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Nocona, one of Abilene Zoo's beloved cougars, passes at nearly 19 years old. PROVIDED BY THE ABILENE ZOO

Nocona, Abilene Zoo cougar, dies at 19 years old

Rosanna Fraire
San Angelo Standard-Times
USA TODAY NETWORK – TEXAS

One of Abilene Zoo's cougars has passed just one month after her brother, according to the zoo's Facebook page. "It is with heavy hearts that we share the passing of Nocona, one of Abilene Zoo's beloved cougars," the post stated. At nearly 19 years old, Nocona lived a life well beyond the average cougar lifespan of 8–13 years in the wild, according to the zoo. The average lifespan is up to

20 years in human care. "Alongside her brother Pecos, who passed away just last month, she faced age-related challenges in her later years, including arthritis and mobility issues," the post stated. "Both siblings were placed in hospice care in July 2024 as their mobility declined and additional health concerns emerged." Surrounded by the animal care professionals who had loved her for nearly two decades, she passed peacefully this past weekend. Nocona was born in the fall of 2006

and arrived at Abilene Zoo in January 2007 with her siblings Pecos and Acala. "She and Pecos shared a remarkable bond, spending their entire lives together here in Abilene," the post stated. "Nocona was known for her calm confidence and the quiet strength she carried throughout her years. While we are heartbroken to say goodbye, we take comfort in knowing that Nocona and Pecos are together again. Their legacy of love, resilience, and grace will live on in the hearts of all who knew them."

Texas sues makers of Tylenol

N'dea Yancey-Bragg
USA TODAY

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton announced Oct. 28 he is suing the makers of Tylenol, claiming the companies failed to warn consumers about the risks of taking the drug while pregnant. Paxton filed a lawsuit against pharmaceutical giant Johnson & Johnson and its spin-off company Kenvue, claiming the companies withheld information about Tylenol's links to autism and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, violating the state's consumer protection laws. The suit also claims Johnson & Johnson broke the law by fraudulently transferring liability over Tylenol to Kenvue, which spun off in 2023, in order to shield their assets against lawsuits.



Paxton

"These corporations lied for decades, knowingly endangering millions to line their pockets," Paxton said in a statement. "Additionally, seeing that the day of reckoning was coming, Johnson & Johnson attempted to escape responsibility by illegally offloading their liability onto a different company. By holding Big Pharma accountable for poisoning our people, we will help Make America Healthy Again." Acetaminophen, the generic form of Tylenol, "is the safest pain reliever option for pregnant women as needed throughout their entire pregnancy," Kenvue said in a statement to USA TODAY. The company said it is "deeply concerned by the perpetuation of misinformation" about the drug's safety. "We will defend ourselves against these baseless claims and respond per the legal process," the company's statement said. "We stand firmly with the global medical community that acknowledges the safety of acetaminophen and believe we will continue to be successful in litigation as these

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Crash takes child's life in Coleman County

Trish Choate
Abilene Reporter-News
USA TODAY NETWORK – TEXAS

A 4-year-old boy died after being ejected from a car in a Coleman County crash Friday, the Texas Department of Public Safety said in a media release. The crash happened at about 5:35 p.m. Monday at U.S. Highway 84 and County Road 464 in rain and wet road conditions, the DPS said. Michelle Warden Callisto, 27, of Burnet was

driving a 2024 Nissan Versa with her two sons, a 4-year-old and a 3-year-old, in the backseat. The passenger car was traveling south on the highway at a speed that was unsafe in wet road conditions, the DPS said. As a result, the driver veered west off the roadway, overturned and came to rest upright. The 4-year-old was ejected from the car during the crash and died, the DPS said. Callisto suffered minor injuries. Both children "were reportedly secured in child passenger safety seats,"

the DPS said Monday. The crash is undergoing further investigation. The DPS did not release the names of the children in the media release as is the agency's policy for victims who are minors. The DPS did not list the 3-year-old boy as injured. *Trish Choate is the executive editor for the Wichita Falls Times Record News, San Angelo Standard-Times and Abilene Reporter-News. Contact Trish with news tips at tchoate@gannett.com. Read her recent work here. Her X handle is @Trishapedia.*

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