

BE MINE REMINDER:
Don't forget
Valentine's Day!
Monday, Feb. 14



**JANUARY BUSINESS
OF THE MONTH:**
Village Drug
Page 9

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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OZONA, TEXAS

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 9, 2011

VOL. 99, NO. 3

75 CENTS

Temperatures freeze Crockett County

*Cold weather
forecasted
for today*

BY MELISSA PERNER
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

Extremely cold weather and an oversaturated state power grid had many Crockett County residents on high alert last week.

On Feb. 2, American Electric Power notified Crockett County officials that power in Ozona would be turned off for one hour during the day. No time was given as to when the power outage would be.

Fortunately, the power outage never came but county and school officials notified residents through their various notification systems.

Through e-mail, phone calls and text messaging, Crockett County sent alerts out through their emergency notification system powered by Blackboard Connect.

"It worked pretty good," said County Judge Fred Deaton. "It allowed people to have a chance to get ready."

The county's emergency notification system sends alerts by phone, e-mail and text messages. People can sign up for the Crockett County notification system, visit www.co.crockett.tx.us.



THE TRIANGLE PARK FOUNTAIN froze last week as temperatures dipped below freezing for three days. Cold weather and a 20 percent chance of snow and sleet is forecasted for today, according to the National Weather Service in San Angelo.

PAUL C. PERNER IV | THE OZONA STOCKMAN

PLEASE SEE FREEZE, PAGE 8

Ozona Schools tweeting on Twitter

BY MELISSA PERNER
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

Crockett County CCSD has entered into 21st-century communications.

Last week, the school district made its debut on the social-networking Twitter with accounts for the district and each campus.

"The idea is to provide any good, positive and promotional information out to people and parents," said Superintendent Chris duBois.

The new media is a step the district is taking "slowly," according to duBois. The superintendent, Director of Technology Keith Harmsen and Technology Integration Specialist Tiffany Esparza are the only staff members allowed to "tweet" to the sites right now.

Those wanting to follow district news can at Ozona-Schools. Campus news can be followed at OzonaHighSchool, OzonaMiddle and OzonaElementary.

duBois said the district feed will not always retweet what is on the campus feeds.

"This is part of an effort to increase customer service," duBois said.

duBois said the district chose to go with Twitter instead of Facebook, another popular social-networking site, due to Twitter being more selective.

PLEASE SEE TWITTER, PAGE 5

Relay For Life meeting Thursday

Mark your calendars for Thursday, Feb. 10. Crockett County's Relay for Life will hold a meeting at 6 p.m. in the elementary school cafeteria.

Everyone wanting to know more information should attend. Information regarding teams, team and survivor sign up, and information on the April 8 event will be discussed.

Team captains and team members will have the opportunity to register their teams on this evening as well.

Teams that are ready to sign up can do so online at www.relayforlife.org/crockettco.tx.

Already two teams have registered for the event.

DCP Midstream, captained by Barbie My-

ers, and "The Breast of Friends," captained by Patricia Sutton.

Should anyone have questions on how to sign up your teams, please contact any of the event chairs.

Luminarias are also being sold and can be purchased for \$5 and can be purchased from Sylvia Longoria or Maria Hendryx.

These luminarias will be used to illuminate the track field during our Luminaria Ceremony as we honor our cancer survivors and their caregivers.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available for business, organizations and individuals.

For more information regarding the event, call Maria Hendryx at 716-3291.

Learning to read excellently

BY MELISSA PERNER
THE OZONA STOCKMAN

Elva Gallardo adjusts her headphones and hits the play button on the mp3 player.

She then listens and puts her hand on the table to signal to her instructor Sarah Gonzalez that she is ready.

Elva isn't listening to the latest pop tunes as she takes her headphones off and focuses her eyes on the book in front of her.

After reading the paragraph out loud, Gonzalez asks Elva "did you read that excellently?"

"No," Elva replies.

Gonzalez then instructs Elva to cycle through three more times. Her attention then turns to student Juan Rodriguez. Gonzalez asks Juan about the vocabulary in his paragraph and about the meaning of what he just read.

These Ozona Middle School students are just two



SARAH GONZALEZ goes over some of the words just read by OMS student Juan Rodriguez. Gonzalez is a Read Right instructor and learning to be the trainer for the school district.

MELISSA PERNER | THE OZONA STOCKMAN

PLEASE SEE READ RIGHT, PAGE 9

Triple C
HARDWARE &
LUMBER INC.

**OZONA LIONS VS. GRAPE CREEK
FRIDAY AT GRAPE CREEK**

Triple C
HARDWARE &
LUMBER INC.

Small businesses have competitive edge with customer trust

Small businesses typically find it hard to compete with their large counterparts. However, they can have a competitive advantage in at least one respect; trust. According to a 2007 Harris Interactive poll, 96 percent of consumers have either a "great deal of trust" or "some trust" in small businesses. No other private or public institution received this large a vote of confidence. Let's look at some ways in which to build trust with your customers.

The quickest way to lose trust is through perceived dishonesty. You can help avoid this sit-

uation by being very clear in all communications. Be upfront about your pricing and policies regarding returns, exchanges and other issues that are likely to raise questions. Don't hide extra charges in the fine print. Be consistent.



BUSINESS TIPS

PAUL HOWARD

Small businesses that have friendly employees who give customers their names build trust. This practice is recognized as a sign of accountability. Customers prefer to deal with people rather than impersonal machines and introducing themselves further emphasizes this individual relationship. Standing behind your products and services also gains trust with customers. This may cost you if you take back a damaged product or have to provide a service again, but earning a loyal customer will benefit your small business in the long run.

Many customers want to know more about the business they are dealing with, rather than less. Include a photograph of your staff on the wall of your business to help your customers feel like they know you better. Consider a blog or other personal account on your web page to invite customers into the workings of your company.

Many people are drawn to socially aware and environmentally friendly companies. If these values are part of what your business stands for, make your customers aware of it by publishing the information on your

website and in your business. Get involved with your community by sponsoring events. This is a great way to increase name recognition while emphasizing your local values.

Solicit recommendations and testimonials from some of your current satisfied customers and place them prominently on your website or on the wall of your store. Then use them in marketing materials and advertising, with their permission of course.

How do you typically learn about good schools, a dependable doctor or a trustworthy landlord? You ask friends,

family and co-workers for recommendations. It works the same way for small businesses. Once a few people have developed a favorable opinion of your company, word will spread and you will notice a difference in sales. Make sure you are devoted to your existing customers and keep them happy. They can be your best advertising.

"Business Tips" was written by Paul Howard, Business Development Specialist and Certified Business Advisor III of ASU's Small Business Development Center. Contact him at paul.howard@angelo.edu, or (325) 942-2098.

Bring on an early spring

Phil saw no shadow last week predicting an early spring.

That prediction could come any time now for me.

Extremely cold temperatures last week reminded me how I am not a winter weather person. A lot of Texans were also saying the same thing.

While Ozona was spared the snow and ice that most of Texas had to deal with, we still had temperatures in the teens and didn't get above freezing for three days.

Growing up in the South Plains, near Lubbock, winter was a guarantee for snowfall, blowing snow and sand and cold temperatures.

As soon as I could, I moved south hoping that winter wasn't so extreme. Last week, was a reminder of how I do not want to have to live up north.

On Tuesday morning, when the cold blew in, ice formed on one of my running boards on my Jeep. The ice, of course, was not on the passenger side. For three days, I almost broke my ankles getting in and out of my Jeep on "thin ice."

The other thing about cold weather is that you cannot put on enough clothes.

A friend of mine posted on Facebook: "Three long-sleeved shirts, two sweat-shirts and a hoodie later - I'm still freezing my butt off."

Another friend posted - "Totally worn out having to put on sweaters, coats, scarves, hats, gloves and still being cold!"

I have to agree. Layers upon layers and I was still cold. Two pairs of socks, including one made of mohair, and the toes were cold. Jacket, gloves, long underwear, sweater, sweatshirt and jeans, making getting ready each morning a new workout. Not only was I still cold but I looked like the Abominable Snowman.

Living in West and Central Texas we are not used to these temperatures. We're not used to weather under freezing for multiple days. We're not used to having to bundle up, go outside, warm



WHAT'S ON MY MIND

MELISSA PERNER

up the car and then go back in for 15-20 minutes. We're not used to just plain cold, snow and ice.

Many people I know were happy to see the cold weather. I'm glad for them,

they obviously didn't have to be out in it and they probably didn't have pipes freezing either.

To top off the week, our state hosted the Super Bowl, which included two teams from the north. I'm sure the Packers and Steelers fans were hoping to come to a Texas with a warmer climate.

"I know us Texans are great hosts, but I think we've gone a little too far in accommodating the Packers and the Steelers, weather-wise." - another post from a Facebook friend.

Texas not being properly prepared for the cold weather was also evident in rolling blackouts. Once again, Crockett County was spared but all around us electricity was going off and coming back on without any warning.

A friend of mine was stuck in the shower when her electricity went out and her four-year-old son then asked "Mom, did you forget to pay the light bill?"

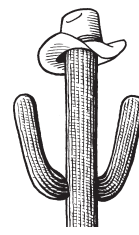
Yes, winter is supposed to be cold, nasty, gross and just downright not the best season. However, those of us use to sunny, slightly warmer than usual winters are missing our picture perfect weather.

While I am enjoying the sunshine, I look at the National Weather Service online and see another cold front is in store for us this week. Better go wash the long underwear and mohair socks.

Dear Mother Nature, I don't know what the state of Texas did to you but can you stop blowing cold air at us!

MELISSA PERNER is the editor and publisher of The Ozona Stockman. Bundle up and stay warm.

Held Hostage



IT'S THE PITTS

LEE PITTS

Did you hear about the cattle-napping case near Socorro, New Mexico? And no, I'm not talking about a herd of cows taking a mid-afternoon siesta. It seems that a handful of cattle were kidnapped and held for ransom.

That the thieves were caught is no big surprise as they have to go down in history as some of the dumbest crooks ever. Even dumber than the guy who stole a police cruiser because he saw 911 stickers on it and thought it was a Porsche.

I've heard of babies being kidnapped, diplomats, drug kingpins and even authors being nabbed, but those cattle-nappers must have been so dumb they had to be watered twice a week. Every one knows that authors don't have any money.

But until now I've never heard of cows being kidnapped. The case was simple to solve because the gang of cow thieves lived on a neighboring ranch. I suppose the crooks, who seemed to be just a few clowns short of a circus, left a ransom note that went something like this:

Dear Rich Rancher, We have yer cows. Give us a lot of cash or bad things will happen to them. And don't call the cops either or you'll never see your cattle agin. Signed, Yer Nabor.

This is how I'd respond if my cattle were kidnapped and I received such a ransom note.

Dear Neighbor, You may have noticed that this thank-you note contains no ransom money. Don't worry about me calling the cops, even if I did

they are much too busy due to a new donut shop opening in town to deal with a cattle-napping case. But I did mention the theft to my local coffee club and before I knew it the local weekly newspaper called and I made the front page for the second time in my life! I want to thank you for making me world famous.

Secondly, I also wanted to thank you for taking the cattle that you did.

You see, they were in that pasture because I was gathering up a gooseneck load of losers to take to the local auction market. Thanks for saving me the gas to get them there and the commission.

I'd like to familiarize you with the cattle you pilfered. The one-eyed cow with the crooked horns hasn't had a calf in the eight years I've owned her. The only reason I still had her is because she's so mean I couldn't catch her. I won't pay you anything for her because I'm sure she'll be condemned due to the cancer eye in the one eye she has left, but I would be interested to know how you caught her. You must be awful handy with a reata and I'd like to invite you to my next branding. We could use someone who can actually rope something.

