

It's cheaper to send people off island than hiring a cardiologist..2

Tatala le Ta'elega mo le Lautele - Le "Pala Lagoon Pool" Lali

Pictured is former Faga'itua Vikings star football player – also a former member of the American Samoa All-Star Soccer Team — Shalom Luani (center), who is now a starting Defensive Back (#26) for the Oakland Raiders.

Luani is pictured with die-hard Raiders fan Sila Samuelu and family, during Luani's visit at the FFAS Soccer Stadium during the OFC Champions League Qualifier 2018 last Saturday afternoon. Luani will be returning to Oakland at the end of this week.

[photo: TG]



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# samoa news

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2018

\$1.00

## Haleck found 'not guilty' of drug charge

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

A jury has found Gerhard Otto Haleck "not guilty" of one count of unlawful possession of a controlled substance — marijuana — which was transported through the US Postal Service.

The panel of 6 jurors handed down its verdict last Friday afternoon following a four-day trial where the defendant even took the witness stand, telling jurors he didn't know what was in the package that he went to claim at the Post Office on Jan. 3, 2017.

"My client is very pleased with the jury's verdict. He is thankful to God and his family for believing in him," said Haleck's attorney, Marcellus Talaimalo Uiagalelei in response to Samoa News inquiries over the weekend.

Asked if the defense was surprised with the jury's verdict, Uiagalelei said, "Honestly we were not surprised with the verdict, given our confidence in our case and defense. However, sometimes you never know how these things will turn out. My client is just happy that he can now return to living a normal life with his wife and kids."

"I always believed that he shouldn't have been charged in the first place, given the fact that he was just a guy who showed up to check the company mail," he continued. "Unfortunately, the government felt that this unfortunate situation warranted a felony charge."

"Now that this case is behind us it's time to move forward," Uiagalelei said, adding that while he appreciates the government's efforts in fighting the drug problem on island, "there should be another way to handle drug cases involving the mail, as sometimes people honestly don't know what is being received, yet they find themselves in a situation like what Mr. Haleck experienced."

Assistant Attorney General, Kristy Dunn, who prosecuted the case, offered no comments when approached after court proceedings last Friday afternoon.

### FINAL DAY

Last Friday morning, Chief Justice Michael Kruse — assisted on the bench by Associate Judges Muasau T. Tofili and Tunupopo Alaalafaga — gave instructions to the jury before their deliberations, saying the government — not the defense — has the burden of proving its case. Additionally the government has to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the substance in the package, which arrived through the mail, was marijuana.

The court also outlined for the jury elements to prove the charge, in that on Jan. 3, 2017 the defendant knowingly possessed marijuana.

"Your verdict of guilty or not guilty must be unanimous," Kruse informed jurors before dismissing the alternate juror.

The case went to the jury around 9:45a.m. and before 1p.m. the jury was back in the court room, with the foreperson announcing that the jury had reached a verdict.

When the court clerk read the verdict of "not guilty", some of Haleck's family members in the gallery were overheard by Samoa News sobbing quietly, with hands on their faces.

Uiagalelei patted his client on the back, and Samoa News observed the defendant putting his fingers to his closed eyes. Throughout the rest of the court proceeding, Haleck had his

(Continued on page 7)

## Laser beam pointed at last Friday's Hawaiian flight

AUTHORITIES SEEKING THE COMMUNITY'S HELP IN IDENTIFYING THE CULPRIT(S)

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

Hawaiian Airlines has confirmed that a "laser incident" occurred last Friday night, as the Hawaiian flight was coming in for a landing at the Pago Pago International Airport. And local authorities are seeking the public's help in obtaining information on the incident, in which a laser beam was pointed towards the aircraft.

What remains unclear is the area on the ground where the laser was aimed from.

According to federal law, enacted in 2012, it's illegal to aim laser pointer beams at an aircraft or their flight path. Penalty for violating this law is up to 5 years in prison and up to a \$250,000 fine.

A concerned local resident, who was a "frightened passenger" on board the flight, raised the issue over the weekend in hopes that someone would step forward to provide information and assist local and federal authorities in identifying the culprit or culprits involved.

The local resident described the laser as "green and extremely bright", saying "it was very alarming."

Another local resident, who was not a passenger on the plane, told Samoa News yesterday that he had a family member on that flight "and this incident shouldn't be taken as a joke at all. People with information should contact local authorities."

Responding to Samoa News inquires, Hawaiian spokes-

(Continued on page 10)



Congratulations to SPC Auva'a P. of Malaeloa, American Samoa, promoted from Private First Class (E3) to Specialist (E4) after receiving a waiver of 18 months of serving in the United States Army.

SPC Auva'a, a transgender, joined the US Army two years ago, and became a role model for many transgenders in American Samoa looking at joining the military for career opportunities.

The Trump Administration has tried to stop transgenders from joining or serving in the US military, with the President announcing his decision last July that he plans to reinstate a ban on transgenders from serving "in any capacity" in the US armed forces, via Twitter. However, by Jan. 2018, transgender people are allowed to enlist as well as continue to serve in the U.S. military despite opposition from Donald Trump, reflecting growing legal pressure on the issue.

[photo: courtesy]





South Korea's Financial Services Commission Vice Chair Kim Yong-beom, center, speaks at the government complex in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2018. South Korea said Tuesday that local banks will launch a real-name system for crypto currency trading that make anonymous transactions to be traceable as the country seeks to curb speculation and criminal activities.

(Kim Seung-doo/Yonhap via AP)

# South Korea to start real-name trading of crypto currency

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea plans to require local banks to launch a real-name system for crypto currency trading that will require the up-to-now anonymous transactions be traceable as the country seeks to curb speculation and criminal activities.

Financial Services Commission Vice Chair Kim Yong-beom said at a press briefing Tuesday that the new measures, to take effect next week, will prevent foreigners residing outside South Korea who do not have local bank accounts and minors younger than 19 from buying or selling bitcoins and other digital currencies. The moves follow warnings by South Korean authorities that they would ban anonymous trading in crypto currencies and crack down on speculative trading and possible crimes. Authorities are seeking to prevent use of crypto currency trading to engage in money laundering, tax evasion and other criminal activities.

The new requirements are meant to ensure that a crypto currency investor's money comes from a bank account owned by the same individual. The new rules also call for banks to refuse to open accounts with crypto currency exchanges that do not disclose information about suspicious trading.

South Korea is home to some of the world's largest crypto currency exchanges and a craze for bitcoin and other crypto currencies has swept the country.

# It's cheaper to send people off island than hiring a cardiologist, says Medical director

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

Medical Director of the LBJ Hospital, Dr. Iotamo Saleapaga testified during a Senate committee hearing last week that it's very expensive for the hospital to recruit a cardiologist, in terms of salary and equipment needed for such service.

Meanwhile, Sen. Fonoti Tafa'ifa Aufata shared with the committee, as well as health officials who were witnesses at the hearing, her belief as to why people have heart problems — having too many spouses.

The Senate Committee of the Whole, chaired by Sen. Nuanuaolefeagaiga Saoluaga Nua, called a hearing early last week to discuss various health issues relating to the LBJ and the Health Department.

Nuanuaolefeagaiga raised an issue that has been floating around in the Fono as well as the community in past years, regarding the absence of a cardiologist at LBJ. He wondered how long the territory will have to wait before LBJ hires a cardiologist, adding that many of the patients seeking off island medical treatment are those with heart problems.

Saleapaga explained that cardiologists are considered "sub-specialities" in the medical profession and these physicians are very expensive in terms of salary, and the medical equipment they use is "not cheap".

According to Saleapaga, several years ago, LBJ recruited a cardiologist, who was here not more than six months before leaving and this was a loss to the hospital as far as the money spent on bringing in all the necessary equipment for the cardiologist.

"We spent a lot of money — thousands of dollars — and this

guy left," he testified.

According to the medical director, it's more affordable for the hospital to send a patient off island for medical care instead of employing a cardiologist. He noted that LBJ can recruit a cardiologist, but it won't be cheap.

Also, it depends on whether there is a cardiologist who wants to come to American Samoa.

Saleapaga said that if there is cardiologist willing to come to American Samoa, it will most likely be a physician who has already retired. He noted that the salary for a cardiologist would be around \$200,000 or more a year.

A 2016 Cardiologist Compensation report by US-based Medscape Group shows that the lowest salary range for cardiologist is \$190,000 working for an outpatient clinic; \$368,000 working at a hospital; and \$454,000 working at a health-care organization. <www.medscape.org>

During the committee hearing, Fonoti revealed her take on why people have been faced with heart problems.

According to her, if a man has too many wives he will have heart problems because instead of focusing on one wife, he will also have to worry about the "stand-by" wife.

The comment resulted in laughter from several senators, witnesses, and others in the Senate gallery. For a woman, Fonoti said if they have too many husbands — with one day set aside for the man she is legally married to, and different days set aside for the "stand-by" husbands — that will cause heart problems for her. The Tualata female senator said people need to take care of themselves first, to prevent these many health problems.

# Californians who fled mudslides may start going home Jan. 31

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP) — Authorities hope to start allowing residents to return by month's end to a Southern California community devastated by mudslides — if they can get most utilities restored by then.

Officials said Sunday that it will be a gradual process getting residents back into homes in Montecito, where at least 21 people were killed during flash floods Jan. 9. A 17-year-old boy and 2-year-old girl remain missing.

The coastal town's narrow streets are clogged with bulldozers and utility trucks as crews remove mud and boulders and rebuild drainage pipes and power lines.

Robert Lewin, director of Santa Barbara County's office of emergency management, said it may be into February

before natural gas service is restored.

A major highway reopened Sunday after a nearly two-week closure caused by the mudslides.

Gov. Jerry Brown declared Monday a "Day of Remembrance of the Montecito Mudslides and ordered flags flown at half-staff over the state Capitol.

He called it California's deadliest flooding event in recent memory.

"As we remember those we lost in this disaster, we should also remember the injured, the missing and the survivors who may need our help in rebuilding their lives," his proclamation said.

Cottage Health system said three of the injured, including one in serious condition, remained in its hospitals Monday.



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This employment opportunity is open to all qualified candidates, individuals with disabilities, and military veterans who are willing, able and available to perform the job, without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex and citizenship.

If this is an opportunity that interests you, all resumes are to be received before Sunday, January 28, 2018 to kathy.manipol-mcdonald@anz.com. All resumes will be handled confidentially and confidential calls may be made directly to Kathy Manipol-McDonald, Head of HR at 671.479.9023.

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# Stowers gets 5 years for drug possession

CJ SAYS SENTENCE REFLECTS “COMMERCIAL UNDERTONE” OF CASE

by Fili Sagapolutele  
Samoa News Correspondent

A drug defendant convicted by a jury last year of drug possession has been sentenced to 5 years imprisonment, which Chief Justice Michael Kruse says is the minimum sentence, according to local drug laws.

Falaniko Stowers a.k.a. ‘Nicole’, identified as a fa’afafine (transgender) in court documents, appeared in High Court yesterday for sentencing after a jury found her guilty of unlawful possession of crystal methamphetamine, but not guilty of unlawful possession with intent to distribute.

Stowers, who remains in custody unable to post \$10,000 surety bond since her arrest in November 2016, asked for leniency in sentencing, saying she is remorseful and she promised never to appear in court again.

She also promised to help others stay away from these types of crimes, adding that she wants to be with her family to help her mother. Stowers said she sees prison life on television and she never thought she’d end up behind bars. She added that she wants to “live a productive life” going forward.

Stowers’ attorney, Public Defender Douglas Fiaui said the defendant has spent almost 14 months at the Territorial Correctional Facility for pre-trial confinement and that under provisions of the law for which his client was convicted, there is no probation.

Fiaui requested that his client be slapped with a fine since she has served nearly 14 months in jail.

Prosecutor Woodrow Pengelly said the government agrees with the probation office report that this is a serious crime, adding that illegal drugs is a danger to the community. “The government sees no reason for leniency,” he said, and sought 5 years imprisonment without parole.

In handing down the court’s sentence, Kruse — who was assisted on the bench by Chief Associate Judge Mamea Sala Jr. and Associate Judge Fa’amausili P. Pomele — first noted that a person convicted of unlawful possession of a controlled substance is sentenced to not less than 5 years and not more than 10 years imprisonment, and a fine of not less than \$5,000 and not more than

\$20,000.

Kruse noted that the underlining factor in this is case is that the defendant was involved in a “commercial enterprise”.

“Because of the commercial undertone” involved, it’s the court’s opinion that imposing just a fine is not enough to comply with local drug statutes, he said, before sentencing the defendant to 5 years imprisonment and a \$5,000 fine.

“Those are the minimums provided by the Fono” in the law, Kruse pointed out, adding that while the sentence “may appear harsh” — the local drug statute was lifted from New York’s drug statute in the 1970s.

While New York has abandoned its statute, it is still in the local laws, he said, adding that this is something the Fono should look at.

During closing statements, Pengelly argued that the two police officers, who testified during trial, found 6 cut-up straws in the defendant’s possession when she was stopped on Nov. 28, 2016. And three of the straws sent off island tested positive for methamphetamine. (See Samoa News Dec. 11, 2017 edition for details).

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## Cosby jokes in 1st show since 2015 he ‘used to be’ comedian

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Bill Cosby performed in public for the first time since a sex abuse scandal embroiled him in 2015, joking that he “used to be a comedian” and playing with a jazz band in his hometown as a retrial looms in his criminal sexual assault case.

The 80-year-old entertainer took the stage for about an hour Monday night at a Philadelphia jazz club for his first show since May 2015. Before a friendly crowd, he told stories, honored old friends and finished by leading the band in a set, first using his mouth to scat in place of a missing horn section and then taking a turn at the drums.

Cosby, handing the drumsticks off to the bass player’s 11-year-old son, asked if the boy knew who he was and then told him.

“I used to be a comedian,” Cosby deadpanned.

Cosby reminisced about his childhood, telling the crowd about how when he was 4 he grilled a relative about the impending birth of his brother. He mimicked his Uncle William, who took a swig from a cocktail before answering every question — including whether a stork was really delivering the baby to his parents.

Afterward, Cosby nearly dropped a glass jar he was using as a prop, prompting a “Whoa!” from the crowd.

Cosby, who’s legally blind, seized on the moment.

