

TEXAS CO-OP POWER

HORSE SENSE

Healing through a connection with animals





think big for your
farm or ranch

Ready to think big for your farm or ranch? Let us design, engineer and manufacture a building tailor-made to fit your needs. Give us a call or drop by today, and find out more about custom metal buildings from Mueller.



www.muellerinc.com
877-2-MUELLER (877-268-3553)





Andy Kaul works knots out of a horse's mane.

FEATURE

8 The Healing Power of Horses Relief from ailments and disabilities can be found astride therapy horses.

Story and photos by Julia Robinson

FAVORITES

- 5 Letters
- 6 Currents
- 18 **Local Co-op News**
Get the latest information plus energy and safety tips from your cooperative.
- 29 **Texas History**
The Armadillo Strikes Again
By Eddie Wilson with Jesse Sublett
- 31 **Recipes**
Quick and Easy Holiday Appetizers
- 35 **Focus on Texas**
Photo Contest: High Contrast
- 36 **Around Texas**
List of Local Events
- 38 **Hit the Road**
South Texas Riches
By Eileen Mattei

ONLINE

TexasCoopPower.com
Find these stories online if they don't appear in your edition of the magazine.

Observations

A Sound Memory
By Martha Deeringer

Texas USA

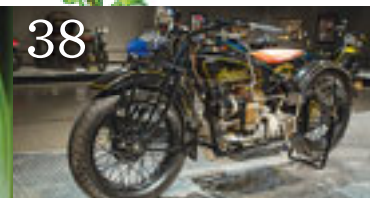
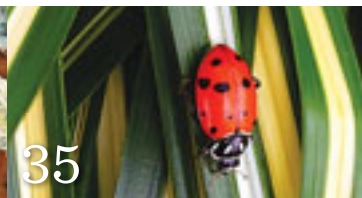
Tangled Up in Fandangle
By Gene Fowler

NEXT MONTH

A Hidden Man's Gem *Eccentric Elmer Kleb helped turn his family homestead into a woodland preserve.*



HORSE GROOMING: JULIA ROBINSON. HUMMINGBIRD: LARRY DITTO



ON THE COVER *Brooklyn caresses Neut after a riding lesson at REACH Therapeutic Riding Center in McGregor.* Photo by Julia Robinson

TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Blaine Warzecha, Chair, Victoria; Alan Lesley, Vice Chair, Comanche; Robert Loth III, Secretary-Treasurer, Fredericksburg; Mark Boyd, Douglassville; Billy Jones, Corsicana; David McGinnis, Van Alstyne; Brent Wheeler, Dalhart • **PRESIDENT/CEO:** Mike Williams, Austin • **COMMUNICATIONS & MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE:** Clint Gardner, Coleman; Greg Henley, Tahoka; Bill Hetherington, Bandera; Mark McClain, Roby; Gary Raybon, El Campo; John Ed Shinpaugh, Bonham; Robert Walker, Gilmer; Brandon Young, McGregor • **MAGAZINE STAFF:** Martin Bevins, Vice President, Communications & Member Services; Charles J. Lohrmann, Editor; Tom Widowski, Associate Editor; Karen Nejtek, Production Manager; Andy Doughty, Creative Manager; Elaine Sproull, Advertising Manager; Grace Arsiaga, Print Production Specialist; Chris Burrows, Senior Communications Specialist; Christine Carlson, Administrative Assistant; Paula Disbrowe, Food Editor; Travis Hill, Communications Specialist; Qasim K. Johnson, Administrative Assistant; Jessica Ridge, Communications Specialist; Chris Salazar, Digital Field Editor; Jane Sharpe, Senior Designer; Ellen Stader, Proofreader

Stay Safer & More Independent with a Jacuzzi® Luxury Walk-In Bathtub

SAVE \$1,500

on your NEW Walk-In Tub
with ONE DAY installation



Low Entry Step

Don't let mobility concerns end your ability to enjoy a relaxing and therapeutic bathing experience

The safety features of the Jacuzzi® Walk-In Bathtub help with mobility in and out of the tub, and also help you feel more secure and independent when bathing at home.

Enjoy Legendary
Jacuzzi®
Jet Technology

- ✓ **NEW!** Epsom salt compatible with hydromassage relaxes the mind and body
- ✓ **NEW!** A quieter and energy efficient pump provides a more enjoyable bathing experience
- ✓ **NEW!** Relaxing Bubble Foot Massage
- ✓ **NEW!** Heated back and seat for more comfort and relief
- ✓ **PLUS!** Installation in as little as one day available!

NEW!



Epsom Salt Compatible

Now enjoy the relaxing health benefits of Epsom salt in your tub without the worry of rust or damage to your tub's components.

CALL TODAY & SAVE \$1,500

Call now for limited-time savings on your new Walk-In Bathtub and details on installation that takes as little as ONE DAY!



Call: **1-888-395-1119**

or Visit: www.JacuzziWalkIn.com

Ask About
Affordable
Financing

The **NEW** Gold Standard
of Walk-In Bathtubs



Thoughts on Cookies

Normally, the recipes I have tried are very good. However, the Brown Butter Oatmeal Raisin Cookies [*All Hail the Cookie Jar*, September 2018] not only were a lot of trouble to make, but they also tasted horrible. Even my grandsons who eat anything would not finish the cookie.

DONNA HENDRICK | PALO PINTO

Editor's note: Cookie opinions run the gamut. Some found those cookies too salty, while others (including our photo shoot crew) claim they're fabulous. They're a favorite of Paula Disbrowe, our food editor, who suggests using less salt and regular butter (instead of browned) for a milder flavor.

I have a magnet on my icebox that says, "A balanced diet is a cookie in each hand." I so agree.

KAY PRYOR | VIA FACEBOOK

About Bears and Dogs

I want to point out one error in *Bear Dogs of El Paso* [June 2018]. The second sentence says the ancient mammals were "ancestral to both bears and dogs," but it should have said



they were "closely related to the common ancestor of bears and dogs." The important point is that the relationship among bear dogs, dogs and bears is like that of cousins and not ancestors-descendants.

SUSUMU TOMIYA

FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Wait a Minute!

I enjoy Focus on Texas each month. Love the clocks [October 2018] but have to point out that thing about a clock being right twice a day only works if the clock is stopped.

DONNA ELLIOTT | AUSTIN

Keep Your Eye on the Ball

The first high-five by Dusty Baker [*Up for Discussion*, Currents, October 2018] brings back a great old memory. A few weeks prior, the Dodgers played the Astros in the

Still a Winning Pastry

During the Christmas seasons of my youth in the 1960s, neighbors on our country road brought us delicious home-baked cakes, cookies and candies. My home economics teacher, Helen, was one of our neighbors, and every year we looked forward to her slightly sweetened yeast dough baked around a brown sugar and pecan filling that she called Danish Kringle [*Holiday Recipe Contest*, November 2018].

Although we loved seeing her, we waited in keen anticipation for her to leave. Her car would have barely left the driveway before we tore into the melt-in-your-mouth tenderness of the still-warm pastry.

LINDA RUSH | OAKHURST | SAM HOUSTON EC



Astrodome. We had great seats, about 10 rows up and directly behind first base.

Baker hit a line drive foul ball right at my wife's head. The good thing was she wasn't hurt. The bad thing was my red left palm and the ball in someone else's hand.

VARDY VINCENT | KINGSBURY

BLUEBONNET EC

Reeves' Legacy

The idea that Bass Reeves [*Bass Reeves, Lawman Extra-ordinaire*, October 2018] was the inspiration for the Lone Ranger comes only from Reeves' descendants. The fictional character is much more likely based on the Zane Grey novel *The Lone Star Ranger*, based on the exploits of Texas Rangers Capt. John Hughes.

MIKE FRANKLIN | POTEET

KARNES EC

I enjoyed the article so much I am going to try and buy the book [*Black Gun, Silver Star: The Life and Legend of Frontier Marshal Bass Reeves*].

LILLIAN BEASLEY | COOKS POINT

BLUEBONNET EC

GET MORE TCP AT TexasCoopPower.com

Sign up for our e-newsletter for monthly updates, prize drawings and more!

We want to hear from you!

ONLINE: TexasCoopPower.com/share

EMAIL: letters@TexasCoopPower.com

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

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



TEXAS CO-OP POWER VOLUME 75, NUMBER 6 (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. **SUBSCRIPTION PRICE** is \$4.20 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 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 2018 Texas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. Reproduction of this issue or any portion of it is expressly prohibited without written permission. Willie Wiredhand © Copyright 2018 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.



Santa Claus Is Coming to Town

It's time for the children around **FORT DAVIS** to be on their best behavior because Santa arrives **DECEMBER 8** via firetruck—as he always does—in the parade down State Street that kicks off **FRONTIER CHRISTMAS**.

Santa visits with children and sits for photos at Jeff Davis County Library after the parade. Outside, in Kelly Pavilion, enjoy hot cocoa, live music, crafts and a cookie-baking contest. Elementary schoolchildren serenade revelers with Christmas carols followed by the high school Spanish program's *baile folklórico*.

Fort Davis in far West Texas is a popular destination in part because of nearby attractions such as the Fort Davis National Historic Site, the Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute's nature center and botanical gardens, Davis Mountains State Park, and the University of Texas McDonald Observatory.

INFO ▶ (432) 426-3015, fortdavis.com

WEB EXTRAS

▶ Find more happenings online.



ANNIVERSARIES

WE TURN 75!

From time to time, these pages of *Texas Co-op Power* commemorate milestone anniversaries and birthdays as a way to mark history and progress. Starting in January and continuing each month next year, we will celebrate an anniversary near to our hearts: 2019 marks 75 years of this magazine.

Texas Co-op Power started as an eight-page newspaper called *Texas Cooperative Electric Power* in July 1944. Electric cooperatives were still in their infancy, and members needed a way to stay informed about the benefits and innovations electricity delivered to rural living. Perhaps more important, members needed an ally and a soapbox because as co-ops spread across Texas, investor-owned utilities, who for years wanted nothing to do with rural folks, began trying to wrest business away from co-ops. *Texas Cooperative Electric Power* stood with members as co-ops persevered and spread.

Over time, *Texas Co-op Power* grew into the general interest magazine it is today. It is still produced for co-op members and still delivers important co-op messages, reaching 1.56 million members monthly.

Each month in 2019, *Currents* will showcase a timeline that highlight major events and people during our 75-year history. In addition, we'll feature a retro recipe tweaked to accommodate evolving tastes and cooking methods. And each quarter, *Texas History* will shine a spotlight on the magazine.

HONORS

Where To Find Happiness



The Texas towns of Plano, No. 5, and Grand Prairie, No. 10, are among the happiest cities in the U.S., according to personal finance website WalletHub, which ranked 182 large cities based on emotional and physical well-being, income and employment, and community and environment. No. 1 is Fremont, California.



CO-OP PEOPLE

Bright Light in Shelbyville

CADE FOEHNER, 21, electrified audiences last spring with a thrilling run on *American Idol*, ascending to the final five of 24 contestants culled from tens of thousands who vied for a spot nationwide. He hails from Shelbyville, where his dad, Rick, is a serviceman at Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative.

