

TEXAS CO-OP POWER

Howdy, **BARDNERS**

Why midsummer
nights in Texas
are perfect for
Shakespeare





this is home

Mueller custom buildings make beautiful living spaces. Our manufactured & engineered exteriors provide flexibility for you to design a completely personalized interior, while supporting large spans and open floor plans. 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)



*Some exterior structures, such as decks & porches, were added post-engineering and not designed by Mueller. Please check local building codes before ordering.



Stormy sky over the Big Bend

FEATURES

8 All the State's a Stage Texas' history, myths and wild spirit provide fertile ground for staging Shakespeare.
By Clayton Stromberger

12 Why the Raven Calls the Canyon Book excerpt captures life off the grid in Big Bend.
Text and photos by E. Dan Klepper

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**
Texas' OPEC
By Robert Springer
- 31 **Recipes**
The Secret to Salsa
- 35 **Focus on Texas**
Photo Contest: School's Out
- 36 **Around Texas**
List of Local Events
- 38 **Hit the Road**
Lolling Around Luling
By Gene Fowler

ONLINE

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

Texas USA
The Original Texas Songster
By Clay Coppedge

Observations
A Slice of Heaven
By Lonni Taylor

NEXT MONTH

Hill Country Gems Scenic swath of Central Texas spotlights culture, history and natural wonders.



CANYON: E. DAN KLEPPER. CAIRN: JULIA ROBINSON



ON THE COVER *Camp Shakespeare youngsters perform The Winter's Tale at Winedale Theatre Barn.* Photo by Caroline Poe Photography

TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Bryan Lightfoot, Chair, Bartlett; Blaine Warzecha, Vice Chair, Victoria; Alan Lesley, Secretary-Treasurer, Comanche; Mark Boyd, Douglassville; William F. Hetherington, Bandera; Mark Stubbs, Greenville; Brent Wheeler, Dalhart • **PRESIDENT/CEO:** Mike Williams, Austin • **COMMUNICATIONS & MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE:** Jerry Boze, Kaufman; Clint Gardner, Coleman; Greg Henley, Tahoka; Billy Marricle, Bellville; Mark McClain, Roby; Gary Raybon, El Campo; Kathy Wood, Marshall; Brandon Young, McGregor • **MAGAZINE STAFF:** Martin Bevins, Vice President, Communications & Member Services; Charles J. Lohrmann, Editor; Tom Widlowski, 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; Jane Sharpe, Senior Designer; Britian Lee, Intern, Shannon Oelrich, Proofreader

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

— J. Fitzgerald, VA



Sit up, lie down —
and anywhere
in between!

Easy-to-use remote for
massage, heat, recline and lift

We’ve all had nights when we just can’t lie down in bed and sleep, whether it’s from heartburn, cardiac problems, hip or back aches – it could be a variety of reasons. Those are the nights we’d give anything for a comfortable chair to sleep in, one that reclines to exactly the right degree, raises feet and legs to precisely the desired level, supports the head and shoulders properly, operates easily even in the dead of night, and sends a hopeful sleeper right off to dreamland.

Our Perfect Sleep Chair® is just the chair to do it all. It’s a chair, true – the finest of lift chairs – but this chair is so much more! It’s designed to provide total comfort and relaxation not found in other chairs. It can’t be beat for comfortable, long-term sitting, TV viewing, relaxed reclining and – yes! – peaceful

sleep. Our chair’s recline technology allows you to pause the chair in an infinite number of positions, including the Trendelenburg position and the zero gravity position where your body experiences a minimum of internal and external stresses. You’ll love the other benefits, too: It helps with correct spinal alignment, promotes back pressure relief, and encourages better posture to prevent back and muscle pain.



This lift chair puts you safely on your feet!

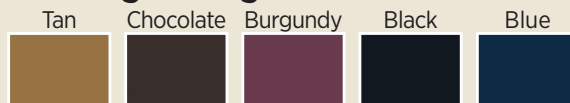
And there’s more! The overstuffed, oversized biscuit style back and unique seat design will cradle you in comfort. Generously filled, wide armrests provide enhanced arm support when sitting or reclining. The high and low heat settings along with the multiple massage settings, can provide a soothing relaxation you might get at a spa – just imagine getting all that in a lift chair! It even has a battery backup in case of a power outage. Shipping charge includes white glove delivery. 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 fabrics and colors – **Call now!**

The Perfect Sleep Chair®

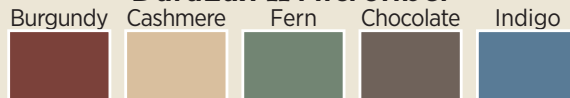
1-888-827-7671

Please mention code 109371 when ordering.

Long Lasting DuraLux Leather



DuraLux II Microfiber



46471

Planting the Seeds

I had just received a packet of milkweed seeds from Lands' End when the May issue of *Texas Co-op Power* [*Naturally Protective*] arrived. I immediately cleared a spot in my yard and planted the seeds.

JOEL MUCKLEROV | JOURDANTON KARNES EC

About MacArthur

Gen. Douglas MacArthur was commander in chief of the South Pacific, which was primarily New Guinea, Australia, New Zealand and eventually the Philippines [*Chain of Command?*, Letters, June 2018]. Adm. Chester W. Nimitz was commander in chief of the Pacific Ocean Areas. This included all of the island groups from the Solomon Islands through Okinawa and Iwo Jima.

HOWARD MAX | FAIRVIEW GRAYSON-COLLIN EC

What was Gen. MacArthur doing? He was cooperating with Adm. Nimitz, who was in charge of all Pacific operations.

D.J. BRUCE | WEATHERFORD TRI-COUNTY EC

Other Connections

Having had a "connected" home for the past 17 years, I was surprised there was no mention of X-10 or Z-Wave technology [*Connecting Your Home*, June 2018]. X-10 being a power line (the wires in your house) technology and Z-Wave being a radio frequency system of controls for lights, appliances, thermostats, TV and stereo, sprinkler systems, security systems integration,

Keep Texas, Texas

Every day we lose a little bit more of our lush countryside due to progress. Laura Bush has a big job on her hands, and I hope it's not too late [*Naturally Protective*, May 2018]. I hope we can keep Texas, Texas.

JAN ALSGARD | LEANDER | PEDERNALES EC



water valves, door locks, etc.
JIM NEUMANN | VICTORIA VICTORIA EC

East Texas Authors

I'd hoped the article on East Texas writer Joe R. Lansdale [*East Texas Mojo*, May 2018] would mention Caleb Pirtle III, a Kilgore native now writing out of Lindale. He has written over 75 books—among his more



recent is a prize-winning account of the Giddings oil strike of the 1970s, *Gamble in the Devil's Chalk*. He's now writing two fiction books on life in a small East Texas town in the 1930s.
JOHN NICKOLS | FORNEY TRINITY VALLEY EC

One of my favorite writers! For decades!
WILLIAM TROCINO | VIA FACEBOOK

I will be looking for him [Lansdale, left] on my next trip to the bookstore.
MARY JANE ZORN | VIA FACEBOOK

Spilled Jewels

Beautiful picture of the dedicated spider mom [*Doting Mother*, Letters, November 2017].
Try this: Shine a bright flashlight onto the grass at night, holding the light on your head so you can look down the beam.

When you find a wolf spider, follow the beam to get closer. Wolf spider eyes glow a most brilliant aqua, and so do the babies'. If disturbed, the babies scatter and look like spilled jewels.
SANDY GADSDEN | BANDERA BANDERA 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

TEXAS CO-OP POWER VOLUME 75, 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. **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.



HAPPENINGS

See What Real Cowboys Do

Working cowboys test their skills at the **BIG BEND RANCH RODEO, AUGUST 10-11** at Sul Ross State University in **ALPINE**.

The rodeo, sanctioned by the Working Ranch Cowboys Association, provides participating cattle workers an opportunity to educate the public about the everyday work of a ranch. The rodeo includes ranch bronc riding, cattle sorting, cattle doctoring, wild cow milking and calf branding.

The Big Bend winner advances to the WRCA World Championship Ranch Rodeo in November in Amarillo. Proceeds from the Big Bend Ranch Rodeo go toward scholarships at Sul Ross State.

INFO ▶ (432) 364-2696, bigbendranchrdeo.com

WEB EXTRAS
▶ Find more happenings online.



ALMANAC

Heck of a Comment

The words of Davy Crockett, the American folk hero who died defending the Alamo, live on as a pointed message on coffee mugs, T-shirts and other knickknacks: “You may all go to hell, and I will go to Texas.”

Consider the backstory of that comment on the anniversary of Crockett’s birth—August 17, 1786. Here’s an excerpt from the April 9, 1836, edition of *Niles’ Weekly Register* in Baltimore, which chronicled national history much as *The New York Times* does today:

“**A gentleman** from Nacogdoches, in Texas, informs us, that, whilst there, he dined in public with col. Crockett, who had just arrived from Tennessee. The old bear-hunter, on being toasted, made a speech to the Texians, replete with his usual dry humor. He began nearly in this style: ‘I am told, gentlemen, that, when a stranger, like myself, arrives among you, the first inquiry is—what brought you here? To satisfy your curiosity at once to myself, I will tell you all about it. I was, for some years, a member of congress. In my last canvass, I told the people of my district, that, if they saw fit to re-elect me, I would serve them as faithfully as I had done; but, if not, they might go to h___, and I would go to Texas. I was beaten, gentlemen, and here I am.’ The roar of applause was like a thunder-burst.”

WORTH REPEATING

“Somewhere out in this audience may even be someone who will one day follow my footsteps and preside over the White House as the president’s spouse. I wish him well!”

—FORMER FIRST LADY BARBARA BUSH, who died April 17 in Houston



WEATHER WATCH

Never Again, Harvey

HARVEY HAS BEEN RETIRED from the rotating list of hurricane names by the World Meteorological Organization, as were Irma, Maria and Nate—all monster hurricanes in 2017. Harvey struck the Texas coast August 25 as a Category 4 storm with 132 mph winds, killing 68 people and dumping historic amounts of rain on the Houston area. It caused \$126 billion in damage, second only to Katrina in U.S. history.

THE RETIRED NAMES have been replaced with Harold, Idalia, Margot and Nigel. Nations hit hard by hurricanes can request the WMO retire names. Each hurricane season, which runs June 1–November 30, storms are named, in alphabetical order, based on lists that get recycled every six years.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Don't Be Left Out

August 13 is International Left-Handers Day. Roughly 10 percent of people are left-handed, according to Chris McManus, a University College London researcher who wrote a book chapter on the history and geography of left-handedness.

