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## Fa'atofala'iga aiaia fefa'ataua'iga ma le ulaula tapa'a

Le Lali

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Just prior to the landing final approach, the veteran crew of Hawaiian Airlines inaugural Airbus 330-200 to American Samoa decided to celebrate their historic journey with a group photo acknowledging Miss Pacific, Matauaina Gwendolyn Toomalatai. See Cool Stuff below for great story about HA Captain Kevin Hardin and local Alton Halani Fa'asala, and for more photos of flight — see inside.

[Photo by Barry Markowitz, 2/5/18, 8:50pm]

## Cool Stuff: Unbelievable Equator Boy

By Barry Markowitz

The great joy of Hawaiian Airlines inaugural Airbus 330-200 flight to American Samoa was magnified a million times over for veteran pilot, Captain Kevin Hardin at the Governor's Lounge reception — where he met Alton Halani Fa'asala and his parents. Who? And so? And the magical story goes....

On February 15, 1989, ten days shy of an exact 29 years, Alton Halani Fa'asala was born directly over the Equator on a South Pacific Island's Airways flight, Captain Hardin piloted.

Alton's birth certificate was scribbled on the official flight plan. Yup you proudly show off your LBJ or Moto'otua Hospital birth certificate and our boy Alton one ups you with his flight plan birth certificate. You can't make this kind of story up... its way, way too cool. Alton is truly our first Cool Stuff, a Coolio Equator Boy at birth. He is our personal "International Man of Mystery". So... Alton, where were you born? When you achieve great things in life where do they build the monument? Do you represent American Samoa, Samoa or the whole Pacific in your next Olympic Games?

Captain Hardin, Alton, parents Nick and Leatumauga Fa'asala enjoyed a beautiful reunion that seemed to seal the wonderful re-energized relationship between the American Samoa Government, and Hawaiian Airlines. The momentum of this relationship mainly appears to favor you, the traveling public.

Check the pages of Samoa News because... drum roll please... we will publish Alton's official flight plan birth certificate in the next few days.

Alton, you are truly a blessing to us all.

## Sexual assault trial involving 13-year-old schoolboy gets underway

by Ausage Fausia

Samoa News Reporter

The jury trial of a businessman who is charged with attempted sexually assault of a 13-year-old school boy over two years ago began yesterday in the High Court.

The government charged Salene Singh with 4 criminal courts; attempted sodomy, attempted sexual assault, attempted sexual abuse in the first degree, and kidnapping. A six-member jury — four females and two males — was selected on Monday.

During opening statements, prosecutor Robert Morris explained to the jurors what the government is saying — that the "facts of the case are simple," while defense attorney, Marcellus T. Uiagalelei informed the jurors that they must not get to a conclusion in the case until they have heard evidence from both sides of the case.

Morris' co-counsel is Woodrow Pengelly, who is assisting him throughout the proceedings.

### PROSECUTOR'S OPENING REMARKS.

The government claims that on the morning of Sept. 18, 2015, the victim who was a 13-year-old boy at the time of the alleged incident was standing on the road in Vaitogi, waiting for a bus to go to school. The victim was wearing a Christmas uniform, including a Santa Clause hat.

While waiting for a bus to go to school, a green pick-up driven by the defendant stopped in front of the victim and the defendant offered the victim a ride to school — the victim agreed and got inside the defendant's vehicle.

The defendant then alleg-

edly drove his car toward the victim's school, but instead of stopping in front of the school to drop off the victim, the defendant allegedly continued his vehicle toward the road to Vaitogi, and further to the dead-end road up to Mt. Logotala.

The government claims that the victim started to be concerned when the vehicle did not stop at his school.

At that time, the defendant allegedly told the victim that they are going to the beach first. The defendant's vehicle headed to the top of Mt. Logotala, and when the vehicle reached a secure area on the top of the road, the defendant stopped his vehicle, and allegedly pulled down his pants, exposed his private parts to the victim and started touching the victim in a sexual manner. The defendant also told the victim to touch his private parts.

According to the government, the victim told the defendant that he can't do what he wants him to do. The victim was then able to get out of the defendant's vehicle and walked down from the mountain and finally got down to the main road.

The defendant followed the victim and when he got to the victim, convinced him to get in the car so that he could drop him at his school. The victim agreed and got inside the defendant's vehicle and the defendant dropped him at school.

Inside the classroom, the government stated that the victim's teacher saw the victim crying that morning, while he was telling other students what had happened. That is when the teacher asked the victim to explain what had happened and police were called for assistance. In this case, the government plans to call three wit-

nesses including the victim, his teacher and the police officer who investigated the case.

Morris told the jury that the Santa Clause hat the victim was wearing that morning was found by police on the top of Mt. Logotala, the scene where the alleged crime took place.

### DEFENSE REMARKS

Uiagalelei told the jurors that this trial would be difficult for all of them, because it involves a minor child and sexual accusations against his client.

He asked the jurors to not make up their minds after just hearing the government's witnesses, but to wait until both sides present their evidence.

"We have a job to do in this case. My job is to represent my client, counsel Morris's job is to make sure he prosecutes my client for all these accusations, and your job is to make sure my client receives a fair trial in this case," the defense said.

"So that's why I ask you to keep an open mind because this always comes down to who you're going to believe. At the end of this trial, the government's theory of the case makes no sense," Uiagalelei concluded.

After attorneys from both sides presented their opening remarks, the court then recessed to await the arrival of the victim. After a 20-minute recess, the court was reconvened and the government called the victim as their first witness to testify. That testimony will be reported on in Wednesday's edition.

The trial resumes at 9 a.m. today.

The case is being heard by Acting Associate Justice Elvis P. Patea, assisted by Associate Judges Mamea Sala Jr and Paepae I. Faiai.



Hawaiian Airlines Captain, Kevin Hardin, was happily surprised to meet Alton Halani Fa'asala, born ironically almost exactly 29 years ago, on a long ago flight Hardin flew to American Samoa.

[Photo by Barry Markowitz, 2/5/18]



## A black and white photograph of a middle-aged man with dark hair and glasses. He is wearing a short-sleeved button-down shirt with a repeating pattern of palm trees and other tropical motifs. He is standing in front of a large wall map, which appears to be a map of the Pacific region. Several small, rectangular objects, possibly photos or notes, are pinned to the map. In the background, there are computer monitors and other office equipment. The man is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

HONOLULU (AP) — When an erroneous alert was sent out last month telling people in Hawaii that there was an incoming ballistic missile, Jeffrey Wong was an island away from the state's emergency management agency office where he works as an operations officer.

Then an Associated Press photograph circulated picturing Wong months earlier at the agency's Honolulu operations center on Oahu island — and people mistakenly thought Wong was the “button-pusher” who sent out the alert, wrongly accusing him in online comments of causing widespread panic and confusion.

He added: "It's very hurtful to be wrongly accused, wrongly marked as an individual that's responsible for actions that  
(Continued on page 7)

# NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

Sunia has set bail at \$450,000 each for Toeava and Kevin, and both defendants are currently in custody at the Territorial Correctional Facility (TCF), unable to post bond.



(Continued on page 7)



# Former customs agent sentenced in airport marijuana bust

by Ausage Fausia  
Samoa News Reporter

The 22-year-old customs agent that was convicted of importing a controlled substance, to wit; marijuana into the territory in March of last year was ordered to serve an imprisonment term of 20 months at the Territorial Correctional Facility and pay a fine of \$5,000.

During Titifalaula Siaumau's sentencing yesterday, Chief Justice Michael Kruse took the time to explain in detail about the defendant's case while members of his family including his father and his grandmother and church members were listening.

According to the Chief Justice, Titifalaula Siaumau was initially charged with the offense of importing of a controlled substance into the territory, a class D felony, punishable by an imprisonment term of up to 5 years and or a fine of up to \$5,000.

He was also charged separately of conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance — marijuana in the territory, a class B felony, punishable by imprisonment of not less than 5 years and not more than 15 years.

Under a plea agreement, the government agreed to dismiss the more serious class B felony charge, conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance, and the defendant agreed to pled guilty to a class D felony, the importing of controlled substance into the territory.

Kruse then stated that on Mar. 27, 2017, a package — actually a speaker box — arrived at the Pago Pago International Airport aboard Hawaiian Airlines and was addressed to a Felix Penerosa, an employee of CSL Cargo Services. He further explained how the drugs were found and what the CSL subsequently told customs officers that the package belonged to the defendant, who asked him for his help for mailing a speaker from some of his family members from off-island.

While in custody, the CSL agent told police that he never agreed to being used as an addressee of the package. The government claimed that approximately 5 lbs of marijuana was found inside the speaker.

Before the court announced its sentence, the defense attorney, William R. Olson of the RDA Law Firm called two witnesses to the stand; the defendant's grandmother and his church Minister.

According to the grandmother's testimony, her "son" is an obedient boy who loved to attend church activities and youth functions. He does not drink beer nor smoke cigarettes, but she suspects that perhaps this changed in her son's life when he started to hang out with his new friends.

In a follow up with her statement about her son's friends, Kruse asked the witness to tell the court who are her son's friends she was referring to. The witness stated she does not know their names.

In conclusion, she asked the court to release her son so that they can be together as a family.

The defendant's church Minister also testified to the court that Siaumau is a hard-working young man, who loved to offer his time to help with a lot of church activities including youth functions. He's a young man whom he never sees smoking or drinking.

In his own words, the defendant apologized to the court for his actions and begged for another chance so that he could go back home and be with his family, his wife and kids, and also to attend his church spiritual activities.

Siaumau said that he had learned a lot from his mistake while he was detained in prison for 119 days.

He assured the court that if he is given another chance, he will do his best to stay away from trouble and focus on his job to take care of his grandmother and family.

Prosecutor Christy Dunn echoed the defense attorney's request, to sentence the defendant to a probated sentences, and allow him to go back home and seek employment to take care of his family. Olson stated that Siaumau is a productive member of society who does not have a criminal history.

Kruse told both attorneys that if they look at the pre-sentence report, there's a lot more evidence in there that bothers the court. He did not elaborate

on what he meant by that.

Sources told Samoa News that the defendant did explain to the Probation officer who interviewed him everything about the speaker and the drugs that were hidden inside, together with the "names" of the person or persons who own the drugs.

Siaumau was sentenced to a term of imprisonment of 5 years and a fine of \$5,000. The prison sentence was suspended, and the defendant was placed on probation for 5 years pending serving 20 months detention with no release except for a genuine medical emergency or at the request of the court.

After serving 6 months of detention, the court will entertain a motion for work release provided that the defendant can be gainfully employed.

Kruse told the defendant and his attorney that gainful employment does not include family farming nor employment with any businesses associated with his family. He can be employed by the government but not by Customs or Homeland Security.

