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The 'Blue Empire' victorious in both divisional match.. B1

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Lali-8

The Rotary Club of Pago Pago is working with Leone High School to launch an Interact Club, and new officers were inducted this month. The President of the new Interact Club is Sailimalo Tafalesolo. Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12 to 18. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance. [courtesy photo]



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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2017

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No palolo this time — check again next month

by Blue Chen-Fruean
Samoa News Correspondent

Hundreds of local residents looking to score even the slightest amount of palolo last week went home disappointed — and soaking wet — as the worm did not rise as predicted last Thursday evening, the seventh night following the full moon, which is generally when the palolo spawns every year.

Locals were skeptical that an abundance of the slimy worms would be collected from local waters, even though weather conditions were favorable for it.

Employees from the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources (DMWR) were out at various survey sites including the airport, and the Nuuli coastline all the way towards the far east side village of Tula — hoping to get some data on this year's swarming, but there was nothing to report on.

DMWR's creel manager, Tepora Toliniu-Lavata'i told Samoa News yesterday they were not able to confirm if the rumors were true, that a resident from Masefau village was selling fist-sized(ofu) palolo portions at the Fagatogo Marketplace for \$40 each earlier this week.

"By the time we arrived at the Market, nobody was selling palolo so we can't confirm anything right now," she said.

She added they are still trying to confirm if any palolo was collected in the territory because from what they observed, people gave up after the first night.

"There were still a handful of residents who were seen hanging out around the coast until 4a.m., hoping for some palolo, and not wanting to go home in case they missed their chance," she said.

Tolinio-Lavata'i emphasizes that predictions of the palolo rise are a 'hit-and-miss game' and "we never know if there will be palolo or not."

She said DMWR even sent a boat out to survey the waters near the airport on the evening of Oct. 11th and 12th, and they came back empty handed. "It was rough, but nothing was caught," she said.

The next predicted date for the palolo rising is the late evening hours of Nov. 10th, early morning hours of Nov. 11th — although it is generally usual practice to check the night before and the night after the predicted dates.

The next full moon is set to appear on Nov. 3rd, putting the predicted rise of the palolo at Nov. 10th, seven days after the full moon.

Meanwhile, reports from Malie, Samoa state that one man was able to collect buckets full of palolo, and this is the first time — in a long time — that such a big catch of palolo has been collected in the area.

So don't put away your homemade cheesecloth net and plastic container just yet. Make sure your flashlight has batteries and mark the date: Nov. 11th. The worm could be making its way here from neighboring Samoa or Manu'a, which reported abundant catches of the swarm.

Court dismisses citations issued for muffler, windows, and tint

COPS A 'NO-SHOW' IN COURT

by Ausage Fausia
Samoa New Reporter

A local businessman is questioning the way the Vice & Narcotics Unit is carrying out their duties, after District Court Judge Fiti Sunia last week dismissed two traffic citations issued to him by police officers from said Unit.

The two citations issued to Apelu Jr Milo and dismissed by the court had to do with an unsafe muffler, and unsafe tires and tint.

During his first court appearance on Oct. 3, Milo challenged the traffic citations and asked to go to trial.

The trial was set for last Thursday but Sunia dismissed the two traffic citations when the two cops from the Vice & Narcotics Unit who issued the citations didn't appear in court.

Samoa News understands that Milo sent letters to Judge Sunia and Pro-Temp Judge, Gwen Tauiliili-Langkilde before his first court appearance, telling his side of what happened, and asking the court to dismiss the traffic citations, due to a violation of his constitutional rights.

Samoa News was able to obtain a copy of the letter which states that on Sept. 03, 2017 around 9:00 p.m while he was with his younger brother fueling his vehicle at a gas station in Nuuli, a police officer approached him and told him that he was being pulled over because his vehicle had a defective muffler, and tires.

According to Milo, that was when the cop demanded him and his younger brother to exit the vehicle.

The police officer Milo is referring to is the leader of the DPS Vice & Narcotics Unit. The victim and his younger brother cooperated accordingly, and they were guided by the said officer to the front of their vehicle.

At the same time, according to Milo's letter, other police officers were conducting an unauthorized search on his vehicle for illegal drugs, and although there were no drugs found in the vehicle, Milo stated that the said police officer told him that part of their normal routine includes a search of the vehicle.

"The officer then issued me a traffic citation for a defective muffler and notified us to leave," and thanked us for our cooperation, said Milo.

A second traffic citation was issued on Sept. 20, and was described by Milo as being highly unusual.

According to him, it was around 1:00 p.m near Manumalo, that the same police officer who pulled him over and issued him a ticket two weeks prior, pulled him over again for yet another muffler violation.

Milo said he notified the police officer that he still had his prior citation for the same violation and he's awaiting a court hearing. Milo

(Continued on page 4)



Samsung official, Mr. Jing from California (center) with local members of H&H and Samsung Air Conditioning, during a seminar held last Friday morning in Tafuna. [photo: TG]

NOTICE OF OFFICE CLOSURE

The Law Office of Sharron Rancourt will close on November 10, 2017.

All current clients having an active/pending matter with our Office are urged to contact our Office prior to November 10, 2017 to arrange the release of your file.

**Please contact our Office at:
684-633-6264**

to ensure your file(s) will be ready when you arrive.

If you have any questions, please contact our Office during normal business hours.

****Official Business Calls Only Please**

FA'AFETAI TELE LAVA

**Law Office of Sharron Rancourt
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PO BOX 4844
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799**

Cause of deadly Honolulu high-rise fire can't be determined



HONOLULU (AP) — The cause of a deadly high-rise apartment building fire that claimed four lives and resulted in more than \$107 million in damage cannot be determined, Honolulu fire officials said Monday.

"The HFD fire investigators have completed an extensive and scientifically based investigation in full collaboration with other agencies and have classified the fire cause as undetermined," Fire Chief Manuel Neves said at a news conference. "Fire investigators have determined the fire began in the living room of unit 2602. However, due to extensive damage, the exact location and manner in which the fire began could not be ascertained," he said.

Neves said investigators have been able to rule out some

causes of the fire. There was no indication the fire was intentionally set, there's no evidence of ignitable liquids, and cooking wasn't to blame, he said.

There was no evidence that there was a drug lab in the apartment, and no drug paraphernalia was found, Neves added.

Investigators have not been able to rule out items found in the living room as an accidental cause of the fire: a compressed gas cylinder, a wand-type lighter, a possible butane cylinder, an air conditioning unit, desk computer, several electrical outlets, and several electrical devices, possibly a laptop computer and a home router, he said.

They also couldn't rule out smoking related activities as an accidental cause, Neves said.

Investigators could always

reopen the probe if any new information comes to light, he said. Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell praised the city's firefighters for their response for the blaze at the 36-story condo that is shaped like a wave. "I believe because they did their jobs, lives were spared," he said. More than 130 firefighters responded to the seven-alarm blaze, ushering people out of the burning building and helping rescue six people who were trapped.

"Firefighters climbed over 30 floors, carrying over 80 pounds of equipment on their backs, rushing in to hallways that were like blowtorches, going into smoke-filled rooms. They were our heroes," he said.

Three people died in the July 14 fire, and another person died weeks later from complications, Neves said.

Puleleite says ASTCA's internet connection can handle sales tax collection for ASG

BUT ONLY IF WITHIN THE TERRITORY

by Fili Sagapolutele

Samoa News Correspondent

The American Samoa Telecommunications Authority's current technology "infrastructure" can handle a government sales tax using internet connection to collect sales data and other information, says ASTCA chief executive officer Pulele'iite Tufele Jr.

ASG Revenue Task Force officials had testified before lawmakers that modern technology equipment, with internet connection, could be used by the government to track and collect the proposed 7% sales tax — which the Senate and House have put on hold.

Some lawmakers were not yet convinced that Treasury is prepared to take on the task of collecting the sales tax; and top executives of local businesses have informed the Fono that they have serious concerns over the ability of ASG to accurately collect sales tax revenues.

One of the issues some lawmakers are concerned about, is whether ASTCA has the internet capability of handling large volume sales tax information from the many businesses that will be collecting the sales tax.

During a recent Senate committee hearing, Pulele'iite revealed that the Governor's Office had inquired about ASTCA helping with the sales tax issue. Pulele'iite's revelation came after he was queried by two senators on whether ASTCA has sufficient internet capability and infrastructure to handle sales tax transactions, or does ASTCA need to first have connectivity to the proposed new Hawaiki undersea fiber optic cable, which is set to link American Samoa next year in June. Sen. Nuanuaolefeagaiga Saoluaga Nua said the concern is that ASTCA may not be prepared to handle such a task, with many businesses on island all using the same service.

