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July – September 2017

3rd QT Community Issues List

Morning news Topics

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3rd QT Community Issues list Morning news Topics

Officials now believe more than 100 people were packed into a sweltering trailer that ultimately killed 9 people early Sunday morning.

With only 39 people found at the scene of a horrific human smuggling case, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is urging the other victims to seek immediate medical attention. The Texas Senate has given preliminary approval to a bill that gives more time to a state task force studying why Texas has some of the highest pregnancy-related death rates in the developed world.

With three weeks left in the special session, Republicans in the Senate are rushing at break-neck speed to move a score of bills deemed priorities by the governor and Lieutenant governor.

But that sense of urgency isn't shared in the House, where the speaker said on Monday he'll do whatever he can to kill one of the most controversial of those measures.

The Senate began debating 17 bills Monday that senators worked night and day to push through committees over the weekend. They hope to vote them out of the Senate and on to the House by the end of the week.

Many are controversial bills on abortion, property taxes, and school vouchers that died in the House during the regular session.

Lubbock has hit the sweet spot for people who are planning on selling their homes. President of the Lubbock Association of Realtors, Jeff Conn, called the current market a "seller's market" and encourages anyone who's looking to sell their home to think about selling it sooner rather than later.

The 'Friends of Legacy Play Village' nonprofit has asked the community for help restoring the popular playground.

Legacy Play Village closed its doors temporarily for repairs. Those will begin on Saturday, August 5th at 8 a.m. They are trying to re-open by Sunday, August 6th, but hope volunteers of all skill levels will come out and help.

The nonprofit said volunteers are the key to improving the facility for everyone.

July 28

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The Texas Tech University housing department is hard at work preparing for thousands of students to move in at the end of August. Staff said they're close to capacity which is a problem they've faced before.

Previously, the lack of rooms available have left some students sleeping in common rooms or having a roommate when they shouldn't.

Researchers studied the brains of 111 deceased football players who showed concussion symptoms before they died. All but one were diagnosed with chronic traumatic encephalopathy, or degenerative brain disease.

This new concussion research is being released as football players of all ages get ready to hit the field for the upcoming season.

A Lubbock Police report said Jason Tyler Stone, 40, of Rockport was arrested and accused of attempted aggravated kidnapping.

Police were called to 50th Street and Avenue U on Friday afternoon. Officers were told a woman was driving for Uber when a customer "pulled a needle on her and told her to keep driving."

Officers were given a suspect description and located Stone in an alley behind the 2000 block of 50th Street

An Oklahoma teacher's story went viral after she panhandled on the side of the road, asking for money for school supplies. Teresa Danks says she spends thousands of dollars of her own money on supplies.

She has since started a social media campaign called 'Begging for Education' and GoFundMe that has raised well over 20,000 dollars.

Several restaurants in Lubbock have shut their doors, while other large corporate and family owned eateries have made their way into town.

"Were really lucky because Lubbock is one of if not number one of the most competitiveness in the country for restaurants," Jessie Jenkins, the General Manager of Campisi's said.

Twisted Spigots closes their doors Wednesday afternoon without warning to employees, contractors, businesses partners, and customers. Now the restaurant and management faces several separate lawsuits for unpaid services.

Fired Up Holding Company Inc. owns several Twisted Spigot locations in town and have not commented on the abrupt closings. They were launched into the spotlight July 20 after other unexpected closing of the former restaurants, Ruby Tequila's Mexican Kitchen.

President Trump issued a series of tweets Wednesday morning, banning transgender people from serving "in any capacity" in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The President said they instead must focus on decisive and overwhelming victory and cannot be "burdened with the tremendous medical costs and disruption" it would cause.

The LGBT community in Lubbock spoke out about the declaration. Transgender man

Ribera said he has a friend in the air force who is transgender, and added that all he can do is speak out for him. PFLAG agreed, telling EverythingLubbock.com that the president may be the commander-in-chief, but they wouldn't stop fighting.

"We can't lose hope. What is the alternative if we lose hope? To roll over?" Rogers said. "I won't roll over."

Fifteen people were arrested on charges of obstructing the road just north of the Texas Capitol complex, Wednesday.

Department of Public Safety troopers arrested the protesters, who hope to gain "permanent protection, dignity and respect for all 11 million undocumented immigrants," according to a press release by the group, Movimiento Cosecha.

A local Uber driver wants to warn other drivers within the company the dangers of driving for the company after one of her passengers held her at syringe point.

Jason Tyler Stone, 40, of Rockport was arrested and accused of attempted aggravated kidnapping.

July 30

Three mayors from West Texas met with Gov. Greg Abbott on Thursday. The visit marks the second of three planned meetings between Abbott and mayors from across the state.

Amarillo Mayor Ginger Nelson, Lubbock Mayor Dan Pope and El Paso Mayor Dee Margo spent time outlining several concerns with Abbott during their trip to the Capitol.

Controversial studies linking concussions and football have raised eyebrows for parents and players alike about the dangers of playing the game. Lubbock ISD said they don't take concussions lightly.

"Health and safety is our number one priority. It's at the top of our list," Ronnie Kirk, the Director of Sports Medicine for Lubbock ISD said.

The growing art community is still developing in Lubbock and local gallery owners said that's a good thing for them. Gallery spaces give artists a chance to showcase their work and are an important part to any budding art community.

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The Texas Tech football team has spent the week giving back to different organizations around the Hub City this week.

Those organizations include the Ronald McDonald House Charities at University Medical Center, Carillon and local foster care organizations.

August 7, 2017

Gov White 43 gov of tx 1983-1987

Governor Greg Abbott today released the following statement on the death of former Texas Governor Mark White. The Governor also ordered flags statewide be lowered to half-staff in honor of Governor White.

