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A City of Yukon contractor's snowplow clears snow on Garth Brooks Boulevard at First Place Boulevard in front of the Yukon Post Office. (Photo by Conrad Dudderar)

## CM contract approved, 5-0

By Conrad Dudderar  
Staff Writer

A new employment contract has been unanimously approved for the City of Yukon's chief administrative officer.

The Yukon City Council and Yukon Municipal Authority on Feb. 1 voted 5-0 to OK the contract with Yukon City Manager Tammy Kretchmar.

"I appreciate the council's support," said Kretchmar, who recently started



Kretchmar

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## Drunk driver gets life in fatal wrong-way crash

Headed to state prison after conviction for murder, leaving scene

By Conrad Dudderar  
Staff Writer

**EL RENO** — A habitual drunk driver has been sentenced to spend the rest of his life in prison for causing a "wrong-way" crash near Yukon that killed a college student from Mustang.

Oklahoma City's Malcolm Douglas Penney, 40, learned his fate during a Feb. 1 hearing in Canadian County District Court.

He was convicted of second-degree murder and leaving the scene of a fatality accident stemming from an Oct. 3,

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Mustang High School graduate Marrison Renee Murrow, 19, was attending college studying to become a special education teacher when she was killed in a crash on the Kilpatrick Turnpike near S.W. 15th. Oklahoma City's Malcolm Douglas Penney, the driver of the car that struck her, was sentenced Feb. 1 to life in prison. (Photo provided)

## "A hazy shade of winter"

Several inches fall as schools, city offices, stores close

By Conrad Dudderar  
Staff Writer

An estimated 5 to 7 inches of snow and sleet fell steadily over two straight days this week before skies finally started clearing Friday morning in a winter storm that shut down much of Yukon.

The first major snowfall this winter began about 2 p.m. Wednesday and ended shortly before midnight. The wintry precipitation picked back up early Thursday and continued throughout the day before finally concluding overnight Friday.

The City of Yukon and its snowplow contractor, Blue Rock General, had crews out before daybreak Thursday clearing the city's main streets to make them passable for motorists.

"We have our contract snowplows and city snowplows out and taking care of our roads," Mayor Shelli Selby said Thursday afternoon. "We do



Job Garcia worked Thursday with a snow shovel to clear the sidewalks at Yukon Crossing for the customers of Hynson's Classic Burgers and other businesses in east Yukon. (Photo by Robert Medley)

have some power outages, but OG&E is out working in full force."

Despite the snow and chilly conditions, Yukon sanitation crews were running regular trash routes Thursday and Friday.

All City of Yukon offices and facilities shut down early Wednesday and remained closed Thursday and Friday.

"The police station is currently serving as a warming station for anyone in need of warmth or for charging electronics," Mayor Selby said. "If you can, please stay home and stay safe."

On Wednesday night, Yukon Police had to deal with power outages and downed phone lines.

"We had a lot of people call us to check on their loved ones and elderly family members," Maj. Matt Fairchild said. "That occupied most of our responses Wednesday night."

Then on Thursday — and even more

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## County fair board members unopposed

No election needed after only incumbents file

By Conrad Dudderar  
Staff Writer

There will not be a Canadian County Fair Board election on Saturday, Feb. 12 after three candidates filed unopposed for the next term.

And those three candidates are all

incumbents, who will be elected to the next three-year term on the nine-member fair board.

The Canadian County Fair Board is comprised of volunteers who oversee the county's fair events and facilities.

There are nine members, three representing each county commissioner district.

Filing to retain their seats during the recent candidate filing period were:

- District 1: El Reno's Justin Atkinson, 42
- District 2: Mustang's Ken Carpenter, 59
- District 3: Calumet's Dan Wedman, 70

The three Canadian County Fair Board incumbents each filed on Jan. 24, the first day of a five-day filing period at the Canadian County Clerk's

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# Crash

From Page 1A

2020, traffic collision on the Kilpatrick Turnpike near S.W. 15th.

Oklahoma City's Marissa Renee Murrow, 19, was killed in the head-on crash. A 2019 Mustang High School graduate, Murrow was a sophomore at the University of Central Oklahoma where she was studying to become a special education teacher.

