



ROBINSON CITY NEWS

662-1415

www.robinsontexas.org

Feb. 1, 2010

CITY ELECTION CALLED

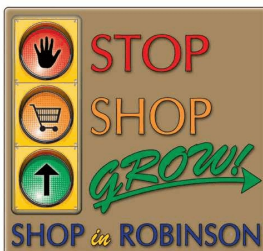
The Robinson City Council has called an election for Saturday, May 8th, to fill four seats on the City Council. The terms of Bert Echterling, April Riddle, Jeremy Stivener and Jim Smith will be ending this year.

Early voting will be April 26th through April 30th from 8 AM to 5 PM and May 3rd and 4th from 7 AM to 7 PM. On Election Day May 8th the polls will be open from 7 AM to 7 PM.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS TO CONTINUE

The City Council has given notice of intent to issue certificates of obligation in the amount of \$3.5 million to continue the herculean task of rebuilding Robinson's streets. Great strides have been made but many miles remain that haven't been fixed.

Of the debt issue, \$2.5 million is for streets and will be repaid with tax dollars. The remaining \$1 million is for water and sewer system improvements and will be repaid with revenue from the utilities.



ROBINSON OR ROBINSONVILLE?

In a recent article it was mentioned that the town of Robinson was known as Robinsonville from its earliest days until becoming incorporated as a city in 1955. Now it seems that maybe both names have been in use interchangeably over the past one hundred plus years.

The University of Texas has a copy of a newspaper published in August, 1885 which clearly shows on the masthead "Robinson, Texas".

The monthly newspaper published by the North West Texas Holiness Association listed a Rev. B. F. Gassaway, Robinson, McLennan County, Texas as the Editor.

The following rules were listed for those people submitting articles for publication:

*Write only on one side of the sheet.
Write plainly with pen and ink.
Use as few words as possible to express your meaning.
Hew to the line.
Quit when you get through.*

In addition to Rev. Gassaway from Robinson, officers of the association were from Iredell, Cleburne, Alvarado and Brazos Point, Texas.

CPA CLASS # 4

Citizen Police Academy class # 4 sponsored by the Robinson Police Department begins Tuesday, February 2, 2010.

There is no cost to attend the 11 week course. Classes meet at 6:00 pm each Tuesday night and dismiss at about 9:00 pm. Applications for the class can be obtained at the police department or online at www.robinsonpd.org.

SOLID WASTE REMINDER!

Solid waste collection in the City of Robinson is handled by IESI of McGregor. Their contract provides for service to be provided between the hours of 7 AM and 5 PM.

During the Christmas season when there was extra trash from wrappings, boxes, trees, etc., IESI had two trucks on the route instead of the usual one. That meant that the extra truck started in what would usually have been the middle of a route, resulting in an earlier pickup than many customers expected.

The City of Robinson reminds customers that trash should be at the curb by 7 AM on their scheduled day in order to ensure collection.

Pothole, high weeds, dilapidated building?

Send report to:

actioncenter@robsontexas.org

STATE EECBG GRANT APPLICATION

The required application for the State Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) has been submitted. The city will receive more funds than previously expected (\$57,576). The funding will be used on energy efficiency projects for the Police Dept. heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) and lighting improvements; Street Dept. HVAC improvements; and electrical improvements at the various water well and pump station sites.

POST OFFICE HISTORY

According to one historical source, there were as many as eighty-nine United States Post offices in McLennan County at various times from 1852 to 1930.

Robinson had a post office from 1878 until May, 1906 when the service was discontinued and it became part of the Waco service area. In subsequent years, Robinson has sometimes had a contract postal unit but has never since had an official USPS facility.

Rosenthal, which is now part of the City of Robinson, didn't fare much better. The Rosenthal post office opened in 1888 and closed in 1907 when service was shifted to Lorena.

Downsville, on Robinson's east side, had a post office from 1890 until 1907 when service was moved to Waco.

Of the 89 listings from that era, only a handful have managed to retain a post office.

Those still in operation include Aquilla, Axtell, China Spring, Crawford, Eddy, Elm Mott, Hewitt, Leroy, Lorena, McGregor, Mart, Moody, Riesel, Ross, Waco and West.

Sources: www.rootsweb.com & www.usps.com.

Visit the City of Robinson website:

www.robinsontexas.org

CALENDAR

Feb. 2 - CPA Class # 4 Begins - 6 PM

Feb. 5 - Siren Test 10 AM

Feb. 6 - Chipper-Shredder Day - Bulky trash accepted for disposal 8:30 AM -1 PM -\$10 fee per trip

Feb. 9 - City Council 7 PM

Feb. 15 - President's Day, City Offices Closed - Trash Collection WILL run on regular schedule

Feb. 23 - City Council 6 PM

Mar. 6 - Chipper-Shredder Day - Bulky trash accepted for disposal 8:30 AM -1 PM -\$10 fee per trip

BUSINESS CONTINUES STRONG

Sales tax returns from the state comptroller for the month of November were up almost eleven percent over the same month a year ago. For the most recent twelve months available (Dec. 08-Nov. 09), returns are up 3.4%. That translates to a \$2 million dollar increase in taxable sales for the twelve months, from \$59.9 million for the same period a year earlier to \$61.9 million for the current period.

STREET LIGHT OUT?

Report online
www.oncor.com

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Robinson Primary will have registration for 2009-2010 Kindergarten students on Tuesday, February 17th at the Primary School from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm. Students must be 5 years old by September 1st to enroll. Bring proof of residency, immunization records, birth certificate, social security card and parent's driver's license to register. Official registration will be held in August. For additional information, please call 662-0251.

RETIREMENT OF DICK FLETCHER

City Manager R.C."Dick" Fletcher retired on January 15 after 11 years with the City of Robinson. Mr. Fletcher has served the citizens of Robinson well over those years, and the city has made great strides in the areas of street, water and sanitary sewer improvements. The city will retain his services for a specified period of time this year as a consultant to the new City Manager. We wish he and his wife and family well in their retirement years.

Visit the City of Robinson website: www.robinsontexas.org

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

City Staff members are compiling information from various cities in Texas to develop a Request for Proposal for a Comprehensive Plan. This is a plan for the future development of the city that looks at all aspects of how the city functions and provides recommendations for future needs. It looks at transportation patterns within the city and how new streets may better serve the citizens in the future. Infrastructure such as the water, sanitary sewer, and storm drainage systems are also studied. Floodplain is looked at throughout the city to identify areas of drainage. A comprehensive land use plan will be developed for the entire city which will be used in decision making by the Council as issues arise pertaining to zoning and other regulatory matters. It will provide the framework to promote orderly growth, development, and redevelopment of the community which is consistent with the values, goals, and objectives of the City of Robinson.

ROBINSON RECREATIONAL PARK

The playground equipment for the proposed Robinson Recreational Park purchased from Gametime arrived at the end of December. It is being stored at the Street Department warehouse. Construction of the park will hopefully begin in the upcoming months. A Baylor University Professor in the Department of Biology has graciously agreed to provide an environmental assessment of the park for the grant application at no cost to the City of Robinson. We are very grateful to her for helping us.

Have information on criminal activity or a tip for police?

Crimestoppers Tip Line
753-HELP (753-4357)

You do not have to identify yourself
