

BREAKFAST ANYONE?
Knights of Columbus are serving Sunday morning
Page 4



FFA WINNERS:
Ozona students win prizes at Houston
Page 6

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, MARCH 23, 2011

VOL. 99, NO. 9

75 CENTS

Superior band



TOP: THE OHS BAND received a Division I Superior Concert Rating at the UIL Contest held March 3 in Colorado City. The band, under the direction of Stephen Martin and Elizabeth Bouquin, performed "Winchester March" by John Edmondson, "Kenya Contrasts" by William Himes and "Fire Dance" by Douglas Akey. **RIGHT: OHS Band Students** received a Division I at the Solo and Ensemble Contest a few weeks ago in San Angelo. Pictured are: (back row, left to right) Chris Cantu, Duncan Knox and Jayce Logan; (front row, left to right) Erick Duenes, Kelsie Ramirez and Isabel Ybarra. Duncan performed a level 1 piece from memory, which qualifies him to perform at the state solo contest. The contest will be held in late May in Austin.



School board considering teacher contracts at tonight's meeting

BY MELISSA PERNER
THE OZONA STOCKMAN

The Crockett County CCSD Board of Trustees will consider teacher contracts for 2011-2012 and discuss a proposal for an early/voluntary resignation program at their regular meeting tonight (March 23).

The meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. at the Administration Building.

Considering professional contracts, terminations, resignations and the proposal for the early/voluntary resignation program is set to be discussed in executive/closed session.

On March 7, members of the District Site-Based Decision-Making Committee and Board President Ray Don Myers attended a joint workshop regarding next year's budget.

Like other school districts around the state, CCCSD is facing the possibility of budget

PLEASE SEE SCHOOL, PAGE 8

Ozona man killed in rollover

An Ozona man was killed in a one-car rollover Saturday afternoon on Interstate-10.

Eric Lee Ramirez, a 29-year-old oilfield worker, was westbound on I-10 near the 372 mile-marker in a 1997 Chevy Suburban when his right rear tire blew out, causing him to lose control of his car, according to a report from the Texas Department of Public Safety.

The car skidded sideways and rolled over several times, causing Ramirez to be ejected from the car, the report stated.

Ramirez was not wearing a seatbelt, the report stated.

He was declared dead at 4:04 p.m. at the Family Health Center of Ozona and his body was taken to the Freddy Funeral Home.

The accident occurred around 3:42 p.m. Crockett County EMS, Texas DPS, Ozona Volunteer Firefighters and Crockett County Sheriff's Officers all responded to the accident.

'Flowers for Algernon'



THE OHS ONE ACT PLAY hosted a dinner theatre Monday night of their production of "Flowers for Algernon" by David Rogers. The cast and crew will perform around 3 p.m. Thursday in Sonora at the district meet. Pictured are: (clockwise) Gabby Gutierrez as Ms. Kinnian, Chris Cantu as Burt, Michael Medina Jr. as Professor Nemur and Cris Taylor as Charlie Gordon. Also in the play is Cuatro Jones at Dr. Straus. Student Assistant Director is Jady N Poindexter and crew members are Sabrina De La Garza, Isabel Ybarra, Jerrod duBois, Tres Perez and Lexi Poindexter. Director is Dottie De Leon assisted by Tammy McWilliams and Susie duBois.

What does school finance look like for Ozona?

This is the first in a series of guest articles on the impact of the current state budget crisis on Ozona Schools. The aim is to help Ozona residents be as fully informed on this issues and to understand more about how their schools are funded and operated. Citizens are encouraged to contact Superintendent Chris duBois at (325) 392-5501 to learn more or to direct questions about Ozona Schools' financial condition.

BY CHRIS DUBOIS
CCSCSD SUPERINTENDENT

As the 82nd Legislature wrestles with how to handle a projected \$27 billion dollar shortfall for the next biennium, school districts across the state have heard and seen the writing on the wall - there will be cuts across all areas of state spending, and schools are not immune. Consequently, we must prepare to deliver quality school experiences to the children of Ozona with tighter purse strings. Many school leaders across the state have loudly lamented any cuts at all for schools, encouraging lawmakers to find some way to maintain or even increase funding levels for schools despite the very real revenue shortfall

facing Texas. We can cry all we want, but the reality is that while school is a very important public service - so are health care and public safety, among others. There simply is not enough projected revenue for schools to avoid cuts altogether. So we need to focus on solutions rather than wailing about the problem.

In Crockett County Consolidated Common School District, we are gathering information and scrutinizing all aspects of operating to assist in development of meaningful plans to reduce costs while continuing to meet performance mandates and provide the highest quality school experiences for our schoolchildren. I have received many good suggestions, and we plan to utilize several approaches to make good school happen in the face of reduced funding. However, I have realized from some discussion and suggestion so far that there is clearly a need to clarify some elements of school finance for stakeholders, as several misconceptions exist about how schools are funded in Texas, and what that looks like in Crockett County.

CCSCSD is a property wealthy, or Chapter 41 school district, to use legislative lingo. This means that because of high-value property and mineral wealth assessed per student in Crockett County than other parts of the state, our district sends a good deal of tax revenue to be redistributed to others in addition to collections required to operate schools here. This is not news to Ozona residents. Other neighbor schools are also Chapter 41 districts - Reagan County, Sonora, Iraan-Sheffield, McCamey, Schleicher County, Sterling City, Irion County, Water Valley are all Chapter 41's as well. Our tax base is just under \$2.4 billion or so, while a neighboring district that serves substantially more students may have a tax base under even \$300 million. This is a clear equity problem if schools are supported largely through taxation, and all Texas students are going to get a quality education. Many years ago, Texas adopted statutes that require redistribution of tax collections

PLEASE SEE FINANCE, PAGE 5

Triple C
HARDWARE &
LUMBER INC.

LADY LIONS SOFTBALL AND LIONS BASEBALL
VS. BRADY FRIDAY IN BRADY

Triple C
HARDWARE &
LUMBER INC.

Much needed relief for victims of harassment lawsuits

The Texas Legislature has an excellent opportunity this session to stand up for freedom of speech and help curtail abuses of our civil court system by providing defendants with a way to fight back against frivolous harassment suits.

Across our nation, people with access to lots of money have found that they can silence critics by hauling them into court and bankrupting them with expensive litigation. The harassment tactic is called SLAPP, which stands for "strategic lawsuits against public participation."

GUEST EDITORIAL
BY TOD ROBBERTSON

SLAPP works like this: An individual engages in a nefarious or questionable activity, such as abuse of public funds. Others write blog postings or attend a public meeting, raise suspicions and call for an investigation of the individual.

Suddenly, they receive a court summons to answer a complaint of libel. They must hire lawyers, give depositions and submit to discovery procedures. Court costs skyrocket, including the

specter of a lengthy and expensive appeals process.

The questionable individual may know he's broken the law. He may know he stands no chance in court against his critics. But he can afford to effectively silence critics with expensive litigation until they are so drained of funds that they cry uncle.

State Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, and Rep. Todd Hunter, R-Corpus Christi, are jointly sponsoring the Citizen Participation Act, which would discourage this sort of court system abuse. A coalition of Texas

newspapers and broadcasters, among others, support the bill, which builds off what is now HB 160.

But this bill isn't just about the news media. It's about anyone who has been targeted by a SLAPP action and frightened into silence.

It happened to some Frisco residents who complained about abuses by their homeowners' association, then had to defend themselves in a libel suit. It happened to a blog moderator in Paris, Texas, who hosted anonymous comments critical of a local hospital and then was target-

ed in a defamation suit.

The Citizen Participation Act would allow judges to dismiss frivolous lawsuits filed against people who speak out on matters of public concern.

If a judge determines that a lawsuit constitutes a SLAPP action, he can order the plaintiff to pay the defendant's court and legal expenses. And it would allow defendants to halt discovery proceedings until the SLAPP motion has run its course through the courts.

This measure isn't designed to deter those who have legitimate defamation complaints

against the news media, bloggers or others making false or malicious public comments.

Those court remedies would remain untouched. It simply entitles people targeted in frivolous harassment suits to seek early relief and repayment for their defense costs.

The bill's bipartisan support should ease skeptics' concerns that it's part of some liberal or conservative agenda.

It's just the right thing to do.

