



Poppy Fest 2015

Rattan Fest 2015



more than \$125,000 as he considers running for a higher office.

From Precinct 1 position, Chody considers higher office

By JOYCE MAY

Precinct 1 Constable Robert Chody is considering running for a higher office in 2016 and has the financial wherewithal to fund such a bid.

Mr. Chody said Friday he is not ready to announce which position he might seek.

He has a stockpile of cash ready, having loaned his campaign \$125,000 over the past six months — \$25,000 December 30 and \$100,000 June 10, campaign finance reports show.

"I am highly exploring some other areas of interest, though I am not a candidate for any other office at this time," said Mr. Chody who was first elected in 2008 as constable of Precinct 1.

Mr. Chody began his law enforcement career with the Austin Police Department in 1996 and also has four years of Army experience.

He served as a deputy constable in Precinct 2 before taking office in 2008.

Constables are licensed

peace officers charged with executing court orders such as criminal arrest warrants, protective orders and evictions for county and state courts.

In addition to fulfilling those obligations, Mr. Chody said his office has taken extra measures to reach out to the community such as partnering with other law enforcement agencies to better serve victims of domestic abuse and to address drunk driving.

Mr. Chody and his wife Beverly won the lottery in March 2001 and received a \$51 million payment.

Precinct 1 covers portions of Round Rock and northwest Austin as well as a snippet within the city limits of Cedar Park that includes the Brushy Creek Regional Trail and Champion Park but no homes.

The Precinct 1 commissioner's seat will be up for grabs in 2016 because officeholder Lisa Birkman is not seeking a fourth term in office. She announced the decision to Republican leaders

in April.

Round Rock banker and businessman Landy Warren, a Republican, announced in mid-June he will seek the position.

Mr. Warren indicated May 28 he will serve as his own campaign treasurer. By June 30, he had brought in \$37,850 in political contributions.

Among his supporters are a number of influential Williamson County business people including philanthropist and real estate developer Jack Garey of Georgetown, land developer John Avery, Jr., Dr. Nelson Avery and Round Rock City Councilman Will Peckham.

Mr. Warren represents WillCo on the Lone Star Regional Water Authority, currently serving as board president.

Sheriff James Wilson is also up for re-election in 2016 and has already drawn one opponent for the March 1 Republican primary: Bill Kelberlau, a Vietnam veteran with both military and civilian management experience.

Deputy constables pool money to spend on 2016 elections

By JOYCE MAY

A non-partisan political action committee formed last week aims to give peace officers more say in 2016 elections.

T.W. Evans of Liberty Hill, a deputy constable in Precinct 4, filed paperwork July 15 to form the Peace Officers of Williamson County PAC.

"It is a way for peace officers that are not members of police organizations to have a voice in community politics," Mr. Evans said Thursday.

"It is a way to show unity."

Mr. Evans serves as campaign treasurer for the fledgling committee, which is recruiting members who are

current or retired peace officers living within the county.

"As long as they are a Texas peace officer they are welcome to come on in," said Mr. Evans, who served as a peace officer in Travis County for several years before being hired by Williamson County.

The group plans to endorse candidates in the 2016 races for sheriff and precinct constables. All four WlCo constable positions are up for election.

Questionnaires will be sent to each candidate and then the PAC membership will decide by a two-thirds vote which candidates to endorse and support financially, Mr. Evans said.

"Deputy constables generally do not have associations that we can belong to. This is another reason we are starting this up, so the deputy constables can have a voice as well," Mr. Evans said.

Each precinct's constable can appoint a staff of roughly eight to 10 deputies who must go through a hiring process similar to what police departments use to hire officers.

Mr. Evans and a fellow peace officer, whom he declined to identify, came up with the idea of forming the PAC just a couple of weeks ago.

They plan to soon launch a Facebook page and social media accounts.



Williamson County Precinct 1 Constable Robert Chody presents a \$10,502 check to the 100 Club of Central Texas on Oct. 6, 2015.

(Photo: 100 Club of Central Texas Facebook page)



GEORGETOWN, Texas – The Police Lives Matter group donated more than \$10,000 to the 100 Club of Central Texas on Tuesday.

The 100 Club posted a photo of the \$10,502 donation on its Facebook page Tuesday afternoon. Williamson County Precinct 1 Constable Robert Chody presented the check to representatives of the group.

Chody organized the Sept. 19 Police Lives Matter rally after the killing of Harris County Sheriff's Deputy Darren Goforth.

Chody raised money for the 100 Club before the event by selling T-shirts. The 100 Club, which provides assistance the families of first responders who are injured or killed in the line of duty.