He was also ordered to pay a fine of \$5,000, attend and complete substance abuse counseling, and he must also agree to random testing. Lastly, Kruse stated that Siaumau had initially posted a cash bond of \$10,000 and failed to show up at an earlier hearing. After that, the court issued a bench warrant, which resulted in his arrest, and it was at that same time his prior attorney moved to withdraw.

According to Kruse, the court is mandated to forfeit bond, however the court will entertain any motion within 10 days, and if nothing is filed, the \$10,000 cash bond will be forfeited to the government.

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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# They spoke out pre- #MeToo and cheer it, with note of caution



*In this Feb. 3, 2018 photo, Schenectady City Councilwoman Leesa Perazzo poses at her home in Schenectady, N.Y. She lived for decades with the personal impact of being raped at 16, and two years ago a newspaper published her account. She thought telling the story could help other victims but worried that people might think she was lying to get attention, though her attacker had been prosecuted. Disclosing her own rape “was terrifying and amazingly empowering, all at the same time,” Perazzo says, but she’s glad she did it.”*

AP Photo/Hans Pennink

NEW YORK (AP) — The newspaper was about to come out with Leesa Perazzo’s account of being raped at 16. She was relieved. And petrified.

She had never told her story so publicly but thought it could help other victims. Yet Perazzo, a Schenectady city councilwoman, worried that people might think she was lying to get attention or that the crime would become inseparably attached to her public identity.

Going public about the rape “was terrifying and amazingly empowering, all at the same time,” the 52-year-old Perazzo says. The repercussions she feared didn’t come to pass. Instead, other women confided their own experiences and thanked her for speaking out.

“It changed me, and I’m grateful for that,” she says.

Now, little more than a year later, she and other sexual-assault victims who came forward before the #MeToo movement emboldened multitudes of women are heartened by its message of speaking out and strength in numbers.

It can be healing and liberating to come forward, say victims — or survivors, as many prefer to be called. To Perazzo, disclosing the rape meant “I’m not going to feel stigmatized by it anymore or feel like I care if you’re judging me.”

At the same time, she and others know how difficult and risky it can feel to go public, and they caution that not everyone should feel compelled to do so.

“I’ve seen these women gain strength by making the choice to share their story,” says Trisha Meili, who publicly identified

herself in 2003 as the survivor of one of the nation’s most notorious sex crimes, the 1989 rape of a jogger in New York’s Central Park. But “I don’t want people to feel pressure that ‘Oh, now I have to go on TV.’”

Long after Meili was raped and beaten into a coma in an attack that became a symbol of urban breakdown, her family was wary of her going public. But the investment banker-turned-nonprofit-executive wanted people to know her as more than a “rape survivor,” a “brain injury survivor” or the “Central Park jogger.”

Ultimately, “I felt proud to say, ‘Hey, I’m going to say that I’m those labels ... and I’m also a person who loves and can be loved,’” says Meili, 57, who wrote a book about her recovery and became a motivational speaker. She encourages sexual assault victims to let someone know, whether privately or publicly.

In the name of #MeToo, countless people have spoken up about being sexually assaulted or harassed. Some are actresses or pop stars; others are private citizens. All have gone public despite the risk of being vilified or threatened online or being branded troubled or attention-hungry.

After a quarter-century, Lauren Leach-Steffens remembers a former boyfriend asking her whether she was making too much of it when she first publicly discussed being raped by schoolmates at 13. She says she felt as if the disclosure cast her as “the person with the problem” in other people’s eyes.

Later, as a behavior science professor at Northwest Missouri State University, she would tell students who confided in her: “I’m open about this, but I don’t know that you should be open about it.”

Now, “I would say they’re going to get less blowback,” at least offline, says Leach-Steffens, 54. After #MeToo erupted from the sexual assault and harassment allegations against Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein, the sentencing of sports doctor Larry Nassar for molesting gymnasts and other young athletes became another powerful forum for speaking out. Some 200-plus women and girls, including former Olympic team gymnasts, told of being abused by Nassar. Some requested anonymity. But many did not, despite the possible consequences of going public.

“Every time someone Googles them, for the rest of their lives, they will see the sickening things we’re talking about here today,” said one victim, former gymnast Marion Siebert. “When they apply for a job, when they go on a first date, they won’t be able to be the ones to fully make the choice

(Continued on page 7)

# Senators follow the money — ASH-Cable and StarKist civil penalty

by Fili Sagapolutele

Samoa News Correspondent

The more than \$1 million that the American Samoa Government received as dividends plus corporate tax payments in connection with the American Samoa Hawaii Cable (ASH-Cable) LLC have been deposited in an ASG “reserve account” at the Territorial Bank of American Samoa (TBAS).

This according to ASG Treasurer Uelinitone Tonumaie’a, who along with Attorney General Talauega Eleasalo Ale, were witnesses at yesterday’s Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee hearing, which was continued from last Friday.

What the committee is looking for is specific details of how much money was actually received by the government from ASH-Cable, where ASG is a minority shareholder and Florida-based eLandia Technologies owns the majority shares. The committee also wanted to know the total tax payment by eLandia.

Committee chairman Sen. Magalei Logovi’i said senators want information and a firm explanation in order for them to respond to questions from their constituents, who are seeking answers as to where or how the money has been spent.

Talauega provided for the committee, a two-page resolution — the Unanimous Consent Agreement — approved by the members of ASH-Cable that outlines the non-cash and cash distribution of the undersea fiber cable company’s dividends, that was effective Nov. 14 of last year.

Total cash dividends total \$1.65 million, with eLandia getting \$1.10 million and ASG \$550,000.

According to the agreement, eLandia will transfer a total of \$1,024,749 to ASG to pay its liabilities for tax years 2015 and 2016 while the remaining \$72,251 — of the \$1.10 million — stays with eLandia.

Talauega informed senators that ASG’s dividends as well as eLandia’s money to pay corporate taxes was received last December.

Asked by the committee as to where this more than \$1.5 million is at this point, Tonumaie’a said he was directed by Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga to deposit this money in the ASG “reserve account” held at TBAS.

Responding to more questions from the committee, Tonumaie’a said, “More than \$2 million is in the reserve account” which can only be used if requested by the governor, in the event of a “cash crisis” when there is just no cash available for ASG operations.

However, he said that if such cases arise, this account must be reimbursed and that signatures on this account are himself and the governor.

Local law states that any new revenue received by the government after a fiscal year has already started, is subject to Fono appropriation and approval before it is spent. And this is made clear in all provisions of any fiscal year budget law.

Talauega informed senators that this new money will be submitted by the administration when the next budget review comes up and stressed that this money is subject to Fono approval before it is spent.

Also raised during the hearing is the whereabouts of the \$2.6 million of American Samoa’s share of StarKist’s \$6.5 million civil penalty for violation of federal environmental regulations in waters of the territory.

The ASG witness said the government has not received this money. (See Samoa News edition Jan. 4, 2018 for details.)

## OTHER ISSUES

Sen. Fonoti Tafa’ifa Aufata had inquired about off-island bank accounts for the government and Tonumaie’a explained that there are two — and both at Utah-based Zions Bank. T

he first one is the payroll account for direct deposit and the second one is the \$3 million for the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) program, which are federal funds and according to fed regulations, can only be deposited and held by a US financial institution.

The US Treasury Department’s SSBCI program is administered by ASG Commerce Department. The local program is called American Samoa Venture Fund.

For clarification purposes, Samoa News notes that Tonumaie’a was only speaking about the ASG bank accounts under the Treasurer’s purview and it doesn’t include bank accounts for ASG semi-autonomous agencies, such as the ASG Employees Retirement Fund, which is governed by its board of trustees.

# Girl Scouts lobby to relabel bridge named for segregationist

ATLANTA (AP) — Hundreds of Girl Scouts from across Georgia gathered inside the state Capitol on Tuesday, offering cookies and smiles as they sought to convince lawmakers to get their founder’s name affixed to a Savannah bridge that currently honors a white segregationist.

The bridge may bear former Gov. Eugene Talmadge’s name, but Rep. Ron Stephens said he recently learned the state legislature never officially named the bridge for Talmadge. The Department of Transportation never gave it an official name, nor did lawmakers. Legislation to do so passed the House in 1991, but never passed the Senate, he said.

Buoyed by this technicality, Stephens, a Savannah Republican, introduced a bill to name the bridge after Juliette Gordon Low, who founded the Girl Scouts in the coastal city more than a century ago.

Last month, Stephens had

expressed doubts that his colleagues in the Republican-controlled legislature would be eager to rename the bridge and risk angering their conservative base in an election year. But that was before he knew the bridge had never been officially named.

Stephens said his proposal has more than 50 legislative supporters and will likely get more, once others learn about the technicality.

“We don’t want to rename anything,” Stephens said. “Once it’s done, it’s for a reason. But I have it in writing from legislative counsel, the people who write our bills, that it never officially was named.”

The Department of Transportation did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Stephens’ argument.

Backed by their national organization, the Georgia scouts’ campaign began after Savannah’s city council in September unanimously asked state

lawmakers to strip Talmadge’s name from the bridge. Their formal request came about a month after deadly violence erupted in Charlottesville, Virginia, where white supremacists rallying in support of Confederate statues clashed with counter-protesters.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Girl Scouts held a news conference inside the Capitol as lawmakers and lobbyists swooped up rapidly disappearing Thin Mints and Samoas.

Naming the bridge after Low would be especially fitting, as scouts frequently hold “bridging ceremonies” by walking across bridges when they graduate to their next rank, said Sue Else, the CEO of Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia.

“Juliette was a true bridge-builder,” Else said. “It’s just a natural fit that the 40,000 Girl Scouts who visit Savannah every year should be welcomed by this iconic bridge.”

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# On Trump’s desk: Dems’ clas- sified memo on Russia probeDems’ classified memo

## compiled by Samoa News staff THREE SAMOA MEN IN CUSTODY ON MURDER CHARGES

Samoa police have charged three men with murder following the death of a 43-year-old man at a village east of the Faleolo International Airport last weekend. TV1 Samoa reported police as saying the victim was drinking alcohol with the three accused men at Sapulu village when a fight broke out which is alleged to have led to his death.

A police investigation resulted in the arrest of the three men who were in custody awaiting court appearances on 26 February. Their names were not released.

## (Source: RNZI) ENVOY HIGHLIGHTS SAMOA’S SPECIAL RELA- TIONSHIP WITH THE US

The United States, for more than a century, has enjoyed close bilateral relations with the Government and people of Samoa. The point was highlighted by the U.S. Ambassador to Samoa and New Zealand, Scott Brown, in Samoa last week. He was speaking during a reception at Vailima to commemorate the U.S.-funded school renovations at Safata District and other projects. In attendance was the Head of State, His Highness Tuimalealiifano Vaaletoa Sualauvi II, Deputy Prime Minister, Fiaame Naomi Mataaafa, Cabinet Ministers, Members of the diplomatic corps, and invited guests.

