

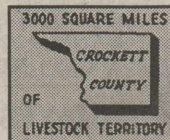
new year's greetings



Your
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OZONA, CROCKETT COUNTY, TEXAS 76943

USPS 4168-2000

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2003

VOLUME 89

NUMBER 48



JOHN GALLAGER of Jasper, Alabama, with a 32.2 lb. female bobcat taken Dec. '02 on the Penn Baggett Ranch. The cat was shot with Gallager's custom 454 handgun in daytime from a range of approximately six feet and closing upon his camouflaged position in a ground brush blind.

Submitted Photo

Bait drop program enters ninth year

Attention all coyotes and gray foxes in South and West Central Texas.

Dinner is served.

These hungry animals may look to food falling from the sky in the lean winter months as a special treat. But to staff from the Texas Department of Health's (TDH) zoonosis control program, feeding coyotes and gray foxes specially prepared food packets is not particularly an act of kindness. Rather, it is part of a vitally serious program to protect the public by helping control the spread of rabies.

For the ninth year, TDH will airdrop bait food filled with oral rabies vaccine. This year, the oral rabies vaccination program (ORVP) will drop about 2.5 million baits from airplanes flying across 50 counties beginning in early January. The first flight takes off Jan. 7, weather permitting, from the Zapata County Airport in South Texas. The second portion of the drop will begin about Jan. 15 from the Kimble County Airport in Junction, and the final phase will fly from the Pecos County Airport in Fort Stockton beginning about Jan. 23.

Counties in the 2003 West Central Texas vaccine distribution area are: Bandera, Brewster, Brown, Callahan, Coke, Coleman, Crane, Crockett, Eastland, Edwards, Gillespie, Glasscock, Howard, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, Llano, Martin, Mason, Maverick, McCulloch, Midland, Mills, Mitchell, Nolan, Pecos, Reagan, Real, Runnels, San Saba, Sterling, Taylor, Terrell, Upton, Uvalde and Val Verde.

The South Texas vaccine distribution area includes: Brooks, Cameron, Dimmit, Duval, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, La Salle, Maverick, Starr, Webb, Willacy, Zapata and Zavala.

Maverick County is included in both distribution areas.

TDH initiated the program in 1995 in South Texas where canine rabies in coyotes and domestic dogs had reached epidemic proportions and threatened to invade San Antonio and other major population areas. The next year, an airdrop began in West Central Texas where an epidemic of gray fox rabies had been occurring since 1988.

The TDH plan was to create zones of vaccinated coyotes and gray foxes to, first, stop the spread of the rabies virus, then eliminate canine and gray fox rabies.

"This program continues to show results," said TDH veterinarian Tom Sidwa, ORVP director. "We have had no human cases of rabies in either area since the vaccine airdrop began. And among the coyotes and gray foxes we have seen a significant drop in the number of animal rabies cases."

The number of canine rabies cases in South Texas has declined from a high of 142 cases when the program began in 1995 to one in 2001 and none in 2002 through October. Gray fox cases have shown a similar decline from 244 cases in 1995 to 54 through last October.

The West Central Texas zone, which includes Crockett County recorded 142 cases of rabies in gray foxes in 1994, the year before the drops began in South Texas.

Dr. Sidwa said Crockett County has had five cases of rabies reported in gray foxes in the January through October 2002 period. There were 54 cases throughout the West Central Texas zone. Crockett County's high percentage in the area places it in within the epidemic level.

Four Beechcraft King Air air-

craft are used to spread the baits. The number of air miles flown in distributing the baits each year is equal to four trips around the world.

The baits offer fish meal for coyotes and dog food containing molasses and flavored with vanilla for gray foxes. Inside each bait is two milliliters of oral rabies vaccine in an edible sack.

"The baits are harmless," Sidwa said. "The vaccine inside the bait cannot cause rabies in people or animals."

People should not handle these baits, however; wildlife is less likely to eat them if people have touched them. Anyone who comes in contact with the baits may call TDH toll free at 1-877-722-6725 for information. Each bait, which measures 1 1/4 by 1 1/4 by 3/4 inches, is marked with a label that includes the telephone number.

Sidwa emphasized that owners of domestic animals still need to get their pets vaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian as required by law. A domestic animal's rabies vaccination can be safely given, even if the animal recently ate an oral rabies vaccine bait, he said.

Annual livestock show Jan. 10

The 55th Annual Junior Livestock show begins Friday, Jan. 10, with the arrival of livestock prior to 8:00 a.m. Weighing of market lambs, goats and barrows begins at 8:00.

A full day Saturday, Jan. 11, begins with the market swine show in the 4-H show barn at 8:00 a.m.

All other events are to be held in the convention center. The schedule includes the meat goat and rabbit shows at 10:00 a.m., market lamb show 1:00 p.m. and group photos at 3:00 p.m.

The 5:00 p.m. buyers' dinner will be followed by award presentations at 5:30 and the premium sale at 6:00.

2002 Crockett County tax roll includes 74.11% mineral value

Value of the total tax appraisal roll in Crockett County for 2002 was \$1,184,295,810 with minerals making up \$877,705,570 or 74.11% of that amount. The values of the tax appraisal roll for 2001 totaled \$1,265,553,830 with a 76.6% (\$969,609,900) mineral value.

Taxes are rendered by Duke Energy in two categories. Together they rank fourth on the county's mineral roll. Separately they are seventh and 13th in the top 15 for 2002.

The taxable value of the top 14 (with Duke's categories combined) taxpayers on the mineral roll for 2002 follows:

1. RME Petroleum Company \$162,919,580; 2. Occidental Permian LTD \$125,852,510; Texaco

Expl. & Prod. Inc. \$58,918,620; Duke Energy \$53,812,210; West Texas Wind Energy Partners \$42,700,000; Thompson, J. Cleo \$40,755,580; Harrison Interests Limited \$39,590,580; Ricks Expl. Acquisition LLC \$24,909,010; Devon Energy Prod. Co. LP/MIN \$24,903,170; EOG Resources Inc. \$24,151,990; Pure Resources LP \$23,068,230; Pioneer Natural Res. USA Inc. \$19,628,150; Encore Operating LP \$15,894,120; AEP-West Texas Utilities Co. \$12,410,900.

2002 values break out with single family residences at \$36,554,220 for 3.09%; multiple family residences at \$1,438,970 for .12%; vacant lots at \$958,610 for .08%; ranch land and improve-

ments at \$32,168,315 for 2.71%; commercial property at \$69,610,820 for 5.88%; minerals at \$877,705,570 for 74.11%; utilities at \$132,673,100 for 11.63%; and business personal property at \$28,196,205 for 2.38%.

Combined rates of the county's taxing entities amount to \$2.16557 and generate a levy of \$24,684,940. Crockett County's tax rate of \$0.46610 generates a levy of \$5,286,915. The farm to market and lateral road rate of \$0.18650 generates a tax levy of \$2,110,115. A rate of \$1.49785 for the school district generates \$17,121,655, and Emerald Underground Water District's rate of \$0.01512 results in a levy of \$166,255.

Annual awards luncheon honors 27

County employees, fire department and EMS members came forth to receive service recognitions at the annual awards luncheon Dec. 19.

Special recognition was given to Elliott Barrera commemorating his retirement from the Ozona Fire Department after 19 years. He was awarded a plaque.

County employees receiving service awards were: Patricia Aiguier, 30 years; Elizabeth Castro, 5; Janie Chandler, 10; Ray Elkins, 10; Guadalupe Galvan, 5; Ladyne Mahannah, 10; Inez Ortiz, 20; Rafaela Perez, 10; Eva Ramirez, 20; Larry Sanchez, 5; Richard Sanchez, 20; Janis St. Clair, 5; Sarah Stewart, 5; Rosario Tambunga, 25 and Anna Yruegas, 5 years.

Firemen receiving service awards were: David Alaman, 5 years; Melissa Glosson, 10; Steve Kenley, 30; Tommy Miller, 10 and Eddie Wall, 10 years.

EMS members recognized included: Vonda Flanagan, 5 years; Larry Glosson, 10; Melissa Glosson, 10; Dee Keilers, 25; Maria Lara, 5 and Tommy Miller, 10 years.

January special time to recognize school board

As citizen leaders, individual school board members face complex and demanding challenges. Yet, few people fully understand the scope and far-reaching implications of board members' responsibilities. All Texans should recognize the vital contributions of these men and women and focus attention on the crucial role these elected public officials play in the education of our children.

