

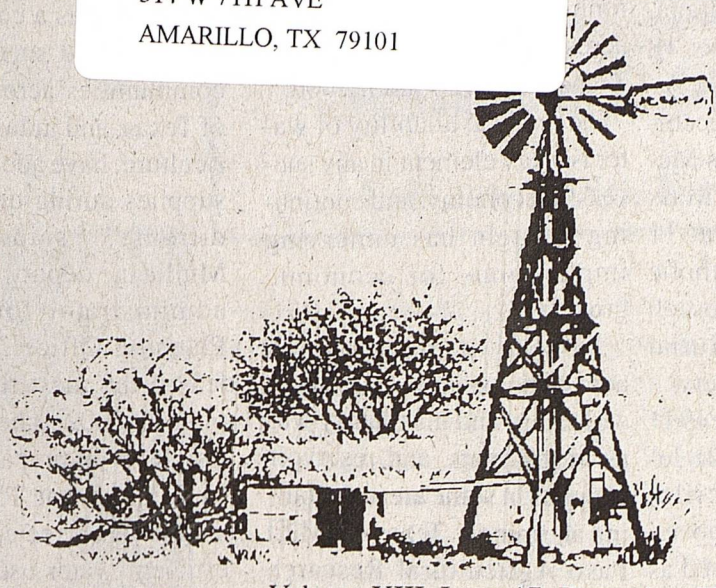


# HAPPY NEW YEAR!



## Cowboy Country News

Published each Wednesday in the county seat of DeWitt County, Plains, Texas Volume XIII, Issue 17, December 27, 2006



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### Grand Jury indicts nine

The Yoakum County Grand Jury, convened December 11, returned eleven true bills of indictment on nine defendants. All bonds for felony indictments are set by District Judge Kelly G. Moore. The State was represented by Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark.

Sammy David Mendoza was indicted for evading arrest or detention with a vehicle, a state jail felony. His attorney was Bill Helwig.

Domingo Rosales was indicted for aggravated sexual assault of a child, first degree felony. His attorney was Donnell Yandell.

Manday Ladawn Rosales was indicted for injury to a child, elderly or disabled with bodily injury, third degree felony. Her attorney was Jimmy Hammons.

Angela Annette Riccobene was indicted for forgery of a financial instrument, a state jail felony.

Buffie Rivera was indicted for bail jumping and failure to appear, third degree felony.

Fidel Carreon Salazar was indicted on three charges of aggravated assault with a delony weapon, all second degree felony causes. Felony indictment ranges of punishment include:

First degree - Confinement in state prison for life or any term not more than 99 years or less than five years and optional fine not over \$10,000.

Second degree - Confinement in state prison not more than 20 years or less than two years, optional fine not to exceed \$10,000.

Third degree felony - Confinement in state prison not more than ten years or less than two years, optional fine up to \$10,000.

State Jail Felony - Confinement in state jail not to exceed two years or less than 180 days, optional fine not to exceed \$10,000.

### To Continue Boll Weevil Program Here

Austun - The Texas Department of Agriculture announced on December 20 cotton producers in the Western High Plains Boll Weevil Eradication Zone have voted to continue eradication operations. Final results were 804 voting FOR and 129 voting AGAINST continuation.

TDA issued 2,813 ballots to cotton producers eligible to vote in the referendum. A total of 993 valid ballots were postmarked by the December 12 deadline and counted.

In addition to deciding if an eradication program should be continued in the zone, voters elected Don Parrish as the board member on the statewide board of directors for the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Inc. Parrish has farmed for the past 27 years and has served as a Foundation Board member since 1998.

The Western High Plains Zone includes all of Andrews, Gaines and Yoakum Counties and portions of Terry and Lynn Counties.