CO-OPS IN THE COMMUNITY

BRINGING LIGHT TO BOLIVIA

In November, 16 lineworkers from six Texas electric cooperatives—Bartlett, Bluebonnet and Pedernales ECs; CoServ; Mid-South Synergy; and United Cooperative Services—built 6 miles of power lines to bring electricity for the first time to 147 homes in the rural Bolivian villages of Batraja, Jerico and San Antonio de Maty.

To help fund the project, the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation presented a \$35,000 grant to the co-ops in February.

“It was an amazing adventure,” said Bo Williams, Mid-South operations VP, who led the expedition. “It was hot for sure. It rained every day—but the people there made it all worthwhile. They were very appreciative and wanted to help every way they could.”



United Cooperative Services linemen Brody Weems, left, and Chase Noland pose with a Bolivian child.

All the State's a Stage

BY CLAYTON STROMBERGER

If we could, like Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, “put a girdle round about the earth / In forty minutes,” and zip around the Lone Star State over summer and fall evenings, O, the Shakespeare we would hear and see!

*A dozen festivals, all alike in dignity,
In fair Texas, where we lay our scene,
From famous texts, break to new creativity ...*



We begin in the West Texas city of Odessa. As the heat waves rise, is that a shimmering vision of Shakespeare's Globe we see, sitting in the land of oil fields and Friday night lights? It is! The Globe of the Great Southwest, which, thanks to the vision and persistence of a brilliant high school teacher, appeared in the Llano Estacado a full 30 years before London put up its rebuilt Globe. Today, Odessa's Globe Theatre hosts performances by the Odessa Shakespeare Festival.

Next, we fly west to El Paso and spy a group of local actors performing outdoors at Chamizal National Memorial, within shouting distance of the Rio Grande. As the players strut and fret their hour upon the stage with a touch of twang in their iambic pentameter, we soar from thence over parks filled with families sitting on picnic blankets and watching Shakespeare festivals in Dallas, Houston and Austin.

We hear comic prose, stirring verse and laughter along the



Riverwalk in San Antonio, along the Concho in San Angelo and under a canopy of stars in the Hill Country nook of Wimberley, as well as on college campuses in Fort Worth and Kilgore. Last, above the gently rolling countryside of Winedale, we spy an old open-sided hay barn in the twilight, orange light spilling from inside, and we hear a voice cry out, in a timeless moment after the onstage murder of Julius Caesar:

*How many ages hence
Shall this our lofty scene be acted over
In states unborn and accents yet unknown!*

THE HISTORY, MYTHS AND WILD SPIRIT OF TEXAS PROVIDE FERTILE GROUND FOR SHAKESPEARE PERFORMANCES



When it comes to the immortal Sweet Swan of Avon, all the state's a stage. This is remarkable when you consider that Shakespeare was born almost four decades after Álvaro Núñez Cabeza de Vaca, shipwrecked near Galveston in 1528 like a character out of *The Tempest*, became the first European to travel into the interior of Texas and wander amid its indigenous people. How did this Londoner from the time of Queen Elizabeth become our favorite playwright for a Texas midsummer night?

Shakespeare likely arrived in Texas first in an adventurer's saddlebag or a settler's trunk. As improbable as it might seem today,

Opposite: *Macbeth* at EmilyAnn Theatre & Gardens in Wimberley. Above: Shakespeare at Winedale presents *Henry V*.

Shakespeare was a favorite of all social classes as America entered the 19th century, according to eminent Shakespeare scholar James Shapiro.

"There is hardly a pioneer's hut which does not contain a few odd volumes of Shakespeare," wrote French diplomat Alexis de Tocqueville after his travels through the United States in 1831. Children learned Shakespeare's verse from the ubiquitous McGuffey Readers, which began publication in 1836. Shake-

Shakespeare's plays—primarily the tragedies—were constantly in demand at theaters and opera houses and held their own against melodramas and farces. In October 1835, when James Butler Bonham organized a rally in Alabama to support Texas independence, he held it at the Shakespeare Theater in Mobile, a bustling town that held its first Shakespearean performance more than a decade earlier. Even Sam Houston knew his Shakespeare and quoted him often.

“Scholars and historians have now learned that language and dialect was very different during Shakespeare’s time than we thought,” says Bridget Farias Gates, artistic director of the EmilyAnn Theatre & Gardens in Wimberley. “Many consider it to be closer to the Texas dialect than to British. So, in a romantic way, this means Texans deliver Shakespeare more closely to original practice than most would think.

Richard already had two Mexican wives in San Antonio. “Nothing daunted at this public accusation of polygamy,” Jefferson recalled decades later, “‘Pud’ pressed his suit with ardor.”

In Texas’ early days, even soldiers performed Shakespeare, partly to stave off boredom. In the winter of 1846, shortly after Texas had joined the union, 4,000 troops of the United States Army under the command of Gen. Zachary Taylor were stationed near the village of Corpus Christi in preparation for the conflict that would later become known as the Mexican-American War.

While waiting for orders, the soldiers assembled at the Union Theater, large enough to hold 800, and began rehearsals for

From left: *Romeo and Juliet* at Wimberley’s EmilyAnn Theatre & Gardens. *Richard III* at the Houston Shakespeare Festival. The Texas Shakespeare Festival Roadshow cast performs *Shakespeare’s Greatest Hits* at Odessa’s Globe Theatre with help from an audience member.



“Shakespeare would have loved Texas, both for its own

“I also like to think that the wide expanse of Texan land and the more laid-back nature of the Texan way of living is a closer representation to Shakespeare’s country folk characters,” she says.

The first notable professional performance of a Shakespeare play in Texas was held February 12, 1839, in Houston, when one Mr. Lewellen, who had scored a big hit in St. Louis with an equestrian melodrama co-starring his horse, Mazeppa, assayed the title role in *Othello*.

Competing theaters were built in Houston before the city’s first church; established actors arrived by boat from New Orleans. Theaters attracted a rough-and-tumble crowd looking for diversion—and not necessarily accustomed to the niceties of high culture. Touring actor Joseph Jefferson recalled in his autobiography that during one mid-1840s portrayal of *Richard III* by an aging local trouper named “Pudding” Stanley in Houston, a patron interrupted Richard’s wooing of Lady Anne to warn Anne that

Othello. Out of necessity, as in Shakespeare’s London, men often played the female roles. James Longstreet, later a leading general in the Confederate Army, was up for the part of Desdemona, young wife of the noble Moor, but was deemed too tall. Longstreet’s good friend, young Ulysses S. Grant, nicknamed “Little Beauty” for his feminine good looks, took over the role, but eventually a professional actress was hired and brought in because the soldier playing Othello, as Longstreet later recalled, just could not work up the “proper sentiment” while gazing upon Grant.

After the Civil War, as Texas’ cities and towns began to develop civic traditions, the next wave of interest in Shakespeare came not from touring actors but from local citizens, especially women, with a focus on the communal enlightenment of group reading and discussion rather than performance. During the first half of the 20th century, there were at least 27 Shakespeare clubs meet-

ROMEO AND JULIET: SCOT BRINKLEY; RICHARD III: FOREST PHOTOGRAPHY; GLOBE THEATER: STEVE GOFF

ing in the state, from Abilene and Calvert to Waxahachie and North Zulch; many continue proudly to this day. That same democratic impulse led to the spread of community theaters in the early 20th century as the touring system of the barnstorming-actor days faded. In the 1970s, the ripple effect from Joseph Papp's Free Shakespeare in the Park in New York City led to a wave of park-based festivals around the state.

"Shakespeare would have loved Texas, both for its own energy and spirit and as a setting," says Jon Mark Hogg, president of the board of directors of Be Theatre and producer for Shakespeare on the Concho. "So many of his works are set in historic or myth-

cal Center near Round Top and meet the legendary Miss Ima Hogg, who had restored the Winedale property, including a historic stage-coach inn, and donated it to UT in the late 1960s.

Hogg directed Ayres to peek into the property's old hay barn, with its clay floor and handcarved cedar beams. "I want you to do Shakespeare in that barn," Hogg informed him, and three weeks later, Ayres brought his first class. Now, the Shakespeare at Winedale program is one of the leading Shakespeare-through-performance programs in the country, with UT students studying and performing three plays each summer. Ayres, a professor emeritus, founded and continues to lead Camp Shakespeare,



energy and spirit and as a setting."

ical places. The history, myths and wild spirit of Texas, both past and present, would have been fertile ground for the Bard."

On the educational front, Texas scored a coup in 1946 when legendary British director B. Iden Payne, who previously had led the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre in Shakespeare's hometown, Stratford-upon-Avon, came to the University of Texas as a guest professor in one of the nation's first collegiate drama departments.

One of the country's more unique venues for Shakespeare, the Winedale Theatre Barn, came about through a Texas miracle. In the fall of 1970, James B. Ayres, then an associate professor of Shakespeare at the University of Texas, happened to visit the Winedale Histori-

residential summer camps for children ages 11-16 who perform an entire play at Winedale at the end of each session.

The Shakespeare at Winedale logo perfectly captures this long love affair between a poet and a place. Known as "Cowboy Willie," it depicts Shakespeare wearing a cowboy hat and a bandana, chewing a piece of straw, a wad of chewing tobacco bulging in his cheek. A few years back, the program printed T-shirts that read: "Rich History. Vast Countryside. Family Feuds. Shakespeare would have loved Texas."

No doubt. In the meantime, we remain grateful for the gift of his words and characters and the chance to bring them to life. To lift a line from the noble Moor Othello, who was likely the first Shakespearean tragic hero to grace a Texas stage: He hath done the state some service, and we know't.

Clayton Stromberger is the outreach program coordinator for Shakespeare at Winedale.

WEB EXTRAS

► Read this story on our website to see a list of Shakespeare festivals and learn more about the Bard from the experts.



WHY THE RAVEN
CALLS THE CANYON



///

BOOK EXCERPT CAPTURES

LIFE OFF THE GRID IN BIG BEND

From 2006 to 2013, I divided my time between Marathon, 50 miles north of Big Bend National Park, and Fresno Ranch, an abandoned, off-grid, horse-and-mule operation located along the Rio Grande. Relatively uninhabited for almost a decade, the ranch encompassed more than 7,000 acres of springs, canyons and volcanic peaks. In 2006, absentee owners recruited Rodrigo Trevizo, a friend of mine and local state park superintendent, to keep an eye on the place. Two years later he moved into the ranch's adobe studio, determined to bring the rudimentary infrastructure of the ranch back to life. I joined him for weeks at a time, lending a hand to unearth the ranch's water system, repair livestock corrals and restore the solar power, all while adjusting to the day-to-day challenges of living off the grid. With Trevizo's help, Fresno became part of Big Bend Ranch State Park, at over 300,000 acres the largest state park in Texas.

