

**Agriculture crop damages** assessed for "food security"

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Maua e Leoleo le au gaoi ua leva ona tau sailia

Le Lali



This photo provided by Ocean Marine shows part of Port Administration's crew — Capt. Mike Pulu — inside the tugboat Peggy H purchased last Friday as the second tugboat for the Port of Pago Pago. The governor will make the official announcement later of the tugboat's new name.

(For details read story inside)

[photo: Ocean Marine]

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DAILY CIRCULATION 7,000

# gun into air on night of **Super Bowl LII**

#### WIFE NOT HAPPY WITH THE WAY POLICE **CONDUCTED THE ARREST**

by Ausage Fausia Samoa News Reporter

A man, accused of firing a gun into the air outside a nightclub on the night of Super Bowl LII was arrested by police on Monday afternoon, and he's being charged with weapon

Hapakuki Fotuaika made his initial appearance before District Court Judge Fiti Sunia yesterday with his private attorney, William R. Olson of the RDA Law Firm, and he's scheduled to appear in court this morning for his preliminary hearing (PX).

Assistant Attorney General Christy Dunn represents the government in this case.

According to the government's case, the alleged victim reported the incident to police on the night of Super Bowl LII -Sunday night — and it took over a week for the police to arrest the defendant.

Witnesses told police that the defendant was at the nightclub with his wife on the night of the Super Bowl and at some point, there was a confrontation between the defendant and a female, who is the alleged victim in this case, which caused the defendant to get mad, walk outside to his vehicle, grab a gun and allegedly then fired shots into the air.

Everyone who was inside the nightclub was told to stay inside because of the gunshots being fired outside; and eyewitnesses told police that the defendant allegedly kept firing the gun into the air from inside his car as his wife drove it off.

After gathering all the information re this case, police then put together their report and forwarded it to the Attorney General's Office, asking for an arrest warrant and a search warrant from the court to serve on the defendant.

On Monday afternoon this week, at approximately 4 p.m., several police officers executed the arrest warrant on the defendant, which was followed by a search at his home, where they allegedly found a gun. It was not mentioned in the government's report whether the gun was loaded when police allegedly found

The gun is now under the custody of the government, and it's been place at the DPS evidence room as an exhibit for this case.

Outside the District Court, after the initial appearance yesterday morning, the defendant's wife approached Samoa News, and said it did not sit well with her the way the police officers arrested her husband.

She said she was inside the car with her husband and their 4-year-old son when the whole event took place on the public highway in front of Triple S. Gas Station in Tafuna.

(Continued on page 12)

# Man arrested for firing Proposed FY 2019 funding for **American Samoa takes a cut**

FEDS WILL REQUIRE GREATER SELF-SUFFICIENCY FROM AMERICAN SAMOA, SAID OIA.

by Fili Sagapolutele Samoa News Correspondent

Proposed funding for American Samoa's basic government operations and capital improvement projects (CIP) in fiscal year 2019 will be reduced from FY 2018, under the Interior Department's Office of Insular Affairs proposed FY 2019 budget submitted to Congress by the Trump Administration, according to OIA budget justification documents.

OIA announced in a news release on Monday this week that US President Donald J. Trump has proposed \$608 million for FY 2019 for the benefit of fellow Americans in the U.S. Territories as well as the freely associated states.

filling insular responsibilities," said Assistant Medical Center operations (same as FY 2018); Secretary for Insular and International Affairs

Doug Domenech.

#### **BASIC OPERATIONS**

OIA also released the 95-page budget justification document, which shows that American Samoa's proposed funding for basic operations is reduced by \$1.06 million down to \$21.52 million compared to \$22.59 million approved for FY 2018. (FY 2017 award was \$22.75 million.

Each year, OIA provides grant funds to American Samoa for the operation of the local government, including the judiciary. And the FY 2019 budget request will continue to support American Samoa government operations but will require greater self-sufficiency from American Samoa, said OIA.

Of the total \$21.52 million - \$11.41 million"The 2019 budget request prioritizes the is proposed for basic operations (compared to Department's mission of restoring trust and ful- \$12.48 million for FY 2018); \$7.9 million to LBJ

(Continued on page 12)



Chief Warrant Officer Bryan Anderson from Coast Guard Sector Honolulu prevention and local contractors return to shore after successfully conducting an assessment for any threats of pollution aboard the 88-foot commercial fishing vessel Chui Zai Fa No. 1 grounded about 300-yards off Leone Bay, American Samoa, Feb. 12, 2018. (For details see story page 5)

[photo: USCG]

# **Agriculture crop** damages assessed for 'food security' concerns

by Ausage Fausia Samoa News Reporter

actually be one of the biggest will last. problems Gita has created in the local community. Samoa what is left for us right now and News was able to communi- a few months ahead. Once we cate with several local farmers have all that information, we and they are highlighting the will then prepare our final report problem our people will be and forward it to the FEMA for facing, because of the damage them to look at it and consider to local crops — saying to pre- possible assistance for us," pare for a 'famine'. In the mean- Filifa'atali concluded. time, Samoa News spoke to the Department of Agriculture feed their families with what Director, Filifa'atali Michael they grow, but also sell their sent out two teams to do assess- damages on the community. ments of the crop damage, and a assistance.

we complete our assessment, then a report will be put together While the main focus of for our final review," he said. Tropical Storm Gita recovery The DoA director says they are efforts are on water and power, also communicating with all of damaged houses and lost homes the local importers, to ask them — with the Federal Emer- about what is left in storage, and gency Management Agency whether they are expecting any (FEMA) on the ground doing shipments of vegetables and assessments — the devasta- crops from off-island, and how tion to agriculture crops could long what they have right now

"We want to know exactly

Local farmers, who not only stated that his department has long term affects of the crop

Filiga Amituana'i, a 58-yearreport will be finalized and for- old farmer from Pava'ia'i, who warded to FEMA for possible was selling at the Fagatogo market this week said that Amerbananas behind the house. Once famine that lasted almost a year there's nothing we can do,"



A breadfruit tree standing with a lot of damage to its fruit and leaves caused by Tropical Storm Gita last weekend. Concerns about food security have caused the Department of Agriculture to put two teams on the ground to do assessments about crop damages from the storm.

all the plantations and breadfruit Fuiava about this issue, and he crops, are concerned about the trees. "Looking at our plantation, the banana patch, the taro and the breadfruit are all gone, and we have to replant some his finger to his plantation. "I new bananas and taro as soon as possible so we can have some food in another 6 months or According to Filifa'atali, ican Samoa should prepare for more," said Mikaele. Another their main focus is food security. a famine, especially since Gita local farmer, Valoaga Aleki, "Our two teams have been has destroyed breadfruit trees a 63-year-old from Tafuna out in the field since Monday which helped farmers feed the shared the same thoughts about morning to do our assessment island. Amituana'i compared a possible famine on island, and on the possible crop damage Tropical Storm Gita to Cyclone said his whole plantation was caused by Gita. We will assess Ofa and Cyclone Valelia (Val) destroyed by Gita, including all farms and plantations on the back in the 1990s, saying that bananas, breadfruit and taro. island, not only those who have after the island experienced "There's nothing we can do big plantations, but also those these strong cyclones almost to avoid this type of situation, families who have two or five 30 years ago people faced a when it's called from God,

worked hard for his plantation for our needs." to feed his family and serve his church and village.

"This is my life," pointing worked hard for this, but when God speaks to us through the Nature He made, who are we, to try to question God's almighty power. All I'm asking bananas or taro behind their home to please, start planting that we can have food for us in the next 5 months or so.'

Valoaga said that no electricity is not a big issue to him, recovering from crop losses. but when there is no water and

because Ofa and Val destroyed said the frustrated farmer who to assist our island and provide

A landowner, who leases land to a produce farmer, told Samoa News that the farmer lost all his plantings, including the house he was staying in while farming the land; and says it will take the farmer maybe up to three months to grow produce Chinese cabbage, cucumis for everyone who can plant bers, green onions, etc. — readv to be sold again. The farmer, according to the landowner, was some bananas and taro now, so living off the proceeds from the plantation, and wonders if federal assistance will be extended to the farmers, while they are

It's also unknown at this food, "that's when we have a time if hydroponic farmers also problem, so we have to prepare suffered losses — time will tell for a possible famine coming if local produce is not seen for up for us, and I know that our sale in the stores, and instead people will do everything they only the more expensive aircan through the help of our Lord freight produce is available.

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A man in Fagaalu navigating a flooded sidewalk area last week Friday — a typical sight during the aftermath of Tropical Storm Gita that hit the territory last Friday, followed up by a monsoon trough that dumped buckets of rain with high winds throughout the weekend.

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# Purchase of second tugboat required for Port of Pago Pago completed

THE "PEGGY H" SHOULD BE ON ITS WAY SOON



This photo provided by Ocean Marine Brokerage Service shows the tugboat Peggy H in the waters of Bayou La Batre, Alabama. ASG Port Administration finalized the tugboat's purchase for the Port of Pago Pago last Friday. The governor will make the official announcement later of the tugboat's new name. [photo: Ocean Marine]

by Fili Sagapolutele Samoa News Correspondent

ment has completed the pur- ...in that capacity." chase of a second tugboat, a next month.

was completed last Friday," Port Administration director Taimalelagi Dr. Claire Poumele Samoa News, the governor confirmed to Samoa News yes- redirected Capital Improvement fair winds to the crew of Peggy terday morning, adding that the Project monies to purchase the tugboat will be leaving the US tugboat that meets new federal mainland soon.

will make the official announce- power. (Current tugboat Sailele Capts. Lafoga Alovao and ment on the tugboat's name.

Louisiana based brokerage the sale of the "Peggy H" tug-Kokinos confirmed to Samoa 2018. News yesterday the sale to Port Administration.

bishing" last year.

"The Peggy H has been gone siana. "This is a very powerful Nick Kokinos "in a long, unre-

ship docking which the ASG Port Administration Depart- Port Department will be using

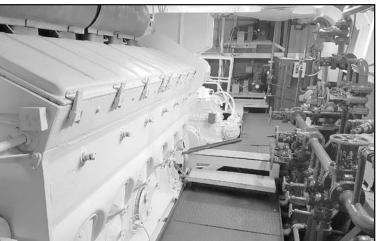
He explained that Port requirement by the US Coast Administration's ship crew and Marine has enjoyed working Guard, which gave the Port deputy director, Christopher of Pago Pago an extension for King, have been working on compliance until the middle of the tug in Bayou La Batre, Alabama "tirelessly to get her ready "The tugboat is offi- to sail to American Samoa and step of the way," said Kokinos, cially ours, after the purchase is hoping to depart within the who plans to travel to Pago coming days."

As previously reported by regulations, which requires a Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga tugboat to have 3,000 horse- member crew, which includes meets this requirement.)

