

LOCAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE EDITION

OCTOBER 2012

Water Feedback

Freedom Colonies

Making Sausage

TEXAS CO-OP POWER



DROP IN ANYTIME

Families, Old-Timers, Novices ... Pier Fishing Invites a Cast of Thousands

HERE'S TO THINGS THAT LAST.



Mueller metal roofs – and our commitment to customers – are built to last. Mueller metal panels are far more durable than traditional roofs, so you get enduring protection from wind, rain, hail and snow. And Mueller customer service has been unmatched for more than 75 years. That's how we've developed such lasting relationships with homeowners across the Southwest.

Visit our online
color selector tool
to choose your
color and
panel style.



www.muellerinc.com
877-2-MUELLER



FEATURES

More than Mail Small towns succeed in reversing a U.S. Postal Service plan to stem fiscal woes by closing down their post offices. By Joe Holley • Photos by Destry Jaimes **8**

Reel Fun This is everyman fishing—bring gear and bait and snacks and kids to claim a spot on one of the piers jutting into the Gulf. By Mike Leggett • Photos by Wyatt McSpadden **16**

Around Texas: Hundreds of rubber ducks set sail on the San Marcos river, racing for prizes on October 20. **40**

FAVORITES

33 Texas History

Freedom Colonies

By Clay Coppedge

35 Recipes

How the Sausage Gets Made

39 Focus on Texas

Oooops!

40 Around Texas

List of Local Events

42 Hit the Road

San Saba

By Charles Boisseau

ONLINE TexasCoopPower.com

Texas USA

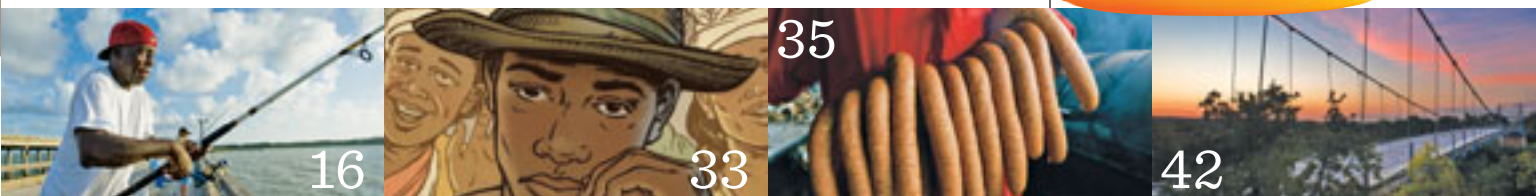
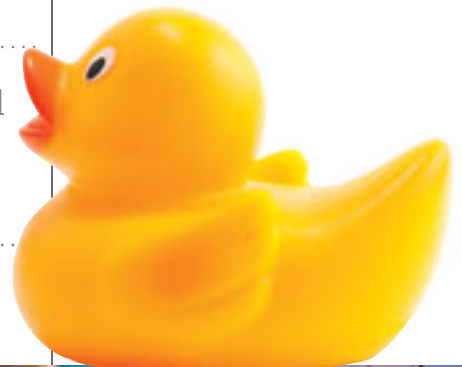
Scott Cummins' Funny Faces

By Sheryl Smith-Rodgers

Observations

Lip Service from an Editor

By Tom Widlowski

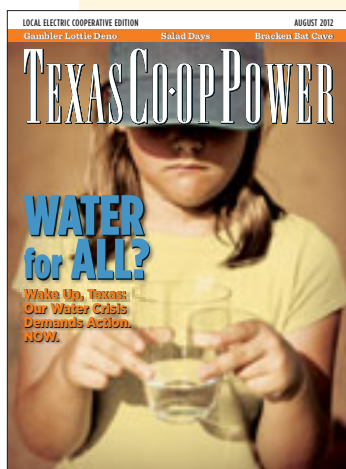


COVER PHOTO Angling angel Bree Lozano gets plenty of help from her parents, Jason and Julianna Lozano. By Wyatt McSpadden

TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Ron Hughes, Chair, Sinton; Darryl Schriver, Vice Chair, Merkel; Jerry Boze, Secretary-Treasurer, Kaufman; Debra Cole, Itasca; Kyle Kuntz, Livingston; Randy Mahannah, Perryton; Bobby Waid, Bandera **PRESIDENT/CEO:** Mike Williams, Austin **STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** William "Buff" Whitten, Chair, Eldorado; Bryan Lightfoot, Vice Chair, Bartlett; Stan McClendon, Wellington; Gary Nietzsche, La Grange; Anne Vaden, Argyle; Larry Warren, San Augustine; Blaine Warzecha, Victoria **COMMUNICATIONS STAFF:** Martin Bevins, Sales Director; Carol Moczygemba, Executive Editor; Tom Widlowski, Associate Editor; Suzi Sands, Art Director; Karen Nejtek, Production Manager; Ashley Clary-Carpenter, Field Editor; Andy Doughty, Production Designer/Web Content Manager; Sandra Forston, Communications Assistant; Suzanne Haberman, Staff Writer; Kevin Hargis, Food Editor; Ellen Stader, Proofreader

RUBBER DUCK © JO INGATE | BIGSTOCK.COM

Reader Feedback Flows in



“Water For All?” in the August issue elicited a higher-than-usual volume of mail. To share with our readers the gamut of opinions on this critical issue, we have added an extra page of letters. We thank all of you for your thoughtful responses.

CAROL MOCZYGMBA | EXECUTIVE EDITOR

About Our Water

I have been concerned for some time that water—its availability and quality—will become a serious economic and cultural problem in the near future for this country. In Texas it will be aggravated by the “rule of capture.” That law may make sense for commodities like oil and gas and minerals, but not for life-sustaining water.

Property rights, like the right-of-way on the road, must have commonsense limits—even in Texas.

I hope your articles and others like them will get citizens and the Legislature thinking about what is best for the future for all the people of this great state.

BOB SWANBECK | COSERV ELECTRIC

First, Andrew Sansom states that Texas law on groundwater is “unsustainable” and lobbies for agricultural users of groundwater to be willing to give it up to municipal users because the agricultural sector is “flat.” Then Joe Nick Patoski admits that the Texas rule of capture by landowners is well settled, even though he’d like to see it changed—again so the cities can get their mitts on our agricultural groundwater. Finally, there is a nice article about a Hill Country retiree building an elaborate system to capture and store for his own per-

sonal use up to 40,500 gallons of rainwater.

If “it’s all the same water,” then why is it considered OK to capture rainwater but not groundwater? After all, the aquifers holding the groundwater perform exactly the same function as the barrels holding the rainwater.

MIKE MABERRY | COOKE COUNTY ECA

Texas Co-op Power is one of my favorite magazines. My favorite feature is Texas History. But the August issue, with its focus on water in Texas, was exceptional. These articles were also disturbing. The headline of the lead article, “Water Is Life,” says it all. We take water for granted, but if we don’t have it, we can’t exist.

Something needs to be done about the availability of water in Texas, and it needs to be done through legislation. I wish that everyone in the Legislature could have the opportunity to read the August issue of Texas Co-op Power.

HENRY KAPLAN | GRAYSON-COLLIN EC

You publish four large articles on water in Texas and almost never touch the root cause of the problem. Finally on page 16, with one line, you state “Texas population projected to increase 82 percent by 2060.”

Who are you kidding? The population in my county is up 400 percent in the last 50 years! [Comal County’s population in 2010 according to the U.S. Census Bureau was 108,472; it was 19,844 in 1960.]

Until we, as a society, can find an acceptable way to moderate population growth, we will always be far behind the curve.

RICHARD METZ | PEDERNALES, KARNES
AND VICTORIA EC

The plan released by the Texas Water Development Board earlier this year should be a real eye-opener for all of us. We do not have the option, as the old saying goes, to wait until someone is killed at an intersection before a traffic light is installed.

I am familiar with Texas’ water needs, being a geologist who worked for the State of Texas for more than 30 years, 15 at the Texas Water Development Board. (I am no relation to Andrew Sansom, who wrote “Water Is Life.”)

Texans are going to have to change their ways over this crisis: conservation, desalination, creative water storage facilities, education on water use, intelligent irrigation procedures, changing the types of grass and plants we have in our yards to those that require less water, and state laws that make better sense than the current rule of capture. The Legislature is going to have to get serious and come up with groundwater laws.

JAMES W. SANSOM JR. | PEDERNALES EC

“It’s All the Same Water” was biased and way off. Your magazine needs to issue an apology and never use Joe Nick Patoski as a writer again.

MICHAEL SMART | HEART OF TEXAS EC

There was no mention of the enormous amounts of water being used for every gas/oil well drilling site. Do we keep putting our heads in

the sand and pretend it’s going to be OK to keep letting these companies destroy the land, steal the resources and make huge profits?

If Texas is serious about conserving water, then there needs to be a moratorium on drilling for oil and gas.

JIM WEATHERS | WISE EC

Thanks for your articles on water. It was a very eye-opening moment when I first started reading them. My family and I have always been aware of conserving this precious fluid. I always told my children: Use what you need but don’t waste it. As a nation, we need to take a serious look at how much is wasted. I hope that each household that receives Texas Co-op Power takes a look at how it can help.

BOBBYLENE MURPHY | SAM HOUSTON EC

This spring, the condensation drain on our central cooling unit clogged. When the house was built, it was connected to a drainpipe. I couldn’t get it clear, and we were on our way out of town for the day, so I took it loose at the unit and ran it to a 12-gallon tub with plastic tubing.

When we got back that evening, the tub was more than half-full. Now our condenser unit drain is connected to a 20-gallon tank. On a hot and humid day, the system produces up to 10 gallons of clean water that we use on our potted plants.

FRANK GRIFFIN | COMANCHE EC

More on Belugas

I enjoyed Eileen Mattei’s well-written piece on belugas [“The Language of Whales,” August], but there’s a downside to captivity for such intelligent and highly social animals, especially at commercial facilities.

Some argue that captive animals help educate people, but Naomi Rose, marine mammal scientist for the Humane Society of



the United States, counters that commercial facilities aren't in business to educate, and their research tends to focus on better husbandry of captive animals. Also, commercial facilities are designed to maximize the public's enjoyment, not the animals'. While conservation-oriented facilities attempt to provide animals with environments as close as possible to the wild—giving them, for example, the opportunity to hide—commercial facilities can't afford to, as paying customers expect to see the animals.

MELISSA M. GASKILL | AUSTIN

Lights on Guard

I have been a member of Bailey County Electric Co-op since 1953 (except for six years when we had to go work for wages because of the drought). Recently I had unwelcome "visitors" between the hours of 11 p.m. and 3 a.m. They told the sheriff's deputies that they were collecting snakes.

Because I did not want them to do it so close to my house in the middle of the night, I asked the co-op to install two security lights. The crew got right to work on the project and figured out how to accom-

Shedding Some Light

My family photo can add some history to the story of "Elizabeth Bacon Custer" [July], wife of Maj. Gen. George Armstrong Custer. In Austin in 1897, my grandmother, Sophie Karen Cooke, then 19, went to work at the Blind Institute near their home on Sabine Street. The institute is where the Custers had lived for over a year. In this 1897 photo, the eight ladies in black were teachers/nurses. My grandmother, an aide, is on the back row, far right. She was Danish, having come to Austin as a baby because her grandfather, Fred Jacobsen, was one of Austin's most noted blacksmiths. In 1898 she married and by 1900 had her first child. She was a housewife from then on but saved this photo from her "career" days.

The Blind Institute, renamed the Texas School for the Blind in 1916, is now a restored University of Texas building at the corner of Martin Luther King Boulevard and Interstate 35, and her home was where the Frank Erwin Center is now.

KAREN R. THOMPSON | PEDERNALES EC



COURTESY OF KAREN R. THOMPSON

plish this. The men were so courteous, coming to the door to inform me the electricity would be cut off and how long it would take. I want to commend them and thank them.

I hope this lighting will eliminate any future night visitors.

BETTY HARLAN | BAILEY COUNTY EC

Where's the Beef?

I grew up in Iowa, and I was eating Maid-Rites ["Recipe Roundup," July] before I could see over the counter. I'm 79 years old, and that's the first place I eat when I go back.

Maid-Rite is a franchise of diners specializing in ground beef sandwiches served on a square of wax paper. The red and white sand-



wich shops have been in business since 1926. If they filled their meat with all that filler, they wouldn't still be around.

JEANENE UPTON | WOOD COUNTY EC

GET MORE TCP AT TexasCoopPower.com

Find more letters online in the Table of Contents. 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.



**Find Us on
Facebook**

TEXAS CO-OP POWER VOLUME 69, NUMBER 4 (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 76 electric cooperatives. Texas Co-op Power's website is TexasCoopPower.com. Call (512) 454-0311 or email editor@TexasCoopPower.com. **SUBSCRIPTION PRICE** is \$3.96 per year for individual members of subscribing cooperatives. 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 Martin Bevins at (512) 486-6249. 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. Direct questions or comments about advertising to Martin Bevins, sales director.

© Copyright 2012 Texas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. Reproduction of this issue or any portion of it is expressly prohibited without written permission. Willie Wirehand © Copyright 2012 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.



Texas Electric Cooperatives
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF COOPERATIVES

DIG THIS



TRUE VALUE COMPANY

is one of the world's largest retailer-owned hardware store cooperatives, serving 54 countries with more than 5,000 stores, 12 regional distribution centers and 3,000 associates. Many True Value retailers enjoy a rich history spanning generations in their communities.

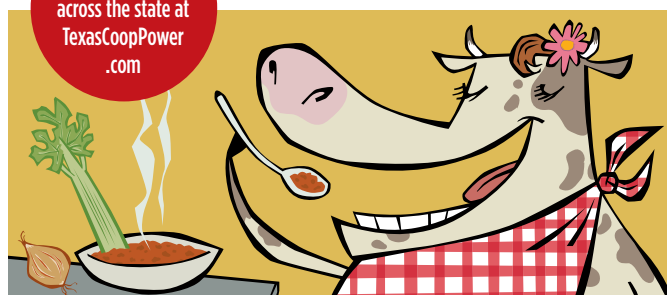
HAPPENINGS

Veg Out ... You Know, Chill

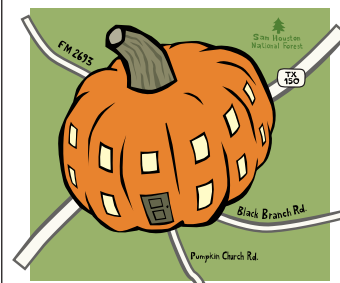
If you're still looking for the beef, it's not in Mount Pleasant. October is National Vegetarian Month, if you didn't know, and what better way to celebrate than taking a trip to Mount Pleasant for the Vegetarian & Vegan Chili Cook-Off, slated to spice things up October 21 at the Mount Pleasant Civic Center from 4 to 7 p.m. Five bucks gets you a bowl, a spoon and a napkin—so bring your appetite. Not a purist and like your chili dressed? Plenty of fixins' like onions, jalapeños, cornbread and crackers will be on hand. It's not all about the grub. This event is about making healthy choices. A free health screening and information about healthful eating will be available.

Find more happenings all across the state at TexasCoopPower.com

FOR INFO, CALL THE COOK-OFF'S HEAD HONCHOS: BEVERLY AT (903) 279-3089 OR GWYN AT (903) 639-1415.



WHO KNEW?



Texas is one of two states—Georgia is the other—with a town named Pumpkin. Pumpkin, Texas, is a small community about 10 miles west-southwest of Coldspring. There are 15 U.S. towns named Pumpkin Center and four Pumpkintowns, according to the Internet Accuracy Project. (We couldn't carve out enough time to visit each state ourselves.) Also, it is generally accepted that the city of Calabasas, California, gets its name from the Spanish word calabaza, meaning pumpkin, squash or gourd.