Volunteers and community members came out to help clean and fix up Legacy Play Village. The large multi-structure outdoor play area was built in 2002 for children within the community but not funded through the City of Lubbock.

SEAGRAVES, TX - The Seagraves Police Department said officer Jason Fann lost his life in a traffic accident. Fann was also a Deputy Sheriff for Yoakum County. The crash happened while he was responding to a call in Yoakum County.

The cause of the crash was not yet available.

August 9, 2017

Lubbock Police have identified the cyclist who lost his life in a hit and run collision at South Loop 289 and University Avenue yesterday.

The victim was as 20-year-old Joshua Allen Noble.

The cycling community spoke out following the accident, saying sometimes driving on busy roads is unavoidable.

The City of Lubbock and neighborhoods surrounding Texas Tech are anticipating the return of the students for the Fall 2017 semester, but with return of students means difficulty finding parking in surrounding areas.

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Broadway Bicycle Lanes Ribbon Cutting Scheduled for Thursday

A ribbon cutting to celebrate the completion of the new bicycle lanes on Broadway Street will be held on Thursday, August 10. The event will take place in front of the Wells Fargo Building at Broadway and Avenue N and will start at 10:00 a.m.

As of September 1, law enforcement across Texas will be pulling people over for texting and driving. Lt. Bryan Witt with The Texas Department of Public Safety said anyone within the ages of 16 and 24 will be required to take an extensive distracted driving course before receiving their licenses.

Lt. Witt said it continues to shock him how often he sees Lubbock drivers preoccupied on their phones on the roads.

August 10, 2017

Texas Tech held the ribbon cutting ceremony for the newest on-campus residence hall. The Honors Residence Hall will be holding 315 incoming and current honors students.

The move to declare a public health emergency on prescription painkillers is on hold Wednesday night. A group of Austin-area doctors are launching their own campaign to make sure patients don't get hooked on prescription pain killers ...

The Lubbock Avalanche Journal has sold, Parent company Morris Communications Sold the AJ and 9 other of its daily newspapers, including the Amarillo Globe to GateHouse Media. The tansaction is expected to close on October 2, 2017. Terms were not disclosed.

August 11, 2017

The Texas Department of Agriculture says credit card skimming devices were found Thursday at a gas station in Van. Inspectors with the TDA responded to two complaints at the Grab N Go gas station on the 600 block of Main Street and found two credit card skimmers in pumps 3 and 4.

The skimmers were found in the lower portion of the pump. The fuel station didn't know the skimmers were there and is not facing any charges over the devices, officials said.

Three dispensaries are waiting for approval to start growing and selling marijuana in Texas. The Texas Compassionate Use Act legalized the use of cannabis oil in 2015 for epilepsy patients who didn't respond to medications approved by the FDA.

The Lubbock City Council on Thursday voted to purchase a building for \$371,395.94 when the taxable value is listed as \$120,579.

The building at 1414 Avenue K is right next door to Citizens Tower.

The city has earmarked \$63,000,000 for the renovation of Citizens Tower, formerly known as the Omni Building, which was purchased in late 2014 to become the new home of city hall.

August 21 2017

Eclipse

man named Lou Tomososki looked at a partial solar eclipse back in 1962 and still suffers permanent eye damage. He's warning others ahead of next week's total solar eclipse to not make the same mistake. Dr Ralph Chen

Powerball officials say there was no grand prize winner in the latest drawing, meaning one of the nation's largest lottery jackpots will continue growing. The prize has grown so large because no one has matched all six balls in more than two months, so the jackpot has grown after every drawing.

LUBBOCK, TX - Hodges Community Center and the City of Lubbock teamed up to host a cleanup for several central Lubbock neighborhoods. Council Member Shelia Patterson-Harris of District Two, showed up to help out with unloading and organizing bulky items.

"Its really great to help cleanup the community. Every bit counts to make the community safer and better for everyone," Katie Wirz, a Volunteer through Hodges Community Center said.

- Texas Republican Senator Ted Cruz made the last stop of his tour around West Texas in Lubbock Friday afternoon. The Senator discussed a new farm bill, tax reform, repealing Obama-care, and commented on the recent change in the White House after Steve Bannon was let go from the administration.

August 22, 2017

Xcel Energy submitted a rate review to Texas regulators that seeks an additional \$66.4 million of revenues to cover costs associated with strengthening the regional power grid and securing ample power supplies at competitive costs well into the future. The additional revenue would increase Texas retail customer bills 7.1 percent overall.

The three Confederate statues that were standing at the University of Texas at Austin's South Mall were removed overnight Sunday and will no longer be on public display. The statues of John H. Reagan (Confederate Postmaster General), Albert S. Johnston (a Confederate general), and Robert E. Lee (commander of the Confederate army) will become part of the collection at

The discussion about whether or not to remove statues that honor Confederate leaders has come to the forefront in Texas, following the attack in Charlottesville, Va.

Petitions to rename schools and remove statues of Confederate heroes are popping up across Texas.

The City of Lubbock Health Department has seen an increase in reports of Cryptosporidiosis (Crypto). Over 40 cases have been reported in the last 30 days compared to 25 cases reported in all of 2016.

Cryptosporidiosisis caused by the cryptosporidium parasite, and there are an estimated 750,000 cases in the United States every year. Crypto can be spread by swallowing or having contact with contaminated water in swimming pools, water play areas, and natural bodies of water such as lakes. Crypto can cause diarrhea lasting up to two weeks.

Americans longest war is going to last much longer...with no end in sight.. Reversing his past calls for a speedy exit, President Donald Trump recommitted the United States to the so far 16-year-old war in Afghanistan declaring U.S. troops must "fight to win."

