

The Little Peoples Paper

On the side of truth and the common  
Lampasan.

Saturday  
May 16th 2020

[www.LampasasRadio.com](http://www.LampasasRadio.com)

## The Weather



**High yesterday was 88° Low this morning was 60°**

The forecasters say predicting the high temperature today could be challenging. The Central and Eastern portions of our area should have broken clouds. With the influx of clouds, storms, and their outflow boundaries the best guess is the farther west you go, the warmer it will be...unless it rains on you, probably close to 80°. Next week looks near seasonal through about Wednesday then getting warmer.

Hamilton had a wind gust of 46 mph, Lampasas had a wind gust of 32 mph at about 10:45pm.

**Today:** Mostly cloudy with winds from the N near 5-10 mph. The high temperature will be near 80°. There is a 60% chance of precipitation.

**Tonight:** Mostly cloudy with N winds near 5 mph becoming W after midnight. The low will be near 65°.

**Sunday:** Partly sunny skies and a high temperature near 84°.

Winds will be NW at 5-10 mph shifting N-NE in the afternoon.

**Sunday Night:** A low temperature near 64° and NE wind near 5 mph becoming calm.

**Monday:** Skies will be sunny with the high temperature near 86°. Wind will be calm becoming light from the E in the afternoon.

**Monday Night:** A low near 64° and mostly clear skies. There will be a slight easterly breeze in the afternoon.

**Tuesday:** Sunny with a high temperature near 86°. There will be a NE breeze near 5 mph in the afternoon.

## Texas Coronavirus Statistics

Texas is set to begin phase II of Governor Abbott's 3-phase plan on Monday. Two weeks have passed since retail stores, restaurants, and other businesses were allowed to open up at 25%. While there has been a steady increase in cases over the past 2 weeks, officials say the *rate* of positive tests is declining, most probably due to more tests being available and given across the state.

Texas reported 1458 new cases on Thursday and 1347 new cases reported on Friday.

John Wittman, an Abbott spokesman states "The Texas positivity rate has trended down since April 13, our high water mark, and has trended down slightly since we began to slowly and safely open up the economy on May 1, "We haven't seen any spikes in the positivity rate and our hospitalizations have remained steady."

An article in The Texas Tribune tells us this about the testing: "The testing data itself is muddled. The Texas Department of State Health Services now includes antibody tests — which can detect whether a person previously recovered from COVID-19, the disease caused by the new coronavirus — in its daily testing totals. But the state reports do not differentiate those figures from standard nasal swab tests, so it's impossible to know how many tests show active infections and how many show previous infections.

When things started ramping up in New York, Texas started social distancing. By starting social distancing right away, we were able to keep hospitals from being overwhelmed with COVID-19. Some officials fear a rebound if we open things too fast, coming in the summer and fall.

The White House recommends that a state either see a downward curve in cases over 14 days or a downward curve in the *percentage* of positive test results over the same period to reopen. The former hasn't happened in Texas. The number of new cases reported each day has grown from an average of about 918 during the week ending May 1 to about 1,227 this week. Rebecca Fischer, a Texas epidemiologist thinks the increasing number is evidence of community spread. She also said that we may see an increase in hospitalizations and an increase in deaths from COVID-19 in the next 5-10 days.

The TEA made recommendations this week about the next school year. Gyms, offices and some manufacturers can reopen on Monday with phase II of Governor Abbot's plan.

## Governor Abbott, TDEM Announce Partnership with Local Fire Departments to Expand Testing In Nursing Homes

Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) today announced that local fire departments in Texas are partnering with local public health authorities to provide testing in nursing homes throughout the state. This partnership has been developed and is being implemented through an ongoing collaboration between TDEM, the Texas Commission on Fire Protection, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, and the Texas Department of State Health Services. Costs associated with providing these tests are eligible for federal reimbursement.