The estimated cost of the firm Ocean Marine coordinated project is \$1.2 million. The USCG, which oversees the Port boat, a 3,000 horse-power (HP), of Pago Pago, has issued three American Bureau of Ship- waivers allowing ASG to use ping (ABS) load lined Model only the tugboat Sailele, with Bow Tug. The company's the third waiver issued Nov. 15, president and owner, Steve 2017 and valid until Mar. 15,

"Port Administration continued to search and identity Originally built in 1983, he the tugboat which meets federal said the tugboat went through a regulations and the task is now complete "rebuilding and refur- complete with the purchase of Peggy H," said Taimalelagi.

Kokinos explained that this through top to bottom, inside purchase "is the culmination of and out, including all machinery a journey set out" by Taimaleand new ABS load-line by lagi and her staff to find the best former owner Steiner Shipyard, tug on the market suited to the and is virtually a brand new ever growing needs of the Port tug," Kokinos said yesterday Authority, which worked with morning from Schriever, Loui- Ocean Marine and its agent



This photo provided by Ocean Marine Brokerage Service shows the pilot area of the tugboat Peggy H purchased last Friday by ASG as a second tugboat for the Port of Pago Pago. The governor will make the official announcement later of the tugboat's [photo: Ocean Marine]

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#### FOR LEASE seagoing tug and is designed for lenting quest for the proper tug, ending up with what all agreed was the 'best of the best', the tug Peggy H."

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ASG Port Department involved,

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H in their voyage to American Samoa," he said. Port Administration's five-Michael Pulu, will be sailing the tugboat on its own, said For information call 252-1735 or 258-4471 Taimalelagi, adding that the planned sailing route starts off in Alabama to the Atlantic, through Panama Canal out to the Pacific Ocean, then to Tahiti before heading to Pago Pago. This is the same route taken by the MV Sili. Happy Valentine's Day



# STORM GITA:

**OVER 900 RESIDENTS HOUSED AT 11 EMERGENCY SHELTERS** 

by Samoa News staff

More than 900 local residents were housed at eleven emergency shelters island-wide due to Tropical Storm Gita, as of late Monday afternoon, according to data released yesterday morning by the ASG Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

And Lt. Gov. Lemanu Peleti Mauga reconfirmed to Samoa News early yesterday afternoon that there were no deaths or injuries as a result of the storm, which caused wide spread damage island-wide, with several villages hard-hit faced with the daunting clean up task.

#### **SHELTERS**

A list released yesterday morning by EOC based on the head count as of 6p.m. Monday shows 973 residents housed at eleven shelters. The head count list shows 260 at Tafuna Elementary and 120 at Samoana High School.

The rest are housed at four Latter Day Saints (Mormon) church centers, the Seventh Day Adventist hall in Pago Pago; Lauli'i Methodist, Amouli CCCAS; Tula Assembly of God, and hall at Fagatogo. All these centers were opened and ASG is providing three meals a day.

Residents seeking more information on shelters, contact EOC at 699-3800.

#### **EOC UPDATE** THE EOC SPECIAL BULLETIN RELEASED AT 6PM ON MONDAY:

- The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Damage Assessment teams will conduct assessments in the villages of Tutuila, Aunuu and Manu'a assisted by village mayors. These assessments will include damages sustained by individual homes and all public infrastructures.
- Health Department clinics in Tutuila and Manu'a are all open. Health inspectors are out conducting inspection of all stores for food safety.

(Samoa News has already received inquiries from the some residents concerned with frozen meat sold at stores and requested *if DOH is conducting inspections after the storm)* 

- LBJ hospital Dialysis clinic was closed yesterday for routine re-sanitation purposes, and to reopen today.
- American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency (ASEPA) is conducting testing of all water vending machines and water wells. In addition, they are also issuing an island-wide beach advisory while conducting testing of all recreational beaches.

The Boil Water notice remains in effect.

# **Off-duty Chicago police officer** fatally shot during pursuit

By DON BABWIN, Associated Press

matching the radio description speak with him. of an armed suspect officers were chasing on foot, the city's dent said they heard gunshots. police superintendent said.

armed physical confrontation," Superintendent Eddie Johnson he spoke to reporters outside Northwestern Memorial Hospital, where Bauer was pronounced dead.

building. Johnson said officers initially confronted the suspect because he was acting suspiciously. Police captured the he said.

eran of the department.

There were initial media reports that the man may have CHICAGO (AP) — An been involved in the robbery of off-duty police commander a local business, but Johnson was shot and killed Tuesday did not provide details about afternoon in downtown Chi- what the man was doing that cago after he spotted a man prompted officers to want to

Witnesses to parts of the inci-

"I was walking down the Cmdr. Paul Bauer was shot street and I heard 'pop pop multiple times after he "saw pop pop pop," Noreen Danko, the offender and engaged in an who was walking to her office nearby, told the Chicago Tribune. "And I said to the girl said. He choked back tears as next to me, 'Is that what I think it is?' And she said 'Yep.' I said 'Aw geez.' And everybody is scurrying all over and I see the police head to the stairs there. The shooting occurred near There's a stairwell there. And the James R. Thompson Center, it goes downstairs. I heard that the state government office the door is locked there. It used to be a pedway, but now, for security reasons they have it locked."

She told the paper that she man a short time later, and a saw officers lead the shackled gun was recovered at the scene, suspect away and put him in a squad car, and then watched as Bauer, 53, was a 31-year vet- emergency workers adminis-

(Continued on page 8)

# **UPDATE TROPICAL** A family's ordeal during **Tropical Storm Gita**

by Ausage Fausia Samoa News Reporter

While the American Samoa Power Authority continues to update the Territory on power and water supplies, there are families that are still living in the dark without electricity and without water after Tropical Storm Gita.

Speaking to Samoa News yesterday, Alesana Mikaele, a 45-year-old from Pago Pago, said his family is using water from "heaven" to cook food and take care of other needs for the family, while still waiting for the water and the electricity to be connected — hopefully this week.

He said that life before Gita was tough, but they managed to live happily because there was electricity and water, but everything changed when Gita came, and things will be a lot harder now for his family and many other families around the island. Speaking about the ordeal they face, Mikaele said the Tropical Storm Gita destroyed their home around 5 a.m. on Friday morning, while they were all still inside their home —including his wife and 3 children.

"We didn't have a good sleep that night, we were just sitting in the middle of the house and looking outside, while the wind kept blowing and blowing, harder and harder.

"When I heard the sound of trees falling down from the back of the house because of the strong wind, that was the time I realized that Gita was

not a joke, it's a real "hurricane", and our house will be next to blow away," Mikaele said.

"Despite the sound of strong winds, my three children were able to sleep well in the middle of the house, while I was sitting with my wife beside where our children were and looking at each other. "All I was praying for is the daylight to come, so that our family could move to a safe place, but things changed when I felt the wood floor of our home move. The next thing I saw was the house was moving upward — when the wind blew it away — while I was hugging my wife with one hand and my other hand was reaching to my children who were still sleeping," said Mikaele with tears on his eyes.

"Despite the fact that we have nothing left in our home, we are thankful to our Heavenly Father for protecting our family and all of Samoa during this time of hardship.

Mikaele and his family are now staying at a neighbor's house while waiting for any assistance from the federal government so that they can rebuild their home and get back to their normal life. In the meantime, he told Samoa News that where they are staying does not have water or power, but the American Samoa Power Authority has told them that their water supply will be on today; however, ASPA is still working on fixing the electricity poles and wires and hopefully power will be back on soon.



Chief Warrant Officer Bryan Anderson from Coast Guard Sector Honolulu prevention, gives a briefing to officials from the Port of Pago Pago, American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency, American Samoa Department of Marine & Wildlife Reserve, National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa as well as the responsible party at the Port of Pago Pago regarding response efforts aboard the 88-foot commercial fishing vessel Chui Zai Fa No. 1 grounded about 300-yards off Leone Bay, American Samoa, Feb. 12, 2018.



A look at the South Pacific Watersports in Utulei as workers tried to cover the blown off roof from Tropical Storm Gita this past weekend.

# Coast Guard completes pollution response efforts for grounded fishing vessel



Chief Warrant Officer Bryan Anderson from Coast Guard Sector Honolulu prevention and local contractors conduct a visual assessment for any threats of pollution aboard the 88-foot commercial fishing vessel Chui Zai Fa No. 1 grounded about 300-yards off Leone Bay, American Samoa, Feb. 12, 2018. Crewmembers from Sector Honolulu along with contracted personnel conducted assessments of all eight fuel tanks aboard the vessel including the hydraulic tanks and found them empty of any diesel or oily product.

mercial fishing vessel Chu Zai any diesel or oily product. Fa No. 1 grounded approxi-

Monday for the 88-foot com- tanks and found them empty of

Guard Sector Honolulu Preven- also coincided with Tropical Samoa.'

alentines

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RELEASE) tion along with contracted per- Storm Gita," Capt. Michael — PAGO PAGO — The Coast sonnel conducted assessments Long, Federal On-Scene Coor-Guard successfully completed of all eight fuel tanks aboard the dinator, and Commander U.S. pollution response efforts vessel including the hydraulic Coast Guard Sector Honolulu. "We're relieved to know that there is no threat of pollution to "This response has been the Village of Leone. We appremately 300-yards off Leone incredibly unique and some- ciate the patience and support what of a challenge due to the of the public and the diligence Crewmembers from Coast nature of the grounding, which of our partners in American

[photo: USCG] Coast Guard crewmembers met with officials from the Port of Pago Pago, American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency, American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Reserve, National sible party to discuss the transition from pollution response to

salvage efforts.

The owner of the Chu Zai Fa No. 1, the responsible party, will now continue work with local authorities to develop salvage plans for the grounded fishing vessel.

The fishing vessel is currently aground in the surf zone and split in half with the bow and stern portions sitting side by side.

Although the vessel is devoid of any potential pollution product, the site immediately around the vessel and the vessel itself are dangerous. The vessel is in a heavy surf zone and its structure is compromised. Non-response personnel should remain clear of the vessel and surrounding area.

Taiwanese-flagged The vessel reportedly caught fire Nov. 4, 2017, in international waters prompting the crew to abandon ship into a life raft and were rescued by the crew of a Korean-flagged vessel, transferred to a sister fishing vessel and eventually disembarked in Fiji. The master of the Chu Zai Fa No. 1 and one crewmember reportedly remain missing. The Marine Sanctuary of American Chu Zai Fa No. 1 remained Samoa as well as the respon- adrift until it's grounding last week Monday.

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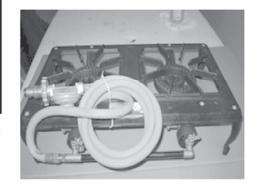
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# **Habitat for Humanity readies** response to Cyclone Gita



Flooding in Tongatapu during Tropical Cyclone Gita, which struck Tonga as a Category 4 storm.

Habitat for Humanity, a homes may have been catanot-for profit organization strophic," Szabó said. focused on shelter, is preparing a response to Tropical Cyclone partner agencies in Tonga and Gita, which struck Tonga as a Category 4 storm overnight toring the situation as we begin after passing through Samoa.

