

Garretson High School Student Newspaper

Garretson, SL

America/Croatia Christmas staples

by **Oliviyah Thornton & Nika Sapunar** staff writers

Christmas traditions are celebrated around the world but two main ones that hit close to home are the United States and Croatia. Nika Sapunar will introduce what her country's traditions are and give us insight on how our traditions are similar or different from hers.

American traditions

By: Oliviyah Thornton

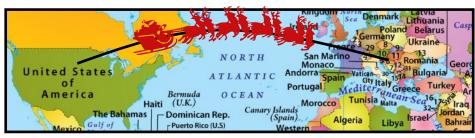
Doing a rewind to last week's issue involving decorating, we can implement that into the traditions of America. People enjoy setting up beautiful lights around and inside the house, setting up Christmas trees, Santas, reindeer, and in many Christian houses, a nativity scene and with baby Jesus added on Christmas Eve.

Many Christians enjoy going to church to celebrate Jesus's birth and the Christmas spirit. Congregations will have special Christmas carol services and events.

Another tradition people partake in is giving of Christmas cards. Sending cards is a great way to communicate with friends and loved ones who live far away. Christmas cards allow for people to let others know that they are thinking of them and hoping the best for them during the Christmas season. Fun fact, more than two million Christmas cards are exchanged annually.

Another tradition is gift-giving. This originates from when Magi brought gifts to the Christ child for his security and in goodwill. Today many people carry on that tradition by giving their children, their friends and their loved ones gifts.

Every move matters



While the Atlantic divides Croatia and the United States, the two countries have more in common than one may think including similar decorations and favorite movies to watch during the holiday season.

An additional tradition that many people enjoy is watching movies and special Christmas programs. These shows allow for relaxation and help get the viewer into the holiday spirit. Popular movies are "A Charlie Brown Christmas," "Home Alone," "Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Frosty the Snowman," "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas," and "Elf."

Croatian traditions By: Nika Sapunar

On Saint Nicholas Day, December 6th, kids clean their boots and put them on their windows, believing that Saint Nicolas will come; if they were good that year, they get candy, but if they were bad they get wicker.

On December 13th, day of Saint Lucija, we make wheat\psenicu(we put seeds in dry), we put wheat seeds in the bowl of grass and we grow that seed so we can put it under the Christmas tree.

Two weeks before Christmas people buy Christmas trees, or if they have fake ones put it up, and decorate it.

On Christmas Eve we eat Bakalar, and some people stick to tradition and put the light on their tree. On Christmas morning they get together, just their close family, and then they open and give presents. Before that some people have a big breakfast, but some wait for a big family lunch. Most of the people go to church the night before Christmas, but some are still about tradition and go to church that morning.

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After opening the presents at home, people go and meet with their other family members and eat a big traditional lunch, after which they open presents from other family members. Giving presents is a good way of saying that you love someone and that you are thinking of them. After a long day, some people go and meet with their friends and exchange gifts, but some people still prefer to be with their families and leave this for another day.

Another tradition is watching movies and TV. Every Sunday, one month before Christmas, there is "Home Alone", so most people get together with their families and watch it. Some other movies we watch are "Parent Trap", "Let it Snow", "Grinch", "Caroline", and many more.

People usually go around Zagreb, main city, and look around because its all decorated and last year it was.

Christmas is a special and magical event because everyone everywhere is celebrating it, no matter how old they are. Even though Croatia and the United States are very far apart we are not so different. There are so many things that people don't know about Christmas in other countries.

Volume 7, Issue 16

This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: Scotland has more than 400 different words for snow.

LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK: Sprinkle a little salt in your pan before frying to prevent oil splatter.

CROATIAN WORD OF THE WEEK: Snow = snijeg (snee-yeg)

JOKE OF THE WEEK: What kind of ball doesn't bounce?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: Can you complete this word ladder?

