

TEXAS CO-OP POWER

A photograph of a charro riding a dark horse in a rodeo arena. The charro is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt, dark pants, and a large, light-colored sombrero. He is holding the reins and looking towards the camera. The arena is dusty and there are other horses and riders visible in the background.

¡CHARREADA!

Centuries-old tradition
honors charro way of life

MUELLER METAL ROOFS

- We've got you covered -



A Mueller metal roof will shelter your family and your belongings in every kind of weather — from everyday exposure to extreme events like hail, high winds and storms. To protect what matters most, Mueller has you covered.

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


MUELLER, INC.
METAL BUILDINGS, ROOFING & COMPONENTS



A 1930s resident likely painted this mural at the Kaufmann County Poor Farm, a Preservation Texas landmark.

FEATURES

8 Showtime at the Charreada The Mexican forebear to American rodeo emphasizes style and tradition

Story and photos by Julia Robinson

12 Endangered Places Preservation Texas campaigns to save beloved architectural landmarks

By Stephen Sharpe

FAVORITES

18 Local Co-op News

Get the latest information plus energy and safety tips from your cooperative.

29 Texas History

Big Bend Baron

By E. Dan Klepper

31 Recipes

Five Ingredients or Fewer

35 Focus on Texas

Photo Contest: My Favorite Teacher

36 Around Texas

List of Local Events

38 Hit the Road

Gonzales: More Than Mystique

By Russell Graves

ONLINE

TexasCoopPower.com

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

Texas USA

Drawn to Strawn

By E.R. Bills

Texas Faces

Takin' Texas to the People

By Michael O'Brien

NEXT MONTH

The Power of Your Cooperative Around the countryside and around the world, the co-op ethos strengthens communities.



MURAL: COURTESY LIZ CARMACK | COUNTY MAGAZINE. WOMAN: TOUCHSTONE ENERGY

ON THE COVER *The charreada, similar to the American rodeo, is a demonstration of equestrian skills.* Photo by Julia Robinson

TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES BOARD OF DIRECTORS: David Marricle, Chair, Muleshoe; Mark Tamplin, Vice Chair, Kirbyville; Bryan Lightfoot, Secretary-Treasurer, Bartlett; Mike R. Hagy, Tipton, Oklahoma; William F. Hetherington, Bandera; Mark Rollans, Hondo; Anne Vaden, Corinth • **PRESIDENT/CEO:** Mike Williams, Austin • **COMMUNICATIONS & MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE:** Greg Henley, Tahoka; Billy Marricle, Bellville; Mark McClain, Roby; Blaine Warzecha, Victoria; Jerry Williams, Paris; Kathy Wood, Marshall • **MAGAZINE STAFF:** Martin Bevins, Vice President, Communications & Member Services; Charles J. Lohrmann, Editor; Tom Widlowski, Associate Editor; Karen Nejtck, Production Manager; Andy Doughty, Creative Manager; Grace Arsiaga, Print Production Specialist; Chris Carlson, Communications & Member Services Assistant; Anna Ginsberg, Food Editor; Suzanne Halko, Copy Editor; Randall Maxwell, Videographer/Photographer; Jane Sharpe, Graphic Designer; Ellen Stader, Copy Editor; Karen Taylor, Communications & Member Services Assistant; Shannon Oelrich, Proofreader

BUILT TO WORK WHERE YOU DO.



ON THE JOB OR IN THE SHOP - THE NEW AND VERSATILE FORNEY® LINE OF WELDERS DELIVERS THE FEATURES YOU'D EXPECT FROM A HIGH-END MACHINE WITHOUT THE HIGH-END PRICE.

New 3-in-1 multi-processor welder, MIG, TIG, and stick in a single machine

EuroConnect torch allows for fast connection and disconnection within seconds

High-Tech Synergic controls ensures high-quality welds and spatter reduction

Dual-g geared idler reduces wire feed problems

Longer power cable allows more flexibility of workspace

Make the smart choice and find the right welder for your job.
Go to Forneyind.com or call us at 800-521-6038 to find a dealer near you.

Forney®

DESIGN TECH HOMES
CUSTOM  BUILDER

READY TO BUILD ON YOUR LAND?



Visit the Largest Model Home Showcase in America

OPEN DAILY Houston 888.811.8644 | San Antonio 888.499.7938 | dth.com  

It Was a Very Good Year

The sleeping man must have forgotten which car he drove that day [July 2015 Focus on Texas: "My First Car"]. It was a 1953 Ford. I know because I have owned three of them. The distinctive feature is the forward hash metal on the back door. Neither the 1952 nor the 1954 has that detail.

This is the first time I have caught an error in your magazine, and I read it cover to cover. My first 1953 Ford served me well for delivering thousands of newspapers and also getting my first kiss. The car also was where I proposed for a marriage that has lasted 54 years.

RICHARD RODDENBERRY | STREETMAN
NAVARRO COUNTY EC



All About Breakfast

Thank you for the article about Texas swimming holes ["The Road to Summer," May 2015] but especially for the article, "Breakfast in Texas." The Dinner Bell in Van is near and dear to me. Articles like this make Texas Co-op Power top-notch in my eyes.