TOD ROBBERTSON is an Editorial Writer with the Dallas Morning News.

Use Rainy Day Fund appropriately, and only for intended purpose

Last week, the governor, state comptroller, and House speaker announced a plan to withdraw up to \$3.2 billion from the state's Economic Stabilization Fund in order to help cover the \$4 billion shortfall Texas faces this year. This is the appropriate decision for our current economic problem, but we must find other alternatives for addressing the \$13 billion shortfall projected over the next two years.

In 1988, voters approved the creation of the Rainy Day Fund, as it is more commonly known, via an amendment to the Texas Constitution. Severance tax revenue from natural gas and oil production, as well as surpluses in general revenue, supply the fund. According to the Texas Constitution, this money may be used to "prevent or eliminate a temporary cash deficiency in general revenue." That is exactly what we are facing now, and using the fund for its intended purpose is sound fiscal policy.

Just as families across the state have to dip into their savings account to pay their bills, the Legislature must also dip into its own savings account to help cover what we owe this year. This is not an unheard of practice. In 2003 and 2005 the Legislature passed - and the governor signed - bills that authorized spending billions from the fund. It was an appropriate use then, and it is an appropriate use now.

In August, Texas will owe nearly \$3 billion in state employee salaries and payments for Medicaid-type assistance, and \$1.5 billion to the Foundation School Program, which is the main program for funding local schools. No amount of budget cuts will bring in this kind of money in only five months. Either we access part of the \$9.4 billion in already-collected revenue that is in the Rainy Day Fund, or we don't pay our bills on time. Since we have the ability to pay on time, we should.

This year's budget shortfall came because the state did not bring in as much revenue as projected in the state comptroller's good-faith estimate. In other words, we simply didn't generate as much money from the tax system as we honestly thought that we would. As a result, we don't have enough revenue available to pay the bills that will be due in August. However, this is not the case for the \$13 billion



STATE REP. GUEST COLUMN

HARVEY HILDERBRAN

lion shortfall projected over the next two years, and so the solutions are not the same. We cannot deplete the Rainy Day Fund just so that we can continue spending as much as we like.

At the same time, a tax bill will not come out of the House Committee on Ways and Means, which I chair. I do not believe that the Legislature should put the burden of the state's temporary revenue and spending problems on the backs of hardworking Texans by adding new taxes and hurting our economy. Instead, we must look at other ways of enhancing our revenue while also making tough decisions about budget cuts.

For example, we can bring in additional revenue by encouraging compliance with tax laws, increasing tax penalties, closing loopholes to address inequalities in the tax code, strengthening the audit system, and changing collection timelines.

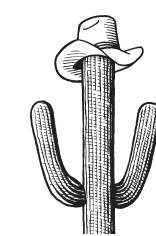
One such piece of legislation is House Bill 257, which I introduced earlier this month. This bill would bring in \$72 million by accelerating the collections process on unclaimed property. Right now, individuals have up to seven years to claim money orders before those funds revert back to the state. My legislation would shorten that time to three years.

While legislation such as this will be beneficial in closing the budget gap, we must also be realistic about what we can afford and what we cannot. We must make sure that we fully fund our priorities, starting with public education. While budget cuts are never popular, the Legislature has to do exactly what families across Texas are doing right now: separating our "wants" from our "needs."

It may be raining hard now, but the Legislature has the power to ensure the rain does not continue for another two years. Strong fiscal conservatism, serious proposals for enhancing revenue without raising taxes, and responsible budget cuts will allow us to put away the umbrella.

HARVEY HILDERBRAN represents District 53, which includes Crockett County.

No Kiddin'



IT'S THE PITTS

LEE PITTS

period.

Even though they don't talk (another plus) communicating with a dog is much easier than talking to a child. Dogs take criticism without sulking, never say the word "awesome" and they let you know that happiness is possible by wagging their tails. And canines don't succumb to peer pressure by saying, "But everyone at obedience school has one."

Unlike your teenagers, dogs will load easy in the back of the truck and will always want to go with you. Dogs are easier to travel with on an airplane because you can check them as baggage. Do that with a child next time you fly and you'll be arrested. And you don't have to drop your dog off three blocks away from doggie day care because it doesn't want to be seen in the car with someone as uncool as you evidently are.

Having no opposable thumbs or Internet connection, dogs can't text and they'll love you no matter how many possessions you have. In fact, if you are a little short in that department dogs will actually bring you other people's stuff.

Even though we all love our dogs dearly, they are less demanding emotionally than kids. When they come home after being

out all night you'll hug and kiss them as opposed to grounding them for two weeks. One of the best things about dogs is you can teach them tricks to impress your friends. Unlike kids, they'll speak, sit, and stay when you tell them. They don't do drugs and although they may take a drink out of the toilet now and then, they don't drink alcohol. When dogs do something wrong you can jerk their leash, and if they join a gang and terrorize the neighborhood you can lock them in a kennel. If they misbehave because you're a bad parent you can send them to obedience school. (Hey, maybe we should have obedience schools for kids! Oh, wait a minute, we already do: they're called Juvenile Hall.)

Perhaps the best thing about dogs is you can have them fixed. Then you don't have to worry if they come home with some tattooed rebel with a nostril ring and a tongue stud. And if you make a mistake and don't have your dog fixed there is less paperwork involved in having your dog's offspring adopted than those of your teenage daughter. If you don't like your dog you can sell it and if it is terminally ill you can have it mercifully put to sleep. Vet bill are usually cheaper too than those from Doctors and hospitals.

Finally, with more professional dog breeding going on there are fewer and fewer mutts roaming the streets, which means that your dog probably has better bred parents than your kid ever will.

www.LeePittsbooks.com

Top officials agree on plan to fix current budget

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling | Texas Press Association

AUSTIN — A proposal to handle the state's immediate problem — insufficient revenue to meet current obligations — emerged from the Capitol last week.

Gov. Rick Perry's office on March 15 announced that Gov. Perry, House Speaker Joe Straus and Comptroller Susan Combs now agree to close out fiscal year 2011 by taking these actions:

- Moving forward with \$800 million in spending cuts, plus using:

- \$300 million from increased sales tax collections over the last few months, plus using:

- A one-time draw not to exceed \$3.2 billion from the state's \$9.4 billion Economic Stabilization Fund, widely referred to as the "Rainy Day" fund.

Of course, debates and votes on this proposal would need to take place at committee level and then by the full House and Senate.

Now Perry, to emphasize that budget writers won't be able to turn right around and dip into the fund for an instant replay,

said he remains "steadfastly committed to protecting the remaining balance" of the fund and will not sign a 2012-2013 state budget that uses the fund. (That budget has a projected revenue deficit of \$27 billion.)

Speaker Straus, said, "Now that most agencies have made substantial cuts from their current budgets, using part of the Rainy Day Fund to pay for the rest of our bills — even as we continue to look for more savings — is the conservative and fiscally responsible way to meet our constitutional duty to balance the budget."

"The Rainy Day Fund was created to help manage just such unexpected declines in state revenue. We will do so while preserving more than \$6 billion in the fund to cover unexpected emergencies in the future," Straus said.

And Combs said, "Sales tax revenue has done well in recent months because of increased business and consumer activity, which will help close the 2011 deficit. And as I mentioned

in recent testimony, it is also important to keep the state's future budget needs in mind in our decision making of today."

By resolving the current shortfall, Texas leaders can focus on completing the 2012-2013 budget without raising taxes, Perry's office said.

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, who presides over the Senate, applauded recent budget-cutting efforts by the House Appropriations Committee and said he has asked the Senate Finance Committee to reduce state spending up to \$10 billion in 2012-2013 without raising taxes.

And, on March 17, Dewhurst announced the formation of a new Senate Subcommittee on Fiscal Matters "to find up to \$5 billion in savings and non-tax revenue to balance the budget." The panel will be chaired by Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock.

