

A MERKEL CARTOONIST'S
UNCOMMON CALENDAR

TOM LANDRY'S
FINEST SEASON

THE STARS BELOW
IN WEST TEXAS

Texas Coop Power

FOR TRI-COUNTY EC MEMBERS

AUGUST 2022



Rodeo's Razzle- Dazzle

Texas Spirit Riders thrill
with precision and speed

**TRI-COUNTY
EC NEWS**

SEE PAGE 18



MUELLER METAL BUILDINGS



COUNT ON US FOR CUSTOM BUILDINGS

With Mueller, you have access to a wide range of high-quality steel buildings. We manufacture each building to meet your needs and deliver real value. Additionally, you can select from a variety of colors with limited paint warranties up to 40 years. Start designing your building today at www.muellerinc.com/3d-tool.



Learn more at: www.muellerinc.com
877-2-MUELLER (877-268-3553)

August 2022



08

Drilled To Thrill

The Texas Spirit Riders' razzle-dazzle aims to rise above other rodeo performance squads.

*By Gene Fowler
Photos by Dave Shafer*

12 Bringing Texans Up to Date

Cartoonist Roger Moore marks his uncommon calendar with amusing tidbits.

Story and photos by Pam LeBlanc

04

Currents

The latest buzz

06

TCP Talk

Readers respond

18

Co-op News

Information plus energy and safety tips from your cooperative

29

Footnotes in Texas History

The Most Glorious Autumn
By W.F. Strong

30

TCP Kitchen

Best Burgers
By Megan Myers

34

Hit the Road

Heaven Beyond Hell's Gate
By Chet Garner

37

Focus on Texas

Photo Contest: Motor Sports

38

Observations

The Stars Below
By Suzanne Featherston

ON THE COVER

Captain Erica Bednarz leads the Texas Spirit Riders around the arena.

ABOVE

The Spirit Riders, who range in age from 8 to 60, with coach Rachael Kiowski.

Photos by Dave Shafer



Tickle Kids Pink

FAMILIES AND TEACHERS are encouraged to ask managers of kid-friendly restaurants to save their discarded crayons during August, which is National Crayon Collection Month.

More than 150 million restaurant crayons end up in landfills each year, enough to span the contiguous United States three times if placed end to end.

Resource-strapped schools can use those crayons in classrooms.



TCP Contests and More

ENTER CONTESTS AT
TEXASCOOPPOWER.COM



\$500 RECIPE CONTEST

Gluten-Free Recipes

FOCUS ON TEXAS PHOTOS

Winter Wildlife

TEXAS GULF SHRIMP GIVEAWAY

Two readers will each win 5 pounds of wild-caught Texas shrimp. Enter now to win.

FINISH THIS SENTENCE

THE SONG THAT TAKES ME BACK TO HIGH SCHOOL IS ...

TCP Tell us how you would finish that sentence. Email your short responses to letters@TexasCoopPower.com or comment on our Facebook post. Include your co-op and town.

Below are some of the responses to our June prompt: **My singing is so bad ...**

No one would ever believe that my name is Melodie.

MELODIE GREIDER
PEDERNALES EC
DRIPPING SPRINGS

My fifth grade teacher asked me to just move my lips when my class sang to the PTA.

GARY GALLOWAY
TRI-COUNTY EC
WEATHERFORD

In church my granddaughter said, "No sing, Granny."

ANN MOSELEY
GUADALUPE VALLEY EC
SHINER

My own mother, a music teacher, said, "Some people just shouldn't sing and, son, you are one of them."

PERRY JEFFERIES
HAMILTON COUNTY EC
GATESVILLE

I can't carry a tune in a bucket.

TERRY HOLDERNESS MCADAMS
UNITED COOPERATIVE SERVICES
GRANBURY

To see more responses, read Currents online.

120°

The hottest temperature ever recorded in Texas—120 degrees—first occurred in Seymour on August 12, 1936. It was matched in Monahans on June 28, 1994.

Keep Your Cool

Summer's hot days are wearing on many of us and keeping air conditioners humming. Before you set the AC even cooler, your electric cooperative reminds you to use fans—but only while you're in the room—to help you stay cool and save on energy costs.

“Thankfully, perseverance is a great substitute for talent.”

—STEVE MARTIN

Shortcut Shortfalls

THE SHORTEST WAY might not always be the best way.

So say Texas A&M University researchers who studied online navigation tools using Texas destinations. Mapping apps can help you drive the shortest and quickest routes, but research shows they might bypass some safety considerations.

Shortcuts over local roads can come with a higher risk of crashes because of poor design, drainage problems, inadequate lighting and a higher risk of collisions with wildlife.



Back to School

KidsHealth offers these tips for a fantastic school year:

Get enough sleep.

Eat a healthy breakfast.

Try your best.

Use good work habits, like writing down your assignments and turning in your homework on time.

Take your time with schoolwork. If you don't understand something, ask the teacher.

Keep a sense of humor.



Speaking to Children

“Kudos to illustrator John Jay Cabuay for the lovely, colorful and expressive portrait of María Alma González Pérez. It took my breath away.”

MARTI M. BURNS
BLUEBONNET EC
BASTROP

Find Dining

I am one of the foraging experts [pictured below] interviewed for *The Grazing Craze* [June 2022], and I want to correct a couple points in it for your readers.

I was quoted as referencing “wood clover,” but it should have said “wood sorrel.”

Also, the article states it is illegal to forage on public land, which is not entirely accurate. Foraging in national parks and many state parks is generally not allowed, but those constitute a very small percentage of public land. There are vast areas of public land that are accessible to foraging legally.

Check out my Wild Foraging North Texas page on Facebook.

Courtney Taylor
Grayson-Collin EC
Weston



COURTESY COURTNEY TAYLOR

My mother, Evelyn Roffe, helped initiate the bilingual program in McAllen in 1937–38 [Speaking to Children, June 2022]. She had a one-room schoolhouse. She taught all ages of Mexican farmworkers' children.

PENNY HAULMAN
VIA FACEBOOK

Eating Wild

I am a regular “customer” of local dewberry patches and neighborhood mulberry trees, so I can relate. I also wanted to point readers to the Useful Wild Plants of Texas Project, which has a wealth of information. Check it out at usefulwildplants.org.

David Todd
Fayette and San Bernard ECs
Austin

Stirring Review

I saw your recipe for Beef and Green Bean Stir-Fry [June 2022], and that's what was for dinner. As soon as I added the sauce mix—holy cow—I thought I was in a Chinese restaurant. It was simple and delicious, paired perfectly with white rice.

Paul Garcia
Medina EC
Castroville

Our 1.2-acre lot has chile pequins growing wild and quite a few black persimmons (nothing like regular persimmons).

I have devised a recipe for black persimmon jelly. It tastes like blackberry jelly.

Lamar Hankins
Pedernales EC
San Marcos

WRITE TO US
letters@TexasCoopPower.com

Editor, Texas Co-op Power
1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor
Austin, TX 78701

Please include your electric co-op and town. Letters may be edited for clarity and length.

Texas Co-op Power

TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair Gary Raybon, El Campo • **Vice Chair** Kelly Lankford, San Angelo
Secretary-Treasurer Neil Hesse, Muenster • **Board Members** Greg Henley, Tahoka
Julie Parsley, Johnson City • Doug Turk, Livingston • Brandon Young, McGregor

PRESIDENT/CEO Mike Williams, Austin

COMMUNICATIONS & MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

Matt Bentke, Bastrop • Marty Haught, Burleson • Ron Hughes, Sinton
Gary Miller, Bryan • Zac Perkins, Hooker, Oklahoma • John Ed Shinpaugh, Bonham
Rob Walker, Gilmer • Buff Whitten, Eldorado

MAGAZINE STAFF

Vice President, Communications & Member Services Martin Bevins
Editor Chris Burrows • **Associate Editor** Tom Widlowski
Production Manager Karen Nejtek • **Creative Manager** Andy Doughty
Advertising Manager Elaine Sproull
Communications Specialist Alex Dal Santo • **Print Production Specialist** Grace Fultz
Communications Specialist Travis Hill • **Food Editor** Megan Myers • **Digital Media Specialist** Caytlyn Phillips • **Communications Specialist** Jessica Ridge
Senior Designer Jane Sharpe

TEXAS CO-OP POWER Volume 79, Number 2 (USPS 540-560). *Texas Co-op Power* is published monthly by Texas Electric Cooperatives (TEC). Periodical postage paid at Austin, TX, and at additional offices. TEC is the statewide association representing 75 electric cooperatives. *Texas Co-op Power's* website is TexasCoopPower.com. Call (512) 454-0311 or email editor@TexasCoopPower.com.

SUBSCRIPTIONS Subscription price is \$4.44 per year for individual members of subscribing cooperatives and is paid from equity accruing to the member. If you are not a member of a subscribing cooperative, you can purchase an annual subscription at the nonmember rate of \$7.50. Individual copies and back issues for the previous 12 months are available for \$3 each.

POSTMASTER Send address changes to *Texas Co-op Power* (USPS 540-560), 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701. Please enclose label from this copy of *Texas Co-op Power* showing old address and key numbers.

ADVERTISING Advertisers interested in buying display ad space in *Texas Co-op Power* and/or in our 30 sister publications in other states, contact Elaine Sproull at (512) 486-6251. Advertisements in *Texas Co-op Power* are paid solicitations. The publisher neither endorses nor guarantees in any manner any product or company included in this publication. Product satisfaction and delivery responsibility lie solely with the advertiser. © Copyright 2022 Texas Electric Cooperatives Inc. Reproduction of this issue or any portion of it is expressly prohibited without written permission. Willie Wirehand © Copyright 2022 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.



Texas Electric Cooperatives
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative



American Handprint Publications



FREEDOM. TO BE YOU.

**If you think oxygen therapy means slowing down,
it's time for a welcome breath of fresh air.**

Introducing the Inogen One family of portable oxygen systems. With no need for bulky tanks, each concentrator is designed to keep you active via Inogen's Intelligent Delivery Technology.® Hours of quiet and consistent oxygen flow on a long-lasting battery charge enabling freedom of movement, whether at home or on the road. Every Inogen One meets FAA requirements for travel ensuring the freedom to be you.



- No heavy oxygen tanks
- Ultra quiet operation
- Lightweight and easy to use
- Safe for car and air travel
- Full range of options and accessories
- Clinically validated for 24/7 use



Call **1-855-667-1777** or visit
inogen.com for a free
consultation and info guide.



MKT-P0240



★ DRILLED TO THRILL

TEXAS SPIRIT RIDERS' razzle-dazzle aims to rise above other rodeo performance squads



BY GENE FOWLER • PHOTOS BY DAVE SHAFER

LOOK GOOD. RIDE FAST. DAZZLE THE CROWD.

The moment the Texas Spirit Riders enter the arena, their motto becomes a force of nature.

“We! Are! TSR!” the riders chant as their horses trot into formation before breaking off and zooming past bleachers. The riders whoop and holler with joyful abandon.

The rodeo drill team based in Winnsboro, about an hour north of Tyler in East Texas, performs choreographed maneuvers on horseback for audiences all over Texas. The all-woman team appears most often at cowboy and cowgirl sporting events, and they’re part of a decadeslong tradition of rodeo drill teams in Texas that has included Terrell’s Cowgirl Congress, Magnolia’s Lone Star Cowgirls, Refugio County’s Independence Belles, Jack Sellers’ Bexar County Palomino Patrol and many more. But none, one might wager, embody their appellation more than the Texas Spirit Riders.

Every time these ladies swing into the saddle, they draw on the memory of a fallen teammate.

“We started out with huge dreams and lots of ambition,” explains Erica Bednarz of Bullard, who was named captain of the Spirit Riders in August 2020—about 24 years after the team was founded, in 1996. She picked her friend Lynsey Berger of Wills Point as co-captain. “We wanted to make a difference in the rodeo industry and really grow the sport of equestrian drill teams.”

