



(L to R) Congresswoman Amata, Secretary of State Tillerson, Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga and the First Lady Cynthia, and Lt. Gov. Lemanu Peleti Mauga during Tillerson's most recent stopover in Pago Pago. See story inside. [Courtesy photo]

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samoa news

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2017

\$1.00

SAMOAN GIRL LANDS MOVIE ROLE IN JAPANESE FILM

Palafu Christine Sou, who was born and raised in American Samoa and Samoa, has recently signed a contract with Hawaii's Best Model and Talent Agency.

The 29-year-old has also landed a role in an upcoming Japanese feature film.

In an email correspondence to Samoa News, Palafu's mother Sauaso Amituana'i-Sou wrote, "I am so proud of her."

"Her dad would have been proud. Fa'afetai ile Atua ua i'u manuia lana taumafaiga," Sauaso posted on her facebook page.

According to Sauaso, her daughter's audition was successful and she was accepted to attend a Talent Inc. showcase — for acting — in Florida.

"Hope she makes it," Sauaso wrote. "She is so happy to be representing Samoan women and she is happy to represent both American Samoa and Samoa."

Palafu is a 2005 graduate of Samoana High School.

[Courtesy photo]



Paramount BUILDERS, INC.
America Samoa

Congratulations Class of 2017

Home of the Mighty Warriors graduate - 267

"IA MANU MAI LAGI OU ALA"

by Leiloa Ese Malala
Samoa News Writer

It was a beautiful sunny day for a graduation in Tafuna for the mighty warriors of Tafuna High School

at their school gymnasium.

This year, Tafuna High had the highest number of graduates on island — 267 gradu-

(Continued on page 2)



Valedictorian Kiso Skelton



Valedictorian John Xavier Anesi Ah-Ching-Iosefo



Valedictorian Deborah Shady Meleisea



Salutatorian Willie Eugene Peter Uhrle

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Some of the graduates' favorite teacher and counselor, Mrs. Aiono, with the Class of 2017 the Valedictorians, yesterday morning. [photo: EM]

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Home of the Mighty Warriors graduate – 267...

Continued from page 1

ates — 55 who were part of the National Honor Society, which included 3 Valedictorians and 1 Salutatorian.

This year's coverage of the 2017 high school graduation season — for Valedictorian and Salutatorian — is brought to you by Paramount Builders, a local company that prides itself

in promoting education and investing in the territory's children and students.

Principal of Tafuna High School, Ms. Beauty Tuiasosopo gave the welcoming remarks saying how proud she is for the 267 graduates, advising them to keep going and to never give up.

Vice Principal Mrs. Tutuila N. Togilau introduced the top honors students, with the highest honors going to three Class Valedictorians: John Ah Ching-Iosefo GPA 4.0, Deborah Meleisea GPA 4.0, and Kiso Skelton GPA 4.0; and the second highest honor going to Class Salutatorian Willie Peter Uhrle with a GPA 3.989.

Uhrle also received a distinguished athlete's award with couple of acceptances to universities as well as scholarship offers — Harrisburg University of Science and Technology with a \$20,000 Trustee Scholarship, Carroll College- \$5,000 Bishop George Leo Thomas Scholarship and a \$56,000 All Saints Award.

Valedictorian Ah Ching-Iosefo is sixteen years, and is the son of Tauiliili Silivelio and Juliana Ah Ching -Iosefo of Lauili, Tafuna and Leulumoega. He is the youngest of eight children and attended Tafuna High School all four years. He has THS' highest SAT score of 1200 and ACT score of 25 and will be attending the University of San Francisco in August. He aspires to become a lawyer.

Some of his achievements, include freshman class representative, team captain of JLAB, the JROTC Leadership and Academic Bowl, baseball team member during all four years, in 2016, he was the only student from American Samoa to attend the 2016 Republican National Convention, he placed first in National History Day in his freshman, sophomore and senior years, he has partici-

pated in the Island Wide Young Writers competition and Speech Festival during his senior year, and he was a member of the "Close Up" contingent that traveled to Washington DC in his junior year.

Deborah Meleisea, one of the three Vals, says her favorite quote is "education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." She is the daughter of Faauliuli Ia Ale Meleisea and Peniamina Meafou Meleisea. She told Samoa News her parents value education more than anything and would tell her and her siblings, "School First and you will get a good job and be able to do anything you want."

At age 5 she started her schooling at Manulele kindergarten where she had her first experience of "fun" in learning. "Kindergarten was the starting keystone of my educational journey that was filled with positivity and joy," she said.

Kiso Skelton, who is the third Valedictorian for Tafuna High School, is the son of Paepaefoa Alex Skelton and Patisepa Skelton of Pago Pago, Iliili and Tafuna. He is the youngest of six children. Skelton is a very religious person and has a great passion for his church.

Skeleton will be studying at the University of Chaminate in Hawai'i — for a major in Economics, with a minor in Political Science, and has a full ride Regents scholarship of \$34,000. He was also accepted at Northern Arizona University, Pacific Lutheran University, and University of Portland. His goal is to return home and work for the government.

(Other awards, college acceptance and scholarship offers on the Bluesky page in today's issue.)

Congratulations Warriors! Job Well done!



Centennial Office Building
PO Box 716
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
Phone No: (684) 633- 8143

PUBLIC JOB POSTING

Position Title	Accounting Manager	Posting Date	June 02, 2017
Department	Accounting	Deadline	4:00 PM, June 16, 2017
Division	Administration	Pay Range	Commensurate with Experience & Qualifications
Position Type	Contract		
Reports To	Chief Financial Officer	Job Grade/Status	D/6/A - D/14/A; Non-Exempt

Major Duties & Responsibilities

The Accounting Manager is responsible for all areas relating to financial reporting. This position will be responsible for developing and maintaining accounting principles, practices and procedures to ensure accurate and timely financial statements to TBAS management, the Board and appropriate government entities while advising, supervising and directing the day to day activities of the accounting function.

- Manage and direct the work of the accounting function under the direction of the CFO. Identify and explore cost reduction opportunities and improve efficiency.
- Review internal policies, accounting controls and procedures to ensure compliance with all applicable codes, laws, rules, regulations, grant requirements, standards and initiate actions necessary to correct deviations or violations.
- Assist with vendor AP payments and payroll department to ensure policies and procedures are followed; Monitor cash flow to ensure sufficient working capital to meet current liabilities & contingencies; Control, advise and monitor short/long term financial investments.
- Provide training to departmental managers / supervisors in financial management under the direction of CFO.
- Direct the preparation and reconciliation of accounts, worksheets, and documentation for annual audit; respond to questions and requests for information and resolve concerns from auditors.
- Perform other tasks as assigned by CFO.

Minimum Requirements

Education	Bachelors' Degree in Accounting
Knowledge, Skills & Abilities	Eight (8) years related professional work experience in financial management in addition to the minimum educational requirement having been obtained Four (4) years' experience working in a managerial / supervisory role concurrent with above (experience in management within a private sector environment preferred). Knowledge of FASB, GAAP and standard accounting policies and procedures, regulations and compliance details. Computer literate and competent in office software. Highly organised, good attention to detail, ability to prioritise and manage multiple demands. Superior customer service skills. A demonstrated ability to supervise and review the performance of staff. Excellent verbal and written communication abilities; excellent interpersonal skills.