SNOW

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

Upcoming Events

Friday, December 13

- GBB @ Tri-Valley (4:00/6:00)
- BBB @ Tri-Valley (5:15/8:00)
- Saturday, December 14
- GBB @ Colman-Egan
- Monday, December 16
- JH/JV Wrestling @ Beresford Tourney (4:00)
- Band & Choir Christmas Concert
- Tuesday, December 17
- JH GBB v. Canton (4:00)
- GBB v. Canton (4:00/6:30)
- BBB v. Canton (5:15/8:00)

Thursday, December 19

- JH GBB @ West Central (4:30) - Wrestling @ Howard Quad v.

by **Kylie Uhl** senior writer

The wrestling season officially began this past Saturday with the Flandreau tournament and continued last night with a home quad. The Flandreau tournament welcomed nine teams with Madison dominating the tournament.

The final team scores: Madison 205, Howard 169 Elk-point Jefferson 109, Garretson 81, Flandreau 72, Sioux Valley 67, Luverne 56.5, Viborg Hurley 35, Dual 20, and Chester 0.0.

Since Garretson placed four, freshman Hunter Abraham knew what the team, as well as himself, needed to improve, "In practice we've been focusing more on our defense and getting off the bottom. Overall just trying to be a little bit more aggressive."

Monday provided an opportunity for the junior varsity wrestlers to get some mat time. First year wrestler Adam Hulscher mirrored Abraham's comments on areas for improvement. "I need to work on other moves other than a headlock and how to get off my back."

Hulscher stated," We did pretty good for not knowing a whole lot of what we were doing though."

Yesterday the varsity returned to action as Blue Dragons faced Plankinton Mt. Vernon with a disappointing lose 52-24. Next their opponent was Parker. They Pheasants dominated the mat, letting only 106 wrestler Preston Bohl score and defeating Garretson 71-3. The intense duel between Garretson and Sioux Valley Cossacks ended with the Blue Dragon grapplers on top, winning 36-34.

Thursday, December 19 the Garretson wrestlers will travel to Howard for another quad. Battling Parker, McCook Central Montrose, and the home team Howard.

Results from Flandreau Tournament **Placing second:**

Hunter Abraham (132) Hayden Stoterau (195) Placing third: Preston Bohl (106) Jayse Miller (120) Dominic Abraham (152) Jaden "Ricky" Richter (220) Placing fourth: Tayson Swatek (138) Parker, MCM, Howard (5:00) - BBB @ Colman-Egan (6:15/7:30)

Worth Mentioning

COUNTDOWN TO BREAK: 7 Days Winter break starts December 21

Christmas Cards are due to Mr. Hughes by Friday, December 20.

Cards are distributed to senior citizens and shelters around the Sioux Falls metro area.



JOKE: A snowball

BRAINTEASER: SNOW—SHOW—SLOW—SLEW—SLED (other options available)

Checking your list twice, to find that

perfect gift

Merry Gift-mas

by Nobel Nothstine staff writer

Christmas is right around the corner, and everyone has been counting down the days. With the holiday less than two weeks away, people

are in a rush to get, wrap, and give the perfect gifts. But, some people are hard to shop for! If you're stuck on what to get someone, this article is for you. Get those mind gears going and let's tackle this list...

Prices may fluctuate, and as such, are rounded to the nearest dollar sign to give a rough estimate. Most products were found on Amazon, a reliable retailer with quick delivery during the holidays. All retailers are listed, as the last category is from independent sellers.

PARENTS

Moms and dads can be difficult to buy for. They always get stuff for you, but what can you give in return? If you're dumbfounded in this area, here are some ideas to get you started. - Instant Pot: Amazon - \$79.00

For the cook in your family! One of these nifty pressure cookers make family dinners a whole lot easier.

- Electric Shaver: Amazon - \$40.00 This one might

be more suitable for dad, and if he doesn't have one already, this trimmer will keep him looking sharp.



DIY hot sauce kit! Sure to be a hit among spicy food addicts.

- Mini Cosmetic Emergency Kit: Amazon - \$10.00

Great to keep in cars, at work, or stashed away in a bag when traveling, this little emergency grooming kit is handy to have around for most types of mishaps.

TEACHERS

Never sure what's O.K. to get for your favorite teacher? Check out some



Who doesn't like chocolate? This gift is just enough to say, "I appreciate what you've done for me, and I put a bit more thought into this than having my mom pick

up a punny coffee mug that you will frankly never use."

LITTLE KIDS/YOUNGER SIBLINGS

- Pretend Toy Cash Register: Amazon -\$23.00

This cute play cash register is great for budding entrepreneurs. Help them learn math through money, and gently prepare them for the terrifying reality of the minimum wage workforce.

