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JUNE 2010

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By Carlton Stowers

Photographs by Will van Overbeek

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By Camille Wheeler

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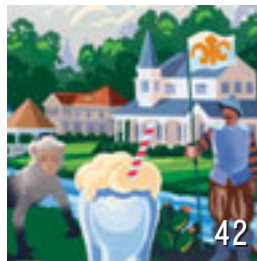
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TEXAS CO-OP POWER

Texas Co-op Power is published by your electric cooperative to enhance the quality of life of its member-customers in an educational and entertaining format.

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letters

AQUARENA MEMORIES

I really enjoyed the article on Aquarena! My dad, Morris Smith, worked at Aquarena when I was a child (1956-58 and 1961-62). He died recently at age 78, just a few months before the Aquarena reunion. Morris did everything: underwater clown, master of ceremonies for the underwater show, pilot of glass-bottom boats, etc.

My dad once tried to teach me to breathe using the breathing tube underwater. The air coming through the tube made it seem like a water hose at full blast in your mouth. I was 5 years old at the time, and I guess if I had figured out how to do it I might have been part of the underwater show!

I have lots of great memories of this unique and beautiful place, and I am very glad the public will continue to have access to it.

TERRI CHESNEY

Waco, HILCO Electric Cooperative

POWER TALK

BATTERY DISPOSAL LOCATIONS

In reference to the article "Bigger, Better Batteries" (April 2010), where can one dispose of nickel-cadmium batteries? I don't need companies that sell information on government regulations for disposal, just an approved disposal site in the Wood County vicinity.

CHARLES H. PRICE

*Winnsboro, Wood County
Electric Cooperative*

Editor's note: *The Upper Sabine Valley Solid Waste Management District in Quitman will accept nickel cadmium batteries; call (903) 763-2123 for more information. To find a listing of other battery recycle drop-off locations, go to [*recycle.org and enter your ZIP code. The free service is offered by the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation, a nonprofit sponsoring 30,000 drop-off locations to recycle rechargeable batteries and cell phones.*](http://www.call2</i></p></div><div data-bbox=)*

GO ONLINE FOR RECIPE ARCHIVES

In the March 2010 issue, a customer requested recipes be printed on one side only. I couldn't agree more, but I also realize that this is not always possible. Fortunately, the solution is simple: Go to the magazine's website, www.TexasCoopPower.com. For recipes in the current issue, click on "See the Table of Contents" and then "Recipes." For recipes in previous issues, click on "Visit

our Recipes Archive." Once you have made your selection, find the recipe you would like to keep, then copy and paste into your favorite word processor for printing and saving.

Thank you for a great magazine and keep up the good work.

JOHN C. SIMKINS

*Woodville, Sam Houston
Electric Cooperative*

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT ISSUE

We really enjoy our publication each month. There is always interesting information on various topics, sights to see and recipes to explore. Thank you for a well-informed magazine, one we look forward to each month.

KIRBY AND KAAREN BARKER

*Corpus Christi,
Nueces Electric Cooperative*

THANKS!

Thank you for the listing you gave our Airing of the Quilts, Antique Car Show and Arts and Crafts Fair held on March 27 in Thorndale. We received calls from people across Texas wanting more information. We appreciate the help to promote our first annual event, and we look forward to next year. The chamber agrees that your notice helped make it a great success!

Thank you for providing this service to our events for both large and small towns in Texas. We hope to see even more people of our great state in 2011 and assure you that we had a "big time in a small town" this year.

DARLEEN TUCKER

*Secretary, Thorndale Area
Chamber of Commerce*

GLURPO, BUBLIO OR SCRUBLIO?



Your article "Exploring the Depths" (April 2010, about the former Aquarena Springs theme park and current Aquarena Center) brought back some wonderful childhood memories. Our family vacationed in the Texas Hill Country one summer during the early '60s and spent a day at Aquarena Springs. We attended the show in the submersible theater and went on the glass-

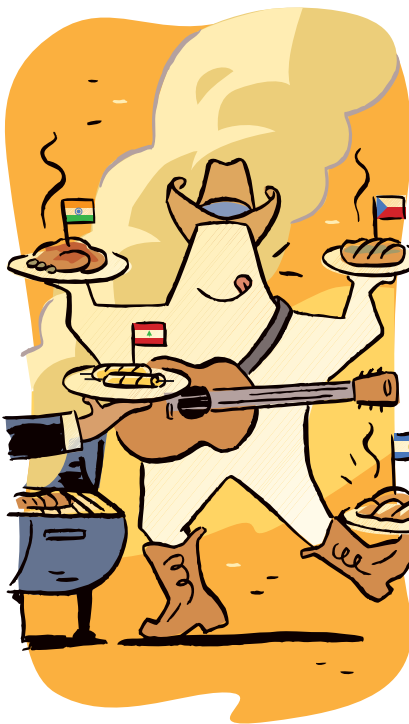
bottom boat. Being a young child, I was amazed at all the fish we could see swimming below and found it incredible that a person could drink soda pop while underwater.

Thanks for renewing a pleasant childhood experience. We always enjoy reading Texas Co-op Power.

Martha E. Gideon, Rhome, CoServ Electric

Editor's note: *Martha was kind enough to send photos from her visit, including this one showing an underwater clown ("... can't recall if the clown was Glurpo, Bubllo or Scrubllo after 46 years," she wrote).*

We want to hear from our readers. Send letters to: Editor, Texas Co-op Power, 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701, or e-mail us at letters@texas-coop.org. Please include the name of your town and electric co-op. Letters may be edited for clarity and length and will be printed as space allows. Read additional letters at www.TexasCoopPower.com.



HAPPENINGS

There's the Hollywood image of Texas: cowboys, barbecue and country music. And then there's the real-life image: cowboys, barbecue and country music, for sure ... and transplanted Texans who hail from around the nation and the globe, bringing their own rich foods, dances and ethnic cultures to the Lone Star State.

As Texans from all walks of life, we love showing off our diverse heritage—a legacy superbly displayed at the **TEXAS FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL**, scheduled for June

11-13 at the Institute of Texan Cultures in San Antonio.

Limber up those taste buds for such delicacies as Lebanese shish kebabs, El Salvadoran pupusas (stuffed corn tortillas) and Czech jablečný závin (apple strudel). And stretch out those legs for a chance to learn classical folk dances of India, traditional Korean dances or Appalachian-style clogging.

For more information, call (210) 458-2224 or go to www.texasfolklife festival.org.

CO-OP PEOPLE

*Retiring Editor Ready
for Travel, Garden Patch*

Lifelong journalist Kaye Northcott retired as editor of Texas Co-op Power magazine May 1, after a decadelong tenure. She answered a few questions before she headed for new adventures.

Q. Why are you retiring?

A. I'm 67, and I figured out that I have been on deadline for 45 years—counting back to college newspaper days. I want to work at my own pace, read till the early hours, do some longer writing and enjoy myself.

I intend to travel broadly and spend more time outdoors gardening and observing nature.

Q. Have you liked working at Texas Co-op Power?

A. Absolutely. It's one of the two best jobs I've had. The other was editing The Texas Observer. The Observer had a devoted readership of about 13,000. Texas Co-op Power has a circulation of 1.2 million. But I felt the same sense of family from both publications. And the staff and co-op leadership are wonderful.

Q. Will you continue to write for the magazine?

A. Yes. I already have some assignments and am contemplating more.

Q. How much did you know about electric cooperatives before you came to work here?

A. I had a general appreciation of co-ops, but I had no idea they were such a widespread business model. As long as people are willing to take responsibility to improve their lives and their communities, co-ops should flourish. And now I am a zealous advocate for them.

Q. What is your impression about Texas Co-op Power readers?

A. Salt of the earth. We get a lot of personal feedback. I get photos of grandchildren, odd insects, hay crops, gardens, pets, ancestors, etc. Most readers who write to us offer personal observations. Some of the most interesting e-mails and letters are from people who have a connection to one of our stories. You would be amazed at how many people wrote to us about the Fort Worth Masonic Home and the Mighty Mites football team and Sally Rand, for example.

Freelancers say they have more fun writing for this magazine than for other publications because they hear from the readers. The girl who sat behind you in the fourth grade writes, and so does your first boyfriend. At last count, Juddi Morris, who recently did a piece on pimiento cheese, had received 14 e-mails and letters from readers wanting to tell her about their own recipes.

*Have a suggestion for a future Co-op People?
E-mail Charles Boisseau at editor@texas-ec.org.*

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Aluminum cans 500 years
Glass bottles 1,000 years
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and Styrofoam: Indefinitely

Source: Republic Services



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The Vampires Lurking in Your Home

Energy vampires consume electricity when turned 'off.'

By Brian Sloboda

Vampires have frightened people for generations. The fangs, the wings, the immortality: It's scary stuff. Though that's all legend—a subject for movies and Halloween costumes—a different breed of vampire could be lurking in your home right now. These vampires don't drink blood; they consume electricity.

