

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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, DEC. 28, 2011

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75 CENTS

2011 Stock Show results

The 64th annual Crockett County Stock Show took place Saturday at the 4-H Barn and Fair Park Convention Center.

More than 30 participants showed lambs, goats and swine.

MARKET LAMB SHOW

Finewool Lambs:

Champion - Lane Hale
Reserve - Timothy Maldonado

First Year Feeder - 1. Jarrett Justiss and 2. Ethan Criswell.

Class 1 - 1. Weston Seahorn; 2. Abby Newton; 3. Brenna Hale; 4. Alex Hopper; 5. Weston Seahorn and 6. Weston Seahorn.

Class 2 - 1. Kelbie Renfro; 2. Sydney Flores; 3. Allie Black; 4. Abby Newton; 5. Alex Hopper and 6. Trace Justiss.

Class 3 - 1. Lane Hale; 2. Kelbie Renfro; 3. Allie Black; 4. Alex Hopper; 5. Sydney Flores and 6. Jacob Childress.

Class 4 - 1. Timothy Maldonado; 2. Timothy Maldonado; 3. Jacob Childress; 4. Madison Childress and 5. Trace Justiss.

Class 5 - 1. Lane Hale; 2. Alex Hopper; 3. Trace Justiss; 4. Abby Newton; 5. Jarrett Justiss; 6. Timothy Maldonado; 7. Abby Newton and 8. Madison Childress

Finewool Cross Lambs:

Champion - Allie Black
Reserve - Kelbie Renfro
Class 1 - 1. Kelbie Renfro; 2. Brenna Hale; 3. Erik Carrizales; 4. Timothy Maldonado; 5. Weston Seahorn

Toys For Tots



THIS LARGE GROUP OF FOLKS WERE PART OF THE WORKERS THAT MADE HIS YEAR'S TOYS FOR TOTS CAMPAIGN A SUCCESS.

JOE HERNANDEZ | THE OZONA STOCKMAN

Stockman closed Friday for New Year Holiday

The Ozona Stockman will be closed all day Friday, Dec. 30 for the New Year holiday.

Deadline is NOON Monday, Jan. 2, for the Jan. 4 edition.

County offices will be closed Monday, with many offices closing at noon on Friday.

The U.S. Post Office, Crockett National Bank and Ozona National Bank will also be closed on Monday.

Classes will resume at Ozona Schools Wednesday, Jan. 4.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) troopers will be stepping up enforcement efforts to ensure safety on the roadways and seek out impaired drivers through Jan. 1.

Additional troopers will be on the road targeting drunk drivers in locations where alcohol-related crashes are most likely to occur. This effort is funded by a \$1.5 million grant from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for targeted DWI enforcement over various holidays throughout the year.

During the same period in 2010, troopers made 1,264 driving while intoxicated (DWI) arrests. Of those, 449 were made by troopers whose patrols were funded through the TxDOT grant. In addition, troopers issued 17,436 speeding citations, 2,426 safety restraint citations, and 2,593 no insurance citations. Troopers also made 1,284 felony and fugitive arrests, and recovered 50 stolen vehicles.

Congressman representative takes information, concerns

BY MELISSA PERNER
AND SHANON BIGGERSTAFF
THE OZONA STOCKMAN
AND OZONA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

In what many were hoping to be a discussion with U.S. Rep., Francisco "Quico" Canseco turned out to be a sharing of information with one of the congressman's representatives.

Tied up in Washington, D.C. as the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate debated over the Payroll Tax Bill, Canseco was unable to make his Dec. 20 visit to Ozona. Instead, Michael Koerner, the congressman's district director in the San Antonio, visited with local citizens.

Canseco's office issued a statement after the congressman voted in favor of sending the payroll tax cut bill to conference with the senate.

By voting in favor of the motion, Canseco voted to advance the process in Congress towards securing a one year extension of



SHANON BIGGERSTAFF | OZONA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MICHAEL KOERNER, a representative of U.S. Rep. Francisco "Quico" Canseco, R-San Antonio, talks with local citizens last week at the

the payroll tax cut instead of the Senate-passed mere two month extension, the release stated.

"The senate is wrong. We need to give American families certainty for the year ahead, not just two months. Non partisan experts have said the senate's plan is unworkable. The senate is playing politics by kicking the can down the road and taking the easy way out.

Therefore, I will vote for - as I have already done- and continue to fight for a year-long extension to give middle class Americans the certainty they need," Canseco said.

Koerner, who cannot officially speak for Canseco, said he would take everyone's concerns and questions back to Canseco. The representative

PLEASE SEE CONGRESS, PAGE 6

Experts: Texas drought to continue through spring

BY KATE GALBRAITH
TEXAS TRIBUNE

FORT WORTH — The drought that has plagued Texas is virtually certain to continue at least until early summer, climate experts said last month at a conference in Fort Worth. But what happens after that is anyone's guess.

The main cause of the drought, the most intense in recorded Texas history, is back-to-back episodes of La Niña, a Pacific Ocean phenomenon that almost always brings dry conditions to the state. The bad news is that, based on the historical record, there is a 40 percent chance of La Niña returning for a third consecutive year, according to Klaus Wolter, a research associate with the Earth Research Laboratory at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

That record consists of 10 instances over the past century in which La Niña has appeared for two years in a row (normally it does



GARY NORED | TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

not recur). However, Wolter emphasized, 10 episodes is a fairly limited data set. And — here's the good news — the other six times, an El Niño has followed the two La Niñas, bringing unusually wet weather.

"If we were to switch to El Niño next summer, the record of the last decade would indeed favor an end of the 2010-2012 drought," according to Wolter.

Climate experts expect to

have publishable insights by June into whether to expect El Niño, La Niña or neither.

Spring is normally the wettest season in Texas, and if the state is to work its way out of the drought, May and June will be "the really, really key time periods," said Victor Murphy, a scientist with NOAA. Temperatures next summer, according to Murphy, are "likely warmer

PLEASE SEE DROUGHT, PAGE 6

Triple C
HARDWARE &
LUMBER INC.

OZONA LIONS AND LADY LIONS
IN THE REAGAN COUNTY TOURNAMENT THIS WEEK

Triple C
HARDWARE &
LUMBER INC.

Diversifying seasonal small businesses

The holidays are coming to an end and many small businesses have a reason to celebrate. Hopefully sales were up during this season. Many small businesses depend on holiday sales to earn profits for the entire year. Some rely on sales during other times, even those that are not retailers.

Unlike the mega stores, small businesses typically need to generate profits every month. Reviewing financial statements on a regular basis will help business owners get a handle on cash flows.

In the last few years we have witnessed some Halloween

stores that pop up in August and September. They appear in vacant buildings around San Angelo, tempting customers with fabulous displays and costumes. They do a booming business for the two months they are open. As soon as November arrives



BUSINESS TIPS

PAUL HOWARD

the shops are closed and become empty storefronts again. This can be a teachable moment for small business owners. Entrepreneurs, especially those who don't generate revenue year round, should see these stores as how not to address cyclical-ity. Businesses that struggle with cyclical revenues should not close their doors. They must work to generate profits even when their product or service is not in season.

A good example is a landscaping company. What can they do when winter arrives? Many landscapers have diver-

sified their services and rake leaves or winterize lawns. This time of year they become Christmas light installers. Some new equipment may need to be purchased, but the business now is less cyclical and more consistent year round. However, small business owners should always stick to their primary revenue driver.

Entrepreneurs should continue to market their primary product or service even during the off season. The landscaper can mention to their winter customers that they would be happy to provide landscaping ser-

vices in the spring and summer.

There will be times when business owners' marketing strategies and revenue streams are not working out as planned. This is when they start thinking outside the box and determine ways in which to increase sales and revenues which may require entirely new business enterprises. Consulting may be an option. Small business owners can use their expertise and make money doing it. A consulting service does not have to follow an entrepreneur's primary line of work. Many small business owners

face seasonal sales. Overcoming the challenge posed by inconsistent revenue can be difficult at best, but small businesses that take action and are open to a different way of thinking can move their business back into the black. By offering new services, using clever marketing, or pursuing new personal ventures, a small business owner can take charge and ensure success.

