Day Three of Manu’a Flag Day Festivities: Carnival, Community Sports Leagues, and Entertainment

_Closing of Pre-Manu’a Cession Day Festivities_

[PICTORIAL]: On July 15, 2023, Day Three of the Pre-Manu’a Cession Day Festivities, began with an array of activities for the youth organized by the Department of Human Resources (DHR) and the Department of Youth & Women’s Affairs (DYWA) at the Manu’a High School gymnasium in Ta’u, Manu’a. Simultaneously, the Office of Samoan Affairs (OSA) hosted the 2023 Cricket League at the Malae tele Avaloa. Later in the evening, the pre-flag day festivities were concluded with traditional performances and entertainment by different church and village groups.

_Picture: CCCAS Petesa Uta Band_
DYWA organized an engaging event for the youth which began Friday evening, featuring friendly competitions encompassing singing, lip syncing, and creativity challenges that utilized recycled materials. Additionally, they arranged captivating game booths at the Department of Agriculture’s Farm Fair, generously awarding prizes to participants. The event created a delightful and memorable family day filled with enjoyable activities.
Department of Human Resources Volleyball Tournament

In collaboration with the American Samoa Volleyball Association, DHR orchestrated a thrilling two-day Volleyball Tournament held at the Manu'a High School Gymnasium. Teams were composed of Manu’a villages and ASG agencies. The championship game ignited an atmosphere of excitement and camaraderie, with the gymnasium resounding with cheers and applause. For the Men’s Division ASTCA Manu’a came out on top, while Fitiuta Team championed the Women’s Division. DHR also joined DYWA and other agencies in setting up game booths and giving away prizes, snacks, and more.
Office of Samoan Affairs Cricket League

OSA took charge of organizing the highly competitive Cricket League held at the Malaetele Avaloa. The event garnered tremendous support from the local villagers, who showed up in large numbers to cheer on the teams and bring the atmosphere to life with their enthusiastic support. The Olosega cricket team was this year’s Flag Day champion.
Governor Lemanu P. S. Mauga, accompanied by esteemed leaders from the American Samoa Government, Church and Village Leaders, and Paramount Chiefs, relished an enchanting evening filled with traditional entertainment presented by the Manu'a villages and communities. The Governor expressed his appreciation, recognizing the significance of this event as a vital component of the Flag Day Festivities: the traditional Pese and Siva performances. “These captivating displays carry profound historical value, preserving the stories of our past and enabling us to gain meaningful insights into our rich heritage, our language, and our customs,” remarked Governor Lemanu.

The event featured remarkable performances from five villages and an exceptional presentation by the Summer Youth Employment Program participants. The collective efforts of these talented performers captivated the audience, serving as a testament to the vibrancy and cultural significance of our traditions.

This event was the conclusion to the pre-Manu’a Cession Day festivities.