Pulele'iite said the governor inquired on ways that ASTCA can assist, and the recommendation was provided: that ASTCA's fiber connection can be used to connect all businesses to a "server" at the Tax Office.

(Samoa News notes that the fiber connection is through

ASTCA's federally funded BLAST project.)

According to Puleleite, anytime a sale is made at a business location, it's automatically picked up by a server set up at the Tax Office, which would be able to read the daily sales by that business, as well as weekly and monthly sales and so forth.

He added that if the collections by the government is only within American Samoa, ASTCA is equipped with sufficient "infrastructure" to handle it.

Unless the government tells ASTCA that "this server will [also] collect" all purchases outside of American Samoa on sales tax, "then I would say, ASTCA would need the Hawaiki" link, he said and noted that currently, ASTCA is able to provide to local residents all types of telecommunication services.

Also during the hearing, the committee shared with Pulele'iite — who was accompanied to the hearing by newly appointed ASTCA board chairman, Sen. Fai'ivae Iuli Godinet — their disappointment over ASTCA paying \$155,000 monthly to Bluesky Communications as a customer of the American Samoa Hawaii Cable LLC (or ASH-Cable), when ASG has invested \$9 million in the undersea fiber optic cable project.

Fai'ivae stressed that ASTCA has no say and nothing to do with ASH-Cable, as it is an issue directly dealt with by the governor.

Sen. Tualo Manaia Fruean asked if there are any efforts being made by ASTCA to "offset" the monthly \$155,000 paid to Bluesky, and Pulele'iite said yes, adding that they are working on plans for discussions with Bluesky on a possible offset of cost.

For example, reduction of rates for ASTCA customers calling Bluesky Samoa numbers in Samoa which he said currently costs about 45 to 60-cents per minute.

Samoa News notes that ASH-Cable is minority owned by ASG, as part of its \$9 million investment, while Bluesky's off island owner holds the majority share of ownership.



Members of H&H and Samsung Air Conditioning participated in the 2017 Samsung Seminar that was held at their local office in Tafuna.

[photo: TG]



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COURT REPORT...

by Ausage Fausia
Samoa News Reporter
RENE FINAU

A man who unlawfully entered a house at night and attempted to rape a 13-year-old girl last year was sentenced to 28 months in prison, as a condition of his 7-year probation sentence.

Rene Finau, 22, was initial charged with burglary in the second-degree and sexual abuse in the first degree — both class C felonies. However, under a plea agreement with the government, which was accepted by the court last month, the defendant pled guilty to burglary in the second degree and the amended count of attempted sexual abuse in the third degree, a class A misdemeanor.

With his guilty plea, Finau admits that last year, he unlawfully entered a home during nighttime hours for the purpose of committing a crime. While he was inside the home, he went straight to the room where the 13-year-old victim was sleeping for the purpose of having sex with her.

The victim screamed when she felt somebody touching her body, and this alerted her family and caused the defendant to flee the scene, running for his life as he was being chased by the victim's family members.

During sentencing, Finau apologized to the court for his actions and begged for a second chance to return home to care for his parents and his family.

"I feel I made a mistake and I am truly remorseful for what I did," he said, adding that he wants another chance so he can change his life and be a better person.

He promised never to take part in such actions again, and said he will use the remainder of his life to do good things for his family, his church and his village.

Deputy Public Defender Michael White, Finau's attorney, said that after spending more than eleven months behind bars, his client has learned a lesson, he realizes that prison is not a good place for him, and he needs to move on with his life.

White told the court that Finau has an alcohol problem, and he needs to attend and complete a specialized program so he can turn his life around.

When he addressed the court, Finau promised he will not consume alcohol or be involved with any type of illegal drugs.

Assistant Attorney General Robert Morris supported White's argument, saying the government believes Finau is a suitable candidate for a probated sentence, and the court will manage his probation, which will give him time to change his life and address his alcohol problem.

He however reminded the

court that Finau entered the room and tried to have sex with a 13-year-old girl while she was asleep. He pointed out that there were other children present in the room when the defendant entered.

Acting Associate Justice Elvis P. Patea told the defendant that if he wants to change his life, he needs to stop consuming alcohol and/ or illegal substances.

The court sentenced Finau to an imprisonment term of 7 years for the crime of burglary in the second degree, and 1 year for third degree attempted sexual abuse.

His sentences will run concurrently, meaning at the same time. However, execution of the sentences are suspended and he is placed on probation for 7 years, under the condition that he serves 28 months in jail without release, except for medical reasons or an order of the court.

He is also ordered to remain a law abiding citizen, report to the probation office once a month upon release, and not possess or consume alcohol at any time. He is to submit to random alcohol and drug testing and he is not to make any contact with the victim or her family.

Under the law, he must register as a sex offender.

TAVITA FOULETUALA JR

A young man who was convicted of stealing — and later selling — a fishing rope from the Samoa Fishing Management Company (SFMC) has been ordered by the court to pay a \$1,000 fine as a condition of his 7-year probation sentence.

Tavita Fouiletuala Jr. was convicted for stealing — a felony, punishable by a term of imprisonment of seven years, a fine of up to \$5,000, or both.

During sentencing, Fouiletuala apologized to the court for what he did and asked for a second chance to return home to his family. He also apologized to the company that was affected by his actions and promised the court that he will never do it again.

Both his attorney, deputy public defender Michael White and the prosecutor, deputy attorney general Robert Morris asked the court for a probated sentence without any period of incarceration.

Morris informed the court that the defendant stole the fishing rope from the SFMC, and he then sold it to a third party. The third party has since returned the fishing rope to SFMC, and the defendant has already paid back to the third party the money he received for the sale of the fishing rope.

Acting Associate Justice Elvis P. Patea told Fouiletuala that in the year since this matter has been dragging on, it has pre-

(Continued on page 4)



Samsung's 2017 seminar about their latest equipment and air conditioning appliances was held last Friday morning at their local office in Tafuna, conducted by visiting Samsung official, Mr. Jing.
[photo: TG]

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME ASLA STAFF ATTORNEY

The American Samoa Legal Aid, Inc. ("ASLA") is seeking to employ one full-time attorney or part-time attorney on a three year contract for our non-profit law firm that provides free civil legal services to low-income residents of American Samoa.

About the Position:

ASLA is interested in an attorney with legal experience in handling Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Date Violence, and Stalking cases. ASLA will also consider applicant's experience in handling cases in Family Law, Housing, Administrative Law, Immigration, Consumer, Social Security, Public Benefits and Veteran Benefits.

Responsibilities:

- Provide effective legal advice and representation of ASLA clients.
- Comply with ASLA U.S. Department of Justice Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking program grant guidelines.
- Perform work assigned by the Executive Director.
- Comply with applicable Legal Services Corporation regulations in 45 CFR Part 1600 et. seq.
- Adhere to ASLA Board and Office policies.
- Articulate ASLA's mission in the legal community, judiciary, government, nonprofit organizations and the community at large.

Requirements:

- Admitted or being admitted to practice law in American Samoa.
- Possess the highest ethical standards.
- Five years experience as an attorney practicing law in American Samoa or the U.S.A. or Samoa.
- Familiarity with Legal Services Corporation regulations is preferable.
- Possess excellent communication skills. Ability to speak and write both in English and Samoan will be favorably considered.
- Excellent computer skills.
- Familiarity with the PIKA case management system is preferable.
- Value diversity and be culturally competent.
- Ability to work well together with the Board, Executive Director and support staff to fulfill the ASLA mission and Strategic Plan action goals.
- Demonstrate a commitment to serve low-income residents.

Starting Salary:

- Depends on experience, salary in the range of \$48,000 per year for full-time attorney plus generous leave benefits or \$24,000 per year for part-time attorney (20 hours per week) plus leave benefits.

Applicants: Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. **Deadline for applications is Wednesday 10/25/17 at 4pm.** Interested candidates should submit a letter expressing why they are interested in the position of ASLA Staff Attorney as well as what they believe they can contribute to the future of the program and its client community. The letter should be accompanied by a current resume with the names and contact information of three references. Application letter and resume should be submitted electronically via email in Microsoft Word format to ASLA Executive Director Fainu'ulelei L.P.F. Ala'ilima-Utu at the following email address: Fautu@asgalaid.org.

ASLA is an equal opportunity employer.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Compiled by Samoa News staff
**HAWAIIAN AIR ADDS
THREE FLIGHTS FOR THE
HOLIDAY SEASON**

To accommodate the usual peak in travel during the holiday season, Hawaiian Airlines has added three extra flights during the end of the year.