An energy vampire, also called a phantom or parasitic load, is any device that consumes electricity when turned "off." These electronic devices provide the modern-day conveniences we love, but they also waste energy and cost us money.

According to a study conducted by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the average home loses 8 percent of its monthly energy consumption to these energy vampires. A full 75 percent of the power used to run home electronics is consumed when those appliances are turned off, accord-

ing to the U.S. Department of Energy.

Vampire loads can be found in almost every room of a home, though a favorite spot is the entertainment center. When the television is turned off, it isn't really off. It's sitting there, waiting patiently for someone to press the remote control's on button—and waiting uses energy. TVs also use energy to remember channel lineups, language preferences and the time.

VCRs, DVD players, DVRs and cable or satellite boxes also use energy when turned off.

According to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the average electric co-op residential member consumes roughly 13,900 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per year. If 8 percent of this power is consumed when electronics are turned off, the average home wastes 1,112 kWh annually. Assuming a cost of 10 cents per kWh, the average household spends \$111 per year to pay

for these vampire loads.

The good news is that a sharp stake isn't necessary to kill off these vampires. To eliminate the power consumption of an energy vampire, simply unplug the device or plug it into a power strip and use the power strip's switch to eliminate electricity to everything plugged into it. Power strips work like an extension of the wall outlet. They cut all power to plugs when they are switched off.

There are numerous devices in the home that can be unplugged easily and safely, or plugged into a power strip, without causing any inconvenience. Computer equipment, such as printers, scanners, desktop computers and broadband modems, can be "unplugged" without harm. Cell phone, tool and other battery chargers also should be unplugged when not in use. Even though the charger is not charging anything, it is still drawing power.

A new device called the "smart" strip is beginning to find its way onto store shelves. Smart power strips allow you to plug devices into a specially marked section of the power strip so they will still have power when turned off. Other devices that can be turned off safely are plugged into the rest of the strip. This allows you to turn off parts of a home entertainment system, such as the stereo, DVD player or home theater audio system, without losing the ability to record programs to a DVR or having to reprogram the television every time you want to watch a show. To learn more about smart strips, go to www.chooserenewables.com.

For devices that cannot be turned off, consumers should look for Energy Star-certified devices or ask the salesperson about a device's standby power consumption. There can be big differences in power consumption between manufacturers, and sometimes even between models from the same manufacturer.

As in the movies, it is impossible to kill off all of the energy vampires in your home—but every energy vampire vanquished will mean that much less of a bite out of your wallet.

Brian Sloboda is a program manager specializing in energy efficiency for the Cooperative Research Network, a division of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.





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FOR NEXT GENERATION, ROLLER SKATING RINKS



COMING FULL CIRCLE

REMAIN THE WHEEL DEAL

BY CARLTON STOWERS
PHOTOS BY WILL VAN OVERBEEK

THE OLD JUKEBOX, ONCE FILLED WITH country-and-western favorites, is long gone, replaced by a sound system that first blared rock 'n' roll, then the thumping beat of the disco age and now hip-hop. Musical tastes aside, little has changed at the legendary Cedar Hill Roller Rink since it first opened for business half a century ago.

Inside the dimly lit cinder block building that sits in the old downtown area, on the western edge of this small Dallas suburb, history has replayed itself from one generation to the next as youngsters—mostly adolescents and early teens—still come to roller skate endless trips around a maple wood floor and flirt with each other.

Parents—who themselves had come here nearly a lifetime ago to skate, celebrate birthdays or first discover the magic of puppy love—sit nearby, watching as their children gleefully roll past.

But both generations, many skating rink owners fear, are enjoying a pastime whose heyday has passed. Too many mall arcades now offer their own glitzy lure, not to mention the Internet and online games; too many movie rental stores, theme parks and spread-

ing economic woes have cut deeply into an industry that once represented the go-to social venue for so many Texas youngsters.

"In the four years since I bought the rink," laments 42-year-old owner David Candanoza, who practically grew up with skates on his feet, "I've watched six within 50 miles of mine close." Today, when he attends meetings of rink operators, he finds that he's the youngest proprietor in a room of fellow owners fast headed toward retirement.

As Candanoza speaks, he looks out on a Friday night crowd of 50 or so skaters at the Cedar Hill rink. Candanoza has always been around this rink, first as a young patron and then as an assistant to former owner Victor Deuback, from whom he purchased the legendary establishment. Candanoza recalls a time when 100 to 150 people would have paid the \$5 admission—plus a \$1 rental fee for skates—for a 7-to-11 evening of skating and competing in games that earned the winner a prized wooden nickel exchangeable in the snack bar for a soft drink or candy bar (admission remains

the same, and the games are still on). Where once he hosted eight to 10 birthday parties each weekend, the number has dwindled to two, maybe three.

Time was, he suggests, when virtually every local youngster's birthday party was held at his rink. Even those of some adults. "A few years ago," he notes, "we hosted a party for a lady celebrating her 63rd birthday."

Texans have long celebrated at the rink. And if ever there was a match made in heaven, it came during the mid-1970s when disco-dancing fever and roller skating went hand in hand. Texas joined the craze, with big-city and small-town rinks thriving. But, according to www.skatingfitness.com, most of Texas' active rinks are bunched in the state's metropolitan areas. Oh, you'll still find the family owned Skate Palace open for business in Ballinger and the Starlight Skate in Childress. The old Whispering Wheels in Decatur has changed ownership and is now simply called Decatur Skate, but keeps 'em rolling on the weekends. Yet in many small communities, such as Weatherford, the lights have been turned out and the music silenced.



Cedar Hill Roller Rink owner David Candanoza—affectionately known as ‘Super Dave’—wants to keep skaters’ wheels rolling for years to come.



Augustin Ordaz, David Ramirez, Eduardo Estudillo and Azriel Ordaz, from left, call it a day after skating around the old maple wood floor at the Cedar Hill Roller Rink.

There, at the now closed Skate Queen, the final dance competition winner was recently crowned at the end of a farewell Saturday night session.

Deuback, who owned and operated the Cedar Hill rink for four decades before retiring, still lives next door to the rink. He also worries about the industry's future. Having seen kids graduate from clamp-on skates, to shoe skates and on to today's high-tech inline gear, he remembers the time when almost every 10- to 14-year-old in

the community was a weekend regular at his establishment.

"On Friday nights, it wasn't unusual for us to have 200 kids," Deuback recalls. And he tells of the times when youths and adults played in roller hockey leagues. In the mid-1980s, the creators of a popular network television show starring a loveable mutt named Benji even spent a couple of weeks filming an episode at his Cedar Hill rink.

Now 83, Deuback has known noth-

ing but the roller-skating business since he was an 11-year-old visiting the Dallas rink his father, John Henry Deuback, built in the 1930s. When the elder Deuback retired, he turned over the operation to his sons, Victor and John, and they oversaw the thriving business for five years until it was destroyed by fire. Soon thereafter, Victor purchased the then-almost 3-year-old Cedar Hill rink. Older brother John rebuilt the Dallas rink and ran it for many years before moving to Bowie

Falling down, speeding around and making friends: It's just another day at the roller rink.



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Watching children glide by brings back memories for adult spectators.

and opening the Deuback Skating Rink. It now is run by his son, John, advancing a family tradition that spans three generations.

Like others, the elder John Deuback agrees that today's economy has created a considerable challenge. Yet he still enjoys his work and his young customers. "Yes," he says, "it's still fun."

Roller skating as Texas now knows it can be traced to England in the mid-1800s when Floral Hall and the Strand of London opened the world's first roller skating rinks. By the early 1900s, skating arrived in America when the Chicago Coliseum became the nation's first public rink, welcoming a crowd of 7,000 on opening night. A nationwide boom quickly followed. And, if your rural community didn't have a facility of its own, traveling entrepreneurs could be counted on to visit for a few summer weeks, the operators erecting a tent on the edge of town to cover their portable skating floor. The kids, and no small number of grownups, eagerly awaited their arrival. By the time the U.S. youth culture embraced the rhythm of disco, between 4,000 and 5,000 rinks were welcoming a new generation.

It is Candanoza's mission in life to see that the activity remains part of his community's entertainment. Affection-

ately known as "Super Dave" by his young clientele, it is his dream to one day pass ownership of the rink along to his four children.

"This is a wonderful activity for kids," he says, "and it is my goal to see that it continues for years to come." To that end, he has become increasingly innovative, offering things like an end-of-summer "lock-in" party where youngsters arrive to spend an entire night at the rink, skating, playing games and watching movies. And, as Victor Deuback did before him, Candanoza holds his customers to strict rules—proper dress code (for example, no spaghetti straps or baring of the midriff for girls) and no foul language or bullying—that sit well with parents.