- Vet Clinic Play Kit: Amazon \$23.00 If

shooting for a cashier job wasn't quite aspirational enough for

your young prodigy, maybe an interactive vet clinic is more their speed. Because we definitely want to teach our kids to explore all options, interests, and possibilities. After all, it is just fun play time.

- DIY Slime Kit: Amazon - \$20.00

SLIME! It's all the rage on media like YouTube and Instagram, and it has been

NOTH

Humble

for months. I can't speak for your siblings, but I know a litter of little boys and girls who are obsessed with this gunk. Sparkles, glowin-the-dark, crunchy, multi-color...you name it, this kit has it. Fuel the slime fire.

TEENS/FRIENDS

Getting your friends gifts, or doing exchanges together, is always a nice way to let them know you appreciate them. Here are some ideas to get the conversational gift ball rolling.

- Weighted Blanket: Amazon - \$43.00 Oh yeah...let that seasonal laziness set in. This blanket will make it impossible to get your friend out of bed. This plushy, fleece, blanket is perfect for crying into, and almost feels like someone is wrapping their gentle arms around you in comfort. But they're not, and it's just a blanket. 18lbs of pure anxiety relieving weight to help your friend sleep and easily ignore all of the problems and stresses of life.

VSCOgirl friend in your squad. If you're really a creative genius, customize it for them and let them know you pay attention to what they're obsessed with. (Psst...if you don't know what they're obsessed with—CHECK THEIR VSCO.)

ASSORTED – SUBSCRIPTION BOXES

This category is something fairly new this holiday season, subscription boxes. These gifts are great for a variety of people, so I thought it would be a nice category in case none of the other ideas rocked your gift-giving boat.

- Fragrance Subscription Box: Scentbird \$14.95 per month Like the

following items, this gift just keeps on giving! Sign your giftee up for as many months as you want, and hand-pick perfumes or colognes to be *scent* to them each month.

- Graze Snack Boxes: Graze - \$5.00 per month

Perfect for the foodies you know. With this gift, you can choose different healthy snack boxes to be doorstep delivered each month to your receiver. - Crafting/DIY Subscription Box: KI-WICRATE - \$30.00 per month

With KiwiCrate, young innovators are being inspired everyday to work on STEM projects under the pretense that they're having fun. KiwiCrate has different monthly boxes available for varied



the per month price. Deodorant

Subscription: Humble \$8.99 per month Need a dis-

creet way to tell someone to take a shower-or take a hike? A Humble Deodorant subscription box is just your solution. This price is also adjustable based on how often you went deodorant delivered, what scent you get, and what size.

Even though this article is about giftgiving, what's really important is spending time with people. Nothing is stopping you from buying someone you love something cool that reminds them of you, but there's also nothing stopping you from writing them a thank you note, making them a painting or poem, singing them a song, playing a game with them, or just being mindful to call them more often and see how they're doing. Especially around this time of year, it's important to keep in mind that spending time will always be more valuable than giving someone anything from this list.

Get to know your journalists

Christmas Edition HAYDEN OLOFSON

by Kylie Uhl

Q: What is your favorite Chrismas movie and why? A: Elf. Will Ferrell is funny.

Q: What's your favorite Christmas song and why?

A: "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" - It's a banger.

Q: What is your favorite Christmas goodie?

A: Reese's Peanut Butter Cup cookie

Q: What's your favorite part about journalism?

A: When Kylie brings food.

Q: What's your favorite topic to write about?

A: Sports



Senior Spotlight Hayden Olofson

SENIOR PROJECT: Making a commercial for Don's Auto



of these teacher-approved gift ideas.



- (5-Pack) Hand Sanitizer: Amazon – \$13.00 If you want get your teacher a gift know you they'll use, something like hand sanitizer

is a great option. With trusty sellers like Bath & Body on Amazon, you can still make your gift fun by mixing up holiday scents!

- Sampler Tea Variety Box: Amazon -\$12.00

Great for a tea-loving teacher. Gifts in this category are also generally best when they're not too expensive, practical, and perishable.