Mr. Brown said Samoa and the U.S. had enjoyed long-term economic benefits.

“You may have noticed many American companies and products are already present in Samoa. U.S. companies employing Samoans include McDonald’s, Ford Motors, Sheraton, Coconuts Beach Resort, Western Union, National Pacific Insurance, Matson Shipping, First Solar, and Netvo,” he said.

“And South Pacific Distributors just commenced selling its beverage products in Samoa this week and another American company, Dr. Bronner’s is going to start using Samoan coconut oil to produce its soap products this year.”

“Samoan fishing vessels can offload their catch directly at the StarKist Cannery in American Samoa. This has been a fantastic win-win situation for the fishing industry in both of our countries.”

Mr. Brown explained: “The United States also makes indirect gestures of friendship to Samoa through the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Global Climate Fund, and I.M.F. This assistance includes large grants and low interest loans for infrastructure projects that promote economic development.

“Our Government has also built a hospital to help with the average Samoan’s medical needs, and refurbished schools to make sure your children are given every opportunity for the best education. U.S.A.I.D, our development agency, has worked with you on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.”

“Our Peace Corps presence here is a daily reminder of our commitment to you and our pledge to continue to work together in every corner of your islands to help where we can.”

The U.S, being Samoa’s second largest trading partner and close neighbour, allows both countries to enjoy extensive cross-cultural ties, robust trade with one another, and also confront similar economic, environmental, and sustainable fishing challenges and concerns.

“The United States-Samoa bilateral relationship is consistently strong and mutually beneficial. We look for ways to partner with Samoa on economic development, raise Samoa’s maritime domain awareness capability, address climate change and manage its effects, as well as increase people to people ties,” Mr. Brown said. Mr. Brown shared the importance of people in any bilateral relationship and why the U.S. values the Samoan people. Our commitment to the Pacific region is just as strong as it ever was, and this will not change. I look forward to working with all of you,” he said. (Source: Samoa Observer)

## SAMOA PM SAYS LETTER TO LUAGALAU PLOTTERS A FAKE

Samoa Prime Minister, Tuila’epa Sa’ilele Malielegaoi, is concerned that a war of words between himself and social media bloggers may turn ugly.

A letter supposedly written to two former Samoan cabinet ministers convicted of the murder of their colleague, Luagalau Levaula Kamu, and allegedly signed by Tuilaepa, has been labelled a fake in a media release by the prime minister.

He said it was a threat to public security because when “one’s reputation is slandered and defamed without just cause or proof, it will also impact the pride and integrity of families and relatives which may provoke anything to happen”.

Tuila’epa was quoted as saying that he had “been told that the 20-year-old letter was penned by a prisoner and it was proven at the time to be a fake.”

The prime minister says this is the first time he has seen the letter and it is a forgery.

In 2000 Leafa Vitale and Toi Aukuso were jailed for plotting the murder of cabinet colleague Luagalau the previous year.

Toi died while serving his sentence. (Source: RNZI)

## SAMOA MAN GETS LIFE JAIL SENTENCE FOR MURDER

Faranisisi Mikaele, a 29-year-old from Malie, has been sentenced to life imprisonment after being found guilty of murder. The defendant appeared before the Court on charges of unlawful act namely assault, which caused the death of Toetu Tone, a 28-year-old male of Sinamoga. The prosecution’s alternative charge filed was manslaughter.

This follows an Assessors Trial held last week before Supreme Court Justice, Leiataua-alesa Darryl Clarke.

Prosecuting the case was Lucy Maria Sio, while Tufuga Fagaloa represented the defendant in this matter. The incident occurred back in January 2016, where Toetu was found dead not far from his family home.

(Source: Samoa Observer)

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump met with a top Justice Department official Tuesday to review a classified Democratic memo on the Russia investigation, less than a week after he brushed aside objections from the same agency over releasing a Republican account.

The dueling memos — and Trump’s silence so far on whether he will release the Democratic version — have set up a standoff between Trump and congressional Democrats and deepened partisan fights on the House intelligence panel. The memos have become the recent focus of the committee’s probe into Russian meddling in the 2016 election, taking attention away from investigations into whether Trump’s campaign was involved.

The Democratic docu-


ment is intended to counter the GOP memo, which criticized methods the FBI used to obtain a surveillance warrant on a one-time Trump campaign associate. The president has until the end of the week to decide whether to make it public.

On Tuesday, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Trump met with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein to discuss differences between the two memos, and “we are undergoing the exact same process that we did with the previous memo, in which it will go through a full and thorough legal and national security review.”

The House panel voted unanimously Monday to release the Democratic memo, sending it to the White House.

Separate Russia investigations are underway by the

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Major Duties & Responsibilities

The Procurement Specialist is responsible for managing, administering, and maintaining contracts for ASPA. This position is responsible for assuring compliance with ASPA Contract Policy, drafting initial agreements as needed, reviewing and processing contracts from draft to final agreement, and maintaining a centralized contract database. The Procurement Specialist is also responsible for resolving any existing contract conflicts, serving as a liaison between internal and external parties during contract development and negotiation stages, performing legal research, and reviewing and making recommendations on outside contracts proposed to be entered into by ASPA. This position is also responsible for:

- Managing vendor relationships and overseeing order placement (including raw materials).
- Tracking overall spending and improving bidding processes.
- Performing price negotiations, purchase order creations, order tracking and management, and price dispute resolutions.
- Finding quality goods or services at an acceptable price that meets ASPA's needs.
- Soliciting bids to procure a variety of required goods and services.
- Assisting with contract termination procedures.
- Performing basic analyses for firm fixed-price or similar contracts.
- Participating as a team member on an acquisition management review team or on an equivalent assignment.
- Conducting basic procurement procedures and techniques; performing commonly used contract methods and types related to pre-award, post-award and/or price/cost analysis functions to perform well-defined and precedent contract actions.
- Analyzing business practices and market conditions to evaluate bid responsiveness, contractor responsibility, and contractor performance.
- Presenting factual information; composing memoranda, minutes, and reports; drafting contract provisions and supporting documents.
- Soliciting sources of supply and analyzing prices, discount rates, delivery dates, transportation charges, previous performance, commitments and indications of financial responsibility, and recommending the most advantageous offer.
- Assigning work in terms of objectives, priorities and deadlines and providing additional assistance with new or unusual assignments.
- Planning and carrying out recurring work using established procedures, conferring with the supervisor or higher-level specialists as necessary on technical problems.
- Reviewing purchase orders, contracts, change orders, addendums etc. for accuracy and for compliance with the ASPA procurement rules.
- Renewing, preparing, authorizing, and/or recommending contract extensions, approving and verifying invoices and contract pay applications to be paid.
- Analyzing and maintaining up-to-date knowledge of market trends, pricing availability, capacity, technology and supplier capability relative to products and parts.

Minimum Requirements

Education

Bachelor's degree preferred and/or paralegal certification by diploma from accredited institution.

Experience

Three to five years experience in contract draft, review and/or administration is preferred. Additional experience including legal research with a focus on corporate and contract work is a plus.

Knowledge, Skills & Abilities

- Must be proficient in Windows and MS Office Programs, including Word, Excel and Access.
- Must be detail oriented, organized, have an ability to work independently and to multi-task
- Must possess knowledge of organizational documents and have ability to perform legal research.
- Must be personable, responsive, able to interact with attorneys and work with various other people in the Network including Senior Leaders, Department Directors and Administrators, as well as third parties.

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

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# Amtrak engineer ordered to stand trial in Philadelphia crash



In this Dec. 20, 2017, file photo, Brandon Bostian, the Amtrak engineer involved in a 2015 derailment in Philadelphia that killed eight people and injured more than 200, departs after a hearing at the Criminal Justice Center in Philadelphia. During a Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2018, hearing, prosecutors were set to argue that charges should be reinstated against Bostian, after involuntary manslaughter charges were thrown out Sept. 12, 2017, by a judge who determined the evidence pointed to an accident.

(AP Photo/Matt Rourke, File)

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Amtrak engineer Brandon Bostian sat stunned Tuesday as a judge reinstated twice-rejected criminal charges and ordered him to stand trial for a deadly 2015 train wreck in Philadelphia.

Judge Kathryn S. Lewis ruled that another judge erred in dismissing the reckless endangerment and involuntary manslaughter charges at a hearing in

September.

Lewis said evidence at the hearing — including testimony from an injured passenger and gruesome details of tattered cars and strewn limbs — should have been sufficient to warrant a trial.

“The victims are going to have their day in court, which is all they have ever sought,” said Thomas Kline, the lawyer for the family of a victim that kept the case alive by filing a private criminal complaint after city prosecutors declined to bring charges.

Eight people were killed and about 200 were hurt when the Washington-to-New York train rounded a curve at more than twice the 50 mph (80 kph) speed limit and hurdled off the tracks.

National Transportation Safety Board investigators concluded Bostian lost his bearings while distracted by radio chatter about an incident with a nearby train. They found no evidence Bostian was impaired or using a cellphone.

Bostian, 34, remains free on bail but must give up his passport and call court officials weekly. He opted not to attend his Feb. 21 arraignment.

Bostian’s lawyers declined to comment on the ruling. They’ve argued before that his speeding was a momentary lapse from an otherwise safety-conscious engineer.

Bostian has been on unpaid leave from Amtrak since the crash. He is suing the government-owned railroad, alleging

(Continued on page 10)

# Why Trump has little influence on rising or falling stocks



FILE- In this Nov. 9, 2016, file photo an image of President-elect Donald Trump appears on a television screen on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. President Trump has maintained an uncharacteristic silence since the stock market took a nose dive, notable for a businessman president who regularly points to the rising market as evidence of the success of his presidency and economic policies.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew, File)

WASHINGTON (AP) — For months, President Donald Trump boasted about having steered the U.S. stock markets to record high after record high.

What a difference a few days can make.

The market free-fall, explosive volatility and now partial recovery of stock prices have served as a stark reminder that Trump, like his predecessors, isn’t commander in chief of the U.S. economy — or the financial markets. The markets pivot on forces that owe at least as much to computerized trading programs, overseas investors and global central banks as they do to a president’s policies and force of personality.

The Dow Jones industrial average went on a wild ride Tuesday — ricocheting between losses and gains — to close up more than 560 points, or 2 percent. The gains weren’t enough, though, to offset the dizzying drops from the prior two days of frantic trading.

Anxiety has settled deep

into a market that Trump long treated as a sure-fire triumph.

The same investors who cheered Trump’s tax cuts and stayed calm amid the threat of a nuclear attack from North Korea are now dreading the risk of higher inflation and the prospect of rising interest rates engineered by the Federal Reserve and other central banks.

