

Taputimu CCCAS church choir performed on Monday night at the Gov. H. Rex Lee Auditorium during the second night of the 40th Annual Territorial Holiday Music Festival sponsored by the Arts Council of American Samoa, and funded by the National Endowment of the Arts with additional funding from Special Programs under the Governor's Office. The program ends tonight.

(See more photos inside) [photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2017

**DAILY CIRCULATION 7.000** 



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A Sweet Tooth Sale of Candy is available with Childs Play 3.5# Candy @ 9.99 or a tub of Clouds for only \$15.99. Yes a very merry Christmas indeed for the kiddos.

For that special family Christmas Dinner KS MART's Frozen food sale can't be beat! Chicken legs at \$11.75 a case, Sausage pork bangers at 14.95 a case, and Shrimp bags at \$12.50, &\$13.50 depending on size. Also on special are, Turkey wings, Beef Brisket, work Spareribs, Top Sirloin, Chicken Wings, smoked ham, Chicken Thighs, and Butterball Turkeys.

Our fully stocked fresh vegetables display is overflowing with local and mainland shipped produce.

A whole shelf of Maggi Seasonings are also available along with a large selection of Favorite New Zealand Brand Goods! And when its all done and over with? KS Mart has shelves

(Continued on page 9)



# Jury hears grueling testimony by alleged victim in sex assault case

by Fili Sagapolutele

Samoa News Correspondent

hours on the witness stand, where she recalled for a jury of five women and two men what she the RDA Law Firm- American Samoa. says defendant, Chand 'Bob' Mukesh, did to her sometime on the evening of Apr. 6.

The trial began Monday with jury selection continued. followed by opening arguments by both sides in the government's case against 53-year old Mukesh, who is charged with one count each of sexual abuse.

According to the court documents, the alleged the alleged incident — is friends with Mukesh's teenage daughter and the alleged sexual assault together pasta food plates for a fundraiser.

The victim was the first witness for the government yesterday and when asked by Assistant Attorney General, Woodrow Pengelly, to idenpaused and cried unable to speak the defendant's tain questions that came up during the trial. name. It was only after Pengelly said the defen-

dant's name that the victim said yes.

And when asked to say if the defendant was The victim in an alleged sexual assault that in the courtroom, she cried and pointed to the happened earlier this year spent more than three defendant who was sitting just behind his defense team, headed by Joshua Rovelli, an attorney with

> It took a while for the victim to compose herself, wiping away tears before questioning

When the government asked the victim what kinds of things the defendant had told the victim, during the first time that she visited her friend's sodomy, deviate sexual assault, and first degree home, the defense objected and requested a brief moment at the bench.

When the trial resumed, Acting Associate Jusvictim — who was 17 years old at the time of tice Elvis Patea informed the jury that the witness would not answer the question.

"You may recall my instructions to you [on occurred while the victim was at Mukesh's home Monday that questions and statements made by working with the defendant's daughter on putting attorneys are not evidence," Patea told jurors, who were also asked to disregard the question and not to speculate as to the answer.

This was just one of the more than five times that a side-bar at the bench was called yesterday tify the name of her friend's father, the victim by either the defense or the government over cer-

(Continued on page 6)



The Republican Party of American Samoa hosted their Speech Contest on Tuesday night at

Congratulations to the 1st place winner: Sylvester Toatelegese of Nu'ulli Voc Tech! He won \$300, and will get a dinner with our Congresswoman Aumua Amata Radewagen.

Sylvester is now an honorary member of the Republican Party Of American Samoa.

[courtesy photo]

Members of the second choir from Futiga CCCAS church performed Monday night at the Gov. H. Rex Lee Auditorium during the second night of the 40th Annual Territorial Holiday Music Festival sponsored by the Arts Council of American Samoa, and funded by the National Endowment of the Arts with additional funding from the Special Programs under the Governor's Office. The program ends tonight. [photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



Bluesky is an established telecommunications company in American Samoa, Samoa and Cook Islands. Our success comes through innovation and customer experience where our purpose is to apply technology and service excellence to advance and improve the lives of our customers. Be part of a company where employees have a chance to do exciting work and

Bluesky has an exciting opportunity for a legal professional to manage and provide legal advisory services to Bluesky Communications and its affiliated entities.

#### LEGAL COUNSEL

#### POSITION SUMMARY

- Manage contracts and provide corporate legal services
- Manage land issues, prepare leases, contracts and other legal documents.
- Provide legal advisory services on matters relating to the company's FCC regulatory processes and compliance.
- · Identify legal and commercial risks and proactively propose solutions to mitigate risks.
- · Provide legal advice and support on sales distribution and marketing of its products and services, and HR matters
- Support and advise the company on matters relating to debt recovery litigation
- Work closely with the Am. Samoa Government's Attorney General's office for applicable corporate and other legal matters and the Governor's office for telecommunications regulatory matters.
- Member of management team contributing to the overall management of business operation

#### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS REQUIRE

- Bachelors Degree and Juris Doctorate
- Minimum of 2 years experience and proven experience as legal counsel, preferably in a corporate environment
- · Licensed to practice law in American Samoa
- · Excellent working knowledge of Am. Samoa legal system and corporate law and procedures
- · Adequate knowledge of US Federal laws and regulations; knowledge of FCC regulations is an added advantage
- Good understanding of Am. Samoan land ownership system
- · Excellent analytical, written and oral communication skills
- Fluent in the English language (essential) and the Samoan language (desirable)
- General knowledge of relevant telecommunications products and services
- High degree of professional ethics and integrity
- · Sound judgment and ability to analyze situations and information
- Strong leadership and organizational skills
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills to motivate and work closely with a diverse, cross-functional team of internal professionals and external partners/customers
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### Samoan jewelry makers warned: Be aware of import laws

by Fili Sagapolutele Samoa News Correspondent

naturalized US citizens, living in Hawai'i, have plead not guilty without required permits.

in Honolulu. The couple made turtles. their initial appearance and were arraigned yesterday after- sent from Hawaii to Japan noon at the Honolulu federal without obtaining the required court where each defendant export permits from the US. entered not guilty pleas.

unsecured for each defendant, and they also lied about the according to federal documents, source of the jewelry, the indictwhich also show that the couple ment alleges. goes on trial early next year.

brought to Samoa News' attendants. For example, in April last tion over the weekend by two year, the defendants caused a Samoans living in Honolulu shipment of jewelry made from because there is Samoan jew- humpback whale bones to be elry made from sea turtle shell transported from Tonga to the and there has to be more vigi- US. The shipment contained lant review of such issues in the about 590 items of jewelry and territory before anyone looks at the shipment arrived in Los exporting such jewelry to the Angeles in May of last year. It

According to the 12-page field Baracks Main Exchange. for \$1,300.

The US government says there are federal regulations and A Tongan couple, who are laws pertaining to these types of exports.

Among the four counts is at the federal court in Honolulu conspiracy to defraud the US to selling jewelry made from government. And to achieve humpback whale and sea turtle conspiracy, the indictment bones imported from Tonga alleges that the defendant knowingly imported The couple, Semisi 'James' Tonga - without first obtaining Muti and Liliani Muti, were necessary Tongan export pereach charged with four counts mits or equivalent documents in an indictment handed down - for jewelry made from bones Dec. 6 by a federal grand jury of humpback whales and green

At last one shipment was The defendants also sold some Bond is set at \$10,000 of the import jewelry in Hawai'i

The government also alleged The couple's case was several actions by the defenwas then transported to Hawaii.

The indictment also shows indictment, the defendants that the defendants packed the operate Old Hawaii Arts & shipment - which included jew-Crafts business, which special- elry made from green sea turtles ized in wood/bone carvings, - and send it to Japan. Additiontapa making. And the defen- ally, Mrs. Muti received a paydants sold jewelry, including ment of \$5,400 through wire jewelry made from humpback transfer for the shipment to whale bones at the Aloha Sta- Japan and the husband had sold dium Swamp Meet and they some of the jewelry to underalso have a store at the Scho- cover law enforcement officers

# **Sheriff: Mississippian** shoots man, sets fires, flees

Officials continued to search Peavey's wife, killed another man, wounded a pitalized in Jackson. woman and set two houses on

wooded areas near Jayess in Peavey had won legal title. Lawrence County. A helicopter Louisiana.

two mobile homes and a house that Wilson was arrested on looking for Tony Wilson, who charges of aggravated assault Lawrence County Sheriff against deputies after drawing Lessie Butler said shot and a gun when deputies responded killed a neighbor in a land dis- to a claim that Wilson had viopute. Wilson was in none of lated a court order to stay off those places.

Peavey was granted title.

fire," Butler said of the inci- in early 2017. dent, which started before noon Tuesday.

Officials said Wilson set fire the area.

JAYESS, Miss. (AP) - to two houses and wounded Tuesday night for a Mississippi although the nature of her injuman who they believe shot and ries was unclear. She was hos-

Robert Langille, Wilson's brother-in-law, told The Asso-Mississippi Highway Patrol ciated Press that Wilson's spokesman Warren Strain father had paid taxes on a small said officers were searching parcel of land for years, but that

Langille said Wilson has circled overhead and tracking sought help from sheriff's depdogs were being brought from uties in the dispute but they had consistently sided against him. Earlier, officers surrounded The Clarion Ledger reported Peavey's land. Langille dis-Butler said Wilson and puted the characterization of Henry Peavey have disputed that incident, saying Peavey ownership of a parcel to which had pulled a gun on Wilson and Wilson had disarmed him, "Tony's girlfriend called and was arrested when handing and said Tony had killed Mr. the gun over to police. Wilson Peavey and set his house on faced a court date on the charge

> Langille admitted that Wilson had a "rough name" in

# **New Year, New Approach: Your New Year's resolutions**

**NEW STUDY REVEALS WHAT IT TAKES TO KEEP THOSE RESOLUTIONS** 

A new study by PsychTests. achievement efforts! com reveals why some people same goals every year.

clock strikes midnight on New achievers) plan out exactly their glass, bid a bittersweet goal. They also include a very farewell to the year before, and crucial step: Planning for potenstridently promise that this year tial obstacles they may run into eat healthier, exercise more, and example, how to continue to finally lose weight. Gym mem- eat healthy even when going berships will spike. And then to a party, restaurant, or on some time in March the gyms vacation). will become noticeably quieter, with more parking and elliptical goals should not be taken on in machines available.

Why do so many people struggle to live up to their New Year's resolutions? Why do people lose momentum? According to a study by PsychTests, it's all in the approach... to goal-setting, that

Examining data from 9,654 who took their Goal-Setting Test researchers at PsychTests analyzed the attitudes, personality, and behaviors of three distinct groups: Those who tend to achieve most /all goals they set, those who achieve a few goals, and those who don't achieve any. Here's where they differed:

As wonderfully carefree as it may be to simply go with the flow, 65% of goal-achievers recognize the importance of making solid plans for the future. They're clear about what they want to achieve, when, and how (compared to 52% of moderate achievers and 33% of non-achievers).

77% of goal-achievers (vs. 49% of moderate achievers and 14% of non-achievers) set appropriate goals. This means establishing aspirations that are challenging yet reasonable. Successful goal-achievers know that a "30-pounds-in-30-days" type of objective is unreasonable and doomed to fail.

At the same time, 78% goalachievers refuse to short-change themselves. They won't set their sights unreasonably high, but they also won't set them too low. They want a goal that will push them and encourage growth and self-improvement (compared to 54% of moderate achievers and 32% of non-achievers).

Once they set their sights on a goal, 79% of goal-achievers will get started on it right away. Thus, if their objective is to lose weight, they will immediately get started on, perhaps, a new diet plan, join a gym, hire a personal trainer, etc. (compared to 54% of moderate achievers and 29% of non-achievers). Procrastination smothers goal-

One of the most imporare able to live up to their New tant aspects of the goal-setting Year's resolutions — and why process is the planning. The some will continue to rehash the majority of goal-achievers (65%, vs. 52% of moderate It starts with a fervor. As the achievers and 39% of non-Year's Eve, people will raise how they will accomplish their will be the best one yet. They'll and how to overcome them (for

> Just like climbing stairs, one large leap. Case in point:

(Continued on page 10)



Senate President Gaoteote Tofau Palaie (left) and his wife, Mrs. Betty Gaoteote, at the Fagatogo Malae during the first night of the 40th Annual Territorial Holiday Music Festival sponsored by the Arts Council of American Samoa, and funded by the National Endowment of the Arts with additional funding from the Special Programs under the Governor's Office. The program has since moved to the Gov. H. Rex Lee Auditorium and ends tonight. [photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



# Oklahoma superintendent out amid team sex assault case

investigation of accusations at Wood's house. that several school administrateammates.

dent Kyle Wood resigned at a special school board meeting members for refusing to take any action on the assault case.

Wood had been superintendent for more than 11 years, overseeing one of the state's largest school districts with more than 6,000 students and a powerhouse football program that's captured three state championships in the past four years. The program is big enough to draw numerous sponsors including under Oklahoma law. national fast-food restaurants McDonald's and Chick-Fil-A, to suspend the accused offiand athletic clothing company cials pending the outcome of Under Armour.

Wood's attorney said his client denies any wrongdoing and is cooperating with an outside criminal investigation.

"Dr. Wood did not violate nature of the case. any law regarding reporting of child abuse, nor has he violated any district rule or policy," attorney Paul DeMuro said in a of Investigation. Spokeswomen statement Tuesday. "Because of the ongoing investigation, Dr. the investigations were ongoing. Wood will not litigate this case in the press."

High school administrators are accused of waiting eight in school sports as part of a days to contact police to report larger look at student-on-stuwhat they first deemed "an dent sex assaults. Teammatealleged hazing incident" after on-teammate sexual assaults the football player told officials occurred in all types of sports in that a teammate had inserted a pool cue into his anus through the more than 70 cases in five his shorts. The boy said he was years that AP identified were an assaulted in September during a undercount. team function at Wood's house.

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — He told investigators that he was An Oklahoma superintendent assaulted in a similar manner a resigned Tuesday amid an year earlier at an event also held

The suburban Tulsa school tors failed to promptly report district began investigating the sexual assault of a 16-year- on Oct. 26. Its report included old football player by several interviews with the boy and his mother, but an affidavit filed by Bixby Schools Superinten- investigators provided a fuller account. The boy told investigators he was assaulted by one as pressure has mounted from player while three others held some community members who him down. Investigators say a have previously blasted board fifth player recorded the assault on a cellphone, and another blocked a door, according to the affidavit.

