

RANSOM CANYON CITY NEWS

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April City Council

- \$6,000 for electric lines at Water Tower
- Library stays put for now, needs new porch
- Aging Sewer Lines
- 911 Calls Keep Police busy
- Warm days, cool nights, Snakes are moving
- Budget Bytes
- Bond Election Presentation from Roosevelt ISD
- Roosevelt Water Funding will come from other sources.

ATMOS AND HOME SAFETY

Atmos Energy wants everyone to know, and to perhaps expect, that their gas meter is serviced routinely. This is called a Periodic Meter change.

Meter change-outs are a normal part of doing business. When this happens, the service technician for Ransom Canyon is given a list of meters, and he changes these meters out as he has time and opportunity.

If your meter needs to be changed, the service tech will knock on the door and ask your permission to do the work, or make an appointment to come back another time.

If you have a question about the service technician's identity, Atmos Energy Field Operations Manager, Mr. Junior Rodriguez has given us a cell phone number to call to verify the change order and the technician who is doing the work.

The tech may ask if you need help turning off the gas appli-

ances while the work is being done, and if you do, they may need to come into the house.

If you are alone, you might feel safer asking them to reschedule.

Atmos says they want to be sensitive to concerns about safety and natural concerns about strangers in your home.

If the Atmos representative calls on you, it will be during office hours, and you can call city hall to

verify that the rep is who he says he is.

On the other hand, be prepared to close the door on anyone that you don't know. This is basic safety.

Peddlers who go door to door must have a permit. This is quickly and easily checked out.

Close the door on strangers



and call the police.

Atmos tells us that they have about twenty meters that need to be changed out at this time, so be prepared for a knock on your door from a person driving an Atmos truck and wearing an Atmos uniform. Call if you have any doubts.

MAY 13 ELECTION DAY LOOMS LARGE

Early voting starts Monday May 1. Last day to vote early is Tuesday May 9. Early voting will be at the Uniteds (except Market Street,) Albertson's, and at Roosevelt ISD.

Election Day Voting will not be at the firehouse.

Voting will be at the Roosevelt Club House.

For the Roosevelt ISD voters, one ballot will contain both school and city ballots.

Election helpers will be everywhere, so don't let the new voting machines keep you

from voting. Take a helper if you wish.

Results will be known after 7:00 p.m. Saturday night, and will be published in the AJ.



Watch for new "T" intersection Traffic Stop Signs and Crosswalks where Parklane meets Lee Kitchens Drive.

LAW ENFORCEMENT FOCUS

Ransom Canyon is the 855th largest city in the State of Texas. 911 response time is 5 minutes.

Ransom Canyon is larger than Ralls, Lakeridge, O'Donnell or Sudan.



Ransom Canyon Demographics are changing to Young Professional Families.

We have over a thousand residents. 250 of these are under the age of 18. 500 of these are parents of these children.

The demographics of the Town have shifted from "retired" to "young professional," and these young professionals are buying exclusive properties. All of these things change the way the police department approaches policing in the Town. Traffic is getting heavy, but traffic laws are not necessarily broken. The street lanes are narrow, and children play in yards

and in the street because there are no sidewalks. There is really only one Park and it is located at the far north east side of Town. Parents are challenged when it comes to finding safe playground exercise for their children.

The police guard these children as if they were their own. There are limits of course.

The police also guard their parents, and intervene often in divorce and custody battles.

They have frequent EMS calls for the seniors.

Traffic is a very small part of the police job here, now.

EXPENSIVE CHANGES IN ELECTION LAW

Ransom Canyon publishes legal ads in the Slatonite.

It usually costs less, and it is always good business to spend city dollars locally.

The legal ad for the city election has always used about five inches of legal publication ad space, at a cost under \$50.

This year the ad took over four full legal columns.

There were three ballot initiatives. DRE compliance had to be declared. The election contract with Lubbock had to be declared.

All of the county-wide election voting locations had to be listed. All of the 19 entities that are participating in the

county-wide election had to be listed.

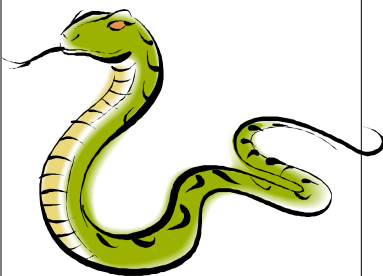
Then everything had to be printed in Spanish as well as English.

Just another unfunded mandate from our legislators in Austin.

POO STORIES

The Dog Poop patrol reports several violations.

Overheard from a local yard on East Lake Shore Drive, "Please don't walk on me, I just want to be left a lawn."



Rattlesnakes are moving. They have been seen sunning on the roadway, and traveling in the morning grasses. Watch out especially for pets!

POLICE BLOTTER? NOT HERE

Police don't talk about their jobs much, because their jobs involve private lives. Even in Ransom Canyon, families have problems sometimes. As a result, the police here stay busy, not with traffic calls, but with family crisis calls.

The officers do not hesitate to call in child or adult protective services...however.. Children get into trouble.

Sometimes here they get to be escorted home to their parents, rather than to jail. Senior citizens here sometimes suffer dementia and get into scrapes, but our police understand that spouses are trying their best to keep their loved ones at home.

Our police handle domestic trouble all the time, and they routinely respond to disputes over child custody.

One night the police broke up a fight between husband and wife, (drugs were involved.) The wife had tied her husband to a tree with the garden hose and was beating him with a broomstick. Many years ago a gentleman would regularly get soused and would "call on" the local widows. The police quietly escorted him home.

Police discretion, citizen privacy, priceless.

SUMMER WATER RESTRICTIONS

Summer water restrictions are back for Ransom Canyon, banning residents from running sprinklers during the time of day least likely to let the water trickle into lawns.

