

# RANSOM CANYON CITY NEWS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Stop Sign Amnesty</i>	2
<i>Letter from Lubbock's Mayor</i>	2
<i>Water Tower Progress</i>	2
<i>Water Conservation Tips</i>	3
<i>Front Road Accidents</i>	3
<i>Tax Deadline</i>	3
<i>Sewer Plant \$\$\$</i>	4

January City Council Meeting

- Sewer Plant change-order expenses detailed
- Dallas Engineers weigh in on water tower project
- Amended Budget likely this year
- Water conservation measures discussed
- Traffic signs stolen
- Accidents on Front Road
- Fire Department waiting for fire fighter suits

## NEW POLLING LOCATION FOR MARCH 2 PRIMARY

Ransom Canyon is getting a chance to show the county that a polling place in Ransom Canyon is justified.

There will be a special polling location for the March 2 National Primary election.

This is the national primary election to choose the party candidates for President of the United States, and Ransom Canyon residents can now vote at Ransom Canyon City Hall.

Ransom Canyon is divided into two voting precincts, precinct 35 which includes South Lake Shore Drive, and precinct 39, which is everything else.

On national election day, precinct 39 votes at the Roosevelt club house, and precinct 35 must find the community center at the Posey Community, which is South of the Slaton Highway.

Citizens have long requested a single location for the citizens of Ransom Canyon.

The County will have voter deputies at City Hall on



**March 2, from 9-1:00** to help voters vote in the primary election.

9-1 is not the most convenient time for residents who work, but perhaps everyone could make exception to their patterns that day, and be sure to vote in the primary at City Hall. It would be nice to see a

large turnout.

Perhaps this is a trial run to see if Ransom Canyon really can justify a separate polling location. Democrat, Republican, or Independent party primaries will all be on the ballot.

Put on your calendar to vote that day at City Hall!

## BUFFALO LAKE BOARD ELECTION

Ransom Canyon residents live in Lubbock County precinct 2, and Buffalo Lake Water District Board Director for Precinct 2 is up for election this year. The election is Saturday, February 7, at the Buffalo Lake office. Long-time board member Tommy Fisher, owner

of Fisher Trim Auto and also of the Acuff Steakhouse, is running for re-election.

Also on the ballot is Richard Lujan, owner of Lake Side Auto. Third on the ballot is Mr. Richard Murphy.

Early voting starts January 21,

at 1308 Ave G in Lubbock.

All Ransom Canyon registered voters can vote in this election. The board directorship for Buffalo Lake is very important to Ransom Canyon, as they are a valued neighbor and customer.

## AMNESTY DECLARED

### Chief Wayne Rawls

Recently, traffic control signs have been stolen. The most popular signs are "Falling Rock," "Slippery when Wet," "Children Playing," and STOP signs. Over the Christmas holidays, a "Deaf Child Playing" sign was stolen from Foothill Drive.

These signs were purchased by the city with tax dollars. It costs money to replace the signs. The signs are designed to warn vehicles and pedestrians of danger.

I would hate to have to notify a parent of a small child with a hearing impairment that a

car hit their child because someone stole the warning sign.

The Police department is offering an amnesty program during the month of February.



If you or your family has a traffic control sign in your possession, please return the sign to City Hall at 24 Lee Kitchens.

**No questions will be asked.**  
You may leave the signs after hours.

Possession of a traffic control sign or device is a crime in Texas, which, if convicted, may include a fine as well as a jail sentence.

Please take advantage of the amnesty program.

## LUBBOCK NOTIFIES TOP-100 WATER CUSTOMERS

Lubbock Mayor Marc McDougal notified Ransom Canyon this month that The Canadian River Municipal Water Authority has reduced the allocation to the City of Lubbock.

Lubbock is taking action to reduce the demand for municipal water, and they have requested Ransom Canyon to take action to seek reductions

in water use.

They request an evaluation of our use of city water before April for any reduction possibilities. They suggest using landscape plantings that use low water.

Mostly they request that we educate the public about water conservation, and seek to follow up with conservation

measures.

Ransom Canyon's contract with the City of Lubbock includes a clause that states that if Lubbock institutes emergency drought measures, Ransom Canyon must also. Read the suggestions on page three and look to conserve water in your own neighborhood and property.

*"Our staff is available to help you find areas where the use of city water can be reduced."*

## DALLAS ENGINEERS EXAMINE WATER PLANS

The water tower project took a leap forward this week when Half and Associates engineers were called in by Hugo Reed to examine the current water plant and the proposed tower.