“Let me tell you something about people talking to blind people, you sighted people,” Cosby said. “If you see a blind person walking into a pole or something, if you speak perfect English, there’s a word called ‘Stop!’ Not ‘Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa!’”

“You laugh when blind people walk into things,” he continued. “And guess what: Blind people laugh when sighted people fall down!”

Cosby arrived at the jazz club on the arm of his spokesman, Andrew Wyatt. He wore a gray hoodie bearing the phrase “Hello Friend,” something his late son, Ennis Cosby, often would say. He posed for photos with friends, including a couple he honored at the start of his set. They all grew up in the same public housing complex.

Cosby said he decided to make his return to the stage because of his friends.

“I came here tonight to enjoy being with my friends and the musicians and the people who came,” he said after the show.

He declined to discuss his upcoming retrial in a sexual assault case.

During the show, the receptive crowd applauded and laughed along with Cosby’s jokes, a far cry from how his last performances went.



American Samoa Government  
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) RFP-024-2018

Issuance Date: January 16, 2018

Date & Time Due: February 16, 2018  
No later than 2:00p.m (local time)

The American Samoa Government (ASG) issues a Request For Proposals (RFP) from qualified firms to provide:  
**“Development of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the American Samoa Government”**

**Submission**  
Original and five copies of the Qualifications must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: **“RFP-024-2018: Development of CEDS for the ASG.”** Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), February 16vv, 2018:  
**Office of Procurement  
American Samoa Government  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799  
Attn: Dr. Oreta Mapu Crichton, CPO**

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

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

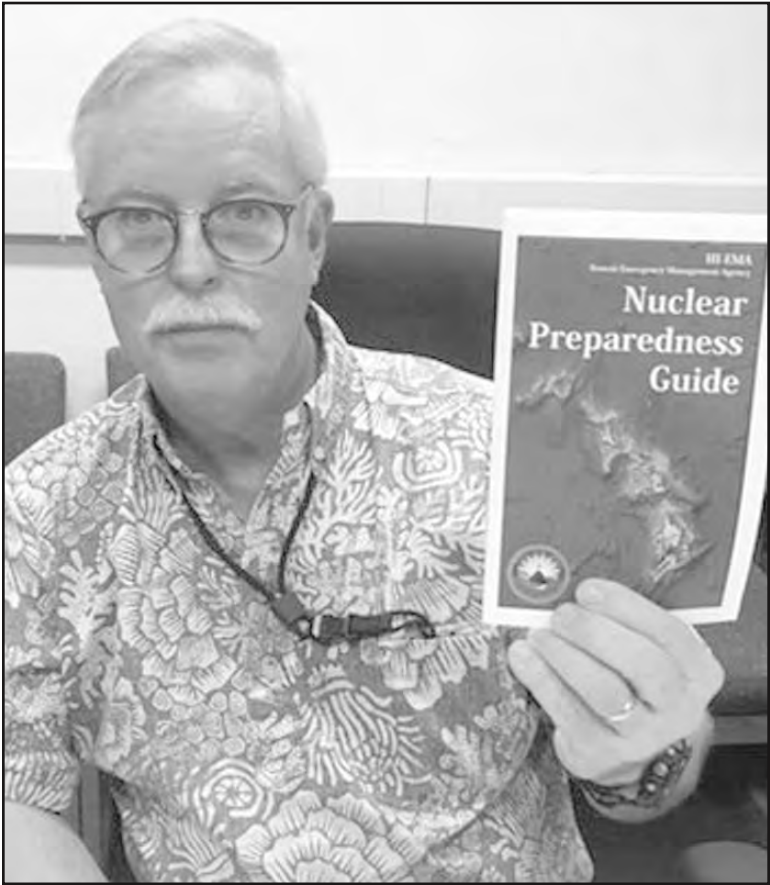
**Review**  
Request for Proposal data will be thoroughly reviewed by an appointed Source Evaluation Board under the auspices of the Chief Procurement Officer, Office of Procurement, ASG.

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

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

Equal Opportunity Employer / Affirmative Action





FILE- In this July 21, 2017, file photo, Toby Clairmont, the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency's executive officer, shows new informational materials to a reporter in Honolulu. Clairmont told The Associated Press Monday, Jan. 22, 2018, that his decision to retire by the year's end has nothing to do with the recent alert that mistakenly warned the public of a missile headed to Hawaii. He says no one asked him to retire.

(AP Photo/Jennifer Sinco Kelleher, File)

# Hawaii emergency official to retire by end of 2018

HONOLULU (AP) — The executive officer of Hawaii's Emergency Management Agency is planning to retire by year's end.

Toby Clairmont told The Associated Press Monday his decision has nothing to do with the recent alert that mistakenly warned the public of a missile headed to Hawaii. He says he decided on retirement two years ago and no one asked him to step down.

Clairmont says he posted

his career plans on Facebook but wasn't prepared to publicly announce his retirement.

Clairmont, a registered nurse, says he was at home when a state worker mistakenly sent the alert.

Gov. David Ige's spokeswoman Cindy McMillan says the governor didn't ask for Clairmont's retirement.

Hawaii Emergency Management Agency spokesman Richard Rapoza says the agency did not ask Clairmont to retire.

# Samoa's reply to USDHS' one year suspension of seasonal workers' visas

Based on press release - The front page article published Saturday December 20th by the Samoa Observer should dispel any further concerns or panic that entry visas for Samoans to the United States are affected by the Executive Order issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security pertaining to seasonal workers visas for our citizens to enter the U.S.

This is reaffirmed by U.S. Embassy Charge' d'Affaires, Antone Greubel who is quoted by the Samoa Observer as saying that the decision does not affect any other visa classes and Samoans may still travel freely to the United States with valid travel documents.

For the record, the Government of Samoa has been kept abreast from the start by our Foreign Affairs and Diplomatic officials in the New York, says Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry of Prime Minister and Cabinet, (M.P.M.C.) who is also the Chief Immigration Officer, Agafili Tomaimano Shem Leo.

"And government has never wavered its standing policy to maintain the mutual cooperation to work with the United States Government in all facets," he added.

Continued Agafili, "The

government through our Embassy in New York has been in discussion with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on the status and progress of returning Samoans who have been convicted of felony in the US. And we have been advised regularly.

"Discussions have also been conducted with the US Charge D'Affaires to Samoa, Mr Antone Gruebel and he has been informed that Samoa will continue to work closely with US government in facilitating the return of Samoans who have served imprisonment terms in the US due to serious criminal convictions.

"It is crucial to highlight the fact that most, if not all of these Samoans, left the islands when they were infants and since have limited or no contacts with their relatives in Samoa.

"Government policy requires all convicted deportees to tender to the Ministry a full criminal history, complete medical report, conditions of their people if they have been released on parole, and that they should have family contacts in Samoa before they can be issued with travel documents.

"The most challenging task is locating of their families in Samoa. They had lived the

best of their lives in the US and many do not have family relatives in Samoa anymore.

"We are a small country and we have to make sure that when these people are returned to Samoa, they will have families to return to. And if they have medical and parole conditions the relevant authorities should be advised well in advance.

"We are well aware of Samoa's obligations under international conventions and we are determined to uphold our collaborative partnership with the US.

"That is why since June 2017 seven Samoans have been returned to Samoa after assiduous efforts to locate their families and submission of their required documents.

"Like the US Department of Homeland Security, our ultimate goal is the security and wellbeing of our people and this country. The events of the recent past involving those who have been returned to Samoa have proven that meticulousness is to be exercised at all times.

"We will continue to work closely with US authorities to facilitate the pending cases at hand," he concluded.

(Source: PRESS SECRETARIAT)

# Philippine volcano spews lava fountains, 40,000 people flee

LEGAZPI, Philippines (AP) — The Philippines' most active volcano continued to spew fountains of red-hot lava and massive ash plumes Tuesday in a dazzling but increasingly dangerous eruption that has sent 40,000 villagers to shelter in evacuation centers.

Lava fountains gushed up 700 meters (2,300 feet) above Mount Mayon's crater and ash plumes rose up to 3 kilometers (1.9 miles) at night and before daybreak, according to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology. An explosive eruption at noon Monday was the most powerful since the volcano started acting up more than a week ago.

Authorities warned a violent eruption may occur in hours or days, characterized by more rumblings and pyroclastic flows — superheated gas and volcanic debris that race down the slopes at high speeds, vaporizing everything in their path.

After Monday's huge explosion, officials raised Mayon's alert level to four on a scale of five, and the danger zone was expanded to 8 kilometers (5 miles) from the crater, requiring thousands more residents to be evacuated, including at least 12,000 who left their homes and then returned during gentler eruptions.

Authorities struggled to pre-

vent villagers from sneaking back to check on their homes and farms and to watch a cockfight in an arena in Albay's Santo Domingo town despite the risks and police patrols and checkpoints, said Cedric Daep, a provincial disaster-response official.

In a sign of desperation, Daep told a news conference that he has recommended electricity and water supply be cut in communities within the no-go zones to discourage residents from returning.

"If pyroclastic flows hit people, there is no chance for life," Daep said. "Let us not violate the natural law, avoid the prohibited zone, because if you violate, the punishment is death penalty."

The daytime eruptions have plunged nearby villages in darkness and sent lava, rocks and debris cascading down Mayon's slopes toward the no-entry danger zone. There have been no reports of deaths and injuries. Airplanes have been ordered to stay away from the crater and ash-laden winds and several domestic flights have been canceled.

Volcanic ash fell Monday in more than a dozen towns in coconut-growing Albay and nearby Camarines Sur province, with visibility being heavily obscured in a few towns because

of the thick gray ash fall, Jukes Nunez, another Albay provincial disaster response officer, said by telephone.

"It was like night time at noon, there was zero visibility in some areas because the ash fall was so thick," Nunez said.

More than 30,000 ash masks and about 5,000 sacks of rice, along with medicine, water and other supplies, were being sent to evacuation centers, Office of Civil Defense regional director Claudio Yucot said late Monday.

Food packs, water, medicine and other relief goods remain adequate but may run out by mid-February if the eruption continues and adequate supplies fail to come on time, officials said. With its near-perfect cone, Mayon has long been popular with climbers and tourists but has erupted about 50 times in the last 500 years, sometimes violently. The 8,070-foot (2,460-meter) volcano has generated tourism revenues and jobs in Albay, which lies about 340 kilometers (210 miles) southeast of Manila.

In 2013, an ash eruption killed five climbers who had ventured near the summit despite warnings. Its most destructive eruption, in 1814, killed more than 1,200 people and buried the town of Cagsawa in volcanic mud.



Mayon volcano erupts for the second straight day Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2018 as seen from Legazpi city, Albay province, southeast of Manila, Philippines. The Philippines' most active volcano ejected a huge column of lava fragments, ash and smoke in another thunderous explosion at dawn Tuesday, sending thousands of villagers back to evacuation centers and prompting a warning that a violent eruption may be imminent.

(AP Photo/Bullit Marquez)





**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
**American Samoa**  
Department of Health

# HEALTH SURVEY 2018

The Department of Human and Social Services and the Department of Health are working together to conduct a very important survey in the community. This entails surveying a selection of adults ages 18 and older from each county. Adults will be selected based upon a random sample of electric meters of households throughout the island.

Representatives in blue will be out to identify electric meters, collect vitals signs and other information that relate to general and mental health.

By taking this survey, you are helping to paint a picture of health for our people.

If you are selected to participate, please help us to address the health needs of American Samoa by consenting to take part in the survey. For more information contact DHSS at 633-1157 or DOH at 633-1602.

Surveyors will be revisiting villages throughout the island



Pacific Community  
Communauté du Pacifique



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™



# Mexico: Woman slain, dismembered, cooked; ex is lead suspect

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The remains of a young woman who disappeared over a week ago in southern Mexico were discovered Monday by authorities who said she is believed to have been slain, dismembered and cooked on a stove.

Her ex-husband is suspected in what is being investigated as a “femicide,” or the killing of a woman when the motive is directly related to the victim’s gender.

Guerrero state prosecutors said in a statement that the woman left her home in the city of Taxco the morning of Jan. 13. She later said that she would pick up her children at her ex-husband’s home in the

afternoon, but was not heard from again, it said.

State security spokesman Roberto Alvarez confirmed later that the woman’s “dismembered” remains had been found Monday inside pots atop a stove.

“It is presumed that she was cooked,” he said.

Alvarez said the divorced husband is the chief suspect.

According to a report last month by the Mexican government and the UN Women agency, murders of women in Mexico rose sharply over the last decade following two decades of declines during which the rate had fallen by half.



Director of the Department of Agriculture, Filifa'atali M. Fuiava (middle), Dr. Kristen Jensen (right) from the Veterinary Clinic, and Land Grant's Mark Schmaedick during a hearing before the House Agriculture Committee last Friday.

[photo: AF]

# Test results are in: Ban on taro from Samoa is lifted

MEANWHILE, TARO PLANTING IN MANU'A IS BOOMING

by Ausage Fausia  
Samoa News Reporter

American Samoa has lifted its ban on taro exports from Samoa. During a hearing before the House Agriculture Committee last Friday, Director of the Agriculture Department,

Filifa'atali Michael Fuiava confirmed that he already informed the Samoa Prime Minister and the Samoa Minister of Agriculture during the Two Samoa Talks last year that American Samoa is ready to allow taro exports from Samoa this year.

“We’re planning that by the month of March, the taro export from Samoa will be allowed back to American Samoa, and this will be a good news for farmers from our neighboring island Samoa, who have been waiting patiently to bring their taro to sell in our country,” said Filifa'atali who, together with Dr. Kristen Jensen from the Veterinary Clinic and Mark Schmaedick of the Land Grant, appeared before the House Agriculture Committee to testify on issues that were raised by several lawmakers last week.

Some of these issues include the relationship between the Dept. of Agriculture and the Veterinary Clinic; the future of taro in Manu'a; and banning taro exports from Samoa.

### TARO FROM SAMOA

Schmaedick confirmed to the committee that they have received from Samoa, the results of tests that were sent to the University of Hawaii, to check on the type of virus that affect the taro in Samoa. Nine samples sent from Apia to the Hawai'i lab tested positive for a virus that affects taro leaves.

Rep. Fagaoatua Dorian Salave'a asked the witness whether this is the same virus that affected the Samoan taro back in the 1990s and Schmaedick said no, this is a totally different virus.