"Business Tips" was written by Paul Howard, Business Development Specialist and Certified Business Advisor IV of Angelo State University's Small Business Development Center. Contact her at paul.howard@angelo.edu.

New Year's resolutions

We all make New Year's resolutions. In the United States, popular goals include: lose weight, get out of debt, become more organized, maintain a diary, save money, improve grades, get a better job, get fit, eat right, get a better education, drink less alcohol, quit smoking, reduce stress, take a trip, volunteer to help others, be less grumpy, be more independent and learn something new (such as a foreign language or music)

However, how many of us really keep these promises? By mid-January are we not back into those old habits or at least thinking about them.

Recent research shows that while 52 percent of participants in a resolution study were confident of success with their goals, only 12 percent actually achieved their goals.

Men achieved their goal 22 percent more often when they engaged in goal setting, a system where small measurable goals are used (lose a pound a week, instead of saying "lose weight"), while women succeeded 10 percent more when they made their goals public and got support from their friends.

As Mark Twain said "New Year's is a harmless annual institution, of no particular use to anybody save as a scapegoat for promiscuous drunks, and friendly calls and humbug resolutions."

For this year, here are some resolutions that can give us all a good laugh.

- Just for today, I will not sit in my living room all day in my nightdress. Instead, I will move my computer into the bedroom.

- I will no longer waste my time relieving the past, instead I will spend it worrying about the future.

- I will not bore my boss by with the same excuse for taking leaves. I will think of some more excuses.

- I will do less laundry



WHAT'S ON MY MIND

MELISSA PERNER

and use more deodorant.

- I will avoid taking a bath whenever possible and conserve more water.

- Assure my lawyer that I will never again show up drunk at a custody hearing.

- I will give up chocolates totally. 100 percent. Completely. Honestly....

- I will try to figure out why I "really" need nine e-mail addresses.

- I will stop sending e-mails to my wife (husband), while we are in the same room.

- I resolve to work with neglected children -- my own.

- I will stop sending e-mail, ICQ, Instant Messages and be on the phone at the same time with the same person.

- I will spend less than one hour a day on the Internet. This, of course, will be hard to estimate since I'm not a clock watcher.

- I will read the manual... just as soon as I can find it.

- I will think of a password other than "password."

- I will not tell the same story at every get together.

- I won't worry so much.

- I will cut my hair.

- I will grow my hair.

- I will stop considering other people's feelings when they so obviously don't consider mine - if that unwashed fellow sits next to me again, I'll tell him he stinks!

- I will be more imaginative.

- I will not hang around girls - they think you love them and that sucks.

- I will not ring the stewardess button on airplanes just to get her phone number.

MELISSA PERNER is the editor and publisher of The Ozona Stockman. Her resolution is to do nothing on Jan. 1.

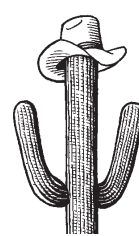
Crazy Old-Fashioned Me

Some suggest that I am living in the past; that I'm too old fashioned. I'm the first to admit that we have made progress and are a lot better at some things than we used to be. As a society we are not as racist and women are finally getting the rights they should have had all along. We're more aware of our environment and most of us don't throw candy wrappers or beer cans out the car window any more. However, this crazy old-fashioned guy thinks we've thrown the good out with the bad. We've overdosed on too many things, from pop culture to pills to political correctness.

I'm so old-fashioned I feel you shouldn't buy something unless you have the money to pay for it. How archaic is that! And that goes for our government too. I'm so stuck in my old ways that I believe if you sign on the bottom line, or make a handshake deal with someone, they you ought to honor your commitment. I feel strongly that if someone is paying you to work eight hours a day then you owe them eight hours of work, and you shouldn't be talking on your cell phone for two hours of it.

I know I sound like my Grandpa when I say that thugs who murder, rape and kidnap little girls ought to be put to death. And the sooner the better. We shouldn't have to support these beasts until they get out of prison or die. I'm not some Wild West vigilante but would a little common sense and justice in our courts be too much to ask?

These days, when obese people are routinely getting lap band surgery, gastric



IT'S THE PITTS

LEE PITTS

bypasses and having their stomach shrunk, I admit I have some beliefs that seem rather backwards. For instance, I believe that unless you have a glandular problem, if you get fat it could be your fault. Perhaps you are not a victim and McDonalds didn't cause your obesity. Maybe you did. In my mother's words, "You shouldn't have let your eyes overload your belly." But then perhaps I'm just overly sensitive about all this because our lovely 23 year old niece just died as a result of the surgery.

I like cats and dogs as much as anybody and feel a responsibility to treat them well, but shouldn't we be just as concerned about the rights of a taxpaying public lands rancher in Nevada than we are the rights of a Lhasa Apso? I don't think we should leave trust funds for pets, dress them in designer clothes and jewelry and take them to doggie spas for pedicures, but if that's the way you want to spend your money that's your business. But I also have the right to think you are nuttier than Jamoca Almond Fudge.

I'm so stuck in the past I don't even talk right any more because I think an African American who was born in this country is no more African than I am a Chimpanzee American just because I may have had one as an ancestor a few generations ago. If

you are a citizen of this country you are an American. Period. And I love Mexican people as much as anyone, probably more, but illegal immigrants are still ILLEGAL. I'm so out of touch I think our laws ought to be obeyed and enforced every chance we get.

I may be living in the past but I'd still appreciate a little courtesy. Please turn off your cell phone during our national anthem or a prayer. No one is that important. I'm old enough to remember when polite people still said "Please" and "Thank You" and I feel that no matter how liberated we've become that a gentleman still offers his seat to a lady. And if I had a son who was 28 years old and still living at home he'd better be mentally or physically handicapped, looking for a job, or studying to be a doctor so he can one day take care of his mom and me.

I feel we were better citizens when we said the Pledge of Allegiance to start each day and I'm so out-of-date that I can recall when the Constitution guaranteed our rights, not the political make-up of the Supreme Court or the diplomats at the U.N.

I'm so old-fashioned that I still believe that what you do in your own home is your business, that farmers and ranchers are heroes, not villains, that you should respect your elders, buy locally and not talk with your mouth full. I think government has no business in business.

I hope I'm not offending anyone or being politically incorrect when I say that old is not always wrong, and new is not always better.

www.LeePittsbooks.com

Revenue estimate shows budget surplus on horizon

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling | Texas Press Association

AUSTIN — Texas Comptroller Susan Combs on Dec. 12 presented Gov. Rick Perry, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and House Speaker Joe Straus with the annual estimate of state revenues.

Spending was set by the Texas Legislature at \$81.1 billion for the 2012-2013 fiscal biennium, and Combs' estimate shows the state will have \$82.7 billion available for general revenue related funds, an amount that would yield an ending balance of \$1.6 billion, on Aug. 31, 2013.

Combs attributed the positive ending balance to a better-than-expected economy, increased tax collections, and in particular, increased oil and gas severance tax revenues because of accelerated activity in the Eagle Ford Shale formation and the Permian Basin.

Combs noted, however, "While Texas continues to recover, events now unfolding throughout the world are of great concern" — such as the recession in Europe, economic slowdowns in China and India and gridlock in Washington, D.C.

And yet, while the state is projected to reach the end of the two-year budget cycle with more than one billion dollars unspent, fiscal analyst Dick Lavine with the Austin-based Center for Public Policy Priorities called for the state to reform its revenue system.

"When the Legislature renews in 2013, even with the comptroller's revised revenue estimate, it will face three problems," Lavine said:

1. The Legislature still has no way to cover the \$10 billion structural deficit it created by the 2006 tax cut;

2. Before it can even write the next budget, the Legislature must first cover an estimated \$4.8 billion in authorized but unfunded Medicaid expenditures; and

3. Texas will have more people and higher costs.

"Any one of these three problems dwarfs the revenue growth forecast by the comptroller, leaving the state with a shortfall, not a surplus," Lavine said.

GARLAND LAWMAKER SENTENCED

An Austin state district judge sentenced State Rep. Joe Driver, R-Garland, to five years of deferred adjudication for the third-degree felony of double-billing his campaign account and Texas taxpayers for travel expenses and pocketing the money, the Austin American-Statesman reported Dec. 19.