CO-OP PEOPLE

Power to the People

Jim Durnil helped bring the gift of light to 10 million

One-fifth of the world's population—1.5 billion people—live without electricity, making even the most mundane tasks a challenge. It's a situation the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's International program was designed to help remedy. But in 1997, the program was in financial difficulty and deemed ineligible for the federal grants needed to pursue its work.

Enter Jim Durnil. The certified public accountant and member of Cherokee County Electric Cooperative Association had experience troubleshooting for financially troubled corporations. NRECA International hired him to straighten the books. The effort was successful, and subsequently Durnil was hired to manage the program. During his seven-year tenure as president at NRECA International, electricity was provided to 10 million people who were living without.

For his efforts, Durnil received the NRECA International Award at the 2012 NRECA annual meeting in March. "I think the most rewarding experience was going to these areas when they lit the lights for the first time," Durnil said. "I was in Bolivia, and the chief of the village found out that I was instigating the electric program, and they wanted me to stay for two days and have a celebration. Through an interpreter, he told me that he's so happy that now his children can work during the day and study at night."

Co-op People ideas?

Send Co-op People ideas to editor@TexasCoopPower.com.



ASHLEY CLARY-CARPENTER | FIELD EDITOR



TOTALLY TEXAS

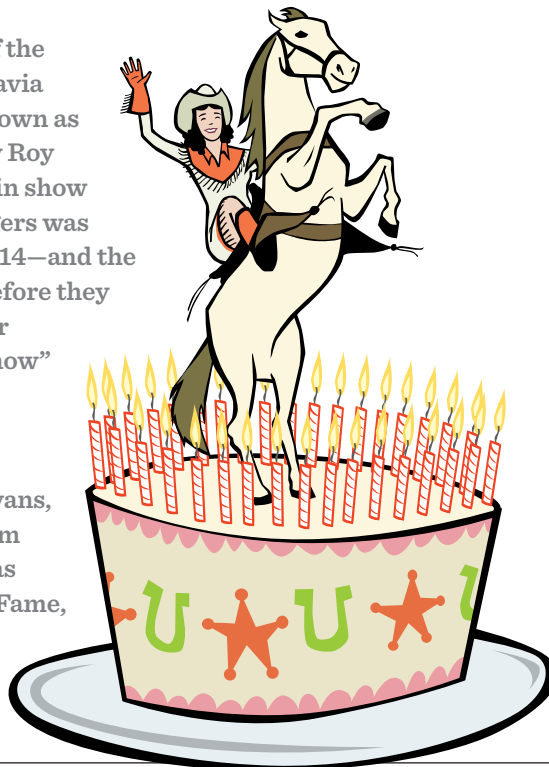
Road Killer?

You'll never see this guy belly-up on the shoulder. Killer the armadillo, the creation of welding artist Marc Rankin, weighs in at 4½ tons and measures more than 48 feet long. Killer and several other oversized sculptures hang out at Fall Creek Farms in Granbury, which makes for an uplifting experience for visitors, as it did for Maddie Crisp, 11, daughter of Fall Creek owner Cullen Crisp.

ON THIS DATE

Celebrating a Hall of Fame Cowgirl

October 31 is the 100th anniversary of the birth of Dale Evans, born Frances Octavia Smith in Uvalde. She might be best known as the wife and co-star of singing cowboy Roy Rogers, but she had a fledgling career in show business long before she met him. Rogers was Evans' fourth husband—she eloped at 14—and the two starred in four movies together before they married on New Year's Eve 1947. Their seven-year run on "The Roy Rogers Show" made them one of the most popular husband-and-wife teams in American entertainment history. She wrote the show's theme song, "Happy Trails." Evans, who is in the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame in Fort Worth and has three stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, died February 7, 2001. She is buried in Apple Valley, California.



Seeing the Light

Electric lighting was installed in the White House in 1891. President Benjamin Harrison and his wife refused to operate the switches because they feared being shocked and left the operation of the electric lights to domestic staff, according to William Seale's book *The President's House* (Harry N. Abrams, 1986). The Texas Governor's Mansion got electricity about nine years later, when Gov. Joseph D. Sayers was in office.

3,653 In 2011, the U.S. Postal Service targeted more than 3,000 post offices, mostly rural, for closure.

200 More than 200 of those were in Texas. Here and across the country, patrons of the targeted post offices objected.

13,000 In May, the agency amended its plan. Most of the post offices will stay open, but about 13,000 will have drastically reduced hours.



BY JOE HOLLEY • PHOTOS BY DESTRY JAIMES

Outcry from the Outposts

When faced with losing their post offices—
‘the lifeline of small rural towns’—locals in
places like Hye deliver





When the U.S. Postal Service announced last year that it would close thousands of mostly rural post offices around the country in an effort to stem the losses at the financially struggling agency, the result was passionate backlash. The folks in Hye were part of that pushback, insisting the post office was too valuable to the community of about 200—and not just because a little boy named Lyndon Johnson once mailed a letter there. Dorothy Beyer, above, Hye's postmistress since 1998, says her office is essentially the townspeople's chat room. 'They like to come in and find out if there's anything going on with their neighbors,' Beyer says. The Postal Service, facing a multibillion-dollar shortfall, relented and announced in May that it would keep many of the targeted post offices open, but with reduced hours. Beyer figures her office hours won't be changed until 2014.

MAGGIE, THE RESIDENT MOUSER AND barn swallow chaser at the historic Hye Post Office, disappeared for a couple of weeks not long ago. Where she went nobody knew, although some Hyelanders thought the resourceful tabby might have been visiting a bevy of brothers and sisters who live at a winery across the road or at the old dance hall, with its plentiful population of mice. Maybe she was scouting out a new residence, aware, somehow, that her familiar haunt was threatened.

"She had a lot to say when she came back," Hye postmistress Dorothy Beyer told me one Saturday morning in May. "She just meowed and meowed."

Beyer had a lot to say to Maggie, as well, and to the Hill Country folks who have relied on the post office for generations. She could tell them that the threat to close the Hye Post Office, along with nearly 4,000 other rural post offices around the country and more than 200 in Texas, had eased in the wake of wide-

spread protests. Despite desperate financial straits, the U.S. Postal Service had come up with a plan to keep the community mainstays open. For now.

As soon as I walked into the Hye Post Office, on U.S. 290 between Johnson City and Stonewall, I immediately was transported back to Bigfoot, Texas, in the mid-1950s. Visiting our grandmother in Bigfoot each summer, my brothers and I could have played for hours on the road in front of her Red & White grocery store, had we been allowed to, without worrying about traffic. Except for the sough of mourning doves in the majestic live oaks, the Frio County village was slow and quiet—until, that is, about 10 o'clock every weekday morning. That's when postmistress Lizzie Thomas got the mail up at the Bigfoot Post Office, directly across the road from the grocery store.

In my mind, it's a summer weekday morning, and my brothers, cousins and I, shirtless and in shorts, are dangling our bare feet off the grocery porch. Our mus-

tachioed Uncle Happy, in his yellow Ford pickup, pulls up across the road, gives us a wave and swings open the post office screen door. Austin Winters strolls in from his house up the road. We see a blue Chevy pickup, as I remember it, slowing down as it approaches; that's Clarence Thomas coming in from his peanut field, his blue work shirt already darkened with sweat. And there's Edie, our aunt, in her lime green Buick Century, on her way to Schott's Grocery in Devine after she checks the mail.

Inside the small, concrete-block building with its wooden floor and pressed-tin ceiling, they all greet Lizzie—Bigfoot's postmistress since 1913—check their individual boxes, and then with letters and bills and packages in hand stroll across the road to our grandmother's store. They buy a soft drink, sit for a spell on the red wooden benches lining the store's long porch or lean against one of the wooden columns and have a smoke. They visit with neighbors, catch up on



Some—like Porter Watson, right—come to the Hye post office for the usual: cards, letters, circulars, bills. Others without such concerns just reach for the treats. Some of the post office boxes in Hye have been in the same family for a century.



the news. For a little while, the post office has brought them together.

I loved those mornings, loved hearing the country voices telling stories, trading gossip, talking about the weather (“Hot enough for ya?”). I love those moments all the more these many years later, knowing that for me they are gone forever.

Fortunately, tiny Bigfoot still has its post office, and so does Hye, population about 200 and growing.

The first Hye Post Office opened in 1886 in young Hiram “Hye” Brown’s store south of the Pedernales River. The present white stone building, trimmed in red and green and featuring distinctive Bavarian metalwork, was constructed in 1904 and over the years has housed, along with the post office, a general store, a feed store and most recently an antiques shop.

Village founder Brown died in 1918, and his widow sold the store in 1923 to Fritz Deike (pronounced dike), best known for his sons’ baseball exploits. Nine sons of Fritz and Lina Deike formed a team that played town teams in Wimberley, Johnson City, Grapetown, Stonewall, Fredericksburg and other Hill Country burghs. “They were the only all-brother baseball team in the state,” said Levi Deike Jr., whose father served as the Hye postmaster for 62 years.

A plaque at the front door of the post

office notes that a 4-year-old Lyndon Johnson mailed his first letter at the Hye Post Office. Decades later, in 1965, President Lyndon Johnson swore in Postmaster General Lawrence F. O’Brien on the post office steps, and old clippings on the wall mark that day.

“This little community represents to me the earliest recollections of the America I knew when I was a little boy,” the president told the crowd that November day, occasionally pausing as cattle trucks and pickups zoomed by on 290. “It was a land of farms and ranches and people who depended on those farms and ranches for a living.”

Beyer shares that sentiment. Now 77 and postmistress since 1998, she grew up in nearby Willow City, graduated from high school in Fredericksburg and farmed and ranched with her husband until he died of cancer in 1989. With 50 head of sheep, a herd of goats and a passel of dogs, cats and guineas, she still farms and ranches.

She gets to the post office six mornings a week by about 6:30, hauls in bags of mail that have been dropped off from Austin and gets it sorted by 8, when it’s time to unlock the front door. She has been closing at 1:30 in the afternoon, but those hours eventually will change under the new Postal Service plan.

About 40 people a day drop by to pick

up their mail and, as in Bigfoot years ago, to linger awhile and visit. “They like to come in and find out if there’s anything going on with their neighbors, if their neighbors are OK, if there’s a death in the community. I spread that,” Beyer said.

Beyer and friends of the post office have brought in Hill Country postcards and souvenirs for the occasional visitor to buy and paperback books for an informal lending library. “They thought about putting in a couch with coffee and donuts,” Beyer said. “I said I didn’t really have time to even sweep the floor, so they put in a lending library instead.”

On the morning I visited, Beyer’s first customer was Ellen Felps, a longtime Hye resident who was on her way to help clean up the country schoolhouse at nearby Albert. Felps, who wore a T-shirt with the Hye ZIP code inscribed on the back, took over her grandfather’s century-old post office box when he died. A historic preservation enthusiast, she was one of the Hye residents who pushed back against the Postal Service plan to abandon the rural post offices.

Felps is well aware of the post office’s community function. “We visit a lot,” she said, sitting in an easy chair while her friend the postmistress pattered behind the counter. “Some people come in here, and we spend 30 or 40 minutes talking.”

No Contract. No Risk.* Great Value.

#1 RATED[†]
CELL-PHONE
—SERVICE—

Affordable cellular
service without a
binding contract.



PLANS FROM JUST \$10/MO Easy cell plans that'll save you money. We'll transfer your existing number for you and we'll even let you know when your minutes are almost up.

NO CONTRACTS. NO OBLIGATIONS.

Upgrade, change or cancel your plan at any time. You're in control.

WIDE SELECTION OF PHONES A great selection of phones from Motorola, Samsung and Doro. From user-friendly phones with big buttons and bright screens to smartphones, we have what you want including **FREE** activation.

100% RISK FREE GUARANTEE With our no obligation return policy you have nothing to lose.

AARP MEMBERS Ask for your special discounts when starting new service!

Available at **sears**

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR TODAY 888-285-3574
OR VISIT www.ConsumerCellular.com/3574

Consumer Cellular®

AARP® | Discounts

New service activation on approved credit. Cellular service is not available in all areas and is subject to system limitations. Phones are limited to stock on hand. Terms and Conditions subject to change. *If you're not satisfied within the first 30 days, 30 minutes, 30 text messages or 30MB of data use, whichever comes first, cancel and pay nothing, no questions asked.

†Visit www.ConsumerCellular.com for further details on our number one rating.

AARP member benefits are provided by third parties, not by AARP or its affiliates. Providers pay a royalty fee to AARP for the use of AARP's intellectual property. These fees are used for the general purposes of AARP. Provider offers are subject to change and may have restrictions. Please contact the provider directly for details.





Dorothy Beyer, 77, works from about 6:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., and customers like Levi Deike Jr., whose father was the Hye postmaster for 62 years, rely on that regularity.

When word came down from Washington in the summer of 2011 that the Hye Post Office was targeted for what the bureaucrats called “discontinuance,” they launched the “Save Hye Post Office” campaign, sponsored by the newly created Hye Preservation Society. The locals sponsored town-hall meetings, invited Postal Service representatives to speak to residents, wrote letters to lawmakers and circulated a petition that attracted more than 1,500 signatures.

Hye postal patron Lynette Smith expressed her indignation toward the Postal Service in a letter to the Johnson City Record-Courier. “My initial reaction was to go to Washington, D.C., and box someone’s ears in,” she wrote. “Lucky for you my calmer side surfaced and I decided that I would instead write a letter. However, I will not be nice, polite nor politically correct. WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?”

Post offices, Smith wrote, “are the life-line of small rural towns.”

In the spring of 2012, the Postal Service got the message from Smith and thousands of other post office patrons in towns and villages across the country. “We’ve listened to our customers in rural America, and we’ve heard them loud and clear,” said Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe. “They want to keep their post office open.”

The Hye Post Office will stay open but

with reduced retail window hours eventually; Beyer is not sure exactly when. Other rural post offices will become so-called village postal centers in convenience stores or other local businesses. (That could be a future arrangement for Hye, as well.)

It’s not ideal, said Beyer, who wore a bright-red U.S. Postal Service knit shirt as she waited on a stream of Saturday customers. She’s concerned that the reduced hours will be an inconvenience to post office patrons and that the village postal center concept will offer only a place to buy stamps and pick up packages.

“You can mail packages if you’ve already got it filled out by computer,” she said. “They’re saying everything’s being done with the computer, but they don’t realize that for a lot of country people, the computer doesn’t work so well. They don’t have computers at home.”

“Lucky” Lindy Segall, who in 2007 traded hometown Austin for a ranch near Johnson City, was one of the leaders of the post office rescue effort. A former public relations executive, Segall is well aware that nostalgia will only go so far, particularly when the Postal Service is losing \$35 million a day as email and other forms of messaging transform how Americans, young and old, rural and urban, communicate with each other.

Segall maintains that a review of

Beyer’s financial reports and as much information as the Postal Service was willing to provide demonstrated that Hye “wasn’t a hemorrhaging operation” and that for the past couple of years, Beyer’s operation had been in the black. “Our contention to the Postal Service was, you are overlaying onto us your allegations that none of the 3,700 small rural post offices are profitable,” Segall said. “In our case, Dorothy was indeed in the black, and we were making even more suggestions of ways the Postal Service could save money, cut costs. What they didn’t want to hear is that it probably should start at the top.”

Segall represents a relatively recent Hye phenomenon, as does Levi Deike Jr., who dropped by the post office with Thor, his majestic yellow Lab, occupying his accustomed place in the bed of the pickup. Deike grew up on a ranch near Hye among the Deike nine and their numerous offspring, then lived for 40 years in New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado working as an area manager for the Bureau of Land Management. He came home to stay in 2004.

These newcomers (or returners) are reviving this little postage stamp of a place in western Blanco County. As people move in, a post office can be just as vital to a 21st-century Hye as it was when Deike’s father and uncles were running grocery stores and gas stations and feed stores in the community—and playing baseball on weekends—in the early decades of the 20th century.