Investigators said officials' lag in reporting the assault may have jeopardized their ability to recover key evidence. A search warrant said some school officials may have tried to "not report the incident at all" which is a misdemeanor offense

The board's decision not the investigation had angered some residents, with one parent blasting board members last week for keeping school administrators on the job given the

The assault is being investigated by an outside prosecutor and the Oklahoma State Bureau at both agencies said Tuesday

An Associated Press investigation published earlier this year examined sexual violence public schools, and experts said



Samoa's Parliament building

[Photo: RNZI / Autagavaia Tipi Autagavaia]



#### **SAMOA PARLIAMENT VOTES TO BRING BACK LIBEL LAW**

Samoa's Parliament has unanimously voted to restore a criminal libel law that had been repealed four years ago.

justice The minister, Fa'aolesa Katopau Ainu'u, told parliament the government's objective was to protect innocent members of the public.

Fa'aolesa says people are being harmed by others through publications and opinions on social media, and the law allows for people who have been harmed to claim for defamation in the courts.

While it was unanimously endorsed by parliament, the libel laws came up against opposition, particularly from country's journalists' association.

Its acting president, Rudy Bartley, last month said the government should instead find a more realistic solution for expected by May 2018. tracking down so-called ghost writers instead of tarnishing the work and integrity of the media.

The libel law was originally repealed in 2013 on recommendation of the Samoa Law Reform Commission.

(Source: RNZI)

#### SOIL TESTS FOR AGENT **ORANGE IN GUAM TO START EARLY 2018**

The United States' joint military command in Guam is to begin collecting soil samples in early 2018 to investigate recent claims Agent Orange was used on the island.

The Guam Daily Post reports officials from the Government Accountability Office visited the territory last week to speak with veterans and Guam's Environmental Protection Agency about the allegations that the highly toxic herbicide was used and or stored by the military on defendant. Guam during the Vietnam War.

Guam's Environmental Protection Agency had also been assault in relation to an incident gathering information from veterans about where Agent Orange might have been used in order to pinpoint sampling

A spokesperson for the joint US military command Lt. Ian McConnaughey told the Guam Daily Post the US Department of Defense keeps historical records of all its testing and storage of Agent Orange encountered the defendant and and none of the information a co-defendant. These two men indicates its storage or use on

Region Marianas was working two kept walking. with the Guam Environmental US Environmental Protection Agency to investigate the his co-defendant. claims that it was.

ability Office findings are wouldn't. Niusila then left the

(Source: RNZI)

#### VIOLENT BEACTION **LANDS MAN IN JAIL**

Twenty-one-year old Viliamu Vitale of Falelauniu-uta and Mulifanua is not going to have a very good Christmas.

In fact, he is heading to Tafa'igata where he will spend the next four years having been and kicks. convicted of manslaughter.

It's a sad ending to a case where he violently reacted to someone who swore at him and who was a friend.

The decision to jail him was handed down by Supreme Court Justice Vui Clarence Nelson. The victim and the deceased is a 36-year-old male of Statapuala and Falelauniu Uta.

Lawyer, Lucy Sio, of the Attorney General's Office prosecuted the matter while Unasa president, Barack Obama is in Iuni Sapolu represented the

Vitale pleaded guilty to the charge of unlawful act, namely on 13 April 2017. Alcohol was involved.

According to the summary of facts, on the day in question at Falelauniu, the deceased was drinking with a work colleague by the name of Niusila in front of the shop. At about 8pm, the pair finished their drinks and headed home.

On their way home, they were sitting on the road.

The defendant and Niusila However, he said Joint exchanged greetings and the

Intoxicated, the Court heard Protection Agency and the that the deceased man began swearing at the defendant and

Niusila tried to get the The Government Account- deceased man to stop but he deceased.

> The defendant and his -defendant deceased and the defendant punched the deceased causing him to fall onto a pile of rocks.

> While on the ground, the defendant and his co-defendant continued to assault the deceased, delivering punches

Eventually bystanders intervened and stopped the assault. By this time the deceased was unconscious.

He never regained consciousness and was pronounced dead at the hospital.

#### (Source: Samoa Observer) **REMINISCENT OF PRE-VIOUS HOLIDAY VACA-**TIONS, OBAMA SPOTTED IN HAWAI'I AGAIN

Just like when he was

(Continued on page 11)



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Amata with veterans, including Mata'u, Fa'asala and Tauai Suiaunoa, discussing access to VA health care from American Samoa, since our veterans often must travel to Honolulu for health services. [courtesy photo]



Amata with local veterans and Jennifer Gutowski – Director of US VA Pacific Islands Healthcare. [courtesy photo]

# Amata highlights Veterans legislation in final committee votes of 2017

Washington, D.C. – Wednesday, Congresswoman Aumua Amata highlighted veterans' legislation that passed the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs in the Committee's final votes of 2017. The bill was introduced in early November with the support of Congresswoman Amata as an original cosponsor of the legislative effort, and strengthened by an amendment in markup to better assess health care in U.S. territories, including American Samoa.

"Veterans in American Samoa often have less access to the quality care they deserve due to the price of services and the distance to medical facilities," said Aumua Amata.

"The Committee's legislative agenda includes working to continue finding solutions for more options. We will keep working for lower costs and better care in remote areas, and this vote is part of that ongoing effort."

The bipartisan VA Care in the Community Act H.R. 4242, was introduced by Chairman Phil Roe (R-TN) and Ranking Member Tim Walz (D-MN) following an October hearing to gather facts with the goal of improving community care options. From the beginning, Congresswoman Amata supported and cosponsored this effort to streamline veteran access to community care, previously handled under the CHOICE Program, including broader options and removal of the 30-day, 40-mile requirement.

Specifically, the bill further builds on what was learned through the CHOICE Program experience, while reducing some of the inconveniences that were discovered in its management. The CHOICE program, enacted by Congress three years ago, was in effect during an increase in community care appointments of over 60 percent since fiscal year 2014.

By fiscal year 2016, a total of 30 percent of all VA appointments were no longer in VA medical facilities, but some other community care option.

Amata supported a key amendment, sponsored by Congresswoman Jenniffer González-Colón (R-Puerto Rico), requiring the VA to report on health services provided veterans in the five insular U.S. Territories: Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

(Continued on page 12)





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#### MARKETING MANAGER

#### POSITION SUMMARY

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

#### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS REQUIRE

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

Continued from page 1

tioning, Pengelly walked the victim through the events of the night leading up to the alleged assault. The victim recalled that she was in her friend's room, but decided to come out to the living room to sleep on the couch because the bedroom was cold, with the air conditioner

away, but instead ended up talking with her boy friend, using messaging or video chat on her iPad. (Later in the trial, the defense questioned as to whether the air conditioner was on in the living and the victim said "no" it was already turned off when she got there.)

Eventually, she fell asleep on the couch sleeping on her stomach, but was awakened when the defendant touched her legs and back. Asked as to any other parts of her body touched by the defendant, the victim was in tears, and a court recess was called.

The questions were asked again when the trial resumed, and the victim - after taking a deep breath said, "my butt".

On the night of the incident, she was wearing a sweatshirt and "boxers", according to the

[the defendant] that touched and I saw him." She said the defendant didn't say anything and she ran for the bathroom, but she didn't make it.

Wiping away more tears and in an emotional voice, she alleges the defendant "stopped me" and "tried to kiss my neck" and he put his hand inside the front section of her boxers. She further alleges that the defendant pushed her against the wall.

When asked what the defendant did when he put his hand inside her boxers, the victim took a long pause - as another side-bar at the bench was called. The victim continued to cry holding napkins to her face and then wiping away more tears.

When the proceedings resumed, Pengelly repeated the locked down." question twice but the victim was therefore called and when has the only key. proceedings resumed, the govthe defendant "penetrated my replied, "no". vagina" with his fingers.

came outside of the bathroom ment to get the check up. and saw the defendant.

allegedly told her, he knows

During his line of ques- where she lives. That's when, she ran towards her friend's bedroom to wake her up. The pair, along with another female friend, later in the daylight went to deliver the food plates for sale.

It was later (on the following day) that the victim told another friend who helped with the delivery of food plates about She didn't go to sleep right the incident. And this was done through messaging. Asked who in her family did she tell about the incident, the victim said it was her brother, who then contacted her other brother, who then contacted her to confirm the incident. Afterwards the brothers told their mother, who later told the dad.

During cross examination, Rovelli raised many questions, and started off focusing on the victim's iPad, which she said belongs to her and was bought by her mother. Her testimony also revealed that she has no cellular phone but communicated with her friends as well as her boyfriend, via messaging and video chat using her iPad.

Rovelli also sought to get a specific time frame on some of the victim's testimony as well as what she said in her written statement to police. Many times the victim, would reply "I don't "How did you know, it was recall" or "I don't remember" and there were times that she you?" Pengelly asked, to which asked the defense to "rephrase the victim replied, "I woke up your question" so she could understand and provide an answer.

Rovelli raised the issue of the victim going into the defendant's bedroom with the defendant's daughter. The victim responded that the defendant talked mostly about business.

"Do you recall [the defendant] telling you, that you're too young to have a boyfriend?" Rovelli asked — to which the victim said, "yes" adding that the defendant had asked his 17-year-old daughter, who she was dating.

The defense also asked several questions regarding the victim's written statement to police. For example, part of the statement says that the defendant's "house [was] completely

The victim explained that couldn't give a clear and precise she "didn't try to run" — but answer, as she became more noted that the house is in a gated emotional with tears rolling area and the exit door is locked down her cheeks. A court recess from inside and the defendant

"Did you make any effort to ernment repeated its question, get out of the House and gate?" and this time the victim said the defense asked and the victim

Rovelli also asked if anyone She then pushed him off and suggested that she go to the hosran to the bathroom where she pital to be checked. The victim locked the door and waited for said yes, it was her mom and someone to wake up or when a female police officer. Howshe could hear someone come ever, she said she didn't go after inside the house. When she "they" said it was two days after heard a door open (somewhere the incident and that she had not inside the house), the victim heard back yet on an appoint-

"Who is 'they'?" the defense She alleges that the defen- asked, and the victim responded, dant then asked her for her that it was the female police number and that the defendant officer, who discussed it with

(Continued on page 15)



# Thank You For Making a Difference

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Special Thanks to all who purchased raffle tickets. Our sincere apologies if we have missed listing any individual or agency. Fa'afetai



The Ottoville-based Samoa Bible College choir performed Monday night at the Gov. H. Rex Lee Auditorium during the second night of the 40th Annual Territorial Holiday Music Festival sponsored by the Arts Council of American Samoa, and funded by the National Endowment of the Arts with additional funding from the Special Programs under the Governor's Office.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]



# Released prison chef, given 2nd chance, opens new restaurant

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP) — Candido Ortiz beamed as he stood in front of his new restaurant, the bright yellow-andred awning providing a splash of light on an otherwise drab stretch of sidewalk between a tattoo parlor and a liquor store where bulletproof glass protects the merchandise.

After more than 26 years in prison, life has come full circle for Ortiz, who was arrested for selling drugs in the late 1980s and was sentenced to more than 49 years. A year ago, President Barack Obama granted Ortiz clemency, along with other nonviolent drug offenders sentenced to lengthy terms.

On Tuesday, Ortiz, a former prison chef, welcomed a gaggle of reporters and well-wishers to El Sabor Del Cafe, where he hopes to write his next chapter as a free man.

"I never was a bad man," Ortiz said. "I was trying to make money, and I went about it the wrong way. I was punished by society, but I don't feel angry about what happened to me because I was in prison for doing the wrong thing. But I'm different now. I'm a changed man." Ortiz received a congratulatory letter from Obama this week praising him for "using your extraordinary talents to give back to your community."

After his release, Ortiz received a huge assist from the New Jersey Reentry Corporation, a group spearheaded by Democratic former Gov. Jim McGreevey that helps released inmates navigate addiction treatment, employment training, health care and housing.







Fagaitua Catholic Church choir performed Monday night at the Gov. H. Rex Lee Auditorium during the second night of the 40th Annual Territorial Holiday Music Festival sponsored by the Arts Council of American Samoa, and funded by the National Endowment of the Arts with additional funding from the Special Programs under the Governor's Office. The program ends tonight.

### San Francisco officer under criminal probe Kills himself

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)

— A San Francisco police officer who killed himself after being pulled over by police in a neighboring city was under investigation for child sexual abuse in Las Vegas, authorities said Tuesday. Antonio Cacatian, 49, shot himself Monday afternoon after San Francisco police requested help arresting him. Police in the nearby city of Richmond, where Cacatian lived, pulled him over in a shopping mall parking lot.

### KS MART...

Continued from page 1

full of any kind of cleaning supply you might need to get your house spic and span after the holidays. Check out their Money Saver Detergents. Boom detergents are on special with the Boom Powder 3KG special of "Buy one and get a FREE Shirt."

A Large selection of GIV Bath Soaps is also on Display.

Sugar is also on sale with 1Kg @ 99¢ and Sugar 2KG @ \$1.99.

Fresh bread and pastries are available at the bakery section, daily cooked food items are available at the Deli Section, and a huge selection of Party mixes and drinks can also be found at KS Mart.

There really is something for everyone this Christmas Season at KS.

Open from 6am - 10pm daily KS Mart's Management & Staff wishes the people of American Samoa a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.











Diver George Bell, dressed as Santa Claus, swims in the Philippine coral reef tank during a presentation on fish and corals as part of the 'Tis the Season for Science holiday exhibit at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2017.

# Scuba-diving Santa Claus delights children in San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) feed fish. Santa Claus doesn't just sit goes scuba diving.

The California Academy of about 100 children and adults a swimming Santa. crowded around a coral reef exhibit to watch jolly St. Nick through Christmas Day.

reef and reindeer.

He high-fived through the Sciences launched its annual glass and posed for photos, the tradition is a charming San Scuba Santa show Tuesday with delighting children thrilled with Francisco "spin on meeting

The daily feeding runs

The academy's Philippine Diver George Bell also Coral Reef tank holds 212,000 at shopping malls in snow-chal- answered questions via under- gallons (802,000 liters) and has lenged San Francisco: He also water microphone about the thousands of reef fish representing about 100 species.

> Parent Michali Kolnick says Santa."

> Those at home can watch online by webcam.

> > Continued from page 3

### New Year...

more manageable steps (compared to 52% of moderate achievers and 28% of nonachievers). So for example, rather than setting a weight loss goal in grand terms (lose 40 pounds), they take it one week at a time and one pound at a time. Or they cut out unhealthy foods bit by bit rather than immediately going cold turkey, which can prove to be much away. more difficult to stick to in the long-term.

motivated with small rewards after reaching certain milestones (e.g. losing the first 10 pounds). In addition, 81% of goal-achievers (compared to 56% of moderate achievers and 26% of non-achievers) have a protocol set up to keep them motivated, either through pep talks, support from family and friends, a personal trainer, life coach, etc.