Driver "paid hotels and airlines with donated political funds and then submitted the same expenses to the state, taking the taxpayer money for himself," the report said, and the court ordered Driver, who has served as a state representative since 1992, to pay a \$5,000 fine and \$63,746 in restitution.

JOBLESS RATE DROPS AGAIN

Texas Workforce Commission on Dec. 16 reported the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped to 8.1 percent in November, down from 8.4 percent in October.

Texas has experienced posi-

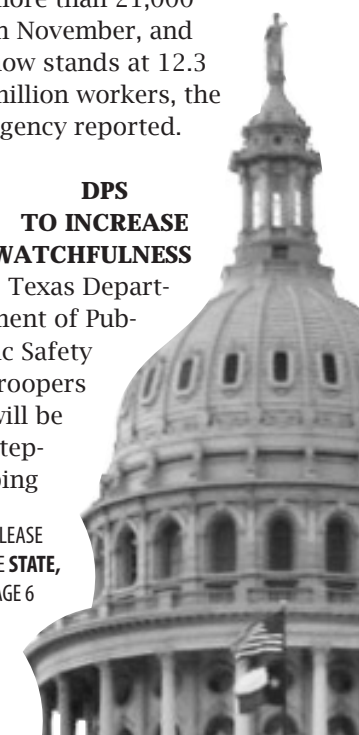
tive annual job growth during the last 19 months, with annual growth rates above 2.0 percent for the last six consecutive months.

To help put that 8.4 percent unemployment rate in perspective, the civilian labor force in Texas grew by more than 21,000 in November, and now stands at 12.3 million workers, the agency reported.

DPS TO INCREASE WATCHFULNESS

Texas Department of Public Safety troopers will be stepping

PLEASE SEE STATE, PAGE 6



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Serving Crockett County since 1913

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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.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS



SHANON BIGGERSTAFF / OZONA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CLOSE TO OUR HEARTS: (left to right) Carmen Villarreal, employee, and owners Ronda and Jeffrey Stuart and "mom" Jackie Hopkins.

Close to Our Hearts is the December Business of the Month

BY SHANON BIGGERSTAFF
CHAMBER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"It was actually my Dad, Jerry Hopkins, that inspired me to open a store," said Ronda Stuart. "He made wooden crosses, and I had a collection of them. We later expanded our line of products."

Close to Our Hearts, located at 908 11th Street opened in 2004, and is family owned and operated by Jackie Hopkins and Jeffrey and Ronda Stuart.

"We truly are a family business. Even with a full-time job Jeffery still works the store on weekends and holidays. We have customers that come by just to see him! We've even tease him about how many candle burners he sells each month," said Ronda. "We try and keep a variety of items that would appeal to both the men and the ladies in the family."

Top sellers and things to look for at Close to our Hearts are their rock crosses and candles, Jon Hart luggage, Fiesta dishes and Mud House, Great Western and Morenci candles.

"We get our crosses from a company called A Cut Above. They make handcrafted crosses out of rock, zebra and deer horns. They are very unique and popular, and our candles are a favorite item," said Ronda.

You will find a number of collectible items available at Close to our Hearts such as the Painted Pony collection and Jim Shore products.

"The chicken and rooster Poultry in Motion collection we can't keep on the shelf," said employee Carmen Villarreal.

"We also carry the Lodge cookware, in colors. Many locations do not have a color selection available," said Ronda.

The store also carries both Red River Traders and Rodeo Rick jewelry.

Ronda just returned from Germany and has brought back Santa's, Christmas ornaments and displays and incense smokers.

"In Germany they call their candles incense smokers."

The store, all dressed up for Christmas, has a number of rooms and areas to explore. There is the Angel, Western, and Sale Rooms.

You can shop the kitchen and children's areas along with the Kritter Korner (bird houses and wind chimes), and an area has been set aside with all type of teen accessories.

"The newest series we carry is the Show Off Art. These pieces are children's interpretations of versus in the Bible. They have become very popular as well," said Ronda.

"We were concerned when our neighboring businesses started closing and how that would limit our traffic, but the community has been very supportive, and we are so thankful," said Ronda. "We will be here through the holidays and will also have an after Christmas sale in January."

The Chamber of Commerce would like to recognize Close to our Hearts for their effort to expand their business, provide quality customer service, recognize the needs of the consumer, and for being an added asset to the local business community.

Close to our Hearts is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.. Saturday hours are seasonal. You can also stop by the store to enter a weekly drawing. Just drop by, and enter your name.

For more information call (325) 392-2700.



Symm-Goedrich to wed in January

Michael and Barbara Symm of Giddings and Lloyd and Diane Goedrich of Schulenburg announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their children, Andrea Elizabeth, of Giddings, and Jordan Blane, currently employed with Chevron of Ozona.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Victor and Gladys Symm, of Giddings and Erwin Schulze and the late Mildred Schulze, of Winchester. The groom-elect is the grandson of Bernice Herzik and the late George Herzik, and the late Frank and Martha Goedrick, all of Schulenburg.

The couple will exchange wedding vows on Jan. 28, 2012 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Serbin, Texas.

Happy Birthday

Dec. 28 - Micahel Jovan Urias, Ben Flores, Whitney Crawford, Sara Dorrrough, Maria del Socorro Mata and Preston Tebbetts

Dec. 29 - Jared Shaffer, Meagan Castro, Desiree Young, Leah DeLaRosa, Gabriella Flores, Ethan F. Gonzlaez, Emily Merrill, Jorge Luis Sarabia and Alicia Perez.

Dec. 30 - Bryan Lacy, Marco Sandate Jr., Artemio Hernandez Jr., Eva Tinney and Josh Gonzales

Dec. 31 - Vicki Cooper, Jarrett Justiss, Joe Mendoza Jr. and Caden Rutherford

Jan. 1 - Jamie Moore, Tracye Peek Young and Lisa Tijerina

Jan. 2 - Cuatro Jones, Patsy White, Gloria Wilson, Butch Gonzales, Erik Bachman, Regina Garcia and Victor Villarreal Jr.

Jan. 3 - James Caldera, Ruben Cruz, Goyo DeHoyos, Michael Ybarra Sr., Matthew

Galindo, Wesley Crawford and Chago Ybarra Jr.

Happy Birthday Mother!

With Lots of Love
from all of your Children & Grandkids

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wednesday, Dec. 28

- Varsity Lions and Lady Lions in the Reagan County Tournament.
- Exercise Classes, 8 a.m. at the Senior Center.
- Mexican Train, 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Thursday, Dec. 29

- Varsity Lions and Lady Lions in the Reagan County Tournament.

Friday, Dec. 30

- Varsity Lions and Lady Lions in the Reagan County Tournament.
- The Ozona Stockman Closed. County offices closing at noon.
- Nutrition/Food Pantry program, 9:30 a.m. at the Ozona United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Saturday, Dec. 31

- New Year's Eve

Sunday, Jan. 1

- New Year's Day

Monday, Jan. 2

- County offices, Crockett National Bank, Ozona National Bank and the U.S. Post Office.

Tuesday, Jan. 3

- John Davis, presidential candidate, meeting, 9:15 a.m. at the Ozona Chamber of Commerce.
- JV and Varsity Lady Lions and Lions vs. Reagan County, 5 p.m. at Big Lake.

Wednesday, Jan. 4

- Classes resume at Ozona Schools.
- Exercise Classes, 8 a.m. at the Senior Center.
- Mexican Train, 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.