Beyer may not be behind the counter to see it. Although the Postal Service has no official retirement age, it’s strongly encouraging older postmasters to retire. Beyer has no plans to leave, unless the Postal Service makes her an offer she can’t refuse. Until that happens, the latest Postal Service missive assures her that Hye’s hours won’t be reduced until September 30, 2014. She has received several official memoranda, often contradictory, but that’s the one she’s banking on.

“I’m hoping that if we can hold on for two more years, they will have closed so many they’ll see it’s not working,” she said.

Stretched out on the post office countertop for a catnap about noon on a Saturday, a contented Maggie seemed to nod in agreement.

Joe Holley is a politics writer at the *Houston Chronicle*.

Pedernales Electric Cooperative serves Hye.

HOLIDAY

Gift Guide

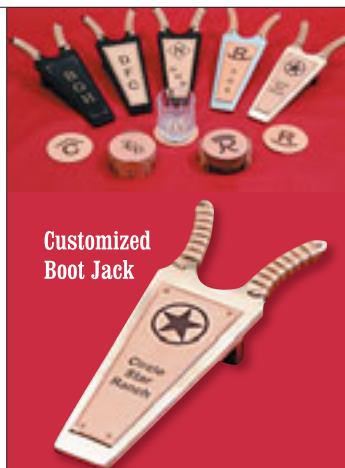
In the magazine and on **TexasCoopPower.com**, we make it easy to shop for friends and family.



TEXAS RUBY & RIO RED GRAPEFRUIT

Juicy red grapefruit and sweet oranges from the Rio Grande Valley. Tree-fresh, hand-selected gifts delivered nationwide. Texas 1015 onions, tomatoes, smoked meats, nuts and candies. **FREE BROCHURE.** Mention code **TXCP** for discount with first order.

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



CUSTOM CRAFTED PERSONALIZED GIFTS

Capture unique brands, logos & names on custom-made bootjacks, leather coaster sets, luggage tags & marble trivets. Lasting gifts for Christmas, weddings, birthdays & rodeos.

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



TEXAS IN MY WINDSHIELD

New Book!
George Boutwell (2006 Official Texas State Artist) has written a 192-page, hard-bound, coffee table-style book about his life and art career. 182 paintings and lots of short stories about 40 years of touring Texas. \$45 each, plus tax and \$7.50 shipping.

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



CUSTOM DESIGN PERSONALIZED DOMINOES

Puremco Dominoes in Waco since 1954. Personalized dominoes with your name, photograph, logo or brand are a timeless gift. Call today to discuss the wide range of possibilities.

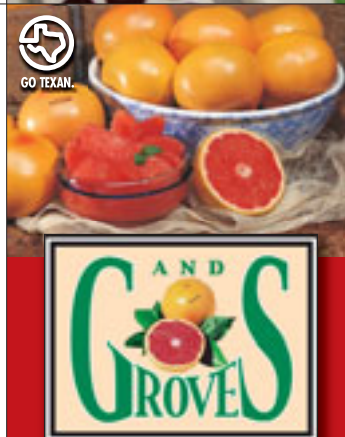
1-800-725-7060
www.dominoes.com



FRESH "NEW CROP" PECANS

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

(325) 356-3616
www.sorrellsfarms.com



FROM OUR TEXAS TREES TO YOUR TABLE

Give a gift everyone will enjoy this holiday season. We sell Certified Organic Oranges and Rio Red Grapefruit directly to our customers.

(512) 246-0778
www.gandsgroves.com

If you suffer from...

- Lack of Energy
- Fibromyalgia
- Joint Pain
- Constipation
- Back Pain
- Knee Pain
- High Blood Pressure
- Restless Legs Syndrome
- Poor Circulation
- Obesity
- Edema
- Insomnia
- Neuropathy
- Diabetes
- Arthritis
- MS
- Spinal Stenosis
- Lymphedema
- Stress

The Exerciser Elite® is for you.

Only 12–16 minutes, twice a day can help you feel better



Receive the benefits of aerobic exercise without stress or impact on the joints!

Exercising on a regular basis is known to help improve many different kinds of health issues. Millions of people suffer from various ailments that can be improved through regular exercise; however, we understand some individuals are unable to do aerobic type exercise. The Exerciser Elite® is your in-home solution and does the work for you. People of all ages have made improvements to their overall well-being by incorporating this revolutionary machine into their daily routine.

Operating the machine is simple...just lie down and relax. The machine creates a gentle, right to left movement. This gentle movement cycles up through the whole body, which, in turn, can promote loosening of the joints in the hips and spine and relaxation of the muscles in the back.

The Exerciser Elite® outperforms any other Chi-type swing machine on the market. It will easily accommodate individuals weighing up to 425 pounds and is built for long term use.

Increase circulation throughout the body

Relieve stiffness from head to toe

Energize the body

Increase mobility

Enjoy the Gentle Lateral Swinging Movement



Features

- 16 minute digital timer with safety shutoff
- Built in an ISO-9001 CERTIFIED facility
- FDA Class Registered
- ETL Approval
- Weighs only 15 pounds
- 15" wide x 13.5" deep x 9.5" high
- Controller cord 6'
- AC cord 7'2"
- 220/230 volt model available for International use

2-Year Parts and Labor Warranty

Order today, see the online Exerciser Elite® video or learn more
www.clarkenterprises2000.com or call 800-748-7172

"The Exerciser Elite® is just SUPER!

I cannot tell you how much I enjoy my relaxing sessions, 3 times a day. When I am finished I feel like I am back in the fast lane. I am so glad I decided to splurge and buy your magnificent machine."

—Irene R., Texas

"I have had both hips replaced and been through breast cancer.

Regular exercise was not something I could do every day and still move. But with this wonderful machine I can! Thank you again."

—Carol H., Ohio

"After using the Exerciser Elite® twice a day for one week, the swelling in my ankles went away.

It has also helped my breathing, as I can get out and walk without having to stop and catch my breath! Thank you."

—Shirley H., Florida

"I am an 88 year old woman with multiple health problems.

After seeing the ad for the Exerciser Elite®, I ordered it and use it daily. I can tell it has improved circulation in my legs and by doing that it has helped my balance and walking problems. To those of you that think that you can't do regular exercise anymore, try this piece of equipment and you will be amazed how much better you will feel."

—Mildred F., Missouri

"I have had such lower back pain that I could hardly stand it.

I saw your ad two years ago and thought it wouldn't help me. But, I ordered one anyway. I have used it for four months now. I have very little back pain, am more regular, and I sleep much better thanks to the Exerciser Elite®."

—C. Cordes, Minnesota

Invest in your health today—order now!

Feel better in 90 days or your money back.

Thousands sold for \$389.95 **Now Only \$359.95**

Use code **C500** when ordering and receive **FREE shipping** in the lower contiguous 48 states.
Kansas residents add 8.2% sales tax.

Do you have trouble getting down on the floor?



The Clark Exerciser Elite® Table is specially designed to use with the Exerciser Elite® and is sold separately.

Free shipping does not apply to this item.

Save on reconditioned units when available.



Affiliate Program Available Now!

Call or visit our site for more info.



A+ Rating

© 2012 Clark Enterprises 2000, Inc.

Price, terms and conditions subject to change without notice.

These statements have not been evaluated by the FDA.

Not intended to treat, cure or prevent any diseases.

Family owned since 1959

240 Berg Road • Salina, KS 67401

www.clarkenterprises2000.com

800-748-7172



Drop In Anytime

BY MIKE LEGGETT • PHOTOS BY WYATT McSPADDEN

This is everyman fishing—showing up with gear and bait and snacks and kids in tow to claim a spot on one of the piers jutting into the Gulf. It's pretty much always a good time and, dare we say it, **there's no catch.**



THEY COME PUSHING THEIR GROCERY carts, pulling ice chests on wheels. They come trailing their little red wagons loaded with kids and sandwiches and water and beers to fight dehydration and help keep off the dull times.

They ride bicycles and tricycles, baskets on the front or back or both, packed to overflowing with food and drink and boxes of stuff that will get them through a breezy coastal night or the stifling heat of a saltwater summer day.

Many nights, just as the sun is beginning to set far out across Copano Bay, you'll see a motorized wheelchair, gliding quietly in and out among the carts and bikes out on the knobby, slightly potholed pavement of Copano Fishing Pier.

This once was State Highway 35 itself, the north-south link between Houston and Corpus Christi. Now it's the old causeway, a public fishing pier—one of dozens up and down the Texas Gulf Coast—where for a few dollars and a box of frozen shrimp you can spend a day or a night fishing for whatever comes along.

All the conveyances—bikes and chairs and carts that once hauled groceries at the local supermarket—are festooned with rods and reels and bear some resemblance to weird rolling insects, antennae waving and poking into the evening sky.

Kids, able to contain their enthusiasm for only so long, run and yell and pepper adults with questions about where and when and how many. Parents indulge the older ones, often while pushing a stroller or carriage with an infant aboard.

Everybody is hauling fishing tackle—as much as possible and for every angling contingency—toward their favorite floodlight over the water, or the floodlight nobody has claimed yet. Different rods for different fish and different bait because no one wants to be caught standing out there with just their floppy hat in their hands when the action starts.

Steve Bailey, along with his wife, Lee, has driven down from Karnes City to near Rockport, to the former causeway that linked Rockport with areas north of the mouth of Copano Bay. He herds his

kids—Kyle, 13, Megan, 10, and Ryan, 4—down past the first wave of anglers stationed over the water to a spot that features enough room for the clan.

Kyle is in the water first and already has a fish on before Bailey has rigged rods and reels for the younger siblings. Kyle pronounces the trip a success, even though he's only caught a small croaker. This is what he came for, the thing that makes the 100-mile trip worth the effort.

There may be better Saturday nights ahead in his life, but right now, right here, this is perfect. A kid and a rod and reel. That's karma and summer vacation and uptown Saturday nights all rolled into one.

"We just wanted to get the kids outside and enjoy some time together," Bailey explains. Other than a few dollars for gas and maybe some shrimp for bait, the family will invest only a couple of dollars a rod in a full night's entertainment, far less than going to a movie and a whole lot more fun.

Kyle releases his croaker and is rummaging around in the bait box for



another shrimp when 4-year-old Ryan squeals and starts pumping upward on his own rod. Another croaker this time, reeled 20 feet above the water to help jump-start a young fishing career.

Just a few feet away, a lady screams and squeals and begins cranking against a heavier fish. But she's watching the Bailey family closely. "There was a guy who caught two big redfish right under that same light earlier today," she says. That's what she's hoping for, a nice redfish (red drum) that will turn a Saturday barbecue into a grill master's delight.

Redfish on the half shell sounds good, but maybe she's counting her fish eggs before they've hatched because what she's caught—the wriggling, thrashing, slimy creature she's managed to drag up to her spot along the bridge railing—is a hardhead. A notorious bait stealer with questionable morals, a hardhead is a less-than-palatable table presence but one that can deliver a nasty, painful and hard-to-heal wound via its pectoral and dorsal fins. Elation drowns in disappointment, and the woman whips out a pair of pliers to remove the hardhead and return it in a long throw to the waters below.

That fish could have been a redfish or a speckled trout, the two major saltwater game fish in Texas and the prize elements of a fish fry when the weekend is over. But there are other fish here: pompano and sand trout, croakers and flounder. Even the mighty king mackerel, sharks of every order, stingrays and giant, leaping tarpon will show up at the piers on some nights.

Pier regulars know when the best times arrive for different species, and you can see them trudging out on Copano Pier or Goose Island or Conn Brown or the famous Bob Hall Fishing Pier late in the day many days, setting up for the bull red run (giant red drum heading out to sea in the fall) or the flounder run or maybe an influx of surf breeds of sharks.

The big boys cruise the muddy brown and slightly murky waters around the piers, sometimes lapping up several baits in one trip down the rails. Anglers may start hollering "big fish" at one end and wind up sharing hooks and crossing lines with anglers 100 yards away. Those really big fish do get landed from time to time, but mostly they wreak havoc and swim back out to sea with a nest of broken and bent hooks hanging from lips that are as tough as rubber boots. The hooks will rust away in a few days, and the fish will be fine and ready to revisit the scene of old triumphs, just daring an angler to try to best them one-on-one.

The nice thing about fishing piers in Texas coastal waters—and we should probably include jetties, even though those manmade rock peninsulas that jut out into the Gulf have their own subset of anglers and fish—is that they are within almost anyone's financial range. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department offers free fishing in state parks; a license is not required. If you're 16 and younger, you won't need a fishing license or any stamps to fish in Texas. Those 17 and older must comply with state regulations for fishing licenses



FROM TOP: Day's end is when Copano Fishing Pier springs to life, and it's no coincidence that people and fish have the same bright idea: Hang out under the lights. Tomás Guerrero celebrates his 78th birthday with daughter Diana. Arkansas pipeline workers Chris, in orange, and Bryan and wife Trudy of Fort Worth show up well-stocked. James Williams of Austin takes his turn at the rail seriously.



Pier fishing is an activity for people—and fish—of all sizes. Max Mora, 4, and little brother Evan, middle photo, and Daniel Peña, below, have red on their minds; they'll have their hands full if they hook one of the Gulf's bull reds. Kids don't need a license to fish—or a license to nap, as if that matters to Juridia Lozano.

and stamps, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife.

THE FISHING PIERS ARE OPEN YEAR-round, and there's fishing year-round unless there's a hurricane blowing in. Nobody needs a boat or motor or waders or fancy rods and reels to enjoy the fishing there. In fact, utilitarian is probably better on the piers because anglers—unless they have special long-handled nets that can reach all the way to the water—are forced to use pretty heavy equipment and high-test lines to handle the sometimes large fish and always large weights required to get a bait to the bottom in a roaring current. Think 20-pound line, 200 to 300 yards of it, and a one-ounce weight with a 5/0 circle hook if you want to concentrate on the big boys. Think it even if you don't, because you don't get to choose what's going to bite.

Yours is but to reel and fight.

This is everyman fishing, where you're likely to see kids and dogs and families enjoying the weather next to babes in bikinis fishing alongside old-time pier hard cores who've been doing this for 30 years or more. They may have their favorite spotlights they'll hurry to reach before anyone else, and they'll definitely be thinking they can't understand why anyone would choose the confinement and dangers of a boat on a vast ocean when there's a perfectly good pier and plenty of fish right there for the taking.

There's a sense of camaraderie, too, where everyone out there catches a fish when anyone catches a fish, even though those old salts seem to catch more than their share. That's the way of the world no matter where you're fishing, but it's true. You can fool all the fish some of the time, but those guys fool more than anyone else.

I'm not sure the reason—maybe it's that saltwater fish have good taste—but shrimp has always been the bait of choice for pier anglers. You might see someone chunking artificial lures, but they aren't accomplishing much most of the time. And occasionally, some of the serious guys will be using whole or cut bait, like mullet, in hopes of attracting a shark or a big tarpon. Ribbonfish and other kinds of bait will work, and lots of them are available at pier headquarters.

But you can have a full day or night of fishing with a box of cheap, frozen shrimp and a Sesame Street fishing rod if you're inclined.

Mike Leggett is the outdoors writer at the *Austin American-Statesman*.

On TexasCoopPower.com

Go to TexasCoopPower.com for a pier fishing slideshow.



If you go ...

- Expect summer to be about night fishing. It's not that the fish aren't there during the day, but hot temperatures can make the piers a little uncomfortable. Plus, the big red drum like to feed at night under the lights that shine into the water. Speckled trout, the other most sought-after fish, also like to feed under the lights.
- Fall fishing can be some of the best on piers in Texas. Redfish, or red drum, the giants called "bull reds," are leaving protected bay waters and heading offshore. Because the piers are located at tasty travel sites, the fish often are caught there. This is night and day fishing. Fall migration is often when tarpon heading for Mexico can show up to cause a train wreck of tangled fishing lines and lost baits.
- Winter obviously can be cold and miserable, but fish are already in the water and they'll drift in on favorable tides to feed around piers and pier structures.
- A phone call to your favorite pier is never a bad idea to find out what's going on before you make a long drive. They want your business more than once, so they'll usually be open with the information.