The excitement of it all, meanwhile, sits well with kids. Nine-year-old Price Cruce started making weekend visits to the Cedar Hill rink at age 5. "It's a good place to hang out with my friends," he says, "and all the races and contests they have are really fun."

His father, Andy Cruce, is flooded with fond memories as he sits and watches his son hurry onto the floor to play tag. "When I was his age and coming here, it was the only social activity kids had," Andy says. "This was always such a fun place. I'm glad my kid's get-

ting the opportunity to experience it."

Candanoza says his job is to watch over those who come to his rink, making sure they are safely entertained. "This is their place, where they meet with friends, catch up on each others' young lives and have a good time," he says. "Parents trust me with their children." Many, he notes, use attendance at his rink as a motivational tool: Do your homework, make good grades, behave properly during the week, and you can go skating on Friday or Saturday night.

In truth, then, there is little difference from those days when Candanoza's own mom would regularly drive him to the rink. Aside from a bit of remodeling here and there, new carpet and an expanded menu in the concession stand, "the place hasn't changed much," he says.

The aging sign out front, simply announcing "SKATING," has now stood for over half a century. Today, it is Candanoza's mission to see that it serves as a beacon for generations to come.

Carlton Stowers has written about such things as fried pies and the world's littlest skyscraper for Texas Co-op Power.

Web Extra: Go to www.TexasCoopPower.com to view a video of Super Dave and his vintage roller rink.

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Make No Bones About It

**Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum
Digs Up Common Ground for Us All**

BY CAMILLE WHEELER
PHOTOS COURTESY
PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

DEEP WITHIN THE BOWELS OF THE PANHANDLE-PLAINS Historical Museum in Canyon, Jeff Indeck is rummaging through steel cabinet drawers like he's looking for lost treasure. "Hold this," the museum's chief curator says casually, handing me the clavicle of a metoposaur, a 6-foot-long salamander-like amphibian.

The bone weighs only about 3 pounds, but its age—hmmm, a mere 225 million years old or so—makes it feel like a heavy chunk of priceless, breakable gold. Don't even THINK about dropping it.

And so I gingerly hand it back to Indeck, who's grinning with the unbridled glee of a kid just granted permission to grab a shovel and start an archaeological dig in his own backyard.

Indeck, whose full title is curator of archeology, paleontology, ethnology, geology and biology, clearly digs his job, especially when he's playing detective in the basement where every sealed plastic bag holds yet another clue to the past.

Judging by their stuff—bits of yucca sandals, grinding stones and bison bone farming tools—this area's early inhabitants were a lot like us: innovative and constantly finding new ways to improve their everyday existence. And just like us—someday, archaeologists might be poring through our heaps of athletic shoes, cell phones and computers—they couldn't take their stuff with them.

Indeck holds up a bag of knotted yucca fibers that served an unknown purpose. "This is their trash," he says. "What I'm interested in is what the objects they left behind tell me of their behavior." Indeck then lays a piece of alibates flint on my notebook. Smooth on the bottom with an edged top, it probably was used as an animal hide scraper.



1: Children bone up on knowledge in a world-class paleontology section. 2: Famous Texas cattle brands surround the museum's entrance. 3: No driver's license is required to take the wheel of a 1965 Mustang in People of the Plains. 4: This diorama shows a Native American merchant with his carreta, or cart.

Researchers from around the world visit Canyon, 15 miles south of Amarillo, to study such specimens. From mammoth teeth that are just that to giant tortoise shells millions of years old, the basement's riches form a rock-solid foundation for the museum's public exhibits, where visitors explore 500 million years of history recorded across the 26,000-square-mile expanse of the Panhandle Plains.

Be forewarned: Once you enter Texas' largest history museum, even with trusty map in hand, you're going to get lost—deliciously lost as you stare into the eyes of a mounted bison in Pioneer Hall, the voluminous room that once held the entire museum, and wander through 22 galleries in the nearly 300,000-square-foot building on the West Texas A&M University campus.

It may feel like you're actually covering 26,000 square miles, so the best advice is this: Pace yourself. Wear comfortable shoes. Don't try to see everything in two to three hours. Schedule a day—or two—to fully appreciate this museum that boasts a collection of more than 2 million artifacts, including a world-class paleontology section and the most comprehensive collection of historic Texas art in the state. The collection features "Red Landscape," one of four oil paintings that Georgia O'Keeffe completed when she lived in Canyon from 1916 to 1918 and taught art at what was then West Texas State Normal School.

Inspired by O'Keeffe's trips to nearby Palo Duro Canyon, "Red Landscape" provocatively captures the magnificent geologic formation with blood-red brush strokes and the sensuous curve of canyon and sky. It's a bold statement of not only what O'Keeffe saw, but what she *felt*—and it's the per-

fect palette from which to draw conclusions about our total museum experience: From the pastels of Frank Reaugh—so gently nuanced you'll feel like you're sitting in the saddle beside the "Dean of Texas Painters" who often sketched from horseback—to the reconstructed bones of scary-looking prehistoric creatures, we don't just see the past. We *feel* it. Especially when we think about the monstrous teeth of a phytosaur, a crocodile look-alike that could reach 40 feet in length, crunching down on its prey.

And it's at that juncture, when we see the past as others saw it, that we gain empathy for our fellows, says Guy C. Vanderpool, the museum's executive director and president of the Texas Association of Museums. "We hear the stories of people who have gone before us," he says. "We see their photographs, we see their tools. So when we step back into contemporary society, it's easier for us to identify with the struggles and achievements of people in our own communities."

Sometimes, the past isn't easy to look at, such as a life-size diorama and video in the People of the Plains exhibit that graphically detail the skinning and butchering of a buffalo. In the video—squeamish alert ... this is the real thing—a Comanche man and woman methodically dissect the animal, with nothing going to waste: The stomach can function as a water carrier, and the buffalo's liver is eaten raw to ensure more successful hunts.

Nowadays, we scrape food off our plates into the garbage disposal. Burp.

But as we digest the past, and something primitive stirs deep within, we realize that we have much in common with those we thought were so different. They needed food, water,

shelter and clothing. So do we. Hence the chronological display of water vessels—prehistoric vase, canvas bag, metal bucket with dipper, plastic bottle—in People of the Plains.

“It’s an exhibit that looks at people as people,” Indeck says, explaining his philosophy: The degree of success is whether something—a tool, a practice, an idea—is passed on to the next generation. “Cultures are not hierarchal,” he says. “They’re not better or worse in their solutions to problems—they’re just different.”

Millions of years ago, there was a clear pecking order: The biggest, meanest predator won, such as the phytosaur, whose head is displayed in what Indeck calls a “truly spectacular” fossil collection. As Indeck explains, it’s rare to excavate intact skeletons. But incredibly, of the collection’s 10 mounted skeletons, two—a large fish called a wolf herring (*Gillicus arcuatus*) and a fish-like reptile (*Ichthyosaurus*)—were found in the ground virtually intact, with bones in their correct anatomical positions. And the skeleton of an extinct Scott’s horse (*Equus scotti*) on display was also found virtually intact.

But now, museum visitor, you’re faced with a most exquisite dilemma: You could stay here all day studying bones on the first floor. Or, you could venture upstairs and lose yourself in a sublime art collection that features four permanent galleries: Texas, Southwestern (which, in part, showcases the Taos and Santa Fe, New Mexico, art colonies), and the works of Reaugh and Harold Dow Bugbee, a Panhandle Plains artist, in two separate galleries.

If you’re short on time, here’s a short list, starting with two pastels from Reaugh: “The Approaching Herd,” a 1902 painting that hung in the White House during George W. Bush’s presidency; “The O Roundup, Texas, 1888,” which depicts the largest cattle roundup Reaugh had ever seen;

“Growth,” a luscious oil painting by Ruth Pershing Uhler (circa 1934) that portrays womanhood; and, of course, O’Keeffe’s “Red Landscape.”

All four paintings represent Texas. That’s not surprising, considering that the museum, which gains acclaim for its entire art collection, is fiercely proud that its deep Texas collection paints a picture of the entire state, says Michael Grauer, associate director for curatorial affairs and curator of art.

“Art museums suffer from this great fear that somebody’s going to think they’re a bunch of rubes,” Grauer says. “So if they show what they call local art or regional art, they think somebody in New York is going to make fun of them. We don’t care. You put it on the wall, and people will come ... we take that leap of faith every day.”

If ever a town wanted a museum, it was Canyon, where Texas’ first state-supported museum officially opened its doors on April 4, 1933. The original building displays some of the finest art deco architecture in the Panhandle, and more than 100 famous Texas cattle brands surround the entrance.

In 1940, on the most remarkable leg of the museum’s journey, area residents piled up mountains of bricks in a capital drive to expand the building.

From top to bottom—including the Research Center with its exhaustive holdings—the four-story museum offers an unabridged look at life on the Panhandle Plains.