Beginning immediately after his 2016 election all the way through last week’s State of the Union address, the president repeatedly claimed credit for a surging stock market and increases in Americans’ retirement saving accounts. On Twitter, he declared that stocks would rise even higher once his \$1.5 trillion tax cut was “totally understood and appreciated.”

Investors and the trillions of dollars they control, it turns out, have minds of their own.

“This is a healthy reminder that there are risks in the market,” said Mark Doms, a senior economist at Nomura Securities. “If you invest in the stock market, there are ups and downs. We just hadn’t had too many downs recently.”

It’s not just stock prices that have been tumbling. Bond prices have been falling and interest rates have been rising on U.S. Treasuries. The result is higher loan costs, which make it more expensive for the government to borrow and more burdensome for Americans who need to take on debt to buy homes or cars or to pay for college.

In the 1990s, James Carville, an aide to President Bill Clinton, declared that the bond market, not just elected officials, had power to shape White House budget policies. The bond market, in setting federal borrowing rates, determined just how much the government could afford to borrow.

“I used to think if there was reincarnation, I wanted to come back as the president or the pope or a .400 baseball hitter,” Carville said. “But now I want to come back as the bond market. You can intimidate everybody.”

What the Trump administration may find frustrating is that markets have plunged off of relatively positive economic

news. The January U.S. jobs report showed that Americans’ average hourly wages, which have lagged for years, had shot up 2.9 percent over the previous 12 months — the fastest such increase in more than eight years. And Trump’s \$1.5 trillion in tax cuts promise a further dose of economic stimulus.

But the prospect of faster wage growth carries potential downsides, too. Inflation could end up being higher than expected, which could lead the Fed and other global central banks to raise the short-term rates they control faster than investors had been expecting. There is also the risk that the Fed could overshoot, as it sometimes has throughout its history, and raise rates so much or so fast as to cause an economic downturn.

The markets, in short, have had to adjust to the risks of higher inflation, more government debt and the potential for central banks around the world to simultaneously reduce their economic support by raising rates — perhaps aggressively. In an era of computerized trading that moves in microseconds, these adjustments can cause the markets to violently whipsaw as they did Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning.

For now, the Trump administration is choosing to emphasize the possibility of faster wage gains. But it’s not apologizing for placing so much emphasis on the stock market’s performance. At a House hearing Tuesday, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin was asked whether the administration would take any responsibility for the recent market drops.

“I think we will still claim credit for the fact that it is up 30 percent since the election,” he said.

Yet while Trump has bragged in public about record stock prices, in an interview last year with The Associated Press, he acknowledged the trade-offs that result from linking his presidency so closely to the financial markets.

“You live by the sword, you die by the sword, to a certain extent,” he said.

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## ► Lady...

Continued from page 2



This Sept. 26, 2014, file photo shows Nacho Cheese flavored Doritos in Philadelphia. Don't expect to see "lady Doritos" on store shelves. The company that makes the cheesy chips said Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2018, that it's not developing a line of Doritos designed specifically for women, despite widespread online speculation that it was.

(AP Photo/Matt Rourke, File)

Nooyi, who has run the soda and snack company for more than a decade, later said the company is "getting ready to launch" snacks that are "designed and packaged differently" for women. "Women love to carry a snack in their purse," Nooyi said.

But PepsiCo said the interpretation of her comments to mean that female-friendly Doritos were in the works were "inaccurate."

"We already have Doritos for women — they're called Doritos," the company said in a statement Tuesday.

## ► Hawaii...

Continued from page 2

affected, in a negative way, a lot of people within the state of Hawaii and possibly around the world."

Wong said he wanted to set the record straight so the public knows he didn't send out the alert. The employee who did has been fired. That man, who spoke to reporters separately on the condition that his name not be revealed, said he was devastated for causing panic but believed at it was a real attack at the time.

Wong, who oversees day-to-day operations at the agency, said he neither hired the other man nor did the man report directly to him. He said the former employee's supervisor does report to him.

The AP took the photo in July 2017 to accompany a story about Hawaii preparing for a North Korean missile threat. The news agency did not resend it after the false missile alert, but people found it online and recirculated it on social media.

Some of their comments called for Wong to be shot and water-boarded and there were also racially derogatory comments with some people questioning his loyalty to Hawaii and the U.S., he said.

The photo also included a

yellow sticky note in the background that appeared to have a password on it, which people circulating the photo after the false alert pointed out as a reason to criticize the emergency management agency — prompting even more online rage.

Fearing for his safety, Wong took screen-shots and print-outs to Honolulu police and filed a police report four days after the Jan. 13 false alert. Authorities are conducting a first-degree terroristic threatening and harassment investigation, said police spokeswoman Michelle Yu.

While Wong has been overwhelmed by the criticism he has endured, guests at the hotel where he was attending a civil air patrol conference praised his efforts to keep them safe.

"We appreciate your actions greatly and are grateful that you happened to be there and showed yourself to be strong, calm and positive," Marc Tiar, who was vacationing with his family, wrote in an email to Wong after returning home to Nevada. "We are safe at home in Reno now, but my family and I will never forget that day or the man who made sure we would be as safe as possible."

## ► They...

Continued from page 4

on when to talk about what happened."

Artist, writer and activist Charlotte Farhan has found support and common cause in sharing her story in 2016 of being raped at a party when she was 15. But she has also faced online vitriol.

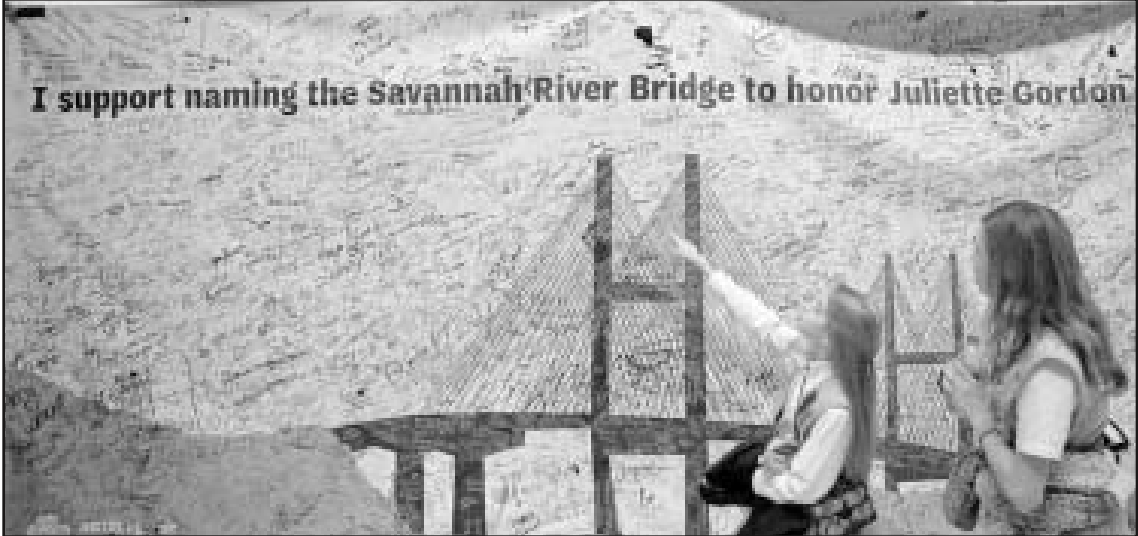
She suggests others think

first about whom they want to tell and how, what they hope will come from it and whether they can handle reliving the ordeal and fielding questions.

"Know that you don't have to share your story to be a survivor," says Farhan, 34, of Portsmouth, England. "You have survived. That is enough."

## ► Girl Scout...

Continued from page 4



Girl Scouts Veronica Ward, 11, right, and Audra Duncan, 12, look at a signed banner on display at the Georgia Capitol during a rally to convince legislators to strip the name of segregationist former Gov. Eugene Talmadge from a Savannah bridge in Atlanta, Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2018. They hope the bridge will be renamed in honor of Girl Scout's founder Juliette Gordon Low.

(AP Photo/David Goldman)

Rep. Teri Anulewicz, D-Smyrna, is a troop leader and mother of a Girl Scout. She said she is giving Stephens' bill her full support because of the impact the organization had on her when she was growing up.

"Being a scout taught me that it was good to lead, it was good to put yourself out front," Anulewicz said. "And a lot of times for girls, they're not necessarily given that implicit OK that it's good to put themselves in leadership roles."

Since 1956, the span crossing the Savannah River at the Georgia-South Carolina line has borne the name of Talmadge, a populist Democrat

who served three terms between 1933 and 1942. The old bridge was replaced by a new bridge in 1991 and the name carried over, Stephens said.

Talmadge railed against the New Deal for offering blacks hope of economic parity with whites. He defended whites-only primary elections in Georgia. And he once proclaimed a black man's place was "at the back door with his hat in his hand."

A spokesman for House Speaker David Ralston said it is too early in the process to comment on Stephens' bill. A spokeswoman for Gov. Nathan Deal said the issue is "best left

to the legislature."

A similar effort to remove Talmadge's name in 2013 failed after the former governor's descendants lobbied hard at the state Capitol to oppose it.

For Zora Felix, a 13-year-old Girl Scout from Douglasville, the issue is obvious. The fact that the bridge honors a segregationist is "shocking," and should be changed, said Felix, who is black.

"2017-18 has been the year for girls and empowerment," Felix said. "What better way to honor this than by naming the bridge after the founder of the Girl Scouts?"



### American Samoa Government OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

## INVITATION FOR BIDS IFB-010-2018

Issuance Date: February 2, 2018

Closing Date: February 13, 2018

No later than 2:00p.m. (local time)

#### 1. INVITATION

Sealed bids are invited from qualified firms to provide "Utulei, Su'igaula and Faga'alu Park Shoreline Protection" for the Office of Parks and Recreation.

#### 2. RECEIPT & OPENING OF BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by the Chief Procurement Officer, American Samoa Government, Tafuna, American Samoa 96799, until 2:00 p.m. (local time), **Friday, February 13, 2018** at which time and place the sealed bids will be publicly opened and read.

#### 3. MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING

A **MANDATORY** Pre-Bid Meeting for all contractors will be held on February 9, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Procurement-Conference Room. Bids will not be accepted from bidders who are not present at the pre-bid meeting.

#### 4. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

Electronic copies of contract documents, including Plans and Scope of Work can be examined or obtained from the Office of Procurement during regular business hours free of charge.