Salave'a expressed concern, saying taro is one of the food that is supplied by local farmers to the School Lunch Program, which is funded by the US-DOE for American Samoa. “I don’t want the taro leaf blight that affected the Samoan taro over twenty years ago to come back to our shores and cause huge damage to our agricultural development.

“I believe your staff has the experience to protect our farmers from experiencing another bad situation,” he told Filifa'atali.

The Agriculture director told the committee that after he received information about the unknown virus breakout in Samoa affecting taro crops on the islands of Upolu and Savai'i, he made the quick move to suspend the importation of all taro and taro shoots from Samoa, for

(Continued on page 12)

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# ASH Cable does major upgrade to Samoa-American Samoa cable network equipment

(BASED ON PRESS RELEASE) — JANUARY 22, 2018 — American Samoa Hawaii Cable, LLC (ASH) is proud to announce the successful completion of a major upgrade to the Samoa-American Samoa (SAS) cable network equipment last weekend, which will now enhance the Data capacity of SAS up to one hundred times higher.

All customers were notified of the planned upgrade, which was initiated over the weekend and was led by Bluesky technical teams. Equipment readiness was conducted over the past year on the submarine fiber cable linking American Samoa to Samoa in preparation for this major upgrade to meet the future growth demands of Samoa and American Samoa.

This notable upgrade marks ASH Cable company’s readiness for the arrival of Tui Samoa and Hawaiiki cable planned for this year. The SAS cable was upgraded from 1Gbps to 100Gbps (install capacity), it can be upgraded to 800Gbps should the demand increase.

“ASH Cable Company continues to demonstrate its firm commitment to providing the best service,” says ASHC President Toleafoa Douglas Creevey, “Not only do these efforts improve the lives of our every day customers but are significant in bringing about major business opportunities including e-commerce, online healthcare and education, and governmental services; which is vital in improving socio-economic standards for the future.”

The American Samoa Hawaii Cable, LLC owns and operates ASH Cable, from American Samoa to Hawai’i, and SAS Cable connecting Samoa to American Samoa. ASH Cable LLC holds FCC licenses for landing cable in Hawai’i and American Samoa and also holds a Samoa Submarine Cable Landing license.



## ► Haleck...

Continued from page 1

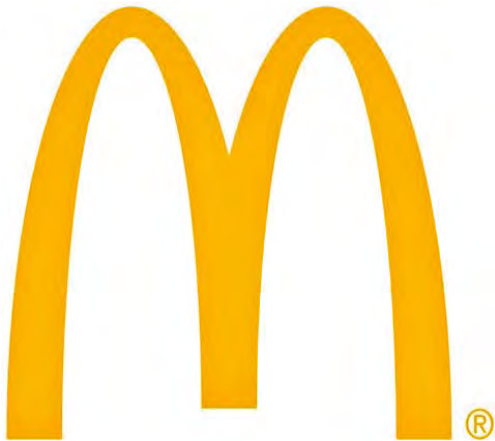
head bowed way down on the defense table with his face buried in his hands, while Kruse was thanking members of the jury for their service.

Neither the defense nor the government wanted to poll the jury individually, when asked by the court.



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Tim Bailey of Speedcast, Wan Chai, Hong Kong, China manned the Pacific Telecommunications Council booth, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu, Hawaii to help promote cooperation amongst technology firms.  
[photo: Barry Markowitz, 1/20/18]



## Pacific Telecommunications Conference

by Barry Markowitz

American Samoa's Puleiite Tufele Lia Jr. gave a presentation on the advent of new territorial cables at the annual PTC conference in Honolulu, on Saturday — Jan. 20, 2018 — with major American Samoa telecom experts Aoe'e Adolfo Montenegro (consultant to Governor Lolo Matalasi Moliga and executive of Federated States of Micronesia's FSM Cable) and Bluesky exec Douglas Creevey in attendance.

Hopefully these public chats result in improved internet speed and bandwidth... or you can employ empty Vailimas

to solve your communication issues by personally cramming your messages in a bottle and tossing it out to sea. Sometimes old school is more reliable these days, eh?

Why do Coolios care about 'ol Tim pictured above? Tim is the proud husband of Samoan Nive Filipo. Hmmm, he's married to a Samoan, he is based in Hong Kong... home of the HK 7's where Manu Samoa will compete. And sooo...Nive, your duty as a Hong Kong based Samoan is to throw a small party before April's HK 7's for Samoa News staffers, and a huge party after Manu Samoa

wins the HK 7's championship. And if you don't mind, have your kind handsome husband, bring down to the field, a few cups of Guinness Beer every hour for me.

Scientific proof: Hydration=xInt Manu Samoa photos (or Cool Stuff will think he is submitting Rhonda & Patty great action images, but won't really care when his head has got the Guinness spin on).

The Samoa News as usual is everywhere. Expect more Cool Stuff Police Month exclusive product stories from a Las Vegas conference, in part focused on serving law enforcement.



FILE - In this Oct. 20, 2017, file photo, former Honolulu Police Chief Louis Kealoha, right, and his wife, Katherine, leave federal court in Honolulu. A man says a deputy Honolulu prosecutor who controlled his childhood trust fund convinced him to lie to a grand jury about what happened to his money. Ransen Taito pleaded guilty Friday, Jan. 5, 2018, to conspiracy. Retired Honolulu police chief Louis Kealoha and his prosecutor wife, Katherine Kealoha, have pleaded not guilty to charges in a corruption case. The indictment in that case also alleges that Katherine Kealoha depleted trust funds of Taito and his sister and used the money for herself.  
(AP Photo/Caleb Jones, File)

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A group of senators gather off the Senate floor to speak to reporters after reaching an agreement to advance a bill ending a government shutdown on Capitol Hill in Washington, Monday, Jan. 22, 2018. From left are, Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, D-N.D., Sen. Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, and Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn.

(AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

# What’s in, and not in, deal ending the government shutdown

The deal to break through the Senate stalemate over immigration and border security that shut down the government is a bare-bones accord. It provides temporary funding to keep the government operating for just under three weeks.

Senate Democrats dropped their objections to a stopgap spending measure. In return, Senate Republican leaders promised to soon take up immigration and other prickly issues.

A look at what the deal has and doesn’t have:

### WHAT’S IN THE DEAL

—Short-term funding for the government through Feb. 8. The Republicans had been insisting on longer, at least a month.

—The long-delayed, six-

year renewal of a popular health insurance program for children in low-income families. The program known as CHIP became an unshakeable pillar for the Republicans throughout the budget drama, and Democrats were hard-pressed to reject such a universally accepted plan.

—Delays to three taxes under the Obama-era health care law: the medical device tax through 2019, the so-called Cadillac tax on generous employer-paid health care plans through 2021; and a tax on health insurance companies through 2019.

### WHAT’S NOT IN IT

—Any move to halt deportation efforts aimed at immigrant “Dreamers,” who were

brought to the U.S. as children and are now in the country illegally. President Donald Trump ended the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, late last year, but he gave Congress until March 5 to pass legislation extending it. DACA protects some 700,000 immigrants from deportation.

—New funds to toughen border security, including money to start building Trump’s long-promised wall spanning the U.S.-Mexico border. The wall was one of his leading campaign promises, and a number of congressional Republicans have continually stressed border security in the budget talks.

—Longer-term funding for the government.



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# Student: Boy arrested in school shooting has violent past

DALLAS (AP) — A 16-year-old boy accused of shooting a classmate at a Texas high school on Monday had a history of aggressive actions at school, a fellow student said.

The injured student, a 15-year-old girl, was airlifted to a hospital in Dallas following the shooting inside the cafeteria at Italy High School, which is in the small town of Italy about 40 miles (64 kilometers) south of Dallas. The boy fled after being confronted by a school district official but was later arrested.

Cassie Shook, a 17-year-old junior at the school, told The Associated Press that she was driving up to the building when she saw “the doors fly open and everyone screaming and running out of the building.” She said she was angry when she learned who the suspect was because she’d complained about the boy at least twice to

school officials, including to a vice principal.

“This could have been avoidable,” she said. “There were so many signs.” Shook said she first went to school officials after the boy allegedly made a “hit list” in eighth grade and her name was on it. Then last year, the boy got angry during a class and threw a pair of scissors at her friend and later threw a computer against a wall, she said. “I ran out of the classroom screaming, telling everyone to hide because I was scared,” Shook said. Shook said police came to talk to the class after the incident. She said the boy was removed from the school but eventually was allowed back.

Italy Independent School District Superintendent Lee Joffre said the district couldn’t comment on disciplinary actions involving students. Police have not released the boy’s name and

didn’t return a message seeking comment about his past.

Shook said the girl who was shot Monday had moved to the school district a few months earlier. Police said the girl was taken to Parkland Memorial Hospital, where a spokeswoman said she couldn’t release any information about the girl’s condition. The school district of about 600 students is located near the center of Italy, a town of about 2,000 people that dubs itself “The Biggest Little Town In Texas.” Joffre said that about 45 to 55 students are typically in the high school’s cafeteria in the morning for breakfast. He noted that school would be in session Tuesday and that counselors would be available.

“In a small town, the school district is the center of what goes on for our kids, and this morning’s tragedy hits the heart of this community,” Joffre said.



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Director of the Office of Management and Budget Mick Mulvaney walks from a television interview outside the White House in Washington, Monday, Jan. 22, 2018, on the third day of the federal shutdown. Mulvaney is defending President Donald Trump's lack of outreach to Democratic lawmakers during the government shutdown.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

# Out of character, Trump keeps his distance as shutdown ends

WASHINGTON (AP) — As the shutdown of the federal government lumbered toward an end, President Donald Trump remained out of sight, suppressing his instincts to become part of the story by making a deal or picking a fight.

Trump told allies over the weekend that he hated being on the sidelines, but he followed the recommendations of his staff and key congressional Republicans and removed himself from the negotiations. The president limited his public pronouncements to a few Twitter bursts that bashed Democrats.

He did not reach out to Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer or any other Democrat, instead calling fellow Republicans and Cabinet members to check on the response to the shutdown.

The White House defended Trump's hands-off approach to the negotiations, one out of

character for a president who made his reputation as the master of "The Art of the Deal," as he titled one of his books.

"Look, what the president did clearly worked," said White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders. She told reporters that Trump's focus was on minimizing the impact of the shutdown on Americans.

"That's been a big priority for the president," she said. "I think that it certainly went much smoother than it has in the past, but also the president was putting pressure and standing firm on exactly what he was willing to do and what he wasn't."

Trump's shifting positions, particularly on protections for young immigrants, twice scuttled deals that could have avoided the shutdown, frustrating Republicans and Democrats alike. Schumer, who believed he was close to a deal on Friday after meeting the president at the White House over cheeseburgers, blasted Trump's refusal to re-engage.

"The White House refused to engage in negotiations over

the weekend," Schumer said Monday. "The great deal-making president sat on the sidelines."

Trump initially chafed at remaining out of the fray, grouching to aides and outside advisers that he feared taking the blame. He watched hours of coverage of the shutdown on cable TV over the weekend — including clips of him blasting President Barack Obama for being passive during the 2013 shutdown — and made a series of calls to allies in which he expressed fear he was looking weak, according to a person familiar with the conversations but not authorized to speak about them publicly.

But Trump was pleased with the work of his staff defending him on air and urged them to "hold the line" during a visit to Sanders' office, which had become a de facto war room in the West Wing, according to a White House official, who was not authorized to speak publicly about internal discussions. The president warmed to playing hardball with the Democrats.



## AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Department of Agriculture Community and Natural Resources (ACNR)

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

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

**General Description:**

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

**Job Duties and Responsibilities:**

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

**Minimum Requirements:**

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

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

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

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

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### ► Laser...

Continued from page 1

person Ann Botticelli said Sunday afternoon that the captain of last Friday's night flight "did report a laser incident" to the tower at the airport but she didn't have more information.

(Samoa News assumes that the tower referred to by Botticelli is the one at the Faleolo International Airport, as there is no FAA control tower at the Tafuna airport.)

The FAA public affairs office in Los Angeles, which covers media issues for Hawai'i and the US territories, couldn't be reached for comments as it was closed due to the partial federal shutdown over lack of funding.

An auto-reply message, to Samoa News email questions on Sunday, recommends contacting the airline and local airport authorities.

Department of Port Administration's Airport Manager, Tavita Fuimaono said yesterday that an airport safety officer was notified of the situation around 10:27p.m Friday by the local Hawaiian Air station manager and this was about 30 minutes after the plane's arrival.

"We cannot control events outside of our airport at such a short time span," said Fuimaono responding to Samoa News inquiries on behalf of Port Administration director Taimalelagi Dr. Claire Poumele. "This is the same with flying drones in airports. These are new challenges that we are facing with our airport environment."

Furthermore, "we need to 'educate' the public about the dangers of shooting laser beams

to pilots, especially on approach [because] lasers can blind pilots and therefore endanger their visibility in precision approach to our airport at night."

He explained that shooting a laser to an aircraft: can blind the pilot; jeopardize the safety of landing the aircraft; and risk the lives of passengers on board.

Fuimaono reminds the community that the "majority of passengers on planes arriving/departing Pago Pago airport are either our relatives or friends. This should be considered by the public for the sake and safety of aircrafts in our airport."

"In order to mitigate this practice, we are seeking assistance from the local Department of Homeland Security and/or Department of Public Safety if they can be on the lookout during the arrival of Hawaiian," he continued.

"It takes less than 10 minutes for Hawaiian to reach Pago Pago airport on final approach. This won't be much time to track a culprit shooting a laser," Fuimaono said.

The last known laser incident involving a Hawaiian flight while landing at the Tafuna Airport was in the later part of March 2011. Samoa News reported at the time the incident occurred "when the aircraft was descending" to the Tafuna Airport. It was believed to be the first laser incident at the airport at the time and there was no affect on the pilots or the safety of the passengers and crew.

"There is nothing funny, humorous or cute about shining a laser at an aircraft," the FAA said at the time.



# Officials: 5 missing, fire out after Oklahoma rig explosion



Smoke billows from the site of a gas well fire near Quinton, Okla., early Monday, Jan. 22, 2018. Several people are missing after a fiery explosion ripped through the eastern Oklahoma drilling rig, sending plumes of black smoke into the air and leaving a derrick crumpled onto the ground, an emergency official said.

