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BIG SPRING WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2017

HERALD



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Festival vandalism not dampening Christmas spirit

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Staff Writer

A minor act of vandalism won't disrupt the Christmas spirit at the Comanche Trail Festival of Lights, said event coordinator Howard Stewart.

"We have those 8 by 8 vinyl banners. We had three of them that somebody took a knife to, slashed them down the middle," Stewart said. "They're \$200 each. It was random. They were all there on Whipkey Drive, but they weren't in a row, like they cut one, skipped three or four, cut one, skipped three or four, cut one."

temporarily repaired to make it through the remaining week of the festival, he added.

"We have them duct taped now, but next year we'll replace them," he said. "At 10, when we locked up, they were fine. The cooks that come through at 6 a.m. for the people at the DRCC, the senior citizens, they're the ones who saw them. So after 10 and before 6. It just makes us mad that somebody would go in there and vandalize it."

According to the Big Spring Police Department Facebook page, "On December 18, 2017, officers with the Big Spring Police Department responded to 2700 Wasson Rd. (Comanche Trail Park) in reference to criminal mischief. Upon arrival it was found that unknown individuals caused damage to several sponsor banners which were placed for the Festival of Lights by cutting them with a sharp object. There was a total of three banners that were damaged causing a loss of \$600. The damage to the banners occurred between the hours of 10 p.m. on the 17th of December and 9 a.m., on the 18th of December."

The Facebook page asks the public to help

See **FOL**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Three vinyl banners at the Comanche Trail Festival of Lights were vandalized overnight Sunday. The banners, valued at \$200 each, were cut with a knife or other sharp object. This banner, placed by Wells Fargo Bank, was the worst damaged of the three signs, which have all been temporarily repaired with duct tape.

CISD board best in Texas



Courtesy photo

Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) Executive Director Johnny L. Veselka presented the Coahoma ISD board of trustees with the Texas' 2017 Outstanding School Board award Tuesday night at a ceremony held at the Coahoma High School auditorium. Pictured from left to right are Coahoma board members Dicky Stone, Lori Martinez, Dr. Kandy Alaman, Johnny L. Veselka, TASA executive director; Michael Brooks; Dr. Jody Reid, CISD vice president; and Brian Moore, CISD president. Not pictured is Craig Ferguson, CISD secretary. The Coahoma ISD board was named the Outstanding School Board in October at the TASA/TASB Convention in Dallas. The board was chosen from among five finalists that were interviewed by a committee of Texas school superintendents. The committee's decision was based on several criteria, including the board's support for educational performance, educational improvement projects and school transformation initiatives, commitment to a code of ethics, and placement of the welfare of children served by the school system above other motives.

Give the gift of safe travel this holiday season

Special to the Herald

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is reminding drivers that by staying sober and following basic traffic laws, they can give their fellow motorists the gift of safe travels this season. In an effort to increase safety on Texas roadways, DPS Troopers will conduct traffic patrols throughout the holiday weekends of Dec. 24 – 27 and Dec. 31 – Jan. 1, looking for drunk drivers, speeders, seat belt violators and other dangerous drivers. Many local law enforcement agencies will also increase enforcement efforts over the holidays.

"The holidays are here, and as everyone begins to celebrate this special time of year, we are also asking Texans to be responsible and safe," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "We trust the majority of Texans will heed our guidance to be extra careful and patient on the roadways, but there will always be those who disregard the safety of others by driving impaired or engaging in other reckless behavior. DPS, and police agencies across the state, will do our part to deter and take enforcement action against dangerous drivers over the holidays."

During the six-day Christmas/New

Senate moves tax cut legislation to brink of final passage

By **STEPHEN OHLEMACHER** and **MARCY GORDON**

Associated Press
 WASHINGTON (AP) — Jubilant Republicans pushed on early Wednesday to the verge of the most sweeping rewrite of the nation's tax laws in more than three decades, a deeply unpopular bill they insist Americans will learn to love when they see their pay-

checks in the new year. President Donald Trump cheered the lawmakers on, eager to claim his first major legislative victory.

After midnight, the Senate narrowly passed the legislation on a party-line 51-48 vote. Protesters interrupted with chants of "kill

See **BILL**, Page 3

Big Spring Herald's Christmas Countdown



Amaya, Mattox & Bri
 say
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 (Amaya, Mattox and Brianna Children Of Jennifer C.)

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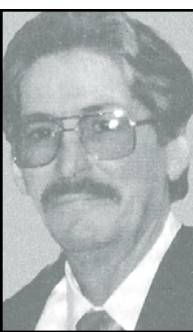
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Obituaries

G.P. Harrell, Jr.



G.P. Harrell Jr., "Tooter", of Kingsland, formerly of Stanton, died Sunday, Dec. 17, 2017, in Big Spring. Graveside funeral services will be 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 21, 2017, at the Evergreen Cemetery Chapel in Stanton. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017, at the Gilbreath Funeral Home in Stanton.

Tooter was born March 14, 1952, in Stanton, Texas, to G.P. and Gene Harrell. He was preceded in death by his parents.

He graduated from Stanton High School in 1970. He farmed in the Courtney area for many years. He

bred and raised game chickens, enjoyed cooking and holding family barbecues and gatherings at his home. He is remembered as being big hearted and kind to all.

Survivors include two sons, Chad Harrell of Austin, and Trey Harrell and wife Sherra of Lenora; one daughter, Kelly Means and husband Monty of Lubbock; five grandchildren, Baylor, Quint, Briley, Sawyer, and Wes; three sisters, June Sly and husband David of May, and Barbara Dorner and Kay Harrell, both of Kingsland; one aunt, Katie White of Marlow, Okla.; one uncle, Micky Allen and wife Nancy of Arlington; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Paid Obituary

Robert E. Baker

Robert E. Baker Sr., 68, of Big Spring, died Monday Dec. 18, 2017, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Lyndel Carson "Mac" McKaskle

Lyndel Carson "Mac" McKaskle, 64, died Sunday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21, 2017, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Carmelita Johnson

Carmelita Johnson, 54, of Big Spring, died Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 200 block of E 3rd St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of Purdue. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of N Hwy 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 600 block of Caylor. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3700 block of Caroline. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 200 block of Heaton Rd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy) a chronic pain disease, a support and informative group, meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

THURSDAY

• GriefShare is a biblical support group that focuses on helping people who are dealing with a loved one's death. Each DVD session features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by small group discussion about the topics presented (with workbook support). Weekly 10/5/17 through 01/11/18; 6:00 - 8:00 pm at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Call Vivian Gordon at 432-466-3583 for more information.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

• A Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following activity:

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 73 inmates at the time of this report.

• **MICHAEL LYNN AVILA-AYCOCK**, 22, was arrested by BSPD on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

• **TOMMY GENE AYCOCK**, 42, was arrested by BSPD on charges of possession of controlled sub-

stance less than or equal to one to four grams, possession of drug paraphernalia, and a warrant of theft of service less than or equal to \$100 to \$750.

• **RAMON CISNEROS**, 47, was arrested by BSPD on warrants of no drivers license when licensed, and failure to appear.

• **HOLLEY DENISE JENNINGS**, 32, was arrested by BSPD on warrants of possession of controlled substance less than or equal to one to four grams.

• **ANGELICA RAQUEL MOJICA**, 18, was arrested by BSPD

on warrants of two counts theft of property less than \$100.

• **ZACHAREY BLAKE SALGADO**, 26, was arrested by BSPD on warrants of criminal mischief less than or equal to \$100 to \$750.

• **ANGEL JUNIOR VILLA**, 20, was arrested by BSPD on a warrant of no drivers license when unlicensed.

• **SHEREDA S WHERRY**, 23, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of aggravated assault date/family/house.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **RAMON CINEROS**, 47, of 1002 Main St., was arrested on warrants of no drivers license when licensed, and failure to appear.

• **TOMMY GENE AYCOCK JR.**, 42, of 2105 S Runnels St., was arrested on charges of possession of controlled substance less than or equal to one to four grams, possession of drug paraphernalia, and a warrant of theft of service less than or equal to \$100 to \$750.

