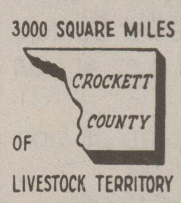


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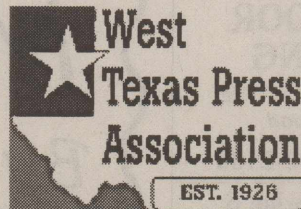
The Ozona Stockman



"Out in the West, where the air is pure, the climate agreeable, and the people friendly - The best place on Earth to call home"

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10 pages in one section



OZONA, CROCKETT COUNTY, TEXAS 76943 USPS 4168-2000 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2007 VOLUME 95 NUMBER 31 50 CENTS

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FIVE-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Wednesday	
High 87	Low 71
Chance of T-Storms	
Thursday	
High 93	Low 67
Mostly Cloudy	
Friday	
High 90	Low 69
Partly Cloudy	
Saturday	
High 90	Low 69
Chance of Showers	
Sunday	
High 88	Low 67
Chance of Showers	

Forecast information provided by the National Weather Service in San Angelo

School board approves budget, lower tax rate

By **MELISSA PERNER**
 Editor and Publisher

A lower tax rate and a lower budget were approved by the Crockett County CCSD Board of Trustees during their regular meeting last week.

The board unanimously approved an estimated \$25.9 million budget and a 1.04 per \$100 value tax rate at the Aug. 29 meeting.

The tax rate dropped by 33 cents for maintenance and operations, which is what the state legislature allowed.

The amount of the 2007-2008 budget is around \$6 million lower than the estimated \$31.9 million budget the district had for 2006-2007.

Around \$15.8 million of the budget will be sent to the

state for recapture due to Crockett County being a Chapter 41 "rich" school district.

Superintendent Abe Gott said the district is sending the money to the state instead of contracting with other school districts due to the district being able to keep the money longer allowing the district to gain some interest on the amount.

Money for new buses and suburbans at \$260,000 was included in the budget, along with \$200,000 for computer networking, wiring, servers and other updates.

Also, the district needs new suburbans. The newest one has around 91,000 miles on it, said Ray Don Myers, maintenance and transportation director.

Gott said that just because the money is in the budget,

doesn't mean the money will automatically be spent.

"We want to be able to buy buses if you approve it," Gott said.

The board will meet at noon on Sept. 13 to look at approving the purchase of new buses.

The meeting will take place at the field house due to some example buses being brought in to be inspected by the board.

Other monies that were budgeted, but may not all be spent, include \$70,000 for Lion Stadium, \$100,000 for roofing and \$56,000 for fuel.

The money for the stadium is in case a major problem occurs, such as if a light pole falls or new electrical wiring is needed, Gott said.

Please see **BOARD** page 5

Bond election placed on hold until May 2008

By **MELISSA PERNER**
 Editor and Publisher

The possibility of a November school bond election has been pushed back a few months.

During a called meeting Monday night, the Crockett County CCSD Board of Trustees decided to wait until May 2008 to hold a school bond election.

The board, along with members of the School Facilities Committee, have been discussing calling for a November bond election since spring. The bond is for the building of a new primary school that would consolidate grades pre-K through fifth into one building and then abandon the intermediate school.

At the Monday night meet-

ing, Superintendent Abe Gott presented numbers from architect Douglas Koehne on a new school. Koehne was approved by the board at their Aug. 29 regular meeting.

The numbers reflected schools with the minimum, basic needs, a median school and a maximum school.

The minimum school would be 48,160 square-feet with 20 classrooms, 8 specialty rooms and would hold 475 students. Costs for the school ranged from \$6.2 million to \$7.75 million depending on materials and cost per square foot.

For the minimum school, Koehne recommended calling for a \$6.7 to \$8.6 million bond due to additional costs for fees.

