

**OZONA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& VISITOR CENTER PARK**

505 15th Street, Ozona, TX 76943

www.Ozona.com

Facebook Tourism Page: OzonaChamber

Facebook Chamber Page: OzonaChamberBiz



*Happy
Easter*

CHAMBER DIALOGUE

Volume 19

April 2022

**The Ozona Chamber
of Commerce
recognizes
Close to Our Hearts
Country Store
as our
Business of the Month**



For almost 20 years, Close To Our Hearts has grown and expanded their business, recognized and listened to the needs of the consumers,

provided quality customer service, and given back to many charitable organizations along the way. Close To Our Hearts is located at 916 Ave. E and is owned by Jeffrey and Ronda Stuart, along with Jackie Hopkins. "Our employees, Tina Carrasco and Elsa Vasquez, have been with us for over 10 years and we are so thankful for their loyalty and friendship", said Ronda.

"It was my dad, Jerry Hopkins, that inspired me to open the store. He made wooden crosses and many other things, which gave me the idea to seek out many vendors of hand-made items, and we expanded from there", Ronda added. "We are so grateful to God, and this community for helping us to create a unique gift shop and boutique here in Ozona, Texas. Our customers, and this community have supported and helped us to grow and provide a large variety of quality merchandise at affordable prices."

Close To Our Hearts is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday hours are seasonal. You can reach them at (325)392-2700 or (325)226-9103.

The Ozona Chamber of Commerce would like to recognize Close to Our Hearts Country Store for their efforts to provide quality service in addition to being an added asset to the local business community.

You are Invited
to attend the
Grand Opening
of the
Bobby Whitlock
Art Exhibition
at the
Crockett County
Museum!



Wednesday, April 13, 2022
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Join us as we welcome artist, Bobby Whitlock, at the opening of the exhibition of his work, including over 75 paintings and the wood sculpture "The Dancer". Mr. Whitlock, who has performed as a musician and song writer with greats such as Eric Clapton, George Harrison and others, has recently expanded his artistic endeavors to include painting.

Mr. Whitlock will be present at the Grand Opening, so we hope you will drop in to get to know him personally.

Refreshments will be served.

The exhibition will be on display through Oct. 3rd.

Travel information is available at www.Ozona.com/Location

"Without a doubt the most energetic side man I had ever seen." -Eric Clapton



Visit www.Ozona.com/EventsCalendar
or contact Emily Guerra
at the
Crockett County Museum
for more information

325-392-2837

The Hummingbirds are BACK!

Hummingbirds are fun to watch! Join the Ozone Chamber in putting out hummingbird feeders to help this important and entertaining pollinator while supporting nature tourism! Did you know that hummingbirds use spider web to build their tiny nests?



Feeder Tips

If you do decide to put out hummingbird feeders, here are tips for keeping them safe and productive:

1. Clean feeders once a week with a diluted bleach solution (one part bleach to nine parts water) or soak for an hour in a white vinegar mixture that's one part vinegar to four parts water. Rinse thoroughly and let dry before re-filling with sugar water.
2. Change sugar water mixture two to three times per week. The mixture should be one part white sugar dissolved into four parts warm to hot water. (Clear solution is fine; red dyes are neither needed nor recommended.)
3. Place feeders in the shade.
4. If needed, use "water moat" ant guards attached above the feeder line to keep ants from the sugar water.

Banner Advertising Space is Available on www.Ozona.com

A very limited amount of advertising space is now available on Ozona.com. Our homepage receives over 1,800 visitors each month. For inquiries call the Chamber office at (325) 392-3737!



La Esperanza Clinic



The La Esperanza Mobile Health Clinic is coming to Ozona!

WHERE: Ozona Chamber of Commerce, 505 15th Street

WHY: Access to Quality Health Care for ALL!

WHEN: Second Tuesday of the month, **Beginning May 10th**

9:00am – 4:00pm

Call to schedule your appointment today!

325-658-5339

Walk-Ins are welcome!

