

The Grand Jury Report Inside Daily Edition

50¢

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Monday, April 15, 2019

Man assaults victim and takes him to the ground over pain pill

Charged for DUI and driving on suspended license



Christopher Crandall

see Assault pg. 2

Christopher Bingham see DUI pg. 3

Man stumbles home intoxicated from the grocery store



Johnathan King

see Grocery pg. 3

The Good News The Rev. Dr. Julius McCarter

Scripture: Luke 23:1-49

Luke records Jesus as speaking sparingly during his passion, and sometimes not at all. Most of the voices around him shout, accuse, and mock. Yet, in a situation of riot and suffering, Jesus embod-

See TGN ctd to p.5

Billion-Dollar Medicare Fraud Bust: FBI Announces Results of Operation Brace Yourself

FBI and Department of Justice officials today announced the disruption of one of the largest Medicare fraud schemes in U.S. history. An international fraud ring allegedly bilked Medicare out of more than \$1

billion by billing it for unnecessary medical equipment — mainly back, shoulder, wrist, and knee braces.

The FBI and partner investigative agencies announced charges against 24 peo-

See FBI P.4



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Verse of the Day

Hate evil, love good; maintain justice in the courts. Perhaps the LORD God Almighty will have mercy on the remnant of Joseph.

— Amos 5:15

Wazzup

Happy Early Birthday Tristan Latour !! Have a great day little man!!!

Weather

Today: Cloudy. High of 63F.

Tonight: Clearing. Low of

42F

Tuesday: Sunny. High of 76F.

Tuesday night: Cloudy. Low of 53F.

Horoscopes

Aries 3/21-4/19

Giving your all to a helpful task means that

a hurdle must first be overcome. Thankfully, it doesn't take superpowers to get the job done. All you need is a deep reach into the treasure chest of your skills and talents.

(Continued on page 6)



Assault

Christopher Crandall, 26, Northshore Lenoir City, was charged with Domestic Assault. Deputy Clay Jenkins LCSO, along with Deputy Huskin responded to Northshore Drive for

an assault. Deputy Huskin made contact with Christopher Crandall up the road and transported him back to the residence. Deputy then made contact with the victim who advised Crandall had punched him in the face and took

him to the ground. Witness advised Crandall became very irate when he ask for a pain pill and no one would give him one. Crandall then stormed out of the house and down the drive way.

Deputy received statement from victim and witness. Crandall was placed under arrest.

