

## New Council Chambers opens

BY DAVID LOWE  
DISPATCH RECORD

The results of a more than one-year-long renovation project were unveiled to the public Monday, as the Lampasas City Council held its first meeting in its new City Council Chambers.

The council room is on the upper floor of the 302 E. Third St. building that once housed City Hall. The building, designed by Austin architect Roy L. Thomas, was constructed in the early 1930s.

The city administration facility has been just down the block -- at 312 E. Third -- at least since the mid-1990s, officials said. Municipal Court, however, remained on the Main Street side of the former City Hall building when many other offices moved years ago.

### NEW FEATURES

With renovation work completed by general contractor ASJ Construction -- a Lampasas company -- the upper floor of the former City Hall building now includes Council Chambers, two other meeting rooms and a waiting area outside the meeting rooms.

The new Council Chambers can seat about 90 people, City Manager Finley deGraffenried said in a recent interview. That is more than three times the seating



Mayor Pro Tem TJ Monroe, Mayor Misti Talbert and Councilman Mike White recite the Pledge of Allegiance near the start of the Lampasas City Council's regular session Monday in the new City Council Chambers.

capacity of the 405 S. Main St. facility where the council had been meeting, deGraffenried said.

The city's information

technology department now works out of the former council building, deGraffenried said.

In addition to the meeting space

on the upper floor of the new Council Chambers building, a room on the lower floor can be used for meetings or training

programs, the city manager said.

In addition to the City Council, the Lampasas Economic Development Corp., the Planning & Zoning Commission, the Zoning Board of Adjustments, the Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals, and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will use the remodeled facility, the city announced.

Officials have not decided how to use the building's basement, the city news release stated.

Renovation of the Municipal Court area included installation of security glass, an automatic door, a new counter, new carpet tiles and new ceiling tiles, deGraffenried said.

### A MULTI-YEAR PROCESS

Discussions about a possible new meeting place for the City Council began years ago.

On June 25, 2013, a Dispatch Record story noted that a Capital Improvements Program Committee report identified a new or remodeled Council Chambers as a high priority for the city. The CIP Committee recommends various projects, and the City Council decides which ones to fund when.

For a time, officials considered constructing a new council meeting

SEE **NEW**, PAGE 11



JEFF LOWE | DISPATCH RECORD

### Morning temperature plunges

Before Thursday morning's freeze, Lampasas had not had an October freeze since 1993, according to Lower Colorado River Authority Chief Meteorologist Bob Rose. Thursday's temperature is shown on a thermometer at W.M. Brook Park. Wednesday's high was about 30 degrees below average for late October.

### Falling gas prices a treat this Halloween

BY ALEXANDRIA RANDOLPH  
DISPATCH RECORD

Gas prices have dropped over the course of the week and could continue to decrease in coming days, AAA officials said.

The statewide average in Texas is \$2.26 for a gallon of regular unleaded fuel, according to AAA Gas Prices. That is two cents

less than on this day last week and 26 cents less per gallon compared to this day a year ago.

Lampasas County's average gas price was at \$2.25 per gallon as of Thursday morning, one cent less than the state average. The statewide average is 35 cents less than the national

SEE **INCREASED**, PAGE 12

## No action on mutual aid deal with Copperas Cove

County officials concerned about fire department's request for payment on certain EMS calls

BY DAVID LOWE  
DISPATCH RECORD

After court members voiced concerns about a payment provision, the Lampasas County Commissioners Court took no action Monday on an updated mutual aid agreement with the Copperas Cove Fire Department for emergency medical services.

The existing agreement has been in effect about 20 years, Copperas Cove Fire Department Deputy Chief Gary Young said.

County Judge Randy Hoyer said the draft of the updated agreement looks fine, except for an issue related to payment. The draft calls for the county to pay the Copperas Cove Fire Department \$600 if the fire department provides an EMS transport during a Lampasas County call and cannot collect payment from another source.

Hoyer said he is concerned that a payment requirement goes against "the true spirit of an interlocal mutual aid agreement" and constitutes more of a contract.

The judge added, however, that county officials definitely want an interlocal agreement so Lampasas County and the Copperas Cove Fire Department can assist each other as needed.

Precinct 1 Commissioner

Bobby Carroll said Copperas Cove is a good neighbor for Lampasas County, and he said county officials "really want to work with Copperas Cove, of course."

At the same time, though, Carroll said he agrees with Hoyer about the potential \$600 payments.

In the last quarter, Carroll said, the Copperas Cove Fire Department was called four times to assist in Lampasas County, and Acadian Ambulance Service was called to Copperas Cove four times.

Although he acknowledged he has less than a year's worth of call data, Carroll said it appears "we're pretty much on equal terms, and I don't see why there should be a fee for us to pay."

"It looks like an even trade, and that's, like I say, what a mutual aid agreement is all about," the commissioner added.

Coryell County pays the Copperas Cove Fire Department an annual stipend for emergency medical services, Young said.

"So if we're unable to collect [from other sources], that stipend that they pay annually covers it," he told the Lampasas County Commissioners Court.

The arrangement is part of a service agreement, the deputy chief explained in an



JIM LOWE | DISPATCH RECORD

A Copperas Cove Fire Department ambulance responds to an emergency call in Lampasas County last year.

email to the Dispatch Record on Wednesday.

Bell County pays the Copperas Cove Fire Department a maximum of \$600 for each incident for which the fire department cannot collect payment, Young said. That arrangement is part of a contract with Bell County for the emergency medical services the fire department provides, Young wrote in the email to the Dispatch Record.

When dealing with Bell County, the fire department exhausts all collection options before requesting the \$600 county payment, Young said. He said the same would be true if Lampasas County approves an updated interlocal agreement that contains

a payment provision.

Although Young said the draft agreement does not specifically call Lampasas County the "payer of last resort," he said that is the Copperas Cove Fire Department's intent.

"Because we're going to take every measure possible to collect that fee from that patient who receives that service," Young said.

The payment from the county would apply only on calls that result in ambulance transport, Young said.

"It's not on the ones that we go to and we don't transport," he said.

The deputy chief also

SEE **COPPERAS**, PAGE 12

### WEATHER

Date	High	Low	Rain
Oct. 27	80	48	0
Oct. 28	60	47	0
Oct. 29	48	43	0.21
Oct. 30	42	37	0.05

Rainfall so far this year: 22.40 in.

Data from the Lower Colorado River Authority (site 11 miles west-northwest of Lampasas, near Nix).

### BRIEFLY

#### BURN BAN LIFTED

The burn ban is suspended today until Sunday at 7 p.m. As a result, outdoor burns are allowed outside incorporated city limits.

#### EARLY VOTING

Early voting for the state constitutional amendment election ends today at 5 p.m. The early voting site is the county elections administrator's office, 407 S. Pecan St. in Lampasas.

Ballots feature 10 proposals to

amend the Texas Constitution. For voting recommendations, see page 5 of the Dispatch Record's Oct. 22 edition.

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

Wings of Eagles Outreach will hold a community service work day this Saturday. Student volunteers will meet at 7:30 a.m. at Common Grounds, 1502 Central Texas Expressway, and will be transported to a highway cleanup work site.

Volunteers later will help at Lampa-

sas' crisis pregnancy resource center.

#### HOSPITAL FUNDRAISER

Volunteers at AdventHealth Rollins Brook will hold a luxury linen sale Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the hospital conference room on the second floor at 608 N. Key Ave.

Sheet sets, bamboo pillows, blankets and quilt sets also will be available for sale.

Proceeds benefit volunteer projects at the hospital.

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# American Legion celebrates 100th anniversary

BY JEFF LOWE  
DISPATCH RECORD

American Legion is observing its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year as a nationwide veterans' organization. Post 116 in Lometa also turns 100 this year, while Post 277 in Lampasas will be 99 years old in January.

**HISTORY OF AMERICAN LEGION**  
The U.S. Congress chartered the American Legion on Sept. 19, 1919 after the organization chose its official name and drafted a constitution in May of that year. World War I had ended the year before.



COURTESY PHOTO  
During a recent meeting, American Legion Post 277 in Lampasas recognized the 100th anniversary of the national organization's founding by presenting commemorative coins to Boys State participant Robert LaMountain and Legionnaire Marine veteran Morgan Connery, second from right. With LaMountain and Connery are Post Finance Officer George Gondorchin, left, and Post Commander Jack Shelton.

Post 116 was chartered on Dec. 29, 1919. Charter members included Connie Lee McLean, John L. Barkley, Leonard A. Skaggs, Marshall Alexander, F.I. Neeld, Ryan Adkins, James T. Humphries, Jesse G. Rambo, Elsie E. Cass, Jesse R. Nance, Newton J. Crain, Lucius M. Stephens, Romly A. Thomson, Seaborn Allen and Bailey T. Rodgers.

In 1920, 27 veterans of WWI assembled at the Lampasas County Courthouse to organize a Lampasas American Legion post.

The original charter members included James A. Abney, Walter E. Martin,

Seth W. Thomson, Albert L. Culver, L.B. Rice, A.R. Harvey, Sidney L. Hooper, C.I. LaBounty, Jack S. White, Eigar T. Noyes, Milton B. Healer, W.T. Campbell, G.L. Bear, J.W. Alexander and Furman L. Wolf.

Howard Mace, born in Lampasas, was a member of the first-ever American Legion Post—which was created in Paris, France. He then transferred to Lampasas Post 277.

## PILLARS OF PURPOSE

American Legion defines the four pillars of its purpose as:

1. veterans affairs and rehabilitation
2. national security
3. Americanism
4. children and youth.

Jack Shelton, current commander of Post 277, said Lampasas County Veterans Service Officer Matt Reed handles the first of those pillars as a certified veterans' support agent headquartered in the county courthouse.

Interaction with Fort Hood is part of the American Legion's national security involvement, Shelton said. Speakers from the military base occasionally come here to inform members of the American Legion about defense issues.

Legionnaires' involvement in Boys State helps promote pride in America and its institutions.

The Lampasas and Lometa posts select incoming high school seniors to attend Boys State, where students learn about American government and patriotic principles.