Please see **BOND** page 5

TOUGH OPENER

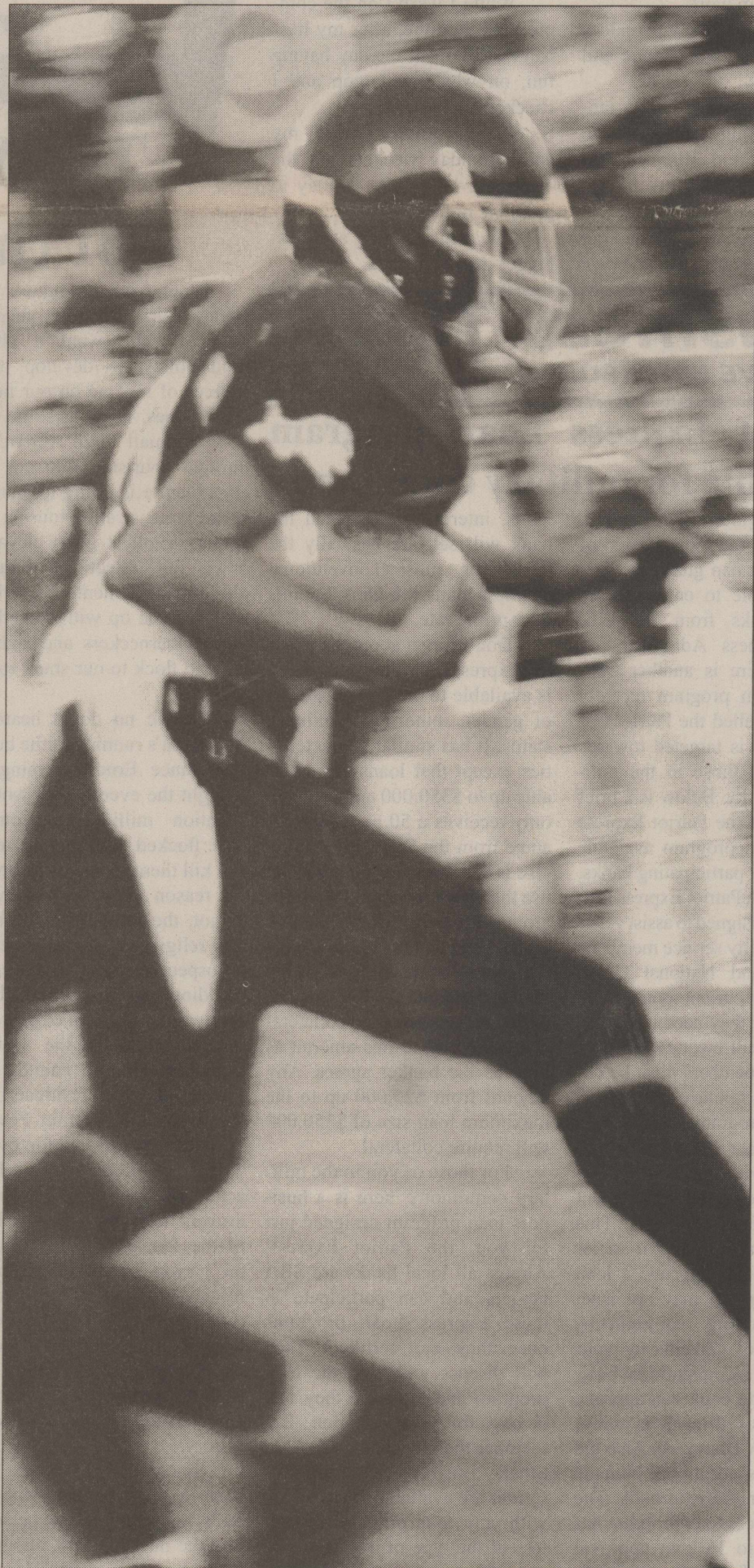


Photo by Joe Hernandez

FELIX VENEGAS sprints his way through an open hole during the Lions home opener Friday against Fort Stockton. Venegas would score for Ozona in the second quarter to put the Lions on the board. Venegas also had eight solo tackles, 3 assists on tackles, a tackle for a loss, caused a fumble and had a fumble recovery. The Lions will take on the Iraan Braves at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Iraan.

Lions unable to catch Panthers

By **MELISSA PERNER**
 Editor and Publisher

Despite the Lions being down by 35 points, defensive tackle Alan Lozano couldn't resist the urge to pick up one of the cheerleaders megaphones and yell to crowd "Every Step, Lion Pride" trying to get Ozona fans back on their feet.

It wasn't the home opener the Lions were hoping for, with a 49-14 loss to the 3A Fort Stockton Panthers. However, Ozona did have some bright moments.

The Lions came to life offensively in the second quarter when junior running back Felix Venegas found the open spots for a 15-yard touchdown run.

Quarterback Justin Maldonado had set up the drive with a nine-yard pass to Matt Turland on third on nine from the Panthers' 45-yard line. Maldonado then ran five more yards before Venegas found the end zone on the next play.

The Lions second touchdown came late in the third quarter when senior fullback Ely Silva charged to the end zone for 38 yards.

Maldonado also connected with Matias Gandar, Ely Silva and Steven Silva on several pass plays. Turland caught the ball from Maldonado on one play for 34 yards on a third down conversion.

Kicker Mark Tambunga got both extra-points and averaged 33 yards punting in the game. He also helped take out a Panther on a run back.

Defensively, the Lions did manage to stop the Panthers on several series of plays.

Tackles were made by Josh Smith, Steven Silva, Turland, Aaron Pearl, who also had a sack, Venegas, Ely Silva, Jonathan Flores, Matthew Garza, A.J. Montanez, Ben Flores, Justin Rodriguez, Matias Gandar, Rylee Ramos, Parrish Aiguier, Lozano, Daniel Anderson and Latham Ducote.

"We need to work on our blocking and tackling," said Coach Matt Gutierrez. "We need to work on our fundamentals. We are still young and we made young team mistakes."

The Lions will face the Iraan Braves Friday at Iraan. The Braves are coming off a 41-7 loss to state-ranked Roscoe. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

Wool Growers bankruptcy case may get dismissal

By **MELISSA PERNER**
 Editor and Publisher

A motion to dismiss has been filed in federal court to try and settle and the Wool Growers Central Storage Co. bankruptcy case.

The motion was filed Aug. 30 requesting that the court dismiss the Chapter 11 case. Wool Growers filed for bankruptcy in April 2006.

This motion comes after U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Robert L. Jones denied the reorganization plan on July 19.

"Since that didn't work out, we thought that maybe we could accomplish the same thing outside of bankruptcy," said Byrnie Bass, Wool Growers bankruptcy attorney. "This, we think, is the fastest and best way to get almost the same amount of money to the creditors if our plan had been confirmed."

According to the court documents, the Wool Growers board of directors have deposited \$2.6 million, to be paid to the creditors and claimants in the case, with escrow agent Walter O'Cheskey. The board of directors are George Bunker Jr., Bill Black and John Allison.

Out of the \$2.6 million contribution, \$191,700.73 will go toward professional fees for the attorneys, \$3,000 to O'Cheskey, \$30,795.32 to the Mohair Producers Board, \$158,141.69 to trade claims and \$2,215,496.85 to producer claimants.

The balance remaining of \$865.84 will be applied to any unexpected expenses incurred by O'Cheskey or returned to Wool Growers to be applied to the U.S. Trustee's fees.

After all distributions have been made, or after the expiration of 90 days from the date that the order dismissing the case becomes final, O'Cheskey shall return any remaining funds to Wool Growers to be paid back to the three directors on the promissory note executed by Wool Growers to the directors as consideration for their contribution, court documents stated.

"I can't think of any three men more honored character than these board of directors. They are good citizens," Bass said.

Please see **WOOL** page 5

Triple C
HARDWARE & LUMBER INC.

OZONA LIONS VS. IRAAN
7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AT IRAAN

Triple C
HARDWARE & LUMBER INC.

Business & Professional Guide

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What's on My Mind

By Melissa Perner

Technology: friend or foe?

I sit at my computer each day, check e-mail, layout my paper and surf the web. The thing is, today is supposed to be a holiday. I'm supposed to be at home with my feet up doing nothing. However, the nature of my business makes me have to check e-mail and finish the layout on my paper. I even have a meeting that I have to attend on Labor Day. In today's world, I'm not the only one who has to often spend holidays working or working from home. Technology has brought us many neat devices to make our life "simpler." However, I don't think technology has created the device to let us unwind from the office. I'm not saying I stay on my computer 24/7, but with laptops and wireless Internet it makes it easy to take that work home. Recently, I bought a new laptop where my husband installed programs that I use at the office and fixed it so I can check my email from work. Sounds great but where does the fine line of work-home end and begin? Of course, my new laptop is nothing compared to BlackBerrys and iPhones that give mobile technology. I haven't fully read my manual on my cell phone, but my husband says I can receive

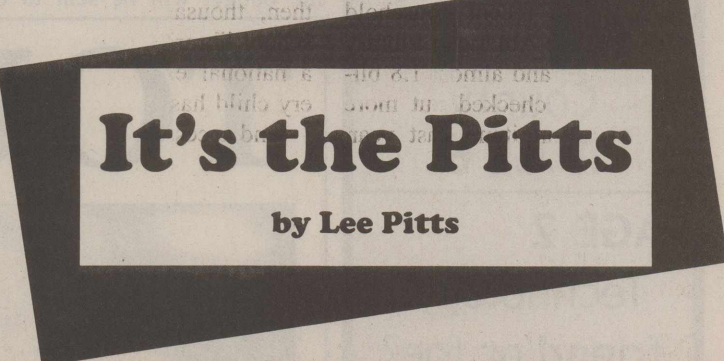
emails on it. Well, isn't that an accident waiting to happen as I'm driving down the road and my phone keeps beeping due to all the emails I get at work. I'm not the only one who is guilty of mixing work and home. I called a local school official one day with a question. That person was out so I sent an email instead with my question so that person could answer it when they return. About 30 minutes later after I sent the email, a reply came back to me. Ah, someone else takes their business on the road with them. It's hard to completely get away from the office in today's technology world. An American Psychological Association survey reports that 83 percent of e-mail users admit checking their e-mail daily while on vacation. I took three vacations this summer and the laptop was along for the ride on all of them. While I wasn't on the computer all the time, after my husband and I spent the day having fun, on went the laptop and I checked email. Now, I didn't spend my entire holiday weekend on the computer. I did take Sunday to go to the movies. It was nice staring at screen bigger than 15 inches.