SHARON STANGER CLARKSON | BEN WHEELER
TRINITY VALLEY EC

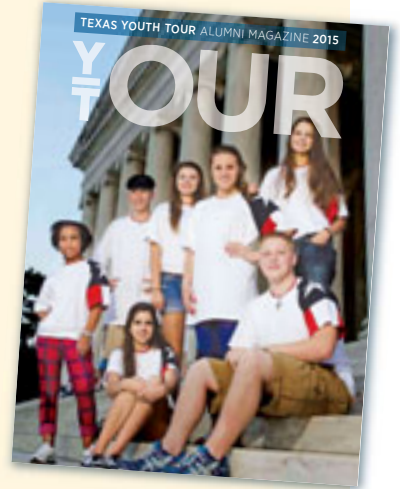
Energy Pioneer

You credit Nikola Tesla as working with General Electric to electrify Niagara Falls ["Remembering an

Even Before Youth Tour

I enjoyed your article about the Government-in-Action Youth Tour ["Texas Celebrates Youth Tour Milestone," June 2015]. My first experience with government and the co-ops was in 1958 with two students from Bluebonnet EC, two students from Pedernales EC and two students from Sam Houston EC. We worked in Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson's office and Congressman Homer Thornberry's office for six weeks. I'm glad to see that the Youth Tour is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

MICHAEL J. SIMMANG | GIDDINGS
BLUEBONNET EC AND HAMILTON COUNTY EC



Electricity Genius," July 2015]. Tesla never worked for GE; he worked for George Westinghouse. The government had tried to force Westinghouse to become part of General Electric, but he refused. Westinghouse succeeded for many years as a competitor for GE.

DAVID ASHBROOK
NAVASOTA VALLEY EC

Editor's note: Sources—including edisontechcenter.org and history.com—indicate that Tesla (and George Westinghouse) did partner with GE to create the power station at Niagara Falls. Westinghouse developed the generators used there, but GE had the contract for transmission of electricity.

Devil's Sinkhole

I have never visited South Llano River State Park ["Jaunt to Junction," March 2015] but now would be interested in doing that. Melissa Gaskill's article notes that part of the river bottom is closed from October to March to protect roosting turkeys. I am glad you can still kayak or canoe there during roosting season.

I also read about Devil's Sinkhole State Natural Area, the largest single-chamber cave in Texas. What are the dimensions of the cave? I am a Boy Scout in Houston's Troop 1283 and would like my troop to visit there.

SEAN CHOATE | BURTON
BLUEBONNET EC

Melissa Gaskill responds: *The opening at Devil's Sinkhole is about 50 feet wide and drops 140 feet into the cavern, where it widens to a diameter of over 320 feet and reaches a depth of over 350 feet.*

Hiking the Window Trail

We have hiked the Window View trail in the Chisos at Big Bend twice and agree that it is a wonderful hike ["Lay of the Landscape," February 2015]. We were a little puzzled when a letter writer [May 2015 Letters] said, "... through the dry creekbed that once led to the Window ..." It still leads to the Window but is not somewhere you want to be if it is raining unless you wish to be washed out the Window and over

the cliff to the desert floor!

For those who can't or don't wish to make the hike, in late September and early October you can watch the sun set in the "V" that marks the path to the Window, and you will never see a more glorious sight. Just when you think it is gone, the afterglow of intense orange, pink and red will appear and take your breath away!

LYNNDA AND JARRELL JENKINS | LUBBOCK
SOUTH PLAINS EC

GET MORE TCP AT TexasCoopPower.com

Sign up for our E-Newsletter for monthly updates, prize drawings and more!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

ONLINE: TexasCoopPower.com/share
EMAIL: letters@TexasCoopPower.com
MAIL: Editor, Texas Co-op Power, 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701

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



Texas Co-op Power Magazine

TEXAS CO-OP POWER VOLUME 72, NUMBER 3 (USPS 540-560). Texas Co-op Power is published monthly by Texas Electric Cooperatives (TEC). Periodical Postage Paid at Austin, TX, and at additional offices. TEC is the statewide association representing 75 electric cooperatives. Texas Co-op Power's website is TexasCoopPower.com. Call (512) 454-0311 or email editor@TexasCoopPower.com. **SUBSCRIPTION PRICE** is \$4.08 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.

© Copyright 2015 Texas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. Reproduction of this issue or any portion of it is expressly prohibited without written permission. Willie Wirehand © Copyright 2015 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.



Texas Electric Cooperatives
Your "Tookstone Energy" Partner



HAPPENINGS

Ralls Goes 100 Percent Cotton

Ralls, about 30 miles east of Lubbock, celebrates the harvest September 12 with the Cotton Boll Festival. Craft and food booths take over the downtown square for the annual event, which features a Cotton Boll Queen pageant, street dance and other entertainment, and car and quilt shows.

The Ralls Volunteer Fire Department holds a pancake breakfast and later sells hot dogs and hamburgers from a booth on the square. The firefighters also conduct a “fill the boot” campaign to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

“It’s a good, fun time. Come out,” says Christerfer Scott, a South Plains Electric Cooperative lineman and Ralls VFD firefighter.

INFO: rallschamberofcommerce.com, (806) 253-2342

Find more happenings all across the state at TexasCoopPower.com

First in Flight Not a Wright?

North Carolina and Ohio bicker about who deserves credit for human aviation. North Carolinians point to the Wright brothers’ first flight in 1903 at Kitty Hawk. Yes, Ohioans say, but Orville and Wilbur Wright dreamed up their airplane at their bicycle factory in Dayton.

Texans might say the whole argument is pointless because Jacob Friedrich Brodbeck supposedly made the first flight September 20, 1865, near Luckenbach. Brodbeck, a German immigrant who lived in Fredericksburg and then San Antonio, was an educator and county commissioner. He also loved mechanics and worked for 20 years on what he called an airship. He was said to have risen 12 feet off the ground and traveled about 100 feet before his spring-loaded propeller unwound, and the machine crashed.

There were witnesses 150 years ago but very limited press coverage and no photos. Because no drawings or blueprints of Brodbeck’s craft remain, his aviation achievement is unconfirmed.

SAFETY

Use Caution on Rural Roads

National Farm Safety and Health Week is September 20–26. More farm equipment than usual will be sharing rural roads with motorists during the harvest. Rural roads carry less than half of America’s traffic but account for more than half of the nation’s vehicular deaths, according to the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety.

Roads engineered decades ago can be narrow and winding, constructed of gravel, and have unguarded intersections and railroad crossings. Drivers may encounter large farm equipment moving slowly and taking up a large portion of roadway.

