Hang Your Hat In History
OZONA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& VISITOR CENTER PARK
P.O. Box 1135, 505 15th Street, Ozona, TX 76943
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# CHAMBER DIALOGUE

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December 2017

#### The Ozona Chamber of Commerce recognizes the Escondido Draw Recreational Area as our Business of the Month





Escondido Draw Recreational Area (EDRA) is **"the"** regional place to ride off-road vehicles which include 4x4 jeeps/ trucks, ATVs, SxS, and motorcycles. There is no place to ride like it for hundreds of miles. The park also offers a place to hike or run, bird watch, ride horses and mountain bike, on its spacious 5.5 square miles hosting over 110 miles of trails located in the draw. The park is run by a non-profit organization which accepts donations for park enhancements in your or your business name. "Our major partners are Texas Parks and Wildlife, National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council, Polaris, and Yamaha." said Justin Massingill, President of the Texas Motorized Trails Coalition, the organization that owns the park.

EDRA is located off the Mitchell Blacktop at 3285 County Road 406 Ozona, TX 76943. If you're driving off I-10 exit on to 290 south to CR 406, cross three cattle guards then turn left into the park as you see the EDRA signage. Just enter the Lat/Lon in Google maps on smartphone and you can navigate directly to the park. 30°35'06.0"N 101°34'58.4"W.

The park is open to the public for anyone who wants to ride off-road vehicles. In the riding area there are over 110 miles of scenic trails, with many rest stops, and two toilets. EDRA keeps the facilities open year around. Reservations can be made through the EDRA Facebook page by posting a request page, or by calling Tom Anderson at 325-226-4124. You can ride for the day or bring your RV and stay for the weekend. Primitive camping is allowed and encouraged.

Continued on page 2-EDRA

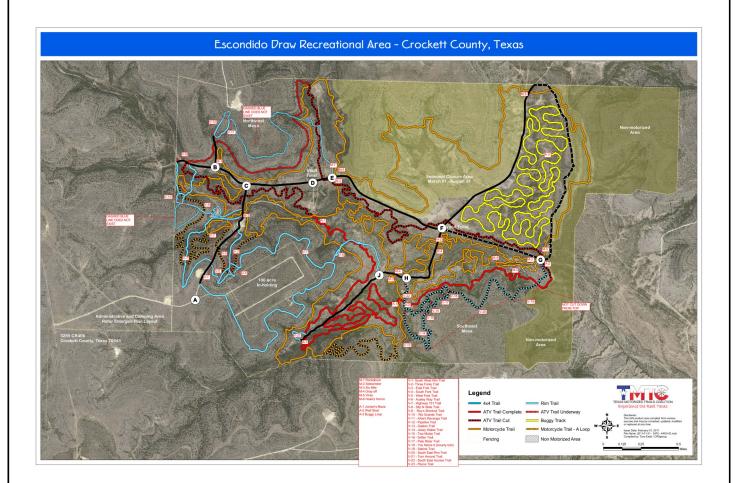
#### Continued from page 1-EDRA

"There are enhancements in progress. At the trail head, there will be potable water, electric power and septic for the public use. These utilities make possible a 35 space RV park planned for opening late 2018. Other projects are the Toilet/Showers, Pavilion and the Nature Center/Office. Primary electric power and approved septic systems were installed last year. Our municipal quality water treatment plant project will start construction 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2018," said Ron McMillan, Project Manager.

"At the current time, we are taking employment applications for local residents who would be interested in managing the park, or donating their time to worthy projects in exchange for free riding privileges. Anyone can join TMTC by paying the low annual dues and enjoy discounted family access at this or their Barnwell Mountain Recreation Area park located in Gilmer, Texas," said Ron.

The Ozona Chamber of Commerce would like to recognize the Escondido Draw Recreational Area and their owners, the Texas Motorized Trails Coalition, for their persistence and commitment to the completion of this park. In addition, we would like to recognize EDRA as one of the newest attractions to Crockett County.

More information can be found at: <u>https://www.facebook.com/EscondidoDrawRecreationArea/</u> or <u>http://www.escondidodraw.org/</u>.



View map in detail at http://www.escondidodraw.org/.

## Merry Christmas from the Chamber of Commerce board and staff

During the holiday season and the close of another year, we would like to express our gratitude to those who have made our progress possible. And in this spirit we say, simply but sincerely, thank you, and we wish you a *Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!* 

Paul Stroope-Chairman Heather Claburn-Vice-Chairman Laurie Hale-Treasurer Board of Directors: Art Roane, G.L. Bunger, Melissa Perner & Abbey Carnes Shanon Biggerstaff-President, CTE Vicki Davis & Cathy Rutherford - Visitor Center Receptionists



#### Happy Anniversary

The Ozona Chamber of Commerce would like to wish the following members a *HAPPY ANNIVERSARY*, and *THANK* them for their support of the Chamber organization, its programs and services, and your community. We would like to recognize and express our *SINCERE* appreciation to the following members who joined during the month of **December:** 



Perry Family Trust - 1983 Barnhart Shaw's General Repair - 2005 Discovery Natural Resources LLC - 2007 Casey A. Riley, Systems Consultant - 2008 Bug Express Pest Control - 2012 Gallery Cafe - 2012 Interim Healthcare Hospice - 2013 Stanford Plumbing - 2015 Mi Familia - 2016 Epic Permian Operating, LLC - 2016





## Cold didn't stop residents from enjoying the Evening on the Town

The Ozona Chamber of Commerce and local member businesses teamed up to host our fifth annual Evening on the Town event.