• **MICHAEL LYNN AVILA AYCOCK**, 22, of 1502 S Atlanta,

was arrested on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

• **ZACHAREY BLAKE SALGADO**, 26, of 1202 S Johnson St., was arrested on warrants of criminal mischief less than or equal to \$100 to \$750.

• **HOLLEY DENISE JENNINGS**, 32, of 1203 N FM 70, was arrested on warrants of possession of controlled substance less than or equal to one to four grams.

• **SHEREDA SHAWN TA WHERRY**, 23, of 1311 Madison St., was arrested on a charge of

aggravated assault date/family/house.

• **DISTURBANCE** was reported on the 1600 block of Martin Luther King, and the 100 block of Davis Rd.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported on the 900 block of N Lamesa Hwy, and the 3600 block of W Hwy 80.

• **THEFT** was reported on the 1500 S Benton St., 500 E 3rd St., and on the 200 block of W FM 700.

• **HARASSMENT** was reported on the 800 block of W I 20.

• **BURGLARY OF HABITATION** was reported on the 2000 E 11th Pace.

Take Note

The Emergency Services Chaplains Corps is seeking volunteer chaplains. The corps provides spiritual services to Howard County residents and visitors in crisis situations. Prospective chaplains don't require any specific experience or education to qualify for the position, just a calling from God and a willingness to devote time to the program, which requires a 24- to 30-week training program and dedication of one day per week for emergency call-outs. Those interested should contact Senior Chaplain Joel Miller at 432-213-1221.

Big Spring's Centennial Lions Club is holding a drive to collect books for the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club. Books for kids in kindergarten through

about 10th grade will be accepted, with special preference for books for younger children in kindergarten through third grade. Cash donations to allow the Lions to purchase additional books are also appreciated. Books or donations can be taken to the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., or to the home of Lions member Ken Lawhon at 1707 E. 15th St. For more information, contact Lawhon at 214-998-9716 or Lions member David Stives at 432-270-2251.

Food 2 Kids Big Spring needs you! It is time to start sacking food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a

couple hours of your time and the work is very rewarding. To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998. If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts

Community Center. Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands. No alcohol or smoking permitted.

There will be a pot luck, bring a dish if you want to eat. Cost has dropped to \$5 per person thanks to a sponsor Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Road.

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BILL

Continued from Page 1

the bill, don't kill us" and Vice President Mike Pence repeatedly called for order. Upon passage, Republicans cheered, with Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin among them.

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

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

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

Three provisions in the bill, including its title, violated Senate rules, forcing the Senate to vote to strip them out. So the massive bill was hauled back across the Capitol for the House to vote again on Wednesday, and Republicans have a chance to celebrate again.

Hours earlier, House Speaker Paul Ryan, who has worked years toward the goal of revamping the tax code, gleefully pounded the gavel on the House vote. GOP House members roared

and applauded as they passed the \$1.5 trillion package that will touch every American taxpayer and every corner of the U.S. economy, providing steep tax cuts for businesses and the wealthy, and more modest help for middle- and low-income families.

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

"This was a promise made. This is a promise kept," Ryan and other GOP leaders said at a victory news conference.

Ryan, appearing on a nationally broadcast news show Wednesday morning, said the GOP is willing to risk running up deficits to jumpstart the economy with the aim of getting a higher annual growth rate.

The Wisconsin Republican, who has been a deficit hawk over the years, embraced arguments by other Republican leaders that the boost to the economy will go a long way toward offsetting a ballooning debt.)

"What we're trying to do here is give relief to hard-working families," Ryan said on NBC's "Today" show.

After the delay for a second House vote Wednesday, the measure then heads to Trump, who is aching for a big political victory after 11 months of legislative failures and nonstarters. The president tweeted his congratulations to GOP leaders and to "all great House Republicans who voted in favor of cutting your taxes!"

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

"The proof will be in the paychecks," Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, said during the Senate's nighttime debate. "This is real tax relief, and it's needed."

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

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

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

"I don't think we've done a good job messaging," said Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore. "Now, you're able to look at the final product."

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

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

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

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

For now, Democrats are planning to use the bill in their campaigns next year. Senate Democrats posted poll numbers on the bill on a video screen at their Tuesday luncheon.

"This bill will come back to haunt them, as Frankenstein did," House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi said.

The bill would slash the corporate income tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent. The top tax rate for individuals would be lowered from 39.6 percent to 37 percent.

The legislation repeals an important part of the 2010 health care law — the requirement that all Americans carry health insurance or face a penalty — as the GOP looks to unravel the law it failed to repeal and replace this past summer. It also allows oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

The \$1,000-per-child tax credit doubles to \$2,000, with up to \$1,400 available in IRS refunds for families that owe little or no taxes.

Disgruntled Republican lawmakers from high-tax New York, New Jersey and California receded into the background as the tax train rolled. They oppose a new \$10,000 limit on the deduction for state and local taxes.

... It's certainly unpopular in my district."

The bill is projected to add \$1.46 trillion to the nation's debt over a decade. GOP lawmakers say they expect a future Congress to continue the tax cuts so they won't expire. That would drive up deficits even further.

The bill would initially provide tax cuts for Americans of all incomes. But if the cuts for individuals expire, most Americans — those making less than \$75,000 — would see tax increases in 2027, according to congressional estimates.

DPS

Continued from Page 1

Year holiday enforcement effort last year, DPS Troopers issued more than 72,000 citations and warnings for a variety of violations, including speeding, no insurance and seat belt/child safety seat usage. DPS enforcement efforts also resulted in 439 DWI arrests, 289 fugitive arrests and 229 felony arrests.

Remember to protect those working on the side of the road this holiday by following the law: SLOW DOWN or MOVE OVER for police, fire, EMS, Texas Department of Transportation vehicles and tow trucks stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated. Also, show the same courtesy to fellow drivers stopped along the road.

DPS offers the following additional tips for safe travel during the holidays:

- Do not drink and drive. Make alternate travel plans if you are consuming alcohol.
- Slow down — especially in bad weather, construction areas, heavy traffic and unfamiliar areas.
- Eliminate distractions while driving, including the use of mobile devices. Texas law prohibits using a portable wireless device to read, write or send an electronic message unless the vehicle is stopped.
- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle — it's the law.
- Don't drive fatigued — allow plenty of time to reach your destination.
- Drive defen-

sively, as holiday travel may present additional challenges.

- If you see a road hazard or something suspicious during the holidays, report it to the nearest law enforcement agency.
- Before your trip begins, make sure your vehicle is properly maintained and always double check to make sure all cargo is secure.
- Monitor weather and road conditions wherever you are traveling. In the event of inclement weather, use extra caution on roadways.
- For road conditions in Texas, visit <https://drivetexas.org>.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

FOL

Continued from Page 1

out with information about the crime by contacting CrimeStoppers at 432-263-TIPS (8477), or by leaving an anonymous tip using the "P3 Tips" mobile application or the Big Spring Police Department website at www.bigspringpd.net.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 235, or by email at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

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Gloria (Hembree) Chapman, 87, died Thursday. Funeral service was at 11 a.m. this morning at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial was at Trinity Memorial Park.

Ellen Frances (Hale) Fulghum, 80, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Lyndel Carson "Mac" McKaskle, 64, died Sunday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21, 2017, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Carmelita Johnson, 54, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Robert E. Baker, Sr., 68, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Texan who fought gay marriage ban running for state senate

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A Texas man who sued over the right to marry his partner is running as a Democrat in 2018 in a bid that would make him the state's first openly gay senator.

Mark Phariss said Tuesday he's encouraged by recent high-profile Democratic upsets in places such as Virginia and Alabama. The Dallas lawyer is vying for a seat in the city's northern suburbs that have long been a Republican stronghold.

Phariss and his partner sued Texas in 2013 over a statewide gay marriage ban. The U.S. Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriage nationwide two years later.