Community Calendar

- Wednesday, Sept. 5**
- Exercise Classes, 8:30 a.m. at the Senior Center.
 - Museum Board meeting, noon at the museum
- Thursday, Sept. 6**
- Ladies' Bridge, 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.
 - Seventh Grade Lions vs. Sonora, 4 p.m. at Lion Stadium.
 - Eighth Grade Lions vs. Iraan, 5 p.m. at Lion Stadium.
 - JV Lions vs. Iraan, 6:30 p.m. at Lion Stadium.
- Friday, Sept. 7**
- Exercise Classes, 8:30 a.m. at the Senior Center.
 - Varsity Lions vs. Iraan, 7:30 p.m. at Iraan.
- Saturday, Sept. 8**
- OHS and OMS Cross Country Teams at the Concho Valley Classic at the Carlsbad Park in San Angelo.
- Monday, Sept. 10**
- Exercise Classes, 8:30 a.m. at the Senior Center.
 - Commissioners' Court meeting, 9 a.m. at the courthouse annex.
 - Ladies' Bridge, 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.
 - Deerfest meeting, 8 p.m. at the Crockett Room.
- Tuesday, Sept. 11**
- Patriot Day
 - Ozona Woman's League meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the West Texas Rehab Center.
- Wednesday, Sept. 12**
- Exercise Classes, 8:30 a.m. at the Senior Center.

Letters to the Editor

We welcome your letters. Not all will be published. To submit a letter, mail us at The Ozona Stockman, P.O. Box 370, Ozona, Texas 76943 or e-mail us at publisher@ozona.com. Please include name, address, phone number and e-mail if available. ALL LETTERS MUST CONTAIN THIS INFORMATION OR WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED. Letters are subject to editing. Defamatory, libelous and/or profane language will reject any letter out of hand. Letters should try to not exceed 250 words.



The Walking of the Cows

People in agriculture are always being urged by our government, who want a cheap food policy, to develop other sources of income on our farms and ranches. They insist the way to save small town America is through tourism. But not every urbanite is going to want to spend their vacation touring this country's tallest grain elevators or visiting collections of rusted old farm implements. But I think I have come up with something that rubberneckers and sightseers will flock to our small towns and kill themselves for no apparent reason or cause. Believe it or not, the running of the bulls is a religious festival, which in retrospect seems fitting because the idiots who run with the bulls surely must say a lot of prayers. You've no doubt heard of Pamplona's running of the bulls? Ever since Ernest Hemingway brought the event to the world's attention millions of tourists have flocked to Pamplona to try and kill themselves for no apparent reason or cause. Believe it or not, the running of the bulls is a religious festival, which in retrospect seems fitting because the idiots who run with the bulls surely must say a lot of prayers. Pamplona is the historic capital of Basque country and every July the residents celebrate the San Fermin Festival by partying nonstop for over a week. The running of the bulls actually began in 1852 when the drovers who brought the bulls to the Plaza de Toros through the narrow streets of Pamplona for that night's bullfight started running with them. Then some crazy tourists thought it looked like fun to be gored and run over by bulls and so they joined the chase. And the rest is medical history. Since 1924, 13 people have been killed running with the bulls, including the last person to bite the dust in 1995. Naturally, he was an American. This year during the running of the bulls at least 13 people were hospitalized and seven of those were seriously gored. Three had to undergo operations. Doesn't this sound like fun? Whenever the Pamplona veterans get together to talk through wired jaws they speak in reverence of two years in particular: 1947 and 1980. In those years one bull killed two people each. My wife insists that in the past we have had offspring of those two bulls as our ranch herd sires. There are few rules in running with the bulls. You're not supposed to be drunk or impaired, but who else would do such a thing? You are not allowed to hurt or harass the bulls either, which is funny considering that in less than 12 hours the bulls will be killed with a sword to the heart. Needless to say, the event has drawn the ire of PETA who, one week before, stages their annual Running Of The Nudes in which homely animal rightsists run with nothing on but a red scarf. I am told the scene is far more hideous than anything that happens during the bull run. Spectators hide their eyes in horror, unable to look at the grotesque scene being played out before them. Now here's what I've been thinking. My initial idea was that prior to the NFR in Las Vegas the rodeo stock for that night's performance would be run down the Vegas strip to the Thomas and Mack Arena. But I gave up on that idea because the rodeo animals are far too valuable and I don't think the bus people would leave their slot machines to run with the bulls and risk losing the nickels and quarters in their buckets. Besides, Vegas doesn't need the money and small town America does. We don't have bullfight arenas but we do have auction markets and I thought that instead of trucking our culls to auction, once a year ranchers could drive them down Main Street to their local auction yard. Because no rancher wants to get hit by a bullock in the buttocks we'd make a few changes. Instead of running with the bulls we'd walk with the cows. That way there'd be far fewer fatalities. And less shrink! Hemingway got famous for his portrayal of the running of the bulls and I have high hopes that my walking with the cows idea will leave me with a similar legacy. If you do borrow my idea I only ask for three things: That I be the first Grand Marshall and that either I get to ride in a safe car or the cows must be gimpy, old and polled.

'Business Tips' BY DAVE ERICKSON

Patriot Express Loan program available for military community

In a previous article last fall, I discussed the advantages of the Express Loan guarantee program available to entrepreneurs through banks from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). There is another SBA Express Loan program recently announced called the Patriot Express, which is targeted towards veterans and those in the military community. Below is a brief discussion of the Patriot Express business loan program available through local participating banks. The SBA Patriot Express loan program is designed to assist veterans, active-duty service members, Reservists and National Guard members, and current spouses with the financing they need to start or expand a small business. Current active-duty members must be eligible for the military's Transition Assistance Program. Loans are available up to \$500,000, with the bank receiving an 85 percent to 75 percent guarantee from the SBA. This SBA guarantee makes it easier for the bank to approve a loan as your proposal may not meet all their lending requirements. So instead of considering your proposal for a conventional business loan, the bank can approve your loan based on their ability to get a SBA guarantee. Also the program has additional benefits for both you and your bank. The Patriot Express loan program has a quick 24 to 36 hour approval turnaround from the SBA. In addition, the bank can use their own loan paperwork and not have to worry about the many SBA forms used for a typical guaranteed loan. The new Patriot Express loan program can be used for most business purposes, including start-up, expansion, equipment purchase, working capital, inventory, or business occupied real-estate purchases. Contrary to common myths about SBA

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Crockett County Library News by Louise Ledoux

Library card sign-up

Get the Smartest Card at your library. Some cards in your wallet could cost you the world.

