

Covid-19 numbers in Coke County improve

After a significant spike in recent weeks, Coke County's Covid-19 numbers have improved significantly. Coke County Judge Hal Spain announced on Friday, November 13, 2020, that there were no active Covid-19 cases at Bronte Health and Rehab Center; only 7 active cases at Robert Lee Care Center; 12 additional active cases in the City of Robert Lee and 9 additional active cases in the City of Bronte. He also said there were 4 active cases in citizens of Coke County with a Blackwell address. Active cases in Coke County reached a high of 68 on Wednesday, October 28, 2020. And have fallen since. According to the State of Texas, Coke County Covid-19 numbers as of November 15, were 144 overall confirmed cases, 28 active cases, 8 fatalities and 108 recoveries.

There are two categories of statistics that can best describe the state of the virus currently – the daily new case count and the fatality percentage (the percent of the people who have lost their lives in Texas following a diagnosis of Covid-19).

There were only 3,234 new cases of Covid-19 diagnosed in Texas on October 1, 2020. That number rose and reached a monthly high of 7,055 new daily cases on October 27. That high October figure has been surpassed nine times between November 1 and November 15. The high daily case count so far for November was on November 10 with 10,865 new confirmed cases.

The rising new daily case count would be quite alarming if that was the only statistic studied. Fortunately, there's another statistic looking much more promising. The fatality percentage began October at 2.10%. It has steadily fallen, dropping under 2% on November 1. It continues to fall and stood at 1.91% on November 15.

What does this mean? Statistically Covid-19 has picked up steam in Texas as seen in the rising daily count, but the falling fatality percentage seems to show doctors have learned how to treat the virus and also that the severity of the virus may have decreased since it first hit America's population.

...Tax Dollars

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On this chart, Coke County is broken down by Coke County General and Coke County FMFC (Farm to Market, Flood Control - explained as commissioners funds). Also Robert Lee ISD is broken down as RLISD Maintenance and Operations and RLISD Interest and Sinking Fund. The Interest and Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of Robert Lee ISD.

Beginning now is a description of the responsibilities and/or the purpose for each entity. Below each description is the amount of the 2020 taxes levied.

Coke County Underground Water District and Kickapoo Water District

All groundwater conservation districts try to maintain a balance between protecting the rights of private landowners and the responsibility to protect the water resource. Most districts direct their efforts toward preventing waste, collecting data, educating people about water conservation and preventing irreparable harm to the aquifer. Bottom line, our water districts maintain local control of our underground water.

2020 Taxes Levied
 Kickapoo - \$46,820
 CCUWD - \$46,139
 (+/-5% for adjustments)

Coke County

Major responsibilities of county government include building and maintaining roads, recreational facilities, county airports; operating the judicial system; maintaining public records (real estate and mineral

deeds, birth certificates, death certificates, marriage certificates, etc.); collecting property taxes; issuing vehicle registrations and transfers; registering voters; providing law enforcement, and conducting elections.

2020 Taxes Levied
 Coke County - \$1,641,757
 Coke County FM & FC - \$489,158

Bronte and Robert Lee

Cities maintain the infrastructure (water, sewer, trash collection, city streets, etc.) necessary to communities to exist. The city councils also pass laws, in the form of ordinances, to protect the health, welfare and safety of their citizens.

2020 Taxes Levied
 City of Bronte - \$133,084
 City of Robert Lee \$140,582

School Districts

Their purpose is the most obvious - to provide access to education for every child in their district.

2020 Taxes Levied

Glenn-Bivins Insurance

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 Locally and Family Owned Since 1922
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I want to thank you for your vote of confidence and support in the Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees Election.

Jeffie H. Roberts

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Jeffie H. Roberts

<u>Mitchell County</u>		<u>Nolan County</u>		<u>Taylor County</u>	
Overall	252	Overall	555	Overall	2,870
Active	37	Active	114	Active	851
Fatal	3	Fatal	7	Fatal	86
Recovered	212	Recovered	434	Recovered	1,933

<u>Sterling County</u>		<u>Coke County</u>		<u>Runnels County</u>	
Overall	26	Overall	144	Overall	324
Active	6	Active	28	Active	8
Fatal	1	Fatal	8	Fatal	10
Recovered	19	Recovered	108	Recovered	312

<u>Irion County</u>		<u>Tom Green County</u>		<u>Concho County</u>	
Overall	15	Overall	3,019	Overall	155
Active	1	Active	406	Active	12
Fatal	0	Fatal	93	Fatal	2
Recovered	14	Recovered	2,520	Recovered	141

RLISD \$3,416,433
 BISD - \$1,025,152

Hospital Districts

Originally established to fund and maintain hospitals in Robert Lee and Bronte. Since these hospitals were closed, the funding has gone to the nursing homes in each city.
 2020 Taxes Levied
 WCCHD - \$717,386
 ECCHD - \$544,618

...West of 98

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If you read this essay back in November 2017, I hope you re-read it and enjoy it again. If this essay is new to you, I hope it inspires and encourages you.

Recently, I read a wonderful and well-reported feature published at Bleacher Report on Stamford's own national football star James Washington, and I was struck by several of the undertones. As a community leader and business owner, I cringed a bit reading of vacant buildings and closed businesses. But then, I took a step back and considered it some more.

This was not an author belittling a community or rural America at large. Nor was it a case of our own community members deriding our town. Rather, a reporter who had never been to Stamford, Texas wrote objectively about what he saw. He saw some vacant buildings and closed businesses, but he also saw something more. He saw something that captivated him - the people of Stamford.

The author saw "charm"...and

a town that "celebrates its existence and its people." He wrote of friends and family who look upon James Washington as a role model, but who are role models themselves - the good, honest, hardworking people who work hard, take care of their own business, and are the quiet cogs that make a community successful. He wrote of people who are proud of a favorite son, not merely because of fame and fortune, but because he has

HOLIDAY CLOSING NOTICE

*Holiday Hours:
 All facilities of this bank will close at 1:00 pm, Wednesday, November 25. All facilities of this bank will also be closed Thursday, November 26.*

In Observance Of



Thanksgiving Day

Please plan your banking requirements during regular banking hours to avoid any inconvenience.

Robert Lee State Bank

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 Robert Lee, Texas