68% of goal-achievers (compared to 49% of moderate achievers and 35% of nonachievers) evaluate the progress of their goal at set intervals (e.g. every week or once a month). These regular "pit stops" allow them to determine if they need to make modifications to their ducing the same resolutions com/testid/2098

line a little further because they few days, etc.).

75% of goal-achievers (compared to 52% of moderate achievers and 21% of nonachievers) recognize the importance of being patient. They accept that some goals take time and that they might not see tangible results of their efforts right

78% of goal-achievers achievers and 29% of non- self-motivated? (compared to 63% of moderate achievers) harness the power of achievers and 43% of non- their mind by visualizing them- self? These are all important achievers) keep themselves selves completing their goal aspects of the goal-achievement successfully.

91% of achievers and 58% of nonachievers) refuse to allow selfin their ability to succeed.

necessary. They are not afraid to for all." swallow their pride and accept a helping hand.

74% of goal-achievers break approach or goal (e.g. change every year for the past couple down large goals into smaller, exercise routine, push the dead- of years and have made little progress, it's time to take a were too sick to exercise for a critical look at your goal-setting approach," explains Dr. Jerabek, president of PsychTests. "Setting goals is a good first step, but you can't just set a vague goal and leave it at that. Sit down and write out your goal in detail: What exactly do you want to accomplish? Why do you want to accomplish this goal? What steps do you need goal-achievers to take to get the ball rolling? (compared to 51% of moderate What will you do to keep your-

> How will you reward yourprocess that you need to estabgoal-achievers lish...you need to plan ahead. (compared to 77% of moderate Goal-achievers are like marathon runners: They realize that while it's important to have an doubt to hinder their efforts. end goal, it's the process of get-They believe in themselves and ting there that really matters. And if you're struggling with While being able to achieve your weight loss goal, finangoals without help is a noble cial goal, quitting smoking or endeavor, 82% of goal- whatever your resolution may achievers (compared to 72% of be, don't be afraid to engage the moderate achievers and 59% of help of a trainer or life coach. non-achievers) recognize the They can get you started on the importance of being humble, right footing and knock that and asking for guidance when resolution off your list once and

Want to assess your goalsetting expertise? Check out "If you've been reintro- https://testyourself.psychtests.



Dec. 19 2017. At least 12 people died when the bus carrying cruise ship passengers to Mayan ruins in eastern Mexico flipped over on a highway early Tuesday, officials said.

# 12 killed as bus carrying foreign tourists crashes in Mexico

Mexico flipped over on a narrow ters) south of Tulum. highway Tuesday, killing 11 travelers and their guide and prosecutor's office reported They were in Roatan, Honinjuring about 20 others, offi- that the fatalities were 11 tour- duras, on Monday and were cials said. Seven Americans and ists, including one child, and a scheduled to be in Cozumel on two Swedes were among the Mexican tour guide. injured, said Vicente Martin, spokesman for the Quintana night that seven injured tourists Roo state Civil Defense agency. had returned to their boat while Authorities had not yet estab- 13 remained hospitalized, six lished the nationalities of the of them in Tulum and seven in dead. The bus ended up on its the city of Chetumal, near the he said. "It was in pretty sad side in vegetation along the Belize border. The dead were shape," Schuenemeyer said. two-lane road. Video taken being transferred to the forenafter the crash showed some sics service for identification bus company involved, said in a survivors lying on the pavement and subsequent notification and others walking around. One of consular authorities. Chris body lay on the roadside cov- Brawley, a passenger on the ered by a white sheet or other Serenade of Seas, was on a bus object, as the crash scene was headed to the same Mayan ruins cordoned off with yellow police when they came on the scene tape.Miami-based Royal Carib- minutes after the accident. bean Cruises said in a statement that passengers from two of its and a convoy of buses from the ships, the Celebrity Equinox cruise port at Mahahual was and Serenade of the Seas, headed to Chacchoben, he said. were on the bus. The company They had been on the road for expressed its sympathies and about 35 to 40 minutes before said it was assisting with med- the accident. Brawly said the ical care and transportation.

The U.S. Embassy in Mexico said U.S. officials were working zens were among the dead.

Martin said investigators

CANCUN, Mexico (AP) the cause of the crash, which control somehow as there were A bus carrying cruise ship occurred as the bus was on its swerve marks all over the road passengers on an excursion to way to the ruins at Chacchoben, surface." Brawley, of Haslet, Mayan ruins in southeastern about 110 miles (175 kilome- Texas, said his ship departed

It said in a statement Tuesday

It was shortly after 9 a.m. sky was clear and the road was dry and he didn't see any sign of another vehicle being involved with local authorities to deter- in the crash, which happened on mine whether American citi- a narrow, two-lane road with no shoulder or guardrail.

He said he did not see the were working to determine crash, but "the bus clearly lost

Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on The Quintana Roo state Friday for a seven-day cruise. Wednesday.Michael Schuenemeyer, a minister from Cleveland, was on another bus that passed the crash about an hour later. Tow trucks were lifting up the bus when they passed by,

> Costa Maya Mahahual, the statement that in addition to the tourists, a guide and driver were aboard the bus.

### **Lawsuit: Louisiana school** district promotes religion

school district, a parent said in a comment on it. federal lawsuit, and her family

a court declaration that the Webster Parish School District's practices are unconstithem and retaliation against been hissed at, shunned, and had their religious beliefs questhey object to the schools' religious activities."

Webster Parish

NEW ORLEANS (AP) superintendent Johnny Row-Promotion of religion is land Jr. said Tuesday he hasn't "engrained" in a Louisiana yet seen the lawsuit and couldn't

Cole's suit said unconstituhas been shunned and criti- tional promotion of religion in cized for objecting to religious the northwest Louisiana district includes Christian prayers at Christy Cole's lawsuit seeks athletic events, pep rallies and assemblies.

"Graduation ceremonies are frequently held in houses tutional, and an order blocking of worship, and at times they resemble religious rituals that her family."The Coles have include Bible verses and Christian prayers," the suit said.

American Civil Liberties tioned by school officials," said Union lawyers filed the lawsuit. the lawsuit, filed Monday in The suit said Cole was raised Shreveport. "The family has Baptist and believes "praying been made to feel like outsiders in public is a sin." It said one and second-class citizens within of her two daughters considers the school community because herself an agnostic. Both have refused to read prayers when selected by teachers or adminschools istrators to do so.



Army Staff Sgt. Cathrine "Katie" Schmid addresses media members following a federal court hearing on behalf of Schmid and other plaintiffs Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2017, in Seattle. U.S. District Judge Marsha Pechman says she'll decide by Dec. 8 whether to join her counterparts Washington, D.C., and Baltimore in blocking the Trump administration's

proposed transgender military ban after hearing oral arguments between lawyers for the Justice Department and transgender rights advocates. President Donald Trump said on Twitter in July that the government would not allow transgender individuals to serve in the military in any capacity. (AP Photo/Elaine Thompson)

### Pacific brief...

Continued from page 4

Hawai'i for the holidays.

spotted playing a round of golf in Kaneohe on Monday.

he hit the links at the Klipper islands. Golf Course at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i.

Obama even stopped to shake a few hands after his round.

Although it's unclear when The 44th president was he arrived in Hawai'i or how long he will stay, the visit was reminiscent of his previous Viewer Carlo Bermudez said holiday vacations spent in the

Obama was born and raised on Oahu, and has returned several times this year.

(Source: Hawaii News Now)





FILE - In this June 28, 2017 file photo, a police officer stands outside the Riodoce office after the killing of the newspaper's co-founder Javier Valdez in Culiacan, Sinaloa state, Mexico. Nine reporters have been slain so far this year, and the free-speech activist group Articulo 19 counts more than 100 since 2000 in what observers call a full-blown crisis for freedom of expression.

(AP Photo/Enric Marti, File)



#### AMERICAN SAMOA POWER AUTHORITY

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

### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

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

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

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

#### <u>Submission</u>

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

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

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

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

#### **Document**

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

#### Right of Rejection

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

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

# Mexican journalist shot dead at primary school holiday party

XALAPA, Mexico (AP) tary school where a Christmas party was taking place and shot reporter Gumaro Perez to death Tuesday, making him at observers have called a crisis of that some child had brought." freedom of expression.

rity coordinator said in a statement that dozens of parents and children were present when the unidentified attackers shot Perez, whose own child attends the school in the city of Acayucan.

Perez, 34, covered crime for a number of local outlets, had founded the online news site La Voz del Sur and also worked for the local government in some capacity.

He was part of a state program designed to protect journalists as they carry out certain "high-risk" coverage, separate from a federal government program known as "the mechanism" that offers reporters measures like panic buttons on their year cellphones and home security.

"He belonged to the preventive program for safe coverage of this Commission since 2015, which refers to mechanisms for reporting that diminish danger in high-risk events," the Veracruz State Commission for Attention and Protection of Journalists said in a statement. "Nevertheless, regrettably, he had not made us aware of having received any threats that could have put him at risk."

Commission president Ana Laura Vazquez said the group would monitor the investigation and urged the government of killers to justice.

published by the local branch of shooting outside his home. the online news outlet E-Conwith her, but he refused.

Perez arrived on time at the holbeing directly related to the iday party Tuesday and planned victims' work — including six to keep their son company so in 2017, higher than any other she could leave early.

While Perez remained says.

indoors, "I went outside and Attackers burst into an elemen- my son went out of the room with his little friends," Mendoza was quoted as saying. "I hugged him, I gave him a kiss because I was leaving, and right least the 10th journalist slain then I heard the gunshots. But in Mexico this year in what I thought they were fireworks

"God knows how to do The Veracruz state secu- things, because my son never saw his father die," she said.

> Gov. Miguel Angel Yunes condemned the shooting and said he ordered state police to provide protection to the journalist's family.

> U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Roberta Jacobsen wrote on Twitter that she was offended by Perez's death at the hands of "cowardly killers."

> "The truth cannot be killed by killing journalists," Jacobsen tweeted.

> Mexico is one of the world's deadliest countries for journalists, and Veracruz, plagued by drug gang violence and corruption, is seen as the worst state, with several killed there this

> They include Candido Rios, a hard-nosed crime reporter for Diario de Acayucan, who was shot dead Aug. 22 at a highway gas station convenience store about 25 miles (40 kilometers) from Acayucan despite having been enrolled in the federal protection program.

> Newspaper columnist Ricardo Monlui was killed in the Veracruz town of Yanga, near the city of Cordoba, on March 19 as he left a restaurant with his wife and son. The attacker appeared to have been lying in wait.

And Armando Arrieta Grathe Gulf coast state to bring his nados, news editor for the newspaper La Opinion de Poza Adelina Mendoza, Perez's Rica, Veracruz, was seriously widow, said in an interview wounded in late March in a

According to the New Yorksulta that for the last year she based Committee to Protect had begged him to leave jour- Journalists, 95 journalists have nalism and open a restaurant been killed in Mexico since 1992. In 43 of those cases the She told E-Veracruz.mx that motive has been confirmed as year in that period, the group

### Amata...

Continued from page 5

Congresswoman Amata. "I on behalf of all the territories." appreciate Chairman Roe and

"I'm confident there's a my colleagues on this Comgrowing awareness in Congress mittee for their work on these of the need for lower costs, priorities, and also a thank you more options, and better care to my friend, Congresswoman in remote places," concluded González-Colón for her efforts

# **Report: Florida senator likely** touched woman inappropriately

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — An investiga- woman. tion into a Florida state senator accused of groping a single woman uncovered another witness who touching for two years. "I felt it was something said he routinely touched her in a sexual manner he felt entitled to," she said in the report. and offered to support legislation in exchange for

investigation into Republican Sen. Jack Latvala accused Latvala of inappropriate touching in and found in a report issued Tuesday that the a Capitol elevator, at a private club and other woman who filed the complaint against him was likely telling the truth, but details from other witnesses described even more extreme behavior.

"If any of this is true, he needs to resign immediately for the victims, for the people of Florida and for his family," Republican Sen. Dana Young said. "With this report showing extreme make grunting or growling sounds aimed at circumstances, his continued presence in the Senate through session would be a tremendous in an unwelcome manner three or four times. distraction from the important work we need to accomplish."

sanction Latvala, who is also running for governor. The Senate will begin its annual session Jan. 9 and the Senate Rules Committee will meet Jan. 11 to consider the report.

Swanson said some of Latvala's actions may have violated public corruption laws and recommended that allegations be referred to law ality and threatening her and her family, all in an enforcement.

One former lobbyist said that Latvala would touch her inappropriately, including touching the outside of her bra and panties, every time they were alone in the office. She said he "intimated to her on multiple occasions, that if she engaged in hot," but that he's never touched anyone against sexual acts or allowed him to touch her body in a their will, the report said. sexual manner he would support legislative items for which she was lobbying," Swanson wrote. That included explicit text messages sent to the

The woman said she tolerated the unwanted

The investigation began after a complaint filed by Rachel Perrin Rogers, a top aide to Senate Former Judge Ronald Swanson conducted the Majority Leader Wilton Simpson. Perrin Rogers

> She said on many occasions, Latvala would comment on her appearance by saying she looked "hot" and would stare at her chest as she tried to talk about legislative issues with him.

> Other witnesses said Latvala is known to woman, and a lobbyist said she was touched her

Perrin Rogers' attorney said in a press release that the report confirms that Latvala created a Ronald Swanson recommended the Senate hostile work environment for Perrin Rogers, and she criticized him for trying to undermine Perrin Rogers during the investigation.

> "Jack Latvala and his legal team have made a mockery of a process that is legally obligated to protect accusers and the accused equally. They victimized Rachel by violating her confidentiattempt to intimidate witnesses and other victims from coming forward," Tiffany Cruz said.

