

The Gorman Progress

2006 Member
Texas Press Association

"Serving Gorman For Over 106 Years"

Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

NUMBER FORTY-NINE

DECEMBER 14, 2006

American State Bank Donates To Gorman GROW



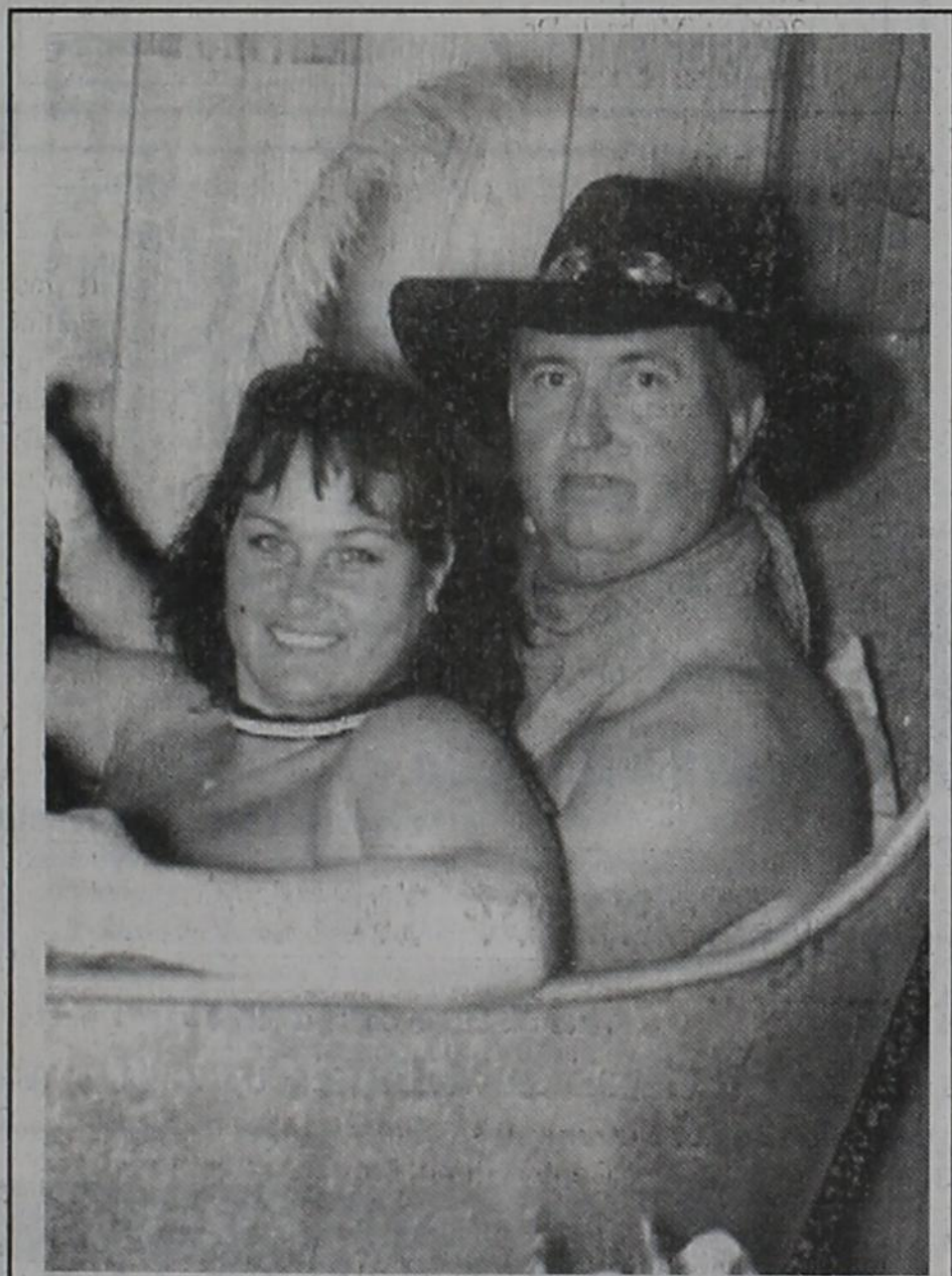
Branch President James Bruton and Gorman GROW member Lori Dodd.

Employees of American State Bank, Gorman branch, recently made a contribution to the local civic club. Each employee of ASB is encouraged to give to the charity of their choice. Gorman employees chose to make a very generous donation of over \$500 to Gorman GROW, for local projects and community support.