Qualified applicants: Please submit a copy of your resume to the following address: ASPA, Attention Nancy Kupa, P.O. Box PPB, Pago Pago, AS 96799 by the given deadline; attach copies of credentials and transcripts. The Territorial Bank of American Samoa is an Equal Opportunity Employer that maintains a Drug Free Workplace Program. Selected applicants will be subject to a Drug Test Screening. **No phone inquiries accepted.**



Telesia Atafua closed the chapter of her elementary school life with a bang. Last Friday, during Matafao Elementary School's end-of-year awards ceremony, Telesia took home over a dozen awards, including recognition certificates for participating in various territorial competitions like History Day and Math in Art. She is the daughter of Val and Vani Atafua of Lau'ii and Fagaalu. Malo lava Sia! [photo: BC]

Motorcycle police unit part of expansion and strengthening of DPS

by Fili Sagapolutele
Samoa News Correspondent

Besides moving to expand and strengthen the Vice & Narcotics Tactical Unit, Police Commissioner Le'i Sonny Thompson is doing the same for the Department of Public Safety's motorcycle police unit, with at least two motorcycle cops very visible to the public in early morning hours or late afternoon on the highway.

The proposed expansion comes amid reports that there were some officers, as well as cadets who attending the 25th Police Academy, interested in joining this DPS unit.

In a June 2nd, "Recruitment Opportunity for Motorcycle Unit" memorandum, to all police officers, Le'i points out that this unit "represents a proud and historic tradition within our family of law enforcement and its dedicated service to the people of American Samoa."

"The assigned solo operators embody and personifies strong moral and ethical conduct in the administration of their duties," Le'i said. "Their insignia sym-

bolizes a fraternity of proud and honorable officers of both past and present."

Furthermore, "it is our professional obligation to ensure the standard is enforced through the selection of qualified offices to represent the motorcycle unit".

According to the Police Commissioner, a concerted effort is undertaken to expand and strengthen the fleet of motorcycles within the police force.

Therefore, he says the memo serves as a notice to invite any and all sworn in officers who have expressed interest to compete for vacancies within the motorcycle unit. Interested offices should schedule to see the Police Commissioner to discuss the requisites necessary to join the unit no later than June 16th.

Le'i encouraged all leaders within the DPS ranks to ensure the dissemination of this opportunity to all officers within the police force.

The memorandum didn't say as to how many motorcycle

cops the Police Commissioner is looking to recruit in the future.

Three lawmakers contacted by Samoa News early this week for comments about the proposed expansion of the motorcycle unit, applauded Le'i's latest improvement to the police force; with all three lawmakers agreeing that this is something that should be developed. However, the trio reserved further comments for when the Fono convenes next month, for a committee hearing regarding updates on DPS.

During testimony in the Fono early this year, Le'i told senators that when he took over the post of Police Commissioner, he was informed that there are only two certified motorcycle officers on the force, while another two have been assigned to the Territorial Correctional Facility.

Le'i said there was a need to strengthen and train the police force and this includes expanding the motorcycle police unit.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

by Samoa News Staff

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

Qualified individuals who want to receive services under the American Samoa Nutrition Assistance Program (ASNAP) — better known as the Food Stamp Program — are reminded that mass orientation will be held on the second and third Tuesday and Thursday this month (June 13, 15, 20 and 22).

Orientation sessions will be held inside the Nutrition Room (first floor of the ASNAP Building in Utulei) at 9 a.m. on the scheduled dates.

Those who qualify for benefits include the elderly, blind, and disabled.

Program participants must keep

in mind that certifications need to be renewed to avoid disruptions in receiving their monthly benefits.

All required documents must be submitted to your designated eligibility worker prior to the 25th of the month.

The schedule of issuance for the month of July is as follows: July 3 (G,H,I,J,K,L); July 5 (M,N,O,P,Q,R); July 6 (S,V,W,X,Y,Z); July 7 (T,U); July 10 (A,B,C,D,E,F)

Clients who miss their assigned day of issuance can pick up their benefits the following week during normal business hours.

The Food Stamp Program is a great benefit for thousands of local fami-

lies. During Issuance Week, Samoa News usually sees a long line of clients forming early in the morning, long before the ASNAP office even opens.

Samoa News spoke to several food stamp recipients who all described the program as a “blessing”. Most of them said they use their monthly coupons to buy food items in bulk, things like cases of chicken, sausage, and water that can be rationed throughout the month until the next issuance rolls around.

The US Department of Agriculture’s Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) funds the Food Stamp Program.

More information can be obtained by contacting the ASNAP office directly at

633-7720

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL MISSOURI — SPRING 2017 DEAN’S LIST

Special to THE SAMOA NEWS — Warrensburg, Mo. — Lauiva’a C. Tavai, a student from American Samoa has earned a spot on the University of Central Missouri Dean’s List.

Each semester, the Dean’s List is divided into two parts. The first list includes the names of students who have achieved a perfect 4.0 grade point average, and the second list includes the names of students who attained a grade point average of 3.50 to 3.99. Tavai is on the second list.



Proud parents with their graduate, Class of 2017 Tafuna “Warriors” High School yesterday morning at the school gymnasium in Tafuna.

[photo:EM]

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Samoa News welcomes and encourages Letters to the Editor. Please send them to our email news.newsroom@samoatelco.com

Box 909, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799.

Contact us by Telephone at (684) 633-5599

Contact us by Fax at (684) 633-4864

or by Email at news@samoanews.com

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Please visit samoanews.com for weekend updates.



Big smiles and group hugs were abundant last Friday after the Class of 2017 of Matafao Elementary School held its end-of-year awards ceremony. Congrats to all of the territory's 2017 graduates. [photo: BC]



Translated by Samoa News staff
MUAIGA SIATUI

A 24-year old man from Samoa accused of having sexual contact with a five-year old girl, has reached a plea agreement with the government, and will be sentence Aug. 4th, after the High Court accepted the agreement early this week.

Muaiga Siatui, aka, Povi, was initially charged with one count each of child molestation, sodomy, deviated sexual assault, first-degree sexual abuse — all felonies — and the misdemeanor of endangering the welfare of a child. The most serious of the felony counts is child molestation, a Class A felony, punishable by imprisonment of at least 10 years, according to court documents.

Under the plea agreement, the defendant pled guilty to the sodomy count, in which he admitted that on Dec. 10, 2016 he touched the victim's private parts in a sexual manner. And this occurred while the defendant was visiting the victim's family home at a village on the Eastern side of Tutuila.

When confronted by police, the defendant allegedly admitted to putting his finger inside the victim's private parts, according to court documents, which also stated that the victim was taken to LBJ Medic Center to be checked, but it didn't provide any other information. Sodomy is a class B felony, punishable by between 5 and no more than 15 years imprisonment.

The defendant has been in custody since his arrest last December and has been unable to post a \$22,000 bail. Court information shows the defendant arrived in American Samoa last October.

NASSAN TUPUOLA

The High Court has scheduled defendant Nassan Tupuola for sentencing on July 6th, after he pled guilty to hindering prosecutor in connection with a robbery case where another man has already pled guilty to breaking into three businesses and making off with more than \$3,000 cash.

Tupuola was initially charged

with two felonies — count one of stealing for his role in helping another person steal goods, and count two of hindering prosecution. The defendant pled guilty under a plea agreement with prosecutors to count two, while the first count was dismissed.

For the guilty plea, 27-year old Tupuola admitted that sometime on Feb. 1, 2017, he hindered prosecution by trying to cover up a crime committed by co-defendant Daniel Taufua, who last week Thursday pled guilty in High Court to three felony counts of stealing, when he broke into three local businesses in February and stole more than \$3,000 in cash. (See yesterday Court report in Samoa News edition for more details on Taufua's plea.)

Tupuola also admitted under the plea agreement, that he was the driver of a car, which went to pick up Taufua from a business site, which Taufua had just broken in to and stole cash. Tupuola admitted that he didn't want Taufua to be caught and that was the reason he picked him up from the scene of the crime.

One of the recommendations in the plea agreement for Tupuola, is that he along with Taufua and a third co-defendant, whose case is pending in court, pay restitution to the three local businesses that Taufua broke into and stole cash. Tupuola remains in custody.

