



LBJ's new Chief Medical Officer lays out his plans for improvement

by Joyetter Feagaimaalii
Samoa New Sub Editor

Chairman of the LBJ Hospital Board, Dr Malouamaua Tuiolosega yesterday shared with Samoa News correspondence outlining new Chief Medical Officer Dr Joseph Shumway's plans for healthcare at LBJ hospital.

This comes after reports of an alleged petition by some senior LBJ doctors working to remove the current board, over the appointment of the new CMO and also the resignation of two senior doctors last week.

(See separate story in this issue.)

In an email dated January 29, 2023 and addressed to Vice Chair of LBJ board, Dr Jean Anderson, Dr Shumway made promises that upon completion of orientations he will conduct a top to bottom review of the facility and all of its departments using the Joint Commission accreditation standards currently in use.

"I will formally present those findings to the Board and other interested parties to ensure that we are all on the same page.

"We need to first understand our current status and then we can prioritize our time and cap-

ital investments to achieve the greatest improvements.

"This will mark the start of our upward journey of growth and improvement. Development of a mutually agreed strategic plan is critical for the future success of LBJ.

"I will also hold town hall meetings with all of the medical staff to capture needed improvements and ideas to create a new culture of change and engagement in the LBJ medical staff.

"I will listen to them, help them and also find mutually agreed ways to make them accountable for their work. I am a firm believer of 'Patient Centered Care'."

According to the email, Dr Shumway plans on engaging with the Health Department to collaboratively work to improve the health metrics of all the islands of American Samoa.

"This needs patient and physician engagement and I will need your Samoan health authority's support in finding a way to do this in a culturally sensitive way.

"Educational liaisons with your nursing and medical training institutions will be a high priority as will forging

(Continued on page 8)



MANU SAMOA FAN CELEBRATING...

After Manu Samoa defeated Great Britain in its final game 24-19 in overtime, a zealous fan ran on the field, embraced Manu Samoa star player, Vaa Apelu Maliko, and then was arrested for trespassing by the LA County Sheriff at the HSBC LA 7s, Day 2, at the Dignity Health Sports Park, Carson, California, USA.

[Photo by Barry Markowitz, In memory of Howard Helg]

LBJ board's decision to appoint Dr. Shumway as CMO faces pushback

by Joyetter Feagaimaalii
Samoa New Sub Editor

Vice Chair of the hospital board Dr Jean Anderson has "pleaded" with LBJ personnel to "trust the board" citing that decisions made are for the best interest of medical care in the

territory.

Dr Anderson was responding to questions over reports of an alleged petition by some senior LBJ doctors working to remove the current board, over the appointment of the new CMO Dr Joseph Shumway and also

the resignation of two senior doctors last week.

"The decisions being made are in the best interest of LBJ and to fulfill the Board's mission to move LBJ forward and to improve the quality of care for our people."

"The changes that are occurring are difficult for some at LBJ and I understand these individuals' concerns. And as we all know CHANGE is HARD.

"But all I can say is that I plead with those individuals to TRUST the Board and trust that the decisions being made are in the best interest of LBJ and to fulfill the Board's mission to move LBJ forward and to improve the quality of care for our people.

"One day we'll look back at this time and be reminded of the pain and struggle we all faced, as a people, but we will also be proud that we did what had to be done, even though it was HARD but it meant an improved LBJ and change that brought higher quality of care for our people."

Dr Anderson is adamant that the LBJ Board is committed to the succession plan outlined with Dr Shumway who is looking forward to working

(Continued on page 7)



BEACH VOLLEYBALL ID CLINIC

Some of the young volleyball players at the Beach Volleyball ID clinic with legendary coach Allen Allen over the weekend at Maliau Mai Beach.

[courtesy photo]



Man faces rape charges after allegedly having sex with high school girl

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THE 18-YEAR OLD JUST WANTED TO SKIP SCHOOL

Joyetter Feagaimaalii
Samoa News Sub Editor

A 55-year old man is facing sexual charges in connection to an 18-year-old high school student.

The incident in this matter allegedly occurred last week. It came to light when a woman filed a criminal complaint with police regarding her 18-year-old daughter missing school.

Pasene Kitiona is facing charges of rape; sexual abuse first degree, endangering the welfare of a child, false imprisonment, third-degree assault and two counts of sodomy.

It's alleged the victim was seen entering a black vehicle, leaving the school grounds on the day in question, Feb 22, 2023.

