



The New Year swept across the Pacific beginning with our next door neighbor, Samoa, and a day later, 2018 finished its sweep around the world with American Samoa. Pictured are fireworks exploding over the Victoria Harbor during New Year's Eve to celebrate the start of year 2018 in Hong Kong, Monday, Jan. 1, 2018.

[AP Photo/Kin Cheung]

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samoa news

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2018

\$1.00



AMERICAN SAMOA WELCOMED THREE NEW YEAR BABIES FOR 2018

ALL OF THEM ARE MALE.

The owners of Pacific Independent Distributors, Inc. Fritz and Helen Gaisoa, in partnership with Kimberly-Clark®, for the second year in a row donated Kimberly-Clark® products gift packs for the First Baby of the Year and New Year babies.

As the sole distributors of the Huggies® brand, which focuses on supplying a premium diaper at an affordable price, allowing mothers to spend more quality time with their bundles of joy and less time worrying about leaks.

PID will continue this contribution to help the moms of American Samoa enjoy every moment of their little one's life. Pacific Independent Distributors, Inc. has been in business since 2005 and has helped the community with donations, while honoring their logo, "Serving You is Our Business".

(Samoa News was not able to obtain any public information on the 3rd baby.)

DAVID TAUSAGAFOU PAAGA

The first New Year baby, David Tausagafou Paaga, was born at 6a.m.; weighing in at 6 pounds and 7 ounces. He is the son of Franklin and Tiaina Maluafou Paaga of Nu'uuli. The couple (mother second from left and father carrying baby David) is pictured yesterday at LBJ hospital with staff from Pacific Independent Distributor, there to present gifts of Loves diapers, wipes and other baby products to the territory's first New Year's baby. The red tote bags, labeled Huggies, were distributed by Pacific International to all babies who were at the hospital, including the other two New Year's babies.

MATTHEW FA'ALAE WILLIAMS JR.

The second NY baby, Matthew Fa'alae Williams Jr., was born at 8a.m.; weighing 8 pounds 10 ounces. Baby Matthew is seen here cradled by his mother, Lina Williams of Mapusaga Fou, and surrounded by aunty Val (right) and grandmother Sue (left).

[photos: Leua Aiono Frost]

FY2016 Statistical Yearbook shows 51.4% of prisoners at TCF were Samoa citizens

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

The top three crimes committed in the territory during fiscal year 2016 — Oct. 1, 2015 to Sept. 30, 2016 — are burglary, larceny and assault, according to law enforcement statistics included in the American Samoa Statistical Yearbook 2016, which was officially released late last week by the Commerce Department, working collaboratively with other ASG entities.

At the Territorial Correctional Facility in FY2016, the majority of inmates incarcerated were Samoa Citizens (94 total) with 51.4%. Other inmates were U.S. Nationals with 44.3 percent, U.S. Citizens with 2.2 percent, Tonga with 1.1% and Asians with 1.1%.

Of the total inmate population in FY 2016, 173 were male and 10 female, while FY 2015 population shows 186 male and 10 female.

In FY2016 183 inmates were recorded incarcerated compared to 196 in 2015. Average inmate population in FY2016 was 183 compared to 197 in FY2015.

As for the High Court, a total of 295 cases were filed in FY2016. There were 1,537 pending cases from FY2015, which were carried forward to FY2016 and only 302 cases were completed and disposed of in FY2016.

The annual statistical yearbook covers a wide range of issues in American Samoa. And among them is law enforcement and contains statistical data on crime, traffic, accident, firearm registration, inmate population, fire and court activities.

According to the statistical yearbook, in FY 2016, Department of Public Safety reported 282 Part I offenses; that includes crimes such as murder and non-negligent homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault,

(Continued on page 11)

A silver Toyota Tacoma pickup truck is shown from a front-three-quarter view. The truck is parked on a light-colored surface, possibly a driveway or parking lot. In the background, there is a building with a corrugated metal wall and some foliage. The truck's license plate is visible and reads "9797".



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Please contact: Jiin (258-4563) or Tafa Leaupepe
Office: (684) 699-4484 • Fax: (684) 699-2307
Email: ooeinc@gmail.com

Boyle was once briefly married to Zaynab Khadr, the older sister of former Guantanamo Bay detainee Omar Khadr and the daughter of a senior al-Qaida financier who had contacts with Osama bin Laden. The Canadian-born Omar Khadr was 15 when he was captured by U.S. troops following a firefight and was taken to the U.S. detention center at Guantanamo Bay. Officials had discounted any link between that background and Boyle's capture, with one describing it in 2014 as a "horrible coincidence." Boyle and his family met with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in the leader's office last month.





COURT REPORT...

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent
THOMAS SIAUMAU

A man charged with shooting at a police vehicle three weeks ago has entered not guilty pleas to the nine charges against him.

Thomas Siaumau, appeared in High Court last Friday morning for his arraignment where his attorney, Public Defender Douglas Fiaui entered “not guilty pleas to the nine counts.”

With the pleas entered, the court set pre trial conference for early February 2018. Siaumau, who is held without bail, is facing six felony counts — including assault and weapon charges — and three misdemeanors.

The shooting occurred the late evening of Dec. 14 at the Tony Solaita Baseball Field, while two police officers were on the field, searching for a possible break-in. The officers were called to the ASTCA compound in Tafuna and noticed the gate open at the baseball field and went there to check, when the shots were allegedly fired.

Police Commissioner Le’i Sonny Thompson said early last week that the police investigation is ongoing in this case.

DRUG CASES

Among the drug cases before the High Court last Friday for pre trial conference hearings was the government’s case against Fa’a’ili Matau, and his defense attorney Public Defender

Douglas Fiaui requested a two weeks continuance.

Fiaui informed the court that the defense received last Thursday discovery from the government. Fiaui pointed that the defense wanted an opportunity to review discovery to see if a resolution can be reached in the case. He sought a two-week continuance to Jan. 12, 2018 and the verbal request was granted by Chief Justice Michael Kruse.

Matau remains in custody unable to post bail.

For drug defendant Sonny M. Kelemete, who is out on bail, Fiaui said the defense has received discovery and they are prepared to proceed to trial.

Fiaui also informed the court that his other client, drug defendant Pierce Suapilimai, is prepared to go trial after the defense received discovery. He said both sides have not reached an agreement in this matter.

Trial dates for the two defendants have already been set for later this year or in 2019. However, Kruse informed both the government and defense “to be ready” if an earlier date becomes available for trial.

Kruse then turned to Assistant Attorney General Woodrow Pengelly, saying that there are “many drug cases sitting” not moving forward because the parties are waiting for the test results. And he recommended that the tests be sent out. “Mail them out,” Kruse said.



FILE - In this Aug. 13, 2017, file photo, Logan Paul introduces a performance by Kyle & Lil Yachty and Rita Ora at the Teen Choice Awards at the Galen Center in Los Angeles. Paul has issued a more extensive apology for posting a YouTube video showing what appeared to be a body in a Japanese forest known as a suicide destination. The initial video he posted Sunday, Dec. 31, 2017, showed the prolific social media user trekking with friends in the Aokigahara forest near Mount Fuji. He seems aware the forest is sometimes chosen for suicides but is surprised to see what appears to be a body hanging from a tree.

(Photo by Phil McCarten/Invision/AP, File)

Logan Paul makes more extensive apology for suicide video

TOKYO (AP) — Logan Paul has issued a more extensive apology for posting a YouTube video showing what appeared to be a body in a Japanese forest known as a suicide destination.

The initial video he posted Sunday showed the prolific social media user trekking with friends in the Aokigahara forest near Mount Fuji. He seems aware the forest is sometimes chosen for suicides but is surprised to see what appears to be a body hanging from a tree.

Media reports say the video was viewed some 6 million times before being removed from Paul’s YouTube channel, a verified account with more than 15 million subscribers. Segments of the video were still appearing online Wednesday.

A storm of criticism followed, with commenters saying Paul seemed joking and disrespectful in the video and that his initial apology was inadequate.

“I don’t expect to be forgiven. I’m simply here to apologize,” he said on the more somber video apology uploaded on YouTube and Twitter late

Tuesday. “None of us knew how to react or how to feel.”

Paul said he wanted to apologize to the internet, to all who saw the video and to those suffering mental illness and depression. “Most importantly, I want to apologize to the victim and his family.”

YouTube said it prohibits violent content posted in a sensational or disrespectful manner. Its statement says, “Our hearts go out to the family of the person featured in the video.” In Paul’s initial apology, he said he had wanted to raise awareness about suicide and possibly save lives, and he denied his goal was to drive clicks to his social media content. “I thought I could make a positive ripple on the internet, not cause a monsoon of negativity,” he said in his Twitter post. Paul’s credibility has nose-dived and more talk is not the recommended route for damage control, says branding expert Eric Schiffer, chairman of Reputation Management Consultants, who advises celebrities, executives and media.



Employment Opportunity in Banking

ANZ Guam, Inc dba ANZ Amerika Samoa Bank is hiring and establishing a list of candidates for the following full time position:

IT OFFICER

- Our successful candidate would be accountable for providing effective management and governance of IT services
- Minimum of two years of industry experience in Technology preferably in Banking and Finance
- Proven track record delivering major IT application or infrastructure projects
- Experience implementing risk management frameworks such as ITIL, ISO
- Experience identifying and implementing IT solutions to suit business needs
- Technical knowledge to effectively assess and implement technical solutions.

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 Friday, January 12, 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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US bars \$1.2B Chinese acquisition of MoneyGram

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese billionaire Jack Ma has dropped his bid to buy U.S. money transfer company MoneyGram after Washington rejected the \$1.2 billion deal in a fresh example of heightened American scrutiny of Chinese investment.

MoneyGram International Inc. and Ma's Ant Financial Services Group failed to gain approval from the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States despite efforts to respond to its concerns, MoneyGram CEO Alex Holmes said in a statement Tuesday. The panel reviews proposed foreign acquisitions of U.S. companies on national security grounds.

The failure is a setback to Ma's ambitions to expand into global markets.

MoneyGram shares fell 6.8 percent in after-hours trading to \$12.40 a share.

"The geopolitical environment has changed considerably since we first announced the proposed transaction with Ant Financial nearly a year ago," Holmes said. "Despite our best efforts to work cooperatively with the U.S. government, it has now become clear that CFIUS will not approve this merger."

The grounds for possible CFIUS objections were not immediately clear.

Ma is the founder of Alibaba Group, the world's biggest online commerce platform by total sales. He was among the stream of Chinese business leaders who visited U.S. President Donald Trump at Manhat-

tan's Trump Tower last January following his election.

At the time, Alibaba said it could create 1 million jobs in the United States by helping small businesses sell their products to Chinese and other Asian consumers. Trump told reporters in the Trump Tower lobby that Ma was a "great, great entrepreneur."

Ant Financial, which is linked to Alibaba, agreed in April to buy MoneyGram. Calling off the deal means Ant Financial will pay a \$30 million termination fee to MoneyGram, the statement said.

CFIUS has approved almost all proposed Chinese investments but a handful of high-profile rejections have made potential Chinese investors skittish.