Experts say it was the most watched or viewed event in history. That would mean Yesterdays solar eclipse, eclipsed the first Moon landing in 1969. This earthly event cut a broad swath from Oregon to South Carolina .. all the major networks set up live trucks so a world wide audience could track the Moon crossing in front of the sun every two minutes for a couple of hours yesterday..with a possible 20 million eyewitnesses in its path

Thursday August 24, 2017

Ladies and gentlemen, we have a winner.

Powerball announced that a single ticket sold at a convenience store in Watertown, Mass., was the winner of Wednesday night's \$758.7 million jackpot, according to the Powerball website. It was the second largest lottery prize in United States History, according to the Associated Press.

The Allsup's gas station in Abernathy was filled with all kinds of people on Wednesday who were purchasing lottery tickets for America's second largest jackpot, a Powerball of \$700 million.

The Cantu family of Abernathy won \$177 million in March 2017 when Eliberto Cantu bought a ticket in Arkansas. The family is staying in the Abernathy area, and putting money into their family church, and its sister church.

A local fraternity chapter established with Texas Tech University applied for a zone change in a central Lubbock neighborhood, specifically for a house to be used as a fraternity lodge.

University of Texas at Austin faculty and students are beginning research through a grant with the Department of Homeland Security to learn more about what would happen if a nuclear explosion occurred in the U.S.

Friday August 25, 2017

Hurricane Harvey: Mandatory evacuations were ordered for areas along the Texas coast as Hurricane Harvey approached. State officials say 1.4 million Texans are in Harvey's path. Dale Nelson KRIS

The tropical storm was reclassified as a hurricane Thursday when Harvey created sustained winds of 80 miles per hour.

The National Hurricane Center said Harvey could become a Category 3 hurricane by the time it makes landfall late Friday or early Saturday. Texas Tech wind researchers are there collecting data on the hurricane's wind pattern.

Military helicopters were on standby in Austin and San Antonio in preparation for search and rescues and emergency evacuations.

While people along the coast prepare for Hurricane Harvey, Lubbock business BJ's Sand Baggers helped out in a different way, with nearly 400,000 pounds of sand. They collected their entire inventory to send down to aid the coast.

Owner Barry Joachim said the sandbags aim to redirect water and prevent flooding. They plan to send around 10,000 bags.

Texas Tech and the South Plains Red Cross.

The Red Cross' emergency vehicle is ready to deploy to the Texas coast if they're needed. "The first 24 hours is so important," said Red Cross volunteer Brad Larson. "If you can imagine, one minute everything is normal and five minutes later, you've potentially lost everything." The Red Cross has assembled of team of volunteers who are on call if the coast needs more help once the hurricane hits. One thing they help with is feeding citizens and first responders.

Lubbock woman, Madison Trevino is asking for the community's help in finding her cat "Marsha" after her ex-boyfriend sent her a video of him throwing the cat into the street near 82nd and Quaker, on Friday August 11.

Monday August 29

Gas prices are expected to rise in the United States as Hurricane Harvey affects the nation's largest refining hub in Texas.

As the hurricane moves toward Texas, several refineries have shut down in Corpus Christi, according to a GasBuddy news release.

Wednesday August 30, 2017

- Three Lubbock District Game Wardens called out to the coast Friday to combat Hurricane Harvey and have not left since. They continue to join the fight against the mass devastation to the area.

"It's disheartening," Lubbock District Game Warden Aaron Sims said as he described the impacted areas along the coast. "People spend their entire lives building these houses and it can get wiped away in single night."

The South Plains Food Bank is calling on area businesses, schools and faith based organizations who are conducting food drives for victims of Hurricane Harvey to coordinate relief efforts with South Plains Food Bank (SPFB) in a campaign called From Lubbock with Love.

After Hurricane Harvey transitioned to a tropical storm and the immediate danger was gone, Sims' unit was redirected to the Houston area. The three game wardens joined 60 others at Fort Bend Command Post where they have been working 18 plus hour days since.

With little communication resources from the widespread damage of the area, Sims and a team were given assignments where they took a map and a flat-bottom or air boat to find survivors looking for help.

In the wake of Hurricane Harvey's destruction, local businesses are coming together to send supplies to South Texas. For one Lubbock man, it hits close to home.

Carter Airhart was in Refugio when Hurricane Harvey made landfall. He said they hunkered down and tried not to pay attention to it. Airhart saw the damage of Harvey and wanted to help.

Four Clovis shooting victims were treated at University Medical Center in Lubbock. UMC officials said three victims suffered from serious injuries, and one is in satisfactory condition. "Any time that someone survives a shooting, that is pretty dramatic," Chief Medical Officer Dr. Mike Ragain said. Doctors said they are hopeful the three victims in serious condition are recovering, after being brought in by air. Two people died in the attach and The suspect in custody is identified as Nathaniel Ray Jouett 16 years of age

Thursday August 31, 2017

Crews in Texas have found the bodies of 31 victims of Harvey's wrath, and warned that the number of dead would almost certainly soar as water levels across much of the Houston area start to recede. The National Hurricane Center downgraded the storm to a Tropical Depression on Wednesday night. That move comes after new details emerged about Harvey's Texas victims. Mayor Dan Pope told us that we may be helping out in south texas for quite some time..

On Wednesday, court records revealed new details about a deadly shooting Monday evening in Clovis. Two people died and several others were seriously hurt. Four gunshot victims were brought to University Medical Center in Lubbock. The following is a recitation of facts from the arrest warrant against Nathaniel Jouett, 16 Prosecutors this week announced their intention "to seek adult sanctions" against Jouett.

While many were mourning the loss of two shooting victims during vigils Wednesday evening in Clovis, police confirmed there were a number of bomb threats in various locations around town. Police chose not to confirm the locations of the bomb threats, and said none of them had been proven true. Police were trying to locate and identify a suspect.

