

POLICE AND FIRE CALLS

ARRESTS

-- A 39-year-old Vernon man was arrested for driving while license invalid with previous conviction. A traffic stop for a moving violation was made a 9:54 a.m. Sunday on Bowie.

-- Gilberto Conteras, 26 of Katy was arrested Jan. 26, following a DPS traffic stop, for possession of a controlled substance, penalty group 2. He made a \$15,000 bond the next day.

-- A 43-year-old Vernon female was arrested by Vernon Police on Jan. 27 for misdemeanor theft of property with previous conviction. She was released from jail the next day on a PR bond.

--A 35-year-old female from Sulphur Springs was arrested Jan. 31 for public intoxication. Police were called to the 1900 block of Main at 1:19 a.m. Sunday for a domestic disturbance. A female was found intoxicated and arrested.

-- Adam Christopher Jones, 35 of Mansfield, was arrested Jan. 30, following a DPS traffic stop at 9:33 a.m. on U.S. 287. Vernon Police K-9 was called to assist with a search. He was charged with possession of a controlled substance, penalty group 2; possession of marijuana over 2 lbs., and possession of a controlled substance, penalty group 2. He made bonds totalling \$13,000 the next day.

A 46-year-old Vernon man was arrested by Wilbarger County Sheriff Office deputies on Jan. 27 on a motion to revoke for DWI.

-- Anthony Glen Martinez, 37 of Vernon, and Christabella Maria Muniz, 34 of Quanah, were both arrested for possession of a controlled substance, penalty group 1, on Jan. 30. Both made \$5,000 bonds. A traffic stop was made at 10:17 p.m. Saturday in the 2500 block of Bismarck on a motorcycle for speeding. A consent to search reportedly located a baggy with possible meth on the passenger. A K-9 search alerted onto a side cannister on the motorcycle. It was forced open and inside, police allegedly found a box containing a large amount of meth.

-- Luis Enrique Ortega, 29 of Houston, was arrested Jan. 26, following a DPS traffic stop, for possession of a controlled substance, penalty group 2. He made a \$5,000 bond the next day.

--A 21-year-old man from of Arlington, and a 24-year-old man from Ft. Worth, were arrested Jan. 31, following a DPS traffic stop, for misdemeanor possession of a marijuana. They both made a \$750 bond.

-- Davanh Vanharath, 41 of Dallas, was arrested Jan. 29, following a DPS traffic stop, for possession of a controlled substance, penalty group 1, and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon. He made bonds totaling \$9,500 the next day.

-- Bruce Alan White, 59 of Vernon, was arrested Jan. 27 for felony off bond warrant for possession of a controlled substance, misdemeanor theft of service, and misdemeanor assault family violence. He made bonds totalling \$4,750 the next day.

-- Jeremy Nathaniel Zuniga, 34 of Vernon, was arrested on a felony U.S. Marshall warrant relating to possession of marijuana. He was also charged with possession of a controlled substance, penalty group 1. Vernon Police checked out with a subject on Pearl

Covid

FROM PAGE 1

father, told El Paso’s KVIA, that his son was active and alert, playing hide and seek with his family and happily watching TV the night before he was hospitalized.

The next morning, Boatman said he heard J.J. wheezing a bit, but said his son’s health took a sudden nosedive after he left for work.

“My supervisor came and got me and said I needed to go to the ER because of J.J.,” Boatman said. “My wife told me that he was purple, blue, and screaming that he couldn’t breathe. He was yelling for help.”

The child was flown from Wilbarger General Hospital to Cook Children’s Medical Center where doctors discovered Boatman’s lungs filled with fluid and his brain swollen from lack of oxygen. Boatman was tested for COVID-19 at the medical center and returned a positive test.

Boatman’s heart gave out and he died the following morning. The doctors told Boatman’s mother that her son had died from complications related to COVID-19.

“[Boatman’s mother] didn’t know that she was going to come home empty-handed without her son,” Ayala told KTVT. “That was her baby boy. That was her only son.”

“We’re going to miss his whole life,” Ayala added. “He’s going to miss his whole life. His life hadn’t even started.”

“You don’t know how to live life anymore because everything’s just literally changed,” Jason told KTVT. “Everything has literally just changed when your baby boy is not ever coming back.”

A GoFundMe page has been set up to help cover funeral expenses: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/jj-boatman-funeral-expenses>

WEATHER
Rainfall
Last 7 days: 0.01
2021: 0.73
2020: 2.45

Street at 12:37 p.m. Sunday to serve the federal warrant. The subject was then allegedly found to be in possession of meth as well.

-- Police, at 9:56 a.m. Monday, served a warrant at the Augusta Apartments on a female for a domestic disturbance, that had allegedly occurred on Dec. 13.

POLICE CALLS

-- 11:30 p.m. Friday, a citation was issued, following a traffic stop in the 2500 block of Wilbarger, for possession of marijuana under 2 oz.

-- 10:12 a.m. Saturday, a forgery of a check was reported at United.

-- 7:04 p.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 800 block of Bismarck. A female had injuries consistent with an assault. The male left prior to officer arrival.

-- 12:08 p.m. Monday, a report for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was taken in the 2800 block of Mesquite.

-- 12:36 p.m., credit card abuse was reported in the 2600 block of 14th. A card had a charge for gas on it from Kyle, Texas.