In September, Trump vetoed the proposed \$1.3 billion acquisition of a semiconductor manufacturer, Lattice Semiconductor, by a Chinese government-financed buyer, Canyon Bridge Capital Partners, after CFIUS objected.

A White House statement at that time cited the importance of "semiconductor supply chain integrity" and the potential transfer of technology to a foreign buyer.

Chinese companies are on a global buying spree to acquire technology and brands. Some purchases of high-tech companies have prompted criticism they might represent security threats or the loss of important national assets.

100 extra fishing days secured for Am Samoa at fisheries meet

Utulei, AMERICAN SAMOA — The American Samoa delegation to the 14th annual Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission meeting in Manila returned to the territory after working with the United States delegation to successfully secure 100 extra high seas fishing days for American Samoa.

The American Samoa Fisheries Task Force made the announcement in a press release issued Friday.

Led by the head of delegation Director of Marine and Wildlife Resources (DMWR) Vaamua Henry Sesepasara and Chairman of the American Samoa Fisheries Task Force, Solip Hong, the American Samoa Delegation included COO Joe Hamby from Trimarine, Toetasi Archie Soliai from Starkist, Taulapapa William Sword from Pacific Energy, and Tepora Lavatai and Domingo Ochavillo of DMWR.

The American Samoa delegation worked closely with the United States delegation led by Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of International Fisheries Sam Rauch, which included private sector parties, non-governmental organizations, and representatives from the US State Department and National Office Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The WCPFC is a regional fisheries management organization. Members and participating territories of the WCPFC work together to manage highly migratory fish stock and to address problems such as overfishing and unregulated fishing. They do so by passing measures that are legally binding on member states and territories.

The United States is a full member of the WCPFC and American Samoa is a participating territory. Because American Samoa is a territory of the United States, the United States makes final decisions on behalf of American Samoa and through the Magnusson Stevens Act it institutes WCPFC measures. The 14th annual WCPFC meeting took place in Manila from December 3rd to the 7th. The biggest unresolved issue coming into this meeting was finalizing a new 3-

year tropical tuna measure that would set control measures for tuna fishing in the treaty area.

Each day negotiations lasted all day including a grueling 3 a.m. finish on the final day. After a marathon last day, Commission members agreed to a new 3-year tuna measure and, among other things, recognized the plight of American Samoa's tuna industry and passed a measure granting 100 extra high seas days to the United States for American Samoa as well as reducing the closures on Fish Aggregation Devices (FAD), which were closed all year in 2017.

"It was a team effort", says delegation member Hong. "I really can't say enough about Sam Rauch and his placing of American Samoa at the forefront. Our American Samoa delegation made sure to press upon the Pacific Island parties the dire situation of our tuna industry, but because the U.S. delegation has final say as to what statements and deals are made on behalf of American Samoa, it was really in the hands of Mr. Rauch to make sure that we saw relief. Thank God for the hard work Sam put forth and a big fa'amalo to the awesome support from the US delegation."

In plenary sessions and in breakout sessions, Hong delivered statements to members of the commission educating them on the frightful state of the tuna industry in American Samoa and the need for relief by granting extra fishing days to the territory.

"We have really worked hard at these meetings to impress upon the Pacific Island countries that we are like them", says DMWR director Vaamua. "While we are a part of the United States, the fact is that our economy, like many Pacific island countries, is dependent on the tuna industry. It seems that in this meeting we finally broke through." Commenting on the outcome of the meeting Governor Lolo stated, "A job well done to our American Samoa and US delegations. We have really pushed hard for our involvement in these meetings. I am very pleased that our voice is being heard and corrective actions taken."



President declares disaster over deadly California wildfire

VENTURA, Calif. (AP) — President Donald Trump on Tuesday declared a major disaster in California over a wildfire that destroyed more than 1,000 buildings as fierce winds whipped it through Ventura and Santa Barbara counties last month.

The declaration makes federal funding available to state and local governments and some nonprofit organizations for emergency work in those counties and statewide for work to reduce hazards related to the fire, according to a White House statement.

The Thomas fire that began on Dec. 4 is the largest recorded in the state. It was 92 percent contained on Tuesday. Firefighters were still putting out hot spots and smoldering areas.

The fire covered more than 440 square miles (1,140 sq. kilometers), killed two people, destroyed entire neighborhoods, threatened coastal foothill communities, ravaged wilderness areas and cast a pall of smoke that shuttered businesses in downtown Santa Barbara.

Firefighting costs alone have

approached \$200 million.

The disaster declaration means the federal government may cover 75 percent of those costs and the costs of recovering from the blaze, such as removing vast amounts of debris in fire-denuded areas that could be hit with flash floods and debris flows if winter rains arrive.

After a flight over the devastated area on Tuesday, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen M. Nielsen said the president's declaration will help with rebuilding from the fire, which burned more than 700 homes along with other buildings.

"Seeing the devastation, I'm deeply moved," she said. "My heart goes out to the survivors. We met with some of them today."

On Wednesday, she was expected to visit Santa Rosa in Sonoma County. Wildfires in October swept through Sonoma, Napa and other counties in and around wine country, killing 44 people and destroying more than 5,000 homes. Insured damages alone topped \$9 billion.



FILE - In this Dec. 12, 2017, file photo, Jack Ma, chairman of Alibaba Group, talks at the business forum of the 11th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Money transfer company MoneyGram says Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018, its proposed acquisition by Chinese billionaire Ma's Ant Financial Services Group has been called off after a U.S. government security panel rejected the \$1.2 billion deal. (AP Photo/Natasha Pisarenko, File)



ASG being on EU list of “tax havens” catches local gov’t by complete surprise

by Samoa News staff

American Samoa government officials were caught by surprise that the territory was included in the European Union’s list of “non-cooperative tax jurisdictions” – or commonly known as tax havens. Besides American Samoa, the territory of Guam was also included in the list of 17 countries and territories.

According to ASG, territorial representatives worked behind the scenes with the US Treasury for a proposed response to the EU, which says that the purpose of the list is to clamp down on tax evasion and avoidance and will help EU member states.

US Treasury Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin wrote to the Council of the EU objecting to the inclusion of American Samoa and Guam on the list and asked the body to reconsider its decision, arguing that the two territories names as well as the three other US territories are evaluated as part of the review of the United States. (See story in Dec. 29 Samoa News edition for Mnuchin’s letter and Samoa News edition on Dec. 6 for details of the EU’s blacklisting of the two territories.)

Mnuchin’s letter was included in last week’s ASG news release, which notes that the EU’s announcement “came as a complete surprise” to local authorities as the EU made no contact with Gov. Lolo Mata-lasi Moliga, Treasurer Uelinitone Tonumaip’e’a, the ASG Tax Office, the Legislature, nor anyone else in American Samoa as far as could be determined.

Upon learning that American Samoa was on the list, Lolo immediately asked Attorney General Talauega Eleasalo Ale and Tonumaip’e’a “to engage with relevant” US Treasury authorities to determine the next appropriate steps.

A “lengthy conference

call” was held Dec. 8 between Talauega, Tonumaip’e’a, and officials of the US Treasury Office of International Tax Counsel. It was learnedat that time that the EU’s “due diligence involved communications with US Treasury only” and also confirmed that no dialogue was held with territorial representatives.

According to the news release, ASG representatives “voiced their displeasure with their lack of engagement and the eventual outcome, and the EU’s apparent oversight of the relationship between the US and American Samoa.”

The governor has expressed appreciation to Talauega and Tonumaip’e’a and their respective staffs for their efforts in working with US Treasury to achieve this outcome.

Lolo said the “clear and unequivocal statement” from Mnuchin “sets the record straight” with regards to American Samoa, and he appreciates Mnuchin for doing so. “Our team worked quietly and patiently with the US Treasury team to craft an official US government response to the EU blacklisting, and we couldn’t be more pleased with the outcome.”

Talauega explained in the news release why ASG didn’t publicly address the EU blacklisting sooner, saying that they were told by the governor “to keep our peace until we learn what the US Treasury is going to do about it.”

“US Treasury also cautioned us to go slow as they did not want any efforts we made to get in the way of their strategic response,” he added.

Lolo also expressed appreciation to Daniel J. Winnick of the Office of International Tax Counsel at the US Treasury for his office’s efforts in crafting Mnuchin’s response

FEMA allowing churches to apply for hurricane disaster aid

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Emergency Management Agency has revised its policies to allow houses of worship to apply for some federal aid to help deal with damage from Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

FEMA announced Tuesday houses of worship no longer would be excluded from eligibility for FEMA aid.

The agency says the changes affect private nonprofit organi-

zations that sustained damage from a major disaster on or after Aug. 23 or that had unresolved applications pending before the agency as of that date. The assistance is limited to costs not covered by a U.S. Small Business Administration loan.

Three Texas churches severely damaged by Hurricane Harvey last year sued FEMA over the policy, accusing the agency of religious discrimination.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Rural Development

American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA): Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural Utility Service, USDA

ACTION: Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact.

SUMMARY:

The Rural Utility Service has made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to a request for possible financing assistance to ASTCA for the construction of the Hawaiiki Submarine Cable System—American Samoa Branch Cable Project in Tafuna, Tutuila, American Samoa.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

To obtain copies of the EA and FONSI, or for further information, contact: Steve Polacek, Environmental Protection Specialist, RUS, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 2244, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, D.C. 20250-1571, (202) 205-9805, steve.polacek@wdc.usda.gov. The EA and FONSI are also available for public review at ASTCA’s Aleki Sene Sr. Telecommunications Center, P.O. Box M, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The proposed project consists of the installation and operation of the 402-kilometer (250-mile) American Samoa Branch Cable and associated infrastructure. The branch cable would connect American Samoa to the Hawaiiki Submarine Cable System, which is a submarine fiber optic ‘trunk’ cable spanning approximately 14,988 kilometers (9,313 miles) from Pacific City, Oregon, USA to Coogee, Australia. The American Samoa Branch Cable consists of optical fibers and an electrical conductor designed to transmit voice and data communications at approximately 1.06 terabits/second. The Hawaiiki Submarine Cable System consists of a ten-segment trunk cable linked by six branching units located on the seabed that allow the cable to split and serve more than one destination. A branching unit on the main Hawaiiki Submarine Cable System will allow the fibers to split and a branch cable to be laid to American Samoa. The cable would land near an existing telecommunications conduit at Fogagogo, currently used to house the BLAST cable. From the shoreline at Fogagogo the cable would be installed into an existing beach manhole before terminating at an existing cable landing station, the Ilili Operations Center located on the Ilili Golf Course.

Alternatives considered by USDA RUS and ASCTA include: No action; Regional Alternatives; and Preferred Alternative. The alternatives are discussed in the Hawaiiki Submarine Cable System—American Samoa Branch Cable Project EA. The RUS has reviewed and approved the EA for the proposed project.

The availability of the EA for public review was announced via notice in the following newspaper(s): the Samoa News on October 16, 2017. A 15-day comment period was announced in the newspaper notice(s). The EA was also available for public review at the USDA Rural Development office and website as well as ASTCA’s Aleki Sene Sr. Telecommunications Center, P.O. Box M, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799. No comments were received.

Based on its EA, and commitments made by ASTCA, RUS has concluded that the project would have no significant impact (or no impacts) to water quality, wetlands, floodplains, land use, aesthetics, transportation, or human health and safety.