Police responded to the call and headed to Vaitogi where the defendant used to reside.

It's alleged police went towards the Turtle & Shark area, and came to a secluded wooden shack.

"As they parked outside of the shack, they saw movements within the shack. As the police officers approached the shack, the suspect immediately came rushing out of the shack, shirtless with a sarong around waistline."

Police went inside the shack and found the victim half naked.

"Police officers immediately detained the suspect and escorted [him] into the police unit; the victim and her mother were escorted and transported to the Tafuna Police Substation for further processing.

"According to the victim, she verbally stated that she saw the suspect dropping his niece at school and decided to approach the suspect, asking for transportation to anywhere but the school."

They left the school compound and they went past the suspect's residence in Vaitogi and the victim asked where he is taking her.

"The suspect stated that there are people at his house, preferable somewhere else. The victim noticed that they drove passed [sic] the Turtle and Shark Legend area, and started to panic. She was unfamiliar with the area, let alone, the shack that the suspect pulled in was very secluded. There were

no other houses in the proximity of the shack."

The government's case claims the suspect asked to have sexual intercourse but the victim refused saying she was on her menstrual period.

"The suspect then told the Victim that it's a waste of time that he's been doing her favors and she can't even meet his sexual needs.

"The suspect constantly asked her to have sex, however, [sic] she eventually said yes due to being afraid of not knowing what the suspect is [sic] capable of, nor having any knowledge of the area if anything happens to her."

According to the suspect's verbal statement to the police, he met the victim a month ago

and that he was aware she was a minor.

He confirmed that the victim approached him on the day in question and asked that he take her away from school.

"The suspect drove his car to his farm in Vaitogi heading towards Turtle and Shark Resort.

While at his shack, the victim was changing her clothes and he became aroused.

Suspect then asked the victim if they could have sexual intercourse and the victim told him that she's on her menstrual period, but he eventually had sex with her.

Bail for the defendant is set at \$30,000. Pasene made his initial appearance in the District Court yesterday.

Gov requests infrastructure funding assistance to expedite a recycling program

POINTS OUT OPERATIONS GRANT UNCHANGED FOR 25 YEARS DESPITE RISING PRICES

by Samoa News staff

Gov. Lemanu P. S. Mauga has requested financial assistance from the Interior Department's Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) to establish and set up the territory's infrastructure for recycling.

The governor's request was included in his written testimony presented earlier this month to the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources hearing on the state of the U.S territories.

Lemanu informed the Congressional committee that the American Samoa government relies on its operations grants through DOI, and requested "continued support for those grants that are critical to the operation of our territory."

He thanked Congress and requested continued support for the DOI's Insular Affairs — 'Assistance to Territories' grants that are essential in helping with financial management; economic development; education; energy production; natural and cultural resources; and invasive species management.

Lemanu pointed out that for 25 years American Samoa's annual allocation of \$10 million in operation grants remains unchanged despite the steady rise of costs for materials needed to complete projects.

"The overall cost of com-

pleting a project has increased for various reasons, namely the cost of fuel, materials, labor and supplies," he explained.

"Increasing American Samoa's allocation to reflect the increasing costs as well as address the lack of planning funds would efficiently make a concept- ready project into a shovel- ready one."

He also said that DOI has taken the lead in waiving local cost matching for all of its current funding opportunities available. And he hopes this initiative can be extended to other federal agencies providing funding to the territories.

"The waiver of local cost matching will relieve fiscal strain on our limited local funding," he said and further requested "assistance from OIA in establishing and improving our Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling."

Lemanu also requested that the federal government identify potential sources of funding to support the following projects:

- American Samoa Power Authority MSW Gasification Plant
- Transfer Stations
- Recycling Equipment (balers, scrap metal and tire shredders, etc.)
- Seed money to launch Governor's Recycling Program

OTHER ISSUES

The governor went on to express his appreciation for the flexibility provided in the federal Transportation Infrastructure Financing Innovation Act "which is crucial to seeing our infrastructure projects from design to completion."

He said this federal legislation will help to close funding gaps with low-cost, long-term financing and speed the delivery of infrastructure projects, to

help American Samoa get the financing necessary to improve the transportation systems in the community.

Another federal law that the governor spoke about is the Broadband Equity, Access, and Development (BEAD) Program, which he says will help to expand high-speed internet access to American Samoa and the other US Territories.