Their job is to establish a vision for the education program, design a structure to achieve that vision, assure schools are accountable to the community and strongly advocate continuous improvement in student learning. That job entails an endless string of meetings and school functions to attend; reams of reports, agendas, proposals, and other information to read and study; and a host of difficult decisions to make.

School board members come from all walks of life. They are ranchers, secretaries, doctors, lawyers, homemakers, architects, truck drivers, professors, business owners and real estate agents, to name just a few.

While they wear many hats in the workday world, school board members put on a collective hat when they get down to the business of leading their school districts. Board members must pull together as a team toward a common goal - helping students achieve. While they may individually disagree on certain issues, their role as a board is to consistently strive toward that goal.

Board members contribute hundreds and hundreds of hours each year leading their districts.

Whether it be crafting policies, hiring top-notch administrators, listening to staff and student concerns, or recognizing outstanding programs, board members always keep their eyes on the goal of student achievement.

The time spent in board meetings represents just a small fraction of the hours school board members spend in leading their districts. They also work hard at seminars and training sessions to keep abreast of the latest trends in educational leadership, are deeply involved in community

activities, and spend many hours in the schools and at extracurricular events.

Their love of learning, and concern and caring for students, staff and the community, drive board members' desire to lead so students can achieve.

In recognition of this dedicated service, January is designated "School Board Recognition Month". This is a time to show our appreciation and begin to better understand how local trustees work together to provide a better

(please see page 3)

Concho Valley Workforce Board releases community plan for Crockett County

The Concho Valley Workforce Development Board has released the Crockett County Community Strategic and Service Delivery Plan and the Community Resource Directory for Sutton, Schleicher and Crockett Counties. The plan and director can be accessed through the Concho Valley Workforce Development Board's Internet website at www.cvworkforce.org.

Judge Johnny Jones, Ozona Chamber of Commerce and Crockett County Consolidated Common School District also have received copies of the plan. The directory includes listings for training, child care, services for the disabled, elderly, indigent and other agencies and organizations that serve the community.

The Concho Valley Workforce Development Board conducted strategic research to determine workforce development needs in Crockett County.

The purpose of the strategic research was to gather input from all employers and workers to correctly identify the actual skills needed by area industries, which could be utilized to create pathways for workers to move from lower skilled to higher skilled jobs through work-based training. Through employer surveys, the plan also identifies the necessary skills for entry-level employment.

For more information about the community plan or strategic research, contact Mary Kay Kuss with the Concho Valley Workforce Development Board at 915-655-2005.

The Community Audit Demonstration Project is 35% federally funded by the Department of Labor in the amount of \$49,827.00, 30% funded by the Concho Valley Workforce Development Board, and 35% by regional partners.

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and the Crockett County News

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Crockett County History

"This is the way it was"

By Oscar Kost



This story is about the Joe Davidson rodeos. The first one was held Nov. 17-18, 1945, with one day at the Davidson Ranch and one day in Ozona. The roping club sponsored the event.

The second roping was at the Davidson Ranch for two days, Saturday, Dec. 14, and Sunday, Dec. 15, 1946. World War II was underway.

The events were calf roping, team roping and steer roping (branding). Contestants were fed all meals and given a place to sleep and the horses were cared for.

At the first rodeo, a quarterhorse colt was given by Mr. Davidson to the winner in each event. The top riders in the United States were there.

The Dec. 14-17 rodeo was held at the Davidson Ranch. There were 200 calves and 300 steers, and of course, like the other rodeos, contestants roped all day. He fed all the ropers and some spectators.

The fourth rodeo was Dec. 15-17, 1948. This was the third large roping held entirely at his ranch. As for the other performances, there were at least 100 ropers, all top hands in the business.

In a six calf match roping, John D. Holleyman, James Kinney bested Troy Forte and Toots Mansfield. Large crowds attended all Davidson rodeos.

Miller Robison and myself were bookkeepers/announcers. We handled all entrance fees and brought the money to town. We asked Joe Davidson "What if someone steals the money?" "Don't worry, we will make it up," he said.

It is hard to believe anyone would put on such an event. The Davidsons loved good horses and the ropings.

The fifth annual Davidson rodeo was Dec. 15-17 of 1949. Nearly 100 ropers were on hand and all attendance records were broken. As at the last four shows, he gave a colt in each event. During the ropings they fed more than a thousand each day including spectators.

I must add that Charlie Davidson and Lefty (C. O.) Walker were time keepers just using stop watches. There were no electronic timing devices then.

Some ropers not mentioned were Tony Edwards, Tom Taylor, Everet Shaw, Jess Goodspeed, Roy Giles, Kenneth Guitier, Tom Powers, Lewis Powers, Walt Pogue, Harry Howard.

At each of the three or four big shows at the Davidson Ranch, they had a girls' cloverleaf. Margaret Montgomery won.

At the 1946 show, Gray Trailers gave a \$500.00 horse trailer (not much if you see today's trailers). Wilson McBride won best all around and the trailer. Ropers included Vic Montgomery, Lanham Riley, Sam Baugh, Fred Barrett, Andy Bode, Earl Sellars, Allen Holder, Howard Westfall, Jim Espy, Sam Sessoms, Eddie Young, Pete Tenite, George Teague, Kay Black, Ted Powers, Abe Carruthers, P. C. Perner, Fat Alford, Bill (Spot) Friend.

The ropers gave Mr. Davidson a great gift each year. A silver mounted saddle among other things.

Happy New Year, Oscar



TRAVIS ZUBERBUELER AND MONICA BENDELE distribute pillows made by the 4-H sewing group to every one of the care center residents. Photo by Stephen Zuberbueller



JANUARY 9, 1975

and family.

News Reel
 Ozona water users will notice a slight increase in rates on bills received Feb. 1, from the Crockett County Water District. The new rate will mark the first increase in 20 years for Ozona.

News Reel
 Funeral services for Emmett A. Buck, 81, Crockett County native, were held Monday at 2 p.m. at St. John's Methodist Church in Plainview with burial in Plainview Cemetery.

News Reel
 Mr. and Mrs. Ted M. White were in Belton Friday to attend funeral services for Mrs. White's brother, Turner F. Ray, 65.

News Reel
 The Ozona Lionette varsity lost a close defensive battle to the Mertzson team 35-36 Monday night in the last game before district play gets under way.

News Reel
 New hospital administrator Keith Peters took over at Crockett County Hospital Jan. 1, from retiring administrator Edwin Kirklen.

News Reel
 Mrs. Russell Cecala and children of Highland, CA, returned to her home early this week after spending the holidays here visiting her mother, Mrs. Dora Bosworth.

News Reel
 Mrs. Dale Bebee was luncheon and bridge hostess for the club last Thursday. High score winner was Mrs. W. E. White, second high was Mrs. Bebee, low was Mrs. Jake Short and bingo winners were Mrs. Bruce Mayfield and Miss Cathy Dawn Davis.

NEWS REEL

JAN. 10, 1946

News Reel
 For the nineteenth time a school board has approved and elected C. S. Denham to a place in the faculty, thirteen of which have been as head of the school.

News Reel
 Mr. and Mrs. Larry J. Kittle, former Ozona residents, will observe their golden wedding anniversary next Sunday.

News Reel
 A call for bids for construction of the new church home of the Ozona Methodist Church will be issued within the next few weeks.

News Reel
 The H. E. Department has received a letter of thanks from McClosky General Hospital in Temple for the box of candy and cookies sent by the class as a Christmas present to the wounded soldiers there.



