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Dedicated to Weleetka
and Okfuskee County

WELEETKAN

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1 SECTION 8 PAGES

Primary election filing period opens June 2 4 county offices to be on ballot

Next Monday, June 2, the statewide filing period for county through state and federal offices opens in Oklahoma, Jo Mahaffey, Okfuskee county election board secretary, said this week.

The filing period ends June 4. Candidates may file from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. She said the primary election will be July 29 with a runoff primary on Aug. 26 and a general election will be Nov. 4.

County offices to filled in the 2008 elections are court clerk, county clerk, county sheriff and district two county commissioner. The term of office is four years. All county incumbents are expected to run for re-elections.

Voters will elect a president and vice president as well as a U. S. Senator and state representatives. Representatives run for office every two years. U. S. senators are elected for six years. Jim Inhofe, one of Oklahoma's two U. S. Senators, is subject to re-election this year.

Oklahoma has three corporation commissioners, all serve six year terms. One of the offices is held by Jeff Cloud and that office will be filled this year. Also, the commissioner's office held by Jim Roth who was appointed will be elected to fill the rest of the term.

Justices of the Oklahoma Supreme Court, Judges of the Court Of Criminal Appeals and Judges of Civil Appeals who are eligible will appear on a statewide retention ballot.

There are nine Justices of the Oklahoma Supreme Court, five judges of the Court of Criminal Appeals and 12 judges of the Court of Criminal Appeals.

Candidates for county offices file at the Okfuskee county election board. Other candidates file at the state election board office in Oklahoma City.

By Huck Grissom
of The WELEETKAN staff

Quantum Industrial property is leased

More FEMA funds received
by county commissioners

Following approval of a Quantum industrial property lease by the City of Okemah, Okfuskee county commissioners also okayed the lease at their May 27 meeting.

And an additional \$50,987.12 was received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to pay for road and bridge storm damages earlier this year, commissioners learned.

Three juvenile detention center contracts were approved with the following fees: Pottawatomie County Juvenile Detention - \$20.39 a day, Canadian County Juvenile Detention - \$19.31 a day, Sequoyah Juvenile Detention-\$23.26 a day.

Commissioners discussed the courthouse heating, ventilation and air conditioning system with a MPW Engineering, LLC representative but took no action.

Also, they cancelled the Central Oklahoma Economic Development District (COEDD) administrative contract for the free fair building. A contract is not necessary as the Blackledge and Associates firm are providing the same service, both the commissioners and COEDD officials agreed.

Workers Compensation insurance rebates were accepted from the Association Of County Commissioners (ACCO) for \$3,874 and Compsource for \$6,975. The performance rebates and refunds are based on the experience rate for the past year.

The FEMA disaster payments by districts was accepted as follows: district one-\$16,727, district two-\$16,403 and district three-\$17,856.96.

Commissioners approved a road crossing permit for Metro Energy Group, located one mile north and two miles east of the Graham Schools in southeastern Okfuskee county.

Also Bill Elliott was appointed Okfuskee County Emergency Management director. He will be paid \$1,500 a month, beginning June 1. A emergency management performance grant of \$10,000 was accepted for 2008.

And a contract was approved with Vista Construction Company for the fair grounds project. The contract was approved for \$1,345,000.

John Hays representing the Okemah city council told the commissioners that the city had signed a lease with MSE, Inc., for the Quantum industrial property. Hays outlined the lease proposal, noting the lease must be approved by Okfuskee county, also.

The lessee is based in Chino Valley, Calif. The lease provides a first month rent of \$10,000 with additional monthly payments of \$13,000. Hays said the city agreed to provide free water, sewer, trash and lawn service for a year. Also, the lease with MSE, Inc., includes six adjoining lots if the lessee needs the additional space.

The Quantum industrial property was originally built to provide facilities for a modular home factory that eventually took bankruptcy. Funds for the project included a multi-million city revenue bond issue.

Commissioners opened bids on bids of two bins of scrap metal but tabled any action. Bates Metal provided the only bids on both lots of scrap metal.

Golf tourney tees off May 31

Remember the May 31 Weleetka Open Golf Tournament at Arrowhead Golf Course. Chris the tournament is staged annually to mark the end of the current school year.

Play will begin at 10 a. m. There is a \$10 entry fee and trophies will be awarded for the top competitors. A green fee will be charged by the golf course. For more information, contact Carter at the Weleetka schools, 405-786-2203. He is the assistant high school principal.

Early fund raising...

FOR THE Oklahoma State Representative seat 24 office is approaching \$50,000. Two Democrats have indicated they will seek the district 24 seat held by Dale Turner, Holdenville, who is serving his final term as mandated by state election laws.

See the initial financial report of both candidates, Hughes County Assessor Kathi Mask and Steve Kouplun, Beggs, inside your WELEETKAN with the names of all donors and their addresses.

