**Federal court denies** NMFS motion for reconsideration

**ASTCA launches** new eTopUp Service





The "It Takes a Village to Educate a Child - Build a Better World Program" hosted by the Aoelua/Fanene sisters of Nuuuli, Aua and Afonotele concludes this week. Pictured are two kids from the program during a coloring session vesterday morning.

The daily sessions - free of charge include reading for all levels from 3 -16 years old. Since the program started in late June, participants have also enjoyed presentations by several government agencies and departments.

Other activities include dancing and singing traditional island songs, as well as sports and taebo.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



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PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2017

## **How far does Amer**ican Samoa have to go to get a bank?

By Rob Blackwell

Washington Bureau Chief for American Banker (Reprinted with permission)

Visiting American Samoa is like stepping back in time both because of its unsullied natural beauty and its antiquated

The economy runs on cash, but until recently the island had just seven ATMs, only three of which usually worked, to serve 60,000 residents. It's common for residents to wait in line for two or three hours — sometimes queuing in the early morning before the bank opens — to cash a check. Few islanders have credit cards, and most retailers don't accept them.

American Samoa leaders have already tried to convince existing banks to open up branches there, and even attempted to form their own bank. But neither effort panned out. Now they have launched a bold effort to create a state-backed public bank, something that hasn't been done successfully in the U.S. (Continued on page 10)

# loe Loia Sili o lo o i ai fa'aletonu fa'amalosia Tulafono tau Femalagaaiga

E le i taumafai le afioga i le Loia Sili a le malo News i le aoauli ananafi, pe moni le saunoaga a le afioga i le Fa'amasili Sili ia Michael Kruse, i e 2 ua mavae atu, i le fa'atamala e fa'amalosia nofoaiga lenei a Kovana Lolo. tulafono tau Femalagaaiga.

mai i le atunu'u ma ova ai o latou aso, ae o lo o moliaga o le talepe fale ma le gaoi. taumafai malosi pea lava le Ofisa e fa'amalosia tofa Talauega Eleasalo Ale i se fa'atalatalanoaga

ma le Samoa News i lona ofisa i le aoauli ananafi.

O lenei fa'atalatalanoaga na afua mai i le saue 'alo i le ata o le laau ina ua fesiligia e le Samoa noaga a le afioga i le Fa'amasino Sili ia Michael Kruse i le aso Gafua na te'a nei, e fa'atatau i le fa'aauau pea lea o tulaga fa'aletonu i le tautua a le le faaauau pea lea ona i ai o tulaga fa'aletonu i Ofisa o Femalagaaiga a le malo talu mai nofoaiga le tautua a le Ofisa o Femalagaaiga a le malo i e 2 a Kovana ua mavae atu, e aofia ai Kovana le taimi nei, talu mai lava nofoaiga a isi Kovana Tauese, Kovana Togiola, seia oo mai lava i le

O le ali'i pagota ia Joeita Fa'aaliga na ulufale "E sa'o le saunoaga a le Fa'amasino Sili i le i mai i Amerika Samoa i le aso 29 Aokuso 2o12 ai lea o nai fa'aletonu i le fa'amalosiga e le Ofisa na nofo overstayer ai lava i le atunu'u, seia oo o Femalagaaiga o le tulafono mo tagata e ulufale ina molia o ia i le tausaga e 2013 na sosoo ai i le

E ui i tulaga fa'aletonu e pei ona maitauina tulafono ma fa'aleleia vaega o lo o mafua mai ai i le tautua a le Ofisa o Femalagaaiga i le taimi nei fa'aletonu", o se vaega lea o le saunoaga a le nei, ae na taua e Talauega le taumafai malosi pea (Continued on page 10)



#### MEET & GREET OF NEWEST FACES AT LOCAL USCG OFFICE

A special meeting for local residents, as well as employees of Port Administration, shipping companies, and fisheries and safety personnel to 'meet and greet' the representatives from the local marine safety detachment unit of the US Coast Guard was held this past Monday inside the Port conference room.

The three newest faces at the local USCG office are: Lt. Tanner Stiehl, CWO Jay Gardner, and MSTI Jarrod Bohler. Lt Tanner Stiehl is from Jacksonville, Florida and graduated from Florida State University. He is currently heading the local USCG marine safety detachment unit, housed at the Pago Plaza.

MSTI Jarrod Bohler is a marine science technician first class, who is from Georgia and has been with the USCG for 13 years. He is in charge of facilities, pollution response, and port safety patrol. CWO Jay Gardner, a senior marine inspector, who has been a part of the USCG family for 26 years, comes to American Samoa after spending the past four years in Honolulu. In addition to formal introductions for the USCG members, Monday's meeting focused on issues at the Port, safety matters, and the territory's shipping system in general. Representatives of organizations who deal with issues related to the Port discussed protocols for natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes and cyclones, and keeping the Port safe and secure if such were to happen. An important issue that was raised on Monday had to do with who has the authority to shut down the Port in case of emergencies. It was pointed out that the main priority of the USCG is safety; and if there is a safety situation at the Port, the USCG, as well as the Harbormaster and the Dept. of Port Administration would come together to make a final decision.

The need for one more tug was also discussed. Currently, there is only one tug (Sa'ilele) and Port is in need of another one in order for their system and schedule to return back to normal. According to Capt. Lafoga Alovao, the other two tugs — the Tautua and the Tatoso — were recently sold off and bought by the Samoa government during the ASG auction at the Property Management Office last month. [photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



Salote Aoelua Fanene [standing far right] assisting the older group of kids currently taking reading, coloring, and mentoring classes in the "It Takes a Village to Educate a Child - Build a Better World Program" in Nuuuli. [photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

## Trump on tricky legal ground with 'Obamacare' threat

WASHINGTON (AP) government in a legal bind.

case, while undermining his a reckless bet." own leverage to compel Demoas expected after such a move.

President Donald Trump's all the cards. But Democrats threat to stop billions of dol- know what's in his hand, and lars in government payments to he's got a pair of twos," said insurers and force the collapse University of Michigan law proof "Obamacare" could put the fessor Nicholas Bagley. Democrats "aren't about to agree to Law experts say he'd be dismantle the Affordable Care handing insurers a solid court Act just because Trump makes

For months, the president has crats to negotiate, especially if been threatening to stop paypremiums jump by 20 percent ments that reimburse insurers for providing required financial

"Trump thinks he's holding assistance to low-income consumers, reducing their copays and deductibles. Administration officials say the decision could come any day. Playing defense, some insurers are preemptively raising premiums for next year. For example, BlueCross BlueShield of Arizona this week announced a 7.2 percent average hike for 2018. But there would likely be no increase if the subsidies are guaranteed, the company said. And BlueCross BlueShield of North Carolina earlier requested a 22.9 percent average increase. With the subsidies, the company said that would have been 8.8 percent.

The "cost-sharing" subsidies are under a legal cloud because of a dispute over whether the Obama health care law properly approved the payments. Other parts of the health care law, however, clearly direct the government to reimburse insurers.

With the issue unresolved, the Trump administration has been paying insurers each month, as the Obama administration had done previously.

Trump returned to the subject last week after the GOP drive to repeal the health care law fell apart in the Senate, tweeting, "As I said from the beginning, let ObamaCare implode, then deal. Watch!" He elaborated in another tweet, "If a new HealthCare Bill is not approved quickly, BAILOUTS for Insurance Companies...will end very soon!"

It's not accurate to call the cost-sharing subsidies a bailout, said Tim Jost, a professor emeritus at Washington and Lee University School of Law in Virginia.

## Food fight erupts over Pennsylvania 'Pierogi Festival' name

dispute involving the name of the popular Polish delicacy is threatening to boil over.

Four years ago, civicminded residents of Edwardsville, Pennsylvania, launched a Fest," said Jim Haggerty, the festival tied to the pierogi, the lawyer for the Edwardsville potato-filled dumpling that's ubiquitous in a region whose coal mines drew waves of think they're bullies.' Polish immigrants more than a century ago.

Festival has been a rousing mark in 2007. The chamber's success — so much so that it's caught the attention of a Pierogi Festival is "likely to chamber of commerce in suburban Chicago, which runs a highly popular "Pierogi Fest" and says the Pennsylvania its sponsors, too. upstarts are infringing on its trademark. Lawyers for Pierogi Tom Dabertin said Tuesday Fest recently sent a letter demanding the Edwardsville organizers either stop using the festivals around the country, name or pay a licensing fee.

In Edwardsville, population 4,700, the threats have similar arrangement. gone over as well as underlocated in Luzerne County, the only county in the United common ancestry.

"People are beside themselves. It's ridiculous," said Jackie Kubish Moran, president of the Edwardsville Hometown Committee, which runs the Pennsylvania event. "There's a lot of pride in this area when it comes to people and their heritage. They're going to protect that."

The food fight has landed in federal court, where lawyers for the Pennsylvania group filed a lawsuit Monday against which has been around since of her great aunt.