(Kevin Harvison/The McAlester News-Capital via AP)

QUINTON, Okla. (AP) — Five people are missing after a fiery explosion ripped through an eastern Oklahoma drilling rig on Monday, sending plumes of black smoke into the air and leaving a derrick crumpled on the ground, emergency officials said.

More than 20 employees were at the natural gas well site when the blast was reported around 8:45 a.m., Pittsburg County Sheriff Chris Morris said. Aerial footage showed several fires were still burning by midday on the rig and other equipment; the derrick, a towering metal structure above the well, collapsed onto the ground.

Emergency crews were pulled away after other explosions at the site, where several tanks are also located, Pittsburg County Emergency Management Director Kevin Enloe

said during an afternoon news conference.

“Pretty much everything that is on location is on fire,” Enloe said.

A statement Monday night from emergency management said the fire was out.

The explosion occurred west of the town of Quinton, about 100 miles (161 kilometers) southeast of Tulsa. Enloe said firefighters were letting the blaze burn and weren’t putting water on it to keep from spreading possible hazardous materials at the site.

Enloe said about 17 workers were pulled from the site following the blast, including one who suffered minor burns and was treated at the scene. He said crews were searching the surrounding woods to see if anyone had fled into the area.

“Most everybody was

taken off the site and taken to a secure site here in Quinton,” said Morris, the sheriff. He said workers were “pretty shook up.”

“It’s a pretty dramatic deal to go through,” he said.

Confirmation of any fatalities wasn’t expected to be possible until the fire was extinguished and investigators could get to the scene of the explosion, said Amy Elliott, a spokeswoman for the Oklahoma medical examiner’s office.

“I pray there’s not, but we just don’t know yet,” Elliott said.

State environmental and regulatory officials were heading to the scene after being notified, according to Oklahoma Office of Emergency Management spokeswoman Keli Cain.

The drilling site was being operated by Oklahoma City-based Red Mountain Operating, said Matt Skinner, a spokesman for the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, which regulates oil and gas operators in the state. Telephone and email messages left by The Associated Press with Red Mountain were not immediately returned.

Houston-based Patterson-UTI Energy Inc., a drilling rig operator, confirmed in a statement Monday that some of its employees remain unaccounted for.

“The cause of the fire is unknown at this time,” the company said. Skinner said a company that specializes in rig fires and other well control problems also responded to the blaze.

# Trump applies tariffs to solar panels, washing machines

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Monday approved tariffs on imported solar-energy components and large washing machines in a bid to help U.S. manufacturers.

The Republican’s decision followed recommendations for tariffs by the U.S. International Trade Commission.

“The president’s action makes clear again that the Trump administration will always defend American workers, farmers, ranchers, and businesses in this regard,” U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer said in a statement announcing the decision.

Most imported solar modules will face an immediate tariff of 30 percent, with the rate declining before phasing out after four years. For large residential washing machines, tariffs will start at up to 50 percent and phase out after three years.

Mexico said Trump’s decision not to exclude it from the measures was “regrettable.”

“Mexico will use all available legal resources in response to the U.S. decision to apply protections on Mexican washing machines and solar panels,” its Economy Department said in a statement.

The U.S. solar industry was split over the trade barriers.

The tariffs were sought last year by Suniva Inc., which filed for bankruptcy protection in April, and the U.S. subsidiary of Germany’s SolarWorld.

They said that a nearly 500 percent increase in imported solar panels over five years led to a ruinous price collapse. Nearly 30 U.S. solar-manufacturing facilities had closed in the past five years, they said, as China plotted to flood the global market with cheap products to weaken U.S. manufacturing.

Suniva spokesman Mark Paustenbach called tariffs “a step forward for this high-tech solar-manufacturing industry we pioneered right here in America.”

However, solar installers and

manufacturers of other equipment used to run solar-power systems opposed tariffs, which they said will raise their prices and hurt demand for the renewable energy.

The Solar Energy Industries Association, which represents installation companies, said billions of dollars of solar investment will be delayed or canceled, leading to the loss of 23,000 jobs this year.

Mark Bortman, founder of Exact Solar in Philadelphia, said the prospect of tariffs, since the trade commission recommended them in October, had already caused him to delay hiring and expansion plans.

“Solar is really just starting to take off because it is truly a win-win-win situation” for consumers, workers and the environment, he said. “Tariffs would really be shooting ourselves in the foot.”

The case for tariffs on washing machines was pushed by Benton Harbor, Michigan-based Whirlpool Corp.

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## Notice for Proposed Registration of Land

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with the request which has been received by the Territorial Registrar for the registration of a certain land LALOOLEISU which is situated in or near the village of VAITOGI, County of TUALAUTA Island of TUTUILA, from MATAUTU PETER TINITALI of the village of VAITOGI as a/an COMMUNAL land of FUAMAILA SOA FAMILY.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that anyone claiming an interest in the above named land, may file an objection with the Territorial Registrar's Office within 60 days from the date of posting of this notice. If no objection is filed within 60 days from the date of posting of this notice, the land proposed herein will be registered as such in accordance with the law of American Samoa.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the survey and description of the said land are now on file in the Territorial Registrar's Office where they may be examined at any time prior to the expiration of the said sixty (60) days.

POSTED: DECEMBER 20, 2017 thru FEBRUARY 20, 2017  
SIGNED: Taito S.B. White, Territorial Registrar

## Fa'aaliga o le Fia Fa'amauina o se Fanua

O LE FA'AALIGA LENEI ua fa'asalalauina ona o le talosaga ua fa'aulufaleina mai i le Ofisa o le Resitara o Amerika Samoa ina ia fa'amauina le fanua o LALOOLEISU, e tu pe latalata ane i le nu'u o VAITOGI, Itumalo o TUALAUTA i le motu o TUTUILA, ina ia fa'amauina e MATAUTU PETER TINITALI ole fanua FAITELE o LE AIGA SA FUAMAILA SOA.

SO O SE TASI e aia ma fa'atu'iese i le fanua ua ta'ua i luga ia fa'aulufaleina mai sana fa'atu'iesega tusitusia i le Ofisa o le Resitara i totonu o aso e 60 mai le aso na fa'aalia ai lea fa'aaliga. Afai o le a lei se fa'atu'iesega e fa'aulufaleina mai i totonu o aso e 60, o le fanua lenei o le a fa'amauina e pei ona ta'ua i luga e tusa ai ma aiaiga o le tulafono i Amerika Samoa.

O LE FA'AFANUA ma fa'amatalaga e uiga i lenei fanua, ua iai nei i le Ofisa ole Resitara, ma e avanoa mo se iloilogia i so'o se aso i totonu o le 60 o le faita'ina o aso. 12/22/17 & 01/22/18

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## LAND COMMISSION

NOTICE is hereby given that MAGALEI LOGOV'TI of MAPUSAGA FOU, American Samoa, has executed a WARRANTY DEED to a certain parcel of land commonly known as FUIALOA which is situated in the village of MAPUSAGA FOU in the County of TUALAUTA, WESTERN District, Island of Tutuila, American Samoa. Said LEASE AGREEMENT is now on file with the Territorial Registrar to be forwarded to the Governor respecting his approval or disapproval thereof according to the laws of American Samoa. Said instrument names THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS as GRANTEE.

Any person who wish, may file his objection in writing with the Secretary of the Land Commission before the 9TH day of FEBRUARY, 2018. It should be noted that any objection must clearly state the grounds therefor.

POSTED: DECEMBER 11, 2017 thru FEBRUARY 9, 2018  
SIGNED: Taito S.B. White, Territorial Registrar

## KOMISI O LAU'ELE'ELE

O LE FAASALALAUAGA lenei ua faia ona o MAGALEI LOGOV'TI ole nu'u o MAPUSAGA FOU, Amerika Samoa, ua ia faia se FEAGAIGA FOA'I, i se fanua ua lauiloa o FUIALOA e i le nu'u o MAPUSAGA FOU i le itumalo o TUALAUTA, Falelima i SISIFO ole Motu o TUTUILA Amerika Samoa. O lea FEAGAIGA FOA'I ua i ai nei i teuga pepa ale Resitara o Amerika Samoa e fia auina atu ile Kovana Sili mo sana fa'amaoniga e tusa ai ma le Tulafono a Amerika Samoa. O lea mata'upu o lo'o ta'ua ai THE CHURCH OF JESUS OF CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS.

A iai se tasi e fia fa'atu'iese i lea mata'upu, ia fa'aulufaleina mai sa na fa'atu'iesega tusitusia ile Failautusi o lea Komisi ae le'i oo ile aso 9 o FEPUARI, 2018. Ia manatua, o fa'atu'iesega uma lava ia tusitusia manino mai ala uma e fa'atu'iese ai. 12/22/17 & 01/22/18





# Meet A Spelling Champ!

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



## BIOGRAPHY OF A 2018 SPELLING BEE FINALIST

What is your name?  
**Amber Leota**  
What is your school name?  
**Manumalo Baptist Academy**  
What grade are you in?  
**Grade 8**  
Who is your English Teacher?  
**Rosa Temese**  
Who are your parents?  
**Chuck & Leute Leota**  
What village are you from?  
**Vailoatai**  
What was your winning word?  
**TCHOTCHKE**

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

**Territorial Spelling Bee**

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## Test results...

Continued from page 6

safety reasons.

He said the decision to impose the ban was to avoid another epidemic like the one that struck the islands in 1993-1994.

The ban, Filifa'atali said, was recently lifted based on satisfactory test results provided by the Samoa Ministry of Agriculture.

### VETERINARY CLINIC

One of the issues discussed during last Friday's House hearing had to do with the relationship between the Dept. of Agriculture and the Veterinary Clinic, which is under its umbrella.

Manu'a faipule, Rep. Toeaina Faufano Autele questioned Filifa'atali about the many changes at the Veterinary Clinic, including the closing of the fence that separates the Veterinary Clinic from the Agriculture premises.

Toeaina said it seems to him that Filifa'atali and his staff are trying to separate the Clinic from them, and the changes gives the Veterinary Clinic staff a hard time in fulfilling their daily work. He also asked Filifa'atali to consider the service of Dr. Kristen Jensen who heads the Veterinary Clinic, and to allow her to continue her service for American Samoa by renewing her contract.

Filifa'atali explained that the reason why his staff locks

the fence during holidays and the weekend, is because a lot of people come into the area and he's only trying to protect the government property inside the compound. He said it will cost the government if someone takes those things away.

Filifa'atali acknowledged the great job that Dr. Jensen has done for American Samoa ever since her arrival. "She's doing a tremendous job for our country, trying to control the population of dogs in American Samoa," Filifa'atali said.

### FUTURE OF TARO IN MANU'A

The future of taro in Manu'a is heading in the right direction, Filifa'atali said, adding his staff in Manu'a is doing a great job by planting different types of taro in both the Luanu'u (Ofu and Olosega/ Sili) and also the Faletolu (Ta'u, Faleasao and Fitiuta).

He told faipule that taro planting in Manu'a continues to grow and hopefully by the middle of this year, people in Tutuila will witness more taro being imported from Manu'a.

He said ever since the taro exports from Samoa were suspended last year, they have noticed a lot of taro in Tutuila. Filifa'atali said this is a good sign for our country, because it proves the point that our local farmers are able to provide taro when there is a need.



# TSM SPECIALS

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SHRIMP 21-25 PDT ON 2LB	\$14.25/pk
SHRIMP 31-40 PDT ON 2LB	\$12.55/pk
SAUSAGE LS	\$ 5.85/pk
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LAMB FLAP	\$ 3.60/lb
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# Tatala le Ta'elega mo le Lautele - Le "Pala Lagoon Swimming Pool"

tusia: Leua Aiono Frost

O le ulua'i ta'elega mo le mamalu lautele o le atunu'u ua tatala aloa'ia ina ia fa'aaogaina i le aso Faraile ua te'a i le Paka Liona, ma o se mata'aga fo'i lea galuega tele e \$1.31 miliona lona tauaofa'i i le Rotary Club ma ana pa'aga e aofia ai ma le Malo o Amerika Samoa, faapea fo'i se vaega tupe mai le CDBG a le feterale mo galuega atina'e o le atunu'u.

O pa'aga na foa'i mo le galuega lea sa fa'amatu'u e fausia e le Rotary Club of Pago Pago na lisia mai i vaega e tolu, Platinum, Auro ma le Siliva ina ia tino mai le Ta'elega o le "Pala Lagoon Swimming Pool." Sa faia foi se ta'amilosaga Tapolo sa fa'atautaia mai le 15 tausaga mo lenei fa'amoemoe.

"Ua tusia i latou nei, a'o e fa'amalu ma le fiafia ma lou aiga i lea ta'elega, tau ina e fa'afetaia le agalelei ma le lima mafola i ala na latou foa'i ai. Peita'i, ia lalamua i lou agaga fa'afetai, ia tausia lelei lenei aseta aoga mo tagata uma o le teritori e fia fa'amalu ma fiafia fa'atasi ma aiga i lea nofoaga," o se tasi lea o saunoaga sa fa'afogaina e le mamalu sa auai i le tatalaga aloaia o le Swimming Pool.

O le sauniga mamalu sa si'itia e le Fa'afeagaiga Iasepi Ulu mai le EFKAS i Fagatogo ma vi'iga fo'i sa fofogaina e lana aufaipese fa'apitoa a tama'ita'i i lea taeao. Ona soso'o lea ma saunoaga fa'apitoa sa fa'asolo mai e le fofoga o le polokalame na taoto mo le fa'amoemoe, le tofa Tofa Su'a Sualauvi.

Na mua'i maua le avanoa o le afioga le Sa'o Utu Abe Malae mo lana folasaga e tusa o le galuega ma lona tau, ma ua tolaulauina mai ai i latou na togi ma'a i lenei fa'amoemoe.

"Sefulumalelima tausaga ua te'a, na ofo ai le ali'i sa avea ma Peresetene o le Rotary o Pago Pago, William Sword e fausia e le Rotary le Vaita'ele lenei, ona e iloga mai e to'atele alo o le atunu'u e fefefe i le sami ma le iloa atu ai ona a'au. E ui ina tuai mai, ae o se galuega e tuai ona mae'a, ua fausia lelei fo'i, ma e fa'afiafiaina fo'i tagata, ona ua mafai ona mae'a ma latou fa'aaogaina," o se tautalaga lea a Utu e tusa o lea galuega.