Habitat for Humanity NZ act." CEO Claire Szabó said the low lying topography of Tonga's main island Tongatapu made it particularly vulnerable to storm surge and flooding during a meet immediate shelter needs. storm, which would only have These kits include tarpaulins, made the night more terrifying rope, tools, and other critically for its 71,000 residents.

their homes. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone affected by the disaster," Ms urgent need to help provide Szabó said.

full picture of the damage to urging people to help us act

that the devastation to people's

'We are in contact with our Samoa, and are closely monito assess the damage, and to

Ms Szabó said Habitat was planning to help people affected by Cyclone Gita first with shelter kits to assist them to needed items for temporary "Thousands of people took shelter or urgent repairs. After shelter in evacuation cen- the immediate response phase, tres overnight and will today Habitat for Humanity will begin be surveying the damage to supporting reconstruction of homes.

"There is a critical and shelter for families in Tonga "It takes some weeks for the and Samoa," she said. "We're emerge. It appears at this stage swiftly, and to show their sup-

port for our Pacific whanau by making a donation through our website," said Ms Szabó.

Ms Szabo said Habitat has been active in the Pacific for many years, building hundreds of homes in both Samoa and Fiji. In 2016, none of the homes built by Habitat for Humanity in Fiji sustained damage during Category 5 Cyclone Winston. The housing charity went on to build 100 more cyclone-resistant homes that year with families in Tonga, Samoa and Fiji.

"The immediate provision of shelter is a priority, and our disaster response specialists are being deployed," Ms Szabó said. Habitat for Humanity is asking for the support of the public to start providing emergency shelter.

"When the time comes, we will be there to help families repair or rebuild cyclone-resilient homes," Ms Szabó said.

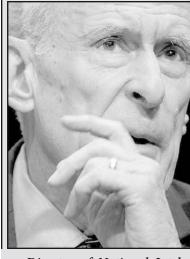
People wishing to help provide shelter to families affected by the disaster can donate at habitat.org.nz/donate.

Habitat for Humanity New Zealand is a not-for-profit organization that works in partnership with people of goodwill and low income families in New Zealand and overseas to help provide access to affordable shelter. It is part of the global Habitat for Humanity organization, which has worked with over 1 million families worldwide.

Tropical Cyclone Gita struck Tonga as a Category 4 storm overnight on the 12th of Feb 2018. It was described as 'the strongest ever to hit the island nation'.

Habitat for (Source: *Humanity media release)* 

# **FBI** says information on Trump aide sent to WH last year



Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats speaks at a Senate Select Committee on Intelligence hearing on worldwide threats, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018, in Washington.

(AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

#### By DEB RIECHMANN and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) -FBI Director Christopher Wray said Tuesday the agency provided the White House with information twice last year about the top Trump aide who resigned as staff secretary last week after domestic violence allegations from two ex-wives became public.Wray said the bureau closed its background investigation on Rob Porter in January, weeks before the allegations were published. That timeline called into question White House assertions that Porter's "background investigation was ongoing" when he resigned his position, and that the first the White House learned of the detailed allegations against him was last Tuesday.Porter had been serving with an interim security clearance while his background check was pending, the White House said, a common proper protocol.

occurrence for officials in a government facing a backlog of hundreds of thousands of such

As questions swirled about how Porter kept his access to highly sensitive information and President Donald Trump despite accusations of domestic violence, the administration's intelligence chief told The Associated Press that the government's system of security clearances for top officials is "broken" and must be completely overhauled. Dan Coats' assessment in a telephone interview came just before he briefed lawmakers on Capitol Hill about global threats facing the United States. Coats was immediately confronted Tuesday by a top Democratic senator about continued questions about Porter, who resigned as Trump's staff secretary after the stories emerged detailing his ex-wives' accounts of abuse."We have a broken system and I think everybody's come to agree with that now," Coats told the AP.

As for Porter, Wray said the FBI submitted a "partial report on the investigation in question" in March 2017 and a completed background investigation in late July. Soon after that, the agency received a request for a follow-up inquiry, and it provided that information in November, Wray said.

He did not say who requested the follow-up. "And then we administratively closed the file in January, and then earlier this month we received some additional information and we passed that on as well," he added without elaborating further. Wray said he was "confident" that the bureau followed

#### NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE **DISTRICT COURT DIVISION CUMBERLAND COUNTY**

FILE NO.: 17-CVD-5920

MANAOMIA TAUANUU and SEELA TAUANNUU,

Plaintiffs,

**GRACE TANIELA and** NELI CHRISTIAN TAUEETIA, Defendants.

NOTICE OF **SERVICE OF** PROCESS BY **PUBLICATION** 

#### TO: NELI CHRISTIAN TAUEETIA

TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is child custody of the minor child, TAFAILAGIIMOANA TANIELU, born July 21, 2016.

You are required to make defense to this pleading no later than March 30, 2018, and, upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought. Your defense must be filed with the Clerk of Court of Cumberland County, P O Box 363, Fayetteville, NC, 28302, and a copy served upon the

This 23rd day of January, 2018.

COOPER, DAVIS & COOPER /s/ Robert L. Cooper

Robert L. Cooper Attorney for Plaintiffs P O Drawer 1598 Fayetteville, NC 28302-1598 (910) 483-3843

Published: 2/7, 2/14, 2/21



The two huge trees in front of the Bank Of Hawai'i in Tafuna that were uprooted and took down power lines, contributing to the power outage in the area during Tropical Storm Gita. Downed trees, roofs and power poles were typical results of the up to 80+ mph gusts of winds that the territory suffered over the weekend. BoH opened on Monday to service their customers, despite not being able to post transactions until yesterday afternoon, due to communication line problems.

# Gates focuses on schools while examining US poverty issues



In this Feb. 1, 2018 photo, Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates, with his wife Melinda, poses for a photo before an interview with The Associated Press in Kirkland, Wash. The Gateses, as the world's top philanthropists, are rethinking their work in America as they confront what they consider their unsatisfactory track record on schools, the country's growing inequity and a president they disagree with more than any other. (AP Photo/Ted S. Warren)

By SALLY HO, Associated Press and how those are good things," KIRKLAND, Wash. (AP) Bill Gates said.

- Bill and Melinda Gates, as more than any other.

President Donald Trump's public discourse. "America first" worldview. They've made known their dif- Twitter to see the disparaging ferences with the president and comments over and over and his party on issues including over again about women and foreign aid, taxes and protec- minorities," Melinda Gates said. tions for immigrant youth in the "That's just not what I believe. country illegally.

And they said they're now digging into the layers of U.S. terpuncher who goes after poverty that they haven't people when they go after him, been deeply involved with at only 10 times harder. the national level, including employment, race, housing, review of their work than in mental health, incarceration and substance abuse.

mobility out of poverty in the critics often ask them. They same way in the United States acknowledge it's unfair that as it used to exist," Melinda they have so much wealth and Gates said.

Foundation is studying these values on other cultures. topics with no plans yet for any particular initiatives, though it the tough, tough questions that has done related work at home people are asking us, and yeah, in Washington state on a much we have to wrestle with them smaller scale. Last year, it ourselves," Melinda Gates said funded a grant for the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities to look into state and federal poli- private foundation has amassed cies that can reduce poverty.

man, Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates has marked a decade since transitioning away from the tech giant to focus on philanthropy. He said he's had two meetings more than 100 countries, as well with Trump, where they dis- as in all 50 states and Washcussed innovation in education, ington, D.C. energy and health — including voiced skepticism about.

Melinda Gates, who left the world's top philanthropists, her job at Microsoft to raise are rethinking their work in their three children before America as they confront what turning to the foundation fullthey consider their unsatisfactime, has lately embraced her tory track record on schools, the role as a public figure more country's growing inequity and boldly. She called out Trump's a president they disagree with behavior, saying the president has a responsibility to be a good In an interview with The role model when he speaks Associated Press, the couple and tweets, and that his verbal said they're concerned about attacks don't belong in the

"You just have to go look in It's not the world that I see."

Trump has said he's a coun-

Taking a more reflective years past, the couple in their annual letter published Tuesday "We are not seeing the also answered 10 questions influence but reject the notion The Bill and Melinda Gates that they're imposing their

> "Behind the scenes, these are in the Feb. 1 interview.

Since 2000, the Seattle-based an endowment worth over \$40 Once the world's richest billion, which includes a large portion of billionaire investor Warren Buffett's fortune. The Gates Foundation has given money to various programs in

Their approach to giving vaccines, which Trump has has shifted the philanthropy world as a whole. They've been "I got, both times, to talk criticized for prescribing how about the miracle of vaccines the money is spent and then

investments work.

About 75 percent of the some communities. foundation's resources are dediproudest of their efforts to help those global health improvements a miracle.

But he concedes the same Melinda Gates said. level of progress didn't happen in the U.S. with their strategy of chasing equity through eduinitiatives are a distant second funding priority for the founthe Gateses spend annually on influence education reform. the issue makes them the top America.

also pushed Common Core education standards, teacher evaluation systems that factored in achievement. student test scores and a smaller

expecting tangible proof their student outcomes but made the schools," Lubienski said. Gateses deeply unpopular in

when we looked at it, it was no,"

Christopher Lubienski, an

They've been major sup- turning their attention to pov- children in the classroom. porters of charter schools and erty, the Gateses are tackling the "really big elephant in the where there's not enough philroom" when it comes to student anthropic resources to take on

schools model - highly polar- more expensive and politi- impact, then the policies will izing education policy reforms cally stickier area to attack than benefit from that," Bill Gates that didn't dramatically change simply changing the structure of said.

The Gateses say they're going in a less prescriptive "It's in taking all of those direction on U.S. education by cated to global health and devel- lessons and saying, 'OK, but did funding efforts through regional opment. Bill Gates said they're they reach the majority of the networks of schools, which will school districts? Did they scale lean more heavily on educaeradicate polio and curb the and change the system for low- tors at the local level. They also number of child deaths, calling income and minority kids writ intend to support new curriclarge, at scale?' And the answer ulum development and charters catering to students with special needs.

The foundation will spend education policy expert who \$1.7 billion on education over studies philanthropy, said he the next five years, as K-12 will cation reform. U.S. education found the couple's honesty remain their primary focus in refreshing but noted their founthe U.S. But as they take stock dation's overall approach means of the country — from the West dation, but the \$450 million it will continue to systematically Coast's growing income gap to the generations of racial inequi-Lubienski, who said he has ties in the American South funders of schools reform in not sought nor received money the Gateses say they're looking from Gates, also noted that by at myriad problems that hinder

> "Poverty is like education, responsibility, but if you can "It's also a much bigger, show how to have a lot more



## DEPARTMENT of COMMERCE **Project Notification & Review System**

# **Legal Notice**

# PNRS SPECIAL BOARD MEETING Feb 21, 2018

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Commerce/American Samoa Coastal Management Program has received a Land Use Permit Application from the following individuals.

