

The Weather



The High yesterday 94° The Low this morning 75°

The heat index reached 98° yesterday. Today looks to be hot and humid, and look for tomorrow to be warmer with a few locations in our area reaching 100°. The forecasters say an unusual cool front will come through Central Texas Friday and Friday night. It will bring relatively cooler conditions and N winds near 10 mph. Scattered showers and storms are possible in front of and behind this front. Saturday will be when the cooler weather is noticed, with highs only in the lower 90's, and the possibility of a few lingering showers.

Today: Mostly sunny skies with a high temperature near 91°. Winds will be S at 5-10 mph, gusting to 20 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy skies and a low near 75°. The S wind will continue at 5-10 mph gusting to 20 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny with a high temperature 98° with an expected heat index of 103°. The wind will be S-SW at 10-15 mph gusting to 20 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy and a low around 76°. Winds will be S at 5-10 mph.

Friday: Partly sunny and up to 97° with a 30 % chance of showers and storms, mainly in the afternoon. Winds will be S-SW at 5-10 mph shifting NW in the afternoon.

Friday Night: A 50% chance of showers and storms with mostly cloudy skies and a low near 74°. Light S-SW winds will become calm.

Coronavirus Update

Unfortunately, Lampasas has its second COVID-related death.

A woman in her 70's passed away yesterday. Lampasas now has 158 cases with 29 active and 2 in the hospital.

In Texas, 9,305 new cases were reported yesterday. There are 9,593 Texans in the hospital, 1,255 less than a week ago.



City Manager's Notes



Lampasas City Manger **Finley de Graffenried** was in Lampasas Radio studios this morning for a visit with Ronnie Witcher. When asked about the Wheeling Agreement concerning Kempner Water Supply Corp. (KWSC), Mr. de Graffenried explained that KWSC wants to serve 22-24 taps off of our line to the Old Georgetown Road water tower. He said that "net metering" would be a better way to look at the

situation. (The City of Lampasas buys their water from KWSC) There is a meter off of HWY 190E that meters how much water the City of Lampasas uses. The water used for these 22-24 taps will go through the 190 meter, and it will be used by KWSC customers, not Lampasas. Lampasas wants to deduct the number of gallons of water used by those taps off of the bill from KWSC each month.

KWSC has a contractual capacity in the Old Georgetown Rd. water tower, as explained by the City Manager. However, they have no means to fill the tower without the water going thru the Lampasas City meter on HWY 190E.

KWSC has advised the City of Lampasas that they own the lines in the city and therefore do not have to pay. As Mr. de Graffenried explained it will probably be 200,000-300,000 gallons a month for those taps.

The City of Lampasas asked for evidence that KWSC owns the lines. KWSC then asked the City of Lampasas to prove that the City of Lampasas owns the lines.

In other business, the City will hold a special meeting on August 3rd at 5:30pm for a Budget Workshop. A Budget was presented with options for additional compensation to the staff. At this time, no increase to taxes or utility fees are being considered.

The Paving Program is busy with sealcoating and patching, and Mr. de Graffenried spoke about the benefits of upgrading the City's emergency services communications. It will allow easier communication and enable the local law enforcement/emergency personnel to speak to nearby emergency service departments. The Budget included \$600,00 for this upgrade.

The West Ave. E project has 220 days to go, 1 culvert has been placed and the City Manager asks for residents to use caution. Also, the Hancock Pool will have its last regular hours August 9th, then weekends through 23rd with fewer hours.

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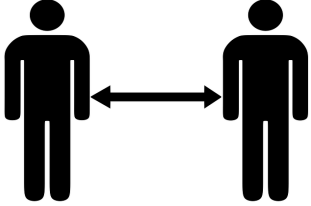


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The Blotter

Lampasas Police Dept. blotter for Tuesday shows an early morning curfew violation reported in the 200 block of W. 6th St. at 3:37am. The 7am hour saw the arrest of Carlton Hudson, 21 in the 200 block of E. 2nd St. for assault/bodily injury/family violence, unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon and possession of marijuana less than 2 oz. at 7:16am. A suspicious person was reported in the 1000 block of Barnes St. at 9:03am. The afternoon shows a reported criminal mischief in the 500 block of N. Key at 3:05pm, suspicious activity in the 100 block of EE Ohnmeiss at 7:26pm and a suspicious person in the 400 block of W. Ave B at 11:52pm.