The airline confirmed that the extra flights will operate on Wednesdays, Dec. 20 & Dec. 27, 2017 and Jan. 3, 2018. Flights will arrive and depart Pago Pago at night, similar to current flight times on Fridays and Mondays.

Due to the overwhelming response to early check-in services in Pago Pago, the airline says it will continue to provide this service from 8a.m. to 4p.m. on the day of the flights. Passengers are reminded that they must present valid travel documents — such as a passport — upon check-in, so that “we may serve you more effectively and efficiently.”

Passengers can also check-in online at <www.hawaiianairlines.com> and can drop off their bags at the airport between 6:30p.m and 10p.m.

Of note: Immigration and the TSA close their services at 10:30 p.m. — which means you cannot board the flight if you miss their deadlines.

**LOLO SIGNS BILL THAT
PUTS LOCAL SORNA IN
COMPLIANCE WITH FEDS**

Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga signed last week, legislation which provides an important “technical amendment” to the American Samoa Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act, in order to comply with the federal Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA).

In signing the bill into law, Lolo informed Fono leaders that full compliance with federal statute ensures maximum amount of federal money will flow to American Samoa “in support of our efforts to enforce our local SORNA law.”

Under the territory’s current law, Tier II offenders may have their registration periods reduced to 10 years if they maintain a clean record for 10 consecutive years, but this provision is not in compliance with SORNA, according to the governor.

The now approved amendment “will allow the government to continue monitoring individuals who have committed more severe sexual crimes,” he said.

There was strong support of the measure in both the Senate and House, after Attorney General Talauega Eleasalo Ale testified about the importance of protecting children from being victims of sexual assault.

There are currently more than 100 sex offenders in the local sex offender registry,

said Talauega, referring to the American Samoa Sex Offender Registry (ASSOR), which is overseen by his office.

**PORT USERS REQUEST
A 60-DAY REPRIEVE
FROM FEE HIKE**

Port users were taken by surprise by the Fono’s endorsement of the increase of wharfage fees and were not happy with it.

A meeting called by Port Director, Tamailelagi Dr. Claire Poumele this morning heard complaints from business people and port users who were able to attend a meeting in the port administration conference room to discuss the now approved increase in wharfage and dock charges.

When the meeting was scheduled the Senate had not passed the bill to increase the fees in final reading.

Port Deputy Director Christopher King addressed the audience of about 30, including canery officials, shipping agents and importers. He said at the outset they did not expect the Fono to pass the measure just yet as there were indications the bill would be tabled. Those attending the meeting asked King to talk to Governor Lolo for a grace period of 60 days so they can thoroughly review the bill and how it will impact their operations.

Mrs. Isabel Hudson, one of the vocal participants of the meeting said that the port users were supposed to be given an opportunity to deliberate and discuss the hikes before the bill is passed.

Port Director Taimalelagi Dr. Claire Poumele responded that the business community has had two years to do this and the government is now implementing the hikes.

There was a public hearing on the wharfage and dock fee hikes in 2015 but the higher fees were put on hold since then. However they reappeared in the revenue generating bills that the administration submitted to the Fono, this year.

The bill which was first passed by the House and cleared the Senate in final reading last week calls for an immediate effective date after being signed by the governor.

(Source: talanei.com)

**EPIC AWARDED DOJ
FUNDS TO PROVIDE
YOUTH OFFENDER
REENTRY SERVICES**

Local nonprofit Empowering Pacific Island Communities, Inc. (EPIC) has been awarded \$300,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice to implement the American Samoa Youth Offender Reentry Program.

Managed by Executive Director Toetasi Fue Tuiteleapaga, EPIC will provide a multi-faceted approach to helping youth offenders successfully transition from insti-

tutionalization to their families and communities. The primary objective is to remove all barriers which limit access to education, employment and stable housing.

A core component of the comprehensive program includes civil legal services as well as a coordinated care system including integrated, evidence based intervention and treatment services in addition to effective transitional support services such as mentoring, peer counseling and life skills training.

The target population for the program are justice involved youth between the ages of 16 and 24 who are being released or have recently been released from the Juvenile Detention Center, or any out-of-home placement in the territory as well as adjudicated cases under the jurisdiction of the Family, Drug and Alcohol Court.

Legal services available include record expungement, correction of records, reinstatement of driver’s licenses, and assistance with navigating public services for housing and employment opportunities and legal consultation.

Concurrently, youth participants will access behavioral health services and support including client intake, screening, clinical assessments, treatment planning, community-based treatment services, referral, care coordination and after-care.

Youth and families have access to family and group counseling, and peer support. Transitional support services include mentorship with a certified Community Mentor, skill development acquired through Botvin’s Life Skills Training and Job Readiness using Tackling Tough Skills, a workplace preparedness curriculum specifically designed for the offender population.

Our local program furthers the purposes of the Second Chance Act by actively engaging community and non-profit organizations in response to the needs of juvenile offenders and their families. EPIC is committed to providing quality services to justice-related youth and individuals in the target population looking to reenter society and looking to participate in our Territory as productive citizens.

For more information, please contact our office at 699-7923 or visit us at the Fa’atamali’i Center, 2nd Floor, Suite 2B.

**COMMISSIONER CALLS
KHJ REPORT “IRRE-
SPONSIBLE AND VERY
DAMAGING”**

Commissioner of Public Safety Lei Sonny Thompson is taking issue with KHJ’s story about Judge Fiti Sunia ordering a gun carrying police officer to

(Continued on page 6)

North Korea says ‘a nuclear war may break out any moment’

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — North Korea’s deputy U.N. ambassador warned Monday that the situation on the Korean peninsula “has reached the touch-and-go point and a nuclear war may break out any moment.” Kim In Ryong told the U.N. General Assembly’s disarmament committee that North Korea is the only country in the world that has been subjected to “such an extreme and direct nuclear threat” from the United States since the 1970s — and said the country has the right to possess nuclear weapons in self-defense.

He pointed to large-scale military exercises every year using “nuclear assets” and said what is more dangerous is what he called a U.S. plan to stage a “secret operation aimed at the removal of our supreme leadership.” This year, Kim said, North Korea completed its “state nuclear force and thus became the full-fledged nuclear power which possesses the delivery means of various ranges, including the atomic bomb, H-bomb and intercontinental ballistic rockets.”

“The entire U.S. mainland is within our firing range and if the U.S. dares to invade our sacred territory even an inch it will not escape our severe punishment in any part of the globe,” he warned.

Kim’s speech follows escalating threats between North Korea and the United States, and increasingly tough U.N. sanctions. Russian President Vladimir Putin said Monday that his country is curtailing economic, scientific and other ties with North Korea in line with U.N. sanctions, and the European Union announced new sanctions on Pyongyang for developing nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles. U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said Sunday that diplomatic efforts aimed at resolving the North Korean crisis “will continue until the first bomb drops.” His commitment to diplomacy came despite President Donald Trump’s tweets several weeks ago that his chief envoy was “wasting his time” trying to negotiate with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, whom he derisively referred to as “Little Rocket Man.”

North Korea’s deputy U.N. ambassador called his country’s nuclear and missile arsenal “a precious strategic asset that cannot be reversed or bartered for anything.”

“Unless the hostile policy and the nuclear threat of the U.S. is thoroughly eradicated, we will never put our nuclear weapons and ballistic rockets on the negotiating table under any circumstances,” Kim said.

► Court Report...

Continued from page 3

sented unusual circumstances.

Patea said the court normally goes straight to sentencing after a ‘change of plea’ within a month, but in this case, the one year period during which the case has been stalled, has been to his advantage because it has given the court the opportunity to see how he behaves out in public, and he has done well, which tells the court that he is someone who’ll do well on probation. The court sentenced Fouiletuala to 7 years probation, under the condition that he serves 28 months in jail.

The defendant was credited for the 69 days he served in prison last year, and the balance of his detention term is stayed, as long as he complies with all conditions of his probation.

He is also ordered to pay a \$1,000 fine within 6 months, and he is not to make contact with the company that was affected by his actions.

He is to remain a law abiding citizen, and report to the probation office whenever he is ordered to do so.

► Court dismisses...

Continued from page 1

said he gave the citation to the police officer after he allegedly demanded it, and after that, the police officer asked him why his vehicle’s windows won’t lower, to which he responded that’s the way the windows were when he bought the vehicle.

After a brief conversation with the police officer, Milo said the officer told him that he was being pulled over for unauthorized windows and tint.

