

Corix provides water system updates

BY ERICK MITCHELL
DISPATCH RECORD

Corix Utilities-Texas President Darrin Barker provided updates on the Lometa water system at Monday's meeting of the Lampasas County Commissioners Court.

Barker said Corix is in the process of developing a new water plan to improve the filtration system. Also, he confirmed the water system can provide service to more users in the future.

The Corix water system in Lampasas County contains 300 miles of pipe with roughly 1,147 connections. The average consumption per day is 4,700 gallons per connection.

"When you start comparing water systems, that is not a dense system for the amount of pipes in comparison to the number for connections," Barker said.

DETAILS OF CORIX SYSTEM

The source for the Lometa water system comes from the Colorado River. The firm water contract Corix has with the Lower Colorado River Authority is subject to 882 acre-feet, along with an extra 270 acre-feet secured by a water rights lease in San Saba County, Barker said.

The reservoir is currently at full capacity at 550 acre-feet. One acre-foot is equal to 325,000 gallons of water. If no water were to be pumped for another five to six months, Barker said the current amount of water would be able to last.

He reiterated that Corix is doing all it can to keep the water pure and prevent a build-up of trihalomethanes. The Environmental Protection Agency allows water to contain 80 parts per billion of trihalomethanes. Corix is working to limit trihalomethane in the water system, however, the length of



ERICK MITCHELL | DISPATCH RECORD

Corix Utilities-Texas President Darrin Barker makes remarks at Monday's Lampasas County Commissioners Court meeting. He noted upgrades the water system is undergoing and addressed the effect potential new subdivision projects, such as the Pitt Creek Ranch development, might have on Corix customers.

the system with few connections contributes to more trihalomethanes, Barker noted.

Trihalomethanes are a group of chemicals that come from the chlorine used for disinfecting tap water and natural organic matter in the water. High amounts of trihalomethanes can lead to cancer.

Corix believes its new water plant, which will not be fully operational until 2024, will provide benefits to local users. It will contain new membrane

ultra-filtration technology to remove all the organics in the water.

"We are making sure we are going to be providing high-quality water from this plant," Barker said. "These are expensive solutions, so I want to make sure we did it right the first time."

Barker said Corix is preparing for future growth to the system. The water provider is working with the

SEE CORIX, PAGE 12

Lampasas City Council receives financial report for FY 2022

BY ALEXANDRIA RANDOLPH
DISPATCH RECORD

Lampasas City Council members received a positive financial report and approved the final plat of the Gibson Branch development in a Monday evening meeting.

During a workshop session prior to the regular meeting, the council received its financial report for fiscal year 2022. The report was positive, despite rising costs for electricity, water and construction materials.

"We kind of consider this the new normal," City Manager Finley deGraffenried told the council. "We're still plagued with difficulty in getting parts and supplies."

ERCOT, the network that manages the state's electric grid, has raised costs to cities after infrastructure damages were sustained in Winter Storm Uri. And the Brazos River Authority, which provides water to the city, raised the cost for a renewed contract.

"Renewal with the BRA — the price increased dramatically," deGraffenried said.

Over a four-year period, the city has consistently ended each fiscal year with a surplus. In 2019, the city had about \$1 million in surplus. In 2020, it was a \$2 million surplus.

"In fiscal year 2021, that was Winter Storm Uri and

the additional impacts of COVID-19, so that was a pretty tight year," the city manager told the council.

That year ended with a surplus of \$727,000 -- \$400,000 of which was earmarked for the purchase of a new fire engine.

Concerning revenue, deGraffenried said the city took in 98% of what was anticipated.

"The tax revenue was good, and that's based primarily in sales tax revenue," he said, adding that tax revenue exceeded budgeted expectations by \$500,000. "That's \$200,000 better than the previous year."

Overall, the budget was well balanced. The city underspent \$1.2 million in transfer revenue, but overspent \$1 million in supply costs.

"We had huge expenses in supplies related to electricity," deGraffenried said.

GIBSON BRANCH PLAT APPROVED

During the regular council meeting, both a preliminary and a final plat for The Estates of Gibson Branch residential development were approved unanimously after a public hearing.

The proposed subdivision is a 187.4-acre development located along U.S. Highway 281 outside the city limits but within its extraterritorial

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 12

New developments take shape on Fourth Street

BY ERICK MITCHELL
DISPATCH RECORD

Two new developments are coming to East Fourth Street by the end of 2023. Mike Irvin of Irvin Steel Construction is behind both projects.

Irvin hopes to bring new business to Lampasas as a proactive measure for future growth.

His building facing south at the corner of East Fourth and Briggs Street will include 12,000 square feet of finished space. Irvin said he is seeking users for the building, including those interested in operating an eatery. Sufficient parking for customers will be available on the side closest to the Lampasas Fire Department.

Irvin envisions the space also could be used by small contractors such as electricians or plumbers. The structure is being refaced with brick, and he anticipates the building will be completed by the end of the year.



ERICK MITCHELL | DISPATCH RECORD

Construction continues on one of two new structures coming to the east side of Lampasas.

A building facing north in front of Irvin's storage facilities on East Fourth will feature 8,000-square-

foot strip construction with two-story spaces on each end. Irvin said this building will be completed by Aug. 1.

"Not only are we cleaning up the town, but it will add

SEE NEW, PAGE 5

Kempner council OKs action for police department upgrades

BY ERICK MITCHELL
DISPATCH RECORD

At Tuesday's Kempner City Council meeting, City Manager/Police Chief Heriberto Rodriguez addressed the need for improvements at the police department.

The council unanimously approved the writing of a grant seeking \$250,000 to help the Kempner Police Department seek accreditation through the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Agency "Best Practices Accreditation Program." Council members Dave Richardson and Debbie Hernandez were absent from the meeting.

Rodriguez said the amount asked for may not be needed, but he wants to be prepared just in case.

A walk-through is scheduled with the TPCA in the coming days, however, the grant application was due Feb. 9. The amount requested gives Rodriguez leeway after the TPCA inspection.

A bill has been drafted by State Sen. Phil King to require all Texas police departments to receive accreditation if they plan to receive grants of up to

SEE KEMPNER, PAGE 5

WEATHER

Date	High	Low	Rain
Feb. 12	62	35	0
Feb. 13	64	45	0
Feb. 14	72	51	0.11
Feb. 15	78	54	0.06
Total rainfall for 2023:	1.91 in.		

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

BRIEFLY

MUSIC CONCERTS AT MUSEUM

In conjunction with the Lampasas County Museum's exhibit "And the Beat Goes On," a series of free concerts is being hosted at the museum, 303 S. Western Ave.

On Saturday at 1 p.m., Victor Voloschuck will play piano and violin. This Ukrainian musician was displaced by the Russian invasion and lives in Adamsville.

At 2 p.m., Bruce Williams, on viola, and Patrice Calixte, violinist, will

perform. They are principal musicians with the Austin Symphony.

FOOD PANTRY CHANGES

St. Mary Catholic Church's Food Pantry is transitioning back to indoor service. The pantry will open Feb. 24 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 701 N. Key Ave. A handicapped-accessible entrance is located on the courtyard side.

Additional days will be available, starting in March. No

drive-through distributions are scheduled at this time.

Emergency food (small-quantity, basic items only) is available on a one-time basis at the church office during weekday hours.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

An Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group will meet Friday at 10 a.m. at the Lampasas County Office Building conference room, 409 S. Pecan St. in Lampasas.

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Moore leads Taylor Creek Elementary to new heights

BY ERICK MITCHELL
DISPATCH RECORD

In only her second year at the helm, Shona Moore's vision as principal of Taylor Creek Elementary School has turned struggling test scores into A's for her campus.

Last week, Moore presented a campus update to the Lampasas Independent School District Board of Trustees. Instead of teachers telling students to pass the state assessments "or else," Moore said she has emphasized baby steps to improve test scores.

"You don't come in here and say we are going to be an 'A' school next year," the principal said. "I never said we will be an 'A' school but improve every student by three questions."

Moore said the "improve by three-questions mindset" enables students to flourish and takes the pressure off educators.

"And what happens is you just don't improve by three questions, you improve by 10 questions," she said. "It takes the stress off by just needing to improve by three questions."

From the 2021 third-grade reading STAAR test to the 2022 exam, Taylor Creek students who approached grade-level learning in reading increased their scores by 25.71 points, on average. The trends are similar for all other STAAR exams in each grade level.

Moore believes any student can succeed no matter the circumstance. After all, her upbringing tells a tale of determination and grit.

PRINCIPAL'S BACKGROUND

Moore was born in Gainesville to a 15-year-old mother and a 16-year-old father. Neither of her parents graduated from school. In grade school, Moore said she was one of those who struggled.

"To this day, I don't like my first-grade teacher very much because I thought she going to kill me teaching me letters and sounds," Moore said. "I didn't know them. I had never seen letters or heard sounds."

Growing up, she worked for one of her grandfather's restaurants where her mother ended up in charge.

"By the time I was a fifth-grader, I bussed the tables; by the time I was in middle school I was waitressing and did that through high school," Moore said. "When I graduated from school, I just knew to get married, and I didn't know



ERICK MITCHELL | DISPATCH RECORD

Taylor Creek Principal Shona Moore holds school dog Nessy as she stands in front of a paper racetrack. Every class at each grade level has a car on the track. Classes that have perfect attendance move to the finish line to obtain a Coke float as a reward.

to do anything else. I didn't know if I was going to work for the rest of my life or where I was going to be."

After getting married at 18 years old and having a child

at 20, Moore decided she wanted to pursue a college degree and become a teacher. She said her motivation for entering the education arena was to help those in tough scenarios.

Before coming to Lampasas, Moore worked in the Brady Independent School District. After serving in multiple assistant principal and principal roles, she finished her time in Brady as the principal at Brady Middle School. There, she turned a struggling campus into an "A"-rated school.

Moore said the key to a school's success is to have everyone working on the same page.

"I know people are scrambling, but it is not rocket science," she said.

SUCCESSFUL INTERVENTION

In January, Moore addressed the Texas Association of School Boards Midwinter Conference, the sole LISD educator to do so. A part of her presentation highlighted the importance of interventionists.

Interventionists observe instruction and work with students each day from all grade levels in 45-minute periods. Each interventionist has a specialized subject.

