

# THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County



(USPS 467-480)  
(ISSN 8750-197X)

Vol. 129, No. 16

Friday, October 28, 2016

### Volunteer Fire Departments Recognized by Coke-Sterling County Farm Bureau

Relationships within the community are essential for agriculture and County Farm Bureau. Partnerships with the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department and the Bronte Volunteer Fire Department strengthen the commitment to safety in rural areas.

Coke-Sterling County Farm Bureau recognized these departments with complimentary memberships, \$200 donations and metal Texas Farm Bureau membership signs on October 21, 2016.

“Our volunteer fire departments work to make our communities and farm and ranch operations safe,” Coke-Sterling County Farm Bureau President John Ross Copeland said. “They’re active within our communities and are there for us when we need them. It’s our turn to honor them for their service.”

From grain bin entrapments to grass fires and more, firefighters work to protect rural areas in times of need.

“Volunteer fire departments, like our county Farm Bureaus, are a vital part of communities across the Lone Star State,” Texas Farm Bureau President Russell Boening said. “Whether they’re small issues or large



**Volunteers Fire Departments Recognized!** Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau representative Kizzie Waggonner (above photos, left) presents Fire Chiefs Bill Torres of the Bronte Volunteer Fire Department (left photo) and Ross Torres of the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department with donations and more.

disasters, local firefighters help our farmers, ranchers and urban neighbors. Their dedication is admirable.”

A heroic service that provides safety and assurance, John Ross Copeland noted, brings a community together. But it also helps property owners on a

financial level.

“What they do every day protecting property that our members own goes hand-in-hand with what we do in the Insurance Company,” Mike Gerik, executive vice president of the Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies, said. “We



do it in the form of an insurance product. They do it by going out and physically putting out fires—those kinds of things that allow us to, hopefully, deliver a product to someone at a different price than if we didn’t have that protection.”

### Early voting continues

Early voting in this year’s General Election slated for November 8, 2016, began Monday, October 24, 2016, and

will continue through Friday, November 4, 2016. Friday, October 28, 2016, is the last day for the clerk to receive an application for a mail-in ballot.

Early voting is being held at the Coke County Courthouse. On election day, voters in Precincts 1 and 3 will vote at the Coke County Courthouse with voters in Precincts 2 and 4 voting at First Baptist Church in Bronte.

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**Doxic Doggie Race!** “Running of the Wieners” was held Saturday evening, October 22, 2016, as a part of Bronteoberfest. Dachshunds and part dachshunds thrilled the large crowd gathered around to watch the action at the basketball court in the park at Bronte.

## FOOTBALL FRIDAY NIGHT!



**Robert Lee Steers vs. Westbrook Wildcats**

Friday, October 28, 2016  
7:30 pm Robert Lee

**Bronte Longhorns vs. Baird Bears**

Friday, October 28, 2016  
7:30 pm Bronte



**Blackwell Hornets vs. Trent Gorillas**

Friday, October 28, 2016  
7:30 pm Trent