Please be careful with the mean cow with

the bobbed tail as she has already put two people in the hospital and put a hitch in my wife's get-a-long. We think she's so crazy because she may have contracted mad cow disease from hanging around some Canadian cattle. My wife hates her and says to go ahead and do despicable things to her before you kill her and eat her. You might want to cook her hamburgers well done due to her Canadian connections.

The bull you stole shoots blanks and if he comes in contact with any of your cows don't expect a calf crop because the bull has Trich. You can keep the money you get from selling him but I'd love to get his hide back as the three way cross between a Longhorn, Corriente and a Holstein created some interesting color patterns. It would make a great rug, don't you think?

The estray is self-explanatory because I think she belongs to you. It's the first time she's been on the right side of the fence in six months and I'm tired of feeding her.

Although I won't pay your ransom demands I will leave two old horses in the same field so you can steal them too. Since they banned horse slaughter I've been stuck with them. Also feel free to take any dogs, sheep or old rusty scrap metal you find in the field as I'm sure all this will allow you to increase your ransom demands. Best wishes, Your neighbor.

Then when the kidnapers tried to bring all the cattle back that they stole, I'd nab them.

www.LeePittsbooks.com

Storm knocks Texas hard but state business continues

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling | Texas Press Association

AUSTIN - Wind, snow, sleet, ice, record-low temperatures, road closures and power blackouts made the second half of last week unusual for most of Texas, even for winter.

Power grid manager ERCOT, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, ordered providers serving the bulk of the state to implement rolling outages to compensate for electricity shortages. Gov. Rick Perry was out of state while the Arctic cold front raged, but he had this to say about the outages: "Because of winter weather conditions that have created an unprecedented demand on the state's energy grid, many Texans across our state are experiencing power outages today," Perry said. "Texas power and emergency management experts are working very closely with ERCOT and various utility providers to ensure power is restored as quickly as possible. Until that happens, I urge businesses and residents to conserve electricity to minimize the impact of this event."

For millions of Texans, mini-

translated to work and school closures or late starts, and for those who did get out on the road, strandings and accidents were all too common.

Heavy demand for electricity even prompted the purchase of needed power from Mexico. The Public Utility Commission said it would investigate how ERCOT's power management decisions affected ratepayers. The PUC, which oversees ERCOT, may revise procedures on how to handle such events in the future.

3 SENATE COMMITTEES MEET

With bad weather hitting or threatening to hit, the Senate managed to assemble Feb. 1-3. Three of the body's committees conducted hearings: Finance, chaired by Steve Ogden, R-Bryan; Education, chaired by Jane Nelson, R-Grapevine; and State Affairs, chaired by Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock.

The powerful Senate Finance Committee, which met Feb. 1, 2 and 3, heard budget presentations from agencies and nonprofits that provide food, health

care, shelter and other services.

Prompted by the projected \$27 billion state revenue shortage, the Senate Education Committee heard testimony focusing on the possible effects of altering the 22:1 students-to-teacher ratio mandated by state law.

Protecting private property rights and addressing eminent domain issues are on Gov. Perry's list of emergency issues. The Senate State Affairs committee laid out and considered SB 18, an eminent domain bill authored by Craig Estes, R-Wichita Falls. At the conclusion of testimony the committee voted favorably for the bill. Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples said the bill would protect homeowners and landowners, but others said that as currently written, the way the bill is worded may still put landowners at risk in eminent domain takings.

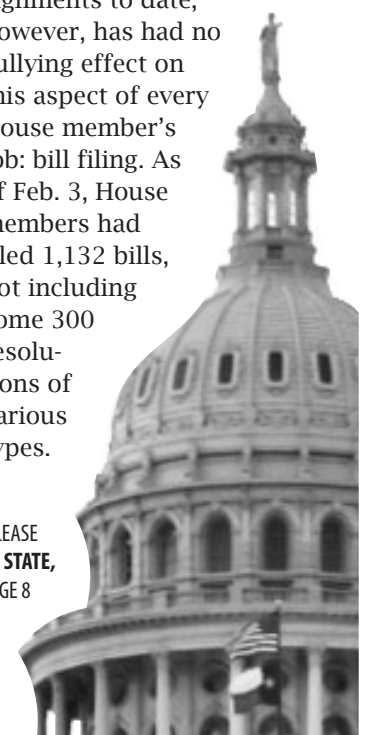
HOUSE COMMITTEES TO BE NAMED

Meanwhile, the House met each day, Feb. 1-4, adjourning af-

ter a short 30 minutes in session on Thursday Feb. 4, with abnormally rough weather continuing to spread across the state.

Before adjourning, Speaker Joe Straus, R-San Antonio, had not yet named committee chairs and members. The lack of committee assignments to date, however, has had no sullying effect on this aspect of every House member's job: bill filing. As of Feb. 3, House members had filed 1,132 bills, not including some 300 resolutions of various types.

PLEASE SEE STATE, PAGE 8



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Joe Hernandez - Pressman & Photography

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HOW TO CONTACT US

Telephone: (325) 392-2551 | Fax: (325) 392-2439

1000 Avenue E | P.O. Box 370 Ozona, Texas 76943

E-mail: publisher@ozonastockman.com | Web site: www.ozonastockman.com

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Out-of-town one time rate: \$6.50 per column inch. Out-of-town regular rate: \$5.50 per column inch. Local one time rate: \$5.25 per column inch. Local regular rate: \$4.75 per column inch. Cards of Thanks are \$5 to \$10 depending on length.

Classified ads are \$5.50 for the first 25 words and \$.25 for each additional word. Classified ads and Cards of Thanks are payable in advance unless customer carries a regular account.



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@ozonastockman.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 not exceed 250 words.

CORRECTIONS

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, reputation or standing of any individual, firm or corporation will be corrected when called to the attention of the management by the next issue.

Army buddies reunited after 53 years

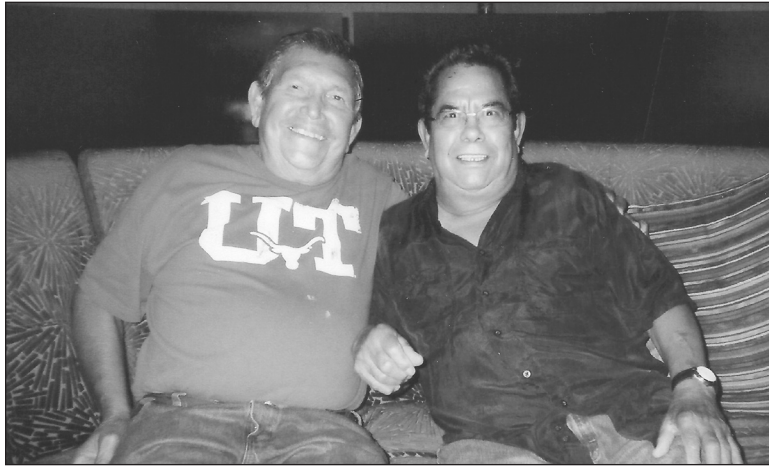
Army buddies Pete Gomez Sr. and Paul Godinez were reunited after 53 years.

Pete and his wife Irene Gomez, along with Coy and Edna Tambunga from Ozona, went to Sandia Resort in Albuquerque, N.M. While they were there, Pete decided to look up his old Army buddy.

The two were in the service together in Bamberg, Germany.

They had not seen or heard from one another since they parted ways in 1957. They were amazed to see one another.

Pete and his wife Irene now live in Sonora and are parents of Pete Gomez Jr. of Sonora, Gloria Abalos and Mary Villanueva of Midland and Janice Lira, also of Midland.



Pete Gomez Sr. and his buddy Paul Goding during a recent visit and when they were stationed in the U.S. Army, ages 21 and 22.

Granger named to Dean's List

Brady Granger, of Ozona, has been named to the Dean's List at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, for the fall 2010 semester.

To be selected, students must have at least a 3.6 grade point average on a 4.0 scale with at least 12 graded hours and be in good standing with the university.

Spence named to Dean's List

Chelsea Spence has been named to the Dean's List at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi for the 2010 fall semester.

Spence is majoring in interdisciplinary studies in the college of education.

To qualify, undergraduates must be enrolled full time with a minimum of 12 semester hours and must earn a grade point average of 3.65 or better on a 4.0 scale.

AARP tax service March 5 in Eldorado

AARP will be in Eldorado on March 5 to do income tax filing.

This is sponsored by Schleicher County Resource Center and is free.

It is offered to everyone in the surrounding towns (Sonora, Menard, Mertzon, Ozona and Christoval).

This service is for one day only and Eldorado is the only town they travel outside of San Angelo.

Spanish will also be available.

Everyone that would like to take advantage of this free service will need to pre-register by calling Patsy Kellogg at (325) 853-2574. Leave your name, telephone number, mailing address and a short message on the machine.

This information can also be mailed to P.O. Box 644, Eldorado, Texas 76936.

Indicate whether you prefer a morning or afternoon appointment.

A list of information that you need to bring will be provided.

All returns will be filed electronically that day.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wednesday, Feb. 9

- Exercise Classes, 8:30 a.m. at the Senior Center.
- Mexican Train, 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.
- OHS Debate Teams compete at District Meet in Ballinger.

Thursday, Feb. 10

- OMS Lions vs. Grape Creek, 4 p.m. at the OMS Gym.
- Relay For Life meeting, 6 p.m. at the elementary school.

Friday, Feb. 11

- Exercise Classes, 8:30 a.m. at the Senior Center.
- OHS Lions vs. Grape Creek, 5 p.m. at Grape Creek.
- Daddy/Daughter, Mother/Son Dance, 7-10 p.m. at the OLPH Parish Hall.

Saturday, Feb. 12

- Lions and Lady Lions Powerlifting Teams to compete in the Irion County Meet at Mertzon.
- OHS Computer Science Teams to compete in Austin.
- OHS Softball Teams scrimmage TLCA, 1 p.m. at the softball field.
- Levis and Lace Square Dance, 7 p.m. at the Civic Center.

Sunday, Feb. 13

- Bingo, 3 p.m. at the OLPH Parish Hall.

Monday, Feb. 14

- Valentine's Day
- Exercise Classes, 8:30 a.m. at the Senior Center.
- Crockett County Commissioners' Court meeting, 9 a.m. at the courthouse annex.
- Ladies Bridge, 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.
- OHS Baseball Teams scrimmage Eldorado, 4 p.m. at Eldorado.
- Senior Center Board's Valentine's Dinner, 6 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Tuesday, Feb. 15

- Dominos, 1 p.m. at the Senior Center.
- Ozona Woman's Forum, 3 p.m. at the Senior Center.
- OHS Lions vs. Ballinger, 5 p.m. at the Davidson Gym.
- OHS Softball vs. Reagan County, 5 p.m. at Big Lake.

Wednesday, Feb. 16

- Exercise Classes, 8:30 a.m. at the Senior Center.
- "The Heart Truth" luncheon, noon at the Ozona United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.
- Mexican Train, 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.
- CCCSD Board of Trustees meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Administration Building.

Heart luncheon Feb. 16

Although significant progress has been made in increasing awareness among women that heart disease is their #1 killer (from 34 percent in 2000 to 69 percent in 2009) most fail to make the connection between its risk factors and their personal risk of developing heart disease. In fact, this disease kills one out of every four American women. Join "The Heart Truth" campaign on Wednesday, Feb. 16, to help spread the message that "Heart Disease Doesn't Care What you Wear, It's the #1 Killer of Women."

"The Heart Truth" created and introduced the Red Dress as the national symbol for women and heart disease awareness in 2002



to deliver an urgent wake-up call to American women.

The Red Dress reminds women of the need to protect their heart health, and inspires them to take action.