Motorists must be aware that farm machinery will turn left into fields or farmsteads. Drivers may only pass farm equipment in designated passing zones, and they should drive defensively when attempting to overtake. Farmers making a left turn may have difficulty seeing vehicles in their rear-view mirrors if vehicles follow too closely.

Farm equipment needs to be checked on a regular basis to ensure that all lighting and markings are in working order and visible to motorists. Operators must take heed when making left turns. Use turn signals or hand signals and be aware of vehicles approaching the equipment.



CO-OP PEOPLE

The Other Side of the Fence

Using old fence pickets, a little ingenuity and a passion for recycling, Recherché Furnishings in Rowlett has come up with a line of products that helps keep waste out of landfills—and provide water to communities in Egypt and Ghana.

Jan and Cliff Hand, members of Farmers and Fannin County electric cooperatives and Recherché's owners, also won a 2015 Keep Texas Beautiful Award for the Naturals Reclaimed Frames line. The frames are 99 percent recycled and include old cardboard for the backing and canned drink tabs for the wall hangers.

In addition, the Hands started the Turning Wood Into Water Campaign, which donates 10 percent of all frame sales to an organization that uses the proceeds to dig water wells in Egypt and Ghana. Recherché, which means elegant, has sold thousands of frames since the campaign began about a year ago.

"The most surprising aspect of has been the overall demand for rustic, reclaimed frames," Jan Hand says. "Since 2014, we have shipped frames to customers in almost all 50 states and some overseas."

ALMANAC

Fort Sam Houston Turns 125

On September 11, 1890, the military post at San Antonio officially was named Fort Sam Houston. Fort Sam, as it's colloquially known, has since grown to include more than 900 buildings—the largest collection of historic buildings in the Department of Defense—and was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1975.

The Army post dates back to 1845.

Today, Fort Sam Houston, Lackland Air Force Base and Randolph Air Force Base comprise Joint Base San Antonio.



Texas Map Collection Benefits Archives



Texas' collection of 45,000 historic maps, such as Stephen F. Austin's 1840 map of the state, at left, are available for purchase as replicas from the General Land Office.

Sales of the maps, priced \$20-\$40, help fund the Save Texas History program, which seeks to conserve the documents for future generations and educate Texans about the rich heritage found in them. The collection includes historic maps of all 254 counties.

Texas has been gathering maps and land records since Sam Houston, president of the newly formed nation, created the General Land Office in 1836. Much of the collection—35.5 million documents in all, housed in sophisticated

temperature- and access-controlled vaults at the Land Office headquarters in Austin—has been digitized and is accessible online at savetexashistory.org.



Showtime

**THE MEXICAN FORE-
BEAR TO AMERICAN
RODEO EMPHASIZES
STYLE AND TRADITION**



AT
← THE →

Charreada

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY JULIA ROBINSON

Almost every weekend in South Texas is an opportunity for time travel at the *charreada*. At San Antonio's Charro Ranch, autumn has yet to break the spell of the heat and take the edge off the summer sun. Yet 24 men on horseback enter the keyhole-shaped arena, or *lienzo*, resplendent in brightly embroidered leather as they handle lassos and sweat profusely beneath wide-brimmed sombreros. The crowd leans forward, cellphones poised to snap digital photos of the 19th-century analog finery riding toward them.

Dating to 16th-century Spanish colonial Mexico, the charreada began as a celebration that marked the end of the ranching equivalent of a seasonal harvest: the cattle roundup. Teams of *charros* from sprawling haciendas throughout the region now known as Mexico and the American Southwest competed against one another in a series of events modeled on the equestrian skills needed for day-to-day ranch work. Throughout the turbulent period of American expansion in the 18th and 19th centuries, these competitions remained an important part of ranch life north and south of the U.S.-Mexico border.

Raul Gaona is a practicing physician by day, and a charro and historian on this topic in his spare time. He explains that the charro set the stage for today's cowboys. He points out that many terms and traditions of American cowboys have roots in the charro tradition. Cowboys hold rodeos (the Spanish word for "roundup"), ride broncos (from the Spanish word for "rough" or "rude") and dally rope around the saddle horn to keep a steer in control (from the Spanish *dar la vuelta* or "give it a turn").

After the Mexican Revolution that started in 1910 dissolved many of the country's large haciendas, charros formed teams of extended family groups to continue the tradition. Formalization of the sport came in 1933, the same year Mexican President Abelardo Rodríguez declared *charrería* the national sport of Mexico.

Through the 20th century, American cowboys modernized, adopting manufactured clothing, ropes made of synthetic materials and squeeze chutes. But the charreada traditions remain blazed in history.

Today's charros adhere to strict regulations in attire to ensure historical accuracy in design and in materials. Charros spend thousands of dollars on the *traje*, or suit, as well as the saddle, hat and other accessories. Unlike in American-style rodeo, points in charreada also are awarded for style and personal carriage.

"Some of the things the charros do may look awkward or inefficient," Gaona says, "but our interest is in preserving tradition." For Gaona and the thousands of charros across the United States and Mexico, the events of the charreada, as well as the suit and the sombrero, provide a tangible link to the lives of their forebears.

By the 1860s, *charreadas* were included at Texas fairs.



It wasn't a sport when my dad was doing it; it was a way of life," says Juan Gonzalez, past president of the San Antonio Charro Association. The group, founded in 1947, is the oldest charro association north of the Rio Grande. More than 200 teams compete in the United States, with more than 30 across Texas in Austin, El Paso, Dallas, Houston, Del Rio and San Antonio.

At the Charro Ranch arena in San Antonio, the charreada begins with a parade to "La Marcha de Zacatecas." Charros fan out in teams, circling in a grand display of pomp for the judges. The announcer calls out the names of ancestral homelands in Mexico, eliciting shouts from the crowd and a roar of mariachi horns.