-- 6:14 p.m., an assault was reported in the 3000 block of Luna. The incident is under investigation.

-- 8:26 a.m. Tuesday, an assault was reported in the 1900 block of Lexington. A male was beating on a female subject’s car.

FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS

-- 2:45 p.m., Friday, a vehicle hit a gas meter in the 1100 block of Bentley.

-- 12:29 p.m. Sunday, a grass fire was reported. Personnel were on scene 53 minutes.



Congressman talks agriculture

U.S. Congressman Ronny Jackson (center) met with Wilbarger County agriculture producers last Thursday. Jackson said he is looking for bipartisan ways to work across the aisle on farming issues. He said there are Democrats that represent rural farmers and he believes they can have common ground. He also discussed the pandemic and the relief programs for farmers who were effected.

New WGH wound center headlines January building permits

Nine building permits were issued in Vernon during January. The big permit was for a remodel at Wilbarger General Hospital for the creation of a new wound center.

In a December 2020 meeting, the Wilbarger General Hospital board of directors accepted a bid of \$373,750 for the new Wound Care Center project. WGH Chief Executive Officer Tom Siemers said the center would be “life-altering” for those who had suffered long-term wounds and he believed it improve the quality of life in the community, while also being profitable.

Director Roger Townson, on the board’s building and grounds committee, said that WGH received five project proposals, three of which were within \$8,000 of each other, and after reviewing those proposals his committee proposed the directors accept the bid from Cunningham Clark Construction, of Wichita Falls.

The project calls for renovating the old MRI building, which will then be the new Wound Care Center.

“It’s a very stable structure, it’s a well-built structure. We’ve got a wonderful building, so instead of looking at a project that would cost us in the neighborhood of \$700 or \$800,000 if we were having to build a building from scratch and do all of the planning, we’ve got a building,” Townson said.

CEO Siemers said this will be the only regional center with a hyperbaric medicine chamber.

“Most people when they say they have a wound clinic, they aren’t really doing wound care. I mean they are chang-

ing a bandage. What this clinic is about... is healing wounds that don’t heal. And these are long-term wounds,” Siemers said, adding there are a number of nursing home patient that would fit that criteria.

Siemers said the numbers supporting the clinic came from a market analysis which included Altus. He said it was based on 150 new patients a year

Siemers said the management company, Geo-Logic, “is going to invest half of the construction cost to finance this, they honestly wouldn’t put their money into this if

they didn’t fell that the market was successful.”

The project should be completed sometime in April or May. Siemers said it would be open Monday through Friday. It may start up half-time initially

JANUARY PERMITS:

-- 1/4/21, Sign, 2900 Wilbarger, contractor is SSC Signs, owner is United

-- 1/7/21, HVAC, 1701 Hwy 287 E, contractor is Fancher Elec, owner is A-Star Liquor

-- 1/7/21, HVAC, 2627 15th, contractor is Fancher Elec, owner is Doris Caylor

-- 1/8/21, Carport, 2711 Center Dr, owner/self-contractor is Brian Horn

-- 1/15/21, Remodel, 920 Hillcrest, contractor is Cunningham-Clark, owner is Wilbarger Gen Hosp

-- 1/19/21, Fence, 2509 Bowie, owner/self-contractor is Dustin Fraticelli

-- 1/20/21, Fence, 2830 Maiden, contractor is Bryant Const, owner is Sylvia Caffery

-- 1/26/21, Addition, 2326 Wheeler, owner/self-contractor is Billy Talbot

-- 1/27/21, HVAC, 1730 Houston, contractor is Fancher Elec, owner is Todd Smith

OBITUARIES

Jason Jayden ‘J.J.’ Boatman

Jason Jayden “J.J.” Boatman, 9, of Vernon, Texas died on Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2021, in Fort Worth, Texas.

Service will be Monday, Feb. 8, 2021 at 2 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church under the direction of Sullivan Funeral Home. Officiating will be Chaplin Phillip Kennedy. Visitation will be Sunday, Feb. 7, 2021 at 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Sullivan Funeral Home.

J.J. was born Monday, Jan. 9, 2012 in Wichita Falls, Texas. He was the son of Jason Wayne Boatman and Priscila Ayala Boatman.

J.J. had lived all his life in Vernon. He attended Central Elementary School.

He loved to be called J.J. He was the most beautiful fun-loving little boy you could imagine. He was so full of Life! He was a kid who was so Happy all the time. J.J. loved to bug his mom and dad and his sisters most of all. He loved to play with his nerf dart gun going around the house shooting at his family. He loved balloons so much, he loved to suck out the helium so his voice would have a high pitch voice. J.J. loved watching Steven Universe and Disney’s Gravity Falls. He loved to listen to music and sing along to the music, loved to play outside, loved going to the park and swimming pool. J.J. was so easily entertained he just loved Life so much. J.J. never let things bring him down. J.J. will be missed so much by all who knew him and loved him so much.

J.J. is survived by his father and mother Jason Boatman and Priscilla Boatman; his sisters, Electra J. Boatman of Vernon, Texas and Sabrina S. Boatman of Vernon, Texas; parental grandma Rhonda Boatman of Vernon, maternal grandma Gloria Ayala of Carrizo Springs, Texas, step-grandpa David Lara of Altus, Okla. and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

He is preceded in death by his parental grandpa Joe Boatman and maternal grandpa Armando Ayala.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.sullivanfuneralhomevernon.com.



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