### Second Year Of Texas Drought Hits Largest Areas Of The State

The December 26 issue of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal featured a front page article detailing the severity of the current dry spell in the state, the headline reading "Drought toll: 2006 sees worst single-year loss". The November issue of Fiscal Notes, a publication of the Texas Comptroller office, took a slightly different approach to the same subject, and described 2005-06 as 'the fourth driest period on record', only 1917-18, 1956-57, and 1924-25 being dryer. Years are measured March through February by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and the 2005-06 measurement was 19.88 inches. The following is a summary of the Fiscal Notes article.

"Some areas of Texas were lucky enough to receive showers in summer 2006. But it's a big state and most of it is dry as tinder.

Texas is in its second year of a severe drought already costing the state \$4.1 billion by August 2006. And the costs are mounting. Drought is a fact of life in Texas but ag economists say it could have serious consequences for the state's continued growth and economic health. Texas has suffered many drought cycles, including the 'Dust Bowl' era and extended drought of 1950-57 which drove many small Texas towns to the point of extinction.

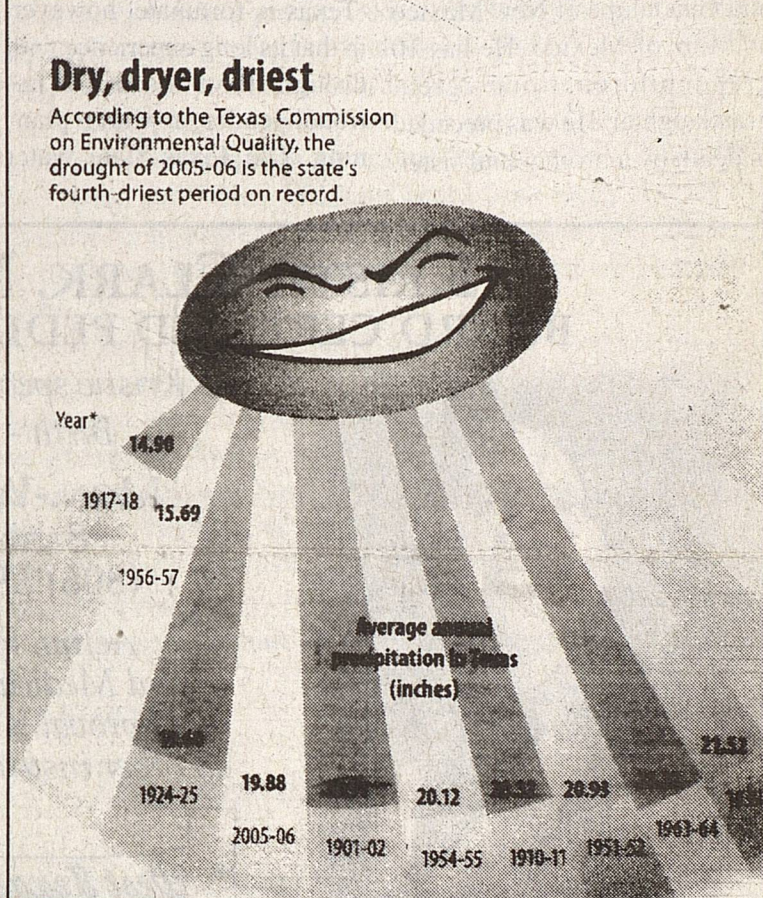
The current drought began in

2005. The year from 2005 through February 2006 was the driest such period since 1964 and the fourth driest year in the last century. The Texas A&M Ag Center estimated the drought cost the state \$4.1 billion, and the losses continue, although patchy rains have shifted the drought's impact somewhat.

As of August 2006 drought was hitting hardest in North Central Texas, including the Metroplex, but all areas of the state were affected, said Mark Waller, associate department head for Texas A&M's Texas Cooperative Extension. Eighteen months of drought have had a disastrous effect on the state's farmers. He reported large areas of the Valley and Corpus area had crops which never came up because of drought. Central Texas got some spring rains, but we didn't get enough summer rains to make grain crops come along. There just wasn't enough subsoil moisture."

The drought devastated some of the state's most important crops. Extension economist John Robinson said, "Last year we had a record cotton production of 8.44 million bales of cotton, and this year we're going to have half of that". This drop in production entailed about \$1.1 billion in market value.

