Ray verdict overturned on appeal

By Shelby Kwame
THE PANOLA WATCHMAN

A 1990 guilty verdict imposed on a man convicted of murder has been overturned by the state's highest court. John Ray was convicted of murdering his wife, Betty Ray, 48, who was killed in 1991.

Less than a month ago, Tyler's family of Tyler's relatives, including his great-grandmother and his father, had gathered to hear the news of the overturning of the verdict. A Panola County sheriff issued a press release which was issued on the morning of the verdict.

Tyler, the only child of a man who was killed by Ray, was told by his family that the death sentence had been overturned. The family was overjoyed with the news and plans to spend time together as a family.

Harris to run for county judge

With the 6 p.m. filing deadline just hours away, former County Judge Tommy Hollinaby filed to run for the 1990 county judge race. Hollinaby, who has held the position since 1988, is seeking his second term.

The filing deadline is today, and Hollinaby was one of the first to file. He is currently the only candidate running for the position.

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"I believe in County Judge," Hollinaby said. "I've been a county judge for 10 years and I believe in what we're doing. I believe in making sure the county is run efficiently and effectively."
Carthage Junior High earns acceptable state report card

Carthage Junior High School earned an acceptable academic rating from the state for the 2022-2023 school year. This is the fourth consecutive year the school has achieved this rating.

The state report card, released annually by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), evaluates public schools based on a variety of factors including academic performance, attendance rates, and graduation rates. Carthage Junior High's performance met the standards set by the state for academic quality.

The school's principal, Dr. Jennifer Johnson, noted that the staff and students at Carthage Junior High have worked hard to achieve this rating. "We are proud of our students and their commitment to their education," she said. "This rating is a testament to their hard work and the dedication of our teachers and staff."
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