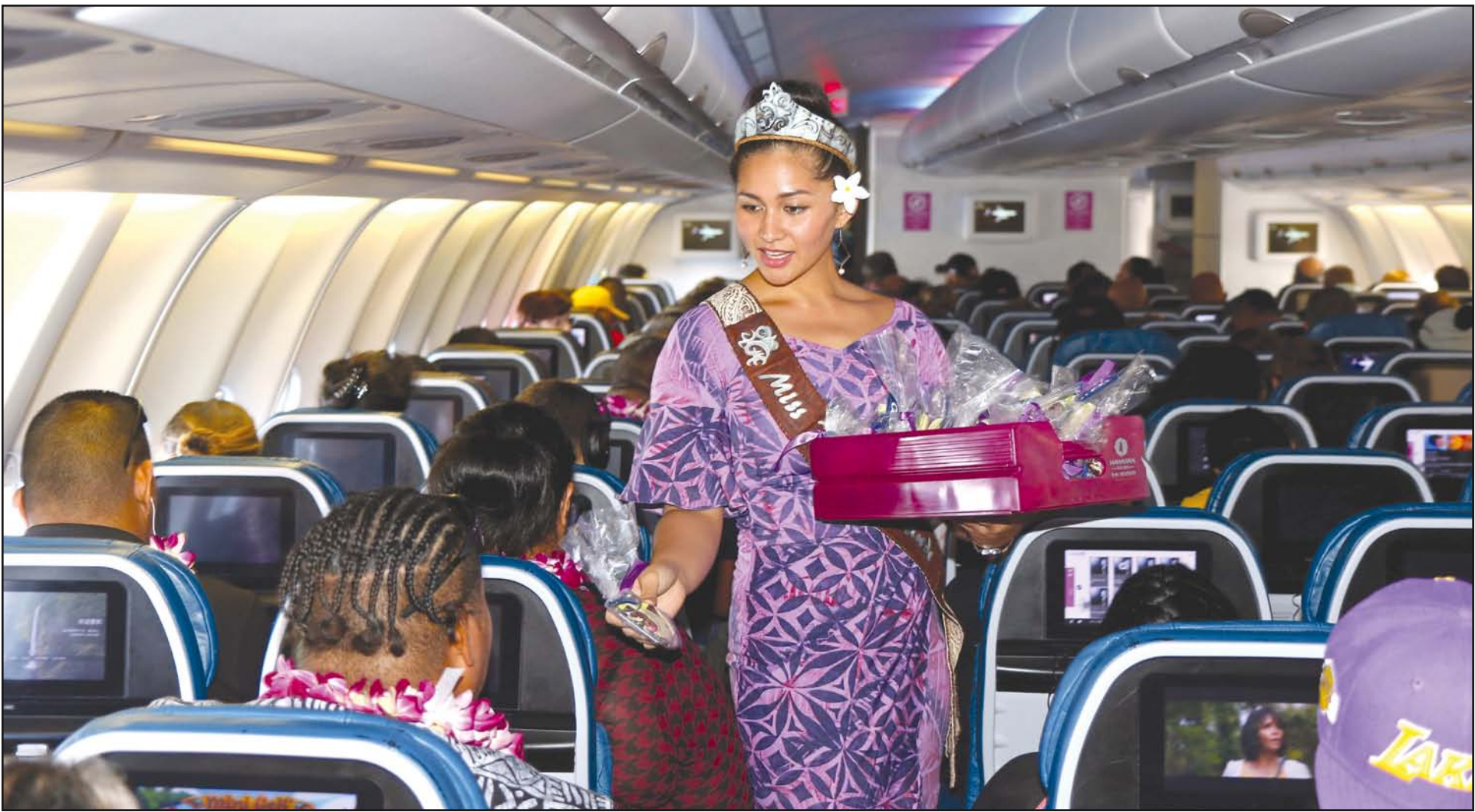
5. The American Samoa Government reserves the right not to accept the lowest or any bid.

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

**DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON**  
Chief Procurement Officer

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Miss Pacific, Matauaina Gwendolyn Toomalatai surprised Hawaiian Airlines inaugural Airbus 330-200 passengers with a gift package from the airlines. The airbus service offers 40 additional seats and as well as three different levels of service: First Class, [Photo by Barry Markowitz, 2/5/18, 6:50pm]



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## Rare dinosaur discovery in Egypt could signal more finds

MANSOURA, Egypt (AP) — A skeleton has been unearthed in Egypt's Western Desert, where ancient sands have long helped preserve remains, but unlike most finds this one isn't a mummy — it's a dinosaur.

Researchers from Mansoura University in the country's Nile Delta discovered the new species of long-necked herbivore, which is around the size of a city bus, and it could be just the tip of the sand dune for other desert dinosaur discoveries.

"As in any ecosystem, if we went to the jungle we'll find a lion and a giraffe. So we found the giraffe, where's the lion?" said Hesham Sallam, leader of the excavation team and head of the university's Center for Vertebrate Paleontology.

Sallam, along with four Egyptian and five American researchers, authored an article in the journal Nature Ecology & Evolution published Jan. 29 announcing the discovery.

Experts say the find is a landmark one that could shed light on a particularly obscure period of history for the African continent, roughly the 30 million years before dinosaurs went extinct, between 70 million and 80 million years ago.

Named "Mansourasaurus Shahinae" after the team's university and for one of the paleontology department's founders, the find is the only dinosaur from that period to

(Continued on page 12)







A look at some of the passengers, from the cruise ship Crystal Cruises, which was in port on Monday, as they board tour buses for local island tours. The Crystal Serenity was on her maiden voyage to American Samoa following a stop in Honolulu and then heading on to Samoa. The next ship for this month is the Aracadia arriving on Feb. 13 from Honolulu in the morning and departing for Tonga late afternoon. Meanwhile, the American Samoa Visitors Bureau says an additional cruise ship has been confirmed to visit American Samoa in early May, bringing the total to 16 ships for 2018. The Sea Princess will visit May 8, arriving from Suva, Fiji in the morning and departing early evening for Honolulu. [photo: Leua Aiono Frost]

# On Trump...

Continued from page 5

Senate intelligence committee and special counsel Robert Mueller, whose team is scheduled to interview former White House chief strategist Steve Bannon next week.

The Mueller interview was confirmed by two people familiar with it. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly about details of the interview. Bannon is expected to face questions about key events during his time in the White House including Trump's firings of former national security adviser Michael Flynn and former FBI Director James Comey. Also Tuesday, the House intelligence committee gave Bannon another week to negotiate the terms of a closed-door interview as the White House has put limits on what he can tell Congress. Bannon was under subpoena to appear Tuesday as part of the panel's Russia probe, but Republicans pushed the deadline to next week as talks about the terms of his interview continued. California Rep. Adam Schiff, the top Democrat on the intelligence panel, said Bannon's lawyer has told the committee that the White House will only permit him to answer 14 "yes" or "no" questions. He said Bannon is barred by the White House from talking about matters during the presidential transition, his time at the White House and communications with Trump since he left in August.

Schiff said the panel is in rare bipartisan agreement that the terms offered are unacceptable. "Should Bannon maintain his refusal to return and testify fully to all questions, the committee should begin contempt proceedings to compel his testimony," Schiff said.

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▶ **Amtrak...**

*Continued from page 6*

he was left disoriented or unconscious when something struck his train before it derailed.

NTSB investigators have said nothing struck the locomotive.

Amtrak has taken responsibility for the crash and agreed to pay \$265 million to settle civil claims filed by victims and their families.

The railroad also has installed positive-train control technology that can automatically slow or stop a speeding train on its track from Boston to Washington.

The technology wasn't in place when Bostian's train crashed and is still missing on third-party tracks Amtrak uses in other parts of the country. It wasn't in place on tracks where deadly crashes occurred in South Carolina on Sunday and in Washington State in

December.

Pennsylvania's attorney general picked up the criminal case against Bostian last May, as a statute of limitations loomed. City prosecutors said their decision not to prosecute Bostian left them unable to take up the criminal complaint from the family of crash victim Rachel Jacobs.

Jacobs, the head of a Philadelphia-based technology startup, was returning home to her husband and 2-year-old son in New York when she was killed. She was 39.

"We see no extenuating circumstances," Kline said. "Mr. Bostian had one job and one job only on that day, which was to get the train from Point A to Point B and to carry those passengers safely. He did not do that. He has no excuse for the speeding on the tracks that day."

**Deadly earthquake strikes Taiwan; shelters opened**

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — A magnitude-6.4 earthquake struck Tuesday near the coast of Taiwan, killing two people and injuring more than 200 others, officials said.

The ground floor of the Marshal Hotel in Hualien county caved in, causing the death of one employee. Another person died in a residential building, the national fire and rescue service reported.

Chen Minghui, a maintenance worker who was rescued after being trapped in the hotel's basement, said the force of the earthquake was unusual.

"At first it wasn't that big ... we get this sort of thing all the time and it's really nothing. But then it got really terrifying," Chen said after he was reunited

with his son and grandson. "It was really scary."

Other buildings shifted on their foundations and rescuers used ladders, ropes and cranes to get residents to safety.

Taiwanese media reported that a separate hotel known as the Beautiful Life Hotel was tilting. The agency also posted photos showing a road fractured in several parts.

Bridges and some highways were closed pending inspections after buckling due to the force of the quake.

With aftershocks continuing, shell-shocked residents were being directed to shelters, including a newly built baseball stadium, where beds and hot food were provided.

**Trump aide: Some immigrants 'too lazy' to sign up for DACA**



*In this Jan. 30, 2018 photo, White House Chief of Staff John Kelly applauds President Donald Trump at his first State of the Union address, at the Capitol in Washington. Kelly has told a small group of reporters, Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2018 at the Capitol that "Dreamers" would not be a priority for deportation, even if their Obama-era protections expire and a deadlocked Congress hasn't completed a deal to protect them.*

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some immigrants may have been "too afraid" or "too lazy" to sign up for the Obama-era program that offers protection from deportation, White House chief of staff John Kelly said Tuesday as he defended President Donald Trump's proposal on the divisive issue.

Kelly discounted the possibility that Trump would announce a temporary extension of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program beyond March 5, when its protections could expire. He said the administration would not ask Congress to set a later date to give bargainers more time to reach a bipartisan deal, but said the government would not start deporting "Dreamers" who don't have criminal records.

"They are not a priority for deportation," he told reporters.

Kelly spoke as lawmakers have deadlocked in an effort to reach an immigration compromise. Barring an unlikely last-minute agreement, the Senate is expected to begin debating the issue next week, and it is unclear what if any plan will survive.

"We just don't know where 60 votes are for any particular proposal," said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., citing the votes needed for passage. Republicans have a slim majority and any measure will need around a dozen Democratic votes to succeed.

Kelly said Trump's recent offer to provide a path to citizenship for up to 1.8 million immigrants went "beyond what anyone could have imagined." A bipartisan offer by six senators that Trump rejected would have made citizenship possible for the 690,000 "Dreamers"

registered under the program, nicknamed DACA, which shields immigrants who came to the U.S. as children and stayed here illegally.