WILLIAMSON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

Next meeting of the WCRP Executive Committee will be **October 27, 2015**, beginning at **7:30 p.m.** in the **Pct. 1** Blvd, Round Rock, TX 78664), in Round Rock. The meeting will begin at 6:30pm hosted by Constable Robert Chody. Candidates are invited to meet candidates, elected officials, and party members before the business meeting of the Williamson County Republican Party.

PRELIMINARY

Invocation ✓

Pledge of Allegiance ✓

September Meeting ✓

Chair's Report ✓

Continued from 1A to running in 2018.

The filing period ends December 14.

District attorney



Jana Duty

In what has the potential to be the hottest race of the primary season, District Attorney Jana Duty faces Georgetown criminal defense attorney Shawn Dick.



Shawn Dick

County court-at-law 2

The resignation of Judge Tim Wright earlier this year leaves the county court-at-law 2 bench wide open. Four candidates have come forth thus far:

- Laura Barker;
- Lesli R. Fitzpatrick;
- Brandy Hallford;
- Warren Wajerman.

Sheriff



Mike Cowie

Sheriff James Wilson announced in September that he will not seek a fourth term. He has endorsed Mike Cowie, a lieutenant in the sheriff's office criminal investigations division.

Bill Ketherlam, a Navy veteran, hit the campaign trail in the spring.

Precinct 1 Constable Robert Chody, who is up for reelection, said this summer that he

is considering running for a higher office, and it is widely believed that he will make a bid for sheriff.

He is hosting a Brown Santa benefit December 2 at El Monuments in Georgetown where he said he will make a "special announcement."

A fourth person is also considering a bid for sheriff but has not filed any campaign documents, Mr. Fairbrother said.

Precinct 1 Commissioner

Lisa Birkman announced earlier this year that she will not seek another term as Precinct 1 commissioner representing Round Rock.

Three Republicans have signed up seeking the position:

- Landy Warren;
- Donna Parker;
- Paul Matthews.

Terry Cook, events chairwoman for the Williamson County Democratic Party, filed a campaign treasurer form November 4 indicating she plans to run for Precinct 1 Commissioner.

She is the first county Democrat to wade into the campaign.

Precinct 3 Commissioner

Valerie Covey has announced her intention to seek her third full term. She has not drawn a challenger.

Constables

All four constable positions are up for re-election next year. Vincent Cherrone is a Round Rock police officer exploring a bid for Precinct 1 constable if Mr. Chody decides not to run again.

Leo Enriquez, a Precinct 2 deputy constable who lives in



Robert Chody

Precinct 1, is also considering a bid for office if Mr. Chody does not run for constable.

Precinct 3 Constable Kevin Stoffe and Precinct 4 Constable Marty Hubble are both seeking reelection. Neither has attracted an opponent.

Precinct 2 Constable Rick Coffman has drawn challenger Mike Pendley.

Tax assessor-collector

Longtime tax assessor-collector Deborah Hunt will not seek another term. She has endorsed her chief deputy, Larry Gaddes, who has worked under her for more than five years.



Larry Gaddes

District court benches

Judge Betsy Lambeth, who made history in 2012 when she was elected as Williamson County's first female district judge, will seek a second term on the 25th District Court bench.

Judge Donna King, who was appointed to the 26th District Court bench last November, is also seeking reelection.

Judge Michael Jergins announced July 7 that he plans to retire later this year from the 395th District Court bench.

Several have applied with Governor Greg Abbott's office seeking the post but Terrence Davis is the only person to launch a primary campaign.



Betsy Lambeth



Donna King

County Attorney

Dee Hobbs is seeking reelection. No challenger has announced.

Texas House

District 20 State Representative Marsha Farney of Georgetown announced in August she will seek another term. No one has announced plans to challenge her.

State Board of Education

Tom Maynard of Florence is seeking reelection to the District 10 seat on the State Board of Education.

Congress

Bob Cornelius of Cedar Park, CEO of marketing firm 90 Degrees Agency, is challenging six-term Congressman John Carter in the Republican primary for District 31.

Third Court of Appeals

Cindy Bourland of Round Rock is seeking election to the Third Court of Appeals after being appointed to place 2 bench in January.

Melissa Goodwin of Austin is seeking reelection to place 4 on the court.

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Clarification

A page one story in the November 4 issue misrepresented the types of cancer services available from Scott & White in Round Rock.

While radiation therapy is not offered in Round Rock, Scott & White provides chemotherapy and other cancer treatments.

We apologize for the error.

WilCo Sun 11 Nov 2015

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