TAUTUA LETASI

A man accused of possession of illegal drugs as well as possession of unregistered guns — a 12-gauge shotgun and a 22-caliber rifle — was arraigned in High Court last Friday after his case was bound over from District Court.

During the arraignment hearing, Tautua Letasi, who is now out on bail, entered a not guilty plea, through his attorney, with a preliminary examination hearing set for July 28th.

Letasi is charged with unlawful possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute; and unlawful possession of marijuana with intent to distribute — both felonies. He is also charged with two misde-

meanor counts of possession of two unlicensed firearms.

Charges against the defendant followed a May 21st traffic stop in which police allegedly found drugs and one gun in his car, while the second gun was allegedly found following the search of his home. Cash of more than \$1,600 was found in a backpack in the defendant's vehicle.

(Original Samoan stories was published online Sunday and in yesterday's Lali section of Samoa News edition.)



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Kansas state Reps. Jim Karleskint, left, R-Tonganoxie, and Larry Campbell, right, R-Olathe, watch an electronic voting board as the House rejects a package that would boost funding on public schools and raise income taxes, Monday, June 5, 2017, at the Statehouse in Topeka, Kan. Campbell was the House's lead negotiator in talks with the Senate that produced the doomed plan.
 (AP Photo/John Hanna)

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Kansas lawmakers pass school aid increase, income tax hike

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Kansas legislators approved a bill early Tuesday morning that would roll back past income tax cuts championed by Republican Gov. Sam Brownback to fix the cash-strapped state's budget after passing a plan for meeting a court mandate on education spending.

But Brownback announced immediately that he would veto the tax bill.

"It will substantially damage job creation and leave our citizens poorer in the future," the conservative governor said in a statement.

The tax measure would raise \$1.2 billion over two years by increasing income tax rates and ending an exemption for more than 330,000 farmers and business owners. The votes were 26-14 in the Senate and 69-52 in the House.

Also headed to Brownback is a separate plan to phase in a \$293 million increase in spending on public schools over two years. It creates a new per-pupil formula for distributing state dollars to ensure that more money goes to programs that help low-performing students and all-day kindergarten classes. The votes were 23-17 in the Senate and 67-55 in the House.

Legislators felt intense pressure to resolve their two biggest issues of the year because Monday was the 108th day of a legislative session that was supposed to last 100 days. This year's session was already one of the longest in state history.

"We should close the gate before the cows get out," said Sen. Dan Kerschen, a Wichita-

area Republican.

The state faces projected budget shortfalls totaling \$889 million through June 2019, and the Kansas Supreme Court ruled in March that the state's \$4 billion a year in aid to its 286 school districts is inadequate.

Brownback has not said what he would do with the school funding bill. Supporters did not have the two-thirds majorities necessary to override a veto on either bill in either chamber.

Conservative Republicans lambasted the proposed tax increase as damaging to the economy and argued that the state isn't controlling its spending enough.

But Democrats and moderate Republicans said they were elected last year to end budget problems that have persisted since GOP lawmakers slashed personal income taxes in 2012 and 2013 at Brownback's urging.

"We've got to stop digging the hole," said Democratic Rep. Tom Sawyer of Wichita. "We've got to fund our schools."

Meanwhile, many legislators in both parties also were skeptical that the proposed increase in spending on schools would satisfy the Supreme Court.

The justices did not say exactly how much funding must increase when they set a June 30 deadline for lawmakers to pass a new school finance law. But attorneys for four school districts that sued the state in 2010 have said the increase needs to be much larger. Democrats have argued that the minimum is phasing

in a \$400 million increase over two years.

Democrats predicted the court will reject the plan and force lawmakers to have a special session to allow schools to open after June.

"It's wrong to put our kids, schools and communities through that risk," said Sen. Lynn Rogers, another Wichita Democrat.

Democrats and many GOP moderates also object to a proposal in the school funding plan that would expand a program giving income tax credits to corporations that donate money to private-school scholarships for students in poorly performing public schools. GOP conservatives created the program in 2014, and this year's proposal would allow individuals and partnerships to claim the tax credit.

Some moderate Republicans overcame their misgivings about pieces of the plan because they believe it creates a fair formula for distributing aid even if the court decides the spending increase isn't large enough.

"I would urge you to look at the big picture," said Rep. Melissa Rooker, a moderate Kansas City-area Republican.

GOP leaders had previously combined the school funding plan with a smaller income tax increase in a single bill, gambling that the combination would help the tax increase pass. Instead, lawmakers from all camps heavily criticized the tactic, and the House voted 91-32 against the big package — forcing legislators to scramble and draft two separate bills.

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Amata and Governor talk AS issues with Secretary of State Tillerson

FOLLOWS WITH MEETING WITH PAC COM COMMANDER — ADMIRAL HARRIS



Congresswoman Amata and Pac Com Commander Admiral Harry B. Harris Jr. [Courtesy photo]

Washington, D.C. — Tuesday, June 6, 2017 — Congresswoman Aumua Amata met with Secretary of State Rex Tillerson during his second stop-over in Pago Pago over the past few days to discuss some of the pressing issues facing American Samoa. Also participating in the historic meeting were Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga and Lt. Gov. Lemanu Peleti Mauga. “It was very successful meeting,” stated Amata. “The Governor and I discussed issues pertaining to the Pacific, American Samoa, and the United States’ commitment to the region. This is the second high-profile visitor that American Samoa has welcomed in the past few months, which demonstrates just how receptive and involved the new administration is in regards to the territories... a welcome change,” continued the Congresswoman.

MAC flights, and assured me that he would work with me to see if we can get them back to the island,” Amata said. “These flights would be a great service in getting our people in need of emergency medical attention to hospitals that can treat them. I will continue to do all I can to get the flights back and make sure that our people can receive medical care when they need it most,” concluded the Congresswoman.

Among the topics discussed were, the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit, the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), the need for improvements to LBJ Hospital, the lack of adequate air service in American Samoa, the U.S. commitment to our partners in the region, and the ongoing request for more resources and funding for the geographically and economically isolated island

“I want to thank Secretary Tillerson and his team for their attention to American Samoa and our people. The Secretary was very gracious, and seemed to really understand what we are trying to do for the people of American Samoa, who love this nation so very much,” Amata said. “I look forward to continuing to work with leadership in Washington and here at home to achieve these goals as quickly as possible,” she continued.

Following the meeting with the Secretary of State, Congresswoman Amata met with the day’s second visitor to the island, Pacific Command- Commander, USN Admiral Harry B. Harris Jr. During the meeting, the Congresswoman raised several issues with the Admiral including, the possibility of reinstating the Military Airlift Command (MAC) flights to and from American Samoa.

“Admiral Harris is a good man who expressed his respect for the people of American Samoa, and our loyalty and service to the United States. He also understood the need for the



Feleti Barstow Public Library

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Presents

Build a Better World Summer Reading Program Registration

9am. June 12, 2017 at Feleti Barstow Public Library.

Ages 0-17. Must register in person with a birth certificate.

Registration is on a first come first serve basis and space is limited.

SCHEDULE:

1ST SESSION: June 19 - 30, 2017.

Ages 6&7 Build a Better World Summer Reading MWF. 9:30am - 12:30pm

Ages 12-14 Tech Camp, Mon to Fri. 9:30am - 12:30pm

2ND SESSION: July 3 - 14, 2017.