“It’s multigenerational, it’s multiracial,” Vanderpool says. “There’s something everybody can identify with, and they all have one thing in common: They’ve been here, and they’ve enjoyed the experience. There is a common ground for us all to have.”

Camille Wheeler is staff writer for Texas Co-op Power.

1: Here’s betting the fierce phytosaur won more fights than it lost. **2:** You’ll be pumped about petroleum in this expansive exhibit. **3:** Restoration in 2007 made Ruth Pershing Uhler’s “Growth” an even more vibrant work of art.

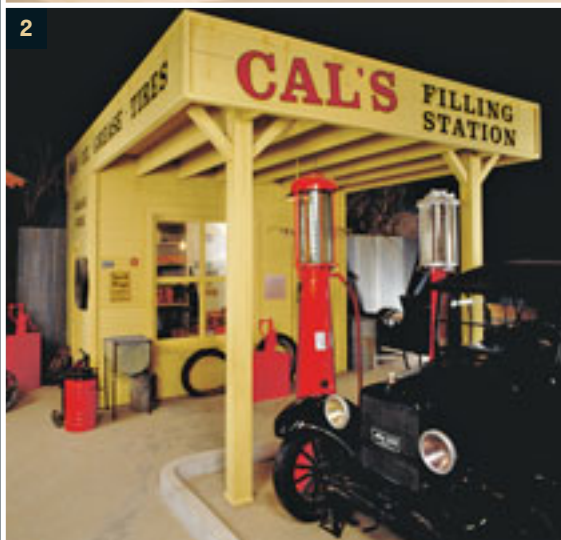
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Stay Cool, Save Money

By **Brian Sloboda**

Cooperative Research Network

Cooling a home on hot, humid days can be energy-intensive—in fact, cooling generally becomes the largest energy expense homeowners face during the summer. A room air conditioner may seem like an easy-to-install, low-cost way to add comfort, but it could waste energy and money.

A room air conditioner is basically a self-contained box designed to be mounted in a window, through a wall, or as a console. Costing between \$100 and \$1,000, they can be purchased at home improvement centers, big box retailers—even yard sales and flea markets. They tend to last a long time with minimal maintenance, so selecting the right unit is important.

Room air conditioners rated by Energy Star, the federal energy-efficiency program, are at least 10 percent more efficient than the federal standard. The energy-efficiency ratio (EER) measures each unit's efficiency. The higher the EER rating, the more



Newer room air conditioners offer convenience and energy savings through programmable thermostats, remote controls and higher energy-efficiency ratings.

efficient the air conditioner will be. National appliance standards require room air conditioners built after January 1, 1990, to have a minimum EER of 8.0.

Energy Star-qualified units have advanced compressors that use less energy and run more quietly. However, they do cost slightly more.

An average consumer in a hot and humid state such as Texas could save up to 300 kilowatt-hours per year with an Energy Star-rated room unit versus a less efficient one.

Consumers should look for models with timers and programmable thermostats that allow users to cool spaces according to their preferences. For example, a homeowner can program the air conditioner to turn on 20 minutes before bedtime to make the bedroom comfortable.

Installing a room air conditioner is typically an easy job. Most units fit in a window. Large-capacity units often require a dedicated electrical circuit or may have specific wiring and breaker requirements. These units may need to be installed by a professional. Improper installation can negate the savings offered by even the most efficient of units.

Here's a tip: Put window units in

an east- or north-facing window out of the direct sun. It's even better if the unit is shaded by a tree or awning. Also, make sure the external surface is not blocked by shrubbery. And, make sure the unit is level so its drainage system operates properly.

Room air conditioners come in a variety of sizes, and buying the right one is important. A unit that is too large will cool the room too quickly to properly remove all of the humidity, leaving the room feeling cool, but also wet and clammy. Buy the unit from a knowledgeable retailer who will help you select the right size for your room.

Consumers replacing an existing unit with a more efficient unit should not throw the old unit away. Air conditioners contain refrigerant that should be removed by a trained technician before the unit is recycled or discarded. Contact a local solid waste organization for information on how to properly dispose of old air conditioners.

Air conditioning will impact your monthly electric bill—your purchasing decisions, climate and length of use determine how much of an impact there will be. Making smart energy choices will leave you happier, cooler and with a couple of extra bucks in your pocket.

BEFORE YOU BUY

Before investing in a room air conditioner, take some easy and inexpensive energy-saving measures in your home. Any of these measures will maximize the cooling power of your air conditioner.

- Add caulk and weatherstripping around doors and windows.
- Add insulation to attics and exposed walls.
- Move furniture or obstacles away from room air conditioners.
- Close blinds or curtains during the day.



Keep Dad Safe for Father's Day

Years of power tool shopping for past Father's Day gifts have probably yielded the dad in your life a garage or shed full of handy gadgets. On June 20, give him the tools he needs to use his stockpile safely.

For table saws and other large tools, give your dad a motor safety switch with a large "stop" paddle or switch. It allows him to use his hip or foot to immediately cut power to the tool without removing a hand from the work piece, helping him to keep his work safe and steady. For about \$30, you can buy a switch that easily mounts to most 120-volt machinery.

If he spends full weekend days near his workbench, pick a pair of supportive steel-toed boots to protect his feet from knocked-off or dropped work gear. Good work boots also will reduce fatigue and keep his knees and back comfortable even after a full day on his feet.

Toss in the classic safety gear: Sporty safety glasses styled like sunglasses offer a snug fit and wraparound protection in both clear and tinted styles. Choose a snug pair of work gloves with extra gripping strips to help your dad keep a firm hold on his tools and work materials. And don't forget his ears—a simple pair of ear plugs will keep that ringing noise at bay when he works around loud machinery.

2010 © FRANK BOSTON. IMAGE FROM GETTY IMAGES

SUMMER LIVING WITH OUTDOOR APPLIANCES

Outdoor kitchens and living rooms are a great place to spend summer evenings and are becoming a common extension of modern homes.

Make your outdoor room as safe as your indoor rooms.

First, before plugging in even one outdoor appliance, upgrade your outdoor outlets. Each should be a three-prong outlet, protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter with its own weatherproof cover. Without a proper cover, moisture can get into outlets and cause a malfunction or shock.

Only use appliances outside that the manufacturer says are safe for outdoor use rather than moving indoor appliances to your patio. Outdoor temperatures that are too hot or too cold can damage refrigerators and icemakers designed for indoor use.

As the popularity of outdoor rooms grows, more manufacturers are creating products that can hold up to the elements and withstand wet weather. You can find refrigerators, freezers, wine chillers, keg tappers and icemakers with a safety stamp from Underwriters Laboratories or another rating agency that ensures the appliance is safe to use outdoors.



Appliances are great for outdoor living; just make sure they're rated for outdoor use.

Heed a Few CFL No-Nos

One of the benefits of using compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs)—other than significant energy savings—is that each bulb can last up to 10,000 hours, if used correctly. But while CFLs can fit into nearly any light fixture, they aren't always a perfect choice.

Heed these CFL "don'ts" to extend the life of your energy-efficient bulbs:

- Don't use a CFL in a fully enclosed, recessed fixture, as the heat will cause the CFL to cease working properly. However, CFLs will generally work if the fixture is not completely recessed. Check the packaging to see if the CFL can be used in an inverted position.
- Don't use a regular CFL with a dimmer switch—this will cause the bulb to burn out in days or weeks. Choose a CFL made specifically for use with dimmers.
- Don't expect a regular CFL to produce three levels of brightness on a three-way switch. While a CFL will work properly on the middle switch, a regular CFL will not produce light like an incandescent bulb in a three-way switch. However, some manufacturers produce three-way CFLs.
- Don't expose a CFL to the outdoor elements without a protective cover. Check the packaging for the range of operating temperatures.
- Don't use a CFL in a fixture with a lot of vibration, such as a ceiling fan or in conjunction with a garage door opener. Vibrations can cause a CFL to fail.

A Bulletproof Life

*On the big screen,
Uncle Charlie gets
credit for gunning
down Dillinger.*

By Marco Perella



Uncle Charlie always wanted to be a cowboy. He knew cattle. He knew horses. And he was very good with guns. Good enough so that in 1934 on the streets of Chicago he faced the most notorious American outlaw of the 20th century and beat him to the draw.

The 2009 film “Public Enemies” is the latest in a long line of movie bios of John Dillinger and the gangsters of the ’30s. Most of these movies have taken an already colorful history and outrageously embellished it to heighten drama, sentiment, violence or whatever it took to create a box-office success. “Public Enemies,” directed by Michael Mann and starring Johnny Depp as Dillinger, is no different in that respect.

However, in one respect, it is different from all those other Dillinger biopics. This is the first one that actually names Charles Winstead—who everybody in my family always called Uncle Charlie—as the man who, according to some accounts, shot Dillinger.