The proposed project will have no adverse effect on resources listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Agency has also concluded that the proposed project is not likely to affect federally listed threatened and endangered species or designated critical habitat thereof. The proposed project would not disproportionately affect minority and/or low-income populations.

No other potential significant impacts resulting from the proposed project have been identified. Therefore, RUS has determined that this FONSI fulfills its obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500-1508), and USDA Rural Development’s Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1970) for its action related to the project.

RUS is satisfied that the environmental impacts of the proposed project have been adequately addressed. RUS’s federal action would not result in significant impacts to the quality of the human environment, and as such it will not prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for its action related to the proposed project.

Dated: January 03, 2018





This Sept. 1955 photo provided by the Roland Giduz Photographic Collection/The Wilson Library at UNC Chapel Hill, shows from left, LeRoy Frasier, John Lewis Brandon and Ralph Frasier on the steps of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, N.C. LeRoy Frasier, who along with his brother and another high school student was among the first African-American undergraduate students to successfully challenge racial segregation at North Carolina's flagship public university, has died at the age of 80. Fraser died of heart failure on Dec. 29, 2017, in New York City. (Roland Giduz Photographic Collection/The Wilson Library, UNC Chapel Hill via AP)

Black student who helped desegregate university dies at 80

MRALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — LeRoy Frasier, who along with his brother and another high school student was among the first African-American undergraduate students to successfully challenge racial segregation at North Carolina's flagship public university, has died at the age of 80.

Family members said Tuesday that Frasier, a long-time English teacher, suffered heart failure and died Dec. 29 at a hospital in New York City.

Frasier; his brother, Ralph; and John Lewis Brandon were students at Hillside High School in Durham when they applied to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1955. They were rejected until a federal court judge ordered UNC-Chapel Hill to admit them.

Although UNC-Chapel Hill officially opened its doors to the three young men, they weren't welcomed everywhere. Ralph Frasier, 79, who lives in

Jacksonville, Florida, recalled Tuesday that the golf course and the university-owned restaurant and hotel known as the Carolina Inn were off-limits. At football games, they were seated in a section with custodial workers, who were black. And the three lived on their own floor of a section of a dormitory.

They also had to get a special dispensation to use the swimming pool.

"There were pockets of hostility among students primarily," said Ralph Frasier, a retired attorney. "But some of the administrators were less than welcoming. Some faculty were less than welcoming."

The Frasier brothers completed three years at Chapel Hill before Ralph left for the Army and LeRoy for the Peace Corps. Their harsh treatment at UNC-Chapel Hill was one of the reasons they left the school, Ralph Frasier said.

Both later graduated from

what's now North Carolina Central University, a historically black school in Durham.

The brothers were 14 months apart in age but Ralph Frasier started his education early. The two went through their school years in the same grade and attended UNC-Chapel Hill at the same time. They spoke by phone almost every day and had last talked Christmas Day.

"We were best friends for life," Ralph Frasier said.

While four black students had been admitted to the law school when the Frasier and Brandon applied, no black undergraduates had been accepted. Some UNC-Chapel Hill students came to the Durham Committee on Negro Affairs to find students to challenge the school's racial recalcitrance, Ralph Frasier said. They met with the principal of Hillside High School, a black school, to find the right families.

They found families whose jobs couldn't be threatened, and the Frasier brothers' parents worked for North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Co., which was owned by blacks. Their uncle was the chief executive officer so "it was felt their employment was pretty secure," Frasier said.

In the decade since the Frasier and Brandon attended UNC-Chapel Hill, the school has taken steps to make amends by inviting them to speak and naming scholarships after them.

School Chancellor Carol Folt said in an email Tuesday that LeRoy Frasier "was a true pioneer and historic figure in Carolina's history and his legacy of leadership, courage and self-sacrifice made a lasting impact on our university."

Chicago police: Woman shot while streaming live on Facebook

CHICAGO (AP) — Chicago police say a 27-year-old woman was wounded in a shooting that occurred while she was streaming on Facebook Live.

The Chicago Tribune reports the shooting happened Tuesday afternoon on the city's South Side. Police say the victim was arguing with another woman who was seated in a car. The woman in the vehicle then pulled out a gun and fired multiple shots, striking the victim in the arm.

Police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi says investigators have the Facebook video and the suspected shooter has been identified. She remains at-large.

Guglielmi says police don't believe there's any threat to the public. He called the shooting a "domestic related incident between two individuals that know each other."



American Samoa
Power Authority

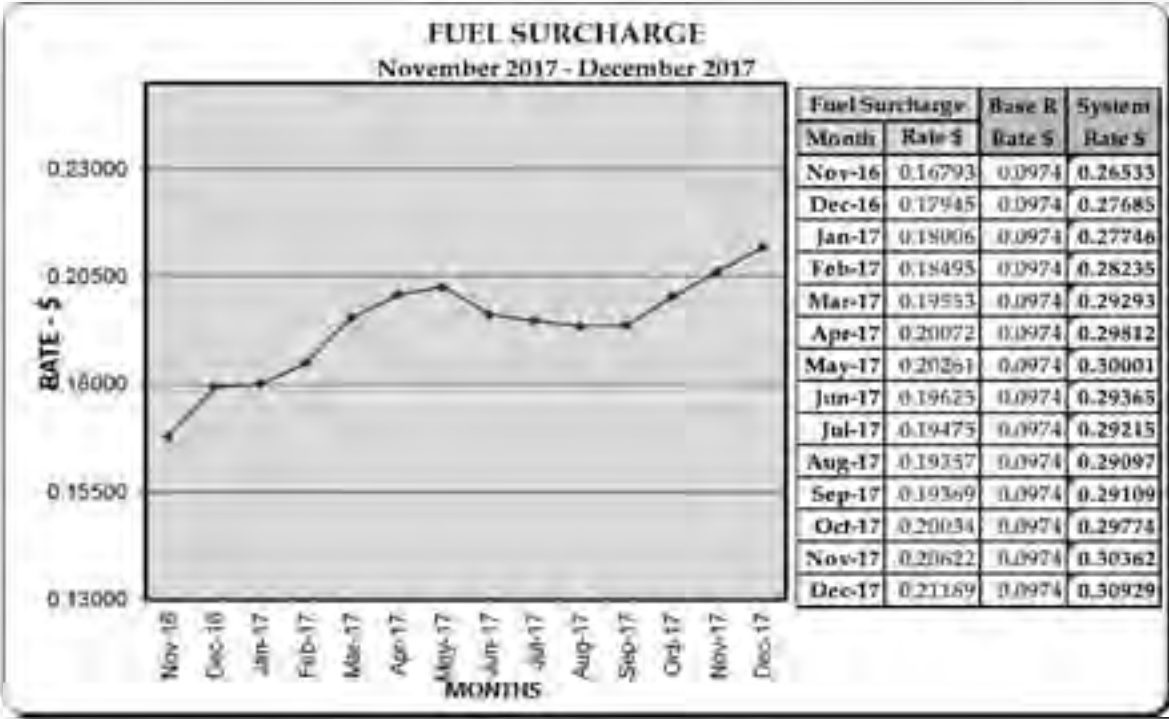
December 15, 2017

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 Aunuu.



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 December 2017			
Rate - \$	Residential	Small General	Large General
Calculated Fuel Surcharge	0.22190	0.22190	0.2219
Renewable Reduction	-0.01001	-0.01001	-0.01001
Fuel Surcharge	0.21189	0.21189	0.21189
Fixed Electric Base Rate	0.09740	0.10650	0.08960
Electric System Rate (kWh)	0.30929	0.31839	0.30149

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.



This photo provided by ASPA, shows the “first smoke” of engine number 3 on March 3, 2017 — considered an important milestone for the new Satala Power Plant after the original plant was destroyed in the 2009 earthquake and tsunami. The power plant continued to be put through its paces, and was dedicated May 25, 2017.

[2017 file photo]

Looking back at 2017

compiled by Samoa News staff

In 2017 the Twitter handle #MeToo went viral and ASG prosecuted more and more sex abuse cases, but unlike the U.S. — the economic outlook in the territories, and most especially American Samoa — is not rosy.

Starkist — the largest private employer in the territory is still suffering from fish shortages and unable to strike a bargain with the government on a site for additional freezer space. And that is having a “trickle-down” effect on the rest of the local economy. Couple this with the admin focusing on raising revenue — some, even in the Fono — have called for more responsible spending — not to mention another year passing with no relief for the territory’s inadequate banking situation.

Most significant is the sound of gunfire in American Samoa, after a portion of the police force was armed. Time will tell if this move makes us safer. Watch this space.

Now it’s on with the show and re-tell, with this look back.

JANUARY

American Samoa’s only New Year’s baby, Ms. Beloved Natayna Umaga

New admin, legislature sworn-in

Public invited to ceremony today for new MV Manu’atele

More evidence to justify extradition of Fletcher to Tonga

Man accused of biting during

Hawaii flight gets probation

GONG SHOW: I am hopeful we will survive the coming storm

Office of Manu’a Operations established through executive order

State of the Territory: Gov. says local economy on “shaky ground”

Territorial Bank still working on getting routing number

Le Aute Bar owner “Mama” to serve 90 days in jail

Electrocution accident kills three, injures three others

Average ASG payroll every two weeks is about \$4Mil

Report says territory’s population lives paycheck to paycheck

Starkist Samoa negotiations for more land space at a standstill

FEBRUARY

American Samoa now has a sex offender registry website

StarKist maintains it’s still committed to Am Samoa despite the challenges

ASCC holds Political Status Forum, one of many to be held this year

Illegal drugs received in the mail hard to prosecute

Taeaoafua addresses alleged discrimination incident

AG responds to claims of wrongful Immigration detention

DHSS director apologizes in ‘private’ to Simeonica Tuiteleapaga

(Continued on page 14)



RISE TO THE TOP!

Bluesky is an established telecommunications company in American Samoa, Samoa and Cook Islands. Our success comes through innovation and customer experience where our purpose is to apply technology and service excellence to advance and improve the lives of our customers. Be part of a company where employees have a chance to do exciting work and make a difference! Bluesky has an exciting opportunity for a marketing professional to manage and oversee Bluesky’s marketing department.

MARKETING MANAGER

POSITION SUMMARY
Develop, implement and drive the company’s marketing strategy to achieve company goals, market share, profitability, product development, marketing communications and product management. Responsible for the development and management of the marketing team. (Please refer to detailed Job Description on www.bluesky.as)

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS REQUIRE

- Bachelors Degree in marketing, business administration and/or related field.
- Minimum of 5+ years of experience in a marketing position or related field
- Strong leadership, management and decision making skills; ability to lead and supervise staff directly and indirectly including the ability to achieve results and performance through others; excellent communications skills, self-motivated, self-starter, personable and well organized.
- Experience in telecommunications industry is an advantage
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills (both English and Samoan)
- Ability to communicate effectively with people at all levels inside and outside the company.
- Exposure to product promotion and advertising as well as strong statistical background.
- Competent financial skills
- Demonstrated skills, knowledge and experience in the design and execution of marketing, communications and public relations activities.
- Demonstrated successful experience writing press releases, making presentations and negotiating with media.
- Experience overseeing the design and production of print materials and publications.
- Strong communication skills and the ability to interpret and maximize the use of sophisticated market research data.
- Strong creative, strategic, and analytical skills

Competitive salary based on qualifications and professional experience. Company benefits include discounts on products and services, IRA retirement, medical insurance, annual leave, and many more. Bluesky is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Interested and qualified candidates must submit a cover letter and resume or curriculum vitae to the Human Resources Department by email at as.jobs@blueskypacificgroup.com or in person at the main office located in the Laufou Center 2nd Floor, Nuuli, Am. Samoa. We will continue to accept resumes until the position has been filled.