FOEHNER TRANSFIXED viewers with his smoky vocals and soulful take on classic rock standards *All Along the Watchtower* and *Simple Man*, dedicating the latter to his mom on the show's Mother's Day episode.

THE HOMEGROWN CELEBRITY shared a stage with fellow Texas musician Gary Clark Jr. on the show's season finale. Foehner, Clark and co-contestant Dennis Lorenzo delivered a scorching performance of Clark's *Bright Lights*, with its driving refrain, "You're gonna know my name by the end of the night." We certainly know it now.

TECH KNOWLEDGE

EVERYTHING CLICKS

This month marks 50 years since the debut of the technology-changing oN-Line System. Douglas Engelbart and his team at the Stanford Research Institute essentially kicked off the personal computer revolution with what has come to be described as "the mother of all demos."

On December 9, 1968, in San Francisco, Engelbart demonstrated text and images displayed simultaneously on separate devices, functional video-conferencing and working hypertexts. He also showcased the first model of the common computer mouse.

"That hour and 40 minutes was, in the end, one of the most impactful technological presentations to be delivered since Gutenberg got some people together for cocktails, crudités and a show of how he'd hacked a wine press," Megan Garber wrote in *The Atlantic* in 2013.

ALMANAC

Christmas Past

Silent Night turns 200 years old. *Stille Nacht* was heard for the first time in a village church in Oberndorf, Austria, at midnight Mass in 1818.

A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens' classic, debuted 175 years ago in London. Six thousand copies were published December 19, 1843. By Christmas Eve, it was sold out.

THE HEALING



POWER OF

HORSES



RELIEF from ailments and disabilities can be found astride therapy horses

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JULIA ROBINSON

The kids show up for their riding sessions right on time. They strap on their helmets and calmly lead their horses from the cool shade of the barn into the hot, dusty arena at REACH Therapeutic Riding Center in McGregor, 20 miles southwest of Waco.

Twelve-year-old E.J. works on cinching a saddle strap. “Pull, pull, pull,” cheers side-walker Jesse Allen. E.J. grimaces with the effort as his horse, Jessie, a 22-year-old black-and-white paint, stands quiet and calm. With just a little more oomph, E.J. maneuvers the leather strap into the correct hole and breaks into a wide grin. “He couldn’t do that at all five months ago,” Allen says.

Offering health and mobility gains with the aid of horses is the mission of Larry Barnett, a retired U.S. Air Force pilot who became a therapeutic riding instructor in 2004. He founded REACH in 2007 to use equine therapy, or hippotherapy, to improve the physical and mental well-being of children and adults with special needs.

“This was his dream,” says Kristin Bolfing-Volcik, REACH executive director. “He went to a bunch of different riding centers to study what they did, and he had a lot of mentors from around Texas.” The result of that research and dedication is

the REACH Therapeutic Riding Center, opened in 2008 and situated on 30 acres of pastureland donated by Gary and Diane Heavin, the founders of Curves International fitness studios. The REACH barn has stalls for 10 horses, an office, a viewing room, therapy room, tack room, wash

Top and left: Brooklyn, 12, maneuvers 20-year-old quarter horse Newt around the arena at REACH Therapeutic Riding Center in McGregor. Far left: Tina Tillert first came to REACH as part of a veterans outreach program but now volunteers at the facility.







AN INSTRUCTOR gives directions and encouragement, but the kids are in charge of these animals more than 10 times their weight.

stalls and wheelchair-accessible restrooms. The center has recreational use of the rest of the Heavens' 400-acre property, which includes an extensive network of riding trails for therapeutic group rides.

Bolfing-Volcik, a Waco native and Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative member, started volunteering with the nonprofit organization in 2008 and went on to become certified by Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International as a therapeutic riding instructor. She helped the operation grow to its current size, serving 130 kids as young as 3 as well as adults and veterans of all ages. The center helps people with varying needs and disabilities, including those with muscular dystrophy and autism, trauma survivors, and patients in addiction recovery.

Greek physician Hippocrates was the first to write about the "healing rhythm" of riding horses in the fifth century B.C. In modern times, equine therapy was developed to treat soldiers wounded during World War I and came to the U.S. in the 1950s and 1960s after a Danish rider disabled by polio won a silver medal for dressage riding in the 1952 Olympics.

Equine therapy is a tool rather than a profession. Licensed therapists—physical therapists, occupational therapists and speech-language pathologists, for example—become certified by PATH International or the American Hippotherapy Association to use equine therapy as part of their practice.

According to PATH International, hippotherapy provides three-dimensional movement that mimics human walking. "You could work out every single day, and you're still sore when you get off that horse because you're moving all those different muscles," Bolfing-Volcik says. The movement of the horse provides stimulation to the parts of the body involved in walking, provides a sense of rhythm and gait, and allows for more repetition per

session than using machines in an office or gym setting. Performing regular barn chores and grooming can be healthy exercise for those building dexterity, balance or strength.

Horses are prey animals and

Top: Christopher, 12, performs a 360-degree turn on Stanley during an obstacle course exercise. Left: E.J., 12, sits tall in the saddle during his riding lesson. Far left: Tina Tillert leads Stanley out of his stall for a trail ride.



“HORSES can feel your energy, so when you calm yourself down and then the horse calms down, it’s like looking at yourself in the mirror.”

are sensitive to the emotions of those in their herd, Bolfig-Volcik explains. This makes them an emotional mirror for humans working through anxiety, trauma, addiction or other emotional disturbances. Because horses don’t hide their emotions, people learn to identify and correct their own behaviors to further their relationship with the animal.

Horses also provide motivation for those who are otherwise bored, daunted or disengaged. “Some of these kids are in clinic a lot and they don’t want to do the work, but then they come out here and they’re riding a horse and they don’t even know they’re working,” Bolfig-Volcik says.

Brooklyn knows that feeling. The 12-year-old was diagnosed with cognitive and speech delays at a young age. “Every day, she went to school, went to her [speech] therapy and then came home. There was no excitement, and she fell into a rut,” explains her mother, LuCretia Denkins. School was a source of depression and struggle for Brooklyn, but she always loved horses. “She’s obsessed and wants me to buy her one,” Denkins says.

An insurance liaison discovered the REACH program and applied for Brooklyn to attend. She was approved for seven lessons last summer. “She has blossomed so much,” Denkins says. “It’s really amazing to see.”

Out in the arena, Brooklyn and the other students check their saddle girth and the length of their stirrups. Unlike E.J., Brooklyn has plenty of strength to tighten the straps. Her struggle is with memory. “If you tell her three things, she can remember one, maybe two,” Denkins says. “But with the horses, she has memorized everything. She knows what it really means to want to learn something.”

The students mount up

Top: “If I have a hard day, I know I have to present to the horses in a calm manner,” says veteran Dalysé Mayo, brushing Jessie. Far right: E.J. trots with the assistance of Jesse Allen, right, and Emily Mosher. Right: Volunteer John Boyd, left, shows new veteran attendee Andy Kaul how to brush a horse.







Christopher, right, leads Stanley from the stable to the arena. REACH students learn to care for horses as well as ride them—grooming the animals and helping with chores around the stable.

from a mobility-assisted platform, the horses patiently waiting for the riders to find their stirrups. They warm up slowly, the side-walkers taking the reins as the kids circle their arms out to the side and make torso twists from the saddle. The movement of the horse adds a level of difficulty for kids who are building muscle and improving mobility.

After a few more exercises, the kids take the reins and lead the horses around cones and barrels and through a short maze made of poles on the ground. Then they perform a 360-degree turn inside a box marked on the dirt. An instructor gives directions and encouragement, but the kids are in charge of these animals more than 10 times their weight.

“There’s no words in the human vocabulary that can explain the emotional and spiritual experience going on between you and that 1,200-pound creature,” says Charity Martin, a barn assistant. “You are trying to trust, and it’s trying to build trust with you.”

Allen agrees. He became involved with REACH as a participant in a post-traumatic stress disorder treatment program through the Waco office of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Allen was a firefighter and paramedic before joining the Army and experienced the effects of PTSD after his service ended.

“I came home from Afghanistan in 2010, and I didn’t care anymore,” Allen says. “Eight years of PTSD therapy, medication, groups, blah, blah, blah. ... You’re never fixed, but this is the one thing that helped me the most.”

Allen was anxious on that first trip to the barn in the summer of 2017. “Horses can feel your energy,” he says, “so when you calm yourself down and then the horse calms down, it’s like looking at yourself in the mirror.” Allen kept coming back and devel-

WEB EXTRAS

► **Read this story on our website to watch a video about veterans in equine therapy.**

oped a special bond with Kit, a paint with a large white blaze down his forehead. When his program ended, Allen asked to continue on as a volunteer, first with veterans, then with kids. Allen began enjoying life again, and other people saw it. “People said they had their old Jesse back,” he says. “My enthusiasm came back, and I’m back to helping people.”

Allen credits the staff but mostly the horses for his transformation. Now he gets to see the same transformation in those he helps. “We have kids in this barn right now who in the last five months have gone from little bratty little kids who are in their shells and shut down or no emotions at all to the sweetest, kindest, hardest-working little people,” Allen says.

Earlier this year, Allen took on a paid position as veteran program director and hosts *Horses for Warriors*, a Monday veterans-only program with unstructured riding time, optional group activities and a catered dinner. “The amount of good and help it does—people don’t realize,” he says. “I’m all about Western medicine as a paramedic. I’m not a naturopathic person, but this is an unused resource that can seriously help people out—kids and veterans.”

Near the end of Brooklyn’s session, the instructor tells the kids it’s time to trot. Brooklyn emits a small yelp and raises her arms with excitement. The students form a line at the end of the arena and one by one get their horses up to speed. The side-walkers jog along with them, and the kids beam as they bounce along in the rising dust.

At the end of class, they dismount, wiping the dust from their jeans and hands. Brooklyn pets the face of Newt, a 10-year-old quarter horse, and gives his cheek a scratch. It’s only been an hour, but the students walk taller and lighter than when they entered the arena. “I haven’t seen her that happy in a long time because school has beaten her down so much,” Denkins says. “She talks all about horses all the way home. She went from not talking at all to nonstop talking, and that’s amazing.”

Learn more about **Julia Robinson** at juliarobinsonphoto.com.

FLIP FLIP HOORAY!

A perfect symbol of fun in the sun for only \$79

Here's a memorable beach moment: You're basking in the warm sun, toes in the sand, letting the gentle turn of the foam-capped waves lull you into a state of complete relaxation. As your eyes scan the endless horizon of blue on blue, you're rewarded with a school of dolphins making their way across the sea. There's no denying their signature shape as they leap from the water. If you don't see anything else extraordinary the rest of day, you can take solace knowing you've witnessed one of nature's most playful and intelligent creatures in their natural habitat.

Why not recreate that special toes-in-the-sand moment with our **Blue Topaz Dolphin Pendant**? The beloved sea mammal has been captured mid-jump in sterling silver. And, tucked into its fins is a full two carats of shimmering blue topaz.

