

Mark Myers enters guilty plea

EDITOR'S NOTE: Some names in this story have been changed to protect the victims.

BY ALEXANDRIA RANDOLPH
DISPATCH RECORD

Former Lampasas High School basketball coach Mark Allen Myers pleaded guilty Tuesday to misdemeanor charges in connection with reports made in January 2023 of “concerning communications” between himself and students. Myers, 62, was arrested on Feb. 9, 2023. In a crowded county courtroom on Tuesday, he entered a plea of guilty to two counts

of official oppression for sexual harassment. He received two years' deferred adjudication probation. Defense attorney Eddie Shell explained that once the probationary period is complete, the case is dismissed without conviction. “I think he’s basically wanted to get this behind him,” Shell said of Myers. “He didn’t want to drag it out.” Both Class A misdemeanors charges were

issued through a Lampasas Police Department warrant. These accusations stemmed from reports made to the Lampasas Independent School District on Jan. 9, 2023, of inappropriate communications between Myers and a student. “Kendra,” a pseudonym for the mother of one of the student victims, said she doesn’t feel the punishment is adequate for a man who “used his power on [two] innocent girls to further his sickness and agenda. “The inappropriate remarks, discussions, personal questions he asked and

the level of indecency of situations that took place in the coach’s office is beyond ridiculous and downright disturbing,” she said in an impact statement to the court. “Monsters like this know exactly how far they can go without getting into serious trouble.” Dana Tatum, the mother of another student who reported Myers to school officials, said the family is glad to have the case concluded. “What shocked us the most was how many victims there are of his,” Tatum

SEE FORMER, PAGE 9



JOYCESARAH MCCABE | DISPATCH RECORD

Prom royalty announced

Named royalty for last weekend's high school celebration are 2024 Prom Queen Liliana Miller and Prom King Trent Seneca.

Flood waters fill Stillhouse Hollow Lake

BY ERICK MITCHELL
DISPATCH RECORD

Kempner Water Supply Corp. members and city of Lampasas water customers should anticipate restrictions to ease in the coming weeks after heavy rainfall last weekend. The level in Stillhouse Hollow Lake, the water source for KWSC and Lampasas customers, has moved above the normal pool level at 622.61 feet due to runoff from the storms. KWSC General Manager Bruce Sorenson said drought restrictions are likely to ease. “We should be good this year,” he said. “At this point, I can’t say for sure, but I doubt we will have much restriction” on water usage. The lake level has not been this high in Stillhouse Hollow since 2020, according to Sorenson. In Lampasas County, the U.S. Geological Survey shows Adamsville received 5.94 inches of rain during last weekend’s storms. Further north in Hamilton County, the USGS rain gauge located at Evant High School indicates 9.14 inches of rainfall since May 2. Since the large amounts of runoff have filled Stillhouse Hollow Lake, Sorenson said the dam is open for precautionary flood measures. The National Weather Service does show chances of thunderstorms for next week in Lampasas County. “They have the dam open,” Sorenson said. “We know they are letting water out; maybe they are anticipating more rain. They do that for several reasons: to anticipate rain and those downstream need water.” Due to the heavy rainfall, a six-inch line underneath the Lampasas River was compromised near FM 580 East, Sorenson said. KWSC has completed a temporary fix on the line and will wait for the water to recede to make a more permanent repair. Overall, Sorenson said, the KWSC crew is improving at detecting leaks within the system. “We are getting better at finding out water leaks,”

SEE KWSC, PAGE 10



JODI STURGEON | COURTESY PHOTO

A survivor of the flood, this cow spent the night in the water but was saved after it found a high spot on the bank on which to stand. The cow was pulled from the Lampasas River the next morning when it was safe to reach her.

Ag losses mount after heavy weekend rains

BY JOYCESARAH MCCABE
DISPATCH RECORD

Recent flooding in Lampasas County has left behind not only a trail of destruction but also has shaken the community’s agricultural backbone. With an estimated loss of 300 head of cattle, destruction of ranch and farm fences, and damage to essential farm equipment and hay reserves, the aftermath of the flooding paints a bleak picture of potential losses for local farmers and ranchers. The swelling waters of the Lampasas River, fueled by a reported 10 inches of rain along the Mills-Hamilton County line, inundated pastures, submerged farmlands and displaced livestock. The loss of cattle not only represents a significant financial setback for producers but also embodies the emotional toll of the disaster. “There is a bunch of them that are probably dead, just based upon

the number of dead cows that have been found up and down the river so far,” said Heath Lusty, Lampasas County AgriLife Extension agent for agriculture. “It’s going to take time. Some of those places are still so muddy down in those bottoms nobody can get in there yet. “Right now, I don’t have any firm numbers, but if just one guy has lost over a hundred, you’ve got to figure we will have totals that are at least a few hundred head,” Lusty said. “I’m hearing reports of people missing five or 10 head, and that will all add up, I’m guessing, to somewhere north of 200-300 head minimum. “It will probably take a while to get the number nailed down.” The Texas Department of Emergency Management has a website where people can self-report losses. The website is damage.tdem.texas.gov. Reporting is vital, as it will trigger both state and federal aid for Lampasas County. “We really need people to report to

that if they suffered any type of loss at all,” Lusty said. “We really need people to report those losses.” Lusty noted that more than cattle are lost. “We have a lot of folks right now who have been baling wheat and oat hay, trying to replace them [hay that has been lost due to the drought],” the Extension agent said. “There’s lots and lots of hay that is now gone. I know one producer who lost over a hundred bales just himself.” Lusty said the biggest financial loss will be the destroyed fences. “The biggest financial hit is gonna be all the fences that are out,” he said. “People don’t think about how many cross fences you have that were in the way of that [flood]. There are hundreds and hundreds of miles of fences that are going to have to be replaced. It’s a bad deal, that’s for sure.” Lusty advised area residents to contact the Lampasas County Sheriff’s

SEE RISING, PAGE 9

WEATHER

Date	High	Low	Rain
May 5	75	60	0.74
May 6	83	69	0
May 7	88	70	0
May 8	91	73	0

Total rainfall for 2024: 13.42 in.

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

BRIEFLY

COMMUNITY BRIDGE

The Community Bridge group will gather Monday for its next play date. Lunch will be provided, so bridge will begin at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall at First Presbyterian Church. All bridge players are welcome. Reservations are requested before Saturday with Margaret Oberender at rmober1@yahoo.com or call/text 512-689-5201.

BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP

An informational meeting for those interested in learning more about Bible Study Fellowship will be held Tuesday at 10 a.m. at First Baptist Church. Light refreshments will be available. “Revelation, the Hope” is the study planned to start in September. Those with questions may email hollythurman@gmail.com.

BLOOD DRIVE

The next American Red Cross Community Blood Drive will be Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at First Street Church of Christ’s Family Life Center, at the corner of North Avenue and Walnut Street in Lampasas. To make a donation appointment online, visit redcrossblood.org, or call 512-734-2043 and leave a message.

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Facing south

Snake hunters seek to revive dwindling practice

BY MASON HINES
DISPATCH RECORD

Hunting for rattlesnakes is not an uncommon hobby in Texas. Numerous cities across the Lone Star State host roundups of some kind to showcase the venomous reptile, but the amount of snakes caught has dropped in recent years. Notably, a lack of young hunters has left the Lometa Diamondback Jubilee searching for ways to educate the next generation and encourage the continuation of this local tradition.

“The last two years, our numbers have dwindled, especially compared to our numbers before COVID,” said Steven Ruzicka, a Lometa Lions Club member and snake coordinator for the Diamondback Jubilee. “We had just six hunters in 2023, after having nine in 2019.”

Increasing the number of snake hunters in and around Lampasas County is a goal for the Lions Club, not only to grow the jubilee but to ensure the sport has a future. Ruzicka noted that snakes caught in Lampasas County receive a bonus in price.

“We do give a bonus for snakes caught in the county, and that number fluctuates from year to year,” he said. “It’s our way of giving hunters an incentive to catch snakes in our area.”

Some hunters are eager to help the next generation, as is the case with Richland Springs snake hunter Mondo Garcia. Garcia, who has been hunting rattlesnakes for 43 years, is teaching his son Lane how to be effective and safe when pursuing snakes.

“I’ve been taking my son to hunt since he was old enough to understand and be safe with us,” Garcia said. “He’s grown into a good hunter as he’s gotten older.”

Garcia’s snake hunting experience is something he is proud of and that he hopes to share with others. The idea of a class or simply letting people tag along on a hunt with him are possibilities for learning.

“For anyone wanting to learn how to hunt, research is your best place to start,” Garcia said. “It’s more than just going to a location and catching a snake. You have to know what you’re looking for and how to be safe while you’re out there doing it. Before you do anything, you have to look east, west and especially south. Ninety-nine percent of the time you’ll find a rattlesnake on hills facing south.”

Safety is the top priority when it comes to snake hunting, Garcia said, and not hunting alone can be the difference between a successful hunt and a very bad day.

“We might need a class. I’d be willing to teach people and help them to learn,”



MASON HINES | DISPATCH RECORD

Snake hunters show off a large rattlesnake during the Lometa Diamondback Jubilee held in 2023.

he said.

“You want to watch someone do it, and there can be a lot of stuff to that,” Garcia added. “Take your time. You’re looking for where the snakes are gonna end up. You have to know what you’re looking for and where the snake is going to be.”

Having the right equipment can help make hunts less stressful and safer. Garcia recommends high-quality equipment that feels comfortable to use and is specialized for the task. His snake hunting equipment includes

six-foot metal tongs, snake chaps and an empty burlap pecan sack to store snakes while he’s hunting.

“I take a pecan sack with me,” he said. “I’ll hang it on a tree and bring the snakes back to it. It’s not the easiest thing in the world for them to bite through either. I have six-foot tongs. Those are the right length for me and help keep the snakes at a safe distance.”

For those interested in contacting a snake hunter, call Stephen Ruzicka at 210-315-5255 for more information.

What the wildflowers teach us

BY JOYCESARAH MCCABE
DISPATCH RECORD

Every year, many of us make a happy fuss about the bluebonnets. After all, they are our state flower and a create a magnificent sight when they bloom.

As I write this, it is May, and the bluebonnets have faded into yesterday. However, we now have masses of different flowers taking their place. Yellow, white, red and purple blossoms appear every day. Thankfully, our wildflower season is not one and done.



JOYCESARAH MCCABE | DISPATCH RECORD

The bluebonnets might be gone, but the wildflower season continues on strong.



THE THINGS THAT MATTER
BY JOYCESARAH MCCABE

We each have a season of childhood, young adulthood, middle age and older adulthood, and a few of us make it to the oldest of the old.

Each of life’s seasons serves a purpose and comes with challenges, tasks, expectations and joys. Like the wildflowers, which are good teachers if we pay attention, we aren’t one and done, either.

Wildflowers offer profound lessons about life’s seasons and the resilience inherent in nature. They also provide valuable insights into the importance of diversity, reflection, connection and gratitude.

WHAT WILDFLOWERS TEACH ABOUT DIVERSITY

The ever-changing beauty that hugs our roadsides and covers our pasture lands displays diversity in height, color and texture. Just as each stage of life brings a variety of experiences and opportunities, sometimes one season or another might seem harder or offer fewer opportunities and experiences. Remember, however, that seasons come and go, so when things get dry, enjoy the rest and realize that seasons change.

WHAT WILDFLOWERS TEACH ABOUT RESILIENCE

As I drive from the cattle ranch I live on and head toward town, I pass a house sitting on a few acres. The person there always mows

the flowers blooming outside his fence near the driveway. It’s madness to me.

One day, I asked him why, and he said he cuts them down because they are “weeds” and look “messy.” I guess we’ll have to agree to disagree about that.

What is impressive is that those flowers return every year, despite being mowed down as they bloom. Wildflowers are resilient in the face of changing seasons and weather conditions, and they bloom despite being unwanted and called “weeds.”

We, too, possess an innate resilience that allows us to traverse life’s ups and downs. We do have the strength and capacity to overcome hardship and heartbreak and keep blooming. All we have to do is choose that path and keep our feet moving forward.

WHAT WILDFLOWERS TEACH ABOUT REFLECTION AND GROWTH

Each season of our lives is wrought with lessons. Just as the landscape around us transforms from season to season, we evolve and grow through our experiences.

There is no shame in learning a lesson or making a mistake. It’s all about gaining knowledge and doing better.

I love what Maya Angelou said: “Do the best you can until you know better. Then, when you know better, do better.”

Don’t resent the things that have taught you better and led you to greater personal growth and self-discovery. Embrace those lessons as you learn from them.

WHAT WILDFLOWERS TEACH ABOUT CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

It is rare to see one lone wildflower. The flowers typically bloom in either small or vast bunches. They are like a

whole group of friends, and friends are wonderful.