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1103 Ave. E Ozona, TX

ACROSS

- 1 seat of Oldham Co.
- 5 head of JFK commission, Warren
- 6 TXism: "safe as a squirrel up a ___"
- 7 wood chopper
- 8 TX flag since 1865
- 9 "Leap of Faith" was ___ in TX
- 15 TXism: "when you're up to your neck in manure, don't ___ your mouth"
- 16 description of TX Walter Prescott Webb
- 19 TXism: "a frisky ___"
- 21 (enthusiastic) dance bent backwards under a pole
- 22 first black person to travel to TX
- 27 TXism: "still wet behind the ___"
- 28 early TX cattle drives went to this state
- 29 San Antonio street: Lon ___
- 30 those engaged in a wild disturbance
- 32 Biblical division (abbr.)
- 33 famous TX soccer player
- 36 TXism: "from ___ to riches"
- 37 "also known as" (abbr.)
- 38 in Starr Co.: La ____, TX
- 39 TXism: "no hill for ___"

DOWN

- 41 female doc.: OB/___
- 42 attribute to
- 45 flies high
- 46 TX-born pro wrestler Sue (init.)
- 47 Tyler is in ___ TX
- 48 TX B&Bs
- 49 SMU grad TV producer Aaron
- 52 how to pronounce but not spell ex-Cowboy Sanders
- 53 north Atlantic fish
- 54 month of the Texas Folklife Festival (abbr.)
- 55 fixed line of travel (abbr.)
- 12 TXism: "slow as ___"
- 13 a pen name for TX romancer Sandra Brown
- 14 lowers the light
- 15 Rembrandt work in Fort Worth's Kimball Art Museum: "Portrait ___ Jew"
- 16 anyone who died at the Alamo
- 17 TXism: "popular as ___ daughter"
- 18 cloudy night (2 wds.)
- 20 critter's den
- 22 TX fiddler Robertson
- 23 TXism: "a few bricks ___ of a load"
- 24 ex-Astro GM Smith
- 25 TXism: "sneaky as ___-sucking dog"
- 26 ___ Creek, TX aka "Johnsonville" was in Williamson Co.
- 28 LPTV station in Rio Grande City
- 31 reduce stress
- 34 TX singer Trini (init.)
- 35 UT grad Wallach
- 37 TXism: "flat as ___ handle prairie"
- 40 ping-___
- 43 baby food
- 44 previously owned vehicle (2 wds.)
- 50 house in a state park
- 51 TXism: "as much chance as a steer ___ a packing plant"

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

**DEADLINE
IS
NOON
MONDAY**

American Cancer Society
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Please mail it to:
Shelly Childress,
Memorials Chairman
P.O. Box 1008
Ozona, TX 76943
Feel free to call: 325-392-4009

If you want someone to agree with you in prayer, send your prayer requests to:
The Prayer Box
P.O. Box 733
Ozona, TX 76943.

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COUPLES COUNSELING

CARE CENTER CHATTER

BY ODILIA SANCHEZ
ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

God has blessed us this year and every year with many giving people. We would like to express our thanks to all the people who have given generously throughout the year. Thanks to the Baptist church, Methodist Church, Church of Christ, Catholic Church and Assembly of God Church. Their ministries are a blessing to all of us, We also have Blanca from the House of Flowers who brings center pieces for the tables in the dining room for each season and birthdays. Georgia from Dollar General has donated jewelry, clothes, and edibles for the residents and also decorations for the facility. Cynthia Flores comes every Wednesday to fix hair. Arlene Levitt contributes throughout the year and one or her contributions afforded us new Bingo cards which we really needed. Thanks to Lil Payne for her delicious cakes all year. We appreciate all her hard work. And, lets not

forget Vicki Childress and her nursing staff that takes care of the residents daily and Benny Gibbs and the administration office for taking care of all the business matters. Thanks to Marta De La Garza in activities for the wonderful job of planning activities and making our facility always look nicely decorated every season. Our dietary department headed by Betty Castro does a great job preparing the wonderful meals for the residents and staff and as a result, some of us have put on a few extra pounds. Thank you Flor Harris and your department for keeping the facility spic and span and thank you Rusty Harris for keeping everything in working order. Everyone is appreciated!
The Christmas party was held on the 19th and it was a great party. As usual, the house was full to capacity. It was great to see all the families visiting together and enjoying each other's company. The residents received lots and lots of gifts. The Christmas tree looked beautiful,

with all the presents that served as a tree skirt. Everyone had a good time and some families were able to have their picture taken in the Mitchell room next to another beautifully decorated Christmas tree. Thanks to Mary Ybarra for taking the pictures. Thanks to the generosity of so many people, we were able to give out many door prizes, and I didn't win a single one. Oh well, maybe next year I will get one.
Many of our loved have gone to be with the Lord this year and we will continue to miss them every day. For those that are still in our care, we are truly blessed. They will be loved and cared for daily by a wonderful, loving staff.
The Staff and Residents at Crockett County Care Center would like to wish everyone a wonderful and safe holiday season. Spend time with each other and enjoy the blessing of families and loved ones. May God bless you and prosper you and yours this coming year of 2012.

OZONA SENIOR HAPPENINGS

BY LYNN ENGLISH
SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR

There is not much news today as it is only a few short days until Christmas. We will be closed on Jan. 1 for New Year's Day. We have a new year to look forward to. On Jan. 2, it will be business as usual.
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.
Levis and Lace Square Dance Lessons will be on Tuesdays but will occasionally be on Monday night. Check with a square dance member to make sure of the day they are giving lessons.
Also Levis and Lace have changed their regular square dances to every second and forth Saturday at

2-4 p.m.
Tuesdays have been set aside for any of you who would play dominos. You can play late AM or early afternoon. If you would like to set up a game call Lynn English at 392-9094.
On Wednesday a group meets to play Mexican Train. These players get competitive and have fun playing this exciting game.
We still have our regular activities: bridge, bingo, pool, canasta, domino games, and puzzles. We also have a collection of books, magazines, a Wii game and two computers that have internet for seniors to use.
We also have a projector with stand and a screen as well as a wonderful keyboard to play.
Activities sponsored by the Crockett County Senior Center Board are for adults

fifty years old and older.
I want to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and remember to be safe.
Nutrition/Food Pantry program Friday
The Nutrition/Food Pantry program will be held Friday, Dec. 30 at 9:30 a.m. in the Ozona United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.
This class focuses on nutritious foods and spending your food money wisely.
Recipes will be given.
The class is open to all interested persons.
However, in order to receive a food box, you must pre-register.
For more information, call E.A. Wadsworth, RN at 392-3060.

OBITUARIES

Jesse Ramos Sr.

Jesse Ramos, Sr., age 39, of Rocksprings, Texas passed away Sunday, Dec. 18, 2011, in Ozona. He was born on Aug. 7, 1972, in Rocksprings, Texas to Fred and Mary Lou (Gonzales) Ramos.
Jesse is survived by his wife, Michelle Ramos of Ozona; parents, Fred and Mary Lou Ramos of Rocksprings; daughters, Angelina Ramos of Ozona, Jeselle Ramos of Rocksprings; sons, Jesse Ramos Jr. U.S. Navy - Guam, Joshua Ramos U.S. Navy - Virginia and Jeremiah Ramos of Rocksprings and granddaughter, Addison Ramos of Virginia. He is also survived by his sisters Edna R. Parr of Lubbock, Priscilla Ramos of Lockney, Janie Ramos of Madera, Calif.; numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and many friends.
Pallbearers include Lupe Gonzales, Rocky Rodriguez, Christopher Gonzales, Ricky Carrillo, Karmichael Ramos and Tyler Parr. Honorary pallbearers include Jesse Ramos and Joshua Ramos.
A Memorial Service was held Thursday, Dec. 22, 2011, at Nelson Funeral Chapel, with Dr. Amador Valenzuela officiating. Funeral Services were held Friday, Dec. 23, 2011, at Nelson Funeral Chapel in Rocksprings, Texas, with Pastor Orlando Venegas officiating. Committal service followed in the Rocksprings Cemetery.
The family invites you to leave a condolence at www.nelsonfuneralhomes.net. Arrangements under the care of Nelson Funeral Home of Rocksprings, Texas.

DEATH NOTICES

Alicia Lozano Sanchez

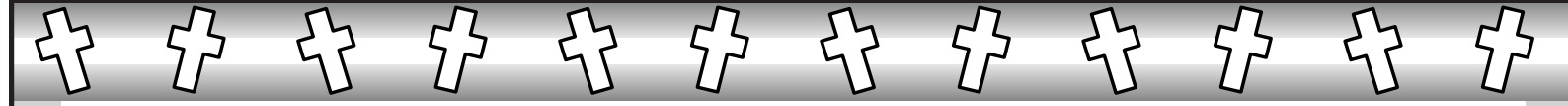
Alicia Lozano Sanchez, 61, died Tuesday, December 20, 2011 in San Angelo.
Funeral service was Friday, Dec. 23, 2011 at New Life Baptist Church with burial in Cedar Hill Cemetery. Arrangements by Preddy Funeral Home.
Survivors include two daughters, Adriana Villarreal of Midland and Leticia Lozano of Ozona; two sons, Jose Carlos Lozano and Juan Pablo Lozano; three sisters, Blasa Sias, Maria Ramirez and Romana Sanchez; five sons, Fernando Sanchez, Epitacio Sanchez, Fransisco Sanchez, Chench Sanchez and Jose Luis Sanchez.

