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[City Council tours RMAC](#)

Friday, April 23, 2010

The mayor and a handful of city councilors got a behind-the-scenes tour of the Roswell Museum and Art Center, during a special City Council meeting on Thursday.

The tour came at the request of the museum staff, who invited city officials to have a look inside the facility. Mayor Del Journey and six councilors walked through building and even had a chance to look through the center's vault and at the up-and-coming exhibits.

"When you have a new council ... it's nice when the departments want to make known to the council what their work is," Journey said. "It's a great chance for us to know what's going on with the museum. ... It's a great museum."

The center's director, Laurie Rufe, said it was the first time in more than 10 years that the council toured the facility.

"We haven't done this since probably 1998," she said. "I believe we are one of the city's greatest assets and City Council members need to know about the museum and what it provides to the community."

Roswell officials had just the opportunity to see what the museum has to offer. While on the tour, they had a sneak peak of hand-engraved damasked pistols slated to go on display in June.

The RMAC will be the first to display the pieces handcrafted by Raymond John Wielgus, said museum staff.

"We'll be the first venue to exhibit the full collection," said Andrew Cecil, curator of collections and exhibitions. "It's very significant that we received these guns first."

City officials said they were grateful for the opportunity to tour what they said is a great asset to the city.

"We realize that this museum and art center is really a gem for the city," Councilor Steve Henderson said. "I think we can all be proud of ... this facility."

Councilors Dusty Huckabee, Barry Foster, Robert Maples, Jason Perry and Elena Velasquez also attended the meeting.

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