Also running for the same Senate seat is Angela Paxton. She's the wife of Republican Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, who told county clerks in 2015 they could deny same-sex marriage licenses over religious objections.

Texas general gives update about fight against Islamic State

AP-TX-Islamic State-US Commander, 1st Lt. WFORT HOOD, Texas (AP) — The commander leading the anti-Islamic State campaign in the Middle East says challenges remain despite pushing IS from territories in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Fort Hood commander Lt. Gen. Paul E. Funk II spoke with Texas media outlets in a video conference from Baghdad on Monday.

He says about 240 soldiers from the sprawling Army post in Texas left for a yearlong deployment in August. They're part of the Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve, a global coalition formed to fight the Islamic State.

Funk says areas in the region face a lengthy rebuilding process. He says troops will have to work to clear more than 8,000 improvised explosive devices left by fleeing IS soldiers in order to make neighborhoods livable again.

Judge recommends Texas man's innocence in sex assault case

GEORGETOWN, Texas (AP) — A Texas judge is recommending that the conviction of a man sent to prison on child sexual assault charges be overturned and that he meets the state's legal threshold to be declared innocent.

State District Judge Donna King made the recommendation Monday in the case of Greg Kelley, who spent the last three years in prison after being accused of sexually assaulting a 4-year-old boy at an in-home day care center in 2013. Kelley was released on bond in August after King cited mistakes police made during the investigation.

Texas law states that a defendant meets the standard for "actual innocence" if a judge believes no reasonable juror would convict him.

\$200K settlement approved in Texarkana inmate death

TEXARKANA, Ark. (AP) — A judge has approved a \$200,000 settlement in the case of a severely diabetic woman who died in a Texarkana jail last year.

The Texarkana Gazette reports that a lawyer was granted approval Monday in Miller County Circuit Court to settle the case against LaSalle Corrections in the July 2016 death of 20-year-old Morgan Angerbauer. LaSalle Corrections manages the Bi-State Justice Building jail in Texarkana.

Court records say Angerbauer died of ketoacidosis after former nurse Brittany Johnson refused to treat her. Ketoacidosis is a condition resulting from severely high blood sugar.

Johnson pleaded guilty last month to misdemeanor negligent homicide and is serving three months in the Miller County jail.

The settlement was approved despite objections from the attorney for Jennifer Houser, Angerbauer's mother.

Texas company to pay \$2.25 million in gas royalties dispute

DENVER (AP) — A federal prosecutor says a Texas-based oil and gas company will pay \$2.25 million to settle allegations that it underpaid royalties for natural gas produced on federal land in Wyoming.

Colorado U.S. Attorney Bob Troyer said Tuesday that Citation Oil & Gas Corp. was accused of breaking federal law requiring companies to make royalty payments for natural gas produced on leased federal lands. Citation was accused of deducting the cost of making natural gas into a marketable product from its royalties, which isn't permitted.

Citation officials didn't immediately respond to a voicemail left at the company's Houston headquarters on Tuesday.

The National Archives unseals thousands more JFK files



AP photo

In this Nov. 22, 1963, file photo, seen through the foreground convertible's windshield, President John F. Kennedy's hand reaches toward his head within seconds of being fatally shot as first lady Jacqueline Kennedy holds his forearm as the motorcade proceeds along Elm Street past the Texas School Book Depository in Dallas. The license plates on the vehicle, which were discarded when the vehicle was sent for upgrades, are going up for auction.

By **TODD J. GILLMAN** and **CHARLES SCUDDER**

The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS (AP) — The National Archives has unsealed thousands more pages from the Kennedy files. And while assassinations buffs weren't likely to find any major revelations — no proof of a

second gunman, a Cuban plot, or evidence the killer could have been stopped — they'll have plenty to chew on.

The Dallas Morning News reports the 3,539 records include FBI and CIA reports on Soviet spies, the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., and Lee Harvey Oswald's trip to Mexico City a few weeks before he mur-

dered President John F. Kennedy in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

This batch likely will be the last released pending a final review of records. Many remain sealed at the request of the FBI, CIA and other agencies that pressed for more time ahead of a deadline set a quarter century earlier.

For decades, debate has raged not only over

whether Oswald acted alone but whether the FBI and CIA could have stopped him. The latest documents, unsealed Dec. 15, provide fresh proof that he was in their sights: a 1975 CIA memo marked "top secret" shows that Oswald was on a "watch list" of people whose mail would be

See **JFK**, Page 5

Police sergeant fired for ordering officer to use Taser

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A Texas police sergeant has been fired for ordering a rookie officer to use a stun gun on a woman who had called for help during a domestic dispute.

Fort Worth police Chief Joel Fitzgerald said in an emailed statement that he fired Sgt. Kenneth Pierce on Monday, saying the 22-year police veteran became impatient and needlessly initiated the physical confrontation with the woman, who the police department has not named. Fitzgerald also released a 12-minute video from the body camera of the rookie officer, Maria Bayona, that he said clearly shows Pierce's behavior was "absolutely unacceptable."

An attorney for Pierce, Terry Daffron, said the firing will be appealed. A message left with the Fort Worth Civil Service Commission asking whether Pierce had filed an appeal was not immediately returned Tuesday.

Police spokeswoman Paula Fimbres said department officials are still reviewing Bay-

ona's actions including the deployment of her Taser in the August altercation.

Fitzgerald said the incident came to light when supervisors were conducting a mandatory review of officer use of force.

"We are built on a foundation of being problem-solvers. Pierce responded in an opposite manner, and he escalated the situation endangering everyone involved including his fellow officers," Fitzgerald said in the release.

In the video, the woman, who is black, can be seen holding her license arguing with Bayona, who is asking for her ID. Pierce, who is white, can be seen grabbing her neck, then her hair and pulling her head down to try to get the woman in handcuffs. In the video he can be heard telling Bayona to "Tase her."

The woman was placed in handcuffs. Fitzgerald said charges against her were dropped after the video and other evidence was reviewed.

Fimbres said the department had tried to contact the woman

whose face is blurred in the video to get her statement about the incident for their investigation, including leaving phone messages, mailing letters and leaving information at her address. She said the woman did not respond.

The release from Fitzgerald said he recognized the case was "eerily reminiscent" of an incident in December 2016, where a white Fort Worth officer responding to a report that a neighbor had choked a boy for littering, arrested the boy's mother and sister, who were black. The confrontation between the officer, William Martin, and the mother, Jacqueline Craig, was broadcast on social media by one of her daughters and was viewed millions of times gaining national attention.

The release noted that in contrast to the incident last year, the department released the recording of the August incident without being asked and initiated the investigation without a complaint.

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Official: Feds look at whether train engineer was distracted

By **MICHAEL BALSAMO and HAVEN DALEY**

Associated Press

DUPONT, Wash. (AP) — Investigators are looking into whether the Amtrak engineer whose speeding train plunged off an overpass, killing at least three people, was distracted by the presence of an employee-in-training next to him in the locomotive, a federal official said Tuesday.

The official, who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity, said investigators want to know whether the engineer lost "situational awareness" because of the second person in the cab.

The train was hurtling at 80 mph in a 30 mph zone Monday morning when it ran off the rails along a curve south of Seattle, sending some of its cars plummeting onto an interstate highway below, National Transportation Safety Board member Bella Dinh-Zarr said late Monday, citing data from the locomotive's event recorder.

Dinh-Zarr said it is not yet known what caused the train to derail and too early to say why it was going so fast. She said investigators will talk to the engineer and other crew members.

In previous wrecks, investigators looked at whether the engineer was distracted or incapacitated.

The engineer, whose name was not released, was bleeding from the head after the wreck, and his eyes were swollen shut, according to radio transmissions from a crew member. The transmissions mentioned a second person in the front of the train who was also hurt.

The train, with 85 passengers and crew members, was making the inaugural run along a fast new bypass route that was created by refurbishing freight tracks alongside Interstate 5. The 15-mile, \$180.7 million project was aimed at speeding up service by bypassing a route with a number of curves, single-track tunnels and freight traffic.