EDUCATION FUNDING CUTS PROPOSED

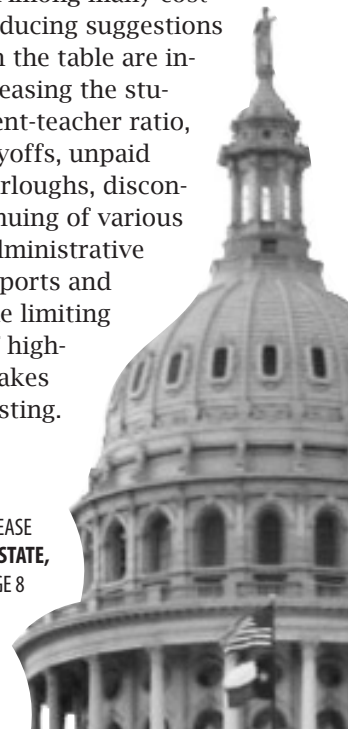
The budget-writing House Appropriations Committee and

Senate Finance Committee have been working on ways to cut the biggest slice of the state budget pie: education.

The Senate panel's proposal would cut about \$4 billion from current levels while the House panel is proposing some \$8 billion in education cuts.

Among many cost-reducing suggestions on the table are increasing the student-teacher ratio, layoffs, unpaid furloughs, discontinuing of various administrative reports and the limiting of high-stakes testing.

PLEASE SEE STATE, PAGE 8



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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.



MELISSA PERNER | THE OZONA STOCKMAN

FIX A LEAK WEEK: Crockett County Extension Agent Susie Bishop (middle) shows Alda and Thomas De Hoyos their prize they won for spinning the wheel last week at Triple C Hardware & Lumber. Susie had a booth set up for Fix a Leak, which is a campaign to encourage families to check their plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems for leaks.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

Local business to open shop at town square

The Ozona Chamber of Commerce will host a Ribbon Cutting ceremony for Chamber member Kerrie's Creations, April 2, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., with the actual Ribbon Cutting being held at 11 a.m. Kerrie Baker has been operating out of her home, but the demand for products has led to a need for a larger location.

Kerrie will set up shop at 512 9th St. next door to JW Measurement. The Ribbon Cutting will be a come and go event including refreshments and snacks.

"We have done a lot of remodeling to the building and are excited to share the changes with the public. For Chamber members that stop by you can enter a drawing for a bubble discount," said Kerrie.

Kerrie's Creations is an own and operated by Kerrie herself who produces all natural bath, beauty and aromatherapy products. Kerrie's Creations has a wide-array of lotions, soaps, molded soaps, salts, massage oils, shampoos and conditioners for both men and women.

Kerrie's Creations is a member of the Texas Department of Agriculture. Her products are recognized and featured in the Go Texas program

as Texas produced products.

The interest in bath products began when Kerrie's four children and family members began to have reactions to many different bath products. Kerrie is a retired paramedic who has worked in the EMS field for over ten years. She also worked for Morad Associates, a lab at Whitney hospital for two years where she developed her skills to create her all natural products and original scents.

"My husband John and I moved to Ozona from Whitney June of 2009 and we love it here," Baker said. "If you are someone who is prone to allergies, or have had a reaction to another product whose scent you like, we can match that scent for you. We can custom make your own special lotion, soap, salt or shampoo to the scent of your choice."

Kerrie has also created a line of her own original scents including the now popular Ozona scent. All the ingredients are products made in the USA.

For more information, call Kerrie's Creations at 392-2222 or visit www.Kerriecreations.com for a list of products, ingredients, pricing and on-line shopping.

Valeri Savell benefit golf tournament April 2

A benefit golf tournament will be held April 2 for Valeri Savell, wife of Sonora native Cody Savell.

Valeri has Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia A. There is no cure and no full remission and only 1,500 cases per year worldwide.

The family is burdened with medical expenses and other expenses relating to Val's medical condition.

The event is a 27-hole golf tournament (cramble, Select drive-low ball, Scramble) at Sonora Golf Course.

Accepting first 303-man teams to sign up - \$150 per team.

Teams will be flighted on a blind draw after play

is completed on one of the scramble rounds.

The tournament will have a shotgun start at 9:30 a.m.

Cash prizes for play, door prizes and silent auction, free food all day.

Hole sponsors are welcome with a minimum donation of \$50.

To enter the tournament, call Sonora at (325) 387-3680.

Anyone interested in donating door prizes or auction items, call Benny Grangler at (325) 226-2489, Devoe Smith (325) 206-1605, Virgil Burge (325) 226-3018 or David Creek at Creek Swabbing (325) 387-5938 ask for Missy.



Henderson-Penner to wed in June

John and Jeannine Henderson of Ozona are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jenna Leigh Henderson to Mark Louis Penner, son of Gary Penner of Midlothian, Texas and Becky Poole of Buffalo, Texas.

Jenna is a 2005 graduate of Ozona High School and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Allied Health from Texas A&M University in 2009. Jenna is currently attending Blinn College of Nursing and will graduate in May 2011.

Mark is a 2004 graduate of Red Oak High School in Red Oak, Texas and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Science from Texas A&M University in 2008. He went on to earn his Master's degree in Healthcare Administration in 2010 from Texas A&M University. Mark is employed by the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center in Houston, Texas and works as a hospital administrator.

The couple will exchange vows at the Ozona United Methodist Church on Saturday, June 11, 2011.

Kevin Brown Benefit Wolf-Chase April 16

Kevin Brown Benefit Wolf-Chase will take place April 16 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Ozona Gun Club.

Championship round will start at 4:30 pm.

Grand prize is an 85qt Yeti Ice Chest. The grand prize is sponsored by: Anadarko Petroleum Corp, Wool Growers, Creek Roustabout & Swabbing, Mesquite Contract Pumping and Hitchin' Post Steakhouse.

Cost is \$10 per round, enter as many times as you like. Winner will receive \$5 and \$5 will go toward the Kevin Brown Fund.

Winner of each round advances to the champi-

onship round. There is no entry fee for the championship round.

Anyone else can buy in to the final round \$20. There will be unlimited buy-backs in the championship round for \$10 each.

Depending on turnout, participants should be able to shoot at least two rounds per hour.

All money in championship round goes to the Kevin Brown Fund.

No Drinking During Shoot.

For more information, call Jimmy Jumper (325) 226-8302 or Cade Clark (325) 226-4191

Happy Birthday

March 23 - Melissa Hubbard, Tres Perez, Cynthia Flores, Sabastion De La Cruz and Tyra Branch

March 24 - Alfred Enriquez, Vicki Stokes, Zachary Wright, Angela Moore and Austin Borrego

March 25 - Cynthia Hokit, Rita Vasquez, Albert Talamantez Sr., Taylor Newton, Alex Hopper, Heidi Sullivan and Emilio Tambunga

March 26 - Michael Joel Vargas Jr., Pife Borrego, Juan

Molina Jr., Steve Hubbard, Jose I. Dominguez Jr., Albert Trevino, Chapo Leal, Melvin Parker, Enrique Delgado and Vanessa Tobar

March 27 - Cynthia Castillo and Justin Rodriguez

March 28 - Roky Vega, Leonel Rodriguez Jr., Wendy Wilson, Debbie Arrott, Charlie Branch, Amber McClanahan, Romeo Perez III, Veroinica Talamantez and Donavon Santiago

March 29 - Edna Tambuna, Diane Phillips and Maria Jose

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 23

- Lady Lions Golf at Big Lake.
- Exercise Classes, 8:30 a.m. at the Senior Center.
- Lenten Luncheon Series, noon at the Ozona United Methodist Church.
- Mexican Train, 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.
- Girls Softball Sign-ups, 5-7 p.m. at the girls softball field.
- CCCSD Board of Trustees meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the Administration Building.

Thursday, March 24

- OHS Track Teams at Harper.
- OHS One Act Play competes at district in Sonora.
- Answers on Aging, 12:30-1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.
- Girls Softball Sign-ups, 5-7 p.m. at the girls softball field.
- 46th annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet, 5:45 p.m. at the Civic Center.
- Fifth Grade Student Success Initiative meeting, 6 p.m. at the elementary cafeteria.

Friday, March 25

- OHS Tennis Teams at the Reagan County Invitational in Big Lake.
- OMS Track Teams at Harper.
- Lions Baseball vs. Brady, 4:30 p.m. at the baseball field.
- Lady Lions Softball vs. Brady, 5 p.m. at Brady.

Saturday, March 26

- OHS Tennis Teams at the Reagan County Invitational in Big Lake.
- Ozona FFA at the Irion County Contest in Mertzon.

