samoana High School NHS

SHS Coaches & Wives
• Faraimo & Ana Sioele
• Galo & Lahaina Tuirolesega
• Keith & Monica Leuta
• Nofo & Adele Sualevai
• Barry & Taua Patane
• Rod & Lynette Atafua
• Sonny Tui
OMFF-Ola Malosi Fit Family
(Coach Joe & Leuila, coaches, fixers)
FunkFit Family
(Coach Young, Coach Alefosio & Coach Polu)
Calvary Chapel Samoa
MY WIFE (Zenora) and CHILDREN
(Zemirah, Zeph, Zondervan, Zanna, & Zoeh-Thea)

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In this Oct. 10, 2017 photo, Michele Gay speaks to educators at the Groton Dunstable Regional Middle School in Groton, Mass., as part of her Safe and Sound Schools initiative. Gay began advocating for school safety after her daughter, Josephine, was killed in the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting five years ago. Read story page 4.

(AP Photo/Pat Eaton-Robb)

ASCC Practical Nursing Class serves Manu’a residents

By James Kneubuhl (ASCC Press Officer)

As part of the American Samoa Community College (ASCC) Nursing Department’s commitment to serving the public, nine students in the Practical Nursing program traveled to the Manu’a islands of Ofu and Olosega in mid-November to conduct their yearly Community Outreach Project as a component of the class NUR 180L (Introduction to Adult Health).

The Nursing students, accompanied by instructor Lele Ah Mu, divided into teams to give presentations to the Ofu and Olosega community on five prominent health concerns - Heart Disease, High Blood Pressure, Diabetes Mellitus, Gout, and Nutrition, and to provide basic screening services in these areas for residents who wished to be tested.

The ASCC student nurses covered the causes, prevention, pharmacological and non-pharmacological management of complications arising from the four health conditions, and the role diet in maintaining good health.

To compliment their presentations, each team also put together a poster and pamphlets on their respective subject areas to share with individual clients. Posters used for the presentations and extra pamphlets have been left with the Ofu Pentecostal Church and its members for future reference by the community.

The outreach project accounts for 20% of the student nurse’s clinical grade, and is intended to develop their leadership and organizational skills as they focus on the planning and preparation for their Manu’a visit.

Organizing their oral presentations, posters and handouts engage the students in research and give them the opportunity to strengthen their own health teaching skills as they bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and one-on-one practice.

The students themselves lead the community outreach project through making a problem assessment of the chosen community, designing presentation methods through objectives and assessment, and evaluating their own teaching during their presentations through simple questions or activities.

At the conclusion of the community outreach, the students each writes a Reflection Paper in which they evaluate their own learning as well as the effects on their own career of their participation in the project.

For many of the student nurses, serving the Ofu and Olosega community, which numbers less than 100 but currently has no regular clinic services available, proved an eye-opener. Students Toetu’ua Iosefa and her partner June Faapue-Fuiava focused their efforts on High Blood Pressure, and found a higher number of Ofu and Olosega clients with symptoms of that condition than they expected. “The people who did know they were hypertensive, I learned, had a hard time following a treatment regime because the dispensary does not have a sufficient supply of medication all the time,” recalled Iosefa. “They also said that it’s very difficult

to keep coming back and forth to Tutuila for regular check-ups and to get treatment.”

For Iosefa, experiencing the realities of health care on Ofu and Olosega reinforced the urgent need to improve services in even the most remote areas of the Territory. “I used to think that working in the hospital would be good enough, once I become a nurse,” she reflected, “but as we did our projects, it occurred to me that maybe people far from the hospital and clinics need nurses even more, if only to reduce the number of patients in the hospitals and the frequency of hospital visits.”

Student Ruby Salome Fia, tasked with presenting on Diabetes Mellitus, said one of the trip highlights was the reception she and her partner Mautumua Maulupe received at Olosega Elementary School.

“It was really fun how most students were willing to learn about different diseases, especially those who take care of parents with Diabetes and Hypertension,” she explained. “Plus, we all need exercise, so I was very happy to perform Zumba with my classmate Tualupetu Lauina and the rest of the school. I enjoyed every single moment on the island. The place was very peaceful and people everywhere were so kind to us. I would love to go back to Manu’a and stay. Many people in Ofu and Olosega need help, and I look forward to supporting them.”

Several of the student nurses expressed a similar wish to do more for Manu’a. “This experience affected me in a way that I want to go back in the near future,” said student Ferila Seufalemua. “It made me feel love and affection toward the people there. I know that there is a shortage of nurses here on Tutuila, but the people in Manu’a really need help with their health status. I hope that someday I will be able to visit back and help out the community as a nurse.”

The nine student nurses who made the journey to Manu’a are June Fuiava-Faapue, Ruby Fia, Toetu’ua Iosefa, Tualupetu Lauina, Mautumua Maulupe, Sweetheart Nua, Ferila Seufalemua, Kristal Tautolo and Kimberly Ueligitone. For more information on the ASCC Nursing program, see the ASCC Catalog available online at www.amsamoa.edu.



AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Department of Academic Affairs

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position Title: TEACHER EDUCATION/B.ED. INSTRUCTOR
Employment Status: Full Time (Career Service)

General Description:

Instructor will report directly to the Academic Chairperson of the Teacher Education Department. The department offers both AA and B.Ed. degree with an emphasis in Elementary Education. It emphasizes content specific courses in Language Arts, Children’s Literature, Early Childhood, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Education, Physical/Health Education, Instructional Technology, Curriculum Development, Assessment and Samoan Language, and culminates with the Student Teacher Experience. All content courses are paired with a field experience that the instructor will also be responsible for. The skills acquired will prepare students to become effective elementary classroom teachers, as well as for the workplace.

Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Collect, prepare and present instructional materials for all subjects to be taught.
- Teach a full instructional load of 15 credit hours or 225 instructional contact hours per semester. However loads may vary between 12-16 credits per semester.
- Prepare and distribute comprehensive course syllabi for either the AA Education degree or the B.Ed. degree programs as requested by Academic Affairs and the TED/B.Ed. Program.
- Teach each class as scheduled and supervise examinations, particums, service learning, internships and field trips.
- Maintain attendance and scholastic records, and submit the required records to the Admissions and Records, TED Department and Academic Affairs.
- Develop, implement, and assess Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for each course taught.
- Share data on SLOs collected from courses with the department and other college stakeholders, and provide recommendations for improvement of student learning.
- Participate in the different levels of student learning outcome review, program review, and student assessment.
- Advise students regarding their academic program, be it either the AA and/or the B.Ed. degree program.
- Assist students and provide information on career, academic referrals and transfer opportunities.
- Assist with the registration process: participate fully in faculty orientation, commencement exercises, and professional development activities.
- Post and maintain a class schedule and office hours for student assistance
- Provide safety measures and fully exercise the enforcement of these measures in the classrooms
- Actively participate and contribute to any college committees and extra-curricular functions
- Assist and enforce all college rules and regulations
- Utilize MOODLE as an integral tool for instructional delivery
- Perform other duties assigned by the Department Chairperson or the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Job Qualifications:

- Master’s Degree in Education; Content areas of Special Education, Early Childhood, Mathematics, Science, Samoan Language, and/or Elementary Education.
- At least 4-5 years of college teaching of Education courses, specifically in Elementary Education or in related fields as listed above at a two or four year university or college.
- Must demonstrate knowledge in curriculum development, assessment, and Elementary Education. Must have strong analytical and interpersonal skills, and be a team player who is highly supportive of the ASCC/B.Ed. Program
- Must be highly computer literate (Microsoft Word, Excel, etc.)

Preferred Qualification: Doctoral degree in Education

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

Application Deadline: December 15, 2017 no later than 4:00pm.

Applications are available from American Samoa Community College, Human Resources Office at 699-9155 ext. 428/441/429, online at <http://www.amsamoa.edu/employmentopportunities.html> or by email at ascchumanresources@amsamoa.edu.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

compiled by Samoa News staff
LOLO SIGNS BILL AMENDING TBAS STATUTE

Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga has signed into law legislation that amends the Territorial Bank of American Samoa statute by deleting several provisions of the law pertaining to the bank's "Holding Company — Territorial Bancorp Holding Company."

The measure, expedited and approved by the Fono during the recent special session, also makes technical amendments to the law, including the 7-member governing board becoming the TBAS board of directors. Another proposed amendment clarifies that the "CEO and the management team are responsible for the management" of TBAS.

The bill became effective immediately upon passage by the Fono and approval of the governor, according to the bill's language.

In signing the bill into law on Dec. 5, Lolo informed Fono leaders that with the measure in place, "we expect will lead to TBAS obtaining a master account with the Federal Reserve Bank."

"This is a significant step forward for the bank in being able to eventually offer a full suite of traditional and modern banking service," he said. "The bank has now been open for over a year, has close to 4,000 customers, and is making small loans in the territory."

With passage of the bill, "we expect the bank will soon be able to do much more for the people of American Samoa," he concluded.

Samoa News understands that the Lolo Administration has forwarded the copy of the signed bill to the Federal Reserve, which — according to Lolo in public statements — had suggested removing the holding company from the TBAS statute.

PROVISION TO CONSIDER PACIFIC VOLCANO WARNING SYSTEM

Washington, D.C. — Wednesday, Congresswoman Aumua Amata voted on 15 bills in the Natural Resources Committee, as part of the Committee's final series of votes for 2017, including passage of the "National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System Act" with the Bordallo-Radewagen Amendment to study placing a Pacific warning system in American Samoa, Guam or the Northern Mariana Islands.

"This legislation would establish a warning system to improve monitoring of volcanic activity, and our amendment ensures that the three U.S. territories in the Pacific are studied for placement of this system," said Aumua Amata. "In American Samoa, we know from our 2009 experience with a tsunami, that early warning of a natural disaster can save lives. Volcanic activity and other forces of nature can have devastating consequences or environmental impacts, and early detection and more data will be helpful to scientists."

The "National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System Act" was introduced by Rep. Don Young (R-Alaska), now the longest-serving Member in the House. Congresswoman Amata teamed up with Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo of Guam on their bipartisan amendment to specify consideration of American Samoa, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands as part of the monitoring system for Pacific volcanic activity.

OTHER LEGISLATION

During the markup, the Committee considered and passed legislation to update federal Magnuson-Stevens fisheries programs, facilitate land transfers that assist with tribal health

(Continued on page 11)

'Nobody saved us': Man describes childhood in abusive 'cult'

SPINDALE, N.C. (AP) — Jamey Anderson vividly recalls being a skinny kid trembling on the floor of a dank, windowless storage room, waiting in terror for the next adult to open the door.

He was bruised and exhausted after being held down while a group of Word of Faith Fellowship congregants — including his mother and future stepfather — beat him with a wooden paddle, he said. As with most punishments at the secretive Christian church, Anderson said, it was prompted by some vague accusation: He had sin in his heart, or he had given in to the "unclean." The attacks could last for hours until he confessed to something, anything, and cried out to Jesus, he said.

Sometimes even that wasn't enough for redemption. Then, Anderson said, he would be locked in a dark place he called the "green room," where he would bang his head against the brick wall, wanting to die.

"I just wanted it to end," he recalled in a series of interviews with The Associated Press. "Of course, they told us that killing

yourself is the unforgivable sin."

Today, Anderson is a 29-year-old handsome, articulate attorney with a quick wit and a sarcastic side. At first glance, he seems well-adjusted. But he finds it hard to trust anyone.

He fled the secretive evangelical church when he was 18, but he is not free. More than a decade later, he still struggles to find his footing in a world that he doesn't understand, having been raised, as he puts it, in a "cult."

Night terrors jolt him awake. He fears people will think he's delusional if he discusses his experiences in Word of Faith because the stories seem unbelievable. He missed a lifetime of pop culture, which makes it difficult for him to build connections with his peers.

Worst of all is the suffocating anguish that rushes in when he looks back on the beatings and isolation.

"There were times that mentally you just feel broken," he said. "I mean, I was a kid — I couldn't even process why this was happening to me."

(Continued on page 15)

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Peru's president is in trouble over Ode- brecht payments

LIMA, Peru (AP) — President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski found himself in hot water Wednesday over previously undisclosed payments that he received a decade ago as a consultant to a giant Brazilian construction company at the center of Latin America's biggest graft scandal.

Kuczynski as recently as November had vehemently denied any professional or political ties to Odebrecht even as wagged his finger at three predecessors facing criminal charges for taking millions in bribes from the company.

But on Wednesday opposition lawmakers revealed documents from Odebrecht showing that his financial consulting business, Westfield Capital, received \$782,000 in payments between 2004 and 2007 from two consortiums led by the Brazilian company.

Making matters worse, several of the payments to Westfield were made when Kuczynski was serving as economy minister or prime minister in the 2001 to 2006 government of President Alejandro Toledo.

Authorities across Latin

America have been moving fast to charge officials accused of taking some \$800 million in bribes from Odebrecht, which the company acknowledged making in a 2016 plea agreement with the U.S. Justice Department. Used to win business in 12 countries, the bribes included some \$29 million paid in Peru for projects built during the administrations of Toledo and two of his successors.

There was no indication whether Kuczynski broke any laws with the payments he received.

But he sounded on the defensive in a two-minute televised address Wednesday night from the presidential palace. He acknowledged receiving the payments and said he would meet with a congressional committee investigating payments from Odebrecht to political leaders, reversing an earlier decision to shun lawmakers' request. The 79-year-old former Wall Street investor said that in five decades in business he earned his compensation honorably and that as a public official he never favored any particular business.

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Amata preparing for the Natural Resources Committee's last votes of 2017 in the historic committee room.

[Courtesy photo]

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In this Saturday, Dec. 9, 2017, photo, discarded items are left over near a self-made container house after they required to move out of the area following a citywide fire safety campaign after a deadly fire which killed dozen of people in an apartment block at Xinjancun in Daxing district in Beijing.

(AP Photo/Gerry Shih)



AMERICAN SAMOA
POWER AUTHORITY

Human Resource Department, Tafuna
PO Box PPB, Pago Pago
American Samoa 96799
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APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

The American Samoa Power Authority announces an excellent opportunity for young technically minded individuals who want a challenging, profitable career in American Samoa.