Nothing captures the shimmering color of the ocean in the midday sun like blue topaz. With its sparkling clear blue color and high refractive index, blue topaz is one of the top-selling blue gemstones. And with our special price, you have quite the catch.

Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back. Enjoy the **Blue Topaz Dolphin Pendant** for 30 days. If it doesn't pass the test swimmingly, send it back for a full refund of the item price.

Limited Reserves. A full two carats of genuine blue topaz set in sterling silver for this price is as rare as a dolphin sighting. We cannot guarantee availability for long. Call today!

Limited to the first 1900 responders to this ad only!



A full two carats of shimmering blue topaz set in sterling silver

To show exquisite details, pendant shown is not exact size. Chain sold separately.

"Enormously popular, significantly intelligent and scientifically sophisticated, dolphins are amidst the most beloved animals among people."

— Dolphins-World



"This sterling silver dolphin is absolutely beautiful and the blue topaz is like the color of the ocean"

— Vivian, Cabool, MO

† Special price only for customers using the offer code versus the price on Stauer.com without your offer code.

Stauer® 14101 Southcross Drive W., Ste 155, Dept. DPP204-01, Burnsville, Minnesota 55337
www.stauer.com

Blue Topaz Dolphin Pendant non-offer code price \$395 †

Offer Code Price Only **\$79** + S&P **Save \$316!**

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

1-800-333-2045

Your Insider Offer Code: DPP204-01.

Please use this code when you order to receive your discount.



Rating of A+



• 2 ctw blue topaz; ½ ctw lab-created DiamondAura® • .925 sterling silver setting • Sterling silver chain sold separately

Stauer... *Afford the Extraordinary.*®

Why pay \$2,300 or more?

HEAR BETTER FOR ONLY \$299 EACH!

45-DAY RISK-FREE TRIAL

- ✓ Buy direct from manufacturer
- ✓ 100% Risk-FREE 45-day trial
- ✓ FREE shipping
- ✓ Payment plans available
- ✓ Licensed professionals

SEND NO MONEY NOW!
FOR QUALIFIED BUYERS.

SAME HIGH QUALITY HEARING AIDS OFFERED BY AUDIOLOGISTS AND ENT'S!

Doctor Designed • FDA Registered • 100% Digital


High-quality American-made electronics



- Hearing aids by mail for 39 years
- Over 750,000 satisfied customers

Try our Apollo-6200 hearing aid risk-free for 45 days.

SEND NO MONEY Now!

If you like it then pay only \$299 per hearing aid or simply send it back.



Visit us online and SAVE:
www.HearingHelpExpress.com

Promo code:
28-221
Expires 1/31/19

Call toll-free (Mon-Fri • 8 am - 5 pm CST)

1-888-847-1189

Premium Hearing Aid BATTERIES

ONLY 39¢ each



Save 67%
ONLY 39¢ EACH

Eco-Gold[®] MAX • PREMIUM BRAND
• GREAT LOW PRICE

- 42 batteries for **\$16.38** (just **39¢** each)!
- Compare to **\$49.98** → you **SAVE 67%**!
- Highest power, freshest batteries
- FREE Shipping!

LIMITED-TIME OFFER

TRY Eco-Gold[®] MAX RISK-FREE – YES, risk-free!

Invoice will be included with order. If not completely satisfied, return the batteries within 30 days and owe nothing.

SEND NO MONEY NOW! Clip and mail this coupon today.

YES! Send me **42 Eco-Gold[®] MAX** Zinc-Air batteries for only \$16.38. (Just 39¢ each) with FREE Shipping. Include invoice.

Battery Size & Tab Color: _____

Dr / Mr / Mrs / Ms _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (Required) _____

Limit: two orders per household.
Offer expires 1/31/2019



Mail To:
Hearing Help Express
1714 Sycamore Rd, Dept 28-223
DeKalb, IL 60115-0586

ORDER TODAY!
1-800-246-3854

Mon-Fri • 8 am - 5 pm Central Time

PROMO CODE 28-223

www.HearingHelpExpress.com

PAYMENT IN FULL REQUIRED FOR ONLINE ORDERS

FREE SHIPPING

STOP

Struggling To Put On
TOO-TIGHT
Compression Stockings



AT LAST!

Compression Stockings
EASY To Get Into



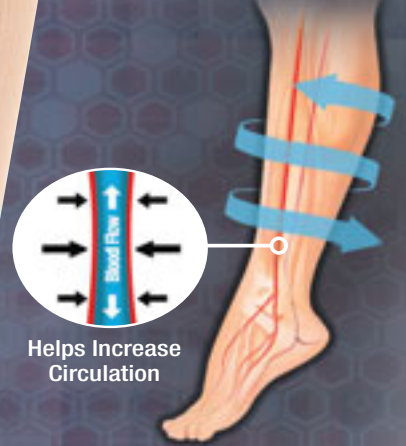
Durable
EASY-SLIDE
ZIPPER
For **FAST**
On 'N Off

Open Toe For
Swollen Or
Sensitive Feet

14 - 17 mmHg
Compression Rating

Zippered
Compression Stockings
Are Designed To Help

**REDUCE
SWELLING...**



Helps Increase
Circulation

**IMPROVE
CIRCULATION!**

Gentle Compression Helps:
INCREASE Blood Flow,
REDUCE Swelling
SOOTHE Aching Muscles

Buy 1 Pair Get 1 Pair FREE
now only \$19.99

1-800-530-2689 Order Now Toll-Free

Connect With **DreamProducts.com**     
website offers may vary email blog facebook pinterest google+

Receive A Free Surprise Gift With Every Order

Dept. 77512 © 2018 Dream Products, Inc. (Price valid for 1 yr.)

Measure Calf Circumference	
S/M	Fits Calves Up To 16"
L/XL	Fits Calves Up To 19"

Uniquely comfortable zip-up design makes it oh so easy to put them on...take them off. Protects the health of your legs with gentle compression to help increase circulation, with open toes to create a better fit for swollen, sensitive feet. Can be easily worn with shoes & socks for all-day relief. Compression rating 14-17 mmHg. Imported of nylon & elastane. Available in black and beige, sizes S/M & L/XL.

Satisfaction Guaranteed or Return For Your Money Back

Item #614	Set Of 2 Pr. Black	Set Of 2 Pr. Beige	1 Pr. Of Each Color	
S/M				
L/XL				
Zippered Compression Stockings (Set of 2 Pr.) @ \$19.99			\$	
CA residents must add 7.25% sales tax			\$	
Add \$2.00 Handling (no matter how many pairs ordered)			\$ 2.00	
FREE REGULAR SHIPPING			\$ FREE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR EXPEDITED SHIPPING (optional) Add An Additional \$2.95 (receive your order 5-7 days from shipment)			\$ 2.95	
Please Indicate QTY Under Size & Color			TOTAL	\$
Check or money order payable to: Dream Products, Inc.				
Send Order To: 412 Dream Lane, Van Nuys, CA 91496				

VISA MasterCard Discover®/NOVUSSMCards

Card# _____ Exp. Date ____/____/____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone # _____

Dept. 77512 Email _____

How Can We Better Serve You in 2019?



MESSAGE FROM
GENERAL MANAGER ALAN LESLEY

COMANCHE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION STRIVES TO provide safe, reliable electric service to our members—but we do more than that. Another of our goals is to find ways to help you control your energy costs. That's why we communicate with you about ways we can work together to help ease the burdens on your wallet.

It may seem strange that we encourage you to use electricity efficiently, which actually reduces the number of kilowatt-hours you buy from us. But as a member-owned cooperative, our focus is on service—not profit. We want to sell you every kilowatt-hour you need—and want you to need every kilowatt-hour you buy.

We continually offer recommendations for energy efficiency improvements and practices and implement procedures and programs to help you manage your electricity consumption. And our member services staff is available to provide one-on-one assistance to help you make the most of every energy dollar.

We will continue to focus on energy efficiency in the coming year, but as 2018 winds down, we want to know your energy priorities. How can we serve you better in 2019?

We encourage you to let us know—stop by, give us a call or send an email. However you choose to communicate, we're ready to listen.

Whether you have questions about energy efficiency, electric service or any of our products or services, just ask us. When we know what you want, we're in a better position to successfully deliver results. So drop in and see us—we're always glad to hear from you.



Nontraditional Scholarship Awarded

CYNTHIA STEPHENS OF GUSTINE RECEIVED QUITE A SUPRISE WHEN SHE LEARNED SHE was the winner of a \$1,000 nontraditional scholarship. The scholarship, sponsored by Comanche Electric Cooperative Association's Operation Round-Up Program for the third year, offers an opportunity for adults seeking higher education to reduce some of the financial burden that returning to school can create.

Stephens is a full-time student in Tarleton State University's Department of Nursing while also working full time as a patient care technician at Brownwood Regional Medical Center's emergency room. She is raising three children, ages 14, 13 and 9. Following graduation, she plans to work in an intensive care unit or emergency department and with local nonprofit air ambulance.

"I am thankful there are programs like CECA's," Stephens said. "I am a single mom working toward a goal of going to school, and this is a great help."

We wish Stephens the best in her new career!



P.O. Box 729, Comanche, TX 76442

Operating in Brown, Callahan, Comanche, Eastland, Mills, Shackelford and Stephens counties

HEADQUARTERS

201 W. Wrights Ave.
Comanche, TX 76442

EARLY OFFICE

1801 CR 338
Early, TX 76801

EASTLAND OFFICE

1311 W. Main St.
Eastland, TX 76448

OFFICE HOURS

Comanche Office: Monday–Friday,
7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Early Office: Monday, Wednesday
and Friday, 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., closed
1–2 p.m.

Eastland Office: Tuesday and
Thursday, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

General Manager

Alan Lesley

Board of Directors

Randy Denning, District 1
Pete McDougal, District 2
Ruby Solomon, District 3
Monty Carlisle, District 4
Troy Stewart, District 5
Loren Stroebel, District 6
Phil Taylor, District 7

Report an Outage

CECA crews are available 24/7 in the event of a power quality issue by calling 1-800-915-2533.

Contact Us

CALL US

1-800-915-2533 toll-free

FIND US ON THE WEB

www.ceca.coop



facebook.com/CECA.coop

Blessings Rain Down at CECA Annual Meeting

WITH THE FORECAST PREDICTING A 100 PERCENT CHANCE OF rain, Comanche Electric Cooperative Association's customer service representatives fielded a lot of questions leading up to CECA's annual meeting at Comanche City Park: "Will you still have it?" "Will it be moved from the park?" The answer was consistent: "Yes, it will go on as planned, and we have made preparations for the rain and feel confident we can keep you dry!"

Adjustments had to be made, but the 80th annual meeting of the cooperative's membership did go on as planned and was a success. CECA employees were ready with John Deere all-terrain vehicles from Clark Tractor to ferry members from their vehicles to the tent.

Due to the weather, the health fair included fewer vendors, but members still braved the rain to make their way to the pavilion for flu shots and cholesterol screenings and to pick up all the latest information on healthy living.