"There are 690,000 official DACA registrants and the president sent over what amounts to be two and a half times that number, to 1.8 million," Kelly said. "The difference between (690,000) and 1.8 million were the people that some would say were too afraid to sign up, others would say were too lazy to get off their asses, but they didn't sign up."

Immigration experts cite various reasons why people eligible for DACA's protections do not apply. These include lack of knowledge about the program, a worry that participating will expose them to deportation and an inability to afford registration fees.

"I'm sorry for that characterization. It doesn't surprise me from Gen. Kelly," No. 2 Senate Democratic leader Richard Durbin of Illinois, his party's chief immigration negotiator, said of the White House staff chief's remarks.

Durbin also scoffed at Kelly's assertion that "Dreamers" would not be deported after the March 5 deadline arrives.

"It's cold comfort to DACA people that if Congress does nothing, they're still safe in the loving arms of the Department of Homeland Security," said Durbin.

With leaders working on a separate track toward a budget pact, Trump threw a knuckle ball into the mix, saying he'd "love to see a shutdown" if Democrats didn't meet his immigration demands.

Trump said last September that he was ending DACA but

gave lawmakers until March 5 to pass legislation shielding the Dreamers. A federal judge has indefinitely blocked Trump from terminating the program's protections, blunting the deadline's immediate impact.

Many lawmakers are uneasy about what might happen to the Dreamers after March 5, and Democrats — and Trump himself — are using that uncertainty as leverage to help force a deal.

Kelly rejected the idea of asking lawmakers to extend the deadline, saying, "What makes them act is pressure."

In exchange for making citizenship a possibility, Trump wants \$25 billion for border security, including money to build parts of his coveted wall along the U.S.-Mexico boundary. He also wants to curb legal immigration, restricting the relatives that legal immigrants could sponsor for citizenship and ending a lottery that distributes visas to people from diverse places like Africa.

"I can't imagine men and women of good will who begged this president to solve the problem of DACA" would oppose Trump's proposal, Kelly said. He added, "Right now, the champion of all people who are DACA is Donald Trump."

Democrats strongly oppose limiting legal immigration, and conservatives are against giving citizenship to DACA recipients, and Trump's bill has gotten little traction in Congress. Durbin, his party's chief vote counter, said Trump's proposal would not get 60 Senate votes, saying, "I don't think it will get any votes on the Democratic side."



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# SpaceX's big new rocket blasts off, puts sports car in space



*This image from video provided by SpaceX shows the company's spacesuit in Elon Musk's red Tesla sports car which was launched into space during the first test flight of the Falcon Heavy rocket on Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2018*

(SpaceX via AP)

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — SpaceX's big new rocket blasted off Tuesday on its first test flight, carrying a red sports car aiming for an endless road trip past Mars.

The Falcon Heavy rose from the same launch pad used by NASA nearly 50 years ago to send men to the moon. With liftoff, the Heavy became the most powerful rocket in use today, doubling the liftoff punch of its closest competitor.

The three boosters and 27 engines roared to life at Kennedy Space Center, as thousands watched from surrounding beaches, bridges and roads, jamming the highways in scenes unmatched since NASA's last space shuttle flight. At SpaceX Mission Control in Southern California, employees screamed, whistled and raised pumped fists into the air as the launch commentators called off each milestone.

Two of the boosters—both recycled from previous launches—returned minutes later for simultaneous, side-by-side touchdowns on land at Cape Canaveral. Sonic booms rumbled across the region with the vertical landings. There was no immediate word on whether the third booster, brand new, made it onto an ocean platform 300 miles offshore.

SpaceX chief executive Elon Musk owns the rocketing Tesla Roadster, which is shooting for a solar orbit that will reach all the way to Mars. As head of the electric carmaker Tesla, he combined his passions to add a dramatic flair to the Heavy's long-awaited inaugural flight. Ballast for a rocket debut is usually concrete or steel slabs, or experiments.

Cameras mounted on the car fed stunning video of the convertible floating high above the ocean with its driver, a space-suited dummy, named "Starman" after the Davie Bowie song. A sign on the dashboard read: "Don't panic!" Bowie's "Life on Mars?" played in the background at one point.

"View from SpaceX Launch Control," Musk wrote via

Twitter. "Apparently, there is a car in orbit around Earth."

Minutes later, he provided a livestream of "Starman" tooling around the blue home planet, looking something like a NASCAR racer out for a Sunday drive, with its right hand on the wheel and the left arm resting on the car's door.

On the eve of the flight, Musk told reporters the company had done all it could to maximize success and he was at peace with whatever happens: success, "one big boom" or some other calamity. Musk has plenty of experience with rocket accidents, from his original Falcon 1 test flights to his follow-up Falcon 9s, one of which exploded on a nearby pad during a 2016 ignition test.

The Falcon Heavy is a combination of three Falcon 9s, the rocket that the company uses to ship supplies to the International Space Station and lift satellites. SpaceX is reusing first-stage boosters to save on launch costs. Most other rocket makers discard their spent boosters in the ocean.

The Heavy is intended for massive satellites, like those used by the U.S. military and major-league communication companies. Even before the successful test flight, customers were signed up.

"It was awesome like a science fiction movie coming to reality," said former NASA deputy administrator Dava Newman, Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Apollo professor of astronautics. "They nailed it. Good for them."

Given the high stakes and high drama, Tuesday's launch attracted huge crowds not seen since NASA's final space shuttle flight seven years ago. While the shuttles had more liftoff muscle than the Heavy, the all-time leaders in both size and might were NASA's Saturn V rockets, which first flew astronauts to the moon in 1968.

Not counting Apollo moon buggies, the Roadster is the first automobile to speed right off the planet.

The car faces considerable

speed bumps before settling into its intended orbit around the sun, an oval circle stretching from the orbit of Earth on one end to the orbit of Mars on the other. It has to endure a cosmic bombardment during several hours of cruising through the highly charged Van Allen radiation belts encircling Earth. Finally, a thruster has to fire to put the car on the right orbital course.

If it weathers all this, the Roadster will reach the vicinity of Mars in six months, Musk said. The car could be traveling between Earth and Mars' neighborhoods for a billion years, according to the high-tech billionaire.

Musk acknowledged the Roadster could come "quite close" to Mars during its epic cruise, with only a remote chance of crashing into the red planet.

Also on board in a protected storage unit is Isaac Asimov's science fiction series, "Foundation." A plaque contains the names of the more than 6,000 SpaceX employees.

The Heavy already is rattling the launch market. Its sticker price is \$90 million, less than one-tenth the estimated cost of NASA's Space Launch System megarocket in development for moon and Mars expeditions.

SpaceX has decided against flying passengers on the Heavy, Musk told reporters Monday, and instead will accelerate development of an even bigger rocket to accommodate deep-space crews. His ultimate goal is to establish a city on Mars.

"If people think we're in a race with the Chinese, this is our secret weapon: the entrepreneurship of people like Elon and others like Jeff Bezos," said Stanford University's G. Scott Hubbard, NASA's first Mars czar. Amazon's Bezos heads Blue Origin, which is developing a big, reusable orbital-class rocket and already is making suborbital flights in Texas.

Before launch, Bezos offered "best of luck" to Musk.

## IN THE COMMUNITY

(Courtesy Photos)





# Pence won't rule out NKorea meeting, will 'see what happens'



U.S. Vice President Mike Pence and his wife Karen walk upon their arrival at Yokota Air Base on the outskirts of Tokyo, Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2018. Vice President Pence's six-day swing through Asia will include a stop at the Winter Olympics in South Korea.

(AP Photo/Shizuo Kambayashi, Pool)

TOKYO (AP) — U.S. Vice President Mike Pence said he has not ruled out the possibility of meeting with North Korean officials at the upcoming Olympics in South Korea.

"Let me say President Trump has said he always believes in talking, but I haven't requested any meeting," Pence said before departing Monday on a six-day Asia trip. "But we'll see what happens."

Pence arrived Tuesday in Japan, where he will meet with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and U.S. service members. The vice president's trip will be highlighted by his stop at the Pyeongchang Games. He said no plans have been made for him to meet with any members of the North Korean delegation. Yet both he and Secretary of State Rex Tillerson have conspicuously kept the door open to such an interaction, while simultaneously avoiding any suggestion that the U.S. was pushing or seeking to initiate one. That delicate balance has led to some verbal gymnastics as U.S. officials try to explain what is and isn't in the offing.

"We've been clear in not saying there definitely will not be a meeting," Undersecretary of State Steve Goldstein said as he traveled with Tillerson in Latin America. "The secretary always believes that if there's an opportunity for a negotiation, regardless of what the issue is, we should try to take that."

North Korea is sending its nominal head of state, Kim Jong Nam — the highest-level visitor to the South from the North in recent memory.

Pence said his message, if he met any officials from the North, would be the same as it has been in public. "And that is that North Korea must once and for all abandon its nuclear weapons program and ballistic missile ambitions," he said.

Pence said he aims to ensure North Korea doesn't "hijack" the games as it participates on a joint team with the South, in the view of the White House. He'll hold symbolic events of his own to highlight the North's human rights abuses

and nuclear ambitions, according to White House officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to preview the trip publicly.

"We'll be telling the truth about North Korea at every stop," Pence told reporters after touring missile defense facilities Monday that monitor and could respond to a launch by the North. "We'll be ensuring that whatever cooperation that's existing between North and South Korea today on Olympic teams does not cloud the reality of a regime that must continue to be isolated by the world community."

In South Korea, Pence will visit a memorial to the 46 South Korean sailors killed in a 2010 torpedo attack attributed to the North, and hold meetings with President Moon Jae-in.

"Missile defense is essential to our national defense," Pence said before a briefing with U.S. Northern Command at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska. He touted the coming deployment of an additional 20 ground-based interceptors that would respond to an enemy launch. Leading the U.S. delegation to the Olympic Opening Ceremonies, Pence will bring to the games Fred Warmbier, the father of Otto Warmbier, the U.S. student who died in 2017 shortly after he was released from North Korean detention.

"He & his wife remind the world of the atrocities happening in N Korea," Pence tweeted Monday. The trip comes after President Donald Trump hosted a group of North Korean defectors in the Oval Office on Friday, including Ji Seong-ho, whom the president referenced in his State of the Union address last week. The White House cast the meeting as part of the Trump administration's "maximum pressure" campaign to counter the North Korean nuclear program. The plan centers around rallying the international community to further isolate North Korea both diplomatically and economically. White House officials said Pence was expected to continue to bring attention to North Korea's human rights abuses on the trip, and offer of reminder of grim conditions in North Korea. On Sunday, the North Korean government shot back that its nuclear missile program would "deter Trump and his lackeys from showing off on the Korean peninsula."