The Smartest Card — your library card — can deliver the world to you. The Smartest Card gives you access to books and information on just about any subject you can think of or imagine.

All this and more is at your library, and your library card will get you there. That's why it's the Smartest Card, and September, Library Card Sign-up Month, is the perfect time to get one.

"A library card has always been the most important school supply of all," said Librarian Louise P. Ledoux. "Kids can come to the library to get homework help with our free access to Live Homework Help through Tutor.com. Live Homework Help is an innovative online after-school program that connects students to expert tutors for help in all core academic subjects. Students can use Live Homework Help and check out books, but they can also check out audios and use the Internet to make after school life a little more fun. There's a lot happening at the Crockett County Public Library and all it takes to access is a library card."

Libraries are flourishing. Nearly two-thirds of Americans report having a library card, according to a recent household survey by the American Library Association, and almost 1.8 billion visitors checked out more than 2 billion items last year. What library card holders know is that with the Smartest Card, you have access to a goldmine of books, magazines, CDs and cassettes, not to mention computers

and Internet access. Why buy when you can borrow? It's all free at your library.

Public libraries today provide something for the whole family. In fact, 44 percent of parents report that they bring their children to the library because it gives them something to do together. Parents can help their children explore new interests, sit back and enjoy a family program or add a cookbook or a best seller for themselves to the stack of books for the kids.

It's no coincidence that National Library Card Sign-up Month comes in September, when school is back in session. Studies show that children who are read to in the home and who use the library perform better in school and are more likely to continue to use the library as a source of lifetime learning.

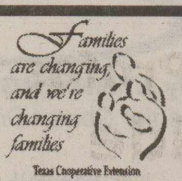
All libraries have one special resource in common: professional librarians. They can recommend and help locate print materials suitable for various ages and interests, demonstrate Live Homework Help, help kids learn how to evaluate information sources, and can partner with parents to help teach kids how to make safe and informed decisions online.

Library Card Sign-up Month was launched in 1987. Since then, thousands of public and school libraries join each fall in a national effort to ensure every child has the Smartest Card — and access to one of the most unique and valuable institutions in our democracy.

So make sure you and your children have the Smartest Card. Get It! Use it! At your library!

Tips from Susie

By Susie Bishop CEA-FCS



Identity Theft – Minimize Your Risk

Identity theft results when your personal information is stolen and used by someone else to open new accounts in your name, access your existing accounts, or assume your identity in financial and other transactions.

There are things you can do to minimize your risk.

* First and foremost, check your credit report at least once a year. Many people first learn they have been a victim of identity theft when they are turned down for credit because of a poor credit record. When they check their credit report, they discover accounts that they did not open. You can obtain a copy of your credit report by contacting each of the three main credit reporting agencies: Experian - www.experian.com 888-397-3742, Equifax - www.equifax.com 800-685-1111, TransUnion - www.transunion.com 800-916-8800.

If you have been denied credit in the past 60 days, have been the victim of ID Theft, are unemployed, or on public assistance, you are entitled to your credit report for free.

Otherwise, credit bureaus charge about \$9.50 for a credit report. Texans are eligible for one free credit report every 12 months from each of the three major creditreporting agencies. To access your free report, visit

www.annualcreditreport.com.

* GUARD your Social Security Number. Don't routinely carry your Social Security card with you. Leave it in a safe, secure place at home, and only bring it with you when you need it.

* NEVER give out personal information over the phone, in person or via e-mail or the internet unless you have initiated the contact, you know who you are dealing with, and there is a legitimate need for the information. Financial institutions and businesses will not contact you and ask you to verify account information they already have on file.

* Guard your mail and trash. Shred all documents with personal information before you throw it away — preferably with a crosscut shredder. Always place outgoing mail in a secure post office collection box rather than your own mailbox to prevent your mail from being stolen to obtain account information. Consider getting a locked mail box or using a post office box for incoming mail.

* Secure your personal information at home. Use a lock box or locked file cabinet. This is especially important if you have people working for you in your home or you are having service work done.

* Ask your employer how

your personal information is safeguarded.

* Only carry the identification, credit and debit cards and other account information you need.

* Reduce the amount of information, requests, and offers you receive in the mail. To opt out of prescreened credit offers call 888-567-8688 or visit www.optoutprescreen.com.

To remove your name from telemarketing calls visit www.texasnocall.com and www.donotcall.gov. And to remove your name from direct marketing lists visit www.dmaconsumers.org/consumerassistance.html

* Use virus protection software and a firewall program on your computer. Never download files or click on links from people you don't know or trust.

For more information, visit the Federal Trade Commission at www.consumer.gov/idtheft, the Texas Attorney General at www.oag.state.tx.us/consumer/idtheft.shtml, or the Identity Theft Resource Center at www.idtheftcenter.org.

This information was prepared by Dr. Joyce Cavanagh, Associate Professor and Extension Family Economics Specialist, Texas Cooperative Extension, Texas A&M University System, March 2005.

Happy Birthday

Sept. 5 - Erik Duenes, Jordyn Bauerlein, Steven Silva and Stacy Silva

Sept. 6 - Levi Vargas, Luann Pierce, Chelsea Spence and Yolanda Mata

Sept. 7 - Natividad Hernandez Sr., Jeffery Gillitt, Carson Childress, Glenn Crowder and Juan Garcia

Sept. 8 - Jesslynn Kay Fierro and Murray Logan

Sept. 9 - Bethany Martinez, Estella Ramos, Dominique Perez and Jennifer Gandar

Sept. 10 - Angela Branch, Myra Dominguez and Kimberlee De La Garza

Sept. 11 - Leland Mendoza, Wendy Justiss, Gene Hood, Julia Ramirez, Patricia Canales, Anais Venegas, Lazaro Rodriguez, Carly Wilha, Bob Falkner, Mike Worley, Johnito Rodriguez, Madison Childress, Anthony Gutierrez, Adriel Zamarripa, Rogelio Estrada and Nathan Knox

To place a birthday on the birthday list, call 392-2551

Crockett County Museum Memorials

GOLD LEAF MEMORIAL
IN MEMORY OF:
Martin Brock III
GIVEN BY:
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New officers elected to Crockett County Historical Commission

In the August meeting of the Crockett County Historical Commission, Bob Childress was elected president, John Fluth was elected vice-president, and Janie Everett was elected secretary.