The victim states in his letter that the officer allegedly ordered him in a rude manner

to step outside of his vehicle, he (the officer) then allegedly learned him against his vehicle and subsequently performed an unauthorized pat down search on him in open view.

Milo said he emptied out all of his pockets, as ordered, and afterwards, the police officer identified himself as the member of the DPS CID unit, and said his job was to conduct searches for illegal weapons and drugs, although no illegal violations were determined.

Scientists weigh in on fisheries issues

HONOLULU, HI - October 16, 2017 — The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council’s Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) concluded its three-day meeting Thursday in Lihue, Kauai, with a suite of recommendations on managing fisheries in Hawai’i, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and the US Pacific Remote Islands Areas. The Council will consider the recommendations from the SSC and its other advisory bodies at its 171st meeting to be held Oct. 17-19 in Utulei, American Samoa.

The SSC made recommendations on the American Samoa Large Vessel Prohibited Area (LVPA) as well as other issues. The SSC considered options to allow US-flag longline vessels over 50 feet in length to fish within portions of the LVPA.

The scientists noted that an LVPA exemption would reduce regulatory barriers that may be unnecessarily impeding fishing efficiency while still separating large and small vessels to reduce potential for gear conflicts and catch competition.

Other factors to consider are impacts on local markets from competition, preventing damaging gear interactions with shallow water banks and the potential for increased protected species interactions when closer to the shore.

With regards to cultural fishing, the SSC noted its previous recommendation that focused on how landed catch is distributed and used for cultural reasons related to an individual’s service to the aiga (family) and matai (chiefly) systems in support of Fa’a Samoa (Samoa way of life).

The SSC recommended that the Council consider alternatives that address the large vessel economic situation while also preventing gear conflicts and supporting preservation of cultural fishing opportunities. It also recommended adjustments to the logbook and creel survey designs to allow for the collection of more information, such

as sold and unsold proportions of the catch.

The SSC also recommended that National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center (PIFSC) socioeconomics program consider conducting surveys of American Samoa residents on the issue of cultural fishing as well as documenting fish flow from small and large vessels.

American Samoa Longline Permits modifications: The SSC had no objections to the proposed amendments to the permit program and recognized positive aspects of the proposed modifications. The amendments would eliminate elements of the permit program that may be preventing new entry in the fishery as well as reducing the regulatory burden on small vessel participants.

Offshore Aquaculture: The

SSC considered action to establish a federal management program to develop a sustainable aquaculture industry in the US exclusive economic zone (EEZ) waters around American Samoa, Hawai’i, Guam, CNMI and the Pacific Remote Island Areas. The program would provide a framework for the Council and NMFS to review and authorize where, how and how much aquaculture is developed and to regulate and manage aquaculture activities in the EEZ.

The SSC recommends that the program include the following:

Mandatory permits for aquaculture operations, with consideration given towards allowing transferability and potential bundling of siting, operations, and dealer permits.

Aquaculture permits possess a use it or lose it provision.

Aquaculture permits cover a designated time period of at least 5-years and be renewable.

No specific restriction imposed on allowable aquaculture systems but that the chosen systems are thoroughly documented in the permits to address breakage and navigational hazard concerns.

Aquaculture zoning and monitoring be established with careful attention towards minimizing fishery conflicts and negative environmental impacts especially in habitat areas of particular concern.

The culture of species listed in the Fishery Ecosystem Plans for the Western Pacific Region or that naturally occur in the area, while noting that some existing aquaculture operations of exotic species are quite successful and safe, such that this species constraint might be revisited in the future.

Aquaculture operations maintain thorough records of production, escapes, recaptures, protected species interactions, safety, gear conflicts, gear failure, disease, brood stock, and water quality monitoring.

Aquaculture operations exist under measures that can be framework and an Aquaculture Advisory Panel be established.

For the additional information, go to www.wpcouncil.org/category/upcoming-council-and-advisory-body-meetings/

Source: (Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council)

In The High Court of American Samoa TRIAL DIVISION

PR NO. 10-017

In the Matter of the Estate of

TULIPA LAI

Decedent

BY: **MASE AKAPO**

Petitioner

NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that MASE AKAPO has filed a Petition for appointment as administrator of the Estate of TULIPALAI (deceased)

A hearing on the Petition will be held on November 1, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. before the Trial Division of the High Court of American Samoa at the Courthouse in Fagatogo, American Samoa. All heirs of TULIPA LAI and interested parties may appear before the court on said date to respond to this Notice.

Dated: September 22, 2017

CLERK OF COURTS

Published: 10/03, 10/11, 10/17/17



DEVELOPMENT BANK OF AMERICAN SAMOA

P.O. BOX 9, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

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

Website: www.dbas.as

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

RFP: Financial and Single Audit Services for 2017-2019
Approved to issuance by: Ruth Matagi-Fa’atili; DBAS President
Date of issuance: August 16, 2017
Date & Time Due: October 30, 2017
No later than 2:00 pm local time

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

DOCUMENT

Requests for proposal packet outlining requirements will be available for pick up at DBAS on Friday August 18, 2017 or emailing charmaine@dbas.as for information regarding the RFP. It can also be accessed through the DBAS website: www.dbas.as (click public notice)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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President Donald Trump speaks during a luncheon with South Korean President Moon Jae-in and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, at the Palace Hotel during the United Nations General Assembly, Thursday, Sept. 21, 2017, in New York. From left, Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin, Vice President Mike Pence, Trump, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, and US Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley.

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

Haley says Iran move strengthens Trump’s hand on North Korea

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley says that President Donald Trump is strengthening his ability to resolve the North Korea nuclear crisis by threatening to abandon the nuclear deal with Iran. Haley is defending Trump’s decision not to certify Iran’s compliance with the deal. Trump’s critics argue he’s undermining U.S. credibility and options for diplomacy

because North Korea will determine the U.S. doesn’t honor its commitments. But Haley says that argument is “just wrong.” She says it’s the opposite. Haley says failing to fix the 2015 deal with Iran would send the message that the United States “can be bought by a bad deal” that doesn’t actually eliminate the nuclear threat. Haley is speaking to an annual dinner of the conservative Heritage Foundation.



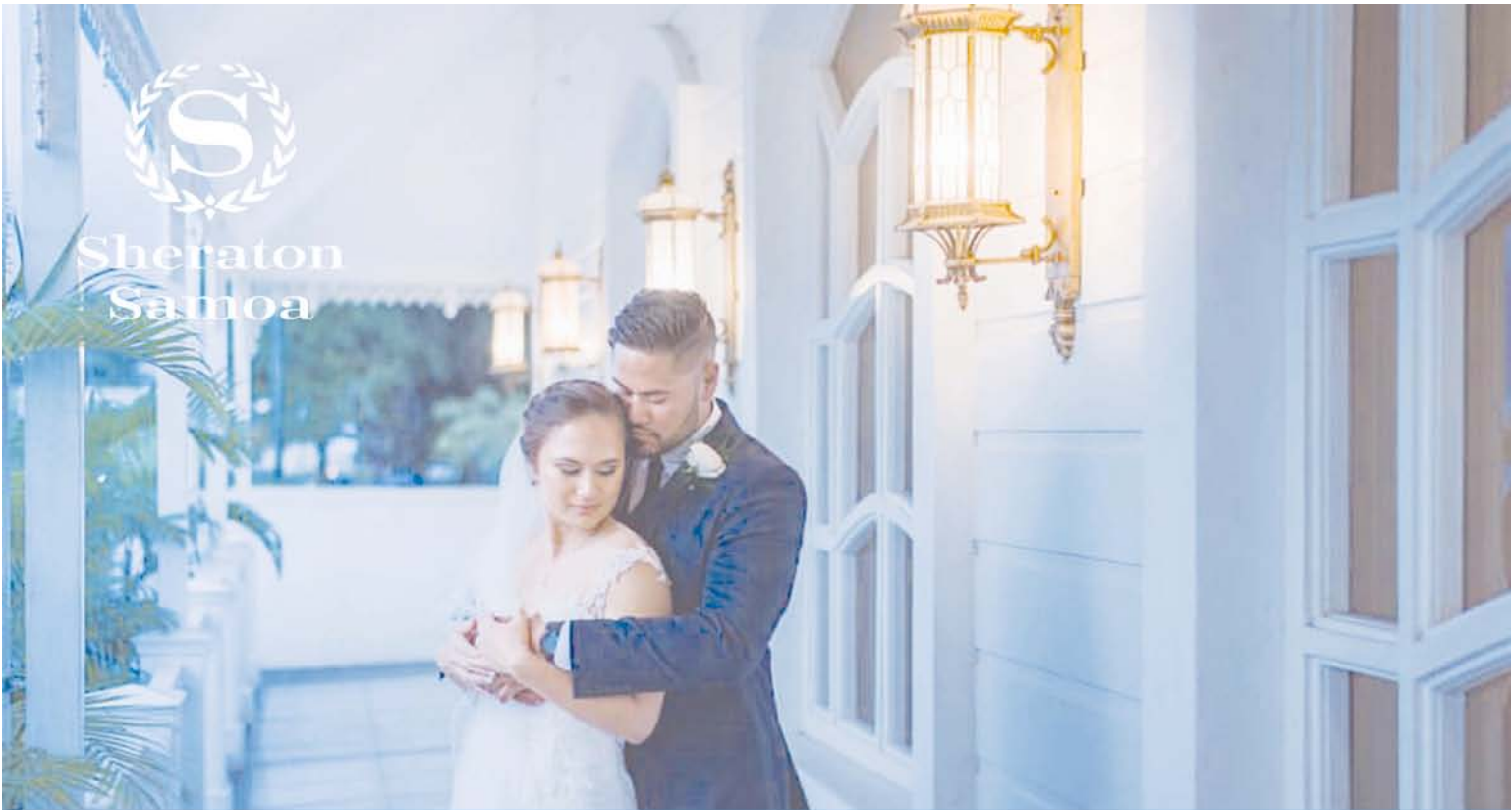
Community briefs...