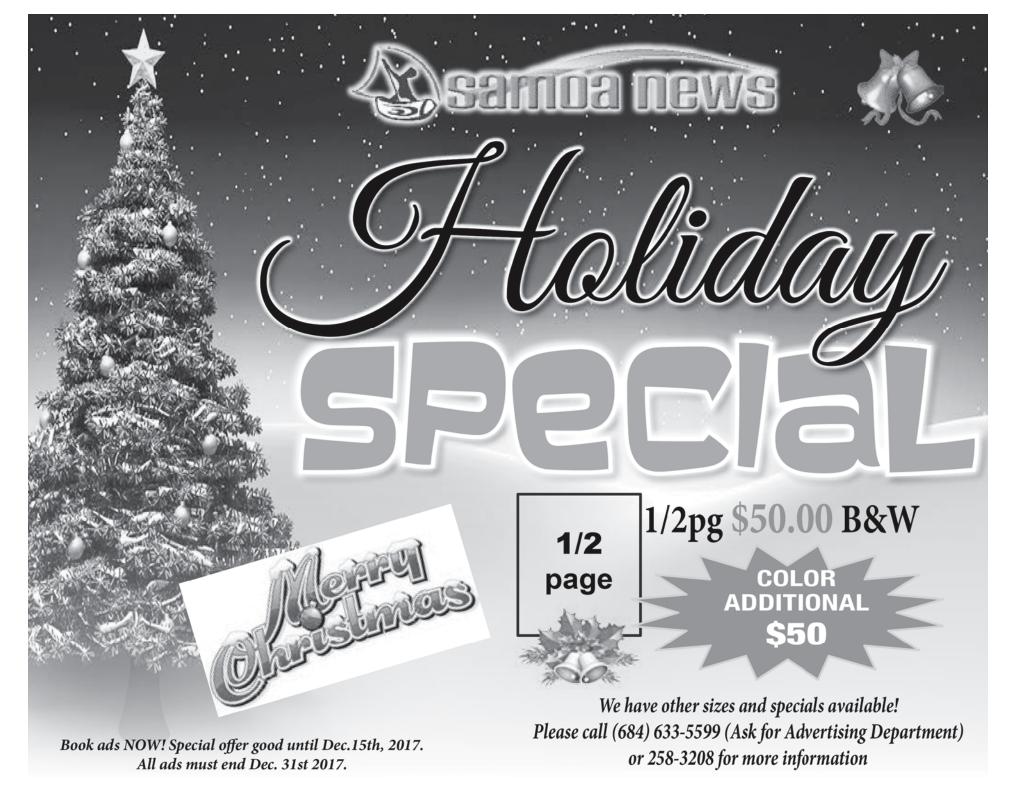
Latvala didn't answer his cellphone Tuesday evening. He has admitting to occasionally telling women he's friendly with that they're "looking

His son, state Rep. Chris Latvala, tweeted late Tuesday, "I am as proud today to be the son of @JackLatvala as I was yesterday or last month."



FILE - In this Jan. 17, 2017 file photo, state Rep. Dean Westlake, D-Kotzebue, talks with another legislator during a break in the opening session of the Alaska Legislature in Juneau, Alaska. Staff for Westlake, who was accused by several women of inappropriate behavior, hand-delivered his resignation letter to the House speaker's office on Friday, Dec. 15, 2017.

(AP Photo/Mark Thiessen, File)



This undated photo provided by the Baltimore Police Department shows Detective Sean Suiter. A lawyer for two men whose federal convictions were overturned Monday, Dec. 18, 2017, is raising fresh questions about an April 2010 incident that led to their convictions on bogus drug charges and involved Suiter, a Baltimore detective fatally gunned down last month just as he was set to testify before a grand jury investigating indicted police colleagues.

# Lawyer raises new questions about slain Baltimore detective

lawyer for two men whose fedoverturned is raising fresh 87-year-old man when client involved a Baltimore detective slaughter in the death. fatally gunned down last month indicted police colleagues.

represents a pair whose fedofficers.

He asserts that Detective Sean Suiter, then an officer, was Commissioner Kevin Davis driving an unmarked vehicle revealed that Jenkins allegthat intentionally rear-ended a edly duped Suiter into discovcar of one of his client's. Suiter ering the cache of heroin he Court Judge Richard Bennett was among a group of officers planted in Burley's car during apologized to Burley and Matdressed in black, wearing face that 2010 arrest. He made the thews for their wrongful imprismasks, and showing no visible announcement on the same day onment on the heroin possesbadges during the April 2010 that a new five-count indict- sion charges.

BALTIMORE (AP) — A incident, Silverman alleged.

questions about an April 2010 Umar Burley's car slammed incident that led to their convic- into another vehicle. A state that Suiter was "not involved tions on bogus drug charges and court convicted him of man-

Burley said he thought the just as he was set to testify masked figures were criminals before a grand jury investigating trying to rob him. "I felt like I was in imminent danger and I Attorney Steven Silverman took off," he said in a Tuesday phone call.He and Brent Materal convictions were vacated thews were convicted on federal Monday by a U.S. judge after drug charges when Wayne Earl they spent years in prison based Jenkins, an indicted member of on 2010 police work done by a disbanded Baltimore police duct of all the officers that day. a group of allegedly corrupt unit, allegedly planted heroin inside Burley's crashed car.

ment against Jenkins was A high-speed chase ensued, announced by the acting U.S. eral convictions were recently ending with the fatality of an attorney and Baltimore's FBI special-agent-in-charge.

> Davis has told reporters in any way, shape or form" in the deception. He has stressed that Suiter was a "stellar detective" and federal officials have told him that the detective was "never the target of an FBI investigation."

But Silverman says Suiter's alleged role in the murky 2010 incident involving his clients raises questions about the con-

"It's important to investigate anyone and everyone involved Earlier this month, Police in setting these circumstances in motion," Silverman told The Associated Press.

On Monday, U.S. District

### Official: Train brake automatically activated in fatal wreck

whose speeding train plunged track tunnels and freight traffic. off an overpass, killing at least

want to know whether the engineer lost "situational awareness" because of the second person in the cab.

Preliminary derailed in Washington state of the crew had been doing runs not manually activated by the to the crash, including a Friday engineer, National Transpor- ride-along for local dignitaries, Bella Dinh-Zarr said.

curve south of Seattle, sending of Transportation website. some of its cars plummeting data from the locomotive's event recorder.

left the track, she added.

Dinh-Zarr said it is not yet why it was going so fast.

bers and review the event data record from the lead locomotive already been studied. Investigators are also trying to get images day's tragedy. from two on-board cameras that were damaged in the crash, she more than 70 people were said. There were two people in injured. As of Tuesday, 35 were the cab of the train at the time still hospitalized, including 21 of the crash, the engineer and in critical or serious condition. an in-training conductor who responsibility, she said.

In previous wrecks, invespacitated. It is standard procedure in a crash investigation to whether he or she was using a cellphone, something that is according to radio transmissions from a crew member.

The train, with 85 passen-The 15-mile, \$180.7 million and Washington.

DUPONT, Wash. (AP) — project was aimed at speeding Investigators are looking into up service by bypassing a route whether the Amtrak engineer with a number of curves, single-

Investigators were three people, was distracted by looking into what training was the presence of an employee-in-required of the engineer and training next to him in the loco- other crew members to operate motive, a federal official said on the new route, said Ted Turpin, the lead NTSB investi-The official, who was not gator of the crash. That includes authorized to discuss the matter assessing the training process publicly and spoke on condition and how much time the workers of anonymity, said investigators were required to spend on the trains before they shuttled passengers, he said.

"Under Amtrak policy he couldn't run this train without information being qualified and running this indicated that the emergency train previously," Turpin said brake on the Amtrak train that of the engineer. At least some went off automatically and was on the route for two weeks prior tation Safety Board member Dinh-Zarr added. The bypass underwent testing by Sound The train was hurtling at 80 Transit and Amtrak beginning mph (129 kph) in a 30 mph (48 in January and at least until kph) zone Monday morning July, according to documents when it ran off the rails along a on the Washington Department

Positive train control — techonto an interstate highway nology that can automatically below, Dinh-Zarr said, citing slow or stop a speeding train was not in use on that stretch of track. Track sensors and other Skid marks — so-called PTC components have been "witness marks" - from the installed, but the system is not train's wheels show where it expected to be completed until the spring, transit officials said.

Regulators have known what caused the train to pressing railroads for years to derail and that it was too early install such technology, and in the investigation to conclude some have done so, but the deadline has been extended Investigators will talk to the repeatedly at the industry's engineer and other crew mem- request and is now set for the end of 2018.

Dinh-Zarr said it was too as well as an identical device early in the investigation to say from the rear engine, which has whether positive train control would have prevented Mon-

In addition to those killed,

Two of the dead were identifamiliarizing himself with the fied as train buffs and members route, Dinh-Zarr said. A second of the rail advocacy group All conductor was in the passenger Aboard Washington and were cabin at the time of the crash, excited to be on board for the which is also part of the job inaugural run: Jim Hamre, a retired civil engineer with the state Transportation Departtigators looked at whether the ment, and Zack Willhoite, a engineer was distracted or inca- customer service employee at a local transit agency.

"It's pretty devastating. test the engineer for alcohol or We're having a tough time,' drugs and check to determine said All Aboard Washington executive director Lloyd Flem.

In 2015, an Amtrak train prohibited while the train is run-traveling at twice the 50 mph ning. The engineer, whose name (80 kph) speed limit derailed was not released, was bleeding along a sharp curve in Philadelfrom the head after the crash phia, killing eight people. Invesand his eyes were swollen shut, tigators concluded the engineer was distracted by reports over the radio of another train getting hit by a rock.Amtrak gers and crew members, was agreed to pay \$265 million to making the inaugural run along settle claims filed by the victims a fast new bypass route that was and their families. It has also created by refurbishing freight installed positive train control tracks alongside Interstate 5. on all its track between Boston



## **Former Wisconsin regulator** to lead EPA's Chicago office

CHICAGO (AP) — Former Stepp was named Tuesday as Protection Agency's regional office in Chicago, drawing praise from business groups and criticism from environmental in the Upper Midwest's industrial centers.

The assignment came four another EPA regional office of industry will appreciate,' of Natural Resources and was staffers. a Republican state senator from 2003-07. As head of EPA's tive director the Chicago-based Region 5, she will oversee Environmental Law & Policy operations in Indiana, Illinois, Center, said the Wisconsin nat-Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin.

"Cathy Stepp's experience working as a statewide cabinet official, elected official and a fresh perspective to EPA as Trump's agenda," EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt said.

Henry Henderson, the Natural Resources Defense Council's Midwest director, said Stepp's record "fits nicely with the lax mode of enforcement favored by the Trump administration," adding that environ-facturing cities such as Chimental groups will be "very, cago, Detroit and Cleveland, very busy" under her tenure.

no scientific background, Stepp scale farms. The EPA Chicago was chosen by Gov. Scott office criticized Michigan for Walker to lead the Wisconsin failing to prevent lead pollunatural resources department, tion of drinking water in Flint, where she oversaw a reorganization that included staffing said the federal agency also cuts in its science and research should have done more. bureau.

matter.

When she accepted the ear-Wisconsin regulator Cathy lier EPA posting in August, Stepp told staffers with the head of the U.S. Environmental Wisconsin department she was leaving behind an agency that ensured businesses were not "delayed by bureaucracy."

The head of the EPA's activists fearful she will weaken national employee union said enforcement of rules protecting Stepp, 54, is unqualified and has the Great Lakes and air quality a history of favoring business interests over environmental protection.

"I see her cutting back on months after Stepp was named enforcement and fines and a deputy administrator for doing things that certain aspects near Kansas City. Previously, said John O'Grady, president she served six years as director of AFGE Council 238, which of the Wisconsin Department represents about 9,000 EPA

> Howard Learner, execuural resources department under Stepp "turned back the clock on basic safeguards" of water and

"Heading up Region 5 means small business owner will bring protecting the Great Lakes, the world's largest freshwater we look to implement President resource that supplies safe, clean drinking water to tens of millions of people," Learner said. "We hope Ms. Stepp will bring a different perspective ... than her track record in Wisconsin would suggest."

The region includes most of the Great Lakes and manuplus rural areas challenged by A former homebuilder with rapid accumulation of industrybut some members of Congress

With her Wisconsin roots, The number of enforce- Stepp is well-acquainted with ment cases fell sharply during the lakes' pollution problems her tenure. The department such as algae blooms, invasive replaced some passages on its species and harbors coated with website describing humans as toxic chemicals, said Cameron partly responsible for climate Davis, a former EPA senior change, saying instead that sci- adviser who oversaw an ambientists were still debating the tious restoration initiative during the Obama administration.



FILE - In this Jan. 13, 2017 file photo, Cathy Stepp, secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, speaks during an interview in her office in Madison, Wis. EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt said Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2017, that Stepp will be in charge of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Region 5, which oversees the EPA's operations in Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. She previously led Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resources. (M.P. King/Wisconsin State Journal via AP File)





#### **American Samoa Government** OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)** RFP-022-2018

Issuance Date: December 20, 2017

Date & Time Due: January 17, 2018 No later than 2:00p.m (local time)

The American Samoa Government (ASG) issues a Request For Proposals (RFP) from qualified firms to provide: "Tecnical Support Services: Island-Wide Land Surveying Services"

#### <u>Submission</u>

Original and five copies of the Qualifications must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: "RFP: Technical Support Services: Island-Wide Land Surveying Services." Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), January 17, 2018:

> Office of Procurement Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799 Attn: Dr. Oreta Mapu Crichton, CPO

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

#### **Document**

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

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

#### Right of Rejection

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

Samoa Government or the public.

