

The Little Peoples Paper

On the side of truth and the common
Lampasan.

Friday
June 5th 2020

www.LampasasRadio.com

The Weather



High yesterday was 91° Low this morning was 72°
The temperature was 72° with 94% humidity at 6:55am. The forecasters say the heat index could reach 103° today. The forecast shows above normal heat for central Texas with heat indices reaching near or above 100° over the next few days. Tropical Depression/Storm Cristobal is expected to continue to move north through the Gulf reaching the Louisiana coast sometime Sunday night. We shouldn't see any impact, but Eastern Texas might. The combination of the tropical depression/storm exiting the area and compressional heating may result in record breaking heat of 103°-105°. After the front passes, highs in the 90's are expected next week.

Today: Mostly sunny skies with a high temperature near 93° and a heat index near 100°. Winds will be S-SW near 5-10 mph.

Tonight: Clear with a low near 71°. Winds will be SE at 5-10 mph.

Saturday: Skies will be sunny with a high temperature near 95°, and a heat index near 98°. Winds will become SE at 5-10 mph in the morning.

Saturday night: Clear with a low near 71°, and an east wind near 5 mph becoming calm.

Sunday: Sunny skies and a high temperature near 96°. There will be a light easterly breeze.

Sunday night: Mostly clear with a low near 72° and an light E-NE wind becoming calm.

Monday: Sunny skies with a high temperature near 97° and a light north breeze



It's Friday!
What's goin' on?



"Unity in our Community"

Lampasas Radio was visited Thursday morning by Asiel Gary, who is behind the Unity March planned in Lampasas today at noon.

Asiel grew up in Lampasas, and said he saw isolated incidents of racism in his years here. The march grew from Asiel's desire to get the word out about unity, and his mom did not want him travelling to larger cities to participate in protests. He contacted Lampasas Police Chief Sammy Bailey for advice, and the Unity March became a reality.

The march will begin in WM Brook park in the area near Schlotzsky's. He asks to please park in WM Brook park, so as not to interrupt the businesses nearby. The march will be **ON THE SIDEWALKS** up Key Ave. to 6th St., then turn around and return to WM Brook Park to the Amphitheater to hear people speak.

When he is finished, he said "I want to keep people informed." Asiel is pursuing a degree in Law at Texas Tech University.

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A group of residents, young and not so young, gathered at the Lampasas County Courthouse square yesterday evening for a peaceful protest about events happening in our country. They hope to bring attention to a problem they see as important and they let everyone have a chance to speak.

By all accounts, there were not many people and there were no issues. Cade Hilgenburg, Griffin Burbey, and local LEO's kept things moving in the right direction.



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The Blotter

Lampasas Police Dept. blotter for Thursday shows an early report of child endangerment in the 1500 block of S. Key at 12:49am. Suspicious activity was reported in the 500 block of College St. at 5:21am. A disturbance was reported in the 1500 block of s. Key Ave. at 8:40am, then another disturbance was reported in the 300 block of E. 4th St. at 11:21am. At 11:47am a protective order violation was reported in the 200 block of S. Broad St. The afternoon shows a report of criminal mischief in the 1200 block of E. Ave A at 12:35pm, then a suspicious vehicle on 3rd St. at 12:38pm. A minor accident took place in the 200 block of s. Key at 1:43pm, and William Worthy, 34, of Lampasas, was arrested in the 800 block of Casbeer St. on a LPD warrant for DWI at 3:51pm. A burglary of a habitation was reported in the 600 block of College St. at 5:09pm. Later suspicious activity was reported in the 1300 block of S. Key at 10:30pm, a suspicious vehicle was reported in WM Brook park at 11:13pm and a prowler was reported in the 900 block of S. Howe at 11:41pm.

Lampasas County Sheriff's Dept. Blotter for Thursday shows Lometa with a reported fraud and a livestock issue. Kempner had a request for extra patrol, animal issues, a repossession, a reported theft, and welfare checks. Out in the county, there were civil matters, animal issues, medical calls, a report of lost/found property, a report of suspicious activity, a reported assault and a welfare check.

The Burn Ban has been lifted indefinitely

Coronavirus Update

Dr. Georgia Hay, Lampasas County Health Authority was in Lampasas Radio Studios this morning for an update on the coronavirus situation.

Dr. Hay confirmed that Lampasas had 10 cases, all recovered at this time. She said that we have "good protocols" in place in town at this time,

With the uptick in protests, we may see a rise in cases, but more so in large metropolitan areas, not so much in rural areas. When asked if we have peaked for COVID-19 cases in our area, it was pointed out its kind of hard to "peak" at 10 cases. Dr. Hay informed our listeners that all residents and employees in our nursing homes were tested yesterday by the National Guard through the Texas Department of Emergency Management. The test results may be a week or even longer to receive due to the backlog. She stated that 300 people in our area nursing homes were tested yesterday. If any tests are positive, the State Health Dept. has a quick response team to assist with the nursing homes.

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Education is going to be essential from here on out. We have run the race, but many employers and nursing homes are requiring two negative tests to either return to work or enter/re-enter a nursing home. Dr. Hay explains that many people test positive for several weeks after they have recovered. Which creates a situation where many people cannot work. The medical community is writing letters and trying to provide ways for residents to return to work after recovering, yet still having positive tests.

Dr. Hay will be back next week at 8am on Friday.

Shortfall of COVID-19 Contact Tracers in Texas



According to an article in the Texas

Tribune, "As Texas moves forward with a new phase of Gov. Greg Abbott's plan for reopening businesses, the state has fallen more than 25% short of its goal for a workforce of

disease detectives that experts say are crucial for tracking the spread of the new coronavirus.

One of Abbott's reopening metrics for June 1 called for up to 4,000 Texas contact tracers, who work to identify people with possible exposure to the coronavirus and call them to get tested and self-quarantine.

But Texas officials said Thursday there were roughly 2,900 contact tracers working around the state. Of those, some 1,140 are working for the Texas Department of State Health Services, 1,170 are working for local health departments or their nonprofit and university partners, and about 600 are working for a company recently hired by the state.

The 4,000-person figure was an estimate taken from a national association of public health officials that was determined by the state's population, Texas Department of State Health Services spokesman Chris Van Deusen said.

"Texas has had significantly fewer cases per capita than the national average, and we want to match the number of contact tracers to the actual workload," Van Deusen said in an email, adding that the state has enough personnel to contact all new cases in its jurisdiction. But other groups have suggested that Texas needs a far higher number of contact tracers. One model from George Washington University put the number at more than 8,000.

Abbott announced his third phase of reopening Wednesday, allowing most businesses to operate at 50% capacity effective immediately. Restaurants will be allowed to operate at 75% capacity beginning June 12 under the governor's order.

As more people venture out and come into contact with others, public health experts say there will be a greater need for contact tracing to identify people who have been exposed to the virus. And after tens of thousands of Texans gathered to protest against police violence over the past week, epidemiologists expect the daily count of new coronavirus cases in Texas to grow at a faster clip in the coming weeks.

After someone tests positive for the coronavirus, a contact tracer calls them at the telephone number they gave to the testing agency. The tracer's goal is to obtain a list of people and places where the patient might have spread the virus, call those contacts and encourage them to self-quarantine and get tested for the virus before they potentially infect a new group of people.

Over the past week, the average daily number of new coronavirus cases has grown in Texas, with new data reflecting outbreaks in prisons and meatpacking plants. Thursday's figures: 1,649 new cases, 33 new deaths and about 5% of tests coming back positive.