Positive train control — technology that can



In this photo provided by Daniella Fenelon, first responders work at the scene of an Amtrak train that derailed in DuPont, south of Seattle on Monday, Dec. 18, 2017. The Amtrak train making the first-ever run along a faster new route hurtled off an overpass south of Seattle and spilled some of its cars onto the highway below, killing some people, injuring dozens and crushing a few vehicles, authorities said. Fenelon was a passenger of the train.

AP photo

automatically slow or stop a speeding train — wasn't in use on that stretch of track. Track

sensors and other PTC components have been installed, but the system isn't expected to

be completed until the spring, transit officials said.

Regulators have been

pressing railroads for

years to install such

See **TRAIN**, Page 6

JFK

Continued from Page 4

intercepted from Nov. 9, 1959, to May 3, 1960, and again from Aug. 7, 1961, through May 28, 1962.

The same watch list included Francis Gary Powers, the U-2 pilot shot down on May 1, 1960. His mail was opened until two months after his release by the Soviets. CIA also opened the mail of Earl Browder, the head of the Communist Party of the United States, playwright Edward Albee, "Grapes of Wrath" novelist John Steinbeck, and a daughter of David Rockefeller, chairman of Chase Manhattan bank.

Another revelation comes from a July 1978 memo to an attorney on the staff of the House Select Committee on Assassinations: The FBI was unable to locate the original fingerprints lifted from the rifle found at the sniper's perch on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository.

Dallas police turned those over a few days after the assassination and never got them back. Top FBI officials told House investigators that finding the prints would be a "mammoth research effort."

The head of the bureau's fingerprint section told House investigators that standard procedure would have required returning the original prints to Dallas police, but "this case was not routine, nor was it handled as such."

In 1992, Congress set Oct. 26, 2017, for the release of all remaining documents in the Kennedy collection. The National Archives released a batch in July, and five since then. In late October, President Donald Trump gave the agencies six more months to review any material that might damage national security.

"We don't pass judgment on the value of the information or draw any conclusions about the content. That's left for the American people — for journalists, researchers, historians and the like," said Jay Bosanko, chief operating officer at the National Archives.

Previous batches of documents have revealed the deep ties between U.S. and Mexican intelligence agencies, and the lengths the United States went to in attempts to undermine or assassinate Cuban dictator Fidel Castro.

A trove released Oct. 26 included a CIA report showing that Soviet lead-

er Nikita Krushchev believed Dallas police had been an "accessory" to the assassination, because he found it implausible that presidential security was so "inept" for Kennedy to be killed without a conspiracy.

The documents have also revealed serious lapses in the surveillance of Oswald, a former Marine sharpshooter who had defected to the Soviet Union, then returned, then sought to go back. He was in Mexico City seeking visas to Cuba and then the Soviet Union.

Much of the material released this month likely would not be subject to public disclosure under ordinary open records rules. Such materials provide insight into unrelated investigations, law enforcement techniques, foreign relations and intelligence gathering.

One 1990 FBI document, for example, relates a story from a source who claims U.S. Marines had unknowingly brought a Soviet agent into secure areas of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow "to engage in sexual intercourse." The agent then planted audio devices in the embassy, the source said, and removed the bugs during another sexual encounter.

Some of the documents also detail continued efforts to track the KKK and other white supremacist groups, especially in relation to the assassination of King in Memphis, Tennessee. One set of FBI reports newly unsealed details efforts to infiltrate the Ku Klux Klan in the late 1960s with help from an informant — a former Imperial officer — who "has been utilized extensively to cause dissension in Klan ranks."

The FBI scrambled for information on Dallas nightclub owner Jack Ruby in the days after he shot and killed Oswald.

Agents around the country contacted gambling sources for any insights, mostly coming up empty. But in Chicago, agents learned that Ruby had been

close with Ross Prio, a "top hoodlum" in the city. And he was friends with gun shop owner Joe Scaramuzzo, who had sold three of the four guns used in a 1954 shooting at the U.S. House of Representatives by Puerto Rican nationalists.

Roughly a dozen archivists have been devoted to the JFK papers this year, coordinating with officials at the FBI, CIA, Defense Intelligence Agency and other federal agencies.

All documents subject to release have now been released in full or in redacted form, except for 86 records subject to further research by archivists and federal agencies. Records released only in redacted form will be reviewed in coming months by the agencies that generated them.

Most of the 5 million pages of Kennedy records were released in the 1990s, a bonanza for assassination buffs on a host of related topics, including FBI monitoring of anti-war groups, King, the Weathermen and others.

Congress created the five-member Assassination Records Review Board in 1992 as part of a law requiring the release of all Kennedy assassination documents within 25 years. The law authorizes the president — the one in office in 2017, that is — to block release if he deems it would harm U.S. intelligence, law enforcement, military or diplomacy interests.

Just under a third of the newly released materials — an estimated 85,000 pages worth — had been categorized as irrelevant to the JFK

assassination itself, and withheld in full until now.

As with previous sets of records, this one provides insight into foreign intrigue and efforts to spy on adversaries.

There's a memo from the files of Kennedy's defense secretary, Robert McNamara, with a juicy geopolitical tidbit, courtesy of an informant close to the mother of Marxist leader Che Guevara. Che has recently returned from Cuba and told his mom that "Both he and Castro feel Khrushchev 'let them down' and has no further interest in spreading Communism in South America. Guevara added that he and Castro believe they and the Chinese are better Communists than Khrushchev."

The latest trove includes reports on Soviet and Cuban arms smuggling in the Caribbean, and complaints made to the Dallas FBI office about authors and documentary film makers contacting witnesses from the Grassy Knoll or the killing of Officer J.D. Tippett.

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TRAIN

Continued from Page 5

technology, and some have done so, but the deadline has been extended repeatedly at the industry's request and is now the end of 2018.

The 7:34 a.m. accident left mangled train cars up on top of each other, with one hanging precariously over the freeway. The screech and clang of metal were followed by silence, then screams, as the injured cried out to rescuers and motorists pulled over and rushed to help.

In addition to those killed, more than 70 people were injured, 10 of them seriously.

Two of the dead were identified as train buffs who belonged to the rail advocacy group All Aboard Washington and were excited to be on board for the inaugural run: Jim Hamre, a retired civil engineer with the state Transportation Department, and Zack Willhoite, a customer service employee at a local transit agency.

"It's pretty devastating. We're having a tough time," said All Aboard Washington executive director Lloyd Flem.

In 2015, an Amtrak train traveling at twice the 50 mph speed limit ran off the rails along a sharp curve in Philadelphia, killing eight people. Investigators concluded the engineer was distracted by reports over the radio of another train getting hit by a rock.

In September, a judge threw out charges of involuntary manslaughter and reckless endangerment against the engineer, saying the wreck did not appear to rise to a crime. Prosecutors are trying to get the case reinstated.

In the Washington state crash, speed signs were posted 2 miles (3 kilometers) before the speed zone changed, according to Kimberly Reason of Sound Transit, the Seattle-area transit agency that owns the tracks.

After the Philadelphia wreck, Amtrak agreed to pay \$265 million to settle claims filed by victims and their families. It has also installed positive train control on all of its track between Boston and Washington.

The NTSB's Dinh-Zarr said it is too soon to say whether positive train control would have prevented Monday's tragedy.

Check it out at the Howard County Library

This week I'll tell you about a few non-fiction books. "The Smear" by hard-hitting investigative journalist Sharyl Attkisson (070.4 ATT S) takes you behind the scenes of the modern smear machine, exploring how operatives from corporations and both sides of the political aisle have manipulated a complicit mainstream media to make disinformation, rumor, and dirty tricks defining traits of our democracy. Pulling back the shady curtain on the shady world of opposition research, she reveals how those in power create well-funded, organized attack campaigns to take down their enemies and influence your opinions, offering a detailed examination of the think tanks, super PACs, LLCs, and nonprofits that have become the hidden backers of some of the biggest smears in American politics. She doesn't just tell stories-she names names, sharing her deeply researched account of how smears take shape and who are their perpetrators. In addition, Attkisson reveals outrageous transactional journalism and exposes scandalous emails behind the smear industrial complex, showing how Campaign 2016 became the exclamation point on the thirty-year evolution of the smear machine. Dissecting the most divisive, partisan

election in American history, she explores how both sides used every smear tactic as a political weapon.