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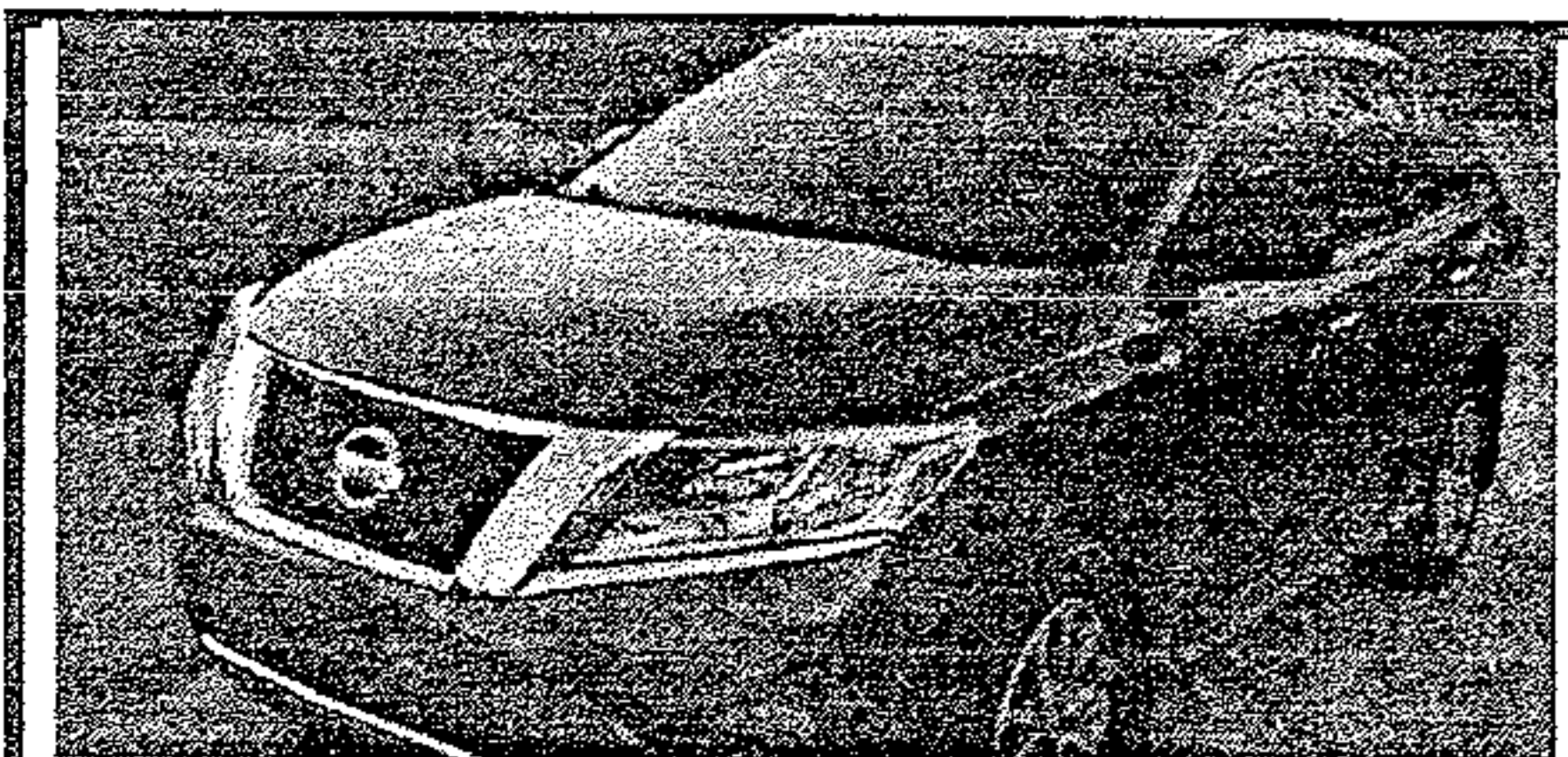
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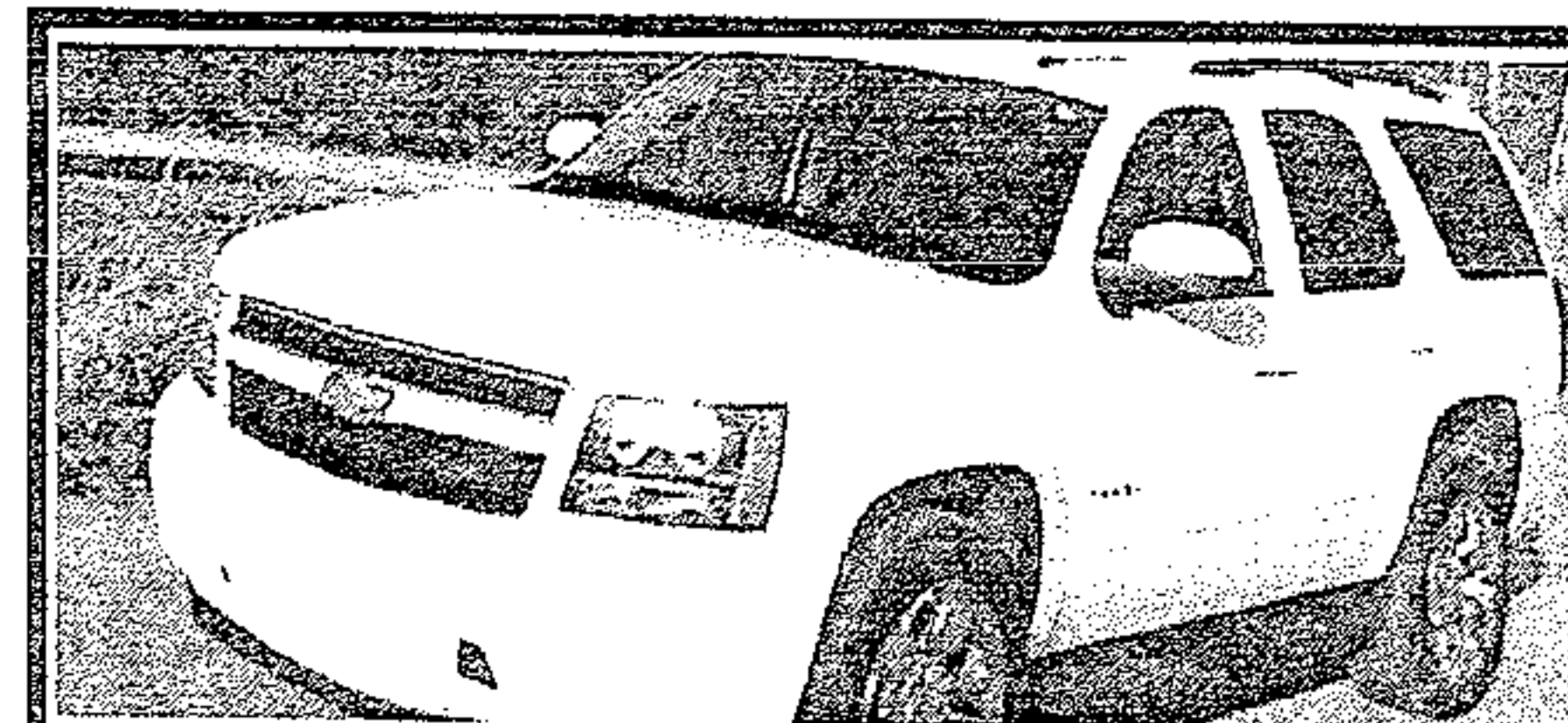
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2013 Ford Expedition Fully Loaded, Power 3rd Row, Leather, Backup Camera, Rear A/C, Chrome Wheels, Locally Owned, Clean Carfax