Fresno Ranch was established in the 1900s as a 640-acre section bordered by the river at its confluence with Fresno Creek and present-day FM 170. During the 1980s, another 10 sections were added, including nine sections up Fresno Canyon and an additional mile of riverfront. At one point, Fresno also covered the Picachos, a 5,000-acre ranch directly across the river in Mexico.

Ancient campsites and historic ruins litter the desert terrain around Fresno, sharing a robust cultural history with defunct mercury mines and remnant candelilla wax camps. A collapsed magma dome, so large it can be detected from space, dominates much of

These boulders were placed in alignment at Fresno Ranch decades ago using a tractor.

the ranch's northeastern horizon. Among Fresno's hand-built attributes, a 2,000-square-foot adobe painting studio lies at its heart, constructed for the late Jeanne Norsworthy, Texas artist and granddaughter of George B. Dealey, publisher of the *Dallas Morning News*.

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY E. DAN KLEPPER

///



Left: Chupadera Spring in the Cienega Mountains. Below: The author gets a haircut at Fresno Ranch.

///

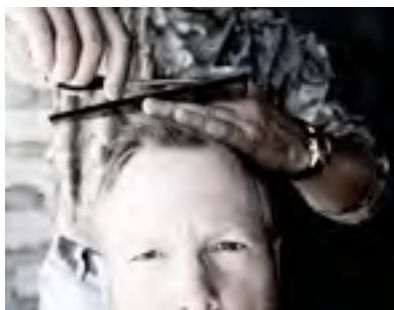
Fresno's natural world shares the allure of wild places found across the entire Big Bend region. The inscrutability of this West Texas country inspires life-long appreciation for its rare natural beauty as well as an unorthodox creativity, resulting in artistic endeavors like this one, and often rousing those who hail from gentler places to abandon creature comforts and move to the Big Bend for good. Here, adventurers, artists, and writers live in stone ruins, campers, and makeshift shelters, contending with extreme summer temperatures, winter freezes and venomous wildlife like scorpions and rattlesnakes, all in an attempt to understand the enigma possessed

by mountains and canyons scattered throughout hundreds of uninhabited miles. Much of the territory's draw may reside in the region's volcanic upheaval, conjured from the planet's bedrock, and a geography lit by an ever-changing light, as cryptic as the human psyche. With time and consideration, an artist can thrive here on conclusions that reveal as much about the land as our own internal landscapes.

Writer and photographer **E. Dan Klepper** works from Marathon. *Why the Raven Calls the Canyon* was published by Texas A&M University Press in 2017.

WEB EXTRAS

► Read this story on our website to see a slideshow of Fresno Ranch.





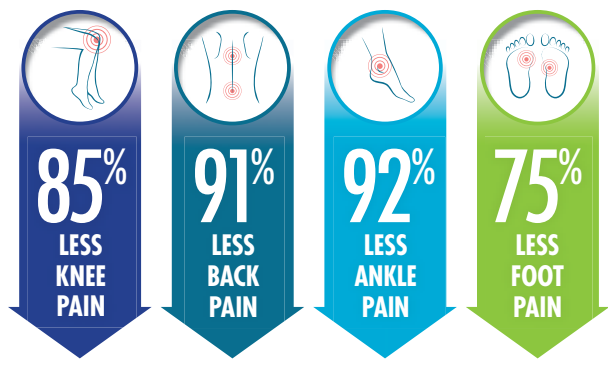
LIVE LIFE WITHOUT PAIN

Plantar Fasciitis • Arthritis • Joint Pain • Heel Spurs • Back & Knee Pain



“ I’ve had lower back pain for years. Walking in these shoes was life changing for me. I feel like I’m walking on air. ”
– Bill F.

PATENTED VERSOSHOCK® SOLE SHOCK ABSORPTION SYSTEM



*Results of a double-blind study conducted by Olive View UCLA Medical Center.

Enjoy the benefits of exercise
with proven pain relief.

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

G-DEFY ION \$150

X-WIDE WIDTH AVAILABLE

Men Sizes 7.5-15 M/W/XW
 - Black TB9025MBB
 - Red/Gray TB9022MRG

Women Sizes 6-11 M/W/XW
 - Black/Blue TB9022FTL
 - Gray/Teal TB9022FGU



\$30 OFF YOUR ORDER

Promo Code MQ8HKJ4
www.gravitydefyer.com

Expires November 30, 2018

Free Exchanges • Free Returns
100% Satisfaction Guaranteed

Call 1(800) 429-0039

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



VersoShock® U.S Patent #US8,555,526 B2. This product has not been evaluated by the FDA. Not intended to treat, cure or prevent any disease. \$30 off applies to orders of \$100 or more for this limited time offer. 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.

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. DPP157-01, 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: DPP157-01.

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



Rating of A+

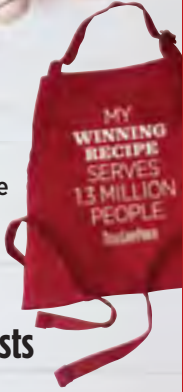
• 2 ctw blue topaz; ½ ctw lab-created DiamondAura® • .925 sterling silver setting • Sterling silver chain sold separately

Stauer...Afford the Extraordinary.®

RECIPE CONTEST

WIN \$100

Submit your best recipes for a chance to win \$100 and a Texas Co-op Power apron!



Upcoming Contests

JANUARY ISSUE

Sunny Citrus

Deadline: August 10

FEBRUARY ISSUE

Cozy Casseroles

Deadline: September 10

ENTER TODAY AT

TexasCoopPower.com

Financing the *Growth* of your Poultry Operation

- ★ Long-term fixed rates reducing interest rate risk
- ★ Opportunity to earn back money through our Patronage Program
- ★ Loan officers with understanding and experience in the industry



NMLS # 470323 | www.legacyaca.com | 866-885-3522

Salpbur Springs
303 Canally
Salpbur Springs, Texas 75482
903-885-9566

Canton
335 West Dallas
Canton, Texas 75103
903-561-2251

Gilmer
1261 HBY 211 South
Gilmer, Texas 75645
903-734-5550

Kauhan
201 West Whitberry
Kauhan, Texas 75142
917-932-5610

Longview
2002 Judson Road, Suite 204
Longview, Texas 75605
903-307-8173

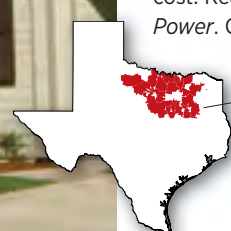
If North Texas Is Your Market, We've Got You Covered.

Target customers close to home with the North Texas advertising section of *Texas Co-op Power*.

We know that now, more than ever, it makes sense to target your audience with a trustworthy name—a name like *Texas Co-op Power*, which creates more advertising options for regional and local businesses like yours.

Our North Texas advertising section targets homeowners living around Texas' largest metropolitan area. With a regional circulation of 527,000 and a readership of 1,212,100, *Texas Co-op Power* delivers a huge audience that's loyal and responsive.

Be part of a statewide magazine—without the statewide cost. Reach North Texas customers with *Texas Co-op Power*. Call or email today.



NORTH TEXAS AUDIENCE
Circulation 527,000 • Readership 1,212,100

TEXAS CO-OP POWER

Call: Elaine Sproull at (512) 486-6251

Email: advertising@TexasCoopPower.com

Weathering the Storm Together



Fayette Electric Cooperative, Inc.

357 N. Washington St. • P.O. Box 490
La Grange, TX 78945

Serving Austin, Bastrop, Colorado, Fayette, Lavaca, Lee and Washington counties

.....
YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- David Lehmann, President
- Joseph D. Kruppa, Vice President
- Bill Briscoe, Secretary-Treasurer
- David A. Stancik
- Leo C. Henke
- Gale Lincke
- James A. Anderle

YOUR GENERAL MANAGER

Gary Don Nietsche

.....
Convenient Payment Options

- ▶ Pay by Bank Draft
- ▶ Online Payments Using SmartHub
- ▶ Pay by Phone
(979) 968-4220 or 1-866-968-4220
- ▶ Pay in Person
- ▶ Pay by Credit Card Draft
- ▶ Pay by Mail

CONTACT US

For general information or to report an outage, please call

(979) 968-3181 local or
1-866-968-3181 toll-free

EMAIL
electric@fayette.coop

FIND US ON THE WEB
fayette.coop



**MESSAGE FROM
YOUR GENERAL MANAGER GRY DON NIETSCHÉ**

AUGUST MARKS THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF HURRICANE HARVEY, the first Category 4 hurricane to strike the Texas coast since Carla in 1961.

Making landfall on August 25, 2017, Harvey caused widespread destruction. The Colorado River, only blocks from Fayette Electric Cooperative’s office and warehouse in La Grange, rose to levels not seen in 104 years. More than 2 feet of rain fell on much of the co-op’s service territory. Extreme flooding left some roads impassable for days, hampering power restoration to those affected. Hundreds of area homes and businesses flooded.

While Harvey brought unprecedented rainfall and vicious storms to multiple areas of the state, unleashing tornadoes and floods, it also provided a window into cooperative ideals in action. Weathering a crisis together exemplifies the cooperative



principles of Concern for Community and Cooperation Among Cooperatives.

Victoria Electric Cooperative, one of 15 electric co-ops affected by Harvey, lost power to all 22,467 of its meters. Electric cooperatives from all over Texas sent employees and equipment to help repair damage and get the power back on, working in harsh conditions far from home for weeks.

The state of Texas coordinated a comprehensive response to Harvey. While focusing on the acute needs of survivors of that storm—with 371,307 FEMA-approved applicants to date—a report from Governor Greg Abbott’s Harvey commission notes, “The bottom line is that we cannot just rebuild what was damaged; we must ‘future-proof’ what is built new to mitigate future problems to the greatest extent possible.”

This is an approach and directive Fayette EC takes to heart. We’ll continue working to safeguard and maintain our electric infrastructure to withstand extreme weather events as much as possible. If and when the next storm of biblical proportions comes to our doorstep, our lineworkers and behind-the-scenes staff stand at the ready to get your lights back on as quickly and safely as possible in service to our co-op family.