Jason Baker

Jason Baker, 32, of Clifton, TX died Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2011 in Clifton.
Graveside service was Friday, Dec. 23, in Cedar Hill Cemetery. Arrangements by Preddy Funeral Home.
Survivors include his wife, Carla Baker of Clifton; daughter, Jocelyn Baker of Clifton; mother, Kay Baker of Clifton and brother, John Baker of Ozona.

Ida Lynn Gallardo Aguilar

Ida Lynn Gallardo Aguilar, 26, of Odessa and formerly of Ozona, passed away on Saturday, Dec. 24, 2011 at the Crane Memorial Hospital.
Rosary will be said at the Shaffer-Nichols Funeral Home Chapel at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2011. Funeral Mass will be held 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 29, 2011 at the Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Crane with Father Laurent Mvondo officiating. Burial will follow in the Crane County Cemetery with arrangements under the direction of Shaffer-Nichols Funeral Home of Crane.
Ida was born on July 21, 1985 in Rankin, Texas. She was a student through Kaplin College. She was a longtime resident of Ozona and a graduate of Ozona High School in 2005. Ida was a Catholic.
She is survived by her husband, Rene Aguilar of Odessa; two daughters, Nayeli Alessandra Aguilar and Jadelyn Elizabeth Aguilar both of Odessa; a son, Rene Aguilar III of Odessa; her mother and step-father, Rosa Linda Gallardo and Jaime Lujan of Ozona; her father, Guillermo Gallardo of San Angelo; two brothers, Christopher Martinez of San Angelo, and Mark Gallardo of Ozona; two sisters, Mariah Gallardo and Elva Gallardo, both of Ozona; grandparents, Benigno and Petra Garcia both of Crane, and Elva Ortiz of Ozona; and numerous nieces and nephews.



THE VILLAGE BABY

Years ago I had a strange experience the mountains of northern Mexico. It was our custom to try and visit ever mud hut in those small primitive villages because of so many medical needs. One cold January day we had visited most of the houses in one village when we asked if there might be a family outside the settlement. They mentioned a young woman that was pregnant,(alone), that they had not seen in several days. We found her little stick shack but there was no answer and no fire. We could see several blankets on the bed and a lump in the middle. We pulled the covers carefully back and there was the young woman alive but blue in color and could not talk. She kept trying to point to her feet and as we pulled the covers back there was a little newborn baby. He was alive because she had pulled blankets over him and yes, both survived. Have you ever wondered what Mary went through the night she gave birth to Jesus the Christ Child? She was in a stable and yes the greatest gift to mankind from God arrived in a sheep or goat stall, (Matthew 1:20-25, Luke 2:4-7). Many great people have been born in humble circumstances but the King of Kings/Lord of Lords to be born in a goat pen. One day we will see Him in all His glory, (Mark 13:26, John 11:40, 17:24). Let us this Christmas season pay homage to this King of Kings, (Matthew 2:1&2).
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.</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 Jean Reardon 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. Pastor Ruth & Gerson Posadas 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. Tues. - Sat.: 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>Apostolic Church 307 Santa Rosa St. Rev. Refugi Vega Sunday School: 4 p.m. Sunday Worship: 5 p.m. Tues & Thur. Service: 7:00 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.

Preddy Funeral Home
Ozona National Bank
Lowe's Grocery Store

This series of ads is being published and sponsored by these Ozona business firms in the interest of a stronger community.

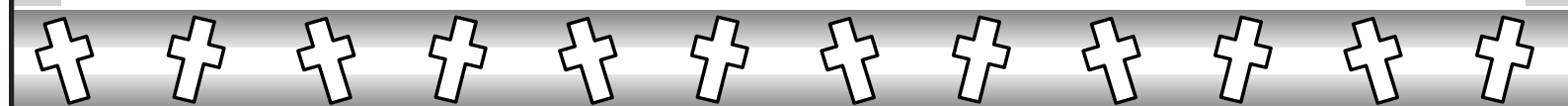
The Ozona Stockman
Upham Insurance Agency
Crockett National Bank

Happy Sweet 16 on Dec. 29 to Desiree
Love, Mom, Dad, Grandpa and Grandma, Uncle Paul and Aunt Lissa

Happy New Year

As we get ready to celebrate the New Year, we can't help but remember our favorite moments with customers like you. From the moment we first opened our doors, we've had the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful friends and neighbors. We're grateful to have so many cherished memories to take with us into 2012, and we look forward to celebrating another year with you, our valued customers.
Wishing You and Yours a Very Happy New Year!

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1116 Ave. E • Ozona
Open Mon. - Fri.: 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
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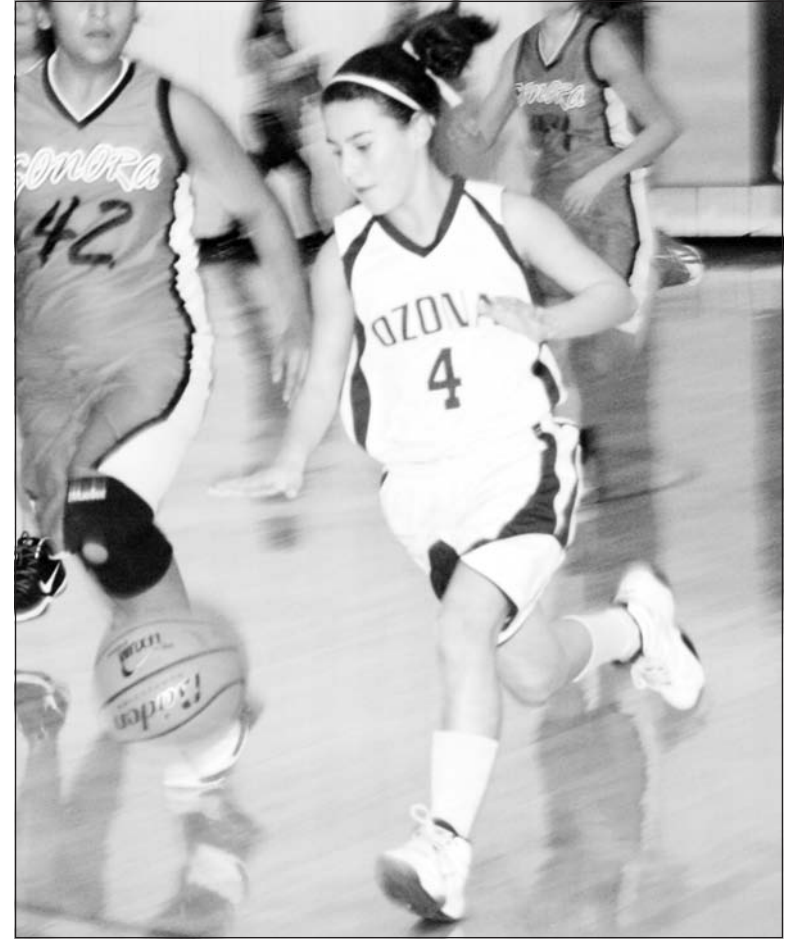
GLEN TINNEY

