

THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County



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Early Voting begins Tuesday in March 2014 Primary Election

Early voting began Tuesday, February 18, 2014, for the March 4th Primary Election and will continue through Friday, February 28, 2014.

Early voting is currently ongoing at the courthouse Monday-Thursday from 8 am to 5 pm and Friday from 8 am to 1 pm.

Branch polling will be held at First National Bank in Bronte on February 25 and 26 from 9 am to 1 pm.

On election day, Precincts 1 and 3 will be voting at the courthouse. Precincts 2 and 4 will vote at the Bronte Senior Citizens Building. Voting hours are from 7 am to 7 pm.

Only two local offices will have contested races. Coke County Commissioners in both Precincts 2 and 4 will face challengers. Currently, these offices are held by Wendell Lee in Precinct 2 and Bobby Blaylock in Precinct 4. Facing Lee for Commissioner Precinct 2 is Paul Williams. Blaylock is being challenged by Joe Sefcik for Commissioner Precinct 4.

Political profiles begin on page 3 of this issue of *The Observer/Enterprise*.

Incumbents without opponents filing to retain their positions include: Roy Blair, County Judge; Mary Grim, County/District Clerk; Hal Spain, County Treasurer; Jackie Walker, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1; and Grady Coulter, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2. All of the above offices except for Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2, are in the Republican Primary.

For state and national election candidates, please see page 8 of this issue of *The Observer/Enterprise*.

Filing Deadline is February 28 for May Local Entity Elections

Potential candidates in the upcoming May 10, 2013, local entity election may file for their place on the ballot until Friday, February 28, 2014.

There are three two-year city council member terms and the mayoral office on the ballot for the City of Bronte. Mayor Gerald Sandusky has filed for re-election. Incumbents Paul "Buzz" Gohmann and Jimmie Guthrie have filed to retain their



Johnson Honored! Richard Johnson, Richard Johnson, maintenance director at the Coke County Courthouse, retired Tuesday, February 18, 2014, after eight years of service to Coke County. A retirement reception in his honor was held that afternoon in the Commissioner's courtroom.

council seats. Wade Stautzenberger has filed for the remaining council position.

There are two council member terms and the mayoral office on the ballot for the City of Robert Lee. Currently, these council seats are held Mayor John Jacobs and council members Sid Burns and Richard Johnson. As of presstime, there have been no filings for these offices. Applications can be picked up at the Robert Lee City Hall from 8 am to 12 noon and 1 pm to 5 pm Monday through Friday. To be

eligible for the office of Mayor a person must be a registered voter and must have lived within the city for at least 12 months preceding the date of election day. To be eligible for the office of city council a person must be a registered voter and must live within the city on the date of the election.

There are three two-year Board of Director terms on the ballot for the West Coke County Hospital District. Currently, these offices are held by Sarah

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5th Annual Daddy-Daughter Date Night! At promptly 5 pm, girls and their dates began to arrive for a fun-filled evening of finger foods and dancing at the 5th annual Daddy-Daughter Date Night. "Under the Sea" was held on Saturday, February 8, 2014, at the Coke County Rec Hall in Robert Lee with 122 people from Robert Lee and Bronte attending.

The tables were decorated with light blue, caribbean blue, and deep purple tablecloths topped with orange, hot pink, and lime green tulle runners, a variety of sea shells and vases of sea grass. The food table was covered with caribbean blue tablecloths and several large arrangements of sea grass. The dance floor was lit by blue lights giving the feeling that you were truly under the sea. Jelly fish and tropical fish were mixed in the lights.

The girls and their dates took photos in front of an ivory backdrop that was surrounded by brightly colored streamers and sea urchins of various colors. Photos were taken by Austin Crawley Photography. The DJ's, David Sheldon and Scott Smith, provided hours of music for the girls to dance to.

Local businesses and individuals donating to this year's event include: DJ's Merle Norman, *The Observer/Enterprise*, Gideon Sheet Metal, Coke County Hardware, Russell Davis, Debra Brashear, Donna and Riley Waldrop, Ivey Motor Co, Floyd C. Pettitt Insurance, Robert Lee State Bank, and Askins Propane.

Hostesses for this year's events were Tracy Grantham, Erin Oleksiuk, Susan Pentecost, Melissa Matlock, Katie Drennan, Heather Wyatt, Laura Lee, Lori Cerritos, and Amber Pitcock. Plans are already under way for next year's date night!

**Regular Meeting
Commissioners Court
Monday, February 24
9 am
Commissioners Courtroom
Coke County Courthouse**