In light of these efforts and steadfast commitment, we ask you to please review ready.gov/hurricanes for tips on navigating the remainder of hurricane season, which ends November 30. Let’s continue working together to keep you and your family safe.

ARE YOU READY?

Be prepared for tornado and hurricane season! Know the signs, gather supplies, have a shelter or evacuation plan, and most importantly ... STAY SAFE!



The Atlantic hurricane season runs June 1–November 30, with the peak occurring between mid-August and late October. The eastern Pacific hurricane season begins May 15 and ends November 30.

Tornado Safety Tips

Practice and Prepare
 Know where you'll meet your family during the tornado (and after). Practice a tornado drill annually. Keep a weather radio in your storm shelter, along with safety supplies.

Seek Shelter
 Go to your basement, a small interior room, or under stairs on the lowest floor of the house. If you live in a mobile home, get out and look for a stable building. If outside, find low ground—away from trees and cars—and lie face down with your arms protecting your head.

After the Storm
 Stay away from downed power lines, and avoid flooded areas— power lines could be submerged and still live with electricity. Don't enter seriously damaged buildings and avoid using matches and lighters in case of gas leaks.

Know the Signs

- Look for swirling clouds.
- Watch for quick wind shifts or stark calm after heavy rain.
- Listen for a loud roar or rumble that doesn't fade.

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Funnel, Inc.

Tornadoes can strike in any season but occur most often in the spring and summer months. They can happen at all hours of the day and night but are most likely to emerge between 3 and 9 p.m.

Texas Division of Emergency Management



Hurricane Preparedness Guidelines

Preparing for Hurricane Season: June 1- Nov.30

Evacuation Planning: When a hurricane threatens, listen for instructions from local officials. When they call for an evacuation in your area, get going without delay.

Discuss evacuation plans with your family **BEFORE** hurricane season June 1 – Nov. 30. Make a checklist of what you need to do before you leave town and review it.

Monitor NOAA weather radio and local TV and radio broadcasts during storm season.

Prepare an emergency supply kit including: radio, flashlight, extra batteries, extra eye glasses, bottled water, non-perishable food, dry clothes, bedding, insurance information, important documents, medications, copies of prescriptions and special products for babies, seniors, medically fragile family members, and pets.

Learn evacuation routes before storm season. When there's a hurricane in the Gulf, keep your gas tank as full as possible. Expect traffic delays in an evacuation.

Register in the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) online at <https://STEAR.dps.texas.gov> or Dial 2-1-1 to register if you have a disability or medical needs or if you simply do not have transportation: Gulf coast residents in evacuation zones with a disability or medical needs -- who do not have friends or family to help -- or do not have transportation should register in STEAR in advance.

División de Administración de Emergencias de Texas



Directrices para Huracanes

Preparando para la temporada de huracanes durante el 1 de junio hasta el 30 de noviembre

Evacuación en caso de Huracán: Cuando exista una amenaza de huracán, escucha las instrucciones de funcionarios locales. Cuando llamen para una evacuación en su área, sálgase del área lo más pronto posible.

Discute los planes de evacuación con su familia **ANTES** de la temporada de huracán, que comienza el 1 de junio hasta 30 de noviembre. Haga una lista de lo que usted debe hacer antes de salir de la ciudad y revísela.

Escuche la radio y televisión durante la temporada de huracanes.

Prepare un equipo de emergencia incluyendo: radio, linterna, repuesto de baterías, anteojos extras, agua embotellada, alimentos no perecederos, ropa extra, ropa de cama, información de seguro, documentos importantes, medicinas, copias de recetas medicas y productos especiales para bebés, las personas mayores, miembros de la familia médicamente frágiles, y animales domesticos.

Aprenda sus rutas de evacuación antes de la temporada de huracanes. Cuando hay un huracán en el Golfo, mantenga el tanque de gasolina lleno. Este consiente de que habrá demoras de tráfico.

Puede regístrase con el 'State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry' (STEAR) vía su sitio web: <https://STEAR.dps.texas.gov> o llamando al 211 para registrarse, si usted tiene una discapacidad o necesidades médicas o si simplemente no tiene transporte. Los residentes de la costa del golfo en zonas de evacuación con una discapacidad o necesidades médicas – quiénes no tienen amigos o familiares para ayudarle--o no tienen transporte debe registrarse con STEAR por adelantado.

Be Prepared With an Emergency Kit

Disasters both natural and man-made generally take the public by surprise, often leaving little time for gathering necessary supplies before it is necessary to evacuate or to shelter-in-place without electricity. The Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends keeping an emergency kit at the ready and filled with food, water and supplies to keep you and your family safer, healthier and more comfortable during a crisis.

FEMA recommends an emergency supply kit that includes:

1) Water

- ▶ Store one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days for drinking and sanitation. Following a disaster, clean drinking water may not be available. An active adult needs about $\frac{3}{4}$ gallon of fluid daily. However, children, nursing mothers and sick people may need more water, and any medical emergency might require additional water.

2) Food

- ▶ Keep handy at least a three-day supply per person of non-perishable food.
- ▶ Following a disaster, there may be power outages that could last for several days. Stock canned foods, dry mixes and other staples that do not require refrigeration, cooking, water or special preparation. When choosing foods to stock up on, remember any special dietary needs within your household. Be sure to include a manual can opener and eating utensils.

3) First Aid Kit

During any emergency, a family member—or you, yourself—may suffer an injury. Keep these first-aid supplies on hand:

- ▶ Two pairs of latex or other sterile gloves
- ▶ Sterile dressings to stop bleeding
- ▶ Cleansing agent or soap and antibiotic towelettes
- ▶ Antibiotic ointment and burn ointment
- ▶ Prescription medications taken every day such as insulin, heart medicine and asthma inhalers
- ▶ Prescribed medical supplies such as glucose and blood pressure monitoring equipment and supplies. Also stock non-prescription drugs such as aspirin or nonaspirin pain relievers, anti-diarrheal medication, antacids and laxatives.
- ▶ Adhesive bandages in a variety of sizes
- ▶ Petroleum jelly or other lubricant
- ▶ Thermometer, scissors and tweezers
- ▶ Eye wash solution

4) Tools, Communications and Supplies

- ▶ Flashlight and extra batteries
- ▶ Battery-powered or hand-crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert, plus extra batteries for both
- ▶ Whistle to signal for help
- ▶ Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to seal off a space
- ▶ Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- ▶ Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- ▶ Local maps
- ▶ A cellphone with chargers, inverter or solar charger
- ▶ Cash or travelers' checks and change
- ▶ Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records. Keep these in a waterproof, portable container.

And once you have gathered the supplies for a basic emergency kit, you may want to consider adding the following:

- ▶ Prescription glasses, contact lens and denture supplies
- ▶ Infant formula, bottles, diapers, diaper rash ointment
- ▶ Pet food and extra water for your pet
- ▶ Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or free information from the FEMA website, ready.gov
- ▶ Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- ▶ A complete change of clothing including a long-sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- ▶ Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper for disinfecting surfaces or purifying water
- ▶ Fire extinguisher
- ▶ Matches in a waterproof container
- ▶ Toilet paper, feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- ▶ Paper cups, plates, paper towels and plastic utensils
- ▶ Paper and pencil, books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

Keep your household's emergency kit in a designated place and have it ready in case you have to leave your home quickly. Check and update supplies regularly, and make sure all family members know where the kit is kept.

During or after a disaster, your emergency kit could mean the difference between a deadly situation and merely a difficult one. Learn more at the FEMA website, ready.gov.



Residential Generators

WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU BUY

INSTALLATION TYPE	PRICE	OPERATION ¹	CAPACITY	LENGTH OF OPERATION ³
PERMANENT	expensive	automatic	whole house	can be indefinite
PORTABLE	more affordable	manual	typically partial ²	depends on fuel tank size



¹Permanent generators start upon loss of grid power. They also exercise themselves automatically.

²Frequently powered: refrigerator, pumps (well, sump, septic), furnace, some lights, stove.

³Permanent generators use propane or natural gas, portable use gasoline. Permanent models offer significantly longer operating times.

LIGHTNING: PRODUKV | ISTOCK.COM; GENERATOR: SAFELECTRICITY.ORG

A Buyer's Guide to Residential Generators

LET'S FACE IT: ROUGH WEATHER HAPPENS. AT FAYETTE ELECTRIC Cooperative, our goal is to restore power as quickly and safely as possible. But when a major storm hits, power may be out for a lengthy period.

Anyone who has experienced an extended power outage has likely mulled the idea of buying a generator, but before you do—make sure you have all the facts.

The purchase and installation of a generator is an important and serious decision. Properly done, you gain peace of mind knowing your family can ride out any outage with some degree of comfort. But an incorrectly implemented generator can become deadly to you, your family, your neighbors and your electric cooperative's employees.

So, let's look at the decisions you'll need to make when it comes to purchasing a residential generator. First, do you want to back up your entire home or just portions? The biggest drawback to a permanently installed, whole-house generator is the cost. While the advantages are significant, it is a large expense.

The next decision involves sizing the generator to your particular situation. Online tools abound, so if you like to research, just type "generator sizing guide" into your browser and off you go. A nice portable generator provides at least 6,500 watts with a startup capacity of around 8,000 watts.

When motors start, they draw more power than they use when running. This rush of power gets them spinning. Afterward, their demand for electricity decreases.

The third consideration is how to integrate the generator into your home. Permanent models have dedicated switching devices that handle this chore, while portable models require you to set them up, connect them and start them up. Here is where the danger comes into play. Improperly connected generators can easily back-feed into Fayette EC's grid, potentially electrocuting unsuspecting linemen. Be sure to closely follow connection instructions and contact us if you have any questions regarding connecting your generator safely.

Use of the generator can be as simple as plugging appliances directly into it, but that can be cumbersome and limiting. Better yet, have a transfer switch installed by a qualified electrician. This device connects to the circuits you want to power. Connect your generator to the dedicated plug, follow the disconnect procedure, and fire it up. Now you've got power for your home that's safe for all.

A word about quality—with generators, you definitely get what you pay for. Cheap models are just that. They may last a couple of years, but after that, parts can be impossible to get. Invest in engines with recognizable brand names. They may cost more, but peace of mind is worth it.

Don't Be in the Dark About Outages

Did you know that natural causes such as lightning, wind and critters are the most common reasons for outages? While Fayette Electric Cooperative has many measures in place to help prevent and detect power failures, outages are an inevitable part of operating an electric system. Know that when there is an outage, our goal is to restore power in the quickest yet safest way possible. The best way you can help us is by reporting an outage as soon as your power goes out. Don't assume we're already aware or that someone else has reported it.