Our Historical Commission is working on several projects, including mapping and documenting our cemetery, so that we

can produce computer access to information about our cemetery.

If you have any information about maps or documentation of the Lima and Cedar Hill cemeteries, please convey that information to the attention of John Fluth, Crockett County Historical Commission, at the Crockett County Museum.

Pecos Trail Directors to visit Odessa

By KEITH GODWIN
Regional Coordinator

The impressive Presidential Museum and Leadership Library in Odessa is the site for the Sept. 12 Texas Pecos Trail Region (TPTR) board of directors meeting.

An introduction to the Museum's Presidential "story" begins at 10:30 a.m. in the Museum's entrance hall.

A special presentation from Kristie Lawler of the Texas Heritage Trails Program on the status of the greatly anticipated TPTR Heritage Travel Guide they produce for the individual Trails Regions will follow.

This "Educational Experience" program and the board meeting, is open to the public as well as preservation and tourism partners from around the 22 county Pecos Trail Region.

The always popular "Networking Luncheon," where all attendees and guests have an opportunity to share Heritage Tourism events and projects ongoing in their various communities, begins at 11:30 a.m. The board's business meeting begins about 12:45 p.m.

Business of importance will be the nomination and election of new board members and an outline of marketing, preservation and education projects for the fall and winter.

Reservations for the networking luncheon (\$10 fee) must be made by Sept. 6 with the TPTR Coordinator at (325) 387-2927.

The TPTR is accepting applications for three board positions; deadline for submittal is Aug. 31.

Visit the website at www.texaspecostrail.com, for call Keith Godwin, Region Coordinator for details.

Participants being sought for National Little Britches Rodeo

We are looking for volunteers to form a National Little Britches Rodeo Association.

This rodeo association provides a wide age range of memberships which are as follows, Little Wranglers - 5 through 7, Juniors (Boys & Girls) 8 through 13, and Seniors Boys & Girls) - 14 through 18.

We are looking for cowboys and cowgirls in Pecos, Upton, Crockett, Sutton and Jeff Davis counties.

There are several schol-

arships given away each year along with many of other incentives.

Please take a moment to visit their website at www.nlbra.com.

If you are interested contact Lovie Noelke at l.noelke@starband.net or l.noelke@bigbend.net.

(E-mail preferred response), cell (325) 650-6336, also Venetia Smith at smith_venetia@yahoo.com or (432) 639-2761.

It's a boy

Exander Guy Whitby was born on Aug. 9, 2007 to proud parents Stevie Whitby and Linda Ruiz at Community Medical Center in San Angelo.

Exander weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 19.75 inches long.

He was welcomed home by siblings Justice Adkins, Izac Adkins and Adrian Whitby.

Grandparents are Oralina Ramirez of Ozona and Joe Ruiz of Odessa and Gary and Tammy Krug of Ozona and Tammie Shelton of St. Louis, Mo.

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ONB Crockett Room
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BOND: Postponing election would allow more time to plan a new school building

from page 1

"The minimum school is the basic space requirements by the Texas Education Agency with very few additional spaces," Gott said. "Minimum plan is not planning for any kind of growth."

For a median school, it would be 55,400 square-feet, have 20 classrooms, 10 specialty rooms and hold 475 students. Cost for this school ranges from \$7.2 million to \$8.86 million with a project bond range of \$7.79 million to \$9.87 million. The bond range includes additional monies for fees, technology and new furnishings.

"This school adds a few square-feet to classrooms for additional storage. There's also a second conference room and testing room," Gott said. "The kitchen is also enlarged for cooking meals."

The maximum built school would be 64,680 square-feet, have 23 classrooms, 10 specialty room and house 495 students. Costs for this school would range between \$8.4 million to \$10.3 million with a projected bond range of \$9.1 million to \$11.4 million. The

bond range includes additional monies for fees, technology and new furnishings.

"What I see on here is that if you want to cover the majority of your basis, you're looking at a \$10 million bond," Gott said.

In postponing the bond until May 2008, Gott said Koehne didn't think it would be a problem and would allow more time to plan the building.

Depending on timing, if the bond passes in May, students may not be in the primary school next fall. Gott said he is hoping to get the new school built by fall 2009.

"Waiting gives him more time to come here, meet with people, draw up the plans and let the public see what they are getting," Gott said.

Board member Dwight Childress had questions about classroom sizes and the number of classrooms in each grade.

"If you build a school, you want to make sure you have enough to consolidate. It's likely that the classes will go down in size, but you have to be prepared if they don't," he said.

Gott said he liked the idea

of a testing room and that a separate, secure room is needed to keep TAKS testing materials locked up.

Koehne will be scheduled to meet with board at their Sept. 19 regular meeting to talk with board about what they would like to see in the school.

The board was scheduled Tuesday night to meet with the Crockett County Commissioners to call for a November bond election. That meeting was cancelled after the board's Monday night meeting.

"I still would rather wait myself," said Dr. Marcus Sims, board president. "If we ask the commissioners for a certain amount of money we need to make sure we can meet it. I don't see us going for just the very minimum."

The board did meet with the commissioners on Aug. 29 and approved a resolution to ask the commissioners to call for a \$7 million bond for the new primary school and a \$1 million bond for maintenance and transportation issues. That resolution was rescinded as the board wanted more time to discuss the bond amount.

BOARD: Enrollment is up to 804 students

from page 1

Anything over \$25,000 has to be approved by the school board before the money is spent, Gott said.

"Some of these are a guess. I can't predict what fuel prices are going to do. We are budgeting for things that could happen. I hope they don't but we have to have the money for this," Gott said. "If we cut some things we could have to dip into the fund balance or do budget amendments."

Gott also said that the district's auditors want the fund balance to increase by \$2 million to \$8 million.

"I don't want to get into a situation that we had a few years ago where we did cut the budget and then ended up hammering our fund balance," said Tom Anderson, board member.

The board met throughout the month of August to discuss the budget in workshops before approving it.

ENROLLMENT IS UP

During their principals' reports, each campus reported an increase in enrollment during the first week of school.

Primary school has 212 students; intermediate 171; middle school 174 and high school 247 for a total of 804 students.

Intermediate School Principal Manley Holmes said that this year's third grade was a bit crowded with only three teachers and an average of 22 students in each class.

Holmes said that Gott and he are working on a plan if needed.

High School Principal Carole Allen said that \$25 in cell phone fines were collected the second day of school and that the money from the fines collected will be deposited into the high school's scholarship fund.

The fines come from a new cell phone policy that was imple-

mented at the start of the 2007-2008 school year.