I know a wide variety of people, and they are different from one another in many ways. I have learned so much from each of them.

When you connect with others, share your experiences and hear about theirs, it helps us find a grounding in our shared humanness. There is a sense of camaraderie in navigating life’s seasons together. We never grow too old to make new friends.

WHAT WILDFLOWERS TEACH ABOUT GRATITUDE AND MINDFULNESS

One of the most valuable things we can learn is how to cultivate gratitude and contentment in the present moment. I’ve heard many a young mom say, “Life will be easier when ____.” I bet you can fill in the blank: when the baby sleeps through the night, when the children are potty trained, when they can talk, when they can read, when they can drive themselves places, etc.

When we wait for the “somedays,” we miss all the right nows. There is such beauty right here, right now; all we have to do to see it is look.

The beauty of the wildflower season is fleeting, and watching the change should encourage us to cherish each of life’s seasons.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Savor the joys of life, my friends. There is beauty in the present and in your present season. You have much to contribute. You aren’t used up and empty yet, and that is the thing that matters.

JOYCESARAH MCCABE is a retired nurse and chief nursing officer, as well as an accomplished author. She is a staff writer/photographer for the Dispatch Record.

Community Bridge plans lunch date for May

Community Bridge players met April 15 with six tables present.

Wendy Coffin won first prize, Margaret Oberender was second, and Ted Deyo took third. Wendy Coffin and Kathy Griffis-Bailey won the slam prize, and Margaret Oberender and Linda Williams had the highest round. Melanie Anderson had the low score of the day.

The next date for Community Bridge will be May 13. The group will be providing lunch that day, so play will begin at 10 a.m. in the fellowship

hall at First Presbyterian Church. All bridge players are welcome.

Make a reservation before May 11 with Margaret Oberender at rmober1@yahoo.com or call/text her at 512-689-5201.

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Promenade dazzles in LHS gymnasium



JOYCESARAH MCCABE | DISPATCH RECORD
Brock Langford places a hand on the back of this year's LHS Prom King Trent Seneca while the other nominees, Preston Isom, Dillon DuVall, Keaton Black and Benjamin Ybarra, clap to congratulate their colleague.



JOYCESARAH MCCABE | DISPATCH RECORD
The nominees for LHS Prom Queen, Arielle Aguirre, Jamie Ball, Morgan Bobo, Keely Cavel and Kenzie Roberts, cheer for this year's winner, Liliana Miller.

Teddy Bear Tea Party



JOYCESARAH MCCABE | DISPATCH RECORD
Six-year-old Nobel-Leigh Tolbert, at left, and Analicia Coronel, age 7, were all smiles, charm and grace at this year's Teddy Bear Tea Party.



JOYCESARAH MCCABE | DISPATCH RECORD
Five-year-old Reagan Groves sips her apple juice "tea" while she enjoys socializing at the Teddy Bear Tea.



JOYCESARAH MCCABE | DISPATCH RECORD
The Davises (from left to right) Silver, age 5, Ra'Nour, age 7, and Orchid, age 4, are dressed in their finest attire from gloves to hats to polished shoes. The siblings enjoyed "tea," an assortment of finger sandwiches and cookies at this year's Teddy Bear Tea.

SHEEP AND GOAT AUCTION

The May 2 market report from Mills County Commission Co. follows.

Total receipts: 2,366.
Previous week: 3,110.

Trends: Light kids \$10 lower; slaughter nannies steady; replacement nannies \$10 lower.
Wool lambs \$10 lower; Dorper lambs and Barbado lambs also \$10 lower.
Prices follow.

WOOL
Lambs: 50-70 lb., no test; 70-90 lb., \$180-\$260 cwt.; 90-110 lb., \$145-\$225 cwt.
Slaughter ewes: \$70-\$100 cwt.

Bucks: \$100-\$110 cwt.

DORPER - DORPER CROSS
40-60 lb., \$235-\$295 cwt.; 60-75 lb., \$235-\$280 cwt.; 75-90 lb., \$180-\$260 cwt.
Slaughter ewes: \$70-\$120 cwt.
Slaughter bucks: \$110-\$180 cwt.
Replacement ewes: \$140-\$225 per head.
Replacement bucks: \$275-\$375 per head.

BARBADO - BARBADO CROSS
35-50 lb., \$235-\$280 cwt.; 50-70 lb., \$230-\$265 cwt.; 70-90 lb., \$145-\$250 cwt.

Slaughter ewes: \$70-\$120 cwt.
Replacement ewes: \$75-\$125 per head.

BOER - BOER-SPANISH CROSS
Kids: 35-45 lb., \$230-\$360 cwt.; 45-60 lb. \$240-\$365 cwt.; 60-70 lb., \$240-\$355 cwt.; 70-90 lb., \$210-\$260 cwt.; 75-110 lb. muttons, \$240-\$340.
Nannies: light slaughter, \$150-\$250 cwt.; heavy slaughter, \$115-\$215 cwt.; thin slaughter, \$85-\$120 cwt.
Billies: light slaughter, \$190-\$250 cwt.; heavy slaughter, \$180-\$240 cwt.

LISD EMPLOYEES OF THE WEEK



Left to Right: Tobi King, LVN, Bethany Peters, LVN, Donna Clark, MSN, RN, Sadie Kleppel, Audrey Coffman, LVN, Terri Sturgeon, LVN, Dana Tatum, LVN.

Lampasas ISD school health staff are dedicated professionals that serve as a liaison between school personnel, families, community, and healthcare providers. They advocate for student and staff health and create a healthy school environment. I cannot say enough about the job these ladies do each and every day to bridge the gap between education and healthcare.

~Donna Clark, LISD Department of School Health Services

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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, MAY 10

BINGO, 10 a.m. Lampasas Multi-Service Center, 901 S. Live Oak.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 7 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 4th and Chestnut.

SATURDAY, MAY 11

CLASSICS AT THE CLASSIC, 11:30 a.m. Group will cruise to Season 3 Vineyard. Line up on Chestnut behind Storm's Drive-In. For more info, call Sharon at 512-734-5180.

SUNDAY, MAY 12

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 5 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 4th and Chestnut.

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

MONDAY, MAY 13

LAMPASAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT, 9 a.m. Lampasas County Courthouse, 501 E. Fourth St., first-floor courtroom.