Continued from page 4

remove himself and his weapon

from court. KHJ News asked Commissioner Le’i for his reaction to what happened in District Court with several questions regarding the arming of police officers. Le’i’s response was that KHJ’s reporting of the incident was “irresponsible and very damaging to the police force, especially the untruth of exactly what happened.” He said one of their attorneys in the AG’s Office was present and informed him during a meeting. According to the commissioner, he also spoke personally with the officer about what happened. Le’i commented, “It is very troubling to me and the way you reported the event.” He went on to say that he treasures the Constitution and individual rights, including freedom of speech and freedom of the press. Referring directly to News Director Monica Miller the commissioner stated that he has always respected Miller and the profession but “for some reason it seems to me that we at DPS, my family are being attacked and more unfortunate (from) unfounded and incorrect information from your news.” He stated that the general public deserves the truth and nothing but. Le’i said that he considers Miller as a person of conviction and an ally against crimes and lawlessness and added, “I am sure you are aware of the consequences of false news and the impact on DPS but most importantly the people we are sworn to serve and protect.” In the KHJ story, they say they are able to confirm that the officer entered the court house with the gun and the judge who was at the window saw this, and said no one is allowed to bring a gun into his court room. As of press time, Le’i had not answered KHJ’s questions about the incident.

(Source: talanei.com)



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Sheraton Samoa Aggie Grey’s Hotel: Sales.SamoaHotel@sheraton.com



Ex-workers: Home of dog breeder with 84 Great Danes filthy

OSSIPEE, N.H. (AP) — Former employees of a dog breeder testified Monday that her home’s floors were covered in dog urine and feces, and a police K9 officer said the property was such a mess it looked as though it had been burglarized before 84 Great Danes were seized in June.

Christina Fay went on trial Monday on 12 misdemeanor animal cruelty charges brought after the dogs were found living in filth and suffering from sores, infections and other health problems.

Former employee Marilyn Kelly described feces on the walls up to her waist and said she saw a dog with puncture wounds that Fay had stapled shut.

The lead investigator, Officer Michael Strauch, said the filth was unbelievable and Fay’s bed was covered in urine.

Fay, who has pleaded not guilty, has said she took great care of her dogs.

Testimony was to continue on Tuesday.

At a hearing earlier this month, Fay testified she trained as a veterinary technician and had worked for New York’s Bronx Zoo. Fay said she maintained a strict feeding, watering and exercise regimen for the dogs.

The first witness on Monday was a woman who worked for Fay for just one day.

She described dogs freely wandering through the eight-bedroom mansion in Wolfeboro, maggots on floors and a refrigerator and feces that transformed the floor into an “ice skating rink.”

Kelly, who worked there for several weeks, testified the smell of urine and feces would make her eyes water and it was impossible for workers to keep the home clean.

Police say Fay ran a business from her home called De La Sang Monde Great Danes.

The dogs are now being cared for by the Humane Society of the United States, which estimates its costs likely will exceed \$500,000.

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Med Fries & Med Drink

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Small Shake & Apple Pie



O se tasi o taumafaiga a le Komiti o le Hope House o lo'o aofia ai fo'i le afioga Moseniolo Viane Etuale ina ia saili tupe e ala i le latou Ta'amilosaga Tapolo mo le fa'atupega o le Hope House sa faia i le fa'aiuga o Setema 2017. O lea ua avea nei o ia ma Pule A'oga fo'i i le Marist St Francis i Lepua.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



Saini Kovana le pili lesitala ai tagata sa faia solitluafono fanau

tusia Ausage Fausia

O le vaiaso na te'a nei na sainia ai e le afioga i le ali'i kovana ia Lolo M. Moliga le pili na pasia e le Fono Faitulafono, e fa'atulafono ai le lesitalaina o tagata sa ta'usala i solitulafono o le faia lea o uiga mataga i fanau laiti (SORNA).

I sana tusi i Ta'ita'i o le Fono Faitulafono, na taua ai e Lolo lona fiafia tele ina ua mafai ona pasia e le Fono Faitulafono lenei tulafono taua, ina ia mafai ai ona iloa e le malo fa'amaumauga sa'o e fa'atatau ia i latou sa fa'atinoia nei solitulafono.

E le gata i lea, ae o se itu taua tele fo'i e mafai ai ona mulimulita'i Amerika Samoa i le fa'amalieina o le tulafono feterale, lea o lo'o mafai ai ona fa'atupe mai ai taumafaiga e lagolago ai puipuga i lalo o le tulafono o le SORNA.

"Ou te fa'afetai atu i lo outou finagalo malamalama ua mafua ai ona pasia lenei tulafono. Ou te talitonu atoatoa o lenei tulafono o se tulafono taua ma aoga mo Amerika Samoa," o se vaega lea o le tusi a le ali'i kovana.

O le agaga o lenei tulafono e pei ona talosagaina e le faigamalo a Lolo ma Lemanu, o le taumafai lea ina ia fa'atulafonoina loa le lesitalaina o suafa o i latou uma sa fa'amaonia i solitulafono eseese, e aofia ai le faia o uiga mataga i fanau e laiti i lalo o le tulafono.

O lenei tulafono na pasia muamua e le Fono Faitulafono i le 2014, ae na toe tuuina atu i luma o le Fono mo ni nai suiga laiti, ina ia saga fa'amalosia atili ai le lelei o le tulafono, i

le mae'a ai lea ona maitauina o nai vaega e moomia le fa'aleleia atili.

I le 2009, o setete uma ma teritori o le malo tele e maua fesoasoani tau tupe mo le polokalame lenei, ua leva ona moomia le matuai faagaioia o tulaga aupito mauualalo o le tulafono o le SORNA.

O le tulafono e pei ona i ai, o lo'o mafai ai ona fa'aitiitia i le 10 tausaga le taimi e lesitala ai i latou e soli le laasaga II o le tulafono, pe afai e tumau ona tausia o se fa'amaumauga mama mo tausaga sosoo e 10, ae o le aiaiga lea, e le o usitaia ai le SORNA.

O lenei la suiga fou e pei ona toe teuteuina, o le a faataga ai le malo e fa'aauau pea le vaavaaia o tagata e matua sili atu ona mamafa le soliga tulafono i tulaga tau feusuaiga fa'asaga i fanau.

O le agaga atoa o le tulafono lenei o le SORNA, e fa'aagaga lelei mo le saogalemu o a tatou fanau, ma ia silafia lelei ai e le atunu'u tagata solitulafono o lo'o nonofo latalata i nofoaga eseese i totonu o le atunu'u.

Ina ia usitaia e le malo ta'iala ma suiga e pei ona tuuina mai e le feterale, o le mafuaaga lea ua manaomia ai le toe teuteuina o lenei tulafono, ina ia mafai ai ona ausia tulaga uma e fa'atatau i le lesitalaina atoa ai ma le fa'alauiloaina o i latou sa ta'usala i nei ituaiga solitulafono mamafa.

