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RADIOGRAM

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The Little People Paper
On the side of truth and the common
Lampasan.

Monday June 20th, 2022 www.LampasasRadio.com
News at 7:10am & 12, 6pm & 10pm

The Weather

The High Yesterday: 98° The Low This morning 72°

Today: Sunny and hot with a high temperature topping out near 100°. The wind will become SE at 10-15 mph gusting to 20 mph.

Tonight: Look for mostly clear skies and a low temperature near 75°. Wind will be from the SE near 5-15 mph gusting to 20 mph.

Tuesday: Sunny and hot with the high temperature near 99°. The wind will continue from the SE at 5-10 mph, gusting to 20 mph.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear skies with a low temperature near 74°. The wind will be S at 10-15 mph decreasing to 5-10 mph overnight with possible gusts of 20 mph.

Wednesday: Sunny and the heat continues with a forecast high near 100°. Winds will become SE at 5-10 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear skies with a low near 75°. Wind will be S-SE at 5-15 mph.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations



Texas is planning to add enough electric vehicle charging stations throughout the state to support 1 million electric vehicles with dozens of new stations to allow for easier long-distance travel.

In a draft plan released this month, the Texas Department of Transportation broke down a five-year plan to create a network of chargers throughout the state, starting along main corridors and interstate highways before building stations in rural areas. The plan is to have charging stations every 50 miles along most non-business interstate routes.

In most other areas in the state, there will be charging stations within 70 miles, according to the plan. Each station is designed to have multiple stalls so there will likely be one available whenever someone stops to charge. The chargers will be high-powered at 150kW, able to bring most electric vehicles from 10% to 80% in about half an hour, according to the report.

The funding is coming from the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act passed last year, which is estimated to allocate about \$408 million over five years to Texas for the purpose of expanding its electric vehicle charging network. No funds from the state budget will be used. Nationally, the goal is to create a network of 500,000 convenient and reliable electric vehicle chargers by 2030.

In total from the infrastructure act, Texas is expected to receive about \$35.44 billion over five years for roads, bridges, pipes, ports, broadband access and other projects.

Less than 1% of Texans' registered vehicles are electric. As of May 31, there were 129,010 electric vehicles registered in Texas, according to the report.

"However, since 2020, the total number of electric vehicles across Texas has nearly tripled as more people adopt the technology,"

TxDOT stated in its report. "With rapidly growing adoption rates, it is necessary to ensure Texas will be able to meet the demand of these new vehicles on the road."

The state is gathering public comment on the plan, after which it will be finalized. To receive the funds, TxDOT must submit a finalized plan by Aug. 1 to the Federal Highway Administration. Officials plan to award contracts for construction starting in January.

Childcare Costs Increasing

Childcare costs are already through the roof, and there's no sign that prices will drop anytime soon. A new report from Care.com found that rates for everything from nannies to afterschool care have increased significantly since the beginning of the Covid pandemic.

Care.com found that 72% of families spend at least 10% of their income on child care, exceeding the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) affordability threshold of 7%, and 51% of parents say they expect to pay at least 20% for care.

Since 2019, weekly nanny rates have increased a staggering 23%, childcare centers have gone up by 5%, family care centers or in-home care centers have increased by 10%, and afterschool care costs have risen by 7%. That is when parents can find care at all.

While 5% over two years may not seem like a huge jump, these increases are occurring during a time of unprecedented inflation, stagnant wages, skyrocketing housing costs, and an economy on the brink.

It should come as no surprise then that 59% of parents are more concerned about the financial impact of childcare than they were in previous years, 21% plan to leave or have left the workforce entirely in order to care for their children, and many said they would not grow their families because they cannot afford care for additional children.

Fifty-one percent of parents say they're cutting back on vacations or travel, 51% are decreasing leisure activities, 45% say they're trimming their food budgets, 41% are cutting their family clothing budgets, and 37% say they're reducing the number of extracurricular activities their children participate in all in order to afford care for their children while they work.

The U.S. is not an economically-friendly place for parents right now, and the burgeoning childcare crisis is only adding to the pressure. Student loans that have been in federal forbearance since early in the pandemic are due to begin repayment this summer, almost four million children have lapsed back into poverty since the end of the Expanded Child Tax Credit program in December, and costs for essential goods like diapers and staple foods are higher than ever. Coupled with the national baby formula shortage, it's incredible that American parents are making it work at all.

Personal Classifieds

Miscellaneous

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School. June 27-30 5-8:30pm.
For more info call:

512.734.1705/512.556.7522624

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Lost/Found

Lost: Last Week 2 mares.

Area of 8689 FM 581E Lampasas County. If you have information on the whereabouts of these horses please call **254.289.4428.** 623

Garage Sales

Hayner Estate Sale 502 S. Spring St. June 23rd-25th. Thurs & Fri 9am-3pm. Sat 10am-1pm. Antiques, German Collectibles, Stained Glass.

www.leftoversaustin.com 6.25

upcoming **EVENTS**

Monday June 20th

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Business

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Help Wanted

LA Porter Construction is looking for an experienced truck driver, class A CDL, and also an experienced excavator operator. Pay depending on experience. Come out to 6608 N. Hwy 183 between Lampasas and Lometa. 623

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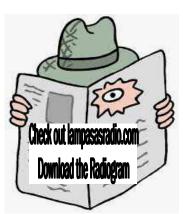
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The Blotter



Lampasas Police Dept. blotter for Saturday shows a suspicious vehicle reported in the 1600 block of 281S at 1:09am, and a suspicious person was reported in the 100 block of N. Key Ave at 4:50am. The evening shows a suspicious person in the 600 block of S. Spring St. at 10:47pm and a reported disturbance in the 1700 block of E. 3rd St. at 11:34pm.