The Sam Whiskey Band began playing at 8:30 a.m., entertaining the crowd with a mixture of country music from the 1970s, '80s and '90s. They rocked the tent until the food

arrived, when the circuits became overloaded and we threw the breakers. But everyone willingly gave up the last 15 minutes of entertainment to ensure that food would be ready and plentiful when the meeting was over.

One of the main purposes of the annual meeting is to elect your board of directors. Up for election this year were directors for districts 1 and 7. District 1 met August 16 at the Comanche High School auditorium; members unanimously nominated Randy Denning to represent them. District 7 met August 14 at Gunsight Baptist Church; members nominated Seth Shortes and incumbent Phil Taylor to be presented to the membership at the annual meeting. Shortes declined the nomination due to his busy work schedule, making Taylor the sole nominee for that district.

Don Richards, CECA attorney, opened the voting with a call for nominations from the floor. With no additional nominations made, Denning and Taylor were re-elected by acclamation.

General Manager Alan Lesley spoke to the membership concerning rates, reliability, customer service and the retire-

Comanche Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts made an impressive presentation of the colors. Brooklyn Richmond of Early performed a beautiful rendition of the national anthem.





It takes more than a little rain to dampen the spirits of these cooperative employees and members! CECA employees spent the morning in the deluge ensuring members stayed as dry as possible in John Deere ATVs, donated by Clark Tractor in Comanche and De Leon. Even the popcorn stayed crisp and buttery!

ment of capital credits. Following his talk, CECA employees reaching five-year milestones were awarded service pins. Those employees were Larry Morgan and Bobby Reed, 35 years; Alan Lesley and Tim Pallette, 20 years; Keith Steward, 15 years; and Jake Schwartz, 5 years. Morgan and Reed also were presented with custom knives handmade by Danny Marlin to commemorate their dedication to the cooperative.

As members made their way to the buffet line, door prizes were drawn. After a delicious meal of fried catfish and chicken with all the usual sides, catered by Catfish Corner, the meeting adjourned and members returned home to enjoy the rain from the comfort of their homes.

We invite you to make plans for the 2019 annual meeting, which will be held in the new CECA building on Industrial Boulevard in Comanche.

The Sam Whiskey Band took the stage early in the morning and regaled the membership with music from the 1970s, '80s and '90s, as well as some original songs.



Stage decorations were provided by Sorrells Farm Retail, 409 E. Central in Comanche, and Holland Country Store, 6235 Highway 67/377 in Comanche.



State Rep. J.D. Sheffield brought the members up to date on some of the key issues in the coming legislative session.





Above: Even our youngest members enjoyed the festivities! Though the weather was not conducive to playing on the park equipment, CECA provided bright yellow hard hats, coloring books and crayons to amuse children while the adult members attended the festivities.

Right: Health fair professionals set up under a pavilion behind the big tent. Members received flu shots and cholesterol screenings and had the opportunity to enter raffles provided by AccelHealth and Comanche County Medical Center. Other health care and disaster officials were on hand with important information for the membership.



Above and right: A large crowd of approximately 550 members and their families stayed warm and dry under the big tent.



Annual Meeting Prizewinners

Gifts donated by Texas Electric Cooperatives, Schneider Engineering, Brazos EC, Horton Tree Service and Patty Brown with The Nitsche Group.

Rodney Carlisle	Black & Decker jigsaw	Steve Campbell	Lasko ceramic tower heater
Robert Kleen	Samsung Blu-ray player	Deeann Crawford	Lux Instant Pot
Max Reed	\$25 Home Depot gift card	Raymond Wheeler	Shop-Vac wet/dry vacuum
Tommy Elliott	Lasko ceramic tower heater	Douglas Brown	\$25 Home Depot gift card
Glen Casbeer	\$50 CECA electric service credit	Patricia Brown	Farberware oilless fryer
David Wheeler	\$50 Walmart gift card	Connie Cross	Vizio 32-inch TV
Christine Locke	Keurig coffee maker	R.M. Hash	Black & Decker leaf blower
Robert Whitefield	1,000-watt work light	Mary Lou Hall	\$50 Walmart gift card
Jennifer Green	\$25 Home Depot gift card	Gerald Reynolds	\$100 CECA electric service credit
Roy Watson	Black & Decker 5.2-amp drill	S.B. Sisk	Keurig coffee maker
Robert Doege	Black & Decker Mouse detail sander	Barbara Collins	Shop-Vac wet/dry vacuum
Zanna Kerr	\$100 CECA electric service credit	J.W. Odom	Pioneer Woman slow cooker
Randel Mackey	Bella copper grill	L.E. Wilson	\$100 Cabela's gift card
Bruce Griffin	Briggs & Stratton air compressor	Isabell Jacques	Brazos EC meter lamp
Gregory Owen	Hyper Tough 7.5-amp leaf blower	Victor Rodriguez	\$50 Walmart gift card
Anne Price	Samsung 32-inch HDTV	Lonnie Abels	\$50 Walmart gift card
Harvey McKinley	\$100 Walmart gift card	Edward White	\$100 CECA electric service credit
Cecil Chappell	Samsung Blu-ray player	W.W. Woolsey	LG 49-inch LED TV
Jim Hewitt	\$25 Home Depot gift card	Keith Mangelsdorf	Samsung 50-inch smart TV
Deja Stanley	\$50 Walmart gift card		

A catered luncheon of fried fish, chicken strips and all the fixings was provided by Catfish Corner. While members were piling their plates high, CECA employees transformed the tent from a meeting place to a lunchroom—they weren't going to let a little rain get in the way of a scrumptious meal!





MERRY, BRIGHT AND EFFICIENT HOLIDAY LIGHTING

Decking the halls doesn't have to take a toll on your energy bill! Keep your holiday lighting merry, bright and energy efficient with LED light strands.

- Consider replacing older light strands with new ENERGY STAR LED® lights. LED strands are 70 percent more efficient and last 10 times longer than the age-old standard bulbs.
- You can get the look of cozy lighting with LEDs. Just look for “warm white” on the label.
- Unlike older light strands, LED lights give off virtually no heat, making them safer for kids and pets (and reindeer).
- Save energy by setting a timer for outdoor lighting and decorations. Program the timer so the lights turn on in the evening and turn off later at night when you typically go to sleep.

Source: Dept. of Energy



“There are so many people in the co-ops of Texas who do extraordinary things for other people.”

—NANCY JOHNSON, whose Little Hats, Big Hearts program builds awareness of congenital heart defects. *Texas Co-op Power*, February 2017

WYATT MCSADDEN

POWER OF OUR PEOPLE

Let us know about your local hero! Nominate a co-op member in your area who improves the community's quality of life.

Email your nomination to people@texascooppower.com.

Include name, co-op affiliation and a short description of their work in the community.

We'll highlight select nominees in a future issue of *Texas Co-op Power*.

TEXAS CO-OP POWER



Merry Christmas

We wish you a Christmas filled with the wonder of the birth of Christ, the warmth of the holiday spirit and the love of family and friends.

To allow our employees to enjoy the holidays with their families, Comanche Electric Cooperative will be closed Monday–Tuesday, December 24–25, for Christmas and Tuesday, January 1, for New Year’s.



holiday GIFT GUIDE

In the magazine and on TexasCoopPower.com, we make it easy to shop for friends and family.



Special Gifts for Special People

Personalized livestock brands, logos and names on custom-made metal bootjacks, leather coaster sets, luggage tags and marble trivets. Lasting gifts for Christmas, birthdays and special occasions. Call for free brochure.

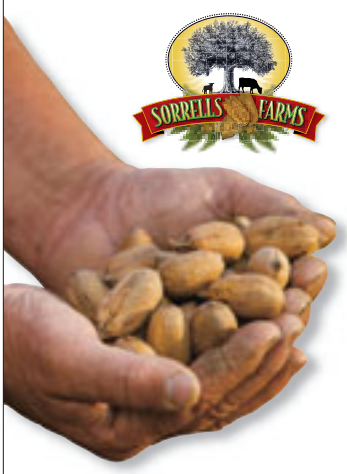
1-888-301-1967
www.crawjacks.com



2019 Texas Classic Fire Station Calendar

Large 20-by-15-inch calendar with 12 watercolors of active, classic Texas fire stations from Texas State Artist George Boutwell. \$12.50 plus sales tax and \$3.50 shipping. Quantity prices on website!

1-800-243-4316
www.gboutwell.com



Fresh "New Crop" Pecans

New crop pecans, chocolate-covered nuts, bakers boxes, specialty gift baskets, fudge, pecan pies. Our very own specialty roasted and salted pecans & gifts galore!

325-356-3616
www.sorrellsfarms.com



World Famous Pecan Cake

Texas-baked since 1896! Serving 50 states and 196 foreign countries. The Deluxe®: 20% clover honey batter, pecans, pineapple, raisins, cherries and papaya. Order now!

1-800-475-3589
www.CollinStreet.com



Prevent Bruises

Stop Arm Bruises and Protect Thin Skin

Soft leather protective sleeves contour to hands and arms. Comfortable and very effective at preventing injuries. Useful in many situations, and provides adjustable airflow. See website for all the benefits!

651-492-4830
www.armchaps.com



Perfect Gift for Tool Lover

Give the mechanic in your life a Pittsburgh 301 Piece Mechanic's Tool Set, full of adjustable wrenches, pliers and sockets in a custom storage case.

800-423-2567
www.harborfreight.com



Rattlesnake Ranch Pecans: A True Texas Gift

Treat your family and friends to the most delicious candied pecans in Texas, including Toasted Honey and Texas Whiskey. Now offering made-from-scratch Texas pecan pies. Corporate orders welcomed!

1-888-PECAN7J (732-2675)
www.rattlesnakeranchpecans.com



Texas Talking Pies

Our made-from-scratch pies are the perfect way to send your logo, photo or message! Five specialty flavors will delight everyone on your list. Ask about our cookies, too!

512-809-8004
www.TXTalkingPies.com



Omaha Steaks

Save 75% on 26 guaranteed-perfect Omaha Steaks, burgers and more in the Family Gourmet Feast and get 4 MORE burgers FREE. Trusted quality makes the best gifts since 1917.

800-811-7832
www.OmahaSteaks.com



Texas Red Grapefruit and Avocados

Always a gift in good taste! Orchard-fresh grapefruit and other Texas products are all hand-selected, carefully packed and shipped to be delivered just in time for the holidays.

1-800-580-1900
www.crockettfarms.com

Get 20% off your online purchase of \$100 or more with code TXGIFTCO

2018 Texas Capitol Ornament



www.TexasCapitolGiftShop.com
 Proceeds support Texas State Capitol preservation and educational programs.



MARKETPLACE

BUY • SELL • TRADE • ACROSS TOWN • ACROSS TEXAS

Steel Mobile Home Roofing

Leaks? High energy bill? Roof rumble?