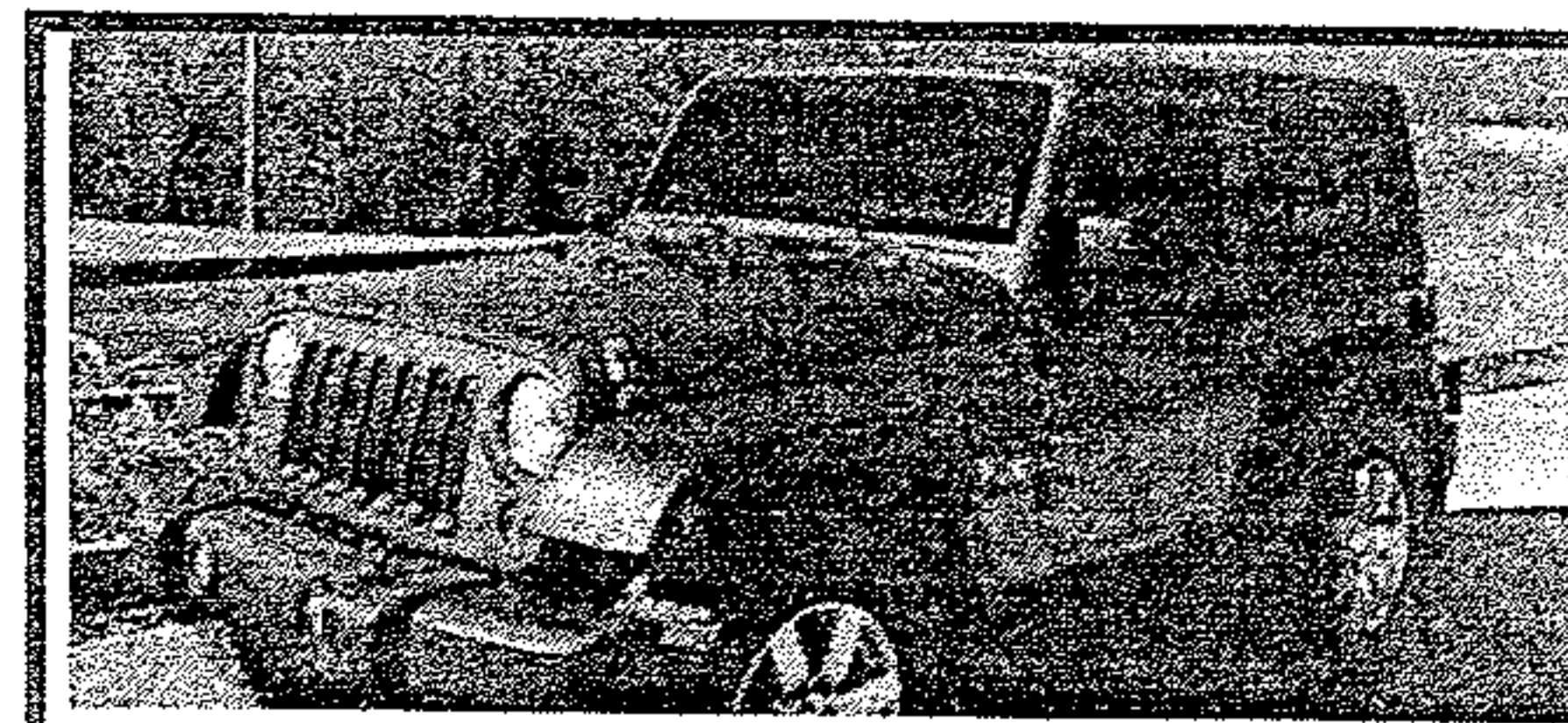
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DUI