Each event, or *suerte*, that follows the parade is an embodiment of centuries-old ranching tradition. Fans of American rodeo will recognize bronc and bull riding and some of the team roping events, but others, such as horse reining and "forefooting," display skills in slowing down or redirecting livestock, all with an emphasis on style over speed.

Clockwise from above: A charro ropes a wild mare by the front legs. A charro gets a kiss from his sweetheart before the start of a charreada at Rancho Alegre in San Antonio. Ruben Carbajal shows the traditional attire of a charro.

Coleadero, or steer tailing, is one of the oldest traditions of the charreada. A mounted charro races after a running steer, grabs its tail and wraps it around his leg, tripping the animal as he passes by. A wayward

animal instinctively wanders back to the herd after a fall, and thus a 19th-century charro could keep his herd together without ever having to dismount or use his lasso. For the modern charro, points are granted for technique, speed and the roll of the steer.

The *escaramuza*, or skirmish, comes next and honors the contributions of women during the Mexican Revolution. A team of eight women performs a high-speed, synchronized routine set to music. The women ride sidesaddle in full skirts and heavy dresses with crinolines underneath, referred to as "Adelita" attire. Escaramuza is one of the biggest crowd pleasers, with blurs of color that trace patterns and fan out across the arena.

For bull and bronc riding, points are given for technique but



IN THE FINAL CHARRO EVENT, PASO DE LA MUERTE, OR PASS OF DEATH, A CHARRO RIDING BAREBACK LEAPS FROM HIS HORSE ONTO A WILD MARE AND RIDES HER TO A STOP USING ONLY HER MANE FOR SUPPORT.



also for the difficulty of the ride. If a bull has a lot of kick, or the charro decides to ride backward, he stands a better chance at a higher score. Unlike American rodeo, the charros ride until the animal quits kicking, usually much longer than eight seconds.

In the *manganas*, or forefooting, teammates chase the mare while the charro displays his best *floreos*, or flourishes with the lasso, for the judges. In the Charro Ranch arena, a charro jumps in and out of wide, spinning circles of rope, adding as many as he can before trying to lasso the running horse by the front legs. Points are given for the speed of the roping and flourishes performed.

For a newcomer to the tradition of charreada, the subtle details and fine points of scoring as well as the pace of the events can be mystifying. Sidling up to an old charro in the crowd and asking a few questions is a fast way to an earful of history and insight into the events and the standings of teams. Gonzalez serves as guide for my initiation to charreada, and he points out the up-and-comers.

In the final charro event, *paso de la muerte*, or pass of death, a

charro riding bareback leaps from his horse onto a wild mare and rides her to a stop using only her mane for support. If he falls, the charro risks being trampled by the mare or his mounted teammates who are following at full speed.

Just as in the old days of the hacienda, there are no cash awards, but the prize is the respect of fellow competitors. Following this tradition means that bragging rights and personal recognition are more important than the prize buckles and saddles common in the rodeo world, Gonzalez explains.

As the afternoon transitions into evening, audience members throw boots and hats from the stands into the dusty arena to acknowledge the excellent performance of a young charro. He returns the boots and hats one by one, engaging in a personal exchange with each of his admirers. Gaona and Gonzalez are hopeful that the next generation of charros will carry on the tradition, one suerte at a time.

Julia Robinson is an Austin photojournalist.

WEB EXTRAS at TexasCoopPower.com View a slideshow with more photos.



PRESERVATIONISTS CAMPAIGN TO SAVE BELOVED LANDMARKS =BY STEPHEN SHARPE=

=SANDERSON RAILROAD DEPOT=



FOR JUST SHY OF 130 YEARS, the railroad depot in the remote southwest Texas town of Sanderson stood witness to events both mundane and horrendous. One of the darker episodes took place in 1912 when folks gathered alongside the building's covered walkway to pose for photographs with the propped-up bodies of two bandits, Ben Kilpatrick and Ole Hobek, killed in a thwarted attempt to rob a Southern Pacific express train a few miles down the tracks.

Considered by some residents as integrally woven into Sanderson's historical and cultural fabric since its construction in 1883, the 130-foot-long depot nonetheless faced an uncertain future after railroad operations there ceased in the mid-1990s. Vandals repeatedly preyed upon the abandoned structure, and thieves picked its carcass clean of furniture, lighting and plumbing fixtures. Meanwhile, grassroots efforts secured a grant in 2002 to renovate the depot as a transportation museum, but local officials ultimately decided not to allocate the matching funds required for the grant. Advocates persevered, winning the depot a berth on Preservation Texas' 2005 list of Most Endangered Places. Despite that coveted designation, however, the Sanderson Railroad Depot was torn down in 2012.

Fortunately for devotees of the state's architectural heritage, other significant landmarks listed as "endangered" by Preserva-

tion Texas have survived. The Austin-based nonprofit's public advocacy campaign, inaugurated with its 2004 list, has so far raised awareness about more than 100 buildings and places imperiled by the deleterious effects of adverse development, outright neglect or other risk factors. Modeled after an annual program begun in 1988 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Preservation Texas each year selects 11 nominees based on their cultural, historical and architectural importance.

In 2013, Preservation Texas compiled a 10-year retrospective, choosing a dozen places that either had been saved or lost or remained threatened since they were originally featured. Sanderson's depot was among three of the "lost," along with the Corpus Christi Memorial Coliseum and the port of El Copano.

For Texans who love architecture and the history manifested in a community's built environment, the yearly announcement arouses both pride in their shared patrimony and trepidation over any potential loss.

"The Most Endangered Places list calls attention to the incredible diversity of places in need of attention," says Gerald Moorhead of Houston, a preservation architect and architectural historian who is the author of the two-volume *Buildings of Texas*. He adds, "I dread the yearly publication of sites that I have studied but that future generations will not be able to experience. The list is not a 'cry of wolf' to go unheeded but a call to arms to protect local treasures and to strengthen statewide mechanisms for preservation."