❖ SLIDING FEE SCALE

❖ INSURANCE ACCEPTED BUT NOT REQUIRED

COME SEE US FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING

Abdominal/Stomach Pain	Diabetes	Routine Care
Acute Visits	Flu Testing	Strep Testing
Cold & Flu-Like Illnesses	High Blood Pressure	Urinary Tract Infections
Colon Cancer Screening	High Cholesterol	Vaccines
COVID-19 Tests	Muscle Pain	Establish Care

FUTURE DATES

May 10, 2022	October 11, 2022	March 14, 2023
June 14, 2022	November 8, 2022	April 11, 2023
July 12, 2022	December 13, 2022	May 9, 2023
August 9, 2022	January 10, 2023	June 13, 2023
September 13, 2022	February 14, 2023	July 11, 2023

*Dates subject to change for inclement weather or staffing issues.

What services are sought at www.Ozona.com

For the month of February at www.Ozona.com, there were business directory searches, and actual *member page hits*!

These are people searching for YOUR services.

Following are the members that received 10 or more page hits:

Encino RV Park - 112
 Emerald R.V. Campground - 55
 Epic Permian Operating LLC - 46
 Natgas, Inc - 37
 Crockett County Abstract Company - 33
 Wool Growers Central Storage - 25
 Ambit Energy - 24
 7 Oaks Ranch / Philip Walker - 23
 Ozona Truck Trailer & Emergency Repair - 23
 Ozona Insurance - 22
 Redeem Construction, LLC - 22
 L & B Automotive - 20
 Ozona Cable & Broadband - 20
 Sunoco Energy Services, LLC - 20
 Alejandro Tree Service - 19
 Crockett County Collision Repair - 19
 Escondido Draw Recreational Area - 18
 Main Street Realty, Hudson Properties-
 Will M. Black, Realtor - 18
 Ozona Bank - 18
 Quality Inn - 18
 Stokes, John C.P.A. - 18
 The General Store - 18
 Treto's Tire & Towing - 18
 Triple C Hardware Lumber & Rental, Inc. - 18
 Bunker Real Estate Company, LLC - 17
 Western Poster Service, Inc. - 16
 JL Ready Mix Concrete - 15
 Red Stag Operating, LLC - 15
 White, Mr. & Mrs. Mark - 15
 Zarvona Energy LLC - 15
 Eldorado Animal Clinic - 14
 G's RV Park - 14
 MAC - Mike's Auto Care - 14

RV Repair Crew - 14
 Stokes Drilling LLC - 14
 T Nails & Spa - 14
 Baggett "Bandera" Ranch - 13
 Barnhart Shaw's General Repair - 13
 Crockett County Water Control & Improvement
 District #1 - 13
 Esperanza Ranch - 13
 Ozona Community Center - 13
 The Ozona Stockman - 13
 HW Car Wash - 12
 Jody K. Upham, Attorney at Law - 12
 Le A&N LLC Happy Nails - 12
 Ozona Country Club - 12
 X-Bar Ranch Nature Retreat & RV - 12
 Bill Black Ranch - 11
 DJH Oil & Gas, LLC - 11
 Dublin Hunters Group - 11
 El Chato's - 11
 Family Health Center of Ozona - 11
 Fort Lancaster State Historic Site - 11
 Howard's Well Ranching Company - 11
 Mi Familia Restaurant - 11
 Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue - 11
 Pepe's Cafe - 11
 SKG Engineering, LLC - 11
 Triple C RV - 11
 Village Drug - 11
 WeadCo Insurance LLC - 11
 West Texas Rehabilitation Center - 11
 Jarrett Juno Ranch Partnership - 10
 Pon Seahorn Real Estate - 10
 XL Ranch c/o David Gardner - 10



Well Done!