The United States Computer Emergency Readiness Team (US-CERT) warns citizens to remain vigilant for malicious cyber activity seeking to capitalize on interest in and devastation from Hurricane Harvey*. Emails and social media posts requesting donations from duplicitous charitable organizations commonly appear after major natural disasters. We advise the Lubbock

and surrounding community to exercise caution in handling any email with subject line, attachments, or hyperlinks related to Hurricane Harvey, even if it appears to originate from a trusted source. Fraudulent communication will often contain links or attachments that direct users to phishing or malware-infected websites.

September 1, 2017

Gas prices began to rise in Lubbock Thursday afternoon. They rose dramatically in other parts of the state due to the effects of Hurricane Harvey. At the start of the day, lubbockgasprices.com showed prices just barely above \$2.00 per gallon in Lubbock. By afternoon, prices were becoming more common at about \$2.199 for the lowest grade of gas in Lubbock. State Representative Drew Springer of Muenster posted an image of gas prices in Fort Worth Thursday. His image showed prices at nearly \$6.70 per gallon.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, "Texas Strong" is being proven throughout the state with each donation given to the survivors. However, scam artists are using this devastation to pull on the heart strings on others and capitalize on their funding.

As the devastation and damage left in Harvey's wake continues to worsen, the need for more blood donations has increased, and although it has not even been one full week since Harvey hit, the amount of local donors has already tripled.

September 5, 2017

60 deaths, 300,000 homes destroyed or damaged, and 120 billion dollars destruction .. that's the tally so far from Hurricane Harvey..and that's Not the total yet according to officials. Many of those deaths were people drowning in flash floods or water-logged roads. But county emergency management departments across southeast Texas tell The Associated Press they are including people in their storm-related death totals who died from indirect complications of Harvey.

Power outages across Southwest Lubbock left many homes and businesses in the dark Sunday afternoon. Lubbock Power and Light's outage map showed around 162 outages affecting over 1,500 customers near 82nd street near Frankford and Indiana. The outage lasted around an hour and a half. The Food King on 82nd and Indiana said they had to ask customers to leave their carts and exit the building. Down the street, a Pizza Hut-Taco Bell had to turn customers away during the lunch rush.

The Texas Rangers are investigating an incident where a Texas Department of Public Safety trooper shot a suspect. According to DPS, the incident happened Saturday afternoon in Cochran County around 12:30. According to DPS, Cochran County Sheriff's Office tried to stop a suspect on Texas 114 west of Morton. The suspect had earlier pointed a rifle at the Sheriff after he responded to a call at the suspect's home.

Wednesday September 6, 2017

11 Lubbock Police officers are back home after a mission to the coast for Hurricane Harvey duty. Those 11 officers returned to the South Plains as a second group immediately fills their place. As this group is now safe at home, the second LPD group has been called to the same region to pick up where they left off. When their mission is complete, LPD Chief Stevens said a

third group will replace them with about ten officers, now focusing on patrolling high risk crime areas.

Breedlove Foods sent a truck with 825,000 meals to the coast for Harvey disaster relief. The semi-truck headed for San Antonio, but from there the goods will be dispersed to affected cities along the coast, from Corpus Christi to Rockport. "So, that can impact over 825 thousand people along the coast," Marketing and Donor Relations Coordinator Michelle Logan said. "That is how much nutrition we can pack into one semi." They partner with other companies too, like Essence water, who sent 30,000 bottles down in this same shipment.

Uber and Lyft drivers commuting to Preston Smith International Airport have faced a new "roadblock" when picking up and dropping off passengers. "It seems the fare increase went up sometime last year and that was the same time they made these rules with the airport. All the X fare went up 40 cents and the XL went up 50 cents. We don't pay the airport directly but the rideshare company has to pay them," Kasey Sakmar, a driver for Uber said.

Thursday September 7, 2017

Lubbock ISD, Lubbock Cooper ISD, and Frenship ISD have been quick to take different initiatives to lend a helping hand to school districts along the Texas coast and in the Houston area. Rush Elementary 4th grade teacher, Gayla Bursiaga helped to initiate an LISD school supply drive, where students and families have started to bring things in to help students and teachers in the damaged areas get back on their feet again.

Hurricane Irma made landfall in the Caribbean on Wednesday with record winds and powerful waves. The Category 5 storm – the strongest Atlantic hurricane ever recorded north of the Caribbean and east of the Gulf of Mexico – passed over the island of Barbuda overnight.

Police officers across Lubbock are now enforcing the new no texting and driving law. The law allows officers to pullover and cite people for writing, looking or receiving any electronic message while driving.

Friday September 8, 2017

A 2 a.m. update from the National Hurricane Center shows Irma to be located 20 miles north of Great Inagua Island and about 535 miles east-southeast of Miami -- with wind gusts of 160 mph. The storm was moving at about 16 mph, with the latest project path putting the storm into the south tip of central florida early Sunday morning.

Hundreds of thousands of homes were either badly damaged or destroyed by hurricane Harvey clean up may take years. Tx Gov Greg Abbott met with other South Texas officials yesterday in Ft Bend county just southwest of Houston During the pre-game ceremony, a moment of silence will be held for those who lost their lives during the storm.

Today, September 7th, marks what would have been legendary musician Buddy Holly's 81st birthday. In honor of the day, widow to Holly, Maria Elena Holly and several of her friends were able to have a private tour of the highly anticipated Buddy Holly Hall construction site. The center is set to have two stages, with the main stage hosting 2,200 seats. They're also incorporating a ballet studio, several parking lots and a cafe, all in hope to revitalize downtown Lubbock.

Former employees of Ruby Tequila's and Fired Up Holdings in Lubbock and Amarillo filed a lawsuit Thursday in federal court. Twisted Spigot and Ruby Tequila's restaurant locations were closed in July. However, Twisted Spigot was not mentioned by name in the lawsuit. The attorneys for the employees indicated more lawsuits could be coming. The lawsuit said, "Employees were not provided with any notice, written or otherwise, of the mass layoff."