Born in 1891 in Sherman, my great-uncle Charles Winstead, played by Stephen Lang in “Public Enemies,” was just a little late to be a part of the classic Wild West era. But he made up for that by seeking out places and occupations that hadn’t yet yielded to civilized behavior.

After working in the cattle business in North Texas as a young man, he moved down to the Valley and entered law enforcement as a deputy sheriff in Brownsville. Uncle Charlie’s reminiscences of those days are mostly about various gunfights in which he and his fellow lawmen participated.

Uncle Charlie enlisted in the Army during World War I and returned to law enforcement after the war. In 1926, he became an agent of the fledgling Bureau of Investigation (now known as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or FBI).

The early Depression era saw the rise of gangsters and desperados with descriptive names like “Pretty Boy” Floyd, “Baby Face” Nelson and “Machine Gun” Kelly. Uncle Charlie got to know them well because he chased them all over the map.

Uncle Charlie spent a whole lot of time chasing Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow in the East Texas oil patch. He almost caught up with them a couple of times; once in Gilmer he believed he’d found one of their recently stolen cars still warm, but they escaped. As he used to put it: “I wasn’t the only one that didn’t find them.”

In spring 1934, Uncle Charlie was told to get on a plane and report to the FBI’s Chicago field office. Dillinger and his gang were robbing banks, breaking people out of prison and embarrassing law enforcement officials as they became renegade Robin Hoods for a broke and bank-hating America.

Uncle Charlie arrived in Chicago wearing a cowboy hat and a gabardine suit. The other agents nicknamed him “Cowboy.”

The FBI force in those days included lawyers and accountants. Very few agents were experts with firearms. The Texas agents, my great-uncle among them, were an exception. The Texas contingent became a latter-day SWAT team whenever a gun battle with outlaws was expected.

On July 22, 1934, outside the Biograph Theater in Chicago, one was expected.

A tip from the famous “Lady in Red” had Dillinger going to a movie with a couple of his lady friends that night. Uncle Charlie spotted him right away. The agents had been instructed to take Dillinger “alive if possible,” but Dillinger sensed their presence and went for his gun. According to an FBI account, three of five shots fired by three agents hit Dillinger; some reports credit Winstead with firing the fatal shot. As Uncle Charlie would say in later years, “I didn’t read him his rights.”

If you saw “Public Enemies,” you probably remember the scene where Uncle Charlie kneels down and listens to Dillinger’s last words—a heartfelt and sentimental message to his lady love.

I don’t want to disillusion you or spoil the movie, but while Uncle Charlie did lean over Dillinger to hear him mumble something, he apparently couldn’t understand what the dying gunman said.

If all this had happened in the modern era, Uncle Charlie would be on all the late-night TV talk shows and have a book deal. Things were different then. The FBI didn’t want to name specific agents. The only FBI men really in the public eye were agent Melvin Purvis and Director J. Edgar Hoover. Even though these two privately congratulated Uncle Charlie for being one of the men who brought Dillinger to justice, he never took much public credit until decades later.

During the time of so-called “public enemy” criminals, Uncle Charlie also was in on the capture of Alvin “Creepy” Karpis and was on the team that cornered the infamous Ma Barker gang and shot Ma and her son Freddie.

In the early days of World War II, Uncle Charlie, then stationed in Albuquerque, New Mexico, gave an interview to a newspaper reporter in which he talked about communism. (He didn’t like it.) He was ordered to apologize by Hoover for criticizing our Russian allies in time of war. Uncle Charlie told Hoover to “go to hell.”

That effectively ended his career with the FBI. Soon thereafter, the Army asked him to accept a commission and become chief of security for a new top-secret military project in Los Alamos, New Mexico. My great-uncle was one of the first Americans to learn about the atomic bomb. Then he spent the rest of the war suppressing all knowledge of it.

After the war, Charlie Winstead stayed in Albuquerque and acquired enough land to start his own ranch.

My mother still has the letter from Hoover congratulating Uncle Charlie for his “fearlessness and courageous action” in the Dillinger episode. He got interviewed a few times when some reporter would figure out that the gentlemen rancher had a colorful past, but he never bragged about his exploits. He usually quoted his favorite bromide: “Dillinger came out of the theater and died of lead poisoning.”

Charles Winstead died in 1973 at the ripe old age of 82, living the cowboy life he had always wanted.



© BETTMANN/CORBIS

John Dillinger, notorious criminal, shortly before he was killed. He posed with a pistol in one hand and a submachine gun in the other.

Marco Perella has written for Texas Co-op Power about performing with Wishbone the dog and taking a teenager through a haunted house, among other essays.

I Love B&Bs

*Stay in someone's
house for a
mini-adventure.*

BY KAYE NORTHCOTT

O

ne of the advantages of having been at Texas Co-op Power magazine for a decade is having a perfectly good excuse for staying in bed-and-breakfasts. Although it may cost a little more than a chain motel, I love the possibility of meeting interesting new people, seeing a unique home and getting tips on what to see in the area. Some people don't recognize the wonders of their region, but B&B hosts are usually knowledgeable.

Thanks to the B&B proprietors outside of Kountze who directed me to The Cottage Restaurant, a hamburger joint on Old Evadale Road outside the Big Thicket. The magazine staff was researching hamburgers for an article we never completed because Texas Monthly did a great one, and we just couldn't compete. Still, we ate a lot of hamburgers, including old-fashioned examples at The Cottage. It was a "Cheers" kind of place where everybody knows your name soon enough, even if you're a newcomer. With only five tables or so, the place lends itself to intimacy. Most of the lunch crowd were retired loggers and their spouses. Many could recall the era when mules hauled timber out of the forest. Mules, they said, are a lot smarter than trucks. We caught up on everybody's health and all the latest gossip.

Most of the places I have stayed are excellently preserved vintage homes—from Victorian mansions in downtown Nacogdoches to a 1925 prairie mansion in Lubbock to the venerable family home in Livingston with its original wooden shutters and gazillion-thread-count linens.

Some are first-generation family homes where Mom and Pop rent out the adult kids' rooms. You haven't gotten the full beauty queen experience until you've stayed in a perfectly preserved room with the daughter's crowns carefully preserved on display.

In addition to homes that have been in the family a long while and those with new owners, the establishments can be categorized by the owners' passions. Antique shopping is at the top of the list. Owners can buy furniture at auction and, I presume, some can write off their treasures as business expenses. Then there are the people who concentrate their most creative efforts on floral arrangements and beautiful window treatments. The most unusual wall hanging I ever saw was in Weatherford—a genuine pair of Muhammad Ali's boxing shorts was preserved behind glass. I like the B&Bs that claim to have a ghost, but, alas, I've never encountered one. The only kind of B&B I try to avoid is one with too many porcelain figurines and doilies. I just know I'm going to break or spill something.

There are bed-and-breakfasts on farms and ranches. A couple in Tolar offers accommodations at cabins sprinkled among their vintage windmill collection. (This article is not providing the names of specific businesses because they might



be gone by now or have changed ownership. Besides, there are B&B guides on the Internet for every part of the state, so you can research your own.)

Wherever birding is big, you'll find bird-and-breakfasts, frequently with owner/guides to arrange tours for you. I visited a cushy one near Brownsville that offered several mini-habitats on the property. Or a really lazy birder such as myself could stake out a good spot on the second-floor balcony on a chaise lounge and let the birds come to visit.

Most important to me, of course, is breakfast! B&Bs are an excuse to forget your cares and woes about cholesterol and tuck in. As a representative of the magazine, I have to eat everything for reportorial accuracy. Ask about the breakfast when you're booking a room. Don't settle for a place that offers only yogurt, cereal and bagels unless you are very virtuous.

The best B&Bs serve breakfast in the dining room on good china and linen. The smells of breakfast waft through from the adjacent kitchen, and you can have as many helpings as you want. Fruit cups, fresh-squeezed orange juice, mimosas, broiled tomatoes, bacon, sausage, eggs, frittatas, cornbread, flapjacks, muffins, biscuits, grits, fried potatoes or some combination thereof might be on the table. Depending on the region, you may get a local jelly made from mustang grapes or peaches or peppers. The best breakfast I ever had at a B&B was in Bowie.

I want to offer a tip of the hat to places with:

- Claw-footed bathtubs, scented candles and sweet-smelling soaps
- Wrap-around porches and rocking chairs
- Big trees
- Books and brochures about area attractions
- Interesting hosts who will visit with you when you want them to but get the drift if you haven't had your coffee yet.

I've seen mayhaws being harvested and petted newborn goats. There's a whole buffalo herd at one B&B I visited, and another has paint horses, swans and axis deer. One of my colleagues encountered an albino peacock. You just never know quite what you're going to find. That's the joy of it!