Like a pot of pierogies left on 1995 and draws some 300,000 the stove too long, a trademark people a year from around the country.

> "No person on planet Earth is going to confuse the Edwardsville Pierogi Festival with a suburban Chicago 'Pierogi group. "We don't think they're acting in good faith and we

The Whiting-Robertsdale Chamber of Commerce regis-The Edwardsville Pierogi tered Pierogi Fest as a tradelawyers say the Edwardsville cause consumer confusion,' and are threatening to sue not only the event organizers, but

> Pierogi Fest Chairman that his group has licensed the name to similar ethnic food and is willing to talk with the Edwardsville group about a

He said the chamber, which cooked kielbasa. The town is runs the festival, is justified in defending its trademark.

"Disney does it. Coca-Cola States where Polish is the most does it. Kleenex does it. If you have a trademark, you have to protect it," he said.

> Debbie Konefal, third-generation owner of an Edwardsville restaurant that serves Polish and American cuisine, called the notion that people would confuse a pair of pierogi festivals 700 miles apart "a little silly." Like others in Edwardsville, she was flabbergasted by the Whiting chamber's stance.

"There is no way we could possibly be in competition with the organizers of the event 700 them," said Konefal, whose resmiles away in Whiting, Indiana, taurant uses the pierogi recipe

## **EMPLOYMENT** OPPORTUNIT **NEWS REPORTER**

Samoa News is looking for a news writer that has a natural curiosity about our local community and is willing to report accurately for our newspaper readers.

The successful applicant must possess bi-lingual, Samoan and English, speaking and/or writing skills. They must be able to meet daily deadlines and if needed, to work weekends.

Access to computer, camera and vehicle is a definite advantage.

Call Samoa News at 633-5599 for an appointment to interview.





## **Federal court denies NMFS** motion for reconsideration

by Fili Sagapolutele

Samoa News Correspondent

US National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) motion for reconsideration, to amend the court United States to preserve American Samoan culdecision issued this past March that found that the NMFS 2016 rule to reduce from 50 to 20 miles the Large Vessel Prohibited Area (LVPA) in territorial waters "was arbitrary and capricious".

#### **MOTION DENIED**

"The court has considered the Motion for Reconsideration as a non-hearing matter," according to the one-page decision issued this past Monday. "After careful review of the motion, supporting and opposing memoranda, and the relevant legal authority, the Motion for Defendants said there is also concern that the Reconsideration is hereby denied."

According to the decision, a written order by the court will follow, that will supersede this ruling. It's not clear when the written order will be rendered by the court.

#### BACKGROUND.

were the US Commerce Department, and NOAA fisheries. NMFS issued a 2016 LVPA rule which News May 11 edition for details.) became effective on Feb. 3, 2016.

Plaintiff is the Territory of American Samoa, that the defendants must show one of three things: through the Governor's Office, or ASG. The major focus of the plaintiff's lawsuit, filed in March 2016, centered around the two Deeds of Cession — 1900 Deed of Cession for Tutuila and initial decision was manifestly unjust; or Aunu'u islands and the 1904 Deed of Cession for Manu'a islands — with the United States.

In her ruling issued earlier this year in March, US District Court Leslie Kobayashi sided with no new evidence that was not available to the the plaintiff and said the Deeds preserved the American Samoans' right to use their "property"

to continue their customary practices, although the Deeds do not specifically identify those cus-The federal court in Honolulu has denied the tomary practices. Kobayashi said the court concluded that the Deeds of Cession require the tural fishing practices.

Among the defendants' arguments in its motion for reconsideration to amend the court judgement, is that by holding that the Deeds require the United States to preserve American Samoan cultural fishing, the federal court created a new requirement that National Marine Fisheries Service's fishing regulations protect "cultural fishing practices" in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) around American Samoa. court's judgment has serious implications on the NMFS's ability to implement the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act because in effect, the judgment allows plaintiff to select winners — 'alia fishermen — and losers large vessel longliners — among its own citizens Besides NMFS, other defendants in the case in the competition for fishery resources under exclusive federal management. (See Samoa

However, in its motion, the plaintiff argued

- Newly discovered evidence that was not "available to defendants";
- The court committed clear error or the
- There is an intervening change in the

The plaintiff argued that the defendants "offer defendants" before the summary judgement

(Continued on page 10)

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Manumalo Academy has started teacher workshops for school year 2017-2018 set to start in two weeks. Workshops focus on various issues including bullying, effective communication skills, and how to identify different forms of abuse. [photo: Blue Chen-Fruean]



Participants of the Sanctuary Summer Science in the Village (SSSV) program in the Leone area listening attentively during a presentation by a representative from the National Park Service.



FILE - In this June 23, 2017 file photo Veteran Affairs Secretary David Shulkin speaks in Washington. The House overwhelmingly approved a \$3.9 billion emergency spending package to address a budget shortfall at the Veterans Affairs Department that threatens medical care for thousands of veterans.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin, File)

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## Senate OKs bills to address VA budget crisis, claims backlog

The Senate approved a pair of bills Tuesday taking aim at urgent problems at the Department of Veterans Affairs, clearing a \$3.9 billion emergency spending package to fix a looming budget crisis and adopting new measures to pare down a rapidly growing backlog of veterans' disability claims.

Both bills passed by unanimous vote.

The spending package provides \$2.1 billion to continue funding the Veterans Choice Program, which allows veterans to receive private medical care at government expense. VA Secretary David Shulkin had warned that without congressional action the program would run out of money by mid-August, disrupting medical care for thousands of veterans.

Another \$1.8 billion would including 28 leases for new VA medical facilities.

The other piece of legislaveterans unhappy with their disability payouts, part of a bid to reduce a rapidly growing claims backlog. That bill was a priority for Shulkin, who described the appeals process as "broken." It comes weeks after President Donald Trump signed into law a bipartisan accountability bill to make it easier to fire employees at VA, pledging to continue with other changes to transform VA "until the job is done."

The spending package now goes to Trump for his signature, while the disability appeals bill goes back to the House.

"It is critical that the Veterans Choice Program has the funding to continue offering timely appointments for veterans in their own communities," said Sen. Johnny Isakson

Senate Veterans Affairs Com- ceptable privatization. That led mittee, who helped broker the to renewed negotiations led by emergency deal. "This bicam- Isakson and Sen. Jon Tester of eral, bipartisan agreement is Montana, the top Democrat on truly a testament to what can be the Senate panel. accomplished when Congress works together."

package for VA care.

our veterans back to the status quo of never-ending wait-times for appointments and substandard care. The Senate's passage of this bill to preserve the Veterans Choice Program is an important step forward," he said. The Choice Program was put in place after a 2014 waittime scandal that was discovered at the Phoenix VA hoscountry. Veterans waited weeks ability claims. go to core VA health programs, or months for appointments amid phony records that covered up the lengthy waits.

30 days for an appointment or bill will speed up the outdated drive more than 40 miles to a appeals process so veterans can VA facility.

The spending would extend the program for six months and devote \$1.8 billion to authorize leases and establish programs to make it easier to hire health specialists, giving Congress more time to debate the future direction of the VA. Costs would be paid for by trimming pensions for some Medicaid-eligible veterans and collecting fees for housing loans. The House passed the spending bill last Friday, after major veterans' groups had opposed an earlier House verfor additional investments in blocked that earlier version during their military service.

of Georgia, chairman of the after veterans decried it as unac-

On disability claims, the measure passed Tuesday by Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., the Senate would overhaul the also hailed the spending appeals process, allowing veterans to file "express" appeals "We simply cannot afford to if they waive their right to a let this program expire and send hearing or the ability to submit new evidence. The VA could test the new program for up to 18 months until Shulkin could certify it was ready for a full rollout with enough money to manage appeals effectively. Lawmakers hope the legislation ultimately could reduce average wait times to less than a year.

Currently, veterans could wait five years or more to pital and spread throughout the resolve their appeals over dis-

The House passed a similar bill in April and was expected to approve the Senate's revisions A priority for Trump, the when it returned from recess tion approved by the Senate program allows veterans to in September. "Veterans have would cut the time it takes for receive care from outside doc- been waiting far too long for the VA to handle appeals from tors if they must wait at least an answer from the VA. This receive the disability benefits package that they have earned," Tester said. Still, the legislation offers no immediate fix for the bulk of the 470,000 appeals claims in VA's backlog; the changes would apply almost entirely to newly filed appeals. Shulkin has said Trump's proposed VA budget for the next fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 doesn't account for \$800 million in "hiring surges" that would be needed if VA hoped to clear the current backlog within 10 years.

The department provides \$63.7 billion in disability comsion because it didn't provide pensation payments each year to about 4.1 million veterans with VA infrastructure. Democrats disabling conditions incurred

# COMMUNITY

by Samoa News Staff

#### **BILLING CHANGES** IN EFFECT FOR ASPA **CUSTOMERS**

Last week, the American the month," he explained. Samoa Power Authority which go into effect this month.