“Le Auauna lelei e, ma le faamaoni; Ulufale mai i le fiafia o lou Alii”

Taeaoafua Dr. Meki Solomona

Taoto ia i le Faga ua Sa le tiuga nai Avaloa ma mapu i ti’asa i ulupaaga lau matematega Samoa. Aua o oe o le Maota e faamatafauloagatā mai lona ulua’i Papatea i Malaetele, se’ia taia ona si’upapa na ma’ape i Analega. Tulou! Ae tau ia ina o’u so’a le loto, aua le masina na faga-talia, ma lilo i ona atalua. O lea ua isilā nei le ata o le tama na moe i le aga, ae faamalele le ata o le teine na moe i luga o le papa, a’o le upu e fai i le Aigailetai, “vaai i le vai, maua le ao tausila, sili lana pae ae mapu i siliga. Tulou, Tulou, Tulouna Lava!

Leone

Ua masofa ai nei le fa i le maota i Tia o Pouono, e Afio ai Faiivae o le Maluolefale. Susu ai le Matua o Usoalii, Usoalii ma Tamapaa. Lau fetalaiga Tuiloma faapea le aiga Sa-Faiivaē. Aua o lea ua usuia le fono ma lalafo le upega lauga i le Tofa ia Taeaoafua Meki Solomona le upega lauga I le Tofa ia Taeaoafua Meki Tavita Solomona, O le lupe sa olo tu I Asoma’auga ma o le alo e fa’asino I le Taeleifi ma ona falemagafa e fia. Ua tulolo ai nei ao o le lagi, ae taalili peau o le sami. Aua ua lagia Laloifi ma Falesau o le Fale o Mavaega. O le lagi lava lea aua le Afio o le Faatuiolemotu, Susu ai le Maluolefale. A’o le gausia o le atipouniu i le fetalaiga ia te oulua Tama Matua, Olo ma Leoso. Lagi aua Avegalio ma Tuiteleleapaga ma Afioga i Maava. A’o le goto o le fetū i Avalua i le fetaliga tumalele ia te oulua Matua o Salave’a ma Salave’a. Vae o le tootoo ia Fiu ma Maiava, ma upu i le Alataua. Tulou.

Faigamalo Amerika Samoa

Ua to’ulu ai nei autā ma malepe le asoa tautua i le Faigamalo o Tutuila ma Manu’a. E afio ai lau Afioga i le Kovana Sili Lolo Matalasi Moliga, afioga i le Lutena Kovana Lemanu Peleti Mauga faapea le paia o le kapineta mamalu i ona tulaga faalupelupeina. Aua o lea ua tuua le malo i lana Afioga i le Faatonusili o le Matagaluega o Tagata, Tautua ma Alaga Manuia Lautele, i lana Afioga i le Foma’i o le Tofa Manino, Taeaoafua Dr. Meki Solomona. Tulou!

Fitiuta

Ua tau fai sunu’i ai nei pito ao o le lagi i le maota i Puleinuutu ma le malaefono i Faleula. Aua o lea ua lagia le la’oai ma le tupuasā e Afio ai Galea’i o lē na Muamua i Ao. Susu ai le Faleifa ma Ma’opu. Maliu mai Suafanuu, o Sa Matuafaiga o e na ulua’i tu’ia upu o le maota. Susu ai Usoalii. A’o le tafea o le fuesina i le vagaga maualuga ia te outou Tootoo o le Faleula Tau Aitu. Tulou!

Taftoala

Ua malepe ai nei le tao ma le uatogi sa tatamu i Malae, o le tua o Togamau. Aua ua to le timu i le Tama a le Falelua i lau Afioga Ale. Susu ai Te’o ma Matai’a faapea i la’ua na pitolua ai le aiga o Satunumafono. Susu mai ē na alala maota, Usoalii ma le Matua o Fata. A’o le taape o le faasolo i le fetalaiga i lo oulua To’alua o Pepe ma Tuivaifale, faapea le mamalu ia te oe Fagaillesau o le Alataua. Tulou!

Vaiee

Ua fatitoto ai nei auma o le auau o peau i Togamau, Liloa ma Lealofi. Aua o lea ua mafuli le niu ‘umi aua le lagi i Afioga i Tama a le Fale ia Te’o ma Tuiā. Susu ai le Matua o Maugatai ma le Usoalii. Maliu mai Safuiane ma Faleata, Sa Alo ma le Gataiala. A’o le gausia o ulutao i le fetalaiga ia Lutuimagamau. Tulou!

Satoalepai

Ae talofa ua oia le vao i Siliga ma Falefaama’oi o maota tāua i Faletalepai. Aua o lea ua gasolosolo ao o le lagi aua le Afio o Maiava. Ua taape ai nei papa i le Susu o Matai’a. A’o le mafuli o le niu ‘afa i le Aitu Tagata ia Mauigoa ma upu ia te oe le Satoalepai. Tulou!

Saleimoa

Ua fili ai nei i ulufanua i Fu’afu’a, Lotoso’a ma Aveavai ae talatala i le atuvasa i Falesoa, Niuvai ma Mata’ale le agi o le matagi na tō faata’uta’u. Aua ua lagia maota e fia e Afifio ai aiga e tolu (Puletele, Tilialo ma Luatuanuu). A’o le tulolo fo’i o le upega lauga i lau fetalaiga Luatua ma lou Gautaala, ma upu ia te oe le Faletolu. Tulou!

Ona o’u faalupetū ai lea i le vainiut i le Liana, ma o’u seu tutu’u i liu o va’a e pei o le fetalaiga ia Tulia Moeva’a, ma tātā efu o le fau e pei o le fetalaiga i le tolua lele nai figao. Aua e faigata oe so matou paolo tupu, ma ni o matou gafa na saili i malo. O oe o lo matou paolo o paolo, o lo matou malu o malu. E afua ai ona o’u se’e i le vaigalu, fai fo’i o ulugalu o le ‘auma, a’o si’u o le galu sa nofo ai Saveasi’uleo, aua o oe e malu ai lenei aiga ia Samoa ma le Lalolagi atoa.

Nuuuli

O lea ua peia ai nei le tavaluga o le maota i Lotoā o Alii, e Afio ai le Maopu ia Soliai ma lona aiga Sa-Soliai. Ua utuutu salefu ai nei le malaefono i Nuuuli ma Paepaeuli. Aua o lea ua lagia le afioaga e Afifio ai Alii Maopu. Susu ai Usoalii ma Taumafaalofi. A’o le gausia o le tootoo i le fetalaiga i lo outou to’afa ma upu i le Ituuu Malosi. Tulou, Tulou, Tulouna Lava!

O le porokalama e faapea.....

Aso Tofi, Ianuari 4, 2018

9:00amSauniga Pu’upu’u I le Malumalu I le Falema’I Fagaalu
11:00amUlua’I Sauniga o lona maliu I “Siona, Le Mauga Paia”
1:00pm.....Momoli atu lona tino maliu I le faletalimālō a lona aiga “Pouono le Maotafono o Alataua”
6:00pm.....O ona faigāleo & leoleoga I le po, “Siona, Le Mauga Paia”.
A mae’a ona taota lea I “Pouono” mo mafutaga & Lona Aiga Pele

Aso Faraile, Ianuari 5, 2018

5:00am.....Faigalotu a le Faiifeau
9:00am.....Fa’amavaega & le u’uina o lona tino maliu
11:00am.....Sauniga Lotu mulimuli “Siona, Le Mauga Paia”
2:00pm.....Falelauasiga I le lā aiga I Tafeta Hills
3:00pm.....Fa’aaloaloga mo le mamalu ua auai atu & Aiga Pele I le “Pouono”

Ma le āva tele ma le fa’aaloalo afioga ile Maluolefale o Alataua, Faiivae Iuli Alex Godinet,
Tofa Taeleifi Amos Galea’i, Tausi ia Vaofu’a Soliai Solomona
ma le Fanau pele, ma le aiga potopoto



In Loving Memory of Taeaoafua Dr. Meki Tavita Solomona



2 Samuel 3:38; "Do you not know that a great man has fallen in Israel today?"

Though only 63, he accomplished what few have done in our island home and we are deeply grateful to the Lord our God for the life of our beautiful Taeaoafua Dr. Meki Tavita Solomona, husband of Vāofu'a Soliai Solomona, father of Katerina Keliiaione Solomona-Toeava; father-in-law of Vincent Toeava & dearest Papa of Meki Tavita & Mikaele Siaana Toeava. The beloved eldest son of the late Rev. Si'ulagi Tavita Solomona and Faletua Fuarosa Tō'alepai Solomona. His services are as follows:

Thursday, Jan. 4, 2018 9am LBJ Chapel

- 11am First Service "Siona le Mauga Paia", CCCAS, Leone, American Samoa
- 1pm His body will lay in Wake, "Pouono le Maota Fono o Alataua"
- 6pm Spiritual Singing & Hymns by Choirs, Faigaleo 'Aufaipese
- 9pm Return to "Pouono" for all-night vigil

Friday, Jan. 5, 2018

- 5am Morning Devotion by his Siona Pastor, Rev. Toma Eteuati
- 9am Last farewell before closing his casket & anointing his body by his beloved wife, Vaofu'a Soliai-Solomona in "Pouono"
- 11am Last Service in "Siona le Mauga Paia" CCCAS, Leone
- 1pm Interment at his home, Tafeta Hills
- 2pm Traditional paying respects in Taeaoafua's honor, "Fa'aaloaloga"

Ma le ava tele ma le fa'aaloalo afioga ile Maluolefale o Alataua, Faiivae Iuli Alex Godinet, Tofa Taeleifi Amos Galea'i, Tausi ia Vaofu'a Soliai Solomona ma le Fanau pele, ma le aiga potopoto

Kenese 32: 30-31, "Ona fa'aigoa ai lea e Iakopo lea mea o Penieli; auā ua fa'apea a ia, "Na'ou iloa ai le Atua ua ma fesaga'i lava, a ua laveaiina a'u." Na alu a'e le lā, o ui ane o ia i Penieli, ua setusetu foi lona vae." Ua sola i lagī le tulafale Leone; ua lē uma feau a le taule'ale'a Papua. Na ala ona fanau i Papua, Niu Kini, ona ole galuega a le Atua. O le upu a Solomona le Failauga 3:1, "O le mea ma lona tausaga i mea uma, ma ona lava po i mea uma lava i lalo ole lagi." Ua o'o i lona tau e foi ai i lona Matai. Ona fa'apea lea, ua 'ī nei le manu ae logo le vateatea auā sa matou nononofo i luga o Punaloa ma Punamai, o punāvai e fa'asūsūina Laloifi ma Falesau o Faleomavaega.