"American Samoa lags behind in the development of telecommunications and these grants... will help identify underserved areas and build an infrastructure to provide affordable and accessible connectivity for all," he said.

According to the U.S National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) online publication, BEAD is a federal grant program that aims to get all Americans online by funding

partnerships between states or territories, communities, and stakeholders to build infrastructure where we need it to and increase adoption of high-speed internet.

Furthermore, BEAD prioritizes un-served locations that have no internet access or that only have access under 25/3 Mbps and underserved locations that only have access under 100/20 Mbps.

As previously reported by Samoa News, ASG established last year the 10-member Broadband Core Working Group (BCWG) to ensure that American Samoa obtains the millions of dollars in new broadband infrastructure available through federal funding from NTIA. (See Samoa News online June 06, 2022 for details.)

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COURT REPORT...

by Joyetter Feagimaalii
Samoa News Sub Editor

MAN AND WOMAN FACE DRUG CHARGES

Eddieboy Va'avale 29 and Dora Sua 40 have both been charged after a traffic stop where illegal drugs were found.

Va'avale is held on bail of \$3,000 while Sua's bail is set at \$5,000. They made their initial appearances in the District Court last Friday.

According to the government's case on Feb. 20, 2023 the Vice and Narcotics Unit was notified when a traffic stop allegedly found controlled substances.

The criminal complaint says that a traffic stop occurred due to the driver of the vehicle not wearing her seatbelt.

The female driver was then found to "not have a driver's license and the vehicle along with the driver and her male passenger ... were taken to the Leone Police station [sic] for further investigation."

Sua was identified as the driver of the vehicle; while, she was accompanied by Va'avale.

During the inventory, a roach was discovered near the driver's seat and the driver said she had no knowledge of the roach.

Police also found a glass

pipe containing a crystalline substance in Sua's belongings. The crystalline substance was later tested, and it was positive for methamphetamine (meth).

Police also tested the substance contained in the roach, and it was found positive for THC/ Marijuana.

The government's case further reveals that a stamp sized baggie containing a crystalline substance was discovered in Va'avale's possession, and it tested positive for meth.

Va'avale told police he did not know who owned the meth baggie found in his possession and that he was unaware that Sua had a meth pipe inside the car.

PX HEARING IN ARSON CASE SET FOR TODAY

Peni Toso is scheduled to have his preliminary examination (PX) hearing in the District Court today.

Toso is held on bail of \$30,000 on one count of arson over allegations that he set a home on fire in Petesa.

The arson charge is a class B felony, and carries a jail term between five to 15 years.

According to the government's case, on Feb. 10, 2023 police received a call for assistance after a family home was

set on fire in Petesa.

Upon arriving on scene, officers saw the building engulfed in flames.

"As we were securing the scene and waiting for fire fighters to arrive, onlookers from around the area, including ... Tupuivao Ioelu — who owns the house, were yelling out to us that a man named Peni had set the house on fire.

"They ... told us that the man had lived there with his wife, Pusi Toso, and had another residence on the east side of the island, at Pagai."

Witnesses told police while they were sleeping inside the house, the defendant woke them up to clear out saying "that he is going to burn down the house."

According to one of the witnesses, when the suspect was in their room, the witness could smell a reek of alcohol odor, as the suspect was demanding them to exit the house immediately.

"At first, the witness thought that the suspect wasn't serious, and he was just acting drunk and the witness went back to sleep. Several minutes later he could smell something burning and immediately felt the heat temperature rising.

"As he came out of his room, he was then startled to see that

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his uncle's room was in flames."

The day after the incident police headed to Pagai where the defendant resides and found him.

The criminal complaint states that the defendant confessed that he set the house on fire.

"In his confession, he stated that he got into a verbal altercation with the pastor who owned the house. In a rage after the

altercation, he went back to the house and doused his room with gasoline and ignited the fire.

"He then took a back road that led to Fagaima and sat under the pulu tree near the Wayland University building.

"He was able to call a family member from Pagai who had come to pick him up and take him."



Samoa Baptist Academy Principal Ruth Tuatoo stands at attention after placing a wreath honoring service men and women, past and present, during the school's "Operation No Greater Love" program on Friday, Feb. 24, 2023 at the Methodist Gymnasium in Tafuna.

