

## DAR Reports On Recent Activities

The John Everett Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) met this month at the home of Randa Simmons.

Members welcomed two guests, Helen Farris of Eagle Lake and Marie Fritsche of Weimar.

Laura Ann Rau conducted the business meeting. The DAR is a big supporter of Veterans and of

soldiers serving our country at present.

The chapter collected donations to purchase Christmas gifts for soldiers serving in Iraq. They have requested warm socks, hand warmers and phone cards. The John Everett Chapter would like to encourage everyone to remember a soldier serving overseas with a Christmas gift. The pack-

ages need to be mailed as soon as possible to reach them on time.

If you are a woman 18 or older interested in tracing your ancestry back to the American Revolution and belonging to the Daughters of the American Revolution, call 732-6566 or 732-6848. The John Everett Chapter is here to help you.

## County Slates Pesticide Program

A five hour continuing education program for private, commercial and non commercial pesticide applicators is scheduled for Thursday January 18, 2007 at the Columbus KC Hall. You are asked to pre-register by January 15, 2007 with the Colorado County Extension Office. There will be a \$15 fee to cover refreshments, hall and handouts.

Topics and Speakers to be presented include Fire Ant Management Dr.

Bart Drees, Extension Entomologist, Brush Control Management Techniques

Dr. Wayne Hanselka, Extension Range Specialist, Pond Weed

Management

Peter Woods, Regional Aquaculture Specialist, Laws and Regulations,

Melissa Barton, Texas Department of Agriculture, Feral Hog Management

T.J. Muir, Wildlife Damage Management Biologist. The county extension office looks forward

to seeing you on this day.

Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in any of the mentioned activities, are encouraged to contact the County office eight days before all programs for assistance.

## Cotton Production Down 32 Percent

Texas Upland cotton production for 2006 is expected to total 5.7 million bales, down 32 percent

from 2005 and unchanged from forecast last month, according to figures released by the Texas Field Office.

Statewide harvested acreage is estimated at 4.2 million acres, 25 percent less than last year.

Yield is expected to average 651 pounds per acre compared with 723 pounds last year, and unchanged from the November forecast.

Production on the Southern High Plains is estimated to total 2.45 million bales, down 41 percent from last year's production.

Average yield, at 632 pounds per acre, is 125 pounds less than a year ago.

The Northern High Plains crop, estimated at 1.56 million bales, is four percent more than last year.

In the Low Plains, production is estimated at 450,000 bales, 59 percent less than last year.

United States Upland cotton production is forecast at a record 20.57 million bales, down 12 percent from last year and virtually unchanged from the November forecast.

Yield is expected to average 790 pounds per acre compared with 825 pounds in 2005.

Harvested acreage is estimated at 12.5 million acres, eight percent less than a year ago.

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- 2 yr. old bulls with Performance and EPD records
- 10 Horned Hereford Bulls from Pied Piper Farms
- 75 Braford Bred Heifers
- 25 2 yr. old Brangus Pairs
- 50 Brangus, Braford & Crossbred bred Heifers
- 150 Brangus & Brangus Baldy bred Heifers
- 25 Open Braford Heifers
- 50 Open Brangus & Brangus Baldy Heifers
- 80 3-5 yr old Open Crossbred Cows from Prison System

All consignments must be received no later than Wednesday, Dec. 13 at 5pm.

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On Tuesday, December 5, Masonic Lodge # 366 invited the Eagle Lake Girl Scout Brownie Troop 6001 to their meeting in downtown Eagle Lake for cake and cookies and awarded the troop with a check for over \$250. Pictured with the troop are Tim Austin, Mason member and Lois Quenneville, troop leader.

## Masonic Lodge Donates To Brownies

your own free will and accord.

Girl Scouting, although a fledgling organization in comparison to the Masons, also holds these principles in truth.

One of the world's largest organizations dedicated to helping girls achieve their potential as caring, human beings, Girl Scouts incorporates these principles into their Promise and Law.

