

Biden wins Democratic primary in Texas

Maldonado prevails for Precinct 2&3 constable -- the only contested race for county office

BY DAVID LOWE
DISPATCH RECORD

contested race Tuesday for a county office.

Joe Biden won Lampasas County handily in Tuesday's Democratic Party presidential primary, and he also led the statewide results.

President Donald Trump garnered 94% of votes statewide in the Republican Party primary against six challengers who each polled less than 1%.

In Lampasas County, turnout was about 27%, as 3,868 of the 14,535 registered voters cast a ballot. A total of 2,983 Republican voters participated in the primary in the county, while 885 voters cast a ballot in the county's Democratic primary.

While much of the focus across Texas on is on the contest for the Democratic presidential nomination, Lampasas County had one



Misti Maldonado



John Harris

PRECINCT 2&3 CONSTABLE RACE

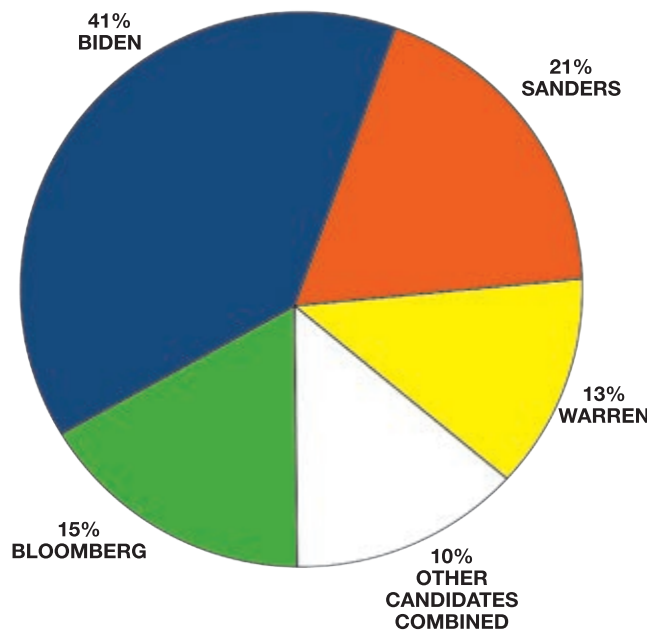
In that Republican primary, challenger and former constable Misty Maldonado unseated incumbent Precinct 2&3 Constable John Harris. Maldonado received 244 votes to Harris' 155.

Maldonado, who served as Precinct 2&3 constable from 2013-2016, said she was excited to hear the news of her victory. "We worked really hard,

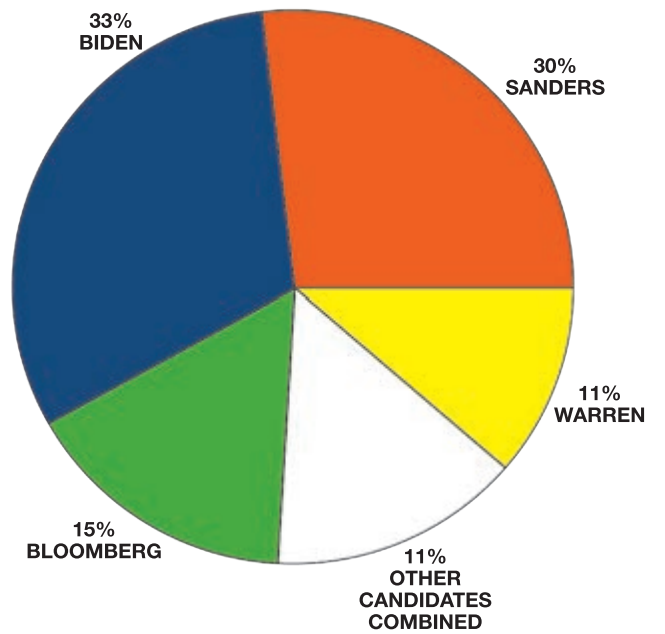
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DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS

LAMPASAS COUNTY



STATE OF TEXAS



TRISH GRIFFITH | DISPATCH RECORD GRAPHIC



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School's Family Night pays tribute to Texas

Jesse Parker tries "steer roping" during a Western-themed Family Night at Kline Whitis Elementary School on Monday, which was Texas Independence Day. Behind Jesse -- at the center of the photo -- are his father, Seth, and 2-year-old sister, Olivia. See related photos on page 4.

Lampasas school board approves staff pay raises

BY JEFF LOWE
DISPATCH RECORD

The Lampasas Independent School District Board of Trustees voted unanimously Monday to approve the 2020-2021 compensation plan, which includes a general pay increase of 5% of the midpoint for administrators and 7% of the midpoint for other job categories such as teachers, clerical, aides and auxiliary staff.