Equal Opportunity Employer / Affirmative Action

DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON Chief Procurement Officer



about it.

her mother and later told her deliberation.

ments, around 10a.m. on Apr. approach them about this case 9, 2017, a police lieutenant or to discuss it. walked into the Tafuna police station with a man who wanted the case is presented to you" for to file a police report regarding deliberation, said Patea, who his daughter, who he alleged was sexually assaulted by the not to discuss the case or her defendant. Forty-five minutes testimony with anyone else. later, the victim and her mother

today, and Patea who was one-by-one to the stand. flanked on the bench by Associate Judges Satele and Muasau calling seven witnesses but reminded the jury that they Samoa News wasn't able to are not to discuss the case confirm as to the number of witwith anyone else and not even nesses the government plans to with another juror until the call. case is presented to them for

Additionally, they were cau-According to court docu- tioned not to allow anyone to

Continued from page 6

"Keep an open mind, until also made clear to the victim

Witnesses who were at the showed up at the police station. court yesterday were told to The jury trial continues wait outside until they are called

The defense is looking at





# PESEPESEGA O LE KERISIMASI 2017 -**AFIAFI LONA LUA**

tusia: Leua Aiono Frost

a le tatou Malo lea e fa'atautaia a'ufaipese. e le Arts Council ma le DYWA. O le soso'oga o pesega ua soso'o ai lea e galulue ai le Rev. masi'i mai nei i le Fale Laumei Mose Katina ma le faletua. O le i Utulei ma ua filemu mea uma. Ua matua fa'afiafiaina tagata ia fuaina a latou pesega e fitu uma e maimoa ma le toto'a ma na soso'o lava e le motu lona fa'afofogaina pesega matagofie usuina ma sa matagofie lo latou na tapenapena i ai le mamalu sao. lautele o le atunu'u sa saunia ma ua pasia fa'apitoa latou sao Fa'afaife'au a le Samoa Bible mo lenei tausaga e ala i vi'iga o College a le AOG i Ottoville le Atua.

mai le matagofie o lea tumutumu mauga i teuga o la'au ma ia le iva fo'i le afiafi. Kerisimasi o lo'o gasolo atu le atunuu e maimoaina.

matagofie fo'i a latou pesega fofogaina. O le fuataimi lava ua mae'a tapena lelei, ma sa fo'i ina matua mataala. patipatia e le mamalu na potopesepesega.

fa'alauiloa mai o le Aufaipese a fa'asalamo sa latou usuina, Taputimu CCCAS ma sa lanu- matagofie tele. O latou toniga moana ma le papa'e le latou

toniga matagofie na latou la'eia O se suiga matagofie le suiga mo le latou sao. E tolu a latou ua i ai nei le nofoaga e fa'aauau vi'iga na tapena, ma e le avea ai Pesepesega mo le Kerisimasi fo'i le siufofoga matagofie o le

Leone Miracle AOG na tama'ita'i fo'i e ta'ita'ipese sa

O le masi'i mai o le A'oga Tafuna, e le'i tu'umamaina Na tatala le afiafi o pesega lava le latou avanoa. Na matua e Aufaipese a Aasu & Aoloai masi'i mai ma le mea atoa, aua Catholic mai luga o le mauga, o latou pesega na fa'aaoga e i peita'i o lea fo'i e logologoa latou pese vave, pese matagofie e talafeagai ma le fa'amoemoe,

E faia taga o latou pese e lua, ae matua matagofie fo'i le Ua fa'apea lava ona vi'iga na tolu i ai latou pese na

O le sao o Gataivai EFKAS poto lo latou sao na tatala ai sa soso'o ai ma le to'aitiiti ai lava le aofa'i o lea aufaipese Na soso'o lea ma le i lr matau atu i ai, a'o vi'iga

(Faaauau itulau 19)





O nisi o tapua'ia faiva o i latou na tofu sao mo pesega o le Kerisimasi 2017. Ao tatalia fo'i lo latou avanoa i luga o fa'afiafiaga. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]









O se va'aiga i le sao o le Aufaipese a Futiga EFKAS i pesepesega.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

tusia: Leua Aiono Frost

#### LAFOGA TOTOE E LE'I TOTOGIA E LE MALO - MAUA NEI LAVA!

Ona sa to'atele nisi na fa'asea mai i le tatou Ofisa o le nusipepa aua e le'i maua lava latou Lafoga o le tausaga ua te'a, ona avea lea ma mea e maofa ai fo'i le loto, aua ua manatu lava ua mae'a uma lafoga talu mai le toe taimi na tali ai ai le fa'ata malosi lea, peita'i ua o'o mai le Inilafoga ia Setema.

fiafia, "Ua faaalu atu uma lava nei lafoga uma o totoe i le aso ananafi ma le aso! Afai la o iai se tasi sa fa'asea atu ona o lea tulaga, o ia lena ua laki i lenei Kerisimasi, ua matua maua lava lona to'omaga e fa'aleleia ai lana Kerisimasi ma lona aiga." O se tala fiafia mai lea a se tasi ua leva fo'i o tautua mai lea vaega o le tatou malo.

Ua le maua pe fia se vaega o lo ua fa'atulaga e fa'aalu i lenei vaega o totoe o lafoga totogi mai i tagata faigaluega e le malo. Peita'i, o le vaega na totogia muamua ia Setema o nisi fo'i o lafoga s afa'ailoa mai e \$1.7miliona.

#### LE'I TOE LELEI LAVA LE MASINI FA'ATA OLE "MRI/CAT SCANNER"

Ua silia ma le 3 vaiaso talu ona tatalia le fa'aleleia atoatoa mai o le Fa'ata fa'apitoa o gasegase tuga o le tino, ina ia maua ai a'afiaga o le Kanesa, poo a'afiaga tuga fo'i o ivi ma so'oga o le tino.

fa'aaogaina. E tusa o le tolu vaiaso talu ai, sa fesimai na foma'i ma togafitiga e ao ina faia.

ligia ai ona o le to'atele e vala'au mai ma fa'asea ua le mafaia ona faia ni fa'ata e fa'aaogaina ai lenei fa'ata malosi, peita'i, ua le fa'atalia e tagata ae ua gasolo i latou i Samoa ma Niu Sila e faia ai latou fa'ata nei.Fa'ailoa mai e le susuga le CEO o le falemai Faumuina John Faumuina, "O totoga na aumai muamua e le'i toe mafai ona fa'aola sinia ma iloa ai e i ai isi mea fa'aopoopo o lo'o Peita'i na vala'au ma ua maua mai ai se tala mana'omia, lea fo'i la na toe saili ma ua faao'o mai i le meli lava. A mae'a loa ona fa'apipi'i ona siakia fo'i lea pe ua mafai ai ona fa'aaoga lenei fa'ata mo le sailiga o gasegase."O le fa'afitauli lea e iloga mai, e afua ona e faigata le mamao o le nofoaga o lo'o oka mai ai totoga nei e mana'omia o le fa'ata lea, ma e umi fo'i o tatalia le o'o mai o le meli i lenei vaitau pisi o le tausaga. Peita'i sa ia fa'ato'ese lava i le afioga le kovana sili ma le taupulega ona o le tuai ona toe fa'aaoga o le fa'ata lenei - CAT-Scanner.

I se saunoaga lava a Faumuina, sa ia fa'ailoa ai, "Ona e na'o le tasi lava lea fa'ata i le taimi nei, o lea ua so'ona fa'aaoga so'o ma avea ma ala e vevela umi ai le masini, ua vave ai fo'i ona leaga ona totoga. Ia a leaga la, o le faigata o le inisinia lava e muamua fiu e saili, lona lua o totoga e mo'omia ona o'o mai ma fa'apipi'i fo'i.'

Ua le taofiofia tagata e ao ina faia nei fa'ata ae ua fa'ataga lava ona atu i malo tuaoi e faia ai E aoga tele lenei fa'ata, peita'i ua le maua fa'aata ma fa'ao'o mai ai latou faitauga po'o a lava se tonu i le aso moni e mafai ai ona toe mai o latou gasegase, atoa ai ma se fa'aiuga fo'i



O se vaaiga i le Tausala Lalelei o Amerika Samoa, lea ua auai mai e maimoaina pesepesega o le Kerisimasi 2017 o le Tausala o le Atumotu o le Pasefika 2017. Malo le tauivi malo le fai o le faiva fa'avaomalo, Matauaina Toomalatai. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



O se tasi lea o va'aiga i taga matagofie sa tapena i ai le Samoa Bible College i a latou pese faitaga sa fa'atino ai le latou sao mo Pesega o le Kerisimasi 2017.

### Fa'afetaia e Lolo le kapineta galuega tautua le atunu'u i le 2017

tusia: Fili Sagapolutele

te'a sa toe fa'amanatu ai e le tautua." kovana i faatonu o matagalle malo, "o tatou o auauna a le malo o lo'o lumana'i. atunu'u".

Laumei i Utulei, ma na saunoa i le o taimi ia ua mavae atu," o a fa'afetai ai le kovana i sui uma Lolo lea. "Aisea? Ona o le taua o lana kapineta i le galuega i o le soifua o le atunuu. Uma lenei 12 maina, i le nofoaiga lenei nofoaiga tuu ni mea ua lona lua a le faigamalo a Lolo mafai ona tatou faia mo taitai o ma Lemanu.

I lenei masina, "toe nofo ma manuia le tatou atunuu." manatunatu i tua i le tausaga lo'o outou feagai ai.

"E o'o foi ia maua [ma feagai ai, i le o le galuega lea e fai e i maua," o a Lolo lea.

aua foi o la outou tautua, e Lemanu. a'afia ai soifua o o tatou tagata. tatou galuega."

le taua o le manatu mamafa oi Sa taua foi e le kovana, le latou i galuega o lo'o faia ina ia aoga o le vaega fa'asalalau ma aua ai ona a'afia le soifua o se le au tusitala i totonu o malo tagata.

"E ui ona o tatou o ta'ita'i, galuega e fai e le auauna. Ola le ta'ita'i 'au ma vaega 'au." atunu'u i lau galuega o lo'o fai."

la e silafia e le Atua ua tuu uma lea o le tautalaga a le kovana. i ai lo tatou malosi, e tautua le atunuu "

Saunoa le kovana "e tele fo'i I le fonotaga mulimuli o lenei mea fa'aletonu sa tatou faia ae tausaga a le afioga i le Kovana afai na suia se olaga o se tagata Sili, Lolo Matalasi Moliga, ma e tasi pe lua i tulaga manuia, e le lana kapineta i le aso Tofi ua o se tautua ma'imau la, le tatou

Sa toe fa'amalosi le kovana uega, ofisa ma vaega tu maoti o i lana kapineta, aua galuega a le

"E sili atu ona faigata taimi ia O le fonotga sa faia i le Fale o lo'o totoe o le tatou nofoaiga, lo'o mulimuli mai, ae ia soifua

I le saunoaga a le afioga i atoa, e ese le uiga ese mai le lutena kovana, sa ia faailoa nofoaiga i tua," o Lolo lea i lana ai i le kapineta e fa'apea ai, "o saunoaga i le kapineta. "E le o le galuega lea ua tatou tautua se galuega faigofie le galuega o ai le atunuu, o se galuega e le faigofie. O le galuega e finau."

"O la outou galuega e fai Lemanu] e i ai le ma talitonuga i aso uma, o le galuega lena a e fita atu le galuega o lo'o outou le kovana, o le tautuaina o le atunuu. Malo le galulue, malo le finau. Malo lava i le saili o Mo sui o le kapineta, "E ala mea lelei aua si o tatou atunuu," ona faigata la outou galuega, ose vaega lea o le tautalaga a

I le amataga o le saunoaga E a'afia loa soifua o o tatou a le kovana, sa momoli ai foi tagata i galuega, faigata loa a le fa'afetai i le 'au tusitala mai vaega o nusipepa ma le au Sa ia fa'amanatu i fa'atonu fa'asalalau (media) i le atunuu. fa'atemukalasi o le lalolagi.

"O le mea muamua, o le ae o le mea moni lava, o tatou o sa'olotoga lea e fa'asalalau ai, auauna a le atunu'u. E le mafai ma fa'ailoa ai so'o se faigamalo, ona e iloa le tigaina i lau galuega o se tulaga aloaia lea i totonu o pe a le fai oe ma auauna," o le faigamalo fa'a-temukarasi," o saunoaga lea a le kovana i lana le saunoaga lea a Lolo. "A le i kapineta. "E fai oe ma ta'ita'i, ai le media, le i ai le fa'alauiloa, ae o le fatu o lau galuega, o le e foliga mai, o se malo pulea e

"O le isi lenei elemeni e pito "O le agaga fa'afetai laea sili ona taua, i so'o se faigamalo ma le atu lutena kovana, e le fa'a-temukarasi, ia lelei ona lava ma upu e momoli atu ai le feso'otai le media ma le faigafa'afetai," o a Lolo lea. "O ma malo. Fa'afetai atu i le tatou agaga fa'afetai ma le agaga vivii au fai nusipepa. E ui lava foi i le Atua, ona ua aoga lo tatou ina eseese i le tele o taimi, ae o ola, e tautua lo tatou atunuu. O a eseese e aoga mo le aga'i i luma isi mea e tutupu mai i le atunuu, o le tatou faigamalo," o le vaega



Afioga i le kovana sili, Lolo Matalasi Moliga i le taimi o lana saunoaga i le fonotaga ma lana kaptineta i le vaiaso ua te'a.



Leone Miracle AOG lea ua fa'afiafia ma pesepese i vi'iga o le Atua i le latou Medley sa saunia. Matagofie lo latou sao i le afiafi o Pesega o le Kerisimasi na faia i le Gov Lee Auditorium i le afiafi

# E LE O OE O SE SULI MONI

by Sam

E leai ma se isi o le tamaitai peresetene ma lana staff na toe gagana i le taimi na latou vaaia ai le sosolo malie atu o le ta'avale a Laneselota, lea e fa'afeao atu e le ta'avale a ana auauna e to'alua. E aga'i malie atu lava le ta'avale a le alii milionea ma lana manamea, ae o le taimi lea o lo o tusi tusi solo ai lima o le fafine peresetene, o loo faatonu lana staff ina ia tatala i lalo le ie o loo tautau i luma tonu lava o le faitotoa e ulufale ai i totonu o le fale lea ua faatumulia i malo ma lea ona tu i luma tonu lava o le vaega lea e pisi ai le fafine peresetene ma lana staff i le tau toe tatalaina i lalo o le ie sa tautau i luma o le faitoto'a o le fale. Na tau fai togi uma ane ulu o le peresetene ma lana staff i le ta'avale a Lanseselota lea ua tu atu i o latou luma, ma tulimata'i la latou vaai poo ai lea la'a muamua ona oso atu i fafo mai le ta'avale. E lei umi ona tu le ta'avale ae vaaia loa le matala o le faitoto'a, ma vaia ai Laneselota ua oso atu i fafo mai le ta'avale, ona savali lea i le isi itu o le ma tatala le faitoto'a, ma vaaia ai le oso mai i fafo o Ianeta. Na tago le ali'i i le lima o lana manamea

le vaega tonu o loo galulue mai maua naunau ma te fia auai e ai le peresetene ma lana staff. "Talofa Laneselota ma Ianeta", lana manamea, ona fa'apea fo'i lea ona tali atu Laneselota ma Ianeta i le fafine peresetene ma

faailoa atu i ai o la foliga fiafia. "Talofa Ianeta, e ese le

lagolago ma molimauina lenei fa'amoemoe, ona o ni isi nei o o le faafeiloa'i ane lea a le fafine vaega o le olaga sa a'oa'oina ai i peresetene i le ali'i milionea ma maua i totonu o aoaoga sa maua auai, ina ia aua nei fa'atauaina vaega vaivai o le olaga poo mea faaletonu e fai mai e tagata ia tei maua, a ia faailoa atu i ai uiga tausaafia atoa ai ma lagona o le matagofie o lou laei i lenei aso, e loto maualalo ma le fa'amagalo, foliga mai ua leva ona tulimata'i aua o le finagalo lea o le Atua lau vaai i lenei fa'amoemoe mo i tatou lana fanau, ia fusia i taua, e sa'o lea," o le fesili atu tatou uma i le alofa, filemu ma lea a le fafine peresetene, ae sa le loto maualalo". Sa na o le na o le luelue o le ulu o Ianeta ma luelue ulu o le fafine peresetene tagata valaaulia, aemaise ai aig ona laufofoga fiafia e fa'ailoa ao talanoa ane Ianeta e fa'atatau lima vaivai lea ua faapitoa i ai le atu i ai lona lagolagoina o lona i ona lagona e tusa ai o le tulaga olokalame. Na ona sosolo atu finagalo. Na ese lagona o le sa tula'i mai. A o talanoa le lava o le ta'avale a le tama ma fafine peresetene i le taimi lea, e fafine peresetene ma Ianeta, lana manamea, ona fa'afuase'i ui i le tulaga le manuia e pei ona sa vaaia le aga'i atu o le ali'i o tula'i mai i gaioiga a lana staff, Laneselota ma talanoa atu i sui ae foliga mai o loo vaaia pea o le staff o loo galulue i le toe foliga fiafia o Laneselota ma tatalaina i lalo o le ie sa tautau lana manamea. "Ua lua sauni i luma o le faitoto'a "Aisea ua tatou te aga'i atu i totonu o le toe tatala ai i lalo le ie sa outou hall mo le amataina o le polo- tigaina e fa'apipi'i i luga," o le kalame," o le toe fesili fia iloa fesili atu lea a Laneselota ma atu lea a le fafine peresetene ia ona foliga fiafia i sui o le staff, e Ianeta ma Laneselota, lea fo'i sa aofia ai ma le tama'ita'i Failautali atu i ai le tamaita'i meauli, tusi sa ia faia le fa'atonuga o loo "Ioe lau susuga i le peresetene, tu mai i le isi itu. E leai se isi ua leva ona tuli mata'i mai la na gagana, se'i vagana ai le tau maua vaai ma te fia auai i lenei fai punonou uma i lalo e foliga faamoemoe matagofie, ae paga mai o i latou uma o ni tagata ua lea, ua suia atoa lagona fiafia sauni e lau a latou fa'asalaga ma le naunau sa ia te a'u, ina ina ua faamaonia le moliaga o ua tau atu la'u vaai i faaupuga le fasioti tagata. Na faliu Lanesa tusia i le ie sa faapipii i luma selota i le itu o loo tu mai ai le o le faitoto'a o le fale. Ae ui i tamaitai Failautusi ma fesili atu tulaga faaletonu e pei ona mai- i ai, "Aisea ua e faia ai lenei ua u'u ma la savali to'alua atu i tauina, e le o aveesea ai lava lo mea leaga ia te a'u."