=KAUFMAN COUNTY POOR FARM=



PRESERVATION TEXAS' retrospective list also comprised three examples of places that continue to be threatened, among them the Kaufman County Poor Farm, in the Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative headquarters town of Kaufman. In the same category was the roadside attraction known as Bob's Oil Well in Matador, about 80 miles northeast of Lubbock, from the 2004 list, and the 1916 Duval County Courthouse in San Diego, about halfway between San Antonio and Brownsville, from the 2011 list.

The Kaufman County Poor Farm, originally placed on the 2012 list, is the last publicly owned remnant of the many "poor farms" created after state lawmakers approved an addendum to the Texas Constitution in 1869 mandating that each county care for its indigent population.

Kaufman County ultimately purchased approximately 408 acres and by 1883 had erected buildings to house individuals judged to be paupers and ordered to work on the premises, earning money for their labor until they were either financially able to leave or they died. The poor farm had 33 residents in 1886, according to a county report.

Over the ensuing decades, the acreage dwindled as tracts were either repurposed for other public uses or sold. The poor farm was decommissioned in the 1960s, according to the Kaufman

County Historical Commission. **Sanderson Railroad Depot circa 1910, left, and Kaufman County Poor Farm, above** Around that time, a survey indicated that several associated structures were extant on the property, some identified as damaged or in disrepair, along with a cemetery dedicated for the burial of indigents. In 1994, the county leased about 27 acres to the Kaufman County Historical Commission for use as a living history museum.

In nominating the poor farm, the local volunteer organization cited the obstacles faced in preserving its unique collection of artifacts, including vintage farming implements and buildings dating from the late 19th century: "A lot of progress has been made and then lost over the decades due to lack of county funding and outside support. Restoration work on the buildings has been vandalized and destroyed by trespassers and squatters. Posted signs have not been effective in securing the property, and perimeter fencing has been compromised."

Since the poor farm achieved the "endangered" designation in 2012, the Kaufman County Historical Commission has raised funds for a wrought iron fence inscribed with the names of sponsors. But the group continues to struggle with many of the conditions outlined in its nomination letter, chiefly determining how to finance its strategies for establishing a heritage tourism destination to show "how governments and the people coped with, and overcame destitute times in this country."



“The Most Endangered Places list calls attention to the incredible diversity of places in need of attention.”



=DALLAS STATLER HILTON HOTEL=



THE STATLER HILTON HOTEL in downtown Dallas, initially listed in 2008 and repeated in 2013 under the “saved” category, represents one of Preservation Texas’ success stories.

Built in 1956 and lauded at the time as “the last word in hostelryes,” the Statler Hilton introduced an array of state-of-the-art amenities such as elevator music, combination television/radio sets and individual controls for air conditioning in all 1,000 of its guest rooms. Architect William Tabler of New York designed the 19-story building with an innovative flat-slab structural system and an alluring curved profile. Its boldly expressed form and exuberant exterior, a thin curtain wall composed of glass and porcelain painted panels, engendered an icon of midcentury modern design.

New owners bought the property in 1988 and renamed it the Dallas Grand Hotel, yet the erstwhile flagship of the Statler Hilton chain closed in 2001. The vacant building languished for over a decade as various developers, civic leaders and aficionados of modernism pondered its fate. Fearing that the passage of time would jeopardize the structural integrity of the derelict edifice, Preservation Dallas (allied with the statewide group but officially separate) formally asked Preservation Texas to deem it “endangered.”

The Statler Hilton in 1956, when it opened.

“A listing on Preservation Texas’ 11 Most Endangered List would help market the property to developers outside of Dallas, who may have no knowledge of the project, nor its potential. A listing could also leverage support with city officials to consider the existing potential in redeveloping the project, and encourage offering financial incentives to future developers,” read the nomination letter, which successfully swayed Preservation Texas to include the Statler Hilton on its 2008 list. The “endangered” designation has proved to be a critical factor in arresting the hotel’s downward spiral.

Unlike in Sanderson, where pleas for support from local government fell on deaf ears, the Dallas City Council authorized \$43.5 million in tax increment financing funds to assist a private developer with plans to rehabilitate the old hotel and the former central library that stands next door. Construction is underway on a \$175 million mixed-use project scheduled for completion in late 2017.

Stephen Sharpe previously served as the executive editor of Texas Architect magazine.

WEB EXTRAS at TexasCoopPower.com See Preservation Texas’ list of saved landmarks online.

Do you Suffer from:

- Lack of Energy
 - Fibromyalgia
 - Joint Pain
 - Back Pain
- Restless Leg Syndrome
 - Poor Circulation
 - Edema
 - Constipation
- Lymphedema
 - Arthritis
 - MS
- Neuropathy
 - Diabetes
 - Stress



Exerciser Elite®

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

Increase circulation throughout the body

Relieve stiffness from head to toe



Move lymph fluid and help flush out toxins

Increase mobility

Energize the body

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, some individuals are unable to do aerobic type exercise. Our top selling 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 Exerciser Elite® 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 other passive exercise devices on the market. It will easily accommodate individuals weighing up to 425 pounds and is built for long term use.

Features of Exerciser Elite®

- 5-Speed operation
- Wide, cushioned ankle rest
- 2 pre-programmed settings
- 16 minute digital timer with safety shutoff
- FDA Class 1 Registered
- ETL Approval
- Weighs only 15 pounds
- 2-Year Parts and Labor Warranty

"I am in my late 80's and have diabetes. The first thing I notice when I started using the Exerciser Elite was that my feet were warm when I went to bed. They were always ice cold before."
—Ralph K.

"I have had edema in my legs and ankles for about 20 years and I noticed improvement after one week of use. I feel alive again and don't nap as much anymore"
—Dave H.

"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

You deserve to feel better—order the Exerciser Elite® now!

