

Construction will begin soon on a new \$5.3 million, 27,700-square-foot public safety complex in Glenpool. **A14**

## Expect delay in debris pickup

City crews are picking up storm debris as their regular duties allow.

BY P.J. LASSEK  
World Staff Writer

Residents waiting for the city to collect tree debris left in the wake of thunderstorms early last month should be prepared for it to sit at the curb for a while, an official said this week.

"If you want the debris removed

quickly, it may be better for residents to haul it to the city's free green-waste site," said Paul Strizek, the Public Works Department's contract manager.

Strizek said it will take at least a few months to collect all the debris.

The city announced days after the storm that it would conduct a one-time, citywide debris sweep beginning June 16.

The storm damage wasn't as significant as that of the December ice storm, but limbs were blown down, and some large trees were

uprooted. Officials said vegetation damaged by the ice storm was vulnerable to the high winds that whipped through the area June 1.

Strizek said Monday that the city has begun the debris collection, but it is slow work that is being done when time permits.

"It's kind of catch-as-catch-can with our crews," he said. "We're not using contract crews like we did to clean up after the ice storm. We're using our street and vegetation crews in between their regular duties."

Strizek said the city has been di-

vided into three areas with a few collection crews working in each.

"We don't really have the equipment to do this," he said. "We're using equipment to fix potholes to now pick up debris."

Strizek said crews are keeping detailed records on neighborhoods where they have collected debris and will not make second sweeps.

Officials ask that residents do not leave debris on top of utility equipment, such as water meters, and not place it near anything that

SEE **DEBRIS** A11

## Suspect has a violent history

Three protective orders against him were sought in the last three years.

BY LEE LOGAN  
World Staff Writer

A suspect in the kidnapping of three children and the rape of one of them last week had a violent past, court records show.



### CHARGED

**Brandon W. Brixey:** He is a suspect in the kidnapping of three children and the rape of one of them.

Police say Brandon W. Brixey, 25, stole a van from a woman Thursday and fled with her three children, ages 1, 3, and 8, inside.

After the van was recovered with the children still inside, an investigation found that the 8-year-old had been sexually assaulted.

Tulsa County District Court records show that three protective orders were filed

against Brixey in the last three years.

Brixey's mother, Karen Bendell, requested one of the protective orders in November.

Brixey "grabbed me by my arms, slammed me against the wall,

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'I thought it looked cool and I wanted to try it.'

**EMMA JANE PENDLETON**

on her first experiment in yodeling five years ago

## Young yodeler wins big



Fourteen-year-old Emma Jane Pendleton recently won the Patsy Montana National Yodeling Championship. Photos by STEPHEN PINGRY/Tulsa World

BY RYAN STRONG  
World Staff Writer

Tulsa is now the home of the United States' newest yodeling champion, 14-year-old Emma Jane Pendleton.

Emma Jane won first place at the Patsy Montana National Yodeling Championship after singing "I Want to be a Cowboy's Sweetheart" while wearing authentic cowgirl attire. The competition was held in Pineville, Mo., in late May.

"I thought it looked cool and I wanted to try it," Emma Jane said as she recalled her first experiment in yodeling five years ago.

National yodeling contests usually attract girls from around the western half of the U.S. ranging from 8 to 16 years old.

The first portion of the contest is composed of a yodeling camp at which each girl is mentored and hones her craft. The second day is the actual competition, at which the girls perform for the judges.

"We look for the total package," said Jane Frost, co-director of the event, in a press release.

National yodeling contests are typically invitation-only events

### Online

Watch two slide shows featuring Emma Jane Pendleton, one of her yodeling and another with her sister, Marina, at the Skiatook Bluegrass Festival's Youth Fiddle Contest: [www.tulsaworld.com/photos](http://www.tulsaworld.com/photos)



Emma Jane won first place after singing "I Want to be a Cowboy's Sweetheart."

and can be rather selective, said Emma Jane's father, Scott Pendleton.

Emma Jane yodels every day, but she said she never thought she would win the national contest.

Marina Pendleton, Emma Jane's 13-year-old sister, won second place in the same contest. The girls have played in concert with Lyle Lovett and were finalists in a national talent contest broadcast on CBS' "The Early Show."

Others close to Emma Jane were not surprised by her success.

"She's so dedicated and disciplined," said Jana Jae, a musician and mentor to both Pendleton sisters.

thought yodeling would be fun."

Emma Jane began listening to yodeling CDs with her parents and eventually picked up the style and techniques of her idols Janet McBride and Judy Coder.

The yodeling contest was named after Patsy Montana, a yodeler from the 1930s who wrote "I Want to be a Cowboy's Sweetheart." Emma Jane's parents said the contest in designed to empower young women.

"Pasty was a role model to young girls in music," Virginia Pendleton said.

Scott Pendleton added, "The contest helps them follow in her path."

Emma Jane also holds the title of Oklahoma junior fiddle champion and 2008 national junior fiddle champion.

Music remains an important part of Emma Jane's life, but the home-schooled student said she has her eye set on a career as a lawyer.

"I don't see music as a career," she said, "but I love it, and I will never stop."

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## Fate of dogs in sex case not decided

BY DAVID SCHULTE  
World Staff Writer

Tulsa County sheriff's deputies who investigated a couple's alleged sexual practices with dogs recommended that the dogs be euthanized because they "have been trained to rape," but Undersheriff Brian Edwards said Tuesday that the Sheriff's Office has not made an official decision about the dogs in the case.

"We do have a plan to have a veterinarian evaluate the dogs, so all options are on the table," he said. "This is a difficult case, and there are a lot of conflicting interests."

More precisely, Emma Jane won the junior division championship at the 2008 Grand Lake National Fiddle Fest.

for Seigfried's blue heeler, which was taken to the Tulsa Animal Shelter along with two dogs owned by Whalen, court records show.

Assistant District Attorney David Iski said, "It is primarily to address the cost of care of the animal while

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