The Promise: On my honor, I will try to serve God and my country, to help people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout Law.

The Law: I will do my best to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong and responsible for what I say and do, and to respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources

wisely, make the world a better place and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

With the blessing of Lodge #, Troop 6001 voted to donate their check to their sister troop, Eagle Lake Daisy Troop 2411, which had just formed this year. Daisy troops, consisting of kindergarteners, are too young to participate in the Girl Scout fundraising activities.

So the Brownies decided to share their good fortune with the Daisies, and presented them with the check that same evening.

Many thanks again to Masonic Lodge #366 for their generosity. The Girl Scouts of Eagle Lake are proud to have earned the Masons trust as we all share the pursuit of the higher goal.

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The Brownies were awe-struck by the beautiful lodge meeting room (dates back to 1873) and were on their best behavior (for 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders, that is).

After the meeting was opened by Tim Austin, the girls entertained the Masons by reciting the Girl Scout Promise and Law and sharing two of their favorite Girl Scout songs.

The Freemasons history is a long and honorable one. One of the oldest and largest fraternities in the world, Freemasonry encourages good citizenship and political expression, but is not a political or religious organization.

It teaches that each person has a responsibility to make things better in the world. Its charitable activities are manifold; yet it is not a welfare or benefit organization.

To become an Eagle Lake Mason, you only need be a man of at least 18 years of age, in good standing, who makes a commitment to live life with honor and integrity, to be willing to share and care about others, to trust each other, and to place ultimate trust in God.

Masons will not ask you to join. It is a requirement that you join of

The Colorado County office of the Texas Cooperative Extension is sponsoring a water well screening day for area residents on Monday, January 8, 2007.

Water sampling bags and instructions will be available to pick up at the following locations on January 2, 2007: Colorado County Extension Office - Columbus, M-G Farm Service Center - Weimar, Bernardo Farm & Ranch, Heinsohn's Store - Frelsburg, Eagle Lake General Store Division of FCEC and Garwood Farmers' Co-Op.

This well screening day is designed to inform private water well owners and users on the condition of their well water of possible contamination from two common contaminants.

These contaminants are fecal coliform and nitrate. The presence of fecal coliforms in water indicates that feces (bodily waste from humans or animals) may have contaminated the water.

Water contaminated with feces have microorganisms present that can cause a number of "waterborne" diseases such as cholera, typhoid, and dysentery.

## Nutrition, Medication Class Set Jan. 27

The Council for Health Education and Development in conjunction with Houston-Galveston Area Council - Area Agency on Aging Elderly and Caregiver Support Services, presents Nutrition and Medication Management.

This is a four-hour class given by a registered dietitian and a speech/language pathologist focusing on food and drug interactions, classification of drugs, signs and symptoms of concern, talking to the pharmacist and doctor, feeding problems and medications, types of disorders

and their affect on nutrition, and safety tips.

The class will be given at the Colorado County Service Facility at 305 Radio Lane, Columbus, Texas 78934 on Saturday, Jan. 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Call for reservation by Jan. 25 at 1-877-747-1542.

Admission is free to registered participants.

Bring a list of your current medications. Snacks will be provided. Bring your lunch, if you wish. Dress comfortably.

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Nitrates in ground water at levels of 10 milligrams per liter (mg/L or parts per million) is considered unsafe for human consumption.

Nitrate levels above 10 mg/L can disrupt the blood's ability to carry oxygen throughout the body.

Nitrate is converted to nitrite, which combines with hemoglobin, the chemical that carries oxygen in the blood, to form methemoglobin.

Oxygen cannot bind with methemoglobin, therefore, oxygen is not carried throughout the body. As a result, oxygen starvation occurs.

This condition is called methemoglobinemia. If left untreated, death may result. Infants less than 6 months in age and young livestock are most susceptible.

The cost of the screening is \$5 per sample.

The approved water sampling bag and instructions can be obtained from one of the above listed locations.

It is very important that only sampling bags from these locations be used and all instructions for proper sampling followed to insure accurate results.

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