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SPORTS

Le LALI



The American Samoa Area Health Education Center (ASAHEC) concluded its two-week summer program on Friday, August 4th. "The academy was designed to expose students to various careers in the health field, while also educating them about how to lead healthy lifestyles, in hopes that they would be interested in pursuing a career in the health field," said AHEC coordinator Monica Afalava. Pictured are the participants when they visited the LBJ Medical Center where they shadowed health professionals. [photo: courtesy]



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# Military man drowns in Alega

by Samoa News Staff

An unidentified military serviceman who was snorkeling in Alega around the vicinity of Tisa's Barefoot Bar died Sunday following what is believed to be a snorkeling accident. Efforts by Samoa News to obtain an official statement from the Department of Public Safety were unsuccessful as of press time yesterday. However, it has been confirmed that the victim is part of a five-member team that traveled to the territory to provide temporary assistance for the local US Army Recruiting Station. Samoa News has also confirmed that the victim is an unmarried, high ranking military man (Sergeant First Class). Those who spoke to Samoa News praised the heroic efforts of Candyman of Tisa's Barefoot Bar, whom they said tried his best to save the man, swimming out to sea several times to help locate the victim despite rough conditions.

# Medicaid director says focus should be on Medicaid

DENIES RUMORS THAT SHE IS EYEING AMATA'S CONGRESSIONAL SEAT

by Samoa News Staff

Director of the American Samoa Medicaid Office, Tofoitaufa Sandra King Young denies allegations that she is after Congresswoman Aumua Amata's seat and says the 'rumor' has become a distraction, veering the focus away from more critical issues like Medicaid. In response to Samoa News inquiries over the weekend, Tofoitaufa said, "I have no plans to run against Amata at the next election. I'm very disappointed that this rumor seems to be distracting us from the real issue, which is the need for our territory to get help to extend the timeline for the territory to expend its share of the ACA Medicaid funds. We need to keep focus on Medicaid." In her statement before a congressional

panel last month, Tofoitaufa accused Amata of throwing the territory "under the bus." The hearing in Washington DC revolved around the conditions at the LBJ Medical Center. The issue between Amata's office and Tofoitaufa has to do with ASG's failure to spend down an estimated \$150 million in remaining ACA or ObamaCare Medicaid. Amata supporters claim that Tofoitaufa didn't notify the Congresswoman about the Medicaid underspending problem until earlier this year and making an issue of it now leads some to speculate that Tofoitaufa's motives are political. "I am committed to helping our Representative to Congress better understand the issues with our Medicaid program because they are (Continued on page 6)

# Homeless man denies allegations that he is a spy, drug dealer

SAYS HE CAME TO AMERICAN SAMOA FOR SAFETY REASONS

by Ausage Fausia  
Samoa News Reporter

Community members and even lawmakers are assuming that William Reader, a homeless man who lives out of a tent on the side of the main road in Nu'uuli, is a spy or a drug dealer. Samoa News was able to interview Reader yesterday morning, to obtain his side of the story. "I just want to let the people of American Samoa know that I am not a spy, nor a drug dealer of any kind," Reader said. "I consider myself a homeless man, living under this tent trying to follow Jesus' footsteps when He was living in the wilderness and fasting for 40 days and 40 nights without food or drink." Reader said he wants to clear the air and tell the community his side of the story.

"I don't want anybody to think that I am doing anything illegal here in the territory. I am just a normal person like you. I'm poor and don't have a house to stay in; and the reason why I'm here in American Samoa is for my safety, and also to fulfill our Lord Jesus Christ's message to the world, that we need to read the Bible and spread His Word to others." Reader, 74, is from Louisville, Kentucky and entered American Samoa back in March 15, 2006. A U.S citizen, Reader told Samoa News that his safety was the main reason why he came to the territory, and he felt he had to relocate after reading a book about what the Al-Qaeda organization plans to do to the United States, if they attack Iran in the future. "I read a book called Al-

(Continued on page 7)



William Reader, who considers himself a homeless man, has been living in American Samoa since March 2006. He is pictured in front of his tent, next to the main road in Nu'uuli. See story for full details. [photo: AF]



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Australian Federal Police and NSW Police officers work in the Surry Hills suburb of Sydney, Australia on Saturday, July 29, 2017. Law enforcement officials raided properties in several Sydney suburbs and arrested four men on suspicion of plotting a terrorist attack related to a bomb plot involving aircraft, officials said.

(Sam Mooy/AAP Image via AP)

# 17 people arrested in 3 countries in Australian drug bust

SYDNEY (AP) — Police in three countries arrested 17 people on Tuesday and seized nearly 2 tons of drugs in connection with what Australian authorities said was an effort by organized crime groups to transport large amounts of drugs into Australia.

Ten people in Sydney, five Australians in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and two people in the Netherlands were arrested as part of an investigation into what Australian police say were two interlinked crime syndicates operating across the three countries. Officials in the

Netherlands seized 1.8 tons of MDMA, also known as ecstasy, 136 kilograms (300 pounds) of cocaine and 15 kilograms (30 pounds) of crystal methamphetamine, all bound for Australia, the Australian Federal Police said. The drugs were worth around 810 million Australian dollars (\$640 million).

“We will allege that the two syndicates have long been involved in organizing high-volume imports of illegal substances into Australia, and laundering millions of dollars and dealing in the proceeds of crime, both domestically and

internationally,” Australian Federal Police Assistant Commissioner Neil Gaughan told reporters.

The five Australians arrested in Dubai were expected to be extradited to Australia within the next 60 days, Gaughan said. Dubai police and government officials did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Those arrested in Sydney face a variety of charges, including conspiracy to import a commercial quantity of drugs, which carries a maximum sentence of life in prison.

# Proposed 7% sales tax raises flurry of questions from Chamber members

**TALAEUGA: WE HOPE THE FONO WILL ACCEPT THE NUMBERS THAT WE PROPOSE**

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

Of the Administration’s proposed revenue measures sent to the Fono, the 7% sales tax garnered the most questions during the ASG Revenue Task Force presentation to the Chamber of Commerce last Wednesday night.

Some Chamber members noted with concern that the previous sales tax during the Lutali Administration had failed and ended up being repealed.

The first question centered around local residents who make purchases online, where the price of many products on sites like eBay and Amazon are less expensive than what’s sold locally.

David Yakim of Samoa Ford Motors wanted to know if the proposed sales tax applies to the purchase of vehicles, to which ASG Revenue Task Force chairman Attorney General Talauega Eleasalo Ale responded “yes”.

Yakim said this will “boost” the price for vehicles. He then asked, “Can somebody by-pass the sales tax” by buying off island or online? The response from the Task Force was “yes”.

If the sales tax is enacted into law, Yakim said the customer will be penalized for buying from a local car dealer, while the person who purchases online or off island doesn’t have to pay the sales tax.

Talauega said this is something the Task Force will look into, adding that there are a lot of states that have the ability to tax goods that are bought from other cities (or out of state sales).

A business representative noted that if a person purchases goods off island and has them shipped here in a container, there is no duty or sales tax to be paid, adding that “this is a big thing now, especially for people with credit or debit cards, making purchases online - through retailers such as Amazon but such purchases are not taxed and the money doesn’t stay here for such purchases.”

Talauega interjected, “Let me stop you there...that’s certainly not the goal here. I understand the point. I got it. We’ll figure out a way to address those points. This is not done by any stretch of imagination and it’s a proposal being made and open to discussion.”

“I appreciate the point and I got the point. That’s not what we want to do, that’s not what the governor wants to do. We want you guys to be successful, because if you’re successful, that means more taxes,” Talauega said.

A female business representative asked how the Task Force arrived at the 7% sales

tax, given that other states offer lower sales tax rates.

According to Talauega the Task Force has “various rates based on our annual gross receipts in the last five years. And at 2%, we would collect about \$6.9 million in sales taxes. At 3% it goes up to \$10 million; 5% at \$17 million; and at 7% it’s \$24 million.”

He continued, “There was another proposal to go as high as 9%. So there was a lot of back-and-forth by the Task Force about this issue, as a lot of people would like it to be a lower number.

“This was the consensus agreed to by the Task Force, that we go with 7%, based on the number of things that we’re giving up - in terms of [for example] excise tax, 2% wage tax. We wanted to make sure that what we’re putting in place will replace these things, that is sufficient to handle it,” he said.

The female business representative said the previous sales tax during the Lutali Administration, “was a complete mess” as far as businesses submitting money to the government.

“What’s changed in this process for the government, that it will be fair and collect from everyone equally?” she asked, to which Talauega responded that the 7% figure came about as a result of this exact issue.