The drought's impact on ranchers has been equally dam-



aging. In March 2006 the Drought Preparedness Council said 83 percent of the state's rangelands were in poor to very poor condition. "The ranching country from San Antonio south is in dire straits," said Carl Anderson, Extension economist and A&M emeritus professor. "Lots of stock ponds are just little dry pits. And when you run out of water for your livestock, there's not much time left."

Ranchers struggling to keep herds intact have been forced to rely on increasingly expensive hay to keep them fed. "The price of hay is tremendous," said Anderson. "We're

seeing square bales running about \$7, around twice as high as usual, and the same thing with round bales. There's a tight supply of hay and this has ranchers between a rock and hard place. You won't make much money feeding cows \$70 round bales or \$7 square bales."

One of the most terrifying consequences of the extended drought is wildfire. Dry, windy conditions, particularly in west Texas, have led to the destruction of enormous tracts of rangeland.

The Texas Forest Service has described 2006 as one of the



Last day before the holidays in Plains Elementary, and Mrs. J. Ramos room has turned into an entire herd of red-nosed reindeer!



Mrs. Friesen's class was watching a Christmas video, but found the photographer interesting - for about 14 seconds.



# Services held for Jose Quintana

Jose Inez Corrales Quintana, 75, passed away December 18 in Denver City.

Rosaries were prayed December 19 and 20 at the Plains Memorial Chapel. A funeral Mass was held December 21 at 11 AM at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Plains. Father Joseph Thanaveil officiating. Burial followed at Plains Cemetery. He was born August 18, 1931 to Antanacio and Marie de Jesus Corrales in Saucillo, Chihuahua, Mexico. He moved to Plains in 1992 and retired as a farm hand in 1996.

Left to cherish his memories are his wife Alicia, 5 sons, Manuel, Jose Inez Jr., and Salvador of Plains, David of Lubbock and Arturo of Florida; a daughter Maria Elena of Plains, a brother Roberto of Mexico and 3 sisters, Manuela and Guadalupe of New Mexico and Luz of Mexico. He has 10 grandchildren, one great-granddaughter. He was preceded in death by a brother and sister.

worst fire seasons on record, with 19 lives lost to wildfire between December 2005 and May 2006. Over this period the Forest Service responded to 1,873 fires affecting more than 1.3 million acres, most of them in the western portions of the state. According to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, one million acres of Texas were ablaze on a single day in March 2006.

The ready availability of water is a key element in any successful economy, and continuing drought has unnerving implications for economic growth.

Dozens of communities across the state have adopted voluntary and mandatory water restrictions, and reservoir supplies in some areas are falling alarmingly. Texas A&M El Paso Agricultural Research and Extension Center, for example, reports that the water level in Elephant Butte Reservoir along the Rio Grande has dropped 33 feet since 2005. Federal figures indicate the 2006 flooding in New Mexico went a long way in refilling the reservoir.

Texas is fortunate, however, in that its long experience with drought have made it a national leader in water planning. The Texas State Water

Plan was first created in 1957 in the wake of the state's worst-ever drought. The plan, prepared by the the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) in cooperation with local governments, addresses water needs and assigns priorities for water usage over a 50 year period. State law requires an update every five years.

"The plan is a conscious effort to make sure the many communities across the state of Texas, and industry and agriculture, have adequate water supplies during drought conditions," said William Mullican, deputy executive administrator for TWDB's Planning Office. TWDB released the most recent water plan in 2002. The 2007 edition, now in preparation, will highlight what TWDB says should be corrected to ensure efficient water use in the future. "Texas is very vulnerable to drought," said Mullican. That is reality. That's what we're facing. It's a very significant challenge in a state where we expect a doubling of population over the next fifty years."

