

LETTER FROM MAYOR CHRIS RILEY ON COVID-19 CRISIS –6/26/20

Dear Leon Valley Community:

GOVERNOR ABBOTT’S EXECUTIVE ORDER

Today, June 26th, in response to the alarming increase in COVID-19 cases exponentially rising across the state, the Governor ordered the following measures:

- Bars must shut down by noon today;
- Restaurant capacity is reduced from 75% to 50%, effective 6/29;
- River-rafting trips prohibited;
- Outdoor gatherings of over 100 prohibited, unless local officials explicitly approve of them;
- Elective surgery banned in Bexar, Travis, Dallas and Harris Counties;

Governor Abbott said he wants this action to be limited in duration, but all Texans must do their part in slowing the spread of the virus. “Every Texan has a responsibility to themselves and their loved ones to wear a mask, wash their hands, stay six feet apart from others in public, and stay home if they can.”

WEEKLY CALL WITH JUDGE NELSON WOLFF

On Tuesday, June 23rd, Judge Wolff reiterated to the Suburban Mayors the importance of his executive order that require all businesses employees and patrons to wear masks to help contain the spread of COVID-19. He reviewed the current COVID-19 numbers, which he said were “alarming and dangerous”. The County has provided a poster for all businesses to display. He reported the Sheriff’s office going out in teams to visit area businesses to check for compliance. He urged the suburban city police departments to do the same; I can report the City of Leon Valley has begun this action. He emphasized education, not enforcement (there is a \$1,000 fine from the County for not following this order) when visiting businesses to explain why this Order is important. The County has purchased 1 million face masks and will be distributing to businesses in the county, including suburban cities, to have on hand for those who do not have a mask. Judge Wolff gave some of the alarming numbers. In the first week of April, 18% of patients in the hospital were between the ages of 18-49. In the first week of June, this same age group number had increased to 53%. Wolff also reported problems with contact tracing (when someone is positive, finding out who that person had been in contact with) because many affected people are not calling back to the health authorities and giving this

information, which is compounding the spread. The Judge said the community has “let down their guard” and the consequence could be an estimated 1900 patients in area hospitals (compared to 518 last week) by mid-August. We can all work together at this defining moment to go back to following the proven protocols and flatten the curve!

UPDATED NUMBERS

As of June 25, 2020, the total number of cases reported in Bexar County is 8,452 (up from 5,550 as of June 18th), a 52% increase in one week. On June 25th, 635 new cases were reported, the highest one day number. There were 104 deaths (up from 92 deaths on June 18th). There are 81+ cases in zip codes 78240 and 78238 in Leon Valley. Call the City of San Antonio COVID-19 hot line at (210) 207-5779 for popup locations for testing availability and for any other questions.

SWIMMING IN LEON VALLEY DURING COVID-19

The Leon Valley staff is working diligently towards opening the Forest Oaks pool on July 1, 2020 for Leon Valley residents and one guest. Please call city hall at (210) 684-1391 for confirmation of this opening date. For all other details about the pool fees, schedule, etc. see my June 19th report at

this website. The City Council will receive an update on how the pool is operating after 30 days of operation.

LEON VALLEY LIBRARY RE-OPENING PLAN

1) **TURN IN LIBRARY BOOKS AND TAPES!** Please drop in the book drop outside the library. Late fees will be assessed beginning July 1, 2020. Once the library receives these items, they must be quarantined for 7 days, according to the CDC guidelines.

2) **CURBSIDE SERVICE!** Beginning on June 23, 2020, the library will re-open for curbside services. Call the library at (210) 684-0720 to reserve books/tapes or place hold on line. Visit the Leon Valley Public Library catalog at <https://leonvalley.biblionix.com/catalog/> . Once you order your books, the library staff will coordinate a date and time for pickup outside the library door (library building remains closed).

For other details on the library re-opening, see my June 19th report at this website.

Let's work together in flattening the virus curve. We can do it!! Stay healthy, safe, and remain positive!

Sincerely, Chris

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