“We’re going to put some real money to make this thing work. First, in terms of personnel and then technology,” said Talauega who added, “We failed the last time...but if we always rely on the fact that we failed the last time, [and] therefore not do something new, we will never move forward as a society and as an economy.

“It’s the governor’s opinion that we should move forward and try things better. We believe that we have in place good people that could execute and enforce the sales tax,” he said, adding that the government plans to hire additional staff to enforce the sales tax. “Ultimately we’d like to have technology, so we can record this information about real time sales and make it work.”

Deputy Treasurer for Revenue Keith Gebauer, who also works with the Task Force said, “We have a plan in place, and we have submitted some grant applications and some budget proposals, to have the appropriate technology, equipment, and personnel”.

He said this will be a learning period, and there will be an adjustment period, but the Task Force has looked at all states and countries with the type of technology they use to enforce the law.

While the sales tax applies to goods, it exempts purchases

(Continued on page 4)





Chief Justice Michael Kruse

[photo: AF]

## Man gets 5 years probation for drug possession Hearing reveals lack of drug rehab program on island

by Ausage Fausia  
Samoa News Reporter

Chief Justice Michael Kruse had a strong message last Friday during the sentencing of a 24-year-old man, convicted of violating local drug laws.

According to Kruse, a lot of young people in the territory now-a-days are taking lightly the many opportunities they have, wasting most of their time doing useless things rather than utilizing it to better themselves.

Before delivering his decision on the case of Wayne “Ueni” Gasolo, the Chief Justice said it has become common practice for many young people who come before the court for sentencing, to ask for another chance to return home, with promises to change their lives and do things like care for their parents and further their education. “I can see that there are too many opportunities for young people of this territory, and talking about this man (Gasolo) being an intelligent person, I don’t know what to say but ask why he didn’t graduate from school - he has a US passport and he can go to the military to support his family or do something good for himself instead of wasting his life behind bars”, said Kruse. He referred to Loimata Mika, who entered the territory on a 7-day permit in search of a job but ended up pleading guilty to second degree burglary and thereafter sentenced to 28 months incarceration. Mika believed there was a job for him when he entered the territory on a 7-day permit; and when he did not find a job, he broke in to a home with the purpose of committing a crime, which resulted in a young lady screaming for her life and resulted in Mika being detained at the TCF, Kruse pointed out.

Gasolo was initially charged with one count of unlawful possession of a controlled substance - methamphetamine, a felony punishable by not less than 5 years imprisonment, or a fine of not less than \$5,000 - or both. However, under a plea agreement with the government, which was accepted by the Court in June, the defendant pled guilty to the amended

lesser felony charge of unlawful drug possession.

With his guilty plea, the defendant admits that sometime last September, he was in possession of a pipe that is used to smoke methamphetamine, and a straw that had meth substance inside. Gasolo has been in custody since his arrest last September, unable to post bond of \$10,000. Based on court documents, Gasolo and another man were arrested at a vacant house which was unlawfully occupied by the owner’s male relative, who allegedly told young teenage girls they had to have sex with other men in exchange for drugs and money. During his sentencing, Gasolo apologized to the court for his actions and begged for a second chance to return home to care for his parents and serve his family. “I feel I made a mistake and I am truly remorseful for what I did. I ask the court to please forgive me,” said Gasolo. When Kruse asked Gasolo what his mistake was, the defendant replied, “my crime.” “What was your crime?” Kruse asked, to which Gasolo replied, “unlawful possession of drugs”.

Gasolo continued, “Please give me a chance to change my life and be a better person. I will never deal with drugs anymore nor will I violate any laws of this territory, but I will use the remaining days of my life wisely, to do good things for my family and for the community.”

Gasolo’s attorney, Public Defender Douglas Fiaui asked the court to uphold the Probation Office’s recommendation for a probated sentence for his client, to give him another chance to get his life together and get a job to support his parents and family.

Fiaui stated that after spending more than eleven months behind bars, Gasolo has learned a lesson, he has realized that prison is not a good place for him, and he needs to move on with his life. He will also attend and complete drug counseling. Assistant Attorney General Robert Morris supported Fiaui’s argument, saying the government believes Gasolo is a suitable candidate for a

probated sentence, and the court will manage his probation which will give him time to change his life and address his drug problem.

When Morris said the defendant needed to attend drug counseling, Kruse immediately asked him if there is such a service available on island for Gasolo and Morris replied, “Not that I know, Your Honor.” “Is there a door he can walk in to and ask for help?” Kruse asked Morris, who replied “no.” “I used to say that immigrants was the major industry on island but it seems that it’s now drugs that enter the territory”, said Kruse before heading back to the deliberating room with his Associate Judges Fa’amausili Pomele and Muasau T. Tofili to decide Gasolo’s fate.

Kruse informed the court that the defendant is a young man who is convicted of violating drug laws and he was arrested by police, along with another individual, at an abandoned house behind Cost-U-Less in Tafuna, where police say the defendant drug-fed young girls and engaged them in sexual activity.

This young man has a history of drug and alcohol abuse, as per cases filed in the District Court, and this is his first appearance in the High Court, said Kruse. Gasolo was sentenced to five years in jail and ordered to pay a \$5,000 fine; however, the execution of the sentence was suspended and the defendant is placed on five years probation on the condition that he serves 20 months at the TCF, not possess any illegal drugs or consume any alcohol, and he is subject to random drug and alcohol testing which, according to Kruse, will be conducted when Gasolo is released from jail, and during his detention period, “because I’m not sure about the facility, whether it’s drug free or not.” Additionally, Gasolo shall not be eligible for ‘trustee’ status at the TCF. He is also banned from entering any bars, taverns or businesses that sell alcohol, and he is not to congregate with people who are dealing illegal drugs or consuming alcohol.



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### NOTICE FOR SEPARATION AGREEMENT

TO Members of the AUAU FOE Family and to all whom these present may come!  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that SANAKI AUAU of VAITOGI has offered for recording in this office an instrument in writing which seeks to separate a certain structure which is or to be erected, on land ALOPIU allegedly belonging to AUAU FOE FAMILY of the village of VAITOGI. Said land ALOPIU is situated in or near the village of VAITOGI in the County of TUALAUTA, Island of TUTUILA, American Samoa.

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

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

POSTED: JULY 18, 2017 thru AUGUST 17, 2017  
SIGNED: Taito S.B. White, Territorial Registrar

### FA’AALIGA O LE FEAGAIGA MO SE TU’U’ESEINA

I tagata o le aiga sa AUAU FOE, ma i latou uma e silasila ma lauiloaina leni faaaliga!  
O le faaaliga leni ona o SANAKI AUAU o le nu’u o VAITOGI ua ia faaulufaleina mai i leni ofisa se feagaiga tusitusi e faailoa ai se manaoga fia tu’ueseina o se fale ua/po o le a, faatuuina i luga o le fanua o ALOPIU e faasino i le aiga sa AUAU FOE, o le nu’u o VAITOGI. O leni fanua e totonu pe latalata ane i le nu’u o VAITOGI, itumalo o TUALAUTA, ile motu o TUTUILA, Amerika Samoa.

O le faaaliga foi e faapea, so o se tasi e iai sona aia i leni mataupu e mafai ona faatu’iese ile faamauiina o leni feagaiga pe a auina mai i le ofisa ole Resitara o le Teritori of Amerika Samoa i Fagatogo, sana faatu’ese tusitusia. O faatu’iesega uma lava e ao ona faaulufaleina mai i totonu o aso e 30 faitauna mai i le aso na faaalia ai leni faaaliga.

Afai ole a leai se faatu’iesega e faaulufaleina i totonu o aso 30 e pei ona ta’ua i luga, o le a faamauiina loa leni feagaiga e taualoaina ma a’afia ai tagata uma.

07/25 & 08/08/17

### NOTICE FOR SEPARATION AGREEMENT

TO Members of the MAGALEI Family and to all whom these present may come!  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that SAKAI TUFELE & JASMINE TUFELE of FALENIU has offered for recording in this office an instrument in writing which seeks to separate a certain structure which is or to be erected, on land ASOAILAO allegedly belonging to MAGALEI FAMILY of the village of FALENIU. Said land ASOAILAO is situated in or near the village of FALENIU in the County of TUALAUTA, Island of TUTUILA, American Samoa.