NFL Opener pitted the Kansas City Chief against the defending Super bowl champion New England Patriots .. and for us that mean two Texas Tech standout on opposite sides .. Patrick Mahomes. Now the back up quarter back for the Chiefs..didn't get any playing time behind starter Alex Smith who was near perfect completing 28 for 35 passes for 368 yards leading the chiefs to a 42-27 4th qt come from behind win over the Patriots... Danny Amandola caught 6 passes for 100 yards for the Pats before being taken out of the game in the second half after a head injury .. He didn't return to the game.

Monday September 11, 2017

Irma slammed into southwest Florida on Sunday, threatening to bring dangerous storm surges to coastal areas already battered by the hurricane's powerful winds of 160 mph . The storm claimed lives of two Palm Beach County officers who died in a traffic accident while trying to deliver emergency supplies to an evacuation center. That adds to the already 24 dead in the carribian islands More than 4.2 million homes and businesses across the state lost power, and utility officials said it will take weeks to restore electricity to everyone.

Despite all the devastation Houston was in the mood for some football yesterday. It was a sell out crowd at Relient stadium where the Texans met the Jacksonville Jaguars ... JJ Watt was given a Heros welcome..... as he ran onto the field waving a Texas Flag... But it didn't work out for the hometown team...the Jaguars bested Houston 19-0. J.J. Watt returned after missing 13 games last season after back surgery, but injured his finger in the first half and finished with just one tackle.

Lubbock Police are investigating an early morning shooting that left one person injured with serious, but non-life threatening injuries. Officers were called to 1707 Texas Avenue, just after 2:00 a.m. for reports of shots fired. Upon arrival, officers located the victim, 28-year-old Dameon Pakus, lying on the ground in front of Eleve Hooka Lounge, with a gunshot wound to the abdomen.

Tuesday September 12, 2017

Six deaths in Florida have been blamed on Irma, along with three in Georgia and one in South Carolina. At least 35 people were killed in the Caribbean. Statewide, an estimated 13 million people, or two-thirds of Florida's population, remained without power. That's more than the population of New York and Los Angeles combined. Officials warned it could take weeks for electricity to be restored to everyone.

- Folks gathered at the Lubbock County Courthouse for a memorial and prayer service to remember the fallen and honor the heroes who risked their and those who lost their lives during the attack. Kent Hinson, Lubbock Resident, said, "I don't think it should ever be forgotten it needs to be reminded every year of all the people that lost their lives down there. Digging through the rubble, finding bodies and it's bad but it doesn't need to be forgotten it just doesn't, flat out it doesn't need to be forgotten."

Those who lived through it will never forget the aftermath of September 11th, 2001. It has been 16 years since that day, but Lubbock residents still come together to honor those who lost their life and to celebrate the ones who protect our freedoms.

1,000 flags were placed in the shape of the Twin Towers in Kastman Park on September 8. For the last 15 years the City of Lubbock, Prosperity Bank and Lubbock ISD have teamed up to fill the park with American Flags in honor of September 11th.

Lubbock Mayor Dan Pope will host a 'Coffee with the Mayor' on Tuesday, September 12. The meeting will start at 7:30 a.m. at United Market Street located at 4425 19th Street. This is an opportunity for the Mayor to meet with residents, hear their concerns, and connect with the citizens of Lubbock. Mayor Pope can also present his priorities, goals, and vision for Lubbock in the foreseeable future.

Wednesday September 13, 2017

The body of a missing child following a boating accident Sunday evening at Buffalo Springs Lake was recovered Tuesday morning, according to authorities. Captain Aryn Corley, a game warden with Texas Parks and Wildlife, said the 1-year-old's body was discovered around 9:00 a.m. by a helicopter being piloted by a retired law enforcement officer.

Some first responders with the Lubbock Salvation Army are back in the hub city after spending 14-days along the coastal bend helping Hurricane Harvey victims. Rudy Zapata has been responding to disasters for 18 years all over the country. Growing up in Houston he said this one literally hit home, and it was heart wrenching for him to see how many people were displaced from this storm.

(TSA) discovered a loaded firearm at the security screening checkpoint yesterday morning at Lubbock Preston Smith International Airport (LBB). This is the ninth firearm found at the LBB checkpoint this calendar year.

The Texas Department of State Health Services confirmed for EverythingLubbock.com on Tuesday that Lubbock County has its first case of West Nile for 2017. They are warning the public to do everything possible to avoid mosquito bites. This includes using insect repellent, wearing long sleeves and long pants and avoiding being outside during dawn and dusk hours.

The death toll from Hurricane Irma is up to 12 now as the recovery effort continues. Officials there say 5 million homes and businesses are still without power and gas. The rubble is everywhere and many streets and roadways are still unpassable FEMA Tito Fernandez Disaster in florida

Thursday September 14, 2014

Whatever future economic policies arise from the Donald Trump administration will be influenced by a faculty member from the Texas Tech University Rawls College of Business. Timothy Fitzgerald, an associate professor of business economics, has been appointed to the White House Council of Economic Advisers, which offers the President of the United States advice on domestic and international economic policies. The appointment is for one year with an option for renewal.

Fresh off its open week, Texas Tech will host Arizona State in a primetime matchup Saturday night under the lights at Jones AT&T Stadium. Kickoff is slated for 7 p.m After dismantling Eastern Washington via a 56-10 rout to start the season, Texas Tech will be looking for a 2-0 start Saturday when the Red Raiders host Arizona State under the lights at Jones AT&T Stadium. Tech enters the matchup having scored 50 or more points in 11 of its last 13 home games.