Girls State offers similar opportunities, and those



JEFF LOWE | DISPATCH RECORD

American Legion Post 116 members, left to right, Bud Sprott, Commander Jim Hampton, Joe Touchon and Luella "Ronnie" Cartwright meet for lunch at Rockin' K Café in Lometa. Hampton is holding a framed, reconstructed copy of the charter for the post, which was issued 100 years ago.

nominees are selected by the American Legion Ladies' Auxiliary.

"They're usually top students out of LHS," Shelton said. "They come back, we hope, inspired to provide that type of leadership."

"We give a scholarship each year to a graduating senior, based on their civic and patriotic spirit and performance at the high school," Shelton said.

The Legion also encourages service members to take part in Veterans Day events and has worked to bring a veterans' monument, as well as a monument to those fallen in several major wars, to the county courthouse.

## POST 277 IN LAMPASAS

Shelton mentioned two

local veterans who have lived about as long or longer than the Legion itself: Leo Perkins turns 102 this month, and Lloyd Davis is soon to be 99 years old.

Post 277 has about 90 active members; nationwide, there are more than two million members.

Post 277 meets at Country Kitchen on the third Saturday of February, April, June, August, October and December at 7 a.m.

Leadership consists of: Commander Jack Shelton, Vice Commander Jesse Thornton, Adjutant John Fingerhut, Assistant Adjutant Robert Wells, Finance Officer George Gondorchin, Chaplain Wayne Butler, Service Officer Matt Reed

Sergeant at Arms Todd Briggs, Quartermaster Michael Sibberson, Executive Committee Members: Steve Cook, James Henderson and past post commander Jamie Briggs

## POST 116 IN LOMETA

Leadership of the Lometa American Legion consists of Post Commander James C. "Jim" Hampton, Vice Commander Danny Dixon, Adjutant Ronnie Cartwright, Sergeant at Arms Harlin Teague, Finance Officer Wayne Belyeu, Chaplain Stephen Ruzicka, Special Projects Officer Richard Shonk and Service Officer Bud Sprott.

Meetings are at 6:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the RP Hines Center.

# Oak Hill Cemetery Association works to improve city facility

BY JANE MCMILLIN  
SPECIAL TO THE DISPATCH RECORD

Oak Hill Cemetery Association will hold its annual meeting on Nov. 7 at 10 a.m. in the conference room at City Hall, 312 E. Third St. The public, as well as association members, are welcome to attend.

Formally organized in 1990, the association is a 501 (c)(3) private non-profit

corporation. Although donations are welcome, no dues are assessed.

For the past three decades the Oak Hill Cemetery Association has worked with the city of Lampasas to effect numerous improvements to the city-owned cemetery that was established in 1872.

The association started in 1988 as a loosely organized group of volunteers. At

that time, many live oaks -- from which the cemetery got its name -- had died from drought and oak wilt, and several areas had become overgrown with brush and weeds produced by intermittent rains. Drainage and erosion issues abounded, and numerous toppled tombstones became a concern, particularly in the cemetery's older sections.

Several of the organiza-

tion's members donated their time and labor to remove dead trees, clear brush, and help plant new trees and shrubs. Because no running water was available in the cemetery, the volunteers hauled in water to keep the new plantings alive.

At that time, there was no full-time staff dedicated exclusively to the cemetery, and members of the parks crew filled in as needed, according to an April 7, 2009 article in the Lampasas Dispatch Record.

In 1990, the volunteers sought to organize as a 501(c)(3) private non-profit corporation. The group continues to operate as Oak Hill Cemetery Association.

The first directors included Rush McMillin, Sidney M. Wieser, L.E. Davis, Ethylene Hewgley, Carlene Price and G.J. "Jim"

Anderson. Anderson also served as the association's first and only treasurer until just two months ago.

With many of the early issues resolved -- including the restoration of running water -- the association went on to work with the city on various other projects that included landscaping of both entrances to the

cemetery, installation of a wood privacy fence along boundaries with several residential properties, and mounting of hand rails along the concrete steps leading to gravesites at the top of the hill.

The association also dedicated monuments

SEE ASSOCIATION, PAGE 4



DUANE GRIFFITH | COURTESY PHOTO

The city, with support from the Oak Hill Cemetery Association, recently installed a columbarium to accommodate cremated remains in a peaceful, reflective setting.

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All lanterns are 100% biodegradable, eco-friendly, and cost \$5 each. Lanterns will be sold from 5 pm-7 pm at the park. Lantern launch will take place at 7:30 pm.



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# Trail ride raises funds for Lometa Senior Center

The Lometa Annual Benefit Trail Ride was a success this year, said sponsor Euphrin “Buck” Hawes, retired U.S. Army and Purple Tack Trail Rides coordinator.

The Oct. 19 event included a 15-mile austere horseback ride with 10 station challenges for the rider and horse teams. The route went from the Lometa auction barn to Flat Rock at Bend, along the Colorado River.

Hawes expressed his appreciation to the monetary donors, sponsors, organizations, judges and riders who participated in the ride.

“We raised over \$1,000 that was donated to the Lometa Senior Center,” he said.

Winners of this year’s ride were Melissa Marie Davis of Goldthwaite on her horse Kahlua (first-place \$400 cash prize and \$100 cash prize for the



**Taking first place in the trail ride competition was Melissa Marie Davis of Goldthwaite, shown with ride sponsor Buck Hawes.**

most purple on herself and her horse), Braiden Cole of Copperas Cove on his horse Ricardo (second-



**This group of riders participated in the Oct. 19 benefit event for the Lometa Senior Center.**

place \$150 cash prize) and Shelli Herod-Miller of Kempner on her horse Jazz (third-place \$100 cash prize).

The Mi Casa restaurant team served the cowboys and cowgirls a breakfast before the ride, and L&B Roadhouse provided an after-ride meal of ribs and brisket.

“We look forward to next year’s ride where we will begin the ride at Lometa Regional Park and add an additional two miles to the ride,” Hawes said. “Once again, we are proud to have participated in such a worthy cause.”

# Costume contest winners announced



**Jessie Fields won first place in the 5-7 year age category of the Squared Silly costume contest on Saturday.**



**Ramsie Kepler won first place in the 3-4 year age category. She was dressed as a doll.**



**Baylie Jacks won first place in the 8-10 year age category for her “Athena the mermaid” costume. Photos of additional winners can be found at the Lampasas Dispatch Record website.**

## DRT Game Day held last week

The DRT-sponsored, bimonthly Game Day was held last week.

“A good time was had by all,” club officials said.

Players with the highest scores were Jerry Perkins, Nell Lane and Deborah Webb.

The next Game Day will be Dec. 16.

Those interested in participating should call Martha Casbeer at 512-556-8388 to be added to the list of players.

## Congressman donates bubble gum for Squared Silly

U.S. Congressman Roger Williams, third from right, visited Lampasas last week to donate about 960 pieces of bubble gum to the Lampasas Police Department for distribution at Squared Silly.

He is pictured here with, from left, LPD Assistant Chief Jody Cummings, Chief Sammy Bailey, Investigator Charlie Boswell, Lampasas County Sheriff Jess Ramos, Lampasas County Judge Randy Hoyer and LPD officer John Bowman.

# Junior board holds food drive, plans other community service projects

The 2019-2020 Lampasas County Livestock Association Junior Board recently held a food drive, collecting canned goods for Lampasas Mission.

The group is led by LCLA superintendent Jennifer Brister. The junior board members are high school students from Lampasas and Lometa, and all the members are exhibitors in the Lampasas County Youth Livestock Show.

The Junior Board participates in several community service projects every fall, from toy drives to barn cleanups to other projects.

This year, board members also will participate in a “Santa Pal” project delivering Christmas gifts to elementary students in Lometa, as well as lead a recycling project during the county youth livestock show in January.



**Lampasas County Youth Livestock Association Junior Board members show canned goods they collected as part of a recent food drive for Lampasas Mission.**

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# Association members, staff, Eagle Scouts support Oak Hill Cemetery projects

FROM PAGE 2

near the cemetery's Porter Street entrance to two of its own: longtime association president Betty Ann Whitis and Dr. McMillin, one of the principal association founders.

Responding to the significant increase in cremations in recent years, the city, with generous support from the cemetery association, recently installed a columbarium to accommodate cremated remains.

An ongoing association program is that of furnishing small granite markers for long-unmarked graves, as well as for graves that have only temporary markers. The small pieces of granite are inscribed with

the decedent's name and the dates of birth and death. To date, about 200 of these markers have been placed on graves whose identities might otherwise have been lost.

Having perhaps the greatest impact during the past 30 years is the city's dedication of a permanent cemetery staff. Today, Oak Hill is served by a full-time staff composed of Crew Leader Duane Griffith, Curtis Windham and Ty Hair.

Griffith not only is responsible for supervising the maintenance of the cemetery's 60 acres that now contain some 8,000 graves, but he also carries out a host of other duties.

In support of the cemetery personnel, the association furnished the staff's new

office and has continued to fund some expenses associated with staff attendance at an annual professional development conference.

The cemetery association recently contributed to the funding of three Eagle Scout projects at Oak Hill, including Scott Jerdon's monument to veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. Sean Bartok installed privacy fencing as a backdrop for the memorial, and Logan Horn built a trail connecting the memorial with the cemetery's new columbarium.

"As you can see, we work closely with the city to make Oak Hill Cemetery a place of which Lampasas can be proud," Mrs. Whitis once wrote. Her words still ring true.



DUANE GRIFFITH | COURTESY PHOTO

The cemetery association also assisted with funding for three Eagle Scout projects that have been completed at Oak Hill. Scott Jerdon built this Veterans Memorial, Sean Bartok installed the privacy fencing, and Logan Horn built a trail that connects the memorial with the new columbarium.

# Commissioners Court addresses subdivision matters, equipment requests

BY DAVID LOWE  
DISPATCH RECORD

The Lampasas County Commissioners Court voted unanimously Monday to approve two subdivision preliminary plats, a replat in a different subdivision, and bond-related matters in another residential development.