WHILE GEORGE AND NARDA WALL were here for the holidays, little daughter Elaina won the giant Christmas stocking at T & C. Joining in the excitement is her brother, Mitchell. The family lives in Ely, Iowa. DigiCam Photo by Linda Moore

ACROSS

- TXU inventory: _____ watts
- TXism: "I'm all _____" (attentive)
- 9/11 perpetrators _____ terrorists
- TXism: "_____ hill for a stepper"
- in the past _____ prohibit
- TX Hunter's "Since _____ You Baby"
- TX Dan Blocker's tree farm?
- TXism: "couldn't find hide _____ of it"
- TXism: "can't _____ old dog new tricks"
- TXism: "hen fruit"
- Castroville is "The Little _____ of Texas"
- TXism: "eatin' hay is _____ good for" (poor horse)
- in Henderson Co. on Hwy. 175
- TX George Foreman victory (abbr.)
- _____ easily ignited
- TX Willie's "On the _____ Again"
- TXism: "_____ over but the shouting"
- TX prison residents _____ voided a marriage
- vision or graph beginning
- TX Collin Raye's _____ is _____ a knot" (nervous)

DOWN

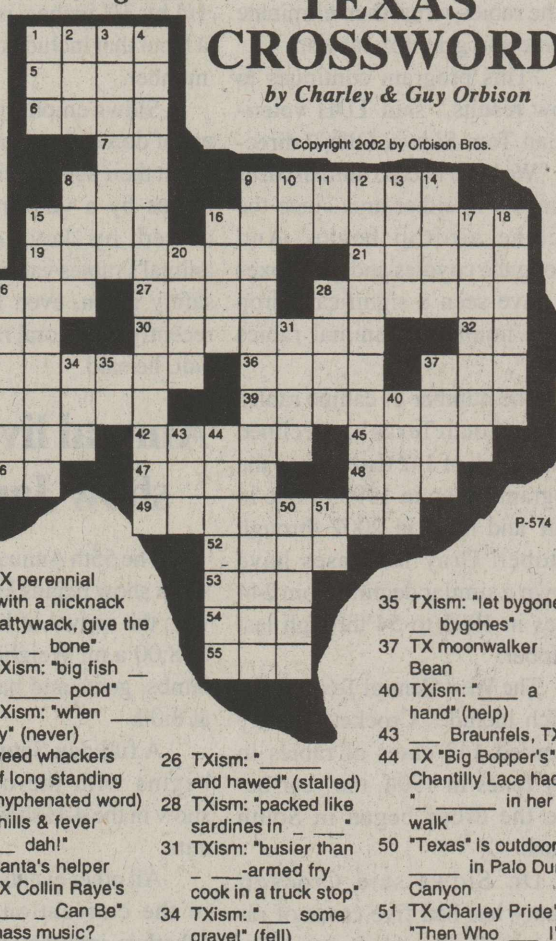
- TXism: "gave _____ song and dance"
- TXism: "bend your _____" (talk)
- U.S. Rep. Kay from Fort Worth
- TXism: "loud _____ bare floor"
- Fort Worth's "_____ Carter Museum"
- TXism: "_____ of the box" (beginning)
- TXism: "cash _____ the barrel head"
- TX Tarzan Ely (init.)
- TXism: "my stomach is _____ a _____ Can Be"
- TXism: "two _____ in a pod" (alike)
- ID card (abbr.)
- character Dobbs in TX McMurry's "Lonesome Dove"
- Anderson, TX's Fanthorp _____ Historical Park
- TX Martin album: "_____ Crazy Guy"
- TXism: "I'd _____ round with the devil for that"
- _____ and Abner"
- Houston Hobby guess (abbr.)
- TX perennial _____ with a nickname pattywack, give the _____ bone"
- TXism: "big fish _____ pond"
- TXism: "when _____ fly" (never)
- weed whackers _____ of long standing (hyphenated word)
- chills & fever _____ "dahl"
- Santa's helper _____ TX Collin Raye's _____ Can Be"
- mass music?
- TXism: "let bygones _____ bygones"
- TX moonwalker Bean
- TXism: "_____ a hand" (help)
- Braunfels, TX
- TX "Big Bopper's" Chantilly Lace had _____ by _____ walk" is outdoor _____ in Palo Duro Canyon
- TX Charley Pride's "Then Who _____"

The Original

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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Ozona Weather Conditions and Forecast

Date	Hi	Lo	Rain
Dec. 23	56	32	.3
Dec. 24	50	22	-0-
Dec. 25	No Report		
Dec. 26	56	22	-0-
Dec. 27	56	24	-0-
Dec. 28	59	24	-0-
Dec. 29	64	55	-0-

(Readings are for a 24 hour period beginning at 8 a.m.)

Reported by
Ozona Butane Co.
 for the National Weather Service

EXTENDED FORECAST

Wednesday	Thursday
Hi 65	Hi 59
Lo 29	Lo 27
Mostly Sunny	Sunny
Friday	Saturday
Hi 61	Hi 63
Lo 32	Lo 30
Sunny	Sunny

Forecast information provided by The Weather Channel

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Rob, Jacklyn, Jack and Calvin McKinney for Calvin Roberson, Thelma Janes, David Schwartz

Cori and Brian Gerlach for Bill Thompson, Mike Oglesby, Madye Jo Humphreys, Sonny and Jeanette Bailey

Dorina Ramos Sanchez for Everado Ramos, Humberto S.

Ramos, Jose M. Sanchez
Paula Leal, Jose (Isaac) Leal,
Willie Leal, Elena Leal Ybarra

In Honor:
William (Dub), June, Chris Reeves, Marjorie Coates, Lisa Villarreal, Mr. Lacey, Mrs. Fowler, Mrs. Wiley by Rob, Jacklyn, Jack and Calvin McKinney

Kaylee, Weston, Makenzie and Brett by Cori and Brian Gerlach

Taylor and Abby Newton by Kaylee and Weston Seahorn

Nutritionist touts "No Diet"

Looking to lose weight as a New Year's resolution? A little behavior modification may be the key.

"Most diet plans and weight loss programs are like a prison sentence, with one difference: You get better food at a penitentiary," said Molly Gee, a nutritionist in the Department of Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Gee said by modifying eating habits and lifestyle slightly, many people can say "goodbye" to diets forever, and enjoy the good food, within reason, during the holiday season and into the new year.

"First, you need to set reasonable, realistic and measurable goals based on behavior, not only pounds lost," she said. "Then, find an exercise routine you will enjoy and follow on a consistent basis."

When eating, Gee recommends the following:

- Slow down by laying down the fork between bites and drinking the beverage first to help fill the stomach.
- Choose one specific place at home or at work to eat. Eat only while seated.
- Get all high-risk foods out of the house.
- Modify recipes by cutting down fat by one-fourth.
- Serve plates from the kitchen rather than placing bowls of food on the table.
- Close the kitchen after dinner and enter only as a fire escape route.

The parties and celebrations during the holidays are a time of temptation. Gee said. However, they should be enjoyed and not seen as a time of frustration because of what must be avoided on the menu.

School Board

(continued from front page)

future for our children. In January, join with others from throughout our district and state to salute the men and women who provide grassroots governance of public schools. Make a special effort to tell each school board member that his or her hard work has been noticed and is truly appreciated.

Members serving Crockett County Consolidated Common School District and their years of service are: Elliott Barrera 14 years, Laurie Hale three years, Veronica Tijerina nine years, Tom Anderson two years, Jack Baggett Jr. two years, Kenny Wadsworth two years and George Ybarra 20 years.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

All lunches served with your choice of white or chocolate milk

REGULAR
Jan. 6 - Chicken Spaghetti, Peas, Applesauce, Rolls
Jan. 7 - Enchiladas, Peas, Pinto Beans, Corn Bread
Jan. 8 - Barbecue on Bun, Tator Tots, Pork-N-Beans, Cookie
Jan. 9 - Corn Dogs, Mac & Cheese, Broccoli, Pineapple
Jan. 10 - Pork Choppette, Creamed Potatoes, Green Beans, Gravy, Roll

FAST FOOD
Jan. 6 - Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Veg. Salad, Mixed Fruit
Jan. 7 - Tacos, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Cheese, Pinto Beans, Peas
Jan. 8 - Cheeseburger, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pickles, Tator Tots, Cookie
Jan. 9 - Pizza, Nachos, Broccoli, Pineapple
Jan. 10 - Cheeseburger, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles, French Fries, Rolls

BREAKFAST
Each meal is served with milk, juice, muffin, toast and jelly. You may have your choice of one of the following items each day.
Jan. 6 - Beef & Bean Burrito or Cold Cereal
Jan. 7 - Sausage & Biscuit or Cold Cereal
Jan. 8 - Sausage & Egg Burrito or Cold Cereal
Jan. 9 - Breakfast Pizza or Cold Cereal
Jan. 10 - Ham & Egg Burrito or Cold Cereal

Shannon receives license for NICU beds

Shannon Medical Center Nursery has received designation as the first and only licensed neonatal intensive care unit in San Angelo announced Lawrence Leonard, CEO of Shannon Medical Center.

The four-bed unit was inspected and approved by a Texas Department of Health architectural surveyor in mid-December. The TDH is the licensing entity for healthcare facilities in the state.

