

# THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

*Serving Coke County*

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## 2020 Year in Review Issue

This year has definitely been one for the record books. What began as a normal year dissolved into lockdowns, protests, riots, and contested elections.

It was only fitting that the first of 2020's disasters began in our country in January. The corona virus which began in China late last year, became known as Covid-19 and the first person infected arrived in the United States in late January.

After that first patient, the virus began picking up steam on both US coasts. However, Texas didn't really change much until the City of Houston cancelled the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo midway through on Wednesday, March 11, 2020.

Governor Greg Abbott issued his first of many executive orders locking down Texas on March 13. Coke County schools were on spring break as all of this was happening and it was announced that they would at least close for one more week after spring break.

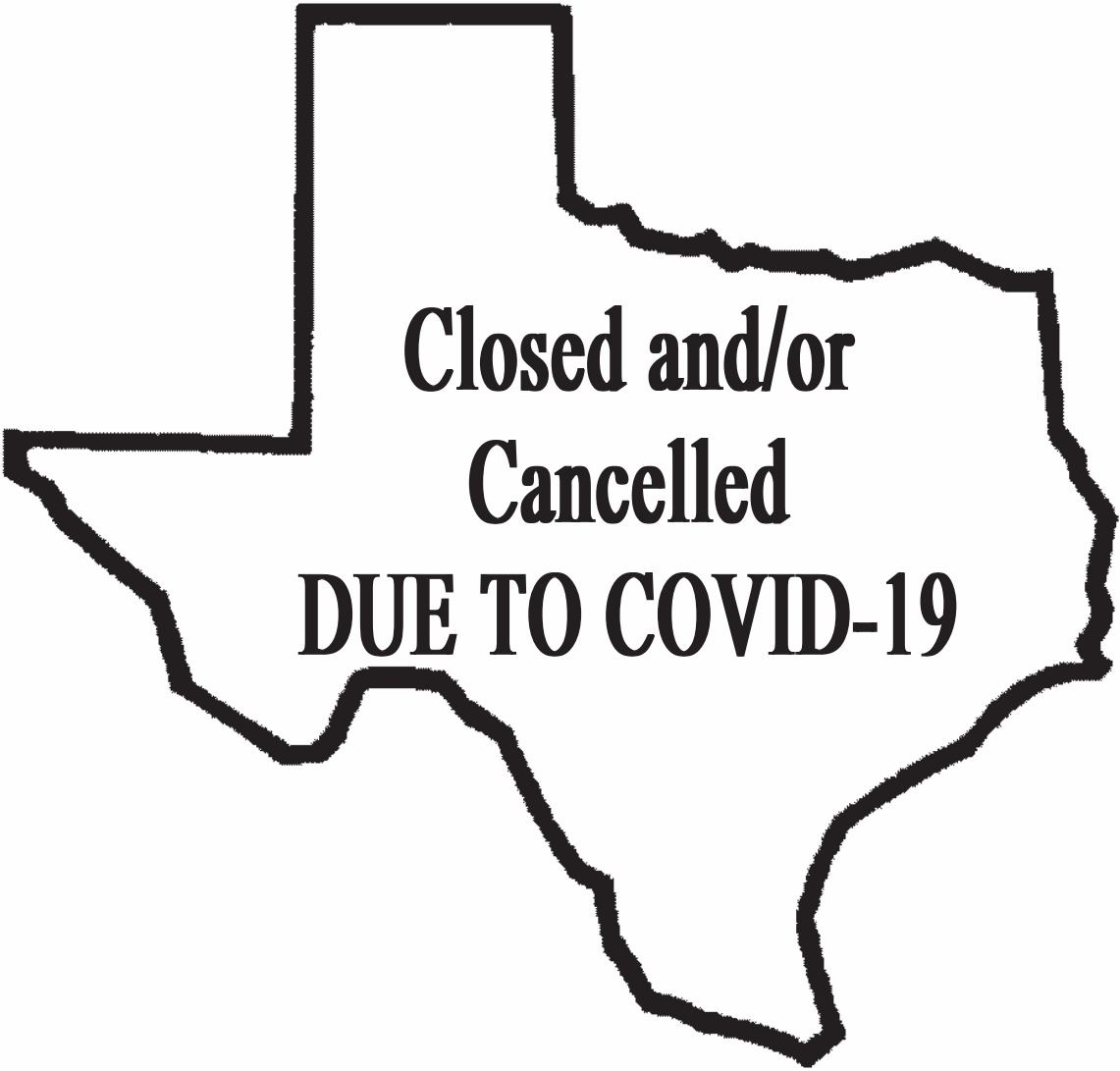
On March 31, Gov. Abbott ordered all "non-essential" businesses in Texas to close through the end of April and

Texas schools to remain closed until May 4th. Texans, like the rest of the country and world, have been dealing with various lockdowns since.

The Classes of 2020 really got the short end of the stick, missing out on most of the traditional end of their senior year activities. All of the schools were able to have some form of graduation for their seniors, but it was not a normal event.

Coke County didn't have any confirmed cases of the virus until June 2020. The biggest single hit was to Coke County's elderly population in the local nursing homes. Robert Lee lost 3 residents in the summer and then in October, both county nursing homes had residents exposed due to contact with a contract health care provider. By the time the virus ran through both facilities, most of the residents had contracted it and Coke County lost another 7 citizens.

In the last six months of the year (presstime Sunday, December 20, 2020), Coke County has seen a total of 208 confirmed cases, 145 probable cases, 10 fatalities and 283 recoveries.



### WEEK AT A GLANCE

Friday, January 1

School Holiday –  
Bronte ISD, Robert Lee ISD, Blackwell CISD

Monday, January 4

School Holiday – Bronte ISD, Robert Lee ISD

Tuesday, January 5

High School Basketball –  
Water Valley Girls at Bronte, 6:15  
Bronte Boys at Garden City, 5 pm  
Robert Lee Girls at Sterling City, 5 pm  
Ozona Boys at Robert Lee, 5 pm  
Blackwell Girls at Irion County, 6:15 pm

Thursday, January 7

Junior High Basketball –  
Sterling City at Bronte, 6 pm  
Blackwell at Water Valley, 6 pm  
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Vision with a Purpose meeting, 6 pm,  
VP Event Center, Downtown Robert Lee

Friday, January 8

High School Basketball –  
Bronte at Robert Lee, 5 pm  
Sterling City at Blackwell, 4 pm

As we finally say goodbye  
to 2020 and begin this  
new year, we want to wish  
everyone a very happy,  
healthy and prosperous  
2021!