Kaye Northcott has recently retired as editor of Texas Co-op Power.

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The Mollie Bailey Circus

BY MARTHA DEERING

“Aunt Mollie” Bailey stood at the entrance of the circus tent before each performance to welcome her guests to the Mollie A. Bailey Show. Diamonds sparkled on each of her fingers. A round little woman with a poufy hairstyle, small waist and magnificent clothes, Mollie possessed enough talent to fill a big top. She sang, she danced, she played the piano, and she managed every aspect of her circus down to the smallest detail. Mollie’s soft heart tempered her strong, independent personality. All Civil War veterans got in free. So did children whose families could not afford the price of a ticket.

Born in 1844, according to most sources, on a large southern plantation in Alabama, Mollie Arline Kirkland defied her wealthy parents when she married Gus Bailey, a bandleader and talented musician, whose father owned a circus. Gus Bailey captured Mollie’s heart when she was just 14. The lure of his red hair and romantic lifestyle were too much for Mollie to resist. When she married Gus, her enraged father disowned her and never spoke to her again.

Circus life suited Mollie, and the couple soon set out on their own as the Bailey Family Troupe, putting on plays and musicals. But the Civil War intervened, and Gus enlisted in the Confederate Army in 1861. In 1862, he was assigned to a regiment in Hood’s Texas Brigade. There, he directed the band and performed with a group called Hood’s Minstrels between battles.

Unwilling to be left behind, Mollie went along to serve as a nurse in the field hospital. She entertained the troops, cooked hot meals and tended wounds. Much to the amazement of Gen. John Bell Hood, Mollie once dressed as an old woman, painted lines on her face with makeup, and, summoning all her acting skills, hobbled through the enemy camp leaning on a cane and selling cookies. The soldiers hardly noticed her as she picked up bits of vital information to pass along to the Confederates.

News that her husband’s regiment was desperately in need of medicine prompted Mollie to take on still another role to aid the South. She asked army surgeons to pack medicine into small packets that she hid in her intricate, curled pompadour hairstyle. Successfully passing through

the Union lines, she made her way alone to deliver the medicine to suffering Confederate soldiers.

Like nearly everyone in the South, the Baileys were destitute at the end of the Civil War. In 1867, they rented a boat and performed up and down the Mississippi River, but Mollie lived in constant fear that one of her three children would fall overboard and drown. Trading the boat to a farmer for a wagon and a team of mules, the Bailey Family Troupe hit the road again. Business blossomed, and more Bailey children arrived, eventually reaching a total of nine. As they grew older, the children took their own roles in the show.

In 1879, the Baileys billed their circus as “A Texas Show for Texas People” and made the Lone Star State their home.

During the last half of the 19th century, the arrival of what had become known as the Mollie A. Bailey Show brought rare excitement to small towns. As the years passed, the circus grew to include 31 wagons and about 200 animals. Nearly all the performers were members of Mollie’s family, and each played many roles in the performances. Many of the circus animals walked from one town to the next following the wagons. When an elephant broke through the rickety bridge over the San Jacinto River near Willis, the whole town turned out to offer advice on how to get him back on his feet.

Mollie managed all circus details after Gus’ death in 1896,

but when she fell and broke her hip in 1918, none of her children had developed the organizational skills needed to keep the circus going. The broken hip refused to heal, and Mollie Bailey died in Houston a few months later. Within two years, the circus folded.

The popularity of the Mollie A. Bailey Show in small towns throughout the South is reflected in these lines from a poem by Frank W. Ford:

*“It was cotton-picking time
down in Texas*

*And the leaves of all the trees a
golden brown.*

*The children and the old folk all
were happy*

*For The Mollie Bailey Show had
come to town.”*

Martha Deeringer is a frequent contributor to Texas Co-op Power.



Chill Out on a Hot Day

BY KEVIN HARGIS Who doesn't love a cool treat on a hot summer day?

When the sun blazes outside, one of the best ways to keep your cool is to enjoy delicious food served cold. Not only does eating a chilled supper make you personally feel not as hot, but keeping the stove and oven turned off will help your home stay more comfortable, too.

I'm sure you have noticed how warm the kitchen gets when you use the oven to bake a meal. That warm air does not just stay in the kitchen. It heats up the air in the rest of your house and makes it that much harder for your air system to keep up.

If you are like me, you take every opportunity to save on your energy bills. In the summer, I try not to use the stove or oven if I can. One good alternative is using a microwave, which cooks food using about a third of the energy, but that still releases some heat into the room. Not cooking at all is an even better alternative.

So, which foods don't need to be cooked? Salads come naturally to mind. And in the summer, there's such a variety of fresh produce that you could make a different salad every day, if you were so inclined. And having a salad doesn't have to mean adhering to a vegetarian regime.

Here are some easy ideas:

- The next time you have a cookout, grill some extra chicken or steak. Then, top a Caesar salad with the leftover grilled meat and a handful of sliced almonds.
- Make a chef's salad by topping lettuce, tomatoes, shredded carrots and cucumbers with cold cuts, chunks of cheese and a creamy dressing.
- Add crunch to premade cold seafood salad by combining it with coleslaw mix in a rolled-up tortilla.
- Stuff a pita pocket with hummus, black olives, sunflower seeds and cherry tomatoes for a Mediterranean-inspired treat. (See homemade hummus recipe on page 29.)

Here is an Italian-style salad from a new cookbook by Tom Valenti called *You Don't Have to be Diabetic to Love This Cookbook* (Workman Publishing Company, 2009). It is full of recipes that, as the title suggests, are geared toward people with diabetes who must watch their intake of carbohydrates, fats and salt.

ANTIPASTO SALAD WITH A CHERRY PEPPER VINAIGRETTE

- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespoons seeded, chopped hot cherry peppers (2-3 peppers) from jar
- 2 tablespoons plus 2 teaspoons red wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 1 tablespoon grated Parmesan cheese
- Pinch freshly ground black pepper
- 8 cups crisp salad greens, such as escarole, romaine lettuce or frisée lettuce
- 1/4 pound fresh mozzarella (salt-free or low-salt aged, if fresh not available), cut into half-inch cubes
- 2 ounces sweet or hot soppressata (a type of Italian salami) or substitute hard salami, cut into thin strips
- 4-6 black olives, pitted and coarsely chopped
- 2 jarred roasted red bell peppers (about 1 cup), sliced in thin strips
- 1/4 cup chopped red onion

To make vinaigrette, combine olive oil, chopped cherry peppers with some liquid from jar, vinegar, parsley, Parmesan and black pepper in bowl and whisk. In salad bowl, combine greens, mozzarella, salami, olives, red bell pepper and onion. Drizzle vinaigrette on top and toss to coat well. Divide salad among four plates, making sure each serving has equal amount of the different ingredients, and serve.

Servings: 4. Serving size: about 2 1/2 cups. Per serving: 325 calories, 12.6 g protein, 25.8 g fat, 9.9 g carbohydrates, 630 mg sodium, 35 mg cholesterol.

LEMON GRANITA

Valenti's cookbook also has an easy-to-make, low-sugar, low-calorie dessert that's sure to bring your temperature down. The final consistency of these icy creations is somewhat like a fluffy snow cone. The lemon version is on the tart side; watermelon is a little sweeter. You could add a quarter cup of lime juice to give that one a more sweet-tart flavor.

- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1 cup freshly squeezed lemon juice (about 4 large lemons)



Lemon Granita

KLAUS ARRAS—STOCKFOOD MUNICH/STOCKFOOD

$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon freshly grated lemon zest
Put sugar and 2 cups water in clean jar with tight-fitting lid. Shake vigorously until sugar dissolves. (Alternately, put sugar and water in saucepan and bring to boil, whisking to dissolve sugar. Let sugar water cool completely.)

Stir lemon juice and zest into sugar water. Pour into 13-by-9-inch baking dish and freeze at least four hours. Scrape mixture every 45 minutes or so with a fork, breaking up any chunks of ice forming at the edges of the pan, until liquid forms crystals. Spoon into small glasses or bowls, garnish with lemon or lime peel, fresh mint or berries and serve.

Servings: 8. Serving size: about $\frac{1}{2}$ cup. Per serving: 39 calories, 0.1 g protein, 11 g carbohydrates, trace mg sodium.

VARIATION

Watermelon Granita: Cut sugar to 3 tablespoons and use 2 cups pureed seedless watermelon instead of lemon juice. Add $\frac{1}{4}$ cup fresh lemon or lime juice with zest if desired. Follow directions as above.

HUMMUS

Tahini, a sesame paste, is an essential part of the flavor of this spread, which is great as a snack on crackers, pita chips or as part of a sandwich. You can buy it already prepared, but by making it yourself, you can flavor it to your tastes.