A preliminary plat for the Milam Subdivision off County Road 3064 calls for lots of 1.01 acres, 1.61 acres and 7.39 acres.

Property owner Justin Milam said he moved two houses from town to the subdivision, which is about halfway between Lampasas and Kempner. He said he plans to move a third house this week, which would put a house on each of the three lots.

The properties will be served by septic systems, Milam said.

The Commissioners Court also approved a preliminary plat for the KT Milam Subdivision, which will feature two tracts off U.S. Highway 281 north of Lampasas, across from Little Lucy RV Resort.

The plan calls for dividing an approximately 10-acre property into a 6-acre tract and a 3.95-acre site.

The 6-acre property has four apartments on it and is under contract to sell, Milam said.

The 3.95-acre tract has a house on it, he said.

The replat the Commissioners Court approved was for Lots 14 and 15 in the Oak Vista Ranch development off CR 3430 a few miles northeast of Lampasas. The two lots will be combined into one, and a house will be built on the property, said Mike Kriegel, who presented the replat request.

Also during Monday's meeting, the Commissioners Court voted to release the construction bond for the Cottonwood Mesa development and to accept a maintenance bond -- for 10% of the construction bond amount -- for the subdivision.

The development, off CR 3270 between Kempner and Topsey, is in Precinct 1 Commissioner Bobby Carroll's jurisdiction. Carroll recommended releasing the construction bond and accepting the maintenance bond, as he said the developers have created a "very nice gated subdivision" and done everything they said they would related to the development.

In other business, the Commissioners Court voted unanimously to deny the Lampasas Volunteer Fire Department's request for \$5,000 to purchase two Motorola Apex radios.

Assistant Chief Randy Lake said the volunteer fire department has had some radio problems on trucks and is seeking equipment that will improve public safety communication.

"The city's going to the Apex radio, the county's going to them, and so we just decided to go this way," Lake said. "That way we can all communicate with each other."

Lake said the Apex radios are analog and digital, and they will enable Lampasas volunteer firefighters to communicate with the Texas A&M Forest Service when needed.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Jamie Smart reiterated what commissioners said about a recent Kempner Volunteer Fire Department funding request -- that fire departments should use their available funds first and ask for additional money from the county later if needed.

"It's just like us in our personal lives," Smart said when

discussing the Lampasas VFD request Monday. "We'd rather spend somebody else's money than we had our own, but sometimes that's not the best business to do."

During discussion of the recent Kempner fire item, commissioners told KVFD Chief Dan Hause that if needed, budget amendments later in the fiscal year could provide additional funds for firefighting expenses. Similarly, during Monday's meeting, Smart told Lake that "if the Lampasas volunteers need something down the road, then please feel free to ask."

Lake said the volunteer

department has funds available to purchase the Motorola radios.

On another matter, the Commissioners Court unanimously approved Precinct 1 Constable Dennis James' request to seek to acquire excess Department of Defense equipment.

The application requires a signature from a county representative, County Judge Randy Hoyer said.

James was unable to attend Monday's meeting, but the constable offered details in an interview Wednesday.

James said he appreciates the Commissioners Court

allowing him to apply for the surplus military equipment. Lampasas County constables operate on limited budgets, he said, and James said he is trying to save taxpayer money.

"This was a way to try to secure equipment at no cost to the citizens and at no cost to the commissioners," he said of the application for surplus military equipment.

James said he uses his personal weapons in his constable work, and he said the Lampasas County Sheriff's Office donated body armor to him. The armor has reached its expiration date, though, so James said he is seeking to

acquire replacement armor.

The constable said he may request night-vision goggles, body armor and/or communications equipment from the defense department. He also may seek surplus weapons so he does not have to use his personal weapons for constable duties.

James said the Commissioners Court's vote allows him to send an application to the Department of Public Safety. If the application for equipment is approved, James said he would receive training about how to maintain inventories and accountability for military equipment. Account-

ability for gear was one of the issues raised during the Commissioners Court's discussion of the agenda item Monday.

Hoyer said County Attorney John Greenwood reviewed the agreement that would apply between the Department of Defense and the Precinct 1 constable. Greenwood said the agreement looks fine, although he recommended a Commissioners Court vote so the matter would be on record.

When James no longer is Precinct 1 constable, he must return to the Department of Defense any items the department provided him, Hoyer said.

# Reader's Choice Awards

## LAMPASAS COUNTY BALLOT

Vote for your favorites below in any or all categories.  
See instructions at the bottom of this ballot. Deadline to vote is Nov. 8, 2019.

### DINING

Pizza _____	Ribs _____
Steaks _____	Brisket _____
Ice Cream _____	Catfish _____
Desserts _____	Seafood _____
Fajitas _____	Chicken _____
Mexican _____	Chicken Fried Steak _____
Salsa _____	Business Lunch _____
Enchiladas _____	Dining Atmosphere _____
German _____	Breakfast Tacos _____
Italian _____	Breakfast _____
Sausage _____	Donuts _____

### SHOPPING

Women's Wear _____	Tire Shop _____	Jewelry _____
Men's Wear _____	Pharmacy _____	Custom T-Shirts _____
Western Wear _____	Convenience Store _____	Supermarket _____
Shoes _____	Feed Store _____	Gun Shop _____
Furniture _____	Farm Equipment _____	Sporting/Outdoor Goods _____
New Car Dealership _____	Building Supplies _____	Other _____
Used Car Dealership _____	Gift Shop _____	
Truck Dealership _____	Florist _____	
Auto Parts _____	Antiques _____	

### SERVICES

Day Care _____	Plumbing _____	Welding _____
Gym/Exercise _____	Landscaping _____	Caterer _____
Insurance Agency _____	Excavating _____	Hair Salon _____
Medical Facility _____	Home Builder _____	Pet Grooming _____
Real Estate Agency _____	General Contractor _____	Car Wash _____
Title Company _____	Electrical _____	Veterinary _____
Mortgage Lending _____	Roofing _____	Law Firm _____
Hotel _____	Custom Signs _____	CPA Firm _____
Nail Salon _____	Metal Building _____	Engineering Firm _____
Auto Repair & Service _____	Septic Service _____	Monument _____
Auto Body Repair/Collision _____	Pest Control _____	RV Park _____
Oil Change _____	Bank _____	Nursing Home _____
Heating/Air Conditioning _____	Fencing _____	Other _____

### PEOPLE

(List person's name and work place.)

Mechanic _____	Veterinarian _____	Dentist _____
Electrician _____	Vet Technician _____	Dental Assistant/Hygienist _____
Plumber _____	Attorney _____	Doctor _____
Photographer _____	Real Estate Agent _____	Nurse _____
Salesperson _____	Accountant _____	Insurance Agent _____
Boss _____	Pharmacist _____	Taxidermist _____
Assistant/Receptionist _____	School Employee _____	Engineer _____
Waiter/Waitress _____	County Employee _____	Other _____
Hair Stylist _____	City Employee _____	
Bank Teller _____	Chiropractor _____	

From the Lampasas County Ballots submitted, three lucky entrants will be drawn for a prize:

**1st Prize \$100 • 2nd Prize \$75 • 3rd Prize \$50**

*Your Votes Count!*

The more you vote, the more chances you have to win a prize.

Lampasas County Ballot rules:  
1. Only ballots from the Lampasas Dispatch Record will be counted. No copies allowed.  
2. Businesses must be in Lampasas County to be named Best of the Best.  
3. Ballots may be returned to the Lampasas Dispatch Record office at 416 S. Live Oak or mailed to Lampasas Dispatch Record, P.O. Box 631, Lampasas, TX. 76550.  
4. Name, address and phone number of person submitting the ballot must be included. Dispatch Record staff and their immediate family members are not eligible to vote.  
5. Voting deadline is Nov. 8, 2019 at 5 p.m.

Ensure that your favorite people and places across Lampasas County receive Best of the Best recognition! Vote as many times as you like, as long as original newspaper ballots are used. No photocopies will be accepted.

Best of the Best recipients will be announced in January in our annual special section on Best of the Best in Lampasas County!

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline to return this ballot to the Lampasas Dispatch Record: Nov. 8, 2019.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

We would like to help get your group’s event(s) listed in the Dispatch Record Calendar. The listing of community events and meetings is free.

Calendar items must be submitted in writing. Send via email to [news@lampasas.com](mailto:news@lampasas.com), or mail submissions to:

**Calendar**  
**Lampasas Dispatch Record**  
**P.O. Box 631**  
**Lampasas, TX 76550**

Information also may be turned in to our office at 416 S. Live Oak in Lampasas.

Calendar items should be brief and include all pertinent information about name of the event or meeting, time and place. Only events open to the public will be accepted.

We reserve the right to edit or exclude submissions.

The Dispatch Record is not responsible for cancellations or unforeseen changes to Calendar listings.

Those who have questions about the Calendar may call our office at 512-556-6262.

**FRIDAY, NOV. 1**  
**“MY KIND OF GAL”,** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lampasas County Museum, 303 S. Western Ave. New exhibit opens on Lampasas County women who have served in the U.S. military.

**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS,** 7-8 p.m. Lampasas Mission, 910 E. Fourth St. NA Help Line, 888-NA-WORKS.

**SATURDAY, NOV. 2**  
**WINGS OF EAGLES COMMUNITY SERVICE,** 7:30 a.m. Common Grounds, 1502 Central Texas Expressway. Students will be transported to location to help clean highway, then assist at pregnancy center. Food provided for workers.

**LAMPASAS COURTYARD SQUARE GARAGE SALE,** 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Downtown

Lampasas.

**CRAFTERS FAIR,** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 281 Cafe and Dancehall, 300 U.S. Highway 281 South.

**AWESOME AUTUMN STEW,** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lometa United Methodist Church, 100 S. Second St.

**CLASSICS AT THE CLASSIC,** 4 p.m. Storm’s Drive-In back parking lot, 201 N. Key Ave. Everyone is invited to bring their classic vehicles. Call 512-734-5180 for more info on this free family event.

**MONDAY, NOV. 4**  
**LAMPASAS ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES,** 6 p.m. LISD Administration Building, 207 W. Eighth St.