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

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

POSTED: JULY 18, 2017 thru AUGUST 17, 2017  
SIGNED: Taito S.B. White, Territorial Registrar

### FA’AALIGA O LE FEAGAIGA MO SE TU’U’ESEINA

I tagata o le aiga sa MAGALEI, ma i latou uma e silasila ma lauiloaina leni faaaliga!  
O le faaaliga leni ona o SAKAI TUFELE & JASMINE TUFELE o le nu’u o FALENIU ua ia faaulufaleina mai i leni ofisa se feagaiga tusitusi e faailoa ai se manaoga fia tu’ueseina o se fale ua/po o le a, faatuuina i luga o le fanua o ASOAILAO e faasino i le aiga sa MAGALEI, o le nu’u o FALENIU. O leni fanua e totonu pe latalata ane i le nu’u o FALENIU, itumalo o TUALAUTA, ile motu o TUTUILA, Amerika Samoa.

O le faaaliga foi e faapea, so o se tasi e iai sona aia i leni mataupu e mafai ona faatu’iese ile faamauiina o leni feagaiga pe a auina mai i le ofisa ole Resitara o le Teritori of Amerika Samoa i Fagatogo, sana faatu’ese tusitusia. O faatu’iesega uma lava e ao ona faaulufaleina mai i totonu o aso e 30 faitauna mai i le aso na faaalia ai leni faaaliga.

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07/25 & 08/08/17



## ▶ Proposed 7% sales...

*Continued from page 2*

such as medication. Local attorney Barry Rose pointed out that “in most jurisdictions, food is either exempted” - referring to groceries - or there is a lower rate of sales tax.

He said a cannery worker making minimum wage is “about to suffer 7% and they are not going to be able to buy food. It’s going to be a loss for these folks. What’s the rationale behind not reducing it or not exempting food?”

Gebauer responded that a sales tax is being proposed, and the government is also proposing to repeal the 2% wage tax. So when we’re talking about that StarKist worker, their pay check is already 2% less and they’re still buying food. We’re also [proposing] to update the tax table.”

He said when the Task Force began its work, it was important to know how much revenue the government could collect for its coffer. “What we found was, what would be a better solution, was more revenue in everybody’s hand. That’s where they look at repealing the 5% miscellaneous tax, repealing the 2% wage tax and updating the individual tax table. That puts more money in the individual [hand],” he said.

Rose said he wasn’t trying to argue but “did you consider....” and before he could finish his sentence, Talauega responded “yes” and he also asked Rose to “stop”. Talauega said, the “answer to your question is yes. It was considered. If you have ideas, let’s discuss that later.”

Local businessman John Wasko asked if there is a “Plan

B” if these proposals don’t go through to which Talauega replied, “We hope the Fono will accept the numbers that we propose, because we think it all balances out, with the give-and-take we’re putting into place.”

He said the proposals are now before the Fono and they may decide that instead of 7% for the sales tax, it will be two percent, or they may decide there’s no sales tax at all.

“But we hope they put in place a sales tax,” said Talauega who reminded the private sector that “this is what the Chamber has told us for years on end, is that you prefer a sales tax because you don’t want to collect the value tax, which was another proposal made by the late Treasurer Falema’o Pili.”

“So we’re doing what you asked us to do. We’re putting in place a sales tax. Now we may differ on the rate - high or low - but this is exactly what you guys asked us to do, and we’re doing it,” he continued. “But whether or not you agree with us, we’re not here to persuade you. We’re here to tell you and seek your comments on how we can make this better.”

He told the Chamber members that the Task Force has looked at the legal side of this and there are states that have been able to make arrangements for sites like Amazon, to pay the state sales tax.

“So there’s good case law in that, and we’re exploring it,” he said and added, “The whole goal of this is to make businesses here more profitable so you can generate more money and we can all be happy.”



### LOCAL SURVEY TARGETS MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ISSUES

Tuumafua Maiava of the Special Project Community Assistance (SPCA) program and her crew are conducting surveys that center around questions relating to behavioral and mental health.

Among the questions are those that deal with violence and suicide, and the survey includes the physical assessment of the participants.

This is the first time DHSS is conducting a household survey to establish baseline data to capture substance use, abuse, and risk factors.

The surveyors use a specific method to select one participant per household for the survey, which is for adults 18 years old and older.

The survey will focus on those with non-communicable diseases including diabetes, heart disease and cancer.

### AMATA WELCOMES FCC WAIVER FOR ASTCA

Washington, D.C. – MONDAY, 07 AUGUST 2017 - Congresswoman Aumua Amata today welcomed an FCC waiver, which she directly requested from both former FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler and then Chairman Ajit Pai on behalf of the American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA), giving ASTCA the

licensing to continue efforts to complete projects that will make more services available to American Samoans.

“It’s important for ASTCA to continue making progress on this project on behalf of American Samoans, and this waiver is necessary,” said Congresswoman Aumua Amata.

“The FCC understood the unique challenges of extending telecommunications in American Samoa, and recognized that this step is the best way to enable the work to proceed.”

ASTCA had petitioned the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for a waiver preserving their license or additional time on their construction buildout requirements, and Congresswoman Amata contacted the FCC at ASTCA’s request to support the needed waiver.

The FCC responded today granting the waiver allowing ASTCA to proceed with buildouts of the LTE high speed wireless infrastructure. The ASTCA petition was able to successfully show that the waiver was in the public interest and within FCC precedents.

“This keeps the focus on the goal of making these communications services more widely available in American Samoa,” Amata said.

“Today’s decision by the FCC removes this concern and

allows ASTCA to proceed with the next steps in providing these much-needed services.”

### NOAA FISHERIES AFFIRMS PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA NOT THREATENED OR ENDANGERED

(Based on press release) - NOAA Fisheries has concluded that Pacific bluefin tuna is not currently in danger of extinction throughout its range or likely to become so within the foreseeable future, and therefore does not warrant listing as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

The finding responds to a June 2016 petition from several groups asking NOAA Fisheries to list Pacific bluefin tuna as endangered or threatened. Decision documents are posted on NOAA Fisheries’ West Coast Region website at <[http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/migratory\\_species/pbt\\_esa\\_status\\_review.html](http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/migratory_species/pbt_esa_status_review.html)>

NOAA Fisheries concluded in October that the petition presented substantial information that a listing may be warranted, and convened a Status Review Team of fisheries, conservation biologists, and other experts to assess the current status of the species.

While Pacific bluefin numbers are low relative to historic levels, the Status Review Team found that the species is likely

*(Continued on page 8)*



The wall inside the WIC main office at the DHSS compound in Utulei, promoting breastfeeding as the territory joined the rest of the country in celebrating National Breastfeeding Week. From August 1-7, staffers from the WIC program were busy conducting outreach and educational programs throughout the territory, aimed at getting mothers to breastfeed their babies. Studies have shown that babies who are breastfed tend to be healthier than those who are not.

Best of all, breast milk is free.

[photo: Blue Chen-Fruean]





*Compiled by Samoa News staff*  
**ST JOSEPH’S BUILDS ON AMERICAN FOOTBALL LINKS**

Samoa Observer reports that St Joseph’s College is taking American football to a whole new level in Samoa.

Following their first game against American Samoa’s Tafuna High School last month, football coach, Agatupu Lefao and his team are heading to American Samoa next month to play against other high schools.

Utilizing the talents of young Samoans is the mission behind Coach Agatupu’s passion for his students to get into American football. Last month, St Joseph’s hosted an inaugural Gridiron Camp and game at St Joseph’s College. Although they lost to Tafuna High School, Lefao is nonetheless proud of his team.

“The game was exciting not only for the players, but also the coaches. “We nailed the first touchdown and the first interception and the end result was 26-40. But it did not take away from the fact that our students played their hearts out and are ready for the next two games next month,” Lefao told the Samoa Observer. “Our next step is to play with the league in other schools in American Samoa, until we can establish games with other local schools. “Unfortunately we don’t have enough coaches to go around to build another team in Samoa.

“But as of now, we’re only looking to play over in Pago Pago.” He said that negotiations are continuing with the Football Division of the Department of Education in American Samoa. *(Source: Samoa Observer)*

**A.S. IMMIGRATION POLICIES AND TOURISM**

On Wednesday, August 02, 2017, Attorney General, Talauega Eleasalo Ale met with local travel and airline agents at the American Samoa Visitors Bureau conference room to discuss immigration policies that support visitor growth to our territory. To help local agents better understand the role and responsibility of the government to regulate the entry process, the Attorney General explained current immigration policies, procedures, and their intention. This led to an open discussion of the issue and its impact on the visitor experience.

Based on the feedback from local industry members, the Attorney General made note to look into ways to create a more adaptable permitting process that will support local travel and airline agents to meet the demands of their clients and our territory’s growing visitor industry.

