

By Jan Rahn

Managing Editor

Three persons were transported to Perkins County Hospital on Tuesday, May 28, as a result of a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Perkins County Road 351 and Highway 23 in Grafton.

Responding to the wreck were the Perkins County Sheriff's office and personnel from the Wallace, Elsie, Grant and Madrid fire departments.

According to the sheriff's office, 59-year-old Leslie Chrisman of rural Wallace had to be extricated from the vehicle she was driving, a red 1999 Pontiac Grand Am four-door sedan. She suffered disabling shoulder and upper arm injuries. Her passenger, 60-year-old David Chrisman suffered disabling abdomen and pelvis injuries.

The Chrisman vehicle was struck by a white 2012 Dodge Ram pickup driven by 60-year-old Gregory Pelster of rural Elsie. Pelster was also transported to the Perkins County Hospital with possible, but not visible, neck injuries.

Investigation of the accident revealed Pelster, who was traveling southbound, was distracted when he began crossing Highway 23 after stopping but not seeing the vehicle driven by Chrisman. She swerved but was unable to avoid being struck.

Pelster's vehicle spun 180 degrees and came to rest in the westbound lane of Highway 23. Chrisman's vehicle traveled off the right side of Highway 23, colliding with a stop sign and telephone pole before coming to rest, according to the accident report.

According to the sheriff's office, Pelster's vehicle sustained an estimated \$2,000 in damage to the front passenger side.

Chrisman's vehicle was a total loss sustaining an estimated \$8,000 in damage to the front driver side and other areas of the vehicle.

Alcohol and drugs were not a factor in the accident and all parties were wearing seat belts.

According to the sheriff's office, Pelster was cited for careless driving and failure to yield right of way and will be arraigned in court.