"Shannon is pleased to have the first and only neonatal intensive care beds licensed in San Angelo," Leonard said. "Our physicians and nurses have provided this high level of care to our patients for 25 years, and our facility has met criteria since the unit was built in 1994. This designation is just one more reassurance we can offer the parents of our

community's sickest children." The NICU beds are designated for the intensive care of newborns or infants under 30 days old who require extra medical care, such as oxygen for an extended period of time or ventilator support. To meet licensing and designation criteria, the Shannon facility provides convenient features such as a private parenting room for breastfeeding mothers or for rooming in and locker space for parents to use when visiting their baby in the unit.

"This designation represents the level of commitment the physicians and staff at Shannon Women's Services have for these precious patients," said James Herbert, M.D., Shannon Medical Center pediatric section chief. "Their level of care has been of this quality all along; I'm just proud of them for receiving the official designation."

Many Shannon Clinic and independent physicians have been providing neonatal intensive care to infants at Shannon Medical Center for more than two decades, including:

- Doug Schultz, MD, Shannon Clinic medical director and pediatrician - 23 years
- James Herbert, MD, independent pediatrician and Shannon Medical Center pediatric section chief - 24 years
- Robert Patyrak, MD, independent pediatrician - 23 years

- Sandy Seifert, MD, Shannon Clinic pediatrician - five years
- Michael Wagnon, DO, Shannon Clinic pediatrician - one year
- Karl Wehner, MD, Shannon Clinic pediatrician - 20 years
- Elizabeth Young, MD, Shannon Clinic pediatrician - five years.

Leroy Moore of Ballinger has 30 years of experience as a piano teacher. For information on how to become one of his Ozona students call 392-5032

Happy Birthday

Jan. 1 - Codie Porras, Maria De La Rosa, Danny DeLeon, Romie Arredondo, Lisa Ortiz, Jesus Castillo, Matt Miller, Jess Marley, Quatro Jones, Rigo Treto

Jan. 2 - Eric Bachman, Becky Ybarra, Jamie Lee Moore, Marcia Gonzales, Rosalio Longoria Jr., Victor Villarreal Jr., Mari Lopez, Martin Rocha, Gloria Wilson, Patsy White, Leta Bess Bangeman, Regina Garcia, Ryan Wiley

Jan. 3 - James Caldera, Jose Carrizales, Tony Valencia, Anita Vasquez, Chago Ybarra Jr., Joseph Galindo, Yesenia Alvarez, Weslee Wilson, Gregorio DeHoyos, Michael Ybarra Sr.

Jan. 4 - Joe Moran, Douglas Bean, Ramon Ybarra, Timothy Longoria, Vince Huffman, Eugene Miller, Betty Elledge, Phillip Ramirez Jr., Kaylee Ramirez, Lina Dominguez, T. J. Hayes, Mark Ybarra

Jan. 5 - Randy Wilson, J. D. Borrego, Les Moore, Simon Longoria, John Baker, Tania Sanchez, Rogelio Sanchez Jr.,

Barbara Contreras, Ramiro Mendoza, Al Cardenas Jr., Julia Sanchez

Jan. 6 - Tina Caldera, Bryan Mendez, Santa Rios, Richard Cardona, Rey Rivera, Victor DeLa Garza, Christian Perez, Keshia Dean, Reynaldo Quiroz, Holly Babbitt, Wanda Diller, Ray Hill

Jan. 7 - Rhonda Shaw, Tyson Vordick, Ofelia Lara, Georgiana Guerra, Juanita Delgado, Johnny Tambunga Jr., Rebecca Aranki, Virginia Alvarez, Rita Rodriguez, Cristina Castellanos, Ann McMullan, Trinity Truitt, Calvary Truitt, Isabel Aguilar, Laura Pierce, Cody Sutton, Jennifer Marquez

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So rural families got together and formed electric cooperatives, and with the help of government loans, did it themselves. Just ordinary people, many of them our grandparents and great-grandparents, but they spread the light in the dark land between the cities. All because they believed in the power of people working together: cooperation.

Electric deregulation is based on the belief that competition is better than cooperation. Put electricity on the market and it'll be cheaper. Maybe, maybe not. For now, Southwest Texas Electric Co-op has decided not to opt in to deregulation, at least till we're sure it's right for our members. We think the smart choice is to "wait and see." After sixty years, we've learned a little patience and that what's good for city folk doesn't necessarily apply out here. For more information, visit our web site or call your local Smart Choice Cooperative.

SmartChoice ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES
www.smartchoicecoops.com

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Karnes Electric Cooperative, Inc. • Medina Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc. • Swisher Electric Cooperative, Inc.



JUNIOR HIGH students sing at the care center. Submitted Photo

Care Center Chatter

The week of Dec. 16 kept staff and residents entertained. The Catholic choir, Del's Little Schoolhouse children, James and Robin Bissett, Tiger Cubs, CCD Class of the Catholic Church, Ozona Middle School 8th grade class, pre-school and kindergarten classes from Ozona Primary, the local band of Otis Nester, Mary Welty and Merle Welty, Girl Scouts all did their part to bring the Christmas spirit to the care center.

Many thanks to these people who made our Christmas a great one here at Crockett County Care Center.

Thanks go to Tracy Ybarra and family, Baskets and More, Janet Moore, Lydia Mathews, Mary Kay products, Sylvia Coy, Maria's Design Line and Elma Buckner for helping with Christmas gifts.

Residents who will be celebrating January birthdays are

Pablo Favila on Jan. 2, Jo Richardson Jan. 26 and Gladys Humphries Jan. 20.

Our New Year's party will be at 3:30 p.m. Jan. 31 in the main dining room with wine, cheese and crackers or beverage of choice served. Come join the fun. Everyone enjoys the wine socials.

The year 2002 has really gone by fast. We are all looking forward to the new year to come. We're going to make greater things happen here at Crockett County Care Center. Make the care center a part of your New Year's resolution by being a volunteer. Our doors are always open.

From all of us here at Crockett County Care Center, have a safe and happy New Year. God bless each and every one of you.

Jan. St. Clair
Activity Director

Obituaries

Dec. 28 service for Mrs. Najar



Patsy Najar, 77, died Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2002, at Community Hospital in San Angelo. Services were held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church followed by burial at Lima

Cemetery on Saturday, Dec. 28.

Survivors include her husband, Stanley M. Najar Sr.; son, Stanley P. Najar Jr., and wife, Mary; daughter, Aurora P. Najar; half-sister, Angie Daniels, and her husband, Robert, all from Ozona; grandchildren: Stanley R. Najar III, Arlington; Mylene Najar and Jim Kaiser, Watauga; Rodney and Haley Najar, San Antonio; Marisa Najar, Ozona; Dawn Kaiser, Austin; great-grandchildren: Stanton Najar, Arlington; Lauren Najar, Ozona; Chelsey Najar, San Antonio; numerous nieces and nephews.

She loved and lived for her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

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(14) So the Lord God said to the serpent:
(15) And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise your head and you shall bruise his heel.
Genesis 3: -14, 15

Community Calendar

Dec. 31 - Knights of Columbus New Year's Eve Dance, Fair Park Convention center, 8 p.m.-1 a.m. FMI 392-1300 Frank Tambunga or oztambunga@aol.com

Jan. 13 - Commissioners Court, Annex Bldg., 9 a.m.

To add your event to The Ozona Stockman Community Calendar, call 392-2551.

RING IN THE NEW!

As another year draws to a close, we'd like to chime in with our warm wishes to all of you for a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

We thank you for making this past year a ringing success for us.

Crockett Automotive

Wishing You A Great 2003

May you and yours have a safe, happy and healthy new year filled with love and laughter.

Preddy's Tire Service & Towing

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PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN students entertain the care center residents. Submitted Photo

Shelly Sullivan Morkovsky graduates from St. Edward's University

St. Edward's University in Austin recognized graduating students in two ceremonies on Saturday, Dec. 14, in the Recreation and Convention Center on campus. Among those receiving bachelor of science degrees was Shelly Sullivan Morkovsky. She is the daughter of Roylan and Jason Sullivan of Ozona and a graduate of Ozona High School.

Eliseo Elizondo, '87, MBA '98, chemical commodity manager at Motorola, delivered the keynote address for the undergraduate college ceremony.

St. Edward's University is an independent, Catholic, liberal arts university of 4,200 students in Austin. It was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross.

