

## **LETTER FROM MAYOR CHRIS RILEY ON COVID-19 CRISIS –6/5/2020**

Dear Leon Valley Community:

Last night at the Leon Valley City Council meeting, your city council made the following decisions regarding facilities that have remained closed due to COVID-19:

**1). Park Restrooms, Fitness Equipment, Playground Equipment and Basketball Courts are re-opened today.**

**2).The reopening of the Leon Valley Library will follow a phased-in approach.** The Library has been closed since the end of March, but beginning June 8<sup>th</sup>, Phase II , Collection of Books will begin. Depending on the letter of your last name, please turn in any overdue books at the book drop following this schedule:

Monday: A-E; Tuesday: F-J, Wednesday: K-O, Thursday: P-T, Friday: U-Z. In accordance with the CDC guidelines, books will be quarantined for 3-7 days and DVD's will be wiped down, cleaned and quarantined for 7 days, then placed back on the shelves for check-out. The Library remains closed to the public and all library events/ meeting rooms remain cancelled. Wifi is available outside the library during library hours. Adult and children programs will continue on line only. Phase III, which is Curbside Contact

Free Service is scheduled to begin on June 22. More information will be forthcoming.

**3). Proposed a date of July 1, 2020 to open one city pool, Forest**

**Oaks.** Governor Abbott's Executive Order states that outdoor swimming pools may operate at 50% of normal operating limits (which is 60 persons at Forest Oaks with social distancing). Final decision on specifics (confirm opening date, hours of operation, senior swim time, cost, limited to Leon Valley residents, etc.) will be made at the June 16, 2020 city council meeting. The swim team has been cancelled this swim season.

Discussion was held to keep the pool open July, August and weekends only in September. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines will be implemented for the safety of all citizens and pool management staff, including daily sanitizing of the facility, hand hygiene (sanitizer) and respiratory etiquette (cover cough and sneezes). The use of cloth face coverings as feasible is encouraged. Maintaining a distance of at least 6 feet between people who don't live together, adding educational signage, taking patrons' temperatures, and encouraging people not to share swimming equipment or food with those they don't live with, will be implemented to help keep the virus from spreading.

4). **Municipal Court** is still being conducted online. Judge Morales, Senior Municipal Judge has worked with the staff on a plan to re-open municipal court to the public, following CDC guidelines, sometime in June, once this plan has been approved by the State.

5). **Senior Center** will continue to be closed, but with future reviews to reconsider.

6) As of **July 1<sup>st</sup>** ,**suspension of late fees and fines** will end for library, credit card, red-light cameras, water disconnect , the sign ordinance and related fees.

7). **All City Facilities**: Prior to entering any city facility, citizens and visitors will be required to complete a questionnaire, take a temperature scan and wear a face mask.

The City Council also adopted Governor Abbott's latest Executive Order, which basically permits all businesses to open.

The City of Leon Valley still has **Essential Safe Business bags** donated through Bexar County Commissioner Justin Rodriguez to help with initial costs of re-opening small businesses. Each bag contains a touchless thermometer, masks, sanitizer and plexiglass. If you have a small business in Leon Valley, and did not receive an essential business bag, please contact Mr. Cox at (210) 812-3332.

## **UPDATED NUMBERS**

As of June 4, 2020, the total number of cases reported in Bexar County is 3,018 (up from 2,583 as of May 28<sup>st</sup> ) with 78 deaths (up from 71 deaths on May 28<sup>st</sup> ).

## **HOW CAN WE HELP?**

The City of Leon Valley will receive approximately \$631,000 from Bexar County as a share of the monies it received from the CARES Act. The City Council will discuss at their June 16<sup>th</sup> council meeting, the allocation of this money, which must be spent or appropriated by September 30, 2020. This money must be spent on COVID -19 related items, including reimbursement to the City of Leon Valley on monies already spent. If there are specific COVID-19 related needs in our community, please let us know.

Please remember to continue practicing all the recommended measures to help prevent the spread of the virus, which is not yet under control. (social distance, wash hands, wear masks and use hand sanitizer). If you are sick, stay at home to minimize exposure and get tested. Take care. Stay healthy, safe, and remain positive!

Sincerely, Chris

(210) 618-2092 – Please call with any questions or concerns.