Instead customers of the 21st of each month, the semiautonomous agency will now be sending bills out a billing days - generally, on in a computer course offered by couple of days after the meter average around 30 days readings are completed.

This means there will be one, for all residential and combilling office at 699-1234. mercial customers who are on post billed water and electric UNDERGO CPR TRAINING meters.

account will be 10 business days went through a four-hour CPR after the bill is printed, and the late fee penalty will be assessed by the due date," which will be listed on the bill.

Customers are reminded that service disconnections are ongoing daily and accounts must be kept current to avoid service interruption.

According to ASPA customer service manager Ryan Tuato'o, ASPA starts reading post billed electric and water meters on the first of the month, beginning from the far east end of the island, all the way to the

## Lobster loversrejoice! **Maine Lob**ster Festival begins

ROCKLAND, Maine (AP) Lobster lovers rejoice! The 70th annual Maine Lobster Festival gets underway Wednesday.

Festivalgoers are expected to put away some 20,000 pounds of lobster at the event in Rockland, which runs through Sunday.

Highlights include the coronation of the Maine Sea Goddess, a cod carrying contest and a parade down Maine Street. But the real star of the festival will no doubt be the lobster dinner.

The Maine Lobster Festival has been cited as one of the best food festivals in the country It was the subject of a 2004 essay in Gourmet magazine by David Foster Wallace, who described the event as "enormous, pungent, and extremely well marketed."

west end.

"The process of reading meters takes 10 business days and then we bill by the 21st of

"We are testing our three-(ASPA) announced changes in cycle billing to allow customers billing cycles and billing days, whose meters were read at the beginning of the month to be billed sooner and not have to receiving bills in the mail after wait until the 21st of the month held at the LBJ Medical Center. to be billed," he continued.

remains the same.

three billing cycles, instead of obtained by calling the ASPA Center.

### **ASDOE BUS DRIVERS**

training this past Monday.

The training aims to provide bus drivers, especially those who transport children with special needs under the Special Education Program (SPED), to be able to offer critical medical assistance if, and when, an emergency occurs on the road.

A similar CPR training was

In addition to CPR training, Essentially, this means the the bus drivers also participated the Dept. of Youth and Women's Affairs (DYWA) at the More information can be Pago Pago Community Youth

The goal is to get the bus drivers to learn computer basics so required reports no longer Twenty-five bus drivers for have to be written but instead, "The due dates for each the Department of Education can be typed out and submitted via the internet.



Arona Fanene, a four-year-old who couldn't participate in certain summer programs because of his age, is enjoying the reading and arts summer program currently hosted by his mom and her sisters, to cater to kids like Arona, who want to spend their summer learning something new. The "It Takes a Village to Educate a Child- Build a Better World Program" is being held in Nuuuli. [photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

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Dr. Babington addresses faculty, students and staff on her first day.

[Courtesy photo]



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American Samoa Government AMERICAN SAMOA ENVIROMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

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

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



# **Chaminade students, fac**ulty and staff welcome University's 10th President

HONOLULU (August 1, and peaceful society. 2017) - Students, faculty and staff from all divisions and schools at Chaminade University enthusiastically greeted Dr. Lynn M. Babington on Aug. 1 as she officially began her tenure as the institution's tenth President.

The colorful welcoming ceremony featured a traditional Hawaiian "oli" (chant) by members of the campus 'ohana clad in Chaminade blue clothing. Following a gift presentation to Dr. Babington and her husband, Dr. Randall Carpenter, Chaminade Rector Bro. Ed Brink, S.M. delivered a blessing.

Babington, whose appointment was announced last December by Chaminade's Board of Regents, most recently served as Interim President at Fairfield University in Connecticut. Her previous roles at this Catholic university included Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs.

"Our new President is a highly regarded educator, administrator and thought leader who will further the progress we've made over the past two decades at Chaminade," according to Board of Regents Chair Vaughn G.A. Vasconcellos. "Dr. Babingpersonal warmth will lead to new ways of invigorating the campus and all the communities we serve," he said. "Joining the Chaminade 'ohana is a tremendous honor and privilege," Dr. Babington said. "The university has a well-deserved reputation for its strong liberal mission of creating a more just Michigan.

Having begun her career working with disadvantaged populations, Dr. Babington said Chaminade's continued commitment to improving the community it serves "speaks to her passion" by addressing disparities in healthcare, education and the criminal justice system.

Dr. Babington also praised Chaminade as having "tremendous growth potential" and looks forward to "building on the university's solid foundation" by working closely with the campus community and supporters in the public and private sectors. "As for our students," Dr. Babington said, "I'm inspired by their pursuit of academic excellence and their outreach to needy populations through service learning projects. Moreover, the wonderful diversity of our student body makes Chaminade one of the most multicultural campuses in America."

In addition to her positions at Fairfield, Dr. Babington held leadership roles at Northeastern University from 2003 to 2011 and studied as a Fulbright Scholar at Ben Gurion University in Israel. In 2013, she was selected for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Executon's fresh perspective and tive Nurse Fellows program, a three-year leadership development experience designed to enhance the nation's healthcare system.

Dr. Babington received her master's and doctorate degrees in nursing from the University of Washington and a bachelor's (magna cum laude) in arts foundation and Marianist nursing from the University of



Hundreds of pounds of trash were collected by the participants of the Sanctuary Summer Science in the Village (SSSV) Program last month, when the event was hosted in Ta'u, Manu'a by NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa (NMSAS).

[photo: courtesv]



#### Compiled by Samoa News staff **GRANT**

Washington, D.C. ican Samoa Government.

States," said Amata.

costs associated with Freely SWP Limited. Associated States migrants who come to American Samoa.

Assistant Secretary Nikolao Pula and his team for recognizing the need for this funding, as well as the ASG officials who helped secure these important funds for our home," concluded Amata.

Amata's Office, Washington DC1

#### PACIFIC POWER ASSOC. **GATHERS FOR 26TH** ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Members of the Pacific Power Association (PPA) conference and Trade Exhibition in but that has not stopped her Apia, Samoa, from July 31 to August 4, 2017. The conference is hosted by the Electric Power the second time EPC will be hosting, having hosted the 5th Annual Conference in 1996.

The conference officially opened on Tuesday Aug. 1st, good for exercising and it's a at the Sheraton Samoa Aggie good form of keeping dementia Grey's Hotel in Apia, by the and all that stuff away."Kate Prime Minister of Samoa, Riegle Van West from the Unithe Honourable Tuilaepa Dr. versity of Auckland fell in love Sailele Malielegaoi, with the with poi 10 years ago when she keynote address to be deliv- was first introduced to it in her ered by Meg Taylor (DBE), the home in the US. Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat.

Discussions at the conference will center on the theme; "Affordable Electricity for All", [to] places like hospitals and which is very relevant to the nursing homes because I just UN's Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #7 - Sustainable and Affordable Energy for All.

Island countries Pacific have the dubious distinction of having among the highest electricity costs in the world. And as such electricity is beyond the reach of many ordinary citizens.

tributors to the high electricity costs, however, the two main contributors directly related to utilities are affordability and accessibility. Affordability and accessibility are low due to high electricity tariffs, high cost of service connections and cost status before the trial. of wiring of the premises. The

AUMUA ANNOUNCES DOI be reduced by increasing the the poi was just as beneficial accessibility to the network.

Tuesday, August 1, 2017 Utilities in conjunction with physical and cognitive ability. Congresswoman Aumua all stakeholders to adopt ini-Amata is pleased to announce tiatives which will drive the found that both groups improved that the Department of Inte- price of electricity down and in their grip strength, which is rior's Office of Insular Affairs make it more affordable to has awarded a grant in the customers. This will drive ecoamount of \$2000 to the Amer- nomic growth in the nations and ance, in their memory, and their also improve the livelihoods attention."It's really exciting in "I am pleased that the DOI of its citizens. Discussions terms of thinking about poi as has recognized the need for this will explore achieving affordfunding that is crucial to helping able electricity through regulaabsorb the costs of migrants tory reforms, technology and from the Freely Associated innovative financing of energy resources and the utility busi-Specifically this grant will ness. The conference in Samoa be used to cover health, edu- is made possible by the assiscational, social or public safety tance of our Diamond Sponsors, services, and infrastructure Electropar and Pacific Energy

For further information "I want to thank OIA Acting tact Afamasaga Victor Afamasaga, Chairman of EPC Organizing Committee on 65581.

#### (Source: PPA Press Release) **POI HEALTH BENEFITS EQUAL TAI CHI - STUDY**

A new study has found positive health benefits for people [Source: Congresswoman over 60 years old who use poi.

attached to string has been found to improve strength and memory. Puti Mackey, 80, has used the poi in kapa haka performances since 1958.

