

County Judge announces first confirmed positive Covid-19 case

On Tuesday, May 5, 2020, Coke County received confirmation of our first COVID-19 positive case, according to the Department of State Health Services and Coke County Judge Hal Spain. The case is a male in his 30s and is identified as having possibly been community acquired. The patient is currently isolated. DSHS is supporting Coke County in identifying any close contacts of the patient so they can be isolated and monitored for symptoms.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Public Health Region 9/10 is reminding the public that it is conducting contact investigation on persons who have tested positive to determine possible exposure to others. If the health department has not contacted you, there is no need to take any action at this time.

The DSHS and Coke County

continue to work together against COVID-19. We are vigilant and reporting results for COVID-19 in the region and Coke County. We are also working together to educate and promote social distancing and staying at home.

In order to share facts and not fear, we continue to emphasize the importance of prevention and there are simple steps everyone can take to help prevent spreading the virus:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not available, use a 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the



Covid-19 Testing in Coke County! Members of the Texas National Guard and local EMS volunteers were on hand in Robert Lee Saturday, May 2, 2020, to man a testing site for Covid-19. By mid morning Saturday, only registration was required to get a free test. Symptom requirements were lifted and appointments were not required. Even with the relaxed regulations, only twenty-one people were tested on this day in Robert Lee. As of presstime Tuesday afternoon, County Judge Hal Spain, Coke County's Emergency Management Coordinator, had not received any results from those tests.

- tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Practice social distancing by staying at least six feet away

- Stay at home and stop the spread of coronavirus
- The public can find up-to-date coronavirus information and what to do if you're sick, testing information at

dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus. County residents with local issues and questions are advised to contact the Coke County Judge's Office at (325) 453-2641.

RL4Restoration meeting held

RL4Restoration Foundation Board of Directors met via a Zoom call on Tuesday, April 28.

RL4Restoration selected two recipients for its first \$500 scholarships for the Senior Class of 2020. Those recipients will be notified in the coming weeks. The foundation would like to congratulate all of the 2020 Seniors and wish them success in the next stage of their lives! This year did not end like they dreamed of, but they will be stronger and better for it!

As you may already know, RL4Restoration has postponed and then ultimately cancelled the Spring Stampede for 2020. This decision was not easy, but necessary. The foundation cherishes their event and want the utmost attention to details and attendance from the community. Any sponsors that have pledged this year, will turn around and be sponsors next year. Anyone who has purchased a ticket this year, we will honor that ticket next year. If you need a refund for any reason, no questions asked, we will honor that. If the opportunity presents itself, we will put together a dinner or dance this fall.

The playground project is the biggest project RL4Restoration has on its plate. They will still be raising money and planning. Next steps on this will be to complete a few smaller projects around the Coke County Recreational Area and then major focus on the playground equipment. Grants will need to be researched and right now with everything going on, this might become increasingly harder to find. But we will

make it happen!

The Yard of the Month program was to begin in March. Since we were unable to pull this together for March and April, we have decided it would be nice to get this going again in May! The group has selected a winner and they will be notified and an announcement will be made soon! RL4Restoration will continue this program for another month or two (depending on the Texas heat this summer).

RL4Restoration appreciates our local first responders and to ask the community to support our local volunteer fire department and EMS. We are fortunate to have such a hard working group of people who take care of our safety and health when the need arises.

Lastly, RL4Restoration

appreciates everyone in Robert Lee for standing strong through this and supporting local businesses! Let's be kind to one another as we find a path to re-open our community safely and effectively!

...Letter to the Editor (Continued from previous page)

Instead of hiding from the virus, we should be using our talents to find a cure and a vaccine, and trying to build up an immunity against further outbreaks. It all goes back to fear. Fear of dying from the virus. The virus is not the only thing we have faced as a nation, that has cost lives. In the last century we have endured two world wars, devastating economic depression, other diseases such as cancer, flu, and polio, not to mention disasters like wildfires, droughts, floods, and hurricanes. But this one seems to have caused us the most unnatural fear. Fear that

has led to such an upheaval in our lives.

Why do we fear death? Because we have forgotten the one who gave us life. The only way not to fear death is to believe in the one man who conquered death - Jesus Christ, who willingly allowed Himself to be crucified in punishment for our sins; who rose from death on the third day, thus conquering death once and for all. If we believe in Him, and trust Him as our Savior, we will be victorious over the grave also, and so should have no fear of death. The

answer to this and any other problems we face, as individuals or as a nation, is to fall on our knees before Almighty God, confess our sins, and beg His forgiveness. This means turning from our evil ways, and seeking to please Him. God is a merciful God. He gives us the choice of whether or not to serve Him.

We are in a crisis and at a crossroads. Do we want life in Him, or the eventual death that comes from rejecting Him? The choice is ours, America. What will it be?

J.B. Pentecost

SHOP LOCAL

Robert Lee Ministerial Alliance
invites you to

**Mother's Day Community
Drive-In Service**

Sunday, May 10, 2020

**11 am • First United Methodist Church
Family Life Center Parking Lot**

Bro. Bill Hood - Preaching

Worship led by local musicians.

City of Bronte Inside City Limits Curbside Clean-Up

Monday, May 18, 2020

*Set items out
by Sunday evening.
Postcard in the mail.*

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