LAMPASAS CITY COUNCIL, 6 p.m. Council Chambers, Chambers, 302 E. Third St. **ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**, 7 p.m. Kempner Brick Oven,

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

TUESDAY, MAY 14

CRAFT GROUP, 10 a.m. Lampasas Multi-Service Center, 901 S. Live Oak.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN, 10:30-11:30 a.m. or until food runs out. VFW Post 8539, 481 U.S. Hwy. 190 in Lampasas. Meals free to anyone; donations accepted.

FOOD PANTRY, 4-7 p.m. St. Mary Catholic Church, 701 N. Key Ave.

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

CHRISTIAN MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION SPRING OF GRACE RIDERS, 7 p.m. Kempner Brick Oven, 12093 East U.S. Highway 190. A time of fellowship will be held at 6 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 7 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 4th and Chestnut..

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

MOM TO MOM BREASTFEEDING/PUMPING SUPPORT GROUP, 10 a.m. to noon, Lampasas County Office Building conference room,

409 S. Pecan St. in Lampasas.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN, 10:30-11:30 a.m. or until food runs out. VFW Post 8539, 481 U.S. Highway 190 in Lampasas. Meals free to anyone; donations accepted.

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

THURSDAY, MAY 16

COMMUNITY KITCHEN, 10:30-11:30 a.m. or until food runs out. VFW Post 8539, 481 U.S. Highway 190 in Lampasas. Meals free to anyone; donations accepted.

PINTS & POLITICS, 6-8 p.m. Kempner Brick Oven, City Hall, 12093 East U.S. Highway 190. Gathering for conservatives and like-minded Republicans.

SARATOGA LODGE #546, 6:30 meal, 7:30 p.m. meeting. 1209 Central Expy.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 7 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 4th and Chestnut.



MASON HINES | DISPATCH RECORD

Plenty of water for the ducks

Recent rains have completely filled the pond at Lometa Regional Park, covering the pavilion foundation and overflowing the water's usual boundaries.

WORSHIP WITH US

Kempner Church of Christ

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Sun. Worship: 11 a.m.
Sun. Evening Service: 5 p.m.
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Lometa speech, debate students advance to state competition

BY MASON HINES
DISPATCH RECORD

Lometa High School's speech and debate team led the way for the Hornet academic team at the regional contest, with six students advancing to the state meet on May 14. The speech team won both the district and regional championship, something head coach Cheri Wienecke attributes to the work ethic and dedication of her students.

"We've been at state the past three years, with Phallon Jones bringing home three state championships and three bronze medals," Wienecke said. "Sholee Turner medaled as a state finalist, but this is our first trip with this many kids since 2019. It took us four years to build our team back, but these kids earned their place on the state stage.

"I am in awe of their talent and determination," she said. "I love the fact that they are embracing their own identities and tackling real-world problems with their interp pieces and debate cases. They are such an inspiration."

Not only is this one of Wienecke's largest qualifying groups for the state meet, it is also the first time in her coaching career Lometa has swept the regional poetry contest.

"We advanced five and an alternate in [Lincoln-Douglas debate]," Wienecke said. "This is the biggest group since COVID took spring UIL district, region and state off the table for us

in 2020. I am crazy proud of my kids. Sweeping poetry for the first time in my 19 years of coaching was an answered prayer, and knowing that novices in poetry and LD are going to state in their first year competing is mind-blowing."

Sholee Turner, Bao Nguyen and Jewel Groves were the top three in poetry, respectively. Lamar Linton placed second in prose interpretation, and Wyatt Potts and Liberty Potts placed third and fourth in Lincoln-Douglas Debate. Groves also placed fifth in informative speaking.

"Another big thanks to the Lometa ISD administration -- Rob Moore, John Clawson and Amanda Morris -- and also my sweet husband, Chris, who understands that sometimes you just need to research a debate case or read some poetry at 3 a.m.," Wienecke said. "Coaching speech and debate isn't a job, it's a lifestyle, and I'm a lucky, lucky woman to get to live this life with this team."

In addition to Lometa's success in speech and debate, the Current Events team earned the alternate spot for the state contest. The team is coached by Lometa graduate and 2015 state silver medalist Alex Torres.

Enoc Alva Lugo, Omar Hernandez, Jordan Livesay and Emmanuel Prado made up the team that placed second overall at the regional contest. Hernandez placed fourth as an individual.



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Lady Badger golf team finishes sixth at state tournament

BY HUNTER KING
DISPATCH RECORD

The Lady Badger golf team has been almost a permanent fixture at the state golf tournament year after year, and the girls were there once again in 2024.

The Lady Badgers tied for sixth place with Fredericksburg at +100 strokes over the two-day event.

The Lampasas girls shot +43 on the first day, putting them nine strokes ahead of Fredericksburg which sat in seventh place, and only 13 shots behind the second-place team of Davenport.

A +57 on day two from Lampasas allowed Fredericksburg to catch up with the Lady Badgers.

Head golf coach Justin Schulze said he didn't notice anything different in his team's play from day one to day two, apart from the ups and downs of golf that come from one day to the next.

"Scores were a little higher on day two," Schulze said. "I don't really feel like there was any difference in the girls' attitudes or effort. We just hit the ball a few more times the second time around."

Individually, the Lady Badgers were led by

Kenlee Turner, who shot 81-84-165 over the two days of the tournament. Arianna Gonzalez was just behind her at 84-84-168. Avery Hopson shot 82-87-169, Emma Clark finished at 84-90-174, and Paige Rutland shot 91-91-182 to round out the team.

Perennial favorite Andrews once again took the state championship, winning by 43 shots over Seminole in second place.

For the first time in a couple of years, several members of the Lampasas girls' golf team will be graduating, including Turner, Hopson, Jennifer Greiner and a couple of others.

"We will be graduating five of our 11 players this year, which is the biggest senior class that has come through in a long time," Schulze said. "With that though, three of the five players playing in the state tournament the last two days were a junior, a sophomore and a freshman."

"Lady Badger golf will certainly miss our senior class but has no intention to take a step backwards as we move into next year," he said. "Ten girls earned the opportunity to complete in the regional tournament in Huntsville the last two years, and that experience gives us a



HUNTER KING | DISPATCH RECORD

Kenlee Turner hits her tee shot on the first hole of day two at the state golf tournament this week.

huge chunk of momentum going into a new season."

Schulze also reflected on the success of his group

over the past two years specifically.

"Very proud of the accomplishments we have made this year," the coach said. "District champs and district runners-up two years in a row. This group has finished fifth and now sixth in the state tournament in back-to-back years, which is a very difficult thing to do."