Enjoy A Bath Again... Safely and Affordably

*The Jacuzzi® Walk-In tub is luxurious,
feature-packed and affordable*

There is nothing like the simple pleasure of taking a warm bath. The cares of the day seem to fade away, along with the aches and pains of everyday life. Unfortunately for many aging Americans with mobility issues, slipping into a bath can result in slipping onto the floor. The fear of falling has made the simple act of bathing and its therapeutic benefits a thing of the past... until now. *firstSTREET*, the leader in products *Designed for Seniors®* has partnered with Jacuzzi®, the company that perfected hydrotherapy. Together, they've created a walk-in tub that offers more than just safe bathing, peace-of-mind and independence, it can actually help you feel better.

Unlike traditional bathtubs, our Jacuzzi® Walk-In Tub features a leakproof door that allows you to simply step into the tub rather than stepping precariously over the side. It features a state-of-the-art acrylic surface, a raised seat, and the controls are within easy reach. No other Walk-In Tub features the patented Jacuzzi® PointPro™ jet system. These high-volume, low-pressure pumps feature a perfectly balanced water to air

ratio to massage thoroughly yet gently. Some swirl, some spiral, some deliver large volumes of water and others target specific pressure points. They are all arranged in precise locations designed to deliver a therapeutic massage, yet they are fully adjustable so that your bathing experience can be completely unique.



Why spend another day wishing you could enjoy the luxury and pain-relieving benefits of a safe, comfortable bath. Call now and you'll get an unsurpassed lifetime warranty. Knowledgeable product experts are standing by to help you learn more about this product. Call Today!

What To Look For in a Walk-In Tub:

Five major considerations to help make an informed decision before buying a Walk-In Tub:

- **Quality** - A walk-in tub is a major investment. You want to find a quality tub that will last for decades. Look for one that's 100% leakproof, mold-resistant, full metal frame construction and one that's American made.
- **Warranty** - Ask for a lifetime "no leak guarantee." The best tubs offer a lifetime warranty on both the tub and the operating system.
- **Pain Relieving Therapy** - Find a tub that has both water and air jet therapy to soak away your aches and pains preferably with a perfectly balanced water to air mix.
- **Comfort** - Insist on ergonomic design, easy-to-reach controls.
- **Endorsements** - Only consider tubs that are ETL or UL listed. Also look for a tub tested to IAPMO (International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials) standards and that's USPC (Universal Spa Plumbing Code) Certified.



- Low Threshold Step
- Jacuzzi® PointPro™ Jet System

New! Jacuzzi® Walk-In Tub

For information call:

1-888-834-8061

Call now Toll-Free and mention your special promotion code 45741.

Third-party financing available with approved credit.
Not Available in Hawaii and Alaska

firstSTREET
for Boomers and Beyond®

80407

All rights reserved. © 2012 firstSTREET®, Inc. For Boomers and Beyond®

Happy Birthday Willie Wiredhand

BY MAGEN HOWARD

“He’s small, but wirey.”

Who? Willie. Willie Wiredhand.

The beloved mascot of electric cooperatives turns 62 this October. It’s a fitting birth date—National Cooperative Month—for the stalwart character, who became the embodiment of the fighting cooperative spirit and the symbol of dependable, local, consumer-owned electricity all over the world. (In Latin America, for example, he is known as “Electro Pepe.”)

Willie came to life in 1950, created by Andrew “Drew” McLay, a freelance artist working for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, in collaboration with then-RE Magazine editor William Roberts.

Since then, Willie has appeared on scores of promotional items—signs for buildings and substations, T-shirts, ball caps, golf balls, Christmas ornaments, beach towels, fly swatters, aprons, night-lights, marbles and other toys, and much more.

But Willie had to fight for his right to stand for electric cooperatives.

In 1957, Willie and electric cooperatives won a heated battle with Reddy Kilowatt, “spokescharacter” for investor-owned power companies. Reddy’s lawyers argued that Willie would confuse the public because he so closely resembled Reddy. A federal judge said it wasn’t so. Reddy and his posse appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. They lost.

Out of the victory, Willie Wiredhand came to symbolize more than cooperative friendliness—he was now the true embodiment of cooperative spunk, willing to stand up for consumers in the face of impossible odds against the entrenched might of huge investor-owned utilities. The phrase “He’s small, but wirey” became part of the trademark Willie was granted by the U.S. Patent Office in 1957.

Willie’s role has continued to evolve over the decades. For exam-

ple, when the 1970s ushered in an energy crisis, he donned a sweater and hopped on a bicycle, caulked windows and weatherstripped doors in new ads pushing energy conservation and efficiency tips. Later, he became more of a pop-art celebrity, appearing on novelty items like coffee mugs and watches.

But no matter his persona, Willie Wiredhand has been a recognizable and dedicated friend to millions of electric cooperative consumers—faithful and enduring for decades. Happy birthday, Willie.

Magen Howard writes for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.



A Willie Wiredhand comic book from 1967.

Take Care with CORDS



Almost every electrical appliance has a cord, and many homes use extension cords to increase the range of electrical outlets. These safety tips can help keep cords in good condition for safe operation.

- ▶ Check cords regularly for frays, cracks or kinks, including power tool cords, holiday lights and extension cords.
- ▶ Cords should never be used as jump ropes, clotheslines or leashes.
- ▶ Cords should be firmly plugged into outlets—if the cord is loose and can pull out easily, choose a different, more snug outlet.
- ▶ Do not staple or nail cords in position at any time; if necessary, use tape or twist ties to secure them.
- ▶ Cords should not be placed beneath rugs where they can become a trip hazard or where frays will not be noticeable.
- ▶ Do not clip off the third prong or attempt to file down a wider prong to fit in a different outlet.
- ▶ Extension cords are a temporary solution only, and their use should be minimized whenever possible.
- ▶ Use an extension cord of the proper weight and length for the task, and be sure the cord is rated for indoor or outdoor use, whichever is required.
- ▶ When unplugging a cord, pull on the plug at the outlet rather than on the cord itself.

ISTOCKPHOTO | THINKSTOCK



An emergency kit is an important part of an effective disaster plan.

Be a Fam with a Plan

BY KELLY TRAPNELL

It's not pleasant to think about worst-case scenarios, but a little planning can make a difference if the worst happens. Follow these tips to avoid feeling helpless during a disaster.

BEFORE

- **COMMUNICATE.** Talk with your family about whom to call, where to go and what to do if disaster strikes.
- **EDUCATE.** Plan different strategies on what to do for different situations. Map out a fire escape route from all areas of your home and establish a safe place to go during threatening weather. Make sure all family members know their full name, address and phone number. Agree on an out-of-town relative or friend to call if everyone gets separated during a disaster, and have an ICE (In Case of Emergency) contact in your cellphone that first responders can call if needed.
- **PREPARE.** Set up warning systems in your home—fire detectors and carbon monoxide alarms give advance notice that can save lives. Use a battery-operated weather radio for advance storm warnings, and subscribe to your local Office of Emergency Management alerts by text or email if available. Keep an emergency kit handy that contains five days' worth of non-perishable food and water, first-aid supplies, a list of phone numbers

(including your electric cooperative's and other utilities' outage numbers), medicines and cleaning supplies. Also, plan for pets or any special needs for family members. Then practice your emergency plans.

DURING

- **KEEP CALM.** Think clearly and follow your plan. Use the resources you prepared in case of emergencies.
- **EMERGENCY PHONE.** Keep a corded landline phone handy in case of an emergency. If cellphone batteries die, there may be no way to charge them during a power outage. A landline phone will still work without electricity and become your link to the outside world.

AFTER

- **BE PATIENT.** Wait for all danger to pass. Never re-enter an evacuated area without permission to do so, and remember to use caution when you do go back into your home—you can't always see dangers, such as a ruptured gas line.
- **AVOID DELAYED DANGER.** Do not approach downed wires or power lines, and watch for rising waters. Keep standby generators in well-ventilated areas—never run a generator indoors, even in a garage.

Kelly Trapnell writes for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Ready for Winter's Chill?

They say if you don't like the weather to just wait a minute—it's likely to change. Are you and your home's heating system ready to take on the coming winter? Here are some tips to make sure everyone's prepared.

- Get a routine maintenance and inspection of your heating system each autumn to make sure it is in good working order.
- Replace your heater's air filter monthly. Your heating system will work less hard, use less energy and last longer as a result.
- If your heating system is old, you might consider updating it. A 20-year-old heating system is probably half as efficient as some of today's models.
- Install and properly use a programmable thermostat. This thermostat allows you to automatically turn down the heat



Use a programmable thermostat to help keep your energy costs low this winter.

when you're away at work or when you're sleeping at night, and then boost the temperature to a comfortable level when you need it. It takes less energy to warm a cool home than maintain a warm temperature all day long. Properly using your programmable thermostat could cut your heating costs from 20 to 75 percent.

- Make sure all heating vents are opened and unblocked by furniture or other items. This will ensure that the air is evenly distributed throughout the home.

Crossing that Fine Line

Can an editor driven by curiosity go too far? Nah, never more than a whisker.

BY TOM WIDLOWSKI

THE CAREER OF AN EDITOR IS CHECKERED with an assortment of complaints—paper cuts, cold coffee, inconvenient deadlines and platitudinous prose. Continual use of a dictionary is not on that list, you'll notice.

But an editor presses on, compelled by a genuine love of storytelling and great writing—not to mention an unquenchably inquisitive (nosey) nature.

That brings us to mustaches. A recent Texas Co-op Power story that was getting the requisite rigorous scouring made mention of a gentleman's handlebar mustache. The photo showed a rugged individual with a bountifully hirsute countenance. Impressive mustache, but that's not a handlebar, is it?

Well, let's just check that out. Googling, which has replaced doodling as an editor's favorite diversion, is the most utilitarian service the Internet offers—besides email, maybe the second-best diversion. Turns out, there's an American Mustache Institute, with a website that offers no fewer than 18 illustrations and descriptions of AMI-certified "lower nose accoutrements." Fancy writing. Makes you wonder if great thinkers wear mustaches.

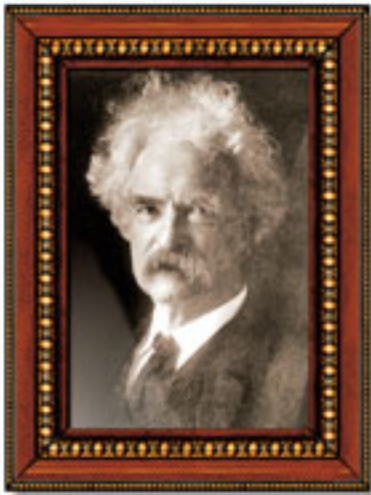
Anyway, the AMI would call the mustache in question a horseshoe because it looks like an upside-down letter "U," which looks like a horseshoe straddling the mouth and chin. A handlebar is a little fancier, a little more stylized, and is marked by a nifty upward twist of the ends. In fact, done properly, a handlebar requires dedicated grooming and a little styling wax. An editor hates to generalize, but one style of mustache seems to

say, "I spend a lot of time standing in front of a mirror." The other style seems to say, "I'd rather stand in front of a bar."

Nonetheless, the story was adjusted to indicate that the gentleman in question wore a horseshoe mustache. But the research couldn't stop there. An editor is nosey, remember, and takes great pride in knowing a whole lot of inane facts about a whole lot of inane topics. Like: What kinds of people wear mustaches? (Of course mostly men! Stop it. Editors don't think that way.) Who was the last president to wear a mustache? How about the last Texas governor? Who tends to wear mustaches ... cowboys? Thugs? Hippies? Rock stars? Yeah, maybe. And you don't see a lot of elected officials or business leaders or popes with mustaches. What does all of this mean?

It seems to mean that we'll buy your music no matter what you look like—or maybe because of what you look like. But we'd probably rather vote for you if you're clean-shaven. And it's not even because voters have it in for mustachioed candidates. It's just that most candidates don't have mustaches. Quick, name the last presidential candidate to have a mustache. Herman Cain, you say? OK, but name one that actually represented his party in the general election. That would be Republican Thomas E. Dewey in 1948.

Harry S. Truman won that election, continuing the country's long streak of clean-shaven presidents. We haven't had a president with a mustache since William Howard Taft, 1909-13. Taft had what the AMI would probably classify as



MARK TWAIN
Rather mussed, like Tom and Huck



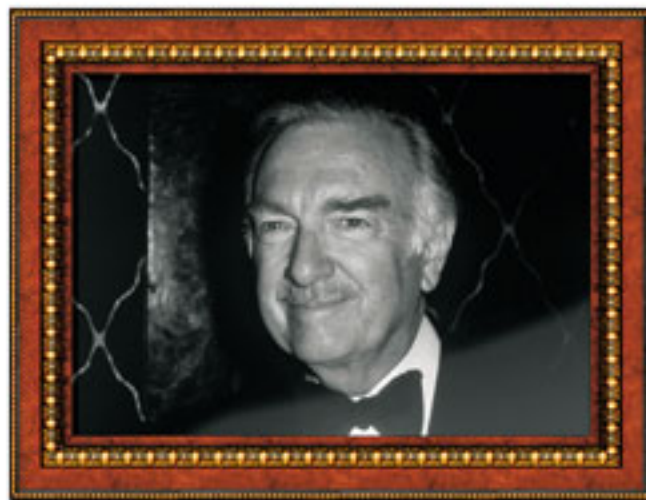
WYATT EARP
Sheriff had a most arresting mustache



THOMAS DEWEY
Last mustached presidential candidate



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
Part of every historic speech



WALTER CRONKITE
A mustache welcomed in many American homes

a bushy walrus groomed into a handlebar. Texas hasn't had a governor with a mustache since Thomas Mitchell Campbell, 1907-11. His was a sprawling walrus.

There's plenty of postulating online that some especially evil men with mustaches basically ruined it for any respectable man to even think about showing his face in public sporting a mustache. Think Hitler, Tojo, Stalin, Saddam Hussein, Genghis Khan. Hitler wore a toothbrush mustache, a style that basically died with him.

An editor strives for balance and so would be quick to point out that besides some unforgettable despots, plenty of remarkably accomplished men wore mustaches. Einstein, anyone? How about

Mark Twain, Martin Luther King Jr., President Theodore Roosevelt and beloved newscaster Walter Cronkite? Certainly everybody could join in this discussion and throw out names. Tom Selleck, actor. Wyatt Earp, legendary sheriff of the Western frontier. Rocker Frank Zappa. Think of some of Hollywood's great mustaches: Charlie Chaplin, Errol Flynn, Clark Gable, Wilford Brimley and Sam Elliott.

No thoughtful and well-rounded editor would run a mustache story that drops a lot of names without mentioning fictional funnymen like the Swedish Chef from "The Muppet Show;" Yosemite Sam, the Looney Tunes gunslinger; and Ned Flanders of "The Simpsons."

At some point, though, an editor must cut the story off. Tidy things up, ensure a well-crafted ending, close the dictionary. Run the spellcheck—just in case. Finish that cup of ... coffee? And then relish a job well done: a story decidedly improved by diligent editing, grammatical dexterity and proficiency at verifying inane facts.

That should also mean no corrections, the most repugnant reality an editor must face from time to time. Errors. Misidentification. Sloppy attention to details. Calling a horseshoe a fu manchu or—worse—a handlebar. That's when an editor just needs to shake it off. Hang in there.

You know ... keep a stiff upper lip.

Tom Widlowski, *associate editor*

This Is Quite a Peeling



There's just something about pumpkins that prompts Perryton art teacher Scott Cummins to make a funny face

BY SHERYL SMITH-RODGERS

IN HIS CLASSROOM AT PERRYTON JUNIOR High School, art teacher Scott Cummins keeps a stash of pumpkins of all shapes and sizes under a corner table. "I had to throw a pumpkin out yesterday," he said in early April. "I like to see how long they'll last. Out of these, I may have one or two make it to May. I just never know when I might need one."

