

# THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

*Serving Coke County*



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Friday, March 14, 2014

## Coke County Retired Teachers meeting slated

The Coke County Retired Teachers Association will meet Monday, March 17, 2014. The noon luncheon will be held at the First Baptist Church in Bronte.

## Bronte Golf Tourney slated

The Bronte Longhorn Golf Club is sponsoring a 3 person 27 hole golf tournament on Saturday, April 12. Tee time is 9 am.

When signing up you must let them know if a cart is needed and leave a call back number. For more information, contact Bronte Longhorn Golf Club at 325-473-2156, 325-473-3231 or 325-262-6617. After 5 pm, call 432-661-3431, 325-864-3312 or 325-236-0089.

## Validation tag orders due April 15

It is time once again to order state validation tags for steers, and state fair sheep and goat tags.

If you are planning on showing a steer at the county show or any of the major stock shows in 2015, or if you are planning on showing a sheep or goat at the state fair, you need to contact your AgScience Teacher or the extension office and put in your order.



**Rattlesnake Wrangler!**  
Dennie Ray Braswell of Bronte won 2nd place in the pounds division at last weekend's Sweetwater Rattlesnake Round-Up. He lost by only 2 pounds after two competitors combined their entries.

The deadline for placing your tag order is April 15, 2014.

## Republican County Convention set for March 22

The Biennial County Convention for the Coke County Republican Party will be held on Saturday, March 22, at 10:00 AM in the Commissioners Courtroom at the Coke County Courthouse on Seventh Street in Robert Lee. All concerned members of the Republican Party are invited to attend in order to elect delegates to the State Convention of the Republican Party of Texas. Coke County is entitled to send three delegates and three alternate delegates to the Convention which will be held from June 5 to June 7 at the Fort Worth Convention Center.

Other business at the Coke County Convention will be the adoption of resolutions to be forwarded to the Republican Party of Texas.

## Democratic Party County Convention slated for March 22

In 2014, the Convention process of the Texas Democratic Party begins at the County and Senate District Conventions to be held on Saturday, March 22. The Coke County Democratic Party Convention will be held at the church hall next door to Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church at 601 W. 10th in Robert Lee beginning at 10 am. The convention will be open to any qualified voter who signs an oath of affiliation with the Democratic Party.

If you are interested in participating in the convention, please be sure to bring your voter registration card for identification. Register at this link and learn about the convention process: <http://register.txdemocrats.org>.

## Farm bill passes, spells changes for Coke County farmers

The recently passed farm bill reforms food, agriculture and nutrition policy for the next five years, which will affect farmers and ranchers in Coke County.

"The 2014 Farm Bill supports farm families by providing a safety net for farmers, affordable food for consumers and jobs for Americans," said John Ross Copeland, Coke County Farm Bureau president. "But there are many changes- including livestock assistance, elimination



**Spring Break Volunteers!** Bronte First Baptist Youth spent Spring Break volunteering their time in the Community. One project was painting street signposts for the City of Bronte. Shown above are Hanna McKinney (from left), Katelyn Swecker and Emily Davidson. Below are Ryan Jones (from left), Ryan Matlock of Robert Lee and Ismael Cecilio.

of direct payments and stronger crop insurance - in this long-awaited ag policy."

Formally titled the Agriculture Act of 2014, the bill permanently funds a supplemental agricultural disaster assistance program. Assistance and emergency relief will be provided to ranchers who suffer losses from adverse weather, drought, fire and more, John Ross Copeland said.

Farmers also will have a decision to make regarding crop insurance.

"Probably within the next year, farmers will have to decide on which type of coverage in which to enroll- Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC)," John Ross Copeland said. "Those who choose ARC will receive payments when prices drop below a certain level in the farm bill. The PLC program follows the countercyclical model of fixed, government-set target prices."

Although signed into law by President Barack Obama on



Feb. 7, several farm program provisions may not be available until 2015.

"It will take the U.S. Department of Agriculture at three to six months to write regulations, so some programs won't immediately be available to our farmers and rancher," John Ross Copeland said.

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