While heart disease risk begins to rise in middle age, heart disease develops over time and can start at a young age, even in the teen years.

It's never too early, or too late, to take action to prevent and control the risk factors for heart disease.

"The Heart Truth" campaign is sponsored by the

National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, a part of the National Institutes of Health, US Department of Health and Human Services in partnership with The Office on Women's Health and other groups committed to the health and well-being of women.

Please bring a friend and enjoy the Red Dress Luncheon on Wednesday, Feb. 16, noon at the Ozona United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

A free heart healthy lunch will be served along with an educational presentation on improving your health.

For more information, call E.A. Wadsworth, RN to RSVP at 392-3060.

Release of Far West Texas Wildlife Trail Map

BY SCOTT JORDAN
TEXAS PECOS TRAIL REGION

Texas Parks & Wildlife has released the ninth and final map in its Great Texas Wildlife Trails series.

Fifteen of the 57 sites are located in the western Pecos Trail Region, including the Monahans Sandhills State Park, Balmorhea State Park, Sibley Nature Center, Rooney

Park in Fort Stockton, and Sanderson's Cactus Capital Hiking & Nature Trail.

A partnership between TPWD, Mountain Trail Region, and Pecos Trail Region, this heritage and nature tourism initiative involved our board members and many sites and communities working together.

TPTR sponsors include Friends of the Monahans

Sandhills State Park, Midland Convention & Visitors Bureau, Monahans Chamber of Commerce, Pecos Valley RC&D, and Llano Estacado Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists.

Maps can be purchased each for \$2 retail or \$1 wholesale (for orders of 100 or more) by calling (888) 900-2577 or by visiting www.tpwd.state.tx.us/wildlifetrails.

Hospitality Training available for Pecos Trail towns

Scott Jordan, Executive Director for the Texas Pecos Trail Region, has recently completed training with the Texas Friendly Hospitality Instructor Program.

Conducted by Texas Agrilife Extension Service of Texas A&M University, the Texas Friendly Hospitality Program focuses on creating an environment consisting of people that foster the best possible customer service skills.

The instructor training workshops are provided for those who are interested in being able to pass along the most up-to-date customer service skills to those around them in their jobs and their communities.

Customer service training helps business and community leaders to empower employees, retain loyal customers, and improve external and internal customer service.

If a community, business,

or organization is interested in having Jordan present a one-hour customer training session, contact him at info@texaspecostrail.com or (325) 387-3900.

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Ozona, TX 76943
Feel free to call: 325-392-4009

Ozona Lodge #747 A.F. & A.M.
Regular meeting on 1st Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

If you want someone to agree with you in prayer, send your prayer requests to:
The Prayer Box
P.O. Box 733
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Transportation is available
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DEADLINE IS NOON MONDAY

OZONA SENIOR HAPPENINGS

BY LYNN ENGLISH
SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR

Last week, was a week I believe most of us will never forget because it was very cold. All of us are just now thawing out and a new cold front is due in about mid week.

I spoke with Betty Hartley Sunday and she said Bob had been checked and the news is that he is healing but very slowly.

We wish both Betty and Bob the very best and we are reminding them that they are missed here at the Senior Center.

Last week, Jim Martin dropped by and brought puzzles that his daughter Jan Seahorn had sent for us. We are always happy to see Jim and thank Jan for the puzzles.

Dee Keilers is recovering from hip surgery and from what we hear he is doing very well. He had his surgery done in San Angelo,

but is recovering in Ballinger where his son Lance is hospital administrator. We expect Dee to return back to Ozona in a few weeks. We miss you Dee.

Tom Seaten will be taken to San Angelo by Benny Logan for a heart catherization. This procedure will tell doctors what condition his heart is in. We will miss Tom at the Senior Center and wish him well.

On Monday, Feb. 14, the Crockett County Senior Center Board will be having their Valentine Dinner here at the Senior Center at 6 p.m. Special guests will be Judge Deaton and the commissioners along with their wives.

Our next Senior Bingo Social will be 6:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at the Senior Center. Lasagna, salad, garlic bread, ice cream sandwiches, tea, water or coffee will be served. Please plan to come for a fun night.

The people that meet

to play domino games will be meeting on Tuesday every week after lunch. If you would like to join them in playing dominoes come on in about 1 p.m.

The bridge ladies will be playing on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. These ladies have the best time playing bridge and appreciate using our Senior Center.

On Wednesdays, a group meets to play Mexican Train. These ladies get down and have a fun time playing this exciting game.

We have our regular activities: bridge, bingo, home health, pool, canasta and puzzles. We also have a collection of books, magazines, a Wii game and two computers that are on the Internet for seniors to use.

We also have a projector with stand and a screen and have added a wonderful keyboard.

Activities sponsored by the Crockett County Senior Center are for adults only.

HELPING HANDS HIGHLIGHTS

BY MELINDA K. MALONE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Helping Hands Highlights by Melinda K. Malone, Executive Director

Wow, Old Man Winter certainly has visited Ozona! I made the mistake of bragging in January on the fact that my first winter here in 2009-10 was so mild and that this year might be a repeat! Helping Hands' volunteers and staff were able to deliver meals every day last week! Thank you to everyone!

Please mark your calendars for Feb. 17, Thursday for our annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at noon at the Senior Center.

We would like to invite all who served and made 2010 a successful year for Helping Hands. We will be serving Roast Beef and vegetables with gravy, spinach salad, rolls, and Cherry Cobbler. Please RSVP by Feb. 14 by calling Melinda at 392-5026 to RSVP.

- business group, community organization or church group, consider volunteering on the Helping Hands' team in Ozona. For more information, please call Melinda at 392-5026.
- MEALS ON WHEELS MENU**
- FEB. 9**
- Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes with gravy, Green Peas, Peach Cobbler
- FEB. 10**
- Calavasa, Spanish Rice, Salad, Chocolate Pudding
- FEB. 11**
- Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Vegetable Soup, Saltnes, Carrot Cake
- FEB. 14 - Happy Valentine's Day**
- Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Vegetables, Roll, Strawberry Shortcake
- FEB. 15**
- Braised Pork Tips on Wild Rice, Yellow Squash, Roll, Chocolate Chip Pound Cake
- FEB 16**
- Chicken Gumbo, Louisiana Fruit Salad, Cornbread, Mother's Cake
- FEB. 17 - VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY**
- Roast Beef and Vegetables with Gravy, Spinach Salad, Wheat Roll, Cherry Cobbler
- FEB. 18**
- Cheeseburgers and Fixings, Tater Tots, Fruit Cup
- FEB. 21**
- Enchilada Casserole, Spanish Rice, Fiesta Salad, Mexican Bread Pudding
- FEB. 22**
- Baked Fish with Seasoned Topping, Potatoes Au Gratin, Cole Slaw, Blonde Brownie

DPS says: 'Just say no to telemarketers'

BY TELA MANGE
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

The Department of Public Safety is warning Texans to be wary of any private charitable solicitations by telemarketers on behalf of the department.

"It should be absolutely clear that the Department of Public Safety will never solicit financial contributions from private citizens. DPS is funded by tax dollars and will never call your home or business to solicit donations," said Steven C. McCraw, director of DPS.

DPS has received a number of complaints over the years from citizens complaining of rudeness and high pressure tactics being used by individuals using the good name and/or logo of the department and often times in conjunction with the untimely death of a state trooper.

Private organizations cannot use names, symbols or statements that are similar to those used by the Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Rangers or other police agencies in a manner that is intended to confuse or mislead a person being solicited. Violations are criminal offenses and punishable by a fine of up to \$4,000, a jail term up to one year, or both.

DPS advises citizens not to give money to these groups as the funds are not likely to go to the causes that are claimed. Some groups include in their names the terms, "Texas Rangers," "State Troopers," "Texas Highway Patrol," or "Department of Public Safety."

While some current or former officers may be members of some of these associations on their own time, these organizations are not

affiliated with the DPS nor do they represent the department. Many of these organizations provide only a small percent of their donations for good causes, with the majority of the donations going to administrative and operational purposes.

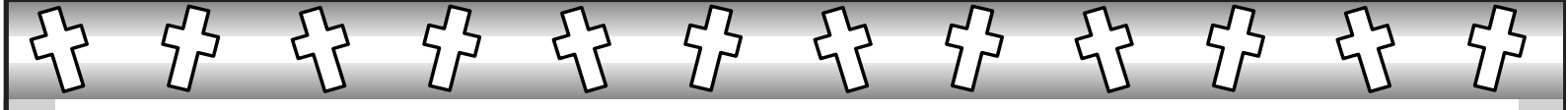
Some of these organizations suggest that official looking decals placed on personal vehicles that resemble official DPS affiliation may somehow keep the individual from receiving a traffic citation from law enforcement. There is also a lack of public accountability and transparency by many of these organizations.

If you are contacted by a group you believe is misrepresenting itself as part of the Texas Department of Public Safety, contact the Consumer Protection Division of the Texas Attorney General's Office at 1-800-621-0508.

Card of Thanks

I would like to give a heartfelt "Thank You" to everyone who has called me, come by to visit me, and who have brought me snacks and food. I would also like to thank you for all your prayers. Please continue to pray for me as I am at home recovering. Thanks you all and may God bless each one of you.

Elvira Vasquez



THE POTBELLED HOMELESS PUPPY

Several years ago a youth group while on a mission trip found a little abandoned puppy looking for scraps at the motel where they were staying. They had pity and compassion on the little puppy and tried to find out if there was a owner. The hotel people said, "no" and that the puppy was just a nuisance. The little tan puppy had a pot belly from eating garbage and had fleas, ticks and needed a bath. All of that did not deter the youth group from loving and wanting to care for him. Some of them had me go and get flea powder and dog food while the others gave him a sweet smelling bath. One of the girls even found a red ribbon to tie around his neck. One thing I noticed, the little puppy sure enjoyed all that attention. That puppy reminded me of something in the Bible. God does not love us when we look our best, it is really just a matter of His choosing to love us not because we are worthy of, or nice enough, or good enough, (Romans 5:8). God has a loving nature and He chooses to not reject us just because we are sinners, (1 John 4:15&16). He wants to clean us up and make us His possession, to love on, care for and be with Him forever, (John 3:16, 1 Peter 2:9&10, 1 John 3:1-3).

See you in Church next Sunday.

Brother J

<p>First Baptist Church 901 Ave. D Pastor Chris Johnson Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 6 p.m. Awanas: Wednesday - 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Ozona Church of Christ 1002 11th St. Mr. Johnnie Perkins Worship: 10:45 a.m., 6:00 p.m. Sun. Bible Class: 9:45 a.m.</p>	<p>Ozona United Methodist Church 12 - 11th St. Pastor Ron Shott Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. Wed. Worship - 5 p.m.-Meal, 5:30 p.m.-Study</p>
<p>Templo Bautista Jerusalem 138 Blas St. Rev. Esequiel Cervantez Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday: 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Faith Lutheran Church 802 1st St. Pastor Tom Baden Worship: Sunday - 7 p.m. Bible Class: Sunday - 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Templo Siloe Assembly of God Church 2121 Santa Rosa St. Rev. Dan & Ann Rios Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m. Wed. Family Service: 6:30 p.m.</p>
<p>Iglesia Bautista Nueva Vida Corner of Secretariat & Man O' War Pastor Juan Avila Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m. Wed. Service: 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Iglesia de Dios De La Profecia 102 Man O' War St. Pastor Maria C. Salcedo Lunes: 6:00 p.m. Domingo: 9:45 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Martes: 6:00 p.m. Jueves: 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Our Lady of Perpetual Help 219 Martinez St. Fr. Nilo Nalugon Sun. Mass: 11 a.m. Sat.: 7 p.m. Tues. - Fri.: 6 p.m.</p>
<p>Calvary Baptist Church 601 Ave. I Sunday School: 10 a.m. Worship: 11 a.m. Sunday Worship: 6 p.m. Wednesday Worship: 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Attend the Church of your choice this Sunday</p>	
<p>New Beginnings Church 701 9th Street Pastor Carlos Cantu Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. Wednesday: 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Iglesia de Cristo Hwy 163 S. at Quail Run Interim - Ray Valadez Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m. Worship: 11 a.m. Evening Worship: 6 p.m.</p>	

ALL PASTORS OF OZONA CHURCHES ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT COLUMNS.