JOE HERNANDEZ | THE OZONA STOCKMAN



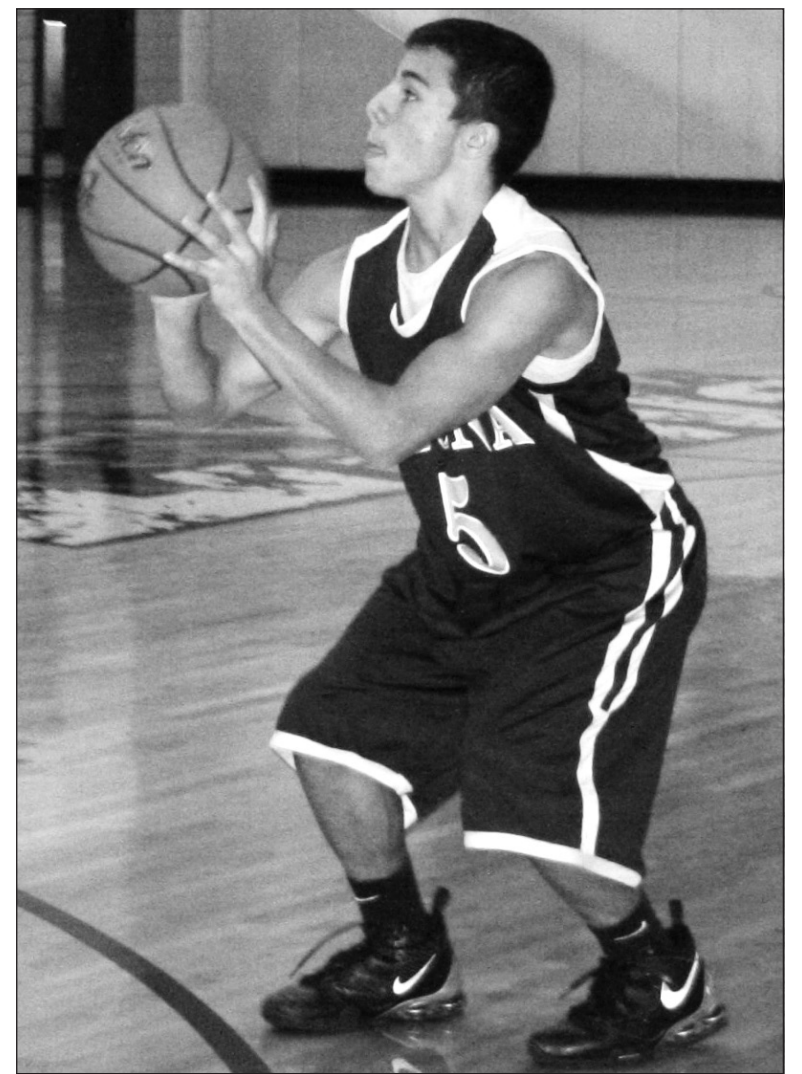
KEYANNA PEREZ

JOE HERNANDEZ | THE OZONA STOCKMAN



AZAYLEA TOVAR

JOE HERNANDEZ | THE OZONA STOCKMAN



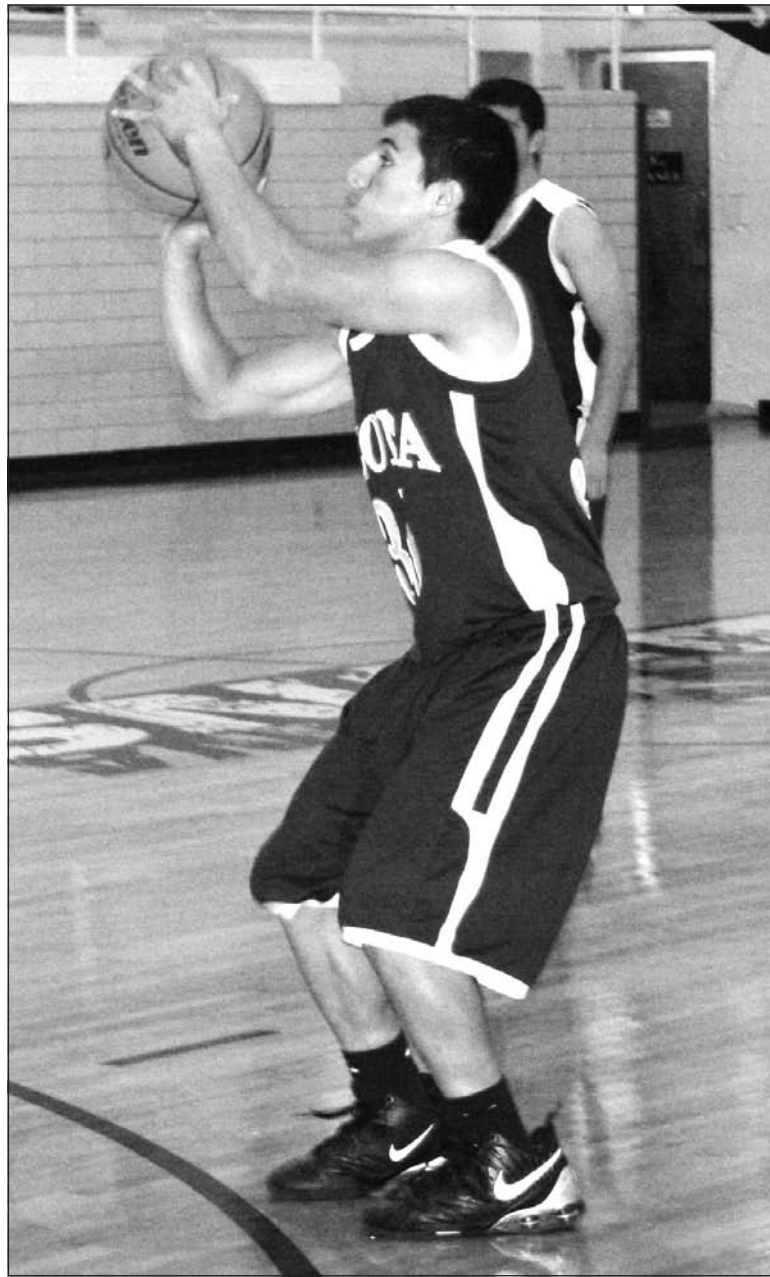
RYAN PORRAS

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RICKY PORRAS

JOE HERNANDEZ | THE OZONA STOCKMAN



ALEX RODRIGUEZ

JOE HERNANDEZ | THE OZONA STOCKMAN



JASMINE TAMBUNGA AND DACIE TAYLOR (r.)

JOE HERNANDEZ | THE OZONA STOCKMAN

Youth Center Calendar

CLOSED FOR NEW YEARS Dec. 30 & 31	High School Hours: Monday: 7-10 p.m. Tuesday: 2-7 p.m. Wednesday: 7-10 p.m. Thursday: 2-10 p.m. Friday: 2 p.m.-midnight Saturday: 2-7 p.m.
7th and 8th Grade Hours: Tuesday: 7-10 p.m. Wednesday: 2-7 p.m. Saturday: 7-10 p.m.	
CLOSED SUNDAYS!	

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Best Western - Ozona Inn
 Chemical Weed Control
 Circle Bar Truck Corral
 Crockett Automotive
 Crockett County Abstract
 Crockett National Bank
 Dairy Queen
 Double T Ranch
 Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites
 Jet Specialty
 Key Energy

Lowe's Grocery Store
 Mesa Land Services
 Mike's Auto Care
 Monty's Maintenance
 Nabor's Well Service
 Ozona Insurance
 Ozona National Bank
 Ozona Stockman Press
 Ozona Veterinary Clinic
 Sheriff Roy Glenn & Patricia Sutton

Small Fashions
 Sonic - *Coca-Cola*
 Steve Sessom D.D.S.
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 Upham Insurance
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Business & Professional Guide

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First Baptist Church
Sunday School 9:45
Morning Worship 11:00
Evening Worship 6:00
Prayer Service Wed. 6:00 p.m.
Awana Club: Wed. 5:30 p.m.