**LOMETA CITY COUNCIL,** 7 p.m. Lometa City Hall, 100 E. San Saba St.

**TUESDAY, NOV. 5**  
**ELECTION DAY,** 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Special Constitutional Amendment Election.

**LUXURY LINEN SALE,** 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. AdventHealth Rollins Brook conference room, 608 N. Key Ave. Sheet sets, bamboo pillows, blankets, quilt sets for sale, with proceeds to benefit the hospital.

**LAMPASAS COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION,** 10:30 a.m. LISD board room, 207 W. Eighth St. in Lampasas.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS,** 7 p.m. St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, Fourth Street and Chestnut.

**THURSDAY, NOV. 7**  
**LAMPASAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY,** noon meeting. Putters & Gutters, 2341 U.S. Highway 281 South.

**LAMPASAS 42 CLUB,** 6:30-9 p.m. 281 Cafe and Dancehall, 300 U.S. Highway 281 South. Open to anyone who wants to play; no partner necessary. Any level accepted.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS,** 7 p.m. St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, Fourth Street and Chestnut.

**FRIDAY, NOV. 8**  
**SALUTE OUR VETERANS,** 8:30 a.m. breakfast. Lampasas Middle School cafeteria, followed by Veterans Day



LAMPASAS COUNTY MUSEUM | COURTESY PHOTO

**Women in military**

Ruth Abney, pictured above, served in the Naval Reserves during World War I. Her story will be among those told through the Lampasas County Museum’s new exhibit “My Kind of Gal,” which opens today.

program in Bozarth-Fowler Gymnasium.

**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS,** 7-8 p.m. Lampasas Mission,

910 E. Fourth St. NA Help Line, 888-NA-WORKS.

**SATURDAY, NOV. 9**  
**FRED’S PICNIC AND ROAD RALLY,** 9:45 a.m. Hot-rodders of all makes and models will cruise from Storm’s Drive-in, 201 N. Key Ave., to Burnet’s Wallace Riddell Park. Bring drinks and cooler. Must RSVP by Nov. 6. Call Dave 414-915-0585 or Scott 512-564-0941.

**“MY KIND OF GAL”,** 2 p.m. Lampasas County Museum, 303 S. Western Ave. Lecture by Boyce Cabaniss on Lampasas County women who have served in the U.S. military.

**LAMPASAS LANTERN LIGHTING,** 5-8 p.m. W.M. Brook Park. Lantern \$5 each; launch set for 7:30 p.m.

**MONDAY, NOV. 11**  
**VETERANS DAY -- ALL COUNTY OFFICES CLOSED.** Lampasas, Kempner and Lometa municipal offices closed.

**VETERANS DAY PROGRAM,** 11 a.m. Sylvia Tucker Memorial Park in Kempner.

World War II veteran recalls surprise encounter with whale

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** Patrol torpedo boat veteran and Lampasas County resident John O’Keefe wrote this counn for PT Boats Inc., a nonprofit historical organization that has its headquarters in Germantown, Tennessee. O’Keefe asked the Dispatch Record to reprint this account from his service in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

BY JOHN O’KEEFE  
SPECIAL TO THE DISPATCH RECORD

“The best-laid schemes of mice and men oft go awry,” wrote Robert Burns in his poem “To A Mouse.”

I am sure our officers laid the best plans for our night patrol. We were to contain the Japanese on New Ireland and New Britain, and ambush any Japanese Navy ships headed to their large base at Rabaul.

PT 184 alone gained the passage onto the west side of New Ireland and headed south to Rabaul, to be in position to intercept any Japanese ships.

We saw nothing until past midnight when, in the distance, large fire erupted. We all believed it to be large ships exchanging fire in battle.

Our commander said it was in our patrol area, and we should get involved. As ordered, I went to the

engine room to set the engines to maximum speed, and immediately we were hurtling through the darkness in the direction of the heavy fire.

Suddenly, the boat leaped out of the water, and all three engines hit maximum overspeed, which meant that they tripped and cut the ignition. We were dead in the water.

My impression was that we had hit a submarine, probably Japanese.

Grabbing a battle lantern out of the engine room, I shined over it the water and saw it was covered in whale blubber. We had run over a surfaced whale, probably as big as Moby Dick!

We never saw the whale, but we were sure of his demise from the high-speed crash.

The firing we had chased turned out to be the Americans bombing the Japanese base on Rabaul.

After reviewing our plans for the remainder of the night, we headed to our base at Emirau for an inspection of our hull in dry dock.

Without question, we were in better shape than the whale.

**JOHN O’KEEFE** served in the Navy from 1943-1946 and was on PT boats in the Pacific Theater of World War II.

Lions Club taking orders for Christmas poinsettias

Lampasas Lions Club is offering its poinsettia fundraiser again this year. Poinsettias in red, white and pink are \$15 each.

Order deadline is Nov. 15. Poinsettias will be available to pick up Dec. 4 at 310 E. Fourth St. Delivery is available for orders of 10 or more plants.

The Lions Club uses proceeds to provide vision exams and glasses for children and adults throughout Lampasas County. More than 2,000 students in Lampasas ISD and Lometa ISD have been screened to help identify vision deficiencies, giving them an opportunity for vision correction.

The Lions Club also offers more indepth vision assistance upon request.

To place an order or for more information, contact president Mindi Pratus at 512-556-5722, any Lions Club member or send an email to [lampasaslionsclub@gmail.com](mailto:lampasaslionsclub@gmail.com).

MULTI-SERVICE CENTER MENU

**901 S. LIVE OAK, LAMPASAS 512-556-3858**

The Multi-Service Center serves breakfast to congregants only. Those who want a breakfast should call 512-556-3858 or 512-556-2550 the day before and complete the required paperwork. Meals are available to those 60 years and older.

Those interested in utility assistance should call 512-556-2550, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Next week’s lunch menu follows.

**MONDAY, NOV. 4**  
Potato-crust ed fish, sweet

potato tots, green beans, pears, bread.

**TUESDAY, NOV. 5**  
Pork cutlets, rice, pinto beans, cake, bread.

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 6**  
Beef pepper steak, mashed potatoes, carrots, mixed berries, bread.

**THURSDAY, NOV. 7**  
Spaghetti, broccoli, fruit, garlic bread.

**FRIDAY, NOV. 8**  
Tacos, Spanish rice, pinto beans, fruit.

**Naruna Baptist Church**

Sunday School 10 a.m.  
Worship Service 11 a.m.

**BIBLE STUDY**  
**Wednesday Night 6:00**

*Singing & Snacks*  
**4<sup>th</sup> Wed. of each month**

8 miles west of Lampasas on Naruna Rd.

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Sunday Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship Assembly 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Assembly 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

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[lampasaseoc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lampasaseoc@sbcglobal.net)  
[www.fschurchofchrist.org](http://www.fschurchofchrist.org)

**First United Methodist CHURCH**

Visit us at: [LampasasMethodist.com](http://LampasasMethodist.com)

Sunday Worship at 8:45 am & 11:15 am  
Sunday School all ages at 10:00 am

2 Alexander Lane - off HWY 190 (512) 556-5513

**Services at 8:30 AM /10:00 AM**  
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Sunday 9:15 a.m. Church School – Christian Education Bldg.  
10:30 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary

*Holy Communion Celebrated 1st Sunday of Each Month*

**Lampasas Baptist Church**

133 CR 4126, Lampasas, TX 76550

**David Richardson, Pastor**  
**512-556-2523 • 512-422-6503**

Sunday School - 10:00 AM • Worship - 11:00 AM & 6:00 PM  
Bible Study - Wednesday 6:00 PM

**Lake Victor Baptist Church**

3030 FM 2340 • Lampasas 254-547-6732

Sunday School: 10:00am  
Sunday AM Service: 11:00am  
Wed Prayer Meeting: 6pm

**ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH**

701 N. Key Ave • 512-556-5544

Mass Schedule:  
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm  
Sunday: Lometa 8:00 am  
Lampasas 10:00 am  
Spanish 12:15 pm

**School Creek Baptist Church**

15 miles northeast of Lampasas on County Road 3420, off FM 2527.

*“The difference is worth the distance.”*

Sunday School: 10 a.m.  
Service: 11 a.m.  
Evening Bible Study: 6 p.m.

**512-556-3984**

**Community Church**

219 E. Third St. • Lampasas, TX  
**Pastor: Joe Manuel**

512-556-2595 or 512-525-9386  
[www.lampasascommunitychurch.com](http://www.lampasascommunitychurch.com)

Sunday Worship.....10:45 a.m.

**Wednesday**  
Ladies’ Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.  
**1st & 3rd Tuesdays**  
Men’s Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.

**Kempner Church of Christ**

Sun. Bible Classes 10 a.m.  
Sun. Worship 11 a.m.  
Sun. Night Worship 5 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.

309 County Road 3300  
Kempner, Tx 76539  
**254-289-9457**  
[www.kempner.churchofchrist.info](http://www.kempner.churchofchrist.info)  
[kempnerchurchofchrist@gmail.com](mailto:kempnerchurchofchrist@gmail.com)

**Broad Street Church of Christ**

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 AM  
Sunday Evening Service 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 PM

**506 N. Broad St., Lampasas 512-556-5851**

**St. Mary’s Episcopal Church**

501 S. Chestnut at Corner of 4th St. Lampasas

**512-556-5433**  
[www.ourstmarys.org](http://www.ourstmarys.org)

**Sunday Worship**  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM  
**Wednesday**  
Holy Eucharist 12:00 NOON

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Worship Celebration 11:00 am

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**"Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us."**  
— Romans 8:34



# Sports Backers



STACY BRACK | COURTESY PHOTO

The Lady Badgers take off from the starting line at the Region IV-4A cross country meet in Corpus Christi on Monday. Cheyenne Foote is shown at the far left, and at the center-right are Annabelle Brack, Leilany Alvarez, Abby Valdez and Tate Brown. The Lady Badgers' season ended at regionals.