Sunday, March 27

- Knights of Columbus fund-raiser breakfast, 7-11 a.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall.
- Youth Bash, 6:30 p.m. at the FBC Hoover Building.

Monday, March 28

- Exercise Classes, 8:30 a.m. at the Senior Center.
- Ladies Bridge, 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.
- Parent Academic Science Night, 6 p.m. at Ozona Middle School.
- OHS Pre-Registration, 6 p.m. at the OHS Auditorium.

Tuesday, March 29

- Dominos, 1 p.m. at the Senior Center.
- Lions Baseball vs. Wall, 4:30 p.m. at the baseball field.
- Lady Lions Softball vs. Wall, 5 p.m. at the softball field.
- Parent Academic Social Studies Night, 6 p.m. at Ozona Middle School.

Wednesday, March 30

- Exercise Classes, 8:30 a.m. at the Senior Center.
- Lunch and Learn program, noon at the Ozona United Methodist Church.
- Mexican Train, 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Lunch and Learn program March 30

The Wesley Nurse Program of the Ozona United Methodist Church is beginning a new monthly health education program.

Lunch and Learn will be held during the noon hour and various topics on how to reduce your chance of illness or how to better manage the health problems you may have will be discussed. A light lunch

will be served.

This month's Lunch and Learn will be held beginning at noon on Wednesday, March 30.

The topic will be on the health benefits of fiber and how to increase the fiber in your diet.

For more information and to RSVP, call EA Wadsworth, RN at 392-3060.

NEW SPRING ARRIVALS

Swimsuits, Easter Dresses, "Baby Wrangler"
"Spode Baking Days" and "Authur Court"

BABY GIFT SELECTIONS:
Ashley Hernandez • Evette Longoria

WEDDING GIFT SELECTIONS:
Jenna Henderson, bride-elect of Mark Penner
Leigh Ann Staggs, bride-elect of Chris Fierro

Small Fashions & Gifts

392-3226 1004 Ave. E

March 24th

It's a date to celebrate

Happy 16th Birthday to our Angela

with love from Grandma and Grandpa Moore

SONORA ADVANTAGES

When you compare healthcare providers, consider these Sonora advantages:

- ▶ One-third the driving time to larger cities.
- ▶ At least one-half the cost of gasoline.
- ▶ Healthcare equal to or better than larger facilities.

Hudspeth Memorial is fully equipped and fully staffed to handle any routine hospitalization. And at Hudspeth, you're not a number, you're our friend and neighbor. We care about you and your family.



State-of-the-Science MRI

Hudspeth Memorial's diagnostic facilities include the most advanced MRI in West Texas—a resource that would be the pride of any large urban medical center.



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Shelly Childress,
Memorials Chairman
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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:
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Transportation is available
Call me: Vickie De La Garza 325-226-3843

DEADLINE IS NOON MONDAY

HELPING HANDS HIGHLIGHTS

BY MELINDA KAY MALONE
DIRECTOR

Spring has "sprung" but we certainly need to continue to pray for rain! All this overcast weather and no significant rain is surely wearing the ranchers down. We would like to thank Keith Klepper for donating and setting up a computer for the kitchen. Also, thank you, Robert Phillips, Crockett County CCSD Vo-Ag teacher for repairing the whisk on our commercial mixer. We greatly appreciate the support that is received from all.

We are in need of a couple of reams of copy paper and a wireless adapter for our new computer set-up. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Client contributions, state, regional, local funding and local donations assist Helping Hands to provide the Meals on Wheels programs in Ozona. Come by and join us for lunch! The suggested donation for program meals for lunch including tea is \$3 for over 50 years old and \$4 for those under 50 years old. If you are not on the program, please call to order a lunch.

- Please consider volunteering in our office, kitchen and/or delivering meals. For more information on volunteering or qualifying for the meal programs you can reach us at (325) 392-5026, by fax (325) 392-8006, e-mail hhozona163@yahoo.com. Se habla espanol.
- March 23**
- Meatloaf, Company Potatoes, Spinach, Fruit Cocktail, Wheat Roll, Chocolate Sheath Cake, Milk
- March 24**
- Tuna Noodle Casserole, California Vegetables, Sliced Peaches, Lemon Cake, Milk
- March 25**
- Egg Salad Sandwich, Beet Salad, Coleslaw, Pineapple Upside-down Cake, Milk
- March 28**
- Baked Ziti w/meat sauce, Italian Vegetables, Mandarin Oranges, Garlic Breadstick, Tiramisu Cake, Milk
- March 29**
- Chicken Enchiladas, Charro Beans, Tossed Salad, Praline Crunch Bar, Milk
- March 30**
- Baked Herb Fish, Wild Rice, Glazed Carrots, Pears, Wheat Roll, German Chocolate Cake, Milk

HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER MEMORIALS

- In Memory of:** Pleas Capps, Brandon Jacoby and Dorothy Friend
Given by: Mr. and Mrs. R.J. Everett
- In Memory of:** Dorothy Friend and Glenn Burns
Given by: Shirley and Kristi Kirby
- In Memory of:** Chandler Jones
Given by: Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Bean
- In Memory of:** Chandler Jones
Given by: Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Bean
- In Memory of:** Chandler Jones, Glenn Burns, Ruth Gilliam,
Given by: Mr. and Mrs. R.J. Everett
- In Memory of:** Brandon Jacoby, Bud Meinecke and Helen Owensby
Given by: Shirley Kirby
- In Honor of:** Mr. and Mrs. Pon Seahorn, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Baggett, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Childress, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Wilkins, Mr. and Mrs. Nat Read, Mr. and Mrs. Wade Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. Randy Upham and Judge and Mrs. Brock Jones
Given by: Mr. and Mrs. Sandy Stokes
- Crockett County Health and Wellness Center Memorials can be mailed to P.O. Box 865 Ozona, Texas 76943*

OZONA SENIOR HAPPENINGS

BY LYNN ENGLISH
SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR

Sunday, March 20, was officially the first day of spring. I am not watching for rain showers. Flowers and green grass are on hold for the time being.

Our Senior Bingo Social was held Monday, March 21. A good time was had by all who attended. We are looking for ward to our next Senior Bingo Social to be held in April.

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, come on in about 1 p.m.

The bridge game will be played on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. Those who attend have the best time playing bridge and they appreciate using our Senior Center.

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

We have our regular activities: bridge, bingo, home health, pool, canasta, domino games 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 screen and have added a wonderful keyboard.

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

MUSEUM MEMORIALS

In Memory of: Bud Meinecke
Given by: Mr. and Mrs. Nat Read
Gold Leaf Memorial in Memory of: Glenn and Sue Burns
Given by: Rick and Shannon Hunnicutt
Crockett County Museum Memorials can be sent to: P.O. Box 1444, Ozona, Texas 76943

DEATH NOTICES

Emma Maskill
Emma Maskill, 60, died Saturday, March 19, 2011 in San Angelo. Funeral service will be at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, 2011 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church with burial in Lima Cemetery. Arrangements by Freddy Funeral Home.

Survivors include two sisters, Gloria Goforth and Sapopa Wyatt both of Flint, Mich.; five brothers, Serafin Maskill, III of San Angelo, Alfredo Maskill of San Angelo, Joe Maskill of Sonora, Mariano Maskill and Mike Maskill both of Ozona.

Eric Lee Ramirez
Eric Lee Ramirez, 29, died Saturday March 19, 2011 in Ozona. Funeral service will be at 2:30 P.M. Thursday, March 24, 2011 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church with burial in Lima Cemetery. Arrangements by Freddy Funeral Home.

Survivors include two daughters, Maliyah Jolee Ramirez of Ozona and Makyiah LeAnne Ramirez of Lubbock and two sons, Michael Lee Ramirez and Malachi Liam Ramirez both of Lubbock.

LIBRARY NEWS By Louise P. Ledoux | Crockett County Librarian

History of Crockett County Part II

Public Perception How the World Sees Us
"I don't know how to read anymore. I can only read 20 or 30 words at a time before taking out my iPhone and caressing it and snuggling with it." - Novelist Gary Shteyngart

Get back in the habit of reading, or listening, with a new bestseller in books and audios at your Public Library.

HISTORY OF CROCKETT COUNTY VOLUME II
CCPL is teaming up with the Historical Commission to update and print a new Volume II of the History of Crockett County book. If your family is not listed in the original book, or if you have family updates, now is the time to put your info together and get it turned in to be included in the new book.