Moore said prior to her arrival at Taylor Creek Elementary, students would learn different material during homeroom class time versus the interventionist period. For example, during their homeroom, students may have been focusing on decimals while learning about fractions during the interventionist period.

Now, the interventionist period focuses on the material from the homeroom class. The smaller instruction setting in the interventionist period allows more time for one-on-one needs. This also gives struggling students an opportunity to learn the material in a different light.

"It doesn't matter how low we are," Moore said. "If we all work together and are on the same page, we are going to get these kids passing."

Along with more efficient learning, students are having fun in the process. Recently, students who improved their STAAR scores by 10% went on a school trip to Putters & Gutters Fun Center. Also, Taylor Creek is the only school in the LISD to have two campus dogs, which the students treat at beloved pets.

With an empathetic principal and team of motivated educators striving to help students improve, Moore has demonstrated that any level of success is possible.

Home on East Third Street damaged in early-morning fire

BY ALEXANDRIA RANDOLPH
DISPATCH RECORD

A household of three people was displaced Monday morning after a kitchen fire led to significant damage to their home on East Third Street.

Lampasas Fire Chief Jeff Smith said firefighters received a report of a structure fire in the 1400 block of East Third at 6:05 a.m. All three residents were inside the home at the time the fire began but were able to safely evacuate without injury, he said.

"The fire started in the kitchen. When we got there, there was smoke showing," Smith said. "We had fire in the attic space."

Smith described the residence as a single-story, single-family, wood frame house that was built in the 1950s or '60s. The fire began in the kitchen, toward the rear left of the house.

"We were hampered by the fact that it had shiplap on the ceiling," the fire chief said, explaining that shiplap wood is more difficult for firefighters to break through than newer material such as sheetrock. "But, part of what helped us [fight the fire] was the older-style construction. We weren't concerned about anything falling on us while we were in there."

Smith said most of the fire damage occurred to the roof, and some water damage was sustained inside the home.

The residents "were able to go in and remove keepsakes," he said. "We got them in touch with [American] Red Cross. They were able to provide some assistance."

The cause of the fire has yet to be determined, LFD officials said.

Kempner Volunteer Fire Department, Lampasas Volunteer Fire Department and Hamilton EMS units also responded to the scene.



ERICK MITCHELL | DISPATCH RECORD

Three people were displaced after a fire significantly damaged a home in the 1400 block of East Third Street on Monday morning.

Agency warns Texans about scammers targeting clients who use Lone Star Cards

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission has received an increase in reports of scams targeting clients who use Lone Star Cards. The agency is urging Texans who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families benefits to monitor purchases on their Lone Star Card through the "Your Texas Benefits" mobile app.

HHSC recently released an updated version of the Your Texas Benefits app that helps clients manage their benefits. Using the app, which is available for Apple and Android mobile phones, cardholders can monitor purchases, freeze and unfreeze their card, and change their PIN.

"We hope these resources and outreach efforts will minimize the fraud we're seeing in Texas," HHS Access and Eligibility Services Deputy Executive Commissioner Wayne Salter said in a news release. "We encourage clients to take immediate

action to secure their benefits."

Scammers are primarily using "skimming" and "phishing" tactics to obtain Lone Star Card numbers and personal identification numbers. "Skimming" is where devices are placed on card readers to capture information, and "phishing" occurs when a text message or email is sent to trick people into clicking a link or calling a number to share card information.

The HHSC Office of Inspector General, which operates the OIG Fraud Hotline, has initiated 32 investigations in the 2023 fiscal year involving Lone Star Card skimming. This compares to 108 cases in the prior fiscal year, which ended Aug. 31, 2022.

Clients should note that HHSC will never reach out by phone, text or email to ask for a card number and PIN.

A new EBT fraud web page has tips and resources for clients to learn how they can protect themselves

against fraud.

Those affected by Lone Star Card fraud should take immediate action by calling the Lone Star Help Desk at 800-777-7328, and reporting it to the HHSC Office of Inspector General (800-436-6184) and local law enforcement.

If clients need assistance



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with food, they should contact a local food bank or food pantry, which can be found by calling 211 and selecting option 1, or by visiting 211Texas.org.

CHILD FIND NOTICE PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

The Preschool Program for Children with Disabilities (PPCD) provides educational services for children 3-5 years of age identified with physical, mental, perceptual, speech, language, social and/or emotional disabilities.

Children with vision and/or hearing problems may be eligible for special education services beginning at birth.

If you are aware of a child who is suspected of having a disability and who resides in the Lampasas Independent School District, please contact the Lampasas ISD Special Services office for information and about screening and evaluation services at no cost.

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Start this year's garden preparation with a soil test

BY MELINDA MYERS
SPECIAL TO THE DISPATCH RECORD

Growing a beautiful landscape starts with the soil under your feet. The best place to start building a healthy soil foundation is with a soil test. The results will tell you what type and how much, if any, fertilizer is needed for the plants you want to grow. Using the right type and amount of fertilizer is also good for your budget and the environment.

Test the soil when starting a new garden or one that is struggling. Since soil and fertilization practices vary greatly, collect and submit separate samples for each garden bed or landscape area to be tested. Repeat every four or five years to check on your garden maintenance.

You can take a soil test anytime the ground is not frozen and you have not recently fertilized. Early spring and fall are good times, since you can make needed changes when preparing your garden.

Contact your local Extension service for details on submitting a sample. If they don't have a soil testing lab, they likely will recommend a state-certified lab that tests home lawn and garden soils, or you can search the internet for a certified lab near you.

Taking a soil test sample is

simple. Use a clean trowel and bucket to gather a soil sample. Slide away any mulch or debris on the soil surface. Use a trowel and remove a slice of soil that is four to six inches deep and right where the plant roots grow.

Take several samples throughout the garden you want to test. Collect samples from each edge and several throughout the middle of the bed. Mix them together and place about a cup of the soil in a plastic bag or the one provided by the lab. Be sure to complete and include the submission form. This includes a place to list the types of plants that will be grown in the area being sampled. The lab uses this and test results to make the fertilization recommendations. Send the sample and form together to the soil testing lab.

Allow several weeks for the test to be completed and the results to be returned. Most basic soil tests report the amount of phosphorus and potassium in the soil. Phosphorus promotes flowering, fruiting, and root development. Potassium promotes drought tolerance, disease resistance and hardiness.

Many soils are high to excessive in these plant nutrients. You cannot remove the excess, but you should avoid adding to the

problem. Soil test reports can help you do just that.

Most labs do not measure the amount of nitrogen in the soil since the levels change quickly and are not easy to test accurately. Instead, they make nitrogen recommendations based on the plants you are or will grow in the area being tested.

Soil pH is also measured in most soil tests. Acidic soils with pH below neutral (7.0) are often referred to as sour, while alkaline soils with a pH above 7.0 are called sweet. Soil pH influences which nutrients in the soil are available for the plants to absorb and utilize for growth. Blueberries, azaleas and red maples are examples of acid-loving plants. Clematis, crabapples and spireas are a few of the alkaline-tolerant plants.

Always use soil test results when trying to change the pH. Lime is used to sweeten soils while sulfur is often used to lower pH. Using too much or the wrong amendment can negatively impact the health and productivity of your garden. Undoing misapplications can take years to correct.

Growing plants suited to the soil pH may be the best solution for those with acceptable, although not ideal, soil pH.

Include soil testing when planning new gardens or helping



COURTESY PHOTO | MELINDAMYERS.COM

Before starting a new garden or planting one that has been struggling, take a soil test to know what, if any, fertilizer is needed to build a healthy soil foundation.

those that are struggling. Understanding your soil can help you create a strong foundation

important to the health, longevity and beauty of your gardens and landscapes.

MELINDA MYERS has written more than 20 gardening books, including "The Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition" and "Small Space Gardening." She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally syndicated "Melinda's Garden Moment" TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Summit for her expertise to write this article. Her website is www.MelindaMyers.com.



COURTESY PHOTO

Senior Center receives new benches

Stacy Olivares, director of business development for Lily Springs Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center, announced that Lily Springs has donated new benches to the Lampasas Senior Center, and program participants are shown here utilizing the gift. The senior center is located at 901 S. Live Oak.

Cub Scouts to host Blue and Gold bash

BY ERICK MITCHELL
DISPATCH RECORD

Lampasas County Cub Scouts will host their annual Blue and Gold event at First United Methodist Church on Feb. 25. The program is open to the public.

The event will start at 3 p.m., with Cub Scouts serving a complimentary taco dinner. Awards begin at 3:30 p.m., with a cake auction to follow at 4 p.m.

The Blue and Gold banquet serves as a birthday celebration for the Boys Scouts of America, which was founded in 1910.

Cubmaster Casey Townsend said this is the biggest event of the year for the Lampasas County Cub Scouts. Money raised from the event goes to support the Scouts for camping trips, projects and uniforms. Cub Scouts will receive

most of their awards at this ceremony, before attaining new ranks in May.

Police Chief Jody Cummings will be present for a pie-in-the-face contest.

Community leaders looking to be involved or businesses that can donate items for the

Scouts are encouraged to contact Townsend at 254-316-3389 or via email at pack100.lampasas@gmail.com.

Those who wish to attend the Blue and Gold event should RSVP by Thursday to ensure a plate of food will be available.