## Sophomore stars will help basketball team hard-hit by graduation

BY JEFF LOWE  
DISPATCH RECORD

Sophomores will be the most experienced part of the Badger basketball team this year, at least while football season continues.

Nate Borchardt returns after starting 25 of 32 games as a freshman last year. He is the team's leading three-point shooter after nailing 45 threes.

Jett Bramon is another returning starter, and he had an explosive 42-point game in summer league.

Practice started on Wednesday with nine likely varsity players. Head coach Aaron Nuckles expects a boost of several returning players after football season ends: junior Mike Murray and seniors Jaylon Porter, Brenton Webb and Ethan Rascoe.

Borchardt has grown about six inches and 20 pounds since last season, and he is "every bit of 5'11". He might be pushing 6'0",

Nuckles said.

Bramon is close to 6'2."

Cody Richardson, one of three seniors joining the Badger team for their first varsity season, is the tallest – at 6'4" to 6'5."

Other prospective varsity players include sophomore Quinn Pace; juniors Jacob Hogeda, Landon Mulcahy and Elijah Stanley; plus seniors Zeb Bender and Braxton Tabor.

Lampasas' schedule includes a nearly one-month-long road stretch Nov. 19 to Dec. 14.

The Badgers' only home games before the New Year will be the season opener Nov. 16 against Rosebud-Lott and a December game against Round Rock Home School Association.

"I can't say ideally that was done on purpose," Nuckles said. But the road stretch "will force us to grow up and deal with some hardships on the road, getting home late."

A guard-heavy District 27-4A schedule includes preseason No. 3 Liberty Hill and preseason No. 20 Taylor.

The Badgers are coming off a 15-17 (2-8 in district) fifth-place finish.



JEFF LOWE | DISPATCH RECORD

**Nate Borchardt will return with added height this year after his 182-point freshman season.**

Before last season, they had claimed back-to-back bi-district titles. Eight LHS seniors in the program graduated last May.

The positives, Nuckles said, are that his team has developed shooters and should be able to return to the fast-tempo style that is his trademark.

Last year, "after we had a tidal wave of injuries and we got handed the card we were dealt for district, we pulled the reins back" with a slower tempo, Nuckles said. "We couldn't score."

Both of the Badgers' district wins last season were against Eastside Memorial. Nuckles has heard that Eastside's top player, who routinely scored 25-plus points as a junior, transferred to another school. That had not been confirmed at press time, but if Cory Canada has left, "it's a big gap to fill," Nuckles said.

"I still think they would have been better

wins-and-losses-wise if they ran the ball through more guys and ran less isolation through [Canada]. One guy is a lot easier to stop than five guys ... I understand, he's a phenomenal player."

Nuckles thinks Eastside may get a boost in numbers this year. And while many of the school's teams have struggled, the Eastside boys' cross country squad has made regionals in back-to-back years, so there is some athletic ability there.

Liberty Hill will be the team to beat. The Panthers lost the state championship game by two points in 2019.

Walker Baty, a defensive end for Liberty Hill football, and another Panther guard have college potential, Nuckles said, but he was not sure whether they will play basketball this year.

"This is the best district in the region," Nuckles said. "No doubt about it. Whatever four teams make it [to the playoffs], they deserve it."

No teams can't be counted out of the playoff race, he added.

"You've got to put Taylor up there, 'cause they've got so many coming back, and they won 20 games last year," Nuckles said.

Lampasas lost to the Ducks by two points at the buzzer in one of the district match-ups in 2019.

"You never can count Burnet out," Nuckles said, mentioning junior guard Drew Kiser as a standout. "I don't see them being as deep as they were last year, but it's Burnet. They're never bad."

Salado's coach, like Nuckles, will have to replace a big graduating class, "but he's got some good guard play," the Lampasas coach said.

On Nov. 9, Lampasas will host its first series of scrimmages, with Marble Falls, Hyde Park and China Spring visiting the Badgers.



JEFF LOWE | DISPATCH RECORD

Angelina Cummins, left, makes a dig in the Lady Badgers' season-ending win at Eastside Memorial, as Kharis Castañeda backs her up. See story, page 8.

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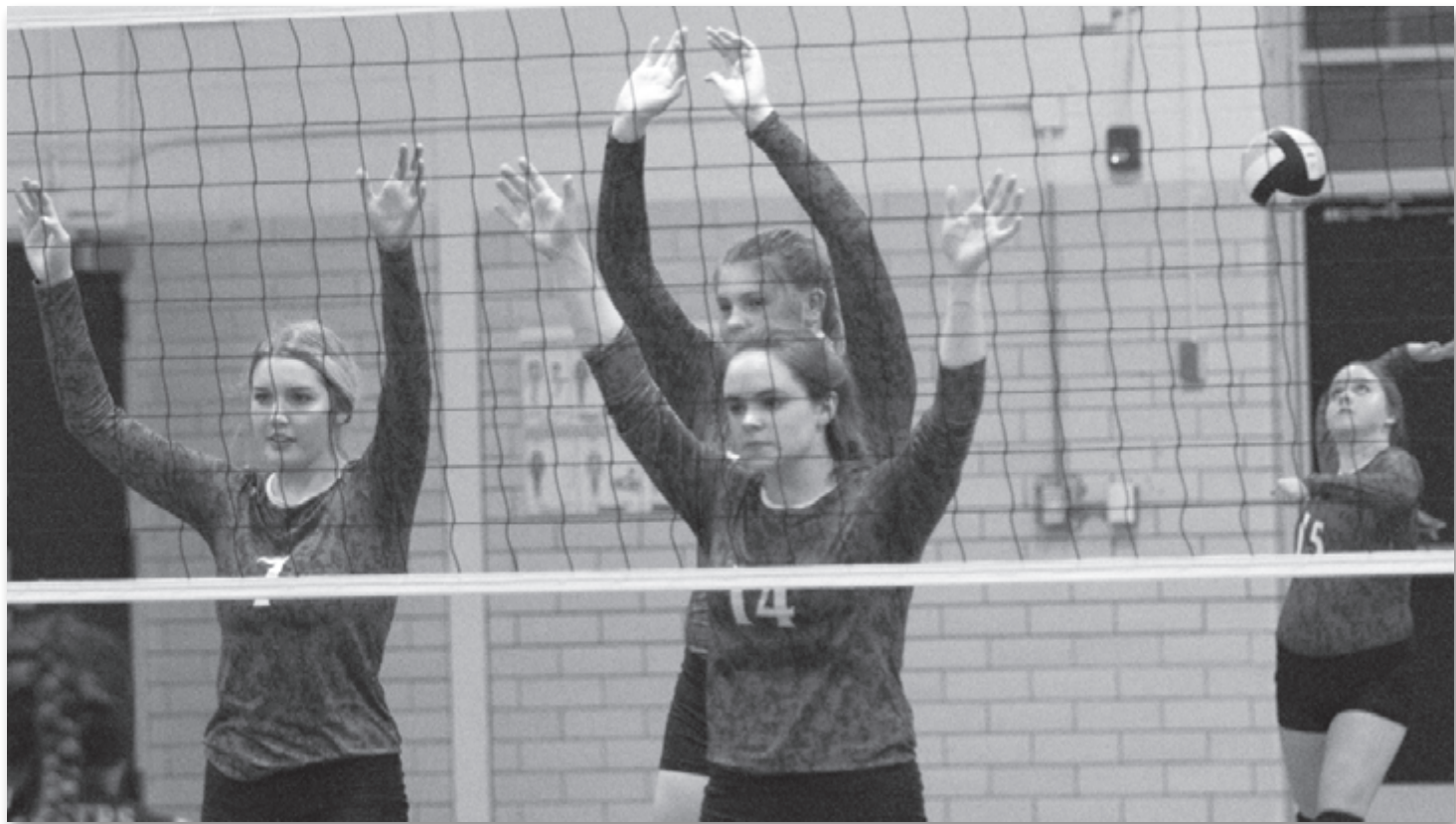
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Sunday • Noon-5:00 p.m.



JEFF LOWE | DISPATCH RECORD

Megan Bobo, far right, serves while Laurcy Bender (7), Skylor Poole (14) and Morgan Lovejoy (center) defend at the net.

# Volleyball ends season with three-set victory

BY JEFF LOWE  
DISPATCH RECORD

Lampasas swept Eastside Memorial on the road to close out the volleyball season at 16-23 overall, 2-8 in district.

Tuesday’s match ended the Lady Badgers’ best season since their playoff campaign of 2010.

The score of set one was unavailable at press time. Lampasas then won 25-5 in set two and 25-9 in the last set.

Set three had a close start, but after a long officials’ timeout, the score was reset correctly to Lampasas

9, Eastside 5. The Lady Panthers had been out of their serving rotation, and the scorers awarded them a point by accident, which led to the delay.

Lampasas won the first point back, with Brooklynne Edgar serving, to make it 10-5.

Laurcy Belle Bender delivered seven straight winning points, including two aces, to extend a lead from 15-7 to 22-7.

First-year LHS head coach Whitney Doyen said her team’s passing and defense improved over the season.

Emma Cornish and Juliana Dwamena also got better on

attacking with non-dominant left hands, a skill that Cornish converted into key points on Tuesday.

Cornish and Edgar, both seniors, ended their Lady Badger careers.

“I’m proud of the improvement that the players made and the commitment they made,” Doyen said. “It made my first year as a head coach enjoyable and fun and rewarding.”

## INDIVIDUAL STATS

Kills: Emma Cornish	12
Digs: Brooklynne Edgar	12
Assists: Skylor Poole	23
Aces: Cornish	4
Blocks: Juliana Dwamena	2

## FINAL DISTRICT STANDINGS

1. Liberty Hill	*
2. Salado	*
3. Taylor	*
4. Burnet	*
5. Lampasas	2-8
6. Eastside Memorial	0-10
*record unavailable at press time.	

The Lampasas JV beat Eastside 25-3, 25-15 to end the year at 18-13 overall, 6-4 in district.

See the sports tab on [lampasasdispatchrecord.com](http://lampasasdispatchrecord.com) for middle school results.