After the team’s first organizational meeting with its new

leaders, however, Berger, 29, was killed in a head-on collision. Bednarz was on the phone with her friend October 2, 2020, when another car drifted into her lane. “There was a loud noise,” she recalls, “and then everything went silent.”

The Spirit Riders’ first performance under Bednarz’s captaincy was for Berger’s funeral. “The team was shaken,” she says. “Our world was forever changed, and I wasn’t sure if I could find the strength to keep the riders going.

“In the midst of tragedy, we found strength in each other. We vowed to honor Lynsey by following her dream of making it all the way to the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas.”

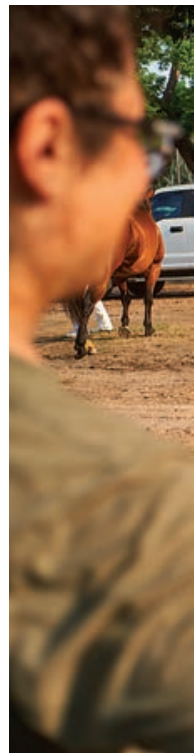
The “rodeo road,” as the drill team calls it, is a long, hard one. Heck, it’s a long, hard road to just make the rodeo in Mesquite or Wichita Falls. The Spirit Riders rely on their reputation to land bookings. The NFR would be the ultimate gig.

“What we do is not easy,” Bednarz explains. “We travel hundreds of miles—some riders haul their horses that far just for a practice—and spend countless hours away from our families. The drills require exquisite horsemanship and trust in 11 other horses and 11 other riders, who at any moment could make a wrong move and seriously injure you or your horse.”

As the Spirit Riders burst into the arena for an official rodeo performance, lights flashing off their shiny, Texas-themed outfits, the horse-savvy crowds recognize equine athletes who, in many cases, have been livin’ large in the saddle since they were toddlers. Former captain Rachael Kiowski of Lone Oak, who passed the TSR torch to Bednarz and now serves as a coach for the team, first perched on horseback at the tender age of 2. Senior rider Ellen Larue, 60, of Cooper waited till the advanced age of 7 to mount up, acquiring her first horse, a Welsh pony named Lightning, at 10.

Larue currently rides a 16-year-old sorrel mare named Reba. “She’s a little spoiled and doesn’t like to get her feet dirty,” Larue says. Reba will retire from drills after this year but will serve as a flag horse in military rides. Most drill horses, Larue says, are 3–10 years old, though the younger the better. The drills are such a workout that older horses can develop arthritis. “And it’s generally quarter horses, thoroughbreds and mustangs. Gaited and saddle horses, not so much.”

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT Riders feed off energy from the crowd at Winnsboro Rodeo Arena in May. Jennifer Keahey makes sure Maddy Farem’s knot is just right. Katrina Czarnecki sprinkles glitter on a horse. Shelby Woolly sports a personalized belt buckle. Erica Bednarz parades the Stars and Stripes.



As the Spirit Riders burst into the arena for an official rodeo performance, lights flashing off their shiny, Texas-themed outfits, the horse-savvy crowds recognize equine athletes who, in many cases, have been livin' large in the saddle since they were toddlers.

In a practice session in March, Larue participates in a flag drill that pays tribute to every branch of the armed forces. “We Support The Troops,” reads the flag of the next-to-last rider who solos through the arena to join the other riders carrying flags of each branch. The last rider, 19-year-old Savannah Nichols of Leesburg, stands on her horse’s saddle and holds the Stars and Stripes aloft as her mount gallops across the arena. It’s a stirring display.

Nichols says it’s an adrenaline rush to ride into the arena for a roaring crowd. Even the horses get pumped up, Larue says. “They start dancing in the alleyway, and their ears perk up,” she says. “And the louder the crowd whoops and hollers, the faster they run.”

The Texas Spirit Riders’ performance style, Larue says, is

more intense, with faster riding and two to three times as many maneuvers in a drill as other teams. “Even our music is different,” Bednarz says. “In addition to pop and country, we ride to heavy metal.”

The team incorporates cross, charro and pinwheel maneuvers into its routines. In the standard cross, riders crisscross the arena diagonally, each passing through just as another has moved on. A more complex variation is a box cross. “That’s when you have four horses to a ‘box,’ ” Kiowski explains, “and they cross other boxes in the center of the arena. It’s scary to watch, and the riders really have to be on their toes.”

The charro is a drill in which the horses all line up behind a lead rider, each horse’s head tucked at the knee of the



CATCH THE SPIRIT RIDERS NEAR YOU

In August they will perform at rodeos in Paris, San Saba, Wolfe City and Wichita Falls. In September they will dazzle at the Palomino Fest & Pro Rodeo in Uvalde and end the season with their Disney in the Dirt extravaganza at the Winnsboro Rodeo Arena.



rider in front of it. “Teams generally include several standard drills, mixed with elements of their own choreography,” Kiowski says. “We still have Lynsey’s handwritten drills, and we’ll be honoring her with those.”

The team’s leaders have also worked toward Berger’s desire to grow the Spirit Riders. A team of just six riders appearing at five rodeos a year has expanded to four teams with a total of 32 riders, with performances for at least 14 rodeos booked this year.

“Doors opened left and right,” says Bednarz, “and riders just began falling from the sky.” The 2022 Texas Spirit Riders team includes a novice team, ages 4–8; a junior team, 8–13, which trots through maneuvers; a semipro team; and a pro team that usually performs with 12 riders. Most of the pros are in their 30s. All four teams have performed in (or are scheduled to perform in) at least three appearances this rodeo season, which began in May.

“Erica’s a dreamer with big goals,” Kiowski says. “And she doesn’t stop until she reaches them. She’ll make it to the NFR.” ■

CLOCKWISE FROM OPPOSITE Bednarz, atop Blue, has led the Spirit Riders since August 2020. A young fan gets a celebrity pic with some of the riders. Casey Partanen, left, and Keahey perfect their makeup early in the morning before a parade through Winnsboro.



Bringing Texans UP TO Date

Cartoonist **ROGER MOORE** marks his uncommon calendar with amusing tidbits

The Bona Fide Original Real Texas Calendar doesn't start with January like most calendars, but why should it?

Texas didn't start in January, either.

At least that's how cartoonist Roger Moore, a third-generation Texan who has been making the calendar since 1997, sees it. In classic maverick style, Moore's calendar begins on March 2, the date in 1836 when Texas settlers famously declared their independence from Mexico. A lot has happened in Texas since then, of course, and Moore addresses much of it with humorous and history-packed notations.

Besides the calendar, Moore has written *The Handy Pocket Tex-Book: A Pocket-Sized Guide to Essential Information That Every Good Texan Must Know About Texas*, which informs readers about such necessary facts as the official state dog breed (blue lacy), the official state vehicle (not the pickup truck but the chuck wagon) and the official state snack (tortilla chips and salsa). Kids can read his *Critters of the Lone Star State*, filled with trivia about javelinas, armadillos and rattlesnakes, and *Slim's Hat*, which teaches the proper uses of a cowboy hat beyond decorating the top of a person's head. And Moore has produced a collection of his favorite cartoons, *Texas, My Texas*.

But the calendar remains his biggest seller.

Each month features a full-page cartoon celebrating an important Texan or poking irreverent fun at something that happened on Texas soil. Interesting factoids about the Lone Star State and the people who have lived here pepper every page.

Flip through a few copies and you'll learn that Emma Banister of Coleman County became the first female sheriff in the U.S. on

August 1, 1918; Popeye the Sailor was born in a comic strip by Elzie Crisler Segar in the *Victoria Advocate* on January 17, 1929; and Texan Van Cliburn won his first international piano competition in Moscow on April 14, 1958.

Moore, 77, lives on a small farm near Merkel, west of Abilene, with his wife, Martha. On a cool spring morning, he wore a cowboy hat, red bandana, blue jeans and boots as he sat at a lighted drawing table in his home office and used an archival fine-tip black pen to sketch out a quick cowboy. A pair of tiny boots doubled as a lamp base behind him; a wooden roll-top desk stood in one corner; and a framed Texas flag hung on the wall.

"I can't remember when I wasn't drawing," he says with a wisecrack. "I tell people I drew before I walked when I was 13."

Moore was born in Beaumont and later moved to Merkel. His mother, who liked to make delicate pencil sketches, encouraged him to draw.



OPPOSITE Roger Moore sketches a cowboy at his home near Merkel. RIGHT Moore hopes his cartoons "make you giggle a little bit."

“Everything happens in my pickup. It’s a think tank.”

Moore



“She told me it was all right to be an artist, even when I took some heat for it at school,” Moore says. “I got some paddlings for drawing in class.”

Moore was a standout athlete in high school. After college, he briefly coached at a high school in Hamlin, about 30 miles north of Merkel. He went on to work as a foreman for Texas Instruments, then began selling textbooks. He launched his own advertising agency, called Moore & More, after moving to Austin in 1971. About that time, he began selling editorial cartoons to newspapers.

“I went to a couple of newspapers and said, ‘Y’all need a cartoonist,’ ” Moore says. At first, he drew political cartoons but eventually switched to less controversial topics. “I gave up on politics. I really wasn’t all that into it, but they liked my style and my price, which was damn near nothing.”

His cartoons—now focused on topics near to Texans’ hearts, like Stetson hats, barbed wire, pink grapefruit and cowboys (football and otherwise)—still appear in about 25 small newspapers around the state. A binder filled with hundreds of sketches rests on his desk.

“I’m not very good, but I’m real fast,” says Moore, a Taylor Electric Cooperative member. In his heyday, he could whip up a cartoon in a couple of hours. “The hard part is the idea, and it needs to be mildly amusing. It’s stupid to have a cartoon that doesn’t make you giggle a little bit.”

But cartoons, he says, are much more than drawings.

“Cartooning is not artwork; it’s enhancing the words,” Moore says. “First, you’ve got to come up with the idea. I think of an event and try to come up with a play on words. That usually leads to an idea. Some come easy, some don’t.”

Moore says he gets his best inspiration while driving Texas back roads and highways.

“Everything happens in my pickup. It’s a think tank,” he says, adding that he was driving between Austin and Abilene when the idea for a calendar first popped into his head. He and an assistant researched the state’s history and picked out people and events to highlight.

Lou David Allen, a retired NASA engineer and former mayor of Merkel, met Moore when they were high school students, but they became friends after the cartoonist moved back to Merkel in 2008.

“I say every person is a poem waiting to be written. Roger thinks every circumstance is a cartoon waiting to be expressed in his iconic way,” Allen says. “He understands people. He reads them pretty quickly—and sometimes will announce their faults.”

Moore was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease two years ago, so cartooning takes longer now. Lines start out squiggly, getting smoother as his muscles warm up. He’s trying to shift to a slightly different style of drawing, without as many curves, dots, and dashes—anything that requires fine precision.

“It takes about 10 times as long,” he says. “It’s frustrating, to say the least.”

But Moore plugs on, digging deep into the can-do spirit that makes Texans Texan.

“It’s the only thing I can do that provides a release,” Moore says. “I’ve got creative ideas about a lot of things, but I can only cartoon. And I know I can do that, even with Parkinson’s.” ■

**We're putting windows
& doors back in your**

BUDGET



How you save money with us:

- **Most contractors and small window companies can't offer the larger discounts that we do** because they don't have the 119-year history or resources that our parent company Andersen provides.
- **Our low monthly payment options are so great** that many customers who thought they'd pay with cash chose to finance all or part of their project instead.
- We offer **flexible financing options** for all kinds of budgets. Finance four windows, just a door or your whole house! Many customers even pay off their projects early.