Article by Bruce Wright

Dec. 27, 1836; Stephen F. Austin died at Columbia. Dec. 29, 1845; Texas admitted to the Union as 28th state

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**Monday**  
HIST 1302-544 History of U.S. Since 1876  
6:00 - 9:00 pm

**Monday / Wednesday**  
SPCH 1321-541 Business and Professional Speech  
1:00 - 2:15 pm  
ENGL 1302-545 Composition II  
4:00 - 5:15 pm

**Wednesday**  
GOVT 2302-542 American Government, Functions  
6:00 - 9:00 pm

**Monday / Wednesday / Friday**  
MATH 0315-541 Beginning Algebra  
2:30 - 3:45 pm

\*Locations will choose one class offered at this day and time (varies upon location)

For admissions and online registration information, contact 806-894-9611, extension 2374, 2375 or 2372  
For distance education information, contact 806-894-9611, extension 2340.

**The Learning Center  
SPC Denver City Extension Center**  
500 N. Avenue C, Denver City, Texas  
806-592-5919, ext. 4

**Tuesday**  
\*MATH 1314-545 College Algebra  
6:00 - 9:00 PM  
\*SOCW 2361-541 Intro to Social Work  
6:00 - 9:00 PM

**Tuesday / Thursday**  
READ 0320-541 College Learning Strategies II  
1:00 - 2:15 pm  
\*ENGL 0302-541 Developmental English  
2:30 - 3:45 PM

\*ARTS 1301-541 Art Appreciation  
2:30 - 3:45 PM

\*MATH 0320-541 Intermediate Algebra  
2:30 - 3:45 PM

**Thursday**  
ENGL 1301-541 Composition I  
6:00 - 9:00 pm

## ...As of December 22, 2006...

**100,000 bales ginned**

**Average turnout 31.86%**

**Average Loan Price 55.5 cents**

**Average seed weight 723 lbs/bale**

**Average rebate: \$11.40/bale**

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## Cowboy Country News

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West Texas Invites All Abilene, Jan. 1, 1891- West Texas towns are doing all they can to encourage immigration. Agencies to encourage immigration have been set up in many West Texas cities; Abilene has a Progressive Committee, Ballinger a Board of Immigration, Albany an Immigration Society and Brownwood a Bureau of Immigration. These societies do not paint the virtues of West Texas in modest terms. They earnestly invite the world to come to West Texas  
*The Texas News*  
March, 1891



# Lifelines & Styles

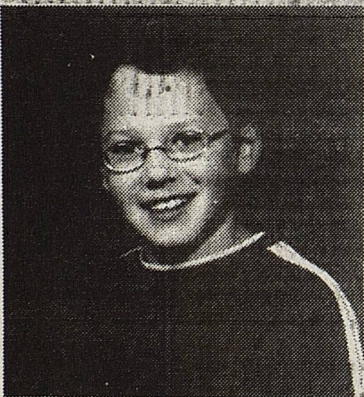
## "The Candy Cane Factory"

Editors Note: Third grade students in Autumn Justus' class recently wrote Christmas theme letters as a class project. Ms Justus submitted the following two winning stories to CCN. The first, written by Dantz DeBusk, is followed by the story of Brittany Michaleson.

"It was Christmas Eve and the elves were making candy canes and Santa Claus was looking at the list of good and bad children. My name is Daniel and I will be telling the story and my friend Alfred likes my sister. We call him Fred so elves were making candy canes for all the good boys and girls the leader Sam was saying "Come on, work, work" and the most beautiful girl in the North Pole said "how about my candy cane"

Sam looked at it and it was shining in the light it's beautiful. "So what's your name" said the girl, "Sam and your Ashley what a beautiful name" said Sam. "so Ashley you want to go out sometime for some hot coco", sure said Ashley. Sam said "is Saturday good". OK said Ashley, "9:00 clock", "I'll be there" said Ashley. "At the Coco Best" said Sam and Ashley replied "Yes, the best Coco there is". So they went to Coco Best and it vanished, "no where in sight" said Daniel, "and no Coco or anything" and an old elf said "Coco Best one of the best", and Ashley said "What do you mean," "It closed down" said the old elf. "WHAT" said Sam! "What's wrong" said Ashley. "My father worked there" said Sam. "Oh it will come back won't it" said Ashley. "No it won't unless you make enough money" said Sam. "Let's do it" said Ashley. "OK" said Sam. "So I will make more money by working hard" said Sam. "Me too" said Ashley. "I will go to Coco Best every day if you get it fixed" said the old elf. They worked so hard on the next Saturday they had a hundred dollars they need a thousand dollars and the next Monday they had three hundred dollars. "Wow, we need a thousand dollars" said Sam! "I know, said Ashley so we keep on working hard." Yeah, said Sam.