1.	Faasala AugafaProposal for driveway and excavation - Asili	18-5100-L
2.	SSAB PAGO, Inc. c/o Jody Toleafoa  Proposal for extension to commercial structure-Tafuna	18-5093-LVE
3.	Meko AiumiProposal for filling - Pago Pago	18-5088-L
4.	Ropeti Lesa  Proposal for storage container - Tafuna	18-5085-L
5.	Tuutau AtualevaoProposal for driveway and excavation - Nua	18-5082-L
6.	Save Liuato Afa Tuitele  Proposal for new guesthouse with utilities (electric, water & septic)-Leone	18-5071-L
6.	ASPA c/o Wallen Young	18-5069-L

Persons interested in or affected by a proposed project, are invited to review the project file and provide comments based on environmental issues, by contacting Aokusotino Mao at 633-5155, at the Department of Commerce in Utulei during regular ASG working hours. Public comments must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 20, 2018. Interested individuals are also invited to attend a Public Hearing at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at DOC Conference Room, on the 2nd Floor of the Executive Office Building in Utulei.

Proposal for Federal Consistency Certification & construction of underground powerline - Tafuna

O lo'o iai i le Ofisa o Fa'afetauaina ni talosaga mo Pemita e Fa'atagaina ai le Fa'aaogaina o Fanua ma Laueleele e tusa ma ala o le Tulafono. A iai se tasi e fa'asea pe fia tusia se molimau i ni afaina o le si'osi'omaga pe a galueaina nei galuega, telefoni mai ia Aokusotino Mao i le 633-5155. E mafai fo'i ona e auai i le fono a le Komiti Fa'afoe ia Fepuali 21, 2018 ile itula e 9 ile taeao.





ASPA crews, despite the harsh weather conditions this past weekend, it didn't stop them from leaving their families and going out to man water stations in different villages.

[photo: TG]



• Off...

Continued from page 4



A Chicago police officer strings crime scene tape across from the Thompson Center after an off-duty officer was shot in Chicago, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018. Spokesman Anthony Guglielmi says the off-duty officer was shot around 2 p.m. Tuesday at the James R. Thompson Center. Guglielmi says the preliminary information is that the shooting happened just outside the building. The officer was transported to Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

(John J. Kim/Chicago Tribune via

tered CPR to Bauer, who was lying on a stretcher, before he was put inside an ambulance and rushed to the hospital.

"I just ask the citizens of this city to keep the Bauer family in their prayers," Johnson said before he turned and left the briefing.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel offered his condolences, too, calling Bauer's death "a tragic reminder of the dangerous duty the men and women of our police department accept to ensure the safety of us all."



# Maua e Leoleo le au gaoi ua leva ona tau sailia

tusia Ausage Fausia

Samoa i le fa'aiuga o le vaiaso na te'a nei, na aofia ai i totonu loa e fia talanoa i Leoleo. o le silia i le to'a 20 ni ali'i se talu mai le tausaga na te'a nei.

moliaga mama o le fa'atupu tama'ita'i. vevesi i nofoaga faitele, ma le fa'amoemoe e faila e le malo Aupaau i totonu o le fale o le moliaga fa'aopoopo e aofia ai le isi aiga i le po e aunoa ma se gaioi ma le talepe fale fa'asaga faatanaga, ma taumafai e fai ia te i laua i se taimi o le vaiaso uiga mataga i se tamaitai o

taofia e Leoleo mai le fa'aiuga ai loa mo se fesoasoani, ma toe o le vaiaso, na toe tatala uma i tua e aunoa ma ni tupe na fa'atulaga e tatala ai i tua, e fa'atalitali ai taualumaga o a latou fa'amasinoga. Sei vagana ai lava Aupaau ma Tavita ua toe taofia i le toese i Tafuna se'i vagana ua totogi le ta'i \$1,000 a le tagata, ona fa'atoa mafai lea ona tatala i tua.

Ae afai e mae'a ona faila e le malo moliaga fa'aopoopo fa'asaga ia te i laua i se taimi o le vaiaso nei, o le a i ai loa le avanoa e toe faaopoopo ai e le Fa'amasinoga le tupe e tatala ai i laua i tua, fuafua lava i le matuia o tu'uaiga o le a tu'uaia ai i laua.

O lo o tu'uaia e le malo ia Tavita i lona osofaia lea o se fale o se aiga ma se faleoloa i Leone, ae o Aupaau o lo o tu'uaia i lona osofaia o ni fale o ni aiga se to'atolu i se vaega o Tafuna.

E pei ona taua e le malo i le latou tagi fa'asaga ia Tavita, o ni molimau la te silafia fa'amatalaga e uiga i le faalavelave sa tupu, na la manatu e fesoasoani i Leoleo e ala i le ofoina atu i ai o fa'amatalaga, a o pisi ai Leoleo e tau tu'u fa'atasi fa'amatalaga ma molimau e uiga i lenei mataupu.

Na taua e le isi molimau i eoleo lona iloa o le tagata na alu Tavita ma fa'atau i ai ni isi o meafaigaluega sa ia gaioia mai i le fale o le aiga na a'afia, ae fa'afesuia'i ma fualaau fa'asaina. Na aga'i atu Leoleo ma fesiligia le tagata na tu'uaia sa fa'atau i ai e Tavita mea faigaluega, ma ta'utino ane ai lea ali'i i Leoleo, e moni sa alu atu Aupaau ma fa'atau atu ia te ia le ili laupapa e alu i le uila, ona o le mana'o i se \$100 e fesoasoani ai i le fa'atupeina o le malaga a lona uso e toe fo'i i Samoa i le faaiuga o le tausaga na te'a nei.

Na ave e le tagata lea le tupe ia Tavita ona o le agaga e fia fesoasoani, atoa ai fo'i ma lona talitonuga, o Tavita o se tagata kamuta, o le ili laupapa na alu atu ma ia o lana lava ili laupapa, ae le o se ili gaoi.

Na faailoa e le isi molimau

i Leoleo le alu atu o Tavita ma talanoa atu ia te ia, e fes-Mai le silia i le to'a 20 i oasoani ai i lana taumafaiga e latou na taofia e Leoleo i le osofa'i se faleoloa i Leone. Na fa'aiuga o le vaiaso na te'a musu le ali'i lea e fesoasoani ia nei ona o tu'uaiga i le fa'atupu Tavita, peita'i na fa'ateia o ia vevesi i nofoaga faitele, a o pisi ina ua faalogo i tala o lo o tau ai le atunu'u i tulaga pagatia ona saili e Leoleo le tagata poo ni o le 'afa o Gita na afatia ai le atu tagata na osofaia le faleoloa, o le mafuaaga lea na ia manatu ai

I le mataupu o lo o tuuaia ai to'alua sa tu'uaia i le gaoi ua Aupaau, o lo o taua ai e le malo leva ona tau saili mai e Leoleo le ulufale fa'amalosi o lea ali'i i totonu o fale o aiga i le po ma O i laua e to'alua e aofia le fa'amoemoe e fa'atino ai isi Vincent Aupaau ma solitulafono e pei o le gaoi, atoa Sam Tavita, lea ua tu'uaia i ai ma le faia o uiga mataga i

O lo o tu'uaia le ulufale o loo moe, ae na vave iloa e le O le to'atele o i latou na tamaitai le ua molia ma ia ee (Faaauau itulau 11)



Le fanau loto fa'anoanoa, Whitey & Blue ma se tasi o latou aiga ma lo la uncle na malaga mamao mai mo le toe sauniga o le tina Lucilla Mulitauaopele Chen i le aso Gafua i le Malumalu Katoliko Roma i Lauli'i. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



All prepaid, lifeline, and capped plan customers are eligible for this promotion • Customer can subscribe to the \$2 Facebook plan via USSD by dialing \*888 and enter option 3 to view the bundles

 Normal online activity will be deducted from customer's normal data bundle • Any Facebook activity via web browser, FB app, or Messenger app will be deducted from FB 1GB first;

 Once FB 1GB has been utilized, usage will revert to deducting from normal data balance • Customer must have valid balance to purchase data bundle • Customer can purchase as many times as they lead to plan MB price is \$0.16cents per MB • Bluesky reserves the right to alter or end this promotion at any time



tusia: Leua Aiono Frost

#### TO'ATELE TAGATA MANOMIA FESOA-**SOANI A LE KOLUSE MUMU**

I le fa'agasologa o tautua a le Koluse Mumu i Amerika Samoa, e silia i le 400 i latou na tautuaina e le Koluse Mumu e o'o mai i le aso Gafua o le fia maua o se fesoasoani.

I se talanoaga ma Val Tuilefano, sui o le Houston. Koluse Mumu i inei, sa ia fa'ailoa ai, "Ua le mafai ona te'ena tagata ua o mai i Pasi ma ta'avale laiti le to'atele ma ua fa'agasolo lava i laina. O le to'atele lava o latou mana'omia ni tapoleni mo le toe fa'amaluina o latou fale ma mea totino ia taofiofia ai le fa'aleagaina uma i timuga."

atu ae lolofi mai le to'atele e mana'omia lava tapo- olaga, taimi ia ua lutia ai i faigata fa'anatura po'o leni. Peita'i, i le taimi nei, o lo'o fa'atulagaina se mea e tutupu ma fa'aosofia i faiga fa'aterarisi," o foa'i fa'apea e ao ina faia mo le mamalu lautele. Ia o le faigata e fa'amaumau uma pea ma fa'asolo atu po'o a lava mea o maua i le matou sapalai i galulue fa'atasi ai ma i latou uma o e ofoina mai le taimi nei, ae o le toe tagata na tu'ua le matou le latou tautua fa'apea fo'i se aufaigaluega tofia Ofisa e tusa o le itula e 8:00 i le afiafi, ua na'o se galulue malosi ma le maumaua'i i galuega fa'aola moliuila ua tu'uina i ai, aua ua uma lelei tapo- ma lavea'i ai tagata e to'atele." leni," o se tala lea a Tuilefano.

fesoasoani, e tatau lava ona o atu i tua sui o le maua ai lona fa'ailoga o le Bachelor of Science. Koluse Mumu e asiasi patino i fale ma mea o O ia o le Ta'ita'ifono o le San Diego Chamber of fa'aleagaina, fa'amaumau mai ai ma faia se fesoasoani. O i latou fo'i e taua'aoina i ai nei fesoasoani a le Koluse Mumu e fa'amauina lona ID o le San Diego Military Advisory Council. O i mo fa'amaumauga, toe fa'amauina fo'i le aofai o la'ua ma lona to'alua o Christine e to'alua o la'ua tagata o le a fa'aaogaina nei fale'ie."

O nisi na o ane ae le avea i ai se fale'ie nei, ua malilie i le fa'amatalaga ina ia fa'autagia, aua ua malamalama nei e ao ina alu atu le asiasiga a le ai lea o le fesoasoani ae ua mae'a va'ai patino i latou i mea ua fa'aleagaina.