Now until August 31st

Save \$347
on windows¹

Save \$939
on patio doors¹

Save an
extra

5%

on your
entire
order¹

with \$0 0 0% for 1 Whole YEAR²
Down Payments Interest

Call or scan the code to book your FREE Window & Door Diagnosis



**RENEWAL
by ANDERSEN**
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT



Austin

512-298-1858 • 469-606-5229

Dallas/Fort Worth

San Antonio

210-961-9990 • TopWindowSolution.com

¹Subject to availability, on a total purchase of 3 or more. To qualify for discount offer, initial contact for an appointment must be made and documented on or before 8/31/22 with the purchase then occurring on or before 9/10/22. ²No payments and deferred interest for 12 months available from third-party lenders to well qualified buyers on approved credit only. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Products are marketed, sold and installed (but not manufactured) by Renewal by Andersen retailers, which are independently owned and operated under Central Texas Windows & Doors LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Austin and San Antonio. North Texas Windows & Doors LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Dallas/Fort Worth and West Texas. See complete information and entity identification at www.rbaguidelines.com. ©2022 Andersen Corporation. ©2022 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.

EXTREME

ACTION.
ENERGY.
HEART.



FORT WORTH, TX

SEPT.
8-10
2022

GET YOUR TICKETS



EXTREME
MUSTANG MAKEOVER
A MUSTANG HERITAGE FOUNDATION PRODUCTION



FREE \$2 Bill!



Based on an 1818 painting that depicts John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and Ben Franklin presenting a draft of the Declaration of Independence

Special Offer for New Customers Only Ages 18+

Dept. 5YD434

REQUEST MUST BE RECEIVED
WITHIN 30 DAYS

YES! Please send me the following:

QTY	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
1	\$2 Note (limit 1)	FREE!
	Shipping	FREE!
	TOTAL	FREE!

Name _____ Please print clearly

Address _____ Apt # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____
Mail to:
Littleton Coin Company
Serving Collectors Since 1945
Dept. 5YD434
1309 Mt. Eustis Road
Littleton NH 03561-3737

Get a Rarely Seen Uncirculated \$2 Federal Reserve Note **FREE!**

Get a seldom-seen \$2 bill in Uncirculated condition **FREE!** Depicting Thomas Jefferson on the face and the famous painting *Declaration of Independence* on the back, \$2 notes make up less than 1% of all paper money issued by the Federal Reserve. And if you find one in circulation, it won't be in this new condition!



These exciting \$2 bills...

- Depict Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence and 3rd U.S. president, on both face and back
- Make up less than 1% of all U.S. currency notes printed
- Are rarely found in circulation

Request Within 30 Days to Receive Your \$2 Note **FREE** – Plus **FREE** Shipping!

Why are we offering such a great deal? Because we're so sure you'll like this **FREE** \$2 Note that you'll enjoy receiving other popular coins to preview in your home. You'll receive a handpicked trial selection of fascinating coins from our No-Obligation Coins-on-Approval Service, from which you may purchase any or none of the coins – return balance in 15 days – with option to cancel at any time. To receive your **FREE** \$2 Federal Reserve Note, mail attached coupon now.

Mail Coupon Today! For Faster Service
Visit: LittletonCoin.com/Specials

©2022 LCC, Inc.

Bad to the Bone

Full tang stainless steel blade with natural bone handle —now **ONLY \$79!**

The very best hunting knives possess a perfect balance of form and function. They're carefully constructed from fine materials, but also have that little something extra to connect the owner with nature. If you're on the hunt for a knife that combines impeccable craftsmanship with a sense of wonder, the **\$79 Huntsman Blade** is the trophy you're looking for.

The blade is full tang, meaning it doesn't stop at the handle but extends to the length of the grip for the ultimate in strength. The blade is made from 420 surgical steel, famed for its sharpness and its resistance to corrosion.

The handle is made from genuine natural bone, and features decorative wood spacers and a hand-carved motif of two overlapping feathers—a reminder for you to respect and connect with the natural world.

This fusion of substance and style can garner a high price tag out in the marketplace. In fact, we found full tang, stainless steel blades with bone handles in excess of \$2,000. Well, that won't cut it around here. We have mastered the hunt for the best deal, and in turn pass the spoils on to our customers.

But we don't stop there. While supplies last, we'll include a pair of \$99 8x21 power compact binoculars *and* a genuine leather sheath **FREE** when you purchase the **Huntsman Blade**.

Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed. Feel the knife in your hands, wear it on your hip, inspect the impeccable craftsmanship. If you don't feel like we cut you a fair deal, send it back within 30 days for a complete refund of the item price.

Limited Reserves. A deal like this won't last long. We have only 1120 **Huntsman Blades** for this ad only. Don't let this beauty slip through your fingers. Call today!

Huntsman Blade \$249*

Offer Code Price Only **\$79** + S&P **Save \$170**

1-800-333-2045

Your Insider Offer Code: HUK810-01

You must use the insider offer code to get our special price.

Stauer® 14101 Southcross Drive W., Ste 155, Dept. HUK810-01
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 www.stauer.com

*Discount is only for customers who use the offer code versus the listed original Stauer.com price.

California residents please call 1-800-333-2045 regarding Proposition 65 regulations before purchasing this product.

- 12" overall length; 6 1/2" stainless steel full tang blade • Genuine bone handle with brass hand guard & bolsters • Includes genuine leather sheath

Stauer... *Afford the Extraordinary.®*

**EXCLUSIVE
FREE**

Stauer® 8x21
Compact
Binoculars

-a **\$99 value-**
with purchase of
Huntsman Blade



BONUS! Call today and you'll also receive this genuine leather sheath!

What Stauer Clients Are Saying About Our Knives

★★★★★

"This knife is beautiful!"

— J., La Crescent, MN

★★★★★

"The feel of this knife is unbelievable...this is an incredibly fine instrument."

— H., Arvada, CO



Rating of A+



**DARRYL
SCHRIVER**

PRESIDENT/
CHIEF
EXECUTIVE
OFFICER

We are in this Together

SUMMER IS IN FULL SWING and so is the Texas heat! At Tri-County Electric Cooperative, we are focused on keeping the power flowing so you can stay cool, and providing tips and tools to help you manage your energy consumption in the most efficient way. We have more than 101 ways to save energy on our website at tcectexas.com/energy-efficiency. Tips range from simple habit changes – like turning your smart thermostat to 78 degrees when you are away from home – to home-improvement options – like adding insulation to attic areas.

Beyond managing consumption, we also understand you are feeling the increase in the cost of power. There are several factors that affect the cost of power that we pass on to you from our wholesale power supplier.

Natural gas remains the predominant generating fuel used to produce power in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) market. Over the past several months, we have seen substantial increases in the price of natural gas. The increases in the price of natural gas are not specific to Tri-County Electric Co-op, or Texas. In fact, these price increases are being experienced across the nation. For example, the average cost for natural gas in 2021 was \$3.89/MMBtu. Today, natural gas is trading at around \$8/MMBtu.

Additional factors such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine, halted oil production in the gulf coast, disruptions caused by the February freeze, and supply chain constraints have all affected market conditions in ERCOT. For all these reasons and others, the cost of power we purchase from Brazos Electric Power Cooperative (Brazos) has gone up over the last several months.

Tri-County Electric Co-op is a distribution cooperative, which means that we do not produce power. We are required to purchase wholesale generation and transmission services through Brazos, which generates a portion of its member-cooperative's requirements and purchases the rest through the ERCOT wholesale market. Tri-County Electric Co-op then passes the cost of wholesale generation and transmission services we receive from Brazos on to you, our member-owners, at our cost, without a mark-up. Because Tri-County Electric Co-op has not had a distribution rate increase (the portion of the rate we keep to operate and maintain the Co-op) in 20 years, the amount of base (budgeted) power costs built into our rates is not reflective of the current market. 4276002

Our average wholesale costs over the last couple of months have been in excess of 11 cents per kWh and the base power costs built in our rates is only 4.8971 cents per kWh. The Power Cost Recovery Factor, or PCRf, component of our rate structure fluctuates monthly and is in place to "true-up" base (budgeted) power costs to actual power costs. Beginning with your June billing statement, the PCRf was 7.5 cents per kWh. In sum, the base power rate plus the PCRf rate – which constitute approximately 75% of your total bill – goes directly back to Brazos. The only money that stays with Tri-County Electric Co-op to operate and maintain the business comes from the Monthly Service Charge and the remainder of the kWh charge up and above the base power rate, which is approximately 25% of a typical residential bill.

Many of you who have been following my column know that Brazos filed for bankruptcy in March of 2021 after Winter Storm Uri. This has been a very costly endeavor. We hope that Brazos is nearing a plan to emerge from bankruptcy. With that, we are also hopeful that there will be future opportunities to purchase wholesale services at a more attractive rates, and that these savings can be passed on to you, our member-owners. We will keep you updated as the situation evolves. However, always remember we know our members are struggling with high costs in all areas of their lives right now, and we are in this together. ■



**MAX
WADDELL**

CHAIRMAN

DISTRICT 9

A Seat at the Board Table

THE PAST FEW MONTHS have been hot, long and quite frankly, hard. We understand the challenges of our current economic situation. In his column on the previous page, Darryl Schriver covered the rising natural gas prices and how it impacts your electric bill. You are not alone. The board and the employees who work for you understand the impact and are in the same boat. We are in this together.

Through it all, your board is hard at work taking care of you. It is our responsibility to make decisions that are best for the co-op and you, the members. Every decision has your best interest at the forefront.

As we come into the fall, Tri-County Electric Cooperative is approaching an exciting time with the director election and Annual Meeting just around the corner. We encourage you to participate in the election and meeting.

Director Election

Members have the opportunity to vote on three director seats this year – districts 5, 7 and 9. The Committee on Nominations and Qualifications approved five candidates to be placed on the ballot. Incumbents are Steve Harris (district 5), Larry Miller (district 7) and Max Waddell (district 9). These candidates currently sit on the board of directors and are seeking reelection. Mike Hall (district 5) and Sommer Portwood (district 7) are nomination candidates. Candidate biographies start on the next page, page 20. Members can join us for the Director Candidate Forum on Thursday, August 18 at 6:30 p.m. to learn more about each candidate.

Ballots will be mailed on the back of the September Texas Co-op Power magazine, as well as emailed to members with active email addresses. For the past two years, we have offered the traditional mail-in voting and online voting using the credentials on your ballot. This year, we are adding email balloting for your convenience. Members can expect your ballot in your email inbox on September 1.

The election opens September 1 and closes September 28, the Wednesday before the Annual Meeting. Voting in the director election is one of your rights and responsibilities as a co-op member-owner. Members who vote by the deadline will receive a \$25 bill credit for participating and will be entered into the door prize drawing at Annual Meeting. The \$25 bill credit is our thank-you for taking the time to invest in your co-op. 800886065

Annual Meeting

Tri-County Electric Co-op's 83rd Annual Meeting of the Members is Tuesday, October 4, at 7 p.m. For the third year, we are hosting the meeting virtually for your convenience. Members can watch online or listen by phone – from your home, office, car or wherever you may be.

This year's Annual Meeting will include a financial update, results from the director election, a co-op update and door prizes. The virtual platform paired with the flexible voting methods allows members to participate in a way that meets your needs. After all, what can be better than earning a \$25 bill credit through voting in the election and waiting to hear your name as a door prize winner? The Annual Meeting is our way of showing appreciation to you, our members.

I encourage you to watch your mail and email for your ballot, and to mark your calendar to participate in the Annual Meeting on October 4. ■

**Earn a \$25 bill
credit by voting
in this year's
director election!**

District 5 Candidates



**STEVE
HARRIS**

INCUMBENT

I have served on the Tri-County Electric Cooperative board of directors since February 1998, including nine years as board chairman. 800775339

The co-op's national trade association, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), offers training

and classes to provide knowledge and resources to electric cooperative directors across the nation. I earned my Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) certificate and am working toward my Board Leadership Certificate (BLC).