Secret Santa Coming To Gorman

A generous donation has been made to the Gorman EDC to be distributed to the 40 families that lost their homes last New Years Day. Each of the families will be receiving a \$200 gift certificate in Gorman Bucks to be spent in any of the local businesses. Local merchants are being contacted, letting them know these families may be purchasing their products and services in the coming weeks and months.

For additional information contact Lori Dodd or Jessica Lara at 734-3933.



*This day I will marry my best friend,
the one I laugh with, live for, love*
Debra Miertschin
daughter of
Melvin and Mary Miertschin
and
Lonnie Bennett
son of Joe and the late Maxine Bennett
hope that you will join in this celebration
on Wednesday, the twenty-seventh of December
Two thousand and six
at seven o'clock in the evening
The Chapel on the Bosque
525 E. Washington
Stephenville, Texas

Attention All Moms:

It is that time of year again, to get rid of the old toys and make room for the new.

The Mission Friend Class at the First Baptist Church are taking up old toys and clothes for one of our projects. We send the toys and clothes to Honduras. We have met a new friend. His name is Craig Rodgers. He is a missionary in Honduras. He now lives here in Gorman. He was telling Miss Karen about how thrilled the children in Honduras are to get even used toys and clothes. Honduras is a poor country and people have a really hard time making ends meet.

We are trying to teach the children how lucky we are to live in the U.S.A. and how we are all rich compared to most children in Honduras. And how God loves all of these children as much as he loves us. God expects us to take care of the needy and to share what we have. So we through this would be a great way to start training these 4 and 5 year old.

So please take time and sort out the toys and clothes you can, bring them to the First Baptist Church or to Karen Guthery or Kathy Ervin's homes. Thank you so much and God will Bless you. Have a Merry Christmas and always remember the true meaning of Christmas.

Mission Friends

We Work For FREE!!!!

The students of Gorman High School are doing different Community Service Projects on Friday, December 15, 2006. If you need help cleaning or decorating your yard for the Christmas Holidays - WE WANT TO HELP YOU!!! Please contact Vicki Brown at the Gorman High School - 734-2614 or 734-6736 for more information. we will begin at 9:00 a.m. and work until 12 noon. Thank you for your support, The Student Advisory Group.

City Commission Minutes

DECEMBER 7, 2006

The Gorman City Commission met in Regular Session on the above date. Those present were Mayor Robert, Commissioners Charlie Torrez, Don Underwood, Joe Casey, and Nathan Files. Also present were Barbara Fenley, Billy Carson, and Lori Dodd.

Don led the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

Mayor Ervin called the meeting to order @ 5:32 p.m.

Don made the motion to approve the minutes as read. Charlie made a second. Motion carried 4-0.

Charlie made the motion to approve the bills for payment. Don made a second and the motion carried 4-0.

Barbara was present for any questions about the monthly report. She also mentioned that there had been reports of problems with people dumping household trash in business dumpsters. Barbara informed the Commission that when anyone is caught or reported dumping trash they would be cited. In fact, some have already been given a citation. Tacy will place an ad in the paper in reference to this.

Billy gave a report on the Dept. of Criminal Justice Vehicle Replacement grant application.

The officers discussed their overtime, and work schedules with the Commission.

Lori gave a report to the Commission.

Nathan made the motion to adopt Resolution #12-07-2006, DCJ Grant Application. Don made a second. Motion carried 4-0.

There being no further business for discussion, Don made the motion to adjourn with a second from Charlie. Motion carried 4-0. Time was 6:25 p.m.

Child Safety Seat Class Planned Dec. 20

Eastland County Safe Kids & Tech*Star EMS Education will be conducting a child safety seat class on December 20, 2006 at 7pm in the Teaching/Conference Room at Eastland Memorial Hospital. If you are unable to purchase a new child safety seat, you may attend this class to get a free seat. For more information, please call us at: 254-734-5989.

Charlie Garrett Library - Donation

Charlie Garrett Memorial Library has received another donation of good books. Several of the books are large print. We also have books that you can have for a donation to the library. If you like to read, come in and check out some books! We are open Monday thru Friday from 3:00 to 5:00, Saturday and Tuesday morning from 9:00 to 12:00. Also we have a huge amount of books that are overdue. If you have an overdue book, please return it. The drop box is always available if the library is closed.