I le aoao, o Taeaoafua Meki Tavita Solomona, ole tama Sapapalii, mai Matāniu Feagai ma le Ata, na sunu'i ai le ālafale ole Mālō o le Atua ua ao ai Samoa, o fanau ole Tala Lelei ua ao ai le Pasefika atoa. I le ma lea Amerika Samoa, o Laloifi ma Falesau o Faleomavaega na ulua'i afea e Ioane Viliamu ile Tala Lelei, na feavea'i e le tamaloa Leone o le nu'u o Taeaoafua, o Amoamo. Talofa, ua fesili Vāgauta i Vāgatai, "Aiseā ua pogisa ai le Fagaoatua?" Tulouna ia le lagi, lagi, lagi ma le lagi, o lo'u gutu ma le afi. Tulou, tulou, tulouna lava. A o le tūlafale nei foi, o Safata, Sāle'imoa, Safune, ma Auala. Ona oso ane lea o le manatu, "Le lagi e, aisea ea?" Pe taluai i Sili ma Vaiafai ua māl ai nei vai ole aiga sāl Tagaloa.

Sole, fai mai o oe ole tamāloa o le Fale Tuamasaga ae o le nei ua e fano to'atasi, o fa'alau muāgagana e fanolua ile Taimasa. Ona 'ou afe lea i lape o upu ma 'ou uia le Fale Safata, ma 'ou fa'apea ai, "Pe lē ole pogai ea, ona a 'ou iloa oe i Si'ulepa, oute iloa foi oe i Togamau." Taeaoafua, ua sa'o lava lou suafa, o oe o le Luatua o le tulafale fai ālaga. Le MotuSa ile nu'u o lou tamā na e fa'amemeo ai, o Fitiuta. Le Ilamutuopuapuaga, le Afioga ile na Muamua i Ao, le Afioga ile Galea'i, talofa ua sola le tama na tiu i ou paia ma ou mamalu, i Tu-tu ma Puleinu'utu. Fa'afetai fa'aeaea ma talimana'o i le atalii ole Faifeau i taimi na tagi atu ai i lau fesoasoani, e le galo oe le Taisamasama ole Tuimanu'a, le Malamalama mai Saua e mua'i sulugia ai ave ole la i Samoa.

Lana manamea, lona paolo ma lona fa'amalumaluga, le na Tausi-alii ile Tofa a Fofoga o Aiga, e moni ai Upu a le Tusi, e te le tātātuli pe fafagu i lau pele, na i'u lava lona soifua i ou aao. Leitioa le atunu'u pese, o oe lava Vāofu'aomālō Charlene Soliai-Solomona, o lona paolo sa malu ai; o lou paolo, sa ia maua ai le filemu ma le mapusaga. Fa'afetai ai ile Afioga ile Maopu Soliai ma le paia ole aiga i Lotoa o Alii, na tou alolofa ia te ia, o se alo iina, a'o atalii iinei. O ona toe sauniga ole vaiaso a sau lea. 2 Samuel 3:38; "Do you not know that a great man has fallen in Israel today?"





This undated photo provided by the Douglas County Sheriff's Office shows Castle Rock Police Department Officer Tom O'Donnell. Several sheriff's deputies and O'Donnell were injured when a man fired dozens of rounds at the deputies on Sunday, Dec. 31, 2017, before being fatally shot himself in what authorities called an ambush.

(Douglas County Sheriff's Office via AP)

Amata welcomes funds to ASG and applauds Justice Department decision

Washington, D.C. — Wednesday, December 27, 2017 — Congresswoman Aumua Amata welcomed an important decision by the Justice Department adding the American Samoa Government to the agreement between StarKist and federal agencies. This action, in response to inquiries by Congresswoman Amata and Governor Lolo Matatalasi Moliga, redirects \$2.6 million in agreed upon funds back from Washington to American Samoa.

“This is great news for American Samoa, and keeps a substantial portion of these funds in the islands, as it should be,” said Aumua Amata. “I believe the Justice Department made the right decision to bring American Samoa into this agreement, and I applaud everyone involved for their willingness to consider all the facts and make

this key change.” The new agreement retains the same total dollar amount, but the inclusion of ASG allows approximately one third of the funds to stay in American Samoa.

“All parties to this agreement should be complimented for their willingness to include these considerations of the impact on American Samoa, and come to an agreement including the local community,” continued Congresswoman Amata. “I’d like to add a particular thank you to Governor Lolo as we worked together to highlight these facts and bring about a resolution that makes a real difference for the territory. I would also like to thank Attorney General Talauega Eleasalo V. Ale for his hard work and dedication with the Department of Justice and the EPA to ensure that ASG received these funds.”

VA document: Gunman who killed deputy had fled mental ward

DENVER (AP) — The gunman who killed a Colorado sheriff's deputy escaped from the mental health ward of a VA hospital in Wyoming in 2014 but was located and returned, according to a Veterans Affairs document obtained by The Associated Press Tuesday.

The document was provided to the AP by a congressional aide on condition of anonymity because the aide was not authorized to release it. The document was first reported by The Denver Post.

The gunman, Matthew Riehl, fatally shot Douglas County Deputy Zackari Parrish and wounded four other officers on Sunday, Colorado authorities said. Riehl was killed by a SWAT team.

The VA document said Riehl was hospitalized at the veterans medical center in Sheridan, Wyoming, in April 2014 after a psychotic episode. The document said he escaped but was found and brought back.

The VA issued a statement saying it “cannot ordinarily discuss the specific care of any veteran without a privacy release.” A spokeswoman for the Sheridan VA hospital did not respond to an after-hours phone message and email.

In addition to Riehl's hospitalization in Sheridan, the VA document said he had an “urgent contact for mental health” with another VA facility in July 2015. It did not describe the nature of the contact or say where that facility was, but it was in the department's Eastern

Colorado Health Care System, which includes a hospital in Denver and nine clinics in other cities.

The document said Riehl was on multiple medications in 2015 stemming from an earlier hospitalization, but it did not say what those medications were or why they had been prescribed.

The document identified Riehl as an Army veteran who was honorably discharged. It said his records did not list any military service-related psychiatric disorders.

Colorado authorities said Riehl served in Iraq.

Officials said Riehl, 37, was armed with a rifle and ambushed the officers at his apartment in Highlands Ranch, 16 miles (28 kilometers) south of Denver.

Four deputies, including Parrish, were shot in the initial gunfire. A police officer was wounded later.

The wounded officers managed to get away but had to leave Parrish behind because of their injuries and the ongoing gunfire. Two people in nearby apartment units were also wounded.

The SWAT team arrived about 1 ½ hours after the confrontation began, and Riehl was killed in a gunfight. Authorities said Riehl fired more than 100 rounds during the prolonged standoff.

Before the shooting, Riehl made videos showing himself calling 911 and then opening his apartment door and talking to responding officers.



AMERICAN SAMOA POWER AUTHORITY

PO Box PPB, Pago Pago
American Samoa 96799
Phone No.: (684) 248-1234
bids@aspower.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

RFP No: ASPA18.009.ESD-WTR Closing Date & Time: Wednesday, January 3, 2018
Issuance Date: December 06, 2017 No later than 2:00 p.m. local time

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

“RFP No. ASPA.18.009.ESD-WTR, SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ADDITIONAL VARIABLE FREQUENCY DRIVE (VFD) and MAG METER PROJECT”

Submission

An original and one PDF copy of the Proposal must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: **“RFP No. ASPA 18.009.ESD-WTR, Supply and Delivery of Additional Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) and Mag Meters”**

Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), **Thursday, January 3, 2018:**

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

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 package outlining the proposal requirements is available at the Procurement Office at ASPA's New Operations Building and may also be obtained from our Website: <http://www.aspower.com>.

Right of Rejection

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

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

Strong factory data, Wall St gains boost Asian share prices

TOKYO (AP) — Strong manufacturing data and overnight gains on Wall Street gave Asian markets a boost on Wednesday.

KEEPING SCORE: Hong Kong's Hang Seng index edged 0.2 percent higher to 30,568.04 and the Shanghai Composite index jumped 0.8 percent to 3,375.18. South Korea's Kospi added 0.3 percent to 2,486.25 and the S&P ASX 200 in Australia ticked 0.1 percent higher to 6,069.10. Shares rose in Taiwan and Singapore but fell in Indonesia. Markets in Japan were closed for New Year holidays but reopen on Thursday.

WALL STREET: Technology and health care companies jumped Tuesday as U.S. stocks started the new year the same way they spent the last one: rising steadily and setting records. Energy companies, which struggled in 2017, also climbed. The Nasdaq composite busted through another milestone as it closed above 7,000 points. The Standard & Poor's 500 index 0.8 percent to a record 2,695.81. The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 0.4 percent to 24,824.01 and the Nasdaq composite jumped 1.5 percent to 7,006.90. The Russell 2000 index, which consists of smaller company stocks, gained 0.9 percent to 1,550.51, also a new high.

MANUFACTURING DATA: With little other news at the year's start, surveys in

China and India showing strong manufacturing growth in the world's most populous countries helped push commodities prices higher, helping miners and other sectors. The J.P. Morgan Global Manufacturing PMI (purchasing managers index) showed output and new orders expanding at their fastest rate in nearly seven years in December.

ANALYST'S VIEW-POINT: "U.S. investors put their money where their mouth is, starting the year with a confidence-boosting rally in cyclical stocks. Driven by the coordinated global growth theme and no doubt reinforced by tax cuts, last night saw solid gains in US cyclical sectors including consumer discretionary; materials and info tech," Ric Spooner of CMC Markets said in a commentary.

BITCOIN: Bitcoin rose after the Wall Street Journal reported that the venture capital firm Founders Fund, co-founded by Peter Thiel, bought around \$15 million in bitcoin in mid-2017. The report cited anonymous sources. The digital currency rose 3.2 percent to \$15,213.33 by midday Wednesday in Asia, according to Coindesk. Thiel did not immediately respond to request for comment.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude lost 2 cents to \$60.35 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange.



A man with a suitcase walks past a securities firm which is closed for New Year's holidays in Tokyo Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2018. Strong manufacturing data and overnight gains on Wall Street gave Asian markets a boost on Wednesday. Markets in Japan were closed for New Year holidays.

(AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)

► FY 2016...

Continued from page 1

burglary, motor vehicle theft, larceny-theft, and arson.

The highest number of crimes committed during FY2016 were burglary followed by larceny and assault, both first and 2nd degree, according to the yearbook, which shows the total burglaries at 149, followed by at 79 for larceny and assault at 41.

In the past 10 fiscal years, FY 2009 has the highest number of burglary offenses at 250, according to the yearbook.

Also in FY 2016, DPS reported 1,512 Part II offenses — which are other assaults, forgery and counterfeiting, fraud, embezzlement, stolen property (buying, receiving, possessing), vandalism, weapons (carrying, possessing, etc.), drug abuse violations, gambling, offenses against the family and children, driving under the influence, liquor laws, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, vagrancy, all other offenses, suspicion, curfew and loitering laws (person under age 18), and runaways (person under age 18).