Hosted on Thursday, December 7th, from 6:00-8:30 p.m., 24 local businesses participated. Many had activities, refreshments, sales, or specials to take advantage of during this festive season. Customers were able to pick up a free ticket at each of the participating businesses to earn a chance to win one of 45 door prizes. The more businesses you visited, the better your chances were to win! Whether you needed trinkets, gifts, or were just hungry along the way, there was something for everyone in the family to enjoy.

We would like to thank not only the participating businesses, but those who donated a prize making the evening fun for all. We would like to thank DJ Johnny Tambunga for providing the sounds of Christmas on the town square. We thank the OLPH Youth Group who sang Christmas carols at a number of locations. We thank the First Baptist Church for the live Nativity Scene and finally the Glittering Heart Twirlers.

Despite the cold, we had the **best turn out in five years!** There were 558 residents that came out to shop and visit. Of the total residents, 303 were first time attendees, and 255 were repeat attendees. Twelve people from out of state, (CO, LA, NM, & WV) staying at local motels, and fifteen from within Texas enjoyed the evening as well.









#### Visitor Center

-Walk-in traffic into the Visitor Center in November was 418 people

-YTD we have seen 5,301 visitors, an average of 482 visitors a month, down -8.73% or 286 visitors the same period of time last year

-Where are they from? Texas visitors-3,279 Out of State-1,234, Local-642, Foreign-146

-Traveling: East 2,542, West-1,360, North-313 and South-107

-Top visiting states for the month year were-AZ, NM, LA, CA, AK, MS, & WA

-Top visiting cities for the month were-El Paso, Austin, Midland, San Angelo, San Antonio

-Weekdays in order of the busiest were Wednesday, Friday, Tuesday, Monday,

Thursday, Saturday

-Year to date Chamber related inquiries 16%, Tourism 84%

-Top requested items or services for the month were: general tourism, museum, monument, restaurants, Interpretive Trail

#### Advertising

-Year-to-date the Chamber has filled, in response to our advertising, 18,896 requests for information on Ozona. An additional 6,015 brochures have been handed out to walk-in visitors and mailed to statewide Travel Centers

#### What services are sought at www.Ozona.com



For the month of November, at www.Ozona.com, there were 251 business directory searches, and 711 actual *member page hits*! These are people searching for YOUR services. Following are the members that received 10 or more page hits this month:

Epic Permian Operating, LLC-47 Encino RV Park-36 Family Health Center of Ozona-31 CCWC&I Dist.-29 Pikes Peak Energy Services, LLC-16 Joe Bean Ranches-14 Twistflower Ranch-13 Crockett County Abstract Company-12 Ozona Cable & Broadband-10

Fred H. Chandler Ranching-39 Wool Growers Central Storage-36 Bunger Real Estate Company, LLC-29 Lopez Construction & Remodeling-20 Venegas Construction, LLC-16 The General Store-13 Will M. Black Real Estate-13 KYXX Ozona 94.3 FM Real Country-12 Ozona Flour Mill & Goods-10





December 2017
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Chamber Dialogue

December 2017		Char	nber Dialog	ue			Page
What is	o Ozona.con	n doing f	or our me	mbers a	nd the co	mmunitv?	
For November 2017, Ozo		U			returning	J	
Of these 4,285 sessions, th	nere were 7,536	page views	s - of these 6.	144 were u	nique (1st tir	me views)	
The 4,285 sessions were f					•	)	
-		-					
Bounce Rate: 76.01%	_	ge Session L	Duration: 00:				
Top 5 States:		Top 5 Texas Cities:					
Texas	3,364		Dallas		604		
Louisiana	94		Austin		547		
California	74		Houston		432		
New Mexico Florida	51 50		San Antonio Odessa		161		
FIORIda	50		Odessa		134		
<b>Top 20 Content Searche</b>	S						
1. Hunting		2,233	11.	Local Attr	actions	11	6
2. Homepage		1,664	12.	Travel Itin	neraries	11	5
3. Photo Gallery		253	13.	Restaurant	ts	11	1
4. County Officials		184	14.	Visitors G	uide	10	0
5. Area Attractions		161	15.	Lodging			6
6. Interesting Facts		153	16.	Job Postin	•		39
7. History		151	17.		of Commerc		30
8. Events Calendar		150	18.	City/Coun	•		'3
9. Location		120		Hot Deals			9
10. Deerfest		117	20.	Membersh	nip Directory	6	9
Chamber Master (Meml	pership Directo	ory Data Ba	ase)				
Business Directory Search	hes 25	1 F	Hot Deal Hits		155		
Hot Deal Searches			Member Page	Hits	711		
Job Searches	13		ob Posting H		8		
op Searched Chamber I	Master Service		c				
Dil & Gas Services		-		2	Danahin	~	2
Roadside Assistance		utomotive S ed Store	supplies	2	Ranchin Real Est	e	2
				2			2 2
Iunting RV Parks		otels		2 2	Restaura	Properties	2
V Paiks	5 III	ternet		Z	Kestaura	ants	2
Social Med	ia						
Facebook		Goog	ele				
6,059 Fans		310	Search			<b>T</b> • · ·	
39 New Likes		5,255	Total Googl	e Business	Page 70		al Fallarra
162,481 Total Paid Reac		5,255	Views		1 450		al Followers
3,784 Total Organic R		4,890	Listings on I	Map		2,700 Im	pressions
12,409 People Engaged		365				Texas Outsi	de
208 Daily Logged-in		2,054	Photo Views Clicks to Website			2,653 Visitors to site	
196,822 Total Impressio		53				13 Cli	cks Through
39 Ozona Campaig		17	Clicks for D		ctions	to (	Ozona.com
38,923 Ozona Campaig	6	Clicks for Phone Calls					
4,394 Ozona Campaig	n-Individuals						
Reached							