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HUNTER KING | DISPATCH RECORD

Emma Clark putts during round two of the state golf tournament.



COURTESY PHOTO

Lampasas golfer to play in college

Peyton Spore has been an integral part of the Badger golf team during his time in high school, and now he is heading to Howard Payne University to continue his athletic and academic careers. Spore has been a leader on a team that dominated the district and competed in both the regional and state tournaments during his time at Lampasas High School.

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David Lowe joined the Austin Wealth Management team in 2021 and works from his hometown of Lampasas. Before joining AWM, David worked for 14 years for a fourth-generation family-owned business in Lampasas. He and his wife, Allysse, have three young children.

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Middle school tennis team named district champions

BY HUNTER KING
DISPATCH RECORD

Last weekend, the Lampasas Middle School tennis team competed in the district tournament and emerged as the district champions. “Everyone played so good Saturday,” coach Laina White said. “We had several out for band, but we showed up to play through the misty weather and finished just in time before the rain came.”

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS
First-Place Winners:
Jack Allison – seventh-grade boys’ singles
Madelynn White – seventh-grade girls’ singles
Bentley Schwalm/ Emerie Greenberg – seventh-grade mixed doubles
Second-Place Winners:
Pablo Cortez/Alex Mejorada – eighth-grade boys’ doubles
Hannah Rogers/Mattie McBeth – seventh-grade girls’ doubles
Third-Place Winners:
Nate Walker/Michael Morrison – seventh-grade boys’ doubles
Ellie Feiser – eighth-

grade girls’ singles
Fourth-Place Winners:
Jordan Greenburg/Maddie Summer – seventh-grade girls’ doubles
Consolation Winners:
Porter Brady/Isaac White – eighth-grade boys’ doubles
Laetyn Kepler/Nolan Cleary – seventh-grade boys’ doubles
Haley Magilke/Lorelai Dressel – eighth-grade girls’ doubles
Leah Otterson/Makenna Kachel lost to Magilke/Dressel in the consolation finals, and Kylee Fuqua/Kanya Offutt lost in consolation finals in seventh-grade girls’ doubles.
Hallie Watson lost in the consolation finals for seventh-grade girls. “Everyone played so well and represented Lampasas well,” White said. “After tallying points awarded for top finishers, your Lampasas Middle School tennis team won first place and are district champs. “I am so proud of how well they played and how much growth everyone showed over the last couple of months,” the coach said.



COURTESY PHOTO | LAINA WHITE

Middle school tennis players pose with their ribbons from last week’s district tournament.



COURTESY PHOTO | LAINA WHITE

These junior high student athletes were district champions after their success this season.

Badgers split basketball games during second week of summer league

BY HUNTER KING
DISPATCH RECORD

The third and fourth games of the short summer league in Salado that the Badgers are participating in took place Wednesday. Lampasas finished 1-1 against Gatesville and Salado. The Badgers started well in the competition with Gatesville, but when the Hornets built a 10-point lead, Lampasas struggled to compete at the same level. The Badgers ended up losing 63-36. In game two, the Badgers beat the Eagles of Salado 46-39. They held the lead from

start to finish and even expanded it to 13 points. The Eagles cut the margin to two, but Lampasas went on a run to win by seven in the end. “We played a much smoother game the second time around, more movement and a little more desire,” head coach Aaron Nuckles said. “We are not shooting at a very high percentage right now, but that is OK. Free throws were much better in the second game.” The Badgers will play one more time in Salado next Wednesday, with games at 6 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.



HUNTER KING | DISPATCH RECORD

Kaeden Jones makes a pass to the corner during Wednesday’s game.

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Kenlee Turner rolls in a birdie putt on the first hole of round two at the state golf tournament.



Arianna Gonzalez was the Lady Badgers' second-best finisher at this week's tournament.



Calum Mitchell lays a ball off the glass during the Badgers' summer league game against Salado on Wednesday.



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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: **Camille Reasor**
Attorney at Law
412 S. Live Oak
Lampasas, TX 76550

DATED the 7th day of May, 2024.

/s/ Camille Reasor
Attorney for WENDELL SCOTT FEILD
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Former basketball coach receives adjudication probation

Case stems from alleged oppression, harassment of students under his tutelage

FROM PAGE 1

said, stating that many people in the courtroom on Tuesday were previous victims, some of whom were long past the statute of limitations. “A lot of them dated to 1997.”

Tatum said the harassment her daughter suffered was unknown to her parents for some time.

“He was texting our daughter all hours of the day and night, until 2 a.m., and not about basketball,” she said.

In an impact statement she read aloud in the courtroom, Tatum described what had been a longstanding mentor-mentee relationship between Myers and her daughter, which began to change in nature during her daughter’s junior year, prior to the girl’s 18th birthday. Tatum described the scenario as “grooming,” and said she harbored guilt over allowing the situation to develop.

To Myers, Tatum said, “You took advantage of our trust in you, of [our daughter’s] trust in you. You turned what could have been a beautiful lifelong relationship into something dirty and disgusting. You forever sullied every memory of basketball our daughter has.”

Tatum also described the division the case had caused in the Lampasas community.

“People in this community who we thought were our friends turned their backs on us,” she said. “Adults who work for the school district and are supposed to be advocates for all students openly castigated our daughter and questioned her reputation on social media and at community events. Adults who supported Myers made efforts to try and get [our daughter] in trouble at school.

“We are talking about an adolescent still in high school being shunned and attacked by adults for finally speaking out about something that happened to her that should never have happened to anyone.”

Tatum then described what she felt to be a lack of support by the school district after the situation was reported.

“People should be reminded that school is not for the staff, it is for the student,” Tatum said. “Extra-curricular activities are for the student. A student should not be fearful of going to school because they feel threatened by an adult who is employed by that school.

“We tell our children to speak out

if someone is doing something to them that’s hurtful or unsafe. Then when they aren’t believed, they are victimized over and over again,” she said.

Tatum told the Dispatch Record she recognized district administrators are limited in how they could respond in this case, being required by law to protect Myers’ rights.

“There may be some things the school district is going to have to tweak as far as policy and how to respond to policies,” she said.

LISD Superintendent Dr. Chane Rascoe also was in attendance during the hearing Tuesday, and he praised the Tatum family for its strength.

“I was very proud of the Tatum family,” Rascoe said. “That took a lot for them to do that. They were very strong in support of their child.”