MONICA
MARTINEZ

What emerges is a timely assault on the mainstream media's willingness to sacrifice ethics for clicks, and the cynical politicians and high-paid consultants who exploit this reality. "The Smear" is a disturbing look at how the black market serving professional propagandist really works.

"Rogue Spooks" (324.973 MOR D) by Dick Morris and Eileen McGann is the story of an attempted coup d'etat-now in progress-by rogue intelligence agents to overthrow the presidency of Donald Trump and subvert the will of the electorate. Donald Trump's first 100 days in office were roiled by allegations of treasonous contacts between his campaign team and the Kremlin to rig the election. These outrageous charges first surfaced in the notorious "Trump Dossier," an unverified document of suspect provenance, full of wild and salacious accusations. The dossier and this mythical intelligence are

the basis for the phony claims about a Russia-Trump collusion to steal the election. No proof was found, and no substantiation uncovered. That didn't end the leaks of the allegations. Working in concert with liberal new outlets, these rogue spooks have formed a new Intel/Media complex that threatens our democracy. Readers will be shocked to learn the truth about the false accusations against President Trump in the flawed dossier. They'll be interested to know how leaks to the media fueled the phony scandal, and how intelligence agencies will try to use the newly appointed special prosecutor to oust President Trump. They will also learn what we can do to stop them.

"Spiritual Warfare" by Jerry Rankin (248.29 RAN J) tells Christians that they already have victory over the world through Jesus, but Satan picks a fight with believers nonetheless, using earthly temptations and trials in an effort to steal God's glory. The battle rages on, but the nature of the enemy is badly exposed in this book, helping us better understand and process feelings of resentment, anger, doubt, pride, and adversity for what they really are: fiery darts of deception.

In "Living Courageously" (248.8 MEY J), Joyce Meyer

explains how you can overcome the debilitating power of fear by learning to confront and conquer any and every fear you have. Blending practical insights, her personal experiences, and inspiring Scripture, this book will teach you how to conquer any fear, reach you greatest potential, and start living life to the fullest. Whether you fear being inadequate, being rejected, or losing control, you can learn how to triumph over any obstacle even when you feel fearful. You can face anything and just "do it afraid!"

I've run out of time so in the spirit of Christmas I leave you with a quote by Margaret Thatcher: "Christmas is a day of meaning and traditions, a special day spent in the warm circle of family and friends." The library will close at noon on Friday, December 22, 2017 and be closed through Monday, December 25, 2017. MERRY CHRISTMAS from all of us at the library!!

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Baby bongo born, more likely soon at Species Survival Center

By JANET
McCONNAUGHEY

Associated Press
NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A bouncing baby bongo has been born in New Orleans.

The 46-pound female is from a highly endangered antelope subspecies. It's the first calf conceived at the Species Survival Center created by the Audubon Nature Institute and San Diego Zoo Global.

And more baby antelope are on their way, including two or three more Eastern bongo, curator Michelle Hatwood said Monday.

That's an excellent sign for a project to create large natural spaces where herds of antelope and giraffe can be comfortable and multiply.

In addition to the bongo, Hatwood said, three or four of the center's sable antelope, two or three eland and a duiker (DIKE-er) also are probably pregnant. But the bongo are especially exciting, because — though zoos hold about 550 of the Eastern subspecies — only about 100 are left in the wild.

Hunting, diseases from domestic cattle and habitat loss from illegal logging are

continuing to shrink those numbers, according to a news release from the Audubon Nature Institute, which also runs the Audubon Zoo in New Orleans.

The center's male started acting "frisky" the week he was introduced to the center's five females, Hatwood said in an interview.

She said that shows the animals felt at home almost as soon as they arrived, and even faster than zookeepers had expected. They'll usually take a little time to settle down before they start breeding, Hat-

wood said.

"But it's a big secluded area they're in. They felt very comfortable and settled right in," she said. The center hasn't made any tests to confirm pregnancy, but some of the sable, eland and bongo are beginning to show. "They're getting bigger, getting wider. They're eating a bit more," she said. A couple of giraffe could be due even sooner, though they arrived at the center pregnant. Giraffes can gestate for 14 to 16 months, which makes it hard to predict due dates, Hatwood said. "We're going to have a

big baby boom coming up here soon. It's very exciting," she said. The unnamed bongo calf was born Dec. 11. For the first week or so, her mother (identified just as "3") would leave her hidden, as deer do with fawns. But in the last day or two, Hatwood said, she's been up and around, often with Kibo, the male. "Our male has really taken to this little girl. He'll go and find her and walk her around the woods," she said. "It's really cute. In a couple of weeks she'll probably be with the herd full-time, bouncing around."

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STACY R. BARR - LIMITED PARTNER

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ROBERT J. COOK - LIMITED PARTNER

#9642 December 20, 21, 2017

Legals

Colleen Barton
312 Scurry
Big Spring, TX 79720

Megan Loder
3401 N A Street
Midland, TX 79705

CITATION BY
PUBLICATION - SAPCR;
FC 102.010

THE STATE OF TEXAS:

CAUSE NO. 51646

TO: Julian Way and All Whom It May Concern, Respondents; GREETING:

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney does not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 AM on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgement may be taken against you."

The petition of Texas Department Of Family And Protective Services, Petitioner was filed in the 118th District Court of Howard County, Texas on the 12th day of January, 2017 against Julian Way Respondent in the above entitled cause entitled In Re: A Child

The suit requests protection of a child or termination of parent-child relationship as is more fully shown by Petition on file in this suit.

The date and place of birth of the child/children who is/are the subject of the suit is/are: G.R.D, 1-16-2014, G.M.D. 11-12-2016

"The court has authority in this suit to render an order in the child's (children's) interest that will be binding on you, including the termination of the Parent-child Relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's (children's) adoption."

ISSUED and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Big Spring, Texas on this the 18th day of December, 2017.

Clerk of the Court:
Colleen Barton
District Clerk
Howard County, Texas

By Laura Martin, Deputy

#9643 December 20, 2017

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Such sale will be for cash, which may also be in the form of certified funds. The public auction will 288613 take place in front of the northeast corner of the Martin County Courthouse on the 2nd day of January, 2018 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

For information about the property, please contact Brent Preston at (806) 470-0464.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Lightning strikes again

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 6 5 4
♥ A Q 10
♦ A Q 10 8
♣ 6 5 4

WEST
♠ 9 8 7 3
♥ K J 4
♦ K J 3
♣ 7 3 2

EAST
♠ K J 2
♥ 9 7 5 2
♦ 9 4 2
♣ K J 9

SOUTH
♠ A Q 10
♥ 8 6 3
♦ 7 6 5
♣ A Q 10 8

Dear Mr. Becker: Many years ago, I played in a rubber-bridge game and held the West hand. The passage of time has blunted my memory, and I don't recall the bidding, but I do remember that the contract was six notrump played by South. I likewise remember the hand, card for card, because of the indelible impression it made upon me at the time.

It was the luckiest hand I have ever encountered. I led a spade, and South took partner's king with the ace. He then played a diamond to the ten, which won, followed by a club to the ten, which also won.

There is no point in belaboring you with the rest of the play because, as you can see, every double finesse

worked, and South made all 13 tricks — in fact, he had a trick to spare at the end.

Well, believe it or not, I was playing rubber bridge the other day and picked up the South hand. I recognized it at once as the very same hand held against me so many years ago.

Trembling with excitement, I opened one club, and when partner responded with one diamond, I was certain that this was the identical hand that has haunted me through the years. So I jumped to seven notrump, and when East doubled, I redoubled.