ASPA is looking for its next generation of technicians and engineers. Over the next few years, ASPA will be developing young technicians and engineers for key positions within the organization. It needs skilled specialists in a number of fields.

ASPA will provide employment and professional training for successful applicants. Apprentices will receive training both on the job and in formal apprenticeship classes. Qualified apprentices will receive an all-expense paid education at a technical school or university in Fiji or equivalent. Applicants must be willing to commit to spending 2 – 3 years off-island in pursuit of a diploma or degree. The focus for this apprentice program will be on mechanical and electrical trades or a related field.

Selected apprentices will be employed by ASPA in preparation for the academic session starting in February 2018.

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

Educational Requirements:	High School graduate (minimum); Associate degree or better preferred. Must have a “B” or better grade average in the following courses: (1) Physics, Chemistry, General Science (2) Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus (3) English (TOEFL score of 600 or better)
Skills and Aptitudes:	Intermediate level computer skills. Ability to work independently, disciplined, self-starter, technically minded (confirmed by required references). Other desirable skills include hand-eye coordination, motor skills, attention to detail, and work well in a team environment.
Citizenship:	US National or Citizen.
Testing:	All applicants will be required to complete ASPA’s internal testing for science and math ability.

Salary will be based on the technical area and job duties assigned.

Applicants must complete an ASPA Employment Application Form and provide two written references. The form is available at ASPA Human Resource Office in Tafuna or via ASPA’s website at www.aspower.com

All application information, including school records and references, will be subject to verification as part of the screening process.

Deadline for submitting applications is 4pm on Friday, December 15, 2017.

Join us at the Information Session this Thursday, December 14th at the ASPA Tafuna Campus, PowerGen Conference Room at 5pm. Come learn about ASPA’s Apprenticeship Program! Find out about the qualifications, important dates, benefits, meet the apprentices, and answer any questions you may have. Don’t miss this great opportunity to earn-while-you learn!

You can register at REGISTER AT <https://aspainfosession.eventbrite.com>
Please contact ASPA HR for more information at 248-1234, or see you on Thursday!

This ad has been revised as of 11/30/2017

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Another deadly blaze strikes Beijing as evictions draw fury

BEIJING (AP) — Five people died in an east Beijing fire, underscoring the challenges for the Chinese capital as it struggles to balance building safety with providing housing for its poor. Local media reported that the residents of Chaoyang district died before dawn Wednesday after electric bike batteries plugged into a home-rigged charging system caught fire and belched noxious fumes into a three-story apartment building. The accident came a month after an inferno killed 19 in south Beijing’s Daxing district, prompting a controversial safety campaign that included the sudden eviction of thousands of migrant workers from unregulated slums. A spate of deadly fires — and the authorities’ response — have generated an unusually intense debate in China about class, safety regulations and the Communist Party’s heavy-

handed leadership.

Beijing officials argue the mass evictions are a precautionary measure to protect migrants and have razed vast tenements in a matter of weeks. But the campaign has drawn widespread condemnation on social media from laborers as well as China’s middle class, who say it is part of a long-standing government plan to control Beijing’s ballooning population by thinning out the so-called “low-end” socioeconomic class. Even before the fires this year, Beijing officials had been shuttering many working-class small businesses, citing building code violations and forcing migrant workers to go back to rural China.

But the sweeping fire safety campaign has become a flash-point. Hundreds of migrant workers held a rare protest on Sunday against what they said were violent evictions.

Man slammed...

Continued from page 1

lowing day — that is Thursday of last week.

On Thursday of last week, Naea was one of the 5 inmates that were brought to the Court for their hearing.

As the Court proceeded with its normal calendar, Naea asked the escorting officer from the Territorial Correctional Facility (TCF) if he could use the bathroom. But instead of using the bathroom, Naea with both his hands cuffed jumped from a window of the bathroom and ran to the back of Fagatogo village.

An off-duty police officer that was at the bus stop that morning saw the defendant walking at the back of the Court House, wearing a TCF red jumpsuit with his hands cuffed, and he contacted the Central Police station for assistance. The Court Marshal was also alerted about the defendant’s whereabouts.

A few minutes later, police officers located the defendant behind the Fagatogo CCCAS church and he was brought back to the Court, where his case was called and he was ordered to reappear on Monday this week for another status hearing.

After Naea’s Court appearance last week, sources told Samoa News that the DPS Criminal Investigating Division would be finalizing their investigation regarding an unresolved matter that also involved the defendant.

On Monday this week, the government filed additional charges against Naea, including first-degree burglary and stealing — both felonies. The defendant was served with a copy of the new charges against

him when he appeared in District Court on Monday, and both his hands and feet were cuffed to prevent him from escaping from police again.

According to the government’s case, the owner of Computer World contacted the Tafuna Police Station for assistance, after employees noticed that some of the items from the store were missing and a store surveillance camera confirmed that two males were seen walking inside the store on the night of Oct. 28 around 2 a.m.

Several items mostly electronics devices were allegedly stolen during the burglary, however police were unable to identify the two suspects in the video footage.

However, after Naea was arrested last week, police noticed that he looked just like the suspect that they were looking for from the Computer World burglary case.

After he was informed of his rights, Naea admitted to police that he was tempted by his friend to enter the store and steal some items for them.

The defendant told police that his friend has all the stolen items. Police are now looking for the other suspect in this case, while Naea is now in custody unable to post his \$100,000 surety bond.

During his arraignment yesterday, Naea entered a not guilty plea to all felonious charges, and also the misdemeanor charge and several traffic violations. His pretrial conference is now set for Feb. 10, 2018.

Prosecuting the case is Assistant Attorney General Woodrow Pengelly while Douglas Fiaui is representing the defendant.



FILE - This June 19, 2015, file photo, shows the entrance to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) building in Washington. In its push to undo Obama-era ,Änet neutrality,Äù rules, the country,Äôs Republican-led telecom regulator has defended its proposal with some statements that are incomplete or misleading. But a Democratic official in favor of net neutrality also criticized the Federal Communications Commission Chairman, Ajit Pai, in a way that left out crucial context. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik, File)

AP Explains: What is net neu- trality and why does it matter?

NEW YORK (AP) — “Net neutrality” regulations, designed to prevent internet service providers like Verizon, AT&T, Comcast and Charter from favoring some sites and apps over others, are on the chopping block. On Thursday, the Federal Communications Commission plans to vote on a proposal that would not only undo the Obama-era rules that have been in place since 2015, but will forbid states to put anything similar in place. Here’s a look at what the develop- ments mean for consumers and companies.

WHAT IS NET NEUTRALITY?

Net neutrality is the principle that internet providers treat all web traffic equally, and it’s pretty much how the internet has worked since its creation.

But regulators, consumer advocates and internet companies were concerned about what broadband companies could do with their power as the pathway to the internet — blocking or slowing down apps that rival their own services, for example.

WHAT DID THE GOV- ERNMENT DO ABOUT IT?

The FCC in 2015 approved rules, on a party-line vote, that made sure cable and phone companies don’t manipulate traffic. With them in place, a provider such as Comcast can’t charge Netflix for a faster path to its customers, or block it or slow it down.

The net neutrality rules gave the FCC power to go after companies for business practices that weren’t explicitly banned as well. For example, the Obama FCC said that “zero

rating” practices by AT&T vio- lated net neutrality. The telecom giant exempted its own video app from cellphone data caps, which would save some con- sumers money, and said video rivals could pay for the same treatment. Pai’s FCC spiked the effort to go after AT&T, even before it began rolling out a plan to undo the net neutrality rules entirely. A federal appeals court upheld the rules in 2016 after broadband providers sued.

WHAT TELCOS WANT

Big telecom companies hate the stricter regulation that comes with the net neutrality rules and have fought them fiercely in court. They say the regulations can undermine investment in broadband and introduced uncertainty about what were acceptable business practices.



► Community brief...

Continued from page 7

and economic development, improve access to public lands for disabled Americans, clarify the boundaries of national parks and specify title of certain sub- merged national refuge lands, provide for mapping of national geologic resources, along with a Colorado River fish and wildlife recovery program, and finally, establishment of a system to better monitor volcanic activity.

“Thank you to Chairman Bishop for his leadership on these legislative efforts and to all my colleagues for the accom- plishments of this Committee throughout the year,” continued Congresswoman Amata. “Con- gratulations to Congressman Don Young of Alaska, now the Dean of the House, on the advancement of his legislation today, including this warning system for volcanic activity.”

AMENDMENT FAILS FOR 4-YEAR COLLEGE FOR

MARIANAS, AM SAMOA WASHINGTON, D.C. (Office of the CNMI Congres- sional Delegate) — During a committee drafting session on the Higher Education Act Tuesday, U.S. Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan proposed creating a federal pro- gram to help pay for the last two years of college for graduates of Northern Marianas College or American Samoa Community College.

Congressman Sablan made the case that the Northern Mari- anas and American Samoa are the only U.S. jurisdictions without a 4-year public college, where students may complete a baccalaureate degree. And he compared his proposal to the program for students from the District of Columbia, who receive federal assistance to pay in-state tuition at public col-

leges and universities anywhere in the United States.

Two Republicans voted with all Democrats on the House Education and the Workforce Committee, but the Sablan amendment was narrowly defeated, 19- 20.

“Education continues to be my number one priority in Con- gress,” Sablan said. “And the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act now underway provides me the opportunity to help make college more affordable for students from the Marianas.”

“I want to thank my Repub- lican friends, Duncan Hunter of California and Dr. Phil Roe of Tennessee for voting with me on my amendment. Even though we were not successful in committee, we can still bring this up again in the Rules Com- mittee and when the bill comes to the floor for a vote.”



FILE - In this March 10, 2017, file photo, a woman walks past the headquarters of the People's Bank of China in Beijing. China, Äôs central bank responded to the U.S. Federal Reserve, Äôs interest rate increase by nudging up a key policy rate on lending to commercial banks but left the benchmark rate for borrowing by companies and the public unchanged. The People, Äôs Bank of China said Thursday, Dec. 14, 2017, it was responding to market forces by raising the rate charged by its one-year lending facility by 0.05 percentage points to 3.25 percent.

(AP Photo/Mark Schiefelbein, File)

Bank of England set to hold rates after first hike in decade

LONDON (AP) — The Bank of England is set to keep its main interest rate unchanged at 0.50 percent on Thursday, a month after increasing borrowing costs for the first time in a decade to contain a rise inflation stoked by last year's Brexit vote.

Though figures this week showed annual inflation rising further above the 2 percent target to 3.1 percent, policymakers at the central bank

have voiced hopes that price increase will soon ease. The initial impact of the pound's fall following the vote to leave the European Union — it raised the price of imported goods like food and energy — is expected to fade in coming months.

Policymakers are also wary of raising rates too much given the economic uncertainty surrounding Brexit, due to take place in March 2019.

China reacts to Fed rate hike by nudging up key policy rate

BEIJING (AP) — China's central bank responded to the U.S. Federal Reserve's interest rate increase by nudging up a key policy rate Thursday on lending to commercial banks. It left the benchmark rate for borrowing by companies and the public unchanged.

The People's Bank of China said it was responding to market forces by raising the rate charged by its one-year lending facility by 0.05 percentage points to 3.25 percent. Rates paid on bank reserves rose by a similar margin.

"The change in interest rates is a result of market supply and demand, and at the same time is a normal market response to the Federal Reserve's interest rate hike," said a central bank statement. There was no change in the rates for borrowing by companies and the public and for deposits. Beijing has tightened controls on the movement of money out of China to stop an outflow of capital.



DEVELOPMENT BANK OF AMERICAN SAMOA

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Office: (684) 633-4031 Fax: (684) 633-1163.

Website: www.dbas.as

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

RFP: Financial and Single Audit Services for 2017-2019
Approved to issuance by: Ruth Matagi-Fa'atili; DBAS President
Date of issuance: Dec 1, 2017
Date & Time Due: December 30, 2017
No later than 2:00 pm local time

DBAS requests proposals for financial audits and the related single audits for a period of three years, beginning with the audit of fiscal year 2017 through fiscal year 2019. Fiscal and calendar years are coincident at DBAS.

DOCUMENT

DBAS requests proposals for financial audits and the related single audits for a period of three years, beginning with the audit of fiscal year 2017 through fiscal year 2019. Fiscal and calendar years are coincident at DBAS.

Document: Requests for proposal packet outlining requirements will be available for pick up at DBAS on Friday Dec 1, 2017 or emailing charmaine@dbas.as for information regarding the RFP. It can also be accessed through the DBAS website: www.dbas.as (click public notice).

The Request for Proposals (RFP) describes the specifications for the services to be provided in sufficient details to permit competition and allow the interested party to properly respond to the RFP.

This RFP is issued under Title 28, Chapter 1, of the American Samoa Code Annotated.

DBAS invites the submission of proposals to include pricing and other details as indicated in the specifications. Attachments will be provided as an aid in presenting a comprehensive proposal consistent with the requirements of DBAS.

DBAS will select a contractor who best meets the needs of DBAS. The factors for selection will include, but not be limited to the following: understanding of the requirements of the financial and single auditors; verifiable ability to perform well; good reputation; flexibility, including ability to respond quickly to needs of a small client in a remote location and throughout the year; and reasonability of costs.

The proposals will be reviewed by a committee consisting of representatives from DBAS management and board. The committee may request interviews with potential contractors after reviewing the proposals before the final selection is made.

Submission: Proposals must be received by DBAS no later than 2:00pm local time on December 30, 2017. They may be mailed or hand delivered in a sealed envelope to:

Development Bank of American Samoa
PO BOX 9
Attention: Charmaine Faleaana
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

They may also be emailed to charmaine@dbas.as, as an attachment in Word Format with a confirming email required to confirm receipt; or faxed to DBAS at (684) 633-1163 with a confirming fax to confirm receipt. The original is to follow by airmail first class.

► Carls...

Continued from page 1

Cheese Fries, Chili Hot Dog, Chili Hamburger & a Drink for \$10. Carl's Jr. is also introducing their Junior Burgers!

4" Juniors are a little smaller than their other burgers with the same great taste and value; and yup — there's a \$10 bundle of 2 Junior Double Cheese Burgers, 1 Junior Classic Burger, a hotdog with Onion rings and a drink. Carl's Jr. is also offering other deals to reward customers for their loyalty along with the Kids eat FREE promotion that is back by popular demand. With the purchase of any adult combo, one cool kids combo is offered per child for FREE.