ASH WEDNESDAY - "ASHES TO GO"

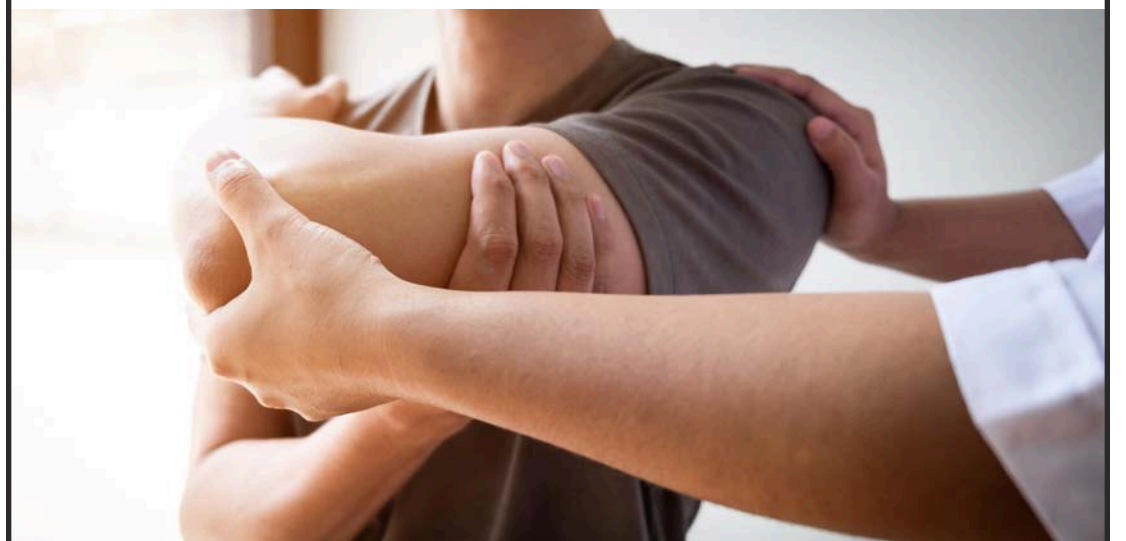
Ash Wednesday, a centuries-old Christian tradition, begins a season for reflection and repentance before Holy Week and Easter.

This year, Ash Wednesday is on **February 22**.

The **First Presbyterian Church** will be offering "Ashes to Go" in our parking lot: access by going down Main Street between 3rd and 4th Streets.

You can drive up, receive ashes in a cup for yourself and a prayer inside a ziplock bag between 11:00 am and 12:30 pm.

We will also have an Ash Wednesday service in our sanctuary at 6:00 p.m.



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HISTORY OF KEY AVENUE -- PART 4

State highways criss-cross the town; traffic enforcement needed

EDITOR'S NOTE: Lampasas historian Jeff Jackson has researched a number of local history topics. The following is part of a series on Key Avenue and the development of the highways routed through Lampasas County.

BY JEFF JACKSON
SPECIAL TO THE DISPATCH RECORD

State Highway 74 was the first highway designated in Lampasas County, but it was the last to get its final route established and get a federal highway number.

Highway 74 was a Secondary Federal Aid Highway. It went from Brady in the west to San Saba, Goldthwaite, Lometa, Lampasas, Florence and Georgetown in the southeast. Highway 74A went from Brownwood in the north to Goldthwaite and Lometa in the south.

Highway 53 had a Conditional Designation (not maintained by the state). It went from Temple in the east to Belton, Killeen, Copperas Cove and Lampasas in the west.

Highway 66 had a Conditional Designation (not maintained by the state). It went from Hamilton in the north to Evant, Lampasas, Burnet and Marble Falls in the south.

All three Lampasas highways were on the map, but 74 was the only one with a Federal Designation in May 1935.

THE 183 ROUTE TOOK TIME TO DEVELOP

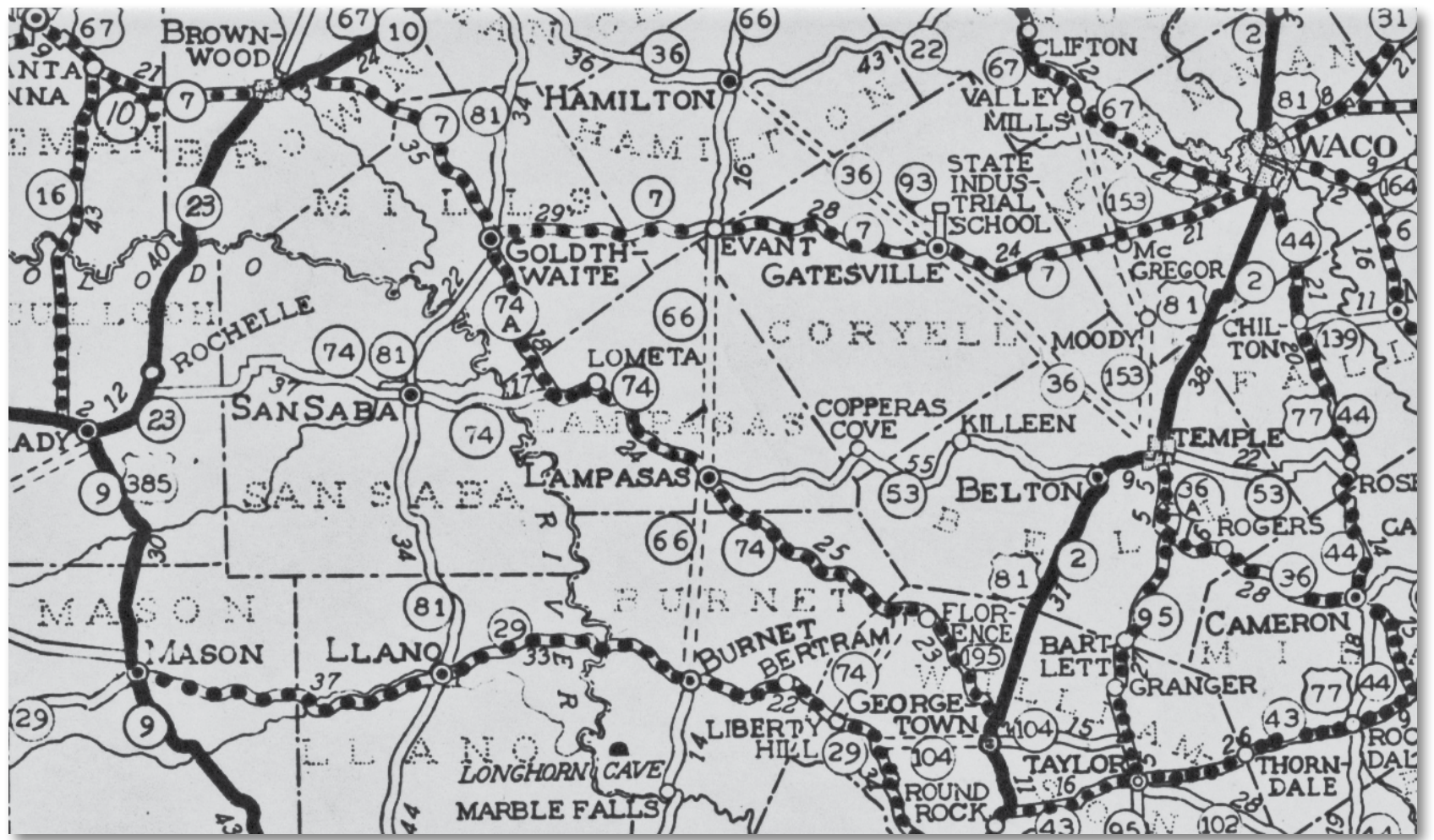
Route 66 or what would become U.S. Highway 281 entered Lampasas from the north, bringing travelers from Adamsville or Hamilton. Route 53 or U.S. Highway 190 and Route 74 (U.S. 183) brought travelers from Lometa, San Saba or Goldthwaite to the junction or the Y just north of the city limits. From that point, all three designated routes went down Grand Avenue (soon to be Key Avenue).

At the junction of Fourth Street, Route 53 (U.S. 190) turned east and headed for Kempner and Belton. Both Routes 66 and 74 continued south on Key Avenue to Ninth Street, where the highway swung right and crossed Sulphur Creek just east of Hancock Park.

Highways 281 and Route 74 (U.S. 183) followed a straight line south toward Burnet County. From that point, the highway travelers going toward Austin had several different routes they could take. Possibly they took Fourth Street to the Old Georgetown Road toward Austin, or maybe they took the Burnet route toward Bertram and then on to Austin.

U.S. HIGHWAY 183

The Key Avenue bridge over Sulphur Creek was built in 1949, and extended Key Avenue across Sulphur Creek to a new junction with U.S. 281, U.S. 190 and State Highway 74 (U.S. 183). For anyone under the age of 70, the Key Avenue Sulphur Creek Bridge has always been there. The new bypass routed U.S. 190 along the southern edge of town to a new junction or traffic circle on a southern extension of Key Avenue. The bypass allowed traffic to avoid the congestion of the downtown



COURTESY PHOTO | PORTALS OF TEXAS HISTORY

1935 Texas Highway Map of Central Texas shows Highways 66 (now U.S. 281), 74 (now U.S. 183) and 53 (now 190) intersecting here.

area. The route that would be designated U.S. Highway 183, in the early 1950s, took the southern route off the traffic circle. Today U.S. 183 offers the best route toward Austin.

The Old Austin, Old Georgetown and Old Lometa roads are still on the map, but they are no longer used to reach those places.

PANORAMIC VIEW

Lampasas is situated in a shallow valley of the Sulphur Creek or what was once called the Salt Fork of the Lampasas River. The best vantage point to see all of Key Avenue and most of the town is from the top of the hill just south of the "circle" or the junction of Highways 183 and 190. It may have been from this vantage point that a correspondent described what he saw for the readers of the Texas State Times and La Grange Paper in 1855. What he was describing was the Springs of Lampasas:

"In approaching the springs by the Austin Road the valley of the sulphur fork Lampasas opens to view at once; and in prospective view arises the beautiful array of 'the Lampasas peaks.' Way off to the south are seen two or three oval-shaped hills, and just before you the tremendous cone or pyramid looms up, while away to the north you behold a large flat-top mountain – all well-defined against the sky. The whole valley and border remind one with a comprehensive imagination of a grand amphitheatre. The valley is all timbered apparently, as it were covered with a carpet-

ing of cloud green. But the most striking feature that we observed on the road was a peculiar mountain off to the right. It is seen during a whole day travel, and at first one takes it to be a high fortification or a hill. It is continually changing its form and dimension, apparently until toward evening it forms a cluster of huge buildings, walled in with smaller hills accompanying. It is called 'Beacon Hill.' By ascending the side of the valley we can command a panoramic view – worth a trip of fifty miles to see. Yonder to my right is the 'wagon and team' mount, for the cluster of trees thereon remind one of a loaded wagon – with a long team and driver, winding over the summit. And yonder to the east of the 'Buffalo Hills,' for there still grazes a prodigious herd of the prairie monsters."

The top of this hill near where Pizza Hut sits now may have been this writer's vantage point, but that is uncertain. Some of the features he described do not match up with what we might see from that location today, except for a large flat-top mountain whose map name is Flat Top; a grand amphitheatre is the Lampasas valley; and Beacon Hill could be Bachelor's Peak in Burnet County or one of several different cone-shaped mountains on the north Lampasas skyline.