Sa ia fa'aioa mai ala sa saili ai le Rotary mo le fa'amoemoe. "O le umi o nei tausaga, o le umi lena sa fa'aaoga e le Rotary e faia ai latou ta'amilosaga tapolo ina ia maua le seleni ma fa'aputu mo le fa'amoemoe. Soso'o loa ma le fesoasoani mai o le DOC e talosagaina le tupe toina mai le CDBG, fa'atasi ma foa'i na talia mai pa'aga uma ua

lisia, ma ua iloga ai loa ona lava le seleni e amata ma fa'amae'a ai le galuega i le lua tausaga mulimuli o le taimi ua ta'ua."

"O le tau aofa'i o le galuega \$US1.31 miliona fa'atasi ai ma le tele mafaufauga fefaaalia'i ma aikia eseese na fa'aalia ma toe soloia ae fa'aaogaina nisi, fa'afetai aua o se galuega ua to'atele sui na tofusao i ona fausaga, ma i'u ane o se mea lelei ua tula'i mai. Fa'afetai Rotary ma au pa'aga uma, ae maisi i latou na matua galulue malosi i le fausaga o lenei

(Faauuau itulau 14)



O i latou na tofu sao i le taeao na tatala ai le Ta'elega o le Pala Lagoon i Tafuna, ma sa tapenaina le nofoaga fa'atasi ai ma le tausamiga matagofie ina ia aluga lelei lea fo'i fa'atasiga. O i la'ua o Florina, Sandra ma Nancy sa latou tutua'ai mo lea fa'amoemoe. Fa'afetai fa'ato'ato'a.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

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O le afioga le Faipule o le Tualauta Vui Florence Saulo, se tasi o ta'ita'i o le Rotary Club ma le peresetene o le Lion's Club a Pago Pago Lisa Tuato'o, lea ua latou fiafia fa'atasi ina ua mae'a se tasi o galuega iloga i le atunu'u, sa alofaiva i ai fa'alapotopotoga tumaoti i le atunu'u, le Rotary Club ma ana pa'aga sa foa'i.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

# Tele lu'itau na feagai ma le malo i le tausaga ua mavae

## tusia Ausage Fausia

E tele naua lu'itau i le itu tau tupe na fetaia'i ma le faigamalo a Lolo ma Lemanu i le tausaga ua mavae, e pei ona fa'amanino e le afioga i le ali'i Kovana i lana saunoaga, e tatala aloaia ai le Tauaofiaga lona 3 o le Nofoaiga 35 a le Fono Faitulafono i le masina nei.

E ui i le tele o nei lu'itau e pei ona taua e le tofa Lolo Matalasi Moliga, ae na mafai lava ona aga'i i luma galuega fa'ataoto a le malo, e ala i le lagolagosua atu a le Fono Faitulafono, atoa ai ma le sao a tagata faigaluega i le taumafai lea ina ia fa'atino gaioiga uma e mafai ai ona fa'ataunu'u le auunaga a le malo mo le atunu'u.

O se tasi o itu taua na faamamafa e le faigamalo i ana taumafai ina ia faapaleni pea le malosi o lona tamaoaga, o le toe vaavaai lea i auala e faamalosia ai ana tulafono tupe o lo o mafai ona maua mai ai tupe maua mo le malo, atoa ai ma le taumafai

ina ia fa'atonutonu le tulaga i tupe fa'aalu ma tupe maua, ina ia mautinoa e le toe sili atu tupe fa'aalu nai lo tupe o lo o maua mai e le malo e fa'atino ai lana auunaga i le atunu'u.

O ni isi o itu sa manatu le malo e fa'amalosia ai pea lana fa'amuumua i tulaga o fesoa-soani ma atina'e, o le ave lea o le fa'amuumua i le sailia o auala e fa'aleleia ai aoaoga mo fanau, tausaiaina o le soifua maloloina, atina'e mo le fa'aleleia o le puipuiga o le saogalemu lautele, atoa ai ma le fausiaina o fale ma atina'e e tautua ai tagata, faapea ai taumafaiga ina ia fa'aleleia auala, atoa ai ma isi lana tautua e sapaia ai le sao a tagata matutua, tupulaga faapea ai tagata faigaluega uma i le malo ma le atunu'u.

"O lo o tele pea le galuega e moomia le fa'amae'aina i lenei tausaga fou 2018, e ui o lo o i ai pea lu'itau o lo o tau fa'amata'u mai i le tamaoaga o le atunu'u, ae galulue pea le malo e fa'atino

lana pito laau," o se vaega lea o le saunoaga a le ali'i kovana.

O se tasi o taumafaiga o lo o galue malosi i ai le malo i le taimi nei, o le sailia lea o auala e fa'amalosia ai le tutumau pea o kamupani i'a i le atunu'u.

E pei ona silafia, o le tulafono e pei ona fa'atoa pasia mai e le Konekeresi i tulaga o le pili o lafoga, e le o aofia ai i totonu le vaega lea e fa'aagafua ai lafoga. Lona uiga, o le tausaga lenei o le a toe siitia ai le isi faaopoopoga o todogi amata e pei ona pasia mai e le feterale i tausaga ua mavae, ma o se isi lea aafiaga tele i kamupani i'a aemaise ai lava o lea ua tapunia le kamupani a le Samoa Tuna Processing.

Na faailoa e Lolo i ta'ita'i o le Fono i lana saunoaga e fa'apea, e matua manaomia lava le galulue fa'atasi o le Fono Faitulafono ma le faigamalo, i le sailia lea o auala e fesoa-soani ai i le fa'aleleia atili o le auunaga a le malo i tagata.



O se va'aiga i le ta'elega atoa, mai le isi itu o lo'o fa'aaogaina e le vasega o fanau talavou e lelei a latou a'au se'ia o'o i le isi itu e ta'e'ele ai fanauiti ma le vasega o tagata matutua. O le taimi lea ua o'otia ai le lipine e tatala aloa'ia ai le Pala Lagoon Swimming Pool" e le tina o le atunu'u Cynthia Moliga ma le susuga Utu Abe Malae.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

## Tatala...

Mai itulau 13

ta'elega."

O ana toe upu na ia fa'apea ai, "Ua uma le vaita'ele i Pala Lagoon, e le pulea e le Rotary, ae o le a pulea lava e le mamalu lautele o le atunu'u, ia outou tausia lelei, ma ia tumama i ai, ia umi fo'i ona aoga ma tatou fa'aaogaina!"

Ina ua tula'i le ali'i Inisinia sa nafa ma le fausaga lea, Joe Weilenman, sa na'o na ia fa'aailoa lava, "Ona o a'u lea sa fa'ao'o mai i ai le seleni fa'asoa mo le galuega, aua o a'u lea o se sui totino o le Rotary, ou te fia fa'aailoa atu, mai le to'atele o e na tofu sao i lenei galuega, ae ou te le iloa po'o ai le ulugali'i na o mai lava taua'ao mai le \$50,000 mo le fa'amoemoe e fausia ai le Pala Lagoon Swimming Pool, toe tulioso i le la'ua ta'avale, o ese atu. Mo oulue fa'afetai pe afai ua oulue va'aia se galuega ua tino mai ona o le lua foa'i fo'i sa aoga mo lona fausaga!"

Saunoa le peresetene o le Rotary i lenei tausaga, John Raynar ma ia fa'afetaia tagata uma na galulue ia tino le ta'elega, ae maise i pa'aga sa latou foa'i ma sui totino fo'i o le Rotary i le galulue fa'atasi, ua ausia ai lenei aso iloga mo aiga uma o Amerika Samoa, latou te fa'aaogaina. "E ui ina fa'aletonu le tamaoaga o le tatou malo, ae o lo'o una'ia pea galuega lelei, e fa'aailoa atu ai, pe vaivai pe itiiti se galuega e fai ma mae'a, ae o lo'o tau atina'e lava le atunu'u. E le o tatou fa'avaivai, ae o lo'o tatou fa'amalolosi fa'atasi!"

O le sao o le afioga le Kovana Sili Lolo Moliga, sa ia fa'afetaia ai le Rotary i le galuega ua mae'a nei. Fa'afetaia pa'aga uma ua fa'aילו, ae maise o tagata uma sa tofu sao i so'o se ala ia mafai ona mae'a le Vaita'ele o le a fa'aaogaina e le atunu'u atoa, ma ave fa'oi o se isi nofoaga e fiafia i ai tagata e malaga mai, ae maise o i tatou o

lo'o i le lotoifale.

Na ia toe fa'atepa le lautele i le fuaitau o le Tusi Paia sa si'itia mai e Rev. Iasepi i lana tautalaga, "E sili le to'alua pe to'atolu nai lo le to'atasi i mea uma...aua a to'atele ona mama lea o se avega po'o se galuega o lo'o faia!"

Fa'afetaia fo'i e ia le CEO Utu Abe Malae o le ASPA, aua o se tasi lea o galuega e le tu'umamaina e ia lona va'ai toto'a i lona fa'atautaiga po'o aluga lelei mea uma. E o'o mai fo'i i le aso atofa mo le tatalaina aloa'ia, e tele lava lona sao, e le gata i lenei galuega, a'o isi mea uma o tautua ai o ia i le atunu'u.

Ona o le Rotary e matele i le aufaipisinisi o lo'o tutula'i mai ai ma tautua e pei o le latou auau, "Fa'amuumua Lau Tautua", o lea sa ia fa'aailoa atu ai lona agaga fa'afetai tele mo i latou uma na foa'i ma tofu sao i le galuega o le a aoga e fa'afiafiaina ai so'o se aiga e pa'au ane i ai ma fa'aaoga.

"O lenei se galuega, ua faamauina atili ai le galulue fa'atasi o le aufaipisinisi, tagata lautele na foa'i ae maise o le Malo. O le a fo'i se sao o le Malo mo le galuega, fa'afetai mo le tou lagolagosua ma tatou atina'e fa'atasi le tatou atunu'u i mea e manuia ai le aotelega o i tatou uma."

O le lipine e tatala aloa'ia ai le ta'elega sa o'otia e le tina o le atunu'u Cynthia Moliga, ma ulufale atu loa i latou uma aofia mo le maimoaga ao le'i tatala aloaia mo ta'elega a le lautele i le itula e 1:00pm i le aoauli lava o le aso Faraile.

O le ulufale mo tagata uma e \$5.00 i le tagata, ae o lo'o ua mae'a fa'apipi'ia fo'i le seti o tulafono e ao ina usita'ia e i latou uma o le a fa'aaogaina. Ua lomina nei tulafono i le gagana peretania ma le fa'asamoa, ua leai la se 'alofaga o se tasi, ina nei le malamalama.



O'otia le Lipine o le Pala Lagoon Swimming Pool e Cynthia Moliga ae o lo'o taga'i toto'a i ai le afioga Utu Abe Malae ma le to'atele sa auai i lea sauniga mamalu Aso Faraile Ianuari 19, 2018.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



# Taunu’u pili a le faiga-malo i le maota o sui

tusia Ausage Fausia

O le vaiaso na te’a nei na taunu’u ai i luma o le maota o sui o le Fono Faitulafono a le atunu’u pili tupe a le faigamalo a Lolo ma Lemanu, mo le fa’amoemoe e saili mai ai ni isi alagatupe fou e faatupe ai galuega fa’atino a le malo.

O ia pili tupe e 2 e aofia ai le pili e sii ai le fua o lafoga mo oloa eseese, atoa ai ma le pili e suia ai le fua o le lafoga o oloa mo le ‘ava malosi ma oloa mai le maolo.

O ia pili e pei ona taua e le afioga i le Fofoga Fetalaia Savali Talavou Ale i luma o le maota o sui i le vaiaso na te’a nei, o ni isi nei o pili na fa’aulufale e le faigamalo a Lolo ma Lemanu i le tausaga ua mavae.

Ae talu ai o ni isi o tulaga sa faia i ai suiga atoa ai ma fua-fuaga fa’ataoto a le Fono Faitulafono, ua mafua ai ona faia le faaiuga ina ia toe tuuina mai nei tulafono i luma o le Fono mo sa latou fa’aiuga.

Mo le pili e sii ai lafoga o oloa eseese e ulufale mai i le atunu’u, ua taua ai e le faigamalo a Lolo ma Lemanu e fa’apea, o le lafoga e 5% o oloa o loo i ai, ua fa’amoemoe le malo e siitia i le 8% e pei ona taua i le gagana o le tulafono.

O le 75% o le tupe e maua mai i lenei lafoga o le a teuina i le teugatupe lotoifale a le malo, o le \$1 miliona ua faamoemoe e tuuina atu i le polokalame o Sikolasipi a fanau aoga, a o le vaega e totoe ai o le a faailoga mo le lipeaina, faaleleia atoa ai ma le faafouina o faleaoga a le malo ma meafaigaluega e amata

i le tausagatupe fou lenei 2018.

Mo le pili e sui a ai le fua o le lafoga o oloa mo le pia ma oloa e maua mai i le molo, o lo o taua ai e le faigamalo e fa’apea, o le lafoga o oloa mo le pia ma le molo o loo i ai nei, e faigofie lava ona faa togafiti lona faia ina ia faaitiitia ai le lafoga e totogi atu i le malo o Amerika Samoa.

O lenei faiga ua le mafai ai ona maua e le malo tupe maua o loo matua manaomia e faagaioi ai ma tuuina mai ai auunaga mo le lautele e pei o galuega tau falema’i ma leoleo.

Ina ia taofia ai le tula’i soo mai pea o lenei faaletonu, o le a suia ai le lafoga o oloa o le pia ma le meainu e fai mai i le molo, ma aiaia ai se fua tutusa e faavae mai i luga o le aofa’i ma le tele o oloa o lo o auina mai fafo.

Ua aveesea nei le lafoga e 190% sa i ai mo le pia, ae ua suia i le lafoga fou e .35 sene i le ta’i 12 aunese o se vai poo se vaega fo’i. O lenei lafoga o le a laina tutusa uma ai tagata faipisinisi o lo o totogiina le lafoga mo le pia o lo o fa’aulufale mai i le atunu’u.