Your Spiritual Disposition

By Dr. Dennis J. Prutow

When I get up in the morning, I'd just as soon be left alone. I have my little morning routine and I like it just fine. And if you upset that routine, I'm liable to get upset. I guess I just can't stand too much change. This is true with many of us. Change threatens us. And we react! And the same thing is true when we start talking about God. You see, the God of the Bible demands change! We are told that God loves us just the way we are. But I take exception to that line of thinking. God may love sinners. And Christ may have died for sinners. But the Bible tells us that Christ came into the world to "save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). And this means that Christians are called to leave old sinful lifestyles and form new habits which are pleasing to God. And this is a real challenge. But it is part of what it means to be a Christian. "Well," you say, "If being a Christian means giving up my drinking and the little affair I've been having with my neighbor's wife, I'm not interested." That's right, you are not interested. But listen. You cannot continue in your sin and expect to experience the love of God. When I get up in the morning, I sometimes have an ugly disposition. But that is nothing compared to a disposition which is opposed to God. And that needs to be changed. Why? "The mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace" (Romans 8:6). Let me reword this verse so it makes more sense, "The disposition of the flesh is death, but the disposition of the spirit is life and peace." The disposition of the flesh is opposed to God. But the disposition of the spirit loves God.

First Baptist Church 901 Ave. D Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m.	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.	Ozona United Methodist Church 12 - 11th St. Rev. John Fluth Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Ozona Cowboy Church Cenisa St. - Non-Denominational Pastor Rick Thomas Thursday: 7 p.m. Broadcasting on the radio at 8 a.m. on Sunday mornings.	Faith Lutheran Church 802 1st St. Rev. Charles Huffman Sunday School: 10 a.m. Worship: 9 a.m.	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. Tues. Prayer Meeting: 7 p.m. Wed. Family Service: 6:30 p.m.
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.	Church of God of Prophecy 102 Man O' War St. Pastor Lupe Domoniquez Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 4:30 p.m. Tues. & Thurs: 6 p.m.	Our Lady of Perpetual Help 219 Martinez St. Rev. Henry Laenen Sun. Mass: 11 a.m. Sat.: 7 p.m. M. W. F. - 8:30 a.m. Thurs.: 7 p.m.
Calvary Baptist Church 601 Ave. I Rev. Daniel C. Fleming Sunday School: 10 a.m. Worship: 11 a.m. Wed. & Sun. Worship: 7 p.m.	Iglesia Bautista Nueva Vida Corner of Secretariat & Man O War Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m. Wed. Service: 7 p.m.	Apostolic Church 307 Santa Rosa St. Rev. Hector De La Cruz Sunday School: 3 p.m. Worship: 5 p.m. Thur. Service: 7:30 p.m.
Harvest Time Christian Center 604 11th St. Pastor Velma Trimble Sunday School: 10 a.m. Morning Worship: 11 a.m. Evening Worship 6 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting: 7 p.m.	Iglesia de Cristo Hwy 163 S. at Quail Run Minister: Amelio Hinojos Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m. Worship: 11 a.m. Evening Worship: 6 p.m. Wed. Bible Study: 6 p.m.	Attend the Church of Your Choice This Sunday

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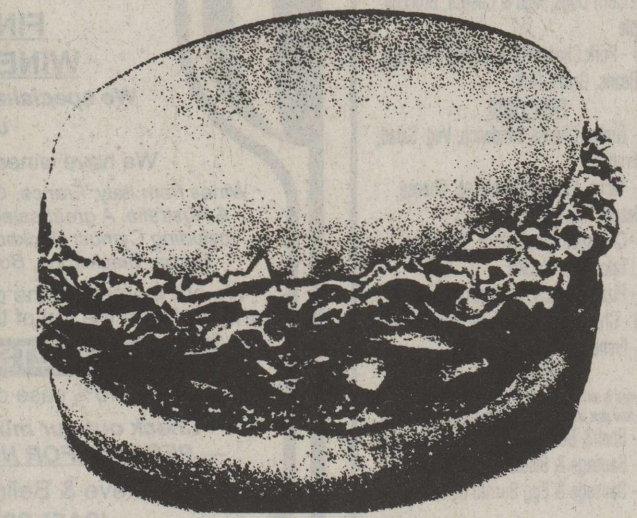
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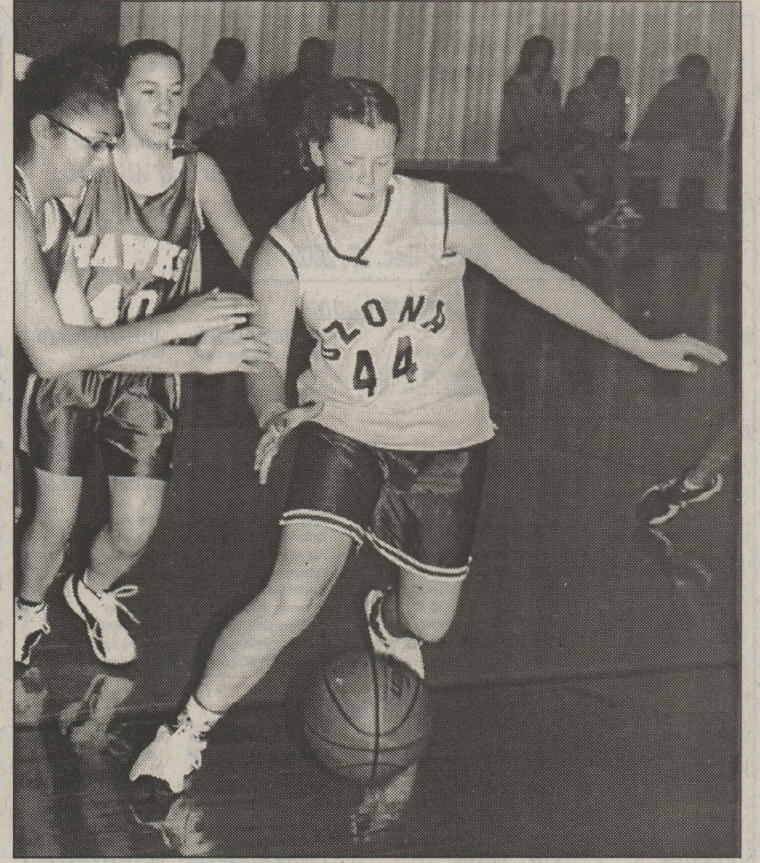