Use code **C500SP** when ordering and receive the promotional price of **\$359.95** & FREE shipping (\$24 value) in the lower 48 contiguous states.

Kansas residents add 8.05% sales tax.
Save on reconditioned units when available.



Family owned since 1959
240 Berg Road • Salina, KS 67401
www.cwmachines.com
800.748.7172



A+ Rating

Want to learn more?
Visit www.cwmachines.com or call
800.748.7172

45 Day Money Back Guarantee

Clark's #2 Selling Wellness Product



Kneading Fingers™ Neck and Back Massager

- Helps relax muscles
- Helps improve range of motion
- Relieves muscular aches and pains

©2015 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.

Phoenix Rising From the Ashes

Arresting beauty emerges from nature's fury as Helenite explodes upon the jewelry world.

When Mount St. Helens erupted and shook Washington State to its core, an ash column rose to an altitude of about 16 miles in less than 15 minutes with a vigorous emission of ash continuing for the next nine hours. Ultimately, an estimated 540 million tons of ash drifted up to 2,200 square miles settling over seven states. You could say Mount St. Helens caused quite the stir.

But it was a surprising find discovered in the aftermath of the eruption that had locals talking long after the volcanic dust settled. Workers using a gas torch while doing salvage work discovered that the heat of the torch was melting the volcanic ash into a lustrous green substance. And there, amid the ancient ashes created from a mountain that first erupted in 10,000 BCE, Helenite was born.

The story got out and captured the attention of jewelers worldwide. It was a scramble to secure the magical ash from Mount St. Helens and perfect the heating process to achieve brilliant green stones that rival even the emerald in terms of color, refractive index and clarity. The world has never seen anything like Helenite.

Now, you can own this newest addition to the fine jewelry scene. We've acquired the world's finest quality Helenite and had it cut and faceted by skilled craftsmen into a gorgeous pendant erupting with vibrant color and fire. This is green like you've never seen it.

Breathe new life into your collection of fine jewels with our exquisite Helenite Phoenix Pendant. Expertly faceted, over four carats of Helenite set in gleaming gold-finished .925 sterling silver. A customized laser cut makes this beauty even more exclusive.

Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed. Experience the unique beauty of the Helenite Phoenix Pendant for 60 days and if you're not completely in love with it, send it back for a full refund of your purchase price.

Helenite Phoenix Pendant (4.25 carat) ~~\$249*~~
Offer Code Price Only \$59 + S&P Save \$190!

1-800-333-2045

Your Insider Offer Code: HPP107-01

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

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

**TAKE 76%
OFF INSTANTLY!**
When you use your
**INSIDER
OFFER CODE**



Pendant enlarged
to show brilliant details.
Chain sold separately.

Stauer®



14101 Southcross Drive W., Dept. HPP107-01,
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 www.stauer.com

4.25 carat Helenite • Gold-finished .925 sterling silver setting • 18" gold-finished .925 sterling silver chain sold separately

Smart Luxuries—Surprising Prices™

Survival of the Sharpest

When it's you against nature, there's only one tool you need:
the tempered steel Stag Hunter from Stauer—now **ONLY \$79!**

That first crack of thunder sounded like a bomb just fell on Ramshorn Peak. Black clouds rolled in and the wind shook the trees. I had ventured off the trail on my own, gambled with the weather and now I was trapped in the forest. Miles from camp. Surrounded by wilderness and watching eyes. I knew that if I was going to make it through the night I needed to find shelter and build a fire... fast. As the first raindrops fell, I reached for my **Stag Hunter Knife**.

Forget about smartphones and GPS, because when it comes to taking on Mother Nature, there's only one tool you really need. Our stunning **Stag Hunter** is the ultimate sidekick for surviving and thriving in the great outdoors. Priced at \$149, the **Stag Hunter** can be yours today for an unbelievable **\$79!** Call now and we'll include a bonus leather sheath!

A legend in steel. The talented knifemakers of Trophy Stag Cutlery have done it again by crafting a fixed-blade beauty that's sharp in every sense of the word. The **Stag Hunter** sports an impressive 5 1/3" tempered German stainless steel blade with a genuine deer stag horn and stained Pakkawood™ handle, brass hand guard and polished pommel. You get the best in 21st-century construction with a classic look inspired by legendary American pioneers.

Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed. Feel the knife in your hands, wear it on your hip, inspect the craftsmanship. If you're not completely impressed, send it back within 60 days for a complete refund of your purchase price. But we believe that once you wrap your fingers around the **Stag Hunter's** handle, you'll be ready to carve your own niche into the wild frontier.



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

Stag Hunter Knife ~~\$149~~*

Offer Code Price Only **\$79** + S&P **Save \$70**

1-888-324-2091

Your Insider Offer Code: SHK152-01

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

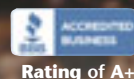
Stauer® 14101 Southcross Drive W., Dept. SHK152-01
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 www.stauer.com

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

• 5 1/3" fixed German stainless steel blade (9 3/4" total length) • Stag horn and Pakkawood™ handle • Includes leather sheath

Smart Luxuries—Surprising Prices™

Not shown
actual size.



If It's Not in Use, Turn Off the Juice!

How saving energy saves you more than money

REDUCING HOUSEHOLD ENERGY use doesn't require walking around your house wearing extra sweaters and earmuffs in winter, or stripping down to the bare essentials in summer. It means being smarter about managing the energy you do use.

Consider your electric cooperative your trusted resource for exploring energy-saving strategies. Nonprofit, member-owned electric co-ops want to help their member-owners make the most of every kilowatt-hour they purchase.

Energy efficiency means performing the same job and getting a similar outcome using less energy. This efficiency is often achieved through a mechanical change, such as replacing an older, less efficient appliance with a new model. Sometimes a minor change of habit is all that's needed, such as dimming lights or washing clothes in cold water instead of hot.