Ages 8&9 Build a Better World Summer Reading MWF. 9:30am - 12:30pm

Ages 15-17 Tech Camp, Mon to Fri. 9:30am - 12:30pm

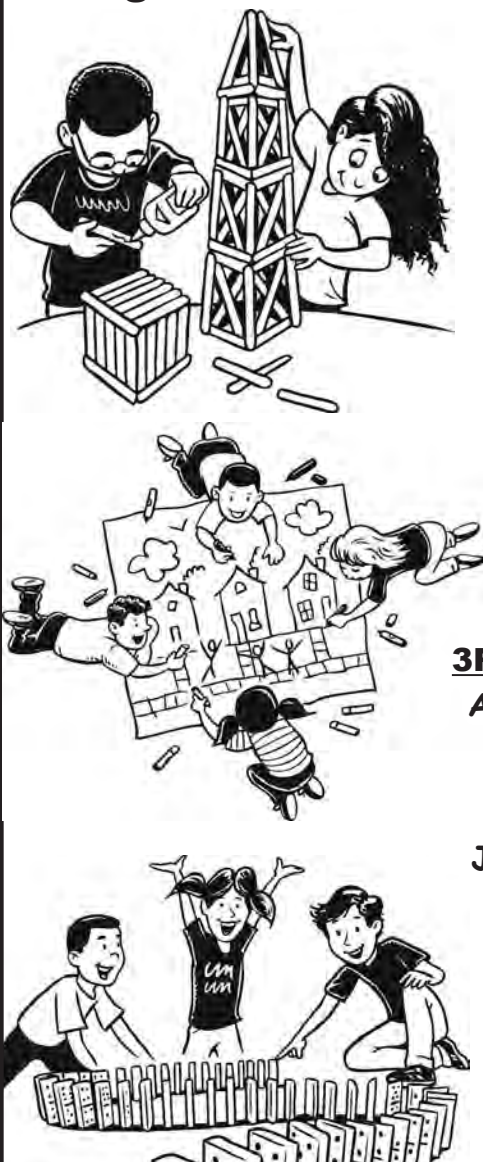
3RD SESSION: July 17 - 28, 2017.

Ages 10 & 11 Build a Better World Summer Reading MWF. 9:30am to 12:30pm

July 20 & 27, 2017: Children with Disabilities from 10am - 12pm.

4TH SESSION: July 31 Aug 11, 2017.

Toddlers (0-5) Build a Better World Summer Reading MWF. 9:30am - 12:30pm





267 Warriors bid their final farewell to Tafuna High School

“IA MANU MAI LAGI OU ALA”

by Leiloa Ese Malala
Samoa News Writer

The “Home of the Warriors” Tafuna High School bid farewell to 267 seniors yesterday morning — with their commencement ceremony jammed packed with proud families and close friends who came to support the largest graduation class on island for 2017.

Bluesky Communications is a proud sponsor of this year’s graduation season and would like to congratulate all graduates and best wishes in your future endeavors.

The Commencement speaker was a scientist, Dr. Andrew Ah Young, who is a young Samoan investigator at the biotechnology company Genentech, where he studies and develops treatments for diseases such as cancer and arthritis. He is a graduate of Tafuna High School, some 12 years ago.

In an energized address, Ah Young shared stories and life experiences with the graduating seniors focusing on the one word he said describes it all — “I want to share with you one word and that is the golden word ‘Education’.”

“Not all of you will go to college, not all of you will go to ASCC, in fact most of you don’t even know what you’re doing tomorrow. But regardless of what plans we have and don’t have, you and I make the future of this island and we have our work cut out,” he said. “Personal education will fulfill and ground you and only when your feet are fully planted will you begin to grow..”

Ah Young concluded by sharing a quote that inspired him by Dr. Ruth Matagi-Tofiga who spoke at his graduation 12 years ago, “Whatever passion you choose to pursue be the very best at it, if you want to be a teacher be the best teacher, if you want to be the janitor be the best janitor...” He added, “... and while you’re becoming the best in your profession, I challenge you and encourage you to be the best human being that you can be...”

Governor Lolo Matalasi Moliga offered special remarks, noting it was now time for ... children of American Samoa ... this is all in your hands now ... go on and “ia manu mai lagi ou ala”.

In addition to the high honors received by the three Valedictorians and one Salutatorian, there were others accepted to various colleges and received scholarship offers, as well some who joined the US Armed Forces.

Brigham Young University (Hawaii) – Margaret Tuna, Chami-

nade University – Frantacia Mauigoa [\$34,000 Regents Scholarship], Adrienne Sa’u, Josiah Siliva [\$34,000 Regents Scholarship], Kiso Skelton [\$34,000 Regents Scholarship, **National Society of High School Honors** – Kevin Galoia, Michael Hunter, Josiah Siliva, Tiapeloutofi Uiagalelei, Willie Uhrle, **Northern Arizona University** – Michael Hunter, Adrienne Sa’u, Julia Faaiu, [\$36,000 Presidents Excellence Scholarship], Emla Solaita, Kiso Skelton, Rattea Tagoa’I, **Oregon State University** – Shania Wilson, **Pacific Lutheran University** – Kiso Skelton [\$25,000 Academic Scholarship], **Saint Martin University** – Richaline Puni [\$48,000 Faculty Scholarship], Josiah Siliva [\$60,000 Deans Scholarship], Emla Solaita [\$64,000 Presidents Scholarship], **Simpson University** – Frantacia



Keynote speaker for the Tafuna High School Graduation yesterday morning Dr. Andrew Pati Ah Young, who gave an inspiring speech to the Tafuna Warriors Class of 2017.

[photo: EM]

Mauigoa.

University of Hawaii (Hilo) – Frantacia Mauigoa, Rattea Tagoa’I, **University of Hawaii (Manoa)** – Rattea Tagoa’I, Adelene Talaeai, Tatianna Kelly, Penei Pavihi with a Football Full Scholarship. **University of Idaho** – Shania Wilson, **University of Iowa** – Shania Wilson, **University of Portland** – Kiso Skelton [\$84,000 Presidents Scholarship], **Wentworth Military Academy** – Moana Faifeau, Austin Potoa’e, Richaline Puni, Frantacia Mauigoa, Shania Wilson, **Western New Mexico University** – Ala-

peti Seui, Inu Young, Christopher Soliai, Austin Potoa’e, Kansas Collegiate Athletic Scholarship – Alex Ieremia, **New Mexico Institute Football NJCAA Scholarship** – Michael Gauta.

Harrisburg University of Science and Technology – Willie Uhrle [\$20,000 Trustee Scholarship], Carroll College – Willie Uhrle [\$56,000 All Saints Award and \$56,000 Bishop George Leo Thomas Scholarship], Greer River College – Baldwin Wilson

ACT Composite Scores 19+ - Ruth Epati, Julia Faaiu, John Iosefo, Austin Potoa’e, Adrienne Sa’u, Emla Solaita, Adelene Talaeai, Farrah Young,

SAT Scores 1000+ – Adelene Talaeai, John Iosefo, Rattea Tagoa’I, Ruth Epati, Tanu Peleti

Citizenship Award – Evielynn Fetuao

Leadership Award – Austin Potoa’e
Rotary 4-Way Test Award – Emla Solaita

Female Scholar of the Year Award – Frantacia Mauigoa

Male Scholar of the Year Award – Penei Pavihi

Female Athlete of the Year Award – Devine Tautunuafatasi

Male Athlete of the Year Award – Andrew Toilolo

Principal’s Athlete Award – Alisha Sila [Female], Jerichson Sipa [Male].

U.S Army: McNair Afioae, Elizabeth Faoasau, Derek Fuimaono, Iva Maiava, Pauline Mulitalo, Damien Sua

US Marines: Sheldon Auvaa, Christopher Rose, Daniel Tuula.

Distinguished Athlete Awards: Iva Maiava (female) and Willie Uhrle (male)

Marine Scholastic Excellence Award: Farrah Young

Semper Fidelis Award For Musical Excellence: Charis Sao

Most Improved Student from Representative Samuel Meleisea Award: McNair Afioa’e

Dave Albert Meredith Memorial Scholarship Class of 1996: Fetaomi Mailo

Roy Junior Eteuati Memorial Scholarship: Rattea Tagoa’i

McDonald’s Scholarship: Taavili Amosa

Public Health Scholarship: Emla Solaita



Some of the fellow graduates who continue to smile despite feeling sad at leaving this chapter in their life — high school at the Warrior Nation.