CROCKETT COUNTY HISTORY DAY

Friday, May 6, 2022

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

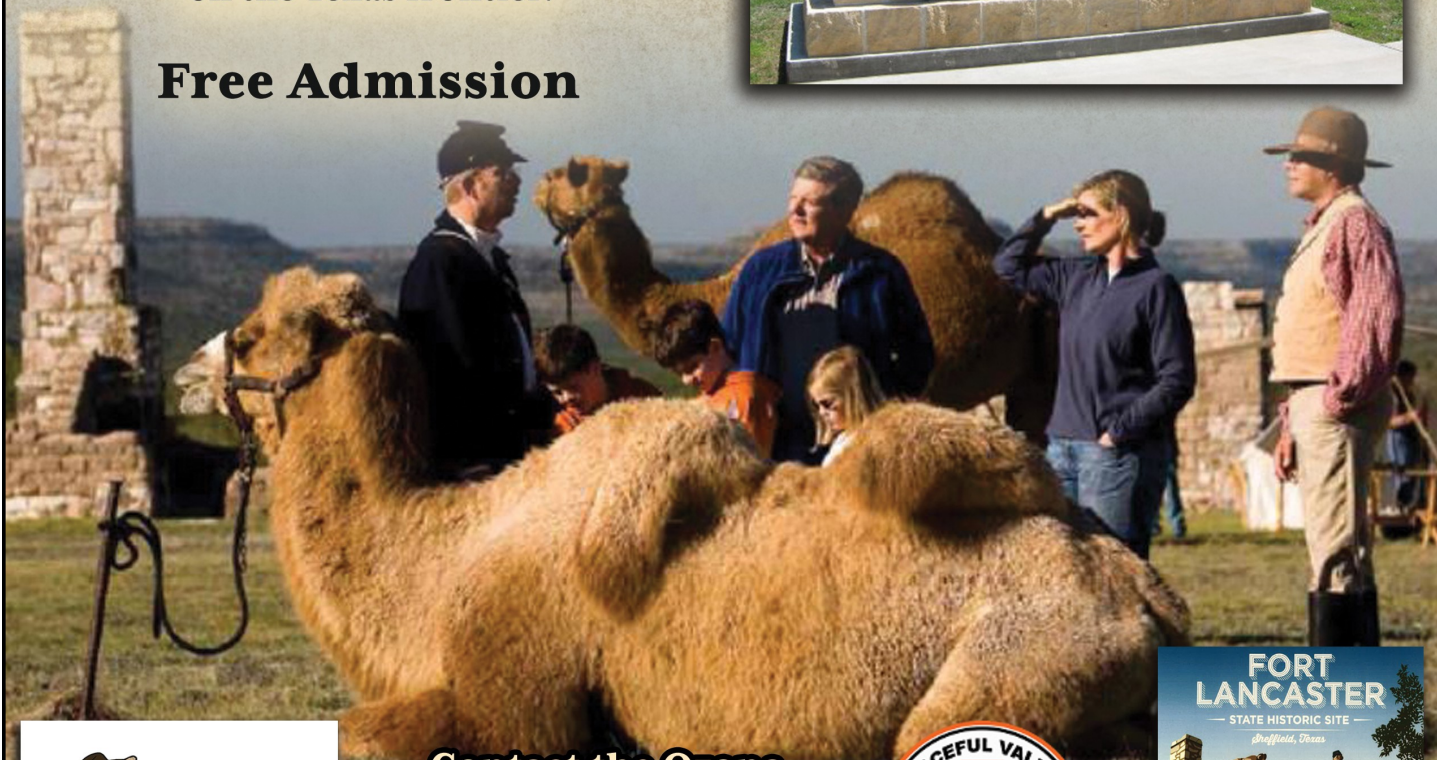
Ozona Chamber of Commerce - 505 15th Street, Ozona, TX

Make Plans to Attend!

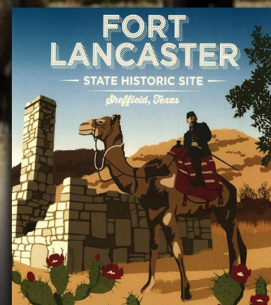
The Ozona Chamber grounds come alive with camels, soldiers, pioneers, livestock including donkeys from the Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue, flint knapping, and more. Visit a variety of living history stations to experience and learn more about life on the Texas frontier.