The engineers all agree that the present water pumps are under some stress, and they propose a water bypass that will also be incorporated into the new tower system.

This CO Bond project has experienced several engineering delays. In December the council impressed the need for action on the city engineers, so Hugo Reed hired some hydraulic engineering specialists to come help. The water tower is

necessary because Ransom has a dual pressure plane system. Pressure and increased storage is necessary for the increased size of the city, and for pressure for the homes "on top", particularly in case of emergency.



# WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

The following suggestions for water conservation are offered by the City of Lubbock Water Utilities:



- ?? Only wash full loads of laundry.
- ?? Only wash full loads of dishes.
- ?? Turn off the water while brushing your teeth, shaving, etc.
- ?? Check faucets and toilets for leaks.
- ?? Take short showers—5 minutes.

- ?? Don't fill the bathtub completely to the top.
- ?? Don't run sprinklers when windy, raining, or freezing.
- ?? Apply water to your lawn in intervals to prevent water run-off.

- ?? In the winter, all turf grasses, except Fescue, go dormant and need to be watered only once a month or less. Fescue needs to be watered about every 2 weeks in the winter.
- ?? Make sure you only water your lawn, not the sidewalk, driveway, and street.
- ?? Water only in the early morning or late evening.

## FRONT ROAD MISHAPS

There have been two accidents on the front road within the last month. Drivers are misjudging the curves and they are hitting the trees. This road is narrow, the speed limit is 55 mph, and the curves are deceptive. In addition, the trees are planted closer to the road than would normally be ex-

pected for a road that has seen an exceptional increase in traffic. There are new commercial installations on the front road, as well, and drivers get busy looking at the scenery and their concentration gets misdirected. This road is not within Ransom Canyon city limits. Ran-

som Canyon does not maintain the road. Our police do not work accidents in this area. This is Lubbock county jurisdiction. Drivers are cautioned to slow down, pay attention to other drivers and be especially cautious.

*The front road is Lubbock County jurisdiction.*

## TAX DEADLINE NEARS

Second notices for property taxes were sent out this month. \$87,000 is still outstanding out of a total tax roll of \$487,000. This seems to be high for January 23, but the percentage of collections is normal for January. City property taxes are collected by Ransom Canyon at 24 Lee Kitchens Drive. Many homes with mortgage



companies are still due. Many properties were refinanced last year. Many unim-

proved lots are still outstanding. Also, this year, there are many personal property taxes that have been identified. The appraisal district picks these properties up from DBA lists. Property owners must file correcting affidavits with LCAD in order to have these properties removed. Tax payments must be post-marked by January 31.

**City of Ransom Canyon**

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**Ransom Canyon  
City Council**

**Mayor  
Robert Englund**

**Mayor Pro-Tem  
Glen Robertson**

**Aldermen:  
Richard Hulslander  
David Peterson  
Inez Speed  
Leon Whetzel**

*Ransom Canyon will elect City Council members at the general election Saturday, May 15, 2004. Three council member positions will be filled at that time. The members whose terms expire this year are Leon Whetzel, Glen Robertson and Dick Hulslander. The first day to file for a place on the ballot is February 14. For information, call City Hall, 829-2470.*

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## BOND ISSUE CONSTRUCTION

At the January City Council meeting, Bernie Gradel delivered a summary of the sewer plant construction change orders, and the council discussed several items that will be added to the original price of \$763,123.

- ?? Modify the drying beds—\$4700
- ?? Install silencers—\$2,000
- ?? Install overhead doors—\$2500
- ?? Redesign the bridge extension from the old to the new plant—\$3000
- ?? Add eyewash safety station \$500

Therefore \$14,600 will be added as changes to the new plant.

The Buffalo meter installation



plan was modified to use the old sewer plant flow meter. This meter was in good condition when it was replaced by the new technology of the new plant. By recycling this meter the city will save \$5,000 on this project that will measure Buffalo Lake's flow from a new location at

the point of delivery on South Lake Shore Drive. The revised expense for this project is \$15,000.

Of the original \$1.320 million bond issue, 5% was set aside for contingencies. Mayor Englund commented that he believed the project was on track with change orders that expensed roughly half of the original \$65,000 that was allocated for contingencies.

The water tower is expected to cost \$373,400, and renovation to the old plant is budgeted for \$100,000.

After the new plant is brought on line, the current 45-year old plant can be emptied and examined for necessary repairs. The new plant is nearly ready to go into service.