[photo: EM]



Proud warriors who celebrated their last chapter at Tafuna High School yesterday. [photo: EM]

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CONGRESSWOMAN AUMUA AMATA

Salutes

Tafuna HS Class of 2017

Aumua Amata



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Trump says look past turmoil and re-engage Russia



U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, center, attends a powhiri (maori welcome ceremony) at Premier House in Wellington, New Zealand, Tuesday, June 6, 2017. (Mark Tantrum/Department of Internal Affairs, Visits and Ceremonies Office via AP)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to ASCA 37.1105, that Development Bank of American Samoa intends to foreclose a mortgage recorded in the Office of the Territorial Registrar in Land Transfer, Volume Number 3, page 368-369, recorded July 29, 1997, and that the property subject to the mortgage will be sold at public auction.

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD ON "AS IS BASIS": All of the mortgagors' interest in all that certain real property of individually owned land, which include 1 residential structure, consisting of approximately 0.25 acres, more or less:

All that certain real property lying in Land Square 28, Unit "D" situated in the village of Tafuna, County of Tualauta, Western District, Island of Tutuila, American Samoa, being a portion of land individually owned land known as "Naumati" more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a hub which has coordinates of X=242,002.85 and Y=285,131.36 referred to the American Samoa Datum of 1962;

1. North 89° 40' 39" 105.0 East 107.19 feet to a hub
2. North 2° 25' 31" West 107.0 feet to hub
3. South 89° 40' 39" West 107.19 feet to a hub
4. South 2° 25' 31" East 107.0 feet to the point of beginning

Containing 0.25 acres more or less, as delineated in the map approved by Tualo, R.P.L.S. No 2, and dated April 9, 1976.

Date of Sale: June 29, 2017 at 2:30pm at the property unless postponed by public announcement.

Location: The property is located in Tafuna, American Samoa.

Minimum Bid: \$72,000.00

Contact: For more information please contact Tavai Ieremia at Development Bank 633-4031 or email Tavai@dbas.as.



WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said Tuesday that President Donald Trump has asked him to rebuild the U.S. relationship with Russia and not allow the political turmoil over possible Russian ties to the Trump campaign to impede him.

Tillerson said relations with Russia are at a low point and deteriorating, and Trump asked him to try to stabilize the relationship and rebuild trust.

The top U.S. diplomat spoke in Wellington, New Zealand, where he met with Prime Minister Bill English during a brief visit.

Tillerson said he couldn't comment on the details of the Russia investigations or whether they could bring down the administration because "I have no direct knowledge."

He said Trump has told him he should not allow the uproar to impede him from working on the relationship.

"He's been quite clear with me to proceed at whatever pace and in the areas I think we might make progress," Tillerson said.

"I really am not involved in any of these other issues."

Tillerson was also asked about Trump's provocative tweets, including those in which he criticized London's mayor after three assailants killed seven people and wounded dozens in the London Bridge area over the weekend.

"The president has his own unique ways of communicating with the American people, and the world," Tillerson said. "And it's served him pretty well, and I don't intend to advise him on how to communicate. That's up to him."

Tillerson said he was pleased by reports that some British imams were refusing to offer funeral prayers for the London attackers.

"That is what has to be done," he said. "Only the Muslim faith can handle this."

English said he was reassured by Tillerson about the intention of the U.S. to engage in the Asia-Pacific region. Tillerson's New Zealand stopover came after he visited Australia with Defense Secretary Jim Mattis.

In this photo taken 2016 and released by Deng Guilian, Hua Haifeng is seen during a visit to a park in Chengde in central China's Hubei province. The State Department called June 5, 2017, for the immediate release of three labor activists, including Hua, who investigated a Chinese company that produced Ivanka Trump shoes in China. The Associated Press reported that the men were arrested or went missing last week.

(Deng Guilian via AP)



US to China: Free men who probed shoemaker for Ivanka Trump

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department called Monday for the immediate release of three labor activists who investigated a Chinese company that produced Ivanka Trump shoes in China. The Associated Press reported that the men were arrested or went missing last week.

The activists were working with China Labor Watch, a New York-based nonprofit, and investigating Huajian Group factories in the southern Chinese cities of Ganzhou and Dongguan.

The company has denied allegations of excessive overtime and low wages. It says it stopped producing Ivanka Trump shoes months ago.

A lawyer for one of the activists said all three men were being held at the Ganzhou City Detention Center in China's Jiangxi province and that he had been blocked from seeing his client, Hua Haifeng, on Monday and Tuesday morning.

The lawyer, Wen Yu, said authorities at the detention center told him Monday that "an accident happened in Hua Haifeng's cell," without providing further details.

He said that after waiting more than eight hours Monday, he was allowed to see his client for "less than one minute."

"I rushed to him and told him, 'I'm the lawyer hired by your wife,'" he said. Then police took him away. Yu added that Hua looked fine and managed a smile before police escorted him out.

Yu said that he was told the case was being handled by a national security team, rather than a criminal police squad. "This is strange because it is a small case," he said.

Up to now, the U.S. government hadn't said anything about the fate of the men.

"We urge China to release them immediately and otherwise afford them the judicial and fair trial protections to which they are entitled," said Alicia Edwards, a State Department spokeswoman.

Edwards would not confirm if the U.S. raised the issue directly with China, saying she couldn't comment on diplomatic conversations. White House spokesman Josh Raffel declined comment.

Ivanka Trump's brand has declined to comment on the allegations or the arrest and disappearances. Marc Fisher, which produces shoes for Ivanka Trump and other brands, has said it is looking into the allegations.

Ivanka Trump's lifestyle brand imports most of its merchandise from China, trade data show. She and her father both have extensive trademark portfolios in China, though neither has managed to build up a large retail or real estate presence there.

China Labor Watch executive director Li Qiang says he lost touch with the activists late last month.

The group plans to publish a report alleging low pay, excessive overtime and possible misuse of student labor. The investigators also witnessed verbal abuse, with one manager insulting staff about poorly made shoes and making a crude reference in Chinese to female genitalia, according to Li.

The arrest and disappearances come as China cracks down on perceived threats to the stability of its ruling Communist Party, particularly from sources with foreign ties such as China Labor Watch.

Faced with rising labor unrest and a slowing economy, Beijing has taken a stern approach to activism in southern China's manufacturing belt and to human rights advocates generally, sparking a wave of critical reports about disappearances, public confessions, forced repatriation and torture in custody.

Edwards said the U.S. remains concerned by "the pattern of arrests and detentions." She said labor activists are instrumental in helping American companies understand conditions in their supply

chains and holding Chinese manufacturers accountable under Chinese labor laws.

SKYVIEW, INC. *Everyday Prices*

CHICKEN LEGS 20LB	\$ 12.99
TURKEY TAILS 20LB	\$ 12.95
SAUSAGES 10LB	\$ 13.95
PORK SPARE RIBS	\$ 24.95
PALM PISUPO 12/11.5 OZ	\$ 38.95
PACIFIC PISUPO 12/11.5 OZ	\$ 38.95
MAGIC FLAKES 12/700G	\$ 43.95
LIBBY VIENNA 18CT	\$ 10.99
ALBACORE TUNA	\$ 12.99
OCEAN QUEEN MACKEREL	\$ 36.95
NONGSHIM BOWL SAIMIN	\$ 9.50
MALA SAIMIN PKG	\$ 4.95
RICE 40LB	\$ 19.95
RICE 20LB	\$ 9.99
SHASTA SODA 24CT	\$ 9.95
NIAGARA WATER 500ML	\$ 4.75
BUSH ICE 12PAK	\$ 10.50
SANGRIA WINE 4 LITRE	\$ 24.95

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

AUA & FAGAITUA 644-5000 / 622-5000



American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position Title	CHIEF COMMERCIAL OFFICER	Posting Date	May 23, 2017
Position Type	Contractual	Deadline	June 13, 2017
Job Opening	One (1)	Starting Salary	Salary Commensurate with Experience/expertise
Report to:	Chief Executive Officer	Status	Exempt

Major Responsibilities:

The Chief Commercial Officer will drive the development and execution of the company's growth strategy focused on deeper market penetration. Will also lead a diverse business development, marketing, and sales team to fulfill the company's vision.