This offer is good until December 17th.

For all our local health conscious customers, Carl's Jr. wide selection of salads and of course the famous low- carb burger is available daily our menu. Something for everyone at Carl's Jr. Carl's Jr. would like to thank you American Samoa for all your goodwill, and is looking forward to serving you in the years ahead.

Merry Christmas and a Happy & Prosperous New Year to one and all.

Hayek says rebuffing Weinstein led to nightmare on ‘Frida’

NEW YORK (AP) — In one of the most vivid accounts yet of Harvey Weinstein’s alleged abuse and harassment, Salma Hayek says the disgraced movie mogul turned the making of her 2002 passion project, the Frida Kahlo biopic “Frida,” into a nightmare after the actress refused Weinstein’s relentless advances.

“For years, he was my monster,” Hayek wrote in an op-ed published Wednesday by The New York Times.

Her refusals — of massages, showers and sex — enraged him, she wrote. “I don’t think he hated anything more than the word ‘no,’” wrote Hayek.

Hayek, who regularly starred in films released by Weinstein’s Miramax in the 1990s, credited Weinstein with helping her start her career. But she said that the movie mogul would turn up at her door “at all hours of the night, hotel after hotel, location after location.”

When Hayek brought “Frida,” which she was producing, to Miramax to distribute, Weinstein made outrageous demands as payback. Hayek said he insisted on rewrites, more financing and, most heinously to her, a sex scene with full frontal nudity. He even threatened to kill her, she said.

In order to finish what was a labor of love for Hayek, she agreed. But she said she had a nervous breakdown while shooting the scene. “My body wouldn’t stop crying and convulsing,” wrote Hayek.

“It was not because I would be naked with another woman,” she wrote. “It was because I would be naked with her for Harvey Weinstein.”

Even still, Weinstein initially refused to give the movie

a theatrical release. He eventually relented after pressure from director Julie Taymor and Hayek. It went on to gross \$56.3 million worldwide and land six Oscar nominations, winning two.

In a statement through a spokesperson Wednesday, Weinstein denied Hayek’s depiction of their relationship and said the battles on “Frida” were “creative friction.”

“All of the sexual allegations as portrayed by Salma are not accurate and others who witnessed the events have a different account of what transpired,” said the statement.

“Mr. Weinstein does not recall pressuring Salma to do a gratuitous sex scene with a female costar and he was not there for the filming,” read the statement. “However, that was part of the story, as Frida Kahlo was bisexual and the more significant sex scene in the movie was choreographed by Ms. Hayek with Geoffrey Rush.”

Dozens of women have accused Weinstein of sexual harassment, and numerous women have said he raped them. Weinstein, who is currently under investigation for sexual assault in four cities, has denied all allegations of non-consensual sex.

“Why do so many of us, as female artists, have to go to war to tell our stories when we have so much to offer? Why do we have to fight tooth and nail to maintain our dignity?” concluded Hayek in her op-ed. “I think it is because we, as women, have been devalued artistically to an indecent state, to the point where the film industry stopped making an effort to find out what female audiences wanted to see and what stories we wanted to tell.”



FILE - In this Nov. 15, 2017 file photo, actress Salma Hayek attends the HFPA and InStyle Celebrate the 2018 Golden Globe Awards Season in West Hollywood, Calif. In an op-ed, Hayek says that her refusals of Harvey Weinstein, “advances led to a nightmare experience making the 2002 Frida Kahlo biopic, “Frida.” The New York Times on Wednesday, Dec. 13, published Hayek’s account in which she wrote that Weinstein was for years, “a my monster.” She said that Weinstein would turn up at her door, “at all hours of the night, hotel after hotel, location after location.” (Photo by Richard Shotwell/Invision/AP, File)



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Department of Academic Affairs

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- Coordinate and schedule school site visits to high schools, elementary schools both public and private to recruit possible candidates for Associate of Arts (A.A.) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) program.
- Design and create power point presentations pertaining to A.A./B.Ed. programs for school site visitations.
- Participate in informational presentations at school sites to high school juniors and seniors and/or parents for recruiting purposes to include: Setting up projector and power point presentation, distributing hand-outs of program information, presenting, making available a sign-up sheet that includes contact information for those interested, and doing follow up contacts with school administrators.
- Design, develop and distribute approved educational information/advertisements/brochures, and track the effectiveness of targeted education and outreach campaigns. This will include free community advertisements on radio and television, if available, and any other creative recruiting ways and means that can be implemented.
- Develop good working relationships with ASDOE Secondary and Elementary leaders and Teacher Quality to encourage and pipeline in-service teachers into the program.
- Create data sheets on the demographics of the in-service population as needed; male, female, age, village, school, years of experience, certified, non-certified, coursework, etc.
- Keep raw data on pre-service and in-service teachers to monitor progress in the program.
- Interpret and provide disaggregated data according to the needs of the program to show success rates and progress of students as well as to provide DOE with data as required.
- Participate in workshops and set up informational booth at various venues throughout the community.
- Work with TED’s Lumana’i Educators Association (LEA) for recruiting purposes.
- Collaborate closely with TED Administrative Assistant on pipelining in-service and pre-service students into program
- Write and submit a report on progress of in-service population to Director of TED. Maintain a record of all teachers recruited in the program.
- Make copies of all literature pertaining to recruiting/outreach and maintain a filing system of all correspondence.
- Answer phones and direct calls to appropriate staff or faculty, assist with registration process, and assist Administrator Assistant when and where needed.
- Keep travel log and sign in sheets for recruiting purposes, run errands on/off campus pertaining to TED matters, provide a weekly schedule when actively visiting school sites, and perform other duties as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:

- Some College or Associate’s Degree
- A combination of work experience including training and education may be substituted for degree
- 2-5 years of relevant experience
- Professional knowledge in Public Relations
- Typing skills and ability to use WP and Excel Software

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

Application Deadline: December 27, 2017 no later than 4:00pm.

Applications are available from American Samoa Community College, Human Resources Office at 699-9155 ext. 428/441/429, online at <http://www.amsamoa.edu/employmentopportunities.html> or by email at ascchumanresources@amsamoa.edu.

“An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer – And A Drug-Free Workplace”

Oprah Winfrey to receive Cecil B. DeMille Award at Globes

LOS ANGELES (AP) — the most influential women of our time” in a statement Wednesday.

Morgan Freeman made the announcement for the Hollywood Foreign Press Association during its broadcast of the “Golden Globe 75th Anniversary Special” Wednesday on NBC.

HFPA President Meher Tatna called Winfrey “one of the most respected and admired figures today” and “one of

the most influential women of our time” in a statement Wednesday.

The DeMille Award is given annually to an “individual who has made an incredible impact on the world of entertainment.” Past recipients include Freeman, Meryl Streep, Jodie Foster, Barbra Streisand, Sidney Poitier and Lucille Ball.


Winfrey will receive the award during the 75th annual Golden Globe Awards ceremony on Jan. 7, 2018.





In this Sept. 30, 2017 photo, people perform “transvestite target practice” to protest the killings of transvestite prostitutes during the annual LGBTQT march in Asuncion, Paraguay. Advocacy groups fear the stigma and attacks against the LGBTQT community could get worse now that the country’s education minister has banned classes about sexual diversity in schools and even volunteered to help burn all books related to the subject.

(AP Photo/Jorge Saenz)



AMERICAN SAMOA
POWER AUTHORITY

Human Resource Department, Tafuna
PO Box PPB, Pago Pago
American Samoa 96799
Phone No: (684) 248-1234 Option #5
humanresource@aspower.com

Position Title

Staff Accountant

Department

Accounting

Division

Support Services

Position Type

Career Service - 12 months probation

Reports To

Accounting Supervisor

Posting Date

December 4, 2017

Deadline

December 15, 2017 - 4:00pm

Starting Rate

\$13.08/hr - \$15.04/hr

Job Grade/Status

G/6/C-G/10/A, Non-Exempt

Major Duties & Responsibilities

The Staff Accountant will provide management with financial information by researching and analyzing accounts and preparing financial statements. This position will prepare consolidated internal and external financial statements by gathering and analyzing information from the general ledger system and from departments. This position will maintain and balance an automated consolidation system by inputting data, scheduling required jobs, and verifying data. He/she will analyze information and options by developing spreadsheet reports and verifying information. This position will also prepare general ledger entries by maintaining records and files. Other duties of this position are as follows: prepare payments by accruing expenses; assign account numbers; request disbursements; reconcile accounts; develop and implement accounting procedures by analyzing current procedures; recommend changes; answer accounting and financial questions by researching and interpreting data; provide accounting support for mergers and acquisitions by reviewing financial information; convert data to general ledger system; obtain supplementary information for preparing financial statements; protect organization’s value by keeping information confidential; update job knowledge by participating in educational opportunities, reading professional publications, maintaining personal networks, and participating in professional organizations; accomplish accounting and organization’s mission by completing related results as needed. The Staff Accountant will also perform other duties and projects as assigned by the Accounting Supervisor and/or Controller.

Minimum Requirements

Education

BA/BS degree or equivalent experience from an accredited college or university with the necessary skills in accounting, information technology, and ethics. Must possess basic math skills, ability to analyze figures, knowledge of accounting principles, and excellent verbal and written skills. Extensive experience with accounting software used at similar sized companies and expertise in Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint is also essential.

Experience

Minimum of five (5) years related work experience in the accounting field is required in addition to the minimum educational requirement having been obtained.

Knowledge, Skills & Abilities

- Must possess skills in accounting, reporting, time management, attention to detail, confidentiality, PC proficiency, productivity, verbal communication, general math skills
- Must be knowledgeable of US GAAP and GASB as well as automated accounting and financial information systems.
- Must be detail-oriented.
- Must have knowledge of SFA rules.
- Must have the ability to prepare payments by utilizing the accounts payable system, accrue expenses and maintain a prepayment schedule, assign account numbers and process disbursements.
- Must have the ability to analyze, develop, and implement accounting procedures, recommend changes, and be able to write standard operating procedures.
- Must have skills to answer accounting and financial questions by researching and interpreting data.
- Must have ability to interact with auditors as required, providing analysis, reports and data as requested during audits.

Qualified applicants:

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

An Equal Opportunity Employer * A Drug Free Workplace

Fears rise over LGBT discrimination in conservative Paraguay

ASUNCION, Paraguay (AP) — Mariana Sepulveda has been stabbed on the street, detained by police and expelled from her high school — all for being transgender in Paraguay, one of the most sexually conservative countries in Latin America.

“I’ve felt hate for not being heterosexual,” said Sepulveda, 32, who now works for an advocacy group. “Raising a family, having a partner, adopting children seems out of reach because there are no legal conditions for us in Paraguay.”

A lack of legal protections and prevalent macho attitudes have long stoked discrimination against lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender people in the poor, mostly Roman Catholic country. Advocacy groups fear the stigma and attacks on the LGBTQT community could get worse now that the education minister has banned classes about sexual diversity in schools and even volunteered to help burn all books related to the subject.

The ban was implemented in October after the United Nations Children’s Fund issued a guidebook for teachers on avoiding discrimination between girls and boys and achieving gender equality.

“We’re not going to promote gender ideology,” Education Minister Enrique Riera told local media earlier this year. “We’re going to base ourselves on what is expressed in the constitution, which says that marriage is between a man and a woman.”

Gay rights groups say the ban goes against Paraguay’s constitution because it is discriminatory and ignores the recommendations by UNICEF and other international organizations.

“We’re living a sad time of religious fundamentalism, intolerance and hate that places this country as the most homophobic one of the region,” Somos Gay, a Paraguayan gay rights group, said in a statement. It added that “this situation has an impact on human lives. Hate crimes, bullying and violence are the disastrous consequences of this encouragement of homophobia.”

Attitudes about LGBTQT rights in Paraguay stand in sharp contrast to other countries in the region.

Neighboring Argentina lets people change their legal and physical gender identity without having to undergo judicial, psychiatric and medical procedures and has appointed its first transgender police chief. Uruguay’s first transgender senator assumed her seat in October. Chile’s center-left government is pushing an array of proposed laws to bolster gender rights, such as allowing transgender people to change

their legal identities without a judge’s approval and reserving 1 percent of state jobs for transgender applicants.

But conservative institutions such as the Catholic Church retain a strong influence in Paraguay.

“There’s the indifference of the state toward sexual minorities to avoid confronting the church,” said Ramon Corvalan, a Paraguayan anthropologist. “The lay state thing is just a statement in the constitution. The church is still strong here.”

He said that “homophobia in Paraguay has a cultural origin based in male chauvinism” that dates back to wars that shaped the country.

Nearly two of every three Paraguayans died in a disastrous war against Argentina and Brazil in 1865-70. The victorious 1932-35 Chaco War with Bolivia was also devastating. Both left a heavy imbalance between the male and female populations.

“There was an availability of many women for the men who had survived the wars in an effort to repopulate the country,” Corvalan said.

Earlier this year, the U.N. Human Rights Council recommended Paraguay pass a law to eliminate discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, but it has not done so.

“Perhaps international organizations like the U.N. and its agencies are worried about this issue of rejection for non-heterosexuals, but in Paraguay it’s not a key issue,” said political analyst Ignacio Martinez.

President Horacio Cartes has also been criticized for his attitudes toward the LGBTQT community. Just months before he was elected in 2013, he compared gay people to monkeys and said he would rather shoot himself in the testicles before his son married a man. Cartes later apologized, but the comments have not seemed to hurt his political career. The ban on teaching about sexual diversity may further stall Paraguay’s embrace of LGBTQT rights. At a school on the outskirts of Asuncion, students wrote a report seeking to prove that homosexuality is a “social problem.” After it went viral on social media, the school principal, Margarita Aquino, apologized and acknowledged that in Paraguay’s “public schools, sexual education doesn’t exist.”

But the leaders of some communities say they prefer it this way. “We don’t support same-sex marriage because it’s not natural, and we oppose that in our schools they teach our boys and girls that being gay, trans or lesbian is a choice,” said Carolina Aranda, mayor of the city of Mariano Roque Alonso.

► Nobody saved us...