Tuatoo, a military veteran, said SBA adopted, in 2017, the Operation Love Letters program as part of their partnership with the local Army Reserve. The school later renamed it "Operation No Greater Love," as a reminder to students about the sacrifices made by those serving in the various branches of the military, some of whom lost their lives in the process.

[photo: faaTalanoa Media]

Use of the language supports and develops survival of fa'aSamoa

MARCH IS SAMOAN LANGUAGE MONTH

by Samoa News staff

Through a Feb. 23 proclamation, acting governor Talauega Eleasalo Ale, declared March 2023 as "Samoa Language Month" and a "kick-off wave" is set for tomorrow morning from 7a.m to 8a.m at Suigaula o le Atuvasa beach park in Utulei.

In the proclamation, Talauega pointed out that "a vibrant and robust use of the Samoan language supports the survival and development of the fa'aSamoa."

It notes that at least 90% of American Samoans speak Samoan as their first language but a Samoan Language Survey in the territory in 2001 raised concern as only 67% of those interviewed indicated that they use Samoan to converse at home.

He declared that, "vigilance and planning is needed as preventative measures against language loss already found at the shores of some of our Pacific neighbors like Hawaii which has only 1000+ recorded

speakers."

The "Samoan language is declared by territorial law as one of the official languages in American Samoa and is recognized as of equal importance with the English language in education, government, economic and social life of the people of American Samoa," he said, referring to the legislation approved by the Fono in the last legislative session and signed into law.

(Samoa News notes that it's this particular law, which

established the Samoan Language Commission.)

According to the Talauega, "knowledge and use of the Samoan Language is crucial in preparing individuals for more effective participation in this society and the Samoan way of life."

In the proclamation for Samoan Language Month, the acting governor, called on the territory to "celebrate our identity, our language, and our culture to instill in our youth the importance of the preservation

and protection of our customs and traditional practices."

Meanwhile, acting deputy chief of staff, Lydia A. Amisone, through a Feb. 22 memorandum, informed cabinet members of the Samoan Language Month, and that it starts on Mar. 1 and a "kick-off wave" is for tomorrow morning, Mar. 01, at Suigaula.

She explained that the Samoan Language Month is an effort by the Samoan Language Commission to introduce to the public the interest in the language and for all to join together in its value.

Amisone noted that the Commission was established during the previous 37th Legislative session to — among other things — preserve, stabilize and keep the Samoan Language thriving. And it's the language that records Samoan heritage and culture.

According to the memo, the Commission will conduct various events throughout March in order to see if the public is clear about the danger that the Samoan language is in.

Representatives from churches, Department of Education, ASCC Samoan Studies department, Office of Samoan Affairs and members of the public are asked to join in these efforts. (More details are to be announced in the coming days.)

For tomorrow's "kick-off wave", Amisone requested ASG departments and agencies participants to wear yellow or brown, as well as having banners with words that calls for the preservation of the Samoan Language.



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\$2.9 Million awarded to ASCC to expand high-speed internet access

The U.S. Dept. of Commerce is announcing that the American Samoa Community College (ASCC) was awarded \$2,994,869 from the Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program (CMC). The program is run by the Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and is part of the Biden-Harris Administration’s “Internet for All” initiative.

According to the release, ASCC’s “A’oa’oga Aso Nei” project aims to make remote learning a way of life in American Samoa, to transform the local economy, and to preserve the Samoan culture.

The project activities include:

- upgrading the campus Internet connection to a Gigabit-speed connection;
- creating an equipment lending

program;

- developing a modern curriculum that will deliver both a plan for the coming decade as well as a working pilot program that intends to add Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and/or computer science classes for both postsecondary and adult learners; and

- providing training to existing ASCC Information Technology Staff to better support and improve educational service delivery in the context of a significantly altered technical environment.

Congresswoman Aumua Amata thanked the NTIA and Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information Alan Davidson for recognizing the integral role of ASCC with this grant.

“ASCC is of utmost importance to our youth as they continue their educations and seek out opportunities in life,” the Congresswoman said, “especially

in American Samoa where our young people have fewer higher education alternatives than any state in the U.S. Congratulations to ASCC President Dr. Rosevonne Makaiwi-Pato.”

Gov. Lemanu P. S. Mauga said, “I am very pleased to see that the National Telecommunications and Information Agency has selected our own American Samoa Community College for a substantial grant from its Connecting Minority Communities program. ASCC is our primary institution of higher learning in American Samoa and plays a critical role educating our students, preparing our workforce, and charting our future as a territory. I am confident that the NTIA has chosen an excellent partner with this grant.