Part I offenses committed by juveniles in FY2016 decreased by 8.5 percent, according to the data, adding that Part II offenses also dropped by 16 percent in FY2016. Two leading offenses for Part I and Part I were bur-

glary and disorderly conduct respectively, it says, adding that 23 burglary cases involved juvenile offenders.

Traffic accidents increased by 1.5% with 750 reported in FY 2016, with a total of 106 people who suffered injuries in these accidents and one fatality was reported. For comparison, total accidents reported in FY 2015 was 739 with 89 people who suffered injuries and two fatalities.

Regarding firearms, 192 were registered in FY 2016 with shotguns totaling 92, pistols 32, and rifles at 68. A footnote in the yearbook states that shotguns include 12, 16 and 20 gauge models; and pistols include 22, 38, and 45 caliber models. Additionally, "pistols are only used for police work."

In FY 2015, there were 153 registered firearms, with 79 shotguns, 8 pistols and 66 rifles.

According to DPS, there were 85 fires reported in 2016 with 74 residential, 6 commercial, and 7 industrial.

The yearbook sites the sources of the data, for example, High Court data came from the Clerk's Office of the High Court while other data came from DPS. The 2016 Statistical Yearbook, which covers a wide range of issues, is now online at www.doc.as.gov



American Samoa Government OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

INVITATION FOR BIDS IFB-025-2018

Issuance Date: January 2, 2017

Closing Date: January 10, 2017
No later than 2:00p.m. (local time)

1. INVITATION

Sealed bids are invited from qualified firms to provide "Department of Public Safety Building Repairs" located in the Village of Fagatogo, Territory of American Samoa.

2. RECEIPT & OPENING OF BIDS

Sealed bids will received by the Chief Procurement Officer, American Samoa Government, Tafuna, American Samoa 96799, until 2:00 p.m. (local time), Wednesday January 10, 2018 at which time and place the sealed bids will publicly opened and read.

3. PRE-BID CONFERENCE

A MANDATORY Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on Friday, January 5, 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 Conference.

4. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

Electronic copies of contract documents, including Plans and Specifications may be examined or obtained at the Office of Procurement free of charge.

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

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

DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON
Chief Procurement Officer

Equal Opportunity Employer / Affirmative Action



FILE - In this Nov. 28, 2017 courtroom sketch, defense attorney Victor Rocco, left, gives his opening statement to the jury, as his client, Mehmet Hakan Atilla, right rear, listens from the defense table in New York. The jury is set to begin deliberations in the trial of the Turkish banker accused of helping Iran evade U.S. sanctions and launder billions of dollars in oil revenue. The trial of Halkbank executive Mehmet Hakan Atilla has featured testimony about bribery and corruption at high levels in Turkey. Atilla's fate will rest with federal court jurors on Wednesday, Dec. 20, after a judge reads them instructions on the law.

(Elizabeth Williams via AP)



DEVELOPMENT BANK OF AMERICAN SAMOA
P. O. BOX 9, Pago Pago A. S. 96799
Office: (684) 633-4031 Fax: (684) 633-1163.
Website: www.dbas.as

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: LEGAL COUNSEL

Responsibilities:

- Provide legal advice to the Board, management and staff on all matters pertinent to the Development Bank of American Samoa.
- Provide legal representation of the Development Bank of American Samoa before American Samoa Courts, Legislature and executive departments.
- Supervise the Legal Department and Legal Department staff.
- Provide in-house advice on borrower and lender compliance.
- Design and implement appropriate legal remedies, including suit and foreclosure, for delinquent loans referred to the Legal Department.
- Draft contracts, leases, manuals, policies, loan documents and other DBAS documents for the Development Bank of American Samoa.

This position supervises Legal Dept. Manager and Legal Collection Officers while reporting to the President.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education/Experience/Qualification:

Juris Doctor degree from an ABA accredited law school with five to seven (5-7) years experience as an attorney in relevant areas of practice. Must be admitted to practice in any state and a member in good standing of a state bar. Must be eligible for admission to practice in American Samoa and must either be admitted to practice and licensed to practice in American Samoa or obtain admission and license to practice within thirty days of commencement of employment. All hired employees are subject to background and credit checks.

Skills/Abilities:

- Excellent problem solving, analytical and negotiating skills. Strong leadership, management and supervisory skills.
- Excellent interviewing, communications and public relations skills.
- Excellent ability to work with President, Bank Management and Development Bank Board of Directors.
- Proficient in computer applications, including MS Word and MS Excel.

Please submit your Resume & Application to the Development Bank of American Samoa located in Pago Pago - 2nd floor. This job posting will expire January 15, 2018 @ 4:00pm.

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Jury goes back to work in US trial of Turkish banker

NEW YORK (AP) — A jury deliberating the fate of a Turkish banker charged with helping Iran evade U.S. economic sanctions resumes its work in a New York City courtroom.

The Manhattan federal court jury enters its fourth day of deliberations Wednesday in the trial of Halkbank executive Mehmet Hakan Atilla. The trial has drawn heated criticism from Turkish leaders, who say it is designed to discredit the government of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

The jury was off all last week for the holidays. On Tuesday, Judge Richard M. Berman rejected a mistrial request by Atilla's defense lawyers, who complained that a prosecutor asked their client in front of the jury if he remembered that an investigative report concluded that he violated sanctions against Iran. The judge did not permit him to answer the question and struck the question from the record.

Berman wrote that there was no necessity for a mistrial because Atilla "has received a thoroughly fair and transparent trial." He noted that Atilla has a "very professional defense team" of over eight lawyers who are "alert and aggressive on behalf of their client."

Atilla, 47, has pleaded not guilty to charges that he helped Iran launder oil and gas revenues through world banks, including in the U.S.

The trial attracted considerable interest in Turkey, where

government officials repeatedly attacked U.S. prosecutors. They said the prosecutors coerced the testimony of Reza Zarrab, a gold trader well known in Turkey who pleaded guilty and testified for a week that he participated in a conspiracy to aid Iran.

Zarrab, 34, a Turkish Iranian businessman, was arrested in March 2016 in Florida as he arrived in the U.S. to take his wife and daughter to Disney World. Atilla was arrested a year later when he came to the U.S. to meet with investors.

Zarrab is married to Turkish pop star and TV personality Ebru Gundes. He testified he was told Erdogan signed off on the scheme to help Iran evade sanctions while Erdogan was the nation's prime minister.

He also testified that he paid tens of millions of dollars in bribes to government officials and bankers to help the conspiracy succeed.

But he said he never paid a bribe to Atilla.

Atilla's attorney, Victor Rocco, said his client was not corrupt. He called Atilla a "blameless pawn, collateral damage in a story that belongs in the 'Twilight Zone,' not an American courtroom."

Atilla, testifying in his defense, said he acted professionally and legally. Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Lockard said Atilla lied on the witness stand to protect his job as one of his employer's top executives.

The Latest: US Homeland chief is wait-and-see on citizenship

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The Latest on U.S. Homeland Security Kirstjen Nielsen's comments about prospects for immigration legislation: (All times are local.)

7 p.m.

The U.S. Homeland Security secretary says the Trump administration would consider immigration legislation that includes a pathway to citizenship for hundreds of thousands of young people who were brought into the country illegally as children, while emphasizing no decision on that issue has been made and a border wall remains a top priority.

Kirstjen Nielsen told The

Associated Press in an interview Tuesday that Congress is considering three options for recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, including citizenship or permanent legal status for people who were temporarily shielded from deportation.

Details on qualifying for citizenship, including on how many years to wait and other requirements, would have to be addressed.

Asked whether the president would support citizenship, she said, he's "open to hearing about the different possibilities" but no decision has been made



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samoa news

Trump threatens to cut off US aid to Palestinian Authority

WASHINGTON (AP) — Acknowledging his push to broker peace in the Middle East has stalled, President Donald Trump on Tuesday appeared to threaten to cut off U.S. aid money to the Palestinian Authority, asking why the U.S. should make “any of these massive future payments” when the Palestinians are “no longer willing to talk peace.”

Trump, in a pair of tweets, said the U.S. pays “the Palestinians HUNDRED OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS a year and get no appreciation or respect.”

“They don’t even want to negotiate a long overdue ... peace treaty with Israel,” he wrote.

Trump infuriated Palestinians and Muslims across the Middle East when he announced late last year that the U.S. would consider Jerusalem the capital of Israel and move its embassy there, upending decades of U.S. policy and igniting protests.

While the Palestinians haven’t closed the door to a potential deal with Israel, Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas said the announcement had destroyed Trump’s credibility as a Mideast peace broker, calling the decision “a declaration of withdrawal from the role it has played in the peace process.”

Tuesday’s tweets mark a tacit admission by Trump that his decision to move the U.S. embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem has thrown a wrench into his administration’s plans to restart the peace process between Israelis and Palestinians, which he had dubbed “the ultimate deal.”

Trump tasked son-in-law Jared Kushner to restart the effort, and brought his former attorney, Jason Greenblatt, into the White House to lead the negotiations. Trump’s Mideast peace team had held meetings with Israeli, Palestinian and Arab leaders for nearly a year ahead of an expected peace proposal.

But by recognizing Israel’s claim to Jerusalem, Trump was seen by the Palestinians as siding with Israel on the most sensitive issue in the conflict. The Palestinians seek east Jerusalem — which Israel captured in 1967 — for their capital.

Trump said his decision merely recognized the reality that Jerusalem already serves as Israel’s capital and wasn’t meant to prejudice the final borders of the city.

In his tweets, Trump argued his decision had taken “Jerusalem, the toughest part of the negotiation, off the table, but Israel, for that, would have had to pay more.”

When Trump declared Jerusalem to be Israel’s capital, he insisted, counterintuitively, that the move would improve, not

hurt, prospects for clinching a peace deal.

In the days after the decision, Trump administration officials said the strategy was based on the notion that Israel had lost faith in the U.S. as a committed partner during the Obama administration. With trust in Washington restored, Netanyahu’s government would be more inclined going forward to make tough concessions that would ultimately be needed for a peace deal, the U.S. officials argued at the time, and Israeli officials quietly indicated that they could potentially do so.

No one spelled out, however, what the Palestinians would receive in return.

Trump on Tuesday also issued a threat to cut off foreign aid dollars to an unspecified list of countries that don’t reciprocate.

“It’s not only Pakistan that we pay billions of dollars to for nothing, but also many other countries, and others,” Trump wrote, appearing to reference a Jan. 1 tweet lambasting Pakistan for failing to do enough to combat terror groups while taking U.S. aid. “No more!” Trump had tweeted Monday.

Trump’s language marks a striking departure from decades of bipartisan American practice and reflects Trump’s transactional view of global affairs. U.S. leaders of both parties have long utilized foreign assistance dollars — a minor percentage of the overall budget — to promote American interests abroad, alleviate humanitarian crises and support oppressed peoples.

Trump’s envoy to the United Nations, U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley, foreshadowed Trump’s warning earlier Tuesday at the U.N. Security Council. Haley said the president doesn’t want to give more funds “until the Palestinians are willing to come back to the negotiation table.”

“We still very much want to have a peace process. Nothing changes with that. The Palestinians now have to show they want to come to the table,” Haley said. “As of now, they’re not coming to the table, but they ask for aid. We’re not giving the aid. We’re going to make sure that they come to the table.”