"This partnership builds upon our efforts to expand COVID-19 testing in the Lone Star State, especially among our most vulnerable Texans," said Governor Abbott. "I thank our local fire departments for continuing to serve their fellow Texans throughout the COVID-19 response. By serving their communities in this new capacity, we will continue to contain the spread of this virus and protect the health and safety of all Texans."



Let's  
stay  
home.

# Personal Classifieds

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### Beginning Monday

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## The Blotter

**The Lampasas Police Dept. Blotter** for Friday shows a suspicious vehicle in the 800 block of S. Key at 3:52am. Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1700 block of CTE at 7:16am. There was a disturbance in the 700 block of Brown St. at 7:31am, then a minor accident in the 800 block of N. Key at 7:51am. A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1300 block of CTE at 9:51am. The afternoon shows a minor accident in the 200 block of S. Key at 1:24pm. Two thefts were reported, one in the 900 block of E. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. at 3:33pm, and one in the 1100 block of Nix Rd. at 5pm. A protective order violation was reported in the 200 block of S. Rice St. at 7:20pm. A suspicious person was reported in the 1100 block of W. 1<sup>st</sup> St. at 9:33pm, and suspicious activity was reported in the 1100 block of E. 4<sup>th</sup> St. at 11:58pm.

**The Sheriff's Dept. Blotter** for Friday shows Lometa with an accident, a welfare check and a reported trespassing. Kempner had medical calls, civil matters, livestock issues and a reported disturbance. Out in the county, there were medical call, civil matters, an accident and a reported fraud. Deputies went into Cove on a medical call, a civil matter and a report of a stolen vehicle.

The Jail Log shows that Roland Balderas Vasquez, 34, is currently in the Lampasas County Jail.

*The Burn Ban has been lifted indefinitely*

## LISD School Board Holds Called Meeting

**The Lampasas ISD Board of Trustees** will meet Wednesday May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30am for a called meeting. The Agenda includes an amended 2020-2021 calendar, real property, and a resolution regarding real property.

## USDA Grants

USDA Announces Grants for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production

The USDA announced \$3 million in competitive grants is available to support the development of urban agriculture and innovative production projects. USDA will accept applications on Grants.gov until midnight July 6, 2020.

Planning Projects should initiate or expand efforts of farmers, gardeners, citizens, government officials, schools, and other stakeholders in urban areas and suburbs. Projects may target areas of food access; education; business and start-up costs for new farmers; and development of policies related to zoning and other needs of urban production.

Implementation Projects should accelerate existing and emerging models of urban, indoor, and other agricultural practices that serve multiple farmers. Projects will improve local food access and collaborate with partner organizations and may support infrastructure needs; emerging technologies; educational endeavors; and urban farming policy development.

## Happy Birthday Sunday

Rory Chapman 6 years old



A webinar will be held on June 3 from 2-4pm Eastern Standard Time. The webinar will provide an overview of the grants purpose, project types, eligibility, and basic requirements for the submission of an application. <http://www.farmers.gov/urban>.

## Phase II of Reopening Texas

More businesses will be allowed to open on May 18<sup>th</sup> according to the executive order:

“Starting at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, May 18, 2020:

a. Services provided by office workers in offices that operate at up to the greater of (i) five individuals, or (ii) 25 percent of the total office workforce; provided, however, that the individuals maintain appropriate social distancing.

b. Manufacturing services, for facilities that operate at up to 25 percent of the total listed occupancy of the facility.

c. Gyms and exercise facilities and classes that operate at up to 25 percent of the total listed occupancy of the gym or exercise facility; provided, however, that locker rooms and shower facilities must remain closed, but restrooms may open

## Texas Supreme Court Says Evictions Can Proceed

The Texas Supreme Court has ruled that evictions and debt collections can proceed. Eviction hearings can be as soon as Tuesday with orders authorizing convictions allowed starting May 26<sup>th</sup>. Tenants who are in homes covered by federally backed mortgages are protected through the CARES act. This includes renters in homes covered by federally backed mortgages. Other places in Texas have local orders. These cities include Austin, Dallas and San Marcos. Advocates around the state are worried about the rise in homelessness due to the ruling.

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