I le taimi nei e i ai se sui e to'atasi mai Honolulu ua to'ai i fanua ma le to'atolu mai le le to'atele ma mea'ai o lo ua matua sili ona Ofisa Autu i San Diego ina ia fesoasoani atili i fa'amaumauga, asiasiga ma le fa'ai'uga e faia mo aiga pagatia ta'itasi ua talosaga ina se fesoasoani.

#### CEO FOU KOLUSE MUMU SAN DIEGO/ **IMPERIAL COUNTIES-AM.SAMOA**

O le masina o Novema i le tausaga ua te'a na tofia ai le susuga ia Sean Mahoney mai San Diego, e avea ma ta'ita'i, po'o le CEO, o le lala o le Kolume Mumu mo San Diego/Imperial Counties lea e aofia ai ma Amerika Samoa ma fa'aleagaina i totonu o le atunu'u talu ai le asiosio isi teritori o Amerika i le Pasefika. O le masina o o Gita. Tesema ua te'a sa aloaia ai lea tofiga.

A'o le'i avea o ia ma CEO, sa mua'i avea o

ia ma Pule Sili o le "zero8hundred" o se tasi o Fa'alapotopotoga na fa'atuina i le 2015 e fesoasoani malosi i ali'i fitafita o vaega au ina ia mafai ona toe taliu i le malu o latou aiga ma le saogalemu, pe a mae'a a latou tautua i le vaega au.

E 27 tausaga o lana tautua o se Kapeteni i le nei. O i latou na sa asia le Ofisa autu i Tafuna ona US Coast Guard ma tele taimi na tiute ai i Cape Cod, Mass.; Astoria, Oregon; San Diego ma

> E mae'a ai nei lana tautua i le US Coast Guard ua avea o ia o le Commanding Officer mo le Air Station i Houston, lea latou te va'ava'aia ma fesoasoani i le puipuigamalu a le Coast Guard i le 40 setete i le itu i le Vasa Atalani atoa.

"O le Koluse Mumu o se Fa'alapotopotoga e "O nai tagata na mua'i maua na mea, ua o ese lalamua lana tautua e sapaia tagata i taimi fita o le se tala lea a Mahoney.

"Ua ou fiafia tele e avea a'u o se ta'ita'i ma

Mahoney na fa'au'u mai le a'oga a le US "I le taimi nei e le mafai ona taua'aoina ni Coast Guard i le tausaga 1987 lea sa ia mua'i Commerce's Defense, Taitaifono o le Veterans & Military Affairs Committee, ma o le Sui Totino alo tama'ita'i ua matutua fo'i.

#### AFATIA TONGA IA 'GITA', AGA'I ATU I FITI

I lipoti fa'asalalau mai Tonga, o lo'o taua Koluse Mumu i o latou fale, ona fa'ato'a maua ai, le mata'utia o le 'afa o Gita, ua leai ma se malae va'alele o toe tatalaina, ua tapunia uma femalaga'iga.

> "O le suavai mama, nofoaga e nonofo ai mana'omia e tagata o le malo o Tonga i le taimi nei," o lipoti ia mai Tonga.

> O le tele o fa'alapotopotoga i totonu o le atunu'u fa'apea ma malo i fafo ua latou galulue fa'atasi ina ia fa'atino se galuega alofa mo le lautele o tagatanu'u o Tonga, ae ua faia fo'i vaega e tatau ona fa'atino a le National Emmergency Management Office [NEMO] a le Malo o Tonga, ina ia toe fa'aleleia vave le tele o mea ua

O se tala mai le sui o le Koluse Mumu i Tonga

(Faaauau itulau 11)



E ui ina fa'anoanoa i le to'esea o se tasi o uso, ae ua fiafia le uso o Lise Tauiliili ina ua fa'atasi fo'i ma ona alo ali'i nei i le toe aso o Maelega Lealaimatafao Savea i Matu'u i le aso Gafua.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

# Lapataia Faipisinisi o le solitulationo le si'i fa'afuase'i o le tau o oloa

tusia Ausage Fausia

Ua fautuaina e le malo le mamalu o le Aufai Pisinisi uma i le atunu'u, o le solitulafono le faia fa'afuase'i o ni si'itaga i le tau o ni isi o a latou oloa, aemaise lava oloa o lo o sili ona mana'omia i le taimi o lo o fetaia'i ai le atunu'u ma tulaga pagatia ona o a'afiaga o le 'afa o Gita na a'afia ai le atu Samoa i le vaiaso na te'a nei.

A o fa'agasolo mai lapataiga i le atunu'u ina ia fa'ailoa meatotino sa fa'aleagaina i le 'afa o Gita, na tu'uina fa'atasi mai ai e le malo ma le fautuaga i tagatanu'u uma, ina ia silasila toto'a ma fa'ailoa atu ni pisinisi latou te maitauina le fa'afuase'i ona i ai o ni si'itaga i le tau o a latou oloa.

O le ali'i loia sili lagolago ia Jedidiah Bigelow o lo o gafa ma le taulimaina o mataupu savili i le Ofisa o le Loia Sili, lea e aofia ai mataupu tau i le tau o oloa, sa ia fa'amaonia mai le vaega o le tulafono e fa'asa ai pisinisi ona si'i i le 10% le tau o a latou oloa, i le taimi e mae'a ai ona fa'alauiloa e le Kovana le i ai o le atunu'u i tulaga pagatia o a'afiaga o matagi ma 'afa malolosi.

O le aso 9 Fepuari na fa'alauiloa aloaia ai e Kovana Lolo Matalasi Moliga le i ai lea o Amerika Samoa i tulaga pagatia ona o aafiaga i matagi ma lologa, ma ua aloaia ai loa le faamalosia o tulafono e mafai ai ona puipuia pisinisi mai le soli o le tulafono.

O oloa e pei ona mata'ituina le le tatau lea ona vave faia i ai ni suiga i o latou tau e aofia ai vai, oloa fau fale, ma isi lava ituaiga oloa o loo matua moomia e le atunu'u i le taimi pagatia lenei.

Ua fautuaina malosi le atunu'u fa'atau ina ia vave fa'afesootai le Ofisa o le Loia Sili i le telefoni 633-4163 mo le faailoaina o ni pisinisi ua masalomia lo latou soli o le tulafono. E matua taua tele fo'i le tatau lea ona i ai ni faamaoniga e pei o lisiti o lo o tusia ai le igoa o le faleoloa, atoa ai ma isi lava faamaumauga ina ia fesoasoani i le malo i le faamalosia o le tulafono.

Na maitauina e le Samoa News i ni isi o vaega o le atunu'u na matua aafia le uumi o laina o tagata fa'atau i fafo o faleoloa, mo le faia o fa'atauga i oloa e manaomia e le aiga. Na taua e se tasi o tagata fa'atau i le Samoa News e fa'apea, talu ai le motusia o le eletise, na le mafai ai ona soona o to'atele tagata fa'atau i totonu, ae auaua'i ta'ito'atasi ina ia mafai ai e le le faipisinisi Asia e ana le faleoloa ona vaavaai gaioiga uma a le tagata fa'atau e faia.

O ni isi o taumafa ua molimauina le to'atele o tagata ua latou fa'atauina e aofia ai taumafa tupu apa faapea ai ma taga alaisa mo le fofoga taumafa o aiga.



Le ata o le tina pele ia Lucilla Mulitauaopele Chen, ua tu'umalo, i le taimi o ona toe sauniga i le aso Gafua.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

# E LE O OE O SE SULI MONI

by Sam - Vaega 106

Na faigata ona toe lagona se isi upu o le lauga a le tama'ita'i o Ianeta i le tau pai pati pati o lima o tagata uma na auai i totonu o le fale, i le fiafia tele ina ua latou fa'alogo atu, o Ianeta lea ua tofia e le ali'i milionea loo taaalo ai tamaiti ma a latou ia Laneselota e fa'auluulu i ai le polokalame mo isi tausaga e tele i le lumana'i, ae sili ai i lo "Faafetai mo upu faalaeiau mo i lena, o Ianeta o se tagata uli e pei lava fo'i o i latou, ma atonu o le a faigofie ai ma tele isi auala e maua ai e aiga uli matitiva fa'amanuiaga mai lenei polokalame o lo o fa'atupe ma pulea e tagata milionea o le aai. i luma o le faitoto'a e fa'asa ai Ua fa'agasolo le tufatufaina o tagata uli ona ulufale i totonu o meaalofa mo tagata matitiva sa le fale. mafai ona faatasi atu i lea aso. ua tufatufa atu mo tagata matitiva. Sa na o le tutu to'alua o i luma o le fale, ma matamata i le lolofi atu o aiga matitiva ma talia a latou meaalofa ma le agaga fiafia. E oo lava fo'i i tamaiti laiti, ua le iloga se mea e gata ai le fiafia ona o meataalo seevae mo i latou.

fa'aauau pea lenei polokalame mo i matou tagata matitiva", o savali ese atu lea i fafo ma aga'i atu loa ma lona to'alua ma le la isi aiga matitiva ae aga'i atu isi ma fa'aleo le agaga lava e tasi o le fa'afetai ia Laneselota ma i tagata uli o lo o tau atina'e o latou aiga. Ina ua aga'i ina mae'a le fa'amoemoe, na savali tu'ufa'atasia le polokalame, mo polokalame". le fa'atulagaina o le isi polo-

kalame e sosoo ai, ae ua savali atu Ianeta i le isi itu o le fale ma feiloa'i atu i tamaiti o lo o taaalo fiafia ai ma a latou meaalofa na maua mai i le polokalame. E oo atu loa Ianeta i le faitoto'a e ulufale atu ai i fafo i le vaega o meaalofa, ae ona faalogoina loa se tagata o valaau atu fa'apea, matou i lenei aso". Na tu Ianeta ma faliu i tua e vaai poo ai lea o loo talanoa atu ia te ia, ae na te'i le tama'ita'i ina ua tau atu lana vaai, o le tama'ita'i tonu lava lea na ia tusia le ie sa faapipii

Na ona iloa atu lava e Ianeta E le gata o meaai, lavalava ma o ia tonu lea sa valaau ane ia te meainu, ae ua oo lava fo'i i tupe ia, faliu loa ma le tama'ita'i ma toe savali ane i ai ma fusi ia te ia ma faapea atu i ai, "Faafetai Laneselota ma Ianeta i le pito fo'i mo lau galuega alofa o loo faia mo nai aiga lima vaivai. E ui e faigata i nisi taimi ona tatou manatu e fai ni mea lelei mo nai aiga faapenei, ae tatau lava ona tatou fa'atino mea tonu e ao ona faia mo i latou". E talanoa atu ua latou maua, o lavalava ma lava Ianeta ae na o le tu lava o le tama'ita'i lea e aunoa ma se "Faafetai Laneselota ma tupu na gagana ane ai. Ua vaaia Ianeta mo lo oulua alolofa, e Ianeta foliga fa'anoanoa o le atoa ai ma le naunau ina ia tama'ita'i lea, ona ia pa'i atu lea i lona tauau ma faapea atu i ai, "Aua e te toe mafaufau ananafi, le fa'afetai lea a se tasi o Tama ae avea mea sa tutupu ananafi matua ina ua mae'a ona tauaao e fau ai ni mea lelei mo taeao". meaalofa mo lona aiga, ona ia Sa na o le luelue o le ulu o le tama'ita'i lea ma fa'apea atu i le tama'ita'i isi ona leo tau fanau i lo latou aiga. E te'a atu le lagona, "Vaai oe Ianeta, ua ou lagona lo'u sese i le mea sa tupu, ae ua avea lau lauga i lenei taeao ua toe faamalosia ai lo'u Ianeta, ona o le manatu alofa loto ma ou iloa ai, e sese o'u mafaufauga sa i ai. Ae atonu o le a avea ni fa'aletonu sa ou faia o se auala e tula'i mai ai ni mea atu ai loa Laneselota ma talanoa lelei mo lenei aai aemaise ai o i le Peresetene o le Asosi o lo o tagata uli uma o loo i lalo i lenei