Continued from page 7

As part of an ongoing investigation into Word of Faith Fellowship, dozens of former congregants have told the AP that church members were regularly beaten in an effort to “purify” sinners — even children. But despite allegations of abuse spanning two decades, authorities have done little to intervene.

As a child, Anderson said, he was questioned by social services investigators in church co-founder Jane Whaley’s office, but was too afraid to tell the truth. In 2003, he said, the church forced him to sign an affidavit saying he had not been abused and that “church discipline” was “God’s mercy on my life.”

Anderson was about 4 years old when his mother joined Word of Faith. He describes his childhood as nothing short of hell.

Throughout his adolescence, he was singled out as a rebel and suffered some of the most brutal treatment in the church, nearly two dozen former congregants told the AP. Among his transgressions: making a funny face at a classmate.

His most traumatizing memories stem from the “green room,” a storage area named for the color of its outdoor carpeting in a house his family shared with more than a dozen church members. The long stretches of isolation, the incessant hum of a dehumidifier and the pervasive smell of mildew almost drove him mad, he said.

“I remember thinking about it in that room, thinking, ‘I wish that someone cared. I wish that someone got me out of here,’” he recalled.

Former Word of Faith member Risa Pires said that when she visited her aunt, who lived with Anderson’s family, it seemed like “Jamey was always in that room.”

Pires, who left the church three years ago, said children were encouraged to tell on Anderson — and others — for the slightest perceived infractions in the church’s K-12 school, where she was in his class until the ninth grade.

Anderson would be pulled from the classroom and brought to another room where he would be “brutally paddled,” she said.

“You could hear the loud whacks through the wall,” she said. “You just sat there, hoping you weren’t next.”

After breaking with Word of Faith, Anderson lost all contact with his mother and brother, who remain in the church. He said Whaley even refused to let him attend the funeral of his grandfather, the most important male figure in his childhood, and that he was omitted from the list of family members in the obituary.

He is free and yet, he said, he cannot escape the church’s reach. It has branded him — permanently, he fears.

He is speaking out now, he said, because “I want to make sure that kids there, they know

that there’s a better way to live. That people can love you for who you are. That they’re not going to mistreat you.”

Noell Tin, an attorney for Whaley, denied Anderson had been mistreated. “Mr. Anderson’s claims are disputed not only by Ms. Whaley, but also by members of the church,” he said.

To understand what Anderson lived through, it is necessary to understand Word of Faith. Founded in 1979 by Whaley, a former math teacher, and her husband, Sam, the church has grown to a congregation of nearly 750 people in rural Spindale with hundreds more followers extending to Brazil, Ghana and other countries.

Jane Whaley is the unquestioned leader, presenting herself as a prophet. Over the years, she has decreed ever more stringent rules, dictating how followers dress, where they live, who they marry and even when they have sex. Birthday celebrations, television and music are strictly off-limits.

A series of AP stories over the past year have documented widespread abuses within Word of Faith, prompting investigations in the U.S. and South America. In July, the AP revealed how the church mined its two branches in Brazil for a steady supply of young laborers who say they were forced to work for little or no pay in the U.S. at businesses owned by church leaders. In November, the AP documented how the sect used its power and influence to wrest children from poor single mothers.

Anderson said some of his earliest memories are of a church practice called “blasting,” in which congregants are shrieked at, sometimes for hours, to drive out devils. The sessions often graduate to slapping, punching and choking, according to more than 40 former members interviewed by the AP.

The members said Whaley quotes Acts 2:2 and other scriptures to justify the practice: “When suddenly there came a sound from heaven like the rushing of a violent tempest blast ...”

From early childhood, Anderson always seemed to be in trouble, resulting in regular severe beatings, several former members said.

Anderson recounted a particularly brutal attack when he was about 9, when he said a female church member pinned his arms down while his mother sat on his legs and beat him with a paddle.

“It hit me in many other places than where it was supposed to. But they didn’t stop, because I needed a ‘break-through.’ The demons were ‘taking me over,’ as a kid. I was going to go to hell. And so they kept swinging the paddle, swinging the paddle,” he said.

Anderson’s mother, Patricia Dolan, did not respond to phone

and text messages from the AP.

Former congregant Danielle Cordes said it was common for adults to hold children down by their arms and legs during attacks. It happened to her, too. “That was normal,” she said.

Forced child labor was another staple of life, several former members told the AP.

Anderson said his work details began around sixth grade — sometimes during school hours — on construction and real estate projects performed for church members. He recalled being diagnosed with asthma in middle school, a condition aggravated by the outdoor work, and being rebuked for “laziness and foolishness.”

Over the years, he said, the work increased. Anderson said he cleaned the Whaleys’ house, sometimes working until after midnight, then would return in the morning to mow their lawn. At times, he said, he was forced to work several nights a week, often doing remodeling work like painting and drywall repair. He said church leaders called it “volunteer work,” but that the punishment for refusing could be severe.

And though he thought his life couldn’t get any worse, it did.

When he was 14, Anderson said, Jane Whaley called a mandatory church meeting, on a weekday. Waiting in the sanc-

(Continued on page 20)

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bids@aspower.com

REQUEST FOR QUOTES (RFQ)

RFQ No: ASPA18.010.ESD-WTR Closing Date & Time: Thursday, December 28, 2017
Issuance Date: December 14, 2017 No later than 2:00 p.m. local time

The American Samoa Power Authority issues a Request For Quotes (RFQ) to invite qualified firms to submit formal, written proposals for the:

“Supply of Electro-Mechanical Equipment for the Tramway Tank Project (Re-Bid)”

Submission

An original and one (1) PDF must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: “RFQ No. ASPA 18.010. ESD-WTR Supply of Electro-Mechanical Equipment for the Tramway Tank Project.”

Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00pm. (local time),
Thursday, December 28, 2017:

New Operations Building
American Samoa Power Authority
P.O. Box PPB, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
Attn: Ioana Uli, Procurement Manager

Any quotation 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 RFQ package outlining the quotation requirements is available at the New Operaitons Building at ASPA’s Tafuna Compound and may also be obtained from our Website: <http://www.aspower.com>.

Right of Rejection

The American Samoa Power Authority 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 Power Authority or the public.

Approved for Issuance: **Utu Abe Malae**, Executive Director

Alofaaga mafana mo le Tamā Peleina

**AFUVAI TU'IPAPA SIAFOLAU
PA'AU SALĀ LE'IATO**



FANA'ELUPE O LE LA: 5 NOVEMA 1937 **IFO O LE TAULAUMEA: 20 NOVEMA 2017**

“LE AU USO E, O LE TOE UPU LENEI; IA OUTOU MANUIA, IA FAAATOATOAINA OUTOU, IA FAAMAFANAFANAINA OUTOU,
IA LOTO GATASITASI, IA OUTOU FIFILEMU; ONA IA TE OUTOU LEA O LE ĀTUA E ONA LE ALOFA MA LE MANUIA.”
~ II KORINITO 13:11~

TU LILI'A IA I LE TO, AE MANITI TINO I PISAGA, AUA O OE SAMOA O LE AO MAMALA MA LE ATULULUGA O LE ATU FOLASA. E AFUA AI ONA OU SĀUA I ULUGALU LE MANIFILOA O LE TUIMANU'A MA OU TAIA LE PAPA TULIGATĀ O LE TOAIGA O TUPU MA E'E NAI LE MAL-AEOVAVAU. TULOU! AUA O OU PAIA NA LUA'I SUNU'I I MULITAISALA I SAUA SE'IA TINI TAUAO I FILI MA PULETUU NA TO AI MANŪ O MALO. TULOU! E LEAI SE VAVE A'O SE ATOA I LE LIU O LO'U VAA E NA TE TOE ULUMATALAUINA LE MAOTA O SAMOA UA SOO LONA TA'IAO. TULOU.

UA TU POUPOU AI NEI LE LA'OAI E AFIO AI LE ALII O LE FALEONO IA PONAUSUIA MA LONA AIGA SA-PONAUSUIA. UA AOA AI NEI PAEPAEALĀ MA PAEPAEULUPOO. O LE LAGI AUA LE AFIO O LE SA'OUSOALII, SUSU AI LE MATUA O LIUFAU O LE TAMA AITU MA TAGATA. LAGI AUA LE SUSU O ALII O LE FALEONO. A'O LE USUIA O LE FONO I LE FETALAIGA IA TUFAGA MA PAOPAOAILUA. MA UPU I LE LAU-NIUSAEALUA, TULOU!

UA TULILI'A AI NEI AO O LE LAGI I LE MAOTA O MALOTUMAU E AFIO AI LE'IATO MA LONA AIGA SA LE'IATO. AUA UA OIA LE VAO I UTUMOEAAU MA FATULEGAE, AUA O LE LAGI E FA'ASINO I LE AFIO O LE NA AUTASI IAI SUA MA LE VAIFANUA, SUSU AI I LA'UA SA'O. A'O LE GAUSIA O LE ATIPOUNIU I LE FETALAIGA IA MALEPEAI MA VIMALEFETAU, LAU TOFA LEOTA FAAPEA LE FETALAIGA IA UTOAFILI. ALALATA'I LE ATIIATO MA UPU I LE ALATAUA. TULOU!

UA MASOFA FO'I LE FA I FALEULA. AUA UA ITEA LE FOLAUGA ALAMEA I LE AFIOAGA E AFIO AI LE NA MUA I AO IA GALEA'I. SUSU AI LE FALEIFA MA MA'OPU. MALIU MAI SUAFANUU, O SA MATUAFAIGA O E NA ULUA'I TU'IA UPU O LE MAOTA. SUSU AI USOALII. A'O LE GOTO O LE FETU O LE LE'APAI I LE FETALAIGA I TOOTOO O LE FALEULA. TULOU!

UA TAALIGOLIGOA LE VAO MA LE ATUVASA I TITIATO MA TAPUSITA. UA SOLO AI NEI LE FALUTE I AO O LE LAGI AUA LE AFIO O AUVAA MA USOALII. UA GASOLOSALO AO AUA MAOPU MA LE MATUA. A'O LE USUGAFONO I LE FALEFA O LE TAPUAIGA MA LAU FETA-LAIGA SILIOULAEI MA LE LAUTINALAULELEI. TULOU, TULOU, TULOUNA LAVA!

O LE POROKALAMA E FAAPEA:
ASO: ASO LULU-TESEMA 13, 2017: SAUNIGA FAALEAIGA I LE EKALEZIA LDS AUA STAKE CENTER.
TAIMI: 6:00PM I LE AFIIFI

ASO: ASO FARAILE- TESEMA 15, 2017: TUUVAA ESE LONA TINO MALIU MAI LE MAOTA GASEGASE I FAGAALU
TAIMI: 8:00AM I LE TAEAO
SAUNIGA O LONA FALELAUASIGA E FAIA LEA I LE MALUMALU TAPUA'I
O LE EKALEZIA A IESU KERISO O LE AUPAIA O ASO E GATA AI, I AUA LAVA.
TAIMI: 9:00AM I LE TAEAO

ONA MOLIMOLI ATU AI LEA O LONA TINO MALIU I LONA AIGA AUA LONA NOFOAGA E LAGOMAU AI.
TAIMI: 1:00PM I LE AOAULI

SAINIA,
FANAU O AFUVAI MA U'ULOPAIMOANA MA LE AIGA FAAVAUVAU



Fa'afetaia e pagota ma gasegase le alofa fa'aauau Kovana ma le malo

tusia Ausage Fausia

O pesepesega fa'aleagaga atoa ai ma siva fa'aleaganu'u, o auala ia na fa'aaoga e pagota o loo aumau i le toese i Tafuna e fa'ailoa mai ai lo latou agaga fa'afetai i le Kovana ma le faigamalo, ona o le manatuaina pea o i latou i taimi fiafia lenei o le tausaga.

Ae mo le mamalu o le atunu'u o lo o taofia i le maota gasegase i Faga'alu, o le lagona o le fa'afetai na momoli mai ai lo latou taliaina ma le loto fiafia o meaalofa uma na saunia e le malo mo i latou i lenei tausaga.

O le afioga i le ali'i kovana

ia Lolo Matalasi Moliga ma lona faletua ia Cynthia Moliga, o le afioga i le Lutena Kovana ia Lemanu Peleti Mauga, o Ta'ita'i Fa'aleaganu'u aemaise ai le Kapeneta ma le aufaigaluega, o ni isi ia na mafai ona auai atu i le asiasiga fa'aauau a le Kovana i le toese i Tafuna fa'apea ai ma le Falema'i o le LBJ i le vaiaso nei.

O Lemanu ma le Faletua o le Kovana, atoa ai ni isi o Faa-tonusili ma le aufaigaluega, o i latou ia na auai i le asiasiga i le maota gasegase, mo le tufatufaina atu o meaalofa i gasegase uma o lo o taofia i totonu o le

maota gasegase.

I le taimi na tauaao atu ai e le Faletua o le Kovana meaalofa i le to'atele o fanau, sa ia fa'ailoa i ai e fa'apea, "O meaalofa nei na aumai ia Lolo ma Lemanu mo outou i lenei kerisimasi."

Na vaaia lagona fiafia o fanau aemaise matua ina ua asia i latou e Ta'ita'i o le atunu'u. Na fesili Lemanu i tama'ita'i tausima'i sa tiute i le potu o lo o taofia ai le fanau, poo latou e galulue i le Sifi po poo le Sifi ao, ae na tali tama'ita'i tausima'i, o latou e galulue fa'asoloatoa mo le 24 itula i le tele o aso, e mafua mai i le to'alaiti o le aufaigaluega o lo o i ai.

Saunoa Lemanu, "Talositia la o lo o totogi fa'alelei e le pulega a le falema'i a outou itula ova taimi."

O le aufaipese a le Matagaluega o Tautua ma Auau-naga Lautele na fa'afiafia i le maota gasegase i pesega o le kerisimasi, a o tufatufaina atu meaalofa mo le mamalu o le atunu'u o lo o faataotolia i le Faleefu ma le Aofulu o tofaga, ona o ma'i o le tino ua a'afia ai i latou i lenei vaiata o le olaga.