- 1 can (15 ounces) garbanzo beans, reserve liquid
- 2 tablespoons tahini
- 2-3 cloves garlic, crushed
- Juice of 1 large lemon (2-3 tablespoons)
- Olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

Combine garbanzos plus about a quarter cup of liquid from can with tahini, garlic, lemon juice and about 2 tablespoons of olive oil in blender or food processor. Blend until smooth, then taste and add salt and pepper. Continue blending and add more lemon juice or olive oil (depending on your taste) until medium-thick paste forms.

Servings: 8. Serving size: slightly less than $\frac{1}{2}$ cup. Per serving: 156 calories, 3.7 g protein, 9 g fat, 15.2 g carbohydrates, 183 mg sodium, trace cholesterol.



LEE VANDAVEER, *Wood County Electric Cooperative*

Prize-winning recipe: **Summer Ceviche**

You don't have to flip on a burner or the microwave for these recipes suitable for a cool summer supper.

Look for the freshest seafood you can find for the winning recipe, Summer Ceviche, because the fresher the seafood, the better this traditional Mexican-style version of the Latin American dish will taste. The lime juice in the marinade tenderizes the chunks of shrimp and fish and adds a tang to a cool dish that tastes great on tostada chips.

One note of caution: If you are pregnant or have a compromised immune system, you should probably avoid uncooked foods such as ceviche and sushi.



SUMMER CEVICHE

- 1 pound shrimp, peeled and tailed (or mix $\frac{1}{2}$ pound shrimp and $\frac{1}{2}$ pound scallops)
- 1 pound raw firm white ocean fish, like tilapia
- 1 cup fresh lime juice
- 4 serrano peppers, minced (omit seeds for less heat)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup red onion, diced fine
- 4 tablespoons chopped cilantro
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 cup tomato concasse (blanched tomatoes, peeled, de-seeded, chopped fine)
- 2 teaspoons minced garlic
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon cayenne pepper
- Salt and pepper to taste

Chop shrimp/scallops and fish into approximately half-inch pieces, making sure all pieces are same size. Put fish and shrimp/scallops in a large sealable plastic bag with the lime juice. Seal and marinate in refrigerator, turning bag occasionally, for 4 hours. The fish will turn opaque and become firm.

In a nonreactive bowl (glass, ceramic or stainless steel), toss fish mixture with remaining ingredients. Return to refrigerator for 10-15 minutes or until thoroughly chilled. Taste and adjust salt and pepper before serving.

Servings: 8. Serving size: $\frac{1}{2}$ cup. Per serving: 171 calories, 23.7 g protein, 5.1 g fat, 7.9 g carbohydrates, 186 mg sodium, 114 mg cholesterol

COOK'S TIP: For an elegant presentation, serve on chilled plates or in parfait glasses with avocado slices and extra wedges of lime.

TEXAS SUMMER SALAD

- 1 head romaine lettuce, cored and then sliced into bite-size pieces
 - 1 can black beans, drained
 - 1 can corn, drained
 - 2 tomatoes, chopped
 - 3 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
 - 2 green onions, sliced
 - $\frac{3}{4}$ cup Cheddar cheese, shredded
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ cup pickled jalapeños, sliced
 - 1 cup cubed canned chicken
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ cup ranch dressing
 - 1 cup slightly crushed tortilla chips
- Place romaine in large serving bowl. In a separate bowl, mix together the black beans, corn, tomatoes, garlic and green onions. Add to lettuce, tossing lightly to mix. Add Cheddar, jalapeños and chicken to top of salad mixture. Add dressing and tortilla chips to individual servings of salad.

Servings: 4. Serving size: 3 cups. Per serving: 641 calories, 31.5 g protein, 22.1 g fat, 72.9 g carbohydrates, 1,041 mg sodium, 48 mg cholesterol

VICKIE WILSON

Pedernales Electric Cooperative

SOUTHWEST BEAN AND SHRIMP SALAD

- 1 can (15 ounces) Ranch Style Beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can (15 ounces) garbanzo beans, drained and rinsed
- 2 ribs celery, diced
- 1 medium red onion, diced
- 2 medium tomatoes, diced

RECIPE ROUNDUP

RECIPE CONTEST

Want a chance to win \$100? Enter October's recipe contest. The topic is Spooky Treats. Do you make spook-tacular goodies for children or killer hors d'oeuvres, food or beverages for Halloween parties? Then send us your recipes. The deadline is June 10.

Send recipes to Recipe Roundup, 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701. You may also fax them to (512) 763-3408, e-mail them to recipes@texas-ec.org, or submit online at www.texascooppower.com. Please include your name, address and phone number, as well as the name of your electric co-op. The top winner will receive \$100, a copy of 60 Years of Home Cooking and a Texas-shaped trivet. Runners-up will also receive a prize.

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- 1½ cups frozen whole-kernel corn, thawed
- 1 pound frozen cooked shrimp, thawed
- 1 cup black olives, sliced, optional
- Dressing
- Corn or tortilla chips

In large bowl, combine beans, celery, onion, tomatoes, corn, shrimp and olives. Pour dressing over all and toss to coat. Cover and chill 2½ to 3 hours. Serve with chips.

DRESSING

- 1 cup chunky salsa
- ¼ cup canola oil
- ½ cup lime juice
- 1½ teaspoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon cumin
- ½ teaspoon chipotle powder (optional)

Combine all ingredients in small bowl and whisk well.

Servings: 8. Serving size: 2 cups. Per serving: 287 calories, 18.6 g protein, 9.9 g fat, 32.4 g carbohydrates, 1,218 mg sodium, 110 mg cholesterol

KATHRYN HILL

Cooke County Electric Cooperative

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Winners will be featured in our December 2010 issue.

Each entry **MUST** include your name, address and phone number, plus the name of your Texas electric cooperative, or it will be disqualified. Send entries to: Texas Co-op Power/Holiday Recipe Contest, 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701. You can fax recipes to (512) 763-3408 or e-mail them to recipes@texas-ec.org. E-mails must include "Holiday Recipe Contest" in the subject line and contain only one recipe (no attachments). Up to three entries are allowed per person/co-op member. Each should be submitted on a separate piece of paper if mailed or faxed. Mailed entries can all be in one envelope. For official rules, visit www.texascooppower.com.

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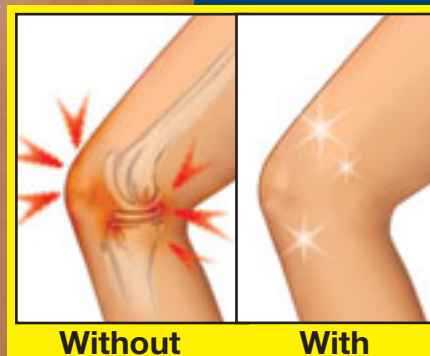
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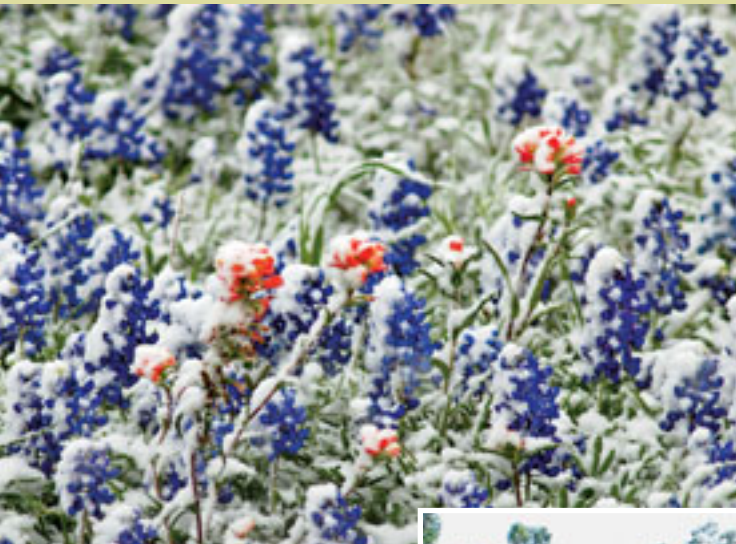
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—ASHLEY CLARY

◀ Only in Texas can it be 85 degrees one day and snowing the next: **Kay Griffith** just had to stop and photograph these snow-covered bluebonnets on her way through the Hill Country. Her daughter, **Molly Griffith**, is a member of CoServ Electric.

► Only in Texas will you find a cactus planter as unique as this one: Hamilton County Electric Cooperative member **Rita Berry** found this oddity near Burnet.

▼ Only in Texas will you find a mockingbird perched on a mailbox featuring the Texas flag: Pedernales Electric Cooperative member **Rosemary Galloway** shared this spontaneous homage to the Lone Star State.



► Only in Texas can you become friends with an endangered horny toad while jumping on a trampoline: Big Country Electric Cooperative member **Terry DeVille** took this shot of grandson **Logan Kyle Mangold**, whose bouncing so surprised the little lizard that he came out of hiding from under the tarp.