Contact us at 800.633.8969 or roofover.com



PERMA-ROOF
from Southern Builders

Mobile Home Roofover Systems Since 1983



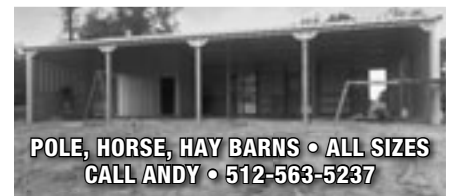
SINCE 1979

Jim's Sheds & Cabins

STORAGE • CABIN • WORKSHOP

12x16	\$2,620	12x24	\$3,565
14x24	\$4,825	16x32	\$5,770
24x28	\$9,120	30x40	\$15,595

Built on Site • 817-505-6215



POLE, HORSE, HAY BARNs • ALL SIZES
CALL ANDY • 512-563-5237

Low Cost Pole Barns

26' x 48' x 10'
3 Sides Enclosed
\$7,995

Hay/Horse Barns, Shops, Decks, Concrete Work and Pad Sites
Call Ron: 512-367-0428

GET RESULTS! ADVERTISE IN THE
MARKETPLACE

ELAINE SPROULL (512) 486-6251
advertising@TexasCoopPower.com

Every tree needs a champion.

PRUNING • CABLING & BRACING
INSECT & DISEASE MANAGEMENT
FERTILIZATION & SOIL CARE



830-953-9007
bartlett.com/Horseshoe-Bay-TX

BARNDOMINIUM HOMES



A WD Metal Building on the exterior and many options like Stained Concrete Floors, Granite Countertops on the interior.

Log On @ WDMB.com

Violins



Buy
Sell
Repair

(830) 627-1778
Duckworth Violin Shop New Braunfels



BRIGGS OAK WILT SERVICE

BOBBY GENE CARROLL
ISA Certified Arborist | Texas Oak Wilt Qualified

REAL ESTATE INSPECTIONS
DIAGNOSIS | TREATMENT
Serving Central Texas since 1992

BriggsOakWiltService.com
512-556-2853

TEXAS MEDICAL PLANS
Independent, Authorized Agent for



BlueCross BlueShield of Texas

An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association
MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT COVERAGE
1-888-888-6698

FLOATING FISHING PIER

On your pond or lake, with or without roof.
All sizes—installation available.



45 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

Call for Free Information • (979) 820-3000
www.ellisonmarine.com • Ellison Marine, Franklin, TX.

GET THE TEXAS CO-OP POWER
E-NEWSLETTER



SIGN UP TODAY AT
TexasCoopPower.com

The Armadillo Strikes Again

Armadillo World Headquarters: from incubator to Austin music legacy

EXCERPT BY EDDIE WILSON
WITH JESSE SUBLETT

DURING ITS REMARKABLE AND UNLIKELY 10-year run, the Armadillo helped nurture and grow an Austin music scene, spreading its gospel around the world. In the 35 years since, the reputation of Austin as a music city has experienced exponential growth, and no small part of that is due to the work we did at Armadillo World Headquarters. Today, Austin is renowned for having an astounding abundance of resident musicians, venues, studios and other essential organs for a thriving music scene infrastructure, along with music festivals that are the envy of the world.

At the Armadillo, we were heavily involved in video production and had been putting performances on cablevision ever since the place opened. In fact, we produced a show called the *Armadillo Country Music Review* in partnership with KLRU, then KLRN, in July 1973 and were involved in various aspects of developing a music series when the TV station decided to produce its own show. Some of my cohort remained involved for a time, even after that show was produced and picked up in 1975 as a series under the name *Austin City Limits*.

In my opinion, AWHQ was quite simply the best music hall in the country—maybe even the whole world. Thousands of musicians played there: Willie Nelson, Frank Zappa, Bruce Springsteen, Taj Mahal, AC/DC, Charlie Daniels, the Ramones, Roy Buchanan and Bette Midler, to name a random few. The interesting thing is that so many of them kept coming back. They loved the place: the acoustics, the people who worked there, the huge nachos and other scrumptious food we served them, and the way the Armadillo



made them feel a part of something bigger.

Another secret to our tenacity might have been our affinity for the lowly nine-banded armadillo. We named the place Armadillo World Headquarters primarily because the anachronistic armored mammal had already been established by Jim Franklin as the icon of the Texas hippies and, as such, we identified with the armadillo for spiritual as well as artistic reasons.

Artists at the University of Texas humor magazine the *Ranger* first began incorporating armadillo images in satirical pieces in the early sixties. Frank Erwin—the head of the UT Board of Regents who was held in special disdain by our community—reacted as if the snide references to the mammal were evidence of some sort of leftist plot or cult, a reaction that naturally inspired even greater demand for armadillo imagery and *Dasyus novemcinctus* itself.

In the late sixties, artists Gilbert Shelton and Jim Franklin pioneered a new visual style and vocabulary for the under-

One of Jim Franklin's iconic posters.

ground scene. Franklin had taken over from Gilbert at the Vulcan Gas Company. Armadillo images figured prominently in their handbills and other work created to promote the venue. Gilbert departed for San Francisco, and the Vulcan folded in 1970, but Franklin dug in his heels in Austin and brought the emerging visual vocabulary and attitude to the Armadillo on day one.

Music historians have also credited the Armadillo with being the place where two previously clashing groups of people—red-necks and hippies—found themselves under the same roof, enjoying a new blend of country music and rock, along with cold beer and cheap pot. The movement was already underway before Willie Nelson played AWHQ, but once he did, he joined our armored mammalian mascot as another icon of the cultural melting pot.

Excerpted from *Armadillo World Headquarters* by Eddie Wilson with Jesse Sublett. Published in 2017 by TSSI Publishing and distributed by University of Texas Press.

THE TEXAS TRACTOR PACKAGE LEADER!

NEW MASSEY FERGUSON 1726L
4WD 25HP DIESEL TRACTOR PACKAGE

MASSEY FERGUSON 2706L
4WD 60HP DIESEL TRACTOR PACKAGE



SALES PRICE \$23,998.00 CASH OR \$299.00 PER MONTH

SALES PRICE \$33,998.00 CASH OR \$429.00 PER MONTH

Packages Include:

- MF Quick Attach L-105 Front End Loader with Skid Steer Bucket
 - Woods 5' Rotary Cutter
 - 5' Box Blade with Scarifiers
 - Post Hole Digger with 9" Auger
 - 3 Point Quick Hitch
- Insulated Canopy Top
- 16' HD Trailer with Ramps, Brakes & Spare Tire
- No DPF Filter
- Choose Ag. or Ind. Tires

Packages Include:

- MF Quick Attach L-135E Front End Loader with Skid Steer Bucket
 - Woods 6' Rotary Cutter with Slip Clutch
 - Post Hole Digger with 9" Auger
 - 3 Point Quick Hitch
- Insulated Canopy Top
- 6' Box Blade with Scarifiers
- 20' HD Trailer with Ramps, Brakes & Spare Tire
- No DPF Filter
- Choose Ag. or Ind. Tires



MASSEY FERGUSON
 TEXAS' TOUGHEST TRACTOR!

FOSTERS WORK & PLAY

3601 US Hwy, 190 W
 Livingston, Texas 77351

(936) 967 - 0011

www.fostersworkandplay.com
 sales@fostersworkandplay.com

Disclaimer: All payments listed are based on a 0.9% interest rate for 84 months with 10% of purchase price down with approved credit through Agco Finance Corp. Prices listed may not include Sales Taxes, Freight, Set up, or Doc fees where applicable. Cash prices only apply to a cash sale or standard rate financing. All HP ratings listed are approximate Engine Horse Power Ratings.

FREE Gift!

when you order within 30 days

Get a **FREE** Uncirculated National Park Quarter!



45-Day Money Back Guarantee of Satisfaction

41816 Special Offer for New Customers Only

Get a 2018 American Eagle Silver Dollar at our cost!

YES! Please send me the Uncirculated American Eagle Silver Dollar at Littleton's cost (limit 1). Plus, send my **FREE** Uncirculated National Park Quarter (one per customer, please).

★ SAVE!

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN 30 DAYS

QTY	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
1	American Eagle Silver Dollar (limit 1)	\$17.74
	*Sales Tax	
FREE Shipping! Merchandise TOTAL \$		

*We are required by law to collect sales tax on orders received after January 1, 2019 for the following states.
 Total Amount is taxable: HI, KY, MA, MD, ME, MN, MS, NJ, OH, OK, TN, VT, WI

Check payable to Littleton Coin Co.

Charge my: VISA MasterCard
 American Express Discover

Card #: Exp. Date /

Name Please print clearly

Address Apt#

City State Zip

E-Mail

Please send coupon to: Dept. 5BV411 41816

Littleton Coin Company 1309 Mt. Eustis Road
 Littleton NH 03561-3737
 America's Favorite Coin Source • TRUSTED SINCE 1945



LAST CHANCE!

Limit one per customer at this special low price!

Get a 2018 American Eagle Silver Dollar at our cost!*

You can't purchase this Uncirculated American Eagle silver dollar directly from the U.S. Mint. But you can now purchase the official 2018 U.S. silver dollar from Littleton Coin Company at our cost – and with **FREE** shipping to your home!

ONLY \$17.74
 with **FREE Shipping!**

The beautiful and sought-after \$1 American Eagle is over 99.9% pure silver and carries the same design as the popular "Walking Liberty" silver coins of 1916-47.

You'll also receive our fully illustrated catalog, plus other fascinating selections from our Free Examination 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. Don't delay – order your 2018 American Eagle silver dollar at our cost today!

LAST CHANCE!

- ★ One ounce of 99.93% pure silver!
- ★ Beautiful mint Uncirculated condition!
- ★ From America's beloved Silver Eagle series – issued every year since 1986!
- ★ Limited-time offer for new customers

Due to fluctuations in the coin market, prices are subject to change.
 * "At our cost" reflects market price as of August 2, 2018.

Limited-Time Offer!

Quick and Easy Holiday Appetizers

HOLIDAYS ARE A TIME OF ABUNDANCE—too much of just about everything except time. As much as I love a cooking project (like rolling out gingerbread cookies or smoking a ham), I'm grateful for timesaving recipes that create something delicious in a flash. I love to kick off a meal with Creamy Kale Toasts, a recipe from my latest cookbook, *Any Night Grilling*. The kale is charred on the grill and then stirred into a luscious spread. The smoky flavor intensifies overnight, so you can make the spread in advance and serve it with grilled bread, whole-grain crackers or crudité—*and a cup of cheer.*

PAULA DISBROWE, FOOD EDITOR

Creamy Kale Toasts

- 1 cup Greek yogurt
 - 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for drizzling
 - 2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice
 - 1 teaspoon finely grated lemon zest
 - Pinch of red pepper flakes
 - Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
 - ½ cup grated aged goat cheese (such as Cypress Grove Midnight Moon)
 - 1 bunch (12 ounces) lacinato kale
 - 8 thick slices levain or other rustic Italian bread
 - 1 clove garlic, halved lengthwise
- Flaky salt

1. Prepare a charcoal grill for two-zone cooking and build a medium fire, or heat a gas grill to medium-high. Carefully wipe the preheated grill grates with a lightly oiled paper towel. Using a grill brush, scrape the grill grates clean, then carefully wipe with a lightly oiled towel again.
2. In a large bowl, combine the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32



JAMES RANSON | FOOD52

Recipes

Quick and Easy Holiday Appetizers



THIS MONTH'S RECIPE CONTEST WINNER

PATTI GRAFF | MEDINA EC

Use a retro pantry staple—cheese spread—to create this savory baked snack. “My mom included this in a recipe book she compiled and gave to me when I got married 37 years ago,” Graff says. “It’s always a favorite, especially at our annual Christmas brunch.” Assemble the puffs in advance and freeze so you can bake as many as you need at a moment’s notice.