Best Way To Report Outages

The preferred way to report a power outage is by phone. To report a power outage 24 hours a day, seven days a week, call Fayette EC at (979) 968-3181 or 1-866-968-3181.

When you call, our outage reporting system recognizes you by one of two things: your telephone number or your account number. Many people don't have their account number memorized, so if they get the automated system, they'll type in their phone number instead. It's an issue, though, if our system does not have the same number a member is inputting. Without the right number, the computer can't log the outage.

So, if you've changed your phone number lately, give us a call at (979) 968-3181 or log in to your SmartHub account and click Contact Us to update your records. Current email addresses are also important in the event we need to contact you regarding a billing matter. It may save you some time and frustration later.

Worst Way To Report an Outage

Please do not use Facebook to report an outage or ask a question needing immediate response. We appreciate that you follow us; however, we do not monitor our social media activity 24/7.

Be Prepared!

Anticipate that your lights may go out during a storm. Assemble supplies to have on hand rather than scrambling to round them up when a storm is coming. Members dependent on a life-support system should have a backup system in place or a plan to relocate in the event of an extended power outage.

More Resources

You can call us at (979) 968-3181 or 1-866-968-3181 if you have questions about an outage that has already been reported.

During widespread outages, we will post periodic updates on our Facebook page.

After You've Reported the Outage

Turn off electrical appliances that were on when service was disrupted, leaving a lamp on so you'll know when power is restored.

To help preserve perishable food, leave the doors to your refrigerator and freezer closed. If doors remain closed, a refrigerator will keep food safely cold for about four hours, and a full freezer will stay cold for approximately 48 hours (24 hours if it's half full).

If You Are on Life Support

If you or a family member relies on a form of life support that requires electricity, you should notify FEC by filling out a critical care form. Notify us immediately when an outage occurs and inform us that you are a critical-need member.

Top Five Energy Users in Your Home

A starting point for savings

WHILE MOST HOMEOWNERS WOULD LIKE TO BE MORE ENERGY efficient and save money, often it feels overwhelming because we don't know where to start. How can the average family use less energy, lower its utility bills and still meet daily energy needs? To help jump-start your effort, it's useful to know the top energy users in your home. With this knowledge, you can choose a path to savings that works best for your family.

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the top five energy users in U.S. homes are:

1. Space cooling
2. Lighting
3. Water heating
4. Space heating
5. Refrigeration

Adjust the Temperature

Together, home heating and cooling use the most energy and take the biggest bite out of your energy budget. On the bright side, there are ways you can achieve at least 10 percent savings on heating and cooling by taking a few simple low-cost or no-cost steps.

- ▶ During warm weather, the recommended indoor temperature is 78 degrees.
- ▶ During cold weather, set your thermostat to 68 degrees.
- ▶ Clean the filters of your HVAC system to cut costs 5–15 percent.
- ▶ Caulk and weatherstrip around windows and doors to prevent conditioned air from escaping to the outdoors.
- ▶ No matter what the climate or time of year, proper use of a programmable thermostat can save you 10 percent on your monthly utility bill.

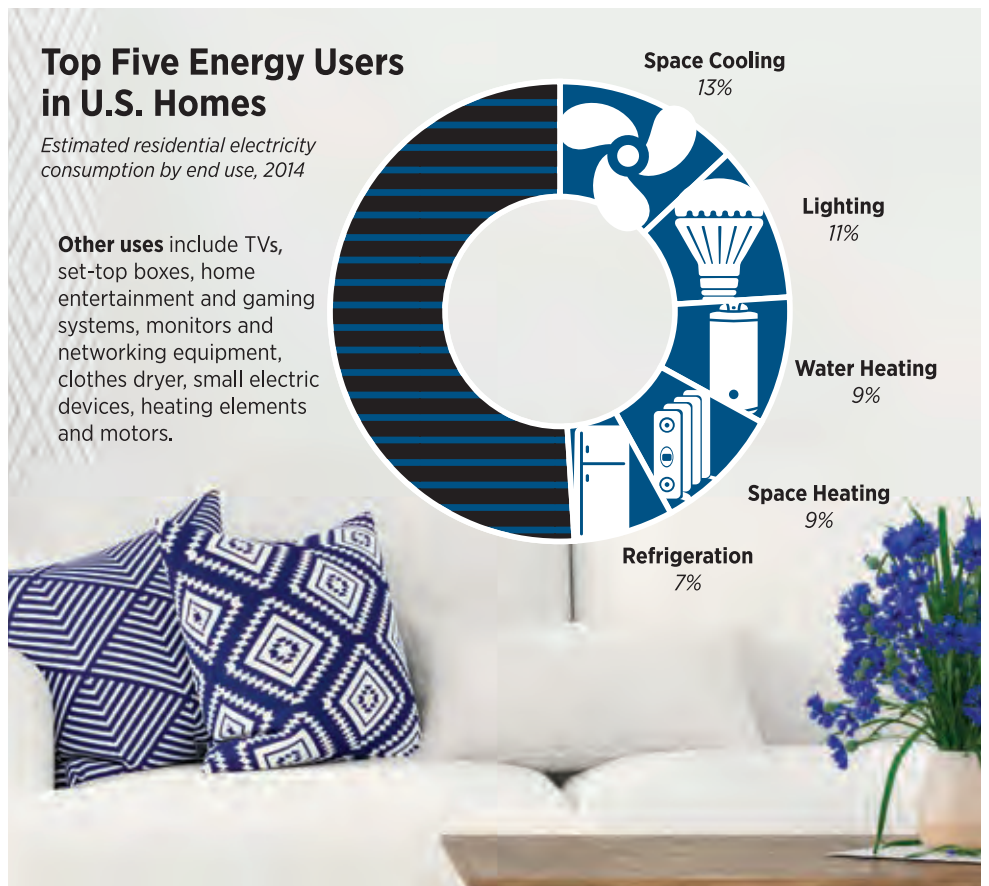
Shine the Light on Savings

Take a fresh look at the lighting in your home. If you still use incandescent lighting, your lightbulbs are operating at only 25 percent energy efficiency. Replacing your home's five most frequently used bulbs with Energy Star-rated LEDs can save \$75 per year. Another easy way to save is to always turn lights off in rooms that are not being used.

Water Heating Efficiency

Just as it's energy-wise to insulate your roof, walls and floors, it also pays to wrap your water heater with an insulating blanket. This is all the more critical if you have an older unit. Make sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions.

For additional efficiency and savings, insulate exposed hot water lines and drain 1–2 gallons of water from the bottom of your tank annually to prevent sediment buildup.



Put Cash Back in Your Wallet

If your refrigerator was purchased before 2001, chances are it uses 40 percent more energy than a new Energy Star model. If you are considering an appliance update, a new Energy Star-rated fridge uses at least 15 percent less energy than nonqualified models and 20 percent less energy than allowed by current federal standards.

By understanding how your home uses energy, you can determine the best ways to modify energy use and keep more money in your wallet. For additional ways to save, contact Fayette Electric Cooperative.

Include Home Energy Savings in Vacation Plans

SLIPPING IN A LAST-MINUTE VACATION BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS? BE SURE TO GIVE YOUR home's energy use a vacation as well. Simple tips can save you money while you're away.

Air conditioning: Set the thermostat to 85 degrees. If it's a programmable thermostat, use the "hold" or the "vacation" setting. For every degree a thermostat is raised during the summer, you can save 2 percent on your electricity bill.

Electronics: Computers, CD/DVD players, TVs and chargers—these and other electronic appliances use electricity even when they are not turned on. Unplug them before leaving.

Lighting: Improve energy savings, and your home's security, by using timers to operate lights at night. And by installing LEDs in those lamps, you'll save more energy—up to 66 percent for each lamp—and the bulbs last about 10 times longer than incandescent bulbs.

Water heating: Turn the water heater's temperature to the lowest setting. Many water heaters have a "vacation" setting for this purpose. Leave a reminder to turn it back up when you return home.

Pool: Shorten the operating time for the pool filter and automatic cleaning sweep. A pool cover can save energy, too. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, up to 70 percent of pool water loss is by evaporation.

Refrigerator: Set the fridge to 42 degrees and the freezer to 5 degrees. This increase is enough to keep everything cold and frozen but still save energy over the vacation period. As a precaution, it's a good idea to clean out any leftovers and raw vegetables and keep only new foods that won't spoil while the house is empty. If you're going on an extended trip, consider emptying the fridge and turning it off. If you do so, remember to leave the doors open to prevent mildew.

For more information on how to use energy efficiently year-round, contact Fayette Electric Cooperative.



Thank You
for
Attending Your
Annual Meeting!

Highlights
of the
meeting
will be
featured in the
September
issue of
Texas Co-op Power.



DEEPBLUE4YOU | ISTOCK.COM

Power Tip

Here's a simple, energy-saving trick for your home: Get painting. Light paint colors on walls and ceilings reflect more light, making rooms brighter and reducing the need for high-wattage lightbulbs.



"I've gotten many compliments on this watch. The craftsmanship is phenomenal and the watch is simply pleasing to the eye."

—M., Irvine, CA

"GET THIS WATCH."

—M., Wheeling, IL

Back in Black:
The New Face of
Luxury Watches
"...go black. Dark
and handsome
remains a classic
for a reason"
— Men's Journal

I'LL TAKE MINE BLACK...NO SUGAR

In the early 1930s watch manufacturers took a clue from Henry Ford's favorite quote concerning his automobiles, "You can have any color as long as it is black." Black dialed watches became the rage especially with pilots and race drivers. Of course, since the black dial went well with a black tuxedo, the adventurer's black dial watch easily moved from the airplane hangar to dancing at the nightclub. Now, Stauer brings back the "Noire", a design based on an elegant timepiece built in 1936. Black dialed, complex automatics from the 1930s have recently hit new heights at auction. One was sold for in excess of \$600,000. We thought that you might like to have an affordable version that will be much more accurate than the original.

Basic black with a twist. Not only are the dial, hands and face vintage, but we used a 27-jeweled automatic movement. This is the kind of engineering desired by fine watch collectors worldwide. But since we design this classic movement on state of the art computer-controlled Swiss built machines, the accuracy is excellent. Three interior dials display day, month and date. We have priced the luxurious Stauer *Noire* at a price to keep you in the black... only 3 payments of \$33. So slip into the back of your black limousine, savor some rich tasting black coffee and look at your wrist knowing that you have some great times on your hands.



27 jewels and hand-assembled parts drive this classic masterpiece.

