

THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County



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

Vol. 124, No. 32

Friday, February 24, 2012

RLISD to host meeting on bond election

Robert Lee ISD will host a public meeting on Thursday, February 23, 2012, at 6 pm in the school cafeteria. The purpose of this public meeting is to discuss a May 2012 Bond Election.

Fundraiser Lunch slated for Wendell Lee

A Fundraiser Lunch for Wendell Lee will be held Sunday, February 26, at 12 noon at First Baptist Church in Bronte.

Wendell was injured in an accident Tuesday, February 7, on Main Street in Bronte. Show your love and support to Wendell and Jeanna Lee by attending this fundraiser.

Adonation for the lunch is appreciated.

Bronte Golf Tourney slated

The Bronte Longhorn Golf Club is sponsoring a 2 person 18 hole select shot golf tournament on Saturday, March 3. Tee time is 9 am.

Carts are limited, so sign up early if one is needed. For more information, contact Bronte Longhorn Golf Club at 325-473-2156 or after 4 pm on weekdays, call 432-661-3431.

Mountain Creek Golf Course tournaments slated

The Sunday Skins Golf Tournaments will be held every Sunday from now until March 4, 2012, at Mountain Creek Golf Course.

Lunch will be held at 12 noon and Tee off is 1 pm.

Teams will be drawn based on handicap/known ability. Participants may play with their own groups. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, call the golf course at 453-2317.

Farm Service Agency hours to change

Due to the retirement of longtime employee, Melinda Sasser, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) Office in Robert Lee will no longer have a full time employee in the office effective January 30, 2012. The only day that an employee will be present will be Tuesdays when the CED, Michael Sturm, from Tom Green County will open the office to conduct busi-

ness. Business can also be conducted through the Tom Green County FAS Office at 3514 Devonian in San Angelo.

FSA apologizes for any inconvenience and would encourage producers with questions to contact the Tom Green County Farm Service Agency at 325-653-1246 in San Angelo.

Bronte Longhorn Golf Club calls meeting

The Bronte Longhorn Golf Club will hold a general meeting for member on Monday, March 5, 2012, at the Bronte Community Center beginning at 6 pm.

For more information, call 473-2156.

Filing continues in local government entity elections

Filing will be allowed until Monday, March 5, 2012, in the upcoming local entities elections. The election will be held Saturday, May 12, 2012.

Along with the mayor, there are two two-year city council member terms on the ballot for the City of Bronte. Currently, these offices are held by Gerald Sandusky, mayor, and council members, Jennifer Stango, Paul (Buzz) Gohmann, and Jimmie Guthrie. As of presstime, all incumbents have filed for re-election.

There are two council member terms and the mayoral position on the ballot for the City of Robert Lee. Currently, these council seats are held by Sid Burns and Richard Johnson. The office of mayor is held by John Jacobs. As of presstime, only Mayor Jacobs had filed for re-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 Pat Stephens, Sarah Green, and Farrell Jean Washam. Only Sarah Green has filed at this time.

There are two two-year terms and one unexpired term on the ballot for the East Coke County Hospital District. Currently, these offices are held by Beverly Sims, Nancy Cooper, and Howard Baker. As of presstime, there have been no filings.



Lady Horns Bring Home Area Trophy! *The Bronte Lady Horns won the Area Championship against the Sierra Blanca Greyhounds in Monahans last Friday night. The Lady Horns advanced to the Regional Quarterfinals and played the Roby Lady Lions Tuesday night in Anson. They won 46-35 and will advance to the Regional Tournament held at Abilene Christian University in Abilene on Friday, February 24. Good luck Lady Horns!*

There are three three-year Board of Trustee terms on the ballot for the Bronte Independent School District. Currently, these offices are held by Ericka Knight, Wayne Coalson, and Doug Tounget. Currently, nobody has filed for these seats.

There are three three-year Board of Trustee terms on the ballot for the Robert Lee Independent School District. Currently, these offices are held by Brandi Brosh, Wes Washam, and Tom Sawyer, Jr. The incumbents have all filed for re-election.

Robert Lee Vision with a Purpose

Robert Lee's Vision with a Purpose meets the first Thursday evening of every month at 7 pm. For more information and location, call 325-453-2301.

Tight cattle market could push beef prices higher in 2012

Coke County ranchers have been feeling the pinch in the cattle market.

Although cattle prices are high, rising feed costs and a weak economy are putting them in a bind.

As input costs rise, Texas cattle ranchers are decreasing the size of their herds to remain in business. Cattle numbers in Texas are dropping, which will lead to smaller beef supply in the future.

"It is extremely costly to

maintain a herd of beef cattle," said John Ross Copeland, president of Coke-Sterling County Farm Bureau. "Dry weather has stunted pasture growth and the supplemental feed that is needed for the cows is very expensive."

The U.S. cattle market has been decreasing from 132 million head in 1975 to only 90 million last year. While beef export demand is building, many ranchers are concerned with meeting current challenges.

Texas ranchers are making difficult decisions as to how they will provide enough beef to meet consumer demand. With less meat to offer consumers, retail beef prices likely will increase.

"If we maintain our herds, it costs a lot of money and may not make good business sense. Decreasing our herd numbers will mean less meat will show up on grocery store shelves, and then the rule of supply and demand will take over," John Ross Copeland said.

Republican Primary Ballot Propositions announced

Submitted by David Kitten, Coke County Republican Chair

Coke County residents who vote in the 2012 Republican Party Primary Election, currently scheduled for Tuesday, April 3, will have the oppor-

tunity to vote "yes" or "no" on several non-binding propositions. These propositions will appear only on the Republican primary ballot. They are intended to give State and National officials an indication of the will of the people.

School Choice:

The state should fund education by allowing dollars to follow the child instead of the bureaucracy, through a program which allows parents the freedom to choose their child's school, public or private, while also saving significant taxpayer dollars. Yes or No.

Repealing Obamacare:

Congress should immediately repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (otherwise known as Obamacare) and reject the rationing of healthcare by government or the intrusion by government into the doctor-patient relationship. Yes or No.

Public Prayer:

Government should be prohibited from restricting the content of public prayer. Yes or No.

Balanced Budget/Combining Government growth:

Out of control spending should be stopped at all levels of federal and state government through constitutional amendments limiting any increase in government (Continued on Page 2)