Ms Mackey has arthritis and gregate for its 26th Annual Con- is waiting for a hip replacement, from performing.

She said the combination of using poi and swinging it to the Corporation (EPC) of Samoa; rhythm of waiata kept her, and her friends, healthy.

"It helps keep your wrists going, and it keeps your arms going as well."The long poi are

She felt the health benefits of using poi and was determined to spread the word.

"I wanted to bring the poi really felt the health benefits in myself."Everyone who does poi knows that it feels great but there hasn't been any scientific research. I just thought, alright, lets do it, and I dropped my whole life to move to New Zealand to do this study."

The study tested the benefits There are a number of con- of poi with 79 adults over the age of 60, who used it twice a week over a one-month period.

> The participants assigned to either a poi group or a tai chi group, and the results after one month were then compared to their original health

> > Ms Van West said she was

cost of service connections can blown away by the results as tai chi, showing significant The challenge is for the improvements in participants'

"After one month of lessons I often used as an indicator of their overall health, in their bala tool for improving or maintaining quality of life."That improved quality of life was felt first-hand by Jocelyn Fausett, who was involved in the poi trial.The last time Ms Fausett used a poi had been when she was a child and made her own with a piece of string and rolled up pieces of newspaper.

Since the trial she has clearly regarding the Conference, con- noticed the difference in her strength, she said.

> "It was a shock to me to see how physically one sided you become over time, you just do things with your strong side. Learning the international poi enabled us to balance that up quite significantly."

Ms Mackey said the poi was Using the hand-held ball historically used by Maori men

(Continued on page 12)



One of the performers from Nga Pakeke o Ngti Awa at the Kaumtua Kapa haka event last year.

[Photo: RNZ/ Aaron Smale]

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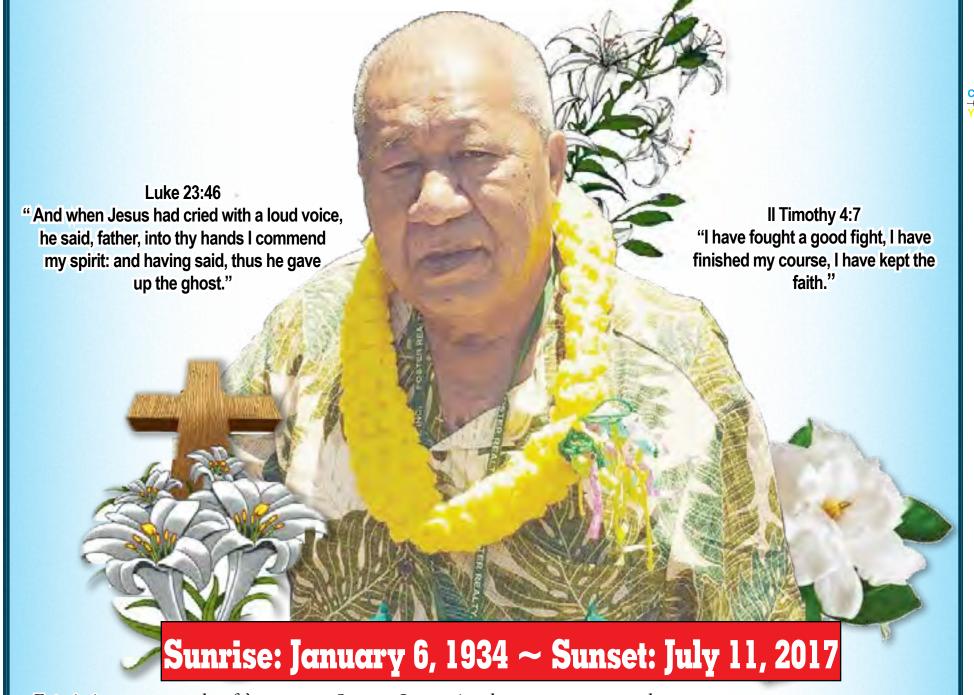
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| SF OIL 400Z   | \$2.15/pc<br>\$3.45/pc   |
| SF OIL 640z   | \$3.45/pc  |
| SF OIL 1GAL   | \$3.45/pc  |
| SF OIL 1GAL   | ¢6 90/nc   |
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TUNA POUCH .....

# In Laving Memory of a Beloved husband, father, grandfather, great Grandfather, brother, uncle and friend:

## TUITUAFANUA TAEFU ATOAMALEFUAIUPOLU TAFAFA SIATAGA



Fata ia i mauga o ao lau fa'asausauga Samoa. I ou paia e le popo ma ou sa e le avea. Le fa'asouga o ao male atu folasa. E afua mai i le oneone le utufia o le Faleniu sa, seia paiale Faletapa'au o le Alataua. Tulou, tulou, tulouna lava.

A taili ulu la'au ma malu fo'i letaufa'anu'u, o fa'aaliga ia o le ola ua tafi tafea i le auau. A sopoutu pe sopolagi fo'i lagona o le fa'anoanoa, e sala lava aua o mafutaga e pele ma mamae e le toe fo'i mai, e ui lava ina o lo o tu mai i tafatafaifailagi le laga'ali a Tamafaiga. Ua motusia nei le Tuive'eve'e a Lilomaiava ma ua: Gasetoto ai le masina, ua pa'u le la, ua gasolosolo fo'i ao aua ua tu'umalo Tuituafanua Tafafa Siataga ma ua lagia ai nei Gagamoe e afio ai Mauga ole Ma'oputasi o le tama na fa'asau, Susu ai Tei, Susu fo'i Anoalo, Susu oulua Matua, Susu Nofo-fanau, Susu Anoaloifale, alalata'i lau Tifa Tuaolo na Faleagafulu ai le motu fa'apea le mamalu ia te oe le Launiunasaelua.

Ua taia fo'i le tuluvao i le po ta'aligoligoa aua ua gasolosolo ao, ua to le timu, ta'ape papa aua ua tu'umalo Taefu Tafafa Siataga, ma ua lagia ai Pata e afio ai le paia o aiga Tauaana ma la latou tama, afifio ai le Falefitu o le Ati Tagaloa, fa'apea le matua o Tonumaivao, afio Taiivao na falefia i ai aiga, afifio Fa'asavalu, Salu ma Auva'aipeau, alalata'i Galuefa ia Falelatai, le tagata o le vavau male tula o Salogo. Afio fo'i Toleafoa ma le aumaga ma vae o Nofoafia. Ua la'a fo'i le tui i le itulagi le utufia aua ua mafuli le la, ua gasetoto fo'i le masina aua ua usufono Atoamalefuaiupolu Tafafa Siataga. Ua lagia ai nei Sinave ma Ulumoto'otua. E afio ai Leupolu le matua. Afifio ai Usoali'i ma aiga, alalata'i ai le fetalaiga a Atoamalefuaiupolu, alo o Malietoa. Talofa, ua mumutu vanu ma le ala o le la. Ua gausia fo'i le u ma ua laina.

O le a ave'esea mai lona tino maliu mai le Maota o gasegase i Faga'alu I le itula e 8 i le taeao o le Aso To'ona'i, aso 5 o Aukuso 2017. Ma molimoli atu ai i le Malumalu E.F.K.A.S. i Pago Pago mo lona toe sauniga. Ona mapu atu lea i lona aiga i Vaitafe i Pago Pago lava, ma lagomau ai i le itula e 3 i le afiafi. E alu lava le tagata e tusa ma le vala'au a le Atua, ae ma Atua pea ana galuega.

 $\otimes$ 

Sainia, Susuga ale Fa'afeagaiga Nomeneta Jennings Atufili Nikolao Mageo Siligatusa Lui Auvae Asotasi Tavita Siataga Tina fa'anoanoa ia Salau Tafafa Siataga ma le fanau ma aiga potopoto.

#@#



# **ASTCA launches** new eTopUp service

RELEASE) — Yesterday, the nient for the customer, it also American Samoa Telecommu- helps store owners who no nications Authority (ASTCA) longer have to carry scratch launched its electronic top card inventory, and can access up (eTopUp) service for pre- their top up from anywhere pay mobile customers, which using their mobile phone. replaces the ASTCA scratch cards with automatic electronic this service improvement for transfer, using the latest mobile our customers and our store venphone technology.

The eTopUp is now availacross the territory.

new service offers convenience to customers who no longer to top up their phone.

to the store owner who will trash after they've been used." then use an application on their — to their phone.

now conveniently pay and go.

is complete, the customer will and we look forward to doing receive an SMS confirmation.

The new service, according territory.'

(BASED ON A PRESS to ASTCA, is not only conve-

"ASTCA is happy to launch dors," said ASTCA Chairman and Acting CEO, Puleleiite Li'a able at over 130 store locations Tufele. "We want to apply technology to add convenience and According to ASTCA, the make life easier for our people - and this is one example."