Inspiration's that way. Unpredictable. So when his last pumpkin turns mushy, Cummins must wait until October to resume his favorite hobby: pumpkin carving. Forget jack-o'-lanterns with toothy grins and triangular eyes. Instead, Cummins, 40, uses assorted tools to sculpt three-dimensional works of art that range from creepy to silly. Since his start in the mid-1990s, the self-proclaimed "Pumpkingutter" has transformed hundreds of pumpkins into grotesque zombies, bug-eyed aliens, cartoon characters, famous folks (living and not) and critters of all kinds.

Many reflect his quirky sense of humor, like four banded front teeth in a grinning mouth that's simply titled "Braces."

As a boy growing up in Hollis, Oklahoma, Cummins kept a sketchpad handy, drawing whatever caught his eye—dogs, bugs, deer, pickups, tractors. "I attempted to draw comic strips a lot, too," he recalled. "At my high school, we didn't have art classes, so in college I took different art courses, which were mostly commercial art- and illustration-related."

In 1995, he graduated from Southwestern Oklahoma State University with a degree in commercial art and then

landed his first (and current) teaching job in Perryton, which is served by North Plains Electric Cooperative. One day, on a whim, he picked up a pumpkin and started carving. "As a kid, I'd carved pumpkins and skinned off rind to make different colors," Cummins says. "So I decided I'd experiment. On my first try, I carved an alien. On my second pumpkin, I carved a skull. I kept practicing, and I'd photograph some of my work."

Hoping to generate interest in his more conventional artwork, Cummins posted the pictures on his freelance art website, Outside the Lines. The idea worked. Sort of. "I got more feedback and traffic on my pumpkin pages than my other pages," he said. "I didn't get any more business, but the pumpkin pictures got shared and passed around the Internet. So I kept carving pumpkins. I put up more pictures the next year and the next."

Fans went nuts over his scar-faced "Pumpkenstein." An owl head with glaring eyes. A gigantic eye with eyelashes. "Tex," a mustached cowboy minus his hat. Elvis crooning into a mic (aka "You Were Always on My Rind"). A toothy dinosaur named "Pumpkinasaurus Rex." A pug-nosed bulldog with a lolling tongue.

"Finally, I decided my pumpkins needed their own website, so I came up with the name of Pumpkingutter," Cummins said. In addition to annual photo galleries, Cummins posted a carving tutorial with tips and videos on how to gut a pumpkin (pumpkingutter.com). He explains how to sculpt basic shapes, polish the rind with a scouring pad and add

fine details, like wrinkles, fur or hair. He also covers how to preserve a pumpkin. (“You really can’t,” Cummins says. “Take good photos instead.”) On other pages, visitors can read his list of frequently asked questions (“Are those real pumpkins?”) and watch a time-lapse video of him carving “Liberty Pumpkin,” the Statue of Liberty’s crown-topped head.

As soon as pumpkin patches open in October, Cummins browses vines in the field and hand-cuts a pickup load. He usually gets them near Sunray, about 70 miles southwest of Perryton. “I leave a long stem intact,” he said. “I’ve been told that stems provide nutrients to pumpkins so they stay fresher longer. I always choose the heaviest pumpkins because extra weight is usually in the rind.”

Typically, his one- to two-hour carv-

ing sessions happen in his classroom after school’s out for the day. Using ribbon tools, sharpened scoops and slim blades, Cummins carves away flesh and rind as his subject takes form.

“I spread a plastic sheet across the floor for faster cleanup because the process is messy,” he said. “Sometimes I have an idea before I start. Or I’ll pick up a pumpkin, then think of an idea. I’d rather carve faces than anything else, probably because of the tradition of faces on pumpkins.”

Thanks to his popularity via the Internet, Cummins has been invited to demonstrate his unique talent at fairs, schools and private events. He’s even been featured in the book, 2008 Ripley’s Believe It or Not! (Random House, Inc.).

Through the years, many admirers

have suggested ways to preserve his pumpkin masterpieces. “One of my first comments on my website said it was a shame that they don’t last,” Cummins said. “People are so used to art being permanent. But that’s what appeals to me—pumpkin carving is temporary. It’s novel. I’ve always liked that kind of art, like sand sculptures and sidewalk drawings. They take a lot of work and effort, just like pumpkin carving. For me, it’s the act of doing it. Once a pumpkin’s gone, then I can do another one.”

“Someone once suggested I make a casting of a pumpkin that I’d carved into a face,” he added. “But there’s nothing unusual about a face by itself. What’s interesting is that it’s carved on a pumpkin. That’s the whole point—it’s a pumpkin.”

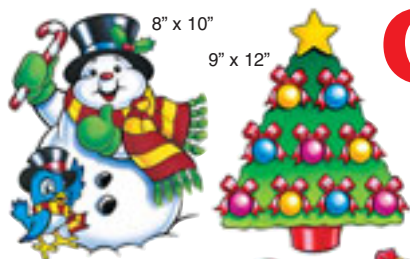
Sheryl Smith-Rodgers, frequent contributor



COURTESY OF SCOTT CUMMINS

SCOTT CUMMINS is scary good at carving pumpkins. With surgical precision, the art teacher at Perryton Junior High School peels away layer after layer until, an hour or two later, he’s scored a winner. Sometimes he finds a serpent coiled up inside. Sometimes he ends up face-to-face with all sorts of characters. Can’t you easily imagine the one above thinking to itself, ‘You call yourself a jack-o’-lantern?’ Check out his work at pumpkingutter.com.





8" x 10"

9" x 12"

CHRISTMAS

WINDOW CLINGS

137 for \$12

Only 26 shown here



4" x 7"



8" x 10"



3" x 4"



4" x 5"



4" x 9"



5" x 12"



5" x 6"



5" x 9"

PRINTED BOTH SIDES DECORATES INSIDE AND OUTSIDE

- Press on - lift off - Reusable windows - mirrors - glass doors
- Holds by static cling no tape - no glue - no mess

REUSE EVERY YEAR



3" x 4"



4" x 6"



4" x 5"



3" x 5"



5" x 12"



4" x 5"



7" x 12"



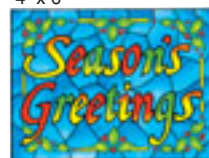
5" x 12"



2" x 3"



4" x 6"



4" x 6"



6" x 9"



4" x 5"



3" x 5"



3" x 5"

PLEASE DO NOT CONFUSE

our clings with thin, flimsy store bought clings

- twice the thickness
- twice the cling power
- amazing detail
- brilliant colors
- permanent inks
- printed both sides

Each design sealed with a crystal clear laminate. Printed in the USA.



3" x 4"

ONE YEAR MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

FREE! 37

Valentine Easter Halloween
Thanksgiving Holiday Clings



\$14 Value

More than 100,000 sold at \$14

Order NOW and receive this extra kit
free with every Christmas kit ordered.

DISCOUNT COUPON ~~\$19~~ now only \$12
SUPER SIGNS, INC. 108 POMONA DR., GREENSBORO, NC 27407

Send _____ Christmas Cling Kit(s) at \$12 plus \$3 shipping each (total \$15).
Each Christmas kit includes a FREE Snowflakes kit plus a FREE Holiday kit of
Valentine, Easter, Halloween, Thanksgiving designs up to 9" x 12" each.

Reusable every year. Makes the perfect Christmas gift.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

Check must accompany all orders. All checks cleared first through CheckTRACKSM
This is an introductory offer only. All reorders \$19 each.

WWW.SUPERCLINGS.COM enter discount code **AM16**



MARKETPLACE

BUY • SELL • TRADE • ACROSS TOWN • ACROSS TEXAS

BRUSH SHARK




SKID STEER MOUNTED SHEAR

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

(512) 263-6830 • www.brushshark.com

MANUFACTURED HOME OR PIER & BEAM HOME INSULATED CEMENT SKIRTING

3 designs & 11 colors to choose from!
 Replace your vinyl skirting with STONECOTE.
1-830-833-2547
www.stonecote.com



WE BUY MINERALS

We pay cash for **producing** or **non-producing** mineral interests.
CALL US TODAY! 1-888-735-5337




DUCTLESS A/C HP SYSTEMS

- Eliminate those noisy inefficient window units!
- Replace that old dirty central A/C system!
- Energy efficient up to 20+ SEER
- Save up to 30% or more on your electric bill
- Improved Air Quality/Extremely Quiet
- Cools and Heats – No Furnace Required
- Affordable / Financing Available (w.a.c.)

Discover what the rest of the world has known for years; all the advantages of ductless split systems. Call us today and come by and see us at the Fort Worth Stock Show.

Call Toll Free 800-228-1265
www.atlanticservice.com

6525 Baker Blvd., Fort Worth, TX 76118

SPEARS BARN COMPANY
 We Offer Different Sizes & Designs

One 10' sliding door. 30' x 50' x 10' Colored Metal
 One walk-through door. Ask About Our Special!

Materials, delivery, tax & labor
1-877-371-3501 www.spearsbarnco.com

GET RESULTS! ADVERTISE IN THE
MARKETPLACE
 CALL MARTIN FOR MORE INFORMATION
(512) 486-6249

TIRED OF SPRAYING?

The **Original**
Root Grubber
 for over 36 years

QUALITY CONSTRUCTION
 100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!



Blade Width	Cat	HP	WT	Delivered Price
18"	I	20-40	230 lb.	\$ 880
27"	II	40-80	285 lb.	\$1,080
30"	II or III	80-110	380 lb.	\$1,405
36"	II or III	110-180	390 lb.	\$1,410
16" Skid-Steer Universal			380 lb.	\$1,595

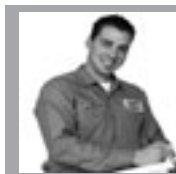
JONES MACHINE

Machining, welding, fabricating, manufacturing since 1944.
(800) 919-4949 • Fax: (940) 552-6362
 P.O. Box 1577, Vernon, Texas 76385 • www.dallasweb.com/jones

ADVERTISEMENT

Clogged, Backed—up Septic System...Can anything Restore It?

DEAR DARRYL: My home is about 10 years old, and so is my septic system. I have always taken pride in keeping my home and property in top shape. In fact, my neighbors and I are always kidding each other about who keeps their home and yard nicest. Lately, however, I have had a horrible smell in my yard, and also in one of my bathrooms, coming from the shower drain. My grass is muddy and all the drains in my home are very slow.



Dear
 Darryl

My wife is on my back to make the bathroom stop smelling and as you can imagine, my neighbors are having a field day, kidding me about the mud pit and sewage stench in my yard. It's humiliating. I called a plumber buddy of mine, who recommended pumping (and maybe even replacing) my septic system. But at the potential cost of thousands of dollars, I hate to explore that option.

I tried the store bought, so called, Septic treatments out there, and they did Nothing to clear up my problem. Is there anything on the market I can pour or flush into my system that will restore it to normal, and keep it maintained?

Clogged and Smelly – Austin, TX

DEAR CLOGGED AND SMELLY: As a reader of my column, I am sure you are aware that I have a great deal of experience in this particular field. You will be glad to know that there IS a septic solution that will solve your back-up and effectively restore your entire system from interior piping throughout the septic system and even unclog the drain field as well. **SeptiCleanse® Shock and Maintenance Programs** deliver your system the fast active bacteria and enzymes needed to liquefy solid waste and free the clogs causing your back-up.

This fast-acting bacteria multiplies within minutes of application and is specifically designed to withstand many of today's anti-bacterial cleaners, soaps and detergents. It comes in dissolvable plastic packs, that you just flush down your toilets. It's so cool. Plus, they actually Guarantee that it restores ANY system, no matter how bad the problem is.

SeptiCleanse® Shock and Maintenance Programs are designed to work on any septic system regardless of design or age. From modern day systems to sand mounds, and systems installed generations ago, I have personally seen SeptiCleanse unclog and restore these systems in a matter of weeks. I highly recommend that you try it before spending any money on repairs. SeptiCleanse products are available online at www.septiccleanse.com or you can order or learn more by calling toll free at 1-888-899-8345. If you use the promo code "DARTX2", you can get a free shock treatment, added to your order, which normally costs \$169. So, make sure you use that code when you call or buy online.

LOW COST

Mobile Home Insurance



- Complete coverage
- Superior service
- Easy payment plans (Including credit cards)
- Low deductibles
- Free & easy online quotes

www.stdins.com

Call For A Custom Quote

800-522-0146

Serving
Texas Mobile
Homeowners
since 1961



**STANDARD
DIRECT**
INSURANCE AGENCY

HIGH RATES on Bank CDs

1-800-359-4940 TEXAS
TOLL-FREE

www.mattsonfinancialservices.com

BLAKE MATTSON, CFP™

Signal Securities, Inc., 5400 Bosque, 4th Floor, Waco, TX 76710

Serving Customers All Over Texas

All CDs are insured to \$250,000 per institution by the FDIC. All CDs are subject to availability. Securities offered through Signal Securities, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC. 700 Throckmorton, Ft. Worth, TX 76102, (817) 877-4256.



"Proudly serving rural America"

Log on for 24 hour information

www.usabarn.com



Built to fit your needs, Any size or design.

Call and speak with one of our knowledgeable associates today!

We accept:

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8-5 • Sat 8-12 Central

1-877-872-2276 Fax: 1-918-686-5512

1-877-USA-BARN

#1 TRACTOR PACKAGE LEADER IN THE USA!

2012 John Deere 3032E, 32 HP

Hydro Transmission • 4 Wheel Drive

Package includes:

- 305 Loader • 5' Box Blade • 5' Rotary Cutter
- Insulated Canopy Top • Post Hole Digger
- 16' HD Ranch King Trailer with ramps



MADE IN THE USA



0% interest available for 48 months

\$21,598.00

\$329

Per Month

10% down and \$329.00 per month WAC

FOSTERS
EASTEX FARM & HOME

**WE DELIVER
EVERYWHERE!**

9135 College Street
Beaumont, TX
(409) 842-1128

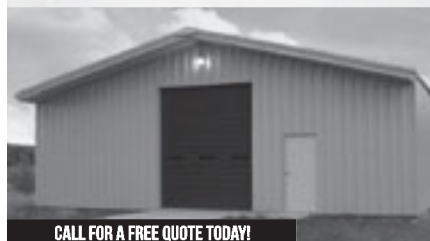
33402 HWY. 290 West
Hockley, TX
(281) 256-6900

2210 Highway 90
Liberty, TX
(936) 336-7226

Build your customized package online! • www.tractorpackages.com

THE REAL DEAL ON STEEL!

GET THE FINEST QUALITY
STEEL BUILDINGS AT THE
LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICE.



CALL FOR A FREE QUOTE TODAY!

SIZE	PRICES FROM*
33X45X10	\$7,397
42X60X12	\$10,897
60X102X12	\$21,897

*PRICES VARY BASED ON CODES, LOADS AND ACCESSORIES.

HERITAGE
BUILDING SYSTEMS.

1.800.643.5555 | HERITAGEBUILDINGS.COM

FLOATING FISHING PIER

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



45 YEARS' EXPERIENCE



Call for Free Information • 1-800-310-1425

www.ellisonmarine.com • Ellison Marine, Franklin, TX.



Farm • Industrial • Commercial

Prices F.O.B. Mfg. Plants;
Seal Stamped Blue Prints;
Easy Bolt Together Design.

25 YEAR COLOR WARRANTY

PRICES INCLUDE COLOR SIDES & GALVALUME ROOF

30' x 50' x 10'	\$7,999
40' x 60' x 12'	\$11,499
60' x 100' x 12'	\$22,960
80' x 100' x 14'	\$30,900
100' x 150' x 14'	\$55,118

Arena Special
(roof & frame)
100' x 100' x 14'...\$33,992

Based In
Texas



(Local codes may affect prices)

VISIT
OUR
WEBSITE

RHINO
STEEL BUILDING SYSTEMS

VISIT
OUR
WEBSITE

Fax: 940-484-6746 email: info@rhinobldg.com
Website: www.RHINOBLDG.COM

Toll Free 1-888-320-7466

NATIONAL BARN COMPANY "Building Solutions" ...with integrity!