Free Admission



**Contact the Ozona
Chamber of Commerce
for more information
325-392-3737**



Happy Anniversary!

Chamber members recognized

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 their community.

We would like to recognize and express our **SINCERE** appreciation to the following members who joined during the month of April.

Crockett County Abstract Company—1997
 Thomas Cameron, Attorney at Law—1997
 Family Health Center of Ozona—1998
 Charles McCleary—2006
 Howard's Well Ranching Company—2010
 Giles & Becky Davidson Madray—2010
 X-Bar Ranch Nature Retreat & RV—2010
 Sonic Drive-In—2011
 Dublin Hunters Group—2011

Sam's Club—2011
 Jarrett Juno Ranch Partnership—2012
 Shannon AirMed1—2013
 7 Oaks Ranch / Philip Walker—2014
 Village Barber and Beauty Shop—2015
 D's Liquor Store—2016
 Lester Wright—2018
 Travelodge—2021

February Chamber Visitors:

Visitor Center

-Walk-in traffic into the Visitor Center in February 2022 totaled 537 visitors, with 87 being local residents, 236 travelers from Texas, 201 from out of state, and 13 from foreign countries.

Online Visitors

-Ozona.com had 2,914 sessions from 47 countries with 5,255 page views.

-The Top 20 website pages visited were:

1. Homepage	1,449	11. Pandale Crossing	71
2. Hunting Leases	728	12. Job Postings	68
3. Land Stewardship Blowout	343	13. Chamber of Commerce	65
4. Area Attractions	161	14. Interesting Facts	65
5. Photo Gallery	157	15. Location	64
6. Lodging/RV	105	16. Airport	63
7. County Officials	103	17. Public Services	61
8. History	87	18. Visitors Guide	60
9. Business of the Month	76	19. Local Attractions	58
10. Events Calendar	73	20. Contact Us	56



-The Ozona Facebook pages continued to grow, ending February with 10,314 fans on the Chamber's Tourist page (OzonaChamber) and 818 fans on our local page (OzonaChamberBiz). ***We hope you will share our pages with your friends and family as we promote Ozona and our member businesses.***

-Our two Facebook pages received 54,966 and 16,620 total impressions of our posts respectively, reaching people from all over the world with information about Ozona. Our Twitter page ended January with 110 followers and had 590 impressions throughout the month.

Night Sky Friendly Business Recognition Program

We LOVE our starry nights! Help preserve our rural heritage!

**INTRODUCING the newest recipient of the "BE A STAR" Award:
Escondido Draw Recreational Area**

Ozona Chamber of Commerce is happy to congratulate the Escondido Draw Recreational Area for being designated as a Night Sky Friendly Business by the Texas Chapter of the International Dark Skies Association (IDATexas.org).

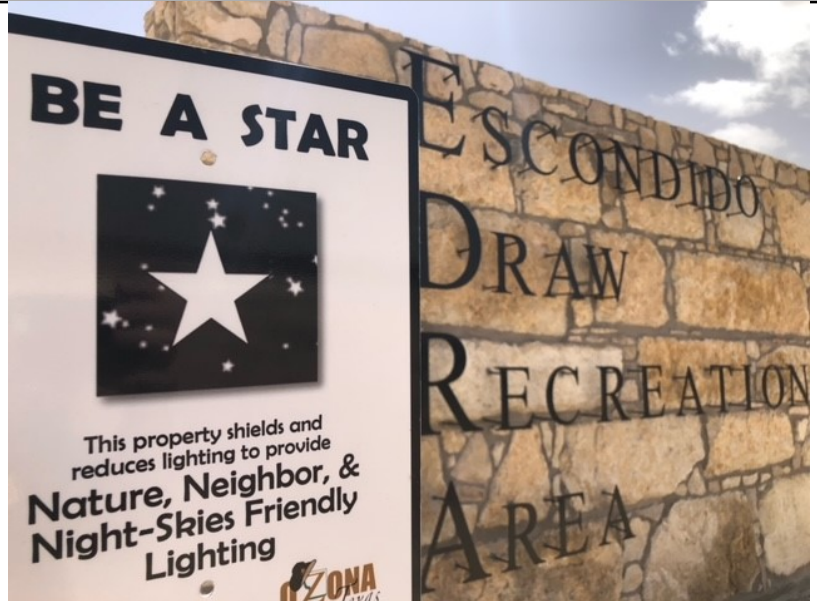
Located high atop the Escondido Draw of West Texas is the state's newest motorized offroad park - the Escondido Draw Recreational Area.