- Assorted Chocolate Truffles Gift Box: Amazon - \$9.00

- Electric USB Teeth Whitening Blue Light: Amazon - \$37.00

Have a friend that you love, but they're a bit finicky about looking good? Then this blue light teeth whitener is

certainly a suitable gift. Feeding into a persons fragile teethrelated ego is a lovely way to show your love this holiday.

- Hydroflask: Amazon - \$35.00

Sksksksk! Getting a hydroflask, (along with some stickers, if you're up for it), is a great gift for any 32 oz 18 oz 12 oz

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN: Basketball Football Snowboarding

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST: The boyz

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR Attend SDSU



Russia banned from Olympics Russia gets handed four-year ban after doping

by Preston Bohl staff writer

On Monday, the World Anti-Doping Agency executive committee banned Russia from international competition for a years-long doping saga. This is the most severe punishment to date, withholding Russians from the next two Olympic Games

The ban comes from when two Russian competitors failed drug tests for banned substances at the last Olympic Games. In turn, WADA made a list of Russian athletes who they had presumed to dope, including a core group of 145 athletes who they think are the most suspicious.

This decision means they will not be able to have a formal presence at next year's Summer Games in Tokyo

or the 2022 Winter Games in Beiiing. Also, athletes will be barred from most major international competition through 2023, including the FIFA World Cup, Youth Olympic Games, and the Paralympics.

Russians not implicated in the country's state-sponsored doping scheme will however be allowed to compete in the Olympic Games as unaffiliated athletes. In the 2018 Winter Games in Pyeongchang, athletes competed as "Olympic Athletes from Russia", but in Tokyo the unaffiliated athletes will be recognized by another name.

Anti-doping officials have been very hesitant to embrace any measures that might unintentionally trap innocent athletes. Those who hope to compete in the Tokyo games or other major events must



https://edition.cnn.com/2019/12/09/sport/wada-ban-

prove that they have no history of doping. They must have no drug positive findings in their records in order to show they haven't cheated.

On top of that, Russia won't be able to host any major sporting event or even apply for hosting duties for the duration of their ban. Their flag will not be able to fly at any major event, which will be a long four years for the country.

In addition to the four year ban, Russia must pay a \$100,000 fine. The country has been warned and

plans to illuminate his house with enough holiday lights to make it visi-

'Tis the season

by Kylie Uhl senior writer



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first The ever holiday flavored Coca

-Cola was just released in the UK in early October and released in the US just over a month ago. Even though the original Coke has a slight cinnamon flavor, the company decided to intensify the holiday season with the new Coke Zero Cinnamon edition.

Like other beverages companies, they come up with a themed drink for a holiday; the Coca-Cola company had to hop on this trend.

Like all holiday themed treats, this one is only around for a limited time. So far in the UK it has received a very high praise with many saying it brings a little Christmas to an original drink.

Friday the 13th

by Hayden Olofson staff writer

Walking under a ladder, crossing paths with a black cat and breaking a mirror, many people believe that the date Friday the 13th brings bad luck. You might have also heard of this from the 1980 movie release called Friday the 13th, introducing to the world the hockey mask wearing killer named Jason. The movie series is the best known example of the famous superstition in today's culture.

The fear of Friday the 13th stems from two separate fears, the fear of the number 13 and the fear of Fridays. Both fears have deep roots in Western culture, most notably in Christian theology. Thirteen is significant to Christians because it is the number of people who were present at the Last Supper. Judas, the apostle who betrayed Jesus, was the 13th member of the party to arrive. This is where Friday the 13th started, and is also why so many people believe that this day is unlucky.

Two of the most popular situations that fall on this date are, the death of

Holiday watch list

by Grace Panning staff writer

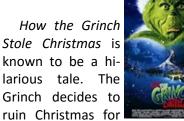
Netflix has long been a holiday evening go to, but now that Disney+ is out Netflix has got some competition. Side Note: even if you don't have these apps, The Hallmark Channel has a lot of romantic Christmas movies being played around the clock. Lifetime and Freeform are also doing 25 days of Christmas which has already started on the first day of December, so make sure to check out some of those cozy Christmas movies. I will give you an idea of what the movie is about and where you can stream it.