So a month went by and they had six hundred dollars. It was almost Christmas and they still didn't have enough money, so they kept working hard, they were almost there they had nine hundred dollars so they kept on working. "Wow" said Alfred that's a lot of money. "I know" said Daniel "That is stupid" said Daniel's sister. "No it's not" said Daniel. Alfred was staring at her. "Snap out of it," said Daniel! "Let's get back to the story" said Alfred. "OK" Daniel replied so they kept working hard so the next day they were worn out. They saw Santa Claus coming. "I heard Coco Best went out of business" said Santa Claus. "Yes it is" said Sam and Ashley. "I got one hundred dollars" said Santa Claus. "Just what we needed" said Sam. "We could do it and save Coco Best" said Ashley. All the elves were cheering and yelling. "well what are you waiting for" said Santa Claus. "Yeah, let's go" said Sam and Ashley. They ran all the way there, they were finally there. They paid the owner and he said "thank you, Coco Best is back". So they had the best coco in the North Pole. Two years later Sam and Ashley got married and they had three boys and one girl, so they were so happy together. THE END.



Dantz



Brittany

Jasper, you will never believe what happened at the Candy Cane Factory. Junior said as he was gathering some wood to make a toy train for a little boy. "You guys, you guys! Did ya'll hear about what happened at the Candy Cane Factory yesterday" said Molly. "No" said Jasper. "Well let me tell you!" "NO, I want to tell him, yelled Junior. "All right! All right! You tell your story and I'll tell mine." "Well, it all starts off with everyone in the factory working on all different kinds of candies. Everyone was cool and calm until one elf looked out the window and discovered snow everywhere. Elf world had never been like that. In fact the snow was about six feet tall. The snow came down so hard no one could leave the factory including my mom! So all day I had to stay with my dad. It was so boring because all my dad did was sit on the couch and watch TV. He never played catch with me when I ask him and for dinner he gave me a cold tortilla and some cheese. He doesn't care for me, that's for sure. After that he made me go straight to bed, no movies. I could watch with him, like I used to. I wished Mom was there. I mean I would rather go to the desert than stay home with my dad. I wished something exciting would happen. Then a few minutes later the phone rang. I had to answer the phone because my dad was too lazy to answer it. When I answered the phone my excitement was gone. Mom told me she was going to have to spend the night at the factory. It was horrible! I couldn't last another minute with my dad. So, I finally went to bed. But strange things kept going on in my head, like "What if Mom lied to me" or "What if she isn't at the factory." Then came morning and Mom was home making breakfast. I was delighted to see her. Now you tell your story Molly. "Finally! Mine is way different than that but were you talking about the Candy Cane Factory here in Elf world? Yes! Well my story is about the one in Santa town. Now tell your story. OK! I'll try to hurry because I have to be home at five o'clock. It starts off when all of Santa's helpers were working on candy canes for Christmas and Jacob discovered that the real Santa was sitting on the couch with a tissue box by his side. "What's wrong with you, asked Jacob?" "I'm ah... ah... aahchoo!" "What!," said Jacob. "I'm sick. This can't be happening. Well now no one can have Christmas, and no one ever did that lived in Santa town, so they went to Elf world for Christmas. Everyone did have a great Christmas." "Wow! Those are both some pretty weird stories" laughed Jasper. "But I can't believe about yesterday it was like a blizzard and today it's flaming hot outside" said Jasper. "That's just how the weather is" said Molly. "Well I better get home for dinner. It's already five fifteen." Well I better get home too before I miss going to the movies with my parents" said Junior. So there stood Jasper all alone with a lot on his mind like "What if they really had Christmas in Santa town?" Well, then came along his mom and took Jasper home and they were all happy.