Ina ia tusa ai ma le Vaega II, Maga 19 o le Fa'avae Toe Teuteuina o Amerika Samoa, o le a taualoa lenei pili i totonu o le 60 aso talu ona mae'a le tauaofiaga a le Fono Faitulafono sa pasia ai.



American Samoa Government
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

INVITATION FOR BIDS IFB-006-2018

Issuance Date: October 10, 2017

Closing Date: October 24, 2017
No later than 2:00p.m (local time)

1. INVITATION

Sealed bids are invited from qualified firms to provide "Food, Beverages and Supplies for the American Samoa Department of Education (AS-DOE) - School Lunch Program".

2. RECEIPT & OPENING OF BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by the Chief Procurement Officer, American Samoa Government, Tafuna, American Samoa 96799, until 2:00 p.m. (local time), October 24, 2017 at which time and place the sealed bids will be publicly opened and read.

3. MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE MEETING

A MANDATORY Pre-Bid Meeting for all contractors will be held on October 17, 2017 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

Equal Opportunity Employer / Affirmative Action



Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria, gives a speech about race relations to U.S. Air Force cadets during lunch, Friday, Sept. 29, 2017 at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. Silveria, the leader of the Air Force Academy delivered a poignant and stern message on race relations in a speech to thousands of cadets after someone wrote racial slurs on message boards outside the dorm rooms of five black students.

(Jerilee Bennett/The Gazette via AP)



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TALA I VAIFANUA

tusia: *Leua Aiono Frost*
**300 TAGATA FAIGALUEGA
MATAGALUEGA O AOGA
E LE'I TOTOGIA**

Ua fa'ailoa mai e se tasi o sui lautogia o le Matagaluega o A'oga pe tusa o le 300 tagata faigaluega a le matagaluega lea ua le maua ni siaki totogi i lenei fo'i lua vaiaso ua mae'a faigaluega ai, ona o tulaga fa'aletonu o le seleni fa'asoa.

“Na ta iloina lava i le fa'aiuga o le vaiaso e le o maua lata siaki i le aso, aua na fiu lava e fa'aulu le card i le masini, ae sau lava e leai se tupe ua teuina i ai. O matou lea e fa'auia le siaki aga'i i le teugatupe i faletupe, e maua lava i le fa'aiuga o le vaiaso a'o lumana'i le aso Gafua lea e maua ai siaki pepa mo isi sui uma o le aufaigaluega,” o se tala lea a le tama'ita'i faigaluega lea sa ia fa'ailoa maia lenei omiga.

“O le faigata lava, ona e le mafai ai ona fa'aleleia ota maka i le faletupe aua o lo'o totogia fo'i matou nogatupe sa fa'atau ai meatotino, a misia fo'i ua tauau la ina fa'aletonu ai maka i le faletupe ma le toe mafaia ai se isi nogatupe i le lumana'i aua le atina'e o aiga.”

Ua fa'ailoa fo'i se fa'aletonu tau le vaega a le ASHSAA, lea e fa'afaigaluega ai tagata e ave ma fa'atonu ma faia'oga mo ta'aloga o le Soka, Volleyball ma Basketball a a'oga maualuluga. O se taimi umi ua le maua ai se mea'ai a lenei sui faigaluega i tulaga o Faiaoga ma Fa'atonu mo 'au Soka, ae o lea fo'i o le a toe amatalia le isi ta'amilosaga mo le Soka a tama'ita'i, soso'o ma soka a Ali'i o a'oga maualuluga lava.

“O le mea e fia iloa, pe i ai ea se totogi, pe leai, a'o ai fo'i e aumai ai, aua o lea fo'i e feoa'i ma tusi pasi lelei mai le FIFA ma le Asosi Soka a Amerika Samoa na ala ai ona maua lea avanoa e faigaluega ai mo ta'aloga a le fanau aoga maualuluga,” o se tala lea a sui e to'alua na sulufa'i mai i le Samoa News.

Ua mae'a talanoa mai le sui

iloga o le Ofisa o le ASHSAA ma fa'ailoa mai o le a maua totogi uma o le vaega e 300 lea e le'i maua i le aso ananafi latou siaki, o le tala autu mai lea a le ali'i Teutupe a le Malo, Ueligitone Tonumaip'e'a.

“O le taimi nei ua fa'ailoa mai, ua toe saunia uma siaki totogi mo se aso o le vaiaso nei, faatasi ai ma totogi o Faia'oga po'o fa'atonu o ta'aloga eseese o lo'o fa'atautaia mo fanau a'oga maualuluga.”

**TAUTUA ASOSI TA"AVALE
LA'U PASESE "TOA TAXIS
STAND"**

Ua fa'alauiloa mai e le Sosaiete a Aveta'avale Laiti a le 'Toa Taxi Stand' o le a latou tatalaina le latou nofoaga fou e tautua ai le atunu'u i le as 27 Oketopa.

O le nofoaga fou lenei, o le fasi fanua lea ua toina e le malo o Amerika Samoa mo le Malo Tuto'atasi o Samoa i Tafuna.

I le tatou tala na fa'alauiloa atu muamua ai lenei talosaga sa fa'auia i le Komiti Fa'afaoe a le PNRS mo le pasiga a lea vaega o le Malo, ona fa'aaoga lea eleele mo le latou tautua lautele.

“Ona o ala lava o le tulafono, e ao ona fa'amalie atoa vala o le tulafono e a'afia ai pisinisi fa'atautaia i eleele o Amerika Samoa ma e tatau fo'i ona le fa'atu'iese i ai se tasi o alaala tulata i lea nofoaga, po'o pisinisi ma tautua lautele o lo'o fa'atautaia mai i lea vaega patino o le atunu'u e tutula'i ai lea pisinisi tau fa'atu,” o se saunoaga lea a le susuga Tuitama'i Emanuel Ulberg, le peresetene o le Toa Taxis Stand lea o le a fa'atautaia mai lea eleele o Samoa.

I le taimi na fa'aulu ai le latou talosaga i le Komiti Fa'afaoe a le PNRS, sa latou fa'aofi atu ai tusi mai le Malo o Samoa e fa'ataga ai le ali'i Konesula Auseugaefa Va'asatia Poloma Komiti, e na te filifilia ai se kamupani po'o se tasi e fa'aaogaina lea eleele mo ni fefaataua'iga po'o se auaunaga mo le mamalu o tagatanu'u o Amerika Samoa,

ae le'i finagalo le Malo o Samoa e fa'atula'ia ai se auaunaga.

**SUIA LE PULEGA A'OGA
MARIST ST. FRANCIS
LEPUE & MONTESSORI**

Ua fa'ailoa mai e Moseniolo Viane Etuale le suiga fou o lo ua fa'atautaia le A'oga ua tu'u fa'atasia ai le Marist Brothers ma le St Francis i Lepua.

“O le taimi nei ua lafo atu i le itu i sasa'e atoa o le Pule'aga Samoa Pago Pago e amata mai i Faga'alu se'ia o'o i Alao, e latou te fa'atautaia le fa'agaoioga atoa o lea a'oga, fa'atasi ai ma le Montessori, ma ua fa'ailoa ane lea fa'ai'uga a Epikopo Peter Brown ia Moseniolo Etuale e ao ina fa'atautaia ai a'oga i lenei tausaga a'oga ma soloa'i atu i tausaga o lumana'i.”

O lo ua mae'a tofia fo'i ni sui loto tetele ma le galulue malosi e to'a valu ina ia faia ma latou matafaioi lenei vala'au, ma ua va'aia fo'i suiga tetele talu ona tula'i mai lea suiga fou i lau va'aiga lautele i faleaoga ua atofaina.

“O le tau aofai o le suiga ua va'aia nei i nei falea'oga, e silia ma le \$10,000 e fa'afetaia ai fo'i le vasega o ta'ita'i totoa na totofi ma ua mae'a fa'atino le latou galuega matagofie,” se tala mai lea a Moseniolo Viane Etuale.

E lima a'oga ua aofia i le Pule'aga Samoa Pago Pago e aofia ai Fa'asao Malisi High, St Theresa Elementary, Marist St Francis i Lepua, Fatuoaga Montessori ma le Mary the Mother Montessori i Lepua fo'i.

O lo ua avea nei le ali'i Moseniolo ma Pule A'oga i le Marist St. Francis ae o Akenese Iosefo ua avea ma Pulea'oga i le Mary The Mother Montessori i Lepua.

O a'oga nei a le Marist Brothers ma le St Francis School na amata fa'atuina mai po'o le vaitausaga 1950 ma ua iloga le to'atele o tagata matutua i le taimi nei sa latou fa'ailoa o iina sa amatalia ai ona a'o'oga, ma e pele fo'i ia i latou a'oga nei.