"Penney was driving a vehicle the wrong direction while under the influence on the John Kilpatrick Turnpike when he caused a collision that resulted in the death of Murrow," according to court documents.

"Penney left the collision scene on foot and was later found and detained. Penney has multiple previous convictions for DUI (driving under the influence)."

Penney appeared at the Feb. 1 sentencing hearing with attorney Daniel

Hensch.

Judge Hesse sentenced Penney to life in Oklahoma Department of Corrections' custody on count one and 10 years on count two, with the sentences to run consecutively. Penney, who was booked into the Canadian County Jail hours after the deadly crash, was given credit for time served.

The defendant pleaded guilty on Nov. 23, 2021, to second-degree murder and no contest to leaving the scene of a fatality accident.

Penney's sentencing was postponed from Jan. 18 so state DOC officials could complete a required pre-sentence investigation.

That pre-sentence report was filed Jan. 26 in Canadian County District Court.

"The defendant has shown that he continues to be a threat to the community," DOC investigator Ryan Peters wrote in

the report. "The defendant does take responsibility for the instant offense and has expressed some remorse for his actions."

Peters recommended Penney "be sentenced to a term of incarceration as determined by the court."

Three of the victim's friends and her parents, Jeffrey and Kristine Murrow, presented victim's impact statements during the Jan. 18th court hearing.

Friends and family were back in the courtroom Feb. 1 when Penney learned his punishment - life plus 10 years in prison.

"I know that will give me, and her family and her friends, some sort of closure," Ashlynn Stewart said after the sentencing. "But it still doesn't change the fact that we don't have Marissa anymore."

**'NEVER BE ALLOWED TO HURT ANYONE ELSE'**  
Murrow was a valedic-



Penney

torian at Mustang High School, where she was a cheerleader and wrestling team manager.

A member of the youth group at Mustang's Chisholm Heights Baptist Church, she loved singing and leading worship with the praise band.

Murrow was a member of the Sigma Kappa sorority and Baptist Student Ministry at UCO.

In a social media post, the victim's mother described the "up and downs" of the past few weeks leading up to Penney's sentencing.

Kristy Murrow pointed out that Marissa should have been celebrating her 21st birthday on Jan. 24.

"One of her first major milestones missed," Marissa's mother wrote in her Feb. 1st post. "I missed her like crazy that day and grieved the missing pictures and posts of her celebrating with her friends as I know she would have."

Mrs. Murrow was grateful for the outcome of the sentencing hearing.

"Judge Hesse sentenced her killer to the maximum allowed on both counts and ordered they be ran consecutively," she posted. "This is exactly what I wanted so that he will not have another opportunity to drink and drive again. This was so important to us - that he never be allowed to hurt anyone else."

Kristy Murrow thanked Judge Hesse, assistant district attorneys Austin Murrey and Eric Epplin, and OHP troopers. She also expressed appreciation to family and friends for their love and support over the last 16 months.

## HOW IT HAPPENED

The Oklahoma Highway Patrol investigated the fatal crash that occurred at 12:13 a.m. Oct. 3, 2020, in eastern Canadian County. Court documents detail the incident.

Penney was driving a 2018 Mitsubishi Outlander northbound in the southbound lanes of the Kilpatrick Turnpike. That vehicle struck Murrow's southbound 2014 Ford

Focus "head-on" and she died from her injuries.

Penney fled the crash scene on foot, OHP troopers learned. He was later found by Oklahoma City police officers and brought back to the scene, where he was identified by witnesses.

Troopers observed several indicators that Penney was under the influence of alcohol and reportedly was driving at twice the legal limit.

Penney had four previous DUI convictions and one public drunk conviction in Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, and Louisiana. In each DUI case, he received a suspended sentence.

In a written statement for the pre-sentence investigation report, Penney acknowledged he had gone to a wedding where he had been drinking and then drove his car.

Penney thought he was taking a turnpike on-ramp - but it was the off-ramp, according to the report.

"I set my cruise control to 68 mph and

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# Kretchmar

From Page 1A

her second year in the post.

The employment contract is for a three-year term subject to annual renewal, according to Yukon city attorney Roger

Rinehart.

Kretchmar is a 26-year City of Yukon employee who became city manager in January 2021 after Jim Crosby's retirement

"I have been very pleased with Tammy's per-

formance this past year," Mayor Shelli Selby said.