The Samoan phrase A’oa’oga Aso Nei translates to “education of today,” which is emblematic of the many tech-

nological and educational improvements this program will make for the college, the governor explained in the release.

“As I have emphasized throughout my administration, it is essential that we leverage modern technologies to pivot and stabilize our economy, protect our population base, and to continue to guard and strengthen our unique Samoan culture. Through the deployment of additional computers, higher internet bandwidth, and new computing classes, and new information technology skills at the college, the A’oa’oga Aso Nei Initiative will be a great addition to our continuing efforts.”

Samoa Community College is one of 61 minority-serving colleges and universities receiving grants today totaling \$175 million.

(Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce press release)



Volunteers including David Bird, deputy director of the Department of Youth and Women’s Affairs (far left) on Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023 at Lions Park for the Olympic Heart Day, an event that encouraged the public to be active to promote a healthy heart.

The event was organized by missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Dr. Eric Carter and wife Sister Allison Carter, with the support of ASNOC, the LBJ Hospital, Department of Health and the Department of Youth and Women’s Affairs. Olympic Heart Day concluded events for February to celebrate Heart Month.

[photo: faaTalanua Media]



A group of early risers were at the Lions Park before 6 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023 to take part in the Olympic Heart Day, an event that encouraged the public to be active, to promote a healthy heart.

The event was organized by missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Dr. Eric Carter, his wife Sister Allison Carter with the support of the LBJ Hospital, Department of Health, and the American Samoa National Olympic Committee (ASNOC).

[photo: faaTalanua Media]

U.S. House passes resolution to recognize Syria and Turkey earthquake victims

AMATA PART OF GROUP OF 30 INTRODUCING THE RESOLUTION WITH SPONSOR REP. WILSON

Washington, DC – Congresswoman Uifa’atali Amata is part of a bipartisan group of 30 House Members upon introduction last week of a Resolution (H. RES. 132) with sponsor Rep. Joe Wilson (SC-02) to recognize the thousands of victims and honor the responders following the devastating earthquakes and subsequent aftershocks that took place in Republic of Türkiye (Turkey) and Syria on February 6, 2023. The full House passed the Resolution on Monday.

As initial search and rescue operations come to a close, due to the length of time that has passed and limited chance of survival, those affected by the tragedy are not only contending with freezing winter weather conditions, but ongoing trembling, including the powerful quake on February 20. The United States continues to offer urgent, lifesaving humanitarian assistance to the victims of this tragedy, as well as mobilize Federal agencies, members of

the Armed Forces, and partners, while also praising the tremendous outpouring of support from around the world.

Focus of the aid must be on the victims. However, those affected in Syria have also tragically had to not only face the impeded delivery of humanitarian assistance, but also the misappropriation of it, all at the hands of the tyrannical Assad regime. This resolution makes clear that an oversight mechanism must prevent humanitarian assistance from being diverted. It also rejects the regime’s lies that U.S. sanctions are to blame for any humanitarian suffering. These delays and deflections have unnecessarily cost lives and must not be allowed to continue.

In a joint statement, the 30 Members of Congress co-leading the Resolution said, “We mourn the more than 46,000 people whose lives have been lost and share our hearts with the thousands more injured

and suffering. Untold others have experienced material loss as a result of this tragedy and are not forgotten. We stand with the people of Türkiye and Syria. The heroes who have worked tirelessly to rescue, treat, and comfort those affected by this tragedy must also be recognized and honored.

They continue, “The United States remains steadfast in its support for the Syrian people, who have suffered for over a decade at the hands of Bashar al-Assad and his Russian and Iranian backers. In this desire to help, aid from the international community must go directly to the Syrian people to address urgent humanitarian needs. The shameless politicization, and theft, of humanitarian assistance by the Assad regime is despicable and is causing additional, unnecessary suffering. America stands strong with the people of Syria, and not with those who would take advantage of this horrible tragedy for their own

selfish gain. We will continue to push for immediate assistance to those affected in Türkiye and Syria.”