Olive Cheese Puffs

- ½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened
- 1½ cups flour
- 2 jars (5 ounces each) cheese spread
- 50 pitted olives (black olives, manzanillo or a combination)

1. Using a wooden spoon, combine the butter, flour and cheese spread in a mixing bowl (or use cold butter and combine the ingredients in a food processor). When dough is smooth and has a uniform texture, form into 1-inch balls. Flatten each ball and shape the dough around an olive. Place the dough-covered olive on a waxed paper-lined baking sheet. Repeat with remaining dough and olives, then freeze.

Once frozen, place the olives in a sealable plastic bag and store in freezer up to 2 months.

2. To bake, heat oven to 450 degrees. Place the olives on a rimmed baking sheet, spacing them 1 inch apart, and bake 15–20 minutes, until golden and slightly brown on the bottom. Serve the olives warm or at room temperature. ▶ Makes 50 olive cheese puffs.



IF YOUR RECIPE IS FEATURED, YOU'LL WIN A TCP APRON!

\$100 Recipe Contest

May’s recipe contest topic is **Layer Cakes**. What’s the special occasion this month—Mom, bridal shower, graduation? Share the cake that gets rave reviews at your celebrations. The deadline is **December 10**.

ENTER ONLINE at TexasCoopPower.com/contests; MAIL to 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701; FAX to (512) 763-3401. Include your name, address and phone number, plus your co-op and the name of the contest you are entering.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

yogurt with the olive oil, lemon juice, zest and pepper flakes. Season with kosher salt and pepper, then fold in the cheese.

3. Working in batches, grill the kale leaves perpendicular to the grates so they won’t fall through. Cook over direct heat until lightly charred, 1–2 minutes on each side. Transfer to a cutting board and cool slightly. Use a knife to trim the thick ribs from each leaf, then finely chop the kale leaves. Fold into the yogurt mixture.

4. Grill the bread over direct heat until charred, about a minute on each side. While still warm, rub one side of each toast with the cut side of the garlic. Top each toast with a layer of the creamy kale and arrange the toasts on a platter. Drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle with flaky salt. ▶ Makes 8 toasts, with leftover spread.

Reprinted from *Any Night Grilling* (Ten Speed Press, 2018)

Two-Ingredient Hummus

CHRISTINA LANE | GRAYSON-COLLIN EC

What could be easier than a delicious dip that calls for only two ingredients? Lane’s creamy, satisfying purée pairs beautifully with pita chips, grilled flatbread or crudités. For the best flavor, taste the mixture after blending and add salt or olive oil as desired.

- 1 can (15 ounces) chickpeas, drained and rinsed
 - 1 jar (6 ounces) marinated artichoke hearts, undrained
- Pita chips, for serving

1. Combine the chickpeas and artichoke in food processor and purée until smooth. Serve with pita chips, if desired. Leftovers can be stored in the refrigerator for up to 3 days. ▶ Makes about 2½ cups.

COOK’S TIP This speedy dip also can be made using canned white beans instead of chickpeas.

Easy Gougères

KIMBERLY MARX | PEDERNALES EC

Gougères are a classic French appetizer made by combining choux pastry with a strongly flavored grated cheese, such as Gruyère, Emmenthal or aged cheddar. They are delicious on their own, crispy and warm from the oven or at room temperature, and with any number of fillings.

- ½ cup whole milk
- ½ cup water
- ½ cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, cut into 4 pieces
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 cup flour
- 5 eggs, room temperature
- 1½ cups (about 6 ounces) coarsely grated aged cheese (such as Gruyère, Asiago or sharp cheddar)

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Line two baking sheets with silicone baking mats or parchment.

2. Combine the milk, water, butter and salt in a heavy-bottomed medium saucepan over high heat. Whisking constantly, bring the mixture to a rapid boil, then add flour. Lower the heat to medium-low and immediately stir vigorously with a wooden spoon or heavy whisk. The dough will come together, and a light crust will form on the bottom of the pan. Continue stirring another 1–2 minutes to dry dough (at this point it should be very smooth).

3. Turn the dough into a stand mixer (or a large bowl if you're using a hand mixer or wooden spoon). Allow the dough to sit 1–2 minutes, then add the eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition, until the dough is thick and shiny. Make sure each egg is completely mixed in before adding the next. (The dough may separate until the last egg is incorporated.) Beat in the grated cheese, then spoon out immediately.

4. Drop tablespoonfuls of dough onto the prepared baking sheets, leaving a 2-inch space between each. Place baking sheets into oven, immediately reducing temperature to 375 degrees, and bake 12 minutes. Rotate the pans from front to back and top to bottom, and continue baking until the gougères are golden, firm and puffed, another 12–15 minutes. Serve warm or transfer the pans to racks to cool. ▶ Makes about 36 gougères.

COOK'S TIP To prepare them in advance, freeze mounds of the unbaked pastry on a baking sheet. When they're solid, lift off sheet and

More Speedy Starters

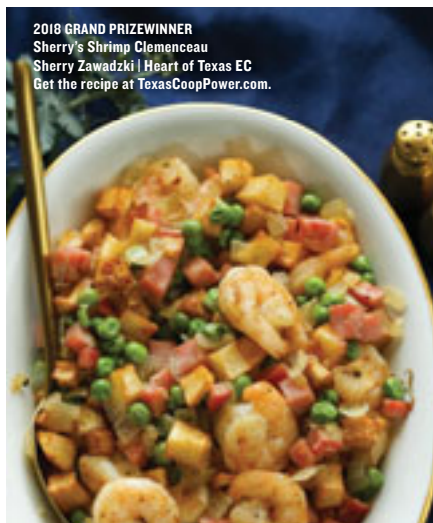
Slather a round of brie with your favorite jelly or jam, wrap with thawed puff pastry and bake at 400 degrees until golden brown.

Top slices of toasted baguette with an herbed cheese spread and cherry tomato halves.

Toss pecans with melted butter, Worcestershire sauce and chopped fresh rosemary, then toast in a 350-degree oven 7–8 minutes, until fragrant.

Drizzle a wedge of blue cheese with honey and serve with toasted walnuts and crackers. —PD

freeze in sealable plastic bags. (Follow the baking instructions, allowing a few more minutes in the oven.) Leftover baked puffs can be stored at room temperature overnight and reheated in a 350-degree oven, or they can be frozen and reheated before serving.



2018 GRAND PRIZEWINNER
Sherry's Shrimp Clemenceau
Sherry Zawadzki | Heart of Texas EC
Get the recipe at TexasCoopPower.com.

2019 HOLIDAY RECIPE CONTEST

\$2,500 IN PRIZES

\$1,000 Grand Prizewinner

One \$500 Best Savory Winner

One \$500 Best Sweet Winner

Two \$250 Honorable Mention Winners

Share your best original recipes!

TEXAS COOP POWER

Enter Today at TexasCoopPower.com.

BEST BUY WALK-IN BATH TUBS



Call us, don't wait another day. Our products have been made in Texas since 2006. We customize, so why pay for something you don't want. Get exactly what you want at an affordable price. So stop struggling and start enjoying your bath again. Call us for an in home no pressure presentation. What do you have to lose?

Visit our showroom at 3411 E. Hwy. 377 in Granbury.

**WE INSTALL
ACROSS
TEXAS!**



888-825-2362 www.bestbuywalkintubs.com

HARBOR FREIGHT

QUALITY TOOLS AT RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICES

900 Stores Nationwide • HarborFreight.com

PREDATOR BEATS HONDA

SUPER COUPON
Customer Rating
★★★★★

2000 WATT SUPER QUIET INVERTER GENERATOR



	PREDATOR 2000	HONDA EU2000i
4.7 HOURS	2000	3.4 HOURS
MAX. STARTING WATTS	2000	
1600	1600	
61 dB	NOISE LEVEL	59 dB
48 LBS.	WEIGHT	45.6 LBS.
1.2 GAL.	TANK SIZE	.95 GAL.
3	OUTLETS	3
YES	OVERLOAD PROTECTION	YES
79.7 cc	ENGINE SIZE	98.5 cc
YES	LOW OIL ALERT	YES
YES	PARALLEL CAPABLE	YES
YES	POWER SAVER	YES



NOW \$449.99

SAVE \$49 **\$499.99** **PRICE** **\$999**

ITEM 62523

28549558

* HONDA EU2000i stated specs
LIMIT 3 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

SUPER COUPON

FREE

WITH ANY PURCHASE
GENTECH
7 FUNCTION DIGITAL MULTIMETER



• 3.5" LCD Display
• Battery Included

COMPARE TO PROSKIT \$167.2
MODEL: MT-1210

ITEM 98025/30756/63604/63758/63759/69096/90899 shown

28543051

Cannot be used with other discounts or prior purchases. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 4/7/19 while supplies last. Limit 1 FREE GIFT per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON

20% OFF

ANY SINGLE ITEM*

28541669

Limit 1 coupon per customer per day. Save 20% on any 1 item purchased. *Cannot be used with other discounts, coupon or any of the following items or brands: Inside Track Club membership, Extended Service Plan, gift card, open box item, 3 day Return, Lot Sale Item, compressors, floor jacks, saw mills, storage cabinets, chests or carts, trailers, trencher/backhoes, welders, Admiral, Ames, Bauer, Cobra, CoverPro, Dayton, DeWalt, Earthquake, Fisher, Hercules, Iron, Jantzen, Lynx, Power, Predator, Ridgid, Viking, Wisco, Zurich. Not valid on prior purchases. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 4/7/19.

