

# Pauls Valley Democrat

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## A podcast view of tragic death

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The anniversary of a Maysville woman's tragic death is also the time for a closer look at many of the unanswered questions surrounding a controversy that still haunts those who knew her.

It's been nearly two decades, 19 years to be exact, since then 30-year-

old Sheila Deviney died in a fire that some to this day still believe was murder.

Deviney died on Jan. 6, 2004 when her trailer house just outside of Maysville burned to the ground.

Initially considered an accident, authorities changed their minds several months later and ruled it was arson and a homicide after a state investigation

into cloth and carpet samples near Deviney's body showed traces of ignitable liquid.

Since that time Deviney's parents, David and Susan Deviney of Maysville, have been fighting to bring more attention to the case, which in 2006 included a grand jury investigation.

Now they're about to get even more as the Deviney unsolved mystery will be

featured in an episode to be released Jan. 6 of a podcast called Sirens/A Southern True Crime Podcast.

Raven Rollins of Tulsa, a native of Ada, started the podcast in 2019 expanding to cover cold cases in Oklahoma and southwest.

"Susan reached out to me and asked that I come take a look and see if I wanted to do something on this case," Rollins said, referring

to Deviney's mother, who starting last summer provided around 1,500 documents, photos, reports and other information about her daughter's case.

"It's a sad situation and hopefully we get something moving forward. We've been digging and talking to witnesses that were never interviewed and looking at things that were never

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## Art Time



Before the holiday break second and third grade students sat down to take in a few lessons from art teacher Nancy McGee on how to draw a good pumpkin. (PV Democrat photo)

## A road trip of self discovery

By Barry Porterfield  
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An election was still a year away and his opponent was a strong one, so Steve Kendall decided to spend a whole lot of time assessing himself and what he would do if he was no longer Garvin County's associate district judge.

As it turns out Kendall's bid for another term on the bench did fall short in November as he lost to challenger Laura McClain.

Now Kendall plans to hit the road, literally and on the other side of the world, when he soon leaves a judge's job he's held since being appointed back in 2013 followed by wins for two full terms.

Kendall's planned road trip starting in Paris, France is more of a self examination of who he is and what he hopes to do with his life.

"I'll be leaving a few days after stepping down," Kendall said as McClain is scheduled to be sworn into the office next week.

"This is an opportunity to reinvent myself. I've

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Steve Kendall