The Santa Clause has always been a family favorite it is known for being a hilarious tale of a middle age man who turns into to Santa Clause and must go

through a series of adventures to win back his life. On Disney+

Christmas with the Kranks is one of my favorite Christmas



the cheery citizens of Whoville. Reluctantly joined by his hapless dog, Max, the Grinch comes down from his mountaintop and sneaks into town to swipe everything holidayrelated from the Whos. However, the bitter grump finds a hitch in his plans when he encounters the endearing Cindy Lou Who. This and the animated version on Netflix.

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation is an all around favorite. As the holidays approach, Clark Griswold (Chevy Chase) wants to have a perfect family Christmas, so he pesters

his wife, Ellen, and children, as he tries to make sure everything is in line, including the tree and house decorations. However, things go awry quickly. His cousin, Eddie and his family show up unplanned and

businessman. After a DNA test proves this, Walter reluctantly attempts to start a relationship with the

childlike Buddy with increasingly chaotic results. On Amazon Prime Video.

A Christmas Story Ralphie Parker spends most of his time dodging a bully and dreaming of his ideal Christmas gift, a "Red Ryder air rifle." Frequently at odds

with his cranky dad, but comforted by his doting mother, Ralphie struggles to make it to Christmas Day with his glasses and his hopes intact. On Amazon Prime Video.

Deck the Halls features a suburban dad and Christmas

enthusiast. That finds a wrinkle in his wellordered existence with the arrival of his new neighbor Danny. Danny

🔍 has big dreams and

....

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movies. It is about a couple who decides to do a little vacationing instead of celebrating Christmas. But

the street they live on didn't approve of skipping Christmas, so they try to stop them, but of course the couple will only fight back. It's just a funny movie and you will get a lot of laughs out of it. On Netflix.



Home Alone is a classic Christmas movie that features a little smart boy named Kevin who gets accidentally left at his house for the holidays, but when

robbers try to rob his house Kevin will do everything to keep it safe. This and its sequels on Disney+.



start living in their camper on the Griswold property. Even worse, Clark's employers renege on the holiday bonus he needs. On Amazon Prime Video.

12 dog days till Christmas Is about a boy who is trying to save the dogs in her town from the mayor who only believes in having cats for pets. RISTMAS On Hulu.

Elf! Who can forget about this ultimate Christmas movie? Buddy was accidentally transported to the North Pole as a toddler and raised to adulthood among Santa's elves. Unable to shake the feeling that he doesn't fit in, the adult Buddy travels to New York, in full elf uniform, in search of his real father. As it happens, this is Walter Hobbs, a cynical

ble from space. Not to be outdone, Steve declares a war of oneupmanship with Danny that threatens to drag the Christmas spirit through the slush. On Amazon Prime.

Home When her teenage daugh-

ter opts out of Christmas, single mother Claudia Larson travels alone to her childhood home for an explosive holiday dinner with her dysfunctional family. Claudia

quickly tires of her parents, her long -suffering sister, her snobby brother -in-law and her nutty aunt. But the evening gets interesting when sparks fly between Claudia and her brother's handsome friend Leo. On Hulu.

famous rapper Tupac Shakur in September 1996, and in January of 2012 the crash of Costa Concordia cruise ship off the coast of Italy, which killed 30 people.

Friday the 13th happens at least once every year but can occur up to three times in the same year, for example this upcoming year will have two.

There is an estimated 17 to 21 million people in the United States that are affected by the fear of this day, making it the most feared day and date in history. People avoid theirs normal routines in doing business, taking flights or even getting out of bed. It has been estimated that the United States lost \$800 million in business on this day.

There are many forces conspiring to make you anxious, and they are likely to exist as long as we do.

Many questions revolve around Juice Wrld death

by Parker Schlenker staff writer

December 2nd, 1998 Jarad Higgins was born in Chicago, IL. The rapper we all knew as Juice Wrld grew up Chicago all in

throughout his younger years and began music at a very young age. After beginning to take music seriously Jarad had a couple songs go viral on Soundcloud but the song that pushed him over the top and blew him up was "Lucid Dreams" which was released early in 2018 and "All Girls Are The Same" which was also released early in 2018. After the release of those two songs Juice Wrld's name got out and he began to get more and more songs on Apple Music, Spotify, and other music streaming apps.