O le agaga atoa o lenei tulafono e pei ona taua e le faigamalo, ina ia mafai ai ona maua se isi auala e faasao mai ai tupe e tataua ona maua e le malo, e fesoasoani ai i le atina’eina atoa ai ma le fa’atinoina o lana tautua mo le atunu’u atoa.

O le komiti a le afioga i le ali’i faipule ia Lavea Fatulegaae Palepoi Mauga, le Komiti o le Sailiga o le Tamaoaiga o le malo ua taoto atu nei i ai nei tulafono mo lona iloiloina.



Le susuga le Alii faipisinisi Fau fale ma Alatele, lea ua mae’a se tasi o galuega na atofa ia te ia ma lana kamupani Fletcher Construction - Dean Hudson ma le afioga le Ma’oputasi Mauga Tasiaeafe Asuega, Failautusi o le Mataupu Tau Samoa, ua fiafia i le mae’a ai o le ta’eleaga i le Paka Liona.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

# After girl’s killing, Pakistani women speak out on abuse

KASUR, Pakistan (AP) — The brutal rape and killing of Zainab Ansari, a 7-year-old girl whose body was left in a garbage dump, has unleashed a wave of revulsion around Pakistan, revealing a string of child abductions and killings by a suspected serial predator and generating outrage at a culture of silence surrounding sexual abuse.

Zainab’s death has even given birth to a nascent Pakistani version of #me\_too movement.

A number of prominent Pakistani women have come forward with their own stories of sexual assault, saying they want to change traditions that consider abuse as a mark of shame for the victim. Those traditions, they say, help predators get away with abuse and encourage an already corrupt police force to ignore such crimes.

Maheen Khan, a legendary Pakistani fashion designer, tweeted that she had been sexually abused as a child by an Islamic cleric who taught her the Quran. “I froze in fear day after day,” she tweeted. At 73, Khan has spoken publicly only once before of the abuse.

“We are now saying enough is enough. We should have woken up long ago,” she said in a telephone interview from her home in the southern city of Karachi. “I am ashamed to say it has taken this one little girl’s death.”

“What disturbs me the most is the silence when a little girl gets raped,” she said. “It has to do with the honor of family. Parents tell their daughters: ‘Don’t talk about it. Don’t tell anyone.’ Our silence is saying it is all right to sexually molest a child.”

The horror of Zainab’s killing was brought home for Pakistanis by a photo of her that went viral on social media, showing the smiling girl in her favorite bright pink coat, with

a pink barrette holding back her hair. TV channels aired the photo alongside pictures of her lifeless body abandoned on a heap of garbage in her home city of Kasur.

Across Pakistan, thousands protested, condemning police inaction and blaming the government for failing to protect children.

“Whenever anybody saw her picture on social media or on electronic media everybody started weeping,” said Waqas Abid, a lawyer in Kasur who heads an activist group called the Good Thinkers Organization. “Everybody was self-motivated to come out from his or her house and ask for justice for Zainab.”

The Senate’s Standing Committee on the Interior, which oversees policing, launched an inquiry this week into the sexual assaults in Kasur, as well as into another recent attack in another part of the country — the rape and killing of a 4-year-old named Asma, whose body was left in a field near her home in Kyhber Pukhtunkhwa, in northwestern Pakistan.

Kasur is a congested district of around 2.5 million people in eastern Pakistan, near the border with India. The city of Kasur is surrounded by brick kilns and tanneries and has hundreds of small factories making shoes and embroideries, all of which employ children — making them vulnerable to abuse. In 2015, an extensive child pornography ring was uncovered in the city; it had been flourishing for nearly a decade and involved nearly 250 children, some of whom were forced at gunpoint to have sex.

Zainab was snatched in early January as she walked to a Quran class. Her parents were away on pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia, and the girl and her two sisters and brother were watched over by her aunts and uncles who all live in the same house in an

impoverished neighborhood of narrow lanes on the outskirts of the city.

“I told Zainab often to be careful,” her mother, Nusrat Ansari, said. Wrapped in a large shawl obscuring her face, she held Zainab’s photo, describing how she loved to play games with her cousins. Her favorite was hide and seek.

Her father, Mohammed Amin Ansari, denounced police for failing to warn residents about a serial killer in the city. “People don’t talk about sexual abuse,” he said.

It was only after the shock over Zainab that news emerged of other children abducted and raped in Kasur. Amid the uproar, police did testing on the victims and found the same DNA on eight of the children, all but one of whom was killed. Police now say they are hunting for a serial rapist-killer.

Among the eight victims was 5-year-old Ayesha. Her father, Mohammed Asif, said he pleaded with the police to find her after her abduction last year.

“They had no interest. They were more interested in keeping it quiet,” he told The Associated Press. Her body, showing signs of rape and torture, was found two days after her disappearance.

The sole survivor among the eight was a 6-year-old girl found by a homeless man rummaging through a garbage bin outside a vegetable market. She had been kidnapped for 15 hours, during which she was tortured. Cigarettes were put out on her feet and legs, and she suffered a serious head injury. Now at a hospital in the nearby city of Lahore, she can’t sit, hold up her head or speak, and her father Mohammad Ahsan, says all she does is cry.

Ahsan said his daughter’s attack was ignored in the media until Zainab’s killing.

Abid, the lawyer, said there

(Continued on page 20)

# S. Korean advance team goes to North for pre-Olympic events

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A team of South Korean officials travelled to North Korea on Tuesday to check logistics for joint events ahead of next month’s Winter Olympics in the South, as the rivals exchanged rare visits to each other amid signs of warming ties.

The head of the North’s popular girl band triggered a media frenzy during her two-day visit to South Korea this week to check potential venues for North Korean artistic performances during the Olympics, and another delegation from the North is coming this week to see accommodation facilities and the Olympic main stadium.

The Koreas are pressing ahead with a flurry of reconciliation efforts after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un abruptly expressed his wiliness to send an Olympic delegation. While some see Kim’s outreach as a ploy to weaken U.S.-led international pressure and sanctions, Seoul wants better inter-Korean ties and sees improved ties as a path toward talks to help ease the North Korean nuclear standoff.

South Korea’s presidential office called for national unity for the success of the first Winter Olympics on South Korean soil and criticized conservatives who have said the government is making too many concessions to North Korea to help it steal the show at the Games.

“We don’t understand why they label the Games as the ‘Pyongyang Olympics,’” spokesman Park Su-hyun said in a televised statement. “The Pyeongchang Olympics is the Pyonghwa (peace) Olympics.” Under a deal approved by the International Olympic Committee, the Koreas will field its first unified Olympic team, in women’s hockey, and have their athletes parade together under a single flag during the Feb. 9 opening ceremony. The two Koreas also reached their own agreements to hold joint cultural events at the North’s Diamond Mountain and have their non-Olympic skiers practice together at the North’s Masik ski resort before the Pyeongchang Games.





FILE--In this Jan. 19, 2016 file photo, Nolan Hammer looks at a gun at the Heckler & Koch booth at the Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade Show in Las Vegas. The largest gun industry trade show will be taking place in Las Vegas Jan. 23-26 just a few miles from where a gunman carried out the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

(AP Photo/John Locher, File)

# Gun industry gathers just a few miles from mass shooting

The gun industry is holding its biggest annual trade show this week just a few miles from where a gunman slaughtered 58 concertgoers outside his high-rise Las Vegas hotel room in October using a display case worth of weapons, many of them fitted with bump stocks that enabled them to mimic fully automatic fire.

What exactly will be among the thousands of products crammed into the exhibition spaces at the National Shooting Sports Foundation's SHOT Show convention, running from Tuesday through Friday, will be a bit of a mystery, shielded from the public and, this year, members of the general-interest media.

One thing is known: Slide Fire, the leading manufacturer of bump stocks, a once-obscure product that attracted intense attention in the aftermath of the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, won't be among the exhibitors.

The Texas-based company hasn't said why it's not on the roster of more than 1,700 exhibitors, although it was last year. It didn't return messages seeking comment. The company also isn't on the list of those attending this year's National Rifle Association annual meeting or other prominent gun trade shows.

In the aftermath of the Las Vegas massacre Oct. 1, Slide Fire had so much trouble keeping up with demand it temporarily stopped taking orders for the product. It has since resumed.

"From purely from a public relations standpoint, it wouldn't be a surprise at all if bump stocks just sort of disappeared this year," said Robert Spitzer, chairman of political science at the State University of New York at Cortland and an expert on firearms and the Second Amendment. "That's a PR no-brainer."

Still, the convention floor is likely to have plenty of other devices that gun-control advocates have taken aim at in recent years: accessories that make it easier to carry a firearm, shoot it or reduce the noise it makes.

On the list of products they oppose are "trigger cranks," which, like bump stocks, make it easier to fire a long gun rapidly, and "assault pistols," which look remarkably like short-barreled AR- and AK-style firearms but skirt certain federal restrictions because they aren't designed to be shot from the shoulder.

"For a person from the general public, I think the thing that would startle them the most about the SHOT Show ... is just the sheer scope and the vastness of this show," said David Chipman, a former agent with the federal agency that regulates firearms and now a senior policy adviser with the gun safety organization founded by former Rep. Gabby Giffords, who was gravely wounded in a shooting in 2012.

SHOT Show has been held for 40 years, half that time in Las Vegas, and this year's gathering was scheduled well before the bloodshed last fall. It will have some 13 miles of aisles featuring products from more than 1,700 companies. More than 65,000 visitors are expected at the gathering, a place where connections are made and deals worth millions are struck. The general public is not allowed to roam the aisles; the only people who can attend are those with direct ties to the industry: manufacturers or associated products. Although a few reporters from general-interest news organizations attended in recent years, NSSF this year restricted access to about 2,500 journalists from trade publications and media. The show's location and timing 3½ months after Stephen Paddock's murderous attack have heightened awareness of the event.

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\* (E) English Subtitles  
\* (L)-Live Programming/News  
\* (R)-Rerun

## "Channel 47" KBS WORLD Program of American Samoa

\*The programs listed below may change without notice due to copyright issues.(Jan 21 ~ 27, 2018 )\*

Time of American Samoa	Sunday (1/21)	Monday (1/22)	Tuesday (1/23)	Wednesday (1/24)	Thursday (1/25)	min	Friday (1/26)	Saturday (1/27)	min
10 : am	00' K-pop World Festival	10' Hello Counselor (E,R)	Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance	The Unit	Happy Together (E,R)	00'	Music Bank	Encore Drama	00'
11 : am	30' Battle Trip (E,R)	Encore Drama Lovers of Music				00'	The Beauty	Lovers of Music	
12 NOON	30' Music Bank (E,R)	Daily Drama "The Secret of My Love" (E,R)				50'	K-pop World Festival	(E,R)	
1 : pm	50' Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Daily Drama "Love Returns" (E,R)							
2 : pm	30' Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Jugglers Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)	Black Knight Wed-Thu Drama (E,R)					
3 : pm	50' Encore Drama Lovers of Music (E,R)	Hello Counselor (E,R)	Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance	The Unit	Happy Together (E,R)	30'	Battle Trip (E,R)	Music Bank	30'
4 : pm	00' Encore Drama Lovers of Music (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Jugglers (E,R)	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Black Knight (E,R)	The Unit (E,R)	50'	My Golden Life Weekend Drama (E,R)		50'
5 : pm	10' Encore Drama Lovers of Music (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Jugglers (E,R)	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Black Knight (E,R)		00'	Mon-Tue Drama	Wed-Thu Drama	00'
6 : pm	10' Encore Drama Lovers of Music (E,R)	Mon-Tue Drama Jugglers (E,R)	Weekend Drama My Golden Life (E,R)	Wed-Thu Drama Black Knight (E,R)	The Swan Club (E,R)		Jugglers (E,R)	Black Knight (E,R)	10'
7 : pm	20' # 10, 11, 12.	# 12, 13, 14.	# 36, 37, 38.	# 12, 13, 14.	Jisook's Table for O'				
8 : pm	40' Gag Concert	Daily Drama "The Secret of My Love" (E,R)						Hello Counselor (E,R)	20'
9 : pm	00' UHD UNESCO World Heritage Special (E,R)	KBS World News Today				40'	Happy Together (E,R)	Battle Trip (E,R)	40'
10 : pm	00' Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Jugglers Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)	Music Bank (Live)					
11 : pm	40' Hello Counselor (E,R)	The Swan Club	The Unit	K-RUSH (E,R)	00' Please Find Her(E,R)		Gag Concert (E)	"The Return of Superman" (E)	00'
12 : 00	20' Daily Drama "The Secret of My Love" (E,R)				20' Guerilla Date (E,R)				
Next Day					Wook'Food Odyssey				
1 : am	00' Daily Drama "Love Returns" (E)						Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Two Days and One Night (E)	40'
2 : am	50' Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Jugglers Mon-Tue Drama (E)	Black Knight Wed-Thu Drama (E)						
3 : am	00' Hello Counselor	Dragon's Club Overgrown Bromance (E,R)	The Unit	Happy Together	Music Bank (E,R)		Mon-Tue Drama	Wed-Thu Drama	
4 : am	20' Encore Drama Lovers of Music (E,R)						Jugglers (E,R)	Black Knight (E,R)	
5 : am	30' Heritage Tomorrow								
6 : am	40' UHD UNESCO World Heritage	Battle Trip (E,R)	Jisook's Table for O' K-pop World Festival	The Beauty	Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	50'	Gag Concert (E,R)	The Return of Superman (E,R)	50'
7 : am	40' Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Gag Concert (E,R)	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	The Swan Club (E,R)	Battle Trip (E,R)	10'	Immortal Songs 2 (E,R)	Two Days and One Night (E,R)	30'
8 : am	20' Entertainment Weekly (E,R)	Jugglers Mon-Tue Drama (E,R)	Black Knight Wed-Thu Drama (E,R)						
9 : am	30' Hello Counselor	Dragon's Club Over	The Unit	Happy Together	Music Bank	00'	Lovers of Music (E,R)	Guerilla Date (E)	50'

\*Note: If you need this Schedule, e-mail <hyunhwee@gmail.com>. and I will send it to you every week!"

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# Victims of sports doctor's abuse draw strength from others

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Clasina Syrový would change the subject whenever someone asked if she knew former sports doctor Larry Nassar or mentioned news coverage of the unfolding scandal over his sexual abuse of young gymnasts.