### Pesepesega...

Mai itulau 17

fa'apenei.

O le Fagaitua Katoliko na

matofie siufofoga o tama'ita'i Kerisimasi 2017. na tau'avea le soprano i lea Mesia e togiola le lalolagi.

Matagofie lo latou sao i lava.

fo'i sa fa'afuala'au pa'epa'e pesega o le Kerisimasi i lenei e palasi lelei i le lanumoana tausaga, ma avea fo'i lo latou vaivai, ma e ata tele i afiafi sao ma fiafiaga o le afiafi o pesega mo le Ali'i.

Na soso'o lea ma Holy Place soso'o ai i o latou vi'iga na Youth a Pavaiai Penetekoso, saunia e fa, ma sa fa'anotaina o le A'oga a Coleman ECE e le tama'ita'i faia'oga musika PTA na soso'o ai. O le sao ole sa ia taimiina fo'i nei vi'iga mo Aufaipese a Lauli'i Metotisi na le aufaipese lea. Matagofie fo'i soso'o ai i le fa'asologa, Nuuuli lo latou sao, ma sa tau fai pati- CCCAS Youth a soso'o ae patia fo'i e le mamalu na sasao tomuli le afiafi ia Pavaiai Katolo latou sao i le afiafi a tamali'i. liko ma Faga'alu CCCAS na O le Aufaipese #2 Futiga taualuga ai le fa'amoemoe atoa EFKAS na soso'o ai ma sa i le po lona lua o pesega o le

O le fofoga o le afiafi o le aufaipese, e to'afa lava i latou susuga le Komesina o Leoleo ae matua au lava nota maua- Le'i Sonny Thompson ma o luluga sa usuina ai nei vi'iga le toe tatalo e fa'aiu ai le afiafi taua e fa'ailo ai le afio mai o le na si'itia lea e Rev. Lalomauga Pa'au o le EFKAS i Faga'alu

# **New York Islanders** may be returning from city to suburbs

including Newsday reported York Yankees. Tuesday that the team won a bid to build a new arena on the Jon Ledecky said the team will grounds of the Belmont Park play at the Barclays Center in racetrack, home to the third leg Brooklyn through the end of of horse racing's Triple Crown next season and the "singular each June. An announce- focus" beyond that was for a ment by Democratic Gov. new arena at Belmont Park. Andrew Cuomo was expected Wednesday.

Garden. A spokesman for the be a Long Island staple. partners declined to comment

racetrack. The state also solic- at Barclays Center. ited bids to develop the land in 2012 but wound up scrapping Bettman has said playing games all proposals a year ago.

Also bidding on the site viable.

The New York Islanders soccer team, which envisioned hockey team may be returning building a stadium on the site, to the New York suburbs after in Elmont, just east of New a move to Brooklyn floundered. York City. The soccer team is Several news organizations partially owned by the New

Last month, Islanders owner

The team played at the Nassau Coliseum from its incep-The Islanders submitted a tion in 1972 until 2015, windevelopment bid for a portion ning the Stanley Cup every year of the Belmont complex in Sep-from 1980 to 1983. A move to tember with several partners the Brooklyn arena was greeted including owners of the New with displeasure by fans, who York Mets and Madison Square always considered the team to

The Islanders played a preseason game at the refurbished The state-run Empire State Coliseum, now called NYCB Development Corp. announced Live. After renovations the in July a request for proposals to arena now has a capacity of develop 36 acres (15 hectares) about 13,000 for hockey, less of vacant and underutilized than the 16,170 it had previparking lots at the site of the ously and the 15,795 currently

> NHL Commissioner Gary there on a regular basis was not



In this photo provided by the Santa Barbara County Fire Department, CAL FIRE Inmate Firefighting Hand Crew members hike through the charred landscape on their way to work east of Gibraltar Road above Montecito, Calif., Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2017. Officials estimate that the fire will grow to become the biggest in California history before full containment, expected by Jan. 7.

(Mike Eliason/Santa Barbara County Fire Department via AP)

# Long-term wildfire evacuees face holidays away from home

Christmas tree is up, still family will make do in Los decorate it. The presents are hidden away in closets, waiting to be wrapped, the ingredients for gingerbread men are sitting in cupboards, and the kinchopped.

A monster of a wildfire burning in Southern California froze the Sawyers' plans for a big family Christmas and has forced the couple from their Santa Barbara home for nearly two weeks.

Even if their beloved home of five decades survives the next predicted onslaught of winds, the Sawyers are preparing for have presents to open. Christmas in yet another hotel.

"This is getting ridiculous," said the 82-year-old Curry cles, mostly for children. And Sawyer from her hotel in Goleta Christmas came early for one fire's northern edge. on Tuesday."My husband has 5-year-old boy who was handed the feeling, 'Why aren't they a Mickey Mouse doll. letting us back in?' but they've got hot spots up there and if we get more Santa Ana winds, we're going to be back to square one," Sawyer said. "I'm not sure we're out of the woods."

The Sawyers are among thousands of frustrated evacuees who've been away from home for days or weeks, living out of hotels or evacuation shelters, or staying with friends or family. Some have no home to go back to while others are just hoping theirs survive.

The Sawyers were planning a big family Christmas with their sons, who each are married and have a daughter, and live in Los Angeles and Amherst, Massachusetts.

If their home doesn't make it, or if a mandatory evacu-

- Ray and Curry Sawyer's Christmas, Sawyer said the waiting for their grandkids to Angeles. Her son's home can accommodate her other son's family, but Sawyer and her husband would have to stay in a

"We'll be more just trying dling for the fireplace has been to cramp ourselves into a small space," she said. "But at least we'll be together.'

As of Tuesday, 432 people were still staying at evacuation shelters run by the Red Cross, Duncan said.

The shelters are preparing to stay open for Christmas and many agencies are donating toys so that the children there

One company already donated more than 100 bicy-

"He just grabbed it and cried because he had lost all of his toys and just thought there would be no Christmas," terday was Christmas."

Marolyn Romero-Sim, her husband and their 9-year-old daughter have been at an evacuation shelter in Ventura for two weeks after they watched their home of four years, an RV, burn in the wildfire, along with their beloved dog, their Christmas tree and a few presents.

The family is trying to save money for another RV but know they'll probably be in the shelter for Christmas.

"I try not to let my daughter know, but I feel horrible," the 34-year-old Romero-Sim said through tears Tuesday. "She's route.

ANGELES (AP) ation remains in place come being so understanding. She's just thankful we're going to be together for Christmas.'

The devastating fire that began on Dec. 4 is responsible for two deaths, has destroyed at least 750 homes and burned about 425 square miles (1,100 square kilometers), making it the second-largest in the state since accurate records were kept starting in 1932.

Officials estimate that the Thomas Fire will grow to become the biggest in California agency spokeswoman Georgia history before full containment, expected by Jan. 7.

A respite from powerful winds allowed firefighters to reach 55 percent containment on the fire, and crews were taking advantage of calm conditions Tuesday by performing a controlled burn to remove swaths of dry brush along the

"We're going to take a lot of that fuel out of there," fire Capt. Rick Crawford said. "That way when the winds come back there'll be nothing left to burn."

Hot, gusty winds that caused Duncan said. "To him, yes- a huge flare-up and forced more evacuations last weekend are expected to whip up again Wednesday.

Although some evacuations were lifted Monday and more residents were being allowed to return Tuesday, hillside homes are still threatened in Santa Barbara, about 100 miles northwest of Los Angeles.

Firefighter Cory Iverson, 32, died Dec. 14 of burns and smoke inhalation while battling the flames. The blaze is also blamed for the Dec. 6 death of a 70-vear-old woman who died in a car crash on an evacuation

#### NOTICE FOR SEPARATION AGREEMENT

TO Members of the PU'U Family and to all whom these present may come! NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that FA'ATA'AMILO FILIOALII, MEAFUA, JOSHUA & MOEIMALA-

ETELE FILIOALII of NUUULI has offered for recording in this office an instrument in writing which seeks to separate a certain structure which is or to be erected, on land **VAITELE** allegedly belonging to PU'U FAMILY of the village of NUUULI. Said land VAITELE is situated in or near the village of NUUULI in the County of ITUAU MALOSI, Island of TUTUILA, American Samoa.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any interested person may object to the recording of such instrument by filing in the Territorial Registar's Office in Fagatogo, a written objection to the recording of said instrument. Any objections thereto must be filed with in 30 days from the date of posting of this notice. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that if no such objections are filed within the said 30 day period, the instrument will be recorded and shall be valid and binding on all persons. The said instrument may be

examined at any time at the Territorial Registrar's Office. NOVEMBER 27, 2017 thru DECEMBER 27, 2017 Taito S.B. White, Territorial Registrar

#### FA'AALIGA O LE FEAGAIGA MO SE TU'U'ESEINA

I tagata o le aiga sa PU'U, ma i latou uma e silasila ma lauiloaina lenei fa'aaliga! O le fa'aaliga lenei ona o FA'ATA'AMILO FILIOALII, MEAFUA, JOSHUA & MOEIMALAETELE

FILIOALII o le nu'u o NUUULI ua ia fa'aulufaleina mai i lenei ofisa se feagaiga tusitusi e fa'ailoa ai se mana'oga fia tu'u'eseina o se fale ua/po o le a, fa'atuina i luga o le fanua o VATTELE e fa'asino i le aiga sa PU'U, o le nu'u o NUUULI. O lenei fanua e totonu pe latalata ane i le nu'u o NUUULI, itumalo o ITUAU MALOSI, ile motu o TUTUILA, Amerika Samoa.

O le fa'aaliga fo'i e fa'apea, so o se tasi e iai sona aia i lenei mata'upu e mafai ona fa'atu'i'iese ile fa'amauina o lenei feagaiga pe a auina mai i le ofisa ole Resitara o le Teritori of Amerika Samoa i Fagatogo, sana fa'atu'ese tusitusia. O fa'atu'iesega uma lava e ao ona fa'aulufaleina mai i totonu o aso e 30 faitauina mai i le aso na faíaalia ai lenei fa'aaliga.

Afai ole a leai se fa'atu' i'esega e fa'aulufaleina i totonu o aso 30 e pei ona ta'ua i luga, o le a fa'amauina loa lenei feagaiga e taualoaina ma 'a'afia ai tagata uma.

12/06 & 12/20/17

#### NOTICE FOR SEPARATION AGREEMENT

TO Members of the SAVE Family and to all whom these present may come! NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that R.T. SEVAAETASI, LEATA SEVAAETASI, MICHAEL P. SEVAAE TASI, TALIMAI MARIAH S. SEVAAETASI & NAKAYSIA SEVAAETASI of LEONE has offered for recording in this office an instrument in writing which seeks to separate a certain structure which is or to be erected, on land **TIAALUGA** allegedly belonging to SAVE FAMILY of the village of LEONE. Said land TIAALUGA is situated in or near the village of LEONE in the County of FOFO, Island of TUTUILA, American Samoa

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any interested person may object to the recording of such instrument by filing in the Territorial Registar's Office in Fagatogo, a written objection to the recording of said instrument. Any objections thereto must be filed with in 30 days from the date of posting of this notice. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that if no such objections are filed within the said 30 day period, the instrument will be recorded and shall be valid and binding on all persons. The said instrument may be examined at any time at the Territorial Registrar's Office.

POSTED: DECEMBER 1, 2017 thru JANUARY 2, 2018 Taito S.B. White, Territorial Registrar

#### FA'AALIGA O LE FEAGAIGA MO SE TU'U'ESEINA

I tagata o le aiga sa SAVE, ma i latou uma e silasila ma lauiloaina lenei fa'aaliga! O le fa'aaliga lenei ona o R.T. SEVAAETASI, LEATA SEVAAETASI, MICHAEL P. SEVAAETASI, TAL-IMAI MARIAH S. SEVAAETASI & NAKAYSIA SEVAAETASI o le nu'u o LEONE ua ia fa'aulufaleina mai i lenei ofisa se feagaiga tusitusi e fa'ailoa ai se mana'oga fia tu'u'eseina o se fale ua/po o le a, fa'atuina i luga o le fanua o TIAALUGA e fassino i le aiga sa SAVE, o le nu'u o LEONE. O lenei fanua e totonu pe latalata ane i le nu'u o LEONE, titumalo o FOFO, ile motu o TUTUILA, Amerika Samoa.