Raed Al Saleh, Head of the Syria Civil Defence, also known as the White Helmets, said, “In the immediate aftermath of the tragic earthquake, White Helmets volunteers saved 2,950 lives from under the rubble. The solidarity of members of the House and their constituents is important at this time when the people of northwest Syria feel forgotten. The task ahead is daunting and this new natural disaster has only added to the suffering of Syrians, who have undergone almost 12 years of brutal war and forced displacement by the Assad regime. As we work to alleviate the suffering of the people of northwest Syria, we urge Congress to keep its focus on Syria so that humanitarian needs can be met and we can continue to push for accountability for atrocities.”

Congressman Wilson introduced this Resolution with Chairman Michael McCaul (TX-10), and Representatives Aumua Amata Rade-wagen (American Samoa), Brendan Boyle (PA-02), Susan Wild (PA-07), Claudia Tenney (NY-24), Bill Pascrell Jr. (NJ-09), Pete Sessions (TX-17), Gerry Connolly (VA-11), Rich McCormick (GA-06), Dan Kildee (MI-08), Carlos Giménez (FL-28), Madeleine Dean (PA-04), James Moylan (Guam), Brad Sherman (CA-32), Darrell Issa (CA-48), Haley Stevens (MI-11), Tom Kean Jr. (NJ-07), Steve Cohen (TN-09), Jake Ellzey (TX-06), Bill Keating (MA-09), Ralph Norman (SC-05), Lois Frankel (FL-22), Mike Lawler (NY-17), David Cicilline (RI-01), Mike Waltz (FL-06), Kathy Manning (NC-06), Brad Schneider (IL-10), William Timmons IV (SC-04), and Jimmy Panetta (CA-19).

Notice for Proposed Registration of Land

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with the request which has been received by the Territorial Registrar for the registration of a certain land NU’UALITIA which is situated in or near the village of PETESA TAI/ TAFUNA, County of TUALAUTA Island of TUTUILA, from the village of PETESA TAI/ TAFUNA as a/an INDIVIDUAL OWNED land of SINIVA TUILETO’A MANN.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that anyone claiming an interest in the above named land, may file an objection with the Territorial Registrar’s Office within 60 days from the date of posting of this notice. If no objection is filed within 60 days from the date of posting of this notice, the land proposed herein will be registered as such in accordance with the law of American Samoa.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the survey and description of the said land are now on file in the Territorial Registrar’s Office where they may be examined at any time prior to the expiration of the said sixty (60) days.

POSTED: DECEMBER 29, 2022 THRU FEBRUARY 27, 2023
SIGNED: DIVINE IULI FALANIKO, Territorial Registrar

Fa’aaliga o le Fia Fa’amauina o se Fanua

O LE FA’AALIGA LENEI ua fa’asalalauina ona o le talosaga ua fa’aulufaleina mai i le Ofisa o le Resitara o Amerika Samoa ina ia fa’amauina le fanua o NU’UALITIA, e tu pe latalata ane i le nu’u o PETESA TAI/ TAFUNA, Itumalo o TUALAUTA i le motu o TUTUILA, ina ia fa’amauina e SINIVA TUILETO’A MANN ole fanua TOTINO o PETESA TAI/ TAFUNA.

SO O SE TASI e aia ma fa’atu’iese i le fanua ua ta’ua i luga ia fa’aulufaleina mai sana fa’atu’iese-ga tusutusia i le Ofisa o le Resitara i totonu o aso e 60 mai le aso na fa’aaia ai lea fa’aaliga. Afai o le a leai se fa’atu’iese-ga e fa’aulufaleina mai i totonu o aso e 60, o le fanua lenei o le a fa’amauina e pei ona ta’ua i luga e tusa ai ma aiaiga o le tulafono i Amerika Samoa.

O LE FA’AFANUA ma fa’amatalaga e uiga i lenei fanua, ua iai nei i le Ofisa ole Resitara, ma e avanua mo se iloiloiga i so’o se aso i totonu o le 60 o le faitauina o aso.
1/18/2023 & 2/27/2023



A group of cyclists making their rounds at Lions Park on Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023 during Olympic Heart Day — an event that encouraged the public to be active for a healthy heart.

It was organized by missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Dr. Eric Carter, his wife Sister Allison Carter with the support of the LBJ Hospital, Department of Health, and the American Samoa National Olympic Committee (ASNOC).
[photo: faaTalanua Media]



▶ LBJ board's decision...

Continued from page 1

with a local physician who will undergo necessary training, mentoring and development to serve as CMO following the completion of Dr. Shumway's contract.