The Editor says, 'Thank you, Lord, for giving kids imaginations !!'

## Timely Donation From C.S.C.D



Toni Jones receives \$700 check from CSCD's Anna Gonzales

The Community Supervision and Correction Department (Adult Probation) of Yoakum County is proud to donate the profits of the 2006 Aluminum Can Drive to the needy this Christmas. For 11 years, probationers have collected aluminum cans and turned them in for community service credit. This year resulted in a record donation amount, due to extra efforts as well as an increase in the price of aluminum. Approximately 1340 pounds of

aluminum, which might otherwise have littered our streets and highways, brought in \$700. to be divided among local organizations. Plains Christmas Assistance program and the Denver City Food Drive were given the earnings to assist with the distribution of food and toys this Christmas. The CS and CD Department wish to thank Pct. 4 for storing the cans and all others involved in the collection.

## Domestic Violence And Self Esteem

**A message from the Women's Protective Services**  
In an abusive relationship, one of the first things to suffer is an individual's self esteem. Many times, women and children are degraded so severely they begin to lose parts of themselves; their identities, their personal likes and dislikes, their smiles, their favorite things, their positive attitudes, their dreams, their motivation, their self. When someone is beaten down to the point of non-existence, they learn how to live as if they don't exist. Self, no longer matters. I, no longer has a form. Words, no longer have meaning or sound. Thoughts are lost on empty hopes.  
Put yourself in her shoes.

Self esteem is a person's global evaluation of his or her self worth. People with low esteem have unclear and contradictory self-views, more emotional problems, and more difficulties in social interactions. Negative effects of low self-esteem: Expectation of rejection \* Self-fulfilling rejection \* Approach others in negative, hurtful way \* Real or imagined rejection lowers self-esteem more.

Overcoming abuse and gaining self-esteem back is a difficult task. For many it takes years of counseling, for others it simply takes a helpful and giving hand. Some never recover from the loss of their identity and some never give up in the pursuit to regain. Here are some helpful ways to encourage the abused, the recovering, and the tender hearted.

### Building Self-Esteem

- \* Recognize you can control your self-image ( list five things you like about yourself, show them off)
- \* Learn more about yourself ( try a new activity, learn your heritage, find your hidden talent, write an autobiography)
- \* Emphasize your strengths-what do you take pride in ( education, talents, accomplishments) Why?
- \* Modify negative self-talk ( believe you can do it)
- \* Approach others with a positive outlook ( smile, lend a hand, say thank you, be encouraging)
- \* Don't let others set your goals ( what is your goal in life, what dream would you like to fulfill?)
- \* Recognize unrealistic goals ( don't set yourself up for failure, if you don't have the resources now wait until you do. Set yourself up for success!)

Women's Protective Services in Lubbock serves Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Garza, Hockley, King, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Terry and Yoakum County. Their mission statement includes creating an environment of empowerment for women, children and families and elimination of family violence.

## Seniors Corner

By Claudia Sue Ferguson

Welcome from the center! We were celebrating Monday when all the kindergarten kids and their teachers came and sang carols for the seniors. There were so many kids they literally filled the large dining hall. All the seniors enjoyed the wonderful music and seeing all the children. Kids, the people at the center want to thank you and tell you how very much they enjoyed your music. Also, a big thank you to all the teachers who teach the kids and arranged for them to come to the center.