West led the heart deuce, and this turned out to be the complete deal:

North
♥ 6 5 4
♦ A Q 10
♠ A Q 10 8
♣ 6 5 4

West
♠ K J 2
♥ 9 7 5 2
♦ 9 4 2
♣ K J 9

East
♠ 9 8 7 3
♥ K J 4
♦ K J 3
♣ 7 3 2

South
♠ A Q 10
♥ 8 6 3
♦ 7 6 5
♣ A Q 10 8

It was the unluckiest hand I have ever encountered! Every double finesse lost, and I made only my four aces — down 5,200! Sorrowfully Yours, I.T. Hurtz

Tomorrow: Cunning defense.
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SUDOKU

			8		1		4	
			5		9		8	
	6			3				5
5					8			
2		7					9	6
6			1					5
	4		7					
					3	6	2	7

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1	5	9	8	4	3	6	2	7
3	4	2	7	6	5	9	1	8
6	7	8	1	9	2	4	5	3
2	3	7	4	5	1	8	9	6
5	9	4	6	2	8	7	3	1
8	6	1	9	3	7	2	4	5
7	8	3	2	1	4	5	6	9
4	1	6	5	7	9	3	8	2
9	2	5	3	8	6	1	7	4

ANSWER:

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



Pre-Solstice Advice

While the Dalai Lama says, "Do not let the behavior of others destroy your inner peace," one might assume he has more access to sacred, noise-free chambers than, say, the mother of a colicky infant. Anyway, there's a lot more easily said than done in the hours before the solstice. Peace be with you as you do your best with what you're given.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). All the glory will go to the one who got into the mess of it and started racking up the mishaps, lessons and successes. So don't worry about whether or not it's too late. This is as good a start time as any.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Rumors travel in exciting ways. Usually they fly. Sometimes they leak. Rumors never plod along. What plods along isn't juicy enough to be considered a rumor, nor will it qualify as news. Consider this in your PR strategy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You would rather come up with a successful plan than have one presented to you. You would rather solve a problem than memorize the solutions of others. It's because learning is a process, not an answer.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You won't really find the time to work on the things you want to work on, but if you make the time -- carve it out, declare it, keep it sacred -- then you'll have just as much as you willfully dedicated to the pursuit.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Remember the times when your thoughts, plus time and effort, resulted in altered reality, materialization and transformation? Today those thoughts will be harder to rein in, but you must, because thoughts become things.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Don't worry about how to

do it. You're smart. The "how" won't be a problem once you get the truly important questions answered, the most relevant one being "Why?"

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The easy road will be uneventful and boring, so choose something with more texture and pitch to it, though not so challenging as to cause you to become stuck or disheartened. Some difficulties are more desirable than others.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Inventing yourself is much easier than reinventing yourself. Once people have an idea about you, it's difficult to overwrite that. But new people will accept what you show them, and you may as well have a little fun with this.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Even though you come into the world with a certain framework, much of your story is a co-creation between you and the outside world. Never forget your ultimate free will. This is a day to exercise it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). A relationship will get on your nerves if you let it. No one is trying to irritate the other, but there are sticking points -- friction that comes up again and again until someone's resistance is rubbed away.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Gossip is dangerous. Steer clear of it. Make your mind up about people based on what you experience, not what you hear. Truly, people can poison your judgment with their opinions.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). In your current ambitious mood you believe that if it's not getting better, it's getting worse.

That's why yours is a path of constant improvement and study, which will be easily accommodated with the free resources you find today.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 20). You're just beginning to get comfortable with

being more powerful. Deals go down next month, and you bring on the new year with confidence and cash. You'll be swept into a loved one's world in March. A job will have you trying out an alter ego. Love and life-style improvements busy you in the spring. Scorpio and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 2, 22, 13 and 40.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION: "My daughter is in high school, and she wants a boyfriend. However, because she is disabled and goes to a public school where she is the only one with her particular disability, she is having trouble finding a boy who will overlook her differences and appreciate her for her other lovely qualities. I don't even know what to say to her when she cries about this. Do you have any advice? She's a Gemini."

High school social structure is hard for any teen to navigate. Growing up isn't easy for anyone. This is an opportunity to teach her lessons in self-esteem that she can use to guide her through life after high school. Remind her that while she has unique challenges related to her disability, everyone has challenges and disabilities of one kind or another. Some of us wear them on the outside, and some on the inside. And we also all have strengths.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis and click "Contact."

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5:PM	Local 2	P. Luche	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	Inspired	Scully	Hawaii	American	Fam. Guy	Games, Liam	SportsCenter	Around	College	Law & Order	Storage	Homestead
5:30	ABC	Noticiero	CBS	CBS	Noticias	News	M. Rantz	Business	Five-0	American	Fam. Guy	(DVS)	SportsCenter	Pardon	Basketball	SVU	Storage	Rescue
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Enamorán-dome	Big Bang	CBS 7	Caso Cer-rado	News	Shepherd's Heart	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Big Bang		SportsCenter	College		Law & Order	Storage	Homestead
6:30	Wheel		Big Bang	ET		News			M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Big Bang			Evansville at Duke.	Tennis	SVU	Storage	Rescue
7:PM	Gold	Rey David	Empire	Survivor	Milagros de Navidad	Will	News	Nature	Griffith	Reindeer	Big Bang	The Librar-ians	College			Law & Order	Storage	Homestead
7:30	Speech		(DVS)			Movie: Pitch Perfect, Rebel Wilson	Alph	(DVS)	Griffith		Big Bang	College Football: DXL Frisco Bowl	College			SVU	Storage	Rescue
8:PM	Mod Fam	Mi marido tiene	Star (DVS)		Sangre de mi tierra		Light of Southwest	NOVA (DVS)	Mama's ALF	Christmas Movies	Big Bang	Movie: The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (DVS)	College		CBR	Law & Order	Storage	Homestead
8:30	House										Big Bang				World Poker	SVU	Ozzy & Jack's	Homestead
9:PM	20/20	Caer en tentación	News	Survivor	Señora Acero 4		Light of Southwest	SuperNature	Heroes	Page Six	Big Bang					SVU	Storage	Rescue
9:30			TMZ						Heroes	Seinfeld	Full					SVU	Storage	Rescue
10:PM	Local 2	Impacto	Mom	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Nature	C. Burnett	Seinfeld	Conan					Law & Order	Storage	Homestead
10:30	ABC	Noticiero	Mod Fam	Late Show- Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	Dr. C. Stanley	(DVS)	Perry Mason	Rules						SVU	Storage	Rescue
11:PM	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Contacto	Mod Fam	James	Sangre de mi tierra	Seth Meyers	The	(Off Air)	Newsline	Rules	Full	(:01) The Librarians	SportsCenter			SVU	Storage	Rescue
11:30	Nightline	Deportivo	How I Met	Corden	Señora Acero 4	Daly	Shofar			King	Conan	(12:01)				SVU	Storage	Rescue
12:AM	Extra	Quiero Amarte	How I Met	Access	Programa	News	Light of Southwest			King/Hill		Movie: Just Like Heaven	SportsCenter	Jalen	XTERRA	Law & Order	Storage	Homestead
12:30	Paid Prg.									Cops	Detour			Fantasy	UFC	SVU	Storage	Rescue
1:AM	Paid Prg.	Las amazonas	Pawn	ET	Programa	News	Light of Southwest			Top 30	Detour			NFL Live	College Basketball: Southern of	SVU	Ozzy & Jack's	Homestead
1:30	Paid Prg.		Simpsons	Paid Prg.	Programa	(:37) The				Paid Prg.	Detour					SVU	Storage	Rescue

ANDY CAPP



AGNES



ARCHIE



ONE BIG HAPPY



NEST HEAD



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 20, the 354th day of 2017. There are 11 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 20, 1803, the Louisiana Purchase was completed as ownership of the territory was formally transferred from France to the United States.

On this date:

In 1790, the first successful cotton mill in the United States began operating at Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

In 1812, German authors Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm published the first volume of the first edition of their collection of folk stories, "Children's and Household Tales."

