

The Little Peoples Paper

On the side of truth and the common
Lampasan.

Tuesday
July 28th 2020

www.LampasasRadio.com

The Weather

The High yesterday 95° The Low this morning 72°

The heat index yesterday reached 97°

Hurricane Hanna was not a rain maker for central Texas, and the forecasters say that through next week it will continue to be hot and dry.

Today: Increasing clouds with a high temperature near 92°, and scattered showers in the afternoon. Winds will be light from the SE.

Tonight: Mostly cloudy with a low near 76°. Wind will be SE at 5 mph.

Wednesday: Skies will be partly sunny with a high near 96°, and a heat index near 99°. The wind will be S-SW at 5-15 mph gusting to 20 mph.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy with a low near 75°. Winds will be S at 5-15 mph with possible gusts of 20 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny with a high near 96° and a S-SW wind at 5-10 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy with a low near 75°. Winds will be from the S at 5-10 mph.

County Commissioners' Met

The Lampasas County Commissioners' Court met Monday morning for a regularly scheduled meeting. The meeting was held via ZOOM.

The Agenda included account payable and payroll that were accepted as presented. The annual county fee changes were approved for 2021.

A depository contract extension with Bancorp South was approved, which will keep the same services and extend the contract. The annual financial report for Fiscal Year 2019 was approved.

A resolution for a county grant program, for year 2021 was approved for home delivered meals for the elderly. The program will cover Lampasas residents through the department of agriculture. The program will take place from Feb 1st through Jan 1st 2022. Providing home delivered meals to the elderly.

A resolution for the county transportation infrastructure fund grant agreement was accepted.

A Covid Tracking Contract was approved with Dr. Georgia Hay, Lampasas County Health Authority. Dr. Hay will be an independent contractor with the county for \$25 per hour for no more than 20 hours a week to provide contact tracing for the county.

Excess funds associated with Lampasas Central Appraisal District and the amendment to the 2019 Lampasas CAD budget were approved.

A construction meeting will be held for the Jail Project this Thursday at 9am.



City Council Notes

The Lampasas City Council held their regularly scheduled meeting last night, and it was live streamed via YouTube.

The Agenda included the consent agenda and the minutes from the previous City Council Meeting and those were approved.

The Lampasas Parks and Recreation Dept. gave their monthly report including a look back on the 2019-2020 year. This year the Parks & Recreation Dept. have completed the installations of the restrooms at Campbell Park, the concrete forms for walkways, and the ADA access ramp, and delivery and installation of the restroom facility. There are also ongoing improvements for Hanna Springs in partnership with the Heritage Foundation. They have removed the wire & posts from the Lampasas Springs Pool in Campbell park. The fall zone material in WM Brook Park was replaced, and the department implemented tree trimming and removal at the Gavin Garrett Soccer Field. Last Thursday the placement of 8 ADA picnic tables, benches and trash cans was completed at the Lampasas Public Library. Parks & Recreation also completed a butterfly shaped garden with trees and plants known to attract butterflies. The 1st Monarch was sighted on July 12th. The department hopes to resume some sort of normalcy soon.

Finley de Graffenried spoke about the wheeling agreement with Kempner Water Supply Corp. Kempner WSC will be using the Georgetown water tank for approximately 22 connections east of the city limits. Conversations were started about the minimal compensation to cover the cost on the 1000 gallons basis. Kempner WSC has pulled the agreement twice in two meetings without providing input.

Last Wednesday the city received an email from Kempner stating that since they 'own' the lines to the Georgetown tank, and 37% of the capacity, that Kempner WSC does not have to do a wheeling agreement to begin with, which is where the compensation comes into play.

Mr. de Graffenried asked Kempner WSC to provide documents to verify what they say. In response, they filed an open records request to Lampasas to prove that Kempner WSC does not own the lines. Mr. de Graffenried stated that "This is ridiculous" and the Lampasas Mayor concurred.

With the absence of a wheeling agreement, the City of Lampasas has no authority for the city to charge anything more than a commercial rate.

Also approved were the accelerated purchases of a 2020 police interceptor utility from Silsby Ford not to exceed \$57,000; A 2020 Silverado pickup from Hoffpauir Chevrolet for the Street Dept. not to exceed \$30,000; purchase of extraction equipment for the Fire Dept. was approved for \$40,989.92.

Melissa Unger, Director of Lampasas Chamber of Commerce declined a raise at this time due to Covid-19.

A request was approved in the amount \$1,908.74 in HOT funds for the Lampasas County Chamber of Commerce for funding for event expenses. The expenses will be related to the LTX BBQ scheduled for September, which is a closed event for registered participants only.