An offer that will make you dig out your old tux. The movement of the Stauer *Noire* wrist watch carries an extended two year warranty. But first enjoy this handsome timepiece risk-free for 30 days for the extraordinary price of only 3 payments of \$33. If you are not thrilled with the quality and rare design, simply send it back for a full refund of the item price. But once you strap on the *Noire* you'll want to stay in the black.

Exclusive Offer—Not Available in Stores

Stauer Noire Watch \$399†

Your Cost With Offer Code **\$99** + S&P **Save \$300**

OR 3 credit card payments of \$33 + S&P

1-800-333-2045

Offer Code: NWT407-06

You must use this offer code to get our special price.

† 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. NWT407-06
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337
www.stauer.com



- 27-jewel automatic movement
- Month, day, date and 24-hour, sun/ moon dials
- Luminous markers
- Date window at 3' o'clock
- Water resistant to 5 ATM
- Crocodile embossed leather strap in black fits wrists to 6½"-9"

Stauer...Afford the Extraordinary.®

MARKETPLACE

BUY • SELL • TRADE • ACROSS TOWN • ACROSS TEXAS



RHINO
STEEL BUILDING SYSTEMS

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



Farm • Industrial • Commercial
RHINOBLDG.COM 888-875-8233
INFO@RHINOBLDG.COM

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

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

BLAKE MATTSO, CPP™
Equal Housing, Inc., 3400 Bayview, 4th Floor, Waco, TX 76710
Serving Customers All Over Texas

An Equal Opportunity Lender and Member of the FDIC. All services are subject to credit review. Some restrictions may apply. Member of Mattson Financial Services, Inc. 10000 Highway 41, Suite 100, Austin, TX 78751. Equal Housing Lender. Member of the Equal Housing Lender. Member of the Equal Housing Lender.

WD METAL BUILDINGS
Steel Shops • Ag Buildings
Barndominium Homes



We put it all together for you!
Concrete • Erection • Doors
Instant Prices at WDMB.com

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.

BEST BUY WALK-IN BATH TUBS




Family owned, Texas-built
Lifetime guarantee against leaks
Great for circulation, arthritis, stiff joints and relaxation

Now Offering ONYX Custom Showers

CALL FOR PRICING
(we give approximate pricing for the tubs and showers)
If you have any questions, please give us a call.

Visit Our Showroom
3411 E. Hwy. 377, Granbury



888-825-2362 www.bestbuywalkintubs.com

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



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

Texas' OPEC

The story of the strangely named and powerful Texas Railroad Commission

BY ROBERT SPRINGER

FOR A THREE-PERSON AGENCY ORIGINALLY tasked with overseeing intrastate railways, the Railroad Commission of Texas has exerted an outsized impact on an unexpected market: oil. The commission's story is one of power and influence that spans more than a century.

In the late 1800s, railroads were a dominant economic force, analogous to what the tech industry is today, according to David Prindle, professor of government at the University of Texas at Austin and author of the book *Petroleum Politics and the Texas Railroad Commission*. The industry was abusing its power, and a nationwide movement caused Congress to create the Interstate Commerce Commission in 1887 to regulate railroads. Texas followed suit by creating the Railroad Commission of Texas in 1891 to regulate railroads that did not cross the state line.

The story behind the curiously named commission getting into the oil regulating business begins in 1901 with the Spindletop oil strike, which made Texas one of the world's top oil-producing areas. (The well was so prolific that it soon produced "more oil in one day than all the rest of the world's oil fields combined," says the American Oil & Gas Historical Society.)

This sudden oil wealth made Texans wary of Standard Oil, which had dominated the oil business in Ohio and Pennsylvania "by basically monopolizing transportation in the pipelines and then running the little guys out of business," Prindle says.

After trying and failing to pre-emptively outlaw Standard Oil, the Texas Legislature hatched an innovative plan to protect Texas' small oil producers. "Well, what are pipelines? Pipelines are transportation," Prindle explains. "Well, we already have a commission regulating



An oil gusher in Port Arthur, circa 1901

transportation, the railroad commission, so let's let the railroad commission regulate oil and gas pipelines."

When the East Texas oil field was discovered in 1930, chaos ensued because of the oversupply of crude that field produced, Prindle says. This oversupply caused prices to plunge, scaring producers. Prindle says there was a "huge fight" over whether the government would be able to regulate production from the wells.

The government won out over the oil producers. By 1935, the commission "had been given the authority to regulate production—that is, not just regulate pipelines but regulate the amount that each well could produce," Prindle says. Railroad regulation was out, and oil and natural gas regulation was in.

From the early 1930s to the early 1970s, the commission's goal was to stabilize the price of oil, as price volatility made it challenging for oilmen to plan. And by controlling how much a well could produce and where producers could drill, the commission achieved the price stability goal for about 40 years.

Texas wasn't the only place in the world

with oil, of course, so the commission's influence began to wane as large reserves were discovered in the Middle East, Venezuela and Nigeria, causing Texas' share of global production to decline.

Yet even as the railroad commission's influence diminished, its price control model was being studied by another group interested in regulating its production to control prices—the group that became the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries. The proto-OPEC hired the railroad commission's chief engineer to show them how. That action helped set in motion the oil embargoes and gas wars of the 1970s.

Today, the commission has the same mandate and structure as in its heyday, albeit with less global influence. Periodically, lawmakers try to rename the commission to reflect its current mission, but the effort invariably fails. "I've twice been called to testify before a hearing of the Legislature," Prindle says. "I put on my suit and I go down there—I'm the guy who wrote the book, and I say, 'Well, yeah, if you want truth in advertising, change the name.' And of course, then nothing ever happens."

Robert Springer is a freelance writer who loves Tex-Mex and armadillos.

FREEZE DRY AT HOME



Actual
Freeze Dried
Food

New, Revolutionary Home Freeze Dryers

BE PREPARED

Preserve the food your family loves—fruits, vegetables, and complete meals.

FOOD STAYS FRESH

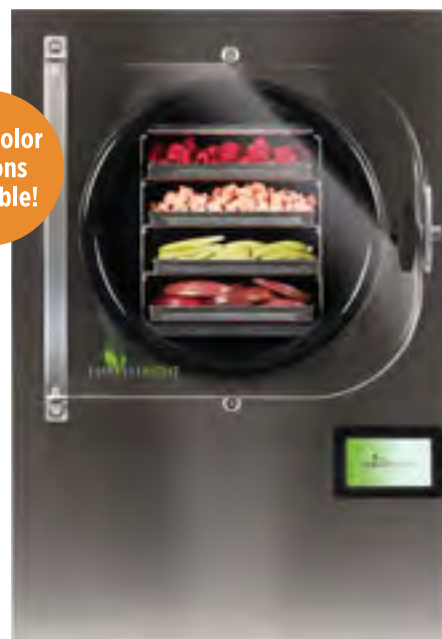
Lock in the nutrition and taste of any food for up to 25 years.

YEAR-ROUND FLAVORS

Enjoy seasonal harvests like squash, watermelon, and berries all year long.


HARVESTRIGHT

More Color
Options
Available!



 MADE IN AMERICA

1.800.726.7990

HarvestRight.com



GONZALO GUZMÁN

The Secret to Salsa

WHETHER SPOONED ONTO BREAKFAST tacos, devoured with chips or served with grilled red snapper, salsa's addictive heat elevates everything on the plate. This month's reader recipes serve up a delicious mix of charred, smoky and fiery flavors. To get a salsa fix without cooking, try the following from Gonzalo Guzmán, chef at Nopalito in San Francisco (and author of the eponymous cookbook, with Stacy Adimando). "Unlike a cooked tomatillo salsa, this version retains all the bracing freshness and acidity of its raw ingredients," he says. He suggests serving Salsa Cruda with meaty appetizers or entrées, like carnitas, or robust vegetables, like grilled portobello mushrooms.

PAULA DISBROWE, FOOD EDITOR

Salsa Cruda

- 1-2 jalapeño peppers, coarsely chopped
- 7 medium tomatillos, husked and rinsed
- 1 large clove garlic
- Leaves from ¼ bunch cilantro
- Salt

1. In a food processor, combine the jalapeños, tomatillos, garlic, cilantro and a generous pinch of salt. Pulse until ingredients are well-blended but the salsa is slightly chunky.
 2. Taste and adjust the amount of chiles and salt as desired.
- Makes 2 cups.

Reprinted from *Nopalito: A Mexican Kitchen* (Ten Speed Press, 2017)

SALSA CRUDA

EVA KOLENKO | TEN SPEED PRESS

Recipes

The Secret to Salsa



THIS MONTH'S RECIPE CONTEST WINNER

PHYLLIS BUSTILLOS | UNITED COOPERATIVE SERVICES

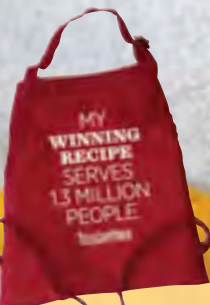
"This is a first-place winner at the State Fair of Texas, and you will not find a better, more unique salsa anywhere," Bustillos writes. Made with both fresh and dried chiles, it's no wonder this complex, deeply flavored salsa is a staple at her family barbecues. This recipe makes enough to feed a crowd or provide leftovers to freeze for a future meal.

Pick 'Em Up and Dust 'Em Off Smoked Salsa

- 3½ pounds red tomatoes on the vine
- ½ pounds large tomatillos, husked and rinsed
- 1 medium Texas 1015 onion, quartered
- 2 serrano peppers
- 2 poblano peppers
- 1 clove garlic
- Olive oil
- 2 dried ancho chiles
- 1 dried pasilla chile
- 2 dried chiles de árbol
- 2 dried guajillo chiles
- ½ cup fresh cilantro
- ½ cup roasted (or canned) New Mexico green chiles
- Juice from 1 large lime, approximately 1 tablespoon
- ¼ cup apple cider vinegar
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon dried Mexican oregano
- ½ teaspoon sugar
- 1½ tablespoons salt

1. Prepare a smoker or grill for indirect heat cooking.
2. Combine the tomatoes, tomatillos, onion, serranos, poblanos and garlic in a mixing bowl. Add enough olive oil to lightly coat and toss to combine. Place the vegetables in the smoker or grill (using an aluminum drip pan or grate if necessary) and smoke at 225 degrees 30–40 minutes, until softened and lightly charred.
3. While the fresh vegetables are smoking, place the dried chiles in a small bowl with hot water and allow them to soak until softened, then drain, stem and seed the chiles.
4. Remove vegetables from smoker and cool slightly. Stem and seed the fresh chiles and peel the garlic. Combine the smoked vegetables with the dried chiles and remaining ingredients in a food processor or blender and process until combined. Taste and adjust seasonings, adding more salt, lime juice or heat (see sidebar) as desired. ▶ Makes about 3 quarts.