Over the years, other reporters would write prospectus observations about Lampasas, painting a picture of perfection that would attract newcomers to the little community. They were not above stretching the truth a little bit when describing the qualities of the town.

KEY AVENUE – TWO LANES TO FOUR

By the end of 1953, Key Avenue was getting a new set of stripes. The avenue would have four lanes of traffic with parallel parking on each side.

First, the street got "a curb to curb asphaltic concrete surface." When the blacktop was completed, Key Avenue was striped with four traffic lanes. Automobiles could be parked parallel on the side of the roadway.

Even with highway lines, there were drivers who did not understand the purpose of the lanes. The Lampasas Record printed instructions for drivers unaccustomed to driving on a four-lane street. "In the four-lane street, motorists may make a right turn only from the outside lane, and similarly a left turn may be made only if the vehicle is on the inside lane."

One week later, the Record was still cautioning drivers against crossing the yellow lines in the center of the street.

ROAD SURFACING, FROM DIRT TO PAVEMENT

Today our streets are paved in gold, black gold, Texas Tea that is not ready for the oil refinery yet, locally called asphalt, tar or tarvia.

Another type of early road surface in Lampasas made use of hard-packed adobe clay and gravel. "Adobe clay and gravel mixed in the proper proportions makes the finest street or road that can be constructed, except the genuine macadam road, built of broken rock of the proper size," noted the Jan. 22, 1915 edition of The Lampasas Leader.

The finest was eventually replaced with some form of tar or asphalt. The Leader on June 22, 1923, explained its use of the word: "We have been calling the material used 'tarvia,' when in fact it is 'asphalt,' there being very little difference in the two kinds of material. This kind of street will last indefinitely."

Of course, asphalt does not last forever and as the years pass, the street surface must be repaired or replaced.

In 1923, Lampasas boasted that it had 24,324 square yards, or 34 blocks, of newly paved street. The process of paving was called tarviating. Heavy traffic and rain may be the cause of chuck-holes or potholes. Some said, "Don't wait for a rain, it may not come, but when it does, chugholes are sure to follow" [1928]. These afflictions

have tormented streets and roads since the dawn of time. And so far, no one has come up with a permanent fix for them.

In 1936, Highway 66 got its first coat of pavement. The local paper still called U.S. 281 "Highway 66," even though that designation was obsolete.

About 65 men set about the task of changing Grand Avenue from a dusty, dirty road into a modern highway. The highway department installed its heating plant at the tank car of asphalt on Monday night, and by Tuesday morning the asphalt was ready to be spread. The asphalt was placed in tank trucks that were equipped with heating apparatus to keep the topping material at the correct temperature until it was spread on the highway.

The first coat of asphalt was covered with coarsely crushed rock, then another application of the asphalt was followed by a coating of finely crushed rock. The layers were rolled and compacted.

The roadway was 20 feet wide from the Burnet County line to Grand Avenue. On Grand Avenue, the pavement was 30 feet wide.

REGULATING TRAFFIC

In the beginning, each driver followed his own set of rules or simply no rules at all. It was chaotic and unsafe. Some drove too fast, some drove on the wrong side of the road, and some parked wherever they pleased. The county, state and country needed a set of rules that every driver could follow.

In 1916, the City Council enacted Ordinance No. 201 to regulate the traffic along the streets and byways of the city. Section 7 of the ordinance said: "On all the streets and highways of the city of Lampasas, all vehicles going in an easterly or westerly direction shall have the right of way over those going in a northerly or southerly direction." The ordinance said nothing about Grand Avenue.

Section 19 said: Drivers of automobiles and motor vehicles shall in approaching a crossing, or in rounding a corner or a curve of a public street, sound a signal in such a way as to give a warning to other vehicles and to pedestrians of the approach of such vehicles.

There were other traffic ordinances. In 1934, Ordinance No. 55 provided for stop signs on certain street and intersections. Stop signs were placed on both sides of the 10 streets that crossed the Grand Avenue section of Highway 66.

In February 1935, the city marshal said too "many people do not observe the stop signs which the city has placed at the crossing along that street, and in some instances those traveling Grand Avenue have been forced to drive into yards in order to avoid an accident."

City Marshal Field posted a notice warning people that they had better stop at the corner crossing on Grand Avenue. In spite of the warning, the problem continued.

"There are stop signals along the intersection of Grand Avenue, and they are not causing the people to even hesitate, much less stop. There are stop signals in the business part of the city and the majority of drivers do not heed them," wrote the Lampasas Leader, Aug. 16, 1935. And "Some speed limits signs have been placed along Grand Avenue and if they are observed, it would keep down a large amount of the dust."

At a chamber of commerce meeting in 1937, the Leader reported: "The board voted to send a petition from Lampasas, together with one from Burnet, to the State Highway Board, asking them to station a motorcycle cop on Highway 66 in Lampasas and Burnet counties." Another committee was "appointed to meet with the City Council to work out some plan for placing stop lights on 66 at Second, Third and Fourth streets through the business section of Lampasas."

The first stop light in the city was still four years away.



FILE PHOTO | LAMPASAS DISPATCH

In the weeks preceding the annual Spring Ho Festival, city crews get out and spruce up the town. In 1973, the clean-up effort included polishing the traffic lights.

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 in writing. Email to news@lampasas.com, or mail to:

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

Details also may be turned in at our office, 416 S. Live Oak St. 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 listings.

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

FRIDAY, FEB. 17

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP, 10 a.m. Lampasas County Office Building conference room, 409 S. Pecan St.

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

SATURDAY, FEB. 18

FREE CONCERT, 1 p.m. Lampasas County Museum, 303 S. Western Ave. Held in conjunction with museum's exhibit "And the Beat Goes On."

SUNDAY, FEB. 19

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 5 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Fourth Street and Chestnut.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 7 p.m. Kempner Brick Oven, 12093 East U.S. Highway 190, in rear dining area.

MONDAY, FEB. 20

PRESIDENTS DAY -- ALL COUNTY OFFICES CLOSED. Lampasas, Lometa and Kempner municipal offices closed.
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 7 p.m. Kempner Brick

Oven, 12093 East U.S. Highway 190, in rear dining area.

TUESDAY, FEB. 21

COMMUNITY KITCHEN, 11 a.m. Open Gate Cowboy Church, 1602 East Avenue J in Lampasas. Meals free to anyone; donations accepted.

CENTRAL TEXAS TRAVEL CLUB, 11 a.m. Johnny's Steaks and Bar-b-que in Salado. Discussion on upcoming trips to Waxahachie, Branson, Hawaii, France and others. Open to anyone interested in travel. Email centraltexatravelclub@outlook.com for more information.

DANCE/EXERCISE, 1-2 p.m. Lampasas Multi-Service Center, 901 S. Live Oak.

KEMPNER CITY COUNCIL, 6 p.m. Kempner City Hall, 12288 East U.S. Hwy. 190.

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

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22

COMMUNITY KITCHEN, 11 a.m. Open Gate Cowboy Church, 1602 East Avenue J in Lampasas. Meals free to anyone; donations accepted.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE,



ERICK MITCHELL | DISPATCH RECORD

Meal benefits Lampasas Mission

This group of ladies was among the participants at the annual chili and cornbread supper to support Lampasas Mission. The fundraiser was held last week at New Covenant Church. Donations of canned goods, non-perishable foods and cash will all support Lampasas Mission in its efforts to assist area residents.

6 p.m. Central Christian Church, 204 S. Broad St.
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 7 p.m. Kempner Brick Oven, 12093 East U.S. Highway 190, in rear dining area.

THURSDAY, FEB. 23
COMMUNITY KITCHEN, 11

a.m. Open Gate Cowboy Church, 1602 East Avenue J in Lampasas. Meals free to anyone; donations accepted.

LAMPASAS 42 CLUB, 6 p.m. Putters & Gutters, 2341 U.S. Highway 281 South. Open to anyone who

wants to play; any level accepted.

YARN MAKERS MEETUP, 7-8 p.m. Wool and Vine wine lounge, 415 East Third St.
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 7 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Fourth Street and Chestnut.

New shopping center to bring amenities to East Fourth Street

FROM PAGE 1

jobs to the community," he said. "We may have 14 new potential businesses."

Irvin is particularly excited about the strip construction, which may become the home to future law offices and medical care providers. Irvin said he is looking for five different users for the facility.

His last big project in Lampasas was construction of the Marketplace shopping center off U.S. Highway 281 along Sulphur Creek. Irvin believes the new strip center will be even more attractive, and working on the Fourth Street projects simultaneously will be more cost-effective.

"As soon as I completed the Marketplace, the other property across [from it] doubled in value," he said. "When I got over here, I decided I would build both pieces."

Working alongside Irvin is his daughter Lauren Cearley, who believes the two new structures are important due to expected growth for the area.

"I live in Leander, and we just see so much of Austin is moving north," Cearley

said. "We want to beautify Lampasas and make it a destination for people. It is more affordable than the Leander/Cedar Park area. We want to have all the same sort of amenities you can get in Liberty Hill but just a little bit out."

According to the United States Census Bureau, Leander sits right behind Georgetown as the fastest growing city in the nation. From July 2020 to July 2021, Leander's population increased 10.1%. It ballooned from 8,661 people in 2000 to 67,124 by 2021.

Numerous construction projects have been initiated along U.S. Highway 183 from Leander north to Liberty Hill. A toll road from the Leander area provides easy access to State Highway Loop 1, which can be used to access Austin's downtown area.

Irvin and Cearley believe the housing market may shift to places like Lampasas as home prices in Leander and Cedar Park continue rise.

"When I opened a sale storage in Leander during 2004, it was a little town like Lampasas," Irvin said. "Now it has a lot of people."

