



JEFF LOWE | DISPATCH RECORD

## Firewood stocked up for winter

Mancho Coronado splits firewood at Myers Cedar Yard. Firewood is in demand as temperatures dropped to the 20s in Lampasas Tuesday morning and as low as 19 degrees near the Bend.

## Carol of Lights set to bring Christmas cheer

A scaled-down Carol of Lights, presented by Vision Lampasas, is scheduled this weekend. The annual event will include the Lighted Christmas Parade in the downtown area Saturday at 6:30 p.m.

The parade is sponsored by Ajinomoto Foods.

The Lampasas County Museum will open at 10 a.m. Saturday with homemade bake-sale products available. Proceeds support programming and exhibitions at the nonprofit organization.

The museum's Christmas tree and gingerbread decorating contests will be offered as well.

The Classics at the Classic club will gather with vintage vehicles on display along the south side

of the Lampasas County Courthouse. Car exhibitors are asked to be in place by 11 a.m.

Town and Country Study Club will not host its traditional bazaar in the courthouse, but craft vendors will be available outdoors for unique gift-shopping opportunities.

The Snow Queen Pageant will be held at the bandstand on the courthouse square. In case of inclement weather, the pageant may be moved to First Baptist Church.

The pageant age groups will be divided into one contest at 11 a.m., and the second group at 1 p.m. Contact sponsor Becky Veroneau at [vfamily@earthlink.net](mailto:vfamily@earthlink.net) for

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## City requests qualifications of firms to work on skate park, pavilion project

BY MADELEINE MILLER  
DISPATCH RECORD

The city has issued requests for qualifications for the design, engineering and construction of a skate park and pavilion to be built in Campbell Park.

Wings of Eagles Outreach, a local organization that provides resources and guidance to teenagers, has sought to establish a skate park in Lampasas since 2005.

Marisa Skiles, Wings of Eagles Outreach founder, said a skate park would expand local opportunities for youth recreation and help young people feel included in the community.

Lampasas Association for the Arts, also founded in 2005, established the Hanna Springs Sculpture Garden and has long planned to install a pavilion at Campbell Park.

Members said they would like to use a pavilion to host musical performances and other events, and a pavilion would provide shelter to park and sculpture-garden visitors.

The skate park and pavilion were included in the city's annual Capital Improvements Program, a list of projects costing \$5,000 or more prioritized by committee members.

Since July, the Lampasas City

Council has considered funding opportunities and locations for both projects.

Lampasas City Council, Wings of Eagles Outreach and Lampasas Association for the Arts members discussed during a special meeting Sept. 8 possible locations for the skate park and pavilion.

Mayor Misti Talbert said the projects are equally important to the City Council, and council members would like to complete both soon.

Wings of Eagles Outreach and LAFTA members originally sought to build their facilities on the same site but have agreed since then on separate locations within Campbell Park.

Wings of Eagles Outreach plans to build the skate park just south of the restrooms, and LAFTA will place its pavilion east of the Hanna Springs Swimming Pool. The projects' final locations are subject to change.

City Manager Finley deGraffenried said the city staff has issued the requests for qualifications at the council's direction.

City staff will open the proposals Dec. 11 at 2 p.m., and then score them and submit them to the council for consideration.

## House fire traced to chimney

A fire Sunday night on County Road 4876 was ruled accidental and traced to the attic near a fireplace chimney.

Lampasas Fire Marshal Ronnie Withers said structural timber near the chimney in the attic may have gotten too hot after residents used an outdoor barbecue pit that vents into the chimney.

The residents and their pets got out of the structure before firefighters arrived from Copperas Cove Fire Department, Kempner Volunteer Fire Department and Lampasas Fire Department to put out the blaze.