I am a life-long resident of the Agnes community in northwest Parker County. As a fourth generation northwestern Parker County resident, I am proud to say that I have lived in the same area for the past 60 years. After graduating from Poolville High School, I started my hay and cattle operation that I continue today.

Professionally, I operated a construction business for 35 years building bridges throughout many counties. For the past seven years, I have served as General Manager of Walnut Creek Special Utility District.

My community is very important to

me. I serve on the Bridgeport Municipal Airport Board, Parker County Soil & Water Conservation District, and the Agnes Community Association. Additionally, I previously served on the Parker County Appraisal District Board.

As a Tri-County Electric Co-op director, I have seen exponential growth. When I started, our co-op had 38,250 meters. Now, we have more than 126,500 meters. Also, I have seen numerous changes and played a hand in making decisions that have made things better, as well as some difficult and challenging times.

Our co-op continues to face some big challenges and opportunities, and I believe I am the right person to represent you in the board room and help the co-op find solutions. Thank you for allowing me to represent you, and I hope to serve you for another three years.



**MIKE
HALL**

*NOMINATION
CANDIDATE*

Mike Hall is a fourth-generation citizen of Parker County and has been a Tri-County consumer most of his life. As a local farmer and business owner, Mike has been involved in the Springtown and Azle communities for many years. He is a graduate of Abilene Christian University with a degree in General Agriculture and a Master's in Education Administration. Mike worked as a special education teacher, a teacher of the gifted and talented, as well as an intermediate and middle school principal before starting Strong Fathers-Strong Families.

As the Founder and President of Strong Fathers-Strong Families, LLC he has trained schools and early childhood

education programs in over 40 states and several different countries. He has written book chapters, magazine articles and several curricula on the importance of fathers being involved in the lives and education of their children. He was honored as a White House Champion of Change for his work in the fatherhood field in 2012.

Mike has spent the last 23 years working in schools and Head Start programs with very diverse populations and has presented and taught families in English, Spanish, and Portuguese. He has worked in inner-city programs as well as very rural programs from Northern New York State, through the Midwest, and as far as Northern California, Oregon, and Washington.

As owners of short-term rentals, Mike and his wife Sabra have welcomed countless guests to the country life and hosted many soon-to-be residents to the area at their Homestead Airbnb properties. Mike's sons Jake and Josh both graduated from Springtown High School and his wife Sabra taught for SISD for over 20 years.

Mike has been an elder and leader in his local church and presently serves as Board President for VOH-Ghana, a

non-profit that raises almost a million dollars per year for the Village of Hope, an orphanage, school, and hospital in Ghana, West Africa.

Mike is a fourth-generation farmer and runs beef cattle on the family farm and surrounding lease properties. As a steward of the land and a longtime resident he is concerned about the rights of property owners as well as dealing with the continued growth in the area.

As a board member of TCEC Mike would hope to bring the generational experience as a longtime resident and member of the Co-op with an understanding of the growth that has and will continue to come to the District Five area. There will be many important decisions to be made in the coming years by the board as growth continues to be a factor in providing service to present members. Board leaders should remember the present members and their long-standing membership with the opportunities and responsibilities that come with being a part of a rapidly growing area of the state. TCEC should provide top-notch service with the most up-to-date technology while preserving the incredible value of a member-owned entity like TCEC.

District 7 Candidates



**LARRY
MILLER**

INCUMBENT

I have served on the Tri-County Electric Cooperative board of directors since August 2005. I completed training requirements for his Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) certificate, obtained my Board Leadership Certificate (BLC) and every year I complete the

training to maintain the Director Gold Credential through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

I attended Texas Tech University and graduated in 1971 with a B.S. in Range Science. After graduation, I went to work for Case-Tenneco in Dallas before returning home to help out on the farm that has been in my family since 1902. As a fourth-generation family farmer in the Seymour area, I run stocker cattle and grow small grains including wheat, oats and sesame. In 1999 I was presented the Conservation Farmer of the Year award.

I retired from the USDA Soil Conservation Service in 2005 after more than 30 years of service. I served on the Seymour Volunteer Fire Department from 1982-1997, attended fire school at Texas A&M University, and was on the crops and

forage committee for the Texas Agrilife Extension Service. I have also served as a director on the Baylor County Agriculture Appraisal Board, Baylor County Farmers Co-op Association and on Capital Farm Credit Cooperative Board for more than 10 years.

My wife, Annette, and I have been married for more than 50 years. We have a daughter, Chelsi, a son, Ryan, two granddaughters and a grandson.



**SOMMER
PORTWOOD**

*NOMINATION
CANDIDATE*

Growing up in a small, rural community, 4-H tends to play a large role in one's life; it certainly did in mine. The organization's motto has stuck with me all these years: "To Make the Best Better." That is exactly what I will strive to do if I am elected to serve as the Tri-County Electric Cooperative District 7 Board member. 800888556

I was born and raised outside of Seymour, Texas, on my family's ranch that was established by my great-grandfather in 1901. I graduated from Seymour High School in 1999 and left home to attend college at Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. There I earned both a Bachelor of Business

Administration in Management degree and a Master of Business Administration degree. After graduation, I worked in Central and South Texas for ten years as a pharmaceutical sales representative with Schering-Plough Corporation and numerous other companies. In 2010, I made the decision to return to Seymour so that I could be closer to my family, as well as to have the opportunity to give back to the community that gave so much to me. Over the next 10 years, I purchased existing businesses and opened two new ones in an effort to make Seymour the ultimate small town to call home. Today, I own and operate two of those small businesses: a brand-new specialty beverage store and a thriving steakhouse.

I have 20 years of experience of putting the customer first, creating effective business plans and budgets, and problem solving to find solutions that not only work for my customers, but also for my employees. All of these are skills that will prove worthy when the time comes to take a stance on matters of importance to TCEC and its members.

I continuously keep an eye out for opportunities that will improve the lives of citizens in and around Seymour, and I proudly serve our community as

a member of the Seymour Community Development Corporation board. In 2019, I was recognized by the Seymour Chamber of Commerce with the Entrepreneur of the Year award.

The electric cooperative business model is one that looks out for its members and always has their best interests in mind in order to empower them; it is an honest model that America is fortunate to have. I would be honored to serve as a director within such a business model. Thank you for your vote to serve as your District 7 Board member. Together, we can work hard "to make the best better."

District 9 Candidate



MAX WADDELL

INCUMBENT
UNOPPOSED

I have been a director of Tri-County Electric Cooperative since June 2010. During that time, I have served two terms as vice-chairman, and I'm currently chairman of the board.

Through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) training program, I've completed more

than 300 classroom hours of courses in financial decision-making, directors' duties and responsibilities, board roles and relationships, capital credits, new and emerging technologies, ethics, transparency, communication, risk management, emergency response and other areas of co-op governance. I have completed training requirements for the Credentialed Co-op Director (CCD) certificate, Board Leadership Certificate (BLC), and I attend yearly training to maintain the Director Gold Credential.

I grew up in Bowie and graduated from high school there. I became a licensed paramedic and worked as a first responder in Gainesville and The Colony Fire Department for years before attending Parker University in Dallas, where I graduated in 1993. I have owned and operated Waddell Chiropractic in Keller since 1994.

Shelly and I have been married since 1985, and we have four children. We've lived in Keller since 1994 and remain actively involved in our church and community. I am a past president of the Keller Rotary Club and have served on the boards of the Keller Chamber of Commerce and the YMCA. Shelly works in the insurance industry and has also been active in the community through the Chamber of Commerce and the Keller Women's Club. 8005023204

During my time on the Tri-County Electric Co-op board, I've helped guide the co-op through a change in leadership, the transition to AMI metering, an extensive revision of the bylaws and a period of unprecedented growth. It has been an honor serving you on the board and I look forward to taking care of you.

Save the Date!

Director Candidate Forum

Thursday, August 18 | 6:30 p.m.

Each director candidate will be asked a series of questions by co-op staff, as well as take questions from the membership. The virtual forum will be recorded and available on our website one week after the event.

Stream Online: tcectexas.com/director-elections

Listen by phone: 855-710-6229

Annual Meeting

Tuesday, October 4 | 7:00 p.m.

Join us virtually for the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Members. More information to come in the September Texas Co-op Power magazine - including your ballot for the director election. Members who vote in the election will receive a \$25 bill credit.



Saving Time with Automation

SET UP TEXT AND EMAIL notifications to stay informed on your account. As a member-owner, we give you the option to choose the types of notifications you want to receive based on your preferences. We know summertime is a busy time, and you may not frequently check your account for that new bill. As your co-op, we are here to help you out by providing an option to notify you when your new bill is available.

Additionally, we offer a seven-day due date reminder. This automated notification is a friendly reminder that you bill has not been paid and is due soon. For that extra sense of security, there is the payment confirmation notification to let you know your payment has been received.

For members who like to track their electric use, the daily usage alert sends you how many kilowatt-hours you consumed in a day so you can put the power of your electric use in your hands. ■

Online Portal Saves Time

BY CAMERON SMITH, COMMUNICATIONS INTERN

AS YOUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, we are always here to help. Our committed member service team is the first point of contact at the co-op and answers all your calls and emails. Recently, the team has experienced an increase in calls through our call center leading to longer wait times. If you have called into our offices the past few months, you may have spent more time waiting to talk to a representative.

In June, the member service team fielded 9,394 member calls. The average member spent four minutes on hold and nearly six minutes speaking with a member service representative. During our busy times, when call volumes are highest, members were on hold for nearly 10 minutes waiting for assistance from a representative. 8003895901

Almost half of the calls that came into the queue were questions related to member accounts. Questions like account balance and bill due date were asked most frequently. We know your time is valuable and understand you do not always have time to call in or stay on hold. Members have a variety of options to access information when needed, or when payments need to be made.

You can find your account balance and bill due date on the online member portal or TCEC Connect, our mobile app, in less than a minute. Not only will it save you time, but it is on your schedule. Our member service team is available 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. When you have questions outside of these hours, the portal and app are there to answer your questions.

Easy Ways to Pay

Approximately 1,383 members called to make a payment with one of our representatives. When you need to pay your bill, it's easy to make a phone call. After all, you are our top priority, and we are here to help you. But if you are in a time crunch, consider paying online through the member portal or TCEC Connect. You can even set up auto draft through the portal so you can leave the worry of missing a payment behind. We also offer payment through an Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system that puts you through to a secured automated payment service.

Tri-County Electric Co-op is your co-op, and we are here to help, whether that be on the phone, through email or simply by helping you set up notifications to take one less thing off your to-do list. We are always here to take care of you. ■

Best Times to Call

Call Times	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8 AM					
9 AM					
10 AM					
11 AM					
Noon					
1 PM					
2 PM					
3 PM					
4 PM					
5 PM					

⚡ Shortest Hold Time

⚡ Average Hold Time

⚡ Longest Hold Time

Save More Money

BY ANNIE WATSON, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

TRI-COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE members can now save money at hundreds of locations, including restaurants, sporting and entertainment events, retailers and pharmacies.

The Co-op Connections program is a web-based coupon program with local deals in our area and savings across the nation. To sign up and start saving, members can visit connections.coop. Take savings on the go by downloading the mobile app on the Apple Store or Google Play.

Andrea McCleese, director of member services, says this program will bring added benefits to members by saving at locations where you already shop. 43872001

"With the app, members can scroll through deals in the area, click and redeem to save," she said.

Ready to start saving? Visit connections.coop and sign up for an account under Tri-County Electric Co-op. This ties you into savings across our service area and nationally.

