The Capitol is open again to the people of Utah. They will come to know, as I know, the detailed workmanship that has gone into the Capitol. For me and all those that have worked on the Capitol, it has been a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

For those in the Rotunda seated here today, and for those of you who will visit the capitol over the next year, I encourage you to take note of the decorative arts, the detailed craftsmanship, the beautiful marble and the exquisite light fixtures. These remarkable items have been restored to their original conditions, colors and textures. The quality of this historic restoration ranks among the best in the world.

"The story of the Capitol restoration includes not only that which you can see, but that which you can not.

"It includes 285 base isolators Continued on PAGE 4A.

ars in new mayor

By PATSY STODDARD, Editor

Emery Town swore in their first lady mayor on Jan. 8. A large crowd of residents were in attendance for the historic event. Mistie Christiansen’s first order of business was to in turn swear in the re-elected council members, Gary Jensen and Patrick Sundstrom.

Mayor Christiansen said she hopes those on the town council feel free to speak their minds clearly and calmly. Everyone is entitled to their own opinions and when it’s over she hopes everyone can respect each other and still be friends. She expects disagreements on issues and wants everyone to work together for the good of Emery.

The council agreed to donate $50 to help the Girl Scout troop get started. There are 16 girls meeting each week under the direction of Ashley Sundstrom and they need enough money to open an account.

Mayor Christiansen reported on the maintenance position for the town. This position is held by Ken Christiansen who is the mayor’s father-in-law. Under the guidelines it is illegal for a relative to supervise a worker. If the relative held the position before the relative was elected then it is OK. But, Mayor Christiansen has appointed Patrick Sundstrom, council member to be Ken’s supervisor to avoid any conflicts of interest. Mayor Christiansen pointed out the town council as a whole is responsible for hiring and firing.

There was some discussion on the Consol water line. There have been some repairs along this line and those with leaks will go over their allotment of water.

There is a written agreement with Consol on the use of the water line in question and that agreement needs to Continued on PAGE 2A.

BRIEFLY

Cottonwood competitive coal lease sale

The Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration held a sale of its Cottonwood Competitive Coal Leasing Unit, 8,803.87 acres, on Dec. 31, 2007. The lands are located within the Wasatch Plateau, in Emery County. Two sealed bids were received, but neither bid met the fair market value expected for the tract. The Trust Lands Administration elected to negotiate with the high bidder, Ark Leh Company, who is headquartered in St. Louis, Mo. and is a subsidiary of Arch Coal, Inc. The bid was settled at a bonus payment of $25,034,512.50 upon an estimated 48,035,000 tons of recoverable coal.

Public lands positions open

The Emery County Public Lands council has openings available for terms which have expired and also one slot due to the resignation of council member Richard Beardall. At the January council meeting the council members voted on recommendations to send onto the Emery County Commissioners. The following names have been forwarded to the commission for discussion in their next commission meeting. Five slots will be filled. These are volunteer positions and the applicants submitting an application include:

Priscilla Burton
Bruce Wilson
Sherrel Duane Ward
Jerry J. Jones
Vernell Rowley
Leland D. Sasser
Charles A. Semborski
Phil Fauver
B. Monroe Magnuson
All of the names will be forwarded to the Commission.