Regarding the outcome of the case, the superintendent said, “I’m glad to see that justice prevailed.”

Tatum and “Kendra” intend to pursue this matter at the state legislative level to fight for more protections for students.

“It’s been a nightmare,” Tatum said. “The worst part for us is over, but we’re going to continue bat-

tlng for these kids.”

OUTCRY IN 2023

When the reports of “concerning communications” between Myers and LHS students were received in 2023, the district notified the Lampasas Police Department and Texas Education Agency immediately, LISD officials said.

The police department did a brief investigation and, at that time, determined a crime had not taken place. Police then stepped back to allow LISD to further investigate the issue. The investigation was turned over to the Texas Education Agency.

But police became involved again not long afterward.

After Myers’ arrest, Police Chief Jody Cummings issued this statement:

“Concerning the previous information that Lampasas ISD provided to the Lampasas Police on Jan. 9, additional information developed. An LPD investigator was assigned. After additional consultation with the Lampasas County Attorney’s Office and at their recommendation, two warrants -- each for Official Oppression, Class A misdemeanors -- were acquired charging [Myers].”

A week after his arrest, Myers issued his resignation to the school district. He had been on administrative leave since the reports emerged.

Myers, who had a 40-year career as a basketball coach, was hired by Lampasas High School as head girls’ basketball coach in 2017 and achieved his 900th victory while employed with the school in December 2020. He held that position for six years.

In November 2016, the Austin American-Statesman reported Myers had resigned from his position at Cedar Park High School, quoting him as citing overwhelming stress as the reason he chose to step down.

According to the Texas Penal Code, the charge of official oppression is made when a public servant acting within his or her office intentionally subjects another person to mistreatment or unlawful arrest, search or seizure; unlawfully denies a person a right; or subjects a person to sexual harassment.

As of Wednesday, the TEA listed Myers as “currently under review by the TEA investigation division.”

According to TEA guidelines, certified teachers with misdemeanor charges remain eligible for hire.

Rising waters affect local economy

FROM PAGE 1

Office to report any sighting of live or dead cattle.

HELP IS AVAILABLE

Diamond Shipman, county program technician at the Farm Services Agency, said a program is available to producers and landowners who have incurred losses due to flooding. Before applications for aid can be distributed, though, the agency has to receive a secretarial declaration of disaster from the federal government.

Shipman said once the agency receives the official go-ahead from the Department of Agriculture and Ag Secretary Tom Vilsack, the FSA office will begin taking applications for the Emergency Conservation Program.

As Lusty did, Shipman stressed the importance of reporting losses through the Texas Department of Emergency Management website.

If Lampasas County does not receive a disaster declaration, the reports to the Texas Department of Emergency Management will become even more vital.

“We’re hoping that if we get enough people reporting losses that it will add weight to our case so that if we don’t get that secretarial declaration, we can submit that documentation saying we’ve got people who have lost fences, cattle, have equipment that’s ruined, etc., and see if we can get support for farmers and ranchers in the Lampasas and Burnet area for reimbursement,” Shipman said.

She encouraged producers to contact her at the FSA office if they have questions. Although the agency cannot offer assistance immediately, Shipman said officials hope to receive word from Washington, D.C., before the end of May.

“We’ve been telling people to keep track of what is damaged or lost,” Shipman said. “If you have smartphones, that’s great because we can take screenshots that have date and time stamps on them.

“If people start replacing fences, equipment or hay, it is really important to keep all receipts and a log book of what you are doing because that program has specific practices, such as clearing brush, cleaning out hay fields or replacing fence lines,” she added. “So, when we start taking those applications, we have specific logbooks per producer about what they’ve had to do and how much they’ve spent repairing their property.

“As far as that program is concerned, documentation is the key to success,” Shipman said. “The more documentation we’ve got from the producer, the better able we are to be able to help them.”

COMMUNITY RECOVERY EFFORTS

Jodi Sturgeon and her family live in a neighborhood just off County Road 2313. On Sunday about 10 a.m., she and her neighbors saw 10-15 head of cattle going down the river.

“We have a large deck that usually sits way above the river, but because the river swelled so high it was completely submerged,” Sturgeon said. “We had one of the cows go by, and we were calling to it and it started to swim toward us as we were calling trying to get its attention. It swam toward us and hit our deck which stopped it. And it climbed out of the river, and we then proceeded to corral it in our backyard. There was a Rocking H brand on it, so we contacted them.

“Up until Sunday, I didn’t know cows could swim,” Sturgeon said. “We tried to get some of them out after that first one, but it didn’t work. We tried and tried so many times [to get them out of the river].

“The ones that swam by at about 10 o’clock, we couldn’t get out,” she said. “But I did hear that the sheriff’s department, maybe animal control, and some of the ranchers were down at the overpass on [U.S. Highway] 190 trying to get them out.

“There is a pasture just north of us, and he had 10 head that had climbed out of the river by him. He lives in the neighborhood. There is more of a slope at that section, so they were able to climb out,” Sturgeon said.

“And then just last night [May 6], we were out trying to clear up the debris, and another cow came floating by,” she said. “That one had apparently been upriver on dry land and somehow got back into the river. It stayed on the edge of the river all night, and then the Rocking H came out to retrieve it.”

Lampasans historically are ready to jump in and help any neighbor in need. This was the case with Rexann Johnson-Morrison, who posted her phone number on social media to offer help to anyone needing assistance moving horses. Fortunately, there has been no need for her to hitch her trailer.

“I have heard of a gal missing three head of horses, but otherwise it’s been pretty quiet on my end,” Morrison said. “My brother, though, has dead cattle on his place. There are two dead ones. They look like a bull and a yearling maybe that are in the trees, and there is what looks like a cow at the base of the tree. It’s still too wet and muddy to be able to tell for sure.

“He thinks there are more, but we don’t know that yet,” Morrison said.

Heath Lusty reported seeing a video of live cattle that survived all the way to Stillhouse Hollow Lake. Morrison also mentioned this and said she received a phone call from the husband-and-wife team that rescued three live cows from the lake.

“The gal called me that swam the cattle out of Stillhouse Lake which is amazing to me,” Morrison said. “She called me about 8:30 last night [Monday] to tell me that she and her husband were at Stillhouse Hollow Lake with a boat. They drove out there in the boat and put a rope around the cows’ neck and swam all three of them to shore.

“She said there was like a log jam, and it had a lot of dead cattle in it, but these three survived. I connected her to Tracy Irvin and Chad Hopson, and I think they were both going out there today because they both thought at least one was theirs.”