BINGO!
3 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 13,
at the OLPH Parish Hall
Lots of great prizes! Cash prizes!
OLPH Youth Ministry will be selling drinks, sweets and food!

Happy Birthday Mean Gene; Geeno Weeno; El Prieto

Brother, we miss you more as time goes by.

From: Felipe, Jill & the Castro Family

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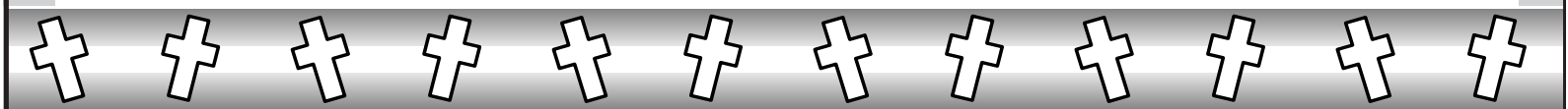
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OFFICIAL RAINFALL FOR THE TOWN OF OZONA

	JAN	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUN.	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL	10 YR. AVG.	1ST 6 MO. TOTAL	2ND 6 MO. TOTAL
1931	2.2	1.4	0.5	2.95	3.05	1.1	1.18	0.32	0.2	0.4	2.8	2.2	18.30	11.20	7.10	7.10
1932	0.78	1.55	0.5	1.5	4.49	3.1	2.33	4.3	6.65	0.25	0.3	2.35	28.10	11.92	16.18	16.18
1933	0.5	0.3	0.15	0.2	0.31	0	0.18	3.05	0	1.35	1.95	0.15	8.14	1.46	6.68	6.68
1934	1.29	0.1	1.35	0.98	2.1	2.25	0.85	0	0.33	0	0.8	0.25	10.30	8.07	2.23	2.23
1935	0	1.75	0	0.78	7.28	2.4	4.13	0.9	7.53	0.85	1.05	0.63	27.30	12.21	15.09	15.09
1936	0.33	0.4	1.3	1.1	3.83	0	2.47	0	3.84	1.5	0.5	0.5	15.77	6.96	8.81	8.81
1937	0.2	0.4	1.95	1.5	2.1	2.25	1.4	1.4	3.8	1.5	1	2.84	20.34	8.40	11.94	11.94
1938	4.97	0.5	0.4	1.83	2.58	2.43	7.49	0.35	0.7	0.5	0	0.72	22.47	12.71	9.76	9.76
1939	2.23	0	0.47	1.13	2.12	0.47	5.13	2.38	0.47	2.2	2.7	0.95	20.25	6.42	13.83	13.83
1940	0.55	1.24	0.83	1.7	2.15	2.65	0.28	3.95	0.27	2.97	2.95	0.2	19.74	19.07	9.12	10.62
1941	2	1.57	2.58	4.1	2.14	6.2	2.5	3.21	4.78	7.65	0.28	0.98	37.99	18.59	19.40	19.40
1942	0.37	0.55	0	2.08	0.1	0.2	1.6	4.26	1.1	3.91	0.9	1.25	16.32	3.30	13.02	13.02
1943	0.45	0	0.43	0.25	3.13	2.7	1.18	0	3.37	0.25	0.78	1.85	14.39	6.96	7.43	7.43
1944	1.73	1.12	0	0.73	1.68	1.84	13	3.01	5.2	0.22	1.04	137	20.04	7.10	12.94	12.94
1945	0.81	0.86	1.58	1.55	0.67	8.54	5.56	0.63	1.97	3.19	0	0.22	25.58	14.01	11.57	11.57
1946	1.8	0	0	0	3.9	2.7	0.8	0	1.1	3	03	0	14.30	8.40	6.30	6.30
1947	2.7	0	1.8	0	0.5	2.1	0.2	2.8	1.5	0.6	25	1	15.30	7.10	8.60	8.60
1948	0	1.5	0.1	0.7	1.9	0.1	2.3	0.3	0.5	1	0	0.3	8.70	4.30	4.40	4.40
1949	2	1.7	0.2	2.5	4.6	2.4	1.3	2.5	4.2	7.4	0	1.1	29.90	13.40	16.50	16.50
1950	0.3	0.5	0	2.4	3.7	0.6	2.8	1.6	5.4	0	0	0	17.30	20.06	7.50	9.80
1951	0	0.18	1.26	1.39	1.04	1.31	0.33	1.4	0.05	0.27	0	0	7.23	5.18	2.05	2.05
1952	0	0	0.5	1.61	2.16	0.27	0.9	0	0.82	0	1.04	0.97	8.27	4.54	3.73	3.73
1953	0	0.2	1.26	0.41	1.32	1.73	0.5	4.4	0.17	2.45	0	0.33	12.77	4.92	7.85	7.85
1954	0.18	0.22	0.11	5.95	1.91	12.46	0.22	1.16	0	2.49	0	0	24.70	20.83	3.87	3.87
1955	1.09	0.59	0.13	1.41	2.54	1.55	2.15	1.68	12.4	0	0.63	0	13.01	7.31	5.30	5.30
1956	0.8	0	0	2.81	1.64	0.35	0.43	0.48	0.52	1.63	0.07	0.38	9.11	5.60	3.51	3.51
1957	0.54	2.79	1.26	1.21	7	0.83	0.44	0.3	1.1	4.05	25	1.53	23.55	13.63	9.92	9.92
1958	2.5	2.41	1.18	0.07	2.46	1.31	0.35	4.85	5.69	4.14	0.71	0	25.67	9.93	15.74	15.74
1959	0	1.16	0.12	1.12	2.24	2.82	5.31	0.88	0.53	5.8	1.36	0.98	22.32	7.46	14.86	14.86
1960	2.09	1.52	0.81	0.15	1.38	0.58	4.2	0.56	0.09	2.28	0.2	1.34	15.20	16.18	6.53	8.67
1961	2.81	0.56	0.27	0.04	1.38	5.08	2.99	0.93	3.84	0.44	1.28	0.19	19.81	10.14	9.67	9.67
1962	0.1	0.29	0.64	1.45	0.42	1.59	1.26	1.22	1.07	1.55	0.87	1.19	11.65	4.49	7.16	7.16
1963	0.12	(1.94)	0	2.47	3.26	1.38	0.14	1.25	0.82	0.44	2.92	0.46	14.18	8.15	6.03	6.03
1964	0.75	1.26	0.65	0.75	1.03	2.3	1.13	0.63	4.92	0.87	1	0.22	15.51	6.74	8.77	8.77
1965	0.29	2.38	0.42	0.65	2.76	3.87	0.25	1.14	1.32	1.61	0.08	0.98	15.75	10.37	5.38	5.38
1966	0.61	0.89	0.32	1.08	1.38	2.03	0.2	3.54	5.15	2.37	0	0	18.37	7.11	11.26	11.26
1967	0	0.35	0.86	0.78	0.53	0.45	1.51	4.18	0.57	1.34	1.38	1.38	13.86	3.45	10.41	10.41
1968	2.08	1.12	1.28	2.6	3.06	2.14	3.61	2.09	1.69	0.27	2.38	0.3	22.62	12.28	10.34	10.34
1969	0.02	2.02	1.47	5.93	1.69	3.06	1.18	3.32	1.1	4.2	2.39	1	27.38	14.19	13.19	13.19
1970	0.45	1.7	2.01	0.87	1.44	1.27	0.02	0.16	2.85	0.38	0	0	11.15	17.03	3.41	3.41
1971	0.07	0.08	0	4.46	0.7	2.11	4.2	9.9	6.37	3.41	0.21	0.65	32.16	7.42	24.74	24.74
1972	0.74	0.1	0	0.31	4.66	5.06	0.6	5.19	4.89	2.72	0.18	0.03	24.48	10.87	13.61	13.61
1973	1.23	1.88	1.63	0.77	0.57	0.36	4.7	0.08	4.36	2.74	0.11	0.01	18.44	6.44	12.00	12.00
1974	0.1	0	0.63	2.6	2.85	0.51	0.53	5.59	10.53	3.22	1.5	1.28	29.34	6.69	22.65	22.65
1975	0.6	1.22	0	1.17	3.67	0.53	3.66	1.28	2.37	2.76	4.62	0.59	22.47	7.19	15.28	15.28
1976	0	0	0.74	1.3	1.98	0.56	9.15	0.21	4.78	5.93	0.46	0.33	25.44	4.58	20.86	20.86
1977	0.63	0.25	1.66	3.74	4.29	1.76	0	0.19	0.3	2.07	0.52	0	15.41	12.33	3.08	3.08
1978	0.85	0.62	0.21	1.58	2.22	2.89	1.2	0.95	3.92	0.61	2.83	0	17.88	8.37	9.51	9.51
1979	0.03	1.17	2.5	0.86	1.56	3.76	2.03	2.76	0.85	0.87	0	0	16.39	9.88	6.51	6.51
1980	1	0.39	0.45	0.2	3.06	0.57	0	2.96	4.29	0.21	0.51	1.38	15.02	21.7	5.67	9.35
1981	1.18	0.26	2.37	6.39	4.18	2.65	0.38	1.22	1.78	5.88	0.1	0	26.37	17.03	9.34	9.34
1982	0.43	1.33	0	0.52	6.05	1.43	0.59	1.74	0	1.66	1.13	1.06	15.94	9.76	6.18	6.18
1983	2.43	1.21	1.01	0.61	1.06	2.14	0	1.5	0	6.81	0.87	0	17.64	8.46	9.18	9.18
1984	2.21	0	0.81	0.14	1.06	1.44	0.96	0.2	1.65	3.68	1.7	2.87	16.72	5.66	11.06	11.06
1985	0.54	0.72	1.52	3.14	1.96	5.29	1.83	1.03	5.79	2.55	0.66	0	25.03	13.17	11.86	11.86
1986	0	0.5	0.47	0.59	2.75	3.41	0.31	5.29	0.38	7.73	3.7	2.62	27.75	7.72	20.03	20.03
1987	0.6	2.25	1.37	1.77	4.81	2.71	0.25	5.72	2.2	0.41	0.27	1.4	23.76	13.51	10.25	10.25
1988	0	0.13	0	0.29	1.94	2.45	3.69	0.66	7.35	0	0	0.7	17.21	4.81	12.4	12.4
1989	0.6	3.64	1.26	0.1	1.45	0.49	0.1	0.92	1.66	2.52	0.31	0.1	13.15	7.54	5.61	5.61
1990	0.7	2.49	1.81	1.17	3.76	0	8.1	2.29	6.79	2.8	2.87	0.02	32.80	21.64	9.93	22.87
1991	2.41	0.1	0.22	0.9	2.11	1.92	3.84	0.6	5.23	0.6	0.71	3.58	22.22	7.66	14.56	14.56
1992	1.91	2.55	2	3.84	7.33	2.7	1.76	0.9	0.1	1.21	0.7	0.5	25.50	20.33	5.17	5.17
1993	0.72	1.62	0.61	0.69	2.45	3.21	2.9	2.58	1.85	4.49	0	0.92	18.04	9.30	8.74	8.74
1994	1.65	0.4	0	1.27	3.04	0.65	0.97	0.7	0.81	1.85	1.2	1.3	13.84	7.01	6.83	6.83
1995	0.21	0.69	1.23	3.9	4.77	0.5	1.03	2.01	2.32	0.75	2.27	0.27	19.95	11.30	8.65	8.65
1996	0	0	0.15	1.12	1.17	0.05	0.91	5.42	2.38	1.67	2.39	0.18	14.54	2.49	12.95	12.95
1997	0.3	0.6	0.98	1.73	2.61	2.6	0.1	1.25	0.41	1.11	0.77	1.16	13.62	8.82	4.80	4.80
1998	0	0	2.01	0	0.58	1.11	0.1	8.69	0	0.9	3.06	0.67	17.12	3.70	13.42	13.42
1999	0	0.3	3.65	3.88	1.4	4.61	0.26	1.8	0	1.46	0	0.55	17.91	13.84	4.07	4.07
2000	0.11	0.18	0.67	0.61	0.74	6.29	0.15	0	2.23	4.57	2.56	0.23	18.34	18.201	8.60	9.74
2001	1.83	0.71	3.00	.037	2.35	0.00	.052	2.93	.068	0.44	4.16	0.28	17.27	8.78	9.01	9.01
2002	0.15	0.62	0.96	0.84	0.30	1.24	1.82	0.74	1.15	8.84	0.49	0.57	17.72	4.11	13.61	13.61
2003	0.15	1.94	1.02	0.28	2.26	2.75	1.94	1.76	2.62	3.88	0.30	0.00	18.90	8.40	10.5	10.5
2004	1.57	1.62	3.31	1.17	1.01	2.73	2.10	5.85	2.23	6.10	4.76	0.29	34.75	13.41	21.33	21.33
2005	0.52	1.43	1.33	0.19	4.17	1.42	1.88	2.52	0.24	3.91	0.02	0.15	17.88	9.06	8.72	8.72
2006	0.06	0.38	1.46	0.65	4.00	1.86	0.69	2.62	1.58	1.88	0.00	1.45	13.02	4.81	8.22	8.22
2007	1.63	0.49	4.72	1.43	7.12	4.55	1.83	3.76	1.96	0.50	0.66	0.23	28.89	19.94	8.94	8.94
2008	0.33	0.03	1.76	0.31	0.22	2.59	0.54	3.05	3.73	1.66	0.23	0.10	14.54	5.24	9.31	9.31