WORSHIP WITH US

Kempner Church of Christ
 Sun. Bible Classes: 10 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11 a.m.
 Sun. Evening Service: 5 p.m.
 Wed. Bible Study: 6 p.m.
Come visit us at any opportunity.
 309 Hill St. (CR 3300)
 Kempner, TX 76539
512-932-2377
 www.kempner.churchofchrist.info
 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
254-383-7765

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
 501 S. Chestnut at Corner of 4th St., Lampasas
In-Person Sunday Worship
 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM
Streamed Live 10:00 AM
 https://www.ourstmarys.org/worship/live-media
www.ourstmarys.org
Wednesday
 Eucharist at Noon

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
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 Mass Schedule:
 Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm
 Sunday: Lometa 8:00 am
 Lampasas 10:00 am
 Spanish 12:15 pm

FIRST STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST
 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.
 201 W. First Street, Lampasas • 556-3716
 lampasascoc@sbcglobal.net
 www.fschurchofchrist.org

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 AM
Service: 11 AM
512-556-3984

Pray
 Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Naruna Baptist Church
 Sunday School 10 a.m.
 Worship Service 11 a.m.
BIBLE STUDY
Wednesday Night 5:30
Singing & Snacks
3rd Wed. of each month
 8 miles west of Lampasas on Naruna Rd.

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 You can also visit our website for the bulletin at **www.firstpresbyterianlampasas.org**, and join us near our sanctuary on **90.3 FM**, or watch the worship **video posted on our website**.

Kempner police department to seek official accreditation

FROM PAGE 1

\$50,000 from the state. Police departments have the option to choose from the T CPA, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc., the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators, or an association or organization designated by the criminal justice division.

Although the bill is in the infancy stage with the Texas Legislature, Mayor John Wilkerson pointed out that accreditation is something the police department must seek heading into the future.

SB 267 stipulates that law enforcement agencies with fewer than 50 peace officers have until Sept. 1, 2027 to become accredited.

"I will tell you that a lot of those in the state legislature

have the mindset that if you cannot become accredited, then that city should not have a police department," Wilkerson said.

Rodriguez also provided a police report for last month, listing 65 warnings and citations.

He also noted an increase in women coming forward from previous sexual assault cases. Rodriguez said he is doing all he can to properly handle those types of cases.

The police chief said he recently completed a training seminar in Huntsville.

"We are talking about older cases that came through, and unfortunately we had one that dealt with a child," Rodriguez said. "More people are coming through with those cases, and I want to make sure I'm doing it right."

First Baptist Lampasas
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 Worship Celebration 11:00 am
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First United Methodist Church
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 Sunday School all ages at 10:00 am
 2 Alexander Lane - off HWY 190 (512) 556-5513

Lampasas Baptist Church
 133 CR 4126, Lampasas, TX 76550
David Richardson, Pastor
512-422-6503
 Sunday School - 10:00 AM • Worship - 11:00 AM
 Bible Study - Wednesday 6:00 PM

LAMPASAS COMMUNITY CHURCH
 512-556-2595
 219 East Third Street, Lampasas, TX 76550
 Mailing Address: PO Box 20, Lampasas, TX 76550
Pastor Zach Huckabee and wife Krysta
 Sunday Morning Service.....10:30 AM
1ST & 3RD TUESDAYS
 Men's Bible Study.....6:30 PM
WEDNESDAY
 Women's Bible Study.....6:00 PM
Holding forth the Word of life that all may know Christ.
 - Philippians 2:16

Lampasas Dispatch Record
 lampasasdispatchrecord.com
 Publisher.....David Lowe
 Co-Publisher.....Gail Lowe
 Managing Editor.....Alexandria Randolph
 Sports Editor.....Hunter King
 News Editor.....Erick Mitchell
 Staff Writers...Veronica Butler, Mason Hines, Joyce Sarah McCabel
 Advertising Sales.....Teresa Thornton
 Graphic Design.....Trish Griffith
 Office Manager/Bookkeeper.....Brenda Smith
 The Lampasas Dispatch Record (ISSN-87501759), is published semi-weekly by Hill Country Publishing Co. Inc., 416 S. Live Oak St., Lampasas, Texas. Periodicals postage paid at Lampasas, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Lampasas Dispatch Record, P.O. Box 631, Lampasas, TX 76550-0065.
 Mailing address for the Lampasas Dispatch Record is P.O. Box 631, Lampasas, TX 76550-0065. Phone 512-556-6262. One-year subscriptions, payable in advance, are \$55 in Lampasas; \$65 elsewhere in Texas; and \$75 out-of-state.
MEMBER 2023
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Trinity Worship Center
 Non-Denominational Faith Teaching Center
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 Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM
 Pastor Kirby Lack
254-547-8604
 1802 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.,
 Copperas Cove, TX 76522

"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 interceding for us."
 Romans 8:34

Badgers win thriller in triple overtime

BY HUNTER KING
DISPATCH RECORD

What should have been the final buzzer went off four different times Tuesday night during the Badgers' 76-67 win over Burnet.

At the end of regulation, the Bulldogs missed a three-point shot as the buzzer sounded to send the game to the first overtime with the score tied 49-49.

In the first extra period, the two teams scored six points each and without much drama at the end, they were set to do it all over again, tied at 55-55.

As the second overtime began, Burnet came out firing. The Bulldogs went up by six points with just over a minute off the clock.

The Badgers were able to shut them down the rest of the period, and they did just enough on offense to get back in the game.

With the Badgers down 62-60, Haegan Oncken grabbed an offensive rebound and was fouled. He headed to the free-throw line, needing to make both shots to send the game to a third overtime. He was perfect on both, and the Badgers defended the final eight seconds to keep the game tied.

Finally, in the third overtime period, the Badgers caught fire and jumped out to an early five-point lead. After the Bulldogs hit a three, freshman Peyton Sisson answered immediately with a big three of his own that restored the five-point Lampasas advantage. The Badgers never looked back from there.

The win put the team in a three-way tie with Marble Falls and Gateway for first place in District 24-4A. All three have a record of 6-4. The win also meant the Badgers moved from 1-4 in the first half of district play to 5-0 in the second half.

"It's fun to coach competitors," head coach Aaron Nuckles said. "When you don't have to get them up to play and they're accepting of what they need to do, it's fun because you just let loose and go, and that's the point we're at right now. They're accepting of what they need to do, they're accepting of their roles, they're fixing things that need to be fixed, and that makes it a lot easier for the staff."

The Badgers' leading scorer against Burnet was Carter Johnson, the same guy it has been for most of the season. On Tuesday, he exploded for 29 points in his best effort as a Badger playing in his final game in the Badger Den in front of

the hometown fans. "It was just a dogfight," Johnson said. "Bottom line, it was just back and forth. Two good teams for sure, but we buckled down and stayed here a little extra longer, but we came out with it."

Why was he so successful inside against Burnet? "We watched them and knew they had weak paint defense in the short corner, so we utilized that and took advantage of that for sure," the senior said.

For Johnson, there was no better end to his time playing in the Badger Den.

"Ending it like that, ending their [Burnet's] season, I'm just grateful and blessed to leave it all out here," he said.

The success Johnson had cutting into the paint from the short corner was something Lampasas planned to do because of what the senior noticed the first time these two teams met, according to his coach.

With the win, the Badgers are tri-district champions, meaning that in back-to-back seasons they have had at least a share of the district title.

"It's a three-way tie, but it's a district championship," Nuckles said. "Two in a row; it's been a long time since Lampasas did that."

"To look in that locker room with everything that graduated last year, to look in that locker room and say man we're 1-4, what do we do, it's pretty good," the coach said of their accomplishment. "We just went through the second half of district undefeated, and that's a tip of the hat to [the players]. They competed."

"I told them tonight we do not have a game, we have a competition, and it's going to be the team that competes the longest, and that's what you see," Nuckles said.

Luke Shivers has been one of the constants all season, and he ended Tuesday's game with seven points. Shivers was the leading assist man and got the ball to Johnson on a majority of his layups.

"That was perfect, the perfect way to end my last game of the Badger Den," the senior said after the win.

Now it's time for the playoffs, and the Badgers will be taking on Waco La Vega in the bi-district round at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Belton High School.

The Pirates posted a 20-11 overall record, going 7-3 in District 23-4A in the regular season.



Head coach Aaron Nuckles and his team erupt in celebration as the final seconds ticked off the clock.



The Badger student section was electric from start to finish in the Lampasas win.

The Badgers are set to take on Waco La Vega in the first round of the playoffs.



Peyton Sisson rises up over a Burnet defender for a tough two points.



Aidan Nuckles shoots from the left wing in the first half of Tuesday's win.

HUNTER KING | DISPATCH RECORD

HUNTER KING | DISPATCH RECORD

HUNTER KING | DISPATCH RECORD

HUNTER KING | DISPATCH RECORD

Lady Badgers' season comes to end after playoff loss to Salado

BY HUNTER KING
DISPATCH RECORD

The Lady Badgers traveled to Belton on Monday night for their bi-district matchup with Salado.

The game did not go Lampasas' way, and the team lost 69-41.

A slow start put the Lady Badgers behind, and they never fully recovered.

"Salado obviously had a big first quarter, and we did not," head coach Macey Wooten said. "I think that came down to shooting, so Salado ended up with nine threes. I think we had three threes.

"We had a hard time scoring, and Salado did not," she said. "I know that speaks to our defense. I'm going to completely take the blame for that ... I had a defensive gameplan going in. We were slow to execute it in the first quarter, and then we started executing too late in the game to dig ourselves out of that hole."

In what was a difficult season for the girls, the Lady Badgers still managed to finish second in a tough district, and they did not let circumstances faze them.

"This was the most nontraditional season ever," Wooten said. "They are a good, good team, and they proved that

with the adversity that they faced by still getting second in this district that we're in. I hate that we couldn't do more for them - they deserve more. But what they were able to accomplish after all this adversity still speaks to them."

The coach also made sure to tell her players after the game how proud she was of them and their tenacity this season.

Brooke White was the standout scorer against Salado with 20 points. Morgan Lovejoy scored eight, Addison Borchardt finished with seven, and Aspen Wheeler, Jenna Ball and Jamie Ball all had two points.

The Lady Badgers will lose three seniors in White, Lovejoy and Payton Tatum, but a majority of the team should return next year, along with players from the district-champion freshman and junior varsity squads.

"The three seniors we are losing are big losses, but we are deep when it comes to the level of play we have at all levels of our basketball teams," Wooten said. "Our seventh-grade team won district, and then they won the district tournament. The eighth-graders got second in the district tournament ... so we have a lot to look forward to."



Brooke White drives past a Salado defender during the Monday playoff game.



Payton Tatum dribbles to the basket for a layup.