COOK'S TIP For a spicier salsa, do not seed the serrano peppers.



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

\$100 Recipe Contest

January's recipe contest theme is **Sunny Citrus**. Brighten winter with recipes featuring fresh grapefruit, orange, lemon or lime. Send us your favorite. The deadline is **August 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.



Enter online to win an El Gallo salsa grill kit.

Grilled Jalapeño and Tomato Salsa

ELIZABETH GARCIA | BLUEBONNET EC

Ripe, flavorful tomatoes are key to creating the best flavor, Garcia tells us. Grilling the vegetables creates a smoky salsa that's best enjoyed warm with tortilla chips, smoked chicken or grilled fish.

- 6 jalapeño peppers
- 3 tomatoes
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh rosemary
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- ½ teaspoon olive oil, plus more as desired
- Salt

1. Prepare a grill for direct heat cooking and build a medium-high fire.
2. Grill the jalapeños and tomatoes until blistered, turning as needed for even cooking, then place in a paper sack to steam.
3. Combine the rosemary, garlic and olive oil in a food processor and pulse into a coarse purée, then allow the mixture to macerate for a few minutes. Add seeded, stemmed jalapeños and pulse until the peppers are chopped. Remove to serving dish.
4. Place the grilled tomatoes in the food processor, add a pinch of salt and pulse 4–5 times, then fold into the pepper mixture. Taste for seasonings and adjust salt as desired. ▶ Makes about 1½ cups.

COOK'S TIP For a spicier salsa, use a combination of serrano and jalapeño peppers and/or leave the seeds in a couple of them. To ensure the vegetables don't stick to the grill, toss them with enough olive oil to coat before cooking.

Knock Your Socks Off Salsa

RENE BEAUMONT | UNITED COOPERATIVE SERVICES

You'll want to add the cilantro (about a half bunch, leaves and tender stems) and perhaps a squeeze of fresh lime or red wine vinegar to balance the sweet and fiery flavors.

- 4–5 jalapeño peppers
- 1 onion, roughly chopped, divided use
- 4 Roma tomatoes, halved
- 2 cloves garlic, smashed
- 1 tablespoon canola or olive oil, plus more as needed
- 1 can (28 ounces) whole peeled tomatoes
- ½ teaspoon salt, plus more to taste
- Fresh cilantro (optional)



1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Combine the jalapeños, half of the onion, the tomato halves and garlic in a mixing bowl, drizzle with enough oil to lightly coat and toss to combine. Place on a baking sheet and roast 20 minutes, or until softened, then allow to cool.
3. Combine the canned tomatoes, roasted onion, Roma tomatoes and garlic in a blender and process to combine. Add the remaining raw onion, 1–2 of the jalapeños, salt and fresh cilantro, if using. Purée the mixture, taste and adjust the heat (adding jalapeños as desired) and salt. ▶ Makes about 2 quarts.

COOK'S TIP Don't skimp on oil for roasting vegetables—you'll want to use enough to lightly coat the ingredients—and be sure to scrape the flavorful juices into the blender. The delicious roasting oil will add flavor and help pull all the ingredients together.

WEB EXTRAS ▶ Read this story on our website to see a recipe for Hatch Green Chile Salsa from a Bartlett EC member.

Playing With Fire

Making salsa at home is often an intuitive process that incorporates garden ingredients, heat proclivities and whatever else you have on hand. Whether you're following a recipe or creating your own, remember that the heat level of fresh peppers can vary widely. One week they might be scorching and the next, mild, leaving fire-lovers wanting more excitement. To create more flavor and/or fire in your salsa, consider the following ideas.

Allow chopped onion to macerate with a squeeze of fresh lime juice and a pinch of salt before combining with other ingredients (this will soften the onion's sharp, raw taste and help balance overall flavors).

Toast dried chiles (in a dry skillet or on the grill) until puffed and lightly toasted before soaking.

For a spicier salsa, leave the seeds in a few of the peppers. When jalapeños and serranos don't add enough fire, add a blistering habanero, chile pequin, Thai bird chiles or ground cayenne pepper to the mix.

Vinegar-based pepper sauces like Cholula (my favorite), Crystal or Tabasco add heat and help make the other ingredients pop. Use them—in addition to salt—to finish and “brighten” your salsa if it needs more flavor. —PD



FREDERICKSBURG

WIN A TWO-NIGHT
GETAWAY IN

GET DETAILS AND ENTER ONLINE AT
TexasCoopPower.com

Check out visitfredericksburgtx.com
for more about Fredericksburg.

**BUILT STRONGER.
LOOKS BETTER. LASTS LONGER.**

#4380

RESIDENTIAL | FARM | EQUESTRIAN | COMMERCIAL | COMMUNITY | REPAIRS

When you build with Morton, you build something that lasts. A Morton stands the test of time—we've been at this for more than 110 years after all. What got us here is simple: our materials, our people and a warranty that beats all others.

 **MORTON BUILDINGS®**
800-447-7436 • mortonbuildings.com

©2018 Morton Buildings, Inc. A listing of GC licenses available at mortonbuildings.com/licenses. Ref Code 606

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)	\$19.27
FREE Shipping! Merchandise TOTAL \$		19.27

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. 4US435 41816

 **Littleton Coin Company**
 1309 Mt. Eustis Road
 Littleton NH 03561-3737

America's Favorite Coin Source • TRUSTED SINCE 1945

45-Day Money Back Guarantee of Satisfaction

FREE Gift!
 when you order within 30 days

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



LATEST 2018 RELEASE!



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 \$19.27
 with **FREE Shipping!**

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!*

LATEST RELEASE!

- ★ 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 November 27, 2017.

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-

Limited-Time Offer!

WANTED: DEMO HOMESITES FOR 2018 SEASON

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

Call TODAY to Qualify for this Limited-Time Opportunity!



PRE-APPROVED FINANCING AVAILABLE!

WE CONSIDER ANYTHING ON TRADE!

VISIT US ON THE WEB!
WWW.SWIMTEXSUN.COM



STAYcation at Home in 2018!

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

A family owned and operated Texas Company since 1986.

School's Out

NOT TO TELL TALES OUT OF SCHOOL, but we reckon these reader photos are sweeter than Texas tea. Can you hear it? Summer is calling Texans, old school and new, to ditch the work and hightail it to the creek for some fun in the sun. **GRACE ARSIAGA**

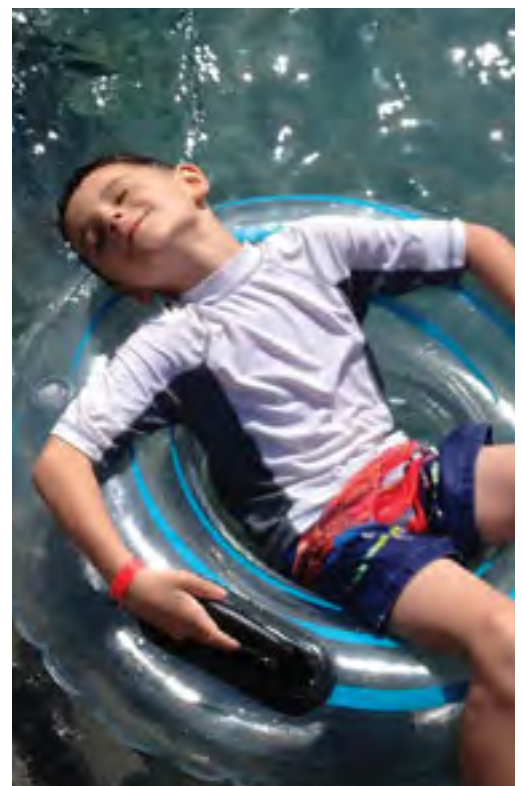
WEB EXTRAS ▶ See Focus on Texas on our website for more photos from readers.

▼ **RUDY SEPOLIO**, Navasota Valley EC: Granddaughter Olivia keeps cool during summer break in Prairie.



▲ **PATRICIA GARCIA**, Medina EC: "Ariella is taking advantage of her preschool spring break and taking her little lamb for afternoon walks."

▼ **VIOLA MURRAY**, Pedernales EC: Evening at Canyon Lake in August



UPCOMING CONTESTS

DECEMBER **HIGH CONTRAST** DUE **AUGUST 10**

JANUARY **HARVEST** DUE **SEPTEMBER 10**

FEBRUARY **TWO OF A KIND** DUE **OCTOBER 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. We do not accept entries via email. **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 regret that *Texas Co-op Power* cannot be responsible for photos that are lost in the mail or not received by the deadline.

▲ **BOBBY NORRIS**, Pedernales EC: A little girl plays on the low-water crossing at Blue Hole Park in Georgetown.

▶ **LORI SONNIER**, Pedernales EC: "My son Kyle loves floating in the lazy river. We usually go to several different water parks each summer, and he makes a beeline for the lazy river."

Pick of the Month Quilt Show: Rhapsody in Blue

Fredericksburg August 31–September 1
(830) 997-7802, vereinsquiltguild.org

When Fredericksburg turned 150 in 1996, part of the celebration included a quilt show so successful it spurred the formation of the Vereins Quilt Guild, which this month holds its 10th biennial quilt show. The event includes bed turning, a boutique, donation quilt, silent auction, tearoom and vendors.



QUILT: BILYK KATERYNA | SHUTTERSTOCK.COM. CYCLISTS: SEEVERA | DREAMSTIME.COM. BALLOONS: MBLACH | DREAMSTIME.COM

August

7
Bandera Cowboy Capital Opry,
(830) 796-3045, banderacowboycapital.com

8
Levelland [8–12] SPOTC Dog Agility Trials,
(806) 894-4161, malleteventcenter.com/events

9
Stephenville Texstar Ford Lincoln Summer
Nights Concert Series: Moe Bandy With Terri
Hendrix and Lloyd Maines, 1-800-481-9345,
stephenvilletexas.org

10
Junction [10–11] Hill Country Fair Associa-
tion Summer Classic Rodeo, (254) 212-9160,
facebook.com/hcfajunctiontx

11
Palestine Dogwood Jamboree: Forever
Country, (903) 729-7080,
dogwoodjamboree.com

August 23–26
Wichita Falls
Hotter 'N Hell Hundred



Henderson [11–12] East Texas Sacred Harp
Convention, (903) 863-5379, texasfasola.org

14
Beaumont [14–15] Paw Patrol Live: Race to
the Rescue, (409) 951-5400,
pawpatrollive.com



MASSEY FERGUSON
THE LEGEND SINCE 1847



NEW MF GC1705L

23 HP, 4WD, Hydro-Transmission,
Quick Attach DL 95 Front End Loader
\$11,998 Cash or \$159.00 per month



NEW MF 1526L

25 HP, 4WD, Hydro-Transmission,
Quick Attach L 100 Front End Loader
\$16,998 Cash or \$229.00 per month



NEW MF 1734EL

34 HP, 4WD, Gear Drive Transmission,
Quick Attach L 105 Front End Loader
\$17,998 Cash or \$239.00 per month



NEW MF 2705EL

50 HP, 4WD, Shuttle-Transmission,
Quick Attach L 135 Front End Loader
\$24,998 Cash or \$319.00 per month



WE DELIVER EVERYWHERE!