# Torres expects the unexpected as Hornets host Evant

BY JEFF LOWE  
DISPATCH RECORD

The Lometa Hornets are aiming for their first win over Evant since D.T. Torres’ debut season as head football coach, in 2014.

Lometa (3-5, 0-1 in district) hosts Evant (4-4, 0-1) at 7:30 p.m. tonight.

Evant is coming off a 64-46 upset loss to Zephyr. “It’s district play; we expect the unexpected,” Torres said. “Practice has been upbeat and focused, knowing the opportunity ahead of us.”

He expects the Elks’ backfield to be the strongest unit of their team. “No. 5 Colton McCann and No. 23 Ethan Hightower are a good combination of size, speed and power,” Torres said.

Both players were all-district picks on the Elks’ district-champion team in 2018. A few things define the Elks’ style of play.

“Offense is big-play capability, as they try



JEFF LOWE | DISPATCH RECORD

Francisco Jaimes (22) blocks in a previous Lometa game.

to spread you out with different sets and get their best athletes in space,” Torres said. “Defense is a 3-2-1 that does a great job of applying tons of pressure on the ball.”

Lometa and Evant have one common opponent so far: Brookesmith. Both teams lost to the Mustangs, who are listed 12<sup>th</sup> in this week’s sixmanfootball.com Div. II rankings.

# Prado earns return trip to state

Lometa junior Enrique Prado will advance to the state cross country meet as the third individual from Region III-1A.

Prado was 18<sup>th</sup> in the overall standings, but runners on the top four qualifying teams do not count toward individual standings. Only two runners from Saint Jo finished ahead of him in the individual standings.

The rest of the Lometa runners ended their season at the regional meet Monday in Dallas.

Cumby Miller Grove, Priddy, Saltillo and Slidell are the four boys’ teams that will advance. The Hornets were 13<sup>th</sup> as a team.

Emily Garcia, the Lady Hornets’ only regional competitor, posted her best time: 14:36.10.

She finished in the top third of the field, at 51<sup>st</sup>.

Prado’s time, 17:45, was close to his 2018 qualifying time of 17:42.

“I am very proud of every single runner,” first-year head coach Aurora Reyes said. “They got out there despite the cold and ran and gave it their all.

“Towards the end of the race, I yell, ‘Strong finish!’ and I can guarantee you that every single one of them finished strong,” Reyes said.

“I am very proud of Enrique for qualifying,” Reyes said. “We have more cross country to look forward to.”



KIM FISHER | COURTESY PHOTO

Enrique Prado celebrates qualifying for state. He is shown with Lometa cross country coach Aurora Reyes, a former regional qualifier for the Lady Hornets.



KIM FISHER | COURTESY PHOTO

Emily Garcia leads a group of runners on a rainy day in Dallas at regionals.

GIRLS’ TWO-MILE RESULTS	
51st Emily Garcia	14:36.10

BOYS’ 5K RESULTS	
18th overall (fourth indiv. qualifier)	
Enrique Prado	17:45.98

Tim Juarez	20:46.41
Luis Acevedo	21:10.91
Luis Hernandez	21:20.46
Jeremiah Valenzuela	21:28.40
Alonso Caso	21:34.70

UIL 1A STATE CROSS COUNTRY MEET	
When:	Nov. 9 at 9 a.m.

Where: Old Settlers Park, Round Rock

Last year’s result: Prado placed 21<sup>st</sup> out of 147 runners with a time of 17:22. Alejandro Chavez of Hartley won gold at 15:53.74.

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# LOMETA HORNETS



## ELIJAH GONZALES

**Sport:** Football  
**Class:** Freshman  
**Number:** 8  
**Position:** End  
**Best sports memory:** First-ever touchdown  
**Favorite pro team:** Dallas Cowboys



## ANGELINA REYES

**Sport:** Football  
**Class:** Freshman  
**Number:** 28  
**Best sports memory:** When I first got hit, I got back up.  
**Favorite pro team:** Dallas Cowboys



## ISAAC REYES

**Sport:** Football  
**Class:** Senior  
**Number:** 26

## UPCOMING SPORTS EVENTS

Friday, Nov. 1	Varsity football vs. Evant	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 2	Varsity girls’ basketball scrimmage at Lampasas	1 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 6	Varsity girls’ basketball scrimmage vs. Menard	5 p.m.



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# Badgers playing with passion as they return home

BY JEFF LOWE  
DISPATCH RECORD

Home-field advantage may mean nothing in the World Series, but for the Badger football team, it's valuable. Ahead of his last home game, senior defensive end Dustin Engdahl said the Badger Field experience "has been everything," cause the amount of support this community has for the team. It's really incredible."

Lampasas (7-1, 3-0 in district) could take one step closer to the district title with a win tonight against Canyon Lake (6-2, 2-1).

"Every home game is special 'cause whenever we travel to other stadiums, you never see the same amount of passion for the high school teams there," Engdahl said.

Canyon Lake is known for its defense. At the start of the season, the Hawks might have had more impressive defensive stats than Lampasas. In the last month, however, Lampasas has not allowed more than 13 points per game and has given up just three touchdowns in that time.

Linebacker Case Brister has scored as much on defense (10 points) as Taylor and Liberty Hill's total combined scoring against Lampasas.

The Hawks held four teams to 7 points or less, but they lost to Fredericksburg 33-20 last week. That ended a five-game winning streak.

One of the Hawks' highlights this year was a 21-20 road win against 5A Pflugerville Weiss (7-1).

Canyon Lake runs a Slot-T offense like Liberty Hill, but with a slower tempo that does not race to the line of

## DISTRICT 14 SCORES AND STANDINGS

	District	Overall
Lampasas	3-0	7-1
Fredericksburg	3-0	5-3
Canyon Lake	2-1	6-2
Burnet	1-2	5-3
Liberty Hill	0-3	2-5
Taylor	0-3	0-8

scrimmage for most plays.

"They get in a lot more multiple formations" than Liberty Hill, Lampasas head coach Troy Rogers said. At about 90 percent run-based, "they've put it in the air a little bit more than Liberty Hill."

Canyon Lake's leading rusher, sophomore fullback James Bates, averages eight yards per carry. His 764-yard total is still short of that recorded by the Badgers' leading rusher, junior Jack Jerome (837 yards).

Three other Hawk backs have rushed for 200-300 yards, and they have had some line-up changes in recent games.

"They've got some guys that you see in one game, and then you don't seem 'em the next game," Rogers said. "There's a handful of guys that I think are either dealing with injuries or just not 100% healthy."

"Their whole program, they've got a lot of players," Rogers said of the Hawks' 41-man varsity roster. "They've got four returners on offense and defense back."

Lampasas Offensive Coordinator Heath Naragon said the Badgers stack up well in terms of size with the Hawk defense.



Ace Whitehead busts through three Taylor defenders at the goal line for a rushing touchdown last week in a 56-0 shutout.

"They're very stout up front," Naragon said. So are the Badgers. "We have a couple offensive

linemen [Caden Thrift and John Long] that are probably gonna be pretty big against anybody."

The Hawks base out of a 4-2-5 alignment and are a "physical, very disciplined defensive ball club," Naragon said.

Canyon Lake's cornerbacks are fairly tall for their position, ranging from about 5'11" to 6'1".

Naragon's strategy is "to be 50-50 run and pass and stay balanced, and just try to put our kids in the best position we can to make plays. And they've done a really good job of that."

Badger quarterback Ace Whitehead brings in 1,965 passing yards and a 70% completion rate. His 12 rushing touchdowns combine with Jerome and Daunte Cuffie's running to form a powerful ground game. Cameron Everts adds over 2,000 career receiving yards.

LHS Defensive Coordinator Sam Waldrip described the different style of the Hawks' running backs.

Nic Rivera "is a straight north-south runner, but he's got some speed to him. He's the one that busted the long run against us last year the first play of the game. The others are a little bit more, try to get outside, east-west runners."

The Hawks know the Badgers have defended very well against the run over the past month, so they will try to stay unpredictable.

"I think they're gonna try to basically deceive us by formations," Waldrip said. "They're gonna get in some of what we call tackle-over formations and try to outflank us."

Last year, the Badgers overcame a 14-point deficit to beat Canyon Lake on the road and clinch the playoffs. In 2017, the Hawks rallied from being down 13 to beat Lampasas at Badger Field. Lampasas already has clinched the playoffs, and Canyon Lake needs one more win to secure a postseason berth.

"Everybody's still hungry, and they want to win," Engdahl said.

Rogers said while he doesn't want to dwell on the few negatives of the past games, he acknowledged there have been too many penalties.

"From my standpoint, in practice we stress playing whistle to whistle," the head coach said. "When the whistle blows, stop. I think a lot of times what seems to be the case is we play just a second beyond the whistle [resulting in penalties]."

Except for some that he considers selfish penalties, Rogers pointed out that

other past-the-whistle plays are a sign of intensity.

"I don't want to take the aggression away from our kids," he said. "I think our kids play with energy level, and they play relentless. And those are all good things. It's exciting as a coach to see that."

### OTHER KEY MATCH-UPS TONIGHT

In other district action, Fredericksburg will play at Burnet tonight. If Fredericksburg loses and Lampasas wins, it guarantees the Badgers at least a share of the district title.

Probably the biggest match-up in Conference 4A tonight is the district battle between No. 3 La Vega (7-1) and No. 6 Brownwood (8-0).

In games that could impact the Badgers' bi-district playoff pairing: Sealy (5-2) will face Columbia (7-1), and Needville (7-1) will host Brazosport (5-3).

### DAVE CAMPBELL'S TEXAS FOOTBALL 4A DIV. I RANKINGS

- |                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| 1. Argyle Eagles           | 8-0 |
| 2. Carthage Bulldogs       | 8-0 |
| 3. La Vega Pirates         | 7-1 |
| 4. Decatur Eagles          | 8-0 |
| 5. Dumas Demons            | 8-0 |
| 6. Brownwood Lions         | 8-0 |
| 7. Needville Blue Jays     | 7-1 |
| 8. Lampasas Badgers        | 7-1 |
| 9. Springtown Porcupines   | 7-1 |
| 10. Beeville Jones Trojans | 9-0 |



Koby Allen (27) finishes a tackle, as Taylor loses a fumble that Case Brister (15) would return for a touchdown. Daunte Cuffie (33) and Dax Brookreson (21) assist on coverage.