Addison Borchardt releases a three over an attempted block.

Girls' soccer picks up first district win in dominant fashion

BY HUNTER KING
DISPATCH RECORD

The Lady Badger soccer team was in top form Tuesday night when Lampasas picked up a 6-1 win over Academy at home.

Bella Lindsey finished the game with four goals, and Liliana Miller scored the other two.

The Lady Badgers had

struggled to this point scoring goals in district competition, so to finally put several balls in the back of the net was big for their confidence.

"I think the girls really needed it," head coach Emma Sharp said. "They work so hard, and it's nice to see them rewarded in a district game."

Sharp wants her team to use the momentum to vault themselves forward.

"I told them after the game to keep the momentum going, they need to use that excitement from the win and push into Brownwood next week," the head coach said.

The girls are off tonight, and they will return to action Tuesday with a road game against Brownwood to kick off the second half of district play.

So, why was this game the time when the Lady Badgers

put it all together?

"These girls have put in a lot of hours in practice and finally put it all together on the field," Sharp said. "Our attacking third of the field was on fire. We were taking more shots on goal than in previous games, and I think that's what got us the win."

The game Tuesday is scheduled to start at 6 p.m. in Brownwood.



Bella Lindsey dribbles down the sideline against Academy. She scored four goals in the match.

Badgers sending three wrestlers to state competition today

BY HUNTER KING
DISPATCH RECORD

The Badger wrestling teams traveled to Anna last week for the regional

competition. The girls' team finished 10th overall out of 39 schools.

Three wrestlers advance to state: Charlie Freese and Derrick Winfree, plus Joey

Roberts as an alternate. She will wrestle in the event a teammate cannot.

At regional competition, Freese and Taylor Martell both placed second in their

respective weight classes. Winfree finished third, and Roberts was fifth.

The state competition will take place at the Berry Center in Houston.

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Class: Senior
Sport: Wrestling and Football
Role Model: My Dad
Favorite Thing to Eat: Burgers
One Place to Travel: Norway
Favorite Music Genre: Country



Name: Carter Kuhn
Class: Freshman
Sport: Wrestling, Track and Football
Role Model: My Mom and Dad
Favorite Thing to Eat: Burger
One Place to Travel: Virginia
Favorite Music Genre: 80s Rock



Name: Sean Miller
Class: Junior
Sport: Wrestling and Cross Country
Role Model: My Dad
Favorite Thing to Eat: Hot Dogs
One Place to Travel: Canada
Favorite Music Genre: Alternative



Name: Sayler Sifers
Class: Freshman
Sport: Wrestling and Powerlifting
Role Model: Coach Jody Oliver
Favorite Thing to Eat: Pizza
One Place to Travel: New Zealand
Favorite Music Genre: Rap



Name: Joey Roberts
Class: Sophomore
Sport: Wrestling
Role Model: Coach Donovan Kleckner
Favorite Thing to Eat: Mac & Cheese
One Place to Travel: England
Favorite Music Genre: N/A



Name: Jordan Winfree
Class: Freshman
Sport: Wrestling
Role Model: My Mom
Favorite Thing to Eat: Spaghetti or Enchiladas
One Place to Travel: Bahamas
Favorite Music Genre: Country

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Freshman basketball team crowned undefeated district champs

BY HUNTER KING
DISPATCH RECORD

The freshman Badger basketball team picked up a 41-32 over Burnet on Tuesday to close out a perfect district campaign at 9-0 and be crowned the district champions.

Beau Patterson and Dylan Polmanteer both scored 13 points to lead the team. Jax Pratus recorded nine points, Calum Mitchell finished with four, and Sam Williams added two points.

The Badgers finished 18-3 overall in a season that should propel them to great things in the Lampasas basketball program.

Their coach, Chance Cottle, spoke after the game about his players winning the district.

"We've had around four wins from when we were down at halftime or down at some point in the game, and those guys don't back down," he said. "All year we've been talking about this freshman group and this varsity group, how

much they mirror each other, no quit, and extremely coachable.

"Today we were down by eight at halftime, and I told them, 'Guys, we're going to have to be more physical and honestly, y'all are district champs, and we need to start playing like it,'" Cottle said. "... just extremely proud of them, the growth they've had throughout this year has been tremendous, and the future's really bright for Lampasas basketball."

After the final buzzer sounded, the Badgers exploded in celebration. They knew what they were playing for and wanted to finish the district schedule undefeated. They got their reward.

"I love them, they're like my kids, so to see that their hard work is getting paid off, it means the world to me," the coach said. "All them weight room days that they go in there and say they don't want to be in the weight room, they know it pays off, and they know it's good for them."



This group of freshman Badgers finished their season as undefeated district champions.

COURTESY PHOTO | MINDI PRATUS



Jax Pratus screams in celebration as the final buzzer sounds.

HUNTER KING | DISPATCH RECORD



Beau Patterson shoots a three from the corner in the fourth quarter of the freshman team's win over Burnet.

HUNTER KING | DISPATCH RECORD

Hornet basketball regular season over; boys headed to playoffs

BY MASON HINES
DISPATCH RECORD

District basketball has ended for both Hornet basketball teams, with the Lometa boys securing a spot in the playoffs.

The girls' and boys' teams struggled to find their identities throughout the season, and it resulted in tough losses. The boys finished in third place with a 6-4 district record. The girls went 2-8 in district.

HORNETS' SEASON

The Lometa varsity boys' basketball team finished behind Richland Springs and Cherokee, who both swept the Hornets during their regular-season meetings. This includes a loss to the Indians on Tuesday by a score of 52-43.

The Hornets will meet a familiar foe in the bi-district round when they match up against the Sidney Eagles. Lometa has been in a district with the Eagles before and defeated them in the bi-district round two seasons ago.

Hornet Head Coach Frank Reyes Jr. likes the matchup and knows that fundamentals will make the difference in winning this game.

"We beat them two years ago in bi-district, and I think it will be a good matchup," he said. "They do have some size. It will all come down to shooting the ball well and good defense."

Lometa will play Sidney on Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Brownwood Coliseum.

LADY HORNETS' SEASON

Inexperience and youth

played a part in the girls' district record, which included multiple close losses. Five of the Lady Hornets' losses were decided by a total of 18 points, and games were close down the stretch.

"We lost to Rochelle by four in overtime and lost to Cherokee by three both times," head coach Frank Reyes III said. "Lost to Brooksmith by three the first time and by five the second. We just weren't able to finish games."

Reyes had concerns prior to the season regarding his team's youth, as none of the five starters had played meaningful minutes prior to this season.

The Lady Hornets will look to build off their experience during the off-season. The team finished fifth in district play.

Boys' soccer picks up second district win with late comeback

BY HUNTER KING
DISPATCH RECORD

As the first half of district soccer play has come to an end, the Badgers finished it with a comeback win over Academy. This gives Lampasas its second district victory of the season.

The Badgers trailed 1-0 entering the final 20 minutes, after not really playing like themselves for large parts of the game, head coach Samuel Burnside said. But then they found themselves and put two goals in the back of the net to take the 2-1 victory.

"Nothing shifted tactically, like we did not shift a formation or anything like that; we just trusted who we had and what we could do together," Burnside said. "We continued pressuring offensively and making good

runs and crosses into their defense until finally a couple of them fell for us.

"It speaks volumes about the character of the team," he said. "We have gotten compliments from other coaches, both district and non-district, about the fight of my boys and how they will continue to play all the way through the 80 minutes and never relent."

Goal scorers for the Badgers were Elias Ayala and Jose Gomez, and the assists went to Isaac Abken and Cooper Pfaltzgraft. Burnside named Abken the man of the match.

The Badgers are now 2-4 in district competition. This win to close the first half could spark momentum going into round two.

"Any district win is always huge for us," Burnside said.

"In this district, three points in the table earned are never taken lightly. Definitely glad to have two [wins] under the belt, but we also feel like we let a couple get away from us in the first half of district that we can improve on past performances greatly moving into the second half of district."

"I hope that this win will also further show the boys that fighting together all the way through a match will yield us good results if we just continue to give all we have got for the short, guaranteed season that we have left with this second half of district," the coach said.

The Badgers are off today before returning to action with a home game against Brownwood set to start at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

Congratulations on good seasons, and good luck to the Hornets as they take on Sidney in the Bi-District round of the playoffs at 6 p.m. on Tuesday.

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FROM PAGE 10

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ESTATE OF
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DECEASED**

**IN THE PROBATE COURT
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TEXAS**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jeffery Neil Southworth, Deceased, were issued on December 1, 2022, in Docket No. 7398, pending in the Probate Court, Lampasas County, Texas, to: Doris D. Daniel, c/o Forsythe Law, PLLC, 950 West Bethany Drive, Suite 320, Allen, Texas 75013.

All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. All persons having claims should address them in care of the representative at the address stated above.

DATED: February 9, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
FORSYTHE LAW, PLLC

/s/ Sarah Kretsinger
**ROBIN FORSYTHE, CFE,
ESQ.**

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SARAH KRETSINGER
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of PHILIP DUGGER, Deceased, were issued on February 8, 2023, in Cause No. 7450, pending in the County Court of Lampasas County, Texas, to: NITA DUGGER.

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.

c/o: **Tyler Rockafellow**
Attorney at Law
117 E. Jackson St.
Burnet, TX 78611

DATED the 8th day of February, 2023.

/s/Tyler Rockafellow
Attorney for Nita Dugger
State Bar No.: 24097137
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DISTRICT COURT

Lampasas County 27th District Court convened last week with Judge John Gauntt presiding over the day's hearings.

Defendant Dakota Brian Fralin of Lampasas entered a plea of guilty to a third-degree felony charge of retaliation and obstruction, and the court assessed him five years' deferred probation with a \$750 fine. He also is to pay associated court costs of \$325.

A second-degree felony charge of aggravated assault-threat with a deadly weapon against Fralin was abandoned.

Deirdre Kaye Wyss of Lampasas pleaded no contest to a charge of theft of property less than \$2,500 with two or more previous convictions. She received three years' deferred probation and must pay \$325 in court costs plus a \$1,000 fine.

Darrien Charles Moore of Cedar Hill entered a plea of guilty to a charge of theft of property greater than or equal to \$2,500 and less than \$30,000-enhanced. Moore received a sentence of three years' deferred probation, a \$750 fine and \$325 in court costs.