She didn't want to be "another Jane Doe on the list," said Syrový, who competed for 15 years. She certainly didn't want to reveal herself publicly as a victim.

"But as everything unfolded before my eyes like a really bad 'Lifetime' original movie based on true events, I gained some courage," Syrový said in court Monday, confronting Nassar at his sentencing hearing. "After watching a few of my former teammates step up and say that this had happened to them also, I gained a little more."

In an extraordinary scene unfolding in a Michigan courtroom, more than 140 women and girls are coming forward — far more than originally expected — to confront the man who molested them when they were vulnerable girls told to trust the doctor who could help them achieve their dreams.

Nassar, 54, has admitted sexually assaulting athletes under the guise of medical treatment when he was employed by Michigan State University and USA Gymnastics, which as the sport's national governing organization trains Olympians. He already has been sentenced to 60 years in prison for child pornography.

Under a plea bargain, he faces a minimum of 25 to 40 years behind bars in the molestation case. The ultimate sentence imposed could be much higher.

The sentencing has taken on a #MeToo momentum, though the case predates the uproar over Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein. It began with a 2016 Indianapolis Star investigation of how USA Gymnastics handled sexual abuse allegations against coaches. That prompted former gymnast Rachael Denhollander to alert the newspaper to Nassar's abuse.

"I knew this was the time," Denhollander said. "One anonymous, quiet voice was not going to be enough. I was 100 percent confident there were other victims speaking up and being silenced."

From there, the number of victims coming forward continued to grow, getting another jolt with the sentencing that began last week. Originally, fewer than 90 women and girls were expected to give statements.

Although they can choose to remain anonymous, many of the accusers — some of them

minors — have opted to make their names public. Some have had others read statements on their behalf.

On Friday, Olympians Aly Raisman and Jordyn Wieber made a surprise appearance in court, allowing their names to be used.

"My dream is that one day, everyone will know what the words 'Me too' signify, but they will be educated and able to protect themselves from predators like Larry," Raisman, 23, said.

On Monday, physical therapist and former gymnast Marta Stern said she originally wanted to remain anonymous "out of fear of how it would affect my life, my loved ones and my career."

"However, I will no longer let you have control over me. I will not let you win," she told Nassar.

Ingham County Circuit Judge Rosemarie Aquilina addresses each victim after she speaks, serving almost as a therapist. She calls the group of victims an "army," and the courtroom often breaks into applause.

"You're sister survivors and you are going through incomprehensible lengths, emotions and soul-searching to put your words together ... to make people listen," the judge told Syrový. "He's the one that needs to be ashamed. Release the shame, embarrassment, guilt that you said you have here and now."

The case has triggered calls for the resignation of Michigan State University President Lou Anna Simon, while the state's attorney general has agreed to review how the university handled complaints against Nassar. And three key members of the board that oversees USA Gymnastics resigned Monday, 10 months after former President Steve Penny quit after critics said the organization failed to protect gymnasts from abusive coaches and Nassar. USA Gymnastics also announced the suspension of former women's national team coach John Geddert, the owner of a gymnastics club where Nassar sexually abused girls near Lansing, Michigan.

Longtime Detroit defense attorney David Steingold, who isn't involved in the case, supports the judge's decision to let so many victims testify, even if the crimes for which he is being sentenced involve only seven.

"It's the least we can do for these women," said Steingold, noting that women often are afraid of being made to feel responsible for allowing abuse to happen.

Harvard psychiatry pro-

(Continued on page 23)

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Summary:

The American Samoa Medical Center Authority ASMCA is currently seeking a Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to join our management team responsible for the implementation of the American Samoa Medical Center Authority's healthcare improvement plans. The chosen candidate will be responsible for taking on a leadership role in financial decision-making that affects our healthcare institution, and will provide strategic financial input to senior management. While keenly overseeing the overall accounting process, the successful CFO will play a key role in developing and implementing financial procedures to improve and maintain the financial health of the LBJ Tropical Medical Center.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Execute the financial strategy of the American Samoa Medical Center Authority aim to advance and improve the quality of its healthcare delivery system
- Manage financial controls and accounting procedures to ensure that all financial transactions are fully captured and properly reflected in all of American Samoa Medical Center's financials
- Ensure full transparency over the financial performance of the American Samoa Medical Center Authority (LBJ Tropical Medical Center).
- Provide advice on how to increase revenue and reduce costs to the CEO and subsequently to the Board of Directors
- Propose action plans to ensure that annual financial objectives are attained
- Support the CEO with the preparation of monthly, annual financial plans, and the annual budget plan.
- Prepare monthly, quarterly, and annual financial reports for the review of the CEO and the Board of Directors
- Maintain speed and accuracy of billings and client payments
- Maintain the level of Accounts Payable complaint with industry standards to maintain the financial integrity of the American Samoa Medical Center Authority
- Ensure prompt and full collection of all Accounts Receivable setting the AR accumulation threshold to less than 30 days
- Prepare and submit Medicare Cost Annually in a timely manner

Minimum Qualifications/Requirements

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance or related filed (MBA preferred)
- Professional accounting designation (CA, CMA, or CPA)
- 10+ years' experience in a senior financial managerial position with at least five (5)years in hospital or healthcare financial management
- Advanced computer skills, including proficiency in MS Office and Microsoft Dynamics CL financial reporting software
- Exceptional communication skills
- Results-oriented, strategic thinker and planner

Compensation Range:

- The assigned range for the Chief Financial Officer Position is \$ 70,000.00 - \$85,000.00 and the final salary will be determined based on qualifications and years of practical experience.

Duration for Application Solicitation:

The Deadline for filing applications will be **January 31, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.** All applications are to be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer to undergo the standard vetting process with applications meeting the standard requirements transmitted to the Board for Directors for its review and decision.





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- Increase knowledge on the physical changes associated with aging and living with a disability;

**Module 2: Gait and Transfer Training and Fall Prevention**

- Learn strategies to prevent falls at home;
- Training on gait and transfers; and
- Proper use of durable medical equipment such as canes, walker and wheelchairs.

**Module 3: Pain and Symptom Management/Managing Difficult Behaviors**

- Understand the World Health Organization (WHO) approach to pain management;
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- Improve communication with persons who have dementia.

**Module 4: Activities of Daily Living Part 1**

- Learn importance of proper hygiene;
- Increase confidence in performing activities of daily living; and
- Competence in giving a bed bath.

**Module 5: Activities of Daily Living Part 2**

- Understand the importance of oral care and dental hygiene;
- Learn dietary recommendations for chronic diseases; and
- Describe strategies to stimulate appetite for disabled/elderly with poor appetite.

**Module 6: Wound care and Bedsores Prevention/Common Medical Problems**

- Increase knowledge on prevention of bed sores;
- Learn signs and symptoms of heart attack and stroke; and
- Understand common medical problems affecting the disabled/elderly.

**Module 7: Relieving Family and Caregiver Stress**

- Describe stress management strategies;
- Recognition of caregiver burnout; and
- Increase knowledge of resources available for disabled and elderly caregivers in American Samoa.







# PACIFIC YOUTH & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



## TRAINING SCHEDULE:

*Program Orientation*

**January 31, 2018**

*On Site Instruction provided by University of Hawaii Medical Team (40 Hours)*

**February 5 to 9, 2018**

*On Site Practicum & Experiential Learning at Hope House Home for the Elderly (480 Hours)*

**February 19 to August 3, 2018**

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**HOW TO APPLY:** Email or contact PYCD Office 699-7923 for an Application. All Completed Applications must be submitted to the office in hard copy or by email to [info@pycd.net](mailto:info@pycd.net) on or before Friday, January 26, 2018. For more information, please contact PYCD Executive Director, Kathryn McCutchan.





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*In this Thursday, Jan. 18, 2018 photo, Mohammed Amin wipes his tears as he sits with his while talking about his seven year-old daughter, Zainab Ansari in Kasur, Pakistan. The brutal rape of Zainab, whose body was left in a garbage dump earlier this month, has roiled Conservative Pakistan and revealed a sexual predator who has raped and killed at least 11 girls in Zainab's home-town of Kasur. He is still at large.*  
(AP Photo/B.K. Bangash)



**American Samoa  
Power Authority**

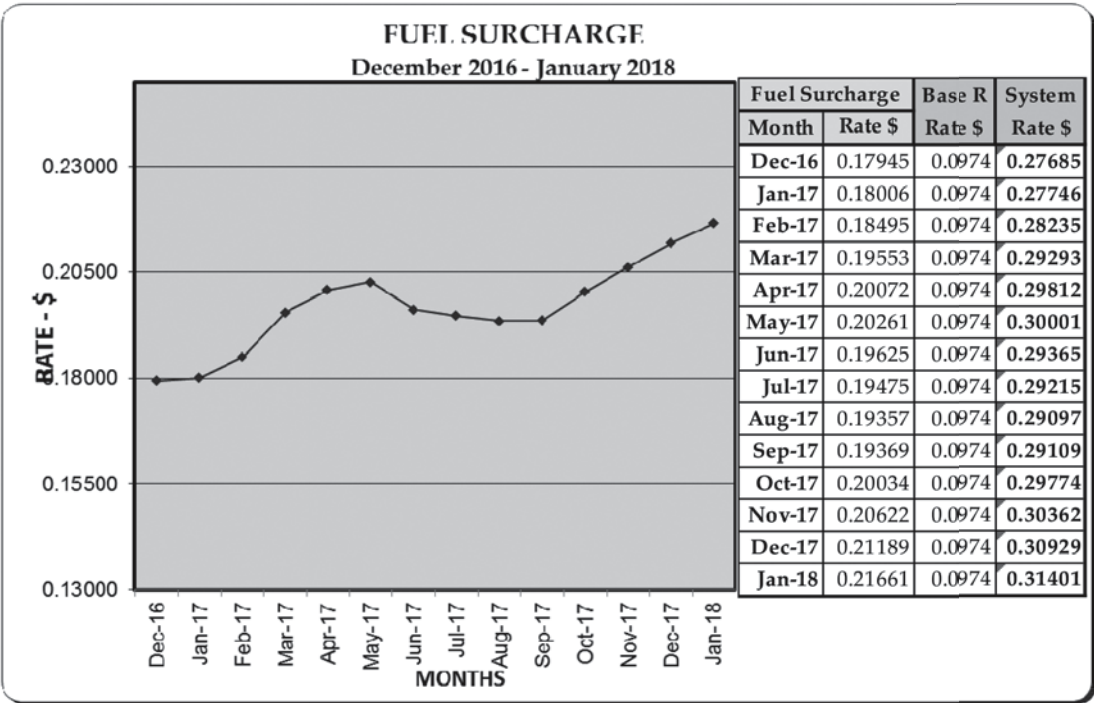
January 12, 2018

# Monthly Fuel Surcharge Notification

The American Samoa Power Authority is informing its customers about the monthly fuel surcharge rate, which is the direct cost of fuel to generate electricity. The charge for each kilowatt hour (kWh) comprises the “base rate” and the “fuel surcharge rate.”

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

The fuel surcharge rate changes monthly due to fluctuating fuel costs. The fuel surcharge is approximately 70%-75% of the total kWh price. This is considered a “pass-through” revenue because it goes directly to pay the local fuel suppliers for diesel fuel consumed at the five power plants in Tutuila, Manua and Aunu'u.



The fuel surcharge rate also includes the “Renewable Reduction” from electricity produced by the ASPA Photo Voltaic panels. The avoided fuel costs or fuel being saved from producing electricity through the Photo Voltaic panels, is passed on to customers as the “Renewable

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

Reduction” savings. There are seven active sites, with more sites in progress to increase ASPA’s renewable energy portfolio. As ASPA increases renewable energy capacity, more savings will be realized and passed on to customers.

## After...

*Continued from page 15*

have been at least 20 cases of children abducted, raped and killed over the past year in Kasur district. At his office, he showed the AP the police reports he has collected on 15 of the cases. Among them were 7-year-old Laiba whose battered body was dumped in a partially constructed building; Imran, an 8-year-old boy whose body was stuffed in a plastic bag and dumped in a wheat field; 11-year-old Rehman Ali, found in stagnant water near a graveyard; 5-year-old Tehmina, abducted when she went to a nearby store to buy sweets; 7-year-old Sana, whose desperate father shouted her name from loudspeakers atop local mosques during his search for her; 11-year-old Fauzia, snatched from outside her home; and 7-year old Noor Fatima, her body found in a partially built house. There were 4,139 cases of child sexual abuse reported in Pakistan in 2016, according to Sahil, an organization documenting child abuse in the country. It collects its figures by tracking reports in Pakistani media. But most cases go unreported, said Sahil’s executive director, Munizae Bano. Zainab’s case, however, sparked a moment of openness. A number of well-known women hope that telling about their own experiences will prompt others to speak out.

Actress and child activist Nadia Jamil said anger and frustration at the silence prompted her to tweet about sexual abuse she suffered as a child.

“I just lost it when I went personal on social media, openly on social media,” she said. Frieha Altaf, an events manager, model and actress who tweeted about abuse she suffered as a 6-year-old.





In this Monday Jan. 22, 2018, photo, two tents sit in piles of garbage covering the shore days after an extended storm battered the Mediterranean country at the Zouq Mosbeh coastal town north of Beirut, Lebanon. Environmentalists say a winter storm has pushed a wave of trash onto the Lebanese shore outside Beirut, stirring outrage over a waste management crisis that has choked the country since 2015.

(AP Photo/Hussein Malla)



# IN THE COMMUNITY

(Photos: Leua)



# Garbage on the beach: Flood of waste stirs uproar in Lebanon

ZOUQ MOSBEH, Lebanon (AP) — Lebanon’s festering trash crisis came crashing ashore this week, after residents woke up to find a powerful winter storm had laid a mantle of waste at a beach just a minutes’ drive north of the capital, Beirut.

The scenes were a national embarrassment for a country that once prided itself on its sparkling Mediterranean coastline but appears unable to wean itself off the convenience of throwing its trash into the sea.

“Somebody needs to pay for this,” said Paul Abi Rached, a local environmentalist who spearheaded a campaign to overhaul the government’s waste policies three years ago.

Few issues have driven a wedge between the Lebanese and their leaders like garbage — the most conspicuous of the government’s many failings to provide basic services to its constituents.

Lebanon has long been plagued by daily water and electricity outages, but it was not until the trash started going uncollected in Beirut that despair erupted into a wave of protests in 2015.