CALENDAR CHANGES

A couple of changes have been made to the 2007-2008 calendar due to some revised TAKS testing dates.

The original TAKS testing date of Feb. 19 has been changed to March 4. This date involves testing in grades 4 and 7 writing, grades 3, 5, 8, and 9 reading and grade 10 and exit level English language arts.

The original testing dates of April 22-25 have been changed to April 29-30 and May 1-2.

The bad weather make-up day that was originally set for April 28 has been moved to May 16.

The new calendar can be viewed at www.ozonaschools.net and click on calendar.

The next regular scheduled board meeting is set for 6:30 p.m. Sept. 19 at the Administration Building.

WOOL: Creditors committee approves of settlement

from page 1

The amount of producer claims filed in the case comes to \$3.3 million. Of that, \$30,795.32 will go to the Mohair Producers Board due to a court approved settlement and agreement.

All of the producer claims will be sent a form of release of any and all claims or causes of action in exchange for a dividend in the approximate amount of 67.75 cents on the dollar in the amount of their claim filed and allowed in this case and in full satisfaction of the claim, court documents stated. The money will then be disbursed by O'Cheskey.

If a producer chooses not to sign the release and accept the

settlement, then their unpaid dividend will be returned to Wool Growers to be paid back by Wool Growers to the three directors on the promissory note executed by Wool Growers to the directors, court documents stated.

The creditors committee, which helped with the bankruptcy's reorganization plan, has approved this motion and settlement, Bass said.

"(The producer) hasn't lost anything and they can still go ahead and exercise their legal rights," Bass said.

A hearing has been set for 1:30 p.m. Oct. 4 at the Federal Courthouse in San Angelo if an objection or other response is filed

on the motion to dismiss. If no objection or response is filed then the judge will rule on the motion.

Only one group of creditors has filed motions throughout the bankruptcy process objecting to the Wool Growers plan.

The Wardlaw Creditors, which consist of Jack David Wardlaw, Jesse Lem Wardlaw and Warlaw Brothers, which is composed of Jack David Wardlaw III, Mack Miers Wardlaw and William Chase Wardlaw, objected to the bankruptcy plan due to breach of contract, documents stated.

The Wardlaw's attorney, Richard Miller, was not available for comment.

Board to extend terms of office

By MELISSA PERNER
Editor and Publisher

The Crockett County CCSD Board of Trustees will look at expanding their terms of office at their Sept. 19 regular meeting.

During a called meeting Monday night, Superintendent Abe Gott said that the Texas Secretary of State's Office stated that a common school district is not required to host joint elections with a city or county. The new ruling applies only to independent school districts.

Crockett County is a common school district.

With this new information, Gott said the board could go ahead and call for a board of trustee election in November, or they could wait and change their terms of office to fit with having elections in even-numbered years at the same time Crockett County holds their elections.

The district has been dealing with the election date since April.

"I don't want to run for four more years, or another term, but I wouldn't mind staying through November 2008 just to get the bond done," said Dr. Marcus Sims, board president.

"I think it will be a lot better for us to call for the bond and show that we're all here working toward that," added Tom Anderson, board member.

With the change in terms of office, Sims, Anderson and Carol Buie's terms would be extended to 2008.

Veronica Fierro and Laurie Hale, whose terms were up in 2009, would have their terms extended to 2010.

Jana Wilson and Dwight Childress terms are up in 2008. For these two board members, one member's term will be up in 2008 while the other's term will be extended to 2010.

Wilson and Childress will draw to determine whose term is extended and whose term stays the same at the Sept. 19 meeting.

Hale has been on the board since 2000, Anderson since 2001, Buie since 2004 and Wilson since 2005.

Sims has served 12 years on the board. He was elected in 1992 and 2004. Childress was appointed in 2005.

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The children at the Ozona Community Center would like to thank the following for all that they did to make the 15th Annual Davy Crockett Festival, our fundraiser, a success:

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We'd also like to thank the following people:
Crockett County Road Department, especially Jesse Fierro and Joanie Medley, Lynn English, OHS Color Guard and Ms. Bloebaum and Mrs. Hanzik, OHS Cheerleaders and sponsor Karen Huffman, Tammy McWilliams and her Guitar Class, OHS Band Boosters - Vicki White, Terri Burleson, Paula Sessom and Gretchen Bloebaum, and the Knights of Columbus. Plus thanks to all the people of Ozona and Crockett County who came out to support the Davy Crockett Festival and the Ozona Community Center.





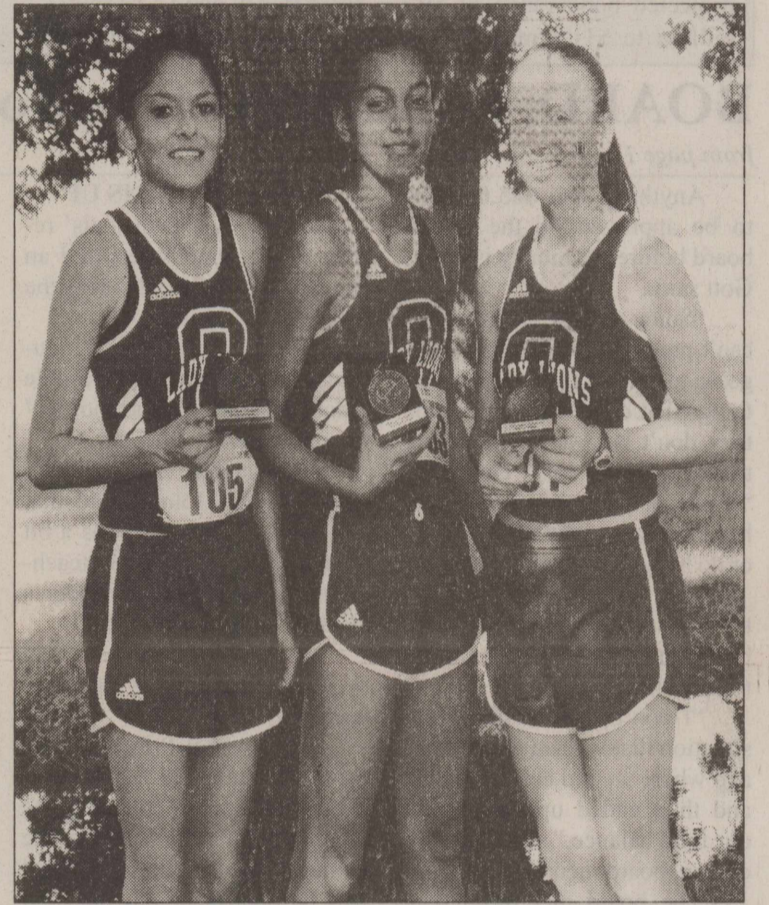
THE OZONA VARSITY BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM BROUGHT HOME THE CHAMPIONSHIP FROM REAGAN COUNTY THIS PAST WEEKEND. Team members are: (l. to r.) Coach Mary Corley, Kyle Dean, Fabian Onate, Jesse Badillo, Ethan English, Stefan Wilson, Abey Lara, Lalo Longoria, and Coach John Jackson.