The Attorney General and his team are working on an online immigration permit system that will be launched by

the end of the year. This online platform will allow agents and visitors to obtain entry permits through a more convenient and timely process. To ensure the success of this new initiative, the Attorney General has committed to periodic meetings with the Visitors Bureau and travel & airline agents to continue the dialogue to proactively improve and streamline this entry process to support our local industry and drive visitor traffic to our destination. *(Source: ASVB media release)*

**UNCERTAINTY OVER GUAM’S MARIJUANA PROGRAM**

Medical marijuana advocates in Guam are still unsure when a full-scale program will be up and running, despite recent legislative moves.

Guam’s governor Eddie Calvo signed a bill into law last month, which effectively allows the issuing of business licenses for medical marijuana.

A managing partner for Grassroots Guam, Andrea Pellacani, welcomed the move although she said it still didn’t mean people could start growing or selling cannabis.

Ms. Pellacani said the law simply allowed people to apply for a license from the Department of Public Health and Social Services.

Andrea Pellacani said the government still indicated there could be delays in implementing a full program.

Guam legalized medical marijuana via a referendum in November 2014 with 56 percent voting in favor of it.

However there have been a number of legislative stumbling blocks including a veto from Governor Calvo earlier this year. *(Source: RNZI)*

**COOKS MAY LEGALIZE HOMOSEXUALITY**

The decriminalization of homosexuality in the Cook Islands could be one step closer.

A proposed overhaul of the 1969 Crimes Act excludes sections that ban homosexuality.

Currently, the law bans “indecent acts” between two men, and “consensual sodomy” with prison terms of between five and seven years, although convictions are rare.

LGBT activists in the country have long been pushing for an amendment, and the draft Crimes Bill 2017 brings that one step closer.

The Solicitor General, David James, says the new bill makes laws suitable for the modern era, and means people will no longer be locked up for their private conduct.

However, it will not legalize same-sex marriage.

The bill will soon be open for public submissions, and will go back to parliament later this year. *(Source: RNZI)*



St Joseph’s College students up against Tafuna High School at the inaugural game last month. [photo: Samoa Observer]

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**  
**Financial Manager**

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

**Specific responsibilities include:**

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

**Requirements:**

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

*Pay and benefits package commensurate with meeting minimum position requirements.  
Reply with resume/CV to [financepago@gmail.com](mailto:financepago@gmail.com)*





A woman casts her vote just after dawn at a polling station in Nairobi, Kenya, Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017. Kenyans are going to the polls to vote in a general election after a tightly fought presidential race between incumbent President Uhuru Kenyatta and main opposition leader Raila Odinga.

(AP Photo/Khalil Senosi)



# SAMOA NEWS

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL SPECIAL

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### ► Medicaid...

*Continued from page 1*

very unique to our territory,” Tofoitaufa told Samoa News yesterday. “But since February 2015 during a courtesy visit to her office with the Governor, when I briefed her legislative staff on our request for action on the Medicaid ACA deadline, so far, I have only been able to meet with her legislative staff to brief them and I have no control over that. I just want us to work together to get this done for our territory.”

According to Tofoitaufa, the American Samoa Government is limited by facilities, demand, and matching requirements in what it can spend, with regards to Medicaid.

When asked if she has her eyes set on Amata’s seat in Congress, Tofoitaufa said no but added, “If I should change my mind and run for Congress, that is my right as it is anyone else’s. My focus is to operationalize the Medicaid program per the Governor’s vision and although I am very proud that our territory is realizing some of those achievements like the FQHC and OIMR eligibility, much work still needs to be done.”



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# ► Homeless man...

Continued from page 1

Qaeda’s Connections by Paul Williams, a professor from Pennsylvania University; and inside that book, it’s stated that the Al-Qaeda, a terrorist organization, has already hidden bombs and nuclear weapons inside major cities of the United States, and they’re threatening the United States that if they or Israel attack Iran, they will blow up their 20 major cities on the same day.”

Reader’s choice to set up a tent next to the Nuuli main road has raised suspicions from several community members, and even some faipule, accusing the palagi man of being either a spy or a drug dealer.

During a hearing in the House chamber to discuss ways to control and stop illegal drugs from entering the territory, Vice Speaker Rep. Fetui Fetu Jr. referred to Reader, saying the Department of Public Safety needs to check his background, to determine who he is and what he’s doing here.

“We are leaders of our country and we need to do everything in our power to protect our land, our people, especially our children,” said Fetui.

The Manu’a lawmaker said he believes the homeless man has solid connections to outsiders who are entering the territory via fishing boats or yachts.

“Who knows if these people are bringing in illegal drugs to our shores? I have a feeling that they deliver it to this homeless man to distribute to our people, to sell, and it affects our children,” said Fetui, who added that homelessness does not exist in American Samoa, because everyone has families and homes, and for someone to be homeless in our society is something that our people find hard to accept.

“It’s not a good thing for our people, especially tourists, to see tents on the side of the road when they pass by everyday, so our government needs to take action on this matter because prevention is better than cure,” Fetui concluded.

When Samoa News asked Reader if he is engaging in any illegal activities on island that would make people suspicious about him, he smiled and said,

“I’m not doing anything illegal here. Again, I am not a spy, and it’s a silly joke if people think that I am, because only a person who is in government and observing what is happening in the military can be a spy, to send information to the Russians or Germans, or whoever. I’m not connected to any kind of organizations outside of American Samoa.”

When asked if he was sending any information about American Samoa to other countries, people, or organizations, Reader said “no” and added that he only sends emails to his friends and families in the US, including his brother and two sisters who are living with their families in Florida.

When Reader first arrived in the territory over a decade ago, he lived in Vaitogi.

After a few months, he moved in with a family in Nu’uuli for 3 years, before he bought a pick-up truck that he used to transport his belongings around the island.

“I traveled from village to village to try and educate myself about the island’s culture and how people live their lives; and that’s where I met some friends,” he said. “I’ve been living in my tent in Nu’uuli for the last 4 years, after the landowner gave me permission.”

Last year, according to Reader, some government officials instructed him to leave the area where his tents are, because he does not have access to a bathroom.

“I told these government officials that I don’t really need a restroom because I don’t eat heavy food too much. I only eat herbs and drink water.”

Reader said when he needs to use the restroom, he either goes to the Feleti Barstow Public Library in Utulei or the ASCC during working hours.

Reader, who describes himself as a “joyful immortal” lives pretty much a normal routine like everyone else. Every weekday he goes to the ASCC Library and uses the computers there to send emails to his family and to study the stock market. He loves reading the Holy Bible which he says teaches him how to live like Jesus.



The tent next to the roadside in Nuuli where William Reader - a homeless man who has been in the territory since March 2006 - lives.

[photo: AF]



## Employment Opportunity Delivery Driver

### The Company

Origin Energy American Samoa, Inc is a supplier and distributor of LPGas in American Samoa and has been doing business in the territory for over 30 years. Origin is also an equal opportunity employer.

### The Position

We are seeking a highly motivated and professional individual for the role of **Delivery Driver**. The position is based out of our Aua Terminal location.

### Job purpose

To perform delivery duties for the distribution of our products to our customers across the island and to perform other general duties.

### Duties

- Drive delivery trucks (delivering small exchange cylinders)
- Assist with delivery operations
- Assist with servicing & maintenance of delivery vehicles
- Assist in general terminal operational duties
- Follow all HSE policies & procedures

### Qualifications

- Must have successfully completed High School
- Must have excellent communication skills (bilingual Samoan & English)
- Must have at least 2 years previous work experience in the position/role
- Must possess basic computer skills (basic knowledge in Microsoft Word & Excel)
- Must hold valid ID & driver’s license (private & commercial)
- Preferably with a good driving record
- Must be in good health & capable of lifting 70lbs
- Agrees to random drug & alcohol testing

### Compensation Package

- We offer excellent wages based on experience
- We also offer 401K, paid holidays, insurance package & many other benefits.

All interested persons qualified for the above position can apply in person at our Tafuna Office between the hours of 08:00am to 4:00pm. Deadline for applicants is 4:00pm on 09th of August 2017.



FILE - This Thursday, Jan. 3, 2013, file photo shows Google’s headquarters in Mountain View, Calif. Google, a new head of diversity has rejected an internal commentary from an employee who suggested women don’t get ahead in tech jobs because of biological differences. Facebook and Uber say they are trying to change. Google is also in the midst of a Department of Labor investigation into whether it pays women less than men.

(AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez, File)





Asad Zaman stands at the site of the bombing in the Dar Al Farooq Islamic Center on Monday, Aug. 7, 2017, in Bloomington, Minn. The head of the Minneapolis FBI office says the investigation into the weekend bombing of the mosque is their top priority and they going to focus every available resource on the case until it's solved. Nobody was hurt in the explosion, which happened just before morning prayers on Saturday at the mosque.