Tuesday we had our pre-Christmas bake sale and raised a tidy sum. Thank you to those seniors who bid and purchased an item then gave it back to be bid on again. That just shows you the kind of people we have at the center. We also had some wh instead of bringing a sweet item merely donate money to the center. Congratulations are in order for the new president of the board, Gail Ribble. Two of our board members, June Hanneman and Ben Coston, turned in their resignations after years of faithful service. To them we say THank You! You will be missed. I have no doubt Gail will be a great president for the board. At a month ago meeting it was voted to include the present site council members as members of the board. We have a lot to learn from SPAG ( South Plains Area Government on Aging). We are certainly grateful to have such an outstanding center. It serves both Denver City and Plains. We have heard from many members from other communities in Texas and recently from New Mexico who say their centers don't compare with ours. We are certainly blessed.

We still need a director and it's hard to find someone who is outgoing, smart and willing to work for our center. But, there is someone out there, and God will send the right person in due time. Meanwhile, Ayde is holding down the fort in an amazing way for someone who has had the work dumped on her within two weeks of her starting the job.

We at the center want to wish all readers the merriest of Christmases and a very Happy New Year! Don't forget the real meaning of Christmas, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

STAY WARM!!

*It is not enough to reach for the brass ring. You must also enjoy the merry go round.*

Julie Andrews

**Thank You, Toni Jones !**  
For the many, many years you have planned and assisted in making the Christmas Season more enjoyable for many hundreds of citizens with your efforts in the Toy & Food Donation and Distribution program. It has made the season more special for all of us !!

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# From The Hack

A few days before Christmas I found what I first thought was a large Christmas card in my mail box, but when I opened it my first thought was "WOW! I'm being invited to the Texas Governor and Lieutenant Governor's Inauguration and Ball! How's that for Power Of The Press!" The literature told me the swearing-in is January 16 at ten am on the Capitol grounds, followed by a gigantic parade down Congress Avenue and a sumptuous barbecue. For a brief few minutes I felt pretty good about old Rick and Dave. Then I found the enclosed instruction card which informed me the swearing in and sure to follow lengthy acceptance speeches and the parade would be free... everything else has to be paid up front. The barbecue would be \$8 bucks per, which isn't too pricey, but then it dawned on me... Perry is an Aggie grad. They'll probably cook up something exotic, like maybe armadillo loins and breast of mud hen. What WAS a bit pricey was the Inaugural Ball - \$85 per head. I was also a bit suspicious about Perry's choice of music. He will probably hire a portion of the Aggie Band (they do work cheap, I am told) and use the current version of their mascot Revellie to bark for intermission entertainment.

No, I'm sure my presence will be missed by the Gov and his Lieutenant, but let's be honest about this; I have never been greatly impressed with the gov's hairdo.

OK, all you brainy types, I have something I need a little help with, as Ms. Vigna says on the Millionaire show, I made a speed run Christmas Eve and back Christmas morning, and on both legs of the swift jaunt listened to more than an hour and half of music with just a bit of talk, and the program was called "Christmas with the Manheim Steamroller", and it was superb! To listen to that much great music with virtually no commercials is about as rare as listening to Rush Limbaugh talk low and slow for an hour. Of course I fully realize the latter is utterly impossible.

OK, someone tell me true - was the music produced by a synthesizer (maybe two, three, half a dozen, I don't have a clue) or was it real live musicians tooting on real horns and whacking real drums and stuff to make such great sounds? One of you musical geniuses please enlighten me. I am not such an aesthetical snob I will put my nose in the air and condemning the electronic marvels, yet I do admire talented real life musicians, too. So, tell me which Manheim is. Please.

Can't figure why the following interestes me so much. A well healed gent would stop at a news stand before going up to his big office to buy a newspaper. He would lay fifty cents on the counter for the attendant, carefully scan the front page, then walk away, leaving the paper on the counter. The attendant's curiosity grew more each day. Finally, he could stand it no longer. When the man showed up and hurriedly scanned the front page, the vendor said, "Mr., I can't stand it any longer. All this time you been coming by here, paying me for the paper, then just skimming through the front page, then you walk off, leaving the paper here. What's the deal? Why leave it here?" The man said, "Well, young man I am only interested in the

obituaries". The clerk scratched his head and said, "Well, they're inside the paper, about page 32 or 34". The gentleman said, "The S.O.B. I am interested in is going to be on the front page."