Journalism team first, computer science second at Sonora UIL Academic Meet

The OHS UIL Academic Team competed in Sonora on Feb. 4. The Journalism Team placed first at the meet. Individuals placing: Headling Writing - 1. Duncan Knox; 4. Kelsie Ramirez. Editorial Writing - 1. Lane Hale. Feature Writing - 3. Abby

Newton; 5. Kelsie Ramirez and 6. Desiree Marshall. The Computer Science team placed second. Duncan Knox placed fourth and Jayce Logan placed sixth individually. Also placing was Desiree Marshall, sixth in Computer Applications and Chris Cantu second and Duncan Knox fourth in Ready Writing.

Powerlifters compete at Coahoma Meet

Michael Vargas and Kyle Dean brought home second place medals from the Coahoma Powerlifting Meet. Michael totaled 775 pounds in the 132 pound class and Kyle totaled 1,115 pounds in the 165 pound class. Other lifters were: Ryan Kennedy - 720 pound total, Rocky Venegas - 775 pound total, Noah Tambunga - 670 pound total, Adam Gonzales - 620 pound total, Alejandro Mendez - 845 pound total, Brandon De Hoyos - 800 pound total, Mario Sifuentes - 855 pound total, Brandon Dominguez - 815 pound

total, Hazael Damian - 805 pound total, Joe Borrego - 935 pound total, and Anthony Avila - 820 pound total. Mark Gallardo also lifted in the meet. In the girls division, Dalia Hernandez brought home first place in the 198 pound class with a total of 505 pounds. Jenny Venegas was third place in the 148 pound class with a 615 pound total. Alex Rodriguez took fourth place in the 123 pound class with a 485 pound total. Other lifters competing were Nicloe Higgins - 505 pound total and Nancy Rodriguez.

Funds available for ACT and SAT tests

Parents of 11th grade OHS students, as part of the Texas College Preparation Program, the 81st Texas Legislature has made funds available to pay for our 11th grade students to take the ACT or SAT at no cost to you. The cost of the ACT or SAT averages about \$50, so this is an opportunity you won't want to pass up. Deadline to register for the first ACT test date (April

9) under this program is March 4. OHS will be a testing center for this particular ACT test date. The deadline to register for the first SAT test date (May 7) is April 8. Students may pick up vouchers to register for free online, from Mrs. duBois or Ms. Stevens in the Counseling Center. If you have questions, call the high school at 392-5711.

Seventh Grade Lady Lions win Consolation at Eldorado

The Seventh Grade Lady Lions won Consolation at the Eldorado Tournament last week. The Lady Lions lost to Miles 29-15 in their first game. Scoring: Madison Childress 5; Maria Mejia 4; Brianna Sanchez 2; Alyssa Newlin 2 and Alondra Rodriguez 2. Also playing: Lauren Miles, Estefania Torralba and Kim Borrego. The Lady Lions won their second game 19-16 over Grape Creek.

Scoring: Lauren Miles 4; Estefania Torralba 4; Alyssa Newlin 4; Maria Mejia 4 and Brianna Sanchez 3. Also playing: Madison Childress, Kim Borrego and Alondra Rodriguez. "We had a rough start the first half but pulled it together the second half and came back to win the game," said Coach Dendra Rohan. "I would like to thank the girls for their hard work and playing hard every game. Thanks to the parents for their support."

Lions claw Brady for second district win

The Ozona Lions defeated Brady 51-44 Friday night for their second district win. Score by quarters: Ozona - 8 11 16 16 - 51; Brady - 13 8 9 14 - 44. Scoring: Abey Lara 10; Austin Suddreth 4; Alex Borrego 11; Jerrod duBois 22 and Ryan Mayfield 4. Also playing: Jose Aguilar, Saul Vargas, Luis Soto and Cris Taylor. "I was pleased to see Alex Borrego and Jerrod duBois make significant contributions on offense. Abey Lara also played a significant role in our victory this evening by his hustle and effort. It was a good game in the fact that we did not panic, and played with more composure in the second half,"

said Coach Ted Rohan. The Lions lost to Sonora 48-37 on Feb. 1. Score by quarters: Ozona - 8 11 13 5 37; Sonora - 11 17 11 9 - 48. Scoring: Aguilar 2; Lara 3; Suddreth 11; Borrego 6; duBois 8 and Mayfield 4. Also playing: Vargas, Soto and Taylor. "This was a must win for the Lions in order to stay in the hunt for a playoff spot. We allowed Sonora to have a late run before half and that was a major factor in our demise. Effort was great but we are not attacking the basket when you only get to the free-throw line four times," Rohan said. The Lions are 2-5 in district play and 9-16 overall.



ADRIENNE SANCHEZ MANUVERS THE BALL in the Ozona Lady Lions Feb. 1 game against Sonora.



VARSITY OZONA LION ALEX BORREGO GOES UP TO THE BOARDS on Feb. 1 against the Sonora Broncos.

Eighth Grade Lady Lions win Consolation at Eldorado

The Eighth Grade Lady Lions won Consolation in the Eldorado Tournament Saturday. In their first game, Ozona lost 19-18 to Coahoma. Scoring: Becky Mata 10; Meagan Espinosa 4; Bethany Martinez 2; Keyanna Perez 1 and Elva Gallardo 1. Also playing: Nydia Valdez, Maira Rodriguez, Janna Munsell, Marissa Held, Kaylenn Elston, Morgan Espinosa, Kaylee Ramirez and Angelica Diaz. The Lady Lions won

their second game 27-17 over Eldorado. Scoring: Becky Mata 10; Bethany Martinez 8; Janna Munsell 4; Kaylenn Elston 3 and Keyanna Perez 2. Also playing: Meagan Espinosa, Nydia Valdez, Maira Rodriguez, Marissa Held, Morgan Espinosa, Kaylee Ramirez, Elva Gallardo and Angelica Diaz. In the third game, Ozona won 29-24 over Christoval. Scoring: Becky Mata 9; Elva Gallardo 1; Kaylenn

Elston 8; Janna Munsell 8; Bethany Martinez 2; Maira Rodriguez 1. Also playing: Meagan Espinosa, Keyanna Perez, Nydia Valdez, Marissa Held, Morgan Espinosa, Kaylee Ramirez and Angelica Diaz. "They were pretty tired after already playing two games in one day and having a large break between our second and third game of the day, but we came to play basketball and we gave our last game our best effort. We had some key

girls step up and score that hadn't scored during our other two games. We were also able to convert some of our free throws into points, giving us the added advantage over Christoval," said Coach Jill Koerth. "This tournament was a great learning time for our girls. We actually had the opportunity to be competitive and learn how to use our skills in a competitive game situation. This tournament was a fantastic end to our season."

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Eighth Grade Lions battle Hawks

The Ozona Lions Eighth Grade Basketball teams hosted the Wall Hawks on Jan. 31.

The B team started the evening with some excitement. The Lions scored 6 points in the first quarter to trail 7-6 after one period.

The second quarter would see the Hawks break loose and score 15 points while limiting the Lions to only 7 points, making the first half score read Visitors-20 and Home-13.

After regrouping at halftime, the Lions B team roared back to outscore the Hawks 9-2 in the third to knot it up at 22 all, going in the final stanza.

The Lions would manage to score 8 points but were outscored by 4 points.

The final score would be Wall-34 and Ozona-30.

Scoring for the Lions were: Ryan Porras with 21 points, Juan Rodriguez-5, Bryce Gutierrez and Kino Rodriguez each with 2 points.

The B team now own a 7-4 season record.

The Lions A team then hit the court but fell behind 7-4 after the first quarter.

The Hawks would find

their range in the second quarter to score 12 points while holding the Lions to only two buckets. The Hawks would lead this one at halftime by a score of 19-8.

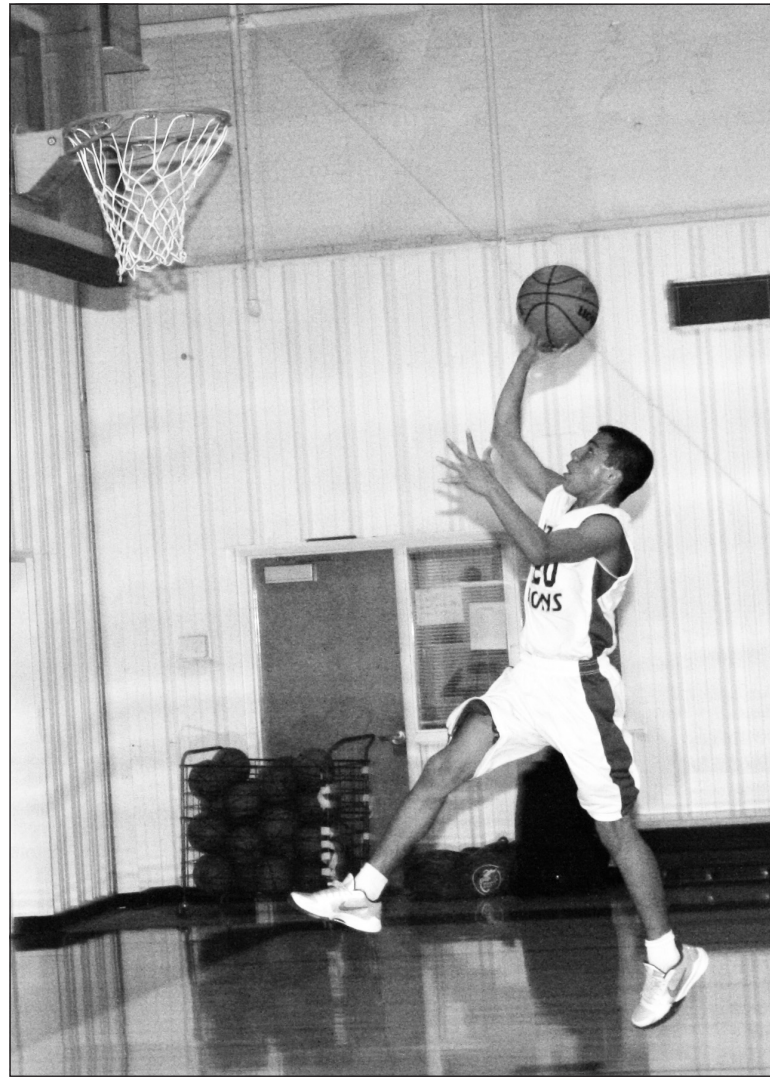
In the third quarter, the Lions would out play the Hawks cutting the score to 24-16.