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HHF Planners is recruiting qualified staff to support the deferred maintenance reduction program (DMRP) for American Samoa public schools as part of the Office of Insular Affairs, Insular ABCs Initiative. Two positions open:

Construction manager: develop project scopes/estimates; project observation and applying practical architecture, engineering, construction knowledge; database system use to open, track and record work orders and documents.

Administrative Assistant: assist the management team with project documents, project tracking and data entry, liaising with procurement and contracting personnel, filing and transmitting related documents, and office logistics.

Please review detailed description available at <http://www.hhf.com/about/careers/>; contact info@hhf.com for more information. Apply by October 27, 2017.

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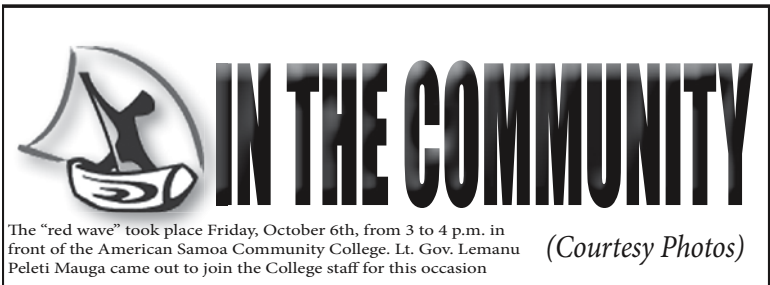
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O se va'aiga i le to'atele fo'i o alo o Amerika Samoa sa fa'aeaina ina ua pasia lelei e i latou le latou Basic Camp Training a le US Army i Fort Jackson i le fa'aiuga o le vaiaso ua te'a.

O Aliileleimatumua Matau, Joseph Tauiliili, Iva Maiava, Salvation Taufuiava, Tulituli Laulaupealu, Majorie Teo, Gloria Mageo ma Crystal Miller mai Futiga. O i latou uma fo'i ua ave fa'atasi e amata AIT i Fort Lee Virginia. O le vasega o aiga ma matua sa malaga mamao atu mo lea fa'aeaga o auaunaga, o lo'o tutula'i e aiailu o latou alo i lenei ata.

[ata: foai]



The "red wave" took place Friday, October 6th, from 3 to 4 p.m. in front of the American Samoa Community College. Lt. Gov. Lemanu Peleti Mauga came out to join the College staff for this occasion (Courtesy Photos)



Reporters hold their hands up as they attempt to ask President Donald Trump and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Ky., a question in the Rose Garden at the White House, Monday, Oct. 16, 2017, in Washington. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

Trump, McConnell: No matter what people say, we're friends

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump and Mitch McConnell reaffirmed their alliance of necessity Monday in a raucous Rose Garden news conference that also underscored their sharp differences. The garrulous president claimed they were longtime friends now closer than ever; the reserved Senate Republican leader allowed that they share goals and speak often.

It was a spectacle that mesmerized Washington, as Trump and McConnell appeared side by side for more than a half-hour, the president tossing off answers — sometimes mini-speeches — on all topics while McConnell, disciplined as always, delivered brief, scholarly explanations about the legislative process and the risks to their party of nominating candidates who can't win.

At various points, the president denounced the Russia-Trump campaign investigation, lauded himself for his record on judicial nominations, argued wrongly that "it took years for the Reagan administration to get taxes done," and claimed that past presidents hadn't necessarily contacted bereaved family members to mourn lost service members — before backtracking on that assertion when pressed. He also noted, as he often does, that he won the presidential election last fall, and he implored Hillary Clinton to run again.

In front of a hastily assembled White House press corps, jostling each other on the lawn because there wasn't time to bring out chairs, Trump began his remarks by saluting McConnell and, as he described it, their longstanding friendship.

"We're probably now closer than ever before," the president proclaimed as McConnell grinned stiffly at his side. "My relationship with this gentleman is outstanding."

Trump's former chief strategist, Steve Bannon, over the weekend declared all-out political war on the GOP establishment, including McConnell and incumbent Republican senators Bannon has deemed unsupportive of the president's agenda. Trump said earlier Monday during a cabinet meeting that he "can understand fully how Steve Bannon feels" and even that some in the party "should be ashamed of themselves." But he later suggested he might try to talk Bannon out of challenging some Senate Republicans whom McConnell has pledged to defend.

"Some of the people that he may be looking at, I'm going to see if we talk him out of that, because frankly, they're great people," Trump said. Trump's change in tone suggested that McConnell, whose allies regularly do battle with Bannon, might have talked Trump into intervening during their lunch together.

"Just so you understand, the Republican Party

is very, very unified," Trump insisted.

McConnell took the opportunity to lay out, for the public and for the audience of one standing beside him, why he and GOP allies work to protect Senate incumbents. He argued that some conservative Republicans nominated in the 2010 and 2012 cycles didn't win because they weren't able to "appeal to a broader electorate in the general election."

"You have to nominate people who can actually win, because winners make policy and losers go home," McConnell said.

Trump briefly pursed his lips as McConnell made those remarks, then took a question on another topic.

Bannon, meanwhile, seemed in no mood to back down. "Senator McConnell and the GOP Establishment have 'sown the wind — now they reap the whirlwind,'" he said.

Bannon's Breitbart News site also reveled in the attention. "Bitter Mitch! Triggered by Bannon," one of its Monday headlines read.

Trump spent August assailing McConnell for his inability to pass legislation to repeal the Affordable Care Act, calling the failure "a disgrace" and ordering McConnell over Twitter to "get back to work." For his part, McConnell has complained that Trump had "excessive expectations" for how quickly Congress could act.

Nevertheless the Kentucky senator seconded the president's latest views.

"Contrary to what some of you may have reported, we are together, totally, on this agenda to move America forward," McConnell said.

It was not clear what led to Monday's sudden question-and-answer session, which followed lunch between McConnell and Trump at the White House. Their meeting came at a critical time, with the Senate poised to vote this week on a budget that would set the stage for tax legislation that many Republicans view as make-or-break following the failure on health care. Both McConnell and Trump recommitted themselves to the goal of passing a tax bill by the end of this year. The last time McConnell was at the White House was early last month. On that occasion, Trump bypassed him and Republican House Speaker Paul Ryan to cut a deal with the Senate's Democratic leader, Chuck Schumer, and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi on debt and spending.

That kicked off a brief period when bipartisan-ship was in the air in Washington, and it seemed possible that Trump would make common cause with Democrats at the expense of Republicans on other issues, too. But the suggestion of a deal on immigration appears to have fallen apart.

Proposed New Mexico science standards omit global warming

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — A proposed overhaul of New Mexico’s state science standards for public schools came under intense criticism Monday at a packed public hearing in the state capital for omitting or deleting references to global warming, evolution and the age of the Earth.

Comments at the hearing overwhelmingly sided against state revisions to a set of standards developed by a consortium of states and the National Academy of Sciences. Of the 55 initial speakers, none backed the standards.

Public school teachers, state university faculty, Democratic Party officials and the science chairman for a school catering to local Native American students urged the Public Education Department, led by a recent appointee of Republican Gov. Susana Martinez, to throw out its proposed changes and adopt unedited standards.

William Pockman, a professor and chairman of the biology department at the University of New Mexico, said state revisions would put local students at a disadvantage in the study of genetics in medicine and solutions to climate change.

“They delete or diminish key concepts,” said Pockman, who turned in two like-minded letters signed by nearly 150 faculty members and academic department heads from the University of New Mexico. “Students trained to these standards may not be ready to keep up with their peers from states following more rigorous standards.”

Public Education Secretary Christopher Ruszkowski, who did not attend the hearing, wrote Sunday in a public letter that the customized standards will give teachers and families “flexibility and local control around science materials, curriculum and content.”

It was unclear how soon final standards will be adopted by the Public Education Department led by Ruszkowski, a former social studies teacher appointed in August to lead the agency.

Ruszkowski has said he and the agency developed custom-tailored science standards in cooperation with the gover-

nor’s office based on informal conversations with students, teachers and parents as education officials toured the state to develop a broad, five-year education plan under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, along with other encounters.

The agency has declined requests to name anyone it met with, as speculation by critics has swirled around possible political motives and concessions to doubters of human-caused climate change and scientific evolutionary theory.

Melissa DeLaerentis, coordinator of a math and science learning center for Las Cruces Public Schools, said Las Cruces began applying Next Generation Science Standards in 2015 without any complaints from the community.