"We plan to partner with local restaurants and merchants to establish savings to help our members and our local small businesses grow," McCleese said. 920887001

Tri-County Electric Co-op members can access savings from Amazon, Cinemark, Dish, Gift Tree, numerous hotels and more.

We are able to offer the program to you, our members, through our partnership with Touchstone Energy Cooperatives. Looking to learn more? Visit tcectexas.com/co-op-connections. Happy saving! ■

Tri-County Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

CONTACT US

200 Bailey Ranch Road

Aledo, TX 76008

Phone 817-444-3201

Email customer_service@tcectexas.com

Web tcectexas.com

President/CEO

Darryl Schriver

Board of Directors

Max Waddell, District 9 - Chairman

John Killough, District 6 - Vice Chairman

Margaret Koprek, District 2 - Secretary/Treasurer

Kevin Ingle, District 1

Jorden Wood, District 3

Jerry A. Walden, District 4

Steve V. Harris, District 5

Larry Miller, District 7

Michael Sivertsen, District 8

24/7

Outage Reporting

For information and to report outages, please contact us.

Online: oms.tcectexas.com

App: TCEC Connect

Phone: 817-444-3201

Text: OUTAGE to 25069

ABOUT TRI-COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OP

Tri-County Electric Co-op owns and maintains more than 9,600 miles of line to provide electric service to more than 102,000 members in Archer, Baylor, Denton, Foard, Haskell, Hood, Jack, King, Knox, Palo Pinto, Parker, Stonewall, Tarrant, Throckmorton, Wilbarger, and Wise counties.

OFFICE LOCATIONS

Aledo

200 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo 76008

Azle

600 NW Parkway, Azle 76020

Granbury

1623 Weatherford Highway, Granbury 76048

Keller

4900 Keller-Hicks Road, Fort Worth 76244

Seymour

419 N. Main, Seymour 76380

IT PAYS TO STAY INFORMED

Find your account number in pages 18-25 of *Texas Co-op Power*, and you will receive a \$20 credit on your electric bill. Simply contact one of the offices listed above and make them aware of your discovery!

VISIT US ONLINE

tcectexas.com

[Facebook.com/TCECTexas](https://www.facebook.com/TCECTexas)



Taco Squares

BY ELVA DELAUNE
MILLSAP

- 1 lb. ground beef
- ½ cup chopped onion
- 1 package taco seasoning
- 16 oz. can refried beans
- 8 oz. can tomato sauce
- 2 cans crescent dinner rolls
- 1 cup grated cheddar cheese
- 1 cup grated Monterey jack cheese
- Lettuce, optional
- Fresh tomatoes, optional
- Sour cream, optional

1. Brown meat and onions in a skillet. Drain grease. Stir in taco seasoning, beans and tomato sauce. Simmer for five minutes.
 2. Unroll crescent roll dough into four, long rectangles. Place in an ungreased 15 x 10-inch pan. Press over bottom and 1 inch up the sides to form crust.
 3. Bake at 375°F for 25-30 minutes, or until golden brown.
 4. Sprinkle with cheese. Return to oven and cook until cheese is melted, approximately 2-3 minutes.
 5. Cut into squares and top with meat mixture, chopped lettuce, tomatoes, sour cream, etc.
4. Enjoy!



WYSEGUIDE

OUTAGE TEXTING

Text "OUTAGE"
to 25069
to report your outage





A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

For more info: tccetexas.com/outage-texting

Tri-County Electric Co-op Member Recipe Submission Form

MEMBER _____

CITY _____

EMAIL or PHONE NUMBER _____

RECIPE NAME _____

SUBMITTING YOUR RECIPE:

EMAIL: Please include the above information with your recipe and send to pr@tccetexas.com

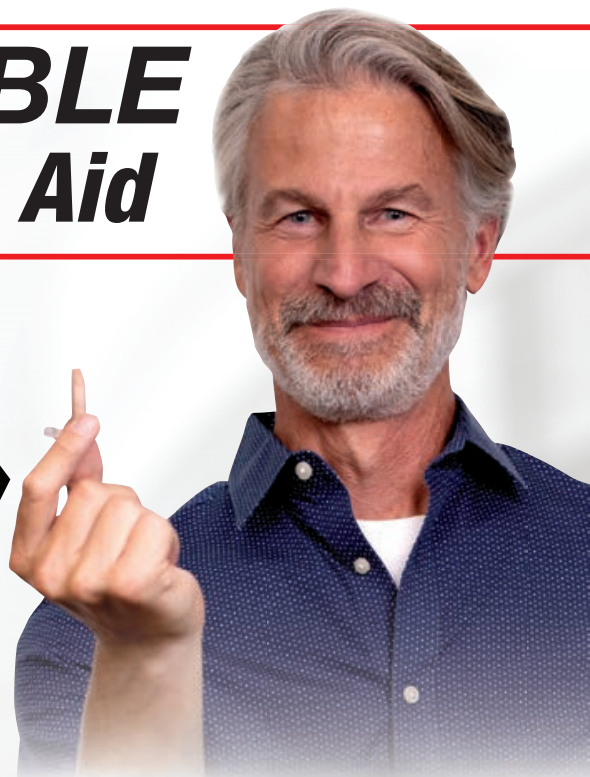
ONLINE: tccetexas.com/recipe-submission

MAIL: Please detach and submit this form with your recipe and mail to:

Tri-County Electric Cooperative
Attn: Recipe Submission
200 Bailey Ranch Road
Aledo, Texas 76008



RECHARGEABLE Digital Hearing Aid



BUY 1
GET 1 **FREE**

**NEW LOW
PRICE**

REG ~~\$299.98~~
**ONLY
\$149⁹⁹**

Each When You Buy a Pair

PLUS FREE SHIPPING
Limited Time Only!

How can a rechargeable hearing aid that costs only \$149⁹⁹ be every bit as good as one that sells for \$2,400 or more?

The answer: Although tremendous strides have been made in Hearing Aid Technology, those cost reductions have not been passed on to you. Until now...

The MDHearingAid® VOLT uses the same kind of technology incorporated into hearing aids that cost thousands more at a small fraction of the price.

Over 800,000 satisfied MDHearingAid customers agree: High-quality, digital, FDA-registered **rechargeable** hearing aids don't have to cost a fortune. The fact is, you don't need to spend thousands for a hearing aid. MDHearingAid is a medical-grade, digital, rechargeable hearing aid offering sophistication and high performance; and works right out of the box with no time-consuming "adjustment" appointments. You can contact a licensed hearing specialist conveniently online or by phone — even after your purchase at no cost. No other company provides such extensive support. Now that you know...why pay more?

**Everything you need in a hearing aid...
EXCEPT THE HIGH PRICE!**

CHARGE AT NIGHT **AND GO** ALL DAY

**NEVER
CHANGE
A BATTERY
AGAIN!**



Carrying case is also the charger

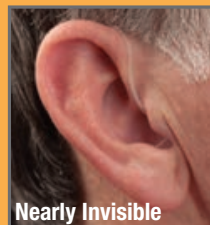
45-DAY RISK-FREE TRIAL!

If you are not completely satisfied with your MDHearingAids, return them within 45 days for a **FULL REFUND!**

For the Lowest Price Call

1-800-535-4118

www.MDVolt.com



Nearly Invisible

Use Code **LU15**
and get **FREE Shipping**

MDHearingAid® >>>

DOCTOR DESIGNED | AUDIOLOGIST TESTED | FDA REGISTERED



Proudly assembled
in America!



SUMMER SAVINGS



Bolt Together Steel Building Kits

Customer Service
Second to None

DDM Brenham Office
979-251-9503
301 Salem Road • Brenham

DDM Bastrop Office
512-321-0336
1083 Hwy 71 W. • Bastrop

Photos for illustration only. Prices subject to change. Please check for your local buildings codes. Prices include color walls, color trim and galvalume roof.

*Building prices are before freight and taxes.



All Metal Structures



Made in Texas



Custom Barndominiums/Metal Houses

Affordable • Low Maintenance • Energy Efficient



40'x15'x12'



30'x40'x12'



**Call today for
our best pricing!**

www.ddmbuildings.com

BRUSH SHARK

SKID STEER MOUNTED SHEAR

- 1/2" to 6" diameter trees and brush.
- Perfect for cedar, shin oak, persimmon, mesquite.

(512) 263-6830 • www.brushshark.com

Low Cost Pole Barns

26' x 48' x 10'
3 Sides Enclosed

Call now for our best pricing!

Hay/Horse Barns, Shops, Decks, Concrete Work and Pad Sites

Call Ron: 512-367-0428

WE PAY TOP PRICES FOR COLLECTIBLES

Coins • Banknotes • Gold & Silver Jewelry & Scrap
Vintage Costume Jewelry • Watches • Stamps
Tokens • Historical Documents • Other Collectibles

TEXAS BUYERS GROUP • FREDERICKSBURG, TX
All transactions private, confidential & secure.

830-997-6339 • rzcoins@twc.com

WD Metal Buildings

- Turnkey Metal Buildings
- Continuous Roof Design
- 5" Reinforced Concrete Slabs
- Experienced Erection Crews
- Heavy Duty Overhead Doors

Instant Prices @ WDMB.com

TCP Gift Shop

TCP Shop now
TexasCoopPower.com/shop

ARK-LA-TEX
SHOP BUILDERS
"WE GOTCHA COVERED"

SHOPS • BARNs • CABINS • WWW.SHOPSBUILT.COM

830-730-0515
8670 IH 35 N NEW BRAUNFELS, TX

BUILDINGS OF ALL SIZES

Shops • Garages • Barns • Equipment Sheds • Barndominiums

WE MAKE DREAMS COME TRUE!

Price includes all labor and materials with 4" steel reinforced concrete slab with moisture barrier, one 10'x10' heavy duty roll up door, one 3 foot steel entry door, concrete aprons, electric slab *TDOT may be extra)

TCP Marketplace
Across Town | Across Texas

Advertise in Texas Co-op Power Marketplace
Elaine Sproull (512) 486-6251
advertising@TexasCoopPower.com

“To you, it’s the perfect lift chair. To me, it’s the best sleep chair I’ve ever had.”

— J. Fitzgerald, VA



Pictured is Luxurious & Lasting Brisa™. Ask about our 5 Comfort Zone chair.

**3 CHAIRS
IN ONE:**
SLEEP/RECLINE/LIFT

You can’t always lie down in bed and sleep. Heartburn, cardiac problems, hip or back aches – and dozens of other ailments and worries. Those are the nights you’d give anything for a comfortable chair to sleep in: one that reclines to exactly the right degree, raises your feet and legs just where you want them, supports your head and shoulders properly, and operates at the touch of a button.

Our **Perfect Sleep Chair®** does all that and more. More than a chair or recliner, it’s designed to provide total comfort. Choose your preferred heat and massage settings, for hours of soothing relaxation. Reading or watching TV? Our chair’s recline technology allows you to pause the chair in an infinite number of settings. And best of all, it features a powerful lift mechanism that tilts the entire chair forward, making it easy to stand. You’ll love the other benefits, too. It helps with correct spinal alignment and promotes back pressure relief, to prevent back and muscle pain. The overstuffed, oversized biscuit style

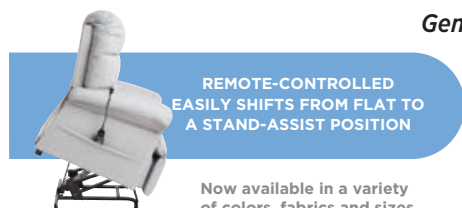
back and unique seat design will cradle you in comfort. Generously filled, wide armrests provide enhanced arm support when sitting or reclining. It even has a battery backup in case of a power outage.