Full Service Post-Frame Design & Construction Since 1992
Serving 27 States and Over 10,000 Customers

1-800-582-BARN (2276)

- No Money Down • Licensed, Bonded & Fully Insured
- All Major Credit Cards Accepted

FAX: 1-866-582-1400
E-mail: sales@nationalbarn.com

nationalbarn.com

LOWEST COST Term Life Insurance

Issue ages through 90

AGE	\$100,000	\$250,000
45	12.78	22.75
55	16.19	31.28
65	31.06	68.47

Rates figured on monthly cost for female non-tobacco users

BRANDON RAMLET
(888) 250-5054

TALIC FORM NO. 1-32207-198

TOMLIN GROUP DIRECT

Representing the best in Medicare Supplement companies.



SENIOR CITIZENS!

Most Medicare supplement companies have raised rates in 2012 and will raise them again in 2013! If you're concerned about your recent rate increase or the high rates on your Medicare supplement policy, there may be alternatives.

At Tomlin Group Direct we represent numerous Medicare supplement companies in order to shop for the lowest premium available for you.

According to a nationally known actuarial service, there is over \$1,000.00 price difference in similar plans. You may be able to save \$300, \$700, \$1,000 or even more.

WHY PAY MORE THAN NECESSARY?

✂ For a fast rate quote, complete the form below or for even faster service call our office at (800) 462-0833.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

My Age _____ Spouse Age _____

Mail to : Tomlin Group Direct
PO Box 190, Jackson, MO 63755-0190

Finally, A Tough Super Glue

© 2012 Gorilla Glue Company



Scan for Video

www.GorillaTough.com
1-800-966-3458

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS

Quality Tools at Ridiculously Low Prices

LIFETIME WARRANTY
ON ALL HAND TOOLS!

FACTORY DIRECT TO YOU!

How does Harbor Freight Tools sell high quality tools at such ridiculously low prices? We buy direct from the factories who also supply the major brands and sell direct to you. It's just that simple! See for yourself at one of our 400 Stores Nationwide and use this 20% Off Coupon on one of our 7,000 products*, plus pick up a Free 6 Piece Screwdriver Set, a \$4.99 value. We stock Shop Equipment, Hand Tools, Tarps, Compressors, Air & Power Tools, Woodworking Tools, Welders, Tool Boxes, Generators, and much more.

- Over 20 Million Satisfied Customers!
- 1 Year Competitor's Low Price Guarantee
- No Hassle Return Policy!
- 100% Satisfaction Guaranteed!

Nobody Beats Our Quality, Service and Price!

FREE!
WITH ANY PURCHASE
PITTSBURGH

6 PIECE SCREWDRIVER SET
ITEM 47770
REG. PRICE \$4.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 1 Cannot be used with other discount, coupon or prior purchase. Offer good while supplies last. Shipping & Handling charges may apply if not picked up in-store. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

20% OFF
ANY SINGLE ITEM!

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 1 Save 20% on any one item purchased at our store. *Cannot be used with other discount, coupon, gift cards, Inside Track Club membership, extended service plans or on any of the following: compressors, generators, tool storage or carts, welders, floor jacks, Campbell Hausfeld products, open box items, in-store event or parking lot sale items. Not valid on prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase date with original receipt. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

MECHANIC'S GLOVES

LARGE LOT NO. 93640
X-LARGE LOT NO. 93641/60448

YOUR CHOICE!
\$3.99
REG. PRICE \$7.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 6 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

PITTSBURGH 12" RATCHET BAR CLAMP/SPREADER
LOT NO. 46807/
68975/69221/
69222

\$1.99 REG. PRICE \$5.49

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 7 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

3 PIECE DECORATIVE SOLAR LIGHT SET
LOT NO. 95588/69462

\$9.99 REG. PRICE \$29.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 5 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

CENTRALPNEUMATIC 17 PIECE AIR TOOL ACCESSORY KIT
LOT NO. 68236

\$4.99 REG. PRICE \$9.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 6 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

Bunker Hill Security 36 LED SOLAR SECURITY LIGHT
Item 98085 shown
LOT NO. 98085/
69644/69890/
60498

\$17.99 REG. PRICE \$24.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 5 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

7 FT. 4" x 9 FT. 6" ALL PURPOSE WEATHER RESISTANT TARP
LOT NO. 877/69137/
69249/69129

\$27.99 REG. PRICE \$6.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 9 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

60" WORKBENCH WITH FOUR DRAWERS
WINDSOR DESIGN
LOT NO. 93454/69054

\$139.99 REG. PRICE \$229.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 3 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

12" SLIDING COMPOUND MITER SAW WITH LASER GUIDE
CHICAGO ELECTRIC POWER TOOLS
LOT NO. 98194/69684

\$119.99 REG. PRICE \$199.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 5 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

US GENERAL 580 LB. CAPACITY FOUR DRAWER TOOL CART
LOT NO. 95659

\$99.99 REG. PRICE \$229.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 4 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

PITTSBURGH RAPID PUMP® 3 TON HEAVY DUTY STEEL FLOOR JACK
WEIGHS 74 LBS.
Item 68048 shown
LOT NO. 68048/
69227

\$69.99 REG. PRICE \$139.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 5 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 3 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 5 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

4 PIECE 1" x 15 FT. RATCHETING TIE DOWN SET
LOT NO. 90984/60405

\$7.99 REG. PRICE \$16.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 8 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

PITTSBURGH 32 PIECE SAE/METRIC COMBINATION WRENCH SET
LOT NO. 68854

\$16.99 REG. PRICE \$24.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 4 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

10/2/55 AMP, 6/12 VOLT BATTERY CHARGER/ENGINE STARTER
LOT NO. 66783

\$27.99 REG. PRICE \$59.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 4 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

CENTRAL PNEUMATIC 2.5 HP, 21 GALLON, 125 PSI VERTICAL AIR COMPRESSOR
LOT NO. 67847/69091


\$149.99 REG. PRICE \$219.99

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS - LIMIT 3 Good at our stores or website or by phone. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/1/13. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

400 Stores Nationwide

Order Online at HarborFreight.com and We'll Ship Your Order FedEx®

ADVANTAGE STEEL BUILDINGS



Quality Buildings at Affordable Prices

30' x 50' x 10'	\$7,126
40' x 60' x 12'	\$10,287
50' x 75' x 14'	\$15,196
80' x 20' x 16'	\$36,874

Minis - 30' x 100' with 20 10' x 15' units - \$14,740

1.877.657.8335
www.advantagesteelbuildings.com

Accessible Buildings Co.

EASY BOLT-UP CONSTRUCTION



SAVE! BUILD YOURSELF!

40 x 50 x 10 = \$8,637.00	COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL SHOP • FARM
40 x 60 x 12 = \$10,362.00	
50 x 75 x 12 = \$14,376.00	
60 x 80 x 14 = \$18,153.00	

100 x 150 x 14 (M-1) = \$46,824.00

**CALL TODAY FOR
BUILDING QUOTE!**

ALL SIZES MINI-STORAGE!

1-800-509-4949 

www.accessiblebuildings.com

STEEL BUILDINGS ANY SIZE

starting at only
\$7,195



PREMIER BUILDING SYSTEMS, INC.

A National Leader in Steel Buildings...
 With 18 years of ironclad
 customer satisfaction!

1.800.882.5150
www.premierbuildings.com 

AQUAMATE

BUILT FOR A LIFETIME

Poly Lined Galvanized Steel Tanks



Durable - Reliable - Affordable

Distributed by
Western States Water Solutions
 San Angelo, Texas
(325) 656-4457 • www.wswatersolutions.com

WATER PROBLEMS ??

NO MORE SAND

**NO MORE
IRON!**

**NO MORE
HARDNESS!**

**NO MORE
SULFUR!**

**NO MORE
BACTERIA!**

PROBLEMS SOLVED WITH
NO SALT & NO CHEMICALS

FREE BROCHURE~1-800-392-8882
 MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!
www.waterproblems.net

W.D. Metal Buildings



Steel shops, agriculture barns, RV buildings,
 airplane hangars, barndominium homes.
 Erection included. Concrete slabs available.



Instant Quotes Online: www.wdmb.com

#1 TRACTOR PACKAGE LEADER IN THE USA!

2012 John Deere 45 HP. 5045D

Full Size Utility Tractor Package Deal



JOHN DEERE

\$24,998.00

\$339

Per Month



Foster's Package Includes:

- 2012 John Deere 5045D Utility Diesel Tractor
- 6' Brushcutter with Slipclutch & Guards • 6' Box Blade with Scarifiers
- Post Hole Digger • 9" Auger • Insulated Green Tractor Canopy
- 48" Pallet Forks or Hay Spear • 20' HD Trailer with Treated Floor, Ramps and Brakes

WE DELIVER EVERYWHERE!

FOSTERS

FAMILY OF FARM STORES

9135 College Street
Beaumont, TX

33402 HWY. 290 West
Hockley, TX

2210 Highway 90
Liberty, TX

(409) 842-1128 (281) 256-6900 (936) 336-7226

Build your customized package online!
www.tractorpackages.com

\$24,998.00 Cash or 10% down and \$339.00 per month @ 72 months WAC • 0 Down Available WAC
 0% Financing for 60 months available • 4-wheel drive available for an additional \$90.00 per month

Custom Buildings

That Fit Your Style and Budget



Garages | Equine | Farm Storage | General Purpose

A workshop where you can indulge your hobby, a garage to house your car collection, a storage building for your toys or just a place where you can relax and have fun with your friends and family—whatever your idea is of the perfect building, Morton can make it a reality.

For over 100 years, we have provided our customers exceptional quality and customer service. At Morton Buildings, we work with you from concept through completion, taking the hassle out of your construction project.

To learn more and to get started, contact Morton Buildings today.

COUNTDOWN to Savings

Don't miss discount pricing on your new building during our off-peak construction season sale. Call today, limited building spots are available.



800-447-7436 • mortonbuildings.com



©2012 Morton Buildings, Inc. A listing of GC licenses available at mortonbuildings.com/licenses.aspx. Reference Code 537



- Serving Texas over 20 years
- NFBA (National Frame Building Assn) Accredited Builder
- NFBA Building of the year winner
- BBB Accredited Business with an A-Plus rating
- The siding we manufacture is UL Listed, file# R26370
- Our Vice President recently passed the National Standard General Building Contractor Exam



All buildings constructed with pre-built trusses w/stamped engineered drawings

1-800-766-5793

www.bcibarns.com

e-mail: barn@bcibarns.com

8:00 to 5:00 Mon. to Fri.
8:00 to 12:00 Sat. CST



Surprisingly affordable.



This is a great time to build your new home! Building materials are affordably priced and mortgage rates are at an all-time low. Get started today with United-Bilt Homes.

In-house financing with ZERO down & no payments for 6 mos!

Austin
Beaumont
Cleveland
Corpus
Christi

Dallas
Fort Worth
Houston
Rosenberg
San Antonio

Sherman
Terrell
Texarkana
Tyler



United-Bilt Homes

Homemade just for you®

800.756.2506 unitedbilt.net

* With approved credit for qualified land owners.



Lic Res Mort Lender AR,LA,MS,MO,OK,TX NMLS#39943

ATTENTION MOBILE HOME OWNERS

EXPERT
INSTALLATION

LIFETIME WARRANTY

REDUCED
ELECTRIC
BILL

INCREASED
HOME VALUE

STOP
LEAKS

INSURANCE
CREDIT

NO MORE ROOF RUMBLE

PERMA-ROOF®

from **Southern Builders**



ASK ABOUT
ENERGY STAR



Since 1983
roofover.com
800.633.8969



Separate Beginnings

Harrison Barrett was 15 years old and chopping weeds from a cotton patch in rural Harris County just north of Galveston on the San Jacinto River with several other slaves when word came that they were free. The other slaves commenced singing and dancing, but young Harrison didn't join in. He said, "I don't feel like dancing until I get Ma and my Pa and brothers and sisters, and then I'll dance."

BY CLAY COPPEDGE

PART OF THE SINGING AND DANCING CAME from the false notion that the freed slaves would get 40 acres and a mule from the federal government in compensation for their years and lives of bondage. What they got instead was the beginning of the Jim Crow culture of segregation in the South, including Texas, and what seemed for all the world like a new form of slavery—sharecropping. If the former slaves were going to get those acres and mules, they would have to buy them from whites, who were not always eager to sell good land or working animals to African-Americans. From this reality came the sharecropper, where any acres and any mules they worked belonged to somebody else.

The enduring image of the black sharecropper of the late 1800s is symbolized more than anything else by the shacks where they lived. Historian Loren Schweninger wrote, "The 'cabin,' built with rough-hewn lumber, was nearly always dark, dingy, and dilapidated, without windows, light or proper ventilation. It smelled of must, eating and sleeping, containing eight to ten people, it stood as a silent symbol of the degradation of landless blacks in the Deep South."

But something else was happening. African-Americans did start buying their own land, settling their own communities and running their own affairs. The communities—which eventually included churches and schools—became known as freedmen's settlements, usually called "freedom colonies" by the people who colonized them. History paid them scant attention until historians Thad Sitton and James H. Conrad wrote *Freedom Colonies: Independent Black Texans in the Time of Jim Crow* (University of Texas Press, 2005). While the image of the sharecropper has persisted in history

and popular culture, the authors noted that land ownership among blacks actually skyrocketed during that time: 1.8 percent owned land in 1870, 26 percent in 1890 and 31 percent soon after 1900.

That land, however, was not prime real estate, as the authors note: "Most established themselves on pockets of wilderness, cheap land, or neglected land previously untouched by cotton agriculture."

Many ex-slaves simply "squatted" on land, like Harrison Barrett. Soon after the war, Barrett began living on and working some land near the San Jacinto River with his blood family and an extended family of other former slaves. Barrett listed himself in the 1870 census as an "agriculture laborer," but the land was pretty much his own to do with as he pleased, and he did so with the full knowledge and permission of his former owner, Reuben White, who finally sold him the land for 50 cents an acre in 1889. People of the community referred to him as "Uncle Harrison." He helped build the first seven houses that gave the town of Barrett its start. He also established a sawmill, gristmill and coffee mill, and he donated land for the Shiloh Baptist Church, which also served as a school.

This is how many of the freedom colonies came to be—not by hook, crook or courthouse transaction, but by the fact that people began living every day in Barrett and in places like Peyton Colony in Blanco County, St. John Colony on the Caldwell-Bastrop county line, Hogjaw in Cherokee County and hundreds of others with names like Green Hill, Yellow Prairie, Red Branch, Weeping Mary, Board Bottom, Jerusalem, Freedman's Ridge, Egypt, Frog, Elm and Slough.

These were isolated communities even in their own time, and records were kept



mostly or entirely in the minds and hearts of one generation and then the next as the stories were told and told again, but rarely for the history books. Sitton and Conrad suggest that the image of the sharecropper's shack was so powerful and so prevalent that historians missed or largely ignored the freedmen's settlements. Black migrations out of the state were duly noted, but the people who stayed and made their own way were mostly ignored. "Historians largely missed the similar and more general response of the freedmen's settlements, when ex-slaves remained in the South to establish all-black landowner communities as far away from white authority as possible," they wrote.

The colonies fragmented, dwindled and in many cases were totally abandoned in the early decades of the 20th century. "Uncle Harrison" Barrett died in 1917, but the town named after him survives, where there is dancing in his honor, to be sure, every year during the annual Juneteenth celebration. In a sense, all of his family is there, just as he wished.

Clay Coppedge, frequent contributor. His book *Texas Baseball: A Lone Star Diamond History from Town Teams to the Big Leagues* (The History Press, 2012) was recently published.

STIHL®

#1 IN AMERICA.*
BUILT IN AMERICA.