In 1860, South Carolina became the first state to secede from the Union as all 169 delegates to a special convention in Charleston voted in favor of separation.

In 1864, Confederate forces evacuated Savannah, Georgia, as Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman nearly completed his "March to the Sea."

In 1924, Adolf Hitler was released from prison after serving nine months for his role in the Beer Hall Putsch.

In 1945, the Office of Price Administration announced the end of tire rationing, effective Jan. 1, 1946.

In 1946, the Frank Capra film "It's A Wonderful Life," starring James Stewart and Donna Reed, had a preview showing for charity in New York, a day before its official world premiere.

In 1963, the Berlin Wall was opened for the first time to West Berliners, who were allowed one-day visits to relatives in the Eastern sector for the holidays.

In 1976, Richard J. Daley, the mayor of Chicago since 1955, died in office at age 74.

In 1987, more than 4,300 people were killed when the Dona Paz, a Philippine passenger ship, collided with the tanker Vector off Mindoro island.

In 1989, the United States launched Operation Just Cause, sending troops into Panama to topple the government of Gen. Manuel Noriega.

In 1995, an American Airlines Boeing 757 en route to Cali, Colombia, slammed into a mountain, killing all but four of the

163 people aboard. In Bosnia-Herzegovina, NATO began its peacekeeping mission, taking over from the United Nations.

Ten years ago: Police used chemical spray and stun guns on protesters outside a New Orleans City Council meeting where members unanimously supported demolition of 4,500 public housing units for post-Hurricane Katrina redevelopment. Thieves broke into the Sao Paulo Museum of Art in Brazil and made off with two paintings, one by Pablo Picasso and the other by Candido Portinari. (The works were recovered in January 2008.) Utah opened the bowl season with a wild 35-32 victory over the Navy Midshipmen in the Poinsettia Bowl.

Five years ago: The State Department acknowledged major weaknesses in security and errors in judgment exposed in a scathing independent report on the deadly Sept. 11, 2012 assault on a U.S. diplomatic mission in Libya. The National Hockey League, in a labor fight with its players, announced the cancellation of the 2012-13 regular-season schedule through Jan. 14, 2013. Michael Phelps was named The Associated Press male athlete of the year. Three-time Olympic runner Suzy Favor Hamilton acknowledged working as an escort following a report on The Smoking Gun website about her double life.

One year ago: President Barack Obama designated the bulk of U.S.-owned waters in the Arctic Ocean and certain areas in the Atlantic Ocean as indefinitely off limits to future oil and gas leasing. A deadly chain-reaction explosion ripped through Mexico's best-known fireworks market on the northern outskirts of the capital, killing at least 36 people. Two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova was injured in her playing hand by a knife-wielding attacker at her Czech Republic home and underwent surgery

(the attacker remains at large).

Today's Birthdays: Original Mouseketeer Tommy Cole (TV: "The Mickey Mouse Club") is 76. Rhythm and blues singer-musician Walter "Wolfman" Washington is 74. Rock musician-music producer Bobby Colomby is 73. Rock musician Peter Criss is 72. Agriculture Secretary

Sonny Perdue is 71. Psychic/illusionist Uri Geller is 71. Producer Dick Wolf ("Law & Order") is 71. Rock musician Alan Parsons is 69. Actress Jenny Agutter is 65. Actor Michael Badalucco is 63. Actress Blanche Baker is 61. Rock singer Billy Bragg is 60. Rock singer-musician Mike Watt (The Secondmen, Minutemen, FIREHOSE) is

60. Actor Joel Gretsch is 54. Country singer Kris Tyler is 53. Rock singer Chris Robinson is 51. Actress Nicole deBoer is 47. Movie director Todd Phillips is 47. Singer David Cook ("American Idol") is 35. Actor Jonah Hill is 34. Actor Bob Morley is 33. Singer JoJo is 27.

Thought for Today:

"It's the friends you can call up at 4 a.m. that matter."

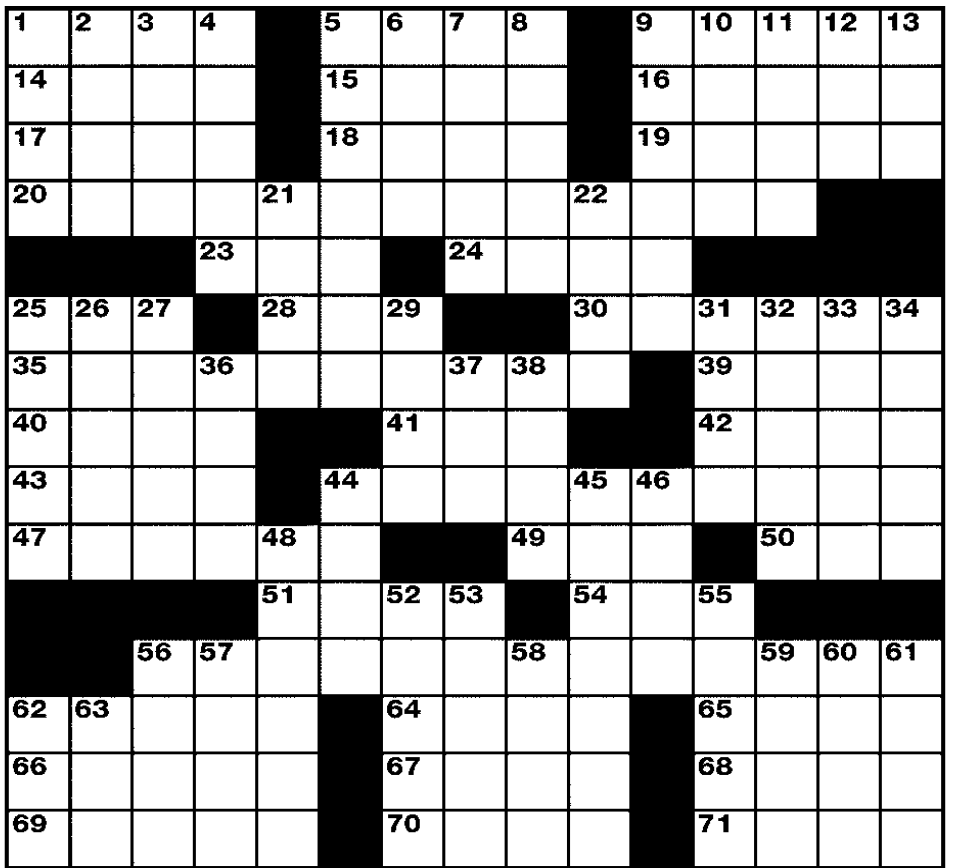
Marlene Dietrich
German-born actress (1901-1992).

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Newsday Crossword

GO THE DISTANCE by Greg Johnson Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Raindrop sound
 - 5 Blacken in a broiler
 - 9 Dish for a dinner
 - 14 Four-star review
 - 15 Very hard to find
 - 16 Desert spot with water
 - 17 At any time
 - 18 Barge ___ (disturb)
 - 19 ___ Peak, CO
 - 20 Pay-at-curbside machines
 - 23 Droop, as a mattress
 - 24 On vacation
 - 25 Actress Thurman
 - 28 Kitty's cry
 - 30 Courtroom break
 - 35 Legendary jazz trumpeter
 - 39 Marathon, for one
 - 40 Drained of color
 - 41 Relatives
 - 42 Fairy tale monster
 - 43 List-shortening abbr.
 - 44 Unseen character flaw
 - 47 Place for a pedicure
 - 49 Sharer's pronoun
 - 50 Air quality org.
 - 51 High in calories
 - 54 Touch on the shoulder
 - 56 Trains' storage facilities
 - 62 Big name in ketchup
 - 64 Red Muppet
- DOWN**
- 65 "That's what I'm talkin' about!"
 - 66 Overplay during a play
 - 67 Floor sample
 - 68 Eatery's list
 - 69 Tums off, as a TV's sound
 - 70 Fragrance
 - 71 Biblical paradise
 - 8 Extend a subscription
 - 9 Sailor of cartoons
 - 10 Dragon's retreat
 - 11 Requests
 - 12 Suit accessory
 - 13 Curvy letter
 - 21 Purina competitor
 - 22 Repairs, as a road
 - 25 Called balls and strikes
 - 26 Sporty Mazda model
 - 27 Lessen, as fears
 - 29 Start the day
 - 31 Gator relative
 - 32 National bird
 - 33 Metal to be recycled
 - 34 "I'm outta here!"
 - 36 Slithery swimmers
 - 37 Compete
 - 38 A big fan of
 - 44 Be unsuccessful
 - 45 Suitable for the lawn or patio
 - 46 Start to unravel
 - 48 Raffle offerings
 - 52 Statement of belief
 - 53 ___ up (in hiding)
 - 55 Creditor's demand
 - 56 Barrel of laughs
 - 57 Poker ritual
 - 58 Arsenal supply
 - 59 Oboe insert
 - 60 Copenhagen native
 - 61 Steer clear of
 - 62 Garment border
 - 63 Australian bird