In addition, Pulelei'ite conhave to scratch a physical card tinued, "This is an environmentally friendly solution because it All the customer has to do eliminates the need for scratch is provide their phone number cards which usually end up as

Pulelei'ite acknowledges mobile phone or the web, to and thanks the ASTCA staff, transfer the top up - or credit their store partners, and "especially our loyal customers for Simply put, the customer can their support. This is the first of many improvement projects To confirm that the transfer we at ASTCA are working on, more for our customers and the







# IN THE COMMUNITY

(Photos: Leua)



## How far does American Samoa have to go

ican Samoa itself.

"There is a great need for basic banking services in American Samoa, because they are not being served right now," said Phil Ware, a longtime Utah banker who is president limbo, one whose future could of the newly created Territorial Bank of American Samoa. "I mean basic needs, like supplying cash, offering checking accounts and offering credit/ debit cards. Our whole bank is a CRA [Community Reinvestment Act] project."

Yet the outcome is by no means certain. The Territorial Bank of American Samoa took a major step forward last year by islanders limited services.

But it still needs a key regulatory approval to provide even checks to its customers and to make good on the hopeful vision of island leaders and bank executives. If U.S. regulators do not act soon, the endeavor could fall apart, leaving the island without any prospect for a solution in the foreseeable future.

banking system — and Amer- Ho Chee, a banking industry veteran and island native who was hired to be American Samoa's of Financial Institution.

#### **'THAT'S JUST HOW IT IS'**

This is the story of a bank in reshape American Samoa.

Though the Territorial Bank of American Samoa has received no attention stateside, it is at the nexus of several policy debates, including the high requirements demanded of new entrants to the banking system and how best to bring underbanked consumers into the financial system.

But the leaders of the bank opening its doors and offering aren't interested in breaking new ground for the industry. They are worried only about the bank." island itself.

American Samoa remains left behind from the technological changes that have fundamentally altered banking over the past few decades. More than half of the households on the island are at, near or below the U.S. federal poverty level, 'American Samoa is the according to the most recent

in nearly a century. They hope it truest form of banking — there census statistics. The majority will help modernize the island's is a definite need," said Robert of American Samoa qualifies as low- to middle-income under

Continued from page 1

Those who work for the regulator and run its new Office bank are hopeful that the institution could help improve that

situation.

"One of the initiatives is to get them into the 20th century, never mind the 21st century,' said Drew Roberts, a Utahbased banking consultant who was brought in to help set up the

When he first arrived on the island, he was struck by what he saw at the branches of the two banks then still operating in the

"There was a line of cars outside the bank, and people around the block," he said. "That's a 1929-type run on a

But it wasn't a run, just people waiting to be served. "That's just how it is," he said.

(Samoa News is running this story, How far does American Samoa have to go to get a bank? in three parts throughout the week. See Part II: "Crisis in the Making" in tomorrow's issue.)

## loe loia sili o lo o iai faaletonu...

Mai itulau 10

o le Ofisa e fa'amalosi tulafono ma saili tagata overstayer e toe e le Ofisa a le Loia Sili e pei ona 15 avanoa mo tagata faigaluega fa'afo'i i o latou atunu'u.

"E i ai le taimi e sasi ma fa'atamala ai la matou Ofisa i le fa'atinoina o la matou tiute, e mafua mai i le le lava o mea faigaluega ma tagata faigaluega e fa'atinoina le tautua, ae o le mea moni lava, o lo o matou galulue pea e saili tagata ua ova aso o lo o i ai pea lava i le atunu'u, soo se taimi matou te maua ai i latou na ma loka i le falepuipui e fa'atali ai le taimi e toe fa'afo'i ai i o latou atunu'u", o le saunoaga lea a Talauega.

I le tulaga e pei ona taua ai e Kruse le tutusa o nofoaiga e Kovana e 2 ua mavae atu ma le nofoaiga lenei a Lolo i le fa'aletonu o le tautua a le Ofisa o Femalagaaiga, na saunoa ai le tautua a le Ofisa o Femalagaaiga, o lo o matou taumafai pea e foia nei fa'afitauli ae o le mea moni, o lo o i ai pea lava mai, afai fo'i e su'esu'e, tusa e sili atu le nofoaiga lenei i le fa'amalosia o tulafono nai lo isi nofoaiga ua mavae atu".

tagatanu'u a Amerika Samoa le tulafono. e overstayer le tagata na ia aumaia.

fafo ua overstayer, ona iloilo faigaluega o lo o mana'omia mo lea o le mafua'aga na ala ai ona fuafua ai le umi e fa'asa ai ona i ai se tupe e totogi ai ni tagata e fa'apena fo'i i le sponsor, e malo le toe fa'a faigaluegaina o iloilo pe to'afia tagata mai fafo ni tagata faigaluega fou. sa ia sponsor ina ua ova aso, ona ae mo le nofoaiga lava lenei a o isi sponsor ua matua to'atele saunoa ai le Loia Sili e fa'apea

O ni isi o ta'iala ua fa'ataoto agaaiga e fa'apea, e silia i le to'a galulue fa'atasi ai ma le Ofisa o ua silia i le tausaga atoa e le o Femalagaaiga i le fa'amalosia fa'atumuina i le Ofisa o Femalo tulafono i tagata mai fafo, e agaaiga, ma e i ai le talitonuga o aofia ai fa'asalaga mo le tagata le isi lea auala o lo o mafua ai le mai fafo e maua ua overstayer fa'afitauli, e le o lava le aofa'i o i le atunu'u, faapea ai ma le tagata faigaluega e fa'amalosia

Na taua e le Loia Sili e fa'apea, o lo o i ai lava le "Afai e maua le tagata mai fa'anaunauga e fa'atumu avanoa le Ofisa o Femalagaaiga, peita'i ova ona aso iinei, o iina fo'i e o le fa'afitauli o lo o i ai, e le o toe ulufale mai i le atunu'u, faigaluega, o lo o taofia fo'i e le

Ae i le molimau a le sui sinia o fuafua fo'i lea i ai o le umi e le le Ofisa o Femalagaaiga ia Paelo mafai ai ona ia toe sponsor ina Puni i luma o le fa'amasinoga se tagata mai fafo, ae o le mea i le vaiaso nei e fa'apea, o le le Loia Sili e fa'apea, "Ou te moni lava i suesuega a le Komiti sponsor e pau i ai le fa'amalosia lei i ai i le nofoaiga a Kovana Fa'afoe a le Ofisa o Femal- o le tulafono mo le tagata mai Tauese ma Kovana Togiola, agaaiga o lo o faia, o le to'atele fafo e ova aso i le atunu'u, na Lolo, i lo'u iloa ua tele suiga lava a latou tagata na aumai ua "o le matafaioi tonu lava lena lelei ua faia ina ia fa'aleleia ai ova aso ae o lo o nonofo pea a le Ofisa o Femalagaaiga, o le lava i le atunu'u, o iiina fo'i la e fa'amalosia lea o le tulafono ina fuafua i ai le fa'aiuga e fai i ai", ia mautinoa e toe fo'i le tagata sa o le saunoaga lea a le Loia Sili. malaga mai i le pemita e 30 aso O se tasi o fa'afitauli o lo i le taimi e mae'a ai le pemita, tulaga fa'aletonu o lo o alia'e o mafua ai le fa'aletonu e pei peita'i e mafua ona tula'i mai ona saunoa le Loia Sili, e le o fa'aletonu ona e le o lelei lo lava tagata faigaluega latou te matou fa'amalosia o le tulafono, fa'atinoina le galuega, ae na ae o lo o matou taumafai pea i le taua e ni isi o le Ofisa o Femal- mea sili e fa'aleleia lea tulaga".

## Federal court denies NMFS...

Continued from page 3

hearing, to support its motion. "Likewise, defendants do not claim an intervening change in the law," the plaintiff argued and noted that the court didn't commit any error in its decision.

tion for details.)

Plaintiff is represented by the Honolulu-based law firm of Imanaka Asato LLC, with attorneys Steven K.S. Chung and

(See Samoa News May 30 edi- Michael Iosua arguing for ASG. Also an attorney on record for this case is American Samoa Attorney General Talauega Eleasalo Ale.

# Man freed after airline plot arrest shocked to be questioned

CANBERRA, (AP) — A man arrested over the weekend in Sydney has been released without charge and was shocked to be questioned airliner, his lawyer and police said Wednesday.

men had been arrested late Saturday by police who also reportedly seized a meat grinder that investigators thought may be the basis of a bomb.

Tuesday night, Australian Federal Police said. "This investigation remains ongoing and further information will be provided at an appropriate time," the police statement said.

Kheir said his client had endured intense questioning. "There's a lot of stress associated there, and not knowing, and he was shocked that he was being questioned," Kheir said.

The lawyer said Merhi's family was also in shock and his life had been "turned upside down" but he wanted to return to as normal a life as possible.

