



SHAWN TAYLOR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy *Fourth of July!*

Let's see, the presidential campaign started two years before the election. Congress starts running for re-election the day after they get elected. The 2012 line of new vehicles rolled out in the fall of 2011. And it seems that we are being forced, at least by the retailers, to begin celebrating Christmas in September.

I'm struggling writing this column because it's for the December issue of *WREN*, and it's early November. I'm still eating my kids' Halloween candy!

While I love the holidays and I really want to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, I also want to wish you a happy weekend, or Wednesday or whenever you might be reading this.

Enjoy the here and now because it seems that time moves at lightning speed these days. Soon, the holidays will be over, it will be 2012, the election season will really kick into high gear, and we'll be celebrating our nation's independence before you can say, "What happened to 2011?" So in case I forget, happy Fourth of July.

A new approach

I'll skip the whole bit about New Year's resolutions and goals for the upcoming "Year of the Dragon," and instead I want to let you know about a new approach we'll be taking with the *WREN* in 2012.

Not to worry, we're not making any drastic changes, and we're certainly not taking anything out of the magazine (I'm talking to you, recipe lovers).

Instead, each month we plan to include content aimed at breaking down various aspects of the energy industry. It's easy for politicians and pundits to talk about energy policy in platitudes and hyperbole. But when you break down our nation's energy needs and use in a way that we can understand it, I think we all can gain a better understanding of what needs to be done and why we need a comprehensive energy policy for our country.

Once again, I want to wish you all a very safe and merry Christmas, and we'll see you all in 2012.