There are forms available at the library to help you get your info organized. We are looking for family stories, pictures, business and organization info, land and personal history, brands and ranch history, and anything that you have on your family history.

We want to include every family living in Crockett County now, so come by the library and get your forms. It is as simple as filling in the blanks and letting us scan your pictures. Historical Commission members are standing by to help you, but it's really a matter of getting your information together with your pictures and submitting them at the library.

Come by today!

Knights hosting breakfast fund-raiser Sunday

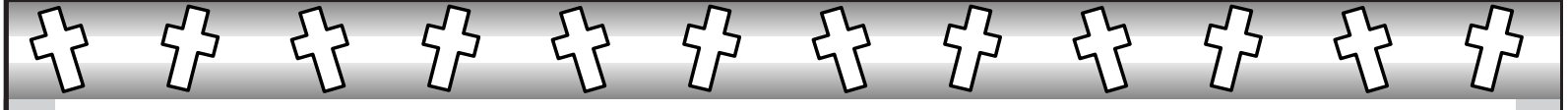
The Ozona Knights of Columbus will have a breakfast fund-raiser on Sunday, March 27, from 7-11 a.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall on the corner of Besente and Martinez Streets.

Coffee, milk or orange juice with scrambled eggs, bacon, hash browns and pancakes will be served. The plate will be \$5.

"For those that are looking for a little help in recuperating from the night before, we will have Menu-do the breakfast of champions," said Coordinator Frank Tambunga. "You do not have to worry about getting up and fixing breakfast. Just get up come down and join us you can even wear your pajamas. Enjoy a good breakfast and at the same time help the Knights of Columbus raise money to allow them to continue to do their work in the community."

Card of Thanks
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteer referees Chris Sanchez and Ryan Mason, whom each and every one of these volunteers generously gave up their time to teach our young boys and girls the game of basketball. I also wish to thank CCCSD for allowing us to use their facilities to practice and play our games. To AD Coach Brown, Principal Hendricks, and Superintendent Mr. duBois, we could not have put the program together without your help. A very special thank you to all parents and fans for all your support and encouragement. It was a great year!
Thank you Ozona!
Eddie Lozano

Card of Thanks
I want to take this opportunity to thank each one of the players that participated in this years' league. We have the privilege of being able to participate in a Youth Basketball League here in Ozona. I say privilege because someone chose to adopt such league here and thus far has become a success. We have a handful of talent of all age ranges, and have many advancing to play in middle school. We are all examples to our youth, and must set a good standard by showing good sportsmanship, attitude, and respect to all that play. It is a challenge for someone to take the time to coach, because it consumes much of your personal time. We must appreciate these individuals by supporting them and not taking for granted that it will be the same people who do it year after year. He or she may not be perfect but THEY are taking the time or MAKING time to teach these children the fundamentals of the game. We must keep in mind that we are Ozona, our kids will all play to represent our school in the future. This league was put in place to develop our kids before they reach the UIL. There is no record book for wins or losses, who played with who, what family had the best team and so forth. In the end they will all be Ozona Lions, playing together on the same team. We must continue to support all of our kids throughout their school sport careers. I want to thank the individuals who showed such support by coaching, officiating, or timekeeping and the fans that came out and supported your young one. Once again "Thank You" to Eddie Lozano, Ozona schools and all coaches, assistants, family and community for making this program possible.
Juan Hernandez Jr.



THE BITTER SWEET POTATO

Recently we had a church fellowship/dinner and I took a dish that I usually make, candied sweet potatoes with marshmallows on top. I put the sweet potatoes in a pot to boil but one looked a little different and shriveled on the end but I cooked it anyway. After cooking them I peeled them and tasted each one to see how they tasted, hmm good. I peeled the different looking one last and tasted it. It was bitter and did not taste good so I discarded it. Those sweet potatoes remind me of something in the Bible. When we repent of our sins and put our trust in Christ Jesus for salvation we are born again or anew by the Spirit of God or the Holy Spirit, (John 3:5&6, Titus 3:5). With that new birth we are released for the penalty of sin and condemnation, (Romans 8:1-3). Another result of that new birth the Holy Spirit dwells in us who can result in more love, joy peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control in our lives, (Galatians 5:22-24). If we continue to grow spiritually and try to do what God wants day by day we will be more Christ like and have more fruit of the Holy Spirit, (John 15:5-10, Ephesians 3:16, 5:18, 1 Thessalonians 4:8). If we do not we may become like that bitter sweet potato, (Galatians 5:16). See you in Church next Sunday.
Brother J

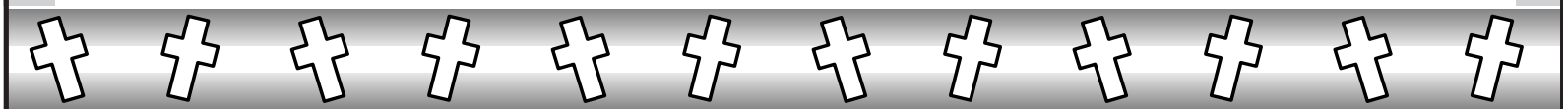
<p>First Baptist Church 901 Ave. D Pastor Chris Johnson Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 6 p.m. Awanas: Wednesday - 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Ozona Church of Christ 1002 11th St. Mr. Johnnie Perkins Worship: 10:45 a.m., 6:00 p.m. Sun. Bible Class: 9:45 a.m.</p>	<p>Ozona United Methodist Church 12 - 11th St. Pastor Ron Shott Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.</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>	

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The Foot Note
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FINANCE: *from page 1*

to equalize some of this property and commercial wealth. Whether we call it Robin Hood, or Robin Hood II, etc. - it still adds up to one concept - we call it recapture. In Ozona, we keep just about \$10 million locally per school year and send approximately \$16 million (recapture) to the Texas Education Agency.

Schools are funded by TEA (or allowed to keep their own resources, in the case of Chapter 41's) at a certain cost per student. Recognizing that the cost of education per student can vary widely depending on rural, suburban, or urban character of school districts; geographical considerations (Ozona Schools serve the entire County, while Tom Green County includes six public schools and one open-enrollment Charter district); and student needs (Gifted & Talented, Career & Technical, At-Risk, Special Education), TEA administers funding on the basis of a complicated set of formulas to produce a funding level per Weighted Average Daily Attendance, or WADA. Additionally, the amount per WADA each district receives (or is allowed to keep) is different from district to district. The current WADA per student is based on the greater of what a school district's cost per WADA was in 2005 or 2006 (the most equitable recent funding year according to TEA). This number is currently referred to as a district's Target Revenue per student. Ozona's current Target Revenue is \$6949 per WADA, while Sonora ISD's is \$7442 and Schleicher County ISD's is only \$5691. San Angelo ISD is funded at just \$4979 while Wall ISD's Target revenue is \$5810 per WADA. So while CCCSD is subject to recapture, we could be a whole lot worse off in terms of Target Revenue.

Current law also includes a provision that caps (but also ensures, or Holds Harmless) a district's funding at Target Revenue level, no matter what. If a district's property values decline, for instance, funding formulas are designed to offset the shortfall with State aid to provide the district with the same Target Revenue. But this is a double edged sword. As much as it protects against declining values, it also effectively punishes fast growing valuation districts. No matter how much your local values may increase - your school funding is capped at Target Revenue level and any additional collections flow to TEA for redistribution. So Hold Harmless is not thought of fondly in school finance circles, except by exceptionally poor schools.

Additionally, the state controls the conditions of local tax efforts in schools to prevent communities with high property wealth from making deliberate decisions to tax at higher rates just so they can spend more on their school children if they desire to do so. (This would have the effect of widening equity gaps in spite of equalization formulas.) Currently, to

receive full benefit of formulated funding, districts must tax at a minimum local rate of \$1.00 per \$100 in valuation for Maintenance & Operations - the state-controlled Compressed Rate. Districts can tax an additional \$0.04 above this Compressed Rate without needing voter approval. Crockett County Schools have been taxing at \$1.04 for the last several years. Prior to the 79th legislative session, districts could assess local school taxes at \$1.50 per \$100 valuation. The shift to the new Target Revenue system was accompanied by a legislative mandate to shift \$0.50 per \$100 to state-wide business-related taxes - so-called property tax reform. It is exactly this shift that is now referred to as the current "structural deficit". State-wide revenues from business have never met projections, and so the system has not functioned as designed - leading to the current funding crisis. Most economists do not believe that the designed shift to business tax would have ever made up the projected difference it was designed to fill - so the current deficit is referred to as a structural deficit rather than an economic deficit related to the overall down-turn in economic conditions in 2008 and since.