ODOT seeking projects' bids in our county

Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) is seeking bids for two Okfuskee county projects.

The projects include pavement patching 4.6 miles west of the I-40 and U.S. hwy 75 junction and extend east.

Also, ODOT announced taking bids for a bridge rehabilitation on I-40 under the Clearview Road, approximately 2-7 miles north of Clearview.

TO OUR WELEETKAN READERS

At this time, if you are unable to reach someone on the WELEETKAN staff member, please call 405-452-3294 with your news or advertising.

Calvin tops \$13,810 for record collections? May sales tax reported

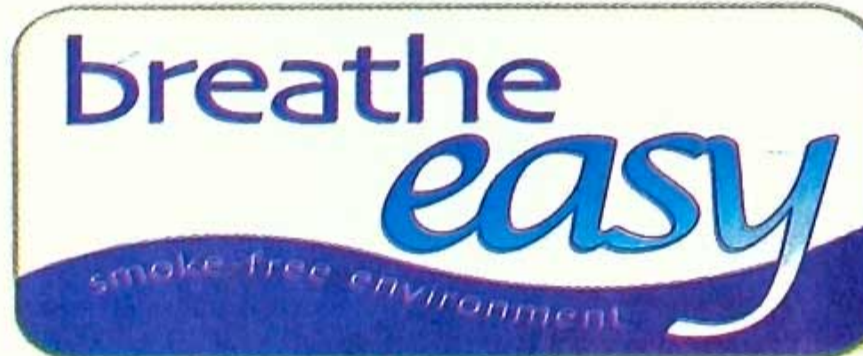
May distribution of sales tax collections by the Oklahoma Tax Commission primarily represents tax receipts from March business.

Companies that remit more than \$2,500 monthly in sales tax receipts are required to file and pay electronically. Monies they reported this period represent sales from March 16 to April 15.

In Hughes County, Wetumka had \$23,322.23 in May 2008, down from \$25,080.50 in May 2007. Holdenville had \$228,650.20 in May 2008, up from \$214,275.44 in May 2007.

In Okfuskee County, Okemah had \$83,265.78 in May 2008, down from \$84,238.71 in May 2007. Weleetka had \$11,546.92 in May 2008, up from \$9,049.26 in May 2007.

A sales tax collection disbursement of \$110,022,920 was returned to 504 cities and towns reflecting an increase of \$2,301,534 from the \$107,721,386 distributed to 500 cities and towns in May last year.



City and County Sales Tax

City	Tax Rate	May 2008	Tax Rate	May 2007
Allen	3%	7,424.29	3%	12,681.29
Calvin	4%	13,810.16	4%	12,976.31
Clearview	4%	145.41	4%	149.43
Cromwell	3%	2,720.67	3%	1,386.28
Dustin	4%	4,758.33	4%	3,924.28
Hanna	4%	9,330.01	3%	14,793.58
Henryetta	4%	211,038.93	4%	205,963.64
Holdenville	5%	228,650.20	5%	214,275.44
Lamar	3%	807.12	3%	452.35
McAlester	3.75%	1,268,332.86	3.75%	1,262,773.97
Okemah	3.5%	83,265.78	3.5%	84,238.71
Sasakwa	4%	2,089.60	4%	2,221.93
Seminole	4%	396,929.25	4%	363,589.56
Stuart	2%	4,517.91	2%	4,146.38
Weleetka	3%	11,546.92	3%	9,049.26
Wetumka	3%	23,322.23	4%	25,080.50
Wewoka	4%	60,037.61	4%	64,487.87
Yeager	3%	146.48	3%	208.84
County	Tax Rate	May 2008	Tax Rate	May 2007
McIntosh	1.5%	154,522.61	1%	224,489.94
Okfuskee	1.25%	81,467.69	1.25%	62,929.38
Pittsburg	.75%	504,677.60	.75%	453,507.24
Seminole	1.25%	233,053.61	1.25%	102,175.61

A use tax disbursement of \$8,167,918 was distributed between 334 cities and towns.

In county returns, 73 counties shared in a \$22,686,743 sales tax disbursement. A use tax disbursement of \$1,718,157 was distributed between 59 counties.

For more information visit: www.tax.ok.gov

The WELEETKAN Pet of the Week

No. 3 of a Series...

OPIE, pictured as a kitten, is now owners Dowlene and Richard Abrams 7-year-old best buddy. Opie and his sister, Charcoal, keep the Abrams company. You can occasionally find all four of them, with the two cats in their strollers, walking around their part of the neighborhood on weekends. Both felines have been registered with the Town of Weleetka, even though they never leave the house unattended, said the Abrams.

Send us your favorite pet's picture to be featured in The WELEETKAN'S weekly series. There is no charge and a Pet of the Year may be selected with appropriate gifts. You can send via regular mail, e-mail or bring a photo by our office.



DEAR FATHER, thank You for making us new through Your Son, Jesus. Keep us humble and honest. Amen

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