Personal Classifieds

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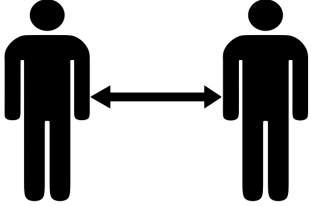
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Help Wanted

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LD
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The Blotter

Lampasas Police Dept. blotter for Monday shows a disturbance in the 1700 block of W. 4th St. at 9:56am, then lost property was reported in the 800 block of N. Key at 10:48am. The afternoon shows a reported fraud on Samac Lane at 2:14pm, a criminal mischief was reported in the 300 block of S. Walnut at 3:40pm, and a reported public intoxication in the 1300 block of E. Ave H at 5:50pm. The evening shows a reported theft in the 600 block of N. Key at 7:29pm, followed by the arrest of Gary Domhoff, 42, in the 700 block of N. Key at 7:51pm on a Lampasas Municipal Court Warrant for possession of drug paraphernalia, theft under \$11, public intoxication, and possession of drug paraphernalia, two class C offenses and failure to appear. Suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of N. Willis St. at 9:23pm.

The Sheriff's Dept. Blotter for Monday shows Lometa with a livestock issue. There were no calls shown for Kempner. Out in the county there were livestock issues, a civil matter and a reported criminal mischief. Deputies went into Cove on a medical call, suspicious activity, and a reported theft.

The Burn Ban is in Effect! No Burning!

DSHS Makes Changes to Covid-19 Data



According to a news release from The Texas Department of State Health Services: "Texas DSHS is improving the reporting of fatalities due to COVID-19 by identifying them through the cause of death listed on death certificates. This method allows fatalities to be counted faster with more comprehensive demographic data. Using death

certificates also ensures consistent reporting across the state and enables DSHS to display fatalities by date of death, providing the public with more information about when deaths occurred. The change will be reflected in today's data when posted online.

A fatality is counted as due to COVID-19 when the medical certifier, usually a doctor with direct knowledge of the patient, determines COVID-19 directly caused the death. This method does not include deaths of people who had COVID-19 but died of an unrelated cause. Death certificates are required by law to be filed within 10 days.

DSHS previously counted COVID-19 fatalities as they were reported publicly by local and regional health departments after they received a notification and verified the death. The length of time that process takes varies by jurisdiction and does not provide timely demographic information on most fatalities. As of Monday, death certificate data has identified 5,713 fatalities among Texas residents, including 44 newly reported today. That compares with 5,038 deaths reported Sunday under the previous method. DSHS will continue to post the number of additional fatalities reported each day. Fatalities are reported based on where the person lived. "

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New Country Blend
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Happy Birthday

Cayson Kirkpatrick-17



Early Voting Extended

Governor Greg Abbott yesterday issued a Proclamation extending the early voting period for the November 3rd Election by nearly a week.

Under this proclamation, early voting by personal appearance will begin on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, and continue through Friday, October 30, 2020. The proclamation also expands the period in which marked mail-in ballots may be delivered in person to the early voting clerk's office, allowing such delivery prior to as well as on Election Day.

"As we respond to COVID-19, the State of Texas is focused on strategies that preserve Texans' ability to vote in a way that also mitigates the spread of the virus," said Governor Abbott. "By extending the early voting period and expanding the period in which mail-in ballots can be hand-delivered, Texans will have greater flexibility to cast their ballots, while at the same time protecting themselves and others from COVID-19.



STAAR Requirements

Adjusted for Texas Schools

Governor Greg Abbott today announced that the grade promotion requirement related to the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) test for students in grades 5 and 8 has been waived for the upcoming school year. Typically, school systems must take into account a student's score on the STAAR test to determine whether the student can be promoted to the next grade level. The traditional A-F rating system will remain in place, albeit with certain adjustments due to COVID-19.

"As always, our goal is to provide a high quality education for every Texas student," said Governor Abbott. "This will be a uniquely challenging school year, therefore, this year is about providing students every opportunity to overcome the disruptions caused by COVID-19. By waiving these promotion requirements, we are providing greater flexibility for students and teachers, while at the same time ensuring that Texas students continue to receive a great education — which we will continue to measure with high quality assessments."

"During a time of great uncertainty, one thing is indisputable — we cannot allow an entire generation of Texas students to be disadvantaged by the unprecedented disruptions this pandemic has caused in our education system. Not only will this approach do a great deal to reduce the 'high-stakes' burden of testing in a school year already complicated by this pandemic, it will hold schools accountable for providing a high quality education while equipping teachers and parents with the information they need to make certain students are learning and remain on the path to educational success," said House Speaker Dennis Bonnen.

"With this waiver, we are ensuring that the success of Texas students remains the focus of this school year. These unprecedented times have brought much upheaval to these students' lives and this is one thing we can do at the State level to help ease them back into their educational routines while still ensuring the institutions of education remain accountable," stated Chairman of the House Public