FREE CARRY CASE

WITH PURCHASE OF
STIHL MS 250
CHAIN SAW

\$49⁹⁹

BME-SRP value



Offer good through 11/30/12 at participating dealers while supplies last.



**MS 250
CHAIN SAW**

\$329⁹⁹

18" bar

Features great power-to-weight ratio for quick work of firewood cutting and around-the-home tasks

Includes side-access chain tensioner for easy chain adjustment



**BG 55
HANDHELD
BLOWER**

\$149⁹⁹

Proven handheld blower at an affordable price

Great for quickly cleaning driveways, sidewalks and hard-to-reach places

*A majority of STIHL products are built in the United States from domestic and foreign parts and components. "Number one selling brand" is based on syndicated Irwin Broh Research (commercial landscapers) as well as independent consumer research of 2009-2011 U.S. sales and market share data for the gasoline-powered handheld outdoor power equipment category combined sales to consumers and commercial landscapers. © 2012 STIHL

STIHLdealers.com

THERE'S ONLY ONE WATER HEATER AS FAITHFUL AS THE MARATHON.

Old Faithful and Marathon provide hot water dependably, year-after-year, without a worry. But, one is owned by the government. Fortunately, Marathons are available from electric utilities. So now you can have your very own "Old Faithful" efficiently providing hot water for a lifetime.



Marathon
WATER HEATERS

The New Old Faithful

Marathon, America's most durable and efficient water heater. Now available at these member-owned cooperatives:

Bailey EC	Lyntegar EC
Bandera EC	Magic Valley EC
Bowie-Cass EC	Medina EC
Central Texas EC	Mid-South Synergy
Central Valley EC	North Plains EC
Concho Valley EC	Roosevelt EC
Deaf Smith EC	Rusk County EC
Farmers EC, TX	San Bernard EC
Farmers EC, NM	South Plains EC
Greenbelt EC	Southwest Rural EA
Hamilton EC	Taylor EC
Heart of Texas EC	Victoria EC
Lamb County EC	Wharton EC
Lea County EC	Wise EC
Lighthouse EC	

Have questions? Ready to buy? Call us!

1-866-390-4832



Texas Electric Cooperatives

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

Marathon Water Heaters are proudly made in the USA • For more information, visit www.marathonheaters.com

The Daily Grind

Texas has many fine eating traditions, with food styles borrowed from dozens of cultures, all fused together to make a uniquely Lone Star cuisine. One thing many of those traditions have in common is sausage. The ground meat and spice mixtures found in Texas come from Spanish (chorizo), European (wurst and klobása), Cajun (boudin) and Western (beef links) cultures. Award-winning food writer Robb Walsh takes a look at these culinary styles, and many more, in his delicious tour of the state's five major geographic regions in *Texas Eats, The New Lone Star Heritage Cookbook* (Ten Speed Press, 2012). Besides recipes of all kinds gathered from Beaumont to El Paso and Amarillo to Brownsville, Walsh includes stories of the people behind the food. Among the hundreds of recipes in the tome are several for sausage. Two of them are especially well-suited for breakfast and can be made in a food processor.

KEVIN HARGIS

Sage Breakfast Sausage

- 10 ounces boneless pork loin, finely diced
- 6 ounces sliced bacon, finely diced
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh sage
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh rosemary
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh or pickled jalapeño, or to taste
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- ½ teaspoon salt
- Pinch cayenne pepper

- Combine all ingredients in a food processor and process for 10 seconds, or until coarsely ground.
- Fry a small nugget of the mixture in a hot skillet and taste.
- Adjust the seasonings if necessary and process another 5 to 10 seconds, until well ground.
- Shape the mixture into patties, about ½-inch thick.
- In the skillet, cook the patties over medium heat, turning once, for about 5 minutes total, until cooked through. Serve hot.

Servings: 4. Serving size: 1 patty. Per serving: 316 calories, 31.9 g protein, 17 g fat, 3.6 g carbohydrates, 0.5 g dietary fiber, 680 mg sodium, 2.3 g sugars, 81 mg cholesterol

removing any gristle.

- In a food processor, combine the pork, roasted chiles, tomatillo, garlic, serrano, cilantro, green onion, parsley, oregano, vinegar and salt. Pulse until finely ground.
- In a skillet, heat a few drops of the oil over medium-high heat, add a small nugget of chorizo and fry until cooked through. Taste and adjust seasonings. Process again until seasonings and meat are well combined.
- To cook chorizo, heat remaining oil in the skillet over medium-high heat. Add the chorizo and fry, breaking up the meat with the side of a wooden spoon or spatula until cooked through and browned.

Servings: 2. Serving size: 4 ounces. Per serving: 327 calories, 18.2 g protein, 24.4 g fat, 3.6 g carbohydrates, 1.1 g dietary fiber, 1,428 mg sodium, 1.6 g sugars, 65 mg cholesterol

Green Chorizo

- 1 tomatillo
- 8 ounces boneless pork chops or ground pork
- ¼ cup roasted green chiles, seeded and cut into strips
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 serrano pepper, seeded and chopped
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 tablespoons chopped green onion (white and green parts)
- 2 teaspoons chopped fresh parsley
- 1 teaspoon dried Mexican oregano
- 2 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 1 teaspoon salt, or to taste
- 1 tablespoon olive oil, for frying

- Remove the husk from the tomatillo and blanch for 5 minutes in simmering water. Cut into quarters.
- If using the pork chops, cut them into a ½-inch dice,



Sage Breakfast Sausage

SUE WEST | WISE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Sure, you can buy sausage in any grocery store, but the pre-made mixtures of spices and meat don't have your special touch, and unless you make it yourself, you never really know what went into the grind. The sausage recipes chosen by our taste testers this month all have wonderful flavor, and you can give yourself more of what you like when making them by adjusting the spice levels to your taste.

Quick Italian Sausage

- 1 pound ground pork
- 2 teaspoons fennel seeds
- 2 teaspoons minced garlic
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1 teaspoon thyme
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper



- Mix all ingredients well.
- Refrigerate, covered, for 24 hours to allow the flavors to blend.
- Cook and serve or freeze for later.

Servings: 4. Serving size: ¼ pound. Per serving: 259 calories, 17.9 g protein, 17.9 g fat, 1.9 g carbohydrates, 1 g dietary fiber, 648 mg sodium, 0.1 g sugars, 65 mg cholesterol

\$100 Recipe Contest

February's recipe contest topic is **Slow-Cooker Magic**. Internet sensations Nicole Sparks and Jenna Marwitz, aka the Crockin' Girls, are riding a wave of success thanks to their slow-cooker recipes. Do you have a favorite Crock-Pot recipe you'd like to share? The deadline is October 10.

SPONSORED BY THE TEXAS PEANUT PRODUCERS BOARD.



There are three ways to enter: **ONLINE** at TexasCoopPower.com (under the Submit and Share tab); **MAIL** to 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701; **FAX** to (512) 763-3408. Include your name, address and phone number, plus your co-op.

Turkey Breakfast Patties

- 1½ pounds ground turkey (85 percent lean)
- ¼ cup finely chopped fresh sage
- ½ teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup ground pecans
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar or honey
- Oil for cooking

- Two nights before you want to make the sausage, wrap the ground turkey in cheesecloth and place in a large colander or sieve. Place this in a large bowl in the refrigerator and cover with aluminum foil or plastic wrap to prevent the meat from drying out. Allow excess blood to drip from meat.

- The next day, discard the blood. Mix the meat, sage, pepper, salt, pecans and sugar or honey together. Cover and put mixture in the refrigerator.
- When ready to cook, heat a large heavy-bottomed skillet over medium heat. Add just enough oil to cover the pan bottom. Using an ice cream scoop, divide the mixture into patty portions and place in the skillet.
- Flatten the patties with the back of a spoon or spatula to the desired thickness. When the underside of the patties have a crusty brown texture, flip them over and continue frying until done.

Servings: 6. Serving size: 2 patties. Per serving: 250 calories, 19.8 g protein, 16.5 g fat, 3.8 g carbohydrates, 1 g dietary fiber, 449 mg sodium, 2.5 g sugars, 88 mg cholesterol

CRISTY MITCHELL | GUADALUPE VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Mike and Regina's Homemade Bratwurst

Hog casings for sausage

- 6 pounds pork
- 3 pounds beef
- 3 tablespoons salt
- 5 teaspoons black pepper
- 3 teaspoons nutmeg
- 3 teaspoons mace
- 4 cloves crushed garlic
- 2 teaspoons mustard seed
- 2 teaspoons red pepper flakes

- Prepare casings for stuffing by rinsing.
- Cut pork and beef into 1-inch cubes and grind to a medium-coarse texture. Put in a large bowl.
- Combine seasonings and gently mix into the ground meat.
- Use a medium tube in a sausage stuffer and fill casings, twisting into lengths of about 5 inches. Chill links before separating. Sausage can be cooked fresh or frozen for later.

Servings: 18. Serving size: 2 links. Per serving: 414 calories, 45.8 g protein, 21.1 g fat, 1.1 g carbohydrates, 0.4 g dietary fiber, 1,286 mg sodium, 0.2 g sugars, 164 mg cholesterol

REGINA MOSER | PEDERNALES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



Cook's Tip: To cook, take about 2 pounds of sausage and prick casings with a fork. Place into a large stockpot along with six 12-ounce cans of beer, 1½ teaspoons of pepper and enough water to cover them. Place the pot over medium heat and simmer for 15 to 20 minutes.

Preheat grill for medium-high heat and lightly oil the grate. Grill bratwurst for 10 to 14 minutes, turning occasionally.

Lightly butter 10 hoagie rolls and warm on grill. Serve brats with rolls, spicy mustard and warm sauerkraut.

Venison Sausage: a Texas Tradition

Venison sausage is a firmly established tradition in Texas where deer are abundant. The blends of meats and spices and other know-how are often unique to each sausage maker, and often to each batch of sausage.

A couple of Texas Co-op Power readers shared their wisdom about the sausage-making process:

Ken Loth, who lives in Fredericksburg and is an account manager for Texas Electric Cooperatives' Manufacturing and Distribution Services Division, wrote that making sausage with his brothers, Rick and Bob (who is the CEO of Central Texas Electric Cooperative), is a special time of brotherly bonding.

"I started making sausage 23 years ago when I met my wife," wrote Ken. "Her family had been making sausage for generations already. I took what I learned from them and shared the recipe with my two brothers. ... Although we all live in the same area, it is not that often we all three get together, but at least one day a year we all meet to make sausage.

"Between Bob's grinding advice, Rick's tying strategy and my overall stuffing talents, there is a lot of, let's say, 'how I would do it.' Sometimes I think the sausage is so good not only because of what's in it but what goes into making it."

Smoking sausage used to be a way to preserve it. But with refrigeration, smoking has become more of a way to add flavor, said Sunset resident **Allen Krejci**, a member of Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative.

Here's how his smoking process works: "We use a 6-foot by 6-foot by 8-foot-high tin smokehouse and use split mesquite for the fire," he said.

Two small fires, made of mesquite pieces about the thickness of a broomstick, are kindled. The sausage links are hung on 6-foot sticks, which are themselves hung on an overhead rack. It smokes for 2 to 2½ hours at 150-170 degrees.

You "cool the smoked sausage and then vacuum pack," Krejci said. "Freeze, and you will have good eating for a long time."




Meat, spices and smoke: The Texas tradition of sausage-making has been preserved over the years through the efforts of countless cooks.

Help for Today... Hope for Tomorrow®

Hope for the Cure
BELIEVE IN MIRACLES™ RING

EXCLUSIVELY FROM
THE
Concorde
COLLECTION
www.concordecollection.com

 **NATIONAL
BREAST
CANCER
FOUNDATION, INC.®**

*Pink Topaz... White Topaz... 14K Rose Gold...
Sterling Silver. The perfect Christmas gift
for yourself... or someone special. Just \$55*

A symbol of belief and hope for the cure for breast cancer blooms in this perfect blossom, unfolding its petals, glistening with dewdrops in the warmth of the sun. This tribute to the courage of those whose lives have been touched by breast cancer is artfully sculpted in Sterling Silver by award-winning designer Marjorie Andes. It is lavishly coated with 14K Rose Gold, set with sparkling Pink and White Topaz, and enhanced with braided leaf detail. A solid Silver band represents unity with women around the world. A symbolic inspiration of belief in miracles and the celebration of life.

Officially authorized by the National Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc.®, this dramatic ring is offered exclusively through the Concorde Collection and is not sold in stores. Satisfaction guaranteed for 60 days. Mail your order today.

ORDER FORM

Please mail within 30 days.

YES, I wish to order the HOPE FOR THE CURE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES™ RING. I *need send no payment now*. I will be billed \$55* when my ring is ready to be shipped.

Size: ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10

* Plus \$4.95 shipping and handling . Plus 6% sales tax, PA residents only.

Name PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Address

City

State Zip

Telephone (Include Area Code)

Mail to: The Concorde Collection
P.O. Box 8017, Aston, PA 19014


THE
CONCORDE
COLLECTION
BMCR86

©2012 TCC

No
Contract

Want a cell phone that's just a phone? Your choice is simple.

Better
Sound and
Longer Battery Life



Introducing the all-new Jitterbug® Plus.

We've made it even better...
without making it harder to use.

All my friends have new cell phones. They carry them around with them all day, like mini computers, with little tiny keyboards and hundreds of programs which are supposed to make their life easier. Trouble is... my friends can't use them. The keypads are too small, the displays are hard to see and the phones are so complicated that my friends end up borrowing my Jitterbug when they need to make a call. I don't mind... I just got a new phone too... **the new Jitterbug Plus. Now I have all the things I loved about my Jitterbug phone along with some great new features that make it even better!**

GreatCall® created the Jitterbug with one thing in mind – to offer people a cell phone that's easy to see and hear, and is simple to use and affordable. Now, they've made the cell phone experience even better with the Jitterbug Plus. It features a lightweight, comfortable design with a backlit keypad and big, legible numbers. There is even a dial tone so you know the phone is ready to use. You can also increase the volume with one touch and the speaker's been improved so you get great audio quality and can hear every word. The battery has been improved too– it's one of the longest lasting on the market– so you won't have to charge it as often. The phone comes to you with your account already set up and is easy to activate.

The rate plans are simple too. Why pay for minutes you'll never use? There are a variety of affordable plans. Plus, you don't have to worry about finding yourself stuck with no

minutes– that's the problem with prepaid phones. Since there is no contract to sign, you are not locked in for years at a time and won't be subject to early termination fees. The U.S.-based customer service

Monthly Minutes	50	100
Monthly Rate	\$14.99	\$19.99
Operator Assistance	24/7	24/7
911 Access	FREE	FREE
Long Distance Calls	No add'l charge	No add'l charge
Voice Dial	FREE	FREE
Nationwide Coverage	Yes	Yes
Friendly Return Policy ¹	30 days	30 days

More minute plans available. Ask your Jitterbug expert for details.



Available in
Silver and Red.

is knowledgeable and helpful and the phone gets service virtually anywhere in the continental U.S. Above all, you'll get one-touch access to a friendly, and helpful GreatCall operator. They can look up numbers, and even dial them for you! They are always there to help you when you need them.

Call now and receive a FREE gift when you order. Try the Jitterbug Plus for yourself for 30 days and if you don't love it, just return it for a refund¹ of the product purchase price. Call now – helpful Jitterbug experts are ready to answer your questions.

Call now and receive a **FREE gift** just for ordering. **Hurry...**this is a limited time offer. **Call now!**

All-New
jitterbug
plus

firstSTREET
for Boomers and Beyond®
1998 Ruffin Mill Road
Colonial Heights, VA 23834



Jitterbug Plus Cell Phone

Call today to get your own Jitterbug Plus.

Please mention promotional code 45460.

1-877-569-8634

www.jitterbugdirect.com

We proudly accept the following credit cards.



IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: Jitterbug is owned by GreatCall, Inc. Your invoices will come from GreatCall. All rate plans and services require the purchase of a Jitterbug phone and a one-time set up fee of \$35. Coverage and service is not available everywhere. Other charges and restrictions may apply. Screen images simulated. There are no additional fees to call Jitterbug's 24-hour U.S. Based Customer Service. However, for calls to an Operator in which a service is completed, minutes will be deducted from your monthly balance equal to the length of the call and any call connected by the Operator, plus an additional 5 minutes. Monthly rate plans do not include government taxes or assessment surcharges. Prices and fees subject to change. ¹We will refund the full price of the Jitterbug phone if it is returned within 30 days of purchase in like-new condition. We will also refund your first monthly service charge if you have less than 30 minutes of usage. If you have more than 30 minutes of usage, a per minute charge of 35 cents will apply for each minute over 30 minutes. The activation fee and shipping charges are not refundable. Jitterbug is a registered trademark of GreatCall, Inc. Samsung is a registered trademark of Samsung Electronics America, Inc. and/or its related entities. Copyright © 2012 GreatCall, Inc. Copyright © 2012 by firstSTREET for Boomers and Beyond, Inc. All rights reserved.

Oooops! We stumble, we fall, we get stuck in the mud. Life can be imperfect—and hilariously so at times. Sometimes, before we get back up, it's good to stop and laugh a little at ourselves. Thanks for sharing with us the little mishaps that you've seen. We hope you get as big a kick out of them as we did. **ASHLEY CLARY-CARPENTER**



▲ Central Texas Electric Cooperative member **Kathleen Riordan** said grandson **Hunter Craig**, 1, got his first lesson on the pleasures and perils of playing in puddles.

Wood County Electric Cooperative member **Montie Monzingo** was hauling hay near Saltillo when the front end of his tractor began to sink. All he, his wife, **Vivian**, and a few neighbors could do was laugh. ►



Gracie, a 10-week-old golden retriever, almost made it to freedom but then got stuck. The gatekeeper, **Dee Roberson**, is a member of Bandera Electric Cooperative. ►



▲ No children or lambs were harmed in the taking of this photograph, says Pedernales Electric Cooperative member **Cheri Barr**.

One of Victoria Electric Cooperative member **Patti Shobey's** calves got her head stuck in a bucket. The other calves' problems pale in comparison. ▼



Upcoming Contests

December Issue: Night Photography *Deadline: October 10*

January: Naptime **February: Silhouettes**

Send your photo for the December contest—along with your name, address, daytime phone, co-op affiliation and a brief description—to Night Photography, Focus on Texas, 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701, before **October 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.** If using a digital camera, submit your **highest-resolution images** at TexasCoopPower.com/contests. We regret that Texas Co-op Power cannot be responsible for photos that are lost in the mail or not received by the deadline.

Pick of the Month

Rainwater Revival

Boerne [October 27]
(512) 479-9426, rainwaterrevival.com

The day will be filled with informative and entertaining presentations by professionals and users of rainwater, water conservation-related business vendor booths, rainwater system displays, and plenty of experts to provide guidance and services—as well as food booths, shopping, live music and much more!



RAIN BARREL © JUNE J. | BIGSTOCK.COM.2012. BEER STEIN: © AARON AMAT | BIGSTOCK.COM.2012.

October

04

Waco [4-13] Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo,
(254) 776-1660, hotfair.com

05

Graford [5-6] Possum Fest & BBQ & Chili Cook-Off, (940) 779-2424, possumkingdomlake.com

Harper [5-6] Bar-B-Que Cook-Off Fundraiser, (830) 739-1328

06

Beaumont Fire Safety Festival,
(409) 880-3927, firemuseumoftexas.org

Bridgeport Coalminer's Heritage Festival,
(940) 683-3404

Coleman Fiesta de la Paloma,
(325) 625-2163, colemantexas.org

De Kalb Oktoberfest, (903) 277-8625

Dime Box Black Bridge Festival & Mini Marathon, (979) 884-3227, giddingstx.com



October 6
De Kalb
Oktoberfest

Hico Billy the Kid Chili Cook-Off,
(254) 796-2523, billythekidmuseum.com

Huntsville Fair on the Square,
(936) 295-8113

Johnson City Blanco County Wild Game Dinner, (830) 833-5335,
facebook.com/wildgamedinner

Smithville Citywide Garage Sale,
(512) 237-2313, smithvilletx.org

Weatherford Spiciest Festival Around,
(940) 682-4856, clarkgardens.org/events/fall-festival-and-run

11

Seguin [11-14] Guadalupe County Fair,
(830) 379-6477, gcfair.org

PhysAssist Foot Pain Cream with Tea Tree Oil

#1 in fighting
Neuropathy Pain

Also, Helps Relieve

- Foot, Ankle, Leg and Knee Pain
- Tingling, Burning Sensations
- Plantar Fasciitis
- Restless Legs
- Foot and Leg Cramps
- Dry, Itchy, Flaky Skin
- Rough, Cracked Heels

Diabetic Friendly!

Testimonial

I cannot say enough about how good the foot pain cream is. I suffer from neuropathy in my feet and legs and at times the pain is so bad it's unbearable. The cream takes away the pain and burning from my feet and legs. I would like to see more diabetics and people who suffer from neuropathy have a chance to try this wonderful product. Thank you, thank you PhysAssist.

Diane T. / Greensboro, NC

Limited Time Offer

ORDER BY INTERNET

www.PhysAssist.com
When checking out, enter coupon **TXH12** in coupon window to receive \$2.00 OFF.

ORDER BY PHONE

800-362-8063

Mention **TXH12** for \$2.00 OFF

ORDER BY MAIL

Send your name and address, along with a check or MO in the amount of \$22.90 (this includes S&H and the \$2.00 discount) to:

PhysAssist
116 Spring Meadow Dr
Bluffton SC, 29910

*Send Code **TXH12**
for your \$2.00 OFF



ONLY \$19.95 +S&H

TXH12
\$2.00 off

and festivals around Texas. For a complete listing, please visit TexasCoopPower.com/events.

12

Conroe [12-14] Cajun Catfish Festival,
(936) 539-6009, conroecajuncatfishfestival.com

13

Lipan Texas Hill Country Anniversary
Celebration, (254) 646-3376, txhcountry.com

19

Grapeland [19-20] Wild West Festival,
(936) 687-4905

Terrell [19-20] No Kill Adopt-A-Thon,
(972) 551-6641, terrellpet.com



October 6
Beaumont Fire
Safety Festival

Fredericksburg [19-21] Texas Lone Star
Gourd Festival, (512) 431-6030, [texasgourd
society.org](http://texasgourd
society.org)

20

Luling Great Luling Rubber Duck Race,
(830) 875-3214, lulingcc.org

Van Alstyne The Great Big Van Alstyne Fall
der All, (903) 482-6066, vanalstynecdc.com

Canadian [20-21] Fall Foliage Festival,
(806) 323-6234, canadiantx.com

26

Hondo [26-27] Wild Game Festival,
(830) 426-3037

November

02

Columbus [2-3] Live Oaks & Dead Folks
Cemetery Tour, (979) 732-3392, [columbus
texas.net/library](http://columbus
texas.net/library)

Gonzales [2-3] Barn Sale, (830) 203-0714,
rustedgingham.com



November 2
Columbus Live Oaks &
Dead Folks Cemetery Tour

03

Bellville [3-4] Antiques & Garden Show,
(979) 865-5618, ruraltexasantiquesshows.com

Submit Your Event!

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

SMOKE ALARM: 2012 © MIA CARUANA | BIGSTOCK.COM.2012. TOMBSTONES: 2012 © ANDRE NANTTEL | BIGSTOCK.COM.2012.

NEW! *The Fastest, Easiest Way EVER to*

HALT INVASIVE TREES!

LIMITED-TIME OFFER
1*YEAR TRIAL



The Patented
DR® TreeChopper™

is like a pipe cutter for trees!

You simply drive the TreeChopper™ into trees up to 4" thick. Circular discs slice through the trunk, while a rear trailing blade shears the stump flush to the ground.

- CUTS HUNDREDS OF TREES PER HOUR while driving your ATV.
- ELIMINATES RED CEDAR, MESQUITE and other invasive trees.
- CUTS TREES UP TO 4" IN DIAMETER flush to the ground.

Call for **FREE** Information Kit!



TOLL-FREE
877-201-9779
DRTreeChopper.com

76525X © 2012 CHP

The Only Folk Life Festival in East Texas

24th Annual

HERITAGE SYRUP FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 10, 2012

HENDERSON, TEXAS

SUGAR CANE SYRUP MAKING • ANTIQUE CARS AND TRACTORS
FOLK ART DEMONSTRATIONS • MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT
SHOPPING VENDORS AND MUCH MORE

WWW.VISITHENDERSONTX.COM
1-866-650-5529

Hill Country town's contributions to cuisine and cinema are its claims to fame, but have you heard about San Saba's bygone bridges and shady marriages?

BY CHARLES BOISSEAU

THE PECAN IS THE OFFICIAL TREE OF Texas, and pecans are the state's official nut.

Nutty for the nuts, naturally I headed for the heart of Texas' pecan country: San Saba, a picturesque Hill Country burg and self-proclaimed Pecan Capital of the World. I not only satisfied my craving but found that San Saba County boasts much more than pecans, with its beautiful green spaces, a resurging downtown San Saba, rare suspension bridges and jewel of a state park: Colorado Bend.

My first stop was **Millican Pecan Co.**, owned by descendants of E.E. Risien. Risien, a cabinetmaker and native of England, got into the pecan-growing business in the 1880s after he identified that the tastiest pecans came from what is known as the "mother pecan tree," the original tree that Risien cultivated to produce the most flavorful varieties, including the original San Saba Pecan. "He took this one tree and developed new varieties off

of it, including the Western Pecan, which is the most populated pecan there is," said Winston Millican, Risien's great-great grandson.

I visited the tree, estimated to be hundreds of years old, in a verdant grove along the San Saba River, though it wasn't as impressive as one might imagine. It had been struck by lightning in recent years and harmed by the way people once harvested pecans by cutting limbs, Millican said. Now, machines shake trees to drop nuts into harvesting machinery.

"I want to be the Johnny Appleseed of pecans. That's my goal," Winston said. From the looks of it, he may have competition—Winston, that is. Pecan orchards, processing outfits and specialty stores seem to be around every corner, including **Oliver Pecan Co.**, **Alamo Pecan and Coffee Co.**, **Great San Saba River Pecan Co.** and **San Saba Pecan**, which processes more than 30 million pecans a year.

San Saba is undergoing a resurgence of sorts, with the recent unveiling of **River Nature Park** and **Wedding Oak Winery**, which recently opened a wine-tasting room in a restored commercial building. The winery is named after another of the city's famous trees—a massive live oak that stretches across China Creek Road. It got its name because couples frequently got hitched under its impressive branches.

While you're downtown, visit **Harry's**, a well-known cowboy boot and hat shop that has become so successful it has sprawled into adjacent restored buildings and expanded into women's apparel.

I coaxed a ticket to the exclusive Catkins Ball, which is held each spring at **Risien Park** and draws hundreds of San Saba movers and shakers dressed in their fanciest duds to raise money for charity. (Don't know what catkins are? They are the green stringy buds that pecan trees drop seemingly by the ton each spring.)

Among the items auctioned at what local teenagers have dubbed the "grown-ups' prom": a 1-year-old dun quarter horse from a local stable and a cruise along the Gulf Coast on a boat owned by Hollywood star Tommy Lee Jones, the town's most famous product.

Jones is well known for protecting his privacy, but you can pass his ranch southeast of town—look for his polo fields—on the way to **Colorado Bend State Park**, an outdoor paradise along bluffs and a sharp turn of the Colorado River, where the waterway runs free of dams. Don't miss the thunderous 60-foot **Gorman Falls**, accessible by hiking a path that's lined with wildflowers in the spring.

And, for my money, no trip to San Saba is complete without crossing the old-fashioned wooden bridges: **Regency Bridge**, a one-lane suspension bridge that spans the Colorado River on the border of San Saba and Mills counties, and the **Beveridge**, a pedestrian bridge over the San Saba River. When I visited, a few visitors and I jumped on the Regency and felt the bridge gently sway in response.

Charles Boisseau, frequent contributor

REGENCY BRIDGE: The one-lane wooden suspension bridge, built in 1939, spans the Colorado River.



FREE Home Security System!

**\$850
VALUE**

at **NO COST** to you for parts and activation with only a \$99 Customer Installation Charge and the purchase of monthly alarm monitoring services. Terms and Conditions below.



Our state-of-the-art system includes:

- Front and Back Doors Protected
- Infrared Interior Motion Detector
- Digital Keypad with Police, Fire and Emergency Buttons
- Interior Siren
- Control Panel with Battery Back-up
- Lawn Sign and Window Decals

Your home security system is monitored by ADT professionals 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. As an added benefit, installing a Security System may qualify you for a Homeowners Insurance discount.



**Protect
Your
Home**

CALL NOW TOLL-FREE

1-866-308-2236

Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-Midnight EST • Sat-Sun 8am-8pm EST

www.ProtectYourHome.com

Act Now and Receive a

FREE

Wireless Remote Control

\$119 Value! To take advantage of this promotion, you must call no later than 30 days from the postmark of this advertisement. Not valid with any other offers or discounts. Must mention this coupon.

Reservation Code: DF-T-TEXAS-0912

Act Now and Receive a

FREE

Fire & Emergency Panic Alert

To take advantage of this promotion, you must call no later than 30 days from the postmark of this advertisement. Not valid with any other offers or discounts. Must mention this coupon.

Reservation Code: DF-T-TEXAS-0912

\$99.00 Customer Installation Charge. 36-Month Monitoring Agreement required at \$36.99 per month (\$1,331.64). Form of payment must be by credit card or electronic charge to your checking or savings account. Offer applies to homeowners only. Local permit fees may be required. Satisfactory credit history required. Certain restrictions may apply. Offer valid for new ADT Authorized Dealer customers only and not on purchases from ADT LLC. Other rate plans available. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Licenses: AL-12-1104, AK-35221, AR-E08-014, AZ-ROC217517, CA-ACO6320, CT-ELC.0193944-L5, DE-07-212, FL-EC13003427, EC13003401, GA-LVA205395, HI-CT30946, IA-AC-0036, ID-39131, IL-127.001042, IN-City of Indianapolis: 80988, KY-City of Louisville: 483, LA-F1082, MA-1355C, MD-107-1626, ME-LMS0017382, MI-3601205773, MN-TS01807, MO-City of St. Louis: CC354, St. Louis County: 53328, MS-15007958, MT-247, NC-25310-SP-FA/LV, NC-1622-CSA, NE-14451, NJ-348F00021800, NM-353366, NV-68518, City of Las Vegas: B14-00075-6-121756, C11-11262-L-121756, NY-Licensed by the N.Y.S. Department of State UID#12000286451, OH-53891446, City of Cincinnati: AC86, OK-1048, OR-170997, Pennsylvania Home Improvement Contractor Registration Number: PA22999, RI-3582, SC-BAC5630, TN-C1520, TX-B13734, ACR-3492, UT-6422596-6501, VA-115120, VT-ES-2382, WA-602588694/PROTEYH934RS, WI-City of Milwaukee: 0001697, WV-042433, WY-LV-G-21499. 3750 Priority Way South Dr. Suite 200 Indianapolis, IN 46240 ©2011 Defender Security

When your land is their future



We're the answer.

Capital Farm Credit has made agricultural production, real estate and agribusiness loans for 95 years. We embrace our cooperative structure and our commitment to return profits to our customers. Through our patronage program, we return almost 100 percent of our net earnings back to our customers — a distinct benefit of doing business with us.

CapitalFarmCredit.com

877.944.5500

Rural Land Loans
Country Home Loans
Farm & Ranch Loans
Livestock & Equipment Loans
Operating Capital
Real Estate Appraisal Services
Agribusiness Financing
Leasing



T E X A S ' L A R G E S T R U R A L L E N D E R