The district's minimum starting salary with teachers with 0 years' experience now is \$47,000, an increase from the previous amount of \$43,500.



Kevin Bott

The school board also unanimously approved an extension of the contracts for administrators, including Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kevin Bott, Lampasas High School Principal Joey McQueen, Lampasas Middle School Principal Dana Holcomb, Kline Whitis Elementary School Principal Wes Graham, Hanna Springs Elementary School Principal Lindsay Duhon and Taylor Creek Elementary School Principal Renee Cummings. Superintendent Dr. Chane

Rascoe recommended the pay increase as well as the contract extension for administrators.

Rascoe said the pay adjustment is "an effort to keep [the district] competitive ... We found this past year, there were times when we were not as competitive as we should have been."

At Rascoe's suggestion, the board also approved a new Career and Technical Education stipend, an age stipend increase and adjustments intended to make the stipend schedule simpler.

ELECTION CANCELED

No challengers filed for election against incumbent trustees Sam Walker and Ryan Shahan, who announced earlier this year they had filed for re-election. As a result, the board voted Monday to declare the unopposed candidates elected, and to cancel the previously scheduled May 2 trustee election.

The filing deadline was Feb. 14, and the write-in deadline was Feb. 18.

STUDENT TURNOVER AT TAYLOR CREEK ELEMENTARY

In other business, trustees also approved the academic calendar for 2020-2021, and Cummings gave a campus report on Taylor Creek Elementary.

The principal said the school aims to build morale and community involvement, while facing the challenge of a large number of students moving in and out of the district each year.

Almost 68% of the school's student population either joined or left the campus this academic year, Cummings said. Of Taylor Creek's 544 students, 230 are new this year. Eighty-two registered students were no-shows since the first day of school, and 56 officially withdrew.

Cummings said 48.5% of students are "military-connected," which explains some of the high rate of transfer.

She said that while average attendance is strong at 95.44%, 12% of the student body has been retained a grade level. Most of those were held back before coming to Taylor Creek Elementary.

Cummings said TCE is using a program of 45 minutes of math intervention and 45 minutes of reading intervention every day.

The campus also has added a Student of the Week designation and "Tayt's Top Troops," which Cummings said goes to "a student going

SEE TAYLOR, PAGE 10

Kempner fire department sets barbecue, auction

The Kempner Volunteer Fire Department will hold its 40th annual barbecue and auction fundraiser Saturday at the fire station, located at 315 Pecan St. in downtown Kempner.

A box sale will begin at noon, the barbecue meal will start at 1 p.m., and the auction will begin at 3 p.m.

The event typically is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the Kempner fire department, which has a coverage area larger than 100 square miles.

Meal options are a chopped brisket sandwich, bag of chips and drink for \$7; or a plate of sliced brisket, coleslaw, potato

salad, beans and bread -- with a cup of tea -- for \$12.

The auction includes more than 250 items, with a wide variety, KVFD Chief Dan Hause said.

As part of the fundraiser, KVFD will raffle four guns -- a 6.5 Creedmoor, a Henry .22 Golden Boy, a Radical Firearms AR-15, and a Stoeger 12-gauge over-and-under shotgun. There will be a separate 52-card raffle for each gun, with cards sold for \$20 apiece.

The first gun raffle will begin about 4 or 4:30 p.m., Hause said, adding that new raffles will take place every hour after that.

WEATHER

Date	High	Low	Rain
March 1	71	56	0
March 2	72	60	0
March 3	71	60	0
March 4	62	48	1.08

Total rainfall for 2020: 6.56 in.

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

BRIEFLY

TIME CHANGE

Daylight saving time begins Sunday. Before they go to sleep Saturday night, people may wish to set their timekeeping devices ahead one hour to prepare for the time change.

NEW HOURS FOR SALVATION ARMY

The Lampasas County Salvation Army Extension Unit has new office hours. Those hours are 1-4 p.m. on Thursdays. The office is in a portable building behind the Lampasas Multi-

Purpose Center (senior center), located at 901 S. Live Oak St.

BURN BAN LIFTED

County Judge Randy Hoyer has lifted the county's burn ban until April 5. As a result, controlled outdoor fires are allowed outside incorporated city limits.

Officials ask property owners to notify the Lampasas County Sheriff's Office of fire plans in advance by calling 512-556-8255.

EXTENDED TIMES AT COLLECTION SITE

The city's Citizen Collection Station, at 201 Brown St., now is open Wednesdays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., as well as Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon.

ADVENTHEALTH ROLLINS BROOK

AdventHealth Rollins Brook volunteers will hold a book and gift sale March 12 from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the conference room at the hospital, 608 N. Key Ave.

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