Michael McLane Nelson of Austin did not answer when called for his Feb. 10 arraignment hearing, and the court ruled his \$2,500 bond insufficient. No new bond will be set without a hearing in

District Court. Nelson faces a charge of burglary of a habitation.

Aubrey Logan Rodgers of Lometa failed to answer last week when called for his arraignment on a charge of possession of a controlled substance greater than or equal to 4 grams and less than 200 grams. A capias warrant was to be issued for him.

The attorney for Felix Garza has requested a motion to withdraw from the case. That motion is scheduled to be heard by the court on Feb. 17. Garza is charged with possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.

Slated for Feb. 24 in 27th District Court are:

Arraignment of Alvin Ray Pavey of Lampasas, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance greater than or equal to 1 gram and less than 4 grams. An attorney has been appointed for the defendant.

Pretrial hearing for Manuel Solorzano-Sanchez, on a charge of driving while intoxicated-third or more. The court is awaiting a waiver of arraignment in this case.

Pretrial hearing for Christopher John Faubion of Lampasas, on a charge of failure to comply with sex offender's duty to register-life/annual. A waiver of arraignment has been filed.

Adjudication hearing for Jamison Wade Cavazos of Lampasas, on a charge of engaging in organized criminal activity.

Adjudication hearings for Kooper Neil Chaney, on charges of unauthorized use of a vehicle and evading arrest/detention with a vehicle.

Motion to withdraw by the legal counsel for Tommy Ray Hultz of Kempner. Hultz faces charges of theft of property greater than or equal to \$1,500 and less than \$20,000, burglary of a habitation, possession of a controlled substance greater than or equal to 4 grams and less than 200 grams, burglary of a building, unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram, and two charges of bail jumping and failure to appear-felony.

When the court convenes March 3, these cases are among those scheduled to take place:

Plea hearings for Jorge Hernandez Ortiz, who faces two charges: assault of a pregnant person, and manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance greater than or equal to 1 gram and less than 4 grams. An interpreter is planned for his hearings.

Pretrial hearing for Melissa Jean Jackson of Lampasas,

on a charge of tamper/fabricate physical evidence with intent to impair.

Pretrial hearing for Todd Allan Lukenbill of Lampasas, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram. A waiver of arraignment has been filed for him.

Adjudication hearing for Jason Phillip Fortner of Lampasas, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.

Competence review for Donald Wayne Smith of Lampasas. He is charged with burglary of a habitation with intent to commit other felony.

Plea hearing with presentence investigation for Katherine Renee Honea of San Saba, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance greater than or equal to 1 gram and less than 4 grams. A waiver of arraignment has been filed for her.

Plea hearing with presentence investigation for Eddie Lavaughn Hulsey of Lampasas, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram. A waiver of arraignment has been filed.

Plea hearings with presentence investigation for Joshua J. Tryon of Lampasas, on a charge of forgery of a financial instrument, and a charge of criminal mischief greater than or equal to

\$2,000 and less than \$30,000.

Plea hearings with presentence investigation for Angelica Marie Gonzales of Lampasas, who faces charges of prohibited substance/item in a correctional facility, burglary of a habitation and possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.

Plea hearing with presentence investigation for Joshua Levi Jackson of Kempner, on a charge of evading arrest/detention with a vehicle or watercraft.

Plea hearing with presentence investigation for Stephen Jacob Bradley of Killeen, on a charge of intoxication manslaughter with a vehicle.

Adjudication hearing for Miguel Lugo Perez of Lampasas, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram. An attorney was appointed for the defendant.

Adjudication plea with presentence investigation for Francisca Rene Alcozer of Copperas Cove, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.

Plea with presentence investigation for James Howard Smith of Lampasas, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance greater than or equal to 1 gram and less than 4 grams. At his Jan. 13 hearing, bond was set at \$3,000, with no personal recognizance bond allowed.

GRAND JURY

Lampasas County grand jury convened last week as a continuation of the January 2023 term.

Investigator Wayne Hilgenberg of the Lampasas County Sheriff's Office presented information that resulted in two indictments:

Paul Jacob Spenser on a charge of theft on June 18, 2021.

Christopher John Moreno Jr. on a charge of failure to register as a sex offender on Nov. 17, 2022.

The Lampasas Police Department – represented by Sgt. Investigator Fidel Morua, Sgt. Investigator Garrett Bradley and Sgt. Investigator Tim Ryan – brought information

that led to these indictments:

Richard Lee Adames on a charge of possession of a controlled substance in a drug-free zone on Jan. 5, 2023.

Nathan Samule Diederich on a charge of tamper with evidence on Jan. 14.

Miguel Lugo Perez on a charge of repeated violation of court order on Jan. 14.

Lynn Marie Tyree on a charge of possession of a controlled substance-methamphetamine on Jan. 26.

Kimberly Kay Delacruz on a charge of possession of a controlled substance-methamphetamine on Dec. 15, 2022.

Joseph Daniel Lavender Jr. on a charge of driving while intoxicated-third or more on Jan. 3, 2023.

Charles Cecil Simpson on a charge of driving while intoxicated-third or more on Jan. 21.

Richard Rivera Hernandez Jr. on a charge of aggravated assault-threat with a deadly weapon on June 3, 2022.

Lampasas County Attorney John Greenwood and Assistant County Attorney Jessica Guy presented information that led to indictments against:

Quentin Terry on a charge of possession of a controlled substance-cocaine on March 15, 2021.

Madeline Michelle Alvarado on a charge of possession of a controlled substance-intent to deliver on Dec. 15, 2022.

Isabel Marie Tamayo on a charge of possession of a controlled substance-intent to deliver on Dec. 15,

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.

FEB. 11

Bobby Franklin Hudson, 41, of Lometa, was arrested on a charge of assault of a family member causing

bodily harm, and a Blanco County warrant on a charge of making terroristic threat.

FEB. 9

Jeremy Bruce Long, 41, of Kempner, assault of a family/household member by impeding breath or circulation.

Fidencio Constantino Maldonado, 54, of Lometa, was arrested on failure to comply with sex offender registry-life.

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JOINT NOTICE OF SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF LAMPASAS

BY VIRTUE OF ORDERS OF SALE DATED the 3rd day of February, 2023, and issued pursuant to judgment decrees of the District Court of Lampasas County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date in the hereinafter numbered and styled causes, and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff of said Court, I have on the 3rd day of February, 2023, seized, levied upon, and will on the 7th day of March, 2023, at the WEST ENTRANCE DOOR AT 400 SOUTH LIVEOAK ST. LAMPASAS, TEXAS, at 10:00 a.m. on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all of the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, as provided for by the TEXAS PROPERTY TAX CODE.

All of the following properties being located in Lampasas County, Texas and each property being more particularly described on an instrument recorded in the Official Public Records, Lampasas County, Texas. The approximate property addresses reflected herein are the addresses on the tax records and may or may not be completely accurate.

PROP #	CAUSE #	STYLE	PROP DESCRIPTION, ADDRESS, ACCT #
1	17,259	Lampasas Central Appraisal District v Harry L. Ledbetter, AKA Harry Wesley Ledbetter, et al	Lot 22, Block "D", Sueann Addition, an addition to the City of Lampasas, Lampasas County, Texas (Volume 285, Page 871, Volume 289, Page 520 and Volume 301, Page 947, Deed Records, Lampasas County, Texas), Account #2744
2	20065	Lampasas Central Appraisal District v Edward L. Clouds, et al	10.00 acres, more or less, Samuel Flemer 1/3 Lease Survey, A-212, subdivision in Lampasas County, Texas (Volume 199, Page 832, Deed Records, Lampasas County, Texas), 1001 County Road 3062, Lampasas, Texas 76550, Account #6333
3	20167	Lampasas Central Appraisal District v Forris Eldon McLean, et al	Lot 9, of the Cameron Roofing Company Resubdivision of Block 56, Lampasas Springs Company's First Addition, Town of Lampasas, Lampasas County, Texas (Volume 111, Page 320 of the Deed Records, Lampasas County, Texas), 303 N Race, Lampasas, Texas 76550, Account #1485
4	21024	Lampasas Central Appraisal District v Juanita Stephens	MOBILE HOME ON 14070.052.002.00 SERIAL TXFLIAC08894680, LABEL # TEX0195130, Suncrest, 14 X 76, Lampasas County, Texas, 319 S 3rd St, Lometa, Texas 76853-2237, Account #100114
5	21101	Lampasas Central Appraisal District v Gustavo Martinez	Lot 5, Block 1, The Meadows Subdivision, Town of Lometa, Lampasas County, Texas (Volume 322, Page 527, Deed Records, Lampasas County, Texas), Account #7443
6	21101	Lampasas Central Appraisal District v Gustavo Martinez	Lot 6, Block 1, The Meadows Subdivision, Town of Lometa, Lampasas County, Texas (Volume 322, Page 527, Deed Records, Lampasas County, Texas), Account #7444
7	21101	Lampasas Central Appraisal District v Gustavo Martinez	Lot 7, Block 1, The Meadows Subdivision, Town of Lometa, Lampasas County, Texas (Volume 322, Page 527, Deed Records, Lampasas County, Texas), Account #7445
8	21101	Lampasas Central Appraisal District v Gustavo Martinez	Lot 8, Block 1, The Meadows Subdivision, Town of Lometa, Lampasas County, Texas (Volume 322, Page 527, Deed Records, Lampasas County, Texas), Account #7446
9	22171	Lampasas Central Appraisal District v Timothy D. Jefferies	ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND CONTAINING 1.77 ACRES, MORE OR LESS AND BEING SITUATED IN THE RUSTIC HILLS ADDITION LAMPASAS COUNTY, TEXAS BEING THAT PROPERTY MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS TRACT ONE AT VOLUME 320, PAGE 200 OF THE DEED RECORDS OF LAMPASAS COUNTY, TEXAS AND BEING AGGREGATE OF THE TRACTS OR PARCELS LISTED BY THE LAMPASAS COUNTY CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT UNDER ACCOUNT NUMBERS: 5735 & 5735002 AND SHOWN ON THE TAX ROLLS OF THE LAMPASAS COUNTY, TEXAS AS FOLLOWS: 50% undivided interest in 1.77 acres being part of Tract 3 & 4, Rustic Hills Addition, Lampasas County, Texas (Tract 1, Volume 538, Page 482 of the Deed Records, Lampasas County, Texas), Account #5735002/5735