Morrison said she was glad to help anyone who needed it.

“My brother has lost a mile and a half of fence,” she said. “I know that if we were in the same scenario with livestock, I’d be looking for some help. If this were me, I’d be thinking, ‘Where do we even begin?’

“I’m happy to help,” Morrison said. “I just wanted to make a post and put my number out there to offer to help anyone who needs it.”

IMPACT ON LIVELIHOODS, THE ENVIRONMENT

The flooding in Lampasas County will affect the livelihoods of producers who rely on their land and livestock for sustenance. The destruction of ranch and farm fences not only has compromised the security of the remaining livestock but also has hindered the ability to contain and manage the animals effectively. Moreover, the damage to farm equipment and hay reserves exacerbates the challenges faced by the agricultural community that has struggled through two years of sustained drought.

Beyond the immediate losses incurred by individual farmers and ranchers, the flooding in Lampasas County has broader environmental and economic ramifications. Excessive flooding can cause topsoil erosion, degrading the quality of arable land and affecting agricultural productivity in the long term. Furthermore, the loss of agricultural assets can ripple through the local economy, affecting livelihoods beyond the agricultural sector.

The flooding serves as a sobering reminder of the unpredictable forces of nature and the vulnerability of agricultural communities in the face of such disasters. However, as Lampasas County embarks on the path toward healing, the community will stand with its farmers and ranchers who embody the true spirit of resilience.

DISTRICT COURT

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

Defendant Joshua Ryan Diederich of Lampasas pleaded guilty to a charge of assault on a family/household member with a previous conviction, and he received eight years’ deferred adjudication probation. Diederich also must perform community service as part of his probation.

Joseph William Richard of Jacinto City entered a plea of guilty to a charge of possession of a controlled substance greater than or equal to 4 grams and less than 200 grams. The court assessed him five years’ deferred adjudication, plus a \$2,000 fine, \$355 in court costs and \$180 restitution payment to the Texas Department of Public Safety. The case will be transferred to Harris County.

Michelle Cheryl Holloway of Fort Hood pleaded guilty to a charge of forgery of a financial instrument-enhanced. The charge was prosecuted as a Class A misdemeanor, and Holloway was given two years’ deferred adjudication. She also must pay a fine of \$1,500, \$310 in court costs

plus monthly community supervision costs.

The court chose to pass on a case for Todd Garrett Wimberly of Maxwell. He faces a charge of possession of a controlled substance greater than or equal to 1 gram and less than 4 grams.

The following cases will be heard later this month.

On May 10, Michelle Lee Ogg of Lampasas is set for a pretrial hearing on a charge of cruelty to non-livestock animal: kill/poison/cause serious bodily injury.

Pretrial hearings for Derick Logan Dayton of Lampasas are set for May 17. He faces charges of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram, theft of property less than \$2,500 with two or more previous convictions, and assault on a family/household member-impece breath/circulation. Waivers of arraignment have been filed for him.

An adjudication announcement for Wesley Bo Shannon of Lampasas was moved to May 17 on a charge of unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

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.

MAY 8

Christine Yvonne Broesder, 38, of Kempner, was arrested on a charge of assault of a family member causing bodily injury.

Carl Caleb Cook, 24, of Briggs, was arrested on a charge of violating a bond/protective order.

Bernard Christian Uhler III, 28, of Kempner, was arrested on a charge of violating a bond/protective order with bias/prejudice.

MAY 7

Tatum Derlice Morrison, 25, of Kempner, was arrested on a Coryell County warrant on a charge of duty upon striking an unattended vehicle over \$200.

MAY 6

Hunter Walker Lee Biddy, 20, of Lampasas, was arrested on a charge of criminal trespass and theft of property under \$100 with previous conviction.

Juan Manuel Saldivar Marchan Jr., 23, of San Marcos, was arrested on a Karnes County warrant of failure to appear on a charge of possession of marijuana under 2 ounces.

MAY 5

Lewanna Yvonne Baird, 45, of Killeen, was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance, penalty group 2, between 4 and 400 grams.

Matthew Lee Belveal, 40, of Kempner, was arrested on charges of possession of a controlled substance, penalty group 1/1-b, under one gram, and tampering/fabricating physical evidence with intent to impair.

MAY 4

Lorena Anne Hamilton, 43, of Kempner, was arrested on charges of claim lottery prize by fraud between \$200 and \$10,000, and engaging in organized criminal activity.

Robert Corey Hildebrandt, 33, of Round Rock, was arrested on a charge of violation of occupational drivers license.

Myles Madison Waley, 26, of Lampasas, was arrested on charges of false drug test manufacture/delivery and possession of a controlled substance penalty group 2 under 1 gram.

MAY 3

Nicholas Charles Hull, 41, of Kempner, was arrested on a Travis County warrant on a charge of harassment.

MAY 2

Hunter Walker Lee Biddy, 20, of Lampasas, was arrested on a charge of criminal trespass.

Michelle Sonai Jones, 56, of Lampasas, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Steven Lytle Key, 36, of Lampasas, was arrested on a charge of theft of a firearm.

Jonathan Ray Sanders, 32,

of Killeen, was arrested on a Travis County warrant for bond forfeiture on a charge of unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

APRIL 29

Holly Nicole Hayward, 39, of Lampasas, was arrested on a charge of theft of property between \$100 and \$750.

Stephanie Adriana Ramon, 32, of Killeen, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid with previous/pending conviction/suspension.

APRIL 28

Samuel Gilbert Juntunen, 27, of Austin, was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated and evading arrest/detention with a vehicle.

Melissa Marie Payton, 44, of Belton, was arrested on a charge ofdriving while intoxicated with a child under 15 years of age.

APRIL 25

Charles James Cadle, 37, of Kempner, was arrested on charges of criminal trespass, resisting arrest/search/transport, and evading arrest or detention.



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Commissioners Court addresses damages caused by water fountain problem

BY ERICK MITCHELL
DISPATCH RECORD

The Lampasas County Commissioners Court held a called meeting Monday to address the water fountain malfunction that flooded the Lampasas County Office Building at the end of April.

Commissioners approved a procurement exemption for the water damage located in many offices and hallways within the annex building.

Precinct 3 Commissioner Lewis Bridges was absent from Monday’s proceedings.

County Judge Randy Hoyer said the exemption allows the county to seek bids for repair costs exceeding \$50,000.