From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., when breezes are strongest and the West Texas sun tends to evaporate the water anyway, Ransom Canyon residents are prohibited by city ordinance from watering their lawns.

Daylight-savings time changes usually trigger the ordinance, but the rules will apply from **April 1 to October 1** from now on, per the Lubbock city landscape and irrigation inspection department.

Ransom Canyon purchases all water from Lubbock. The Drought Contingency Ordinance states that Ransom Canyon will follow suit whenever Lubbock imposes restrictions.

Lawns that are just getting established, such as newly sodded or seeded yards, can be watered without regard to the restrictions for up to three weeks.

Residents violating the ordinance can be fined up to \$500.

The Drought Contingency Plan also states that water cannot be allowed to run into the street.

City Water crews will turn water off if it appears that a leak is allowing water to run unabated from a home, especially in the event of a broken sprinkler head.

Expensive Leaks

Ransom Canyon now has a tiered, inverted billing rate system, so all water over 15,000 gallons per month is billed at a rate of \$3.29 per thousand gallons. A nasty leak can be a real shock. Make sure that sprinkler systems are in good repair.

Early voting begins May 1!

Locations short list::

Any United except Market Street. Albertson's on 50th Street. Roosevelt ISD Admin office. Lubbock County Elections office, Texas Tech Recreation Center. Slaton ISD Admin.

ELECTION DAY

Voting will be ONLY at the Roosevelt Club House on Election Day.

(Voting will not be at the Fire Station, as it has always been before.)

SALES TAX ELECTION BALLOT INITIATIVE

Not many questions have come to City Hall about the Sales Tax adoption, which will be on the Ransom Canyon ballot.

This one-half cent sales tax to reduce property tax is expected to raise enough money to offset the property tax by as much as 1 cent.

This will mean an annual

\$151 in property tax savings for the average homeowner in Ransom Canyon.

There are businesses in Ransom Canyon.

These businesses are cottage industries that are operated out of homes.

Ransom Canyon is Deed Restricted to single family

homes. This Deed Restriction is enforced not by the city, but by individual Property Owners and/or the Property Owner Association.

Sales Taxes are collected by the State Comptroller, and will be automatically sent to the city.

Questions? Call a City Councilman or city hall.

Ransom Canyon voters will have three election ballot initiatives.

CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Six Gentlemen are running for election.

If total campaign costs are less than \$500, only one annual disclosure is required. No candidate has declared a Campaign Treasurer.

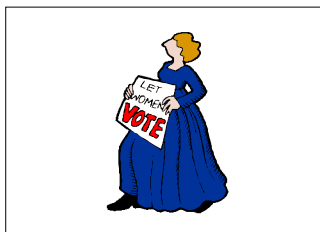
Kevin Carlson and James Durham are running for the one-year vacancy.

Four men are running for the two year term. These are: incumbent Ron Cox, incum-

bent Dick Hulslander,

newcomer Jack Randorff and newcomer James Overby III.

Ransom Canyon is still small enough that city council members do not have to file personal financial disclosures,



Six men are running for election.

nor do they have to disclose business ventures that might pose conflicts of interest.

All Candidates take a pre-election oath to support and Defend the Constitution.

The Ransom Canyon City News is published as a service for the friends and customers of the City of Ransom Canyon.

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RANSOM CANYON
CITY COUNCIL.

Mayor
Robert Englund

Mayor Pro-Tem
VACANCY

Aldermen:
Richard Hulslander
Ron Cox
Earl Starks
Donna Clarke

The Roosevelt ISD will hold a public hearing on the May 13, 2006 Bond Election.

Hearing to be held at:

Roosevelt High School
Mini-theater
Tuesday, April 25, 2006
6:30 p.m.

This hearing will be informational in nature and answer questions from the public.

Everyone is invited to attend.

ROOSEVELT ISD BOND

Roosevelt ISD will have a bond election on May 13, 2006. These bonds can only be used for such things as school construction and renovation, acquisition of land, equipment purchase, busses, and utilities for the school.

Bond money cannot be used for general maintenance and operations of a school, such as teacher salaries (hopefully the legislature will help us in this area).

ELEMENTARY RENOVATION

The number one priority for Roosevelt's bond issue is for the renovation of the elementary school, including **restrooms**, library, gym, auditorium, flooring, **heating and air conditioning** and water fountains. District wide renovations include a **fire suppressant system** for the basements, **fire alarm** throughout the district, bus maintenance facility, paving roadways and parking lots, **new ag farm** on land purchased east of the school, as well as other neces-

sary health and safety needs throughout the district.

18.5 CENT INCREASE

This will be paid for with locally generated bond revenue of approximately \$3,900,000 for approximately \$0.185 tax rate.

\$5.8 MILLION FROM STATE

With this same tax rate, the state facilities program will contribute approximately \$5,850,000 for the second priority of the bond issue. These priorities include replacing old and somewhat dangerous lighting at all athletic fields, new public restrooms and concession stand at the football field, renovating the track, additions to field house, and upgrading the west side bleachers to be the home side. Additionally, priority number two will include relocating the softball field, upgrading the baseball field, adding a parking lot, and construction of a new gymnasium.

\$9.7 MILLION PACKAGE

With the locally generated bond revenue of \$3,900,000 and with

state facilities assistance of \$5,850,000, the bond package equals \$9,750,000 with a bond tax rate of approximately \$0.185 per \$100 valuation.

Note: #1 State facilities revenue cannot be accessed without a bond issue

Note: #2 65 and older homestead exemptions that are frozen will remain frozen

Questions can be directed to: Berhl Robertson, Jr., Superintendent

Roosevelt ISD

1406 CR 3300

(806) 842-3282