Acquired in 2007, this Texas Motorized Trails Coalition property offers motorcycle, ATV, and OHV enthusiasts 3,400 acres of pure delight. The park has something for everyone including a 35+ mile single track trail for dirt bikes and 23+ miles of scenic trails and challenging hills for ATVs and OHVs. In addition the park offers hiking, bird/wildlife viewing, swimming and star gazing. As part of our continuing commitment to the environment, the park conducts an annual bird survey each year.

Primitive campsites and full service RV spots are available. Other amenities include showers, restrooms, pavilion and a store.

Escondido Draw is NOW OPEN every weekend Thursday through Sunday! You can help us out by making reservations at (325) 206-4251 or info@escondidodraw.org

For all information please visit www.escondidodraw.org



**For more information on the Award,
we invite you to visit:
texas.darksky.ngo/earn-the-be-a-star-award**

Join us in celebrating the INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY WEEK

April 22-30, 2022

Benefits of Dark Skies on the local economy:



"Public interest continues to grow in preserving the "awe-inspiring night skies" of the Texas Hill Country. Local communities can derive significant economic benefits from visitors who come for stargazing, which is no longer possible in many areas because of light pollution that seriously interferes with or prevents the viewing of heavenly objects during the nighttime." James Murr, The Junction Eagle, May 2017

"Night sky tourism has a rich future in Texas. Numerous communities and subdivisions are highlighting the night sky as a feature already. Cities, towns, Chambers of Commerce and tourist bureaus are joining this movement. You do not need the lure of a major observatory and big telescopes to bring people to your area. The promise of a dark, star-filled sky is enough." IDATexas.org



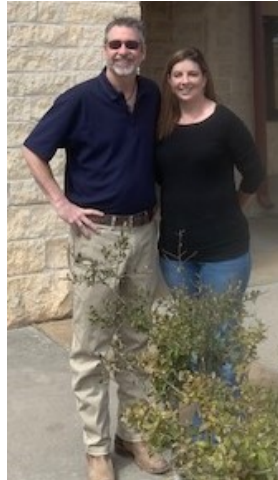
Ozona Chamber President Philip Walker met with Walt Koenig, San Angelo Chamber of Commerce President & Diann Bayes VP, Destination Marketing at the Unity Conference and Texas Tourism Industry Unity Dinner in Houston.



Philip had a great opportunity to network for Ozona Chamber at the Unity Conference in Houston in late February.



Fort Lancaster tours are even more exciting when led by a living history interpreter! Have you seen Old Kate yet?



Texas Pecos Trail Executive Director, Melissa Hagins, stopped by the Visitor Center for a visit with Philip and the Chamber staff. Her work to promote our area is greatly appreciated!



Philip dropped into Fort Lancaster for a chat with the State Historic Site Manager, Jefferson Spilman, about the upcoming Crockett County History Day!

Welcome New Members!



Allen Ranch

Owner: Tony Allen
P.O. Box 1067
Ozona, TX 76943
Phone: 325-650-2772

La Esperanza Clinic, Inc

2029 W Beauregard Avenue
San Angelo, TX 76901
Phone: 325-947-5601
Website: www.esperanzahealth.org



Did You Know?

This was not a barrel of laughs! The Army came up with many creative ways of punishing troublesome soldiers who broke the rules. Some were even made to wear barrel coats, like the men pictured to the right! With just a hole in the top for their head, the barrel coats would have been heavy and awkward to wear all day. This unique form of punishment was actually used at Fort Lancaster and other West Texas forts!