O le fa'aaliga fo'i e fa'apea, so o se tasi e iai sona aia i lenei mata'upu e mafai ona fa'atu'i'iese ile fa'amauina o lenei feagaiga pe a auina mai i le ofisa ole Resitara o le Teritori of Amerika Samoa i Fagatogo, sana fa'atu'ese tusitusia. O fa'atu'iesega uma lava e ao ona fa'aulufaleina mai i totonu o aso e 30 faitauina mai i le aso na faíaalia ai lenei fa'aaliga

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loa lenei feagaiga e taualoaina ma 'a'afia ai tagata uma.

12/06 & 12/20/17



# Official: North Cascades grizzly bear recovery work halted

a national parks official told a to Montana newspaper.

But Zinke spokeswoman did not direct a stop work order Swift didn't provide further central British Columbia. details.

Park Superintendent Karen Taylor-Goodrich told the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee last week that her staff had been asked to halt work on its environmental review, the Missoulian reported.

discussions with Canadian zones. The others are in Monwildlife managers who oversee a similar grizzly recovery process in British Columbia.

"We were in the process of evaluating public comment," Taylor-Goodrich said of the stop order. "We're in year three of the process and all the public scoping has been done. The draft EIS went out for public review in spring and we've received about 127,000 comments."

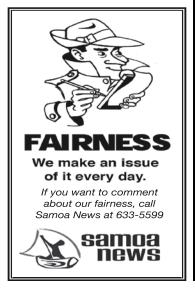
A park spokeswoman in Washington state on Tuesday referred all questions to the Interior Department.

The National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have been considering four options to restore the grizzly population, including taking no action.

Three alternatives seek to restore a population of about 200 bears, by relocating animals to 9,800 square miles of mostly public land in and around North Cascades National Park and letting them breed. The options differ in the number of bruins initially released and the time expected to get to that goal, ranging from 25 years for the expedited option to 60 to 100 years for the other two alternatives.

Supporters of the proposals to bring back the population say the population won't recover without help and their return would increase the biodiversity of the ecosystem.

Others say the animals



MISSOULA, Mont. (AP) — should recover naturally, while Work to restore grizzly bears to some worry about potential the North Cascades Ecosystem increased dangers to recreationhas been stopped by Interior ists and livestock and opposed Secretary Ryan Zinke's office, the move over potential impacts communities, ranchers, farmers and others.

Federal officials have noted Heather Swift told The Associ- that grizzly bears would be ated Press Tuesday that Zinke relocated in remote areas. They would likely come from areas in on the environmental review. northwestern Montana or south-

They were listed as threat-North Cascades National ened under the Endangered Species Act in 1975. In the North Cascades, the population is estimated to be fewer than 20 animals, according to Fish and Wildlife Service.

A federal 1997 plan designated the North Cascades as one She said the order also stalls of five grizzly bear recovery tana, Wyoming and Idaho.



In this March 10, 2017 photo, Blackfeet Tribal Business Council Chairman Harry Barnes laughs with Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke after a ceremony with members of the Blackfeet tribe in West Glacier, Mont. Even as it clashes with American Indians over reductions to national monuments in the Southwest, the Trump administration is engaging with a Montana tribe over the creation of a new monument next to its reservation. (Greg Lindstrom/Flathead Beacon via AP)



American Samoa Power Authority

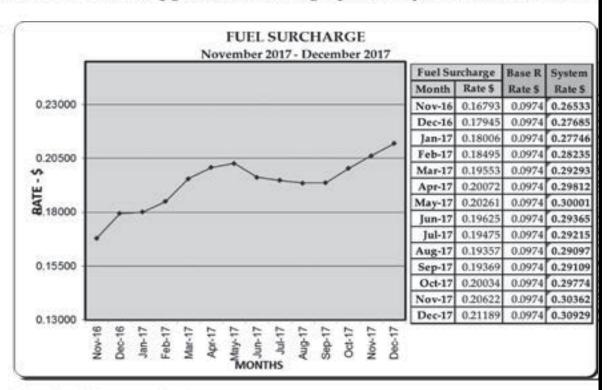
December 15, 2017

# Monthly Fuel Surcharge Notification

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

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

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

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

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



Gataitai CCCAS choir performed Monday night at the Gov. H. Rex Lee Auditorium during the second night of the 40th Annual Territorial Holiday Music Festival sponsored by the Arts Council of American Samoa, and funded by the National Endowment of the Arts with additional funding from the Special Programs under the Governor's Office. Tonight is the final nite of the festival.

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	RICE DIAMOND - 15lb	
•	RICE DIAMOND - 4/10lb	
•	RICE FRC - 40LB	\$19.95/ble
	RICE FRC - 20LB	
	RICE SUNWHITE - 50LB	
•	STARKIST EATWELL TUNA-12/5oz	

	KICE SUNWHITE - SULB \$24.49/DIE
•	STARKIST EATWELL TUNA-12/5oz \$13.95/cs
ST	TARKIST TUNA POUCHES
	CHUNK LIGHT TUNA SUNFLOWER OIL - 10/6.4oz
	\$ 8.95/cs
	CHUNK LIGHT TUNA SUNFLOWER OIL - 10/2.6oz
	\$ 4.95/cs
	CHUNK LIGHT TUNA - 10/2.60z
	\$ 4.95/cs
•	ALBACORE WHITE TUNA IN WATER - 10/2.6 oz
	\$ 6.95/cs
	STARKIST SELECT YELLOW FIN EVOO - 10/2.6oz
	\$ 5.95/cs

# Asian shares mixed in listless trading on Wall Street fall

TOKYO (AP) — Asian shares were mixed Wednesday in listless trading after the fall on Wall Street that reversed the recent gains over the Republican-backed U.S. tax bill.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 lost 0.1 percent to 22,849.81 in morning trading. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 was little changed at 6,074.10. South Korea's Kospi was also unchanged at 2,478.44. Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 0.2 percent at 29,314.09, while the Shanghai Composite added nearly 0.1 percent to 3,298.61.

US TAXES: The recent upbeat sentiments over the U.S. tax bill appeared to be waning. Investors like the proposed tax cut because it would boost corporate profits and likely raise stock prices along with it.

The bill, set for a final vote in the House later in the day, would initially cut taxes for most Americans, but by 2027 would increase tax bills for most

most.

WALL STREET: The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 8.69 points, or 0.3 percent, to 2,681.47. The Dow Jones industrial average shed 37.45 points, or 0.2 percent, to 24,754.75. The Nasdaq composite gave up 30.91 points, or 0.4 percent, to 6,963.85. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks fell 12.17 points, or 0.8 percent, to 1,536.75. It climbed almost 3 percent over the previous two days.

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Leone Assembly of God church group performed Monday night at the Gov. H. Rex Lee Auditorium during the second night of the 40th Annual Territorial Holiday Music Festival sponsored by the Arts Council of American Samoa, and funded by the National Endowment of the Arts with additional funding from the Special Programs under the Governor's Office. [photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

## **Union: Min**neapolis officers who shot man

### were 'heroic'

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) -The head of the Minneapolis police union said Tuesday that officers were "heroic" in shooting a man to try to stop him from cutting his own throat with a knife at City Hall.

The incident happened Monday in an interview room at the Minneapolis Police Department, which is inside City Hall. Police Chief Medaria Arradondo said Monday the man was alone in the interview room when he pulled out the weapon and began harming himself. Officers shot him after attempting to subdue him, and the wounded man was taken to a hospital.

Union president Bob Kroll said Tuesday that video of the incident will show the officers tried to de-escalate the situation before shooting.

"The officers, not only did they not take a life, they saved a life," he said. "It's nothing short of heroic."

The shooting is being investigated by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, which investigates most police shootings in the state. In a news release Tuesday night, the BCA identified the man who was shot as 18-year-old Marcus Fischer of Minneapolis and said he is at a hospital being treated for his injuries. It did not provide details about his condition.

It wasn't immediately clear how the man got a weapon into the interview room.



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### Michael Jackson sex abuse lawsuit dismissed

singer's holdings.

acquitted in that trial.

ruled in 2015 that Robson had about the money.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A filed his lawsuit too late to get judge on Tuesday dismissed any of Jackson's estate. That the lawsuit brought by a chore- left two remaining defendants, ographer who alleged Michael both corporate entities owned Jackson molested him as a by Jackson in his lifetime: MJJ child, resolving one of the last Productions, Inc., and MJJ major claims against the late Ventures, Inc.The judge ruled Tuesday that those two corpo-Judge Mitchell L. Beckl- rate defendants could not be off's summary judgment ruling held responsible for Robson's against the now-35-year-old exposure to Jackson, the way Wade Robson found that the a school or the Boy Scouts can two Jackson-owned corporabe found liable for bringing tions, which were the remaining together an abusive adult and defendants in the case, were not a child victim. Finaldi said the liable for Robson's exposure reasoning sets a dangerous to Jackson. He did not rule on precedent."What the judge is the credibility of Robson's alle-saying is that you if own a corgations themselves. Robson's poration or a company, you can attorney, Vince Finaldi, said hire people, use these people to he strongly disagrees and plans facilitate your sexual abuse, use to appeal. Robson, a native of them to facilitate victims," Fin-Australia who has worked with aldi told The Associated Press Britney Spears and NSYNC, by phone. "So long as you're the met Jackson when he was 5 sole owner of that corporation, years old. He testified in Jack- the corporation can't be held son's defense at the singer's liable." Jackson estate attorney 2005 criminal trial, saying he Howard Weitzman said in a had spent the night at Jackson's statement that he "believes the Neverland Ranch more than 20 court made the correct decitimes and usually slept in Jack- sion in dismissing Wade Robson's room, but Jackson never son's claim against it. "In my molested him. Jackson was opinion Mr. Robson's allegations, made 20 plus years after Then in 2013 about four they supposedly occurred and years after the singer's death, years after Mr. Robson testified Robson sued the Jackson estate twice under oath — including in for what his attorneys described front of a jury — that Michael as molestation that spanned Jackson had never done anya seven-year period.A court thing wrong to him was always



FILE - This Sept. 27, 2017 file photo shows Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., center, joining Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, R-Wis., and other GOP lawmakers to talk about the Republicans' proposed rewrite of the tax code for individuals and corporations, at the Capitol in Washington. The Republican tax plan will deliver a swift adrenaline shot to the economy that will send hundreds of billions pouring into federal tax coffers, the Trump administration asserts in a new analysis. House and Senate negotiators are rushing to finalize the tax legislation and deliver the promised measure to President Donald Trump before Christmas. Trump will try on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017 to sell the American people on an unpopular GOP tax overhaul.

# **Highlights of GOP compro**mise bill to overhaul tax code

WASHINGTON

nation's tax code, with votes

(AP) in the House and Senate on current adoption tax credit. Republicans in Con- Tuesday and a final vote in the gress are barreling ahead on House on Wednesday. Presi- deduction: Limits the deductheir sweeping revamp of the dent Donald Trump is aching to tion to interest paid on the first sign it before Christmas.

> Highlights of the legislation, rent limit is \$1 million. which would make about \$1.5 trillion in tax cuts:

changes them to 10, 12, 22, 24, gross income. That rises to 10 32, 35 and 37 percent. The top percent starting in 2020. bracket for wealthiest earners, current \$1 million.

The reductions in personal ending in 2026.

 Standard deduction: Used drilling. by about 70 percent of U.S. for individuals and \$24,000 for couples, expiring in 2026.

- Personal exemption: The tax is repealed for corporations. bill ends the current \$4,050 personal exemption.

for state and local income and \$10,000 in combined property, the tax in 2025. income or sales taxes.

families making up to \$400,000 \$2,000 credit is available as a tax refund to lower- and middleincome families with relatively dependent care for children and earnings. older dependents; it retains the

 Home mortgage interest \$750,000 of a new loan for a first or second home. The cur-

— Other deductions: Allows deduction for medical expenses - Personal income tax not covered by insurance for rates: The bill retains the current 2018 and 2019 when expenses number of brackets, seven, but exceed 7.5 percent of adjusted

 Individual insurance man-39.6 under current law, drops date: Repeals the requirement to 37 percent. But it will kick in in Democrat Barack Obama's at a lower level, \$600,000 per health care law that people pay married couple, instead of the a tax penalty if they don't purchase health insurance.

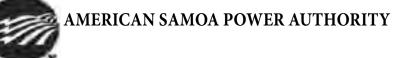
 Alaska oil drilling: Bill income tax rates are temporary, opens Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas

— Alternative minimum tax: taxpayers, currently \$6,350 The AMT is aimed at ensuring for individuals and \$12,700 that higher-earning people and for married couples. The bill corporations pay at least some doubles those levels to \$12,000 tax. For individuals, the bill increases the amount that can be exempted from the AMT. The

Inheritance tax: Currently, when someone dies the - State and local taxes: Ends estate owes taxes on the value of the unlimited federal deduction assets transferred to heirs above \$5.5 million for individuals, sales taxes, allowing the deduc- \$11 million for couples. The bill tion only for a total of up to doubles those limits and repeals

 Corporate taxes: Bill - Tax credits: Doubles per- slashes the current 35 percent child tax credit to \$2,000 for rate to 21 percent starting Jan. 1.

Pass-through businesses: a year. Up to \$1,400 of the Millions of U.S. businesses "pass through" their income to individuals, who then pay personal income tax on those small tax bills. The per-child earnings, not corporate tax. The credit expires in 2026. The bill bill lets those people deduct 20 also provides a tax credit for percent of the first \$315,000 of



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### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

RFP No: ASPA18.012.ESD-WTR Closing Date & Time: Friday, December 29, 2017 No later than 2:00 p.m. local time Issuance Date: December 01, 2017

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

"Water Use Information Project for American Samoa"

#### Submission

An original and one PDF copy of the Proposal must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: "RFP No. ASPA 18.012.ESD-WTR Water Use Information Project for Am. Samoa." Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), Friday, December 29, 2017:

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

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

#### **Document**

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

#### Right of Rejection

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

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



FILE - In this Thursday, Aug. 5, 2004 file photo, Cardinal Bernard Law has his skull cap adjusted during the ceremony for Our Lady of the Snows, in St. Mary Major's Basilica in Rome, Italy. An official with the Catholic Church says Cardinal Bernard Law, the disgraced former archbishop of Boston, has died at 86. Law recently had recently been hospitalized in Rome. Law stepped down under pressure in 2002 over his handling of clergy sex abuse cases. (AP Photo/Domenico Stinellis, File)

# Cardinal Bernard Law, central figure in abuse scandal, dies

worst crisis in American Cathol- beg forgiveness." icism, has died, a church official said Tuesday. He was 86.Law grace for Law and a rare step of Springfield-Cape Girardeau had been sick and was recently for the church, which deeply hospitalized in Rome. The offi-resists public pressure but could cial who confirmed the death no longer do so given the scope was not authorized to make the of the crisis. Since 1950, more announcement and asked to than 6,500, or about 6 percent of remain anonymous. The Vat- U.S. priests, have been accused in Massachusetts and beyond, ican was expected to make a of molesting children, and statement later Wednesday.