(Courtney Pedroza/Star Tribune via AP)



## Community...

Continued from page 4

at low risk of extinction.

Pacific bluefin tuna are among the largest and fastest fish in the ocean.

While all Pacific bluefin spawn in the western Pacific Ocean off Japan, some also migrate across the Pacific and may spend up to several years off the West Coast of the United States.

Japanese fisheries land the most Pacific bluefin, followed by Mexico, the United States, Korea and Taiwan.

The latest stock assessment by the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean in 2016 estimated a total population of more than 1.6 million Pacific bluefin, including more than 140,000 fish capable of spawning.

The Scientific Review Team found that the population is large enough to avoid the risks associated with a small population, such as a year with low survival, and that Pacific bluefin has recovered from similarly low levels in the past.

Nations around the Pacific have also adopted harvest limits designed to reduce landings, especially of young fish, and rebuild the species.

The Scientific Review Team evaluated 25 different threats to Pacific bluefin including commercial fisheries, prey depletion, marine pollution and climate change. All the available trend data, when taking those threats into consideration, pointed toward stable or increasing viability.

The call in number is 888-972-7807/ Password: Tuna



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# Trump appeals to loyalists as support slips, agenda stalls

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is trying to combat new weakness in his Republican base and re-energize his staunchest supporters after months of White House backbiting and legislative failures.

White House officials have been urging the president to fire up his efforts on immigration and other agenda items favored by conservatives, evangelicals and working-class whites who propelled him to the Oval Office. The president has increased his media-bashing via Twitter and staged rallies hoping to marshal his base to his defense. On Monday, he lashed out at Democratic Sen. Richard Blumenthal in multiple tweets after the lawmaker expressed support for a special counsel's probe of Trump's associates' links to Russia.

The surge underscores Trump's shaky political position not yet seven months into his presidency. Trump has remained deeply unpopular among Democrats, and there are signs that his support among Republicans may be softening. His advisers are aware that a serious slip in support among his core voters could jeopardize hopes for a major, early legislative accomplishment and would certainly increase Republicans' worries about his re-election prospects. Trump on Monday dismissed his own adviser's statement on his political standing after White House counselor Kellyanne Conway acknowledged that the president's approval rating among Republicans "needs to go up."

The president fired back on Twitter: "The Trump base is far bigger & stronger than ever before" and "will never change!"

But polling doesn't support Trump's claim. A recent Quinnipiac University survey showed the president's approval dipping into negative territory among whites without college degrees — a key group of supporters for the president. The percentage of Republicans who strongly approve of his performance also fell, with just over half of Republicans saying they strongly approved of Trump. That's down from the two-thirds of Republicans who strongly approved of the president's performance in June.

Just one-third of all Americans approved of his job performance, a new low in the poll.

The president's struggles already have prompted public speculation about his political future. The White House pushed back angrily Sunday against a New York Times report about Republicans preparing for 2020 presidential race that may not include Trump. The report

described Vice President Mike Pence as laying groundwork in case Trump does not run. Pence called the report "disgraceful."

The chatter has been fueled by Trump's unsuccessful attempt to shepherd health care legislation through Congress, the drip-drip of revelations about his associates' ties to Russia and the churn of turnover and turmoil at the White House. The president's advisers have tried to drown out the bad news by promoting policies that conservatives like.

"They are telling him, 'just enact your program,'" Conway said of the president's base. "Don't worry about a Congress that isn't supporting legislation to get big-ticket items done. And don't worry about all the distractions and diversions and discouragement that others, who are trying to throw logs in your path, are throwing your way." In a televised event at the White House last week, the president endorsed legislation that would dramatically reduce legal immigration to the United States. The bill is unlikely to ever become law, but that mattered little to Trump's advisers. Their barometer for success was the reaction from conservatives like commentator Ann Coulter, who called the White House's backing of the controversial legislation "the best moment of the Trump presidency since the inauguration."

Immigration is expected to continue being a focus for Trump in the coming weeks, including a push for the border wall with Mexico. Officials also are weighing a more public role for White House policy adviser Stephen Miller, a favorite of Trump backers whose hard-line immigration policies irritate some congressional Republicans.

The appointment of White House chief of staff John Kelly also fits into that effort. While Kelly was brought in primarily to bring much-needed discipline to the West Wing, officials note that he, too, is viewed favorably by some Trump loyalists for his early execution of the administration's immigration policy as secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. Kelly's appointment was particularly welcomed by senior strategist Steve Bannon, who has taken on the task of ensuring Trump doesn't drift from the promises he made to his base during the campaign. Several White House officials and Trump advisers insisted on anonymity in order to discuss the ways the administration is moving to shore up support for the president.

Some of what the president has to offer his core supporters is more show than substance.



In this Aug. 3, 2017, photo, President Donald Trump arrives to speak at a campaign-style rally at Big Sandy Superstore Arena in Huntington, W. Va. After six months of infighting, investigations and legislative failures, President Donald Trump is trying to combat new signs of weakness in his Republican base and re-energize his staunchest supporters. White House officials have been urging the president to refocus on immigration and other issues that resonate with the conservatives, evangelicals and working-class whites who propelled him to the Oval Office. The president has ramped up his media-bashing via Tweet, long a successful tactic for Trump, and asked his base to rally to his defense.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

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**Farm Service Agency**  
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**PUBLIC JOB POSTING**

Position Title:	Loss Adjuster	Posting Date:	Tuesday, July 25, 2017
Position Type:	<b>Independent Contractor</b>	Deadline:	Tuesday, August 8, 2017
Expected Hrs:	7 - 15 hrs per month	Pay Range:	\$10.00/hr for orientation, \$18.00/hr following successful training certification
Minimum Requirements	1. Must be a US Citizen or US National 2. Must have significant math skills. 3. Have some agriculture background. 4. Own your own vehicle. Will be reimbursed for mileage. 5. Must be able to pay fare to the Manu'a islands. Travel advancements will not be made however you will be reimbursed for travel fees.		
Desirable Qulifications:	1. Fluency in Samoan Language 2. Working knowledge of GIS mapping		
Job Description:	A Loss Adjuster is an independent contractor who will visit farms for the purpose of inspecting, measuring, and appraising agricultural crops. A Loss Adjuster will also ensure compliance with acreage and production reporting requirements. Training will be provided.		
Application packets are available at the USDA Farm Service Agency, American Samoa Field Office located at the Pago Plaza Building, Suite 213, 633-1031 ext 127 or 126. Completed applications must be submitted in person by close of business Tuesday, August 8, 2017.			
<b><i>USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.</i></b>			

# Report reveals under-ground US haven for heroin, drug users

NEW YORK (AP) — A safe haven where drug users inject themselves with heroin and other drugs has been quietly operating in the United States for the past three years, a report reveals.

None were known to exist in the U.S. until the disclosure in a medical journal, although several states and cities are pushing to establish these so-called supervised injection sites where users can shoot up under the care of trained staff who can treat an overdose if necessary.

In the report released Tuesday, two researchers said they’ve been evaluating an underground safe place that opened in 2014. As a condition of their research, they didn’t disclose the location of the facility — which is unsanctioned and potentially illegal — or the social service agency running it.

The researchers offered little data, and their main finding was that no one died while injecting at the safe place. There were two overdoses on site, which were reversed by staff members using the overdose medication naloxone.

Advocates and some politicians in recent years have called for government-sanctioned injection sites as the U.S. grapples with the opioid epidemic. More than 52,000 Americans died from drug overdoses in 2015 — the most ever — fueled by soaring abuse of heroin and prescription painkillers. Government statistics for the first nine months of last year, also released Tuesday, show overdose death rates continuing to spiral.

Some say the new report could have an impact on efforts to establish safe injection sites around the U.S. Such sites have been backed by lawmakers in New York, California and other states, along with officials in cities like Seattle, San Francisco and Ithaca, New York.

“It shows people that it’s possible” to operate one of these in the U.S., said Lindsay LaSalle, an attorney with Drug Policy Alliance who has helped draft safe haven legislative proposals in six states.

Injection sites are legal in countries including Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and Switzerland where medical pro-

fessionals monitor drug users. They also provide clean needles to prevent the spread of infectious diseases like HIV or hepatitis C. Ideally, they also steer users into treatment and other services.

Some experts say new approaches are needed to fight the opioid epidemic, including safe havens. But they’ve faced legal and political hurdles. Critics have argued these places may undermine prevention and treatment, and seem to fly in the face of laws aimed at stopping use of deadly illicit drugs.

Safe injection sites are different from syringe exchange programs, which were once controversial but now exist in 33 states.