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The Ozona Stockman Deadline is
NOON ON MONDAY

This report provided by RIGDATA For a complete report, call (800) 627-9785

RIG LOCATIONS Crockett, Irion, Sutton, Schleicher, Terrell & Reagan Counties

As of December 23, 2011

PTD	OPERATOR	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG	ACTIVITY-DEPTH
9000	Approach Operating	University 42-14 #14	Hage Drilling #1	Drilling On
7200	Approach Operating	University 45- #085 H	Rings Drilling Lp #17	Drig Ahead
9000	Approach Operating	University 56-14 #1	Nabors Drilling #714	Drig Ahead
7500	Page Oil & Gas Lic	Parker 30- #1	Nabors Drilling #709	Drig Ahead
8400	Highmount E&P Tx	University 56-11 #1	Basic Energy Svc #40	Drig Ahead
6500	Egg Resources	University 40- #1555 H	Trinidad Drig #73	Drig Ahead
8400	Highmount E&P Tx	University Unit #1102	Cactus Drilling #102	Circulate
7900	Everrett Oper Lic CT	Harris #1 H	Trinidad Drig #73	Drig Ahead
8100	Molopo Energy Texas	Baggett Op- 40- #1	Nabors Drilling #M19	Drig Ahead
10000	Forest Oil	Shannon Estate #1-21 #2 H	Precision Drilling #454	Drig Ahead
9000	Molopo Energy Texas	Parker 30- 95- #1	Lantern Drilling #8	Drig Ahead
			Rings Drilling Lp #16	W.O.D.

PTD	OPERATOR	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG	ACTIVITY-DEPTH
6300	Strand Energy, Lc	Magarden #3701	Heart Land Drilling #4	Moving On
6200	Drew Energy	Orellana #2 H	Patterson Uti #19	Drig Ahead
8000	Exco Res	Sogg Farmar- 24- #8	Heart Land Drilling #5	Drig Ahead
9500	Fiml Natural Res	Antelope Draw- 4- #107a	Patterson Uti #721	Drig Ahead
9500	Fiml Natural Res	Concho #1938H	Patterson Uti #495	Drig Ahead
4900	Apache Corp	Ketchum Mountain Clearfork U #538	Casper Drilling #127	Logging
9500	Fiml Natural Res	Rockier- 88- #3	Lariat Services #28	As Directed
9500	Fiml Natural Res	Mallard- A- #1933F	Feldhofer Bros #19	L.D.B.P.
6500	Egg Resources	University- 40a- #403 H	Cactus Drilling #103	Drig Ahead

PTD	OPERATOR	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG	ACTIVITY-DEPTH
10000	Kindree Oil & Gas Tx	Sth B-A #9m	Union Drilling Teas #226	Moving On
10000	Pioneer Natural	University 2-21 #8	Sanders Drilling Co #16	Rigging Up
11300	Pioneer Natural	Gardner- 49- #9	Patterson Uti #73	Assigned
12900	El Paso E&P Company	University 43-16 #1 H	Patterson Uti #19	Drig Ahead
12000	Prime Operating	Stanley #10	Patterson Uti #169	Drig Ahead
11000	Laredo Petro-Dallas	Sth A- #11F	Union Drilling Teas #215	Drig Ahead
15500	Pioneer Natural	University 10-20 #4 H	Nabors Drilling #M55	Drig Ahead
10500	Laredo Petro-Dallas	Sogg- 4- #159	Precision Drilling #405	Drig Ahead
9700	Fiml Natural Res	Scott Ranch #673J	Patterson Uti #742	Drig Ahead
12000	Endover Energy Res	Haby- C- #4	Big Dog Drilling #4	Drig Ahead
10500	James Inc	University Lands 11-9 #4	Trinidad Drig #204	Drig Ahead
10000	Endover Energy Res	Ricker- 45- #2	Big Dog Drilling #5	Drig Ahead
10500	Laredo Petro-Dallas	D post Oil Unit #154	Union Drilling Teas #206	Run Casing
10700	Apache Corp	Sth- 13- #123J	Casper Drilling #119	Drig Ahead
9800	Apache Corp	Sth- 12- #1219	Oryan Drilling Lic #5	Circulate
9500	Fiml Natural Res	Rock Hollow #192k	Feldhofer Bros #2	Drig Ahead
10700	Pioneer Natural	University 2-32 #7	Patterson Uti #151	Drig Ahead
11100	Pioneer Natural	Wade- 1205- #4	Patterson Uti #73	Drig Ahead
10000	Jin Gas Resources	Rockier- 8- #10	Patterson Uti #407	Drig Ahead
12900	El Paso E&P Company	University 6-12 #4 H	Precision Drilling #93	Drig Ahead
7600	ConocoPhillips	University Cp- 7- #1902 H	Nabors Drilling #M14	Drig Ahead
10500	Laredo Petro-Dallas	Sogg- 4- #142a H	Patterson Uti #118	Drig Ahead
3300	Oryan Oil & Gas	University #106	Oryan Drilling Lic #9	W.O.D.

PTD	OPERATOR	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG	ACTIVITY-DEPTH
9000	Approach Operating	University 56-15 #1	Nabors Drilling #709	Assigned
8500	Highmount E&P Tx	Mertz #1001	Patterson Uti #161	Drig Ahead
7500	Televis Operating	7-3 Ranch- 03- #1	Rings Drilling Lp #2	Drig Ahead

PTD	OPERATOR	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG	ACTIVITY-DEPTH
12330	Highmount E&P Tx	H E Glasscock Et Al #285 H	Nabors Drilling #M28	Drig Ahead



SANTA CLAUS visited the children at Ozona Community Center on Dec. 22. He found out who was naughty or nice.



WEST CENTRAL WIRELESS presented the Ozona Athletic Booster Club with a donation of \$620. Pictured are Mary Hartgrove with West Central Wireless (right) and Mikki Moran with the Ozona Athletic Booster Club.

ANIMAL CONTROL REPORT

MONTHLY REPORT November 2011

Animal related contacts	37
Impounded stray dogs	3
Impounded stray cats	18
Destroyed animals	1
Livestock returned to pasture	1
Animal Disposal (skunks, raccoons and opossum)	3
Animal traps set out	6
Wildlife caught	3
Dangerous animal reports	0
Citation Warnings	0
Actual Citations	0

Presidential candidate visiting Ozona

John Davis Jr., a conservative Republican and presidential candidate, will be stopping in Ozona at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, at the Ozona Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, visit www.johndavisforpresident.org or contact Kelley Henke-Schuler at (970) 640-4323.

FIRE DEPARTMENT RUNS

DEC. 19
•11:24 p.m. - Structure fire 800 block 3rd Street. Wiring in attic, all power turned off. Two units, six firefighters. Time in service 1 hour 10 minutes.

FOR THE RECORD: WEEKLY COURT PROCEEDINGS

BAIL BONDS
•Ryan Damont Akers, Houston, possession of marijuana more than four ounces and less than five pounds, felony, \$10,000.

STATE: from page 2

up enforcement efforts to ensure safety on the roadways and seek out impaired drivers during the period from Dec. 20 through Jan. 1, the agency announced Dec. 19. Additional troopers will be on the road targeting drunk drivers in locations where alcohol-related crashes are most likely to occur. This effort is funded by a \$1.5 million grant from the Texas Department of Transportation for targeted DWI enforcement over various holidays throughout the year. All available troopers will also be on patrol across the state during the Christmas and New Year's weekends to enforce traffic safety as part of Operation Holiday.

ASSOCIATION'S ASSETS FROZEN

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott on Dec. 19 announced his office secured an asset freeze and temporary restraining order against the Texas Highway Patrol Association and two of its affiliate organizations. Last week, Attorney General Abbott charged the organizations with illegally soliciting charitable donations and falsely claiming, in part, that donors' contributions would benefit the families of fallen state police officers. Named as defendants are the THPA, the Texas Highway Patrol Museum, THPA Services, Inc and several senior THPA officials.

BORDER GUARD FUNDING TO BE CUT

Federal funding of the 1,200 National Guard personnel assigned to duty along the U.S.-Mexico border will cease on June 30, the Obama administration announced recently. If Texas Gov. Rick Perry and the governors of New Mexico, Arizona and California wish to keep their National Guard units in place for border security, shifts to state funding will be required.

DROUGHT: from page 1

than normal, but not likely to emulate the historic heat of last summer." The scientists said that low rainfall in the spring does not necessarily signal below-normal rainfall in the summer. John Nielsen-Gammon, Texas' state climatologist, said ocean conditions today (a cold tropical Pacific Ocean and warm Atlantic) resemble those of the 1950s, when Texas experienced its most severe drought in recorded history. There was one two-year and one three-year La Niña that decade.