Mo le sauniga i le toese i Tafuna, na tatala lava le sauniga i se tula'i fa'aaloalo e manatua ai le Fa'atonusili o le Matagaluega o Tautua ma Auau-naga Lautele, le tofa Taeaoafua Dr. Meki Solomona na usufono fa'afuase'i i le aso Gafua o le vaiaso nei.

I lana saunoaga faapitoa mo pagota, na taua ai e Lolo lona lagona le fiafia ia Lemanu, ina ua fo'i mai i le malaga sa toesea ai i le masina na te'a nei, ua uma ona saini e Lemanu le pepa e fa'ataga ai Taeaoafua ona malaga i le fonotaga sa faia i Amerika.

O le naunau tele o le Kovana i le soifua maloloina o le ali'i Fa'atonu, na ia faia ai le fa'atonuga i le Sui Fa'atonu ia Muavaefa'atasi Suisala ina ia malaga i le fonotaga i San Francisco, ae toe fa'atonu Taeaoafua e toe fo'i mai i le atunu'u.

Na fa'afetaia e Lolo le tautua a Taeaoafua i le malo, le atunu'u, afioaga aemaise ai lona aiga ma lana Ekalesia.

I lana saunoaga mo pagota, sa ia fa'afetaia ai i latou uma i lo latou onosa'i a o tuli ai a latou fa'asalaga i le toese. Na taua e Lolo lona fiafia ina ua maua se ripoti mai le Komesina o Leoleo ia Le'i Sonny Thompson, e le o toe atoa se to'a 180 o pagota o lo o taofia i Tafuna i le taimi nei. O lona manatu ua oso ane, e lua lava mafua'aga ua fa'aitiitia ai pagota i le toese, e le iloa pe o le to'atele o i latou ua suia olaga ma ua magalo uma i tua, poo le

(Faaauau itulau 18)

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TALA I VAIFANUA

tusia: Leua Aiono Frost

FA'ATAOTO FUAFUAGA FALE FOU US ARMY RESERVE

O le aso Gafua o le vaiaso a sau, o le a maua ai le avanoa e fa'atalatalanoa ai ma maimoa le mamalu o i latou e fia fesiligia le toe fa'atuina o le isi fale fou o le US Army Reserve i Tafuna e ao ina fa'aoga mo le a'otauina o i latou e tautua i le Army Reserve i o tomai tau Fanafana.

“O le a va'aia ni pusa oloa tetele o le a la'uina atu i totonu o le lotoa a le US Army Reseve i se taimi e le o toe mamao, ma e ao fo'i ona mua'i fa'aailoa atu, ina ne'i matau e nisi ma tu'ufesili nei pusa oloa tetele. Peita'i o totoga ia o le tapenaga mo lea fale fou o le a fausia” o se tala lea a le ali'i Pule Sili o le USAR i Tafuna, MAJ Ulisses Taymes.

I le fa'alauiloga o lea galuega tele, ua fa'aailoa mai ai e mafai ona o'o atu so'o se tasi o lo'o fia malamalama i lea galuega ma lona aoga fo'i i le fa'atasiga ua fuafua e faia ia Tesema 18, 2017 i le lotoa a le Reserve i Tafuna i le itula e

2:00 - 5:00pm. O iina e mafai ona talia uma ai fa'afesili e fia fa'atoai aga'i i le galuega, lona umi e faia ai, ma le aoga fo'i o lea fale i le koleniga fa'apitoa o fitafita Samoa uma o lo'o fia autova'a i le vaega au.

E le gata i lea, ae o le a maua fo'i se avanoa e fa'asoa atu ai lagona ma manatu i se nofoaga lelei e fa'atuina ai lea fale fou, pe afai ua silafia e nisi e le tatau ona fa'atuina i totonu o le lotoa i Tafuna.

FITAFITA AMERIKA SAMOA “US NAVY SAILA O LE 2017!”

O se tasi o alo o Amerika Samoa o lo'o tautua o se Fitafita i le Vaega a le Fuava'a a le US Navy, ua avea ma “Saila o le Tausaga 2017.”

O ia o Petty Officer Ist Class Andrew Sagapolutele, o se ali'i o avea ma saila ma e latou te galulue toe fa'aleleia va'a o lo'o folau ai.

Na a'oga ma fa'au'u o ia Marist Fa'asao High ma i Iliili. O ia o se alo e fa'asino ia Abraham ma Tiana Sagapolutele.

O lo'o i ai o ia i luga o le va'a USS San Diego, lea fo'i na

taua'aoina ai lona lea fa'aailoga, ma o lo'o malaga i galuega leoleo ma puipuiga fa'amilitari i le Ogasami US 6th Fleet Operations i le Vasa Metiterani.

SAUNI ASPA FA'AFOU AFI ELETISE I TAFUNA

Ona o le fa'anaunauta'iga o le auaunaga a le ASPA mo le atunu'u e ao ina mautinoa i so'o se taimi e tusa po'o le a lava uiga louloua o le tau, o lea ua tapena ai fo'i le pulega ma le aufaigaluega ina ia fa'atuina ma toe fausia lelei le nofoaga o lo'o fa'atutuina ai afi moli tetele i le latou lotoa i Tafuna.

O le tele o le galuega o le toe fausia lelei atoatoa o lea nofoaga ina ia le toe lagona le malomaloa o afi eletise e aiga tuaoi, ae maise fo'i o le asu uliuli e masani ona vaaia o lo'o sau i fafo mai ona alaasu o afi nei o le a le toe i ai fo'i.

O le fale ma le nofoaga o afi o i ai nei, na fausia mai i le tausaga e 1972. Ua fa'aailoa mai fo'i o le vaega tupe e fausia ai lenei galuega e \$1.75 miliona ma o le 90% e faatupe e le FEMA ae o le isi 10% e faatupe

(Faaauau itulau 19)

Toe fa'afo'i i Samoa le ali'i na ia faia uiga mataga i se tama'ita'i

tusia Ausage Fausia

O le ali'i mai Samoa lea sa fa'amatalaina e molimau i luma o le Fa'amasinoga Maua-luga i le vaiaso na te'a nei o se ali'i Kerisiano e fiafia e fesoa-soani i soo se tasi, ua fa'atonu e le Fa'amasino sili ia Michael Kruse ina ia toe fa'afo'i i Samoa, ina ua ta'usala o ia i lona faia o uiga mataga i tama'ita'i e 15 tausaga le matua.

O le vaiaso na te'a nei na lau ai le fa'asalaga a le ali'i o Peniamina Fa'ataulevao, ina ua ta'usala o ia i le moliaga o lona tagofia lea o itutinoso o se tama'ita'i e talavou i lalo o le tulafono.

O Fa'ataulevao, o se totino o le Ekalesia Assembly of God i Nua ma Seetaga. Na molimau lana Faifeau ma ia taua i le Fa'amasinoga uiga lelei o lenei ali'i sa ia maitauina, talu mai le la mafutaga i le 3 tausaga ua mavae. E le gata o se ali'i Kerisiano fa'amaoni, ae loto alofa ma fiafia e auauna i soo se taimi. O ia fo'i o se totino o le Autalavou ma le Aufaipese.

Na fa'atoese Fa'ataulevao i le faaamasinoga e tusa ai o lana solitulafono, ma ia talosagaina ai se avanoa mo ia e toe fo'i atu ai i lona aiga, aemaise ai le toe fa'aauauina o lana auaunaga i le Atua e ala i le Ekalesia o lo o galue ai.

Na finau le loia a le ali'i ua molia ia Douglasi Fiaui i le Fa'amasinoga mo se fa'asalaga fa'anofovaavaaia, ina ia maua ai le avanoa o le ua molia e toe fo'i atu ai i tua e fa'aauau le mafutaga ma le aiga. Na taua atili e Fiaui e fa'apea, o Faataulevao na aga'i mai i Amerika Samoa e saili sona lumana'i manuia, peita'i ua ia fa'aaoga sese le avanoa sa ia maua ma i'u

ina a'afia ai o ia i le tulafono i le la mafutaga ma le tama'ita'i na a'afia i lenei mataupu.

Na lagolagoina e le loia a le malo ia Christy Dunn le talosaga ina ia fa'asala le ua molia i se fa'asalaga faanofovaavaaia, e aofia ai le maua o le avanoa e fo'i ai i tua i lona aiga e toe fa'asa'o vaega o lona olaga ua fa'aletonu.

Ae na saunoa Kruse e fa'apea, e foliga mai i le vaavaai a le Fa'amasinoga, o le ali'i o Fa'ataulevao, o le isi lea e a'afia i ituiga tupulaga talavou mai Samoa na o ese mai loa mai pulega a ali'i ma faipule a latou afioaga, atoa ai ma le fa'amalumaluga a matua sa malosai ai le olaga pulea ma le ola a'oa'oina, osofa'i loa e le Tiapolo ma a'afia ai i uiga mataga.

E ui i fa'afinauga o Faataulevao o se ali'i Kerisiano e amio lelei toe fiafia e tautua le Ekalesia, peita'i na saunoa Kruse e fa'apea, o le silasila a le Fa'amasinoga, o le ua molia o se tagata e le lelei lana amio, e fiafia e alu e tuituli tama'ita'i ina ia faia i ai uiga mataga ma fa'amalie ai tu'inanauga o le tino.

Na ioe le Fa'amasinoga e tatau ona fa'asala le ua molia i se fa'asalaga faanofovaavaaia, e le gata o lea faatoa tausala o ia i se solitulafono, ae o ia fo'i o se tagata e talavou lona olaga. Pau le itu na fa'amanino e Kruse, o le fa'asalaga o le a tuuina tau ia Faataulevao, o le a le toe maua ai e ia le avanoa e fealua'i sa'oloto ai i lafanua o Amerika Samoa, ae o le a toe fa'afo'i atu o ia i lona aiga na malaga mai ai.

O ni isi o tuutuuga o le nofo-

(Faaauau itulau 19)

► Faafetaia e pagota...

Mai itulau 17

isi fo'i i itu, ua amata ona tau mama aao o ali'i Fa'amasino i le taimi e tuuina mai ai a latou fa'aiuga.

“A o outou aumau ai i lenei nofoaga, ia outou manatua e le o fa'agaloina outou e aiga aemaise ai le malo. O outou o tagatanu'u o le atunu'u, e le tatau fo'i ona fa'atuatuaana'i lo outou aumau ai i lenei nofoaga,” o le saunoaga lea a le ali'i Kovana.

“To'atele pea tagata o lo o

fa'asea i le fa'aalu e le malo o le taimi e asia ai outou i tausaga ta'itasi, ae o lo ma talitonuga ma Lemanu, e le tatau ona fa'agaloina outou. E pei o le fetalaiga a Iesu, sa ou i ai i le falema'i sa e asia a'u, sa ou i ai i le falepuipui sa e asia a'u.”

I le saunoaga faapitoa mai le ali'i Komesnia, na fa'afetaia ai e Le'i le malo aemaise ai i latou uma na auai atu i le asiasiga i lenei vaiaso, i lo latou manatua

pea o uso ma tuafafine, Tama ma Tina o lo o taofia i le toese i Tafuna.

Sa ia talosagaina fo'i pagota uma o le atunu'u, ina ia latou galulue fa'atasi ma le Ofisa o Leoleo i le taumafaiga o tulaga uma e fa'aleleia ai le olaga i totonu o le nofoaga, ma avea ai le toese o se nofoaga e malupuipua ma saogalemu mo i latou uma.



O se va'aiga i le fa'asologa o toniga ma le tele o galuega fa'atino o lo'o fa'atautaia i le Manulele Tausala mo le vaitau o le Kerisimasi. O le lona tolu ai lenei o aso talu ona amata ma ua faia i lanu e talafeagai ma lenei fo'i tau fiafia o le tausaga. O le toniga lenei o le Mumu. O le pulega lena a le a'oga fa'apea ma faia'oga uma o le level 7. O le fa'aiuga o le latou vaiaso atoa e faia lea i le aso i lea lava Laumua. Mrs Allen, Ms Tufele, Mrs Fogavai, Martha Sagapolutele [Pule Aoga]; Mrs Fa'au'uga, Mrs Isa'ako, Mrs Iopu, Mr Sala [Sui Pule] Ms Nellie Stowers.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost.]



Faiaoga galulue fa’amaoni uma nei tulaga i le va’ai i le Lisi o Faia’oga e le tia’i a’oga i le masina atoa o Novema ua mae’a lolomia i le Samoa News. Lea ua tutula’i mai ma le toniga mumu o le aso Lulu lea. Mrs Honey Allen, Mrs Cayla Fogavai, Ms Jasmine Tufele, Ms Nellie Stowers, ma Ms Moeitai Taylor. O i latou o faiaoga i le Manulele Tausala.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

► Toe fa’afo’i...

Mai itulau 18

vaavaaia e 7 tausaga a le ua molia, o lona tuliina lea o masina e 28 i le toese i Tafuna, peita’i ua manatu le fa’amasinoga ua lava masina e 9 lea na taofia ai le ua molia i le toese e fai ma ana fa’asalaga i lenei mataupu, ae o le a fa’afo’i loa o ia i lona atunu’u na malaga mai ai, ma aumau ai

mo le umi o lana nofovaavaaia. O le vaiaso nei lea ua fa’atulaga e toe fo’i atu ai le ua molia i Samoa, ma ua faatonuina fo’i e le fa’amasinoga le malo ina ia fa’aaoga le tupe o le Pone na totogi e le ua molia i le taimi na talosaga ai ana pepa nofomau, e totogi ai lona pasese e toe fo’i atu ai i Samoa.

► Tala i vaifanua...

Mai itulau 18

e le ASPA.

O le galuega fo’i sa fa’asalalau fa’alaua’itele ina ia tauofo i ai Kamupani falefale mo le 45 aso. Ma ua malo ai le Paramount Builders i lea fo’i galuega. O i latou fo’i ia sa tele se taimi na galulue fa’atasi ai ma Inisinia mai fafo mo le fausaga o le fale ma le lotoa o afi eletise a le ASPA i Satala.

O lo ua fa’amoemoe e amatalia lea galuega i le masina nei lava, Tesema, ma ua fa’atulaga e ao ina fa’atautaia mo le na’o le 6-8 masina ona mae’a lea.