Christopher Bingham, 47, Bulford Road Harri- man, was charged with DUI, Driving on Re- voked/Suspended Li- cense, and Violation of Implied Consent. Officer Benny Houser LPD, was dispatched to

the Weigels for a reckless driver, as Officer pulled into the Weigels the ve- hicle drove to the Exx- on. Officer then made contact with the driver Christopher Paul Bing- ham. Officer advised Mr. Bingham why he had stopped him and asked to see his license. Mr.

bingham stated he did not have a license, after running Mr. Bingham's name and date of birth through the E911 cen- ter the status came back suspended. Mr. Bingham had a strong odor of an intoxicate about his per- son and stated he had not been drinking and then he stated he had drank a couple. Mr. Bingham performed poorly on the field sobriety tests he was given and refused the implied consent. There was one empty Water- melon Rita in the back floor board. Mr. Bing- ham was very hostile at the jail slapping the wall and making threats to- wards officer. The above incident happened in the City of Loudon.

Grocery

Jonathan King, 34, Mon- roe Street Sweetwater, was charged with Pub- lic Intoxication. Offi- cer Runyan LCPD, was dispatched to the area of Hwy 321 N and Food City to a welfare check for a white male walk- ing on Hwy 321 stum- bling and carrying a food city bag. Officer made contact with the subject identified as Jonathan King in front of Petros and did notice he was stumbling and walking as if he was impaired. Offi- cer attempted to take him to an address to make contact with someone he claimed he was going to visit, however no one

Grocery ctd to pg. 5

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FBI
 ple—three were prescribing medical professionals, and the rest were owners or high-ranking officials in medical equipment or telemedicine companies. The indictment alleges the scheme has gone on for about five years.