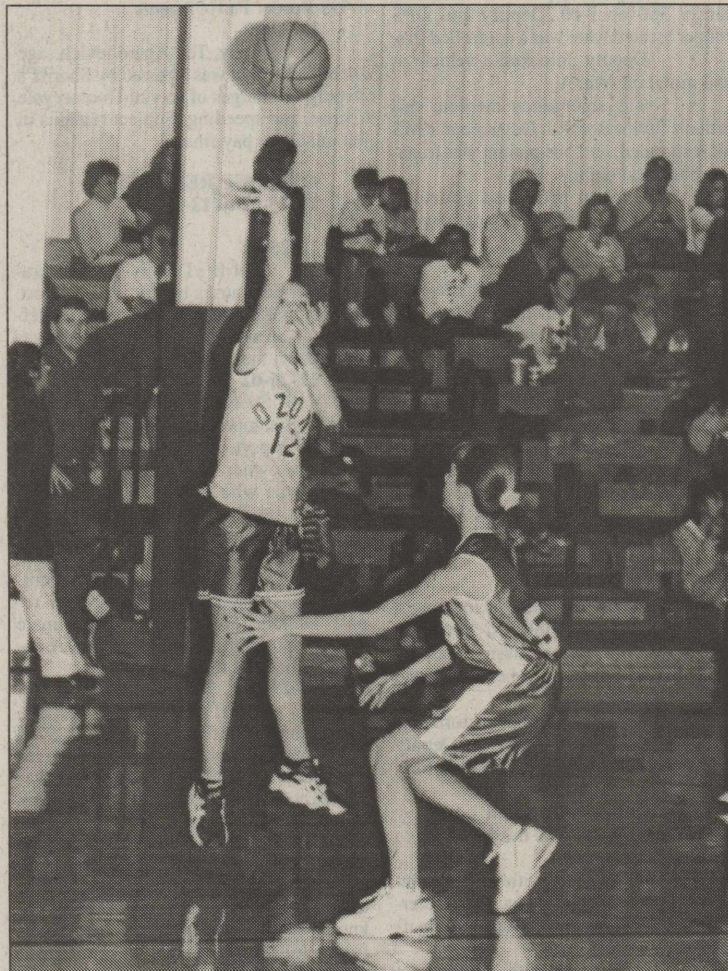
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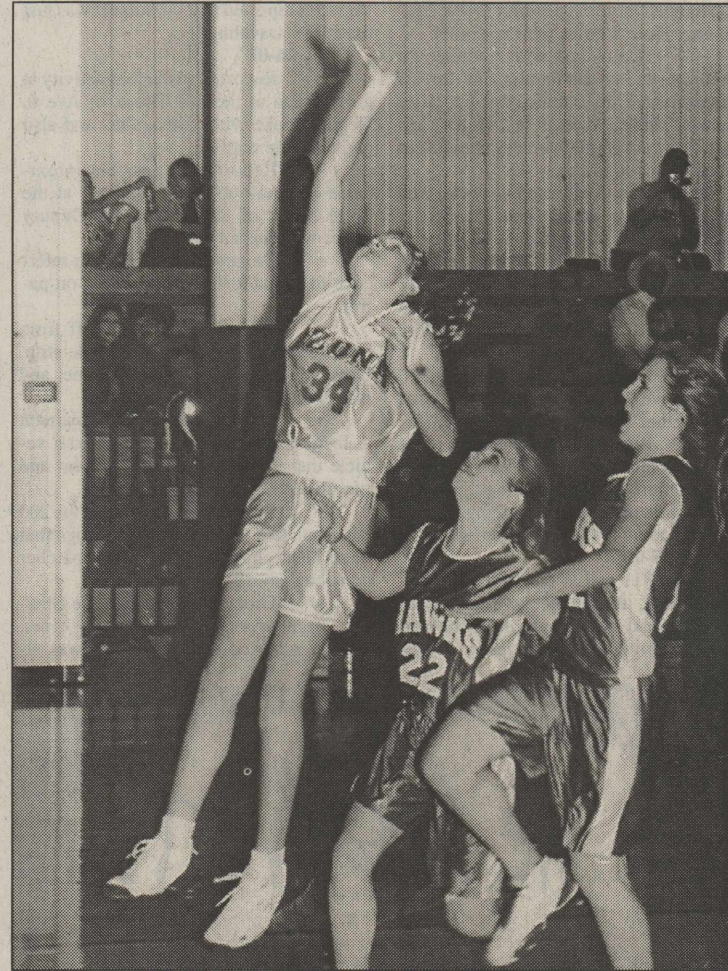
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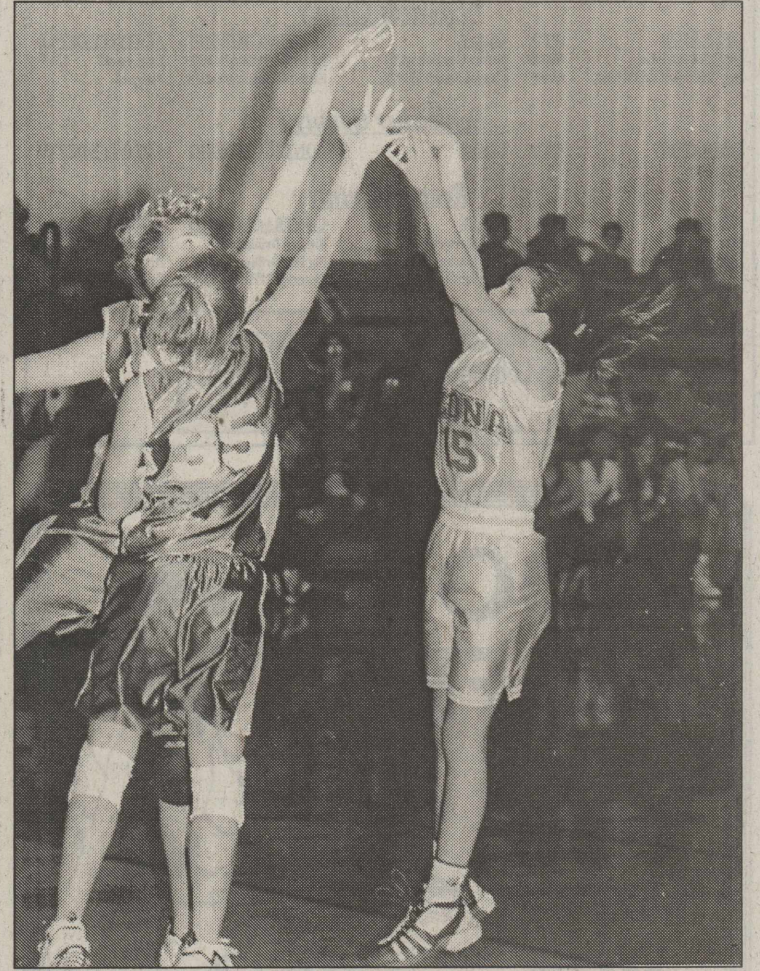
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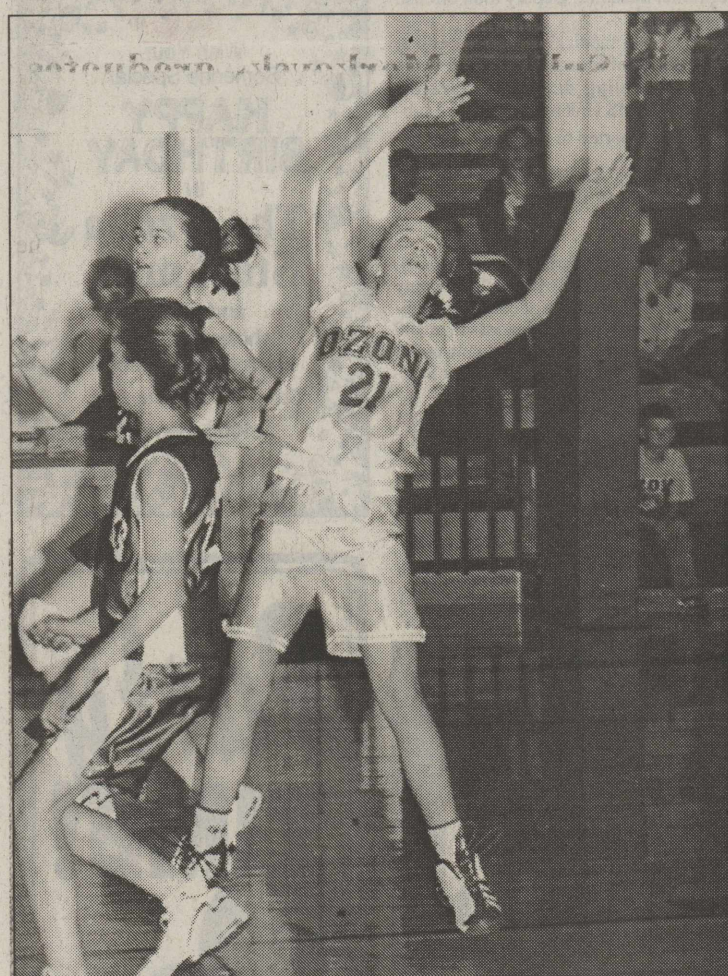
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This report provided by

RIG LOCATIONS

General location information for
Crockett, Sutton, Schleicher,
Terrell, Reagan and Val Verde
counties of Texas

As of Dec. 27, 2002

***Crockett County**

OPERATOR	PTD	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG	ACTIVITY-DEPTH
J. Cleo Thompson/Dal	9000	Vaughn -36- #1	Patterson Drilling/A #42	Drig. ahead
New RME Petro Co/Mid	7500	Roy Henderson -19-#6	Patterson Drilling/A #38	Drig. ahead
New EOG Res./Mid.	6200	Eagle Draw -12- #1	Patterson Drilling/A #39	Rigging up

Sutton County

OPERATOR	PTD	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG	ACTIVITY-DEPTH
New Dominion OK TXE&P	9625	SAU Mariner -4- #2	Patterson Drilling/A #118	Drig. ahead
New Dominion OK TXE&P	8550	Mayfield -45- #16	Patterson Drilling/A #120	Drig. ahead
New Dominion OK TXE&P	8550	Mayfield -45- #11	Patterson Drilling/A #120	Assigned
Dominion OK TXE&P	8400	Simmons Ranch #46	Patterson Drilling/A#122	Drig. ahead
New Dominion OK TXE&P	8400	Simmons Ranch #46	Patterson Drilling/A#122	Assigned
New Dominion OK TXE&P	8000	Shannon -51- #14	Patterson Drilling/A #40	Moving on
Dominion OK TXE&P	6800	Lancaster -32- #5	Patterson Drilling/A#108	Rigging up
New Dominion OK TXE&P	6500	Meckel -A- #56	Patterson Drilling/A #102	Drig. ahead
New Dominion OK TXE&P	5850	Vanderstucken -51-#8	Patterson Drilling/A#107	Rigging up
New Dominion OK TXE&P	5700	Canyon Ranch -106-#16S	Patterson Drilling/A#115	Drig. ahead