Major airports in Florida are starting to target reopenings, but flight cancellations were extending coast to coast. More than 14,000 flights have been canceled to and from airports in the Caribbean and Florida, including 10,000 in Florida The worst appears to be over, however, with Miami International Airport and Orlando International Airport both starting the cleanup process, but not at full service yet.

Houston Mayor Turner fielded questions Wednesday afternoon from his fellow council members about his proposed temporary property tax rate increase to cover part of the costs of the Hurricane Harvey recovery. "What are our other options besides looking to Houstonians to just pay? I need a better understanding," said Councilmember Karla Cisneros.

Corpus Christi The Nueces County Commissioners Court is considering a one-cent increase in the tax rate in order to make up for the expected loss in property tax revenue caused by Hurricane Harvey, particularly in Port Aransas. What that one-cent increase in the tax rate means is, if you own a property appraised at \$124,000, you can expect to pay about \$13 more on your tax bill.

The average home in Houston valued at \$225,000 has an annual tax of \$1,321 a year. Under the mayor's proposal, that would increase by \$117.86, for one year. Turner said the city of Houston will ask FEMA for an additional advance to help with the cost of debris removal. The council voted to put the issue on the agenda so members can hammer out the dates for the three public hearings.

With the creation of a commission to rebuild the Lone Star State following Harvey, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott announced a website for communities to access information and resources. According to the governor's office, Rebuild Texas was designed to be "a real-time information"

resource for local officials in the communities impacted by Hurricane Harvey." The site will have informion on state and federal resources available for cities and counties to rebuild infrastructure as well as school and government buildings.

Friday September 15, 2017

Local group "Standing On the Side of Love/Lubbock Cares" took to the sidewalks near the Tim Cole statue near 19th and University, rallying against white supremacy. Following the violence in Charlottesville, Virginia in August, members said they hoped to spread love with the event "Stand Against Hate." They originally planned the rally to counter a White Supremacist rally planned for Texas A&M University, but that event was cancelled.

The last of the initial group to respond to the mass devastation from Hurricane Harvey are now back in the South Plains. Each service member was honored tonight by Pope and City Council for their "honorable service" in the impacted areas. Lubbock Fire Rescue first-responders were some of the last to return to West Texas from their eight-day mission in the Port Arthur region. These groups worked alongside the U.S. Coast Guard, National Guard, and other local agencies.

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission begins using new standards for certain violations starting on Friday, Sept. 15. TABC's new enforcement system is warning-based, "designed to encourage voluntary compliance with state liquor laws among businesses which manufacture, distribute, or sell alcoholic beverages." TABC records indicated in fiscal year 2017, the agency filed 200 cases and issued 320 warnings. TABC filed 252 cases and issued 326 warnings in FY 2016. M

North Korea launched another missile Friday, the rogue nation's first missile launch since its massive nuclear test more than a week ago, prompting U.S. officials to issue a sharp round of condemnation. The missile was launched eastward early Friday from Sunan, the site of Pyongyang's international airport. It flew over northern Japan before landing in the Pacific Ocean, according to U.S. Pacific Command

Monday September 18, 2017\

Less than two weeks after Hurricane Irma left a path of destruction in the Caribbean, Tropical Storm Maria strengthened into a hurricane Sunday on its way toward the Leeward Islands. The storm became a Category 1 hurricane in the Atlantic Ocean on Sunday afternoon. It was 140 miles east-northeast of Barbados with maximum sustained winds of 75 mph, the National Hurricane Center said in its 5 p.m. advisory. A hurricane warning – meaning hurricane conditions could affect the area within 36 hours – was issued for St. Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat Guadeloupe and Dominica.

St. Louis Riot police arrested dozens Sunday night following the latest round of clashes with demonstrators protesting the acquittal of a white police officer in the shooting death of a black man At least 80 arrests were made in what was the third night of violence in the city, with hundreds of people protesting Friday's court decision that found Jason Stockley, a 36-year-old cop, not guilty in the 2011 death of Anthony Lamar Smith. The verdict has enraged some of the city's residents, prompting daily protests that at times turned violent.

The following downtown streets will be closed for the 17th Annual Hub City BBQ Cook-off presented by Suddenlink: Main Street from Avenues Q to N Ave. N between Main Street and 10th Street Ave. O between Main Street and 9th Street These streets are scheduled to be closed from 6 a.m. Wed., Sept. 20, until 8 a.m. Fri., Sept. 22.

This will impact eastbound and westbound traffic on Main between Avenue Q and Avenue N, and northbound and southbound traffic on Avenues N and O between Main Street and 9th Street. Travelers who frequent this area are urged to take alternate routes on Wednesday and Thursday.

The proposed Texas train system was submitted by a team known as the "Texas Triangle." The team is appropriately named, since the route would potentially cover Dallas to Laredo to Houston and several major cities in between. Funding for the 12 billion dollar project is coming from private investors.. Kathrin Kaufman.. spokes person The travel times to major Texas cities could get majorly slashed. No plans to expand west are on the table. But officials ay it could be a modle for a nationwide bullet train system in the future

Tuesday September 19, 2017

Local U.S. Air Force Veteran, 63-year-old Douglas Burley, is finally able to sleep in a bed in his own apartment after community leaders come together to find him a home. Burley was sitting in his car on a rainy day in July when Lubbock Police Homeless Outreach Team (H.O.T.) Officer Tony Chacon approached his car at Lubbock Impact. This organization reached out to this team for their skills and reputation of helping the growing homeless community in Lubbock.

Lubbock, Texas — Boys and Girls Club of Lubbock breaks ground for the J.T. and Margaret Talkington Boys and Girls Club in Lubbock. The groundbreaking will be held at the site of the new branch in Duran Park at 26th and Kewanee, three blocks east off Milwaukee, at 10am Tuesday September 19th. Our projections suggest that the J.T. & Margaret Talkington Boys and Girls Club will have an average daily attendance of 150 to 200 children during the school year.