Sometimes a minor change of habit can help save energy, like washing clothes in cold water instead of hot.



Benefits of Energy Efficiency and Conservation

So why are energy conservation and energy efficiency more important than ever? What are the benefits? The short answers are that energy reduction in your home 1) saves you money; 2) improves our economy by enabling consumers and businesses to spend and invest in other areas; and 3) reduces the amount of pollution emitted from power generation.

The more complex answer is that modern life means we are increasing demands on all forms of energy. Consumers are more reliant on devices, computers, phones (with charging stations), sophisticated media/home entertainment and video gaming systems, and “smart” technology—all of which rely on electricity. The wide array of new electronic devices is improving our quality of life, and electric co-ops are promoting efficiency to bring new conveniences at a lower cost.

Energy Efficiency: The “First Fuel”

In this period of rapidly changing technology, Americans are increasingly aware of the need to reduce energy consumption. Many now call energy savings the “first fuel” because the easiest way to reduce fuel cost and carbon emissions is to save energy. Energy is a valuable commodity, and while the discussions over climate change and carbon footprints continue, we must all do our part to conserve this precious resource.

Using less energy may even boost the economy by relieving the ever-tightening family budget, allowing dollars to be spent on more tangible goods.

Americans have demonstrated a willingness to take steps toward reducing their energy consumption. According to the January 2014 Nielsen U.S. Consumer Energy Sentiments Report, 91 percent of consumers are willing to change their energy-use behavior to save money on energy costs. The same report indicates that 77 percent would change their behavior out of concern for the environment.

Your Electric Co-op Can Help You Use Less Electricity

Consumers recognize that conserving energy and becoming more energy efficient are the smart (and right) things to do. But they are also looking for guidance on just how to do that. Electric co-ops are great local resources to help consumers identify ways to save energy and control costs.

The first step in this process is easy: Simply reach out to us for help with taking control of your own energy use, and you'll be well on your way to achieving the ideal balance of efficiency and conservation. In turn, you will help yourself, your community and the environment—and that benefits all of us.

For information on how you can be more energy efficient, contact your electric cooperative.



Keep flammable items away from the stovetop.

REMIASIAN | ISTOCK.COM

Prevent Kitchen Fires

WHEN WE THINK OF OUR KITCHENS, many of us think about the smells and tastes of our favorite foods, time together with friends and family, or even the dishes that may be waiting to be washed. However, we should also think about the importance of knowing how to prevent fires.

Here are a few tips from Safe Electricity and the U.S. Fire Administration:

- ▶ Keep appliances in good working order, and only purchase appliances that are tested and approved by certified safety labs.
- ▶ Never leave cooking unattended, and always stay alert while cooking. Inattention is the leading cause of kitchen fires, according to the USFA.
- ▶ Keep anything that can catch on fire—like oven mitts, wooden utensils or food packaging—away from the stovetop.
- ▶ Keep the stovetop, burners and oven clean.
- ▶ Do not wear loose-fitting clothes or loose sleeves while cooking.
- ▶ Only use microwave-safe containers for microwave use. Never use metal or aluminum foil.
- ▶ Do not use appliances with frayed or damaged cords.
- ▶ Do not plug too many appliances into one outlet, and never use an extension cord for appliances.
- ▶ Make sure ground-fault circuit interrupters are installed in all kitchen outlets.
- ▶ Make sure to have smoke alarms around the house equipped with charged batteries.

In the kitchen, there is always potential for a fire, no matter how many precautions are taken. **Here are a few safety tips to respond to small, contained fires in the kitchen:**

- ▶ In the case of a grease fire, never try to douse the flames; always smother them, such as with a lid, instead.
- ▶ If the oven catches fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.
- ▶ With a microwave fire, turn it off immediately and keep the door closed. Unplug it if you can.
- ▶ If your clothes catch on fire, remember to stop, drop and roll.

After a fire, check appliances and have them serviced or replaced before using again.

If a fire cannot be contained, make sure to get out of the house using your planned fire escape route. Once you're safe, call the fire department immediately.

No-Rinse Revolution

THE NEWEST DISHWASHERS do such a good job of cleaning dishes that manufacturers say you don't even have to rinse them before placing them in the appliance. That's a huge saver of water, energy and time.

Here are five tips for helping your dishwasher do the best job:

1. Scrape leftover food from plates and bowls before placing them into the dishwasher, but break your old habit of prewashing dishes before loading them.
2. Place dishes, glasses and flatware in the appropriate compartments in your dishwasher. If you do, the machine will clean them properly the first time. A tip: Load sharp knives with their tips down.
3. Don't jam dishes in. Leave adequate space between plates and bowls to allow the water to circulate freely. Likewise, don't let a large bowl or lid block the water spray so it can't reach the inside of other dishes and glasses.
4. Use hot water to remove dried-on food, properly dissolve the dishwashing detergent and sanitize the dishes. Major detergent and dishwasher manufacturers recommend a water temperature of 120 degrees.
5. If your house has "hard" water, fill both of your dishwasher's detergent cups and use a rinsing agent.

Rinsing dishes before placing them in the dishwasher may be a thing of the past.



ANDREW SHEARER | ISTOCK.COM

Drawn to Strawn

Word of mouth makes Mary's a mecca for chicken-fried steak

BY E.R. BILLS

THE FIRST TIME I ATE AT MARY'S CAFE IN Strawn was pure happenstance. It was the mid-1990s, and I was working in Strawn. I stopped in for lunch because there was no other place to eat. It was the most fortuitous lack of options I've ever had. I sat down at a table, sampled some good homemade chips and salsa, and then got my culinary bell rung by the best chicken-fried steak I ever encountered on the end of a fork. Or anywhere else, for that matter.

Through the course of the intervening two decades, I visited Mary's every time I was in the area and I read mentions of it in state and local magazines and newspapers. I've seen it referred to as the "Mona Lisa" of comfort food, and I've repeatedly heard it dubbed "the best chicken-fried steak in Texas."