Minimum Requirements & Qualifications

Education/Experience: Must possess a Master's Degree from an accredited college or university with major study in Business, Finance, Engineering, or equivalent Post Professional Degree in related field. Minimum of (10) years of proven senior executive management experience in telecommunications or related area, and possess excellent management competencies to deal with ASTCA compliance, the business sector, and the general community.

Strong leadership skills, demonstrated experience in developing and executing successful commercialization strategies in early-stage companies; strong and demonstrated strategic thinking skills; ability to think creatively and develop non-traditional solutions to complex business challenges; outstanding sales management skills; strong negotiations and analytical skills and ability to be hands on as well strategic.

Skills

The Chief Commercial Officer accountabilities will include, but not limited to:

- Report directly to the CEO
- Deliver strategic leadership for defining the commercial path to growth and profitability of ASTCA and the establishment of an effective growth process and infrastructure;
- Develop collaborative working relationships within the organization in pursuit of ASTCA's overall business goals;
- Ability to think creatively and develop non-traditional solutions to complex business challenges;
- Develop and implement the company's sales strategy across to ensure that ASTCA identifies and optimizes our results to exceed growth targets;
- Works closely with CEO to establish policies and procedures for ASTCA's Commercial Department.
- Handle special assignments, do in-depth analysis, follow up on various files and work closely with all senior management team;
- Responsible for the implementation and achievement of goals and financial objectives;
- Develop long-term plans and budgets for the department and its activities, monitor progress, assure adherence, and evaluate performance;
- Ensure systems and procedures necessary to the smooth operation of the department;
- Develop strategic direction and plans for ASTCA with regard to all commercial functions including sales, marketing, business development and customer/support/ customer experience;
- Develop and maintain initiatives in order to achieve up to date competitive analysis portfolio;
- Interact with the sales operations team;
- Develop annual and long term budgets for revenues as well as expenses;
- Identify and develop new market opportunities for ASTCA's product portfolio;
- Develop and drive the pricing strategy of the organization;
- Develop and administer incentive plans, which entice individuals as well as teams to perform successfully against the objectives while respecting budget;
- Establish and monitor progress against key performance indicators;
- All other responsibilities required by higher authority.

Qualified Applicants Apply To:	Human Resources Division American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (A.S.T.C.A.) P.O. Box M Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799	Tel: (684) 699-1121 ext. 408 Fax: (684) 699-9026 Email inquiries: hr@astca.net
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PUBLIC NOTICE



American Samoa Government Department of Commerce will file an application with the USDA Rural Development for financial assistance to restore and enhance the Utulei Tramway site. A public meeting for comments will be held at 1:00 pm on June 16, 2017 at the Department of Commerce conference room to discuss the proposed project and to provide the opportunity for public comment. Please contact Burg Salanoa at burg.salanoa@doc.as or 633-5155 for more information.

Got Silipas?

Sign-up for a 6-Weeks Summer Drama Workshop at Dancing Fingers Learning Center to stage Twinderella The Musical to celebrate the opening of



Slippers Playhouse

Date	Activity	Time
June 6	Auditions	9:00-12:00
June 8	Auditions	9:00-12:00
June 12	Production Begins	MWF 9:00-12:00pm
July 26	1st Public Performance	TBA
July 27	2nd Public Performance	TBA

Tuition: \$100
 Registration: \$50
 Location: Across BOH @ Tafuna ("Green Solar Building")
 Availability limited; first-come first-serve basis.
 Contact: Poe Mageo/pmageo@yahoo.com
 Phone: 770-9119

Cosby's lawyer attacks 1 accuser as sex assault trial opens

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (AP) — Bill Cosby's lawyer asked jurors Monday not to view him as a fallen celebrity on trial in a sexual assault case, but as a flawed man "whose infidelities have made him vulnerable" to these types of accusations.

Cosby, 79, the champion of fatherhood and family values, walked into court without his wife of more than 50 years, Camille, or any of their four daughters. He was instead joined by a TV daughter, Keshia Knight Pulliam, who was five when he made her a child star on the "The Cosby Show."

A prosecutor in opening statements urged the jury to focus on the man, not the fictional characters he created.

"Actors and actresses, celebrities as a whole ... they become larger than life. We have a collective imagination of all of the characters they portray and, because of that, we think that we really know them," Assistant District Attorney Kristen Feden said. "In reality, we only have a glimpse of who they really are."

About 60 women have



Bill Cosby departs from the Montgomery County Courthouse during his sexual assault trial in Norristown, Pa., Monday, June 5, 2017.

(AP Photo/Matt Rourke)

accused Cosby of sexually assaulting them since 1965, but Cosby is charged in just one case, involving a former Temple University basketball team employee who said he drugged and molested her at his suburban Philadelphia home in 2004.

"I have three friends for you to make you relax," Cosby told Andrea Constand as he gave her three unmarked pills, Feden said, quoting from Cosby's deposition. Constand, who said she thought it was an herbal product, told police she fell into a stupor, unable to rebuff him as he molested her on the couch. She is expected to testify later this week.

Prosecutors on Monday opened the trial with a woman who broke down in tears as she testified that the comedian had violated her, eight years earlier, at a hotel bungalow in Los Angeles.

Kelly Johnson, of Atlanta, worked for one of Cosby's agents at the William Morris Agency. Prosecutors hope her testimony will show that Cosby had a pattern of assaulting women after befriending them.

Johnson said Cosby pressured her to take a large white pill that knocked her out. When she woke up, she said, he put lotion on her hand and forced her to touch his genitals.

"My dress was pulled up from the bottom, and it was pulled down from the top, and my breasts were out," she said, crying. "And I felt naked."

Defense lawyer Brian McMonagle suggested Johnson was far from credible, arguing that she said years ago that the encounter took place in 1990, and failed to mention on Monday that Cosby had given her \$400.

Cosby grinned and tapped his cane at the defense table

as McMonagle confronted her with the discrepancies. Johnson struggled to explain them.

She first raised the accusations in 2015, when she spoke out at a news conference organized by celebrity lawyer Gloria Allred.

"I felt embarrassed (at the time) because I had a secret about the biggest celebrity in the world at the time and it was just me, just my word against his, and I was very afraid," Johnson said Monday, explaining the delay. Her mother and a lawyer involved in her related worker's compensation case against William Morris could be the first witnesses Tuesday if the judge permits their testimony.

Constand, 44, of the Toronto area, is expected to take the stand this week and tell her story in public for the first time.

McMonagle also has attacked inconsistencies in her story, pointing out that she initially told police she never spoke with Cosby after the alleged assault. But phone records, he said, show the two talked 72 times that year, with 53 of those calls initiated by Constand.

He told jurors their relationship was romantic. Constand's lawyer has disputed that since Constand was dating a woman at the time.

Regardless, Feden said Constand could not have consented that night given her condition.

"She couldn't say no," Feden said. "She can't move, she can't talk. Completely paralyzed. Frozen. Lifeless."

Cosby, his good-guy reputation already in ruins, could get 10 years in prison if convicted of aggravated indecent assault.