"It's just unfathomable that it had been a target. he would be associated with

Turnbull told reporters he would not draw any conclusions beyond one man's release. "Etihad is complying fully with

Australia is disappointing, but you can sures at airports in Australia understand there are very big issues of public safety at stake here so you'll forgive me if I'm circumspect. More will be said, about a plot to bring down an more will be revealed, at the to four Australian cities: Brisappropriate time," he added. A court has allowed police to hold Four Lebanese-Australian the men for seven days without charge under counterterrorism laws designed to prevent an attack. Australian officials will noty comment on reports that the arrests followed a tip from Abdul Merhi, 50, was U.S. or British intelligence released from police custody on agencies that had intercepted communications from Syria.

Australian authorities have said they thwarted a credible terrorist plot to down an airplane by smuggling a device onboard. They have provided Merhi's lawyer Moustafa few details, including the precise nature of the threat or any airlines involved. The United Arab Emirates' national airline said it is working with Australian police in the ongoing investigation, suggesting one of its planes may have been targeted in the plot. Etihad Airways, the smallest of three long-haul Gulf carriers that fly to Australia, refused to confirm, however, if

"The Etihad Airways aviaanything like this," Kheir added. tion security team is assisting Prime Minister Malcolm the Australian Federal Police with its investigation and the matter is ongoing," it said. "I know my circumspection the enhanced security mea-

and monitoring the situation closely. Safety is the airline's number one priority.'

Etihad operates direct flights bane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney.

The airline has built strong ties to the country, buying a stake in alliance partner Virgin Australia, featuring Down Under stars including Nicole Kidman in advertising and sponsoring Melbourne's soccer team and its home stadium.

Australian media outlets have reported that the conspirators wanted to target a flight to the Middle East, possibly the Emirati city of Dubai, but they failed to get the device onboard, so they changed their focus to an Australian domestic airline.

Etihad's hub in Abu Dhabi is 130 kilometers (80 miles) from Dubai's main airport, the world's busiest for international flights. Dubai-based Emirates, the largest Mideast carrier, said it was cooperating on the additional security procedures but did not say whether it is involved in the investigation.

Australia's Nine Network television reported on Tuesday that one of the suspects had tried to check in on an international flight, and that might have been a test run to see if they could get a meat grinder on board as carry-on luggage.



| CHICKEN LEGS 20LB            | . \$ | 13.9  | 5 |
|------------------------------|------|-------|---|
| TURKEY TAILS 20LB            | .\$  | 13.50 | 0 |
| SAUSAGES 10LB                |      |       |   |
| CASE PALM PISUPO 12/11.5 0Z  | .\$  | 38.9  | 5 |
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| CASE CAMPBELLS SPAGETTI      | .s   | 13.9  | 5 |
| CASE LIBBY VIENNA 18CT       | .s   | 10.99 | 9 |
| CASE ALBACORE TUNA           | . \$ | 11.9  | 5 |
| CASE PELEIUPU MACKEREL       | .s   | 38.9  | 5 |
| CASE NONGSHIM BOWL SAIMIN    | .s   | 9.50  | 0 |
| CASE MALA SAIMIN PKG         |      |       |   |
| RICE 40LB                    | .s   | 19.9  | 5 |
| RICE 20LB                    | .s   | 9.9   | 5 |
| CASE SHASTA SODA 24CT        |      |       |   |
| CASE NIAGARA WATER 500ML     |      |       |   |
| BUSH ICE 12PAK               | . \$ | 10.5  | 0 |
| SANGRIA WINE 4 LITRE         |      |       |   |
| CASE SAMYANG BOWL SAIMIN     | . \$ | 7.9   | 5 |
| CASE SMALL EGGS 15CT         | . \$ | 14.9  | 5 |
| BALE SUGAR 2KG               | . \$ | 22.9  | 5 |
| BALE SUGAR 4KG               | .\$  | 22.9  | 5 |

NOTE: Limited quantities for any items. Liquors & wines are sold at both locations. Tent orders and funeral services will be provided at the main location in Aua.

AUA & FAGAITUA 644-5000 / 622-5000





Le Loia Sili a le malo ia Talauega Eleasalo Ale



#### American Samoa Government DEPARTMENT of COMMERCE

Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799 Tel: (684) 633-5155 • Fax: (684) 633-4195



#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING & PUBLIC INSPECTION **OF THE FFY 2018-2019 STATE PLAN** FOR THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

The Department of Commerce as the lead agency designated to administer American Samoa's Community Services Block Grant Program (CSBG) will hold a public hearing at 10:00 am on Monday. August 28, 2017 inside the Department of Commerce Conference Room on the second floor of the AP Lutali Executive Office Building in Utulei to review and provide comments on the CSBG Application/State Plan for Federal Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019. Copies of the application/state plan are available for public inspection at the Department of Commerce headquarters on the second floor of the AP Lutali Executive Office Building in Utulei during normal business hours from

For more information on this public notice, please contact Charlene Fa'alevao of the Department of Commerce at 633-5155.

Keniseli F. Lafaele **DIRECTORV** 

[ata AF]

7:30am to 4:00pm.



Pierogis cook on the flat top at Conley Pierogis at a food festival in Whiting, Ind., July 28, 2017. The suburban Chicago food festival says it's justified in threatening a trademark infringement lawsuit over a Pennsylvania group's use of the name "Pierogi Festival." (Jim Karczewski/Chicago Tribune via AP)



American Samoa Power Authority

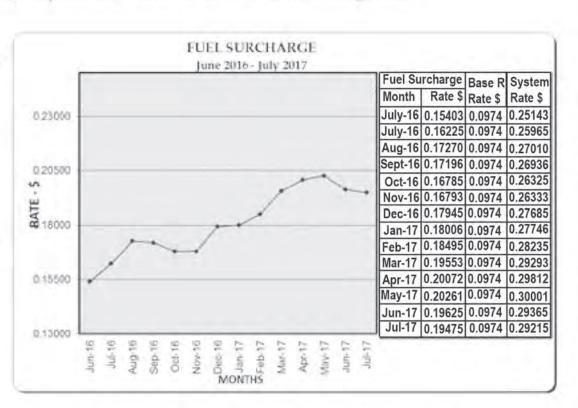
July 26, 2017

## Monthly Fuel Surcharge Notification

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

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

The fuel surcharge rate changes monthly due to fluctuating



fuel costs. The fuel surcharge is approximately 70%-75% of the total kWh price. This is considered a "pass-through" revenue because it goes directly to pay the local fuel suppliers for diesel fuel consumed at the five power plants in Tutuila, Manua and Aunuu.

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

| Fuel Surcharge and         | d System Rate | for July 20      | 17               |
|----------------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| Rate \$                    | Residential   | Small<br>General | Large<br>General |
| Caluculated Fuel Surcharge | 0.19924       | 0.19924          | 0.19924          |
| Renewable Reduction        | -0.00449      | -0.00449         | -0.00449         |
| Fuel Surcharge             | 0.19475       | 0.19475          | 0.19475          |
| Fixed Electric Base Rate   | 0.09740       | 0.09740          | 0.08960          |
| Electric System Rate (kWh) | 0.29215       | 0.29215          | 0.28435          |

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

### ▶ Pacific...

Continued from page 7

for the same purpose. "Men used the poi to keep them fit and agile in the days of war." If you look back in the research, men did the poi for that very reason, to keep fit, and it was only as of late that women came in."

Ms Mackey recently performed at the kaumatua kapa haka event involving 500 Maori elders from around Aotearoa as part of Matariki celebrations. She said there needed to be government funding for kaumatua kapa haka, an activity she believes would greatly improve the health of even more kuia and kaumatua. (Source: RNZ)

# Teen jumps out of plane emergency door at San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A 17-year-old boy opened the emergency door of a plane minutes after it landed Tuesday in San Francisco, slid down the wing and jumped onto a tarmac, authorities said.

The teen, a U.S. citizen, was flying by himself from Panama City, Panama, to San Francisco and appeared to be in emotional distress during the flight, said San Francisco Airport spokesman Doug Yakel.

An airfield construction crew working nearby confronted the boy and held him until police arrived and arrested him. He was not injured, Yakel said. Passengers said the teen seemed fidgety and anxious throughout the flight that he acted so quickly, no one had a chance to stop him.

## **SPC** members call for regional Ocean **Science Center**

countries and territories at the ment priorities and efforts in the Pacific Community's (SPC) Pacific Islands region. 10th governing body confer-Science.

tific and technical expertise capabilities. across the organization's different work programs including appointed Dr Colin Tukuitonga fisheries and geoscience, and as Director-General of the look to complement on-going Pacific Community for a further regional efforts for the sustain- two-year term. able management of the Pacific region's oceanic resources.

strategic direction of SPC as the partners. organization marked its 70th year of operations.

and territory representatives - including several Heads of Cotonou Agreement, Pascal Guam, Kiribati, Energy Agency Yukiya Amano.