The underground safe haven is open between four and six hours a day, five days a week, according to Alex Kral, a San Francisco-based researcher with RTI International, and Peter Davidson of the University of California, San Diego. Their report was published online in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

The space consists of two rooms — an “injection room” with five stainless steel stations with mirrors and stools and a room next door where users are monitored afterward. There are trained staff on hand, but no one who is medically licensed, according to the researchers. Smoking is not allowed there, but drugs like heroin, pain pills, cocaine and methamphetamine are.

Use of the space was by invitation only. Most visitors are white, homeless men. It was used 2,500 times over two years by over 100 people, although researchers say the exact number of participants isn’t known because the facility relies on anonymous surveys.

There’s no data on deaths or drug use by clients who injected when the site was closed and it’s not known whether any went into treatment, Kral said.

The study also didn’t look at issues opponents worry about, like whether creation of a safe place is associated with an increase in people beginning to try drugs, said Jonathan Caulkins, a drug policy expert at Carnegie Mellon University who nonetheless applauded the organization’s effort to try to stop overdose deaths.



FILE - This Tuesday, May 6, 2008, file photo shows injection booths at Insite in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The facility is promoted by its founders as a safe, humane facility for drug abusers. A report released Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017, in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine revealed that a safe haven for drug users to inject themselves with heroin and other drugs has been quietly operating in the United States for the past three years. Researchers didn’t disclose the location of the site.

(Jonathan Hayward/The Canadian Press via AP, File)



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# US nixes sleep apnea test plan for truckers, train engineers

U.S. officials are abandoning plans to require sleep apnea screening for truck drivers and train engineers, a decision that safety experts say puts millions of lives at risk.

The Federal Railroad Administration and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration said late last week that they are no longer pursuing the regulation that would require testing for the fatigue-inducing disorder that's been blamed for deadly rail crashes in New York City and New Jersey and several highway crashes.

The agencies argue that it should be up to railroads and trucking companies to decide whether to test employees. One railroad that does test, Metro-North in the New York City suburbs, found that 11.6 percent of its engineers have sleep apnea. The decision to kill the sleep apnea regulation is the latest step in President Donald Trump's campaign to drastically slash federal regulations. The Trump administration has withdrawn or delayed hundreds of proposed regulations since he took office in January — moves the president has said will help bolster economic growth.

Late last year, the FRA issued a safety advisory that was meant as a stopgap measure urging railroads to begin sleep apnea testing while the rules made their way through the legislative process. Without a regulation mandating testing, which would have needed approval from Congress, regulators couldn't cite trucking companies or railroads if a truck or train crashed because the operator fell asleep at the helm.

Sleep apnea is especially troubling for the transportation industry because sufferers are repeatedly awakened and robbed of rest as their airway closes and their breathing stops, leading to dangerous daytime drowsiness. Treatments include wearing a pressurized breathing mask, oral appliances or nasal strips to force the airway open while sleeping. Some severe cases require surgery.

"It's very hard to argue that people aren't being put at risk," said Sarah Feinberg, the former administrator of the FRA, who had issued the safety advisory in December. "We cannot have someone who is in that condition operating either a train going 70 mph or operating a multi-ton truck traveling down the interstate. It's just not an appropriate level of risk to be exposing passengers and the traveling public to."

The National Transportation Safety Board said it was disappointed the agencies decided to scrap the "much-needed rulemaking."

"Obstructive sleep apnea has

been in the probable cause of 10 highway and rail accidents investigated by the NTSB in the past 17 years and obstructive sleep apnea is an issue being examined in several, ongoing, NTSB rail and highway investigations," NTSB spokesman Christopher O'Neil said.

The NTSB has long recommended sleep apnea testing for engineers, and Metro-North and the Long Island Rail Road started requiring it after finding the engineer in a 2013 Metro-North crash had fallen asleep at the controls because he had a severe, undiagnosed case of sleep apnea. The engineer, William Rockefeller, told investigators he felt strangely "dazed" right before the crash, which occurred as he sped through a 30 mph curve at 82 mph.



FILE - In this Aug. 2, 2016, file photo, authorities investigate the scene of a charter bus crash on northbound Highway 99 between Atwater and Livingston, Calif. U.S. officials are abandoning plans to require sleep apnea screening for truck drivers and train engineers, a decision that safety experts say puts millions of lives at risk.

(AP Photo/Scott Smith, File)

# Back to School

## 2017-2018

### SALE HEADQUARTERS

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*FILE - In this July 30, 2017 file photo released by Xinhua News Agency, Chinese President Xi Jinping stands on a military jeep as he inspects troops of the People's Liberation Army during a military parade to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the founding of the PLA at Zhurihe training base in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. The threat to Japan from North Korea has reached a „new stage,“ now that the country is capable of launching an intercontinental ballistic missile and its nuclear weapons program has advanced, a defense ministry report said Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017. The 532-page defense report also raised concerns over China, its ongoing assertiveness in air and maritime activity in the regional seas, and raised concerns about the lack of transparency in the country, its military buildup with its budget making triple increase over the past decade.*

(Li Gang/Xinhua via AP, File)



**AMERICAN SAMOA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
Student Services – Financial Aid Office

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

**Position Title:** FINANCIAL AID COUNSELOR I  
**Employment Status:** Full Time 12 months (Career Service)

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

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

**Minimum Qualifications:**

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

**Salary Level I: GS GS 12/05-07: \$16,373.00 - \$17, 673.00**  
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**Application Deadline: August 10, 2017 no later than 4:00pm.**

Applications are available from American Samoa Community College Human Resources Office 699-9155 Ext. 428/441/429, <http://www.amsamoa.edu/employmentopportunities.html> or by emailing [ascchumanresources@amsamoa.edu](mailto:ascchumanresources@amsamoa.edu).

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# NKorea nukes, mis- siles top concerns in Japan defense review

TOKYO (AP) — The threat to Japan from North Korea has reached a “new stage” now that the country is capable of launching an intercontinental ballistic missile and its nuclear weapons program has advanced, a defense ministry report said Tuesday.

North Korea was the main concern cited as Japan’s Cabinet approved the report, less than two weeks after the North test-fired a second ICBM that analysts say has a range that could include more of the U.S. mainland, including Los Angeles and Chicago.

The security review came just a week after Itsunori Onodera, who was defense minister in 2012-2014, resumed that job when Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe revamped his Cabinet after a slew of politically costly scandals.

Onodera told reporters Friday he planned to update Japan’s defense guidelines to reflect the threat from the North, suggesting he may seek an offensive missile capability.

“North Korea’s missile launches have escalated tensions both in terms of quality and quantity. I would like to study if our current missile defense is sufficient just with the Aegis destroyers and (surface-to-air) PAC 3,” said Onodera, who headed a ruling party study in March that called for beefing up Japan’s missile response capability.

The ICBM North Korea tested July 30 flew on a highly lofted trajectory and landed about 200 kilometers (120

miles) off Japan’s Hokkaido island.

North Korea has been increasing the range, accuracy and versatility of its missiles and diversifying its launch sites and methods. It has conducted two nuclear tests and more than 20 missile launches over the past year alone, exceeding the total of 16 missiles launched over 18 years under former leader Kim Jong Il, the report said.

“North Korea’s development of ballistic missiles and its nuclear program are becoming increasingly real and imminent problems for the Asia-Pacific region including Japan, as well as the rest of the world,” it said.

The 532-page defense report also raised concerns over China’s ongoing assertiveness in air and maritime activity in the regional seas, and raised concerns about the lack of transparency in the country’s military buildup with its budget tripling over the past decade.

While North Korea’s intentions are mainly to put the mainland U.S. in range, its weapons advancements have furthered Abe’s effort to beef up the role of Japan’s military and its missile defenses. Joint exercises with its ally the U.S., also, have dramatically increased. The Defense Ministry already plans to acquire upgraded ship-to-air interceptors SM-3 Block IIAs and mobile PAC-3 MSEs, which would double the coverage area of Japan’s current defenses. The defense report was originally meant to be issued Aug. 1, but that was delayed by the Cabinet reshuffle.



# Trump has escaped Washington, but don't call it a vacation

BRIDGEWATER, N.J. (AP) — President Donald Trump would like to interrupt his vacation to deliver the following message: Don't call this a vacation.

The president has decamped from Washington to his private golf club in central New Jersey. But he has repeatedly pushed back on the idea that this is a relaxing August getaway, posting on Twitter over the weekend: "this is not a vacation - meetings and calls!"

Trump's staff has labeled the trip a "working vacation." Aides say Trump is meeting with aides and cabinet members to discuss policy and he is expected to go to New York City next week. They have declined to answer repeated questions about whether he is playing golf.