The Lions managed to shut out the Hawks in the fourth quarter but could only score 5 points of their own.

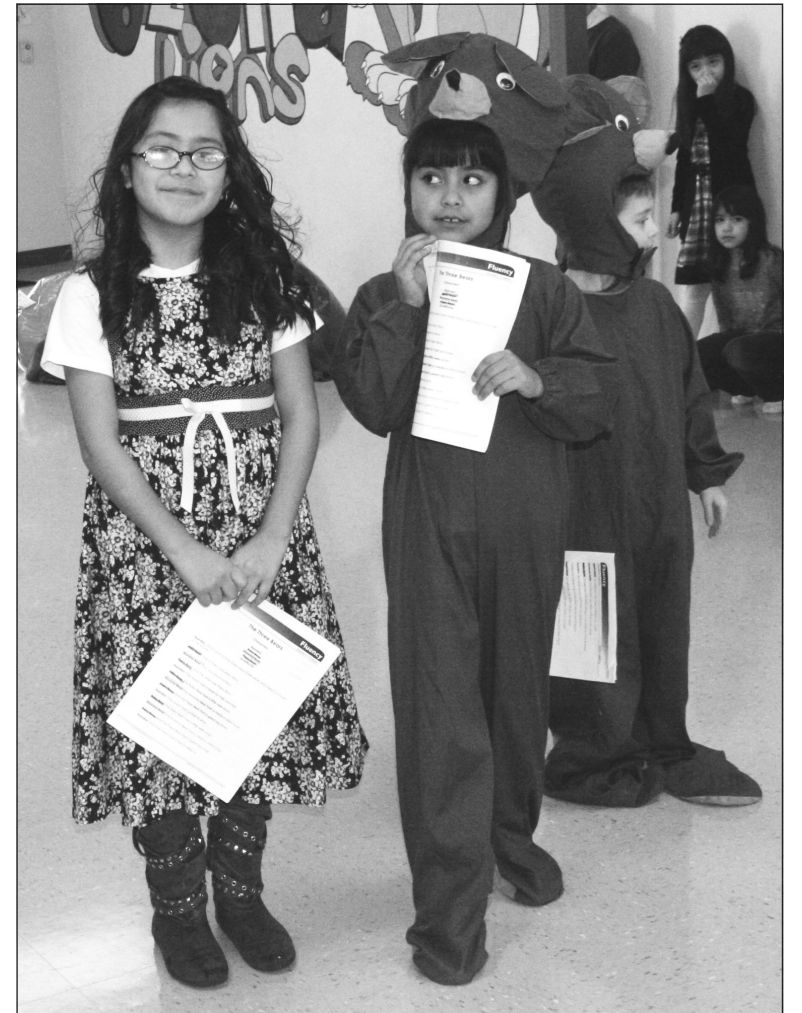
The Hawks would win this exciting game by a score of 24-21.

With the loss, the Lions season record now stands at 10-4.

Scoring for the Lions were: Jayton Rodriguez-8, Fernando Sifuentes-6, Daniel Lombrana-5, and Chase Dehoyos-2.



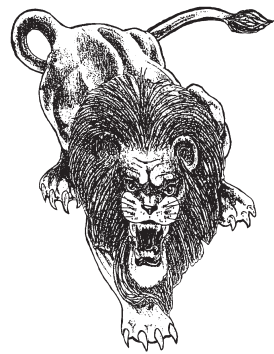
JOE HERNANDEZ | THE OZONA STOCKMAN
RYAN PORRAS TAKES TO THE AIR for the Ozona Middle School Lions.



MELISSA PERNER | THE OZONA STOCKMAN
THE OZONA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL READING THEATRE performed "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" last week.

Lions Giving Back

A Community Service Outreach of OHS



Students earn credit toward College and Career exploration opportunities away from Ozona through service in our community.

Do you have a community organization or event that could use student volunteers?

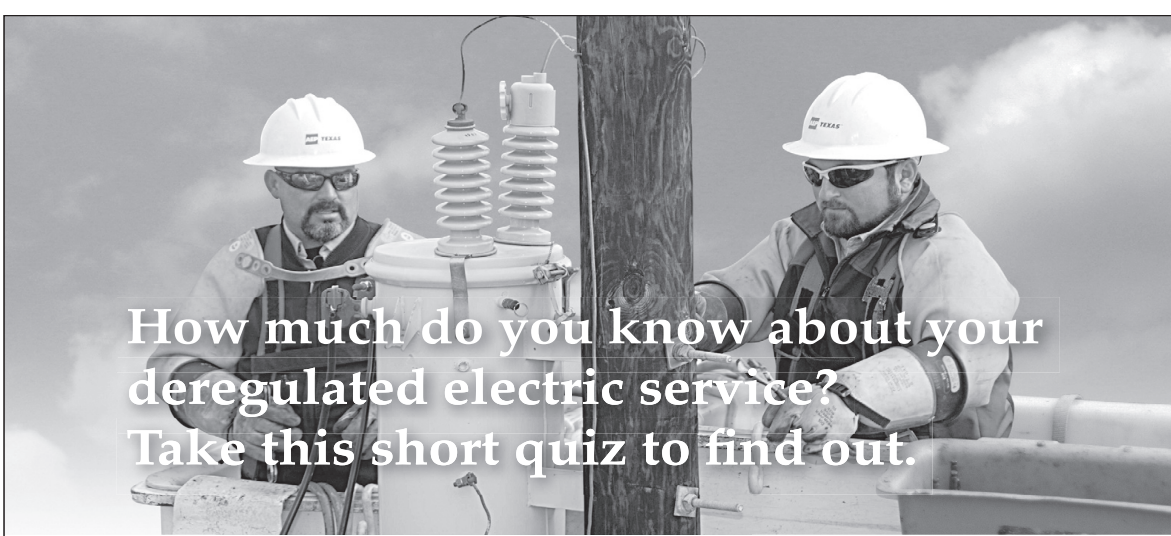
Call or e-mail
Susie duBois
@ 392-5501, ext. 5740
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to get the word out to our students.

Youth Center Calendar of Events

Schedule for the week:
7-9 p.m.
Wednesday to Saturday

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How much do you know about your deregulated electric service? Take this short quiz to find out.

Who restores power after a bad storm?

- 1) Your Retail Electric Provider
- 2) The company that generates electricity
- 3) AEP Texas
- 4) All of the above
- 5) None of the above

AEP Texas

- 1) Sells electricity
- 2) Delivers electricity
- 3) Generates electricity
- 4) All of the above
- 5) None of the above

Who is installing new Smart Meters?

- 1) AEP Texas
- 2) Your Retail Electric Provider
- 3) The company that generates electricity
- 4) All of the above
- 5) None of the above

Who is known as "the wires company?"

- 1) Your Retail Electric Provider
- 2) The company that generates electricity
- 3) AEP Texas
- 4) All of the above
- 5) None of the above

If you answered 3, 2, 1, 3, congratulations! You made a 100%!

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No matter which company you choose as your Retail Electric Provider (REP), AEP Texas delivers electricity to your home or business, and maintains the overall electric system...just as we've always done. AEP Texas is connected to more than 935,000 customers and nearly 300 cities, communities, and counties. **Please remember to call your REP at the number listed on your electric bill if you have questions about that bill or your electric account.**

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FREEZE: from page 1

Deaton said when he was notified of the possible power outage, he checked with the Crockett County Care Center and other offices that had backup generators to make sure those were working.

He also called AEP to find out when they outage might be, but they did not know.

Power outages were reported in Sonora, Big Lake, Del Rio and Mertzton that morning, but Ozona's power remained intact throughout the day.

Deaton said his theory as to why Crockett County kept power was due to the county using wind energy.

"It appears to me that what saved us is that we have wind generation coming in," Deaton said. "I feel like the wind generation that saved us."

Crockett County CCSD sent out e-mail notifications through the SchoolReach system.

Superintendent Chris duBois said that SchoolReach is the system the district will use to make emergency announcements throughout the district, such as school closures or delayed starts.

"We really want parents to pay attention if something is up," duBois said.

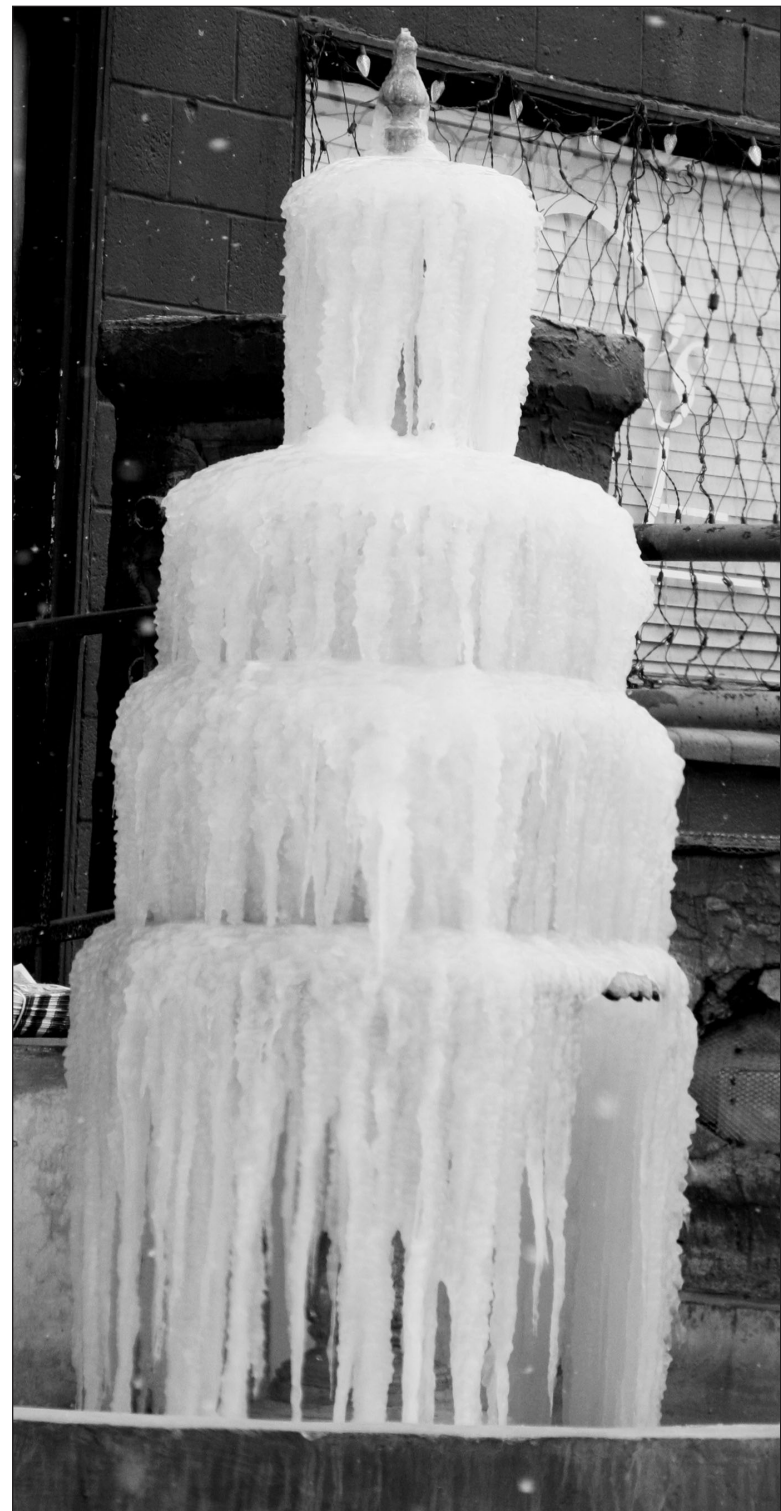
The system, which is phone-based, makes three attempts to call the phone numbers on file the district has for every student. If a phone number has changed, duBois said it is important for parents to update that information at the students' campus.