White glove delivery included in shipping charge. Professionals will deliver the chair to the exact spot in your home where you want it, unpack it, inspect it, test it, position it, and even carry the packaging away! You get your choice of Luxurious and Lasting Brisa, Genuine Italian Leather, stain and liquid repellent Duralux with the classic leather look, or plush MicroLux microfiber, all handcrafted in a variety of colors to fit any decor. **Call now!**

journey
**perfect
sleep chair**

1-888-796-0741

Please mention code **117357** when ordering.



REMOTE-CONTROLLED
EASILY SHIFTS FROM FLAT TO
A STAND-ASSIST POSITION

Now available in a variety
of colors, fabrics and sizes.

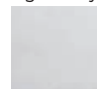
Genuine Italian Leather
classic beauty & style

Chestnut



! New Brisa™
luxurious & lasting

Light Gray



Saddle



Chocolate



Long Lasting DuraLux™
stain & liquid repellent

MicroLux™ Microfiber
breathable & amazingly soft

Burgundy



Tan



Chocolate



Blue



mobility | sleep | comfort | safety

enjoying life never gets old™

journey
HEALTH & LIFESTYLE

Because each Perfect Sleep Chair is a made-to-order bedding product it cannot be returned, but if it arrives damaged or defective, at our option we will repair it or replace it. © 2022 Journey Health and Lifestyle.





TCP Listen as W.F. Strong narrates this story on our website.



The Most Glorious Autumn

Tom Landry's finest season came in Mission, years before his reign in Dallas

BY W.F. STRONG

TOM LANDRY and Charles Schulz died on the same day: February 12, 2000. Mike Thompson of the *Detroit Free Press* honored the legendary football coach and cartoonist with a drawing showing them entering the Pearly Gates together. Schulz was depicted as Charlie Brown, and Landry had his arm around him, saying, "Now a few pointers on kicking a football ..."

For coach Landry, at least, I can't imagine a finer eulogy.

Known as the man in the hat, Landry was the stoic leader on the Dallas Cowboys sidelines, always impeccably dressed, sporting his fedora. "If there were a Mount Rushmore for the NFL," former commis-

sioner Paul Tagliabue said, "the profile of Tom Landry would have to be there, wearing his trademark hat."

In his 29 years as Dallas' head coach, Landry led the Cowboys to more playoff seasons than they've had since. His team won 13 division titles and played in five Super Bowls, winning two. They enjoyed 20 consecutive winning seasons.

As glorious as those years were, none equaled Landry's finest season in football.

Sure, he played for the New York Giants and was All-Pro one year, but that wasn't his finest season either. Landry also played for the University of Texas, but after only one semester, his career there was put on hold by World War II. He

volunteered to join the Army Air Corps and flew 30 missions over Europe, crash-landing once in Belgium.

To get to his best season ever, we must go all the way back to his high school years in Mission, in the Rio Grande Valley.

It was Landry's senior year, 1941. He played quarterback and defensive back and led the Mission Eagles to a perfect 12-0 season. In those 12 games, they gave up only one score: Donna High School managed to eke out one touchdown.

The Eagles went all the way to the regional championship, which was as far as they could go (there was no state championship then). In the regional game, they demoralized Hondo 33-0.

"That autumn of glory, shared with my boyhood friends ... remains perhaps my most meaningful season in my fifty years of football," Landry wrote in his 1980 autobiography. "The game was never more fun, the victories never sweeter, the achievement never more satisfying."

Landry's nearly flawless season and his professional career were honored in 1975 when the Mission school district named its football stadium for the coach.

After Landry's coaching days were over, he developed a sterling reputation as an inspirational speaker. He was fond of saying, "As of today, you have 100% of your life left."

He took his own words to heart. After he was fired by the Cowboys in 1989, while fans were livid about the way he was sacked, Landry was already moving on.

With characteristic optimism, he saw a silver lining. "As a boy growing up in Mission, Texas, I always dreamed of being a cowboy," he said. "For 29 wonderful years, I was one." ■

Best Burgers

Beyond the beef lie flavorful options that are sure to sizzle

BY MEGAN MYERS, FOOD EDITOR

I love exploring new burger recipes, and that includes patties made from chicken, fish or vegetarian substitutes. Bean burgers are a great meatless option that can take on various spices and flavor additions. My family loves falafel, so we often opt for making them burger-style. Note that they are a bit more finicky than meat patties. Be sure to let the mixture rest before cooking to let the breadcrumbs absorb excess liquid, and take care handling the patties because they can crumble easily.



Falafel Burgers

1 can (15 ounces) chickpeas, rinsed and well drained
½ onion, quartered
½ cup packed parsley leaves
2 cloves garlic
¼ cup breadcrumbs
2 teaspoons cumin
1 teaspoon ground coriander
1 teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon paprika
½ teaspoon pepper
Pinch ground cayenne pepper
¼ cup vegetable or olive oil

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a food processor, add chickpeas and pulse until well chopped and somewhat smooth. Transfer to a bowl. Add onion, parsley and garlic to food processor and pulse until finely chopped, then transfer to the bowl with the chickpeas. Add the breadcrumbs and spices and mix until uniformly incorporated. Let mixture rest 20 minutes.

2. Pour cooking oil into a skillet and heat to medium. Divide chickpea mixture into 4 patties and gently place in hot pan. Cook 4 minutes, then carefully flip and cook another 4 minutes.

3. Transfer to a rimmed baking sheet and bake 15 minutes, until cooked through. Let burgers rest 10 minutes to firm up before serving. Serve with hummus, cucumber, tomato, lettuce, pickled onions or other favorite toppings.

SERVES 4

TCP Follow along with Megan Myers and her adventures in the kitchen at stetted.com, where she features a recipe for Hatch Chile Turkey Burgers.



Homemade Popper-Topped Burgers

MARIA PENNER
LAMAR ELECTRIC

If you love jalapeño poppers, this burger is for you. Jalapeños can vary a lot in heat level, so feel free to reduce or increase the amount of peppers used.

TOPPING

8 ounces bacon, chopped
3 jalapeño peppers
8 ounces cream cheese, softened
¼ cup heavy cream

BURGERS

1 egg
1 jalapeño pepper
⅓ onion
1 pound ground beef
⅓ cup finely ground saltine crackers
1 teaspoon garlic salt
½ teaspoon pepper
2 tablespoons vegetable or olive oil
Mustard

1. TOPPING In a skillet over medium heat, cook bacon until crispy. Drain on paper towels. Broil or grill the jalapeños until skins are slightly charred on all sides. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Dice jalapeños, removing seeds first for less heat if preferred.

2. In a bowl, combine bacon, jalapeños, cream cheese and heavy cream until well blended. Scoop into a small baking dish and bake until heated through, about 15 minutes.

3. BURGERS Meanwhile, in a food processor, pulse together egg, jalapeño (removing seeds if preferred) and onion until smooth. Pour into a large bowl and

CONTINUED >



\$500 WINNER

Spicy Bacon Burgers

DANIEL BATES
COSERV



Full of flavor thanks to chorizo and added spices, these burgers are sure to be a hit fresh from the grill. If you don't have smoked paprika on hand, substitute your favorite variety.

SERVES 8

COOK'S TIP Bates suggests pressing a shallow divot into meat patties with a spoon or thumb so they come out flat after cooking.

1 pound 80% lean ground beef
1 pound Mexican-style chorizo
8 ounces thick-cut bacon, chopped into small pieces
1 egg
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
1 tablespoon light brown sugar
1 tablespoon smoked paprika
1 tablespoon onion powder
1 tablespoon dried minced garlic
1 tablespoon minced fresh garlic
1½ teaspoons salt
1½ teaspoons pepper
½ teaspoon crushed red chile flakes
1 tablespoon liquid smoke (optional)

1. In a large mixing bowl, combine all ingredients except liquid smoke. Mix by hand until evenly blended and smooth.

2. Divide mixture into 8 even portions, about ⅓ pound each. Form each portion into a patty and set onto a baking sheet lined with waxed paper. Press a spoon into the center of each patty to create a divot. If using liquid smoke, add 3 drops into each divot.

3. Preheat grill or a stovetop skillet to medium heat. Cook the burgers 3–5 minutes per side, depending on thickness. Serve with your favorite toppings.

TCP \$500 Recipe Contest

GLUTEN-FREE RECIPES DUE AUGUST 10

Gluten-free cooking isn't a trend; it's here to stay. What's a fixture in your kitchen? Submit your recipes on our website by August 10 for a chance to win \$500.



RECIPES CONTINUED

add ground beef, ground saltines, garlic salt and pepper. Mix by hand until evenly blended. Form into 4 large patties or 6 thinner patties.

4. Heat a cast-iron skillet over medium-high heat and add oil. Cook patties 3 minutes, then drizzle mustard onto uncooked side, flip and cook another 3 minutes. Serve with warm popper topping.

SERVES 4-6

Spicy Lamb Burgers

CINDY JOHNSON
COSERV

Fresh herbs are a great addition to burgers, especially combined with the unique flavor of lamb. Serve on brioche buns or tuck into a pita along with greens, tzatziki sauce, tomato slices and cucumbers.

1 pound ground lamb
2 tablespoons chopped fresh mint leaves



2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
2 tablespoons chopped fresh oregano
2 cloves garlic, chopped
1 teaspoon sherry
1 teaspoon white wine vinegar
1 teaspoon molasses
1 teaspoon cumin
¼ teaspoon allspice
½ teaspoon crushed red chile flakes
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
Feta cheese
Baby spinach
Tzatziki sauce
4 brioche buns or pitas, for serving

1. Preheat grill to medium heat. Place ground lamb into a large bowl. In a smaller bowl, combine mint, cilantro, oregano and garlic. Mix into lamb. Add sherry, vinegar and molasses and mix again. Add cumin, allspice, chile flakes, salt and pepper and mix until evenly blended.

2. Divide meat into 4 portions and shape into patties. Lightly brush grill grates with oil. Grill burgers 5 minutes per side, then place on buns or into pitas and immediately sprinkle with feta. Serve with baby spinach and tzatziki sauce.

SERVES 4

TCP You'll find more burger recipes on our website that are sure to help turn your cook-outs into grand successes. Most of them are from the kitchens of *Texas Co-op Power* readers just like you.