Storms from Sunday night started southeast of Hale County and moved across the South Plains to northern Crosby County leaving behind damage in Petersburg, Cone and Ralls. In Petersburg, the roof of an Allsup was completely torn off and landed in a nearby neighbor's home. The National Weather Service reported that Petersburg faced 80 mph winds. Employees from other Allsup locations came to Petersburg in the morning to help clear the debris.

Police in Clovis, New Mexico released audio from 911 calls related to the August 28 mass shooting inside Clovis Carver Public Library. Court records said Nathaniel Jouett, 16, killed two people and injured four others. He was accused of bringing guns and ammunition into the library inside a black bag. He then began shooting people. Jouett has been charged as an adult with two counts of murder and a long list of other charges.

Wednesday September 20, 2017

Lubbock Power and Light warned its customers of a phone scam that started circulating Monday afternoon. "If somebody calls you and it's a live person, and they say 'Pay this bill or we're going to cut you off in an hour,' that's a scam," LP&L Spokesperson Matt Rose said.

University Medical Center started turning non-emergency patients away Tuesday morning after the hospital reached capacity. This is not the first time this happened and in fact, UMC said this happens often. The hospital being at capacity affects nurses, resources and wait times. Recently, wait times for the ER lasted for more than six hours in some cases. The wait times are longer because the ER is full with patients from other areas of the hospital. By spring, UMC hopes to add 45 more beds to their facilities. Currently, UMC is recruiting nurses to man those beds.

It's now been a few weeks since the panic buying epidemic struck, as lines wrapped around gas stations in Lubbock and across west Texas. This was a result of customers fearing a fuel shortage due to a Harvey-stricken south Texas. Although Lubbock receives its gas supply from up north, that did not stop a price hike from hitting the Hub City. The average price of gas is now \$2.39, which Bolton said is actually higher than what it should be for this time of year, which is a result of the panic buying.

Tuesday's 7.1 magnitude earthquake in Mexico was becoming a greater tragedy with each passing hour. Early Wednesday, the death toll stood at 248, the Associated Press reported, as rescue teams continued to search for survivors in the rubble of collapsed buildings in Mexico City and surrounding states. The U.S. Geological Survey said the magnitude 7.1 quake was centered near the Puebla state town of Raboso, about 76 miles southeast of Mexico City.

Hurricane Maria is taking aim at Puerto Rico as the Category 5 storm barreled toward the U.S. territory Tuesday night with disastrous winds and "life-threatening" flooding, according to forecasters. Maria, a "potentially catastrophic" storm, has top sustained winds of 165 mph, and was located about 85 miles southeast of San Juan, as of the National Hurricane Center's 2 a.m. ET Wednesday advisory.

Thursday September 21, 2017

The South Plains Fair in partnership with Reithoffer Shows is working on to finalize all the safety steps prior to opening tomorrow September 21st.

Having coached at Texas Tech and coached against the University of Houston, first-year ABC/ESPN analyst Tommy Tuberville said Tuesday he'll be squarely in his comfort zone while calling Saturday's game between the Red Raiders and Cougars at TDECU Stadium. Tuberville, who will work Saturday's game with Mike Patrick, coached the Red Raiders from 2010 through 2012 before leaving unexpectedly for Cincinnati, where he coached for four seasons before resigning in the wake of a 4-8 finish last year.

Friday September 22, 2017

Cody Howard has finally returned home to Lubbock after spending nearly two weeks down on Saint Thomas, in the U.S. Virgin Islands in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma. Howard works as

a freelance photographer and voluntarily went down to the storm. He said they were expecting Irma to hit as a Category 3 storm, but when they arrived it had built up to a Cat 5.

Puerto Rico's energy grid took such a severe blow from deadly Hurricane Maria that restoring power to everyone may take months, Gov. Ricardo Rosselló told CNN on Wednesday night. The entire system is down, the governor said. No one on the island has power from utilities. Puerto Rico, which has been through a long recession and is deeply in debt, has a power grid that is "a little bit old, mishandled and weak," Rosselló told "Anderson Cooper 360°."

State Rep. Dwanna Dukes (D-Austin) is currently facing 19 extraneous acts as a part of a misdemeanor trial scheduled next month. Now there is a new, peculiar layer to the case involving a psychic. Last week, the Travis County District Attorney's Office placed 13 felony charges against Dukes on hold after a Texas House official gave conflicting information about reimbursement vouchers Dukes is alleged to have made up. The corruption trial is set to take place Oct.

From forgotten deposits to checks that were never cashed, the Texas Comptroller's office worked all year to reunite Texans with money that's rightfully theirs. It set a record for the total amount returned this past fiscal year — \$281 million. The past five years have all broken records for the amount of money returned to residents. The last record, set in 2016, was \$270 million.

Lubbock Police on Tuesday released a report concerning the armed robbery of Burger King at 6003 19th Street. The robbery happened Sunday evening. A police report said the suspect came into the Burger King and ordered a bacon cheeseburger. He paid cash for the meal, but when the clerk opened the cash register to give him change, that's when things went awry.

Tech will be back under the Jones AT&T Stadium lights on Sept. 30 when the Red Raiders host Oklahoma State in a 7 p.m. primetime kickoff on FOX. This will be the second night kickoff of the year for the Red Raiders (2-0), who faced Arizona State in a similar 7 p.m. scheduled start this past weekend. Tech is 8-3 in night games at home during head coach Kliff Kingsbury's fourplus seasons leading his alma mater.

