

THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County



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Cleaning Products at Family Dollar



Bread Products at Bronte Supermarket

Virus forces closures, lockdowns, restrictions, and cancellations

Coke County, like all areas of the United States, is dealing with restricted interaction, event cancellation, school closings, nursing home lockdowns, etc. due to the new coronavirus named Covid-19. Effects to Coke County citizens didn't hit close to home until Wednesday, March 11, 2020, when the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo closed with 11 days left on their schedule. By Friday, March 13, Governor Abbott had issued orders putting facilities on lockdown. This order mandated that both of the nursing homes in Coke County went on lockdown and will remain that way until the order is lifted. By the weekend, local schools had issued statements that they would be closed the week of March 16-20 and possibly longer. Grand Jury and District Court slated for the first week in April have been cancelled.

On Wednesday, the local stores selling groceries and paper products reported higher activity than normal. This continued through Friday and even after some restocking, there was not a roll of toilet paper to be sold on Tuesday, March 17. You could also not purchase Lysol disinfectant sprays, hand sanitizer, Lysol wipes, antibacterial soap, or bread. A grocery truck came to the Bronte Supermarket on Monday, but much of what the store had ordered was not on it. As of Tuesday, March 17, 2020, worldwide there have been 195,892 cases of Covid-19 with 7,865 deaths and 80,840 recoveries. Of these 195,892 cases worldwide, 5,702 are in the United States. Currently, there are no cases in Coke County.

A timeline of the pandemic begins below.
December 30, 2019
The World Health Organization discovers an unknown virus with pneumonia-like symptoms first observed in the Wuhan province area of China.
January 7, 2020
The coronavirus is identified.
January 21, 2020
The first person with coronavirus arrives in the United States from China, having been in Wuhan.
January 23, 2020
China closes off the city of

Wuhon completely to slow the spread of the coronavirus to the rest of China.
January 31, 2020
President Trump declares a public health emergency and imposes a ban on travel to and from China. Mandatory two week quarantines were imposed on United States citizens coming from affected area.
February 2020
President Trump forms a task force of the top scientific medical professionals led by Vice President Pence. On the 29th, a travel ban was imposed on Iran and new travel restrictions imposed on Italy and South Korea. Regulations on Covid-19 testing were relaxed.
March 2020
All Covid-19 testing restrictions were lifted early in the month. Cancellations, closures and shelter in place orders followed for the most highly affected areas.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

- Monday, March 23**
High School Golf -
District Round 1, Quicksand (San Angelo) - CANCELED
- Tuesday, March 24**
Junior High Track -
Hornet Relays, Blackwell - CANCELED

Robert Lee Community Watch Meeting, 6 pm,
First United Methodist Church, Robert Lee - CANCELED
- Thursday, March 26**
High School Tennis
Robert Lee at Veribest - CANCELED

Junior High Track -
Robert Lee at Eagle Relays, Sterling City - CANCELED
- Friday, March 27**
High School Track -
Hornet Relays, Blackwell - CANCELED

Emergency Siren Signals

Cities of both Bronte and Robert Lee

- 1 Long Ring - Wind Advisory over 60 mph
- 2 Rings - Fire or VFD Meeting
- Another 2 Ring - Call for Additional Firefighters
- 3 Rings - Tornado Warning
- 1 Long Continuous Ring - All Clear for Tornado

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