Medical equipment companies often charge Medicare directly for providing equipment to Medicare patients. While this practice alone is not illegal, the alleged illegal activity in this scheme occurred when the

medical equipment companies paid a firm in the Philippines to recruit individuals, through advertising on television or online, who were Medicare patients and may or may not have had a medical need for the braces.

The companies then allegedly paid doctors kickbacks to prescribe unnecessary braces “without any patient interaction or with only a brief telephonic conversation with patients they had never met or seen. The proceeds of the fraudulent scheme were allegedly laundered through

international shell corporations and used to purchase exotic automobiles, yachts, and luxury real estate in the United States and abroad,” the news release announcing the arrests said.

According to the indictment, the equipment companies encouraged patients to use telemedicine doctors for maximum efficiency. “The telemedicine doctors did not have a relationship with the Medicare patients and could not physically examine them,” the indictment said.

More than 100 equipment companies will have their Medicare payments cut off as part of the operation, according to the release.

At a news con-

ference today in Columbia, South Carolina, officials said the operation took down every aspect of the far-reaching scheme—from the international call centers to the telemarketing companies to the shipping companies that were involved.

Investigators estimate Medicare paid as much as \$17 to \$22 million a week to

the companies allegedly participating in fraudulent practices.

“Alleged fraud like this takes money away that could be put into research or better care for patients. That billion dollars could’ve been spent on medical care for patients who really needed it,” said Special Agent Karen Corbett, an FBI Crim-

see FBI ctd. to pg. 5

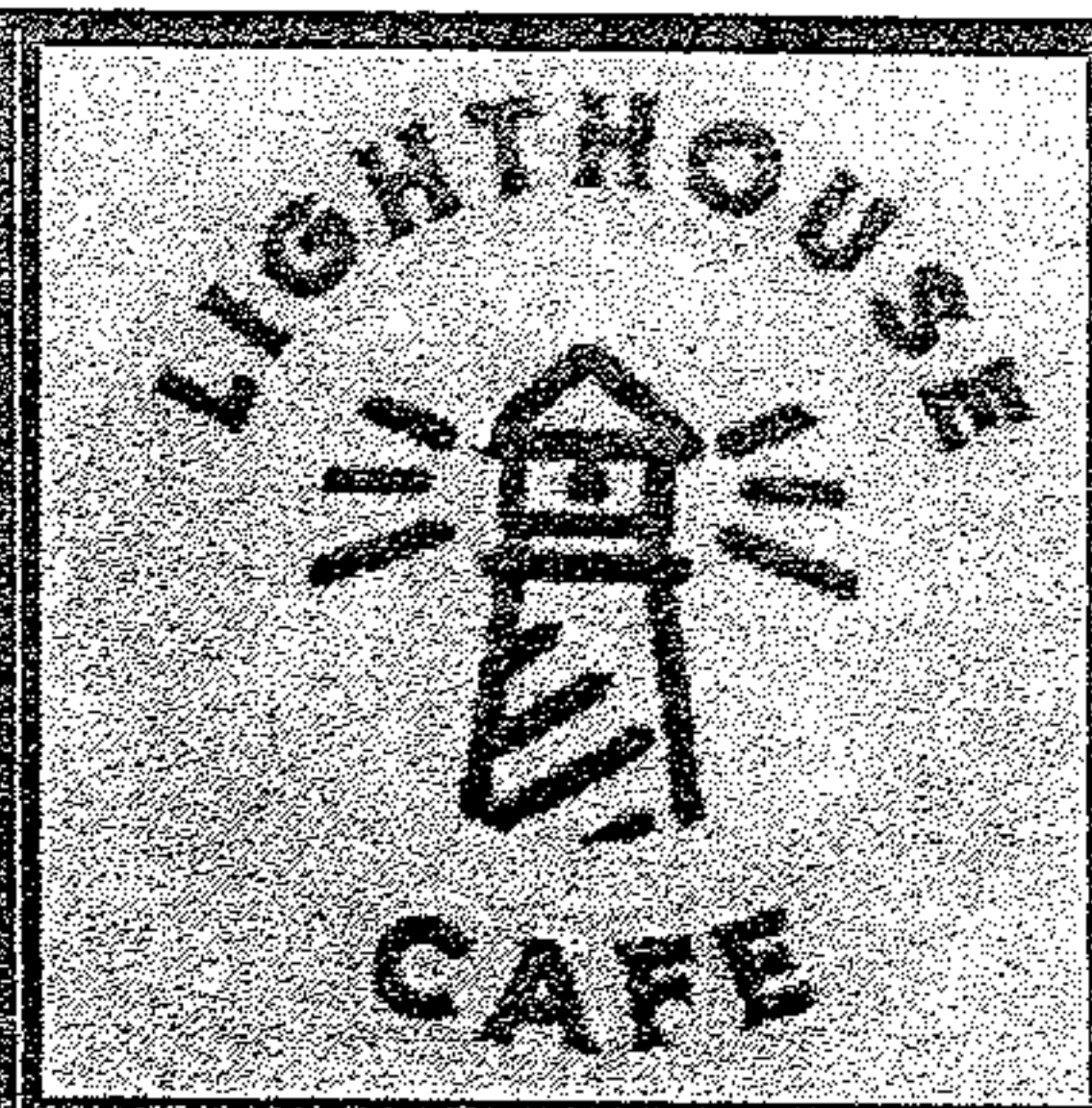
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Murder ctd from P.4