The AP does not typically identify people who say they are sexual assault victims unless they grant permission, which Constand and Johnson have done.



AMERICAN SAMOA POWER AUTHORITY Procurement Office

Po Box PPB, Pago Pago
 American Samoa 96799
 Phone No.: (684) 699-3057
 Fax No.: (684) 699-4129
 bids@aspower.com

NOTICE TO OFFERORS

RFP No: ASPA17.041. TPPBRP Closing Date & Time: July 18, 2017
 Issuance Date: June 03, 2017 2:00 p.m., American Samoa Time
 Project Name: Tafuna Plant Building Rehabilitation Project

The American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) issues this Request for Proposals ("RFP") for the rehabilitation of the Tafuna Power Plant building.

Qualified Offerors must submit proposals in a sealed envelope, box, or other enclosure addressed to Ioana Uli, ASPA Procurement Manager. The sealed envelope or box must show date and time of proposal opening and be labeled: "RFP No. ASPA 17.041 TAFUNA POWER PLANT BUILDING REHABILITATION PROJECT". Late submittals will not be opened or considered and will be determined as non-responsive. Electronic submittals may be made by submitting electronic PDF copies of proposals to bids@aspower.com no later than the date and time as specified. All Offerors shall provide sufficient written and verifiable information that responds to the requirements set forth herein.

A complete RFP package may be picked up from the ASPA Materials Management Office located at the Tafuna Power Plant compound (Security Guard at the Gate will direct you to the back where the Materials Management Office is located). You may also view this RFP online at www.aspower.com which is ASPA's Website. For more information about this RFP, please contact the following person(s):

Ioana S. Uli
 Procurement Manager
 Tel. 684.699.3057
 Email: bids@aspower.com

The American Samoa Power Authority reserves the right to:

1. Reject all proposals and reissue a new or amended RFP.
2. Reject proposal from companies with adverse records involving fraud, overcharging and bribery in construction projects.
3. Request additional information from any company submitting a proposal.
4. Select a firm for award based on other than "least cost" (e.g. capability to complete work in a timely fashion or proven technical capabilities).
5. Negotiate a contract with the firm selected for award.
6. Waive any non-material violations of rules set up in this RFP at its sole discretion.

Approved for Issuance: Utu Abe Malae, Executive Director

Date: June 03, 2017

Girlfriend of black man killed by officer testifies in trial



Clarence Castile, center, the uncle of Philando Castile, waits for an elevator to the courtroom Monday, June 5, 2017, for the trial of Minnesota police officer Jeronimo Yanez, charged in the shooting death of black motorist Philando Castile in July 2016. A jury was seated Monday in the trial of Yanez.

(Glen Stubbe/Star Tribune via AP)

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — The girlfriend of a black man killed by a Minnesota police officer during a traffic stop was expected to return to the witness stand Tuesday in the officer's manslaughter trial, which opened with differing accounts about whether he saw Philando Castile's gun before firing.

Officer Jeronimo Yanez is charged in the July 6 death of Castile, a 32-year-old elementary school cafeteria worker, in a St. Paul suburb. The fatal shooting little more than a minute after Castile was pulled over for a broken taillight captured the world's attention as his girlfriend, Diamond Reynolds, livestreamed the shooting's aftermath on Facebook.

During her testimony Monday, Reynolds discussed her life with Castile and the events of the day he died, though she has not yet talked about the shooting. Her testimony was expected to continue Tuesday.

Prosecutors played a portion of squad-car video in their opening statement in which Castile informs Yanez that he is carrying a gun. "OK, don't reach for it then," Yanez replied. Castile started saying he wasn't reaching for it, but the officer interrupted and said, "Don't pull it out." "I'm not pulling it out," Castile replied as Yanez opened fire. Castile's last words were, "I wasn't reaching for it."

Prosecutor Rick Dusterhoft said Yanez, who is Latino, can be heard on the video in the minutes after the shooting, telling a fellow officer he didn't know where the gun was. That portion of the video wasn't played Monday. Dusterhoft said nobody saw the gun until paramedics found it in Castile's pocket. But defense attorney Paul Engh countered that Castile ignored his commands and reached for his gun. He said Yanez will testify that he saw Castile's hand on the grip. He said Yanez then followed his

training and made an instant decision to open fire because he believed his life was in danger.

"But for Castile's continuous grip on that handgun, we would not be here," Engh said. Castile's death was a tragedy, "but a tragedy is not a crime," Engh said.

The jury was seated earlier Monday after defense attorneys unsuccessfully tried to block one of two black jurors from the final group of 15.

Attorney Earl Gray argued that the juror, an 18-year-old woman who emigrated 10 years ago from Ethiopia, didn't understand the criminal justice system well enough to follow the proceedings. Prosecutor Jeff Paulsen said Yanez's attorneys wanted to block the woman because of her race. Judge William Leary III kept the woman on the jury. A young black man who manages a Wendy's restaurant is also on the panel.

Black representation in the group of 15 roughly matches the black population of Ramsey County, which includes St. Paul and several suburbs. Three of the 15 jurors are alternates, but it isn't clear which ones.

The death of Castile was among a string of killings of blacks by police around the U.S., and it renewed concerns about how officers interact with minorities. Castile's family claimed he was profiled because of his race. Minnesota Democratic Gov. Mark Dayton also injected his viewpoint, saying police likely wouldn't have fired if Castile had been white.

Castile had a permit to carry his handgun, and Dusterhoft told the jury about it after the judge overruled the defense's objections. Defense attorneys argued in pretrial proceedings that Castile obtained his permit illegally in 2016 because he was a marijuana user at the time. Minnesota's gun permit application requires applicants to state they don't use illegal drugs.

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DEVELOPMENT BANK OF AMERICAN SAMOA

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POSITION: GRANT WRITER

Responsibilities:

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

QUALIFICATIONS

- EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE QUALIFICATION:**
- Bachelors Degree in Business Administration, Finance, Management or related field with a minimum of 2 years grant writing experience.
- SKILLS/ABILITIES:**
- Professional appearance and attitude.
 - Excellent writing, analytical and research skills are essential.
 - Highly level computer literacy required with excellent Microsoft office application use.
 - Must be self motivated, detail oriented, highly organized, and have experience using online Database.
 - Be proficient in research, interpreting and analyzing diverse data and posses the ability to work collaboratively and independently to achieve stated goals.
 - Must have solid knowledge of creating budgets as they relate to the proposals and grants.
 - Ability to maintain confidentiality.

Please submit your Resume & Application to the Development Bank of American Samoa located in Pago Pago - 2nd floor. This job posting will expire Friday - June 9, 2017.

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(Photos: Blue)



California Gov. Jerry Brown, center, talks with reporters after delivering a speech during the Clean Energy Ministerial International Forum on Electric Vehicle Pilot Cities and Industrial Development, at a hotel in Beijing, Tuesday, June 6, 2017. Brown predicts that President Donald Trump's decision to pull the U.S. out of the Paris climate accord will prove temporary because of the urgency of the issue. (AP Photo/Andy Wong)

California Gov. Brown says US will stay in climate fight

BEIJING (AP) — California Gov. Jerry Brown predicted Tuesday that President Donald Trump's decision to pull the U.S. out of the Paris climate accord will prove only a temporary setback to reducing greenhouse gas emissions because "disaster still looms" unless the world moves urgently on the issue.

Brown told The Associated Press during his visit to a clean energy conference in Beijing that China, European countries and U.S. state governors will for now fill the gap left by the federal government's move to abdicate leadership on the issue.

"Nobody can stay on the sidelines. We can't afford any dropouts in the tremendous human challenge to make the transition to a sustainable future," Brown said. "Disaster still looms and we've got to make the turn."

Trump's decision to leave the Paris accord has drawn heavy criticism within the U.S. and internationally, including in China. The president argued that the Paris agreement favors emerging economies such as China's and India's at the expense of U.S. workers.