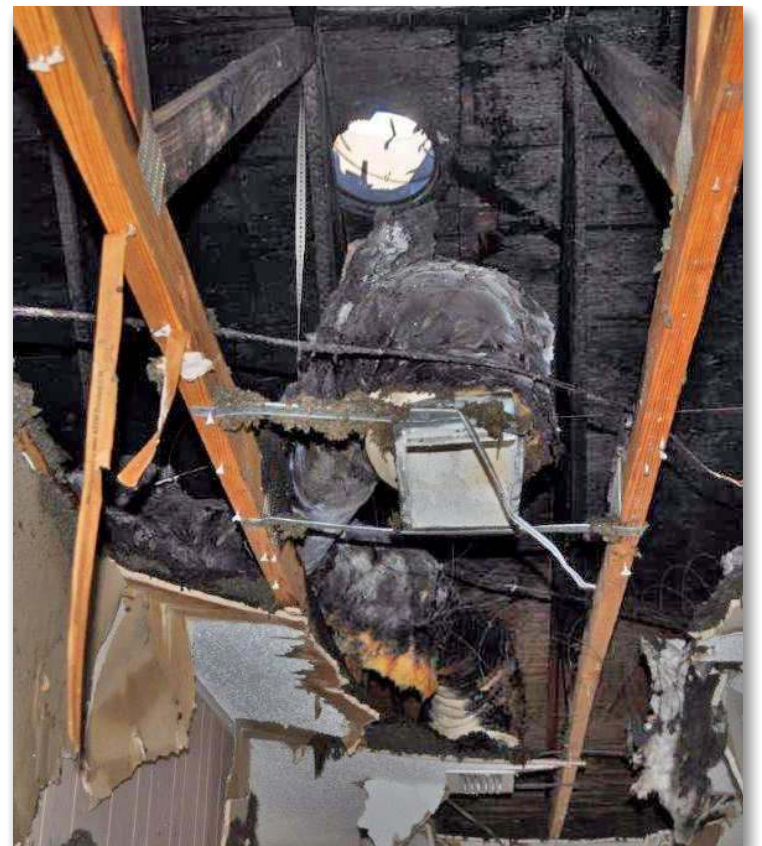
In addition to direct fire damage near the point of origin, the house sustained light smoke and water damage in the living room, kitchen and dining area.

Withers said the residents did not have a fire in the fireplace on Sunday, but they had cooked in the barbecue pit earlier that day.

The single-story house is fixable, he added.

No other structures were damaged, and the fire was extinguished with about 3,000 gallons of water.

Lampasas County Sheriff's Office, Texas Department of Public Safety and Acadian Ambulance Service also responded to the scene.



COURTESY PHOTO

Damage is visible in the living room and attic area of a house in east Lampasas County after a fire Sunday night.

## Tree trimming scheduled across west side of town

A program to trim trees around electric lines is scheduled to continue in parts of the west side of town for about the next two months.

The city has contracted with McCoy Tree Surgery for the trimming. The total cost, according to a Lampasas City

Council vote on Oct. 12, is not to exceed \$151,000.

Since 2005, the city has had tree-trimming work done by contractors for the Lower Colorado River Authority – which provides wholesale electricity for Lampasas. City staff members have said the trimming has

helped reduce electrical outages caused by fallen tree limbs.

The first work area for this fall and winter's trimming program is on County Road 1045, as well as in the Horseshoe Bend area. Horseshoe Bend – in the

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### WEATHER

Date	High	Low	Rain
Nov. 29	51	42	0
Nov. 30	50	31	0
Dec. 1	59	29	0
Dec. 2	56	36	0

Total rainfall for 2020: 39.09 in.

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

### BRIEFLY

#### GIFTS FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

The local Edward Jones investment offices are hosting a toy drive to benefit foster children in the CASA network.

Unwrapped toy donations may be dropped off weekdays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. until Dec. 11 at any of the branch offices: 410 S. Live Oak, 202 Riverview Suite A or 108 E. Fifth St. No cash will be accepted.

Anyone who is unable to drop off a toy may call 512-556-5487 to arrange pick-up of the donation.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT TOY HANDOUT

The Lampasas Fire Department is accepting new, unwrapped toys and bicycles or monetary donations for its annual toy drive. Donations can be dropped off at the fire station any day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Dec. 17.

Families in need may complete an application for assistance at local churches. Requests are due by Dec. 11 at 5 p.m.

Drive-through toy distribution will be Dec. 19 from 7-11 a.m. at the fire station, 1107 E. Fourth St.

#### ANNUAL TRI-COUNTY TOY RUN

The Tri-County Toy Run of Central Texas, held the first Sunday in December since 1992, is set for Dec. 6.

Registration – a \$10 cash donation or a new, unwrapped toy – and breakfast begin at 8 a.m. at American Legion Post 133 in Temple, 1300 S. 25<sup>th</sup> St.

Riders are scheduled to leave Temple at 1 p.m. and culminate the toy run at Putter's & Gutters Fun Center, located on U.S. Highway 281 South in Lampasas.

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