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Mustang News

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2020 • MUSTANGNEWS.INFO • 50 CENTS

**Home
of
Michael
Ray**

**Around
Town**

**News offices to
close for holiday**

The Mustang News offices will be closed both Thursday and Friday to allow the staff to enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday with their families.

The business office, 335 S. Mustang Road, Suite F, will reopen for business Monday at 8:30 a.m.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

**Debris cleanup
set to resume**

Mustang's construction crew will resume picking up ice storm debris on Monday.

For those who have been cleaning up their own debris, drop off at the Public Works yard off 59th Street has been extended to Dec. 4.

The yard is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

It will be closed Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving.

Mustang to begin filtering water

By **HALEY HUMPHREY**
newseditor@mustangnews.info

Mustang residents can expect filtered water no later than March.

The Mustang City Council awarded a \$654,652 contract to Wright Water Corp. at its Nov. 3 meeting for a new water treatment system that will remove arsenic, a naturally occurring chemical found in sulfur and metals.

The filtration system contains large discs that filter contaminants without using chemicals, which is the first treatment of its kind for Mustang.

"Imagine a water filter that you use at your home in a small level,"

said Assistant City Manager Justin Battles. "This is more or less a large one that's inserted into a machine and there's multiple levels."

While this treatment system will specifically filter out arsenic, it will also allow the city to filter other contaminants that could potentially end up in the water in the future with different filters.

"Anytime you're dealing with underground water, sometimes standards and sometimes even the water quality can change, and you want to make sure you have flexibility and the ability to treat," Battles said.

There are several discs in each of the two

machines, which will be regenerated. Once a filter retains all the arsenic it can, it will be taken out and essentially washed for freshness and eventually put back in the system.

Regeneration of the filters occurs at a site in Philadelphia, said Shawn Wright, president of Wright Water Corp.

The site ensures the arsenic being removed is pH neutral before releasing it in Philadelphia's drains.

Water comes into the units from one side, flows through the discs, which removes contaminants, and comes out the other side of the system.

Power also extends to the machines in the



Mustang well 12 is located at SW 119th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. Wells 12 and 2 will receive the new water filtering system in 2021. Photo / Haley Humphrey

wintertime to ensure the water doesn't freeze.

The city chose two of its 13 wells to put the system inside. Wells 2

and 12, which have previously been out of service, were chosen.

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Local tree farm grows a tradition

By **HALEY HUMPHREY**
newseditor@mustangnews.info

Neither the pandemic, nor an ice storm can keep this local tree farm from continuing its longtime tradition of a one-of-a-kind Christmas experience.

"When you hear the laughter that goes on ... I just haven't been able to take that away from them," said owner Jean Collins-Holdaway.

To Holdaway, bringing to life All Pine Christmas Tree Farm more than 26 years ago kept the farm blood rushing in her veins.

The El Reno native began growing Virginia pines north of Sallisaw in 1984.

During that time, she also had tree farms in Choctaw and west of El Reno.

She and her husband, Mike, 10 years later moved for convenience to their current loca-

tion, 2205 S. Mustang Road.

"I always make the joke that I've got the only store in town where children can run up and down the aisles and not get in trouble," Holdaway said.

The year-round job is no easy task. It takes between five and six years for the farm's trees to be marketable.

For each tree that is purchased this year, the stump will be removed and a new seedling planted from Oklahoma Forestry Services, which is a division of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry.

Of last year's 2,000 trees, the most desirable is a straight-trunked tree that fills out well, she said.

Holdaway, with the help from her husband and grandchildren, work to keep their



The All Pine Christmas Tree Farm will become a popular destination for many after Thanksgiving. The farm's sales begin Friday. Some people have already chosen which trees to take home. Photo / Haley Humphrey

enemy — the pesty Nantucket pine tip moth — off the trees by spraying them regularly.

They also shear them to maintain desired shape.

Along with their homegrown pines, the

Holdaways also have pre-cut Michigan Fraser firs, as well as

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Lawsuit is filed following Mustang woman's death

By **HALEY HUMPHREY**
newseditor@mustangnews.info

The parents of a former Mustang High School valedictorian who was killed in a head-on collision in October have filed a lawsuit against the alleged driver of the other vehicle, the car's owner and an Edmond event center, they claim, served the driver too much alcohol.

Jeff and Kristine Murrow filed the

wrongful death lawsuit Friday in Canadian County District Court against Malcolm Penney, Amanda Penney and The Springs Event Center.

They are seeking more than \$75,000 from each defendant in actual damages and more than \$1 million in punitive damages, court records show.

The Murrows are the parents of Marissa Murrow, who died Oct. 3 after her car was hit head-on on the John

Kilpatrick Turnpike near SW 15 Street.

According to court documents, Penney, who has been charged with second-degree murder, was driving the wrong way when his vehicle slammed into Murrow's car.

The lawsuit claims Penney and Amanda Penney had attended a wedding at the event center earlier in the day.

They also claim Penney had been drinking alcohol for at

least 10 hours before the crash.

The court filing states that Amanda Penney should have known that Penney was not in a condition to drive, but allowed him to take the vehicle.

In addition, the event center is being accused of allowing Penney to bring his own alcohol into the facility, which does not normally allow outside alcohol.

The center also is accused of allowing

Penney to leave the facility while intoxicated.

Penney is charged with one count of second-degree murder and leaving the scene of an accident.

He is scheduled to appear in court Tuesday for a bail hearing.

Currently, he is being held without bail.

If convicted of second-degree murder, Penney could face up to life in prison.

Mustang, Oklahoma



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2 Sections