Still, the only sighting of Trump since he landed in New Jersey was a video that surfaced online Saturday of the president greeting wedding guests at his club. Dressed in a golf shirt and a red "Make America Great Again" hat, Trump exited a golf cart to chat with the guests.

So far, the main proof Trump is not off the clock is his steady flow of Twitter comments, particularly Monday, when rain likely kept him indoors. Throughout the day he pushed out messages touting his supporters, attacking Democratic Sen. Richard Blumenthal and highlighting a vote by the United Nations Security Council to slap more sanctions on North Korea.

"Working hard from New Jersey while White House goes through long planned renovation," he said, referring to White House updates underway, including the replacement of a West Wing heating and cooling system.

Getting out of Washington in the dog days of summer is a well-established presidential tradition. President George W. Bush enjoyed his Texas ranch, while President Barack Obama

frequented Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts. President Ronald Reagan went out to Santa Barbara, California.

Of course, the president never really leaves the job, traveling with a mini-White House of advisers and aides and continuing briefings and conversations wherever he goes.

While there is precedent for Trump to get a change of scenery, the president may be chafing at calling it vacation because he frequently slammed his predecessor for leaving town and for playing golf. In August 2011, Trump tweeted: "@BarackObama played golf yesterday. Now he heads to a 10 day vacation in Martha's Vineyard. Nice work ethic."

"President Trump is hypersensitive about the word 'vacation' because he hammered President Obama for so long for taking it," said Douglas Brinkley, a presidential historian with the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy. Brinkley added that presidents are "always having to work. Hence the phrase 'working vacation.'"

So far, Trump has spent 13 of 28 weekends in office away from the White House, mostly at his properties in Palm Beach, Florida, or in Bedminster, New Jersey, according to an Associated Press count. The figures include a weekend during official travel overseas, and Father's Day weekend at Camp David, the government-owned presidential retreat in Maryland.

Anita McBride, who served as Laura Bush's chief of staff, agreed that the White House travels with the president. She said getting out of Washington has benefits, recalling President George W. Bush's love of cycling and other activities at his ranch in Crawford, Texas.

"That's where he recharged his batteries," she said. "Any of us who have worked in the White House really understands the need for getting away."

The real world often intrudes on these summer presidential

getaways.

In 1998, Clinton briefly came back to Washington from Martha's Vineyard to deal with missile attacks in Sudan and Afghanistan. Reagan came home early from a California vacation in 1983 after Korean Airlines Flight 007 was shot down in by a Soviet fighter jet. In 2005, George W. Bush was criticized for not cutting off his vacation after Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans.

Brinkley recalled a series of serious events that intruded on Obama's summer breaks, including the beheading of journalist James Foley by Islamic State militants in 2014 and Syria's chemical weapons use in 2013. "Things happen when presidents are away," said Brinkley. "Every August you have something horrific that's going to happen."

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## 4 killed in car crash didn't use seatbelts; 2 survivors did

BRIDPORT, Vt. (AP) — Police say four people killed in a Vermont car crash weren't wearing seatbelts but two people in a pickup truck they hit head on were wearing seatbelts and survived.

Investigators say they don't know why the car crossed the center line of a highway in Bridport on Monday afternoon and slammed into the truck.

The four occupants of the car died. Authorities say among the dead are driver Steven Holmes,

of Chatsworth, Georgia, and passengers Amber Brewer, of Dalton, Georgia, and Justin Hendrix, of Bryceville, Florida. They haven't released the identity of the fourth person.

The two people in the pickup truck have been hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries.

The crash occurred on state Route 22A, which had to be closed for a few hours and reopened in the evening.



FILE - In this July 3, 2017, file photo, President Donald Trump boards Air Force One at Morristown Municipal Airport, in Morristown, N.J., en route to Washington from Trump National Golf Club in Bedminster, N.J. Trump once questioned the wisdom of taking vacations. "What's the point?" he asked. But now the president is readying to join the annual August exodus from this town he calls "the swamp." Trump is due to set out Aug. 4 on his first extended vacation from Washington since the inauguration \_ a 17-day getaway to his private golf club in central New Jersey.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)





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# Australian leader says gay marriage could be law this year

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — Australia’s prime minister said Tuesday that Parliament could legalize gay marriage this year if the nation’s voters endorse it in a rare non-binding poll in November.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said he expected the public would support marriage equality in the so-called plebiscite, and that he would personally campaign for a ‘yes’ vote.

It would be only the fourth time in Australian history, and first time in 43 years, that the government puts a legally nonbinding question to the electorate.

“I have other calls on my time as prime minister, but I will certainly support a ‘yes’ vote,” Turnbull told reporters.

The conservative Liberal Party-led coalition was narrowly re-elected in July 2016 with a promise to let voters decide whether Australia should recognize same-sex marriage through a popular vote.

But the Senate in November blocked the plebiscite, which would cost 170 million Australian dollars (\$135 million) and promote a divisive public debate.

The Liberal Party held a crisis meeting late Monday to resolve infighting and rejected a push to allow lawmakers to decide the issue now.

The government on Tuesday endorsed the party decision to ask the Senate this week to reconsider allowing the plebiscite, which would be held Nov. 25. Voting would be compulsory and failure to vote would be punishable by a fine, though a voluntary vote would be held if the Senate again rejects the measure.

If most Australians want gay marriage, the Parliament would vote on legislation before the last two-week session of Parliament of the year ends on Dec. 7.

“Strong leaders carry out their promises, weak leaders break them,” Turnbull told reporters.

Gay-rights advocates say enough lawmakers already back marriage equality to make same-sex marriage legal in Australia now.

For the first time in Australian history, both the prime minister and opposition leader back the reform.

Rights advocates see the plebiscite as both a delaying tactic forced by a hard right-wing minority and a strategy to undermine political support.

Opponents of the plebiscite argue that the government-funded advertising campaigns for the cases for and against would give authority to bigoted and homophobic arguments.

Supporters say it would give ordinary people a voice in a debate dominated by activists.

If the Senate again blocks the plebiscite, the government intends to hold a voluntary postal plebiscite by Nov. 15. Voters would mail in their opinions instead of using ballot boxes at a cost of up to AU\$122 million (\$97 million). Responses would be voluntary and therefore less indicative of public opinion.

Opponents argue that the postal plebiscite would also need Senate approval, and have threatened a court challenge if it proceeds.

Turnbull said he is confident that the postal option did not need Senate endorsement.

Finance Minister Mathias Cormann, the government’s deputy Senate leader and an opponent of same-sex marriage, said some type of plebiscite is essential if Parliament is to decide the marriage equality question.

Opposition leader Bill Shorten dismissed a plebiscite as “a colossal waste of money and time.”

“Yet again the hopes of people who want to be able to marry the person they love have been dashed by a weak prime minister and the right wing of the Liberal Party,” Shorten said.

“We should just get on and have a vote on marriage equality straight away in the Parliament,” he added.

Lyle Shelton, managing director of the Australian Christian Lobby, said his advocacy group had collected 55,000 signatures on a petition demanding a plebiscite.

Sheldon handed the petition to Sen. Cory Bernardi, leader of the minor Australian Conservatives party, to present to the Senate. Bernardi has said he would vote against gay marriage regardless of what the plebiscite found.

Mark Moody-Basedow and his wife, Vicki, celebrated the new plebiscite plan and their second wedding anniversary by posing for photos outside Parliament House in what they described as the medieval-style outfits that they wore on their wedding day.

Vicki Moody-Basedow designed the couple’s white costumes, embroidered with “righteousness,” “holiness” and “Jesus.” She said they believed in “traditional marriage,” but added that the majority view should prevail in Australia.

“It’s the right of every Australian citizen to be able to say what they think about this topic, so I think the plebiscite is a great idea,” she said.



Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, left, and Finance Minister Mathias Cormann hold a press conference at Parliament House in Canberra, Australia, Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017. Turnbull says Parliament could legalize gay marriage this year if the nation’s voters endorse it in a rare but nonbinding poll in November.

(AP Photo/Rod McGuirk)





*This image released by HBO shows Nikolaj Coster-Waldau as Jaime Lannister in an episode of “Game of Thrones,” which aired Sunday, Aug. 6. A group of hackers posted a fresh cache of stolen HBO files, including some apparently related to the show “Game of Thrones,” online Monday, part of what the purported hacker has claimed is a much larger trove of stolen HBO material. The dump includes scripts from five “Game of Thrones” episodes, including one upcoming episode, and a month’s worth of email from the account of an HBO programming executive.*

(Macall B. Polay/HBO via AP)

# Hackers demand millions in ransom for stolen HBO data

NEW YORK (AP) — A group of hackers posted a fresh cache of stolen HBO files online Monday, and demanded a multimillion-dollar ransom from the network to prevent the release of entire television series and other sensitive proprietary files. HBO, which had previously acknowledged the theft of “proprietary information,” said it’s continuing to investigate and is working with police and cybersecurity experts.