FOA’I ASTCA MO AIGA TELE MANA’OMIA VAITAU KERISIMASI

E tolu ni aiga ua filifili le tatou Pulega o Feso’ota’iga Tau Telefoni [ASTCA] a le tatou Malo e faimeaalofa i ai, ona o le tulaga tau le mana’omia o i ai.

O nei aiga, sa tofu le vaega o le ASTCA ma sao, ina ia saili mai e i latou ni aiga e ao ina faimeaalofa i ai le ASTCA i lenei tausaga.

O lenei foa’i ua fa’aaogaina o se ala e toe faaleleia atili ai le so’otaga a le ASTCA ma le mamalu lautele, ina ia fa’afiafiaina tagata lautele i le latou tautua ma latou fa’aaogaina ai i ala o latou telefoni ma le tautua tau Initeneti.

O aiga na sailia e le ASTCA e agavaa ai mo nei meaalofo, o aiga e ta’ito’atasi tagata faigaluega ae to’atele lona aiga tausisi, ma i latou fo’i ua iloga e matua

le lava le tamaoiga e fa’aagaaga mo ni faatauga o meaalofo mo le fanau i le Kerisimasi.

O i latou fo’i ua filifilia e ao ia i latou ona fa’amatala e ala i se tusitusiga, le mafuaga ua piki mai ai le latou aiga mo nei meaalofo taua.

O le igoa o lea polokalama “Operaion Secret Santa po’o le OSS.”

O nisi o meaalofo ua aofia i le “SIPILI O LE KERISIMASI” e aofia ai le La’au Kerisimasi ua i ai ma ona teuteuga, ua i ai fo’i ma meaalofo mo tamaiti o mea ta’alo ma pepe ma nai mea’ai suamalie e fa’amatagofie ai. O lo’o ua tapena mai fo’i le Ham, moa ma mea’ai tu’u apa mo le aiga atoa, mo le ‘aiga o le Kerisimasi.

LAISENE MSC - TAUTAI-O-SAMOA FISHING ASSOCIATION:

O le fa’aiuga o le masina o Novema 2017 na maua ai le Laisene o le Tautai-o-Samoa Longline & Fishing Association e mafai ai ona fagota e fa’aaogaina ai auala o fagotaga ua fa’atulaga mai ina ia le afaina le tele o le i’a i tatou ogasami i le lumana’i. O nei aiaiga uma ua pasia lelei e i latou ma sa siakia toto’a lea e le Marine Stewardship Council.

Ua fa’ailoa fa’afetai a sui uma o le Tautai-o-Samoa i le StarKist Samoa ona o le latou lagolagosua ina ia maua’a le maketi e fa’atau ane i ai le

latou i’a, ma avea ma latou fa’amaumauga taua o le latou fo’i pitola’au i nei tausaga e lua sa saili ai lea laisene.

O lo’o sapaia pea e le StarKist ala o lo’o fagota mai ai le i’a e aoga mo le tu’uapa ma ua fa’amautu atili ai fo’i lo latou agava’a mo le latou laisene ua tamau nei. E le gata i lea, ae ua fa’afetaia fo’i e le Asosi o Au Faifaiva nei le ali’i o Gary Gann i le StarKist lea sa ia suesuea auiliili lo latou agava’a mo le laisene lea ma ua ia pasia leleia fo’i.

“Mai le galulue vavalalata a Gary Gann ma le Star Kist ua mafai ai ona maua lenei avanoa lelei e le matou Asosi o Tautai Faifaiva, ma ua a’oa’oina lelei fo’i i matou i ala uma ma vala o tulafono o fagotaga e ao ina mataituina i taimi uma i le galuega.” O se tala lea na fa’ao’o mai a le asosi faifaiva.

“Fa’amalo fo’i i le Western Pacific Council Executive Director Kitty Simmons ma le aufaigaluega mo latou fa’amalosia mai e taumafai ona pasia lenei laisene ma usitaia uma ala o tulafono tau faiga-faiva ina ia manuia fo’i le auau-naga fa’atino. Ua latou fa’auia mai fo’i fa’amaumauga e mafai ona una’ia ai lea taumafaiga, o se isi lea fesoasoani sili ua matou maua ai lenei laisene,” o se latou toe tala fiafia lea.



MAJ Ulises Taymes - Executive Officer mo le USArmy Reserve i Tafuna lea ua fa’ailoa maia lenei galuega o le a amata fausia i le lotoa a le Reserve i Tafuna ina ia kolenia ai fitafita i tomai tau fanafana. [L-R] 1st Lt. Melendez, Jose 411th PSC, LTC Clinton Seybold TSA/AS Det. Commander ma MAJ Ulisses Taymes TSG AS Det. Executive Officer.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

Expecting dad stages own pregnancy photo shoot, shows belly

PEABODY, Mass. (AP) — An expecting father in Massachusetts has shown off his paternal glow with a pregnancy photo shoot.

Peabody (PEE’-buh-dee) resident Nick Roberts surprised his pregnant girlfriend with the photos at their gender reveal party in June before their son Logan was born. Some of the photos show Roberts posing at a beach in the town of Nahant, cradling his visible belly.

The couple’s son has since been born.

Roberts says he and his friend, who is a photographer, grabbed some fast food before the shoot to “try to look a little pregnant.” Roberts’ girlfriend, Brianna Magee, tells WHDH-TV she flipped through the pictures and “just started laughing harder and harder.” Roberts says the photo shoot was “extremely difficult because we just kept laughing.”



FILE - In this April 25, 2017, file photo, state Sen. Bob Hertzberg, D-Van Nuys, gestures during a hearing in Sacramento, Calif. Hertzberg is proudly known for hugging, once passing out pins reading “I was hugged by Assemblyman Bob Hertzberg.” The Democratic senator is facing allegations he inappropriately hugged three of his female colleagues.

(AP Photo/Rich Pedroncelli, File)

California lawmaker faces claims his hugs were inappropriate

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — A California Democratic state senator known for greeting people with hugs is now facing allegations that his behavior made women he worked with uncomfortable.

Sen. Bob Hertzberg’s penchant for hugging is so well known he has nicknames such as “Hugsberg” and “Huggy Bear.” As an Assemblyman, he once handed out pins reading “I was hugged by Assemblyman Bob Hertzberg.”

But three women who have or still work in the Legislature told the Sacramento Bee on Wednesday that his hugs crossed into inappropriate territory.

Their comments came as the California Legislature deals with multiple allegations of sexual misconduct, which already prompted two Assembly Democrats to resign.

Hertzberg spokeswoman Katie Hanzlik said he will now be more mindful of whether people are comfortable with his hugs in the future.

“He understands that hugs are taken differently by different people, and while he means them as a way to connect with people he expects and respects that not everyone shares the same sentiment,” she told The Associated Press.

Former Republican Assemblywoman Linda Halderman said Hertzberg repeatedly hugged her for prolonged periods of time during her term from 2010 to 2012. At one point, she told him she was not comfortable with the hugs, the Bee reported. After that, Hertzberg enveloped her in a hug and thrust into her, she said.

“It was clearly a sexual thing rather than a friendly thing,” she told the Bee.

Halderman said she reported Hertzberg’s behavior to Jon Waldie, former chief administrative officer of the Assembly, who said “Bob’s just like that.”

She said Waldie said he would speak with Hertzberg about his behavior. Waldie did not return a call seeking comment, the Bee reported.



PUBLIC JOB POSTING

Position Title	Welder III	Posting Date	December 4, 2017
Department	Power Generation	Deadline	December 15, 2017, 4:00 pm
Division	Electric	Starting Rate	\$11.73/hr - \$12.20/hr
Position Type	Career Service - 12 months probation		
Reports To	Mechanical Supervisor	Job Grade/Status	G/3/D - G/4/D, Non-Exempt

Major Duties & Responsibilities

The primary objective of the position is to perform as a journeyman welder in the manufacture and/or fabrication of auxiliary components for generation and other company operations; to rebuild and/or weld components; to ensure all work is conducted safely and in accordance with established standards and best practice; to enhance the productivity, reliability and efficiency of generation and other utility services. Other duties are as follows: operate arc-weld, tig-weld, mig-weld, gas-weld for welding of various metal materials (e.g. aluminium, stainless steel, steel, iron...etc.); manufacture and/or fabricate auxiliary components for generation and other company operations; fabricate and weld metal materials according to required specifications, set-up and operate welding machines and gas weld tanks for welding and fabricating metal materials according to specifications; perform other duties as required.

Minimum Requirements

Education	Trade Certificate in Welding or equivalent discipline.
Experience	Five (5) years related work experience in the welding and/or fabrication of auxiliary components is required in addition to the minimum educational requirement having been obtained. OR Seven (7) years related work experience in the welding and/or fabrication of auxiliary components will be considered in place of the required minimum educational requirement.
Knowledge, Skills & Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Knowledge gained through practical experience in the welding and/or fabrication of auxiliary components.Practical skills and knowledge of welding/mechanical principles, terminology, equipment and tools.Excellent attention to detail.Ability to interpret service guides, maintenance manuals etc.Skills in verbal and written communication.
Physical Demands:	Work involves standing, walking and periods of stooping and bending. Occasional heavy lifting may be required

“This ad has been upgraded from Welder I to Welder III to reflect job duties and responsibilities”

Qualified applicants: Please submit a completed ASPA Employment Application with a copy of your resume to ASPA (address listed above) by the deadline listed above. Please attach copies of credentials and transcripts. Candidates selected for hire must pass examinations (when applicable), pre-employment clearances & test negative on employment drug test. ASPA reserves the right to waive education and experience requirements as necessary.

No phone inquiries accepted.

An Equal Opportunity Employer * A Drug Free Workplace

► Nobody saved us...

Continued from page 15

tuary that day in early 2002, “we knew it couldn’t be good,” he said.

When Whaley arrived, she pointed to Anderson and a group of “troublemakers” she called the “five boys.” For two hours, he said, Whaley screamed and shamed them.

They were expected to fall to the floor and cry out to Jesus for forgiveness. Some did, but Anderson said he was too scared to move.

“That meant to Jane that my heart was hard. I was unreachable and that’s when she got very close to my face and called me everything she could think of, yelling at me at the top of her lungs,” he said.

Whaley placed Anderson and his four friends in isolation for a year, he said. Instead of attending class, he said they sat in a room watching videos of Whaley preaching and were confined to their homes after school and on weekends. Family members weren’t allowed to talk to them. When it was time to eat, someone would open the door and slide food in, “like in a prison,” Anderson said.

They were treated as if they did not exist — except when it came time for punishment and they were told they were full of “witchcraft and warfare,” he said.

Ministers constantly grilled them with questions that would devolve into the “sexual realm,” said Peter Cooper, another of the five, who called the ministers relentless. If the boys didn’t answer the “right way,” he said,

they were blasted and beaten.

“After you’ve been told repeatedly that you’re unclean, you know it’s better to go ahead and admit it. You start confessing to things you didn’t think about. They destroy your will,” said Cooper, 28, who left the church in 2014.

To this day, Anderson said he can’t understand why the boys were singled out and considered so unworthy of love and acceptance.

“If there was ever a time I was broken, that was it,” he said, pushing back tears.

When Anderson walked away from Word of Faith, he left behind the only life he had ever known. He wanted “freedom,” even though he wasn’t quite sure what that meant.

Despite having an outgoing personality, his isolated upbringing made it hard for him to fit in. If he was hanging out with a group of peers and someone cited a scene from a movie or line from a song, he had no idea what they were talking about. He didn’t always get their jokes. The loneliness could be crushing, he said.

It also was difficult for him to form romantic relationships, crippled by the fear of questions about his past and embarrassment about his night terrors.

“I don’t trust anybody. With this thing, it can change the way people look at you,” Anderson said.

Still, he forges on, determined to build a happy life.

He graduated from law

(Continued on page 25)



Man accused of burning Phoenix suburb's \$40K Christmas tree

MESA, Ariz. (AP) — Police in the city of Mesa near Phoenix say a man has been arrested on suspicion of arson and criminal damage for allegedly burning the city's \$40,000 Christmas tree.

The nearly four-story tall tree is the focal point of Mesa's annual Christmas celebration.

It was destroyed by a fire early Wednesday that police say was intentionally set.

Police say 34-year-old

Samuel Antone Johnson was found nearby and allegedly admitted to setting the "Merry Main Christmas Tree" on fire with a book of matches. Police say the man did not disclose a motive.

Johnson has been booked into jail on two felonies. It's unclear if he has a lawyer yet.

City officials say they're trying to quickly find a replacement tree to erect for the rest of the holiday season.

Director of Colorado pension fund dies snorkeling in Hawaii

DENVER (AP) — The executive director of the board that oversees Colorado's public employee pension fund died while snorkeling in Hawaii.

Public Employees' Retirement Association spokeswoman Katie Kaufmanis says 56-year-old Gregory Smith died Tuesday while vacationing with family and friends in Maui.

Maui Fire Services Chief Edward Taomoto says Smith was found face-down and unresponsive in the water.

Bystanders brought him

to the shore, and emergency responders could not revive him.

An autopsy is planned.

Smith worked at PERA for more than 15 years, including five years as its executive director.

Six chief officers and the PERA executive team will continue to run daily operations at the association.

It provides retirement benefits to 568,000 current and former public employees.

White Louisianan pleads not guilty in deaths of 2 black men

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — A white Louisiana man accused of shooting two black men to death and of firing into the home of a black family in three separate incidents in September has pleaded not guilty to all the charges against him.

The Advocate reports that Kenneth James Gleason, 23, entered the plea Wednesday at an arraignment before state District Judge Beau Higginbotham in Baton Rouge.

A grand jury on Nov. 30 indicted Gleason on one count each of second-degree murder and first-degree murder and two counts of attempted second-degree murder in the incidents that police have described as possibly racially motivated.

Gleason is accused of killing Donald Smart, 49, on Sept. 14 and Bruce Cofield, 59, on Sept. 12.

Law enforcement officials have said they believe the two killings were random, as they have been unable to find any connections between Gleason and either Smart or Cofield. Both men were on the side of the road at night when they were shot. Officials have said Gleason approached them both in the same manner — shooting

them first from inside his car, then exiting the vehicle and continuing to fire while standing over them.

Also that mid-September week, Gleason is accused of targeting the only black family on the block where he lived, firing from a short distance at their front door. No one was injured, but two people were in the house at the time.