Pope John Paul II.

mushrooming scandal reform. But thousands more church records were released describing new cases of how Law and others expressed more care for accused priests than for victims. Amid a groundswell against the cardinal, including rare public rebukes from some of his own priests, Law asked to Torreon Mexico, Law was the former priest John Geoghan resign and the pope said yes.

this action may help the arch- was a Presbyterian convert to children. More than 130 people diocese of Boston to experi- Catholicism. He was educated eventually came forward to say ence the healing, reconcilia- throughout North and South Geoghan abused them. The tion and unity which are so America and the Virgin Islands archdiocese paid \$10 million in desperately needed," Law said before graduating in 1953 from settlements with 86.

BOSTON (AP) — Cardinal when he stepped down as head Harvard University. He was Bernard Law, the disgraced of the Boston archdiocese in ordained in 1961 and camformer archbishop of Boston December of that year. "To all paigned for civil rights in Miswhose failures to stop child those who have suffered from sissippi, sometimes traveling molesters in the priesthood my shortcomings and mistakes, in the trunks of cars for safety. sparked what would become the I both apologize and from them After a post with the national

the American church has paid Law was once one of the more than \$3 billion in settlemost important leaders in the ments to victims, according to U.S. church. He broadly influstudies commissioned by the enced Vatican appointments U.S. bishops and media reports. to American dioceses, helped As the leader of the archdiocese set priorities for the nation's at the epicenter for the scandal, bishops and was favored by Law remained throughout his life a symbol of the church's But in January 2002, The widespread failures to protect Boston Globe began a series children.Still, Law retained records to reveal that Law 2004, he was appointed archhad transferred abusive clergy priest of the Basilica of St. Mary among parish assignments for Major, one of four principal devoted to building Catholicyears without alerting par- basilicas in Rome. When John Jewish relations, including ents or police. Within months, Paul died the next year, Law was leading a delegation of Jewish Catholics around the country among bishops who presided at and other Massachusetts leaders demanded to know whether a memorial Mass for the pon- in a 1986 visit to the Austheir bishops had done the same. tiff in St. Peter's Basilica. Law chwitz death camp in Poland. Law tried to manage the also continued for several years He worked closely with church in to serve in Vatican dicasteries, his own archdiocese by first or policy-making committees, as an unofficial envoy of the refusing to comment, then including the Congregation for pope to Cuba and revolutionary apologizing and promising Bishops, which recommends appointments to the pope. Advocates for victims saw the shadowed by the scandal. In posts as a sign of favor for Law by church officials unrepentant about abused children.Law was the move "Spotlight," the Globe expected to leave a far different reported that Law and two of mark on the church.

only child of a U.S. Air Force among parish assignments "It is my fervent prayer that colonel and a mother who despite knowing he molested

bishops' conference, he was It was a stunning fall from named bishop of the Diocese in Missouri, then archbishop of Boston in 1984, a prominent appointment to the country's fourth-largest diocese.

Law was a prominent voice especially as abortion. He publicly challenged public officials such as Gov. William Weld and Lt. Gov. Paul Cellucci over their support for abortion rights. The cardinal was among a chorus of bishops sharply critical of Geraldine Ferraro, the 1984 Democratic nominee for vice president and a Catholic over her support for abortion rights. Under President George W. of reports that used church some support in the Vatican. In Bush, Law was a regular visitor to the White House.

Within the church, he was leaders in Latin America, acting leader Fidel Castro. However, Law's legacy has been overthe notorious case that started the 2002 crisis, as recounted in his predecessors as Boston Born Nov. 4, 1931, in archbishop had transferred

### **Grand jury: Enough evidence for** charges in FSU pledge death

the death of a Florida State University fraternity pledge but that the time of the autopsy. the investigation is incomplete.

issued a 17-page presentment charges up to the state attorney's office or a future grand jury. It into Andrew Coffey's death.

Campbell said.

Investigations by the state sity police are ongoing.

iner Dr. Lisa Flannagan said in before calling 911.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) testimony that the 20-year old - A grand jury said Tuesday Coffey, who was a junior and that it saw enough evidence for a pledge at Pi Kappa Phi, died criminal charges to be filed in of alcohol poisoning and had a blood alcohol level of .447 at

Coffey died Nov. 3 after he The Leon County grand jury was found unresponsive after a party the night before. The "Big order that left the decision about Brother Night" party was held at an off-campus home.

The party introduced also said evidence still needs to pledges to their big brothers be reviewed in the investigation and included drinking large amounts of liquor straight from "They've gone to great the bottle. The presentment extent trying to articulate their says Coffey consumed a bottle findings. This is still a criminal of bourbon he was given. He investigation, and I don't want passed out and was described to do anything to compromise as "snoring loudly" on a couch that," State Attorney Jack in the living room while others played pool.

A fellow pledge tried attorney and local and univer- to awaken Coffey the next morning and found he didn't The presentment establishes have a pulse. Phone records a timeline and how Coffey show the pledge called and died. County Medical Exam- texted five fraternity members

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From left, House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady, R-Texas, Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, R-Wis., and Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, R-Wash., chair of the Republican Conference, prepare to speak to reporters after passing the GOP tax reform bill in the House of Representatives, on Capitol Hill, in Washington, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2017. Republicans muscled the most sweeping rewrite of the nation's tax laws in more than three decades through the House. In a last-minute glitch, however, Democrats said three provisions in the bill, including one that would allow parents to use college savings accounts for home-schooling expenses for young children, violate Senate budget rules. House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., said the House would vote on the package again on Wednesday. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

# Senate moves tax cut legislation to brink of final passage

WASHINGTON (AP) - Jubilant Republi- great House Republicans who voted in favor of cans pushed on early Wednesday to the verge of cutting your taxes!" the most sweeping rewrite of the nation's tax laws in more than three decades, a deeply unpopular bill they insist Americans will learn to love when they see their paychecks in the new year. President Donald Trump cheered the lawmakers on, eager to claim his first major legislative victory.

After midnight, the Senate narrowly passed the legislation on a party-line 51-48 vote. Protesters kill us" and Vice President Mike Pence repeatedly called for order. Upon passage, Republicans needed." cheered, with Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin among them.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., insisted Americans would respond positively to the tax bill.

"If we can't sell this to the American people, listening to his remarks. we ought to go into another line of work," he said. Trump hailed the vote in an early morning tweet and promised a White House news conference Wednesday after the House completes legislative action on the measure.

The early morning vote came hours after the GOP rammed the bill through the House, 227-203. But it wasn't the final word in Congress at best for the middle class. because of one last hiccup.

violated Senate rules, forcing the Senate to vote you're able to look at the final product." to strip them out. So the massive bill was hauled back across the Capitol for the House to vote again on Wednesday, and Republicans have a chance to celebrate again.

Hours earlier, House Speaker Paul Ryan, who has worked years toward the goal of revamping the tax code, gleefully pounded the gavel on the House vote. GOP House members roared and applauded as they passed the \$1.5 trillion package that will touch every American taxpayer and every corner of the U.S. economy, providing steep tax cuts for businesses and the wealthy, and more modest help for middle- and low-income

Despite Republican talk of spending discipline, the bill will push the huge national debt ever higher.

kept," Ryan and other GOP leaders said at a victory news conference.

After the delay for a second House vote, the measure then heads to Trump, who is aching for a failures and nonstarters. The president tweeted his congratulations to GOP leaders and to "all

Congressional Republicans, who faltered badly in trying to dismantle Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act, see passage of the tax bill as crucial to proving to Americans they can govern — and imperative for holding onto House and Senate majorities in next year's midterm

"The proof will be in the paychecks," Sen. interrupted with chants of "kill the bill, don't Rob Portman, R-Ohio, said during the Senate's nighttime debate. "This is real tax relief, and it's

> Not so, said the top Senate Democrat as the long, late hours led to testy moments.

"This is serious stuff. We believe you are messing up America," New York Sen. Chuck Schumer told Republicans, chiding them for not

The GOP has repeatedly argued the bill will spur economic growth as corporations, flush with cash, increase wages and hire more workers. But they acknowledge they have work to do in convincing everyday Americans. Many voters in surveys see the legislation as a boost to the wealthy, such as Trump and his family, and a minor gain

"I don't think we've done a good job mes-Three provisions in the bill, including its title, saging," said Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore. "Now,

Ryan was positive, even insistent. He declared, "Results are what's going to make this popular."

Democrats called the bill a giveaway to corporations and the wealthy, with no likelihood that business owners will use their gains to hire more workers or raise wages. And they mocked the Republicans' contention that the bill will make taxes so simple that millions can file their returns "on a postcard" — an idea repeated often by the president.

"What happened to the postcard? We're going to have to carry around a billboard for tax simplification," declared Rep. Richard Neal of Massachusetts, the top Democrat on the Ways and Means Committee.

Tax cuts for corporations would be permanent while the cuts for individuals would expire in "This was a promise made. This is a promise 2026 to comply with Senate budget rules. The tax cuts would take effect in January, and workers would start to see changes in the amount of taxes withheld from their paychecks in February.

For now, Democrats are planning to use the big political victory after 11 months of legislative bill in their campaigns next year. Senate Democrats posted poll numbers on the bill on a video screen at their Tuesday luncheon.

# **Chinese tiremaker** picks North Carolina site for major plant

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) - A plants in the U.S. Chinese tiremaker is moving million tires a year.

administers large corporate tax in LaGrange, Ga. breaks approved plans to coax China-based maker of tires for sales, the newspaper estimated. passenger vehicles, trucks and buses and heavy equipment.

"We expect that this will provide a huge boost in brand products as we continue to U.S.," Manny Cicero, CEO of the company's Triangle Tire USA subsidiary, said in a statement.

tax breaks, worker training and other incentives if it meets hiring targets. The jobs are projected to pay an average wage county average of \$32,642.

The company said in a dis-Market last month that construction would start next year said. on a two-phase plan to first build a factory producing 5 milwould be followed by production lines churning out 1 million commercial vehicle tires a year. The company added that construction is expected to take two to three years for each project.

maker to build production wear and damage.

Wanli Tire Corp. said in more aggressively into the June it plans to build a fac-U.S. market, announcing plans tory employing at least 400 Tuesday for a North Carolina people and later rising to 1,200 factory that is to eventually in South Carolina, America's employ 800 and produce six tire-producing capital. Sentury Tire announced plans in 2016 to A state committee that develop a \$530 million factory

Triangle was the third-largest Triangle Tire to rural Edge- tire Chinese manufacturer based combe County, about 65 miles on 2015 global sales, according (100 kilometers) east of the state to Tire Business, an Akron, capital of Raleigh. The \$580 Ohio-based trade newspaper. million plant is the first in the Triangle ranked 17th among United States for the Weihai, tire companies in worldwide

The plant is to be located on a nearly 1,500-acre (600-hectare) site between Rocky Mount and Tarboro, which was offered as awareness and interest in our a location to potential manufacturers needing lots of space expand our presence in the by the economic development groups that assembled it. The site is near the major Interstate 95 road corridor and borders a CSX Transportation rail line. Triangle Tire could get up to Triangle's operation would use \$152 million in state and local about 400 acres (160 hectares) of that site, state Commerce Department spokesman David Rhodes said.

Triangle Tire has exported to of \$56,450 a year, well above a the U.S. market for more than two decades and established its U.S. subsidiary in Franklin, closure to the Shanghai Stock Tennessee, nearly two years ago, the company's web site

Its parent company, Triangle Tyre Co. Ltd., manufactures lion passenger cars a year. That more than 25 million tires a year that are sold in more than 180 countries. The company's manufacturing systems are highly automated and the company is working on tires with built-in chips that monitor and The Triangle factory marks collect information about road at least the third Chinese tire- conditions, temperature and tire

# **Greece: At least 7** injured in migrant detention center fight

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — plained about the conditions in Greek authorities say at least Moria, which has been severely seven people have been injured over capacity for several in an overnight brawl at an months. overcrowded migrant detention center on the island of Lesbos.

inside the camp burnt.

rights groups have long com- continue to arrive.

Under a 2016 European Union-Turkey agreement, Police said Wednesday the migrants arriving on Greek fight broke out Tuesday night islands from Turkey are held on between Kurdish and Arab men the islands facing deportation to in the Moria camp and lasted Turkey unless they successfully for hours, leaving several tents apply for asylum in Greece. The deal has created a massive Island authorities and human backlog as hundreds of people



In a photo provided by the North Carolina Governors Office, North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper, right, speaks to Triangle Tire Chairman Ding Yuhua, center, and his translator Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2017, at Edgecombe Community College in Tarboro, N.C., after the company announced plans to build a tire plant that would eventually employ 800 workers and produce 6 million tires a year.

# Philippine president declares **Christmas truce with rebels**

— The Philippine president has declared a Christmas truce with communist guerrillas and urged them to reciprocate the goodwill gesture after recently scrapping peace talks with the insurgents and declaring them terrorists.

President Rodrigo Duterte's decision, made public by his spokesman Harry Roque Jr. Wednesday, reflects the contrasting moves the volatile leader has taken to deal with the 48-year communist insurgency, one of Asia's longest. The Department of National

Roque said in a statement that the Dec. 24-Jan. 2 cease police officer, who was gunned fire aims to ease public apprehension during the Christmas many Filipinos travel to the Christmas day or whatever, provinces and the countryside, going to church." where the Maoist insurgents are active. Early on Wednesday, sign if the guerrillas would take Duterte still appeared undecided a similar step. Both sides have but was worried about public traditionally declared a cease safety if he would not call for a fire to allow their combatants to unilateral truce.

"They might say there's no families during the holidays.

MANILA, Philippines (AP) Defense has recommended the cease fire, a gunbattle erupts, president not to declare a cease then you put a lot of strain on the people," he told reporters after attending the wake of a down by a drug suspect this week. "A lot of people are going and New Year's holidays, when around, even at night, enjoying

There was no immediate take a break and return to their





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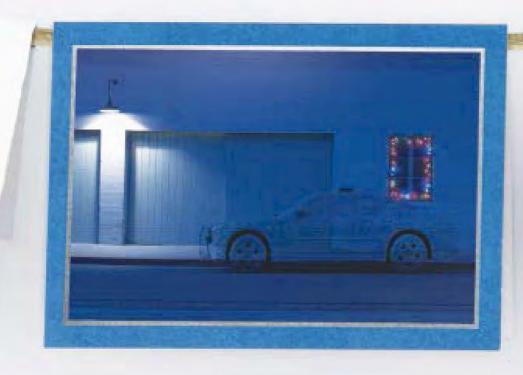
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