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The Kearny Elementary Liberty Day kids attended the Raton city commission meeting to explain what they do, and to quiz the commissioners about the Declaration of

Independence and the Constitution. The program is to help educate and remind folks about our democratic form of government. Mayor Johnson then presented the Kids with a Proclamation honoring their accomplishments and their organization. Students pictured above, left to right: Hondo Esparza, Sara Johnson, Estrella Vargas,

Tate Wood, Mayor Jesse James Johnson, Jason Parker, Jacob Hattaway, Mabry ReQua, Dillon Lemons, Bailey Ramirez, and Jolynn Pafford. Students in back, left to

right: Sandy Mantz, Chuck Henry, Tresa Jo Kegan, Dante Sparaco, PJ Mileta, Kevin Fanelli, and Makayla Ley. Students who were absent: Alina Pillmore, Frank

Photo by Marty Mayfield

#### Raton's young writers will be honored

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anthology editor Hilary Bayliss, illustrator and Art Club president Heather Cochran, and illustrators Kayce Bustos, Beki Henson, and Erica Hopper. Hopper also illustrated this year's invitations.

In addition to students, staff, and families, Thursday evening's awards presentation and art show are open to the public. Added to the award ribbons and cash prizes, attendance by the public adds further encouragement to the community's young writers and artists.

### Cinco de Mayo celebration

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vendors had difficulty taking the shelters down. Within thirty minutes, the park had been cleared of people and snow covered the ground. But, just as it blew in so quickly, so did it blow out.

The second day of the Cinco de Mayo event brought sunshine and calm winds

## Raton PBW host wine tasting

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provided additional services to members of the organization. In addition, the

Newly elected officers of the Professional Business Women of Raton welcome members and guests to the wine tasting annual membership social. From left are Diane Dixon, secretary; Michael Anne Lannon, treasurer; Debbie Gabriele, vice-presdent; and Ellen Murphy, preident.

organization continues to work with local and state legislatures for pay equity for women.

PBW holds its monthly meetings at different



Photo by Laura L. Brewe

restaurants throughout town and often invites guest speakers to present programs during the meetings, which are held on the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. Notice of the meeting location is given to the local newspapers and radio stations.

## Raton's concert bands shine in state competition

By TIM KELLER The Chronicle-News

RATON - Band director Russell Woods brought home both his concert bands, from Raton Middle School and Raton High School, with all-state honors last weekend. At the 2010 New Mexico State Concert Band Competition in Los Lunas Friday, both Raton bands earned ratings of Excellent, with the high school concert band ranking within the top six 3A

schools in New Mexico. With the state competition under their belts, the Raton High School band now travels to the Mississippi River to perform at the St. Louis Heritage Music Festival this Friday, April 30. After last month's regional competition, Woods explained the upcoming trip. "I've been doing a lot of research, trying to get our kids out to perform for many audiences, and particularly where they can be heard by college representatives for scholarship con-

siderations.

"We don't have much opportunity in our own area to be heard by large audiences, so I've been looking farther away. My goal is to help place many of our young musicians in university music programs, with either a major or minor in music. For some of them, this can be



the incentive they need to further their educations."

Raton Middle School's state competition band included 8th graders Cody Angeli-Stone, Katherine Flores, Christian Gonzales, Max Gonzales, Toby Henson, Ashley Hester, and Clayton LePlatt.

Also, 7th graders Kristina Jansen, Jerry Jiron, Shyanne Lucero, Renee Martinez, Tara McDonald, Jonah Rael, Caylene Romero, Jerry Sanchez, Heather Segura, Tarryn Trujillo, Joseph Vigil, Collette Village Center, and Savannah Yachik; and 6th graders Melanie Alderette, Saphire Encinias, Raeanne Fissel,

Alysia Gomez, Forrest McConnell, and Devon Segura.

The Raton High School Concert Band consists of seniors Mallorie Salazar, Dale Proctor, Chris Simpson, Beki Henson, Seth Romero, Jimmy Carroll, Bubba Martinez, DeAndra Gonzales, Erica Hopper, Alexis Hester, and Ben Trujillo; junior Sara Mayes; sophomores Mariah Fleming and Darrell Segura; and freshmen Helen Segura, Warren McConnell, Lucas Jansen, Noelle McDonald, Michael Valdez, Zach Strnad, Callie Wilson, Robby Caldarelli, and Hunter Garcia.

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