Without mentioning Trump by name, Brown told attendees at a forum on electric vehicles that "there are still people in powerful places who are resisting reality, who are resisting the obvious science that we know governs our lives."

Later, when asked by the AP what could prompt the U.S. to

return to the forefront of climate change efforts, Brown replied, "Science, facts, the world, the marketplace."

Chinese Science and Technology Minister Wan Gang and Brown signed an agreement on behalf of their respective governments calling for greater collaboration on countering climate change. Wan did not publicly address Trump's move on the accord, which has been ratified by almost 150 countries.

Brown signed similar collaboration agreements over the past several days with leaders in two Chinese provinces, Jiangsu and Sichuan.

The U.S. has long been a leader in the clean energy arena, driving innovations in electric cars, renewable power and other sectors of the industry. California, with the largest economy of any U.S. state, as well as some of the strictest climate controls, has been at the forefront of the sector.

Although China has in recent years overtaken the U.S. as the world leader in renewable power development, it has struggled to integrate its sprawling wind and solar facilities into an electricity grid still dominated by coal-fueled power plants.

At the same time, Chinese leaders face growing public pressure at home to reduce the health-damaging smog that blankets many urban areas.

The government has pledged that greenhouse gas emissions will peak no later than 2030 under the Paris pact, and start to fall after then. It has can-

celed the planned construction of more than 100 new coal-fired power plants and plans to invest at least \$360 billion in green-energy projects by the end of the decade. Its consumption of coal fell in 2016 for a third consecutive year. It could meet its 2030 target a decade early.

U.S. Energy Secretary Rick Perry also is due to attend this week's energy meeting in Beijing. Observers say delegates from other countries will be listening closely to the former Texas governor to gauge how Trump administration policies will shape global energy trends.

Trump is a strong advocate of boosting U.S. fossil fuel industries, in particular coal mining, which suffered a steep decline in production during the tenure of former President Barack Obama.

Cheap natural gas and tighter pollution restrictions toppled coal from its dominant position in the U.S. power sector over the past decade and experts say it unlikely to regain that position regardless of what Trump does. China is by far the world's largest user of coal, which accounts for almost two-thirds of its energy use and has made it the number one emitter of climate-changing greenhouse gases.

Perry is from a state that is known for its oil production, but which also has emerged as a leader in renewables development. Texas has some of the largest wind farms in the country and a fast-expanding solar sector.





EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

<i>Position Title</i>	FINANCE CONSULTANT	<i>Posting Date</i>	June 2, 2017
<i>Position Type</i>	Contractual (1 year)	<i>Deadline</i>	June 7, 2017/4pm
<i>Job Opening</i>	One (1)	<i>Starting Salary</i>	Salary Commensurate with Experience/expertise
<i>Report to:</i>	ASTCA Board of Directors	<i>Status</i>	Exempt

Major Responsibilities:

The role of Finance Consultant is to assist the Chief Financial Officer/Financial Controller improves the policies, procedures, processes and practices of the Finance Department based on the specific needs identified by the Company. This role reports to the Chief Financial Officer of ASTCA based on the mutually agreed terms and conditions between ASTCA and consultant.

Minimum Requirements & Qualifications

Education/ Experience: Must possess a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and Financial Management and Information systems from an accredited college or university with major study in Business, Finance, or equivalent. Minimum of (3) years of experience in conducting of external and internal audits of telecommunications companies; Minimum of (3) years of experience in the role of Financial Controller/CFO of a telecommunications company with proven ability to make positive changes and improvements while in the role; strong knowledge of how telecommunications companies operate with additional knowledge in evaluating companies and enterprises such as due diligence processes, controls assessment and entrepreneurial assessment; ability to work in a team based environment; Team orientation with strong work ethics and honesty with a drive to own company's vision and goals and work for the betterment of the organization; strong financial management background and knowledge.

Skills

- Develop and establish a robust reporting mechanism by identifying KPIs, measurement standards and reporting formats which will assist the Chief Financial Officer and Finance Department monitor and report to the Board of Directors the financial performance and position of the Company on a regular and timely basis;
- Review and assess the financial controls currently existent within the company and recommend changes, compliance with best practices and industry standards.
- Assisting the Chief Financial Officer implement proposed changes and determine cost effective methods to enhance controls within the business;
- Review and establish effective reconciliation process within the finance department to achieve efficiency during the month-end reporting process to ensure timely preparation and creation of reporting;
- Assess internal controls and recommend appropriate establishment of internal controls to manage and mitigate key risks applicable to the industry in which the Company operates;
- Assisting the Chief Financial Officer in scoping and assessing the feasibility of various capital, development and maintenance projects;
- Providing feasibility analysis and advice on restructuring of finances, treasury management and cash flow forecasting to improve treasury risk of the company;
- Assessing the company's financial situation by gathering information regarding investments, asset utilization, cost structures, workforce and department structures;
- Providing advice on accounting treatments, policies and procedures. This includes assisting the Chief Financial Officer prepare the finance manual and reviewing job descriptions of Finance and support staff to improve efficiencies;
- Assisting with the company's annual audit process by establishing appropriate guidelines for the Finance Department and providing appropriate training to finance staff to ensure successful execution of annual and interim audits;
- Assisting with the preparation and development of financial strategies, operational and capital budgets of the company, including monitoring of actual versus budget performance, forecasting of financial performance by applying industry best practices;
- Assisting with the development of effective monitoring tools to evaluate new products, promotions, and revenue generating products of the company;
- Working with the Chief Financial Officer to own the organizational goals by identifying opportunities for improvement within the company's overall performance;
- Doing other work as designated and requested by the Chief Financial Officer.

Qualified Applicants Apply To:	Human Resources Division American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (A.S.T.C.A.) P.O. Box M Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799	Tel: (684) 699-1121 ext. 408 Fax: (684) 699-9026 Email inquiries: hr@astca.net
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Former Secretary of State John Kerry speaks before the Ploughshares Fund Chain Reaction Gala at Fort Mason in San Francisco, Calif., Monday, June 5, 2017.

(Michael Macor/San Francisco Chronicle via AP)

Kerry: Imposing new sanctions on Iran could be dangerous

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Former Secretary of State John Kerry said Monday that the Iran nuclear deal could hold even if President Donald Trump pulls out but he warned that imposing new economic sanctions against Tehran could be dangerous.

Kerry said new sanctions on people involved in Iran's ballistic missile program could send a message to the Iranian people that there is no gain for them in the 2015 nuclear deal. The landmark agreement eased economic sanctions in return for a freeze on Iranian nuclear development.

"If we become super provocative in ways that show the Iranian people there has been no advantage to this, that there is no gain, and our bellicosity is pushing them into a corner, that's dangerous and that could bring a very different result," Kerry said.

Last month, the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee voted 18-3 in favor of legislation that would authorize Trump to impose mandatory sanctions on people involved in Iran's ballistic missile program and anyone who does business with them. The measure

also would apply terrorism sanctions to the country's Revolutionary Guards and enforce an arms embargo.

Trump promised during his campaign to renegotiate or leave the Iran nuclear deal.

Kerry, who spoke in San Francisco at a fundraiser for Ploughshares Fund, an organization that works to reduce the threats posed by nuclear weapons, said he is hopeful Trump would listen to Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis and White House National Security Adviser H.R. McMaster.

"My hope is that they would in fact not just be the adults in the room but that they would be listened to," Kerry said.

As Obama's top diplomat, Kerry played a major role in achieving the historic nuclear deal with Iran involving six world powers.

Kerry added that there is a view that seems to dominate the Trump administration that "the United States can do anything that it needs to do all by itself" and he urged those in attendance to do more to fight for the government to recognize the value of diplomacy.



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