The district currently has 1,069 numbers in the system for around 750 students. During the possible power outage, duBois said the system made positive contact with almost 600 numbers.

The district is exploring the possibility of using the system to notify parents of excessive lunch charges and student absences.

"We feel like that is good coverage. It's the quickest way to send a recording out in Spanish and English," duBois said.

On Feb. 2, each campus responded as if there was a weather emergency by going into "Shelter-in-Place," where teachers continually stayed with students throughout the day.



JOE HERNANDEZ | THE OZONA STOCKMAN

THE FOUNTAIN IN FRONT OF PEPE'S CAFE was also frozen last week. Crockett County had three consecutive days of freezing temperatures.

er emergency by going into "Shelter-in-Place," where teachers continually stayed with students throughout the day.

duBois said parents were allowed to check out their children if they chose.

"We were just prepared since we didn't when anything

might happen," he said. "We have a good staff that utilized using the procedures."

The Ozona Chamber of Commerce also sent e-mail notifications to members. Notifications were also posted throughout the day on The Ozona Stockman's Facebook

and Twitter pages.

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas instructed utilities to implement the outages across the state, including West Texas, starting about 5:30 a.m. Feb. 2 after freezing temperatures forced the loss of power capacity at various plants, ERCOT officials said.

AEP estimated that two-thirds of its 900,000 Texas customers were affected at one time or another by the outages.

Dottie Roark, a spokeswoman for ERCOT, said the power outages were due to the extreme weather shutting down power infrastructure. A news release from AEP said the power grid lost 7,000 megawatt hours of generating capacity.

The generating loss occurred when the extreme cold caused pipes to burst at the Oak Grove coal plant near Beaumont and the Sand Hill plant in Austin, taking 7,000 megawatts of capacity down. Fred Hernandez, manager of community affairs at AEP, said ERCOT was trying to reduce the electricity load because if demand becomes larger than the amount of electricity generated, serious blackouts could result. The agency chose small, controlled blackouts rather than a large, uncontrolled one.

"If you ever get in a situation where the load is greater than your generation, then you'll cause some major power outage," Hernandez said.

ERCOT encouraged people to conserve electricity, to turn off nonessential appliances, for instance.

Hernandez said the outages were rotated among different areas to minimize inconvenience.

State officials will be conducting hearings this week involving ERCOT, the Public Utility Commission, power plant operators and the Texas Railroad Commission.

The National Weather Service is predicting a 20 percent chance of snow and sleet today (Feb. 9) for Crockett County with a high of only 31 and a low of 17.

Temperatures are supposed to increase Thursday with sunny skies and a high of 44.

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Colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer. Fortunately, a test—called a colonoscopy—performed at Hudspeth Memorial's new diagnostic facility is very effective in discovering and treating this cancer.

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A colonoscopy at Hudspeth Memorial is the same as those performed at a big city medical facility, but you do not face the inconvenience and added expense of distant travel.

READ RIGHT:

from page 1

of district's 101 that are improving their reading skills through the Read Right program.

The reading intervention program is in its second year and has shown great improvement in students, Gonzalez said.

"Working with the students these last two years has been amazing," Gonzalez said. "Teachers say that read right students are the first ones to raise their hands and are the best readers."

The program takes four areas of reading, excellent reading, coached reading, critical thinking and independent reading, and puts them together to help a student learn how to read what the program calls "fluently."

Students like Elva and Juan listen to the book being read on a digital mp3 player. They then read to themselves. When they are ready to read out loud, they tap on the table to signal to their instructor. Students then read the passage out loud and the instructor. The student and instructor evaluate how they did.

"They don't move to the next paragraph or story until they read excellent," Gonzalez said. "This explicitly teaches somebody how to read correctly."

According to the Read Right website, Read Right was developed by Dr. Dee Tadlock after her son, who was in first grade, began having trouble reading in school. Along with school teachers, Tadlock, who has a Ph.D. in reading, began working hard to try and solve her son's problem.

Read Right Systems Inc. was organized in 1991 after Read Right was successfully implemented at the Simpson Timber Company sawmill and plywood complex in Shelton, Wash.

According to the website, currently 91 elementary schools, middle schools and high schools have Read Right programs, and three correctional institutions have implemented Read Right for juvenile offenders. Eighty-seven Read Right Learning Centers have been set up at industrial locations in the US, Canada, and China. Read Right is also tutoring individuals across the United States and Canada by phone.

In Ozona, 20 students in the elementary, 40 in the middle school and, for the first time this year, 41 students in the



OMS STUDENT ELVA GALLARDO listens to a paragraph being read on a Read Right mp3 player. Elva then reads the paragraph to herself.

high school are in the program.

Gonzalez, who is training to become the Read Right Trainer for the district, and Betty Hawthorne, Jovita Perez, Misty Jurado and Elizabeth Clark instruct the students each day. All of the instructors had to complete a seven-week training course.

"When I started, I was not an excellent reader even though I read well," Gonzalez said.

While most reading programs focus on vocabulary and learning how to read each word, Read Right focuses on comprehension and fluency.

Gonzalez said the program "re-wires" a student's neuro-network into anticipating the author's meaning and reading excellently. If the brain is not correctly doing the basic process of reading, oral reading will not be fluent. If the brain is correctly doing the basic process of reading, oral reading will be fluent.

"We are not concerned about them calling out every single word. Students often believe the faster they read, the better they are," Gonzalez said. "It's a balance. It can't be super slow but it can't be so fast that there is no way you can understand what the author is telling you. The reading has to be so comfortable, as if you are carrying on a conversation. We create this environment for the brain to have the opportunity to revive itself."

Comprehension is also worked on and a little bit of vocabulary if a student

doesn't understand a word.

During the week, students are also challenged with critical thinking skills. Students will read the same story, answers a series of questions and then debate and discuss their answers based on what they read. The student has to convince their classmates that their answer is correct.

"Basically they do what is required on the TAKS test, which is thinking critically," Gonzalez said. "It's intense, by the end of the week their brain is tired. We also ask them to read outside of class."

The CCCSD School Board approved the program in 2009.

Superintendent Chris duBois said he decided to implement the program after meeting with campus administrators and counselors about what was needed to improve the district's math and science TAKS scores.

duBois said he spoke to other districts that use the program and heard nothing but success stories.

"This is intensive. We're going to really go after it hard. I've never used Read Right anywhere else. I've always wanted to use and see its potential," duBois said. "We're not looking to replace any programs. We are looking to do additional support and follow through with this to high school. Reading is the barrier."

Since the program's implementation, middle school students who started with a reading level on a second or third grade level have progressed to seventh and eighth grade levels.

Students in special education, with dyslexia and those classified as English Language Learners, formerly English as a Second Language, all use the program.

"It creates excellent readers and now we can work on other skills to catch up. That is what builds the confidence," Gonzalez said.

Students in college, businesses in the workforce and even prisons are using the program, according to the Read Right website.

"It can help people of all ages and all reading levels. We can all become better readers," Gonzalez said. "We hope the support will continue to build. We see it doing excellent things in our district."

For more information, visit www.read-right.com

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS



Village Drug chosen as January Business of the Month

BY SHANON BIGGERSTAFF
CHAMBER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Ozona Chamber of Commerce has selected the Village Drug as our January Business of the Month.

"I moved from the Permian Basin area to Ozona in 1988. I was looking for a small town to raise my children, and liked Ozona," said owner of the Village Drug, Rick Bird. "The Village Drug has been in Ozona since 1959."

The Village Drug has four employees. Mary Ortiz and Lynda Sherek both work the front end, and Mary Held and Vanessa Rodriguez are both Pharmacy Techs.

The Village Drug is an affiliation of the Good Neighbor Pharmacies.

"The most challenging part of the business is that healthcare has literally been taken over by insurance companies. Also providing good care while adhering to the many formularies and regulations of the industry. We are lucky in Ozona to have the healthcare facilities that we do. It's important for

local residents to shop local so that we can maintain the services we have in our community," said Rick.

The Village Drug is not only able to accommodate your prescription needs, but also has a wide array of gift items. Everything from gift cards to party supplies. You will also find colognes, jewelry, picture frames, health and beauty products, medical supplies and seasonal products such as Valentine gifts.

Locals and travelers have for a long time enjoyed their famous chicken salad sandwich and cherry ice drinks available at the 50s Soda Fountain & Grill.

Other specialties are grilled hamburgers and cheeseburgers, grilled cheese sandwiches, Frito pie, shakes, cones, limeades, hot chocolate and banana splits.

The Village Drug and 50s Soda Fountain & Grill is located at 902 Eleventh Street and open Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For more information, call (325) 392-2666.

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Crockett County			
PTD	OPERATOR	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG
9600	Bark Royalty Company	Harris #1	Ringo Drilling Lp #19 1/17/11
6500	Erg Resources	University 40-14 #4 H	Cactus Drilling #102
9000	Approach Operating	West #2315	Nabors Drilling #70
9000	Approach Operating	University 42-13 #14	Ringo Drilling Lp #17
9000	Approach Operating	Cisco Terry #8- #991 H	Nabors Drilling #714
9000	Walter O & C Corp	MS Smith -15- #1 H	Patterson Oil #471
Reagan County			
PTD	OPERATOR	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG
9000	Broad Oak Energy Inc	Sth -C #13a	Union Drilling Texas #206
10000	Broad Oak Energy Inc	Walt #9 #136	Union Drilling Texas #205
10000	Pioneer Natural	University 2-20 #6	Patterson Oil #73
11500	Parsley Energy	Jamerson -50- #4	Matlock Drilling #4
9000	Broad Oak Energy Inc	Sugg -C #28a	Patterson Oil #118
9000	Endeavor Energy Res	Sth -11- #1	Big Dog Drilling #5
10000	Prime Operating	Watkins #1	Patterson Oil #169
9000	Broad Oak Energy Inc	Sth -D #2r	Union Drilling Texas #226
9625	Endeavor Energy Res	Sth -106- #1	Big Dog Drilling #4
9500	First Natural Res	Mustang Draw #2p	Patterson Oil #142
10200	Apache Corp	Sth -12- #1217	Big Dog Drilling #24
11500	Devon Energy	University 9-26 #1	Patterson Oil #80 Drig
Schleicher County			
PTD	OPERATOR	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG
8350	Highmount E&P Tx	Meador -37- #9	Ringo Drilling Lp #20
8500	Highmount E&P Tx	Marigliano #1592	Ringo Drilling Lp #16
Sutton County			
PTD	OPERATOR	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG
8450	Highmount E&P Tx Hill	Mayer Edwin S Jr- #8- #5	Ringo Drilling Lp #2
9450	Highmount E&P Tx	Wilson Duke -173- #20r	Ringo Drilling Lp #21

DPS announces DRP Amnesty Program details

BY TELA MANGE
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Texasns whose driver licenses have been suspended for failing to pay state-mandated surcharges are urged to take advantage of a one-time payment amnesty from Jan. 17 to April 17, 2011.