"Please assure the people of American Samoa that the Board continues its mission to rebuild LBJ and improve quality of care for our people.

"We ask all our physicians, local and foreign and all our nurses to ban together and work towards this common mission and goal."

Regarding the resignation of Dr Annie Fuivai and Dr Reese Tuato'o, Dr Anderson declined to comment.

"At this time, the Board is not at liberty to comment on any doctors who have chosen to resign as this is confidential employee information.

Meanwhile the chairman of the hospital board Dr. Maloua-maua Tuiolosega shared with Samoa News correspondence outlining the new CMO's plans for the hospital and the projects he was involved with in the past.

According to Dr Shumway's email dated January 29, 2023 and addressed to Vice Chair of LBJ board, he has been working for the last several months trying to ensure continuity of the pilot missionary medical program from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

"There has been concern that patients were having difficulty in receive high quality care due to many supply chain and other operational difficulties. I have successfully negotiated the continuation of that program

for a prolonged period (years) so long as I can demonstrate improvements in staff and OR availability."

According to Dr Shumway, prior to his engagement that medical program and the resources being used to support it were at high risk of being withdrawn.

"I have assurances from Salt Lake City and New Zealand that this program will continue and possibly expand.

"That promise is conditional on my presence... to ensure that those resources are effectively used and supported by LBJ.

"It is my hope to bring on additional physicians and nurses with skills in Family Practice and in ER medicine to Samoa in the coming year.

Read Dr. Shumway's succession plan elsewhere in this issue.

DR SHUMWAY'S CREDENTIALS

BS, Zoology, Brigham Young University, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1983

Summa cum Laude, Salutatorian of College

University Scholar/Highest Honors

MD, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, New York, 1987

MPH, Health Administration Columbia University College of Public Health, New York, New York, 1988

POST GRADUATE

Residency - Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of California Los Angeles, Los-Angeles, California, 1989-1993



AMERICAN SAMOA POWER AUTHORITY

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PUBLIC JOB POSTING

Position Title	Heavy Equipment Operator	Posting Date	February 14, 2023
Department	Construction	Deadline	March 1, 2023 – 4:00 pm
Division	Water or Wastewater Division	Pay Range	\$8.89 - \$9.25 per hour
Position Type	Career Service (12 months' probation)		
Reports To	Construction Manager	Job Grade/Status	D/3/D – D/6/D, Non-Exempt

Major Duties & Responsibilities

Duties include preparing and manipulating heavy equipment to ensure the appropriate movement of materials, and liaising with coworkers to ensure that the projects are completed accurately and safely. The incumbent will be required to conduct his/her duties in a safe and diligent manner at all times. To ensure success as a heavy equipment operator, the incumbent will also monitor workflow, suggesting alterations to enhance productivity, as needed. A remarkable heavy equipment operator will be attuned to the subtleties of each situation, possessing sound knowledge of when to lead or follow.

Minimum Requirements

Education	High School Diploma or equivalent. Must have completed training and possess a certificate in operating heavy equipment.
Experience	Minimum in three (3) years in operating heavy equipment such as, Excavator, Backhoe, Trucks/Crane & etc.
COVID 19 Vaccination	Applicant must show evidence of having completed the full course of vaccination against Covid19 as approved by the FDA & WHO.

Knowledge, Skills & Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Skilled in heavy equipment operations - Has prior experience operating a variety of heavy equipment - Ability to lift up to 50 pounds - Excellent vision or the use of prescribed lenses - Exceptional manual dexterity and hand-eye coordination - A sound understanding of pertinent safety guidelines - Capacity to provide and follow direction - Sharp decision-making skills, particularly when under pressure - Ability to work extended hours, as required - Maneuvering motorized heavy equipment to ensure the accurate removal and placement of materials - Loading and offloading rocks, debris, and other materials from heavy equipment - Observing stipulated safety codes at all times - Communicating with coworkers to elucidate project specifications, as needed - Reporting injuries and other accidents to the construction manager - Advising the construction manager of requisite upgrades, repairs, and replacements - Aiding coworkers to ensure that the site is clean and organized at the end of each day - Providing suggestions to refine workflow and boost efficiency
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Qualified applicants: Please submit a completed ASPA employment application to ASPA, Tafuna (address listed above) by the deadline listed or via email to humanresource@aspower.com. Attach copies of credentials and transcripts. Candidates selected for hire must pass examinations (when applicable), pre-employment clearances & test negative on pre-employment drug test. ASPA reserves the right to waive education and experience requirements as necessary. No phone inquiries accepted.
"Salary will commensurate with education and experience."