Though officials have said the shootings were possibly racially motivated, East Baton Rouge District Attorney Hillar Moore III said they have yet to uncover any concrete evidence to confirm that motive.

Smart's family sat in the front two rows of the courtroom during the arraignment.

When Gleason announced his pleas, members of the family released audible sounds of pain; his sister wiped tears from her eyes. "I was hoping and praying he (would) plead guilty so the family wouldn't have to keep coming to court," said Smart's sister, Tiquincia Smart. "But we will be here every court day. ... I truly believe justice will be served." She said seeing Gleason in the courtroom was emotional, bringing back the memory of her brother's killing.



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Defense attorney Steven Yermish gives his closing statement during Ana Maria Cardona's murder trial at the Miami Criminal Court on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017. Cardona is accused of killing her 3-year-old son Lazaro Figueroa in November 1990.

(Carl Juste /Miami Herald via AP, Pool)

Florida mom guilty of killing son known as ‘Baby Lollipops’

MIAMI (AP) — A Florida mother on Wednesday was convicted for a third time of brutally abusing her toddler before fatally beating the boy who became known as “Baby Lollipops” in a case that riveted Miami decades ago.

Jurors found 56-year-old Ana Maria Cardona guilty of murder and aggravated child abuse in the killing of 3-year-old Lazaro Figueroa, whose emaciated body was found hidden in bushes in Miami Beach in November 1990.

The boy was beaten throughout his short life and was starving to death, weighing just 18 pounds. His body was covered in bumps and bruises and cigarette burns. His skull had been fractured, and his left arm was permanently bent at a

90-degree angle. The medical examiner called it child torture, according to trial testimony.

“After suffering years, months, days of continuous abuse by her, under her watch, Lazaro inevitably withered and died. And lay in the dirt until his little heart stopped beating,” prosecutor Reid Rubin said in a closing argument. “It was only a matter of time before he wound up dead because of her.”

Cardona was twice sentenced to death in previous trials. After her first trial in 1992, Cardona became the first woman in Florida history to be sentenced to capital punishment for killing her own child. But both convictions were overturned by the Florida Supreme Court, leading to this third trial.

Circuit Judge Miguel M. de la O immediately sentenced Cardona to a life prison sentence. Prosecutors opted not to seek the death penalty a third time. “There are wild beasts that show more empathy for their offspring than you showed for Lazaro,” the judge said. “Your actions were monstrous.”

Trial evidence showed that Cardona had other children she did not abuse. The reason for Lazaro’s suffering, Rubin said, was that his father had been a drug dealer who was slain by rivals — and with his death, Cardona lost a lavish lifestyle she had been enjoying until then. “She became angry and spiteful, and she took it out on an innocent young child who became her personal whipping boy. It escalated, more and more,” the prosecutor said. “Lazaro died because his mother didn’t love him.”

Cardona testified in her own defense that her female lover, Olivia Gonzalez, was responsible for Lazaro’s death. Trial evidence showed that Gonzalez and Cardona fled to central Florida after the boy died, even enjoying a trip to Disney World, before their arrests.

Defense attorney Steve Yermish said in his closing argument that Cardona was a poor mother and may have taken actions against Lazaro that amounted to child abuse. But he said she did not kill her son.

“I can only assume that you are angry at Ana Cardona. And you have every right to be. Ana was a lousy mother. She failed as a mother. But you can’t decide this case because you or I or anyone is angry at Ana for her failures,” Yermish said. “The charge of aggravated child abuse may have been proven. The charge of murder has not.”

Unable to identify him initially, officers called the boy “Baby Lollipops” after the T-shirt he was wearing. It took more than a month for investigators to learn Lazaro’s identity and track down the two women.



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Evacuation lifted for South Dakota towns near wildfire

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SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Lucia Roda stood in her backyard early Wednesday morning, watching flames shoot up in the dark for each tree a spreading western South Dakota wildfire engulfed on the hills not far from the Spanish mustang preserve she manages.

Roda's family got an early morning pre-evacuation notice suggesting they leave their home and the conservancy in Buffalo Gap, South Dakota, but they decided to remain rather than chance moving 34 horses in the dark. The family took the "calculated risk" to wait until light so it would be safer if the horses had to be transported, Roda said.

"Last night at about three in the morning, it was a little hairy and a little scary," said Roda. "I don't think I've ever done something quite that scary, and I've done some dumb things in my life."

The wildfire in South Dakota's popular Custer State Park grew rapidly into Wednesday, pushing beyond the park's borders and threatening nearby communities of Fairburn and Buffalo Gap, but evacuation orders for those cities were eventually lifted later in the day.

The fire in the Black Hills park, which is just south of Mount Rushmore National Memorial in the state's southwest, grew from about 6 square miles (16 square kilometers) on Tuesday to about 55 square miles (142 square kilometers) on Wednesday, spreading to about 73 square miles (190 square kilometers) that night, according to park officials.

The fire is 10 percent contained, up from 7 percent. Lydia Austin, a park spokeswoman, said officials don't anticipate another night of rapid fire growth.

The Rapid City Journal reported it's among the largest wildfires in modern Black Hills history. No one has been injured by the blaze, which started on Monday.

"From hearing the briefing this morning, a lot of these fire-fighters say they haven't seen anything like this fire in 10 to 20 years," said Kobee Stalder, the park's visitor services program manager. "A lot of people are comparing this to a mid-summer fire."

Some fences and outbuildings have burned, but none of the park's main buildings have been destroyed and crews have succeeded in protecting the popular State Game Lodge and Blue Bell Lodge.

The park is home to a herd of about 1,300 buffalo, and park officials tweeted Wednesday that they'd be checking on the wellbeing of the herd and other animals along its popular wildlife loop road. The fire's

spread through the southeastern end of the park put wildlife in danger, but the officials said they don't know of any animal deaths. South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks tweeted a message seeking hay for the herd throughout the winter because of the fire.

The park is a top South Dakota tourist destination, featuring hills with ponderosa pine and prairie. Visitors often drive to see roaming buffalo, elk and bighorn sheep, and the park hosts a popular annual buffalo roundup.

The fire also spread into the northern part of Wind Cave National Park, said Chief of Interpretation Tom Farrell. He said the park's back country trails are closed, but the park did host a Christmas open house.



A firefighter walks by flames of the burn out fire that was set set while battling a blaze in Custer State Park, Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017. High wind gusts are making it more difficult for firefighters to battle the blaze at the park in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

(Hannah Hunsinger /Rapid City Journal via AP)

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IN THE COMMUNITY

(Photos: Leua)



FILE- In this June 14, 2017, file photo, smoke rises from a high-rise apartment building on fire in London. Six months after flames enveloped the high-rise in London and prompted concerns about the safety of other buildings worldwide, a U.S.-based fire prevention group has developed a tool aimed at making buildings safer. The National Association of State Fire Marshals' research foundation announced that its free risk evaluation tool will be available on its website after Jan. 1, 2018.

(AP Photo/Matt Dunham, File)

After London tower fire, group develops risk assessment tool

ATLANTA (AP) — Six months after flames engulfed a London high-rise and sparked concerns about similarly-clad buildings around the world, a U.S.-based fire prevention group has developed a tool aimed at making buildings safer.

The National Association of State Fire Marshals' research foundation says its free risk evaluation tool will be available on its website after Jan. 1.

Combustible exterior paneling fueled the flames that enveloped Grenfell Tower on June 14, killing 71 people, authorities said. An Associated Press review found the same panels on several U.S. buildings, and some of the owners were unaware of the potential danger.

The fire marshals group says the new Risk Evaluation Matrix can help assess fire risks based on materials used, a building's occupancy and other criteria.

The goal is to enable fire marshals, building owners and others to make their structures safer through a rational and scientific approach, said Nick Dembsey, professor of fire protection engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts, which contributed research that went into developing the assessment tool.

The researchers found evidence of a troubling trend: An over-reliance on sprinkler systems. Sprinklers are effective in many fires, but they should not justify cutting corners on other fire prevention measures, fire officials say.

"More data is needed, but the early conclusions indicate an overreliance on sprinklers at the expense of passive fire safety systems, which endangers both the public and the fire service alike," said Louisiana State Fire Marshal H. Butch Browning, who is president of the National Association of State Marshals.

The U.S. has for decades required sprinkler systems to be installed in new high-rise buildings, as well as multiple ways for people to exit

in the case of a fire. Grenfell Tower had none of those safeguards.

"We believe that sprinklers should be in every building. But we also have a concern that we not get all our safety eggs in one basket," said Jon Narva, an association spokesman. "There's more to fire safety than just sprinklers."

Since sprinklers are so effective in many interior fires, some building codes have introduced "trade-offs" — a relaxation in regulations if sprinklers are present. But indoor sprinklers can't stop a fire that ignites on a building's exterior and spreads across the material encasing the structure. These types of fires are of particular concern today, since many buildings are covered with synthetic materials which can burn fast and hot.

"In exterior fires, the sprinklers aren't going to have a chance to affect the outcome," Narva said.

The concern among fire marshals and others is that engineers, architects, and fire codes are less likely to include an array of fire protection features when sprinklers are present.

Along with building codes, a proactive approach to fire safety should include product testing, public education and a thorough analysis of what could happen in a fire, Browning said.

Many older buildings in the U.S. — even high-rise apartments, hotels and condominiums — have no sprinklers at all. Regulations vary from city to city.

In Hawaii, a fire in a 36-story apartment building that killed three people in July focused attention on an estimated 300 older high-rise structures with no sprinkler systems on the island of Oahu. The building where the blaze happened was built in 1971, four years before sprinklers became mandatory for new construction in Honolulu. A committee formed in response to the fire recommended last month that 150 of the older buildings be retrofitted with sprinkler systems, but the cost has made some reluctant.

Kentucky lawmaker facing assault allegations kills himself

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) — Dan Johnson, a Republican state lawmaker in Kentucky known for inflammatory Facebook posts comparing Barack and Michelle Obama to monkeys and who defiantly denied allegations that he sexually assaulted a teenage girl in the basement of his home, killed himself Wednesday night. He was 57.

Bullitt County Sheriff Donnie Tinnell said Johnson shot himself on a bridge in Mount Washington, Kentucky. Tinnell confirmed the death to WDRB-TV in Louisville.

Johnson was elected to the state legislature in 2016, part of a wave of Republican victories that gave the GOP control of the Kentucky House of Representatives for the first time in nearly 100 years. He won his election despite Republican leaders urging him to drop out of the race after some of his racist Facebook posts came to light.

The pastor of Heart of Fire church in Louisville, Johnson sponsored a number of bills having to do with religious liberty and teaching the Bible in public schools. But he was mostly out of the spotlight until Monday, when the Kentucky Center for Investigative Reporting published an account from a woman saying Johnson sexually assaulted her in the basement of his home in 2013.

At the time, the woman told police about the incident, who investigated but closed the case and did not file charges.

On Tuesday, Johnson held a news conference in the pulpit of his church, which he began by leading friends and family

in singing a portion of the Christmas carol “O Come All Ye Faithful.” He said the allegations against him were “totally false” and said they were part of a nationwide strategy of defeating conservative Republicans. He referenced Republican Alabama U.S. Senate candidate Roy Moore, who faces accusations of sexual misconduct from multiple women.

Shortly before 5 p.m. Wednesday, Johnson posted a message on his Facebook page that he asked people to care for his wife. He wrote that PTSD “is a sickness that will take my life, I cannot handle it any longer. It has won this life, BUT HEAVEN IS MY HOME.” The post appears to have been removed.

The sexual assault accusations against Johnson were revealed as a sexual harassment scandal involving four other Republican lawmakers was unfolding at the state Capitol. Former Republican House Speaker Jeff Hoover resigned his leadership position after acknowledging he secretly settled a sexual harassment claim with a member of his staff. Three other lawmakers were involved in the settlement, and all lost their committee chairmanships.

“I am very sad over the passing of Rep. Dan Johnson. Over the past few weeks in some of the darkest days of my life, he reached out to me, encouraged me, and prayed for me,” Hoover posted on his Twitter account Wednesday night. “Prayers for his wife, children, grandchildren and all affected by this sad event.”

► Nobody saved us...

Continued from page 20

school and was hired by a respected firm in Charlotte, and his future — for a change — seemed bright. Then one night in October 2016, the police knocked on his apartment door and arrested him for trespassing on his brother’s property.

Nick Anderson had sworn to a magistrate judge that another church member spotted Jamey on his property. When presented with overwhelming evidence that Jamey was nowhere near his brother’s home that night, District Attorney Ted Bell dismissed the case. But Jamey said he was humiliated by having to explain to his neighbors and law firm that members of a “crazy church” had made false accusations against him.

Reached by phone, Nick Anderson declined to comment.

The district attorney said he considered charging Nick

Anderson and the church member with intimidating a witness, but instead would “send them a strongly worded letter to not do it again.”

That provides little solace to Jamey. Like the skinny little kid locked away in the storage room anticipating the next beating, he still can’t escape the fear of what the church might do next.

Because he does not want any other child in Word of Faith to suffer like he says he suffered, he tells his story to “be the light that I used to see as a small child, that got extinguished when nobody saved us. I don’t want to watch and see as other kids grow up and they start to leave and say, ‘Why didn’t someone come and help us? Why was our childhood destroyed, when you knew better?’”



Kentucky State Rep., Republican Dan Johnson addresses the public from his church on Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017, regarding allegations that he sexually abused a teenager after a New Year’s party in 2013, in Louisville, Ky. Johnson says a woman’s claim that he sexually assaulted her in 2013 has no merit and he will not resign.

(AP Photo/Timothy D. Easley)



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Fox News host Jeanine Pirro sued for defamation

NEW YORK (AP) — A civil rights activist is suing Fox News host Jeanine Pirro, claiming she defamed him while discussing a lawsuit against the Black Lives Matter movement that was later dismissed.

The lawsuit states that DeRay McKesson was falsely arrested in 2016 while attending a protest in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in which a police officer was struck in the face with a rock and seriously injured.

The officer sued the Black Lives Matter movement and McKesson for his injuries.