"This is a great vote of confidence that she is doing a great job and for businesses to know she will be here for the long haul."

Kretchmar's new employment contract provides:

- Annual base salary of \$166,860, which will be maintained at least \$7,500 above all other city employees.

- Annual car allowance of \$7,500 or use of city vehicle.

- Holiday, vacation time, sick leave, and retirement benefits afforded to senior level, long-term employees.

- City payment of professional dues in International City Managers Association, Oklahoma Municipal League and City Managers Association of Oklahoma.

"Kretchmar agrees to devote her full time, attention and best efforts to the business" of the City of Yukon, the agreement reads.

Under Yukon city charter, the city manager's employment may be suspended or terminated by a majority vote of the city council.

"In that regard, employment under this agreement shall be 'at will,'" according to the contract.

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Yukon City Council members and city administrators welcome delivery of the City of Yukon's new trash truck before Tuesday night's council meeting at the Centennial Building, 12 S 5th. (Photo by Conrad Dudderar)

# New trash truck hits Yukon streets

## Council members earn 'sneak peek' of side loader

By Conrad Dudderar  
Staff Writer

City leaders this week earned a 'sneak peek' of Yukon's new \$324,829 trash truck.

Just delivered from the manufacturer in Canada, the 2022 side loader arrived in time

for Yukon City Council members to view the sanitation vehicle before it literally "hit the streets" to help clean up Yukon.

Yukon Public Works personnel demonstrated how the garage truck operates on Feb. 1 in the parking lot outside the

Centennial Building, 12 S 5th.

The council, at a Jan. 25th special meeting, approved buying the truck (off state contract) from J&R Equipment of Oklahoma City.

The unit features a Peterbilt DS 520 chassis with a Labrie body.

Ward 4 City Council Member Aric Gilliland believes the new truck will be a great benefit to Yukon sanitation personnel on their routes picking up trash carts through the city.

"If we're asking people to do a job, we need to give them the tools to do the job," Gilliland said. "It will be nice.

"We were down two trash trucks."

The purchase was recommended by Yukon Public Works Director Arnold Adams, who indicated other cities were trying to get this new model. Some \$305,000 was included in the annual city budget to buy a trash truck.

At the Jan. 25th special meeting, Yukon's public works director said the vehicle "could arrive within seven days." It made it to Yukon in six.

The new side-loader includes a 60-month, 250,000-mile warranty.

A second new trash truck is due to arrive in Yukon in about seven months, Adams said.



# Snow Day!

Sisters Maggie Butler, 17, and Karlee Butler, 22, laugh as they fell together at the bottom of Boot Hill. The girls agreed that they were having some fun "sister bonding time" in the snow on Thursday. (Photo by Cara Pattison)



With a smile on his face, dad Chris Ericksen pulls his girls, Raelynne, 21-months, and Charlee, three years-old, up Boot Hill in Chisholm Trail Park for a fun little adventure on a chilly snow day. (Photo by Cara Pattison)



The Posey gang – from left, Lexi Andis, 14, Pailyn Posey, 13, Claire Posey, 15, and James Colter Posey, 11 – smile from behind their layers of warm clothes after many tiring trips up-and-down Boot Hill. Pailyn noted the "trip downhill was a lot more fun than the trip uphill." (Photo by Cara Pattison)

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# Crash

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then went over the hill to find myself facing traffic," Penney wrote in his statement. "I swerved to avoid an 18-wheeler and crashed into Marissa Murrow's Ford Focus.

"I got out of my car and tried to check on Marissa but a lady at the scene told me to leave her car alone. I walked down the hill to get my head wrapped around the events of the night. I then saw the police car's lights at the top of the hill, so I went up to speak with him and that's when I

was arrested."

Malcolm Penney and his wife Amanda — who owns the vehicle he was driving — faces a wrongful death lawsuit in Canadian County District Court.

A jury trial is set Sept. 12 before District Judge Jack McCurdy with a pre-trial conference Aug. 24.

The victim's parents are plaintiffs in the civil suit. They seek to recover damages for their daughter's personal injuries, physical and mental pain and suffering, loss of companionship, grief and sorrow, and loss of the family relationship.

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