Answer to previous puzzle

ARENA	GLAD	CRIB
LUNAR	LACE	REDO
ONEPM	ANON	UPON
HOMEOWNERS	ISLE	
ANY	REC	FILES
BYTES	NEWS	FIESTA
CLAY	DAMON	TON
HOTEL	MANAGEMENT	
ASA	PUTTS	OWES
RETAGS	ASIDE	
BATS	ERE	SPA
GOES	HOCUS	POCUS
RAGE	ALAS	OVERT
IRON	VASE	SENSE
PSST	ERAS	ENTER

12/20/17



Courtesy Photo by Jodi Mims

Forsan's Bryce Hergert comes down with the ball in their first district game of the season vs. the Miles Bulldogs on Tuesday, December 19, 2017.

BUFFS

Continued from Page 7

teammates got him the ball. Miles committed 13 turnovers in the first quarter alone and K. Richardson made it pay – scoring 15 points in the quarter including going 3-3 from beyond the arc. Kobe Richardson ended the game with 26 points, and went 8-12 shooting from the floor.

"They tried to press us too," said coach Richardson. "Diagonal passes to get past the trap. Once we got past the double team, it gave us the numbers and were able to get by them and get some easy baskets."

Post players Riffe and Hillger benefited from that as they combined for 21 points and 16 rebounds.

Forsan led 41-15 at the half, and coach Richardson was able to give all of his players ample playing time.

The Buffaloes are definitely on a roll to start the Christmas break. Last week

they won the tournament in Sands, where they outscored their opponents by an average of 12 points per game. They head into the break with a shiny 12-1 record and a 1-0 district start. Miles falls to 5-5 overall and 0-1 in league play.

GAME STATS:

Forsan

- Garrett Evans 4-0-8
- Bryce Hergert 2-2-6
- Kobe Richardson 8-6-26
- Zane Riffe 6-3-15
- Ehren Hillger 3-0-6
- Jordan Enriquez 1-0-2
- Jaden Ceasar 1-0-2
- Aaron Rodrigue 1-1-3
- Total: 31-12-78

Miles

- Edgar Carbajal 3-2-10
- Kwail Kratz 1-2-4
- Dillon Wilson 3-1-7
- Dayton Hoffman 1-0-2
- Andrew Vega 3-1-7
- Tanner Gilbert 10-0-3
- Li Castaneda 1-0-2
- Total: 12-5-34

Score by Quarters

- Forsan 33 – 8 – 23 – 14 – 78
- Miles 7 – 8 – 12 – 7 – 34
- JV- Forsan 34, Miles 33

TECH

Continued from Page 7

Raiders' 20 assists, and Hamilton had seven rebounds.

The Red Raiders took control with a 25-6 run in the second half for a 70-43 lead with 10 minutes remaining. They had 12 steals a game after getting a season-high 15 against Rice.

BIG PICTURE

Florida Atlantic: The momentum of a

four-game winning streak that included a win over Florida Gulf Coast is gone with consecutive losses as the start of Conference USA approaches. "Good game for our guys to play," Curry said.

Texas Tech: Moretti, a freshman guard from Italy, had a season high in scoring. His other double-figure game was 10 points in the opener. "He's just getting comfortable, comfortable with being in this

country, comfortable with his diet, where he lives, his teammates, language and the academic part of being a student-athlete," Beard said.

SITTING TO START

Texas Tech senior forward Zach Smith was replaced in the starting lineup by Culver, a freshman, for what Beard said was an unspecified violation of team rules. "Expect Zack to be back in the starting lineup," Beard said.

"Zach's a great person, great teammate. Mistakes happen from time to time. Not a big deal at all."

UP NEXT

Florida Atlantic: Non-conference finale Saturday at Minnesota before C-USA opener at Florida International on Dec. 30.

Texas Tech: Non-conference finale Friday at home against Abilene Christian before Big 12 opener at home against Baylor on Dec. 29.

AGGIES

Continued from Page 7

The Aggies played without Gilder (knee), a junior guard who isn't expected to return until early in Southeastern Conference play in January. Williams (concussion), a sophomore, and fellow forward Isiah Jasey (concussion) and guard T.J. Starks (leg tightness) also didn't play with lesser injuries.

All three are expected back soon, although Williams missed his second consecutive game. Kennedy said Williams, the reigning SEC defender of the year, should return to practice on Wednesday and play against Buffalo on Thursday night.

Both teams were awful from long range in making a combined 9 of 48 3-point attempts, with the Aggies (2 of 20 for 10 percent) worse than the Norse (7 of 28 for 25 percent).

"We've got to keep shooting," Wilson insisted. "Those are shots we work on every day. It was just an off night."

Tyler Davis added 14 points and 10 rebounds for the Aggies. Drew McDonald led the Norse (7-5) with 16 points and a game-high 11 rebounds. Despite the close game and overall poor shooting by the Aggies (37 percent from the field), Northern Kentucky coach John Brannen still predicted big things for the top 10 team in the months ahead.

"It's going to be fun watching them moving forward," Brannen said. "Their length and athleticism really reminds me of some of the Kentucky teams. Their discipline and execution and sticking to who they are also is really impressive."

BIG PICTURE

Texas A&M: The Aggies received a heavy dose of realism in terms of how important Williams and Gilder are to their fortunes, especially on the defensive end. Simply, A&M will need the duo healthy if it hopes to even make the NCAA Tournament, much less the nearby Final Four.

NKU: The Norse lost their second consecutive game, but will be buoyed by playing the nation's No. 8 team so tight on the Aggies' home court. After playing its last

two nonconference games on the road, NKU has a chance at a strong start in the Horizon League with its first two games at home.

HIGHLIGHT REEL

A&M guard D.J. Hogg managed an acrobatic steal as he was falling out of bounds with 49 seconds remaining and the Aggies holding a four-point lead against the upset-minded Norse.

STAT OF THE NIGHT

On an evening when the Aggies needed him most with Gilder and Williams out of the lineup, Flagg turned in his first career double-double (12 points and 10 rebounds).

"Anything I need to do to help my team get a win, I'm willing to do it," the freshman said.

HE SAID IT

"It was a terrible pass. It makes me question him taking the ball out now."

A&M coach Billy Kennedy on D.J. Hogg throwing a nearly length-of-the-court inbounds pass to Tyler Davis with 29 seconds remaining and the Aggies clutching a

four-point lead. Fortunately for A&M and especially Hogg, Davis came up with the ball and dunked it.

UP NEXT

Texas A&M: The Aggies play the last of four consecutive home games on Thursday night when they play host to Buffalo. A&M has won the three previous games against Prairie View A&M, Savannah State and NKU by a combined 73 points in what figures to be its easiest stretch of the season, even if Tuesday night's game was closer than anticipated.

NKU: The Norse wrapped up their non-conference schedule with two straight losses by a combined seven points, and will open Horizon League play on Dec. 28 at home against IUPUI.



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