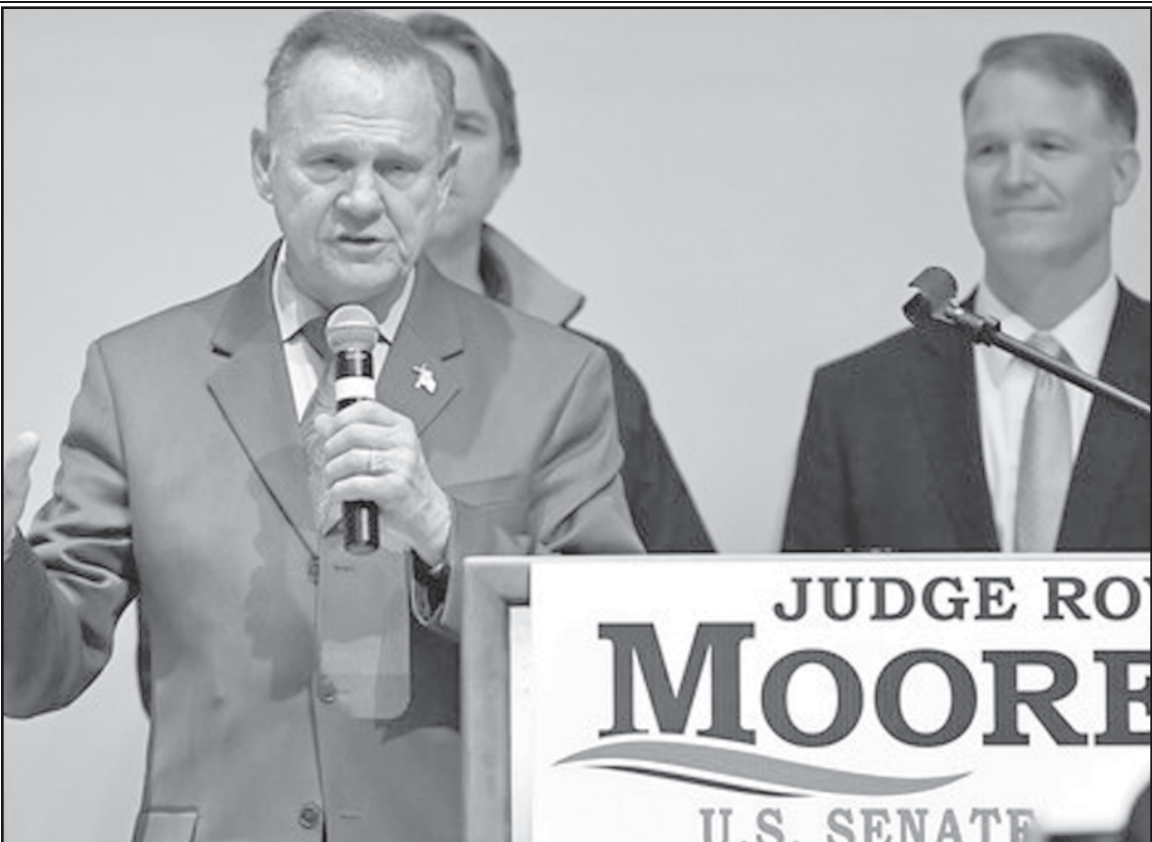
After the officer’s lawsuit was dismissed, Pirro “made a series of outrageously false and defamatory statements about Mr. McKesson, including that he directed someone to hit the police officer in the face with a rock,” McKesson’s lawsuit said.

Pirro’s statements, which were made during an appearance on the Fox News show “Fox & Friends,” were extremely dangerous and continue to endanger McKesson, the lawsuit said.

Fox News said Pirro’s statements are protected speech.

“We informed Mr. McKesson’s counsel that our commentary was fully protected under the First Amendment and the privilege for reports of judicial proceedings. We will defend this case vigorously,” the statement said. The suit, which also names Fox News Network, was filed in New York on Tuesday.

Last month, Pirro, a former Westchester County district attorney and host of the Fox News Channel show “Justice with Judge Jeanine,” was issued a speeding ticket for driving 119 mph (192 kph) in a 65 mph (105 kph) zone in upstate New York.



U.S. Senate candidate Roy Moore speaks at the end of an election-night watch party at the RSA activity center, Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017, in Montgomery, Ala. Moore didn’t concede the election to Democrat Doug Jones.

(AP Photo/Mike Stewart)

GOP hopes Alabama loss is wakeup call for Trump White House

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump managed to endorse two different losing candidates in the same Senate race, a setback that is highlighting an experience deficit within the White House political team.

“As the leader of the party, I would have liked to have had the seat,” Trump acknowledged Wednesday, a day after a special Senate election in Alabama led to a victory for Democrat Doug Jones. Republicans in Washington and around the country say a bungled approach to the race — in which the president wagered his party’s moral authority with nothing to show for it — should serve as a wakeup call for the administration going into what is sure to

be a challenging midterm election year. “This White House is not working on all cylinders,” said Ari Fleischer, who served as press secretary to former President George W. Bush.

Trump originally supported Sen. Luther Strange in the GOP primary, but he lost to Roy Moore. Trump then stuck with Moore in the race against Jones even after the Republican was hit with multiple allegations of sexual misconduct. There is growing sentiment both inside the West Wing and around the nation’s capital that there’s a shortage of political know-how in the upper echelon of the administration. The Alabama defeat has some inside the White House hoping for a moment of reckoning with the president.

Trump may have proven the pundit class wrong with his surprise win last November, but even inside the White House there is growing recognition that Trump may need their help in office. Trump himself was the driver of the decision to re-engage in the Alabama race on behalf of Moore, according to people familiar with the decision. He had only begrudgingly supported the Republican National Committee’s decision to pull out of the race. Some longtime aides said it was the first time they had come to question his political instincts, which served him so well in the past. Since the summer departures of Reince Priebus and Steve Bannon, Trump has been without an in-house senior political adviser, roles filled in previous administrations by household names like David Axelrod and Karl Rove. Trump, current and former aides said, has been focused more on shoring up his own image for his 2020 re-election than on the midterms next year. Friends and allies have sought to convince Trump of the need to invest time and resources into helping

down-ballot Republicans in November, warning that Democratic control comes with subpoena power for congressional investigatory committees.

But others fault some of the president’s senior staff, including chief of staff John Kelly, who like his boss is new to politics. When Kelly, a retired four-star general, took over the chaotic White House in August, his single-minded focus on process and order was viewed as an asset. But in the midst of a legislative crunch and with an election year on the horizon, some close to Trump have started to wish his closest adviser had a little more political know-how.

Kelly’s effort stands in contrast to that of Trump’s first chief of staff, Priebus, who was seen as more interested in trying to rein in the president’s worst instincts and fighting to preserve his own influence with the president, said people with knowledge of the White House. But Priebus, the former Republican National Committee chairman, was better equipped than Kelly to talk politics, as was Bannon, Trump’s former chief strategist, who was deeply involved in the president’s campaign.

Some in Trump’s circle see a silver lining to Moore’s loss in Alabama: Perhaps the setback will convince Trump to stop listening to Bannon, who is seen by many as a bad influence, stirring Trump’s worst instincts. Bannon strongly supported Moore’s run.

Other administration critics have pointed fingers at the White House political director, Bill Stepien, a Trump campaign veteran and former aide to New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, for not being up to the job. But White House officials defended Stepien, saying his office is focused more on working with the RNC and Capitol Hill Republicans to implement Trump’s agenda.



FILE - In this Jan. 28, 2015 file photo, Jeanine Pirro attends the HBO Documentary Series premiere of “THE JINX: The Life and Deaths of Robert Durst” in New York. A civil rights activist is suing Fox News host Pirro, claiming she defamed him while discussing a lawsuit against the Black Lives Matter movement that was later dismissed. The suit, which also names Fox News Network, was filed in New York on Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017.

(Photo by Andy Kropa/Invision/AP, File)

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Cold Drinks

Tillerson’s offer of talks with North Korea left hanging

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Rex Tillerson’s surprising diplomatic offer of unconditional talks with North Korea hinges on two big X factors: Does the North even want talks, and is President Donald Trump fully behind his top diplomat?

The early signs were not promising. The White House on Wednesday contradicted Tillerson’s overture. North Korea has yet to respond. The diplomatic initiative, made in remarks at a Washington think tank, came two weeks after North Korea tested a missile that could potentially carry a nuclear warhead to the U.S. Eastern Seaboard. That’s a capability the North has strove for decades to master. Trump has vowed to stop it from reaching its goal, using military force if necessary. His administration has pursued a policy of “maximum pressure and engagement” — with the overwhelming emphasis on pressuring Kim Jong Un’s authoritarian government through economic restrictions and diplomatic isolation to compel it to negotiate away its nukes. Tillerson, who will address a U.N. Security Council meeting on North Korea on Friday, has carried the torch for engagement, and as fears of confrontation have risen, has progressively eased the threshold under which he says the U.S. could hold direct discussions with the reclusive nation. In March, he said North Korea first had to give up its nuclear weapons. A month later he demanded “concrete steps” reducing its threat. Tillerson said this summer talks could happen after the North stopped missile tests. And on Tuesday, for the first time, he explicitly dropped the condition that North Korea at least agree that the goal of any conversations be the elimination of its nuclear arsenal. “We are ready to talk anytime North Korea would like to talk. And we are ready to have the first meeting without preconditions,” Tillerson said at the Atlantic Council, adding that the North would need to pause its weapons testing. It has conducted more than 20 ballistic missile launches and one nuclear test explosion this year.

He called it “unrealistic” to expect it to enter talks ready to relinquish a WMD program it invested so much in developing, although that remained the ultimate goal. On Wednesday, the White House conflicted with Tillerson’s offer of talks without preconditions. A National Security Council spokesperson said that North Korea must not only first refrain from provocations but take “sincere and meaningful actions toward denuclearization.” The spokesperson, who was not authorized to be quoted by name and requested anonymity, said that given North Korea’s most recent missile test, now was not the time for talks.

Late Wednesday, State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert echoed that in a tweet: “We remain open to dialogue when North Korea is willing to conduct a serious & credible dialogue on the peaceful denuclearization, but that time is not now.”

There’s ample precedent for a public disconnect between Tillerson and Trump on vital issues of foreign policy. In October, Trump appeared to undercut Tillerson by saying the top diplomat was “wasting his time” trying to negotiate with North Korea. Trump’s tweet followed Tillerson’s talk about Washington maintaining back-channel communications with Pyongyang.

And doubts about Trump’s broader confidence in Tillerson have persisted since White House officials revealed a plan last month to replace Tillerson with CIA Director Mike Pompeo.



Secretary of State Rex Tillerson speaks at the 2017 Atlantic Council-Korea Foundation Forum in Washington, Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh)



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E fa’asilasila atu ma le agaga fa’aaloalo i le mamalu o le atunu’u femalagaa’i e faapea:

O le a tapunia le Ofisa o le Konesula Aoao o Samoa, e afua atu i le **12:00 aoauli o le Aso Faraile, Tesema 22, 2017; seia aulia le itula 8:30 i le taeao o le Aso Lulu, Ianuari 03, 2018;** mo Aso Malolo o le Kerisimasi ma le Tausaga Fou.

E fautuaina ai le mamalu o e fufou malaga i Tumua e mana’omia pemitā, po o nisi auunaga a lo tatou Ofisa nei mo ia aso Malolo, ina ia tapena mamao i ai.

Fa’afeta’i mai lo tatou Ofisa nei i telefoni 633-5919/633-5920; po o le imeli amtvpk1@gmail.com, pe a man’omia.

SUI TAIMI TAPUNIA O LE OFISA ASO FAIGALUEGA MASANI

Ina ia fesoaosani atili mo tapenaga mo aso Malolo, o le a suia ai le taimi tapunia ai le Ofisa mai le 3:00 (o lo’o iai nei) i le 3:30 p.m. i le Aso Faraile, Tesema 01, 2017 se’ia o’o i le Aso Tofi, Tesema 21, 2017.

A O TAPUNIA LE OFISA: TESEMA 25, 2017 - IANUARI 02, 2018

Mo ni Mataupu Le-Ma’alofia/Faanatinati a o tapunia le Ofisa ma aso Malolo ua ta’ua i luga; fa’amolemole fa’afeso’ota’i ane Alii Ofisa ia i Apia:

1. To’alepai Valhalla Siaopo Pese: +685-771-2166
2. Tailaoa Falaniko Lesa: +685-777-4504

E momoli atu le fa’afetai tele i le mamalu o le atunuu femalagaa’i mo lo outou taupati fai-pa’aga i lenei tausaga o le a mavae atu. Malo onosa’i, malo tauapati.

Momoli atu Mo’omo’oga alofa mo se Kerisimasi Fiafia ma le Tausaga Fou Manuia.

OFISA KONESULA-AOAO SAMOA

SAMOA CONSULATE GENERAL: CLOSURE OF THE OFFICE FOR CHRISTMAS 2017 & NEW YEAR 2018

The general public is hereby advised that the Office of the Samoa Consulate-General will be Closed from **12:00 Noon, Friday, December 22, 2017 until 8:30a.m., Wednesday, January 03, 2018.**

The traveling public is therefore urged to arrange for their needed documentation and permits well before closure, to avoid disappointment.

Contact phone numbers and e-mail address remain the same (i.e. phone: 633-5919/633-5920 and email amtvpk1@gmail.com)

CHANGE OF CLOSING TIME

To assist in facilitating the procurement of documents and entry permits, the Consulate will extend its opening hours by Closing at 3:30pm on work days from Friday, December 01, 2017 until Thursday, December 21, 2017. During closure for Christmas and New Year (December 25, 2017 - January 02, 2018).


For Emergency and extenuating circumstance only: Please contact the following Immigration Officers in Apia:

1. To’alepai Valhalla Siaopo Pese: +685-771-2166
2. Taliaoa Falaniko Lesa: +685-777-4504



We take this opportunity to wish all our clients and the people of American Samoa all the very best for a most happy and joyous Christmas, and a safe and successful New Year.

SAMOA CONSULATE-GENERAL

IT'S SO HARD TO HAVE
Happy Holidays
WHEN YOU'RE ARRESTED FOR DRUNK DRIVING.



THEY'LL SEE YOU BEFORE YOU SEE THEM.



Office of Highway Safety
Local Contact:
Penikila Solomona • 633-1111

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