SEPTEMBER 23, 2022 ✨ **6PM - 9PM** ✨ **DOWNTOWN STEPHENVILLE**

**CELEBRATING
50 YEARS OF
MOO-LA**

**1972
-
2022**

AFFORDABLE LIFE INSURANCE

The Best Idea For ... Personal Insurance - Business Insurance - Mortgage Protection

10 - Year
Guaranteed
Level Rates

NON-TOBACCO MONTHLY RATES (Rounded up to the nearest dollar. Therefore, actual monthly rates may be slightly less)

Issue Age	\$100,000		\$250,000		\$500,000		\$1,000,000		Issue Age	\$100,000		\$250,000		\$500,000		\$1,000,000	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
30	9	8	11	9	14	12	20	17	61	39	29	69	48	124	88	234	163
35	10	9	11	10	15	12	21	19	62	42	32	77	54	138	99	260	181
40	10	10	14	12	19	16	28	25	63	46	36	86	60	156	112	292	204
44	12	11	17	15	26	22	42	35	64	50	41	96	67	174	126	327	227
45	13	11	18	16	29	24	47	38	65	55	46	107	75	195	142	365	253
46	14	11	19	17	31	26	50	41	66	61	50	118	86	214	152	403	274
47	14	12	20	18	33	28	54	44	67	68	55	131	99	234	163	447	297
48	15	13	21	19	35	30	59	48	68	76	61	147	115	260	176	500	325
49	16	13	23	20	38	32	65	53	69	84	67	164	131	287	190	556	355
50	16	14	25	21	41	34	70	58	70	94	74	183	150	318	205	619	389
51	17	15	27	22	45	37	78	63	71	104	84	208	162	367	239	712	450
52	18	16	29	24	50	40	87	69	72	116	96	236	175	423	276	818	519
53	19	17	32	26	55	43	99	76	73	129	110	271	191	493	323	949	604
54	20	18	35	28	61	47	110	83	74	144	125	307	207	565	371	1086	693
55	22	19	39	30	68	51	124	91	75	161	142	349	226	647	427	1242	794
56	24	20	42	32	74	55	137	100	76	205	179	426	279	799	535	1516	1001
57	26	21	46	34	82	59	151	109	77	254	221	514	338	972	657	1826	1236
58	29	23	51	37	91	65	170	121	78	316	273	623	411	1184	807	2210	1527
59	33	24	56	40	100	71	189	134	79	380	327	736	488	1407	966	2612	1831
60	36	26	62	44	111	78	210	148	80	454	389	865	576	1661	1145	3068	2177

**Call Wiley Maddox Today
to Request an Application:**

(203) 637-1544 or (800) 645-1544

Monday - Friday 8 am to 5 pm EST

Premiums illustrated represent 10 year level term insurance with guaranteed level premiums for 10 years. \$100,000 - \$1,000,000 rates are Select-A-Term [policy form no. 07007] Preferred Plus Non-tobacco. This coverage features a level death benefit with fully guaranteed level premiums for the first 10 years with coverage to expire at age 95. The policy may be continued on Annual Renewable Term at the end of the level premium period without evidence of insurability until the anniversary nearest the insured's 95th birthday. The underwriting risks, financial and contractual obligations and support functions associated with products issued by **American General Life Insurance Company (AGL)** Houston, TX are its responsibility. AGL does not solicit business in the state of New York. All terms, conditions and limitations of any policy issued shall govern. American General Life Companies is the marketing name for a group of domestic life insurers including American General Life Insurance Company and The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York. Policies and riders not available in all states. Premium rates current as of June 2022; rates may vary by state. Premiums available for other rate classes, ages and payment plans. Premium charges depend on evidence of insurability. Premiums increase at the end of the guaranteed term if policy is renewed. Death benefit remains level. The policy may be contested for two years from the date of issue for material misstatements or omissions on the application. Death benefit is limited to return of premium paid in the event of suicide within first two years. Rates subject to change. Standard Marketing Services represents AGL and other fine insurance companies.

WANTED: DEMO HOMESITES FOR 2022 SEASON

Display This Maintenance-Free Pool And \$SAVE \$\$!

Call TODAY to Qualify for this Limited-Time Opportunity!



VISIT US ON THE WEB!
WWW.SWIMTEXSUN.COM

**PRE-APPROVED
FINANCING
AVAILABLE!**

**WE CONSIDER
ANYTHING
ON TRADE!**

STAYcation at Home in 2022!

1-800-SWIMTEX (1-800-794-6839)

A family owned and operated Texas Company since 1986.





COURTESY CHET GARNER

Heaven Beyond Hell's Gate

Possum Kingdom Lake offers a scenic slice of paradise

BY CHET GARNER

ON THE SHORT LIST of places I never wanted to find myself, Hell's Gate sounded like it should be near the top. And yet there I was, about to pass through its ominous opening to see what might lurk on the other side.

Ironically, I found a slice of Texas paradise—refreshing water, warm sunshine and great tunes. Did I cheat death? Am I writing this article from the great beyond? Oh no! Hell's Gate, on the banks of Possum Kingdom Lake, is simply heavenly.

While the Hill Country west of Austin gets all the attention, there's a hidden hill country in North Texas that encompasses the sprawling Palo Pinto Mountains. And in the middle of it all lies a meandering lake named Possum Kingdom, about an hour west of the Metroplex. Its name dates to the early 1900s, when a prominent fur trader would refer to locals as the "boys of Possum Kingdom" due to an abundance of the furry varmints.

Today the lake is best known for the towering limestone cliffs that mark its banks and the countless boaters who flock there on weekends. Many of them congregate behind the stone walls of Hell's Gate and around Devil's Island. It's a narrow opening of water flanked by 90-foot cliffs.

The cliffs are so sheer they have hosted the Red Bull Cliff Diving World Series, which attracts hundreds of spectators who watch professional divers dance with the devil. And while brave novices may be tempted to jump, it's extremely dangerous and illegal.

I could feel a swell of Texas courage welling up in my chest, but I wasn't about to break the law. Luckily, my buddy knew of other cliffs within the legal limit for jumping (20 feet or less), and so we sped off and spent the afternoon jumping from much less hellish heights. ■

ABOVE Chet and the 90-foot cliffs at Possum Kingdom Lake.

TCP What the heck is Chet doing at Hell's Gate? See his latest video on our website to find out. Watch all his Texplorations on *The Daytripper* on PBS.



Know Before You Go

Call ahead or check an event's website for scheduling details.

AUGUST

07

D'Hanis Holy Cross Catholic Church Homecoming Picnic, (830) 363-7269, holycross-dhanis.org

11

Uvalde [11–14] Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, (830) 278-4184, uvaldeoperahouse.org

12

Boerne Movie in the Park: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, (830) 249-9511, ci.boerne.tx.us

Cedar Park [12–13] Rodeo, (512) 600-5000, hebcenter.com

Junction [12–13] Hill Country Fair Association Rodeo, (325) 446-3190, junctiontexas.com

Plano [12–13] Quilt Plano, 1-800-817-5266, qgplano.org

Sonora [12–13] Outlaw Rodeo and Sutton County Days, (325) 387-2880, sonorataxas.org

Levelland [12–14] World Series Team Roping Qualifier, (806) 894-4161, wstroping.com

13

Cedar Park Treasure of the Hills Senior Center Senior Expo, (512) 331-6000, toth-seniors.com

Grand Prairie Hatch Chile Fest, (972) 237-8084, grandfungp.com/farmersmarket

Junction Car Show, (325) 446-5658, junctiontexas.com/car-show

Kerrville Kids Triathlon,
(830) 257-7300,
kerrvilletx.gov

**Fredericksburg [13-14,
27-28] Live Pari-Mutuel
Horse Racing,**
(830) 997-2359,
gillespiefair.com

**Johnson City [17-20] Blanco
County Fair and Rodeo,**
bcfra.info@gmail.com,
bcfra.org

**Palacios [19-20] Fish Fest
Family Fishing Tournament,**
(361) 972-2615,
palacioschamber.com

**Fredericksburg [19-21]
Trade Days,** (210) 846-4094,
fbgtradedays.com

**Denton [19-27] North
Texas Fair and Rodeo,**
(940) 387-2632, ntfair.com

**Ingram [19-21, 26-28,
Sept. 2-3] The Nerd,**
(830) 367-5121, hcfa.com

**Grand Prairie Lost '80s
Live,** (972) 854-5076,
texastrustcutheatre.com

Lake Jackson Bird Banding,
(979) 480-0999, gcbo.org

Temple Touch-a-Truck,
(254) 298-5690,
templeparks.com

**Washington Giants of
Texas History at Washing-
ton-on-the-Brazos,**
(936) 878-2214,
thc.texas.gov

**Junction [20-21]
Up & Back Boat Race,**
(325) 446-3190,
junctiontexas.com/
up-back-boat-race

MORE EVENTS >

TCP Submit Your Event

We pick events for the magazine directly from TexasCoopPower.com. Submit your November event by September 1, and it just might be featured in this calendar.

World's Finest Eye Cream

a "selections" product in Oprah magazine



AIRBRUSH

Eye Refining Treatment

Airbrush Eye Cream reduces puffiness right away, *especially when cold*. Promotes new collagen which reduces fine lines and wrinkles. Reduces dark circles, is soothing, hydrating and promotes a youthful healthy glow! Hypo-allergenic and natural containing emu oil serum, green tea extract, aloe vera, collagen and elastin. Use am & pm for best results and the jar will last about 3 months!

Compare to:

La Mer Eye Balm @ \$200
Shiseido Solution LX @ \$130
La Prairie Swiss @ \$240

Reg \$68
Now only
\$39.99

Use 40% discount code: **TEX39** at

www.dremu.com or call 800-542-0026

Free Shipping — Open 24/7

WALK-IN TUBS
FROM \$9,995 INSTALLED

ONYX SHOWERS
FROM \$9,995 INSTALLED

BEST BUY WALK-IN TUBS
FEATURING "SEALTITE" TECHNOLOGY
★ CELEBRATING 17 YEARS ★

CALL US, DON'T WAIT ANOTHER DAY.

Enhance your quality of life with a Best Buy Walk-in Tub. As the oldest manufacturer of walk-in tubs in America, we've been setting the industry standard for more than 17 years. Call us today to find the perfect custom solution for you.

Visit our showroom at 311 Kings Plaza in Granbury.



888-825-2362 **www.bestbuywalkintubs.com**

Never lose electricity again!



Own the #1 brand in home standby power.

8 out of 10 buyers choose Generac Home Standby Generators to automatically provide electricity to their homes during power outages. GENERAC Home Standby Generators start at just \$1,999*.

CALL for FREE Generator Buyer's Guide and get...

Limited Time BONUS OFFER!

GENERAC®



*Price does not include installation.

*Built in the USA using domestic and foreign parts

TOLL FREE 800-894-8804
FreeGeneratorGuide.com

**Bank C.D.'s Due?
CALL US NOW**

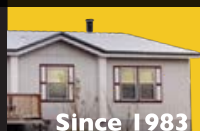
1-800-359-4940 TEXAS TOLL-FREE
www.mattsonfinancialservices.com

BLAKE MATTSON, CFP™
Signal Securities, Inc., 5400 Bosque, 4th Floor, Waco, TX 76710
Serving Customers All Over Texas

All C.D.'s are insured to \$250,000 per institution by the F.D.I.C.
All C.D.'s are subject to availability. Securities offered
thru Signal Securities, Inc., Member FINRA/SIPC
700 Throckmorton, Ft. Worth, TX 76102. (817) 877-4256.

PERMA-ROOF
from Southern Builders

Steel Mobile Home Roofing



High energy bill?
Roof rumble?
Leaks?

MOBILE HOME ROOFER SYSTEMS

Contact us at 800.633.8969 or roofover.com



RACHELRICCI | DREAMTIME.COM

Pick of the Month

AIA Sandcastle Competition and Viewing

Galveston, August 20-21
(409) 797-5000, visitgalveston.com

Dozens of teams swarm East Beach to create sculptures that get judged on concept, artistic execution, technical difficulty, carving technique and utilization of the site. The competition is a fundraiser for the Houston chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the Architecture Center Houston Foundation.

28

Bandera Frontier Times Jamboree, (830) 796-3864, frontiertimesmuseum.org

SEPTEMBER

01

Belton [1-4] Central Texas State Fair, (254) 933-5353, centraltexasstatefair.com

La Grange [1-4] Fayette County Fair, (979) 968-3911, fayettecountyfair.org

02

Fredericksburg [2-3] Vereins Quilt Guild Show: Quilted Fields of Dreams, (325) 347-5515, vereinsquiltguild.org

Boerne [2-4] Kendall County Fair, (830) 249-2839, kcfa.org

Odessa [2-11] Permian Basin Fair and Expo, (432) 550-3232, pbfair.com

03

Brenham The Everly Brothers Experience by the Zmed Brothers, (979) 337-7240, thebarnhillcenter.com

Fredericksburg Pride in the Pacific, (830) 997-8600, pacificwarmuseum.org

Kerrville Kerr County Market Days & Hill Country Swap Meet, (830) 459-6198, kerrmarkadays.org

Sunrise Beach Sip & Stroll, (713) 299-1728, sunrisebeachvfd.org/sipandstroll

04

Fayetteville St. John Annual Feast, (979) 378-2277, stjohnfayetteville.com

AUGUST EVENTS CONTINUED

25

Fredericksburg [25-28] Gillespie County Fair, (830) 997-2359, gillespiefair.com

26

Killeen [26-27] Crossroads to Texas Quilt Guild Quilt Show, (254) 702-2425, cttquiltguild.org

Corsicana [26-28] Hydroplane Classic, (903) 654-4850, visitcorsicana.com

27

Albany CareFest, (325) 762-2447, facebook.com/resourcecare

Kerrville River Roadster Show, (830) 257-7300, kerrvilletx.gov

Lakeway Cool Arts Show and Studio Tour, (512) 314-7509, lakewayartsdistrict.com/coolarts

Stonewall Commemoration of Lyndon Johnson's Birthday, (830) 868-7128, nps.gov/lyjo

Motor Sports

And they're off! Our readers love to rev and race. These were first across the finish line.