"If Trump does not get rid of his anachronistic and dogmatic way of thinking, it will only bring about the consequence of further endangering security and future of the United States," the government said in comments carried by the North's official Korean Central News Agency.

Trump and other senior officials have repeatedly said that time is running out before North Korea gains the capability to strike the U.S. mainland with a nuclear-tipped intercontinental ballistic missile. The isolated country has proven it can launch missiles of sufficient range, but has yet to develop a vehicle that can withstand the hazards of atmospheric re-entry.

Continued...

Continued from page 8



have been discovered in Africa, and it may even be an undiscovered genus.

In the article the authors say the team's findings "counter hypotheses that dinosaur faunas of the African mainland were completely isolated" during the late Mesozoic period. Those theories were that Africa's dinosaurs during that time existed as if on an island and developed independently from their northern cousins.

But Mansourasaurus' fossilized skeletal remains suggest an anatomy not very different from those discovered in Europe from the same period, an indication that a land connection between Africa and its northern neighbor may have existed.

The news was welcomed by other paleontologists, who now see the desert to the west of the Nile as fertile ground for new information about the Earth's former residents.

Kristi Curry Rogers, an associate professor of geology and biology at Macalester College who specializes in large long-necked dinosaurs like the Mansourasaurus, said Tuesday that the find's strong pronounced chin and other unique anatomical quirks will help piece together the evolutionary history of dinosaurs in Africa once more fossils have been found to compare it with.

"This highlights how much there is left out there to discover," she wrote by email. "And I'm excited that people like Dr. Sallam and colleagues are on the ground searching for fossils."

While Egypt has a long history of archaeology, paleontology has not enjoyed the same popularity — or had the same success.

In 1911, German paleontologist Ernst Stromer led an expedition to the oasis of Bahriya in the Western Desert. There, he discovered four species of dinosaurs, including a predatory type known as the Spinosaurus, all from the Cretaceous period. But all of his findings were later lost in Allied bombing of the Munich Museum during World War II.

Sallam said researchers don't know how Mansourasaurus lived and died, except for the fact that it was a plant eater. There's no indication whether it lived alone or in a herd.

The bones bear a resem-

blance to another dinosaur discovery in Egypt, that of the Paralititan Stromeri, excavated by an American team from the University of Pennsylvania, whose findings were published in 2001. Both were long-necked herbivores grazers, but the Paralititan Stromeri was much larger. It was among the largest known dinosaurs, weighing in at 75 tons and over 30 meters (33 yards) long.

The Mansourasaurus' smaller size is more typical of the Mesozoic era, when dinosaurs' time was running out, geologically speaking, Sallam said. With a long neck and tail, its torso would have been similar to that of an African elephant and measuring tip-to-tale over 10 meters (11 yards) and weighing several tons.

The Western Desert would have more closely resembled a coastal jungle during the dinosaur's lifetime, with half of what is the country today under water.

Finding the dinosaur remains in the vast desert was the product of back-breaking work. The team scoured the area of the find more than 750 kilometers (466 miles) southwest of the capital for five years before they found the partial skeleton of the Mansourasaurus in 2013.

Sallam said he and a group of doctoral and master's degree students were heading to give a lecture at a local university when they stumbled on a desert road with the appropriate geological outcroppings that they hadn't noticed before. The next morning, the team returned to survey it, covering an area of several kilometers. It wasn't long after they started that one of the students called him on the phone, saying he should come see the number of bones she'd found.

Sallam said he knew from the first small piece of fossil he was shown that it was a big deal.

"When I first saw it I told them, 'If this comes out as I expect, your names will go down in history,'" he recalled.

There is some hope the discovery could bring more funding for the paleontology field in Egypt and financing for current studies, Sallam said.

But he said he's most proud of making science real for people who otherwise aren't exposed to it as much.

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# Amid controversy, Tarantino expresses regret over Thurman

NEW YORK (AP) — Director Quentin Tarantino has responded to Uma Thurman’s allegation that he put her life in danger with a dangerous car stunt on “Kill Bill,” calling the incident “the biggest regret of my life.”

But just as he was making amends for that incident — and trying to explain it — the director was being excoriated on social media Tuesday for remarks he made in a 2003 interview with Howard Stern that resurfaced online, seemingly defending Roman Polanski for having sex with a 13-year-old girl, saying the victim “wanted to have it” and was “down to party” with Polanski.

The incident involving Thurman became public on Saturday, in a New York Times column in which the actress, while also making sexual misconduct allegations against Harvey Weinstein, recounted Tarantino’s persuading her to drive a car on the Mexico set that she had been warned might be faulty.

Thurman told columnist Maureen Dowd that she’d expressed fear beforehand, and asked that a stunt driver do it instead. An irritated Tarantino convinced her to do it, she said, and she crashed into a tree, suffering what she said was permanent neck damage, a concussion and damage to her knees. Video that Thurman provided the Times — provided to her by Tarantino himself — shows her struggling to control the car before crashing, and then being lifted out of the vehicle.

In an interview with Deadline published Monday, Tarantino disputed some of the details in the Times account but said he had indeed persuaded Thurman to drive the car, although not as angrily as described. He said he had driven the road himself and it had seemed totally straight, but that a decision was made for Thurman to drive it in the other direction, and somehow there was a turn that he didn’t expect.

“I didn’t force her into the car,” he told Deadline. “She got into it because she trusted me. And she believed me.” He said seeing the crash was “just horrible ... It was heartbreaking.” He called it “the biggest regret of my life.”

A representative for Tarantino has not responded to two requests for comment from the Associated Press.

Thurman spoke out again Monday on Instagram, reposting the crash video and acknowledging that Tarantino “was deeply regretful and remains remorseful about this sorry event, and gave me the footage years later so I could expose it and let it see the light of day ... I am proud of him for doing the right thing and for his courage.” She said she held the film’s producers and “the notorious Harvey Weinstein” responsible for covering up and refusing to give her the video for years. “They lied, destroyed evidence, and continue to lie about the permanent harm they caused and then chose to suppress,” the actress wrote.

It wasn’t just the car incident that called Tarantino’s behavior into question; Thurman also said the director himself both spit on her and choked her during scenes where it was called for in the script. Tarantino explained to Deadline that he spit on Thurman himself because he felt he could do accomplish it more efficiently than actor Michael Madsen, and that it was Thurman’s idea that he choke her. “I can act all strangle-ey, but if you want my face to get red and the tears to come to my eye, then you kind of need to choke me,” Tarantino explained. The director was also getting severely criticized on Twitter on Tuesday as audio surfaced of his remarks concerning Polanski, 84, who has been a fugitive since fleeing to France in 1978 while awaiting sentencing for unlawful sex with a minor in 1975.

“She wanted to have it and dated the guy,” Tarantino says in the audio interview. When Stern and his co-host, Robin Quivers, protest, Tarantino replies, “Look, she was down with this.”


Some were noting on Tuesday that Polanski will figure as a significant character in Tarantino’s upcoming film about the Manson murders, slated to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the murders next year. Sharon Tate, who was killed, was married to Polanski.

Polanski pleaded guilty to having unlawful sex with the girl, Samantha Geimer, when she was 13. She has said he drugged, raped and sodomized her. The Associated Press does not typically name victims of sex abuse, but Geimer went public years ago.



FILE - In this Sept. 29, 2003 file photo, director of the film “Kill Bill: Volume 1,” Quentin Tarantino, left, and actress Uma Thurman arrive at the premiere of the film in Los Angeles. Tarantino has expressed sorrow for the car crash that injured Uma Thurman during shooting of “Kill Bill,” calling it the biggest regret of his life. He said he had test-driven the route himself and believed it to be safe, and persuaded Thurman she could drive it.

(AP Photo/Kevork Djansezian, File)



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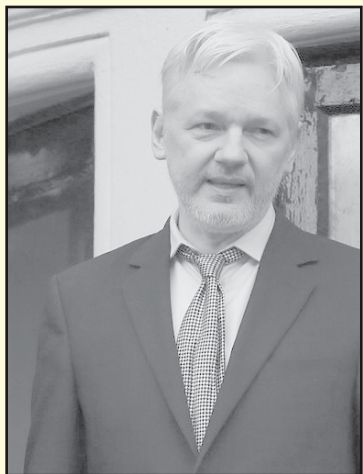
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# British judge upholds arrest warrant for Julian Assange



*In this Feb. 5, 2016 file photo, WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange speaks from the balcony of the Ecuadorean Embassy in London. A British judge on Tuesday Feb. 6, 2018 upheld a U.K. arrest warrant for the WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange, leaving his legal position unchanged after more than five years inside the Ecuadorean Embassy. The judge says the warrant stands, rejecting a call from Assange's lawyers for the warrant to be revoked because he is no longer wanted for questioning in Sweden.*

(AP Photo/Kirsty Wigglesworth, File)

LONDON (AP) — A British judge on Tuesday upheld a U.K. arrest warrant for WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange, leaving him still a wanted man in the country where he has spent more than five years inside the Ecuadorean Embassy.

Judge Emma Arbuthnot rejected a call from Assange's lawyers for the warrant to be revoked because he is no longer wanted for questioning in Sweden over alleged sex crimes. It was issued in 2012 for jumping bail.

"I am not persuaded the

warrant should be withdrawn," Arbuthnot told lawyers, journalists and Assange supporters gathered at London's Westminster Magistrates' Court.

However, she allowed Assange's lawyer to make a new set of arguments challenging whether it is in the public interest to continue the case against Assange, and said she would rule on them next week. A decision in Assange's favor would end Britain's case against him.

Assange, 46, has been holed up in Ecuador's embassy in London since he took refuge there in June 2012 to avoid extradition to Sweden, where prosecutors were investigating allegations of sexual assault and rape made by two women in 2010.

Swedish prosecutors dropped the case last year, saying there was no prospect of bringing Assange to Sweden in the foreseeable future. But Assange was still subject to the British warrant for breaching his bail conditions in 2012.

The judge said that if Assange wanted the warrant lifted he should surrender to authorities and come to court. She said he would be able to argue his case and "put an argument for reasonable cause" for breaching his bail conditions.

After the ruling keeping the warrant in place, the judge agreed to let Assange's lawyer, Mark Summers, argue in his client's absence that the warrant should be lifted because it was no longer in the public interest to arrest Assange.

Summers said Assange had several serious health problems including depression, and argued that the five and a

(Continued on page 15)

# Distinct style of Korean pop to echo in Olympic spotlight



*In this Dec. 1, 2017 file photo, members of South Korean music band Dynamic Duo pose for photos on the red carpet of the Mnet Asian Music Awards (MAMA) in Hong Kong. The clothes, the hair, the confidence, the look of Korean pop-music, or K-pop, can either feel like high fashion or just plain quirky. But that's what draws in fans to South Korea's most famous export. It will be hard to bypass this cultural phenomenon during the upcoming 2018 Olympic Winter Games.*

(AP Photo/Kin Cheung, File)

SEATTLE (AP) — The clothes, the hair, the confidence — the look of Korean pop music can feel like high fashion or just plain quirky.