SUPER COUPON

7 FT. 4" x 9 FT. 6" ALL PURPOSE/WEATHER RESISTANT TARP



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$299

COMPARE TO BLUE HAWK MODEL: BG8X10-Y \$998
SAVE 70%
ITEM 69115/69121/69129/69137/69249/877 shown

28590283

LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

PITTSBURGH #1 SELLING JACKS

RAPID PUMP® 3 TON STEEL HEAVY DUTY LOW PROFILE FLOOR JACK



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$179.99

COMPARE TO TEQ MODEL: T8309182 \$149.99
SAVE \$70
ITEM 64264/64266/64879/64881/61282/62326/61253 shown

28594168

LIMIT 3 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

WARRIOR

18 VOLT LITHIUM CORDLESS 3/8" DRILL/DRIVER KIT



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$299.99

COMPARE TO RYOBI MODEL: P1810 \$399.99
SAVE 56%
ITEM 64118

28600731

LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

U.S. GENERAL

30", 4 DRAWER TECH CART



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$107.99

COMPARE TO SNAP-ON MODEL: KRBC10TPC \$159.99
SAVE \$69
ITEM 64818 64096 shown

28626845

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

CENTRAL PNEUMATIC

21 GALLON, 2.5 HP, 125 PSI VERTICAL OIL-LUBE AIR COMPRESSOR



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$149.99

COMPARE TO HUSKY MODEL: C201R \$229
SAVE \$79
ITEM 61454/69091/62803/63635/67847 shown

28629130

LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

HARDY

POWDER-FREE NITRILE GLOVES PACK OF 100



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$5.99

COMPARE TO VENOM MODEL: VEN145 \$9.99
SAVE 40%
ITEM 37051, 37052, 64417, 64418, 61363, 37050 68497, 61360, 61359, 68498, 68496 shown

28632618

LIMIT 9 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

BADLAND

2500 LB. ELECTRIC WINCH WITH WIRELESS REMOTE CONTROL



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$499.99

COMPARE TO SUPERWINCH MODEL: 112220 \$180.99
Voted Best Winches
ITEM 61840/61297/63476/61258 shown

28635829

LIMIT 3 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

COVER PRO

10 FT. x 10 FT. PORTABLE SHED



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$139.99

COMPARE TO SHELTER LOGIC MODEL: T0333 \$236.89
SAVE \$96
ITEM 63297

28637391

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

PITTSBURGH

1 TON CAPACITY FOLDABLE SHOP CRANE



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$99.99

COMPARE TO IRONTON MODEL: 46218 \$199.99
SAVE \$100
ITEM 61858/69512/69445 shown

28640011

LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

PORTLAND

1750 PSI ELECTRIC PRESSURE WASHER



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$99.99

COMPARE TO BRIGGS & STRATTON MODEL: 26680 \$174.44
SAVE \$94
ITEM 63255/63254 shown

28640054

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

PITTSBURGH

40 PIECE, 3/8" DRIVE SAE AND METRIC SOCKET SET



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$399

LIFETIME WARRANTY
COMPARE TO KOBALT MODEL: 98899 \$199.97
SAVE 80%
ITEM 47902/61328/63015/62843 shown

28649192

LIMIT 7 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

drillmaster

1500 WATT DUAL TEMPERATURE HEAT GUN (572°/1112°)



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$89.99

COMPARE TO BLACK & DECKER MODEL: H61300 \$286
SAVE 67%
ITEM 35776/62340/62540/63104/96289 shown

28654715

LIMIT 9 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

SUPER COUPON

TWO-TIER COLLAPSIBLE EASY-STORE STEP LADDER



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$19.99

COMPARE TO WERNER MODEL: S322A-1 \$33.88
SAVE 40%
ITEM 67514

28655570

LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

PITTSBURGH

301 PIECE MASTER SAE AND METRIC MECHANIC'S TOOL KIT



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$159.99

LIFETIME WARRANTY
COMPARE TO KLUTCH MODEL: 43954 \$299.99
SAVE \$140
ITEM 63464/63457/45951 shown

28659031

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

KRAUSE & BECKER

AIRLESS PAINT SPRAYER KIT



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$169.99

COMPARE TO GRACO MODEL: 282800 \$299
SAVE \$129
ITEM 62915/60600 shown

28662284

LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

SUPER COUPON

200 LUMENS LED SUPER BRIGHT FLIP LIGHT



Customer Rating
★★★★★
NOW \$2.99

COMPARE TO PREMIER MODEL: P-SWITCH-1248 \$4.49
SAVE 50%
ITEM 64189/64723/63922 shown

28667068

LIMIT 9 - Coupon valid through 4/7/19*

*Original coupon only. No use on prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase or without original receipt. Valid through 4/7/19. At Harbor Freight Tools, the "Compare to" price means that the specified comparison, which is an item with the same or similar function, was advertised for sale at or above the "Compare to" price by another national retailer in the U.S. within the past 90 days. Prices advertised by others may vary by location. No other meaning of "Compare to" should be implied. For more information, go to HarborFreight.com or see store associate.

High Contrast

THIS MONTH, OUR READERS TAKE RISKS with light and shadow and play with every color under the sun to deliver some fantastic shots. **GRACE ARSIAGA**

WEB EXTRAS ▶ See Focus on Texas on our website for more photos from readers.



▲ **TWILLA MALKERSON**, Farmers EC: Malkerson's calf on a freezing day in Emory.

▶ **CHARLES CARLSON**, Bandera EC: Cypress tree trunks and roots reflected on the Frio River at Concan.



▲ **THERESA MCKEE**, Fannin County EC: An old gas station painted in funky colors and abandoned under the hot Texas sun.



▲ **JON HOBSON**, Houston County EC: "My son, Isaac, and his friend Sean playing some basketball after a rain shower in Grapeland."



UPCOMING CONTESTS

APRIL	MILES AND MILES OF TEXAS	DUE DECEMBER 10
MAY	ON THE RANCH	DUE JANUARY 10
JUNE	FEEDIN' TIME	DUE FEBRUARY 10

All entries must include name, address, daytime phone and co-op affiliation, plus the contest topic and a brief description of your photo.

ONLINE: Submit highest-resolution digital images at TexasCoopPower.com/contests. **MAIL:** Focus on Texas, 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701. A stamped, self-addressed envelope must be included if you want your entry returned (approximately six weeks). Please do not submit irreplaceable photographs—send a copy or duplicate. We do not accept entries via email. We regret that *Texas Co-op Power* cannot be responsible for photos that are lost in the mail or not received by the deadline.

◀ **SHAHBANU MALAK**, CoServ: "Spotted in my garden one fine morning."

Pick of the Month Sanger High Craft Show

Sanger December 8
(940) 206-0007

The craft show, which goes all day at Sanger High School, includes more than 140 booths featuring unique gifts, Christmas decor, home-made soaps, candles, jewelry and more. The sale benefits the Sanger FFA, Sanger FFA Alumni & Friends and area food banks. Find out more on the event's Facebook page.



ORNAMENT: TANCHES | DREAMTIME.COM. BIRD: DUCKS1000 | DREAMTIME.COM. WINE: S PHOTO | DREAMTIME.COM

December

7

Edinburg Night of Lights, (956) 383-4974, edinburg.com

Victoria [7-8] Bethlehem Village, (361) 573-2232, gracelutheran-tx.org/bethlehem-village

Burnet [7-9, 14-16] Main Street Bethlehem, (512) 756-4481, fbcburnet.org

Ennis [7-8, 14-16, 21-22] *Where's Santa?*, (972) 878-5126, theatrerocks.com

8

Bastrop Holiday Homes Tour, (512) 303-0057, bastropcountyhistoricalsociety.com

Bonham Holiday Open House, (903) 583-5558

Bulverde Living Christmas Drive Though Presentation, (830) 980-2813, redroofchurch.org

Chappell Hill Garden Club Christmas Home Tour, (713) 562-6191, chappellhillgardenclub.com

Garrison Christmas on the Square, (936) 347-2316



December 8
McKinney
Second Saturday
Bird Walk

Johnson City Christmas Through the Years in LBJ Country, (830) 868-7128, nps.gov/lyjo

McGregor Lighted Christmas Parade, (254) 840-2292, mcgregorfoundersday.com

**WIN A THREE-NIGHT ADVENTURE
IN BIG BEND**

GET DETAILS AND ENTER ONLINE AT
TexasCoopPower.com

Check out gobigbend.com for more travel information.

RHINO[®]
STEEL BUILDING SYSTEMS

25 Year Warranty • Easy Bolt-Together Design
Engineered Stamp Blueprints

Farm • Industrial • Commercial

RHINO.BUILDERS/TX 940-304-8068
INFO@RHINOBLDG.COM

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

1-800-359-4940 TEXAS
TOLL-FREE

www.mattsonfinancialservices.com

BLAKE MATTSO, CFP[™]
Signal Securities, Inc., 5406 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.

McKinney Second Saturday Bird Walk, (972) 562-5566, heardmuseum.org

Port Arthur Lighted Cultural Holiday Parade, (409) 983-8105, portarthurtx.gov

Weslaco Santa Dash and Lighted Christmas Parade, (956) 968-2102, weslaco.com

Vernon Christmas on the Western Trail, (940) 553-3766

Washington Christmas on the Brazos, (936) 878-2214, wheretexasbecametexas.org

Brenham [8-9] Holiday Crystal Wine Trail, (979) 836-3696, visitbrenhamtexas.com

Tyler [8-9] Interscholastic Equestrian Association Hunt Seat Show, (903) 882-8696, texasrosehorsepark.com

13

Levelland Fa La La Fun for the Ladies, (806) 894-3157, levelland.com

Palo Pinto Frontier Christmas, (940) 659-3573, palopintohistory.com

14

Fredericksburg [14-15] The Christmas Journey, (830) 997-2069, bethanyfredericksburg.com

San Angelo [14-16] *The Nutcracker*, (325) 284-3825, sanangelopac.org

15

Kilgore Jingle All the Way, (903) 988-4117, kilgoremainstreet.com



December 8-9
Brenham
Holiday Crystal
Wine Trail

Livingston A Polk County Christmas Show, (936) 933-5852, polkcountycommercecenter.com

16

Stonewall LBJ Tree Lighting, (830) 644-2252, tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/lyndon-b-johnson

18

Crockett The Texas Tenors, (936) 544-4276, pwfaa.org

January

5

Bonham Sam Rayburn Day, (903) 583-5558, thc.texas.gov/historic-sites

Kerrville The Fabulous 50s: Romance to Rock 'n' Roll, (830) 792-7469, symphonyofthehills.org

Submit Your Event!

We pick events for the magazine directly from TexasCoopPower.com. Submit your event for February by December 10, and it just might be featured in this calendar.

TEXAS CO-OP POWER GIFT SHOP

Find Texas Treasures Online

Texas food, music, housewares, gifts and more—find it all at [TexasCoopPower.com/shop](https://www.texascooppower.com/shop), along with great deals for *Texas Co-op Power* readers.

Just pick and click—it's easy to shop for friends and family without leaving home.

VISIT THE GIFT SHOP TODAY AT
[TexasCoopPower.com](https://www.texascooppower.com)

BETHLEHEM REVISITED ♦ CANDLELIGHT HOME TOUR ♦ SANTA RUN ♦ THE NUTCRACKER

You'll feel at home for the holidays with a heartwarming weekend filled with wonderful activities, touring, dining and shopping in Waxahachie.

Join us for upcoming holiday events!

WAXAHACHIE
A place to be
Merry

For holiday event information, please visit [waxahachiecvb.com](https://www.waxahachiecvb.com) or call 469-309-4040.