OPEN HOUSE FOR MAXFIELD ELEMENTARY Thursday, December 14th from 5:30PM-6:30PM

You Are Invited to
The Resident's Christmas Party at
Heritage Manor on
December 14, 2006
Open House
from
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Come and join us
for Food, Fun, and Fellowship

2006 GORMAN LIVESTOCK SHOW

DECEMBER 16, 2006 @ 9:00 a.m.

Concession stand available in the cafeteria by Gorman Livestock Raisers Assoc.

Shawn Boles.....Show Director / Ag Science Teacher
Curry Allen.....Judge, Retired Ag Science Teacher, Jim Ned ISD

9:00 LAMB DIVISION

- Southdown
- Medium Wool
- Grand Champion Lamb
- Reserve Grand Lamb
- Showmanship Sr. Jr. and Pee Wee

10:00 GOAT DIVISION

- Light Weight
- Light / Medium Weight
- Heavy Medium Weight
- Heavy Weight
- Grand Champion Market Goat
- Reserve Champion Market Goat

11:30 STEER DIVISION

- Grand Champion Market Steer
- Reserve Champion Market Steer
- Steer Showmanship

12:00 LUNCH BREAK

12:30 SWINE DIVISION

- Berkshires
- Durocs
- Hampshires
- Polands
- Spots
- White OPB
- Yorkshires
- Crosses

- Grand Champion Market Swine
- Reserve Grand Champion Market Swine
- Swine Sr., Jr. and Pee Wee Showmanship

The Gorman Livestock Raisers Association would like to thank everyone who has supported us in the past. We would like to let everyone know how much we appreciate your loyal support. Your purchases of fruit, meat, candles, or a drawing help us raise the funds we need to buy our kids animals at county. To the businesses that contribute products, "cut us a great deal, or donate money we thank you so much. You do make a difference!

Address of Jack Harrison For Friends To Write Him

Jack Harrison is in a Texarkana Nursing Home. His daughter has given her address as a way to write to Jack:

Patricia Phillips
2600 St. Michaels Dr.
Texarkana, TX 75503

Gorman ISD "Wall of Honor"

The Gorman Athletic Boosters would like to remind those who would like to purchase a memory brick, that we are still taking orders. Individual engraved pavers are 4" x 8" in size, and can include three lines with twelve characters. The price of the individual paver is \$25.00 each. We will also be offering a business, family, organization, or "special event" paver that will measure 8" x 8", and can include four lines with twelve characters. The price of the large paver is \$50.00 each. The initial installation will begin soon, and we would like to have as many bricks as possible to start the project.

We encourage everyone to buy a paver and let those memories be a permanent part of the landscape at Brogdon Field. We believe this project will be a great source of pride for our school, and for our community. Anyone who wishes to purchase a memory brick; please contact, Bob Powell at 734-3322, Becky Swanner at 734-2480, or any member of the Gorman Athletic Boosters.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Order of the Eastern Star holds its regular stated meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Gorman Senior Citizens meet Every Wednesday at 11:30 in the Gorman Senior Center. Bring Covered Dish or \$3.00 Per Plate.

Gorman Oaklawn Cemetery Donations can be sent to Aline Garrett, P. O. Box 711, Gorman, Tx 76454 or to American State Bank.

LIBRARY — Charlie Garrett Memorial Library is open every Monday thru Friday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and Saturday mornings from 9 to 12 starting September 2nd.

FOOD BANK

New Hours - 10 - 11:00 a.m.
Second Thursday

Boy Scouts

Meeting Week
Tuesdays — 6:00 p.m.
Methodist Church

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20th FROM 9 - NOON
Oakland Cemetery Association is accepting donations for the Care of the Cemetery. Donations can be sent to Oakland Cemetery Association, 503 N. Fisher, Gorman, Tx 76454, or American State Bank, Gorman, Texas 76454.

4-H - Meets Second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall - Amy Wood - 734-2973.

VET Science 4-H Project - 4th Tuesday each Month. Technology Center / Gorman Community Center. Contact Lee or Amy Wood at 254-734-2973.

Gorman Masonic Lodge No. 716 A.F. & A.M. Regular stated meetings are 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Members are urged to attend. Visitors are always welcome. Mark Wilkerson, Master — Pat Moseley, Secretary.