“I am appalled that the state of New Mexico would choose to disregard research-based standards in place of politically motivated and scientifically inaccurate information. By excluding scientific facts, educators would be asked to purposefully obstruct preparation for college, careers,” she said.

Faith leaders and Democratic Party officials joined an early morning rally against the state’s science standards, on a lawn outside Public Education Department offices in Santa Fe.

Roman Catholic Pastor Vincent Paul Chavez, of the Saint Therese school and parish in Albuquerque, came to protest the state-written standards on behalf of the Santa Fe Archdiocese. He noted the church’s support of Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution, and said the proposed state standards would hold children hostage to a “political-creationist agenda.”

Democratic state Rep. Bill McCamley of Mesilla Park worried the custom standards would weigh on a lagging state economy and drive away investments from leaders of the new economy at Facebook, Tesla and Amazon. Albuquerque officials are courting mega-retailer Amazon as a site for its second headquarters, while Facebook is building a major data storage facility in Los Lunas. Tesla passed over New Mexico to build its “gigawatt” automotive battery factory in Nevada.

FA’ASALALAUAGA

E muamua on a matou taia le tafa’itoa e pei o le fetalaiga i le ava i Utumalama aua e faigata ou pa’ia sauo’o Samoa aua o ou pa’ia mai Manu’a e o’o i Falealupo.

Matou te fa’atulou, tulou, tulou lava.

E fa’apea fo’i le silasila faitau a le pa’ia o le Aiga sa Levi o lo’o talafa’auto o Nu’u ma Afioga o le Atusamoa i le asuina o le vai o le talalelei aua se manuia o Samoa ma ona tagata. Matou te fa’atulou atu.

Ae o lenei fa’asilasilaga e fa’apitoaugafa ma fa’asinotonu i suli uma o Lualemaga Leatoa o lo’o afio ma papa aao i o outou ma’asalafa i so’o se tulimanu o le Atusamoa fa’apea le lalolagi atoa. Ua a’e nei se taofiga ma se manatu ia i matou o suli o **Lualemaga Leatoa** o lo’o nopia’i ma nonofo tonu i si o tatou Aiga i Aasu e fa’apea.

Matou te taalo atu ma le agaga fa’aaloalo ma le loto maualalo ina ia tou afio mai ma tala mai aao se’i tatou feiloa’i ma se’i filitupe le auausa’asa’a ma sasa’a faaoti le uto a le fai mea ma sasa’a le fafao i so outou finagalo fa’aalia fa’apea fo’i so matou manatu e avatu e ala i le sailiga o so tatou sui fa’aolioli o le suafa o lo tatou Aiga lea ua le o nofoia nei le nofoa o Tavita ua avanoa.

O le mea lea matou te taalo atu ai ma le fa’aaloalo o le a faia le feiloaiga ia **Novema aso fa (4) 2017 i le itula e 9** i le taeao i le laoa o le tofa a Fa’afatuvaolo. O lou le aua’i mai i lenei feiloaiga o le a le taofia ai se finagalo e autasi iai suli o le a potopoto mai i lea Aso.

Alofagia le pule fa’asoifua a le tapa’au i le lagi ia sopo iai lo outou soifua ma se matou ola i lea aso taupoina.

Ua sainia lenei fa’asilasilaga e le tofa Fa’afatuvaolo le fofoga o Lualemaga ma suli o Lualemaga o lo’o nonofo isi o tatou Aiga i Aasu.

FILE - This undated file photo provided by the Honolulu Police Department shows Police Chief Louis Kealoha.

A Honolulu Police Department officer and retired major arrested by the FBI are expected to appear in federal court Monday, Oct. 16, 2017.

The arrests of Officer Minh-Hung “Bobby” Nguyen and retired major Gordon Shiraishi are part of a federal corruption investigation that stemmed from the peculiar case of a mailbox former chief Louis Kealoha said was stolen from his home by his wife’s uncle.

Nguyen and Shiraishi were part of the unit that investigated the mailbox case.

(Honolulu Police Department via AP, File)



Court documents provide details in Honolulu corruption case

HONOLULU (AP) — A Honolulu police officer conspired with others to alter evidence and provide false information to federal officials in a peculiar case involving a mailbox stolen from the home of the former department chief, according to court documents filed Monday.

In addition, a retired police major is accused of lying about the mailbox case, according to the documents.

The FBI on Sunday arrested Officer Minh Hung “Bobby” Nguyen and Gordon Shiraishi, who retired in March. They were expected to appear Monday in federal court in Honolulu.

In 2013, then-police chief

Louis Kealoha and his wife, deputy city prosecutor Katherine Kealoha, accused her uncle, Gerard Puana, of stealing a mailbox from their home in an upscale Honolulu neighborhood.

Puana went on trial for the theft in 2014. The case abruptly ended in a mistrial when Louis Kealoha, still chief at the time, testified improperly about Puana’s criminal history and the charges were dismissed.

Puana’s federal public defender, Alexander Silvert, claimed the Kealohas framed his client to discredit him in a family financial dispute. While preparing for trial, Silvert said he uncovered evidence

of department-wide misconduct and took those allegations to the FBI, prompting the investigation.

Kealoha later agreed to retire after receiving notice from the FBI that he was a target of the investigation.

He received a \$250,000 severance payment on the condition that he must repay it if he’s convicted of a felony. Attorneys representing the Kealohas have denied any wrongdoing. Neither has been charged in the ongoing investigation.

Retired officer Niall Silva is awaiting sentencing after pleading guilty to falsifying documents and altering evidence.



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CORRECTS NAME OF THE BOAT FROM MAIN COURSE TO TRADE WIND -- Damage is visible on the boat Trade Wind in Newport Harbor, Monday, Oct. 16, 2017, in Newport, R.I., after it was struck Sunday evening by the tall ship SSV Oliver Hazard Perry, which lost power and began to drift in the harbor.

(AP Photo/Jennifer McDermott)

Authorities make final arrest in border agent's killing

PHOENIX (AP) — Authorities in Mexico have arrested the final of seven defendants accused in the killing of a U.S. Border Patrol agent whose death exposed a bungled federal gun operation, the U.S. Attorney's Office said.

Jesus Rosario Favela-Astorga was arrested Saturday without incident and faces first-degree murder and other charges in the December 2010 killing of 40-year-old Brian Terry in Arizona. The 37-year-old is the last of the defendants in the case, including five men who have either pleaded guilty or been found guilty in federal court in Tucson. Another suspect, Heraclio Osorio-Arellanes, was arrested in Mexico in April, but a judge has yet to approve his extradition to the U.S.

Favela-Astorga was a member of a crew that planned on robbing marijuana smugglers when it encountered Terry and other agents who were on

a stakeout in the southern Arizona desert, authorities said.

The killing unveiled the Fast and Furious operation, in which federal agents allowed criminals to buy guns with the intention of tracking them to criminal organizations. But the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives lost most of the guns, including two that were found at scene of Terry's death.

The operation set off political backlash against the Obama administration and led the agent's family to sue.

Terry was in an elite Border Patrol unit staking out the southern Arizona desert for "rip-off" crew members who rob drug smugglers. The four-man team encountered a group and identified themselves as police in trying to arrest them.

But authorities say the men refused to stop, prompting an agent to fire non-lethal bean bags at them. They responded by firing from AK-47-type assault rifles. Terry was struck in the back and died shortly afterward.

Among those already serving time are Manual Osorio-Arellanes, who pleaded guilty to murder and was sentenced to 30 years in prison in 2014, and Jesus Leonel Sanchez-Meza and Ivan Soto-Barraza, who were found guilty of murder and other charges in 2015.

A man who was not present during the shooting but is charged with assembling the rip-off crew, Rosario Rafael Burboa-Alvarez, also pleaded guilty to murder.

Rito Osorio-Arellanes, who was not at the shooting, has pleaded guilty to conspiracy to interfere with commerce by robbery.

Kagan: Not having to get door 1 plus of new status

CHICAGO (AP) — Justice Elena Kagan says one advantage of no longer being the most junior member of the Supreme Court is that she no longer has to answer the door when someone knocks as the nine justices are meeting.

The 57-year-old spoke Monday at the Chicago-Kent College of Law. Kagan didn't veer into potentially sensitive topics and wasn't asked to by students. She also relinquishes her chairmanship of the high-court cafeteria committee. She said that might include asking cooks, "What happened to the good recipe for chocolate chip cookies?" Who would knock while justices are meeting? Kagan said it might be someone bringing justices their eyeglasses or coffee.

It's now Donald Trump appointee Neil Gorsuch's duty.

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