



ALEXANDRIA RANDOLPH | DISPATCH RECORD

Repairs performed at Kempner City Hall

A craftsman works on repairs at the stone wall on the Municipal Court/City Council Chambers portion of Kempner City Hall. That part of the building was damaged when a vehicle crashed into it Aug. 25. The municipal building reopened Aug. 28.

Contract OK'd for concrete installation at municipal building

BY DAVID LOWE
DISPATCH RECORD

The Lampasas City Council voted unanimously Tuesday to approve a contract for concrete installation for driveways and sidewalks at the former City Hall building.

Constructed in 1931, the facility at East Third and South Main streets includes a basement, a ground floor that houses Municipal Court, a mezzanine level and an upper floor. The city has contracted with ASJ Construction to renovate the facility, which will house the new City Council Chambers on the upper floor. Municipal Court will remain on the ground floor.

The concrete work will include sidewalk and driveway accessibility to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

ASJ's price of \$8,184 is the lowest of the three bids the city received. The Lampasas company's quote is less than half the price submitted by the second-lowest bidder.

As part of its unanimous vote, the City Council authorized City Manager Finley deGraffenried to order additional sidewalk replacement adjacent to the former City Hall — as long as the extra work adds no more than 25 percent to the \$8,184 contract amount. The total allowable expense, with extra work included, is \$10,230.

The additional work, deGraffenried said, may include repaving over a new fire line on the Third Street side of the building, as well as work by the facility's northwest stairs.

City crews will provide demolition and haul-off services, deGraffenried said. The contract also specifies that the city will provide "rough excavation," and the contractor will perform "finish excavation." In addition, the contract states that the city will provide base material, which the contractor will place and compact at an estimated depth of 12 inches.

The work approved Tuesday will be funded from certificates of obligation the city issued when it borrowed money in 2016.

Democratic candidates for Congress, Texas House speak at Labor Day event

BY CHERI JAY-WIENECKE
DISPATCH RECORD

Against a star-spangled backdrop of American and Texas flags, the Lampasas County Democratic Party hosted its annual Labor Day Picnic at the Hancock Park pavilion.

In addition to a number of area party chairpersons, the event also served as a forum for Democratic candidates to speak. On hand for the event were District 25 U.S. House of Representatives candidates Julie Oliver and Heidi Sloan, as well as District 54 Texas House of Representatives candidate Clayton Tucker.

The congressional candidates -- vying to face Republican incumbent Roger Williams in the November 2020 general election -- addressed a number of hot-button political issues, including healthcare, labor and immigration.

Sloan -- a farmer and former teacher -- spoke of Medicare for all, the Green New Deal and the need for labor reform. She touched on matters such as paid sick leave, child care and what opponents describe as predatory loans. She also said reducing substance abuse should be a priority.

Another issue of importance

to Sloan is the treatment of labor unions in the United States. The congressional hopeful called for repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, a federal law that restricts the activities and power of labor unions, and she advocated amending right-to-work laws.

"It sounds like the work of labor is over, like we have won our fights, but when wage theft is the most common type of theft in America, we are not done," Sloan said.

"When CEOs now make an average of 271 times what their employees make, are we done fighting? No."

Sloan encouraged voter participation and concerted efforts for change.

"Everyone is fighting for something," she said. "We only win together. Do you think they're going to give us anything we want without a fight?"

"We have to organize for power, and that means voting, yes," the candidate added. "But it also means organizing and talking at our schools, at our healthcare centers, wherever we can. I want you in this fight. I want to be there for you. There's only one fight, and I'm all in."

Oliver was the second congressional candidate to speak. Drawing

SEE DEMOCRATIC, PAGE 12



CHERI JAY-WIENECKE | DISPATCH RECORD
Joyce Humble, left, of Johnson City speaks with District 25 congressional candidate Julie Oliver.



CHERI JAY-WIENECKE | DISPATCH RECORD
Lampasas County resident Duwain Snell, left, speaks with District 25 congressional candidate Heidi Sloan during the county Democratic Party's annual Labor Day Picnic, held Monday at the Hancock Park pavilion.

WEATHER

Date	High	Low	Rain
Sept. 1	91	74	0
Sept. 2	95	73	0
Sept. 3	94	73	0
Sept. 4	94	75	0

Rainfall so far this year: 18.82 in.

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

BRIEFLY

COUNTY BURN BAN IN EFFECT

A county burn ban is in effect, prohibiting most types of outdoor fires outside incorporated city limits. A violation is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a maximum fine of \$500.

KEMPNER VFD FUNDRAISER

The Citizens of Kempner group will host a workday and fundraiser for the Kempner Volunteer Fire Department on Saturday at the fire station at 315 Pecan St. The event will begin at 9 a.m.

The workday will serve to install benches and decking at the fire station. The event will include a dunking booth -- in which several city officials, fire department members and Citizens of Kempner volunteers will participate -- as well as a lunch by donation.

Event organizer Anelicia Cheney-Campbell said Citizens of Kempner hopes to raise \$5,000 for sirens, lights and decals for a fire truck. Additional funding will be used to provide emergency medical technician training

and equipment for four firefighters. Citizens of Kempner T-shirts will be on sale at the event to provide funding for the organization's nonprofit status application.

BAND FUNDRAISER

Lampasas Band Boosters will hold its third annual mattress and bedding sale fundraiser to benefit the middle school and high school bands. The sale is scheduled Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the middle school band room.

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