In a swaggering five-minute video from “Mr. Smith” to HBO CEO Richard Plepler included in the dump, the hackers used white text scrolling on a black background to deliver an ultimatum. In short:

Pay up within three days or see the group, which claims to have stolen 1.5 terabytes of HBO shows and confidential corporate data, upload entire series and sensitive proprietary files.

Specifically, the hackers demanded “our 6-month salary in bitcoin,” and claimed they earn \$12 million to \$15 million a year from blackmailing organizations whose networks they

have penetrated.

They said they would only deal directly with “Richard” and only send one “letter” detailing how to pay.

The dump itself was just 3.4 gigabytes — mostly technical data that appears to provide a topography of HBO’s network and to list network-administrator passwords.

It includes what appear to be draft scripts from five “Game of Thrones” episodes, including one upcoming episode, and a month’s worth of email apparently from the account of Leslie Cohen, HBO’s vice president for film programming.

The network reiterated Monday that it doesn’t believe that its email system as a whole has been compromised.

The video text was written in often flawed but fluent English peppered with misspellings and pop-culture references.

The hackers claimed it took them about 6 months to breach HBO’s network. Their biggest threat appears to be dumping videos of future shows online with their logo “HBO Is Falling” superimposed.



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

## PUBLIC NOTICE

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

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

  
**AMEKO PATO**  
AS-EPA Director  
July 25, 2017





**American Samoa Government**  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
**PROCLAMATION**  
**2017 WIC NATIONAL BREASTFEEDING WEEK**

**AUGUST 1 - 7, 2017**

**WHEREAS**, breastfeeding remains the most natural way of feeding infants and serves as part of a foundation for life-long health and wellness; and,

**WHEREAS**, exclusive breastfeeding, recommended and supported by the American Academy of Pediatrics, provides benefits that are not received by partially breastfed infants; and,

**WHEREAS**, infants receiving human milk are protected against serious long term health conditions including obesity, respiratory and ear infections, asthma's, allergies, diarrhea, childhood cancer, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, and less than optimal brain development; and,

**WHEREAS**, breastfeeding promotes strong family bonds while providing economical and societal benefits through lowered health care costs; and,

**WHEREAS**, a united effort is needed from business, communities, governmental leaders and health care providers to support breastfeeding; and,

**WHEREAS**, the American Samoa WIC program (ASWIC) of the Department of Human and Social Services has adopted the 2017 World Breastfeeding Week theme- Sustaining Breastfeeding Together!, to recognize the importance of working together in partnership with other breastfeeding promotion services in the community; and,

**WHEREAS**, government and businesses can ensure that working mothers have an appropriate place and reasonable break time to express breast milk for their nursing child, and communities can support existing laws that protect a mother's right to breastfeed her child in any public location; and,

**WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service and the American Samoa Department of Human and Social Services promote breastfeeding through the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) as well as through other food assistance programs; and,

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to support breastfeeding in American Samoa, the ASWIC employs mothers who have breastfeeding experience as breastfeeding peer counselors to offer breastfeeding education, support, and role modeling using the Loving Support evidenced-based model as its framework; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Lolo Matalasi Moliga, Governor of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim the week of August 1-7, 2017, as "WIC NATIONAL BREASTFEEDING WEEK" in American Samoa and I call upon all government and business leaders and health professionals to celebrate with appropriate events and activities to acknowledge the efforts of breastfeeding mothers, and the fathers, families, health and medical professionals and others who provide support, encouragement and help so mothers succeed with breastfeeding.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 24th of July 2017.

# POLOA'IGA FA'ALAU'ITELE

## VAIASO E FA'ATAUAINA AI LE SUASUSU O LE TINĀ 2017

**TALUAI**, o le fa'asusuina e tinā o a latou pepe i le suāsusu o le tinā o le tū ma le aga masani lea ma tauāloaina, ua avea ma fa'avae lelei mo le soifua tulu'i mālōlōina ma le malsoi; ma,

**TALUAI**, ua nao le suāsusu o le tinā, fautuaina ma lagolagoina e le Asosi o Foma'i a Tamāiti i Amerika, e maua ai le tamāoaiga e lē o maua e nisi o fanau pepe o susu lua, i le tinā ma le fagu susu; ma,

**TALUAI**, o fanau pepe o fa'againa i le suāsusu o le tinā ua puipuia i latou mai nisi o fa'afitauli o le soifua mālōlōina e aofia ai tino mamafa, gasegase tugā o le māmā ma taliga, sela, atapa'ia o le tino, manava tatā, kanesa o fanau, Mafau'aga Maliu Faafuase'i o Fanau Pepe, ma e le'i atoatoa ona tupu o le fa'i'ai; ma,

**TALUAI**, fa'asusuina o fanau i le suāsusu o le tinā e tapu'emalosi ai mafutaga fa'aaiga ma e taugofie ma fa'aitiitiaai le tamāoaiga e fa'amaumau mo le tausiga o le soifua mālōlōina; ma,

**TALUAI**, o le galulue va'ava'alua e mana'omia ai le tautua a pisinisi, nu'u, ta'ita'i o le faigāmālō ma latou o ofoina le tautua mo le soifua mālōlōina ia sapaapaia e fa'asusuina o fanau i le suāsusu o le tinā; ma,

**TALUAI**, o le Polokalama a le WIC i Amerika Samoa, Matāgaluega Tautua mo Alagāmanuia Lautele ua ia fa'atamafaiina le "Faasusuina o Pepe i le Suāsusu o le Tinā 2017" ma fa'atāuaina le'au-tūtū FAATASI E FAATUMAUIA LE FA'ASUSUINA O PEPE I LE SUĀSUSU O LE TINĀ! ina ia fa'afaiileilina le tāua o le galulue fa'ataso fa'a-pā'aga ma isi o lagolagoina leni fa'amoemoe i totonu o le atunu'u; ma,

**TALUAI**, e talosagaina le mālō fa'atasi ma pisinisi ese'ese ina ia mautinoa le tu'uina atu o se avanoa mo tinā uma e fa'asusu a latou pepe ia maua se tmi ma se siōsi'omaga e talafeagai e mālōlō ai mo le fa'asusuina o a latou pepe, ia sapaapaia e so'o se nofoaga tulafono e puipuia ai āiātatau a le tinā mo le fa'asusuina o lana pepe i so'o se nofoaga faitele; ma,

**TALUAI**, o le Matāgaluega o Fa'atoaga i le Iunaite Sitete, Taumafa ma Tautua Nutireni male Matāgaluega tautua mo Alagāmanuia Lautele i Amerika Samoa ua lagolagoina le fa'asusuina i le suāsusu o le tinā e ala i le Polokalama o Nutireni Tului Faapitoa mo Tinā, Pepe, ma Fanau fa'apea foi nisi o polokalama fesoasoani mo taumafa; ma,

**TALUAI**, i se taumafaiga e lagolago ai le fa'asusuina o le pepe i le suāsusu o le tinā i Amerika Samoa, ua fa'afaigaluega ai e le ASWIC nisi o tinā ua iai le tomai ma agava'a i le fa'asusuina o a latou pepe ma faufautua e a'oa'oina tinā i le fa'asusuina o pepe i le suāsusu o le tinā, sapaapai, ma avea ma fa'ata'itaiga lelei i le fa'aaogaina o su'esu'ega o mau-faavae o le Alofa Sapai ma ona ta'iala; ma,

**O LENEI, O LE MEA LEA**, o a'u Lolo Matalasi Moliga, Kovana o Amerika Samoa, ua ou folafola ai leni vaiaso o Aukuso 1-7, 2017, "Fa'atāuaina le Fa'asusuina o Pepe i le Suāsusu o le Tinā" i Amerika Samoa, ma ou te talosagaina ta'ita'i o le faigāmālō ma pisinisi fa'apea i latou uma o galulue i faiva faapitoa i le tausiga o le soifua mālōlōina ia fa'amanatu leni vaiaso e ala i sauniga ma tapenaga e aloa'ia ai male agaga fa'afetai taumafaiga a tinā uma, tamā, aiga, le soifua mālōlōina male falema'i ma latou o ofoina leni tautua le fa'amalosia ma fesoasoani ina ia manuia tinā uma o fa'asusu a latou pepe i le suāsusu o tinā.

**UA FAAMAONIA**, ma ou fa'amaui fa'ailogaina i leni aso 24 o Iulai 2017.

*Lolo M. Moliga*

**LOLO M. MOLIGA**

Governor of American Samoa