In any event, CCCSD can expect a loss of eligibility for school funding of anywhere from approximately \$800,000 (if the legislature decides to save public education from drastic cuts or dip into Rainy Day reserves at least partially) to \$3.9 million per year (if the state axes the entire \$9.8 billion suggested by Governor Perry and legislative budget committees from public education for this biennium). We are all hoping for the best - but also planning carefully what school will look like if we have to absorb large reductions. We already trimmed 15 percent of allocations in all discretionary accounts this year to balance a budget.

There are certainly ways to reduce operating expenditures, but we are at the fringe of having to cut back on services and program support if we have to cut much deeper. Many lawmakers are calling for a re-working of the structure of Texas school finance altogether, and if nothing else, an increase in Compressed Rate limits to allow school districts some control over school funding in the next biennium. The author of the current school finance structure, Representative Scott Hochberg, has stated that he fully expected the state to honor its commitment to funding schools when he drafted HB 3646 (current school funding law) in 2007. However, in the face of hold-the-line-no-matter-what reports from Governor Perry and other lawmakers, Representative Hochberg has introduced a new bill that would allow districts more discretion in setting local tax rates to offset losses in state formulas. School districts can currently seek local voter approval for M&O taxation above the current \$1.04 limit, up to a maximum of \$1.17. However,

for Chapter 41 districts, the additional revenue is still subject to recapture. In Ozona, such a voter-approved increase would result in about \$3.9 million in additional collections each year - but only \$1.3 million would actually stay here to help educate children. This condition is not any different than our current recapture situation, and if we receive no other relief from the legislature this session, this may be an option for our local School Board to consider. There are other drawbacks to Tax Rate Elections, but that is a discussion for a later time.

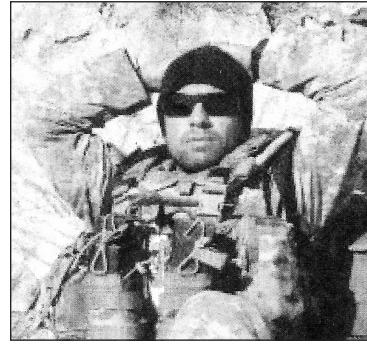
Unfortunately, schools will probably not know anything firm about state funding until the end of May at the earliest - and more likely, sometime in June.

Current statutes require districts to commit to Term contracts for certified staff by early April. CCCSD will be very conservative in managing contracts and budget development until we know where school finance issues will end up.

However, that means a lot of uncertainty and anxiety for some of our staff. Your School Board is juggling several options for managing this budgetary stress, and we can assure everyone that everything will be done to ensure a continued high-quality school experience for every child.

In future installments, I will be outlining the major components of the school budget in CCCSD, providing an overview of supports and services currently available to Ozona schoolchildren and explaining in more detail some possible approaches under consideration for managing this difficult economic situation.

I encourage Ozona citizens to maintain an awareness of school issues in Austin as this legislative session winds down, and to follow local School discussions related to school funding and budget adjustments.



Soldier welcomed home from Afghanistan

Sgt. Ruben Cardenas was welcomed home from his tour in Afghanistan.

He was honored with lunch at Pepe's Cafe and cake at the courthouse annex by the annex staff.

Cardenas was deployed to Afghanistan in February 2010 and returned home in February 2011. This was his third tour.

He was deployed to Iraq on November 2005 to November 2006 and then again from September 2007 to November 2008.

Cardenas is in Ozona visiting his mother Juanita Prieto and his brother Brandon Cardenas. He is stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky. and is assigned to the 101st Screaming Eagles.

Answers on Aging Thursday

The Area Agency on Aging of the Concho Valley strives to provide information, assistance, and services to the older citizens of Crockett County. AAA staff will be available to assist individuals on Thursday, March 24, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at the Crockett County Senior Center.

"Answers on Aging" is designed to provide information about services and programs available to older individuals.

For more information, call D.D. Norton, at (325) 223-5704 or toll-free at 1-877-944-9666.

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TEXAS CROSSWORD
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ACROSS
1 TXism: "big of locks" (hair)
5 TXism: "the good Lord willing and the creeks don't"
6 Park, TX
7 Rising, TX
8 TX Nolan Ryan baseball cards
17 TXism: "it belongs to me the bank"
18 Travis drew _____ dirt at Alamo
21 concerning
22 TXism: "put the back burner"
23 TX Ginger's "the Dark" ('44)
24 TXism: "rough as sheets"
29 TXism for "flu"
30 TXism: "beer sheds" dir. to Houston from Dallas
32 this sails from Galveston (2 wds.)
34 Ranger Nellie Cruz objectives
35 "Magnificent" Yul (init.)
36 a NASA shuttle
37 TX actress Sharon who was slain by Manson "family"
38 mother of TX Ginger Rogers
40 hit by TX Henley's group: "Take The Limit"
41 TXism: "locked (fought)"
43 TX JoBeth Williams film: "Desert _____"

DOWN
14 TXism: "there's more of them than in Texas"
15 TXism: "tie up the loose _____"
16 pig's place
19 TXism: "_____ is colder than freon" (ruthless)
20 dir. to Bryan from Austin
22 the "Duke" in film "The Quiet Man"
24 before AD
25 fictional sister of TX Ima Hogg
26 wagon wheel track
27 meaning of Spanish name, Lampasas
35 clerical petty officer
37 TXism: "if it ain't _____ ain't a cow in Texas"
38 TX river, co. & city
39 Fort Worth's WBAP
42 this Warren starred with TX Quaid in "Tough Enough"
43 ink stain
44 Alamo city (abbr.)
46 Kerr Wildlife Management
49 TXism: "_____ monkey's uncle"
51 Guadalupe rafter

SPONSORED BY OZONA WOOL & MOHAIR

Lara gets no hitter as Lions shutout Junction

BY NIKKI LAFITTE
OHS BASEBALL

Ozona played host to two teams this past weekend at their own Lion Field. The Lions Baseball Team competed against the Harper Longhorns Friday afternoon and followed it up with another game on Saturday against the Junction Eagles. The Lions are warming up for their first district match up on Tuesday against the Sonora Broncos.

The Lions came on strong in the game on Friday against the Longhorns. Nathan DeHoyos started on the mound for the Lions. DeHoyos pitched the first two innings, striking out three Horns during his

tenure. Alex Borrego came in in the third to close and topped off the strike outs for the game with five more K's. The Lions gave up only three hits and one run during the game. Offensively, the Lions stepped up during the seven inning game. Abey Lara, Alejandro Mendez, Austin Suddreth, Andrew Sanchez, and Saul Vargas all had base hits. The Lions were swinging the sticks with several doubles hit during the game as well. Kyle Dean, Abey Lara, Alejandro Mendez, and Nathan DeHoyos all add doubles to their varsity stats. The Lions were well balanced offensively and defensively during this game, coming away with a final

score of 9-1.

Coming fresh off a win the previous afternoon, the Lions met with the Junction Eagles Saturday afternoon. The Lions were still moving with full momentum from their win the evening before giving the Eagles a challenging match. Abey Lara claimed the win, throwing a no hitter and adding eight K's to his record. At the plate, the Lions came on strong with Kyle Dean, Abey Lara, Alejandro Mendez, Nathan DeHoyos, Andrew Sanchez, and Ismael Castro all getting hits. The Lions shut out Junction with a final score of 10-0. That win brings the Lion's record for the season to 10-5.

Lady Lions win first two district softball games

The Lady Lions started off district play last week with wins over Grape Creek and Ballinger.

Ozona defeated Grape Creek 11-6.

Pitching and catching - Adrienne Sanchez and Kodi Glosson

Leading players - Glosson, 1 run; Sanchez, 3 runs; Melanie Miller, 2 runs, Raelynn Arrondo, 1 run; Britni Mitchel, 1 run; Vivian Medina, 1 run; Bethani Trevino, 2 runs. Also playing was Samantha De La Garza, Cynthia Garcia, Lexi Poindexter and Sabrina De La Garza.