Photo by Joe Hernandez



THE OZONA MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS WON THE REAGAN COUNTY CROSS COUNTRY MEET ON SATURDAY. Team members are: (l. to r.) Coach Mary Corley, Kodi Glosson, Tesla Caperton, Italy Villarreal, Maria Villarreal, Jacinda Villarreal, Alexandra Rodriguez, Trinity Collis, Sabrina De La Garza and Coach John Jackson.

Photo by Joe Hernandez



THE OZONA VARSITY GIRLS placed fifth in the Reagan County cross country meet on Saturday. Medalists pictured are: (l. to r.) Vicky Treto, Vanessa Rodriguez and Chelsea Moore.

Photo by Joe Hernandez

Middle School Lady Lions take first at Reagan County

By **MELISSA PERNER**
Editor and Publisher

The Ozona Middle School Lady Lions brought home the winning plaque after taking victory at the first cross country meet of the

season in Reagan County. Medalists for the Lady Lions were: 1. Alex Rodriguez; 2. Maria Villarreal; 5. Kodi Glosson; 6. Cynthia Garcia and 9. Trinity Collis.

Lady Lions were: Jacinda Villarreal, Tesla Caperton, Italy Villarreal and Sabrina De La Garza. For the Lions, Tevin Cordova placed ninth. Also running for the Lions were: Jaso Badillo,

Noah Tambunga and Jeffery Sanchez. The Middle School Lions and Lady Lions will compete Saturday in the Concho Valley Classic at the Carlsbad Park in San Angelo.

Varsity Lions win at Reagan County, Lady Lions fifth

By **MELISSA PERNER**
Editor and Publisher

The Ozona Lions brought up the first place plaque after winning their first meet of the season Saturday at Reagan County.

The Lions had four runners place in the top 20 at the meet. Medalists for the Lions were: 3. Ethan English, 7. Jesse Badillo, 9. Abey Lara and 17. Stefan Wilson. Also running for the Lions were: Fabian Onate, Lalo Long-

oria and Kyle Dean. The Lady Lions placed fifth at the meet. Medalists for the Lady Lions were: 3. Chelsea Moore, 9. Vicky Treto and 19. Vanessa Rodriguez. Also running for the Lady Lions were: Rebecca Ramos, Vanessa De La Garza, Kayla Fuller and Makayla Badillo. The Lions and Lady Lions will compete Saturday in the Concho Valley Classic at the Carlsbad Park in San Angelo.



The Middle School Football games have been cancelled for this week.



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Photo by Joe Hernandez

THE OZONA LION BAND started the season with a "Wiz" bang with their Over the Rainbow theme. Pictured are: (l. to r.) color guard members Roxanne Talamantez, Crystal Gonzalez, Sarah Lott, drum major Chelsea Spence, Jayden Poindexter, Anna Hernandez and Alex Macias.

JV Lions fall to Fort Stockton Panthers

By **MELISSA PERNER**
Editor and Publisher

The Ozona JV Lions had a tough first game last week against the Fort Stockton Panthers in Fort Stockton.

The Lions were defeated 50-8.

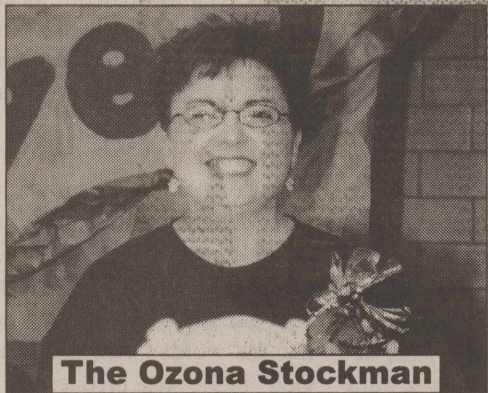
Scoring the one touchdown was Josh "Speedy" Gonzales. Chris Rendon then scored the two-point conversion.

"We need to work on defense from all aspects and we need to find offensive linemen that can block," said Coach JayBen Alls. "We played a very

impressive quarter. Just when things went bad they went bad. I am very proud of the boys for hanging in there and playing hard even with the outcome."

The JV Lions will have their home opener against the Iraan Braves at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Lion Stadium.

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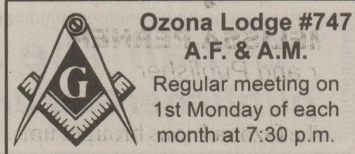
Alpine	41
Pecos	14
San Saba	24
Junction	7
Harper	21
Sonora	7
Reagan Co.	52
Coahoma	14
Colo. City	7
Wall	0
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Youth Center Calendar of Events

- Sept. 7 - Closed for out of town Football game.
- Sept. 8 - Middle School Dance starting at 7 p.m.
- Sept. 10 - OHS Food Night, 7-10 p.m.
- Sept. 11 - OMS Food Night, 7-10 p.m.
- HIGH SCHOOL & EX'S HOMECOMING DANCE SEPT. 21**

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Museum is sponsoring photo contest

The Crockett County Museum is sponsoring an Amateur Photo Contest.

All proceeds from the contest will go toward the museum's elevator fund.

Categories:
YOUTH PHOTOGRAPHY
(Grades 1-4)
Black & White/Sepia
Color Prints
Special Category "Windmills"

(Grades 5-8)
Black & White/Sepia
Color Prints
Special Category "Windmills"

(Grades 9-12)
Black & White/Sepia
Color Prints
Special Category "Windmills"

ADULT PHOTOGRAPHY

Section 1 -
Black & White/Sepia
Scenery
General Photos (no people, but animals included)
People
Special Category "Windmills"

Section 2 - Color Prints
Scenery
General Photos (no people, but animals included)
People
Special Category "Windmills"

RULES & INSTRUCTIONS

(Youth and Adult)

1. All entries shall be subject to the general rules and instructions of this contest.

2. Entry fee of \$5 per Youth entry and \$10 per Adult entry is required. **NO REFUNDS.**

3. Exhibitors in this contest shall be in one of the following groups:

YOUTH, Grades 1-4
YOUTH, Grades 5-8
YOUTH, Grades 9-12
ADULT, includes people 18 and over who are out of high school.