Repairs are needed after a water fountain on the second floor of the annex building malfunctioned around mid-morning on April 27. The leak was discovered the following evening by District Clerk Edith Harrison.

The county contacted Servpro to assist with water removal, and fans and dehumidifiers were placed on both floors of the building. Servpro cleared out its equipment on Wednesday after a 10-day stint, Hoyer said.

“We have a lot of damage in the hallways,” he said. “There needs to be a lot of cleaning of the carpet, and ceiling tiles need to be replaced. Sheetrock in a lot of the offices and hallways will need to be replaced. The carpet will need to be replaced in the county attorney’s office and in the auditor’s office.”

Repairs are expected to be completed in six weeks. The county has filed a claim with its insurance carrier for the work.

An appraiser evaluated damages on Wednesday, and Hoyer said he expects an estimate sometime next week. The estimate will not include carpet replacement, carpet installation and the bill from Servpro.

“If I had to just take a dart and throw it at an estimate, we are probably looking at \$80,000-\$90,000 when you throw everything in,” Hoyer said during Monday’s meeting.

Precinct 1 Commissioner Bobby Carroll asked if the county would look at replacing the 20-plus-year-old water fountains. Hoyer said that may be necessary to prevent another malfunction.

Repairs and renovations already have begun in the annex building through a contractual agreement with Andrew Yeske. On Wednesday, Hoyer told the Dispatch Record the county is restructuring the county auditor’s room. This job is not due to water damage, but it is part of renovations to the building previously discussed among county leadership.

Commissioners will hold their regular meeting on Monday at 9 a.m. in the courthouse’s first-floor courtroom.

Builders group makes presentation to LISD board

BY ERICK MITCHELL
DISPATCH RECORD

Members of the Creating Badger Builders mentoring group attended the Lampasas Independent School District Board of Trustees meeting Monday to show off the new smoker trailer donated to the Lampasas High School culinary department.

With few action items beyond the consent agenda, trustees also received an update on when STAAR accountability scores might become available.

Creating Badger Builders members Herb Pearce, Steve Hudson and Jason Pfaltzgraft were present at Monday’s meeting to offer a look at the nearly \$10,000 smoker trailer equipped with a charcoal pit, double fryer and Blackstone griddle.

“Just to let you have a little insight of where, how and why – at our first fundraiser, we had culinary [students] cater for us,” Hudson said. “They did a great job, but we realized chef [Jason] Walsh [LHS culinary teacher] was using a borrowed pit. So, a week or so after our fundraiser we were discussing at our meeting amongst ourselves to get a pit for the culinary [department].”

Since the Creating Badger Builders fundraiser in March was strictly to benefit the high school’s construction trades program, a few group members decided to build the smoker and pay for it outside of that program. Hudson said Chris Oldham built the trailer at a minimal cost, and Roland Schaub donated axles from a damaged trailer. Also donating supplies were Max Keele, West Texas Gas, and Martin’s Rod and Customs.

Hudson told trustees that going forward, Creating Badger Builders is willing



ERICK MITCHELL | DISPATCH RECORD

Creating Badger Builders members show the LISD Board of Trustees and other district officials the new smoker trailer the group donated to the high school’s culinary department earlier this year.

to assist all LISD Career and Technical Education programs.

“We also changed our bylaws because of this pit to be able to help out not only the construction trades but some of the other CTE programs,” Hudson said. “If they raise money and want to keep it in a separate fund, we will keep it in a category in our bank account.”

CTE Director Liz Haviland noted the value of the Creating Badger Builders group.

“This is a great group of guys,” she said. “It is not if you need something; it is when you need something. They are very supportive of our kids and very supportive of us. We are very thankful for them.”

Board members spent some time looking at the trailer donated to the culinary department and expressed their gratitude to Creating Badger Builders for their efforts to benefit the CTE programs.

APPROVAL OF TEXTBOOKS

In action items, board members approved the purchase of new textbooks for the upcoming term. LISD students in kindergarten through eighth grade will have new Discover Education science textbooks.

Board members also approved high school science textbooks from McGraw-Hill for biology, anatomy and physiology, chemistry and physics students. The total price for textbooks came to \$216,688.

Also on the academic side, Assistant Superintendent Dana Holcomb announced that STAAR scores for high school students likely will be released by May 22. Test-takers at the elementary and middle school levels will receive their scores by May 30, he said.

Holcomb noted eighth-grade students in need of summer school will be located at Lampasas High School to help get them acclimated to the building

and campus staff.

RESIGNATIONS

Board members accepted eight resignations on Monday. All are effective after graduation except for that of Madison Morris, CTE teacher/coach at LHS, whose resignation took effect April 1.

LHS resignations include Spanish instructor Meg Cormack and CTE auto tech teacher Edward Gold. Lampasas Middle School resignations include seventh-grade English/language arts-reading teacher Jennifer Baker and seventh-grade math interventionist Kristine Graham.

Elementary school resignations include Kline Whitis second-grade teacher Jessie Dowse; Ashley Johnson (Fox), who oversees inclusion instruction at Hanna Springs; and Taylor Creek interventionist Stephanie Rutland.

KWSC board to consider lessening of water conservation restrictions

FROM PAGE 1

he said. “Our goal is to cut our water loss way down this year. We have already fixed some major leaks that have been leaking for years. With older lines, we are actively looking for leaks.”

The KWSC board will meet May 22, when the topic of water restrictions is expected to arise. Sorenson said the water supply corporation is waiting to see whether the Brazos River Authority eases its conservation measures.

Since August, Stillhouse Hollow Lake and Georgetown Lake have been under stage 2 drought warnings, which require a 10% reduction in water usage. The Brazos River Authority is yet to rescind

those restrictions.

Sorenson said the process usually takes 30 days.

He added that the BRA will consider water levels at both Stillhouse Hollow and Georgetown Lake, which now shows to be at 785.89 feet – about five feet shy of the full level.

“I would imagine they [the KWSC board] would talk about eliminating [restrictions],” Sorenson said. “We don’t have to go with BRA, but we use them as a trigger. We will probably decide in that board meeting to go back to no drought restrictions.”

Those with questions may contact KWSC at 512-932-3701 or visit kempnerwsc.com for more information.



ERICK MITCHELL | DISPATCH RECORD

Rushing water downs trees along Lampasas River

Water can be seen flowing rapidly down the Lampasas River at the Farm to Market Road 1690 bridge on Monday after drenching rains soaked the area upstream.

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