In this regard, Pacific Island Samoa, tion agreement with IAEA and and Wallis and Futuna. encouraged further exploration

Noumea, New Caledonia - of innovative partnerships to 28 July 2017 — Pacific Island support sustainable develop-

They recognised SPC's ence in Noumea have called for achievements over the past 18 the establishment of a Pacific months and has encouraged Community Centre for Ocean the organisation to continue of its path of prioritisation with The centre, to be hosted at a focus on high impact areas SPC, will draw on the scien- consistent with its mandate and

The Conference also re-

The Tenth Conference of the Pacific Community concludes The decision was made as tonight with a 70th Anniversary SPC's 26 country and territory celebration with its 26 member members deliberated on the countries and territories and

Cook Islands will host the Eleventh Conference of the The more than 40 country Pacific Community in 2019.

ABOUT SPC

The Pacific Community State – as well as development (SPC) is the principal scienpartners contributed to the the- tific and technical organization matic discussion centered on in the Pacific region, proudly the theme Innovative Partner- supporting development since ships for Sustainable Develop- 1947. It is an international develment, with keynote addresses opment organization owned and by the President of the Republic governed by its 26 country and of Marshall Islands, H.E. Hilda territory members: American Heine; the European Union's Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, High-Level Facilitator for out- Federated States of Micronesia, reach activities on the Post- Fiji, France, French Polynesia, Lamy; and the Director-Gen- Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, eral of the International Atomic New Zealand, Niue, Northern (IAEA), Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Islands, Solomon representatives congratulated Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United SPC on its technical coopera- States of America, Vanuatu,

(Source: SPC media release)

#### DEVELOPMENT BANK OF AMERICAN SAMOA **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Position: Grant Writer (re-advertised)

Responsibilities:

- Research and explore US Federal grants and funding sources available to the bank either directly or through the American Samoa Government.
- Develop and prepare proposals and grant applications and perform professional and administrative work in researching, identifying, developing and comply with all follow up grants reporting as required by the funding agencies.
- Develop and monitor procedures for complying with grant requirements, guidelines, and regulations of funding programs.
- Work closely with the staff in developing and transforming ideas into grant proposals
- Assist with the management of grant programs and submit required monthly, quarterly or annual financial reports as mandated by the funding agencies.
- Maintain a calendar to ensure timely submission of letters of inquiry, proposal deadlines and reports.
- Prioritize projects to keep multiple proposals moving in a timely manner, meet deadlines and manage material required for proposals
- Establish and maintain relationships with the funding agencies and program officers.
- Function as a point of contact for DBAS with the funding agencies and establish working relationship with their designated officials.
- Develop and monitor budget for grants and funded programs.
- Prepare quarterly and annual reports and submit to the President and Board of Directors summarizing the evaluation of all grants and funded programs.
- Organize training programs for DBAS staff prior to implementation of new grant or funded programs.
- Liaison with agencies or departments of ASG to implement and administer "pass through" funding
- Maintain a database of various funding agencies and grant programs for the bank.
- Assume any other duties as assigned by the President.

#### Qualifications:

Education/Experience/Qualification:

Bachelors Degree in Business Administration, Finance, Management or related field with a minimum of 2 years grant writing experience.

Skills/Abilities:

Professional appearance and attitude.

Excellent writing, analytical and research skills are essential.

Highly level computer literacy required with excellent Microsoft office application use. Must be self motivated, detail oriented, highly organized, and have experience using online Database.

Be proficient in research, interpreting and analyzing diverse data and posses the ability to work. collaboratively and independently to achieve stated goals.

Must have solid knowledge of creating budgets as they relate to the proposals and grants. Ability to maintain confidentiality.

Please submit your Resume & Application to the Development Bank of American Samoa located in Pago Pago - 2nd floor. This job posting will expire Thursday - August 3, 2017.

## Family of bullied girl to sue school district over suicide

ROSELAND, N.J. (AP) The family of a 12-year-old some of the messages were New Jersey girl who killed herself said Tuesday it will sue her in to address the problem of cyberbullying.

An attorney for the family he said. of Mallory Grossman said he will file a notice of intent to sue the Rockaway Township school district for negligence. The notice is a required precursor to school's protocol," she said. the filing of a lawsuit.

media, her mother, Dianne into it." Grossman, said Tuesday.

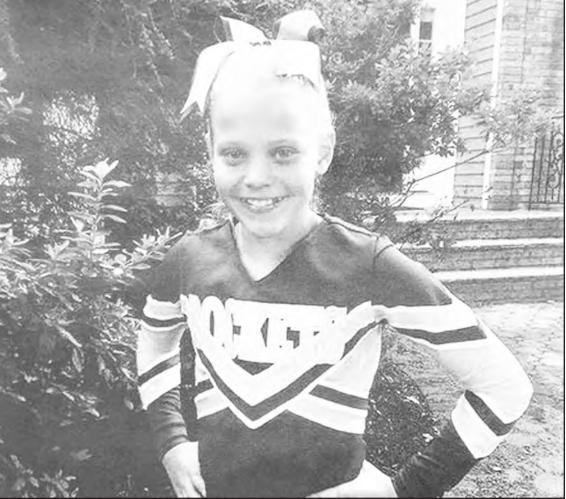
Attorney Bruce Nagel said "vile and malicious."

"For months she was told school district for not stepping she was a loser, she had no friends, and finally she was told, 'Why don't you kill yourself?"

> Dianne Grossman said she and her husband pleaded with school officials, to no avail.

"We feel we followed the

"We started low on the totem Mallory took her own life in pole and worked our way up June after months of bullying until it finally made its way to by several of her classmates, the principal. Their words were, in person and through social 'We'll investigate it, we'll look



In this undated photo provided by Dianne Grossman, her daughter Mallory Grossman poses for a picture. The New Jersey mother is suing her late daughter's school district because she said they didn't do enough to stop cyber bullying against her daughter that led the 12-year-old to kill herself.



## Lawsuit: Fox coordinated with White House on false story

suit filed Tuesday lays out an member killed in 2016 in what said he got a text message from explosive tale of Trump allies, police say was a botched rob- Butowsky: "Not to add any the White House and Fox News bery. The investigator alleges more pressure but the president Channel conspiring to push a that Fox quoted him as saying just read the article. He wants false story about Democratic things he never said and was the article out immediately. It's leaks and an unsolved killing in willing to show President now all up to you. But don't feel order to distract attention from Donald Trump its story before the pressure." the Russia investigation that it was posted online. has been swirling around the president.

The lawsuit was filed against Fox by an investigator who had been looking into the killing of Seth Rich, a former Demo-

days that Trump has been met Trump and his text mesaccused of being actively sage to Wheeler about the presiinvolved in pushing a public dent reading the article was narrative to lower the heat of the Russia story. The Washington Post reported that the presi- its website a week after it was dent had written a misleading published, saying "it was not statement for his son to give initially subjected to the high to The New York Times about degree of editorial scrutiny we Donald Trump Jr.'s meeting require for all of our reporting." Hillary Clinton's presidential of respect for Rich's family. campaign.

again when Fox posted a story kept informed, the lawsuit said. on its website in which investigator Rod Wheeler said there tance of that meeting. had been contact between Rich DNC emails last year. The Spicer said Tuesday. story was heavily promoted by president.

In the lawsuit, Wheeler now were put in the story because his story." Trump wanted it that way.

porting the lawsuit. "While we WikiLeaks. He said, has been the most emotionally earlier. difficult time in our lives and an family wrote.

erroneous" to suggest it pushed by Trump was announced. the story to distract from the against Fox.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Trump had no knowledge of the seen "the files" on Rich, the false story before it was posted incident "undercuts" the arguand that it was "completely ment that Russians interfered in untrue" that the White House the election. had any role in shaping it.

Rich and WikiLeaks.

Two days before the Fox from the headlines.

NEW YORK (AP) — A law- cratic National Committee staff article was published, Wheeler

Butowsky said in a phone It's the second time in two interview Tuesday he has never "tongue-in-cheek."

Fox removed the story from last summer with a Russian Hannity ultimately backed who promised dirt on Democrat away, saying he was acting out

Wheeler also said that he and Rich's death has become Butowsky had met with outfodder for conspiracy theorists, going White House press secdeeply angering the 27-year- retary Sean Spicer and showed old's family. In May, the story Spicer notes on Wheeler's was thrust into the headlines investigation. Spicer asked to be

Spicer plays down the impor-

"Ed is a longtime supporter and WikiLeaks, the organi- of the president's agenda who zation that posted a trove of often appears in the media,"

"He asked for a 10-minute Fox News host Sean Hannity, meeting, with no specified who has informally advised the topic, to catch up and said he would be bringing along a contributor to Fox News. As Ed says that he never made that himself has noted, he has never statement. He also contends he met the president and the White was told his false comments House had nothing to do with

On the day the Fox story was Rich's family released a posted, Spicer was asked about statement Tuesday night sup- the report that Rich had emailed can't speak to the evidence that not aware of that" and did not you now have, we are hopeful mention that he had met with that this brings an end to what Butowsky and Wheeler a month

One of Trump's attorneys, end to conspiracy theories sur- Jay Sekulow, also devoted rounding our beloved Seth," the attention to the Rich story during several Hannity appear-Fox says it's "completely ances in May, before his hiring

"There's a lot more to this, I Russia investigation. Wheeler would suspect," Sekulow said has made contradictory state- on the May 18 show, which ments regarding the case and Hannity devoted almost entirely is simultaneously filing a racial to a discussion about Rich discrimination lawsuit against "You can't ignore the fact that the network, represented by a it was a DNC staffer. You can't lawyer who has other lawsuits ignore the fact that there was nothing taken from the individual's body."