But that's what draws fans to South Korea's most famous musical export.

As much as the music and lyrics themselves, the perfectly symmetrical stars and the meticulous choreography define K-pop for a country obsessed with image and beauty.

And if you've managed to elude the beats and flash of its music and videos until now, rest assured it will be hard to bypass this cultural phenomenon during the Winter Games.

Among the most viewed YouTube videos of all time with more than 3 billion hits is Psy's 2012 earworm "Gangnam Style." But that is hardly representative of the genre. It's actually a parody of K-pop drawing on its own absurdities, which experts say was fully embraced locally when it became a global touchstone of Korean culture.

Though the multibillion-dollar industry hasn't yet become truly mainstream in the U.S. and other Western countries, there's fanatical interest among millions of people old and young across Asia and in pockets of the rest of the world.

The South Korean people and government are proud of their infectious brand of music and music videos, which feature Korean lyrics dashed with catchy English phrases, vibrant fashion and elaborate dance moves. Its fans are famous for their devotion to their favorite bands, which has created a spin-off hobby involving a sizable number of Koreans gathering

to recreate the complicated routines with seriousness and accuracy.

And in the U.S., American youth have driven demand for formal programs catering to their obsession. Clark Sorensen, Korea history professor and the director of the University of Washington's Center for Korea Studies in Seattle, said he developed official course material about three years ago because his students showed up to his Modern Korean Society class asking: Where's the K-pop?

"I just started doing it," the longtime anthropologist said. "They're interested in Korea because they're interested in K-pop."

The K-pop industry began in the 1990s as the country was growing as a democracy and its profile rising on the world stage. It was thought to be used to harness its rich history of highly-trained musicians and artists with the emergence of its home-grown high tech expertise, said Keith Howard, a music history expert and National Humanities Center fellow. But what began as a movement to develop cultural entertainment for its own people gave way to a massive, rabid fan base beyond its borders.

The past decade saw another wave of K-pop that is far more commercial, as talent agencies develop rigorous training programs that capitalize on both the genre's appeal as an export and as a vessel for mass-market advertising and product marketing.

"It was very well placed to move very, very quickly to assimilating and appropriating Western music," Howard said.

What started as innocent

Bubblegum pop has lately taken an edgier turn. Nods to the mainstream American taste have produced Korean hits swept up in rap, hip hop, R&B and reggae influences, as well as those that are more explicit and sexual. But that move hasn't been without criticism as observers have called it out as cultural appropriation that can be downright racist.

Here's a sample at some kinds of K-pop:

**Bubblegum Pop**  
"Gee" by Girl's Generation is a reassuring taste of mainstream K-pop hit music, featuring simple but abundant dance moves performed by more than a half dozen females in matching casual and colorful outfits while they dance in a store, a nod to South Korea's other beloved pastime: mall shopping.

**K-Hip Hop**  
"AEAO" by Dynamic Duo sounds right at home as a hip-hop classic with melodic raps and hooks, moody lighting, breakdancing and turntable scratching.

**More Explicit**  
"Hello Bitches" by CL is a more sexualized, explicit form in this edgier evolution of K-pop, taking black leather and twerking to a new level for the genre.

**Parody**  
"Gangnam Style" by Psy is a parody by a pudgy Korean entertainer with a signature horse-gallop dance move. But he registers as an "anti-Korean" archetype among the very image-conscious, plastic surgery-embracing native population.

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# Maldives high court annuls order freeing jailed politicians

MALE, Maldives (AP) — Three Maldives Supreme Court justices on Tuesday annulled their own order to free a group of imprisoned opposition politicians after two of the court’s justices were arrested amid a political crisis in the Indian Ocean archipelago nation.

The new ruling came as President Yameen Abdul Gayoom moved to assert his power over the court, declaring a state of emergency and ordering security forces to raid the court compound where the justices were arrested. Political turmoil has swept the Maldives since the surprise court ruling last week ordering the release of the opposition leaders, including many of Yameen’s main political rivals. The annulment of that order was announced in a court statement issued late Tuesday night after Yameen issued a state of emergency for the country that restricted citizens’ rights and was internationally condemned. He also labeled the original court ruling a coup and a plot. “This is not a state of war, epidemic or natural disaster. This is something more dangerous,” Yameen said on national television. “This is an obstruction of the very ability of the state to function.”

Yameen has rolled back a series of democratic reforms during his five years in office and said that the court overstepped its authority in ordering the politicians released, saying the order “blatantly disrupts the systems of checks and balances.” The emergency decree gives officials sweeping powers to make arrests, search and seize property and restrict freedom of assembly.

“This state of emergency is the only way I can determine how deep this plot, this coup, goes,” Yameen said.

Meanwhile, Yameen’s main political rival called on India to send an envoy — backed by its military — to free the imprisoned justices and opposition leaders. Exiled former President Mohammed Nasheed, who was among the opposition politicians ordered freed and who is now in neighboring Sri Lanka, said in a statement that Yameen “has illegally declared martial law and overrun the state. We must remove him from power,” calling for the Indian envoy and military to be sent. “We are asking for a physical presence.”

He also called on the U.S. to stop Maldives government officials from making transactions through U.S. banks.


There was no immediate response from India or the United States, though both have called on Yameen to obey the original Supreme Court order.

The spokesman for U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said he was seriously concerned about the declaration of a state of emergency.



Maldives policemen clear the area of supreme court after the government declared a 15-day state of emergency in Male, Maldives, early Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2018. The Maldives government declared a 15-day state of emergency Monday as the political crisis deepened in the Indian Ocean nation amid an increasingly bitter standoff between the president and the Supreme Court. Hours after the emergency was declared, soldiers forced their way into the Supreme Court building, where the judges were believed to be taking shelter, said Ahmed Maloof, an opposition member of Parliament.

(AP Photo/Mohamed Sharuhaan)



AMERICAN SAMOA  
POWER AUTHORITY

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

Position Title

AUTO MECHANIC I

Department

Auto Shop

Division

Facilities, Security & Maintenance

Position Type

Career Service (12 month probation)

Reports To

Auto Shop Supervisor

Posting Date

February 2, 2018

Deadline

February 15, 2018, 4:00 p.m.

Pay Rate

\$7.28 – \$7.58/hr

Job Grade/Status

D/1/A-D/2/A, Non-Exempt

Major Duties & Responsibilities

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

Education

HS Diploma with Certification in Automotive Mechanics – trade & technology required; AS degree in Automotive Technology with Certification preferred

Experience

Five years (5) work experience in automotive field. Experience and skills in safely operating a heavy duty lathe machine would be an added advantage. Computer skills in ProDemand Automotive Repair online program is also a plus.

Knowledge, Skills & Abilities

Must be knowledgeable of:

• vehicle painting procedures and protocols

• hydraulics and in using diagnostic scanning tools for troubleshooting and identifying vehicle electronic problems

• tools and equipment used in the diagnosis, overhaul, repair and adjustment of vehicle, light and heavy equipment

• auto-electronics, on-board computers, and how to access them for diagnosing problems hazards and safety precautions involved with the work

Must have skills:

• in automotive body repair and repainting work

• in diagnosis of vehicle, light and heavy problems

• to lubricate and service equipment as per maintenance schedule

• to fabricate parts and panel where safe and acceptable options are available

• to perform welding work where required

• in the use of automotive mechanical and electronic tools (air/power) and equipment

Must have ability to:

• work rotating shifts, weekends and holidays when required

• read and understand technical manuals, reports and instructions including schematic drawings and diagrams

• establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work

• read and follow manuals and standardized procedures in service and maintenance of vehicles/equipment

• be a team player and willing to offer assistance on critical matters and issues pertaining to the Auto Shop

• ensure safe working practices at all times

• assist in maintaining appropriate records

• be proactive and responsible

• perform housekeeping duties in keeping workshop clean and tidy

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

An Equal Opportunity Employer \* A Drug Free Workplace

## British...

Continued from page 14

half years he has spent inside the embassy were more than adequate punishment for his actions.

He also cited a U.N. report in support of Assange.

Arbuthnot said she would rule on those arguments Feb. 13.

Had the judge ruled in Assange’s favor on Tuesday, he would have been free to leave the embassy without being arrested on the British warrant.

However, Assange suspects there is a secret U.S. grand jury indictment against him for WikiLeaks’ publication of leaked classified American documents, and that American authorities will seek his extradition. He fears he will immediately be taken into custody if he leaves the embassy, sparking what would likely be a long legal battle against extradition to the U.S.

Assange lawyer Jennifer Robinson said after the court session that he is willing to face British justice if he receives a guarantee that he will not be sent to the U.S. to face prosecution.

“The British authorities’ failure to provide assurance against that risk is the reason he sought asylum in the embassy in the first place,” she said. “This is and has always been our overriding concern.”

U.S. officials haven’t confirmed whether a request for Assange’s extradition has been made. Tuesday’s ruling prolongs a stalemate that has kept Assange as Ecuador’s houseguest for 5 ½ years. Last month, Ecuador said it had granted the Australian-born hacker citizenship in a bid to break the logjam.

Ecuador also asked Britain to grant him diplomatic status. Britain refused, saying “the way to resolve this issue is for Julian Assange to leave the embassy to face justice.”

If the British case against Assange is dropped, it might make it easier for Assange to obtain diplomatic status, which could ease his way for possible travel to Ecuador without risking arrest and extradition proceedings.

British prosecutors had opposed the removal of the warrant, saying Assange shouldn’t be immune from the law simply because he has managed to evade justice for a long time.

Extradition lawyer Rebecca Niblock, of the law firm Kingsley Napley, said before the ruling that Assange’s legal argument was a longshot.

“Failing to surrender to bail is like insulting the court’s authority” and unlikely to go down well with the court, she said.





# In Loving Memory of

a beautiful Mother, Grandmother, Sister, Aunt, Cousin and Friend

## LUCILLA MULITAUAOPELE CHEN

June 18, 1952 - Jan 29, 2018



Colossians 2:5

*"For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ".*

### FUNERAL PROGRAM

Saturday, February 10, 2018

- 7:30 am - Depart LBJ Medical Center
  - 8:00 am - Arrive at Sts. Peter & Paul Parish (Laulii)
  - 8:15 am - 10:00 am - Viewing for family and friends
  - 10:00am - Mass of Resurrection
- Immediately afterwards, Lucilla will be transported to her home in Laulii Tuai for final viewing.
- 2:00 pm - Committal Service
- She will be laid to eternal rest at her home in Laulii



Respectfully,  
**Children: Whitey Chen, Blue Chen-Fruean and Grandchildren**

