

## Harvested deer are fewer, but herd looks healthy

BY JEFF LOWE  
DISPATCH RECORD

Going into the last weekend of the general rifle season, deer processors agreed a large, lasting acorn crop was a factor in limiting harvest numbers.

The general season ends on Sunday. Youth hunters still are allowed to bag a buck, doe or spike through Jan. 19. Adult hunters in Lampasas County can still legally harvest a spike or antlerless deer through Jan. 19.

Stephen Meyer, owner of M&M Butcher Block, said although he

had taken in about 10% fewer deer this year, the ones that were brought in were "probably the healthiest, strongest deer" he has seen in an overall season.

"They're just not coming to the feeders like they usually do....," Meyer said. "Way too many acorns. Way too much green grass."

Jed Dunning, owner of Sulphur Creek Taxidermy, said what's unusual about this year's acorn crop is not the sheer number, but

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M&M BUTCHER BLOCK & DEER PROCESSING | COURTESY PHOTO

This trophy buck, reported to have 82 points, was shot on high-fenced land and brought to M&M Deer Processing.



DAVID LOWE | DISPATCH RECORD

## Tree trimming continues around electric lines

Workers from McCoy Tree Surgery trim tree limbs near electric lines on South Western between North Avenue and East First Street on a recent foggy morning. The annual trimming effort, intended to reduce power outages caused by fallen tree limbs and branches, is scheduled to continue into February.

## Candidates file to run in March primary elections

With the start of the new year, the political season is set to launch in earnest for the March 3, 2020 primaries. The filing period for candidates interested in running for election at the federal, state or county level ended in December.

The Texas Secretary of State's office, which oversees elections, offers information on candidates who have filed through the Texas Democratic Party or the Republican Party of Texas.

What for months has generated most of the public attention are the candidates running for president of the United States. A number of other positions, however, also will be on ballots for registered voters who participate in the March primaries.

### LAMPASAS COUNTY

At the county level, Lampasas County Attorney John Greenwood has filed for re-election, as has Sheriff Jess Ramos. Both are Republican candidates.

Tax Assessor-Collector Betty Salinas, who was appointed to fill a vacancy after the retirement of Linda Crawford, will run for a full term in that position.

County commissioner seats up for election in 2020 are those

of Precincts 1 and 3. Republican incumbent Bobby Carroll has filed for his position (Precinct 1), and Commissioner Lewis Bridges (Precinct 3) has filed for re-election to his seat, as well.



John Harris



Misti Maldonado



Gilbert Esparza

No Democrats filed for the county positions.

Wendy Daugherty has filed for Lampasas County Republican

Party chairwoman, and Cyndy Burleson has filed to continue as Lampasas County Democratic Party chairwoman.

### DISTRICT OFFICES

State Senator Dawn Buckingham of District 24 has filed for re-election to her seat. She has represented that district, which includes Lampasas County, since Jan. 1, 2017. The senatorial district encompasses 17 whole counties, plus parts of two others.



Dawn Buckingham



Clayton Tucker



Brad Buckley

For the Democratic Party, Clayton Tucker of Lampasas is running against Buckingham for a seat in the Texas Senate. Tucker listed a Killeen address with his official filing information.

Republican State Representative Brad Buckley of District 54 is seeking re-election to that office. The district includes all of Lampasas County and a portion of Bell County.

On the Democratic side, Likeitha "Keke" Williams of Harker Heights has filed to run against the incumbent.

District Judge John Gauntt of Temple has filed to run for re-election to his 27<sup>th</sup> judicial district post.

Member, State Board of Education District 14 will appear on ballots in March. Republican incumbent Sue Melton-Malone of Robinson will be challenged in the primary by GOP candidate Maria Y. Berry of Woodway.

The lone Democrat running for the position, which represents a 21-county district, is Greg Alvord of Aubrey.

Chief Justice, 3<sup>rd</sup> Court of Appeals also is slated to go before primary voters in 2020. Democrats Darlene Byrne of Austin and Keith S. Hampton of Austin will vie for their party's nomination.

### STATE LEVEL

Voters across Texas will have a number of positions on their party's ballot for which they can make their selection.

Among those statewide offices up for election in the coming year are Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court; Justice positions on the Supreme Court in Places 6, 7 and 8; as well

as Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals for Places 3, 4 and 9.

Railroad Commissioner is another statewide office on which Texans can vote in March.

### FEDERAL LEVEL

In addition to selecting candidates for president of the United States, political parties also will be choosing their nominee to run for one of Texas' two U.S. Senate positions in 2020.

Republican incumbent John Cornyn is being challenged by several candidates for his party's nomination. Virgil Bierschwale of Junction, John Anthony Castro of Dallas, Dwayne Stovall of Liberty County and Mark Yancey of Dallas have filed to run.

Democratic candidates who will vie for the U.S. Senate seat are Chris Bell of Houston, Michael Cooper of Beaumont, Amanda K. Edwards of Houston, Jack Daniel Foster Jr. of Baytown, Annie "Mama" Garcia of Houston, Victor Hugo Harris of Harlingen, Mary "MJ" Hegar of Round Rock, Sema Hernandez of Pasadena, D.R. Hunter of Amarillo, Adrian Ocegueda of Flower Mound, Cristina Tzintzun Ramirez of Austin and

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### WEATHER

Date	High	Low	Rain
Dec. 28	66	47	0.15
Dec. 29	55	38	0.01
Dec. 30	55	30	0
Dec. 31	57	30	0

Total rainfall for 2019: 23.58 in.

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

### BRIEFLY

#### REPUBLICAN MEETING

The Lampasas County Republican Party has moved its January monthly meeting to Jan. 9. The meeting will be at noon at Putters & Gutters Fun Center, located at 2341 South U.S. Highway 281.

#### PEE WEE FOOD FAIR

The Lampasas County Youth Livestock Show is seeking participants for its Pee Wee Food Fair.

No entry fee is required, and there

are no pre-entries. Any type of dish is acceptable.

Age divisions are 4-5 years old, and 6-8 years old.

Check-in will be Jan. 9 from noon to 1 p.m. at the county show barn. Judging will take place Jan. 9 at 1 p.m. Pee Wee Food Fair awards will immediately follow the judging of the Pee Wee dishes.

For more information, contact Kelli Isom or Becky Isom at 512-556-9700.

#### CORVETTES ON THE SQUARE

Corvettes on the Square, an event that is new to Lampasas, is planned Jan. 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the courthouse square. The free event is open to all Corvette owners, and the public is invited to view the vehicles on the square.

The event will include music, vendors and shopping opportunities.

The event is a car meet, not a judged car show. As a result, no awards will be presented.

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