The current drought notwithstanding, recent decades have shown trends toward increasing precipitation in Texas, according to Nielsen-Gammon. This is also true in Oklahoma, Murphy said — and it means people are less accustomed to dealing with drought. Since 1980, Murphy said, "we've had an entire generation of Oklahomans who've seen nothing but, literally, wet times." However, Texas temperatures have been increasing over recent decades, Nielsen-Gammon said, which contributes to evaporation and soil dryness and other factors that exacerbate drought. Odessa, which has regis-

tered 0.77 inches of rain so far this year, the lowest tally of any weather station in the state, is in the running for breaking the all-time record for least precipitation in a calendar year, Murphy said. That record was 1.64 inches, set in Presidio in 1956. Three other West Texas stations — in Kermit, Glenfalls and Wink — have also received less than an inch of rain so far this year, though Murphy stressed that this year's numbers are as yet unofficial. Eldon White, executive vice president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, said that the drought, all told, could end up reduc-

ing the cattle inventory in Texas by 12 to 16 percent. As of August, drought had caused some \$2 billion in livestock losses, according to an August estimate by Texas AgriLife economists, and given the time that has passed, "it will be bigger," White said. The good news, White said, is that because ranchers are selling off their less-desirable cows, "we're going to end up with a much higher genetic quality of cattle." Also, he said, the Texas cattle herds will end up being "gentler." "That old cow that tries to kick you every time you go by her — she's going to be the first to load," he said.

CONGRESS: from page 1

made stops at the Senior Center, the Ozona Chamber of Commerce and El Chato's Restaurant. A lengthy discussion took place on border control, especially about the lack of border patrol or law enforcement present on State Highway 163 south. County Judge Fred Deaton told Koerner that Ozona use to have a border patrol station that deterred illegal traffic. Koerner informed the group that Canseco has introduced a Cross Border bill. This was following President Obama's trip to El Paso stating the border was safer than it ever had been. Cross Border is a program involving local sheriff's department, border patrol agencies, etc. that will submit and compile reports that will measure over a 12 month period illegal traffic and border violence by county, Koerner said. This information can then be used to seek and justify future border control. "Congressman Can-

seco is from Larado, and completely understands the border issue," Koerner said. Canseco issued a statement last week after in response to the announced plans by the Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security to reduce the number of National Guard personnel deployed along our nation's southern border. "Today, the Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security announced that beginning in 2012 the number of National Guard troops patrolling the U.S.-Mexico border will be reduced from 1,200 to roughly 300. I am concerned that such a drastic reduction in the number of U.S. personnel tasked with securing our southern border will leave our border communities vulnerable to spillover violence from Mexico and result in our borders being less secure than they are now," Canseco said. "As I visit with constituents of the 23rd district, many of whom are living in border communities, they tell me the threat of spillover violence has become a part of daily life. Shamefully, this is the same area that the Obama Administration and Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano have categorized as 'safe,' 'secure' and 'open for business.' I have seen firsthand the ruthless tactics the cartels use along the border, exerting power through unimaginable violence and disregard for the rule of law. Yet the Obama Administration is apparently going to remove security personnel from the region, leaving

Americans who live along the border to do so in a heightened state of fear." Koerner said \$18 billion in disaster relief authorized for Texas wildfires has been issued through FEMA. Local counties will be informed about FEMA modifications. Rancher Paul Perner expressed concern that Farm Service Agencies have restrictive guidelines that do not include "outside fence" locations for fire relief. Art Roane inquired about conservation programs such as water quality/control, brush clearing, etc. Koerner said this was a state budgeted item. Roane also said, "the Forage Disaster program worked well for land owners, and we appreciated the assistance." Koerner said this was part of the disaster relief program and was 65 percent federally funded. Deaton expressed the need for an upgrade in our local postal service, both a new post office and mail delivery. County Librarian Louise Ledoux said "if you lose your post office, you lose your town." Koerner said he understood that the Congressman understands that the post office is the lifeline for rural communities. Ginger Perner said, "We have no mail delivery and UPS already takes your mail to the post office to be picked up, but for us it is a 60 mile drive one way." Koerner said that most people do not understand that the post office is a quasi-government agency. It is not

federally funded and is a for profit business like any other business. He also mentioned that there are a number of agencies like Fed-Ex, UPS and others watching this situation very closely. The U.S. Post Office approached congress about funding assistance and they were denied. Shirley Kirby asked Koerner about federal grants for the Crockett County Health and Wellness Center project. Koerner said that his office works with helping constituents find federal grants, along with sending letters of recommendation when they apply for them. Kirby also asked Koerner about social security. As a retired teacher, she cannot draw her late husband's social security funds. Koerner said the system is going to have to change for the benefit of the people. In an e-mail statement, Canseco said social security is on a path to bankruptcy without reforms. "I strongly support common sense reforms to social security so that we can strengthen it so that it is there for our children and grandchildren. Enacting reforms to social security will also give us an opportunity to take a look at and potentially address issues like the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision, which are of concern to many Americans, particularly Texas school teachers," Canseco said. For more information, visit <http://canseco.house.gov/>

Last Puzzle Solution

S-1043

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PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE:

This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on January 6, 2012. You have until July 4, 2012, to redeem any tickets for this game: **#1332 Money Tripler** (\$3) overall odds are 1 in 4.68. This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on January 16, 2012. You have until July 14, 2012, to redeem any tickets for this game: **#1337 \$100,000 Fortune** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.59. These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will close on February 29, 2012. You have until August 27, 2012, to redeem any tickets for these games: **#1269 Break the Bank** (\$2) overall odds are 1 in 4.99, **#1329 Scorching 7's** (\$7) overall odds are 1 in 3.42, **#1334 \$50,000 Player's Club** (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.78, **#1340 \$5,000 Winnings** (\$1) overall odds are 1 in 4.33. The odds listed here are the overall odds of winning any prize in a game, including break-even prizes. Lottery retailers are authorized to redeem prizes of up to and including \$599. Prizes of \$600 or more must be claimed in person at a Lottery Claim Center or by mail with a completed Texas Lottery claim form; however, annuity prizes or prizes over \$1,000,000 must be claimed in person at the Commission Headquarters in Austin. Call Customer Service at **1-800-37LOTTO** or visit the Lottery Web site at www.txlottery.org for more information and location of nearest Claim Center. The Texas Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets, or for tickets lost in the mail. Tickets, transactions, players, and winners are subject to, and players and winners agree to abide by, all applicable laws, Commission rules, regulations, policies, directives, instructions, conditions, procedures, and final decisions of the Executive Director. A Scratch-Off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket. **PLAY RESPONSIBLY.** The Texas Lottery Supports Texas Education



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PUBLIC NOTICES
Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed -
Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals on 12/28/11: This is to give notice that Crockett County has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and/or 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management, to determine the potential affect that its activity in the floodplain will have on the human environment for the Community Development Block Grant Program under contract 711149. Crockett County's Sewer System Improvements proposes to install 2,400 LF of 6" sewer line, 6 manholes, 34 service reconstructions, pavement replacement, and all associated appurtenances at 3rd St from alley between Ave E and Ave F to Ave D, Ave D from Fairview Drive to 70 LF north of Young St, Young St from Ave D to eastern end of Young St, RR 2398 from Ave J to 1,800 LF southwest of Ave J; alternately, install an additional 700 LF of sewer line on Ave J from 11th St to Sheffield Rd, in Ozona, Crockett County. The project shall include activities within less than 1 acre of the 100-year floodplain. The primary purposes for this notice include (1) People who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas; (2) An adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool to disseminate information about floodplains and facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas; and (3) As a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk. Written comments must be received on or before 1/13/2012 by Crockett County at P.O. Box 1857, 909 Avenue D, Ozona, TX 76943, (325) 392-2965. Attention: Fred Deaton, County Judge, during regular business hours. Comments may also be submitted via email to juliem@grantworks.net.

CROCKETT COUNTY
PUBLIC NOTICE

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 12th day of December, 2011.
- Crockett County Commissioners' Court

Ozona National Bank

All facilities of the Ozona National Bank will be closed on Monday, Jan. 2, 2012. Regular banking hours will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012. Have a safe and joyful Happy New Year! The Officers and Employees of the Ozona National Bank look forward to serving you in 2012.

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