Senior Citizens News

Carol Ward

We enjoyed our Christmas evening meal on December 7th at 5 p.m. There were 30 in attendance and Bro. Barry Schahn blessed our food. There were many delicious different kinds of desserts and vegetable dishes. Ann Maxfield and Barbara Bush prepared the meats, and outdid themselves. We enjoyed Ham and Turkey breast. Also Anna Rush made her delicious dressing as only she can, so very good.

We played Chinese X-Mas so all received a gift, and lots of fun. Several of us went together and gave Barbara a large poinsettia. Just beautiful, from Shondas. We certainly do appreciate her and all she does for us. There are several of us who help her, so it all doesn't fall on her to accomplish.

After our meal about a dozen of us stayed to play games. It was a good evening. We also had several ladies from Desdemona with us. Always good to see them.

I nearly forgot to mention, Estelle Lindley made her very good bread for our supper. It was thick sliced coarse grained, reminded me of the delicious bread they use to have at the old Lowake Steak-house.

Betty Regian and I were in Stephenville for her daughter Faye's surgical procedure. She is doing fine and all looked good. While there we visited Melba Frazier who had surgery. She is OK, naturally some soreness in her neck and I know she is looking forward to coming home.

A Thought for the week -
"The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves."

Helen Keller

Pig Tales From Hogtown

The last two weekends here in Desdemona have given us all the Christmas Spirit! Thanks to everyone who shopped at the Christmas Store. We had some really nice things this year and a wonderful place to display them. Did you all enjoy breakfast on December 2? Remember to come to the DAC for breakfast on the first Saturday of January and every month of the New Year.

Our computer is in operation and connected to the Internet for anyone who is interested. The DAC will be open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3:00 P.M. until 6:00 P.M. Students, do you have papers to write or research you must do while on Christmas break? Adults, do you want to do some research or just "play" on the computer? Please come during one of the above times and someone will be at the DAC to help. At least we will try to help. Maybe we can learn from you!

Watch for details about the opening of the library.

A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Carol Pell



Tax Equality For Texas

The holiday shopping season is upon us, and over the next few weeks, Texans will spend millions of dollars purchasing gifts for friends and loved ones. Added to

each purchase price is a sales tax, which is higher in Texas than most other states. In the past, these purchases were essentially taxed twice—first by the federal government on the earnings used to make the purchase, and then by the state on the purchase itself. However, a bill passed by Congress in the last days of our December session allows Texans to deduct the sales tax from their federal income taxes.

Extending the state sales tax deduction was one of my top legislative priorities this fall. The Texas Comptroller's Office reported that the sales tax deduction saves a family of four \$310 a year, or a total of about \$1 billion each year for the state's residents who itemize deductions.

Maintaining this deduction is an issue of fairness. Taxpayers in Texas, Alaska, Florida, Washington, Nevada, South Dakota, Tennessee and Wyoming were set to be penalized had this deduction not been reinstated. In states where revenue is collected through state income taxes, residents have long been allowed to deduct state income taxes on their federal tax returns. From 1986-2004, the residents of states without a state income tax were penalized because of their state's choice to collect revenue through sales taxes.

Congress approved a two-year sales tax deduction in 2004, but that expired at the end of last year. Had Congress not reinstated this deduction for 2006 and 2007, Texans would have been unfairly penalized again. Thankfully, Congress did and ensured tax equity. However, this unfair limitation is set to return in 2008. I remain dedicated to making this deduction permanent, so Texans are not treated like second-class citizens in regards to paying taxes.

The tax extenders package included several other measures that benefit our state's students, citizens and businesses. Among them is a deduction for college tuition and fees. This saves families thousands of dollars and allows a greater number of students to attend college each year. It allows those who earn up to \$65,000 (or \$130,000 for a married couple) to take an educational deduction worth up to \$4,000. Families with higher incomes (up to \$80,000 for an individual or \$160,000 for a couple) may qualify for a deduction worth up to \$2,000.

Another important part of this bill benefits classroom teachers, who will be allowed to deduct \$250 for classroom supplies and expenses. Our teachers certainly deserve a break for reaching into their own pockets to improve the learning environment of our children.

Technological innovation makes crucial contributions to long-term economic growth, and research and development is the lifeblood of innovation. To support this, the research and development tax credit was also extended. Supporting research and development helps American manufacturers and the U.S. economy remain competitive with increased competition from foreign countries and leads to additional American jobs in high-tech industries.

Low tax rates continue to stimulate our economy and create jobs. The economy has grown for 20 consecutive quarters. In the past year, almost 2 million jobs have been created, and the unemployment rate is 4.4 percent, which is lower than the average rate of the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s.