Na fa'aiu le molimau a le tama'ita'i o Blue Chen Fruean i le avanoa matagofie na tu'uina i le faletua Fiapa'ipa'i Tuaolo Fruean ma le fanau e usuina ai se vi'iga o le Atua ma molimau fo'i i le la'ua va ma le tina ua malaga Lucilla Chen. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



O le taua'aoina atu lea o mea faigaluega na fa'aaogaina e le Tina - Lucilla Mulitauaopele Chen e le afioga Patele i lana tama o Whitey Chen ia ona fa'aaogaina i lenei fo'i olaga fita o soifua uma ai i tatou. O le Tusi Pa'ia, Losalio ma Moli gao. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

# Maua...

Mai itulau 9

sola ese ai le ua molia.

o le gaoi, peita'i na vave ona taunu'u ane o Leoleo. iloa ma toe sola ese ai o ia.

Ae o le aiga lona tolu na ulu-Sa ia ulufale i le fale o le aiga fale faamalosi i ai le ua molia i lona lua na aafia ma le faamo- totonu, na maua ai loa o ia ma emoe e faatino ai le solitulafono taofi ai e le aiga e fa'atali ai le

# Tala i Vaifanua...

Mai itulau 10

le talafatai o le atunu'u, ua matua tele se galna lavevea e afua mai i le afa o Gita, peita'i e o'o i le 3,000 tagata. le'i mafai ona fa'aalia patino atu le aotelega se'ia mae'a o'o mai uma lipoti fa'amaumau a malo a Tonga o lo'o malaga asiasi i ai mo sui o loo aga'i atu i le motu o 'Eua. E to'atasi le tama matua, 72 tausaga ua maliu ae le'i o'o i le falema'i tele i Tongatapu, ona ua oso le fatu i le malosi o Gita," o se lipoti lea a le tama'ita'i fa'asalalau o Sia Adams.

E na'o le tasi le po na fasia ai e Gita le atumotu o Tonga, ae ua matua iloga fo'i lona saua.

O le Koluse Mumu fo'i o lo ua latou tula'i ma faipule o Eua."

ua fa ailoa mai ai, "E matua ogaoga le a afia o tali atu ia I onga i lona mafatia o i ai, ma ua latou meatoto ma fa'ato'aga, ae maise o falenofo ma fa'avasegaina fo'i nofoaga fa'apitoa e tausia fa'atasi ai tagata uma ua a'afia o latou lotoifale uega e toe taumafai ai ona fa'aleleia mea uma i i le afa o Gita i lea malo. O le aofai o i latou ua Tonga talu ai le sofa'i mai a Gita." E i ai tagata mafai ona fa'anofoia nei nofoaga i le taimi nei ua

> Mai 'Eua ua fa'ailoa mai ai e sui o le faigafa'amaumauga, "E toetoe a leai se fa'ato'aga o totoe i le motu o 'Eua, ma ua iloga ona fa'aleagaina uma fa'ato'aga i lenei motu e Gita."

> "O fale uma fo'i na'o nai fale fou o totoe, o lo'o tutula'i pea ae o le tele o fale aiga ua tuai ua le toe i ai nei. Ua to'atele na'ua aiga ua fa'aleagaina o latou fatuaiga tausi," o se lipoti lea mai le ali'i



O se va'aiga i le nofoaga sa teuteuina ai le va'a o le tina Tausimai laufofoga fiafia ma le tausa'afia, ae maise fo'i o le faletua o Savea Tavita, Maelega Lealaimatafao Savea - ae leoina e si ana fanau. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]





According to the wife's version of the story, they were on their way home after dropping off their donation to the Red Cross' main office in Tafuna, to help with those who were affected by Tropical Storm Gita, when seven police units with several police officers inside pulled over their vehicle in the middle of the road, pointing their guns at them.

"They were pointing their gun to our vehicle while my 4-year-old son was inside. I yelled at them and told them that my son is inside the car but they kept pointing their guns at us without considering the consequences of their acts," said the wife, with tears in her eyes.

After their vehicle was pulled over by police officers in public, the wife says a police officer then informed her husband about the nature of their operation, including the arrest warrant and the search warrant, and the police escorted their vehicle to their home and con-

ducted their search.

"I asked them to let a lawyer be present on behalf of my husalso told them that my son was traumatized because of their actions and the way they conducted their operation but they

"I understand they did their job, but the way this operation was conducted was out of hand and not controlled. They have an arrest warrant for my husband — not for me and my when I hear him say that to me."

tion, nor drugs were found at to surrender his passport.

Continued from page 1

their home.

When asked about her next step pertaining to this whole band but they didn't listen. I ordeal, she said that she will bring up this issue when she has time with the Police Commissioner, because she doesn't want any mother and her 4-year-son also wouldn't listen," the wife or daughter to go through what they experienced this week.

"The operation was very excessive and I don't understand why police officers need to use this excessive force; while my husband was not someone who hurt or killed anybody. He was 4-year-old son. So, they must just a normal father and a loving let me and my son out of the person, who loves to reach out car first before they do their job, and help other people," the wife but what they did was put me said. Judge Sunia established and my little son in danger. My a \$10,000 surety bond for the son was traumatized, he keeps defendant under certain condiasking me if the police will kill tions, if he posts bond, which my Dad, and it breaks my heart includes non-possession of any weapons, not to consume any The wife admitted that police alcohol or illegal drugs; and, found a gun at their home, but he is subject to random testing the gun was found in a "safe by a police officer or a Probaplace". She says no ammuni- tion Officer. He's also ordered

# Proposed...

\$1.35 million to ASCC operation (same as FY 2018); and \$855,000 for High Court (same amount as FY 2018),

A breakdown of how the money will be spent is not detailed in the document.

#### CIP ALLOCATION

OIA says CIP funds address a variety of infrastructure needs in the U.S. territories including critical infrastructure such as hospitals, schools, wastewater and solid waste systems.

Additionally, determination of the annual allocation is made on the basis of a set of competitive criteria that measure the demonstrated ability of the governments to exercise prudent financial management practices and to meet federal grant requirements.

Baseline funding — or total amount — for American Northern Mariana Islands, totals \$27.72 million. nance projects, while the Health

for the same pot of money and therefore allocations will vary from year to year depending to the competitive criteria.

Approved FY 2018 funding for American Samoa totaled \$10.32 million, according to

funding for FY 2019 is \$9.78 additional \$84,000 as a result of the competitive process, according to the budget justification document.

Over the past year, several important CIP projects in American Samoa were completed while others made sig-Islands, Guam and US Virgin pleted numerous school mainte- website: www.doi.gov/oia

And these territories compete Department completed renovations and an expansion of the Faga'alu Primary Care Center.

Continued from page 1

The Education Department upon the performance of each completed construction of a insular government with respect new classroom building for Samoana High School to alleviate overcrowding. For the LBJ hospital, it "made steady progress on the renovation and expansion" of the Labor, American Samoa's baseline Delivery and Operating Room.

The American Samoa Commillion but it has been given an munity College completed its new Multipurpose Building.

According to OIA, the FY giving our territory a proposed 2019 CIP funding will be used total funding of \$9.86 million, to continue meeting critical infrastructure needs in American Samoa similar to previous years.

Details of the budget justification document, which includes other funding for nificant progress. For example, American Samoa from OIA Public Works Department comprograms, can be found on OIA

# **Israel military court trial** closed for Palestinian protester

By KARIN LAUB, Associated

OFER MILITARY BASE. West Bank (AP) — Palestinian protester Ahed Tamimi went on trial behind closed doors in an Israeli military court Tuesday for slapping and punching two Israeli soldiers — the opening of a high-profile case against the teen who is seen by some as by others as a troublemaker or even a terrorist.

Israel's hard-charging prosecution of Tamimi, recognizable by her unruly mane of curly hair, has drawn international attention and criticism. Underlying the case are clashing narratives

about Israel's half-century of leave and announced that the occupation, the extent of per- proceedings would continue missible Palestinian resistance behind closed doors. He said he to it and the battle for global public opinion.

Tamimi, who turned 17 in prison last month, was led into a courtroom packed with journalists, several European diplomats and members of her family.

"Stay strong, stay strong," a Joan of Arc-like heroine and shouted her father, Bassem, from the back row. She appeared calm and confident as she took a seat in the dock, surphotographers.

judge suddenly ordered all spectators except family members to

was acting in the best interest of a juvenile defendant.

Defense lawyer Gaby Lasky protested, saying the family wants an open trial.

"The court decided what is best for the court, and not what is good for Ahed," Lasky later told reporters, accusing the judge of trying to keep the world from watching.

In the closed session, the rounded by camera crews and court read a 12-count indictment against Tamimi, including After a few minutes, the charges of assault and incitement that could keep her in

(Continued on page 15)



# Can gene therapy be harnessed to fight the AIDS virus?

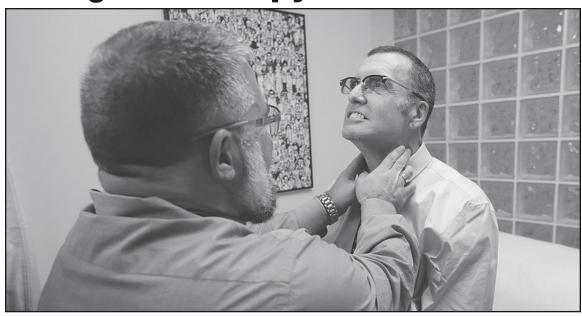
to have been cured of HIV

infection, a man who had a cell

transplant a decade ago from a

donor with natural immunity

entryway HIV uses to infect T



In this Jan. 26, 2018 photo, Matt Chappell, right, is checked by Dr. Christopher Schiessl during an appointment at a medical center in San Francisco. For more than a decade, the strongest AIDS drugs could not fully control Chappell's HIV infection. Now his body does it by itself, thanks to the first gene editing experiments in people. (AP Photo/Jeff Chiu)

#### By MARILYNN MARCHIONE, AP Chief Medical Writer

strongest AIDS drugs could possible.