Just read this about Winston Churchill, the Brit Prime Minister in WWII. He was visited by delegates of the Womens Temperance Union, whose leader looked about his office and sniffed, "Mr. Prime Minister, it has been said if all the alcohol and brandy you have consumed were poured into this room it would reach half way up these windows." He looked grimly at the spot she indicated and gravely said, "Dear lady, so little have I done, so much more I have yet to do!"

## Think Texas

by Agriculture Commissioner SUSAN COMBS

Using renewable resources for renewable energy just makes sense. At a time when the nation looks for innovative ways to lower foreign oil dependency and seeks domestic alternatives to fossil fuels, biofuel manufacturers have more reasons to produce biodiesel and fuel ethanol. Texas agriculture looks forward to participating in these new endeavors.

To help fuel an increase in statewide renewable energy production and improve options for agriculture production, the 78th Legislature approved Chapter 16 of the Texas Agriculture Code, which provides incentive payments to Texas biofuel producers.

Administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture in consultation with the Office of the Governor, Economic Development and Tourism, the Biofuel Incentive Program will measure the total value of agriculture products consumed in the plants, along with the number of biofuel gallons produced, imported, blended and sold.

Qualified biofuel producers will receive 20 cents per gallon of ethanol or biodiesel produced, limited to the first 18 million gallons produced per year for the first 10 years.

Our state currently has no large-scale ethanol production plants online but at least five planned plants could produce 390 million gallons of ethanol by the end of 2007.

Texas used almost 323 million gallons of biofuel from Midwestern states in 2004. When the new plants come online, statewide producers of corn and sorghum can enter additional markets with tremendous opportunities to meet the needs of ethanol production plants. Texas growers annually produce about 200 million bushels of corn, a major biofuel resource, in addition to sorghum and timber.

Potential biofuel applicants can obtain a registration form for the Biofuel Incentive Program from TDA's Web site at [www.agr.state.tx.us](http://www.agr.state.tx.us) or by calling (877) 428-7848.

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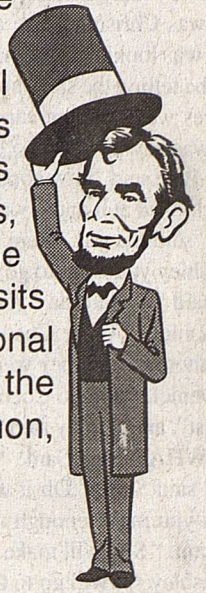
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## Hey High School Students!

Where will you be this summer?  
You could be in Washington, D.C.,  
Courtesy of Lea County  
Electric Cooperative, Inc.!



LCEC will be sending four local high school students on an all-expense-paid trip to join more than 1,400 high school students from 37 states in Washington, D.C. for the National Rural Electric Youth Tour, June 7-15, 2007. This is the chance of a lifetime to tour our nation's capital, visit personally with legislative leaders, and see where history has been made. The Government-in-Action Youth Tour includes visits to the Smithsonian Institution, Arlington National Cemetery, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Mount Vernon, all the National Monuments and more!



For more information contact Suzie Brown at the Cooperative's Lovington office at 396-3631 or (800) 510-5232. Applications are also available at your high school or any LCEC office. Applications due by January 31, 2007

## ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS!

Lea County Electric Education Foundation is currently accepting applications for scholarships to be awarded for the Fall 2007 semester. The Scholarships are renewable up to 8 consecutive semesters, for a total of \$5,000.00!

Eligibility criteria are as follows:

Available only to active members (and immediate family) who receive service from LCEC and reside in LCEC Service territory.

Applicant must maintain a 2.50 GPA on a 4.00 scale and be considered a full-time student. Must attend an accredited Texas or New Mexico College or University.

Applications must be received no later than December 31, 2006.

For more information contact Suzie Brown at the Cooperative's Lovington office at 396-3631. Applications are also available at your high school or any LCEC office.

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