## Girl harvests 10-pointer on youth opening day

Twelve-year-old Avery Griffith shot her first buck, a 10-pointer, in Lampasas County on Saturday. Griffith lives in Lake Dallas and is the daughter of a Lometa resident.

## Washington wins first World Series

The Washington Nationals secured their first World Series championship in team history on Wednesday, 6-2, in Game 7 over the Astros in Houston.

This was the first World Series in MLB history in which the road team won every night in the seven-game series. Stephen Strasburg was named the Series MVP and was the winning pitcher in Games 2 and 6.

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of HARRY NEWTON KEY, JR., Deceased, were issued on October 17, 2019, in Cause No. 7077, pending in the County Court of Lampasas County, Texas, to: NEWTON ELDREDGE KEY.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

**NEWTON ELDREDGE KEY,**  
**Independent Executor**  
c/o: **Casey A. Burns**  
P.O. Box 3025  
Marble Falls, TX 78654

DATED the 28th day of October, 2019.

/s/Casey A. Burns  
Attorney for NEWTON ELDREDGE KEY  
State Bar No.: 24050356  
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Guadalupe County/Sheriff's Annual Surplus Auction – Sat., Nov. 9, 2019, 10 a.m., 10%–12% B.P. 2605 N. Guadalupe St., Seguin, TX. View: Fri., Nov. 8. (10) Chev. Tahoes, Cat953Crawler.Ldr, Cat931Crawler.Ldr., Cat-Cb-224C Steelwhl.Roller, (3) 12Yd Dumps, (2) Jetskis, Jetski Trlr, Pickups Cars, TVs, Gaming Machines & Gaming Computers, Bikes, Chairs, Copiers, Toolboxes, Fans, Generators, Fueltanks, True-Commercial-Refrig, and more. Bid Live On-Line or On-Site: www.siskiauction.com TXS#7425. John Sisk Auctioneers, Inc., 361-456-7771.

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# New City Council Chambers opens after lengthy remodeling process

FROM PAGE 1

building on the city-owned lot at the corner of Western Avenue and East Fourth Street, south of the utility payment drive-through area.

Because of plans to build a new Council Chambers, the council voted in November 2013 to sell the old City Hall to Lampasas resident Joe Corcoran for \$75,000. Corcoran renovated the building with improvements including a new roof, new windows and electrical work.

In 2015, after the council rejected two rounds of bids for a new Council Chambers because of concerns about the expense, Lampasas bought the old City Hall building back from Corcoran for \$229,000.

When the city reacquired the building, officials said the purchase price reflected more than \$150,000 of improvements Corcoran made to the building. Officials said that because of insurance and bond requirements for projects contracted by public entities, the work at the building to that point cost less than it would have if the city had been in charge of the project.

The city began its remodeling work by serving for a time as its own general contractor -- with contracts to several individual trades.

Then, in May 2018, the City Council voted to award ASJ a contract for the renovation of the former City Hall building.

The contract with ASJ was for \$931,365, and the city ultimately approved a total of \$92,819 in change orders, deGraffenried said. More than \$54,500 of the total change order amount was for Municipal Court items city officials decided to add to the project after work began,



DAVID LOWE | DISPATCH RECORD

The audience seating area, council dais, city staff table and speaker podium are shown in the new City Council Chambers a few days before the council met in the renovated facility for the first time.

deGraffenried said. The total cost of the facility renovation project was \$1.02 million, plus \$125,000 for an elevator, deGraffenried said.

### ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Added to those amounts are two expenditures the City Council approved Monday for the facility. The council unanimously OK'd the purchase of furnishings, with the total amount not to exceed \$8,000.

For use during meetings and training sessions, city staff members plan to purchase about 20 tables -- 18 inches wide by 8 feet long, as

well as chairs to go with the tables, deGraffenried said. Staff members also plan to buy floor mats and file cabinets, the city manager said.

On another item, the council voted 6-0, with Councilman Mike White abstaining, to pay \$5,939.80 for window tinting in the renovated building.

White stepped down from the dais for the agenda item and abstained from the vote because his company, Advanced Window Tint, will perform the work.

City staff sought a quote from another company but did not receive a response, deGraffenried said. Window tinting will cost less

and will require less maintenance than blinds would have, the city manager said.

The quote document from Advanced Window Tint states the company's work will be for the entire building except the north-facing front doors.

### COMMENTS ABOUT RENOVATED FACILITY

Near the start of a council workshop session Monday, Mayor Misti Talbert addressed the public as she offered brief comments about the new council meeting place.

"We're very proud," Talbert said. "We hope you are very proud."

## CATTLE AUCTION

The Oct. 30 Lampasas Cattle Auction report follows.

**Cattle and calves:** Total cattle 217, compared to 918 last sale and 859 at this time last year.

Compared to last sale, feeder steers were steady to \$3 higher; heifers \$3-\$5 higher. Slaughter cows and slaughter bulls were steady.

Feeder cattle accounted for 82 percent. Slaughter cows and bulls accounted for 18 percent.

Average price and top price follow.

**Steers:** 300-400 lbs., \$1.64-\$1.80 lb.; 400-500 lbs., \$1.33-\$1.52 lb.; 500-600 lbs., \$1.24-\$1.42 lb.; 600-700 lbs., \$1.16-\$1.25 lb.; 700-800 lbs., \$1.03-\$1.10 lb.

**Heifers:** 300-400 lbs., \$1.38-\$1.74 lb.; 400-500 lbs., \$1.24-\$1.47 lb.; 500-600 lbs., \$1.14-\$1.22 lb.; 600-700 lbs., \$1.03-\$1.25 lb.; 700-800 lbs., \$0.89-\$1.12 lb.

**Slaughter cows:** Under 800 lbs., no test; 800-1,100 lbs., \$0.30-\$0.40 lb.; 1,100-1,300 lbs., \$0.35-\$0.55 lb.

**Slaughter bulls:** 1,000-1,300 lbs., \$0.50-\$0.6 lb.; 1,300-2,100 lbs., \$0.58-\$0.75 lb.

## Time change coming Sunday

Daylight saving time will end Sunday at 2 a.m.

To stay on schedule and avoid forgetting about the time change, people may want to set timepieces one

hour backward before they go to sleep Saturday night.

Standard time will continue until March 8, 2020, when the time will "spring forward" an hour.

## DISTRICT COURT

Lampasas County 27<sup>th</sup> District Court is scheduled to convene today with Judge John Gauntt presiding over the day's hearings.

When the court meets again on Nov. 8, the docket includes the following:

Pretrial hearing for Ronald Eddy Wesche of Lampasas, charged with possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram in a drug-free zone. A waiver of arraignment was filed.

Wesche also has an adjudication hearing set Nov. 8 on a charge of possession of a controlled substance over 1 gram and less than 4 grams. Bond was reduced to \$3,000 on that charge.

Pretrial hearing for Roberta Rose King of Lampasas, charged with possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram in a drug-free zone. A waiver of arraignment has been filed for her.

Jury announcement for Melissa Ann Oliver of

Lampasas, charged with misappropriation of fiduciary/financial property over \$2,500 and less than \$30,000 involving an elderly person. A jury trial could be held for her on Nov. 18.

Pretrial hearing for Brian Michael Lofton of Copperas Cove, charged with possession of a controlled substance over 4 grams and less than 200 grams.

Pretrial hearing for Athena Crystal Barnett of Sunrise Beach, charged with possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram in a drug-free zone.

Open plea for Lacey Gene Amanda Higgins of Lampasas, charged with possession of a controlled substance over 1 gram and less than 4 grams.

Pretrial hearing for Christopher John Sanchez of Lampasas, charged with evading arrest/detention with a vehicle.

Pretrial hearing for Rene

Alvarado Cervantes of Lampasas, charged with driving while intoxicated-third or more.

Pretrial hearing for Brian Clyde Powell of Lampasas, charged with possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.

Scheduled in 27<sup>th</sup> District Court for Nov. 15 are:

Motion to suppress hearing for Orville Carl Reynolds of Lometa, charged with possession of a controlled substance over 1 gram and less than 4 grams.

Motion to suppress hearing for Tammy Jo Barr of Lampasas, charged with possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.

Review for Joel Travis Meadows of Cedar Park, charged with driving while intoxicated and felony repetition.

Court action planned for later includes:

Plea hearings with presentence investigation Dec. 6 for Gabriella Michealson Orozco of Lampasas, charged with forgery of a financial instrument and with credit card or debit card abuse.

Jury announcement Dec. 6 for James Earl Miles of Kempner, charged with assault on a family/household member with a previous conviction. A jury trial could be held for him on Dec. 16.

Pretrial hearing Dec. 6 for Ana Maria Mendoza of Hutto, charged with possession of marijuana over 4 ounces and less than 5 pounds. Jury announcement is set for Jan. 17, 2020.

Adjudication hearing Dec. 13 for Scott Alan Mills of Lampasas, charged with theft over \$1,500 and less than \$20,000.

Status hearing Jan. 17, 2020 for Benito Amaya of Kenedy, charged with driving while intoxicated-third or more.

two ounces in a drug-free zone.

### OCT. 27

Raymond Darrell Beabout, 63, of Kempner on a charge of possession of a controlled substance, state jail felony level under one gram.

Robin Anne Burgess, 45, of Killeen on a charge of theft of a firearm, and a Conway, Arkansas municipal warrant on a charge of theft of property.

### OCT. 26

Biregeya Nzabakiza, 22, of Austin on a charge of driving while intoxicated, blood alcohol concentration over 0.15.

### OCT. 25

Ryan Small, 21, of Copperas Cove on a charge of assault of a family/household member by impeding breath/circulation.

### OCT. 24

Michelle Ann Callahan, 40, of Marble Falls on Burnet County warrants for four charges of aggravated perjury.