I firmly believe that taxpayers know better than the government how to spend their money, and I will continue to support pro-growth policies, because our nation benefits when taxpayers are allowed to keep more of what they earn.



TEXAS ☆ TIMES

John Cornyn

UNITED STATES SENATOR • TEXAS

Type 2 Diabetes: Screening Can Save Lives

During the last few decades, Type 2 diabetes has become a major health epidemic both throughout Texas and across the country. Unlike some chronic diseases, Type 2 can be prevented, delayed, or managed through sound lifestyle choices. We should all know more about this process.

Type 2 diabetes occurs when sugar builds up in the bloodstream, instead of being transferred into cells in the body where it can be used as fuel. When this buildup occurs, cells are starved for energy. Over time, high blood glucose levels can harm the eyes, kidneys, nerves and heart.

Before people are afflicted with Type 2 diabetes, they often develop "pre-diabetes," blood sugar levels that are higher than normal, but not yet high enough to be diagnosed as full Type 2. An estimated 54 million people—one in six Americans—have pre-diabetes, and this puts them at risk for long-term damage.

The disease tends to hit several U.S. demographic groups especially hard, including Hispanics, African Americans and senior citizens. The growth of Type 2 diabetes is a serious public health concern, and has huge financial consequences for U.S. taxpayers through federal programs—especially Medicare and Medicaid.

Type 2 can often be prevented by maintaining healthy eating habits, a healthy weight, and a regular exercise schedule. If not completely prevented with these measures, the disease can often be controlled successfully with an early diagnosis.

Left untreated, Type 2 can have debilitating effects, including severe cardiovascular disease, blindness, kidney disease or failure, amputation of affected body parts, and nervous system damage. In severe cases, this disease can be fatal.

Medicare beneficiaries with diabetes account for 32 percent—nearly one in every three dollars—of Medicare spending. According to a recent study in Diabetes Care, of the estimated 35 million Medicare beneficiaries age 65 or older, 21 million—over 60 percent—are afflicted with either diabetes or pre-diabetes.

According to the American Diabetes Association, some people with Type 2 diabetes experience symptoms, but others may have the disease for up to a decade without obvious symptoms. Also, some Type 2 symptoms resemble other diseases or conditions, making it harder to predict an accurate diagnosis without additional information.

Of the seven million Medicare beneficiaries with Type 2, nearly half of them are not yet diagnosed. Virtually all of the 14 million Medicare beneficiaries with pre-diabetes are undiagnosed.

In 2004, nearly 18 percent of Texans aged 65 and older had diabetes. According to the Texas Diabetes Council, diabetes is the sixth leading cause of death in our state, and is likely underreported as a cause of death, as well.

Many of the consequences of this disease could be prevented or successfully managed by early diagnosis, modest treatment, and better diet and exercise decisions. A landmark National Institutes of Health clinical trial—the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)—showed that even modest changes in exercise and diet can prevent Type 2 in 58 percent of people at high risk for the disease.

The federal government has been attempting to encourage early intervention, but has experienced only modest results. A major reason: We haven't done a good job of alerting people about the problem, and the resources available to those who may be at risk due to medical factors.

One way to improve our chances of fighting this disease is through increased diagnosis, and Medicare beneficiaries at risk for Type 2 are eligible for annual diabetes screening. So last week, I wrote U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt to encourage increased promotion of this screening benefit, and colleagues from both sides of the aisle joined me in this effort. Under Medicare, those found to have pre-diabetes may be re-screened at six month intervals thereafter. These tests are a vital first step in preventing Type 2 and heading off its most serious consequences.

Participants over 60 years of age are the greatest potential beneficiaries. Simple steps can prevent onset of Type 2 in 70 percent of high-risk seniors.

If everyone who is eligible would take these screening tests, we would save, or improve the quality of, many lives. We would also be able to conserve resources for the hard-pressed Medicare program, which is increasingly strained as the Baby Boom population begins to retire.

Complications from Type 2 can be delayed indefinitely by taking relatively simple steps to improve your health. If you suspect that you, or a loved one, may be at risk for Type 2 or pre-diabetes, take the initial screening test: The course of the disease may be dramatically improved.

Sen. Cornyn is a member of the following Senate Committees: Armed Services, Judiciary, Budget, Small Business and Entrepreneurship, and Joint Economic. He is the chairman of the subcommittees on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship and Emerging Threats and Capabilities. Cornyn served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice and Bexar County District Judge.