inal Investigative Division supervisor who oversaw the case.

The massive, months-long investigation known as Operation Brace Yourself spanned 20 FBI field offices and involved several partner agencies, including the Internal Revenue Service's Office of the Inspector General, the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Inspector General, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, U.S. Secret Service, and the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Grocery ctd. from pg. 3

was home and King had no one he could call to come get him. King became belligerent toward Officer and was placed under arrest.

TGN

ies the still, small voice of God, meeting his accusers with the silence of God that believers sometimes fear and the world still mocks. Yet Jesus does not experience death in complete silence. The last words he speaks before his death are ones on which we can meditate today. As Jesus is crucified between two criminals and his mockers gamble for his clothing, he says, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." As one thief joins the taunts, the other asks Jesus to remember him and hears Jesus' promise, "Today you will be with me in Paradise." Final-

ly, Jesus--God incarnate--dies with the final words, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." And Jesus' voice is silent again. Prayer: Creator, Christ, Holy Spirit: Guide me to know you and experience your presence, even when you seem silent. Help me and refresh me in this silence, as I wait for you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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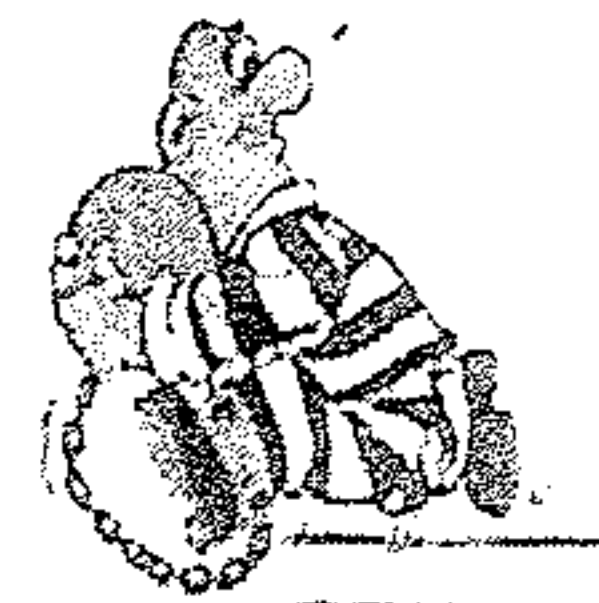
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