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Serving Coke County



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Primary Election results posted

Only two local offices had contested races in the Tuesday, March 4, 2014, Primary Election. Coke County Commissioners in both Precincts 2 and 4 faced challengers. Challenger Paul Williams received 109 votes to unseat current Precinct 2 Commissioner Wendell Lee, who received 62 votes. Joe Sefcik also successfully unseated incumbent Precinct 4 Commissioner Bobby Blaylock, 77-64. Both of these offices were contested in the Republican Primary.

In Coke County, a total of 581 people cast votes in the Republican Primary with 27 casting votes in the Democrat Primary.

Results for other local uncontested races in the Republican Primary are included below, along with the under votes for each candidate. The total of under votes in each race is determined by the number of voters who could have cast a vote in that race, but chose not to.

Coke County Judge Roy Blair received 407 votes with 124 under votes.

Coke County/District Clerk Mary Grim received 427 votes

with 108 under votes.

Coke County Treasurer Hal Spain received 430 votes with 107 under votes.

Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 Jackie Walker received 189 votes with 33 under votes.

The only local candidate on the Democratic Primary ballot was Justice of the Peace Precinct 2 Grady Coulter. In this unopposed race, Judge Coulter received 7 votes and no under votes.

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Coke County Appraisal District receives perfect score

The Coke County Appraisal District and Chief Appraiser Gayle Sisemore received word this week from Susan Combs, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, that their office had received a perfect score following their mandated two year review.

In 2009, the Texas Legislature enacted a law amending Tax Code Section 5.102. This law requires the Comptroller of Public Accounts to review appraisal districts every two years. Called the Methods and Assistance Program (MAP), the review studies the governance, taxpayer assistance, operating procedures and the appraisal



Special Olympics! Special Olympics was held at Bronte ISD Saturday, March 1, 2014. Becky Puentez holds Morgan Holland as they and Coke County Sheriff's Deputy Trey Davis bring the torch run to its conclusion.

standards, procedures and methodology of the appraisal district. The Property Tax Assistance Division (PTAD)

performed the review for Coke County Appraisal District, one of 125 districts reviewed in 2013.

responsible for paging out county EMS and fire departments. Would Runnels County page these organizations out directly or would they receive the call and then call the Coke County Sheriff's Office dispatch who would then page out the organizations required.

For many years, the 911 system has been located at Robert Lee Care Center. However, due to a law which went into effect January 1, 2014, all 911 operators must be trained and certified. Currently, Coke County is in non-compliance with this mandate and the court is researching a cost effective solution to bring the county into compliance.

A motion was made and seconded to vote on the contract with Runnels County. At the request of Judge Blair, the measure was unanimously defeated in order that further information can be obtained.

News from Special Meeting

A Special Meeting of the Coke County Commissioners Court was held at 9 am Monday, March 3, 2014. The main items on the agenda revolved around the lease agreement on the prison facility at Bronte and the changes mandated for Coke County's 911 system.

On the first item, the attorney had still not gotten contracts to Judge Blair for approval. This matter was postponed.

Regarding the second item, several members of the county's EMS organizations were in attendance to question the details surrounding Runnels County being contracted to handle Coke County's 911 calls.

One of the main questions concerned who would be



New Deputies! Coke County Sheriff's Office wants to welcome the two newest members of their department. Russell Johnson (left) and Terry Crenshaw have joined the Coke County Sheriff's Office. Russell is stationed in Bronte and Terry is stationed in Robert Lee.

Spring Forward



Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.