The Sheriff's Dept. Blotter for Tuesday shows Lometa with a repossession. Kempner shows an animal issue, reported disturbances, and a medical call. Out in the county were livestock issues, medical calls, a welfare check, and a shots fired call. Deputies went into Cove on a medical call.

Texas Attorney General Chimes in on School Closures

According to an article in the Texas Tribune, Local health officials do not have the authority to shut down all schools in their vicinity while COVID-19 cases rise, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton said in nonbinding guidance Tuesday that contradicts what the Texas Education Agency has told school officials.

Shortly after Paxton's announcement, the Texas Education Agency updated its guidance to say it will not fund school districts that keep classrooms closed because of a local health mandate, citing the attorney general's letter. Districts can receive state funding if they obtain TEA's permission to stay closed, as allowed for up to eight weeks with some restrictions. The change represents an about-face for the agency, which previously said it would fund districts that remained closed under a mandate. It will impact schools in at least 16 local authorities, many in the most populous counties, that have issued school closure mandates in the past month. After Texas ordered schools to reopen their classrooms this fall, county and city public health officials began to push back, ordering all public and private schools in their areas to stay closed through August and in some cases September.

The officials cited a state law giving health officials authority to control communicable diseases. But Paxton said in the letter that "nothing in the law gives health authorities the power to indiscriminately close schools — public or private — as these local orders claim to do. ... It does not allow health authorities to issue blanket quarantine orders that are inconsistent with the law."

The governor's executive order allowing all school districts to operate overrules local mandates to close, Paxton said. Local health officials have some authority to order schools closed if people in it are infected by COVID-19, *but not as a preventive measure.*

The agency confirmed to The Texas Tribune earlier this month that school districts under such mandates would not lose state funding if they closed classrooms. But it was confusing to education officials and school communities.

Attorney General Paxton's letter can be found at the website <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/news/releases/ag-paxton-issues-legal-guidance-school-reopening>

Immunization Clinic Planned

The AdventHealth Family Medicine Clinic in Lampasas is hosting an immunization clinic on August 5th. The clinic will be held at the Family Medicine Center on Hwy 190E just past WalMart from 5:30-6:30pm.

Masks are required, and the child needs to have a legal guardian with them. No appointment is necessary, it is a walk-in clinic.

Brad Buckley Plans Water 101 Program

Brad Buckley posted this on his social media: "Mark your calendars for this Facebook LIVE event! On Tuesday, August 4th @ 6:30pm, please join me and six of the leading water experts in #HD54 for an important discussion about one of our most precious natural Resources. From surface water, to underground conservation, to water suppliers- they'll all be here! We will take your questions at the end of the conversation, so tune in and submit your questions in real time. #txlege #TeamBuckley #water (Brazos River Authority, Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District, Kempner Water Supply, #BellWCID1)

Funeral/Death Notice

Antonia Torres, 78 of Lometa, Texas died Tuesday July 28 at Advent Health Central Texas Hospital in Killeen. She was born April 18, 1942 in Richland Springs, Texas to parents Ramon Coronado and Hilary (Ramirez) Coronado. She married Louis G. Torres July 3, 1960. She was a proud Mother and homemaker. Antonia was a member of Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Lometa.

She is survived by her children; David C. Torres, Martin C. Torres, John C. Torres, Emma Lou Wagner, Andrea Tonya Torres, Theresa Ann Livesay. Brothers; Apolonio Coronado, Mino Coronado Sisters; Juana Coronado, Udelia Guerra, Domina Martinez 14 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren

Antonia was preceded in death by her husband Louis Torres, daughter, Ermalinda C. Torres, son, George Torres, son-in-law, Joey Wagner and great-grandson, Pablo Castruita.

Funeral Mass will be Saturday August 1 at 10am at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Lometa. Burial will follow in Senterfitt Cemetery.

Sneed Funeral Chapel in charge of arrangements.