Juice Wrld began to release music for the other rappers that have passed away such as Lil Peep, XXXTentacion, and Mac Miller and had lyrics which many people find controversial such and the lyrics "They tell me I'ma be a legend I don't want that title now 'Cause all the legends seem to die out". And Juice



Wrld actually left more possible hidden messages in his songs some tying to John Lennon who died on the same day several years prior. He also had lyrics talking about how he

won't make it past 21 which he died at the age of 21.

On December 8, 2019 Juice Wrld's private jet was landing at Chicago's Midway Airport with 70 pounds of marijuana, 3 registered guns and a few other drugs such as pills. The pilot of the private jet had been in contact with the Chicago police, and when the jet landed, the police were waiting to search the plane. Shortly after landing Jarad had taken more pills to hide them from the police after he had already taken some on the plane. While walking through the airport, he fell to the ground and started having a seizure. Police say when medical attention arrived Juice Wrld was still conscious and was bleeding from the mouth but shortly after he was rushed to the hospital, he was pronounced dead.

R.I.P. Jarad Higgins 12/2/98-12/8/19

Two shootings, two days

apart

by Noel Johnson staff writer

Last week was a shock and full of horrific events when two

shootings on military bases took place. On Wednesday the first shooting happened at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard in Hickam, Hawaii. The shooter was Antonio Romero who was an active duty sailor. The other was on Friday in Pensacola, Florida at the Naval Air Station whose name was released to be Mohammed Alshamrani. Alshamrani



that had no red flags or thoughts of it being planned.

Meanwhile on Friday the Pensacola shooting was a different story. Alshamrani tweeted the day before his act about how the US was "evil" and showed videos of mass shootings at a dinner party he attended. Alshamrani was a 21 year old second lieutenant apart of the Saudi Air Force training for various military requirements. He had killed three sailors injuring eight other with a Glock 45 9mm pistol. Alshamrani was then shot by County Sheriff deputies who had been called to the scene. The real question was how did a non-American citizen obtain a gun? Well, before the investigation was dug into, the police noted he had illegally bought a gun in Florida that summer. After more research it was found that Alshamrani had hunting licenses that allowed him to purchase the gun and ammunition which was legal. Police and reporters has said this was a pure act of terrorism along with the red flags ignored that made it apparent, but it had not been connected to the Pearl Harbor shooting two days before.

Last carver of Mt Rushmore dies, 98

by Mason Hofer staff writer

The man believed to be the last living carver of Mount Rushmore has passed away.

Donald "Nick" Clifford was one of the roughly 400 men and women who took part in carving Mount Rushmore. Before he died, he spent a lot of time at the monument, handing out signed baseball cards and taking pictures with people. Clifford died last Saturday while on hospice in Rapid City.

It took nearly 14 years to carve this masterpiece, Clifford was only a teenager when he started working on it. He worked for two years (1938-1940) only making 55 cents an hour. With inflation that is around 10 dollars an hour. "The work was hard, the hours were long, and the pay was low," stated Clifford.

Clifford also told the Rapid City Journal that despite the very dangerous working conditions, there were zero fatalities.

"I feel like Mount Rushmore was the greatest thing with which I was ever involved," he told the Rapid City Journal. "It tells a story that will never go away ... the story of how America was made and the men who helped make it what it is today."

Clifford lived a happy life living west river his whole life, talking about his story and living the dream with his wife.



Nick Clifford left his impact on South Dakota with his work on the state's most famous structure. Photo from Rapid City Journal

l spy

Created by Oliviyah Thornton

Difficulty Level: MEDIUM

Can you find the following - Christmas Tree items? - Angel - Santa hugging a Christmas tree - Candy Cane - Stocking

- Gingerbread Man

- Mini Santa House What else can you find?

- Mr. Elf

There are 15 items, only 8 were listed.



was a second lieutenant from the Royal Saudi Air Force here training. Could these two shootings be a coincidence or planned?

Taking place that Wednesday at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, Antonio Romero, 22 years old, took the life of two department of defense civilians and wounding the third with his M4 service rifle. He then proceeded by taking his own life with a M9 service pistol.

All this took place in under 23 seconds and not to mention 3 days before the Pearl Harbor Remembrance 78 years ago from that coming Saturday. Police have investigated Romero's motive to see if the shooting was associated of terrorism but that is not believed to be the reason. It was an unexpected event