Since a Dec. 21 U.N. vote condemning Trump’s Jerusalem decision, U.S. officials have been weighing various options for retaliating against the Palestinians for pushing the resolution, which passed by a 128-9 margin.

Those options, which were to be discussed by Trump’s top national security aides at a meeting next week, included several involving cutting off some or all aid to the Palestinian Authority. Another option would cut funding to the U.N. agency that provides services to the Palestinians in places like

Gaza, Jordan and Lebanon.

The talks are in their very early stages, with no determination yet of a fixed amount or percentage of assistance to be cut, according to officials familiar with the discussions.

However, the officials noted that only a relatively small amount of the more than \$220 million that the U.S. was planning on sending to the Palestinians in the current budget year actually goes to the Palestinian Authority. Most of that assistance flows to non-governmental groups that are involved in building civic organizations that promote good governance, anti-corruption efforts, and health and education projects.

The officials said one possibility would be to redirect aid from the Palestinian Authority to those groups. Similar proposals were envisioned for the U.N. relief agency for Palestinians, the officials said, noting that Palestinian children in Gaza, Jordan and Lebanon would be disproportionately affected by an immediate and complete cut-off.

Chris Gunness, a spokesperson for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East, said it had not been informed of any changes to U.S. funding at this time.

One basket of money that is unlikely to be affected is security assistance that helps the Palestinian Authority coordinate police cooperation with Israel, the officials said. They spoke on conditions of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly about internal deliberations.



Turkey’s President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, right, poses for photographs with Jordan’s King Abdullah II, left, prior to their meeting at the Presidential Palace in Ankara, Turkey, Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2017. With U.S. President Donald Trump’s expected recognition of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital, Erdogan said Tuesday that Jerusalem was a “red line” for Muslims and could lead Turkey to cut off diplomatic ties with Israel. He is inviting leaders of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation to an extraordinary meeting to discuss Jerusalem’s status on Dec. 13. (Kayhan Ozer/Pool via AP)

Palestinians outraged by Trump’s ‘black-mail’ to cut funding

JERUSALEM (AP) — A senior Palestinian leader has expressed outrage at President Donald Trump’s threat to cut funding to the Palestinian Authority, calling his tweets “blackmail.”

Hanan Ashrawi said in a statement on Wednesday that Trump “singlehandedly destroyed the very foundations of peace” by recognizing Jerusalem as Israel’s capital last month. She says the Palestinians “will not be blackmailed.”

She also says “Trump has

sabotaged our search for peace, freedom and justice.”

The United States has given the Palestinians over \$5 billion in economic and security aid since the mid-1990s, according to Congressional research figures, with an average of \$100 million annually since 2008 for President Mahmoud Abbas’s security services.

Cutting the funding could prove disastrous for Israel, which relies on security cooperation with the PA to maintain calm in the West Bank.



Republican Party of American Samoa



P.O. Box 3506 Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

The Republican Party of American Samoa proudly recognizes Mr. Sylvester Toatelegese of Nu'uuli Voc Tech High School and Mr. James Wang of Pacific Horizon High School.

Congratulations on meeting the challenge. Thank You and Fa'afetai Tele to all who supported our Essay and Speech Contest.

Your support allowed us to provide an additional opportunity to prepare the youth of American Samoa for the future.

All Student Participants

Teachers and Administrators

Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Tavui Toatelegese & Mr. and Mrs. Willis Wang

Mr. Solip Hong, KS Mart Inc.

Mr. Manu'a Chen, Manu'a Stores

Mr. Ale Filoiali'i, Manu'atele

RPAS Youth Planning Committee

RPAS Members

KHJ Radio (Tua Uli & Sia Atofau)

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Thank You! Fa'afetai Tele!

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▶ Looking...

Continued from page 7

Confirmation process for Lolo Admin’s cabinet appointees done

Avril Regis of St. Theresa Elementary wins 2017 Territorial Spelling Bee

Airport land-use change agreement signed with FAA

MARCH

A Tribute to The Honorable Faleomavaega Eni Faua’a Hunkin

Lolo: Territories cannot afford any reduction in Medicaid funding

Amata asks Trump to remove marine monument fishing prohibitions

UN Decolonization Committee strongly urges US to not exploit Am Samoa

Samoa film “One Thousand Ropes” to open in Samoa this month

Heat Index: Feel like 112° outside — That’s our summer

First of the tax refunds available today

Pres. Trump’s proposed budget would adversely affect Am Samoa

US Senate passes measure to name VA Clinic after Faleomavaega

Late stage cancer increasingly found in children of A.S.

Feds invalidate NMFS rule reducing LVPA from 50 to 12 miles

TBAS routing number still in process, says the bank’s CEO

Scanner fees to go in effect Apr. 3

Amata appeals to Commerce Secretary to lift fishing ban

APRIL

4 Juvenile Center public safety officers charged

Fautasi Fever sweeps the territory — Flag Day race set

Leone High School overall winner of Secondary Speech Festival

Territory’s VA clinic now officially named after

Faleomavaega

Samoa considers taxing salaries of Church ministers — and Head of State

Lolo announces reduction in hours, beginning next week

Court dismisses lawsuit challenging selection of Nuanuaolefeagaiga

DPS- Juvenile Detention Center officers charged

Wentworth Academy and College to close

Tax amnesty offered — outstanding late penalties and interest will be waived

2017 Flag Day ceremony kicks off today at 9 a.m.

Special session called for unfinished biz of the Legislature

TBAS further explains why it is not FDIC insured, yet...

Vice President Pence to visit American Samoa

At this time, there are no new plans to reopen STP

ASG Employees Retirement Fund lends \$4Mill to ASTCA

MAY

Man sentenced for “messaging around” with 12-year old girl

“Career drug dealer” sentenced to 20 years for transporting ‘meth’

ASCC hosts Sexual Assault Awareness Forum

Victims Advocate calling for House hearing on DPS Commish

Ofu and Olesega islands now powered 80% by solar energy

Selection of Nuanuaolefeagaiga to hold senate seat still being challenged

Fuamatu J.V. Fuamatu sworn in as Western District Governor

Bluesky files suit against former CEO

Local high school graduations featured this month and next

Northwest Tatau Festival presents heavy hitters in the tattoo industry

New Satala power plant dedicated

JUNE

AmSamoa’s relationship with U.S. has “serious demo-

cratic deficiencies”

DPS Vice & Narcotics Tactical Unit to be expanded and strengthened

Maintaining the “status quo” of political status an economic necessity

All ASG budgets cut by 10% for 2018

MAward winning Samoan film director finalist in prestigious grant program

U.N. hears about “Samoan Way of Life”

Definition of AS cultural fishing practices still being debated

Satala Shipyard land will not be leased to Starkist

Minimum wage hike will be final nail in coffin for local economy

Retire or resign — that is the question for certain ASTCA employees

Tela-Shoulders named 2017 U.S Territories History Teacher of the Year

High Court rules in favor of CCCAS vs former General Secretary

THE CONVERSATION: OMV has been double charging...

McConnell Dowell has again drained “Mormon Lake”

JULY

Speaker and Chief of Staff cases moving forward says AG

Samoa has a new Head of State

Talofa Airways launches inaugural direct-flight from Pago to Tonga

Work hours reduction rolled back for those earning up to \$30K

Governor paints a bleak picture of ASG finances to Fono

Another Am Samoan busted for filing fraudulent tax returns in US

DMWR argues marine monument expansion not based on science

American Tunaboat Assoc. voices opposition to fishing restrictions

CDC Report: Samoans just

aren’t as healthy as other Pac Islanders

American Samoa Legal Aid now accessible in Manu’a

Lolo points to fishery woes as impacting ASG/ LBJ financially

As Gov promised — repealing taxes, reforming taxes, more taxes

Serving in military my privilege, my right: transgender Samoan calls for help

Man sentenced to 28 months for sex relations with 12-year-old

Poke craze hits mainland

AUGUST

How far does American Samoa have to go to get a bank?

Federal court denies NMFS motion for reconsideration

NPAS crew heads to Northern California to fight wildfires fires

David Vargas confirms his appointment as Independent Prosecutor

“Matching Funds” part of the local Medicaid program hiccup

“Fa’i paka” gluten free flour now being manufactured locally

Social Wellness Hub proposed for east side

Over-stayer sentenced to 5 years for sexual contact with five-year-old

Shortage of fish supply shutting down cannery production

2016 GDP for territory decreased by \$17Mil

Lolo blames fed policies for ASG’s debt status

Lolo calls for all ASG telecommunication needs to be handled by ASTCA

Former janitor sentenced to 20 months for sex relations with minor

No plan to reimburse for years of overcharging at OMV

Still no decision on a freezer storage facility site for StarKist

Andra Samoa is one of 70 “Inspiring Pacific Women”

ASG workforce up by 150+ — largest employer in territory

SEPTEMBER

Puleleite’s move to ASTCA leaves vacant seat in the House

It’s confirmed: StarKist will shut down for 5 weeks

StarKist shutdown will cost the government millions

Matau’aina Gwendolyn Toomalatai is Miss American Samoa

Medicaid now covers all facility fees for DOH health centers

Latest drug case questions motives of police officers

Local company execs voice opposition to proposed business tax

Judge Sunia dismisses drug case, cites violation of constitutional rights

Commish: Mandatory minimum 5-year jailtime for drugs not enough

Port seeks hike in fees and charges after 33 years

CID investigation leads to the arrest of a cop

Six candidates vying in special election for House seat

National Park Fire Crew heads to California for second time this year

Training to arm local police officers kicks off

Senator asks if Territory getting share of StarKist settlement with feds

HAL says seat assignments

are about weight distribution and safety

FY 2018 budget on its way to Governor

8th anniversary of the deadly 2009 tsunami

OCTOBER

‘Fathers of the Territory’ have spoken: Only 3 Senate seats for Manu’a

Tauese Vaaomala Sunia is new TCF Warden

ASTCA wants to borrow more to fund projects

GAO report warns of ASG’s ability to repay debt

One year later, TBAS still doesn’t have a routing number

ASG tugboats and barges sold to Samoa for \$13K

Lolo rescinds memo that appointed Tauese as Police Chief

Le’i says it’s his duty — under the law — to carry out weapons training

Male teacher charged for alleged sexual misconduct with a male student

Love Thy neighbor — donate to the food drive and help feed a family

American Samoa joins U.S. Climate Change alliance

Big Palolo catch this year in Ofu

Certain cops — and the Commish — are now carrying guns

ASTCA audit raises doubt about its ability as a ‘going concern’

Fish deliveries remain a challenge to StarKist Samoa

41 cops, including Commissioner now certified to carry weapons

Am Samoa’s biggest artistic export —Tisa’s Tattoo Festival

Another drug case gets thrown out after illegal traffic stop

Nothing on status of investigation in allegations against gov’s chief of staff

NOVEMBER

Fialupe Lutu named official winner of the special election

New Zealand now approved for off island referrals funded by Medicaid

US denies Tonga’s request for Fletcher’s extradition

Increase of Port fees and wharfage charges signed into law

Good news for beer importers: Governor vetoes beer tax amendment

Babies mistakenly switched, mothers take wrong babies home

Jury finds former schoolteacher not guilty in case of paddling student

Researchers launch unique lab in Samoa to study obesity epidemic

Drugs, weapons, and lots of \$\$\$ confiscated during police raids

Former cop who is drug suspect alleged to have flown the coop

Overstayer from Samoa pleads guilty to sex with a 15-yr-old girl

Routing number for TBAS depends on Fono approval of amendments

Latest drug bust nets meth allegedly bought from Le Aute

Lolo: Businesses complaining about unpaid gov’t

(Continued on page 15)



FA’ASALALAUGA O LE SUAFA FAUMUINA O ALOFAU

Samoa e, e le tau faamaupu’epu’eina ‘auma fati loloa o le vasa i ou paia e afua mai Saua seia paia Analega. Matou te faapoipoi ma le faaete’ete le laau-tu-i-vanu i ou paia fa’aletalalelei, mamalu faaleatunuu aemaise ou sa faalemalo ina ne’i faitauina tautala o le puagagana i sa matou faamatalaga faatauva. Nuunuu atu ia i faleupolu o tofiga ma le ‘au fueloloo o le atunuu outou sa ma faiga, aua o le latou gafa tausi vaatele lea. Tulou!