"You could feel the excitement of the first district

game. The environment was a little louder and the game was a little faster," said Coach Butch Gonzalez. "I was pleased with the way our girls responded. They came out and did what they have been doing all year. They hit the ball, they executed on defense, they were aggressive on the bases and they are having fun. We couldn't have asked for more. I'm excited for our girls. They are working hard and good things happen when you work."

The Lady Lions then defeated Ballinger 13-2 on March 18.

Pitching and catching -

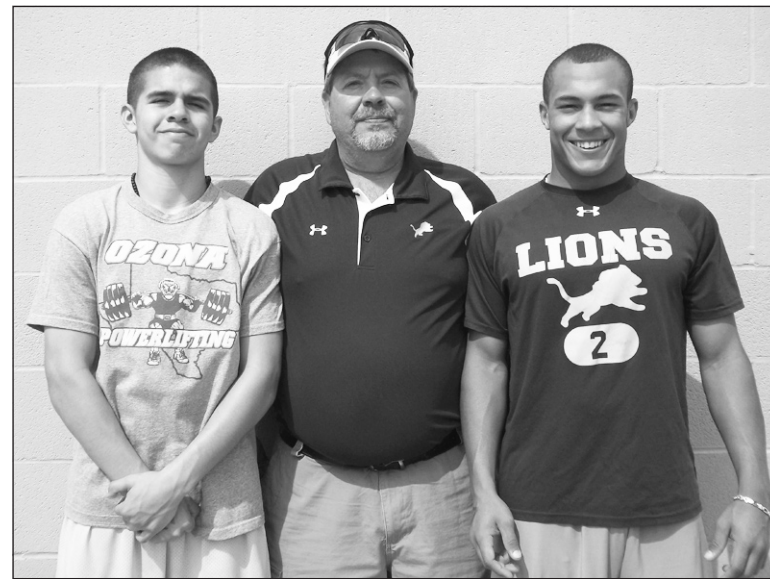
Sanchez and Glosson.

Leading players - Glosson, 2 runs; Sanchez, 2 runs and a homerun; Miller, 1 run; Arredondo, 1 run; Mitchel, 2 runs and a homerun; Medina, 2 runs; Trevino, 1 run; De La Garza, 2 runs. Also playing: Arleen Castillo, Stacie Quiroz, Poindexter and De La Garza.

"The Lady Lions continue to be successful on their journey through district play. It was a great win and we are executing well both offensively and defensively. Our effort and having fun have been key in our first two district wins," Gonzalez said.



JOE HERNANDEZ | THE OZONA STOCKMAN
ABEY LARA PITCHED A NO HITTER AGAINST JUNCTION in the varsity Lions 10-0 shutout victory last Saturday in Ozona.



JUDY VARGAS | SUBMITTED PHOTO
MICHAEL VARGAS (left) and Kyle Dean Competed at the Region 1 Powerlifting Meet on March 5 in Sundown. Also pictured is Coach David Kennedy.



PHOTO BY JOE HERNANDEZ | THE OZONA STOCKMAN
BRITNI MITCHELL HITS A HOME RUN in the Lady Lions softball game against Ballinger on March 18. Teammate Adrienne Sanchez also hit a home run in the game.



JOE HERNANDEZ | THE OZONA STOCKMAN
STEFAN WILSON AND HIS DOUBLES PARTNER AUSTIN PEREZ PLACED SECOND in the Ozona Tennis Tournament held March 4 in Ozona.



CINDY REAVIS KOMECHAK AND JESSICA PHILLIPS | SUBMITTED PHOTOS
OZONA FFA STUDENTS competed in the Houston Stock Show this past weekend. Top photo: Russel Komechak placed second in his class with his trailer project. His is pictured with all the tools and gear that he won. Bottom photo: Weston Seahorn, Erik Estrada and Komechak are pictured with a Calf Table that won a blue ribbon. Students that also helped work on the project were Ryan Kennedy, Cuatro Jones and Stefan Wilson. The Ozona FFA chapter received 18 boxes of rods and wire with the win.

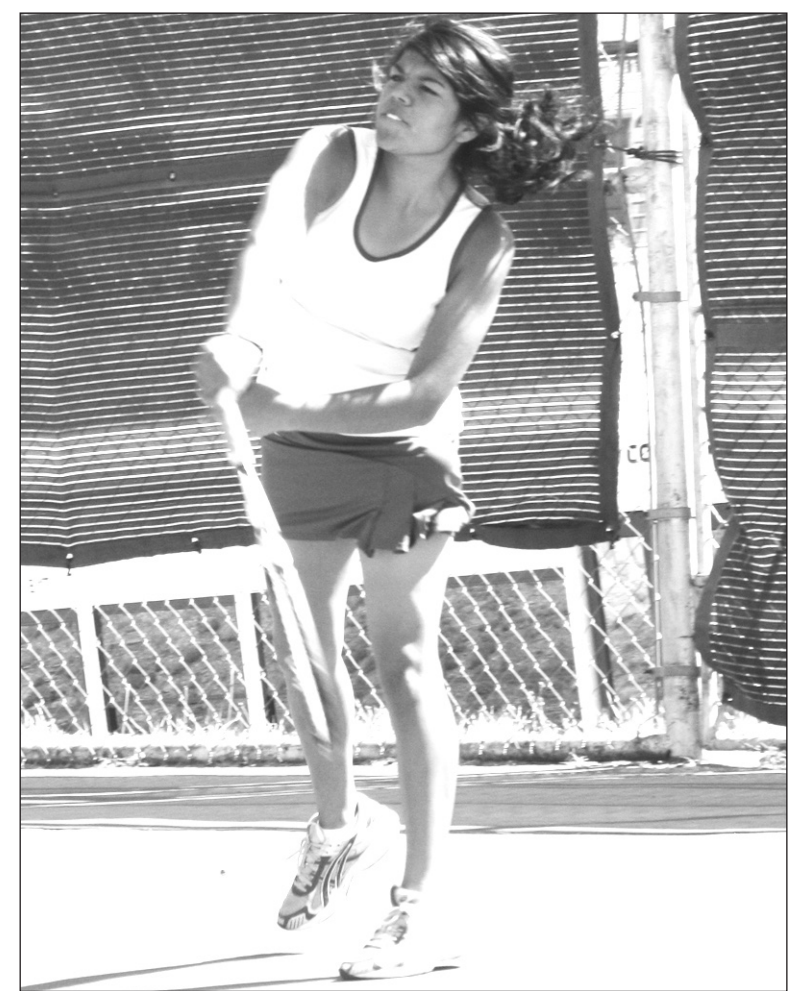


PHOTO BY JOE HERNANDEZ | THE OZONA STOCKMAN
JENNY VENEGAS AND HER MIXED DOUBLES PARTNER KRAMER HALL PLACED SECOND in the Ozona Tennis Tournament on March 4.

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- Ozona Stockman Press
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- SUPER 5 FOODS**
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- Wool Growers

Pre-K and Kindergarten pre-registration April 12-13

Pre-registration for the 2011-2012 Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes will be held on Tuesday, April 12 and Wednesday, April 13 at Ozona Elementary School.

Pre-Kindergarten can register from 9 a.m. to noon and Kindergarten from 1 to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12 and on that same day you can take advantage of our Night Registration which will be held from 5 to 7 p.m.

On Wednesday, April 13 you can register your child from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten.

The child must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2011 to be eligible for Pre-k and 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2011 for Kindergarten.

Parents must have their child's birth certificate, (not the one from the hospital, but the one from the courthouse) shot record, and social security card in order to register the child. A copy of these documents will be made, and the originals will be returned to you. This is required by law in Chap. 25.002 of the Texas Education Code. Please bring your child with you! As of Aug. 1, 1999, all

children born on or after September 2, 1992 are required to have the following immunizations to begin school:

1. Hepatitis A -2 doses
 2. Varicella (chicken pox) - 2 doses
 3. Pneumococcal (PCV7) or (PCV713)- 4 doses
 4. Hib-4 doses
 5. Hepatitis B-3 doses
 6. DTaP- 5 doses---1 dose after 4th birthday
 7. Polio-4 doses---1 dose after 4th birthday
 8. MMR-2 doses
- For more information, call Ozona Elementary School at 392-5501 ext. 5730.