-- Randy's Roundup --

A Weekly Newsletter from Congressman Randy Neugebauer
December 11, 2006

House Wraps Up 109th Congress

Last week the House wrapped up its legislative business both for 2006 and for the two-year 109th Congress. We covered a lot of issues that ranged from extending tax relief to protecting the unborn. Here is a run-down of some of the action that took place on the House floor:

- Both the House and the Senate passed a comprehensive tax relief package that extends items such as sales tax deductibility, the college tuition tax credit and the teacher tax deduction through 2007. These key provisions institute fairness into our tax policy and also help support education.

- I supported and voted for the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act of 2006, H.R. 6099. Recognizing the significant body of medical research showing that babies in utero are able to feel pain, this bill would require abortion providers to give information on fetal pain to mothers seeking an abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy. The bill received majority support in the House, but failed to pass under rules requiring two-thirds support for passage.

- The House also voted to help out physicians who offer care to Medicare beneficiaries. This bill prevents a decrease in reimbursements to doctors that was scheduled to go into effect in January. This was a much-needed fix that allows Medicare patients, especially those in rural areas, to continue to receive quality health care.

- The House also approved a package that includes several free trade initiatives. I am supportive of portions of the bill, such as one that would have opened up markets in Vietnam to U.S. products. However, I voted against the bill because it includes a provision that would hurt the denim mill in Littlefield, its employees, and the West Texas farmers who sell their cotton there.

A few issues will need to be revisited when Congress reconvenes in January. At the top of this list is disaster relief for those farmers in Texas and across the country who have suffered tremendous losses from this year's drought. My statement on these efforts is posted on my website - www.randy.house.gov. Funding for much-needed upgrades to the housing at Dyess Air Force Base will also be on the agenda at the beginning of the next Congress. Funding approval for the final phase of this initiative is included in a bill that should be considered by early February. Stay tuned to future Roundups for updates on both of these important issues.

--Randy

February 2007 EXIT Level TAAS and TAKS Registration Information

TAAS Exit Level Test Administration:

Dates	TAAS
February 20	Writing
February 21	Mathematics
February 22	Reading

TAKS Exit Level Test Administration:

Dates	TAKS
February 20	ELA
February 21	Mathematics
February 22	Science
February 23	Social Studies

All out of school TAAS and TAKS examinees must complete a registration form. If you have any questions about which test to take or how to register, contact Mrs. Hampton at 734-2614 or call toll free, 800-552-0302. You can register by accessing the website <http://k12testing.tx.ncspearson.com> or by completing a registration form. Registration forms are due in Austin no later than 5:00 pm January 19, 2007.

Lone Star Lanes

New Year's Eve Sweeper

Dec. 31, 2006 - 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Sweeper with Buffet Sunday Night

New Year's Eve - Come On Come All

\$20.00 Person

for Sweeper and Buffet

Served from 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Children Bowl and Buffet

An Adult must accompany children

4 and Under Free - 5 to 12 - \$10.00

13 to 18 - \$20.00

For More Info Call 254-968-0440

BYOB

EARN MONEY FOR CHRISTMAS!

Do you need a way to get out of debt or send the kids to college?

Do you dream about how you can afford a bigger home or a nicer car?

This is my idea of the perfect network marketing company! To provide something that everyone:

- is already using
- NEEDS to use every month
- has budgeted to use every month
- wouldn't dream of ever being without and
- is priced less than the top competitors...ELECTRICITY!

No inventory to buy No product to sell No monthly quotas No inflated prices

Simple plan with 3 streams of income including an excellent RESIDUAL INCOME!!!

• Immediate income - you can earn \$500.00 within your first 2-3 weeks

• Leadership Bonus income - you can earn \$50.00 or \$250.00 on your team to UNLIMITED DEPTH!

• Residual income -- you can earn income on 1000's of customers, every month, to UNLIMITED DEPTH!

You get to save money on your own electric bill every month AND make money on hundreds of electric bills every month. Plus you can enjoy the tremendous tax advantages of owning your own thriving business!

Many single mothers as well as married couples have made hundreds within their first 1-14 days!

Please visit my website: www.thumperenergy.igniteinc.biz and click on Powerful Opportunity for a 10 minute multimedia presentation!You are welcome email me at jake@txol.net The road to prosperity is just one decision away!