Terrell County

OPERATOR	PTD	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG	ACTIVITY-DEPTH
New Tom Brown Inc/Mid	20,000	Muleskinner #1 H	Grey Wolf Drilling/M #98	Assigned
Conoco/Mid.	16000	Culbertson -9- #1H	Nabors Drilling (O) #730	Drig. ahead
Atharor Texas	7735	Pakenham -51- #14	Nabors Drilling (O) #316	Drig. ahead

Val Verde County

OPERATOR	PTD	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG	ACTIVITY-DEPTH
No report				

***Edwards County**

OPERATOR	PTD	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG	ACTIVITY-DEPTH
New EEX E&P Co.	18500	Newby Gas Unit -2- #2	Patterson Drilling/A #471	Drig. ahead
New Dominion E&P/Houst.	8000	Canyon Ranch #2142E	Patterson Drilling/A #118	Assigned

Schleicher County

OPERATOR	PTD	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG	ACTIVITY-DEPTH
No report				

Reagan County

OPERATOR	PTD	LEASE	CONTRACTOR/RIG	ACTIVITY-DEPTH
Mariner Energy	8600	SAU Mariner-4- #2	Big Dog Drilling #5	Drig. ahead
New Mariner Energy	8600	SAU Mariner-5- #2A	Big Dog Drilling #9	Drig. ahead
Pioneer Nat/RV	8310	Merchant Unit #5805A	Patterson UT/Mid. #461	Drig. ahead

For complete report contact:
Rig Location & Permit Report Service
(800) 627-9785

Crockett County Sheriff's Report

Crockett County Sheriff's Office Weekly News Report 12-23-02 through 12-29-02

***12-23-2002**

Deputy met complainant at hotel on Ave AA in reference to a customer refusing to check out. subject was asked to leave. Deputy stood by until he left.

Report of couple walking east on Hwy. 190 wearing trash bags due to rain. Deputy transported them to Eldorado.

Report of loose livestock on I-10, Mile Marker 313. Dispatcher notified Pecos County.

911 hang up call was just phone problems due to the rain.

Report of hitchhikers at truck stop.

Cashier at hotel on Ave. AA. Notified Sheriff's Office in reference to subject needing a place to stay.

Deputy met complainant on Mulberry St. in reference to phone harassment.

Deputy unlocked vehicle on Ave. H.

12-24-02

Deputy unlocked a vehicle at local business on Loop 466.

Deputy gave courtesy transport to a stranded motorist needing fuel at convenience store 3 miles west with fuel.

Deputy met with complainant in reference to phone harassment (threat) complainant. Subject stated that the caller was a parent of inmate in jail. Deputy advised that the complainant did not wish to file charges at this time.

Report of loose livestock at the Crockett/Reagan county line. Dispatcher called Reagan County Sheriff's Office.

Report of an alarm at local business at the 1100 Block of Ave. E. Deputies reported that the building was secure, and all doors locked. Dispatcher notified key carrier.

Report of gunshot at the 200 Block of Ave F. Deputy reported that it was a citizen that had destroyed a skunk.

Report from local convenience store in reference to a subject who had pumped more fuel than he could pay for. Deputy assisted subject by placing balance of fuel account on Sheriff's welfare fund.

12-25-02

911 call at the 1900 Block of Mulberry St. in reference to a female juvenile that had walked away from the residence. Deputy located the juvenile on Wal-

nut St., and escorted her back to her residence.

911 call at the 1200 Block of Sheffield Rd. in reference to a disturbance. Deputies and EMS unit responded. One male subject was arrested, and one female subject was transported to the clinic.

Report of a locked vehicle at the 1900 Block of Santa Anna St. Deputy reported that the owner of the vehicle had located the keys for the vehicle.

911 call at the 600 Block of Angus St. in reference to smoke at the residence. Deputy reported all was okay, that possibly steam was coming from a water heater.

Report of gas drive off from local convenience store. Deputy located the vehicle on I-10 at Mile Marker 358. Subject returned to the store and paid for the fuel.

Report of a suspicious subject attempting to get into a vehicle at local mechanic shop. Deputy reported that the owner of the shop was there and everything was okay.

Report of juveniles with air rifles shooting at a white winged dove. Deputy spoke with two juveniles and advised them to take air rifles home.

Deputy unlocked a vehicle at the 1700 Block of Martinez St.

Report of a possible intoxicated subject at a local convenience store. Deputies reported that the subject was just tired from traveling.

12-26-02

Report of suspicious activity at a residence at the 400 Block of Ave 0. Deputy spoke with 2 juveniles, and also parents were notified.

Report of a possible intoxicated subject outside a residence at the 1800 Block of Santa Anna St. Deputy spoke with the subject.

Deputy filed a report in reference to found/lost property while on patrol.

Report of gas drive off from local convenience store at truck stop. Deputy was in the area at the time, and was unable to locate the vehicle.

Deputy met with complainant at local apartments in reference to a vehicle that was damaged due to a hit and run driver. Deputy filed report.

Report from a citizen at the 200 Block of Ave. I in reference to dogs that have been chasing her cats. Dispatcher contacted animal control officer.

Citizen walked into the Sheriff's Office to request a restraining order. Deputy reported that the citizen was al-

ready gone when he arrived.

Report of a skunk in the yard at the 1600 Block of Santa Rosa St. Deputy reported that the skunk had already left.

Report of a reckless driver in the area of 3rd St. and Ave. H parking lot. Deputy was unable to locate.

Report from local convenience store in reference to an elderly couple that needed assistance. After drivers license check was run, it was determined that the elderly male subject was listed as a missing person out of McLennan County. Dispatcher notified next of kin, and arrangements were made to pick them up.

12-27-02

Deputy provided courtesy transport to family member of missing elderly person from the Ozona airport to the Sheriff's Office.

Deputy delivered set of keys to family member on Hwy. 163.

Deputy unlocked a vehicle at local truck stop.

Report of a stranded motorist at Mile Marker 340 on I-10. Deputy did not locate the vehicle.

Report of a stranded motorist at Mile Marker 350 on I-10. Deputy located the motorist and brought him in to town.

Deputy served a criminal trespass notice on local citizen.

Report of a possible fire at Mile Marker 380 on I-10. Deputy and DPS Trooper located what was a controlled fire.

Deputy unlocked a vehicle at local motel on Ave. A.

911 emergency medical call north on Taylor Box Rd. Deputy and EMS unit responded, and one patient was transported to local clinic.

Deputy provided courtesy transport to a subject to a deer camp west of Ozona.

12-28-02

Deputy met with complainant at the Sheriff's Office in reference to wanting to file Criminal Trespass notice on subject. Deputy took report.

Report of alarm at local store on Hwy. 163 South. Deputy advise all was secured, and alarm was reset.

Report of a male in the middle of the road on Hwy. 290 West. Subject was brought in as a sleeper.

Report of gas drive off from local store. Deputies went to east county line and were unable to locate.

12-29-02

Deputy assisted in locating a juvenile female who left her house on Santa Rosa with out permission. Deputy located juvenile and advise her to returned home.

Report of possible disturbance at 100 Block of Man 0 War St. Deputy advised no disturbance, just couple having an argument.

Deputy provided courtesy transport for subject who needed a ride to clinic.

Deputy met with complainant at 2000 Block of Santa Ana St. in reference to criminal mischief. Deputy took offense report.

Deputy met with complainant at 1500 Block of Walnut St. in reference to criminal mischief. Deputy took offense report.

911 medical emergency call at the 100 Block of Mesquite St. in reference to subject feeling dizzy and seizures. Deputy and EMS Unit responded, and subject was transported to the clinic.

ARREST REPORTS 12-23-02 to 12-29-02

12-23-02
Sylina Maria Maestas, age 23, of Florida was arrested by Sheriff's Deputy on charges of possession of controlled substance more than 4 grams but less than 200 grams, and possession of marijuana under 2 ounces. Subject was released after posting bond.

Paine, Micheal Alexander, age 25, of Florida was arrested by Sheriff's Deputy on charges of possession of controlled substance more than 4 grams but less than 200 grams, and possession of marijuana under 2 ounces. Subject was released after posting bond.