Martes, 12 de Abril y Miercoles 13 de Abril sera la pre-matricula para pre-kinder y kinder en Ozona Elementary School.

Pre-kinder podran matricularse desde las 9:00 hasta las 12:00 y kinder desde la 1:00 hasta las 4:00. Y ese mismo dia tendremos pre-registracion en la noche de 5:00 p.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. El dia Miercoles, 13 de Abril tendremos matriculas de nuevo de 9:00 hasta las

4:00 p.m. para Pre-Knder y Kinder. El nino tiene que tener 4 anos antes del 1 de septiembre 2011 para Pre-kinder y 5 anos antes del 1 de septiembre 2011 para Kinder. Padres necesitan traer el certificado de nacimiento de su nino/a(el del la corte, no el hospital), comprobante de vacunas y la tarjeta del seguro social. Por favor traiga a su nino el dia que venga!

Desde 1 de agosto, 1999, se requiere que los

ninos nacidos en o depues del 2 de septiembre 1992, tengan las siguientes vacunas para empezar la escuela:

1. Hepatitis A-2 doses
2. Varicela-2 doses
3. Pnuemococcal (PCV7) o (PCV713)- 4 doses
4. Hib-4 doses
5. Hepatitis B- 3 doses
6. DTaP-5 doses---1 dose despues de los 4 anos
7. Polio-4 doses---1 dose despues de los 4 anos
8. MMR-2 doses

Hilderbran seeking applicants for scholarship program

AUSTIN - State Rep. Harvey Hilderbran, R-Kerrville, will once again award scholarships totaling \$2,000 to District 53 students graduating from an accredited high school in May 2011.

Students can apply by obtaining an application form from their high school

senior counselor, who will forward all entries to Hilderbran's office for judging. Students must live and attend school within District 53 in order to qualify.

In addition to the application form, students should submit a one-page response to an essay question regarding voter identi-

fication. High school counselors will submit all applications by April 29, and Hilderbran will announce the scholarship winners by May 13. For more information, call Hilderbran's office at (512) 463-0536 or debra.van_bibber@house.state.tx.us.

Little Dribblers' game results

BY AUSTIN ELGUEA
THE OZONA STOCKMAN

On March 10, the Rage raged up the Spurs. The Rage won 22-18. For the Rage, Madison Galindo had the most points with 14. She also had 2 fouls, 7 rebounds, 2 steals, and shot 62 percent free throws. Kamryn Lozano got 6 points, 3 fouls, 3 steals, and shot 50 percent free throws. Another very good basketball player on the Rage was Meagan Shook who happen to have 2 points and 2 rebounds. Cameron Rutherford also had a foul and 1 rebound. Sierra Sanchez had 2 steals and 2 points. Paige Lewis got 2 steals and a rebound but no points. She played some really good defense. This excellent team won

22-18 changing the Spurs from undefeated to losing one game this whole season.

The Spurs did some really good offense and defense that night. Rachel Mendoza had the most points with 8. She also had 4 fouls, getting close to being fouled out. Rachel did an amazing job on defense having 3 steals. Dacie Taylor had 3 fouls, a rebound, 2 steals, and 2 points. Julie Marshall got no points but 2 steals, a rebound, and 2 fouls. Another terrific player that night was Emily Marlatt who had 2 points, 2 fouls, and 1 rebound. Azaylea got 4 points that night also with 3 fouls and 2 steals. The Spurs lost 18-22.

On that same night, the Mavericks won 27-

10 against the Spurs. The Mavericks played a very good game of both defense and offense. Matthew Shell had the most points with 12. Preston McCutcheon got a three pointer and had a total of 9 points. He also had 2 fouls. Michael Ybarra had 2 points and only 1 foul. Raven Perez made a bucket in this victory. Payton Rohan, a Maverick, also made a very good layup.

The losing team, Spurs, did pretty good in this game, but just couldn't make a bucket. Hunter Smith had 3 fouls and 3 points. Roman Esparrza got a foul but also had 4 points.

Yours truly, Austin Elguea, had a foul and 2 points. Caleb Martinez got two fouls but no points. The Spurs lost 10-27.

Girls Softball Sign-ups
March 23-24
5-7 p.m. at the girls softball fields.
Ages 5-14 as of Dec. 31,2010

OHS pre-registration Monday night

A pre-registration night for students and parents will take place at 6 p.m. Monday, March 28, at the OHS Auditorium.

This event is for students entering 10th, 11th and 12th grades.

For more information, call OHS Counselor Carol Stevens at 392-5501 ext. 5712.

OHS hosting Parent Academic Nights

Ozona Middle School is hosting Parent Academic Nights. The final two meetings will take place Monday and Tuesday.

The purpose of these brief, 45-minute, meetings by subject area is for parents to get valuable information from their child's teachers on what can be done to help the child at home with academics.

All meetings will begin at 6 p.m. at the middle school.

- March 28 - Science Night.
- March 29 - Social Studies Night.

For more information, call the middle school at 392-5501 ext. 5721.

If it's ink on paper...
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OHS Honor Roll

FOURTH SIX WEEKS "A" Honor Roll
Freshmen - Chris Cantu, Lisa Dorrough and Vivian Medina.
Sophomores - Allie Black, Cynthia Garcia and Sierra Trevino
Juniors - Lane Hale
Seniors - Duncan Knox, Jayce Logan and Stefan Wilson.

"A-B" Honor Roll
Freshmen - Tristan Alvarez, Jonatan Arredondo, Deyanira Hernandez, Lorenzo Hernandez, Josiah Jurado, Desiree Marshall, Sydney Mendoza, Ely Montanez, Abby Newton, Lexi Poindexter, Angelina Ramos, Lazarae Rodriguez, Nancy Rodriguez, Sierra Stokes and Michael Vargas.
Sophomores - Alex Borrego, Jessica Borrego, Arleen Castillo, Sabrina De La Garza, Jerrod duBois, Noah Tambunga and Cris Taylor.
Juniors - Leigh Galindo, Joshua Martinez, Kelsie Ramirez and Isabel Ybarra.
Seniors - Raelynn Arredondo, Murphey Black, Kyle Dean, Tamara Fay, Miriam Lugo Valdes, Jill Marquez, Gabriela Rodriguez, Judith Rodriguez and Roxanne Talamantez.

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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
susie.dubois@ozonashools.net

to get the word out to our students.

First National Bank of Sonora is pleased to announce the promotion of Lisa Price to Board Secretary and Bank Officer.



Lisa joined the Bank in 2009, originally as a teller and then rapidly progressing to a loan processor.

Lisa and her husband, Sterling, moved to Sonora from New Mexico in 1999. They are the proud parents of a 5 year old daughter named Makinna.

She enjoys coaching both cheerleading and tee-ball, spending time with her daughter and traveling with her family to watch Sterling compete in steer roping across the Country.

Lisa has recently been named a Board Member of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce and will be involved in various community activities serving as a representative of the First National Bank of Sonora.

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First National Bank of Sonora is pleased to announce the promotion of Eric Dominguez to Vice President.



We are pleased to announce that Eric has also agreed to Chair our CRA effort within the entire First National Bank of Sonora family.

Eric joined our Bank in 2007 as an Assistant Vice President. Banking is in Eric's blood. He started in maintenance and moved to switchboard operator, bookkeeping, teller, and credit, all the way up to branch president at his former bank.

Eric is from Fort Stockton, Texas and is a graduate of Angelo State University. While at ASU he was a part of two LSC South Division Championship football teams.

Eric and his beautiful wife, Rebekah, enjoy raising their son, Jarryn, who is 10 years old. They stay busy with Jarryn's football, soccer, track, and baseball games. Eric is a Rotarian, a member of the Northern Little League Board of Directors, and also coaches his son's baseball team.

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CROCKETT COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE

REMINDER:
The County Road Department will pick up, only, separated and un-bagged piles of leaves and limbs from alleyways and roadways belonging to the county. Household trash must be disposed of in Dumpsters only. Concrete, Dirt, or any type of Metals (ex. Pipe, Tin, or Fencing) will NOT be picked up by the County.

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 14th day of March, 2011.

- Crockett County Commissioners' Court

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