## ARRESTS

The following arrests were reported to the Lampasas Dispatch Record by area law enforcement officials. The Dispatch Record prints the name and charge(s) of people arrested on at least one Class B misdemeanor -- or more serious -- charge.

### OCT. 30

Kayla Nicole Bench, 27, of Lampasas on a charge of possession of a controlled substance, state jail felony level under one gram.

John Robert Lockhart, 17, of Lampasas on a charge of sexual assault.

Tonya Nicole Soria, 28, of Lampasas on a charge of possession of a controlled substance, state jail felony level under one gram.

### OCT. 29

Cody Wayne Roseberry, 24, of Lampasas on a charge of duty on striking a highway landscape greater than \$200.

### OCT. 28

Keantae Montrelle Jackson, 34, of Temple on charges of possession of a controlled substance, state jail felony under one gram, and possession of marijuana under



ALEXANDRIA RANDOLPH | DISPATCH RECORD

A 2002 Ford F-150 rolled onto its side during wet weather Monday west of the U.S. Highway 190-East Fourth Street intersection.

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### DEATHS



Mr. Whitis

William Maurice Whitis, 92, of Kempner died Oct. 28, 2019 at a local nursing home.

A memorial service will be held Nov. 1 at 3 p.m. at Sneed Funeral Chapel. Maurice's body will be cremated. His remains will be buried at Kempner Cemetery at a later date.

He was born July 6, 1927 in Kempner to William Lester Whitis and Eupha Ollie (Wheeler) Whitis.

Maurice graduated from Lampasas High School and entered the U.S. Army during World War II. After he was discharged, he moved to the Dallas area and began working for Vought Aircraft. He worked his way up to superintendent.

He retired after 33 years with the company and moved back to Lampasas with Hula and began ranching on his place near Kempner. Maurice enjoyed welding and breaking horses.

He is survived by his daughter, Debbie Hawkins (Jackie); son, Bill Whitis (Susan); grandchildren Christi Kimber (Ed), Dennis Gregory (Robin), Carey Adams (Jason), Casey Williams (Todd), Lester Whitis (Randi) and Cody Whitis (Tabitha); and 11 great-grandchildren.

Maurice was preceded in death by his wife, Hula, after almost 60 years of marriage; daughter Rebecca Ownby; brothers W.L., Donald, Delbert, Kline, Glen and Albert; and by sisters Elaine Rushing and Avis Sparkman.



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Mr. Perryman

Homer Perryman, 88, of the Harman community, died on Oct. 28, 2019 in Waco.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Nov. 1 at Pidcoke United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Jim Hartley officiating. Burial will follow at Pidcoke Cemetery. Visitation will be one hour prior to services at the church.

Scott's Funeral Home in Gatesville has charge of arrangements.

Homer was born on April 26, 1931 in the Harman community of Coryell County to the late Glenn and Rosie Rosin Perryman. He attended school in Harman and Pidcoke, and graduated from Gatesville High School in 1948.

He farmed and ranched until the Korean Conflict, at which time he entered the U.S. Army and served with the 531st Anti-Aircraft Battalion. He was honorably discharged in 1955.

Homer married Sara Lee Survant on July 13, 1968.

He was a farmer and rancher on his family's land in the Harman community.

Homer had a special interest in grasses and soil conservation. He served on the Board of Directors of the Hamilton-Coryell Soil Conservation District for almost 20 years. He retired from the U.S. Postal Service as a rural-route carrier in 1996.

He was chairman of the Coryell County Historical Commission for over 16 years. He also was an active member of Pidcoke United Methodist Church, where his family was deeply rooted. He served as treasurer of the church for many years and

was the oldest member.

He was a 50-year member of Gatesville Masonic Lodge #197 A.F. & A.M. And following his family heritage, he served on the Pidcoke Cemetery Association Board of Directors for many years.

He was preceded in death by his siblings Glenn Perryman Jr., Rosin Watkins and LuWin Cathey.

Homer is survived by his wife of 51 years, Sara Lee Perryman; daughter, Margaret Ellen "Maggie" Wilson and husband Brooks; and one grandson, Max Bartlett.

Memorials may be sent to Pidcoke United Methodist Church, 11230 FM 116, Gatesville, TX 76528 or Pidcoke Cemetery Assn., 105 River Ridge Dr., Gatesville, TX 76528.



Ms. Taylor

Karen B. "Gooma" Taylor, 69, of Lampasas died Oct. 28, 2019 at AdventHealth Central Texas hospital in Killen.

Memorial service will be Nov. 2 at 10 a.m. at Sneed Funeral Chapel. Karen's body will be cremated.

She was born Sept. 4, 1950 in Merkel, the daughter of Lowell B. Gilbert and Margie L. (Isenburg) Gilbert.

She had lived in the area for many years and worked as an office manager for a medical supply company. Karen was a member of Assembly of God. She loved her grandkids and spending time with them. She enjoyed cooking for those she loved and was an Atlanta Braves baseball fan.

Karen is survived by her children Delmer Armentrout (Becca), Jody Armentrout (Jennifer), Cody Taylor, Marcus Armentrout and Kim Williams (Tim); 14 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; aunts Laura Gilbert, Sissy Gilbert, Jodie Hobbs and Cora Isenburg; and by her sister-in-law, Jeanie Gilbert.

"Gooma" was preceded in death by her brother, Ronnie Gilbert.



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## Copperas Cove Fire Department, county seek new mutual aid agreement

FROM PAGE 1

said the fire department would not charge the county for amounts that exceed the maximum allowed by Medicare.

As an example, he said for a call in Lampasas County, the fire department billed Medicare \$1,030. The federal government program paid only \$482.87, so the remaining \$547.13 was uncollectable, Young said.

"And none of that would come back towards Lampasas [County], because that's automatically written off," Young said. "That is just the way that it is."

Records show that in 2016, the Copperas Cove Fire Department assisted on 13 billable calls in Lampasas County, Young said. Of those calls, five resulted in either no payment or a payment of less than the full amount billed, he said. Young said statistics for other recent periods were as follows:

**2017:** 13 calls; two resulted in no payment or less than full payment.

**2018:** 29 calls; 13 resulted in no payment or less than full payment.

**Jan. 1-June 30, 2019:** 13 calls; six resulted in no payment or less than full payment.

**July 1-October 27, 2019:** seven calls; payment data not available. Accounts go to collections after 120 days, Young said, and the 120-day period had not ended as of Oct. 27.

Those calls do not include responses to parts of Lampasas County that are inside Copperas Cove city limits, Young said.

The deputy chief said the fire department's mutual aid response area in Lampasas County more or less is east of the Lampasas River.

The interlocal mutual aid agreement is not for disasters, as Young said a separate agreement addresses those situations.

Acadian Business Development Coordinator Damon Faught told the Commissioners Court that, speaking for himself and a bit for the ambulance service, he does not believe a mutual aid agreement should include a payment provision.

"Because to us," Faught said, "[a] mutual aid agreement is a friend to a friend, neighbor to neighbor [saying], 'Hey, can you come help us out? We've got something going on.' Or vice versa: 'If you have an issue going on, then we'll come and help you out.'"

A mutual aid agreement -- unlike a service agreement -- does not give either party a contractual obligation to respond to requests for assistance, Faught said.

After researching a question that arose during Monday's meeting, Faught told the Dispatch Record by text message Tuesday that Acadian does not have a written mutual aid agreement with Copperas Cove, but the two parties "do have a gentleman's agreement to provide mutual aid." Acadian never has paid Copperas Cove for mutual aid services, "nor have we ever charged for mutual aid services," Faught added.

When Capital Ambulance -- which was Lampasas

County's EMS service provider until Acadian acquired the company in 2015 -- had a mutual aid agreement with Copperas Cove, there was no payment requirement, Faught said during Monday's meeting.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Jamie Smart and Precinct 3 Commissioner Lewis Bridges asked where the county would get the funding to pay Copperas Cove if a mutual aid agreement requires payment in some situations. Responding to a subsequent question from Smart, interim county auditor Susie Lafuente said the county's indigent health care budget does not pay for ambulance services.

The county does not pay a supplement to Acadian, Carroll said, so he said he does not think the county should pay the Copperas Cove Fire Department for mutual aid.

Precinct 4 Commissioner Mark Rainwater said he agrees. He recommended the court take no action.

Hoyer said he and Carroll will meet with Copperas Cove fire officials to try to reach an agreement. The judge said it is very important to maintain a good working relationship with Copperas Cove.

"Because the bottom line is when somebody needs help, we don't want a contract or a mutual aid agreement to prevent that person from getting help -- whether it's Acadian or in Copperas Cove," Hoyer said. "We want those people to get there."

Young replied: "We do, too. We want to make sure that happens."

## Increased utilization of refineries could result in stable or lower gas prices, officials say

FROM PAGE 1

average of \$2.61 per gallon.

Of the major metropolitan areas surveyed in Texas, drivers are paying the most on average in Midland at \$2.44, whereas drivers are paying the least in the McAllen/Mission area at \$2.15 per gallon. By county, drivers in Brewster County are paying the most on average at \$2.97, while drivers in Marion County are paying the least at \$2.12 per gallon.

The national average price for a gallon of regular unleaded is \$2.61, which is one cent less compared to this day last week and 18 cents less than the price per gallon at this same time last year.

While gas prices in Texas have dropped compared to one week ago, drivers may see stable or cheaper gas prices in the week ahead, AAA officials reported. Last week, U.S. refinery utilization dropped to its lowest rate -- 83% -- since Sept. 2017 due to refinery maintenance. Two of these refineries are located along the Texas Gulf Coast, Motiva in Port Arthur and Valero in Corpus Christi.

This week, regional refinery utilization jumped up from 84.5% to 88%. Refinery maintenance across the country continues.

"Regional refinery utilization is increasing which is adding more gasoline supply to the

market and keeping prices lower," said Daniel Armbruster, AAA Texas spokesperson. "Drivers will likely see cheaper gas prices in the beginning days of November."

Prices were up to date at press time, using market prices posted at 3:41 a.m. Thursday.

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