Monday September 25, 2017

The owners of the Baltimore Ravens, the Super Bowl champion New England Patriots and other teams on Sunday joined a chorus of NFL executives criticizing President Donald Trump's suggestion that they fire players who kneel for the national anthem. The statements, including those from Patriots owner Robert Kraft and Ravens owner Steve Bisciotti, contrasted a morning tweet from Trump and further escalated the political drama of the league's game day, which was expected to be one of the most-watched for non-sporting reasons in years.

During a panel at the Texas Tribune Festival on Sunday, U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, was asked to weigh in on Colin Kaepernick and the current NFL controversy on taking a knee during the national anthem. Cruz responding to those booing by saying they were from the republic of Travis County.

Pittsburgh Steelers player Alejandro Villanueva stood tall on Sunday for the national anthem, even though his teammates were off the field and out of sight. The 6'9" former Army Ranger,

one of the NFL's tallest players, stood outside with his hand over his heart for The Star-Spangled Banner before the game against the Chicago Bears. The gesture came after President Donald Trump spoke Friday about NFL players who kneel during the national anthem.

Open the car door and the stench is enough to knock you off your feet. Mold has started to bloom on the doors and there is still water in the cup holders. Three weeks after floodwaters in Houston have receded, evidence of the flood is everywhere — especially in the cars the storm left littered along highways and roads. More than 500,000 cars are estimated to have been flooded during Harvey, and incredibly some of them may end up in an online ad or a car lot near you.

Tuesday September 26, 2017

In Monday night football the cowboys beat the cardnals 28-17 but that was beside the point.. head coach Jason Garrett Cowboy's owner Jerry Jones joined his entire team Monday evening in kneeling before the National Anthem. Jones then stood with the players and interlocked arms throughout the song. The Cowboys then tweeted a picture of Jones and team members kneeling with the hashtag #FootballIsFamily.

Sports programs across the nation are working with their athletes on how to address the 'taking the knee' movement. Wayland Baptist University Sports Director, Rick Cooper said their players are always on the field during the pre-game national anthem, and last year they had two athletes take a knee.

According to the site that runs the NFL's gear shop, Alejandro Villanueva now has the NFL's best selling jersey, after he was the lone Pittsburgh Steelers player to attend the singing of the national anthem at Sunday's game. Villanueva, an offensive lineman for the Steelers, was the team's only player to come on to the field while the "Star Spangled Banner" played before Pittsburgh's game against Chicago. Earlier in the day, Pittsburgh's coach Mike Tomlin said the team decided to stay in their locker room for the national anthem before their game against the Chicago Bears.

Texas can require law enforcement to honor federal immigration requests to detain people in local jails for possible deportation under a new "sanctuary cities" law supported by the Trump administration, a federal appeals court ruled on Monday.

But the unanimous ruling of a three-judge panel in New Orleans includes the caveat that not every detainer request from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement must be honored. It says local agencies must cooperate "according to existing ICE detainer practice and law."

Wednesday September 27, 2017

Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria have left devastation in their wakes, racking up more than \$200 billion in damages, according to Moody's Analytics and CNBC's Steve Liesman But officials say there may be an economic boom.. that is IF they can get enough construction workers and materials to start rebuilding..Clean up could take years

Chip and Joanna Gaines to Say Goodbye to 'Fixer Upper' After Current Season After four years of turning dilapidated houses into sleek, modern farmhouse-style homes, Chip and Joanna

Hugh Hefner, the iconic founder of Playboy magazine, died at his home, the Playboy Mansion, of natural causes at age 91, Playboy Enterprises said in a statement on Wednesday. Playboy magazine was founded more than 60 years ago to create a niche upscale men's magazine, combining images of nude women with in-depth articles, interviews and fiction by a variety of well-known writers. Hefner reportedly founded the magazine with \$600 and another \$1,000 borrowed from his mother. The first centerfold, an iconic feature of the monthly magazine, was of Marilyn Monroe.

Friday September 29, 2017

As part of a massive illegal immigration sweep, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced Thursday that officials this week arrested nearly 500 illegal immigrants living in sanctuary cities across the country. The raid, referred to as "Operation 'Safe City'" in a news release, spanned four days in cities through the U.S., and ended Wednesday. Illegal immigrants with criminal charges or known gang-affiliations were targeted, the release said, noting that recipients of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program were not.

OJ Simpson could be released on parole as soon as Monday in Las Vegas under a plan being finalized by Nevada officials, a prison spokeswoman said Wednesday. The process culminating in freedom for the former football player, actor and TV pitchman is in motion, but must be approved and documents must be signed. Meanwhile, the 70-year-old Simpson remains at Lovelock Correctional Center in northern Nevada awaiting transfer to High Desert State Prison outside Las Vegas, where he would be freed.

A longhorn bull from Oklahoma with a record horn span of more than 8 feet has been sold for \$165,000 at the Fort Worth Stockyards in Texas. The bull named Cowboy Tuff Chex owned by Bob Loomis of Overbrook, Oklahoma, was sold Friday to Richard and Jeanne Filip of Fayetteville, Texas. Richard Filip told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram that the bull will be used for breeding on the couple's ranch, which has more than 100 longhorns. Jeanne Filip said the bull will be "the VIP of the ranch."

More than a dozen Texas Country music artists are packing their guitars and headed to London for the Texas Take Over. It's the second year for the event sponsored by the Fort Worth Visitors and Convention bureau .. The show will highlight 13 artists in all for the 6 day festival aimed at drumming up more tourism . Luke Wade is going back (sot) The Texas Music take over kicks off in London October 10th

Texas Tech will play in front of a capacity crowd against 15th-ranked Oklahoma State as tickets for Saturday's primetime kickoff are officially sold out, the athletics department announced Thursday morning. The sellout is the first for the Red Raiders this season and the third-straight against Big 12 Conference foes dating back to the end of the 2016 season. It will be the 15th time since 2010 Tech has played in front of at least 60,000 fans at home.