▼ Only in Texas can you drive through a Dairy Queen on a mule: **Randi Rogers** and Tebitze enjoy a cool treat at the DQ in Comanche. Randi's mother, **Dixie Mayer**, is a member of Comanche Electric Cooperative.



Upcoming in Focus on Texas

ISSUE	SUBJECT	DEADLINE
Aug	Birds	Jun 10
Sep	At the Fair	Jul 10
Oct	Eeeek!	Aug 10
Nov	Fall Leaves	Sep 10
Dec	Curious Cats	Oct 10
Jan	Man's Best Friend	Nov 10

BIRDS is the topic for our **AUGUST 2010** issue. Send your photo—along with your name, address, daytime phone, co-op affiliation and a brief description—to Birds, Focus on Texas, 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701, before **JUNE 10**. 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. Please note that we cannot provide individual critiques of submitted photos. If you use a digital camera, e-mail your highest-resolution images to focus@texas-ec.org, or submit them on our website at www.texascooppower.com.



AROUND TEXAS AROUND TEXAS

This is just a sampling of the events and festivals around and about Texas. For the complete listing, please visit www.texascooppower.com

PICK OF THE MONTH

JUNE 5

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JUNE

02 SHERMAN [2-5]
Melody Ranch Bluegrass Festival, (903) 546-6893,
www.melodyranchbluegrassfestival.com

03 CLIFTON [3-5]
Central Texas Fair & Rodeo, (254) 253-0725

04 DENTON [4-5]
Dog Days of Denton Celebration, (940) 365-3063,
www.dogdaysdenton.com

GONZALES [4, 11, 18, 25]
Summer Concert Series, (830) 672-2815,
www.cityofgonzales.org/mainstreet

05 FREDERICKSBURG
Masonic Open Car Show, (830) 634-2698

05 JACKSBORO
Pioneer Day, (940) 567-5410,
www.jackcountymuseum.com

POST
Old Mill Trading Day Downtown, (806) 495-3461,
www.postcitytexas.com

WINNSBORO
Music Festival, (903) 342-2630

PORT ARTHUR [5-6]
Lotus Garden & Bamboo Festival, (409) 960-8370

06 FLATONIA
Sacred Heart Catholic Parish Spring Picnic, (361) 865-3568

08 SNYDER [8-12]
West Texas Western Swing Festival, (325) 573-3558,
www.snyderchamber.org

11

CAMERON
Milam County Nature Festival



10

SAN SABA
County Team Roping, (325) 372-5141

11

CAMERON [11-12]
Milam County Nature Festival, (512) 455-2680

NACOGDOCHES [11-12]
Blueberry Festival of Quilts Show, (936) 560-4997

SEGUIN [11-12]
Fiestas Juan Seguin, 1-800-580-7322,
www.visitseguin.com

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AROUND TEXAS AROUND TEXAS

11 ARANSAS PASS [11-13]
Shrimporee, (361) 758-2750, www.aransaspass.org/shrimporee.cfm

12 CANTON
Children's Advocacy Center Walk-a-Thon, (903) 567-2991

EAST BERNARD
Czech Kolache Klobase Festival, (979) 335-7907, www.kkfest.com

JACKSONVILLE
Tomato Fest, (903) 586-2217, www.jacksonvilletexas.com



18

LINDEN
T-Bone Walker Blues Fest

12 KOUNTZE
Blueberry Festival, (409) 246-3413, www.kountzechamber.com

NAPLES
Tractor Pull, (903) 897-5470, www.lcata.com

PAMPA
Cookin' on the Bricks BBQ Cook-Off, (806) 669-3241, www.pampachamber.com

17 STONEWALL [17-19]
Peach JAMboree & Rodeo, (830) 998-2021

18 LINDEN [18-19]
T-Bone Walker Blues Fest, (903) 756-7774

20 BOWIE [20-26]
Jim Bowie Days Rodeo, Festival & Parade, 1-866-872-1173, www.jimbowedays.com

26 BANDERA
Riverfest, (830) 796-4447, www.banderariverfest.com

LOTT [26-27]
BBQ Cook-Off & Auction, (254) 721-2952

27 PLUM
Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Church Festival, (979) 242-3187

30 FREEPORT [30-7/4]
Fishin' Fiesta, (979) 233-1047, www.freeportlions.com

JULY

04 INDEPENDENCE
Celebrating Independence in Independence, Texas, (979) 830-3461



4

INDEPENDENCE
Celebrating Independence in Independence, Texas

04 ROSENBERG
Family 4th Celebration, (832) 595-3520, www.rosenbergevents.com

Event information can be mailed to **Around Texas**, 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701, faxed to (512) 763-3407, e-mailed to aroundtx@texas-ec.org, or submitted on our website at www.texascooppower.com. Please submit events for August by June 10.

Lake Whitney

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The first thing I usually do when staying in a strange city is take a driving tour, and I'm certainly thrilled that I did so in Victoria, northeast of Corpus Christi.

The decision to first go through downtown proved to be an excellent choice. It was absolutely charming. The scenery was delightful. I knew Victoria had a lot of history, but wow! The charm of the old, colorful storefronts and plazas drew me in. Lunch at the **ROSEBUD FOUNTAIN & GRILL** was a trip back in time. There aren't many places where you can dine in a 1940s-era soda fountain. After a burger and milkshake, my car led me to street signs with arrows pointing out a **HISTORIC HOME TOUR**. I couldn't resist.

The houses on the tour transported me back to plantation days. These old mansions, many of which are Texas Historic Landmarks, have stupendous columns, porches and balconies, giant weeping willows, towering elm, oak and pecan trees and quaint gazebos. Many have been expertly restored—some complete with modern conveniences—and a few have been left to the mercy of time. These old, romantic homes look like any horror flick's dream house: beautifully aged and timeworn, hinting of a once-thriving and light-filled existence and now left to a dark, mysterious and empty fate.

The tour led me to **RIVERSIDE PARK** on the northeast side of town, a gorgeous tree-filled, 562-acre area skirted by the Guadalupe River. One of 12 parks within the city's limits, Riverside hosts 27 holes of public golf, a rose garden, an exercise trail, a duck pond, a disc golf course and **THE TEXAS ZOO**.

The Texas Zoo, established in 1976, is still growing, and the collection includes animals indigenous to Texas and exotic wildlife. In 1984, the Texas Legislature proclaimed it the National Zoo of Texas. I saw spider monkeys, prairie dogs, macaws, Roseate Spoonbills, alligators, coatis, lemurs, goats and foxes. My

ALLURING VICTORIA

Historic homes take you away.

BY ASHLEY CLARY



stomach dropped to the soles of my feet and I trembled when one of the tigers, who I was later told by one of the zoologists does not like crowds, charged what suddenly seemed to be a flimsy fence and let out a mighty roar.

I was lucky enough to be in town on one of the **VICTORIA MARKET DAYS**, a once-a-month event that falls on the third Saturdays of October through December and March through May. I perused jewelry, crafts, wood and ironwork, candles and food from local and nearby vendors.

Wanting to know more about the history of the area, I made my way to the **MUSEUM OF THE COASTAL BEND** on the Victoria College campus. Closed on Mondays, the museum's mission is to enhance the appreciation and enjoyment of the region's heritage. As part of

the La Salle Odyssey Project, it is one of seven Gulf Coast museums that help tell the story of the French explorer's travels in Texas.

The museum also presents the story of the first French settlement in Texas, Fort St. Louis, and is the repository for artifacts from an archaeological dig recently completed at the fort's site.

The Early Peoples of the Texas Coastal Bend exhibit details the Buckeye Knoll, a cemetery dating back to 5300 to 4200 B.C. that was unearthed in 2000 when improvements to the Victoria Barge Canal were being made. The cemetery reveals a relatively sophisticated and populous Early Archaic culture. It is believed that at least 200 people were interred there, making it one of only three known large mortuary sites in North America that date back 7,000 to 8,000 years.

The museum's special exhibit for 2009 was *Wings Over Victoria*, and I learned about Aloe Army Air Field and Foster Army Air Field, advanced flying schools opened near Victoria during World War II. The schools' military personnel were so well accepted into this cattle town that *Life* magazine published a story on the community's good relations. In fact, many of the military gents married local girls and remained in Victoria to raise their families.

The exhibit, which featured World War II uniforms and gear, including some Nazi memorabilia, is now gone. But be sure to check out the museum's special 2010 exhibit: *Victoria, Where Texas History Began*. Scheduled to be up through January 29, 2011, it tells the story of Victoria through artifacts, historical photographs, documents and maps.

The Texas Zoo, (361) 573-7681, www.texaszoo.org

Victoria Market Days, (361) 485-3200, www.victoriatx.org/parks/MarketDays09.asp

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Ashley Clary is field editor of Texas Co-op Power.



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