Scientists removed some of best thing to a cure.

his immune system.

Chappell was lucky, though. Only a few of the 100 others in tive techniques, mostly to try those experiments were able to and cure people," he said. "It's stay off HIV drugs for a couple worth trying because the sciyears; the rest still need medi- ence is there." cines to keep HIV suppressed.

Now researchers think they can improve the treatment and

By KRISTEN DE GROOT, Associated Press

Parkway before the reinstallation.

on Tuesday, just in time for Valentine's Day.

are trying again to tackle HIV by doctoring DNA. New studies to test these tweaked approaches For more than a decade, the in people are getting underway.

'Gene therapy techniques to the virus. The donor lacked not fully control Matt Chap- have advanced greatly," said Dr. a common gene that makes an pell's HIV infection. Now his Otto Yang of the UCLA AIDS body controls it by itself, and Institute, one place working researchers are trying to perfect on this. "A lot of people are the gene editing that made this thinking it's the right time to go

They include Dr. Anthony his blood cells, disabled a gene Fauci, director of the National to help them resist HIV, and Institute of Allergy and Infecreturned these "edited" cells to tious Diseases, which is funding him in 2014. So far, it has given some of the new studies. He the San Francisco man the next doesn't think the technique will become common because "I've been off medications millions of people do well on for three and a half years," he existing treatments. But he says said. He even was able to keep it could help those who can't the virus in check despite cancer easily control the virus, and treatments last year that taxed should be pursued because it holds potential for a cure.

"They're very bold, innova-

#### ONE MAN'S CURE GAVE HOPE

Only one person is known

in the blood.

The transplant gave the recipient that protection, but procedures like that are too risky and impractical for wide use. Scientists have been trying to find a way to create similar immunity by altering some of a patient's own cells. They use a gene editing tool called zinc finger nucleases, which cut the HIV entryway gene.

makes the editing tool, Sangamo Therapeutics, sponsored the initial studies.

"It worked, the T cells were edited," said Sangamo's president, Dr. Sandy Macrae. But it didn't work quite well enough: The altered T cells were outinfected.Now, Dr. John Zaia at City of Hope, a research center the approach with a twist. He's benefit should multiply and last Chappell seems to be doing.

longer, Zaia said.

#### THE SILVER LINING

Though the initial gene editing experiments were disappointing, there was a silver lining. Patients in those studies had a big drop in the number of cells where HIV lurked in a dormant state — the so-called reservoir of silent disease.

At Case Western Reserve DNA at a precise spot to disable University in Cleveland, Dr. Rafick-Pierre Sekaly is trying The California company that to capitalize on that drop. His study will try the same gene editing - disabling the gene that makes the HIV entryway - while keeping patients on strong antiviral medicines for at least a year before discontinuing them.

"As long as we're not able numbered by T cells that were to get rid of this reservoir, we'll not altered and could still be never be able to stop treatment," he explained.

The hope is that the mediin Duarte, California, is trying cines plus the altered cells will knock down the virus and using blood stem cells — parent reduce the reservoir to a point cells that produce many others. where the body can control any Once a stem cell is altered the residual disease by itself, as

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



# POWER AUTHORITY

# **PUBLIC JOB POSTING**

Position Title	AUTO MECHANIC I	Posting Date	February 2, 2018	
Department	Auto Shop	Deadline	February 15, 2018, 4:00 p.m.	
Division	Facilities, Security & Maintenance	Pay Rate	\$7.28 - \$7.58/hr	
Position Type	Career Service (12 month probation)	Job Grade/Status	D/1/A-D/2/A, Non-Exempt	
Reports To	Auto Shop Supervisor			

#### Major Duties & Responsibilities

Perform skilled maintenance and repair work on all vehicles, light and heavy equipment fleets; disassemble and assemble engines and hydraulic units; perform minor or major overhaul and repair work re: mechanical components, electrical system, brakes, fuel system, clutch, cooling system, air conditioning, differential, transmission, etc; provide call-out/emergency repair services as required; assist in ensuring adequate inventory of high-usage parts and supplies; assist in ensuring maintenance and repair work is cost effective and efficient; perform other tasks as assigned.

	Minimum Requirements
Education	HS Diploma with Certification in Automotive Mechanics – trade & technology required; AS degree in Automotive Technology with Certification preferred
Experience	Five years (5) work experience in automotive field. Experience and skills in safely operating a heavy duty lathe machine would be an added advantage. Computer skills in ProDemand Automotive Repair online program is also a plus.
Knowledge,	Must be knowledgeable of:

# Skills & Abilities

- vehicle painting procedures and protocols
- hydraulics and in using diagnostic scanning tools for troubleshooting and identifying vehicle electronic problems
- tools and equipment used in the diagnosis, overhaul, repair and adjustment of vehicle, light and
- auto-electronics, on-board computers, and how to access them for diagnosing problems hazards and safety precautions involved with the work

#### Must have skills:

- in automotive body repair and repainting work
- in diagnosis of vehicle, light and heavy problems
- to lubricate and service equipment as per maintenance schedule
- to fabricate parts and panel where safe and acceptable options are available
- to perform welding work where required
- in the use of automotive mechanical and electronic tools (air/power) and equipment

#### Must have ability to:

- · work rotating shifts, weekends and holidays when required
- read and understand technical manuals, reports and instructions including schematic drawings
- establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work read and follow manuals and standardized procedures in service and maintenance of vehicles/
- be a team player and willing to offer assistance on critical matters and issues pertaining to the
- Auto Shop
- ensure safe working practices at all times
- assist in maintaining appropriate records
- be proactive and responsible
- perform housekeeping duties in keeping workshop clean and tidy

pal Caitlin Night, who swung by take photos of what she called "the symbol of our city." "This is what we are known for, and it's wonderful to have the 'LOVE' back," Murphy said. "The city seemed empty without it."

'LOVE' returns: Philadelphia

park gets its sculpture back

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — "LOVE" returned to Philadelphia

The famous 1976 Robert Indiana sculpture was brought back

its namesake downtown park on a flatbed truck after making a

School children cheered and those gathered spontaneously

Susan Murphy had the day off from work and came to the

number of stops at parks and statues along the Benjamin Franklin

sang the fight song for the Super Bowl champion Philadelphia

park to see the sculpture reinstalled. She played the Beatles "All

You Need is Love" on her iPhone and sang along with her new

Eagles as a forklift placed the sculpture atop a pedestal.

The sculpture was temporarily installed at nearby City Hall in 2016 while Love Park was going through a renovation.

It was taken out of view a year ago for repairs ahead of the park's reopening.

The perennial tourist attraction and engagement photo backdrop looks a bit different. It's been repainted to the original colors of red, green and purple that the artist originally used. At some point over the decades, the purple had been repainted blue.

Deborah Rickards, who teaches third grade at nearby Friends Select School, brought her class over to see the statue's return.

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

# Uzbek Stockholm truck attacker had pledged allegiance to IS



FILE - In this file photo dated April 7, 2017, provided by Swedish Police on Tuesday Jan. 30, 2018, Akhmat Akilov is apprehended in Marsta, North of Stockholm, Sweden, after he drove a lorry into a crowd. The Uzbek man who carried out a deadly attack on Stockholm last year swore allegiance to the Islamic State group in a video and wrote that he wanted "to scare the infidels and leave my life," prosecutors said Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018 as his trial began. (Swedish Police file/TT via AP)

deadly attack on Stockholm Europe," he told reporters. last year swore allegiance to the as his trial began.

before the Stockholm District Akilov drove a stolen beer truck Court for ramming a stolen into a busy Stockholm shopping truck into a crowd in the street on Apr. 7 before being Swedish capital, killing five arrested hours later. people and injuring 14 others because he wanted to punish onds that changed forever the Sweden for joining a coalition lives of those" on the Drottningagainst the IS.

asked that he gets a life sentence including an 11-year-old girl. and is extradited from Sweden.

the trial has implications across Johan Eriksson, told the court. Europe for those fighting to halt extremist attacks.

By DAVID KEYTON, Associated they are carrying out this kind of act. I think it's a big interest STOCKHOLM (AP) — An for everybody who is punished Uzbek man who carried out a by attacks like this throughout

Akilov, who has confessed Islamic State group in a video to the attack, wore handcuffs and wrote that he wanted "to as he entered the high-security scare the infidels and leave my courtroom. In an adjacent room, life," prosecutors said Tuesday relatives of the victims listened quietly, some in each other's Rakhmat Akilov appeared arms. Ihrman described how

"The case is about 40 secgatan shopping promenade that He is charged with terror- day, he said. Five people were related murder and attempted killed — a British man, a Belmurder. The prosecution has gian woman and three Swedes,

"Yes, it was Akilov who Prosecutor Hans Ihrman said drove the truck," his lawyer,

Akilov, who turns 40 on Wednesday, was born in "We can learn about the Uzbekistan and worked there radicalization process and how as a construction worker. He

came to Sweden in 2014 and applied for asylum, claiming he had been persecuted. His application was rejected and he was ordered to leave Sweden in December 2016.

Instead, he went underground, eluding authorities' attempts to track him down. Sweden's domestic intelligence agency has said it had nothing indicating that he was planning an attack.

Inside the courtroom, Akilov stared at a screen where footage from the attack - including those he made while driving the truck — were shown. The prosecutor spoke about how Akilov used 53 SIM cards and social media - including WhatsApp, Telegram, Viber, Facebook and Zello - to communicate with others about his activities.

Akilov has said he proposed carrying out an attack in Stockholm to IS on their behalf. It was not clear whether the group had accepted his offer.

Investigators have found internet chat logs with unknown people in which Akilov discussed becoming a martyr and swore allegiance to IS between Jan. 12, 2017, and the attack. They have also found a memory card with execution videos and thousands of photos, including one of IS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

The prosecution also played a video where Akilov swore allegiance to IS. On April 6 the eve of the attack — Akilov wrote in a chat "tomorrow, in the evening I will find a large vehicle and I will drive into a crowd with it."

The attack shocked Swedes, who pride themselves on their open-door policies toward migrants and refugees.

# French trial on sex with 11-yearold fuels debate on consent



Lawyers for the suspect Marc Goudarzian and Sandrine Parise-Heideiger, left, enter the court Tuesday, Feb.13, 2018 in Pontoise, outside Paris. A 29-year-old man is set to appear in a French court Tuesday for having sex with an 11-year-old girl last year, in a trial that has rekindled debate on the age of sexual consent in France. In a decision that shocked many, the prosecutor's office in the Paris suburb of Pontoise decided to send the man to trial on charges of "sexual abuse of a minor under 15 years old," and not rape. (AP Photo/Francois Mori)

By PHILIPPE SOTTO, Associated Press

PONTOISE, France (AP) — A 29-year-old French man went on trial Tuesday in a Paris suburb for having sex with an 11-year-old girl, a case that has rekindled strong debate on the age of sexual consent in France.