FOSTERS WORK & PLAY
3601 US Hwy. 190 W
Livingston, Texas 77351
(936) 967 - 0011
www.fostersworknplay.com
sales@fostersworknplay.com

*Disclaimer: All payments listed are based on 4.49% interest rate for 64 months with 10% of purchase price down with approved credit through Agco Finance Corp. Prices do not include sales taxes, freight or set up charges where applicable. All HP ratings listed are approximate base engine HP.

18

El Paso Magoffin Home Victorian Sci-Fi Book and Tea Club, (915) 533-5147, thc.texas.gov/historic-sites/magoffin-home-state-historic-site

23

Fort Davis [23-26] Davis Mountains Hummingbird Celebration, (432) 426-3015, fortDavis.com

Wichita Falls [23-26] Hotter 'N Hell Hundred, (940) 322-3223, hh100.org

24

Tyler [24-26] Texas Rose Breed Show, (903) 882-8696, texasrosehorsepark.com

25

Big Spring Comanche Warrior Triathlon, (432) 263-8235, visitbigspring.com

Galveston An Evening With Robert Earl Keen, 1-800-821-1894, thegrand.com

Victoria Dueling Pianos, (361) 576-6277, theatrevictoria.org

Crockett [25-26] Marine Corps League 1433 Gun Show, (936) 229-2023, facebook.com/marinecorp-league1433

27

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

30

La Grange [30-Sept. 2] Fayette County Fair, (979) 968-3911, fayettecountyfair.org



August 31-September 2
Kyle
Pie in the Sky Hot Air
Balloon Festival

31

Bedford [31-Sept. 2] Blues & BBQ Festival, (817) 952-2128, bedfordbluesfest.com

Kyle [31-Sept. 2] Pie in the Sky Hot Air Balloon Festival, (512) 262-1010, kyletxpieinthesky.com

September

1

Amarillo Yellow City Sounds Music Festival, (806) 371-5224, panhandlepbs.org

Fort Stockton Wizarding World of Fort Stockton, (432) 701-0588, thegaragetx.com

7

Corsicana Show and Dance With the Others, (903) 872-6779, corsicanaopry.com

Lubbock [7-9] National Cowboy Symposium & Celebration, (806) 798-7825, cowboy.org

Submit Your Event!

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

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

Every tree needs a champion.

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



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

Restoring and Preserving Our History



In the heart of the Texas Hill Country visit 17 historic one-room schools built between 1847 and 1936 by following the 120 mile Gillespie County Country Schools Driving Trail through the scenic Fredericksburg, Texas countryside.

Visit our website for a tour map and information on our historic schools and community centers.

All schools listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Member of Country School Association of America.

WWW.HISTORICSCHOOLS.ORG

E-NEWS IN YOUR INBOX



SIGN UP TODAY AT
TexasCoopPower.com

10th Biennial Quilt Show
August 31, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
September 1, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Fredericksburg United Methodist Church
www.verainsquiltguild.org

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

Lolling Around Luling

Town with tough reputation still basks in benevolence of its oil history

BY GENE FOWLER

WHEN YOU DRIVE INTO LULING, NESTLED along the San Marcos River about 24 miles southeast of the river's headwaters at San Marcos Springs, you notice right away that oil plays a major role there. A monumental faux derrick soars beside a visitors center at a major intersection on U.S. Highway 183. And around town, nearly 200 pump jacks—some adorned with bright cartoon figures—summon black gold.

Luling also is known for its annual **Watermelon Thump** festival held the last full weekend in June. And two of its eateries—**City Market** and **Luling Bar-B-Q**—are renowned destinations for barbecue pilgrims.

From 1874 to 1876, when Luling served as the end of the Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio Railway, Austin newspapers said Luling was “given over to the devil” and that everyone in town “goes armed at night.” Hence, “toughest town in Texas” became a common descriptor.

I learned about the town's drilling history at the **Luling Oil Museum**, housed in the 19th-century Walker Brothers building, one of the oldest mercantiles in Texas.

A colorful wildcatter with mystical inclinations named Edgar B. Davis brought in the original discovery well. Folklore recounts that the Massachusetts native drilled where he found the prettiest wildflowers, and the facts of his share-the-wealth binges are better than fiction. Davis, feeling that his gushers were gifts from God and that he needed to give back, funded enormous Luling picnics, a country club, hospitals, wildflower painting contests, a Broadway play about reincarnation and an agricultural demonstration farm called the **Luling Foundation**.

“Mr. Davis saw local farmers and ranchers struggling and wanted to help them develop diversified ag practices,”



A whimsical pumpjack in front of a passing freight train in Luling

explained Bonnie Dredla, Luling Foundation office manager, as she gave me a tour of the 1,123-acre site.

“One of our primary programs today is the Foundation Angus Alliance,” she continued. “We have over 200 head of bulls, and we practice freeze branding—that’s a process that uses liquid nitrogen or dry ice and denatured alcohol. It doesn’t burn the animal but turns the branded hair white.”

At the branding pen, I watched as Dredla’s brother-in-law, Jason Dredla, applied the more humane process to cattle in a chute designed by animal behavior expert Temple Grandin to be less stressful on the animals.

Foundation acreage is bordered on the west by the San Marcos River, and a few miles downriver stands the restored **Zedler Mill**. Its grist mill was built in 1874 as Luling sprang up with the railroad; a cotton gin soon was added, followed by a saw mill and feed mill. Tools and equipment on display at the mill museum include a quadruplex pump made in Brenham that pressed cotton into bales. The Zedler family began

producing electricity from the river as early as 1894.

Due to the setting’s natural beauty and a newly constructed pavilion, a couple gets married there just about every weekend.

Not even the rattling trains passing in the night could wake me at Luling’s **Ainsworth House Inn**, named for the commander who led the 36th Infantry Division ashore at Salerno, Italy, in advance of the Normandy landings of World War II. The inn’s Audie Murphy room is named for the war-hero-turned-film-star, who visited frequently.

Before leaving town, I stepped across Bowie Street from the inn to examine an ancient oak tree. There, according to Luling historian Riley Froh, Old West outlaws had carved directions to a buried treasure of stolen gold.

I couldn’t discern the map, but I still felt a living link to the days when Luling was known as the toughest town in Texas.

Gene Fowler is an Austin writer who specializes in history.

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

Why pay \$1,600 or more?

HEAR BETTER FOR ONLY \$299 EA!

**45-DAY
RISK-FREE
TRIAL**

SAME HIGH-QUALITY DIGITAL HEARING AIDS
OFFERED BY AUDIOLOGISTS AND ENT'S.

WOW...
That's 4 low payments
of only **\$74.75** per aid!
HURRY, OFFER ENDS SOON.

- ✓ Risk-FREE 45-day home trial – 100% Money-back Guarantee!
- ✓ **FREE** unlimited support from our licensed professionals (via phone, email and chat)
- ✓ **FREE** shipping ✓ No restocking fees

Honest prices, no gimmicks, and zero risk!

If you're struggling with hearing loss it may be affecting you in ways you may not realize: feelings of isolation, depression, and stress by "pretending" you're hearing others. Maybe you avoid going to your favorite restaurant because of background noise. Even worse, untreated hearing loss may be linked to dementia.

How would your life improve if you addressed your hearing loss? We think you'd agree it's worth \$299 for a hearing aid.

The **Apollo™-6200** is the perfect digital hearing aid to give you clear hearing and easy understanding. Designed with American-Made technology, you get the **BEST** technology for the **BEST** price.

AMERICAN-MADE TECHNOLOGY ★ FDA REGISTERED ★ 100% DIGITAL ★ DOCTOR DESIGNED

Did you know...

An independent study concluded that many consumers were more satisfied and received more value through **Hearing Help Express** than from their local hearing aid provider.

To read the entire study visit:
www.hearinghelpexpress.com/2018/01/26/hearing-aid-industry-analysis

The typical hearing aid costs over \$2,000 because of mark-ups and prepaid labor you may not use. Order safely from Hearing Help Express, you get manufacturer-direct prices (no middleman mark-ups or Audiologist prepaid labor charges), **saving you over 80%**.

Try the **Apollo™-6200** completely Risk-FREE! With as little as \$74.75 down for each hearing aid (100% refundable). Try the Apollo-6200 for 45 days and see if it's everything we've promised!

"Had I known what a difference these hearing aids would make in my life I would have gotten them sooner. Life is so much more fun when you can hear it."
R. Mendelson



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

Try the Apollo™-6200 hearing aid Risk-FREE for 45 days!



Expires: 10/31/18

For fastest service call toll-free (Mon-Fri • 8 am - 5 pm CST)

1-888-847-1189

Order online

www.HearingHelpExpress.com

**PROMO
CODE
28-217**

If you decide the **Apollo-6200** is right for you, we'll gladly set you up on our easy 0% APR payment plan for the remaining three payments of \$74.75 for each hearing aid (*your initial payment will be applied as your first monthly payment*). Credit card required to process order.



Save a Bundle on TV and Internet!



2-YEAR TV PRICE LOCK!

\$59⁹⁹ month for TV

ADD INTERNET

Blazing-Fast Internet

No Matter Where You Live

ONLY 49.99! Speeds from 25Mbps-1 Gbps
Now with **Unlimited Data!**

TV service not required for Internet. Unlimited data refers to no hard data caps.

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
SHOWTIME STARZ DISH MOVIE PACK

After 3 mos. you will be billed \$30/mo. for Showtime, Starz and DISH Movie Pack unless you call to cancel.

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

Get DISH. Get \$100.



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 Haba 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 11/14/18. 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. \$49.99 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.