CURATED BY GRACE FULTZ

1 DANNY PICKENS
CHEROKEE COUNTY EC

"The rider appears to reach for the lights as he hangs in the air several feet off the ground at a motocross track in Swan."

2 RONALD HAVARD
UNITED COOPERATIVE SERVICES

A jet engine dragster heads to the starting line for a quarter-mile race against a P-51 Mustang at an air show.

3 PAIGE LUECKEMEYER
TRI-COUNTY EC

"There's no shortage of teamwork and support on the Crown Off-Road Racing Team."

4 LISA BENNETT
GRAYSON-COLLIN EC

"Getting to ride my Ducati 1098S at the famous Circuit of the Americas was truly a bucket list item."



1



2



3



4

Upcoming Contests

DUE AUG 10 Winter Wildlife

DUE SEP 10 Nature's Colors

DUE OCT 10 First Responders



Enter online at TexasCoopPower.com/contests.

TCP See Focus on Texas on our website for more Motor Sports photos from readers.



The Stars Below

An abundant West Texas cactus garden sparkles in its own way

BY SUZANNE FEATHERSTON
ILLUSTRATION BY CARL WIENS

CLOUDS ROLLED IN the evening before a star party at McDonald Observatory in far West Texas, changing my plans for a summer night in Big Bend.

This was years ago, when a weeklong writers' retreat had taken me to Alpine, where I stayed in the dorms of Sul Ross State University. In our free time, the other writers and I explored the nearby Chihuahuan Desert Nature Center, marveled at the Marfa Lights, hiked to a hilltop at sunrise and drank wine at sunset in the Holland Hotel courtyard.

That night, my colleagues stuck with their itinerary for stargazing, but I stayed behind to tour the grounds at Sul Ross. A cactus garden in front of Lawrence Hall beckoned me to look down instead of up.

The demonstration garden showed off some of the flora produced by the

university's native plant propagation program that has been in operation since 1979. Cactuses were used for decoration and scientific investigations.

The garden showcased about 100 species of promising and already established native ornamentals. From the towering ocotillo scratching at the sky to the diminutive golf ball cactuses, the desert environment nurtures a variety of spiny succulents. The range of prickly pears alone amazed me—some with spines, others “blind”; some with round pads and others pointy; some towering and others cowering.

The cactuses' shapes and names captured my imagination. The resurrection plant resembled a crown of thorns. The living rock cactus looked like a tortoise shell buried in dirt. The eagle-claw cactus carried curved, talonlike needles.

Several cactuses were familiar. I'd seen the horse crippler, a sneaky low-lying succulent with merciless spikes, at what would become Garey Park in Georgetown. The claret cup reminded me of the Judge Roy Bean Visitor Center in Langtry that features a walking trail arrayed with native plants. Seeing ephedra took me back to the Davis Mountains, where I first recognized the medicinal plant.

Instead of studying the star-studded sky, I gazed at the spine-studded ground and gained an appreciation for the “stars” of this Earth.

The experience inspired the landscape around my home in Central Texas. I planted knobby, white mammillaria in the crevices of a large limestone landscaping rock. I used blue agave harvested from a construction site and white-striped agave to grace my meandering crushed granite pathways.

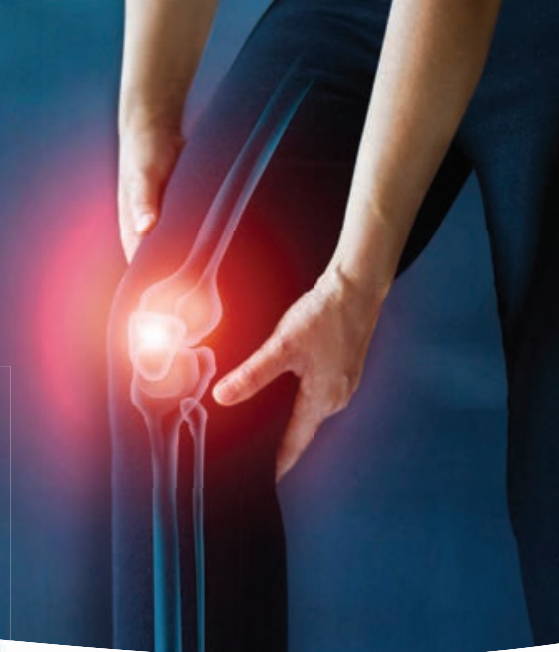
They reminded me that gazing at the ground can be just as awe-inspiring as gazing at the stars. ■



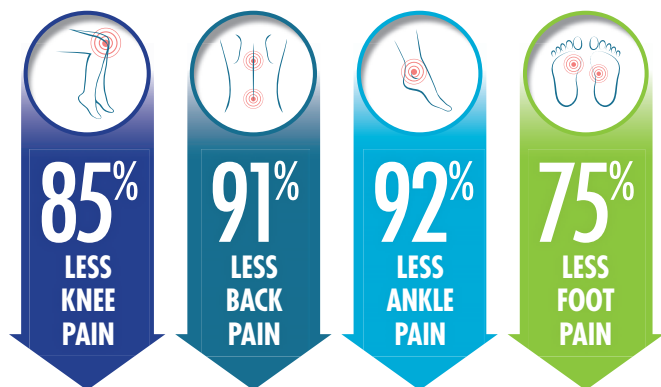
LIVE LIFE PAIN-FREE



**PATENTED VERSOSHOCK® SOLE
SHOCK ABSORPTION SYSTEM**



**FREE (\$50 Value)
Corrective Fit Orthotics**
with every shoe purchase
Excludes sandals.



In a 2017 double-blind study by Olive View UCLA Medical Center.

Enjoy the benefits of exercise with GDEFY

- ✓ Ultimate Comfort
- ✓ Renewed Energy
- ✓ Maximum Protection
- ✓ Improved Posture

gdefy MIGHTY WALK \$145

**X-WIDE
WIDTH
AVAILABLE**

This product is not intended to treat, cure or prevent any disease.

Men Sizes 7.5-15 M/W/XW

- TB9024MGS Gray
- TB9024MLU Blue/Black
- TB9024MBL Black

Women Sizes 6-11 M/W/XW

- TB9024FGS Gray
- TB9024FGP Salmon/Gray
- TB9024FLP Black



\$20 OFF YOUR ORDER

Promo Code MQ8HPS4

www.gdefy.com

Expires November 30, 2022

Free Exchanges • Free Returns

60-Day Try Defy

Call 1(800) 429-0039

Gravity Defyer Medical Technology Corp.
10643 Glenoaks Blvd. Pacoima, CA 91331



VersoShock® U.S Patent #US8,555,526 B2. May be eligible for Medicare reimbursement. \$20 off applies to orders of \$100 or more for a limited time. Cannot be combined with other offers. 9% CA sales tax applies to orders in California. Shoes must be returned within 30 days in like-new condition for full refund or exchange. Credit card authorization required. See website for complete details.



Save A Bundle On TV And Internet!



Same Bill. Same Price. **\$69⁹⁹** month for TV
Every Month. For 2 Years.



It's ALL Included with DISH!

- ✓ Includes 2 Year Price Lock
- ✓ Includes 190 Channels with Locals
- ✓ Includes Hopper Smart HD DVR
Requires internet connected Hopper.
- ✓ Includes Home Service + Streaming
- ✓ Includes Free Installation
- ✓ Includes FREE Premium Channels
After 3 mos. you will be billed \$30/mo unless you call to cancel.
- ✓ Includes HD Programming



**ADD BLAZING-FAST
INTERNET!**
No Matter Where You Live!

~~\$59⁹⁹~~ **\$40**
Now Just... month for Internet

- ✓ Now with Unlimited Data!
- ✓ Speeds from 25Mbps - 1 Gbps
- ✓ Available Nationwide!



**Save up to
\$20/mo.***

*\$5 off discount offers vary by service address. TV service not required for Internet. Speeds and prices vary by provider. Call for details or visit godish.com/internet.

These Exclusive Extras Are Included!

**FREE Streaming on 5 Devices
with DISH Anywhere App**



Watching live and recorded TV anywhere requires an internet-connected Hopper w/Sling or Hopper 3 and compatible mobile device. On Hopper Duo, there is no live TV streaming for DISH Anywhere.

**Smart Remote w/ Voice
and Google Assistant**



Requires internet-connected Hopper, Joey, or Wally device. Customer must press Voice Remote button to activate feature. Google is a trademark of Google LLC.



Your Favorite Apps in One Place!



Netflix and Amazon Prime Video streaming memberships required. YouTube is a trademark of Google LLC. Amazon Prime only available on Hopper 3.

¡Se Habla Español!

godish.com/pricelock 🔍

1-866-290-7151

Mon-Fri: 7am-10pm • Sat: 7am-9pm • Sun: 10am-7pm Central Time

dish
Authorized Retailer

Offer for new and qualifying former customers only. Important Terms and Conditions:

Qualification: Advertised price requires credit qualification and 24-month commitment. Upfront activation and/or receiver upgrade fees may apply based on credit qualification. **Offer ends 11/9/22.** **2-Year Commitment:** Early termination fee of \$20/mo. remaining applies if you cancel early. Included in 2-year price guarantee at \$69.99 advertised price: America's Top 120 programming package, local channels, HD service fees, and Hopper Duo Smart DVR for 1 TV. **Included in 2-year price guarantee** for additional cost: Programming package upgrades (\$84.99 for AT120+, \$94.99 for AT200, \$104.99 for AT250), monthly fees for upgraded or additional receivers (\$5-\$7 per additional TV, receivers with additional functionality may be \$10-\$15). **Regional Sports:** RSN Surcharge up to \$3/mo. applies to AT120+ and higher packages and varies based on location. **NOT included in 2-year price guarantee or advertised price (and subject to change):** Taxes & surcharges, add-on programming (including premium channels), DISH Protect, and transactional fees. **Premium Channels:** 3 Mos. Free: After 3 mos., you will be billed \$30/mo. for Showtime, Starz, and DISH Movie Pack unless you call or go online to cancel. **Remote:** The DISH Voice Remote with the Google Assistant requires internet-connected Hopper, Joey, or Wally device. Customer must press Voice Remote button to activate feature. The Google Assistant Smart Home features require Google account and compatible devices. Google is a trademark of Google LLC. **Other:** Netflix streaming membership required. All packages, programming, features, and functionality and all prices and fees not included in price lock are subject to change without notice. After 6 mos., if selected, you will be billed \$9.99/mo. for DISH Protect Silver unless you call to cancel. After 2 years, then-current everyday prices for all services apply. For business customers, additional monthly fees may apply. Free standard professional installation only. Indiana C.P.D. Reg. No. 19-08615. ©2021 GoDISH.com. All rights reserved. Internet speeds, prices, and providers vary by customer address. \$40 price refers to widely available plan from multiple providers. Restrictions apply. Nationwide availability of 25 Mbps plan is subject to change without notice. The application of "Unlimited Data with no Hard Data Limits" varies by provider, but commonly mean that your access to the internet will not be stopped by going over a data limit, but that speeds may be lowered. Call for details. Internet not provided by DISH and will be billed separately.