Unlike many countries, France does not have a legal age under which a minor cannot agree to a sexual relationship although the country's top court has ruled that children aged five and under cannot consent. Lawyers for the suspect argued that the girl was consenting and aware of what she was doing, while lawyers for the girl have said she was simply too young and confused to resist.

In a decision that shocked many, the prosecutor's office in the town of Pontoise decided to put the man on trial not for rape but for charges of "sexual abuse of a minor under 15."

Defense lawyers say the man and the girl met in a park and the girl voluntarily followed him to an apartment and consented to have sex. They've also claim their client, then 28, thought she was over 15.

complaint for rape in the town of Montmagny but prosecutors apparently felt the suspect did not use violence or coercion. French law defines rape as sexual penetration committed or surprise." She was 11 years age is by definition coercive. and 10 months old, so nearly 12 years old. It changes the story," defense lawyer Marc Goudarzian said Tuesday. "So she is not a child."

His colleague Sandrine Parise-Heideiger went further, claiming "we are not dealing with a sexual predator on a poor little faultless goose."

She said as soon as children have "sexual expressiveness and you have an attitude of putting yourself in danger" then "it doesn't necessarily mean the person on the other side is a sexual predator."

Children's rights groups and case argued otherwise.

Carine Diebolt, the lawyer on Tuesday to re-characterize Hollywood the charge from sexual abuse to Harvey Weinstein.

The suspect "knew very well she was a young child,' said Armelle Le Bigot Macaux, president of the COFRADE, an umbrella group for children's rights. "This young child isn't protected today by our French society."If convicted of sexual abuse, the suspect, a father of two, faces up to five years in prison. The rape of a minor under 15, however, is punishable with up to 20 years in prison. The presiding judge said the prosecutor chose a wrong charge and ordered the case to be sent back to investigators for a thorough investigation. As a result, the trial was postponed.

"It's a victory," Diebolt told reporters after the trial. "The main thing is that (the girl) can at last be heard as a victim of rape ... we can say it's a victory for the victims."

Goudarzian, the defense lawyer, claimed the court decision was a result of the wide publicity given to the case.

The Montmagny case is one of several that have prompted an uproar over France's rules on child sex abusers, which are considered too lax by child The girl's family filed a rights groups and feminists.

French President Emmanuel Macron's government has proposed a bill to introduce a minimum legal age for sexual consent for the first time — and includes a provision saying that "by violence, coercion, threat sex with children under a certain

The proposed minimum age hasn't yet been decided on, but the cutoff could be between 13 and 15. The bill, a broad-based measure aimed at fighting "sexual and sexist violence," is expected to be presented to the French Cabinet next month.

A similar recent case caused disbelief and outrage. A French criminal court in November acquitted a 30-year-old man accused of raping an 11-yearold girl in 2009. The jury in the Paris suburban region of Seineet-Marne found that he didn't use violence or coercion.

The subject of sexual misa psychiatrist testifying in the conduct has drawn fresh attention in France and worldwide since rape and sexual assault for the family, asked the court allegations were made against film producer





## ▶ Israel...

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Palestinian protest icon Ahed Tamimi is in a courtroom at the Ofer military prison near Jerusalem, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018. The Israeli military judge overseeing the trial of Palestinian teenager Tamimi has ordered all proceedings to take place behind closed doors. (AP Photo/Ariel Schalit)

prison for several years.

Lasky argued that the court is be thrown out.

resisting occupation, Lasky said freedom. afterward. She said she is still March 11.

Saleh, home to about 600 mem-sides. bers of her extended clan. At the time, protests had erupted in pose a peace plan, but Palesseveral parts of the West Bank tinian officials have said they over President Donald Trump's fear any U.S. offer would fall recognition 10 days earlier of far short of their demands, contested Jerusalem as Israel's including a capital in Israeli-

In Nabi Saleh, several teenage boys were throwing the debate about what rights, if stones that day at soldiers who any, Palestinians have to push fired stun grenades and rubber- back against Israeli rule. coated steel pellets. A 15-yearold cousin of Ahed Tamimi was human rights lawyer, said that hit at close range by a rubber Israeli military law "is set up bullet and seriously wounded. to label every act of resistance, He later had a section of his violent or nonviolent, as crimskull removed and is recovering inal" and that the military court at home.

Ahed Tamimi had just an occupying army. learned of his injury when she, along with her mother and said. "Its main objective is to another cousin approached two curb any attempt of resistance soldiers at the entrance to the and enhance the control over courtyard of the family home, the population." according to relatives.

video, Ahed yells at the sol- criminal offenses. diers to leave, slapping one and punching the other in the head. fessor Emanuel Gross argued The soldiers casually fend her that international law permits

wall, calling for large demon- conventions. strations as "the only way to unite."

plaints in Israel that the soldiers force against soldiers."

had been humiliated. She was arrested at her home Dec. 19 in the middle of the night and has been in detention ever since. At a previous hearing, the military court at the Ofer army base in the West Bank ordered her held until the end of proceedings.

Senior Israeli government officials called for a harsh punishment.

Military prosecutors presented an indictment involving the Dec. 15 scuffle, but also other alleged incidents going back to April 2016.

From a young age, Tamimi has taken part in regular antioccupation marches by residents of Nabi Saleh, which lost land to a nearby Jewish settlement. Protests often ended in stone-throwing clashes. One famous photo shows her as a 12-year-old raising a clenched fist at a soldier towering over

Her father has rejected allean organ of what she described gations he is exploiting his as an "illegal occupation" and daughter for political objecthat the charges must therefore tives. He said the occupation has robbed her of a normal "We believe that this is childhood, that it's better for an indictment solely created her to confront it than to fear in order to deter Ahed and it, and that he believes her genother Palestinian youths" from eration will lead Palestinians to

Israel captured the West waiting to receive case material Bank, Gaza Strip and east Jerufrom the prosecutor, that her salem in 1967, and Palestinian client did not enter a plea and hopes of establishing a state in that the next hearing would be those territories seem increasingly dim. Several rounds of Tamimi's scuffle with the U.S.-led negotiations on a partitwo soldiers took place Dec. 15 tion deal have failed, and gaps in her West Bank village of Nabi have only widened between the

> Trump has promised to proannexed east Jerusalem.

> Underlying Tamimi's trial is

Michael Sfard, an Israeli system is just another branch of

"It is not about justice," he

Israel has dealt In later events captured on Tamimi's actions as purely

Retired Israeli law proan occupying power to set up The video continues with her military courts and that Israel's leaning against the courtyard system is in line with those

"You are allowed, of course, reach results," but adding that to protest the fact that you are Trump must bear responsibility under occupation, but you are for any Palestinian reaction, not allowed to protest in such including stabbings and sui- a way that it will be considered cide attacks, and that "everyone illegal," said Gross, a military needs to do something and to court judge until the 1990s. "That's exactly what Tamimi The video stirred com- is accused of doing, by using

# Trump prods Congress amid debate on immigration

By KEVIN FREKING and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A high-stakes Senate debate over immigration got off to a halting start Tuesday, with Republican and Trump warning this was the "last chance" to 5th." extend protections to "Dreamer" immigrants.

the debate, hopeful they might be able to craft rendered that deadline all but meaningless. a piece of legislation in real time on the Senate floor — or at least force Republicans on the record on some difficult issues.

But the experiment in legislating didn't go but then told the senator he was joking. very far.

behind legislation based on the president's priorities.

To kick the debate off, McConnell proposed allowing Republicans to bring up an amendwith federal immigration authorities, so-called "sanctuary cities." Then, Democrats would bring up legislation of their choosing. Amendments gaining 60 votes would become part of the broader immigration bill.

of New York, quickly objected.

"To begin the debate as the Republican leader suggests would be getting off on the wrong foot," Schumer said. "Very partisan."

Schumer wants McConnell to bring up legislation that incorporates President Donald Trump's priorities and a second, much narrower bill from Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Chris describe the measure as the Senate's best shot Coons, D-Del.

His reasoning: The legislation should address the population of young immigrants that lawmakers from both parties say they want to help, rather than deal with side issues such as punishing sanctuary cities.

McConnell replied: "I'm not trying to dictate to them what they offer. They shouldn't be trying get started."

The disagreement pushed any immigrationrelated votes into Wednesday. That gives a group of moderate lawmakers more time to come up with a package that could generate 60 votes in the Senate.

the vehicle," said Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., one of the group's key participants.

Exiting the Senate floor Tuesday evening, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., said "things change by the hour" on immigration, but he felt better as the day went on about the prospects of getting a bill passed. He said lawmakers are meeting privately in search of a compromise.

Trump, in an early-morning tweet, said Congress must act now to provide legal protections to young "Dreamer" immigrants.

"Wouldn't it be great if we could finally, after so many years, solve the DACA puzzle,' Democratic leaders immediately at loggerheads he wrote, adding: "This will be our last chance, over how to move forward and President Donald there will never be another opportunity! March

Trump was referring to a deadline he Trump issued the warning in a morning announced last year to end a program protweet as the Senate opened what was billed as tecting young immigrants from deportation, foran unusual and open-ended debate on a host of mally known as Deferred Action for Childhood immigration issues. Democrats had pushed for Arrivals, or DACA. But a recent court ruling has

> In an exchange later Tuesday with Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, Trump again tried to accuse Democrats of not wanting to fix DACA,

"Everybody's in there working hard on it Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, right now. I think we have a chance to do DACA R-Ky., began the process by throwing his weight very bipartisan. I think that can happen," he said during a meeting on trade issues with lawmakers at the White House. "And I hope we're going to be able to do that, senator."

One GOP proposal based on principles dicment targeting cities that don't fully cooperate tated by the White House would pave a path to citizenship for up to 1.8 million young "Dreamer" immigrants in the U.S., a lure for Democrats that many Republicans oppose.

Trump also wants \$25 billion for Trump's border wall with Mexico and other security mea-The Senate's top Democrat, Chuck Schumer sures, as well as curbs on legal immigration - a must for many Republicans.

> "This proposal has my support, and during this week of fair debate, I believe it deserves the support of every senator who's ready to move beyond making points and actually making a law," McConnell said.

> McConnell and other GOP supporters of passing a bill that the president will sign, but many Democrats consider some of the proposals, including limiting the relatives that legal immigrants can bring to the U.S., to be non-starters.

> Schumer expressed opposition to Trump's sweeping approach, pushing for a more narrow

"Helping the Dreamers become Americans to dictate to us what we offer. We ought to just and protecting our borders. That should be the focus of all our energies," Schumer said.

Trump's overall immigration plan, opposed by many Democrats, stands little chance of prevailing because any measure will need 60 votes. That means proposals will need substantial bipartisan support since the GOP majority is 51-49, "Until we reach an end there, I still hope that's and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., has been absent in recent weeks battling cancer.

Still, many Republicans insist that legislation incorporating Trump's priorities is a compromise because it gives up to 1.8 million young immigrants a pathway to citizenship.

"The president's framework is not an opening bid in negotiations. It is a best and final offer, said Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark.