Smith, Crystal Bell, age 21, of Ozona was arrested by Sheriff's Deputy on two Crockett County warrants for forg-

ery. Subject was released after posting bond.

12-24-02
Jamison Maurice Sanders, age 39, of Yoakum was arrested by DPS Trooper on a Travis County warrant for failure to appear child support hearing. Subject was released after posting cash bond.

Ragusa, Anthony, age 44, of San Antonio was arrested by DPS Trooper on a Midland County warrant for failure to appear (Driving While License Suspended). Subject was released after posting bond.

Fine, Jean Nannette, age 42, of Monahans was arrested by DPS Trooper on a charge of driving while intoxicated. Subject was released after posting bond.

12-25-02
Trevino, Ramiro Garcia, age 37, of Ozona was arrested by Sheriff's Deputy on a charge of aggravated assault causes serious bodily injury. Subject was released after posting bond.

12-26-02
Small, James Anthony, age 22, of Hitchcock was arrested by DPS Trooper on a traffic warrant out of San Patricio County for speeding. Subject was released after paying fine.

Pacheco, Omar, age 25, of Mexico was arrested by DPS Troopers on a charge of display fictitious license plate. Subject was given time served and released to US Border Patrol Agents.

12-29-02
Popov, Ted Anatolievich, age 24, of California was arrested by Sheriff's Deputy on charges of no valid motorcycle license, and speeding. Subject remains in jail unable to pay fines.

OFFENSE REPORTS 12-23-02 to 12-29-02

12-25-02
Sheriff's Deputy filed a aggravated assault causes bodily injury report. Deputy took statement from victim in reference to an assault. The male subject was arrested on the charge.

12-26-02
Sheriff's Deputy filed a criminal mischief more than \$750 and less than \$20,000 report. Deputy took statement from the owner of a vehicle at Senior Apartments who had been damaged by person in small size white pickup. Investigation continues.

12-28-02
Sheriff's Deputy filed a criminal trespass-habitation/shelter center report. Deputy took statement from male subject in reference to a known female entering uninvited to his residence.

12-29-02
Sheriff's Deputy filed a criminal mischief more than \$200 less than \$750 report. Deputy took statement in reference to damage to vehicle tires while it was parked at apartment complex on Hwy. 163. Investigation continues.

Sheriff's Deputy filed a criminal mischief more than \$200 less than \$750 report. Deputy took statement in reference to damage to vehicle windshields by unknown subject who probably threw rocks from a hillside. Investigation continues.

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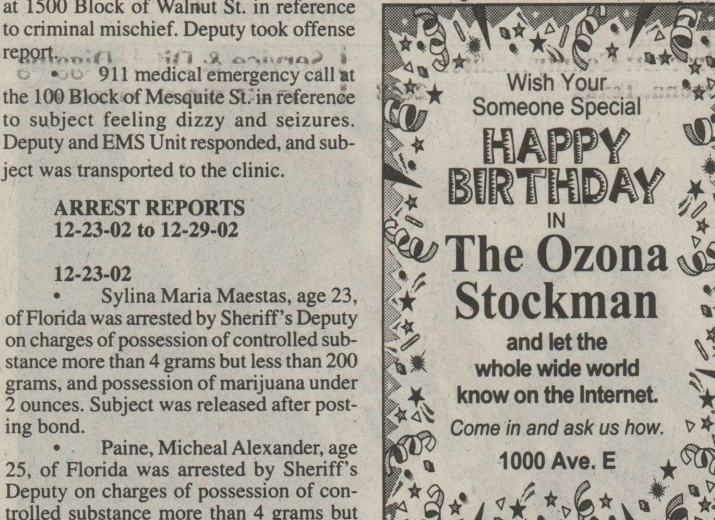
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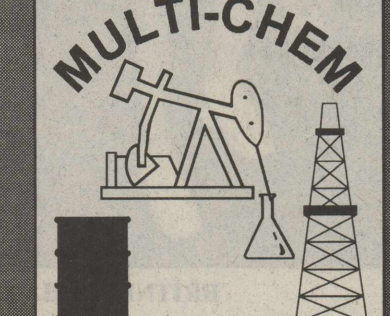
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Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE CROCKETT COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT will receive sealed bids for the purchase of a Fire Truck until 2:00 p.m. January 13, 2003. Envelope should be stamped "Fire Truck Bid". Any bid received after stated opening time will not be considered and will be returned unopened. Bids should be mailed or given to John Stokes, County Auditor, at P.O. Box 989, Ozona, Texas 76943. Specifications can be picked up at the Crockett County Auditor's office. The Commissioner's Court reserves the right to accept or reject all bids. John Stokes
Crockett County Auditor
Ozona, Texas 2c48

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392-2016 tfc34

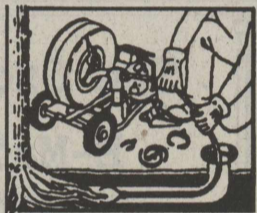
FOR SALE: 2002 Ford pickup, F-350, crewcab, XLT Diesel, 4X4, 33,700 mi. \$31,500. Call 392-2896 or 278-5071. 1p48

Miscellaneous

\$500.00 DOLLAR REWARD
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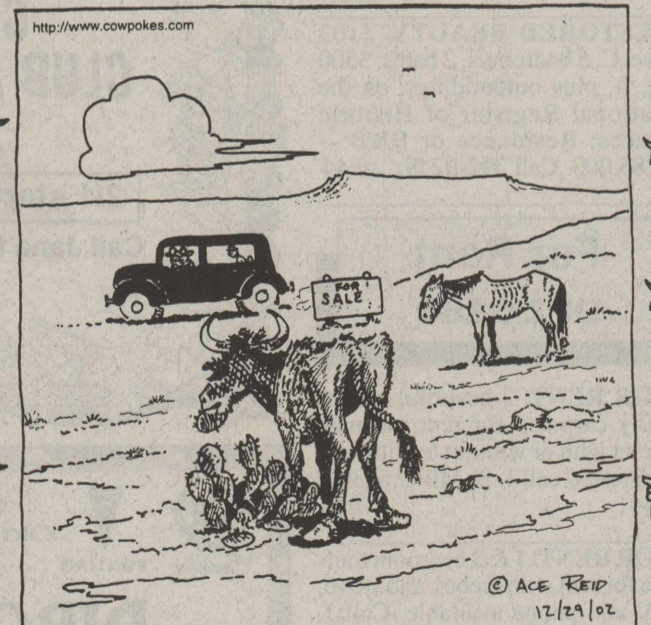
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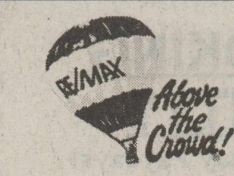
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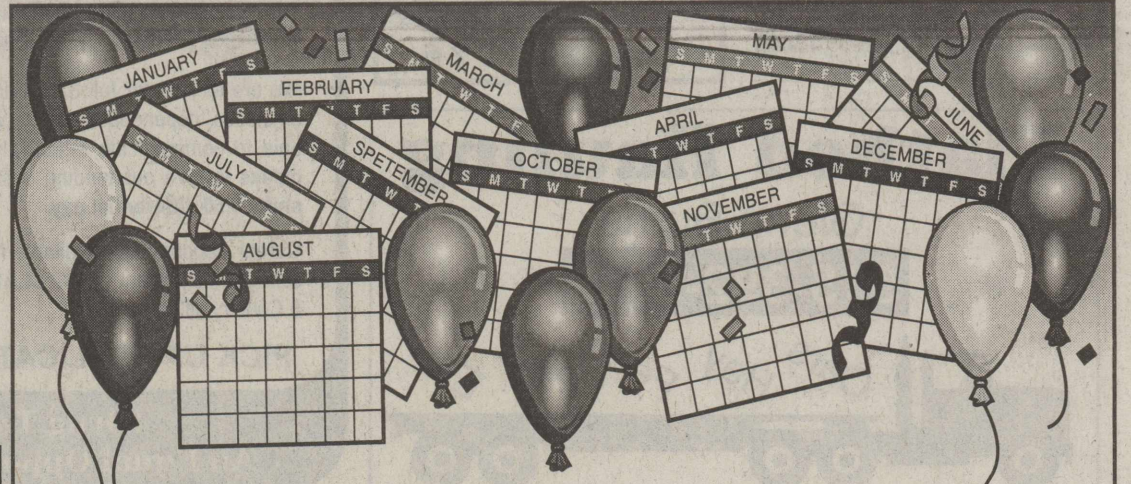
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