The Texas Department of Public Safety will offer lower payments to individuals who have been suspended and are in default on their surcharges. The goal of the amnesty period is to bring drivers into compliance with the surcharge law, and allow them to become licensed and insured drivers. The amnesty reduction does not apply to any other fees that you may owe the Department.

Those eligible for the Amnesty Program are anyone who had a surcharge assessed between Sept. 30, 2004, and Dec. 31, 2008, and were delinquent on those payments. The surcharges meeting the above criteria must be in default before the amnesty period.

Those who qualify for the Amnesty Program will pay 10 percent of the original amount owed for all surcharges combined, for a maximum amount of \$250. Service fees will still apply. Any payments already made will be applied to the reduced amount, and if prior payments are more than the reduced amount due, no payment will be required. Prior payments more than the reduced amount due will not be refunded.

To apply for the Amnesty Program beginning January 17, 2011, see our surcharge website at www.txsurchargeonline.com or call 1-877-207-3170. No requests will be accepted by mail, email or fax.

Once the online or telephone application is approved, the surcharge suspensions will be cleared on the applicant's driving record within three business days. Applicants will be

provided the reduced amount to pay, and they can begin making payments after three business days.

Applicants for the Amnesty Program can pay in full or make payments, but the full amount must be paid by April 17, 2011. If payment in full is not received by April 17, 2011, the reduction is voided and the suspensions are put back on the driving record.

The Department does not have plans to offer another amnesty period.

An indigency program will be offered after the amnesty period ends in April. The indigency program will apply to individuals at or below 125 percent of poverty level, using a sworn affidavit; will reduce the amount to 10 percent of total surcharges owed, not to exceed \$250; and will rescind suspension for those who receive indigency while payments are being made. Anyone assessed a surcharge since September 30, 2004 will be eligible for the indigency program.

The Driver Responsibility Program, which assesses fees for a variety of driving-related offenses, was passed by the Legislature in 2003 and directed the Department to administer the program. Traffic offenses that carry an automatic surcharge for three years, include DWI-related offenses, no insurance, driving while license suspended, driving without a license and point accumulation. (For example, the fee for a first-time DWI offender is \$1,000 per year for three years.) The revenue generated by DRP goes to trauma centers, emergency medical services and the general revenue fund.

Surcharges are in addition to all other reinstatement fees required for other administrative actions and do not replace any administrative suspension, revocation, disqualification or cancellation action that results from these same convictions.

FOR THE RECORD: WEEKLY COURT PROCEEDINGS

BAIL BONDS
•Alfredo Ornelas Rivas, Ozona, assault causing bodily injury family, class A misdemeanor, \$5,000; interference with an emergency call, class A misdemeanor, \$5,000.

COUNTY COURT Closed Cases - Jan. 2011
• Johnny Wayne Ferris, theft by check, dismiss - paid restitution and court costs.
• Laquita Michelle Sandle, failure to identify, 40 days in jail.
• Freddy Yruegas Ybarra, assault bodily injury family violence, \$100 fine, \$304 court costs and four days in jail.

• William Patrick Kinney, failure to appear, \$185 fine and \$313 court costs.
• Justin Lee Jordan, failure to appear, \$185 fine and \$313 court costs.
• Brandi Michelle Williams, duty on striking unattended vehicle, dismisses does not wish to further prosecute.

• Sandra Joe Joyce, driving while intoxicated - first/open container, dismisses does not wish to further prosecute.
• Angela Faye Warren, possession of marijuana less than two ounces and possession of dangerous drug, dismiss-in federal custody.

• Jose Carlos Lozano Jr., reckless driving, dismissed-completed obligations to County Attorney.
• Stefani Marie Ditto, driving while licensed invalid-enhance, dismissed - pled in other county case; driving while intoxicated-first, \$500 fine, \$473 court costs, 24 community service hours and one-year probation.
• Weston Louis Hearne, driving while license invalid-enhanced, 30 days in jail.
• Diane Janette Williams, driving while intoxicated-first/open container, one-year pre-trial diversion.
• Jimmy Paul Longoria, possession of marijuana less than two ounces, \$200 fine, \$373 court costs, six months deferred.
• Sonny Anthony Rodriguez Jr., possession of marijuana less than two ounces, \$400 fine, \$373 court costs, one-year deferred.
• James Garza Swearingen, driving while intoxicated-first, one year pre-trial diversion.
• Adolfo Israel Perez, driving while intoxicated-first, \$500 fine, \$473 court costs and 72 hours in jail.

The above information was obtained from the Crockett County Clerk's Office and the County Attorney's Office.

STATE: from page 2

power plants in Texas. "I can think of no better way for the White House to demonstrate its commitment to ending job-killing regulations than by rescinding the EPA rules Texas has challenged. Congress, too, has the opportunity to act now to save jobs and increase confidence in the future of our economy by ordering the EPA to cease its efforts to regulate carbon dioxide emissions through the ill-suited means of the Clean Air Act," Abbott wrote.

Abbott said he wants the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to resume its enforcement role.

AG SEEKS TO SEND EPA PACKING
On Feb. 1, Attorney General Greg Abbott publicized a letter he wrote to President Obama, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and House Speaker John Boehner, urging them to reverse the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's recent stepping in to police greenhouse gas (carbon dioxide) emissions at smokestack industries and

FIRE DEPARTMENT RUNS

FEB. 4
•1:12 p.m. - Five grass fires on the side of the road, in the bar ditch, starting 14 miles west on State Hwy 137 to a point just east of the US Hwy 190 on State Hwy 137. All fires were controlled with out going into the pasture. Acres Aprox 0.5 total. Cause unknown. Ozona four units, eight firefighters; Big Lake two units, three firefighters; Barnhart two units, three firefighters. Texas Energy call for transport but canceled. Time in service 1 hour 41 minutes.
• 5:30 p.m. - Non-emergency rekindle grass fire

17 miles west on State Hwy 137. A unit with two firefighters. Time in service 1 hour 15 minutes.
FEB. 6
• 8:55 a.m. - Grass fire US Hwy 190 15 miles east of Iraan. Fire out on arrival. A unit, two firefighters; Iraan Fire Department two trucks, three firefighters. Time in service 2 hours 14 minutes.
• 9:10 a.m. - Grass fire on County Road 408, J.R. Bailey A lease, oilfield equipment on ground burned and a grass fire, one acre. Three units, six firefighters. Time in service 1 hour 27 minutes.

EMS DEPARTMENT RUNS

JAN. 31
• 911 call - Transport and treatment Family Health Clinic
• Emergency transfer - Transport and treatment Shannon Medical Center
FEB. 3
• Emergency transfer - Transport and treatment Shannon Medical Center
FEB. 4
• 911 call - Transport and treatment Family Health Clinic
FEB. 5
• Emergency transfer - Transport and treatment Shannon Medical Center
FEB. 6
• 911 call - Transport and treatment Shannon Medical Center

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CNA'S NEEDED: New starting pay scale for dedicated CNA's. Good home, good leadership. Crockett County Care Center is a non-profit, 56 bed Medicaid certified facility. Mileage and insurance also. Call 392-2671 and ask for Santa. CCCC is an EOE.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S) Dist/Div: San Angelo Contract 6219-54-001 for BRIDGE RAIL UPGRADES, DECK & RAIL REPAIR in CROCKETT County, etc will be received on March 01, 2011 until 1:00 pm and opened on March 01, 2011 at 1:10 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$298,000.00. Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 35504 State Office Constr./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540 Dist/Div Office(s) San Angelo District District Engineer 4502 Knickerbocker Rd San Angelo, Texas 76904 Phone: 325-944-1501 Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

Public Meeting Notice

2012 Unified Transportation Program and 2011-2014 Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan Revision The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will host an open-house style public meeting to solicit public comments and input on the development of the 2012 Unified Transportation Program (UTP), which covers fiscal years (FY) 2012 through 2021 and the FY 2011 January out-of-cycle revision to the 2011-2014 Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP). The public meeting will be held from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at the TxDOT - El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization Office, 10767 Gateway Boulevard West, El Paso, Texas.

Unified Transportation Program

The 2012 UTP is a comprehensive ten-year plan for the development and construction of State of Texas transportation projects including roadways, aviation, public transportation, waterways and coastal waters, and rail projects and includes specific funding levels for each fiscal year. Beginning promptly at 6:00 p.m., TxDOT staff will conduct a brief presentation on the purpose and development of the UTP. Additional information and exhibits will be available for public viewing and TxDOT representatives will be on-hand to discuss the development process and answer questions. Forms will be provided in order to receive written comments. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. For additional information, please go to www.txdot.gov/public_involvement/utp.htm or call the toll-free information line at (800) 687-8108. Written comments may be submitted on the UTP website at: www.txdot.gov, using search engine keyword: 2012 UTP; by email at: FIN_UTP@txdot.gov; or by mail to: David Plutowski, P.E., UTP Engineer, 150 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, 78704. Public comments will be received until March 3, 2011.

Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan

The STIP is a mechanism used by TxDOT and the Federal Highway Administration to fund projects for the next four years and includes all federally funded projects. This public meeting pertains specifically to the FY 2011 January out-of-cycle STIP revision for a single project in the San Antonio area. TxDOT representatives will be on-hand to answer STIP related questions. The FY 2011 STIP Amendment for January 2011 may be viewed online at http://www.txdot.gov/business/governments/stips/htm or visit any TxDOT District Office prior to the meeting. Locations of these offices can be found at: http://www.dot.state.tx.us/local_information/. Written comments may be submitted to Lori Morel, 118 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704. Persons with special communication or accommodation needs may call Marty Boyd at (915) 790-4326 for assistance. Requests should be made no later than three days prior to the meeting. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate needs.

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**ORDER RESTRICTING
OUTDOOR BURNING**

The Commissioners' Court finds that circumstances present in all or part of the unincorporated area of the county create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning; and NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Commissioners' Court of Crockett County, Texas, that outdoor burning is restricted in Crockett County for 30 days from the date of adoption of this Order, unless the restrictions are terminated earlier based on a determination made by the Texas Forest Service or this Court. This Order is adopted pursuant to Local Government Code 352.081, and other applicable statutes. This Order does NOT prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Natural Resources Commission for: (1) firefighter training; (2) public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations; (3) planting or harvesting or agricultural crops; or (4) burns that are conducted by an approved Prescribed Burning Association, Natural Resource Conservation Service, the and/or Texas A&M Agricultural Experiment Station, or prescribed burn manager certified under Section 153.048, Natural Resources Code, and meet the standards of Section 153.047, Natural Resources Code.

All burns shall be reported to the Crockett County Sheriff's Office (325) 392-2661 and the Fire Chief (325) 392-2626 prior to commencing, together with the name of the landowner, location involved and expert to be on hand.

This Order does NOT prohibit outdoor cooking in a properly contained area which is attended at all times.

In accordance with the Local Government Code 352.081 (h), a violation of this Order is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.

ADOPTED this the 10th day of January, 2011.
- Crockett County Commissioners' Court

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Saturday, February 19		2:00 p.m. matinee
Sunday, February 20		2:00 p.m. matinee
Friday, February 25		7:00 p.m.
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Written and originally directed by
Ted Swindley-based on a true story

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