

**BROWNFIELD NEWS**



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**Meth, suspected-stolen property found at accident**



Fulcher

Two women were arrested Sunday when Brownfield police discovered methamphetamine in their vehicle after it was involved in a traffic accident.

Katherine Fulcher, 33, and Mannette Breckenridge, 31, both of Lubbock, are each charged with possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance in Penalty Group 1, a state jail felony, and could face additional theft or fraud charges pending the outcome of further investigation.



Breckenridge of the vehicle.

The case against the two suspects began when Fulcher, driving a maroon-colored, extended-cab pickup truck in which Breckenridge and a 13-year-old girl were riding as passengers, crashed the vehicle into a pole about noon in the 200 block of West Main Street. Responding patrol officers discovered a drug-paraphernalia item in plain view in the vehicle while questioning the accident victims, then requested a search

Officers from the Brownfield Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division called to the scene discovered a small amount of meth in the vehicle, as well as several checks and credit cards in names that did not belong to either suspect. Evidence suggested that property could have been linked to recent vehicle-burglary cases in Lubbock, and BPD will likely assist detectives in the Hub City to determine its specific origins and possibly file further charges.

Fulcher and Breckenridge were taken to Brownfield Regional Medical Center to receive treatment for injuries related to the accident, then to the Terry County Jail for booking. As of press time, both remained behind bars with bond set at \$5,000.

The 13-year-old girl riding in the vehicle was released to the custody of Child Protective Services.

**Charge dropped in Tumbleweed case**

A case of neglect at a local nursing home that led to the death of a patient was dismissed but could be re-presented to a new grand jury pending further investigation, the *Brownfield News* learned.

Defendant Jon Kirksey, 44, was originally scheduled to face a jury trial last Monday in Terry County District, but prosecutors instead chose to drop his indictment and proceed with the case in another manner that they did yet not wish to disclose.

"The charges against Kirksey have been dismissed at our request," said Texas Attorney General's Office media spokeswoman Lauri Saathoff. "It's a procedural step, and we're continuing to investigate and work the case."

Charges remain pending against codefendant Edna Faye Stowe, 56, Saathoff said, but a trial date has not yet been set.

As the *News* previously reported, Stowe, Kirksey and codefendant Maria Stella Briones, 51, were arrested in July 2011 on indictment warrants for injury to an elderly person, but Briones' charges have since been dismissed.

All three were employed by Tumbleweed in February 2011 when a patient, 71-year-old Willie Byers, died of hypothermia after he wandered unsupervised outside the facility, 1101 E. Lake St. Although he



Tumbleweed Care Center

was not discovered until about 8:15 on one of the coldest mornings Brownfield had seen in years, surveillance footage showed Byers leaving the facility about four hours earlier.

During ongoing investigation of each suspect's specific duties and activities during

the morning in question, the Texas Attorney General's Office decided to proceed with charges against only Kirksey and Stowe.

"All charges were dropped against Briones based on investigation of medical evidence," Saathoff told the *News*

in June, declining to comment further.

If convicted, Kirksey and Stowe could face up to 20 years in prison for the second-degree felonies with which they are charged.

**Meadow corrects landfill violation**

The City of Meadow operated their landfill illegally last summer but corrected the issue in time to avoid any fines, the *News* learned this week.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality media spokesman Terry Clawson told the *News* an investigation into allegations of illegal activity at the landfill was recently completed.

TCEQ issued Meadow a Notice of Violation that indicated the landfill did not have a licensed operator from June 1 through Aug. 20 but remained open during that time period. As

the *News* previously reported, the city has been operating under the provisional license of James Smith since he received it Aug. 23.

"The violation was resolved since they stopped operating the landfill until they got a licensed operator," Clawson said. "So unless there is another problem, there will be no fine."

The landfill's former licensed operator was longtime Meadow resident Robert Campos, who worked as the city's director of public works from June 11, 1996 through May 31.

*Bridal Selections*

Kelsey Salmon & Kent Moore  
Holly Isaacs & Tyler Britten  
Kayla Dawson & John Pierce

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**The Brownfield News Halloween Costume Contest 2012**

Take a color photo of your child in his/her Halloween costume or stop by the Newspaper, 409 W Hill with your child dressed up and we will take a photo of them. Then, fill out the form below and turn it in along with your \$5 entry fee by October 29th at 5:00 pm

**Categories:**  
A) Birth - 3yrs  
B) 4-6yrs  
C) 7-10yrs

Prizes will be awarded in each category.  
All photos will be featured in the *Brownfield News* on Wednesday Oct. 31st

Entry Form Category: \_\_\_\_\_

Childs Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_