He said that while he hadn't

At the time, Trump was Wheeler, a Fox contributor facing news stories about the on law enforcement issues, said investigations into Russian he was brought into the Rich meddling in the 2016 campaign case by donor and Trump sup- and possible ties between his porter Ed Butowsky. He says campaign aides and Moscow. Butowsky, who has also made He continues to blast the inquioccasional guest appearances ries as a "witch hunt" aimed at on Fox News, was intent on discrediting his election win establishing a link between and tries to focus attention on Clinton, who has largely faded





## Homeless lifelong bank robber gets 15 years for Reno holdup

less, cold and scared, Tommy explained Tuesday. "He instinc-Ray McAdoo said he held up a tively did what he knew would 2008. Nevada bank with a steak knife land him back there — he last November so he could robbed another bank. return to the only place he has ever really known.

criminal got his wish late alized his entire life would have Tuesday when a federal judge in responded that way." Reno sentenced him to another 15 years in federal prison for Megan Rachow acknowledged, bank robbery with a dangerous "It's tragic we are at this point." weapon.

defender pleaded for leniency, saying the former Seattle man was gravely ill with heart and die in prison even if the judge granted her request for less than "absolutely five years.

of hope, if he ever makes it that long," Lauren Gorman said. "As he stands here today, he unaltered his entire life except for a living. could go at any minute."

But U.S. District Judge Robert C. Jones said he agreed with federal prosecutors who argued McAdoo was still a threat to public safety given that he robbed a bank with a dangerous weapon at the age of 77.

"He has shown a willingness to commit a violent crime in order to obtain a benefit, including government housing' and care, Jones said.

McAdoo, who has been convicted of at least five different rank robbery charges in a criminal history dating to 1964, scribbled a demand for money on the back of a sports book sheet before making off with \$2,700 cash in a paper bag from a downtown Reno bank across the street from the U.S. courthouse where he was sentenced.

McAdoo, wearing a headset so he could hear the court proceedings, briefly addressed the judge at the end of Tuesday's hearing.

"All I can say is I'm sorry," he said, pausing before adding, "(Country singer) Patsy Cline had a song, 'I'm So Sorry.' And that's what I am now."

FBI agents caught up with him just hours after the robbery while he was eating lunch at an old casino a few blocks away.

"He was just freezing and scared, and prison is a world



We make an issue of it every day.

If you want to comment about our accuracy, call Samoa News at 633-5599



In some respects, it's understandable that someone who has The 77-year-old lifelong been so profoundly institution-

Assistant U.S. Attorney

"But we are this point McAdoo's U.S. public because of steps the defendant has taken," she said. "He reported to parole and probation but refused, she said. that he wants to return to prison. kidney disease and likely to He cannot function in society."

Rachow said McAdoo's extraordinary" criminal history — including "It would give him a sliver assault with intent to commit murder and intent to commit rape — "starts at age 24 and was when he was incarcerated."

Gorman said he had staved banks.'

RENO, Nev. (AP) - Home- he's familiar with," Gorman out of trouble since his most recent release from prison in

> Living in poverty on only his \$880 monthly Social Security check, he moved from Seattle to Reno in 2012 and tried to supplement his income gambling, "but generally lost" and ended up living on the streets and in homeless shelters.

> He was hospitalized with intense chest pains in 2014, was diagnosed with coronary artery disease and urged to undergo heart bypass surgery

> The FBI agents who arrested him found some bait money with recorded serial numbers near the casino and a cashbundle wrapper in a bathroom. According to court records, they requested McAdoo's identification and asked him what he did

He replied: "I used to rob



FILE - In this Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2015 file photo, Chloe Goins, appears before reporters outside Los Angeles police headquarters in Los Angeles. Officials say Goins, a model who accuses Bill Cosby of sexually assaulting her at a Playboy Mansion party in 2008 has been arrested Sunday, July 23, 2017, on suspicion of bringing heroin to a San Diego jail. (AP Photo/Nick Ut, File)



#### American Samoa Government **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

P.O. Box 5666 American Samoa Government



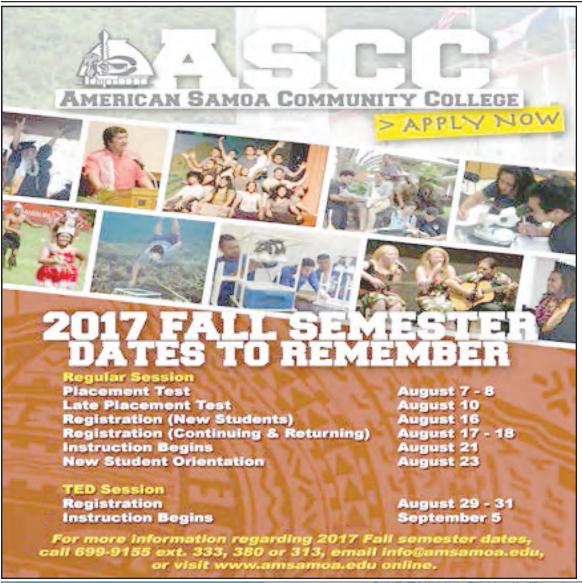
## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

## INDEPENDENT CONTRACTS

- **ENT Specialist**
- **Ultra Sound Technician**
- **Ophthalmologist**
- **Bio Medical Technician**
- **Certified Nurse Midwife**
- Case Manager
- **Audiologist**
- **Registry Operator** 8.

Applicants for independent contract are to contact the individuals listed below. Ms. Lorettas Lees - Ilees@doh.as Ms. Silika Young-Similai - silika.similai@doh.as

> THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF INTERESTED APPLICANTS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WILL BE AUGUST 11, 2017. Phone: (684) 633-4606



## Man freed after airline plot arrest shocked to be questioned

CANBERRA, (AP) — A man arrested over and he was shocked that he was the weekend in Sydney has been being questioned," Kheir said. released without charge and was shocked to be questioned family was also in shock and about a plot to bring down an his life had been "turned upside airliner, his lawyer and police down" but he wanted to return said Wednesday.

Four Lebanese-Australian men had been arrested late that he would be associated Saturday by police who also reportedly seized a meat grinder that investigators thought may be the basis of a bomb.

Abdul Merhi, 50, was released from police custody on Tuesday night, Australian Federal Police said. "This investigation remains ongoing and further information will be provided at an appropriate time," the police statement said.

Merhi's lawyer Moustafa Kheir said his client had endured intense questioning. "There's a lot of stress associ-

Australia ated there, and not knowing,

The lawyer said Merhi's to as normal a life as possible.

"It's just unfathomable with anything like this," Kheir added.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull told reporters he would not draw any conclusions beyond one man's release. "I know my circumspection is disappointing, but you can understand there are very big issues of public safety at stake here so you'll forgive me if I'm circumspect. More will be said, more will be revealed, at the appropriate time," he added.

A court has allowed police to hold the men for seven days without charge under counterterrorism laws designed to prevent an attack.

Australian officials will not comment on reports that the arrests followed a tip from U.S. or British intelligence agencies that had intercepted communications from Syria.

Australian authorities have said they thwarted a credible terrorist plot to down an airplane by smuggling a device onboard. They have provided few details, including the precise nature of the threat or any airlines involved.

The United Arab Emirates' national airline said it is working with Australian police in the ongoing investigation, suggesting one of its planes may have been targeted in the plot. Etihad Airways, the smallest of three long-haul Gulf carriers that fly to Australia, refused to confirm, however, if it had been a target.

"The Etihad Airways aviation security team is assisting the Australian Federal Police with its investigation and the matter is ongoing," it said. "Etihad is complying fully with the enhanced security measures at airports in Australia and monitoring the situation closely. Safety is the airline's number one priority."

Etihad operates flights to four Australian cities: Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney. The airline has built strong ties to the country, buying a stake in alliance partner Virgin Australia, featuring Down Under stars including Nicole Kidman in advertising and sponsoring Melbourne's soccer team and its home stadium.

Australian media outlets have reported that the conspirators wanted to target a flight to the Middle East, possibly the Emirati city of Dubai, but they failed to get the device onboard, so they changed their focus to an Australian domestic airline.





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