South Texas Riches

Daytrip includes Spanish colonial history, a salt lake and aloe galore

BY EILEEN MATTEI

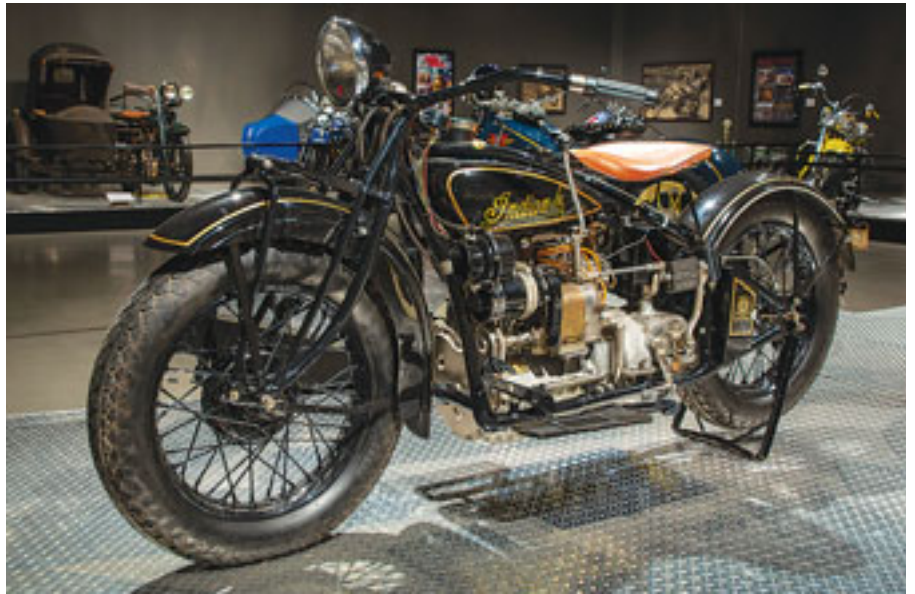
DRIVING FROM EDINBURG, THE HIDALGO County seat in the southern tip of Texas, east to Raymondville, the seat of adjacent Willacy County, requires less than an hour, but the transition covers more than just highway miles. Edinburg bustles with the campus of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley at its heart, while the agricultural community of Raymondville invites you to savor nature and history.

When I spot Martin Aparicio, 14, in the **Museum of South Texas History** in Edinburg, he is wearing replicas of a Spanish helmet and breastplate from the 1600s. His aunt, Veronica Paz, and her daughters critique his fashion sense as he dons a leather tricorne hat and a long, black leather vest in the Spanish colonial hands-on corner. “A hands-on museum like this has more of an impact,” says Paz, who brought the teenagers from Chicago.

The museum promises a stroll through 500 years of South Texas history. I start in the late 1700s and wander through a colonial town inspecting saddles and a beehive stone oven. A few steps and a few decades later, I climb on board a Rio Grande steamboat to the sound of creaking barrels and the splash of a paddle wheel. Still later, I hear lonesome cowboy songs that herald chuck wagons and vaqueros. With World War II approaching, I peer through a German submarine’s periscope trained on a freighter in the Gulf of Mexico.

I leave one museum and head for the **South Texas Motorcycle Museum**, where highly polished motorcycles with sensuously curved fenders preen in spotlights that reflect off diamond-plate flooring and gleaming chrome. Eighty vintage bikes give the impression of sculptural forms.

The majority of the bikes (and the earliest ones do resemble bicycles) are Indians and Harley-Davidsons. A 1913 Indian



A 1931 Indian Four is one of about 80 vintage motorcycles at the South Texas Motorcycle Museum in Edinburg.

racing motorcycle, made without brakes or a transmission, sits near a gorgeous red 1947 Indian Chief, complete with sidecar. The oldest is a 1903 Harley, and the most recognizable may be a Captain America Chopper, a replica of the customized Harley in *Easy Rider*.

“All of them run,” says caretaker Dave Garcia, who owns the motorcycle shop next door.

I head north on Interstate 69C, then drive 4 miles on Texas Highway 186 to **La Sal del Rey**, the smallest of three hypersaline lakes in the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge. A wide gravel path leads a half-mile north to the 530-acre lake, which sparkles like a snowy field.

Since the 1500s, Native Americans, Spanish explorers, ranchers and soldiers have traveled to this deep salt dome for salt to preserve meat and hides. Sandhill cranes and long-billed curlews winter here.

As I walk along the shoreline, dry salt crunches underfoot. Wildlife obviously traipse across the salt-topped mud: Huge nilgai tracks and dainty sharp javelina and bobcat prints are visible. I scoop out a nil-

gai hoofprint and come up with a handful of salt flakes.

At the **Willacy County Historical Museum**, Elva Sayas guides me to Mifflin Kenedy’s La Parra Ranch exhibit. I gawk at the former Rio Grande riverboat captain’s 30-pound bulletproof vest. The 1554 Espiritu Santo shipwreck—the oldest in the U.S., which formed here when the Santo sank along with two Spanish galleons during a storm—resulted in a treasure trove of coins, jewelry and artifacts recovered from county beaches, now displayed here.

I drive on FM 491 to **Hilltop Gardens**, a historical botanical sanctuary where aloe vera has been grown commercially since 1939. Hilltop includes more than 200 species of aloes displayed in climbing, blooming and spiky exuberance. The sensory garden invites you to touch sandpapery anacua leaves, smell jasmine and citronella, and watch butterflies. The healing garden with its reflecting pool, herbs and tropical birds encourages relaxation and reflection on the Valley landscape.

Eileen Mattei, a Nueces EC member, is a Texas master naturalist in Harlingen.

 **WEB EXTRAS** ▶ Read this story on our website to view a slideshow.



Give a little
TENDERNESS[®]

and SAVE 75%* on Omaha Steaks[®]

The Family Gourmet Feast

- 2 (5 oz.) Filet Mignons
- 2 (5 oz.) Top Sirloins
- 2 (4 oz.) Boneless Pork Chops
- 4 Boneless Chicken Breasts (1 lb. pkg.)
- 4 (3 oz.) Kielbasa Sausages
- 4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers
- 4 (3 oz.) Potatoes au Gratin
- 4 (4 oz.) Caramel Apple Tartlets
- Omaha Steaks Seasoning Packet (.33 oz.)

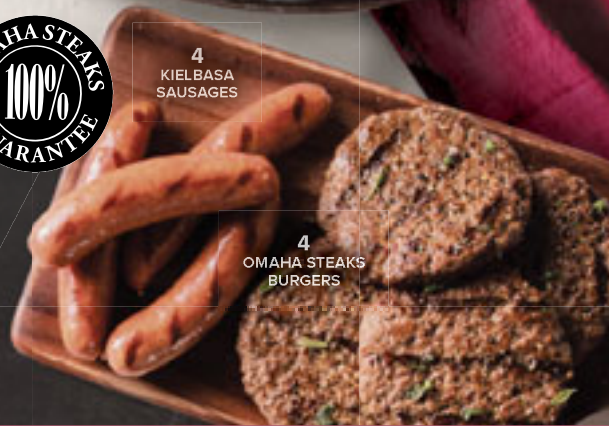
55586WKZ | \$199.91* separately

Combo Price **\$49⁹⁹**

ORDER NOW & **SAVE 75%***



Plus get
 4 more Burgers
FREE



-30-
 GOURMET
 ITEMS!

1-800-811-7832 ask for 55586WKZ | www.OmahaSteaks.com/give30

*Savings shown over aggregated single item base price. Limit 2 Family Gourmet Feast packages. Your 4 free burgers will be sent to each shipping address that includes (55586). Standard S&H will be added per address. Flat rate shipping and reward cards and codes cannot be used with this offer. Not valid with other offers. Expires 2/28/19. All purchases acknowledge acceptance of Omaha Steaks, Inc. Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Visit omahasteaks.com/terms-of-useOSI and omahasteaks.com/info/privacy-policy or call 1-800-228-9872 for a copy. ©2018 OCG | Omaha Steaks, Inc. SRC0798

Save a Bundle on TV and Internet!



2-YEAR TV PRICE LOCK!

\$59⁹⁹ month for TV

Blazing-Fast Internet

Add Internet!

~~\$59⁹⁹~~ month for Internet

\$39⁹⁹ month for Internet

- Speeds from 25Mbps-1 Gbps
- No Matter Where You Live
- Now with Unlimited Data!

It's All Included!

- ✓ Includes Hopper Smart HD DVR
- ✓ Includes HD Programming
- ✓ Includes One TV, Add More for \$5
- ✓ Includes Voice Remote Requires internet connected Hopper.
- ✓ Includes 190 Channels with Locals



30+ FREE Premium Channels



NETFLIX – Fully Integrated – Just Change The Channel And Watch!
Netflix subscription required.

Save up to \$20/mo. for 2 full years!*

*\$ off discount offers vary by service address. Go to godish.com/internet to verify your discount. TV service not required for Internet.

\$100 Get DISH. Get \$100.

Visa® Prepaid Card

1234 5678 9012 3456

4000

Gift Card

EXPIRES END 01/25

Valid only in U.S.

Courtesy of GoDISH.com. Must mention offer code **Card100**.

1-866-290-7151

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

godish.com/pricelock

iSe Habla Español!



*Prices include Hopper Duo for qualifying customers. Hopper, Hopper w/Sling or Hopper 3 \$5/mo. more. Upfront fees may apply based on credit qualification. Fees apply for additional TVs: Hopper \$15/mo., Joey \$5/mo., Super Joey \$10/mo. All offers require credit qualification, 2-Year commitment with early termination fee and eAutoPay. Offer for new and qualifying former customers only. Important Terms and Conditions: Qualification: Advertised price requires credit qualification and eAutoPay. Upfront activation and/or receiver upgrade fees may apply based on credit qualification. Offer ends 1/14/19. 2-Year Commitment: Early termination fee of \$20/mo. remaining applies if you cancel early. Included in 2-year price guarantee at \$59.99 advertised price: America's Top 120 programming package, local channels, HD service fees, and Hopper Duo for 1 TV. Included in 2-year price guarantee for additional cost: Programming package upgrades (\$69.99 for AT120+, \$79.99 for AT200, \$89.99 for AT250), monthly fees for upgraded or additional receivers (\$5-\$7 per additional TV, receivers with additional functionality may be \$10-\$15). 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 to cancel. Gift and Pre-paid Cards: Courtesy of GoDISH.com for credit-qualified customers. Customers who do not qualify may be eligible for a secondary gift offer. Cards are issued by Citibank, N.A. pursuant to a license from Visa® U.S.A. Inc. and managed by Citi Prepaid Services. Cards will not have cash access and can be used everywhere Visa® debit cards are accepted. Cards expire 6 months from date issued. Mail-in redemption form is required within 60 days of qualified activation to receive gift. Customer account must be current and in good standing at the time of redemption. Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery of gift. 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 \$8.99/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. SHOWTIME is a registered trademark of Showtime Networks Inc., a CBS Company. STARZ and related channels and service marks are property of Starz Entertainment, LLC. © 2018 GoDISH.com. All rights reserved. Internet speeds, prices, and providers vary by customer address. \$39.99 price refers to 25Mbps plan. Restrictions apply. 25 Mbps internet service available nationwide, but may become temporarily unavailable to certain addresses based on local beam capacity. Availability is subject to change without notice. Internet not provided by DISH and will be billed separately. Call for details.