

**LETTER FROM MAYOR CHRIS RILEY  
COVID-19 CRISIS –10/2/2020**

Dear Leon Valley Citizens and Businesses:

**LABOR DAY WEEKEND – NO UPTICK IN COVID CASES**

The Bexar County area avoided a major surge in new COVID -19 cases from the Labor Day weekend. The San Antonio/Bexar County area has experienced weeks of steady improvement. Last week the positivity rate, which the week before was at 6.4%, dropped to 5.9% . The Metropolitan Health District’s goal of getting the positivity rate ( the percentage of tested cases which are positive) below 5% is within reach; all residents are *urged* to continue wearing masks, social distance, wash hands, avoid large crowds and stay home if you are feeling sick. Reaching the positivity rate of 5% or less will affect how area school districts will begin to increase the number of students who can attend school in person vs. online learning. Congratulations to all of you who are doing your part – the new normal is sinking in!

As of October 1, 2020, the total number of cases reported in Bexar County is 57,936, a 7.3% increase in 8 days. This number included 2,800 backlogged cases reported by the State, most of which were from July, raising the percentage. There were 1,138 total deaths

reported on October 1<sup>st</sup> , a 6% increase in 8 days. There was a drop in the number of current daily hospitalizations, from 230 to 208.

As of September 11, 2020 the total aggregate number of COVID-19 cases in Leon Valley reported by Metropolitan Health District is 249, up from 205 on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**FLU SHOTS** – Bexar County Commissioners will sponsor a second drive-through **FREE** flu shot event on **Saturday, October 10, 2020 from 9 – 2 pm at Nelson Wolff Stadium**. This is a partnership between HEB Pharmacy and University Hospital. You must register by calling (210) 358-7020 or online at [www.universityhealthsystem.com/flu](http://www.universityhealthsystem.com/flu). You **do not** have to get out of your car! Metropolitan Health District recommends everyone get a flu shot for added protection during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**COVID-19 TESTING SITES** – a full list of sites providing testing for COVID-19 can be found at [covid19.sanantonio.gov](http://covid19.sanantonio.gov). For more information, call the city's COVID-19 hotline t (210) 207-5779 or email [COVID-19@sanantonio.gov](mailto:COVID-19@sanantonio.gov)

### **UPDATE ON CITY FACILITIES**

On September 28<sup>th</sup> , Raymond Rimkus Park tennis courts and athletic fields were re-opened when the positivity rate went below 6%, as per city council direction. However, no organized sports are allowed. The

decision to reopen basketball courts and playgrounds will be discussed at the October 6<sup>th</sup> council meeting. **REMAINING CLOSED-** City Hall (by appointment only) and **Leon Valley Public Library** remain closed, with online adult and children's activities only and curbside pickup for books and DVD's.

The Northwest Senior Citizens organization at the Community Center has also remained closed due to COVID-19. The City of San Antonio has begun to re-open senior centers slowly at a 25% occupancy limit.

### **HELP FOR LEON VALLEY CITIZENS AFFECTED BY COVID**

A preliminary report on how many grants were approved for Leon Valley residents needing financial assistance as a result of COVID-19 will be given at the October 6, 2020 council meeting. Council set aside \$100,000 for this program (Leon Valley Stabilization program) and monies had to be spent by **September 30, 2020**. Any money from this program or other monies from the \$633,000 allocated to our city from Bexar County not spent by this date, will have to be returned to Bexar County, as per the agreement. The City Manager reports that between \$100,000 and \$200,000 will be returned to the County.

## VOTING DURING COVID-19

A few residents who received mail in- ballots from the County have reported that their ballots were printed incorrectly. Bexar County Elections department reports these were “human errors”. If you receive a mail-in ballot which you feel is incorrect, please contact City Secretary Passailaigue at (210) 684-1391, Ext. 216 for assistance in correcting the ballot, or the County Elections office at (210) 335-8160. Applications for mail in ballots will be sent to everyone over the age of 65 and there will be a new tracking feature to verify that your ballot arrives on time at Bexar County elections office.

Early voting begins at the Leon Valley Conference Center October 13-30, 2020. There will be 16 voting machines, one of the larger sites in our area. Please make a plan to vote – every vote counts!

A new **Drive-Through Halloween option** at the library, community and conference center areas for our children will be discussed at the October 6<sup>th</sup> council meeting. More details will be forthcoming!

Our weather has been perfect! Enjoy the outdoors and please take care and keep safe!

Sincerely, Chris  
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