An Equal Opportunity Employer * A Drug Free Workplace

Fellowship — Maternal Board Certified, Obstetrics Medical licensure in the Fetal Medicine, Johns Hopkins and Gynecology, American USA, (Missouri, Illinois, New University School of Medicine, Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, 1997 to present. York, California and Maryland) Baltimore Maryland, 1993-1995 and State of Qatar.



Acting Governor Talauega E. V. Ale with his lady Marian and their son TJ on Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023 at Lions Park for the Olympic Heart Day, an event that encourages the public to be active to promote a healthy heart.

The event featured blood pressure check ups, a talk and recommendation from nurses and doctors about what their health numbers mean and residents learnt from various sports representatives of the American Samoa National Olympic Committee (ASNOC).

It was organized by missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Dr. Eric Carter and wife Sister Allison Carter, with the support of ASNOC, the LBJ Hospital, Department of Health and the Department of Youth and Women's Affairs.

The half-day gathering concluded events for February to celebrate Heart Month.

[photo: faaTalanoo Media]



▶ LBJ's new Chief Medical...

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relationships with local high schools to provide volunteers who are interested in health care careers.

“This is a key to building the quality and capacity of the Samoan health care system. It is of vital strategic importance for the future of Samoa.

“There is much to be done and I will earnestly work to develop and maintain a warm and collaborative relationship with the Samoan senate and the administrative branches of the Samoan government. We will need a tight collaborative relationship to ensure enhanced health and better systems of care.

“I look to develop a responsive clinic and hospital system which places the patient at the center. High quality patient-centered health care is a right for all the people of Samoa.

Furthermore, Dr Shumway's outlines his plans for the

hospital citing that it is vital to ensure that a continuing number of doctors, nurses will be available to replace retiring physicians and nurses.

“For now, the policy should center on sending five students annually as long as funding is available from the ASG Governor's Initiative for Medical Physicians.”

He confirmed that he aims to lead and to collaborate with the CEO, CNO, Nursing School Administrator, and the President of the American Samoa Community College to make sure that the Nursing Program is fully functioning with regard to maximum enrollment and full number of nurse graduates.

“To lead and coordinate with the supervisors of the Imaging Department, Laboratory, Pharmacy, Respiratory/Cardio, Ophthalmology, ESRD/Dialysis, and other areas of LBJ to make sure that the training programs (on-island, or off-island) to provide training for all technologists/technicians to assure full compliance with all health standards.

“To lead in the continually assess the sufficiency and effectiveness of our formulary to ensure access by patient to new drugs deemed to have maximum treatment efficacy for certain ailments.

“To lead in the research and develop a plan to see if LBJTMC can provide a phase of the cancer treatment regimen such as chemo-therapy so our people do not have to travel off-island for these procedures.”

“Assist in the recruitment of U.S. Certified Providers, Board medical physicians (MD), and to assist with medical professional development for staff and to ensure all clinics at LBJ are covered with services are currently being offered.

“And all other duties tasked by the Governing Board of Directors within the scope of a CMO.”

Dr Shumway said in the email to Dr Anderson that he hopes to expand the use of Telemedicine to assist physicians with diagnosing patients and from which effective treatment plans can be fashioned and in turn reciprocally create a positive outcome.

“While we accept the fact that death is a part of life, and often justify the death of a patient as the ‘Will of God’, it is our charge that every effort will be made in terms of full exhaustion of all available medical options will be rendered. The CMO will collaborate with the staff to define the standard of acceptable mortality.”

Dr Shumway's three-year contract, which was signed on January 29, 2023 cites that his salary base is \$220,000.

Slimmer Stronger You (SSY) founders Will Spitzenberg and wife Sisi (next to Will) and supporters at the SSY booth on Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023 during Olympic Heart Day.

The event sought to encourage the public to be active and move to promote a healthy heart. ASNOC sports organizations gave demonstrations and organized games for Olympic Heart Day participants so they could be active as well as learn and discover various sports that might interest them.

Organizers included ASNOC, LBJ Hospital, departments of Health and Youth and Women's Affairs and missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Dr. Eric Carter and wife, Sister Allison Carter.

[photo: faaTaloa Media]

FOR LENT

CRISPY FISH SANDWICH