Demonstrators rallied under the banner “You Stink” — a reference not only to the stench accompanying the summer heat, but to the corruption and favoritism that has defined politics and paralyzed administrative services in the country.

Civil society groups say officials are making fortunes

on shady deals for landfills and incinerators, at the public’s expense. They say, too, that the government is using trash to fill in land along the coast — a bonanza for politically connected developers who can cash in on the property that’s been raised, quite literally, from the sea.

A fleet of heavy machinery has been working the coastline east of Beirut since 2017, pouring trash into the sea at a land reclamation site at Dbayeh.

Officials say they are doing nothing untoward, and that the landfills they operate are done to technical specifications.

But the stench is impossible to deny.

Travelers arriving to Beirut’s Rafiq Hariri International Airport are greeted with a waft of odors from an expanding landfill at the end of one of the runways. After years of being unused, officials reopened the Costa Brava landfill to absorb the trash left out in 2015.

In December, Prime Minister Saad Hariri ordered officials to close a waste-sorting plant in the city of Tripoli, built with \$1.6 million from the European Union, just six months after it was inaugurated. Locals said the odors from the plant and the nearby fill were suffocating.

The scandal at Zouq Mosbeh beach led Lebanon’s nightly news broadcasts on Monday, but environmentalists say they were not surprised by the scene — a pile of cattle bones, footwear, tires and vast amounts of

plastic waste towered over 30 meters (100 feet) high on the beach.

“The sea is regurgitating our trash,” said Joslin Kehdy, who heads Recycle Lebanon, an NGO that has organized a clean-up of Zouq Mosbeh beach each year since 2015. The country’s official waste management plan provides scant support to recycling initiatives.

Abi Rached said this time, rough waves broke down a faulty retaining wall around a coastal dump just east of Beirut, spilling the trash into the sea.

The garbage saga is likely to spill into campaigns ahead of parliamentary elections in May. Lawmaker Sami Gemayel, who leads the country’s Kataeb party, said he would take the government to international court over the pollution.

Prime Minister Hariri said he ordered authorities to clean the Zouq Mosbeh beach immediately but those efforts may have to wait for another storm to pass through — and bring even more waste ashore.

Meanwhile, Human Rights Watch launched a campaign last Friday against burning waste at over 150 open-air dumps around Lebanon.

The New York-based watchdog says the Lebanese government is in violation of international human rights law for failing to deal seriously with the pollution from burning waste.



Notice for Proposed Registration of Matai Title

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 6.0105 of the Revised Code of American Samoa that a claim of succession which has been filed with the Territorial Registrar's office for the registration of the Matai Title **SAGAPOLUTELE** of the village of ILIILI by AIGAFE-ALOFANI TUPUTALA FAATAFUNA SAGAPOLUTELE of the village of ILIILI, county of TUALAUTA, WESTERN District.

THE TERRITORIAL REGISTRAR is satisfied that the claim, petition by the family and certificate of the village chiefs are in proper form.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that anyone so desiring must file his counterclaim, or objection to the registration of this matai title with the Territorial Registrar Office before the expiration of 60 days from the date of posting. If no counterclaim, nor any objection is filed by the expiration of said 60 days, the matai title **SAGAPOLUTELE** shall be registered in the name of AIGAFEALOFANI TUPUTALA FAATAFUNA SAGAPOLUTELE in accordance with the laws of American Samoa.

POSTED: DECEMBER 19, 2017 thru FEBRUARY 20, 2018  
SIGNED: Taito S.B. White, Territorial Registra

Fa'aaliga o le Fa'amauina o se Suafa Matai

O le fa'aaliga leni ua faasalalauina e tusa ma le Maga 6.0105 o le tusi tulafono a Amerika Samoa, e pei ona suia, ona o le talosaga ua faaulufaleina mai i le Ofisa o le Resitara o Amerika Samoa, mo le fia faamauina o le suafa matai o **SAGAPOLUTELE** o le nu'u o ILIILI e AIGAFEALOFANI TUPUTALA FAATAFUNA SAGAPOLUTELE o ILIILI faalupega o TUALAUTA, falelima i SISIFO.

Ua taliaina e le Resitara lea talosaga, faatasi ma le talosaga a le aiga faapea ma le tusi faamaonia mai matai o lea nu'u, ma ua i ai nei i teuga pepa a lea ofisa.

A i ai se tasi e faafinagaloia, ia faaulufaleina sana talosaga tete'e, po o sana faalavelave tusitusia i le Ofisa o Resitara i totonu o aso e 60 mai le aso na faalauiloa ai leni fa'aaliga. Afai o lea leai se talosaga tete'e, po'o se faalavelave foi e faaulufaleina mai i aso e 60 e pei ona taua i luga, o lea faamauina loa lea suafa matai i le igoa o AIGAFEALOFANI TUPUTALA FAATAFUNA SAGAPOLUTELE e tusa ai ma aiaiga o le tulafono a Amerika Samoa.

12/22/17 & 01/22/18



In this Dec. 27, 2017, photo, Community Council health care navigator Fidel Castro Hernandez, center, speaks with legal U.S. resident Maria Ana Pina, left, as she signs up for the Affordable Care Act with her son Roberto Pina at the Community Council offices in Dallas. Since President Donald Trump took office a year ago, the number of Latino immigrants accessing public health services and enrolling in federally subsidized insurance plans has dipped substantially, according to health advocates across the country.

(AP Photo/LM Otero)

Survey: Mayors view climate change as pressing urban issue

BOSTON (AP) — U.S. mayors increasingly view climate change as a pressing urban issue, so much so that many

advocate policies that could inconvenience residents or even hurt their cities financially.

The annual survey of big-city executives, slated for release on Tuesday by the Boston University Initiative on Cities, also reflected the nation's sharp political divide. Ninety-five percent of Democratic mayors who responded believed climate change was caused by human activities, a view shared by only half of Republican mayors.

A clear majority of mayors were prepared to confront President Donald Trump's administration over climate change and felt their cities could be influential in counteracting the policies of the Republican president, who at times has called global warming a hoax and last year withdrew the U.S. from the Paris climate accord.

"A striking 68 percent of mayors agree that cities should play a strong role in reducing the effects of climate change, even if it means sacrificing revenues or increasing expenditures," a report accompanying the survey stated.

In all, 115 mayors of cities with at least 75,000 residents answered the fourth annual survey named for Thomas Menino, a longtime Democratic mayor of Boston who founded the university program before his death in 2014. The survey was sponsored in part by The Rockefeller Foundation and Citigroup.

Organizers of the survey declined to release a list of the 115 mayors who responded, citing confidentially agreements. According to the report, nearly two-thirds of the mayors were Democrats and the cities

had an average population of 233,000.

The survey cited the availability and affordability of housing as the single most pressing concern of mayors, followed closely by climate change and municipal budget pressures caused in part by federal and state cuts.

A foreword to the report, signed by Democratic Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and Betsy Price, the Republican mayor of Fort Worth, Texas, argued that cities can exert formidable influence over U.S. and global policies.

"At a time when the national conversation is divisive, cities offer a sense of hope and shared identity," the mayors said.

Sixty-eight percent of mayors said they would be willing to expend additional resources or sacrifice revenue to combat climate change.

Democrats were more than twice as likely as Republicans to promote environmental policies that might inconvenience motorists in their cities, and almost three times as likely to support entering into regional climate pacts or networks. Yet only 26 percent of Democrats and 5 percent of Republican mayors were eager to slap any costly new regulations on the private sector.

The survey found that attitudes about climate change differed geographically as well as politically. For example, 90 percent of all Eastern mayors and 97 percent from the Midwest blamed human activities for climate change, compared to 70 percent from Southern cities.



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American Samoa Government  
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

INVITATION FOR BIDS  
IFB-021-2018

Issuance Date: January 11, 2018

Closing Date: January 26, 2018  
No later than 2:00p.m. (local time)

1. INVITATION

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

2. RECEIPT & OPENING OF BIDS

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

3. MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING

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

4. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

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

- 5. The American Samoa Government reserves the right not to accept the lowest or any bid.
- 6. The American Samoa Government reserves the right to waive any informality in bidding as may be in the best interest of the American Samoa Government.

DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON  
Chief Procurement Officer

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# Asian shares rise on global growth hopes, US shutdown's end

HONG KONG (AP) — Asian stock markets posted strong gains on Tuesday, as an upbeat forecast for global economic growth and the end of the U.S. government shutdown helped lift sentiment.

**KEEPING SCORE:** Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 index jumped 0.9 percent to 24,037.86 and South Korea's Kospi advanced 1.1 percent to 2,522.68. Hong Kong's Hang Seng rose 0.7 percent to 32,749.79 and the Shanghai Composite in mainland China climbed 0.8 percent to 3,528.55. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 gained 0.7 percent to 6,033.90.

**GLOBAL GROWTH:** The International Monetary Fund upgraded its outlook for the world economy, estimating that the world economy expanded 3.7 percent last year, the fastest pace since 2011. It forecast that the pace will accelerate to 3.9 percent in 2018-19. The IMF noted surprisingly strong growth in Europe and Asia and predicted that U.S. tax cuts will give the American economy a short-term boost.

**SHUTDOWN:** President Donald Trump signed a bill ending the U.S. federal government shutdown after nearly three days. Democrats agreed to a stopgap funding measure in exchange for Republican promises to resume debates on immigration and other issues. The agreement helped boost Wall Street though its effect on the dollar was minimal.

**QUOTE:** "It's onwards and upwards for U.S. stocks and the leads are once again constructive for broad Asian equity appreciation," said Chris Weston, chief strategist at IG in Melbourne. "The Teflon market continues in earnest and nothing sticks and very little is of concern, as has been the case for some time with the same macro factors keeping the posi-

tive trend in play." **BANK OF JAPAN:** Market watchers are awaiting the Japanese central bank's latest policy statement. No big changes are expected but investors will be on the watch for any comments from policymakers on inflation or hints about when they plan to scale back a monetary easing program aimed at stimulating Asia's second biggest economy through huge central bank purchases of government bonds.

**TARIFFS:** Trump approved tariffs on imported solar-energy components and large washing machines, in a move aimed at helping U.S. manufacturers. The tariffs, aimed at cheaper imports from rival makers in places like China and South Korea, raise the threat of a trade war between the U.S. and Asia. The companies that sought the tariffs said 30 U.S. solar-manufacturing facilities had shut in the past five years as China plotted to flood the global market with cheap products to weaken U.S. manufacturing.

**WALL STREET:** Major U.S. benchmarks had a strong finish. The Standard & Poor's 500 index picked up 0.8 percent to close at 2,832.97. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 0.6 percent to 26,214.60. The Nasdaq composite added 1 percent to 7,408.03.

**CURRENCIES:** The dollar slipped to 110.69 yen from 110.93 yen in late trading Thursday. The euro weakened to \$1.2261 from \$1.2263.

**ENERGY:** Oil futures extended gains. Benchmark U.S. crude rose 35 cents to \$63.92 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose 26 cents to \$63.57 a barrel on Thursday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, added 37 cents to \$69.40 a barrel in London.

## Victims...

Continued from page 17

fessor Dr. Judith Lewis Herman said she has never seen so many victims of one perpetrator come forward, and the #MeToo movement almost certainly played a role.

"When powerful celebrities come forward years later and admit how intimidated and shamed they were for so many years, I think that has been enormously empowering to other survivors," she said, adding that the experience of knowing they're being heard is "enormously healing."

Even so, victims will pay a price for coming forward, said

victim Marion Siebert.

"Every time someone Googles them, for the rest of their lives, they will see the sickening things we're talking about here today," she said. "When they apply for a job, when they go on a first date, they won't be able to be the ones to fully make the choice on when to talk about what happened. This terrible part of their past is exposed to all."

Syrov said that speaking up will allow her to move forward.

"After today, I will not cry anymore," she told Nassar. "I am done. ... You are a disaster."

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2017 INTERNATIONAL VISITOR SURVEY REPORT RELEASED

A group photo of those who attended yesterday’s release of the 2017 International Visitor Survey Report, commissioned by the American Samoa Visitors Bureau (ASVB) and delivered by the South Pacific Tourism Organization (SPTO)

SPTO chief executive officer, Christopher Cocker (fourth from right) along with three other STPO officials are on island not only for the presentation, but workshops this week with local vendors.

Also in attendance were ASVB executive director, David Vaeafe (far left) along with Miss Pacific Islands Matauaina Toomalatai, who also holds the Miss American Samoa title and is employed by the Visitors Bureau during her reign.

According to ASVB, the report, which is the first intensive study on visitors for American Samoa, provides a quantitative and qualitative assessment of visitors, which in turn provides key stakeholders with comprehensive and accurate information on characteristics, behavior and expenditure of visitors to the territory.

A key finding highlighted during a presentation yesterday by SPTO, and hosted by ASVB, is that Pacific islands and U.S. visitations continue to dominate the local tourism landscape, accounting for more than half of all visitors — 69% — with visiting friends and relatives (VFR) representing 54.9% of the overall annual total.

The most popular activities and attractions cited for visiting the territory remains, cafes/ restaurants at 60.4% and shopping at 46.4%. The survey also found that

while water-based activities including swimming and snorkeling are high on the visitors’ wish lists, sightseeing, walking/ hiking, visiting friends and relatives, visiting a village, relaxing, bars/ nightclubs remain among the top reasons for visiting.

However, one of the territory’s biggest draw-cards remains the friendliness of its people, an attribute Cocker describes as “compelling”, according to a news release from the ASVB.

More details from the survey report will be published in tomorrow’s Samoa News.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



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Jury selected in police corruption trial in Baltimore

BALTIMORE (AP) — Twelve jurors and four alternates have been selected in the trial of two officers charged in one of the largest scandals in the Baltimore police department’s history.

The jury was picked from a statewide pool on Monday, the trial’s opening day. Opening statements are expected Tuesday.

Detectives Daniel Hersl and Marcus Taylor are two of eight indicted members of a disbanded police unit called the Gun Trace Task Force. They have pleaded not guilty to racketeering and robbery charges.

Six other indicted Baltimore officers have pleaded guilty. Four of them may testify as witnesses for the government.

The members of the rogue gun recovery unit are accused of falsifying evidence, shaking down citizens and defrauding their department.