4. Photographs in the Youth and Adult categories shall be unretouched photographs.

5. Entries must be **FRAMED** with glass or Plexiglass, equipped with wire hangers or will not be accepted.

6. Photographs must be no smaller than 4 x 6 inches, and overall size, including frame, not exceed 9 x 12 inches.

7. Entries must be the work of the exhibitor.

8. Awards will be given out

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YOUTH PHOTO AWARDS:

Best in Show - \$50 savings bond from Ozona National Bank

Grades 1-4 - Three 1st place, each is \$10 cash from Rick & Shannon Hunnicutt

Grades 5-8 and 9-12 - Six 1st place, each is \$20 gift card from Dairy Queen of Ozona, Inc.

All Ribbons are sponsored by First National Bank of Sonora.

9. All photos need to be received by 5 p.m. October 1 at the Museum.

10. Winners will be announced Oct. 15.

11. Photographs can be picked up by Oct. 22. Photos not picked up by Dec. 1 become property of the Crockett County Museum.

For more information, call the Museum at 392-2837.

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Phone: 325-853-2507 ext. 109
EOE

The Ozona Stockman has Wedding Invitations!
Stop by 1000 Avenue E

SORRELLY'S HOT SHOT is needing to hire a part-time driver. Must be able to pass DOT Drug-screen and have a Class A CDL license. Call 226-5431. tfc29

PART-TIME TECHNICIAN - The Crockett Soil & Water Conservation District has an immediate opening for a Part-Time Technician. This position will provide technical support for the District. Proficient in Windows XP, Microsoft Word, Power Point and Microsoft Excel. Ability to coordinate events, file and the use of Quicken is necessary. Qualified applicants should pick up an application from the Crockett Soil & Water Conservation District 201 11th, Suite D Ozona, TX 76943. The Crockett Soil & Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity employer, and does not discriminate against job applicants or employees on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability or veteran's status. 2c31

LOOKING FOR A BABY-SITTER for 1-3 days a week for 1-2 toddlers, references required. Call 392-4009. 4c31

NEED A MATURE, RESPONSIBLE PERSON with transportation to keep my 14-month-old at my home. Call 392-3302 for more information. 1p32

Pets & Supplies

KRITTERS KOTTAGE BOARDING RESORT: Boarding 7 days a week; Grooming and Bathing by appointment Mon-Fri; Doggy Day-Care Mon-Fri; For more information call 325-392-2432 or 325-226-3618 tfn50

For Sale

FOR SALE: SLOP TOP 500 BBL Frac Tanks for sale located in Decatur, TX 325-668-4931. 2c32

FOR SALE: Ozona Lions Cheerleader outfit, used by in great condition, size 3T. No bloomers. \$25. Call 392-2022 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. or 392-3182 after 5 p.m. Ask for Ana. 1p32

PLEASE COME PICK UP YOUR SUBMITTED PHOTOS FROM THE OZONA STOCKMAN

Garage Sales

RUMMAGE SALE
Saturday, Sept. 8 starting at 8:30 a.m. at 1809 Blas St. (1105 Pecan if raining) Come check it out! Lots of Good Stuff!

Public Notices

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OIL AND GAS DIVISION
DISTRICT 7C RULE 37 Case No. 0232181
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Aug 23, 2007
Status/Permit No. 644655
NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the SAMSON LONE STAR, LLC, [RRC Operator No. 744737] has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the LEASE LINE requirement for the RECOMPLETION permit in Sec. 5, Bk. O, BROWN, C W/HARRELL, M T Survey, A-5611, MILLER (ELLENBURGER) Field, CROCKETT County, being 25 miles S direction from Ozona, Texas. The location and identity of the well is as follows:

FIELD: MILLER (ELLENBURGER)

Lease/Unit Name : WILLIAMS GAS UNIT
Lease/Unit Well No.: 2
Lease/Unit Acres : 640.0
Nearest Lease Line (ft): 467.0

Lease Lines : 467.0 F North L, 2400.0 F West L
Survey Lines: 2119.0 F North L, 2400.0 F West L

As part of this application, applicant also seeks permit authority in 1 additional field: (1) WILDCAT. No rule exception is necessary pursuant to the field rules for this field.

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

MILLER (ELLENBURGER):
GAS Special Rules 1320/3725, 640.0 acres.
WILDCAT : Statewide rules 467/1200, 40.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 11881 feet. If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Stewart Newton, at (512) 4808800.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted without a hearing if no protest to the application is received. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protester should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission at (512) 463-6848. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission at (512) 463-6701.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE BY OCT 4, 2007 AT 5:00 p.m.. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

E-mail The Stockman at publisher@ozonastockman.com



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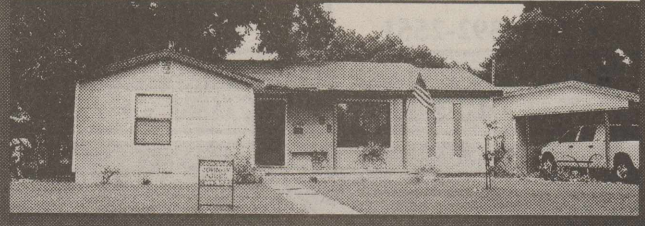
Place your non-commercial classified ad in The Ozona Stockman, The Eldorado Success, The Devil's River News and The Big Lake Wildcat for one low, low price. Call today for details.

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FOR SALE: Brown Furniture Company, 906 Avenue E, 20,000 square-feet, concrete building. Large garage and workshop. 2 BR, 2 BA upstairs apartment. Asking \$250K, owner financing possible. Contact Ben Ross at 392-5895 or 226-4431. tfc15

HOUSE FOR SALE: Spacious family home at 104 Live Oak. 2100 sq feet. Central heat and air, great location, newly painted exterior, 3 bedrooms, study, 2 bathrooms, dining room and over-size living and kitchen area. Large Jacuzzi bath tub, lots of storage inside the home and a work area for man of the house in the backyard. 392-2471. 4net32

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FOR RENT: 2 beautiful offices fully carpeted for rent or sale on main street with or without furniture. If interested call J. B. Miller at 392-2641. tfc33

Hunting Leases

6th GENERATION CROCKETT COUNTY RANCHER
wanting ranch to lease for hunting and grazing within 100 miles from Ozona. Call Ira Childress at 325-277-3445.

Wanted

WANTING A SMALL HOUSE in Ozona good or bad condition. Call Ira Childress at 325-277-3445, leave message. tfc28

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NOTICE OF REWARD

I AM OFFERING **\$500 REWARD** for apprehension and conviction of guilty parties to every theft of livestock in Crockett County - except that no officer of Crockett County may claim the reward.

Shane Fenton
SHERIFF, CROCKETT CO.

Miscellaneous

\$500.00 DOLLAR REWARD
During the past year person or persons unknown have damaged County road signs. The person who provides information that leads to the arrest and conviction of those responsible will be eligible for the \$500.00 reward. Those having information should call Sheriff Shane Fenton. Callers names will remain anonymous. tfc16

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