PROP #	CAUSE #	STYLE	PROP DESCRIPTION, ADDRESS, ACCT #
10	22171	Lampasas Central Appraisal District v Timothy D. Jefferies	ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND CONTAINING 0.84 ACRES, MORE OR LESS AND BEING SITUATED IN THE RUSTIC HILLS ADDITION LAMPASAS COUNTY, TEXAS BEING THAT PROPERTY MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS TRACT TWO AT VOLUME 320, PAGE 200 OF THE DEED RECORDS OF LAMPASAS COUNTY, TEXAS AND BEING AGGREGATE OF THE TRACTS OR PARCELS LISTED BY THE LAMPASAS COUNTY CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT UNDER ACCOUNT NUMBERS: 5738 and 5738002 AND SHOWN ON THE TAX ROLLS OF THE LAMPASAS COUNTY, TEXAS AS FOLLOWS: 50% undivided interest, 0.84 acres being part of Tract 3, Rustic Hills Addition, Section One, Lampasas County, Texas (Tract Two, Volume 538, Page 482 of the Deed Records, Lampasas County, Texas), Account #5738002/5738
11	22433	Lampasas Central Appraisal District v Alma Gayle Chambers et al	Lot 11 and East 1/2 of Lot 10, Block 5, Colonial Heights Addition, City of Lampasas, Lampasas County, Texas (Volume 320, Page 400, Deed Records, Lampasas County, Texas), 1406 W Avenue A, Lampasas, Texas 76550-1530, Account #411
12	22522	Lampasas Central Appraisal District v Luis Garza, Jr. et al	0.37 Acres, more or less, out of the Anderson Ray Survey, Abstract 584, City of Lometa, Lampasas County, Texas (Volume 235, Page 650 and Volume 529, Page 579 of the Deed Records, Lampasas County, Texas), W Cherry St, Lometa 76853, Account #12490

This sale will be conducted to satisfy the judgment(s) for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interests due on the properties described herein, and for all costs of court and sale.

I do hereby verify that true and correct copies of the foregoing Joint Notice of Sale have been delivered by United States Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, and by regular mail, to each of the Defendants named in each of the numbered and styled causes.

DATED the 3rd day of February, 2023, at Lampasas, Texas

JESUS "JESS" G. RAMOS
Sheriff, Lampasas County, Texas

You may contact the attorney for the taxing units at (512) 323-3200.

DEATHS



Mr. Haedje

Visitation for Kenneth Lee Haedje, 83 of Killeen, will be held Feb. 17 at 10 a.m. at LifeWay Fellowship in Killeen. Funeral services will follow at 11 a.m., also at LifeWay Fellowship. Burial will follow in the Pidcoke Cemetery. Pastor Jimmy Towers will officiate the funeral and burial.

Mr. Haedje died Feb. 11, 2023 in Temple.

He was born at home on July 15, 1939 in the Willow Springs Community near Killeen. He was the only son of Joe Adolph Haedje and Edna Earl (Deorsam) Haedje. Kenneth was a third-generation Texan. Both sides of his family emigrated from Germany.

When Kenneth was 1, the family moved to the Antelope Community that now is Fort Hood. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, families were forced by the government to move and sell their land to make way for Camp Hood. The government gave the former landowners and their descendants rights to continue grazing their cattle on the land as compensation.

Kenneth raised his cattle on the Fort Hood range for many years. He also raised sheep, goats and cattle on his

own farmland. He lived and ranched in Bell, Coryell and Lampasas counties.

He graduated from Lampasas High School in 1957. While attending high school, Kenneth was in FFA.

After graduating, he was employed by the U.S. Civil Service with Directorate of Engineer and Housing as chief of the Supply Operation Section. He retired after 29 years.

Kenneth met Miss Marjory "Marge" Ann Fraunhofer by the oak tree in his family's front yard on a blind date. They were married on June 12, 1964 at Concordia Lutheran Church in San Antonio. They were married for 58 years.

He was a former member of the Central Texas Cattlemen's Association.

In 2013, Kenneth was named one of the Bell County Ring of Honor Ranchers.

He also was a founding member of LifeWay Fellowship.

Kenneth was preceded in death by his sisters Joetta Deloris (Haedje) Frank and Lanelle Ida (Haedje) Butts.

Survivors include his wife, Marge Haedje of Killeen; his sister, Sharon Erwin and husband Robert of Kempner; brother-in-law, Harold "Hal" Fraunhofer and wife Joyce of New Braunfels; nephews Brad Butts, Alan Erwin, Mark Frank, and Peter and Steven Fraunhofer; and nieces Amy Erwin Aldridge, Janine Rothman, Cindy Rum, Marianne Seider and Lisa Dawn Singleton.

He also leaves behind his dog, Calvin Earl Haedje.

Memorials may be made to the LifeWay Fellowship Church Building Fund at P.O. Box 10250, Killeen, TX 76542.

Sculpture garden vandalized

The Lampasas Police Department is seeking assistance in identifying the culprits behind vandalism at the Hanna Springs Sculpture Garden inside Campbell Park.

This marks the second report of vandalism on the sculpture known as Glee within the last week. Initial harm to the sculpture occurred in the late hours of Feb. 6 or early the next day, according to the Lampasas Police Department.

Assistant Police Chief

Charlie Boswell said there are no leads or suspects in the vandalism case right now.

With construction of the new skate park in full swing at Campbell Park, Boswell said the city is looking at adding cameras to the area for safety and security reasons.

The police department encouraged those who may have information about the vandalism to contact an officer at 512-556-3644 or through the department's Facebook page.

Corix cannot refuse service to new projects

FROM PAGE 1

Texas Water Development Board to acquire approximately \$8 million in funding for improvements. The grant application has been submitted and is awaiting approval, he said.

In August, Corix customers in Lometa were issued a stage 3 conservation notice. Along with a low water level in the riverbank, Barker said the main pump for the system was out for replacement. The stage 3 alert was taken as a precautionary measure.

Corix is pondering more ways to add inflow of water, Barker said. The LCRA sought Corix's assistance during the 2011-2012 drought to provide water to those in the Austin area near Lake Travis. Corix took advantage of water underneath the sand near Spicewood to provide those in need of water by using inflation galleries and drilling wells

in the first bank of the river, he said.

ABILITY TO SERVE CUSTOMERS

Corix is unable to decline water service to developers who are seeking new projects in the service area, Barker explained.

He said Corix is equipped to serve an additional 600 to 700 connections with its current supply. More connections would mean water spends less time in the pipeline, which would reduce the buildup of trihalomethanes.

If developments like the proposed Pitt Creek Ranch Municipal Utility District are allowed to proceed, a new booster station and pipe upgrade will be required, Barker said. All improvements to the system for new projects must be paid by the developer.

"In some cases, developments – depending on where they are in the system – can help," the Corix official said.

U.S. 281 RELIEF ROUTE

Also during Monday's meeting, County Judge Randy Hoyer initiated a subcommittee to include himself and Precinct 4 Commissioner Mark Rainwater to consider local effects of a proposed U.S. Highway 281 relief route. If a bypass around Lampasas comes to fruition, it mainly will fall in Rainwater's precinct, according to TxDOT projections.

Hoyer asked that those in Lampasas County who have an opinion about the bypass – supporters as well as those against a bypass route -- reach out to him. He said the Texas Department of Transportation is seeking an opinion from elected officials regarding a bypass.

"If there are individuals or groups in support, they need to let us know publicly," Hoyer said. "Right now, I am hearing 100% opposition to this relief route."

Council awards bid for water line improvements

FROM PAGE 1

jurisdiction.

City Secretary Becky Sims explained that the developers' process to receive plat approval has been complicated. In fall 2021, developers began working with the county and city on the development.

"In April 2022, a preliminary plat was approved by the Planning Commission and by City Council, however it did expire in 2022," Sims said.

In October, Lampasas County engineer Joe England, Precinct 4 County Commissioner Mark Rainwater and County Judge Randy Hoyer agreed the subdivision would be designed to city specifications, Sims said.

"The roadways will not be maintained by the city or county," she said. "Maintenance of the subdivision will be the responsibility of the homeowners' association."

Because the development exists outside of city limits, it will not be subject to city zoning regulations. Utilities will be provided by Hamilton County Electric Co-op, private on-site septic systems and by Corix Water.

No public comments were made prior to the vote.

Councilman Zachary Morris asked what would occur regarding infra-

structure if a future annexation were to take place.

Sims said currently, annexation would have to occur voluntarily by the developers, and in the future, the city might not choose to annex the community due to lack of infrastructure.

WATER LINE IMPROVEMENTS

In other action at Monday's meeting, the council voted unanimously to award a bid to LC Paving and Construction for U.S. 281 water line improvements, in an amount not to exceed \$143,247.50.

Assistant City Manager Ryan Ward said this project is tied directly to the Texas Department of Transportation project to improve U.S. 281 at the U.S. 183/U.S. 190 intersection.

"This is the water line to be constructed

underneath," Ward said.

"It will parallel Naruna Road, go under U.S. 281 and Boone's RV Park."

LC Paving and Construction was the low bidder for the project, which is estimated to last about 30 days.

"This is a relocation project that includes boring under the road approximately 300 feet. An eight-inch water line will be installed," Ward said.

The council also approved the first reading of an ordinance to call for a May 6 general election to elect the positions of mayor and City Council member Places 1, 2 and 6. The council also issued an official Order of Election for Municipalities.

In addition, the council voted to approve the following items:

- second reading of an ordinance amending

Lampasas City Ordinances Chapter 54 Parks and Regulations to add rules and signage for the Lampasas Skate Park.

- second reading of an ordinance regarding a 35 mph speed zone on U.S. 281 in front of Lampasas High School for a 0.289-mile section of the roadway.

- approved deGraffenried as a candidate for the Central Texas Water Supply Corp. Board of Directors.

- named council members Herb Pearce and Chuck Williamson along with Mayor TJ Monroe to a City-Council Committee to study the impacts and planning of the proposed TxDOT Relief Route project, which would connect U.S. 281, U.S. 183 and U.S. 190.

- appointed Craig Hammett to the Capital Improvement Program Committee.



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