Lampasas Police Dept. blotter for Sunday shows a reported assault in the 1700 block of E. 3rd St. at 1am, and the arrest of 37 year old Juan Zarate of Lampasas in the 1700 block of E. 3rd St. for Assault class C/family violence at 1:20am. There was a reported fraud in the 700 block of S. Key Ave. at 11:48am. There was a report of recovered property in the 1700 block of E. 3rd St. at 12:42pm, a suspicious person was reported in the 600 block of S. Chestnut St. at 2:15pm, and Ernest Montoya, 37, of Florence was arrested in the 1700 block of CTE on a Georgetown Police Dept. warrant for Robbery Felony 2 at 4:05pm. There was a suspicious person reported in the 700 block of S. Spring St. at 5:28pm. At 8:48pm, Anthony Rivera, 37, of Killeen was arrested in the 1200 block of Barnes St. on a Lampasas Police Dept. Warrant for possession of a controlled substance PG1 less than a gram and 2 Lampasas Municipal Court Warrants (no drivers license, and possession of Drug paraphernalia). A suspicious person was reported in the 1100 block of W. 1st St. at 9:53pm, a suspicious vehicle was reported in the 100 block of EE Ohnmeiss Dr. at 9:55pm and there was a noise complaint in the 200 block of Riverview Dr. at 11:12pm.

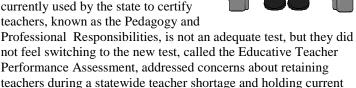
The Lampasas County Sheriff's Dept. Blotter for the weekend shows Lometa with medical calls, a fish & game call, and animal issues. In Kempner there was a requested welfare check, reported disturbances, animal/livestock issues, medical calls, a shots fired call and an alarm call. Out in the county there were reported disturbances, reports of suspicious activity, civil matters, a reported criminal mischief, animal/livestock issues, a reported trespassing, medical calls, and a reported theft.

The Jail Log shows the arrest of 23 year old Keendell Rodriguez-Martin of Harker Heights for possession of Marijuana less than 2 oz.

New Teacher Certification Test Rejected

The State Board of Education on Friday unanimously rejected a new teacher certification exam that supporters dubbed the solution to prepare and retain new teachers, but critics worried would create barriers for people of color to enter the profession.

Many board members said the exam currently used by the state to certify



Teacher

educator prep programs accountable for how they prepare future teachers.

"I feel there are some stones left unturned," said SBOE Chair Keven Ellis, a Republican who represents Northeast Texas. "I would not consider a vote to reject a wooden stake through the heart of edTPA. This is not the end of the road."

Ellis proposed bringing stakeholders back to the table Monday to discuss possibly developing an additional exam or other potential

The edTPA exam was first approved in late April by the 11-member State Board for Educator Certification, which oversees the preparation, certification and standards of conduct of public school educators, but it needed final approval from the State Board of Education to be implemented.

Proponents of the new exam say it will better support and retain new teachers because it can pinpoint exactly what a teacher lacks through the video recordings and written analyses provided. Those against the edTPA say it creates a barrier for people of color entering the profession because it costs nearly \$200 more than the Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities exam currently used. The new exam has been scrapped in New York and Washington, two states where it had been required.

This new licensing test would have replaced the PPR exam, a 100-question test that has been in use since 2002. Critics of the PPR teacher certification exam have called it a less-than-precise way of testing a new teacher's potential. All the questions on the test are multiple choice, making it easier to pass.

Before Friday's vote, the Board's Committee On School Initiatives, which is made up of five State Board of Education members, on Thursday recommended the full board reject the edTPA exam. They cited that teachers and school administrators don't want it, it will negatively affect people of color, it's been adopted and then scrapped in other states, and there has been a lack of communication between stakeholders leading up to adoption.

Ruben Cortez Jr., a Brownsville Democrat, on Thursday brought up a letter from 26 different teacher unions and education groups sent to Texas State Board of Education members asking that the board reject the plan and instead mandate the certification board to increase training requirements of teacher preparation programs.

But Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath told board members Wednesday that edTPA will help Texas' new teachers as they are more likely to leave the profession quicker and are more likely to serve low income students and students of color.

He also said it would take too long for Texas to come up with its own exam and it would be easier to contract a proven exam like the edTPA. The TEA is ready to set aside about \$2 million dollars to help prospective teachers pay for the more expensive

Death Notice

James "Jimmie" Marshal Perkins, 88, of Lampasas passed away on Friday. Services will be held on Friday, June 24 at First Baptist Church Lampasas with a visitation an hour prior. Interment will follow at Townsen Cemetery in Adamsville.

> **Constant Coverage CBS News KCYL 1450AM**