

October 8, 2014

FROM THE OFFICE OF
ROSA LAVENDER
KERR COUNTY VICTIM'S
RIGHTS COORDINATOR
700 MAIN ST.
KERRVILLE, TX 78028

*The Kerr County
courthouse, West Kerr
County annex in Ingram
and associated county
offices will be closed on
Monday, Oct. 13 for
Columbus Day!*

County Eye Newsletter



Retiring Pct. 2 Constable Joel Ayala, center, was honored with a resolution commending him for his 14 years of service to Kerr County by, left, to right, County Judge Tom Pollard, Pct. 1 Constable John Lavender, Pct. 2 Justice of the Peace J.R. Hoyne, Pct. 2 Commissioner Tom Moser, Pct. 2 Court Coordinator Missy Cass, and Pct. 1 Justice of the Peace Mitzi French.

Residents of Precinct 2 will likely learn next week who will be appointed to fill out the unexpired term of retiring Constable Joel Ayala. Ayala announced his retirement because of health issues in late August after 14 years of serving Kerr County. Ayala was appointed Pct. 2 Constable in April 2000 and was elected in the general election in 2000. He then successfully ran in 2004, 2008, and 2012. The current term was scheduled to end at the end of 2016. Whoever is appointed to complete this term will stand for election in the March 2016 primary and Nov. 2016 general election. A 1974 graduate of Tivy High School, Ayala went on to graduate from Texas Tech University. He briefly worked in the oil industry before returning to Kerr County. He attained a real estate license and later his broker's license and worked in the local real estate business for many years. Ayala was recognized for his dedication and service with a resolution passed by commissioners. The resolution was presented by several county officials to Ayala in mid-September.

Constables serve as the law enforcement officers for the justice of the peace courts and serve both civil and criminal papers generated by that court. A constable must be a certified peace officer and meet the same requirements and training standards of all other peace officers in the state of Texas. Constables have the same authority to enforce the laws of Texas as all other law enforcement officers and are commissioned by the governor and elected by the qualified voters

in the precinct they serve. Their jurisdiction also includes counties contiguous to the county in which they serve. There are four constables in Kerr County plus three deputies whose commissions are carried by the Pct. 1 constable's office. Those deputies enforce the county's environmental and animal control regulations and back up the other constables or other law enforcement agencies, if needed.

Kerr County commissioners appointed a committee last month led by Pct. 2 Commissioner Tom Moser to review resumes submitted by several candidates who are requesting to be appointed to fill the Pct. 2 constable position. The committee is expected to make their recommendation to the full court at their next regular meeting on Oct. 14.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

The second Hill Country Swap Meet for the fall will be Saturday, Oct. 11 beginning at 8 a.m. at the Hill Country Youth Event Center.

Another upcoming event will be the Dinner on the Grounds of the Kerr County Courthouse on Tuesday, Oct. 21 beginning at 11:30 a.m. Bring your lunch and share the fun with county officials and employees

With the statewide general election less than a month away on Tuesday Nov. 4, take time to study the candidates for the statewide races, especially the governor and lieutenant governor races, and the proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution. The only contested local races involve a write-in candidate challenging the Republican Party selection for Pct. 4 Commissioner, Bob Reeves, and a third party challenger to District 53 State Representative candidate Andrew Murr. Traditionally write-in and third party challenges do not significantly impact the outcome of a general election. Early voting will begin on Oct. 20 at the Kathleen Cailloux Center for the Performing Arts and at the West Kerr County Annex in Ingram.

As we most recently learned in the Ingram mayor's race, just a few votes can make a difference in the outcome of an election...congratulations to James Salter on his re-election as mayor. Another Tivy graduate does well in providing service to his community!