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Hillsboro, TX – The largest single day increase in COVID-19 cases in Hill County was reported today. The 5 new cases reported today brings the total number of cases to 46. Two of the new cases are females in Abbott, one is in her 30s and one is a minor. The third is a male in his 50s from Hillsboro, and the remaining two cases are both females in their 40s. One is from Hillsboro and the other is from Whitney. DSHS reports 24 cases as active, 15 recovered, 1 deceased and 6 cases without an active status do not have a stated outcome in the DSHS report. Statewide numbers on the DSHS website as of 5:00pm show 99,851 cases in Texas with 2,947 patients hospitalized, and 2,105 fatalities. 63,812 of the cases are estimated to be recovered while 33,934 of the cases are still listed as active, according to DSHS.

"I know it's hard to hear the daily increase of cases in our area," said Hill County Judge Justin Lewis. "I wish I had some good news to share, but my job is to make sure our residents are informed with the most accurate information I can provide, and, right now, this is what you need to know," continued Lewis. "The reality of this situation is that the more you are out and about, the more risk of exposure you have. I don't want people to stop living their lives, but I do want them to understand what they're dealing with, and I want to remind everyone to be cautious and heed the advice from the CDC and DSHS whenever you are out in public"

"These leaps in numbers are discouraging, but they are occurring statewide" stated Lewis. "No matter what we do, we can't control every variable that contributes to the spread of this virus, but we can take steps to protect ourselves as much as possible," continued Lewis. "As long as we have people traveling through our county and going to work in other areas, we will continue to have outside areas impacting our local caseload. That is even more reason to do everything we can to limit our exposure and take every precaution available to us."

Please review information on the guidelines to follow as business operations and recreational activities reopen at <u>https://open.texas.gov/</u>

Information on the spread of the Coronavirus across Texas is available at the DSHS dashboard website, <u>https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/</u>. To monitor updates from Hill County, the most current information will be provided on the Hill County Emergency Management Facebook Page and *KHBR 1560 AM Radio* and the *Hillsboro Reporter*.

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