E matou te faatulou atu ai i le paia o Suli ma feoi oi le Suafa FAUMUINA i le afioaga o Alofau, o loo alaala ma papa’a’ao i itu e fia o Samoa.

Ole paia lava lea o Aloitafuna e afio ai le afioga le Tupufia ia Faumuina, susu ai Anoalo tutusa o Toia ma Ufagafa. Susu ai foi Aiga ma Usoalii. Susu ai foi le afioga tamaitai ia Tauaa, ae puipuimalu ele fetalaiga Tumalele ia Tuatoo ma Muafono, ae maise le nofo a Saole.

Ua tasi moemoe le finagalo o aiga i le maota i Aloitafuna, e Afio ai le afioga ia Faumuina. O le a faia ai le tatou talatalaga aua se tasi e ta’ita’ia lo tatou aiga i le:

ASO: Ianuari 13, 2018

Nofoaga: Maota i Aloitafuna, Alofau

Taimi: 10:00am i le taeao

O lou le auai mai ole a le taofia ai le talanoaga. O le tatalo i le Atua ina ia o tatou maua le fealofani ma tatou toeseinuupotopoto aua lea faamoemoe ua tuupoina. Ia mamao ni ao taulia i le soifua o le aufaigaluega a le Atua, maua le soifua mania aua tupu ma ee o le atunuu faapea le tapuaiga ia Samoa ae matou ola i le alofa o le Atua.

Sainia,

Suli ma feoi o le Aiga o Faumuina i Alofau





Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett speaks to reporters outside his office about the Red Cross asking fire victims in some parts of the city to come to them or a nearby police station on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018, in Milwaukee. The Red Cross Milwaukee chapter said the policy change is to address a volunteer shortage, but the move has sparked outrage because the areas affected are low-income and predominantly black and Latino. (AP Photo/Ivan Moreno)

Milwaukee Red Cross policy spurs discrimination allegations

MILWAUKEE (AP) — The American Red Cross of Wisconsin is asking fire victims in some Milwaukee parts to come to them or nearby police stations because of staff shortages — a decision that elicited outrage because the areas initially impacted are low-income and overwhelmingly black and Latino.

Red Cross’ Milwaukee chapter said the change is temporary and will eventually be expanded citywide, though did not offer a timeframe for the rollout. But elected officials criticized the rollout in late December because of the impression it gave them.

“The optics of it is classic red-lining. It’s not simply a race issue. I would say it’s a class issue,” said Alderman Khalif J. Rainey, who represents one of the Zip codes impacted.

The agency has said it wants to use volunteers more efficiently and have them meet victims at a warm and safe location. The group’s national headquarters on Tuesday issued a statement apologizing for “any misunderstanding as it was absolutely not our intent to offend anyone.”

It was not immediately known Tuesday if the policy had been implemented anywhere else.

“The Red Cross will continue to help any person in need after a home fire, regardless of their zip code,” the statement said.

The Milwaukee chapter has said the initial 10 Zip codes it chose were simply the busiest. They spanned the majority black north side of the city and southern neighborhoods largely populated by Latinos. In one Zip code on the north side, 53206,

nearly half of the residents live below poverty level.

More affluent and largely white areas downtown and along the city’s lake shore were not part of the initial rollout.

“When people looked at the map as to the areas that were not being served, I think that raised questions,” Mayor Tom Barrett said Tuesday after meeting with the Red Cross’ regional chief executive, Patty Flowers.

Some of the Zip codes first selected also have among the highest crime rates in the city, leading some aldermen to speculate that the Red Cross may also be concerned about volunteer safety. Flowers said volunteer safety is always a priority but wasn’t the driving factor in the policy change.

“I just don’t have enough volunteers,” Flowers said. She said the number fluctuates and could not immediately provide a breakdown of how steep the decline has been. Southeast Wisconsin has about 365 volunteers, she said.

Barrett said he and Flowers spoke about race, although “not necessarily racism,” and “the need to make sure that low-income people who are the victims of fires, that they also receive the same treatment that others receive.” He said they’re looking at the issue as an opportunity to recruit more volunteers.

Alderman Robert Donovan, who represents a majority Latino district in the southern part of the city, said there’s no substitute for having “someone there on site when you need them the most.”



Looking...

Continued from page 14

bills, show proof!

Two words in the TBAS statute blamed for stalling routing number

Building supplies for proposed multi-food processing plant are on island

Just Asking: Is ASEDA telling the truth or just stretching the facts?

DECEMBER

LIFE THREATENING: CT scanner at LBJ down now for two weeks

StarKist CEO: Tax credit extension “very critical” for Am Samoa plant

Court issues decision in CCCAS vs. Rev. Amaama case

Rosalee Tela Shoulders of Nuuli VocTech is Territorial Teacher of Year

Miss American Samoa wins 2017 Miss Pacific Islands Pageant

American Samoan Film Director receives funding from ArtPlace America

Former Customs agent arrested and charged with drug possession

Tax fraudster pleads guilty to 28 counts of making false claims

CCCAS wants its house in Kanana Fou back, now

DOE employee faces three felony drug charges involving

meth

Police vehicle shot at while police officers not inside

Lolo tells the 103 ASCC grads grads: “Be a Samoan first...”

Jury hears grueling testimony by alleged victim in sex assault case

Paramount loses airport construction project due to bond issues

Mukesh ‘Bob’ Chand found not guilty on all charges of sexual assault

American Samoa joins United States settlement with Starkist



HTC FATA SOLOMONA SIAUMAU SAMATUA



*Fana'elupe o le
la: Me 20, 1954
Ifo o le*

*Taulaumea:
Tesema 17,
2017*

2 Timoteo 4:7

*“Ua ou tau le
taua lelei, ua iu ia te
au le tausinioga, ua
ou taofi le upu o le
fa'atuatua.”*

TU'ITU'I O LE NATOAAITELE “MATUA O LE FALE TUAMASAGA”

*Ae oute le'i asaina filifili o le vaosā e muamua ona ou fa'apoepoelili'a fa'aalofisa o
tupu nai le malae o le vavau i ou Paia Sautuafafa Samoa i le amata mai i le Taisamasama
o le Tuimanua na fa'aifo ai mea le lagi se'i ia paia fili mai puletu'u na tauilo ai malo.
Tulou, Tulou, Tulouna lava e matou fa'asilasila fa'aaloalo atu ai le maliu o le To'alua,
Tama, Uso, ma le Tuagane peleina i le fetalaiga ia Fata Solomona Siaumau Samatua.*

AFEGA

*O le usuia lava lea o le fono i le fetalaiga ia Fata, o le lagia lava
lea o Vaitoelau. Ua to ai nei le timu gaugau aua tata fa'alii i
le fetalaiga i le matua ia Fata Solomona Siaumau Samatua.
Ua lagia pi nei faleava e afio ai Savea ua lagia pouvi e afio ai
manu-aifua ua lagia punaomoa afio ai ututa'aloga. Ua lagia
tanumafili e afio ai le Alii umao le Paia lava lea i le aiga sa sau i
falea'i afifio oulua alakama, Afio mai le Usoalii, Afio mai Alo o
Tofigalii o le usuia lava lea o le fono i lematua o le Faletuamasaga
le fetalaiga ia Fata Solomona Siaumau Samatua. O le Paia lava
lea e faasino i le Itutolu o Sagaga ma le Faleono o Leatigaga.*

VAITOGI

*O le lagi lava lea e fa'asino i lagi i fa'alupega ua lagi i ai nei
falesaumafalesiliga e afio ai auumaga, o le Paia lava ea i le
Susu o Auumaga ma ou Ma'opu. Susu mai le autapa'au, Susu
mai Tupua ma ou Ma'opu mamalu mai oulua auala lau tofa
Ulugaono Matalolo ma le vae o lo oulua to'oto'o ma le fetalaiga
i lo ou lua ao. Maliu mai lau tofa o le igoa matua ma le aiga
Salaeleava maloiu mai le Falelima.*

LEPEA

*Ua tuua le malo i le susuga ia Solomona Samatua
o le tuua lava lea malo i le afioga o le Telesā. O le
usuia lava lea o le fono i Lepea ma Vaitagutu. O
le paia lava lea i le afio o le Faumuina (Tupufia)
Usoalii'i ma Tamapa'a Afio Leota ma Letelle ma
Tane o le vao. Afio lou afioga Letele, Maliu mai le
Falevalu ma le Falelima o Fagatanoa. Maliu mai
Olua, Olua Nofoa Sa'ali'i ma Vaitagutu ma lo'o
olua Vaifale ma upu o le Saofaiga o le Atua.*

ASILI

*Ua usuia le fono i le fetalaiga ia Tia lafo Solomona
Siaumau Samatua. O le lagi lava lea e fa'asino ia
Noa ma Maugatega. O le Paia lava lea i le fofoga
o le Alataua (Noa) O oe o le Lafaaia. Maliu mai
le Tau to'oto'o (Maugaotege) ma upu ia ta te oe
Samatua faiga.*

Funeral Program

Thursday, January 4, 2018

Friday, January 5, 2018

- | | | | |
|---------------|--|----------------|--|
| 1:00pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leave LBJ for Vaitogi Seventh Day Adventist Church• Tuueseaa mai le Falemai ae molimoli atu lona Sa i Vaitogi i le Malumalu o le Aso Fitu i Vaitogi | 10:00am | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final Service @ Vaitogi Seventh Day Adventist Church• Sauniga Lotu mulimuli i Vaitogi Aso Fitu |
| 1:30pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none">First Service @ Vaitogi Seventh Day Adventist. Following his Wake & Viewing at Leao Siaumau Samatua Guest House“Paepaetele Vaitogi”• Uluai Sauniga o lona maliu i “Vaitogi Aso Fitu” Ona momoli atu lona tino maliu i le faletalimalō a lona aiga “Paepaetele Vaitogi” | 12:00pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Following his burial at his home• Molimoli atu lona tino maliu i lona aiga aua lona nofoaga e lagomau ai. |