Lots of kitchens claim and even advertise that they have the best chicken-fried steak or a world-famous chicken-fried steak. Mary's does neither. Mary's leaves the praise to legions of extremely satisfied chicken-fried fans from all over the Southwest and beyond, whose mouths water at the mention of the place.

Mary Tretter bought the original eatery, known as The Polka Dot, in 1986 and hung a shingle over the door before she even knew what her specialties would be. And back then, by her own admission, she couldn't even manage to create a decent cream gravy.

"I started making it, and I don't know how many times it took me to get it down," she says. "But I got it down, and then I got it down a little better."

Ron Howell, Alvarado resident and

longtime chicken-fried steak connoisseur, praises Mary's effort. "The cream gravy is excellent," he attests. "The meat is tender, and the batter is light instead of heavy. The overall combination makes it perfect."

Howell, a member of United Cooperative Services who makes the trip to Mary's a half-dozen times a year when he's on the way to West Texas to hunt or visit relatives, is no greenhorn on the subject. "I've had chicken-fried steak all over Texas," he says. "Nothing comes close."

Chicken-fried steak at Mary's comes in small (think generous oblong pancake), medium and large portions with ample cups of syrup—I mean cream gravy—on the side. The gravy is constituted from the drippings left over after cooking the hand-pounded, hand-floured, griddle-cooked steaks, which are unfailingly tender and moist. The end result is a delicious phenomenon that makes you wonder what went wrong with all the other "famous" chicken-fried steak offerings around the state.

Folks who have had the dish at Mary's will tell you that it immediately becomes the chicken-fried steak by which they measure all others.

The 300-seat cafe also serves hamburgers, Tex-Mex and other satisfying fare like fried green tomatoes, sweet potato wedges, fried chicken livers and calf fries. And you can order a beer, either foreign or domestic. But the chicken-fried steak is Mary's signature dish. Even if chicken-fried steak as you know it doesn't blow your hair back, you might sample it at Mary's and have second thoughts. Or



change your mind completely.

And if you think I'm exaggerating, think again.

Sitting a few miles north of Interstate 20 on State Highway 16, Strawn has a population of almost 700 people. At lunch or dinner any day of the week, Mary's will serve hundreds of diners—but rest assured that half the population of Strawn doesn't congregate there seven days a week for both meals. Most of Mary's customers aren't local, so they typically drive as far as 70 miles out of their way to get there. And sometimes customers come from even farther away. The result of this widespread

popularity is that business at Mary's suffers the most when gas prices are high.

Loyalists often plan their trips through the area so that they can make Strawn in time for a meal. That's brand loyalty. That's bona fide, chicken-fried craving.

Though Mary has been approached more than a dozen times about opening additional locations of her namesake eatery, she's not interested. She likes to get in and work with her waitstaff and collaborate with the cooks. She likes to keep things simple.

Simple is good. And Mary's is better.
E.R. Bills is a writer from Aledo.

Takin' Texas to the People

Excerpt from book *The Face of Texas* shows how photographer Michael O'Brien portrays the state's outsized characters

BY MICHAEL O'BRIEN

I DON'T HAVE A COWBOY HAT, MY BOOTS give me blisters, and I've never shot a gun. I'm nervous around horses, and I can't lasso a steer. But I love big clouds, wide spaces, mythic characters, and the Western spirit. I've fallen in love with Texas. It's my home.

I have loved the state from the start. In 1985, when I was still in New York, *Life* magazine sent me to photograph Willie Nelson. He was on his ranch in Spicewood, outside Austin, making the movie "Red Headed Stranger." I knew right off I'd found an extraordinary place—though I guess anywhere around Willie is special. After hanging around Willie and the boys making the film about a preacher gone mad and his ultimate redemption, I knew I'd had enough of New York. I needed some redemption of my own. I felt like a tick embedded in the thick of Brooklyn. I needed to pry myself free and claim Texas soil.

But in the meantime, stuck up north, I worked in Texas as often as I could. Hasselblads, Swedish cameras that are built like anvils, were my cameras of choice. They were tough enough to take on Texas, devouring rolls of film. Armed with the "Blads," a couple of Nikons, and a 4x5, I rolled across Texas, moving from assignment to assignment. Any job here was adventurous ... rugged cowboys, wily politicians, big-haired beauty queens, crazy musicians, eccentric artists, city people, country folk. I got up early and stayed up late, driving across the state in a beat-up Chevy Suburban filled with fumes from a leaky gas generator that powered the strobes on remote locations. I blasted

away, and I was on a roll.

It took me eight more years to escape New York. But I finally got here in 1993. I continued my work, now closer to home.

Now, it's thirty years later and more than a decade since *The Face of Texas* was first published. You'll love the characters just by their names: Ran, Obie, Sloan, Ruby, Darden, Troy, Roosevelt, Willie, Red, Ty. Bull riders, preachers, athletes, ranchers, churchgoers, ropers, farmers, singers ... they all dance across the pages. Elizabeth [O'Brien, co-author] tells their stories, and they come to life. Yep, it's Texas, and it's larger than life.

ZZ Top: Humble, 1993

MOST PEOPLE KNOW THEM ONLY BY THEIR collective name, but ZZ Top consists of three very distinct individuals: bassist Dusty Hill, guitarist Billy F. Gibbons and drummer Frank Beard. The band keeps its business headquarters in Austin, although all three principals live in Houston.

ZZ Top became a household name after its "Worldwide Texas Tour" in 1976. The band's Texas-shaped stage, adorned with a real live buffalo, a longhorn steer, buzzards, and rattlesnakes, made a vivid—and permanent—impression on those who attended the concerts. Since then, the band has continued its tradition of "Takin' Texas to the People," with mythic concerts across the United States and in international venues as far afield as Japan, Russia, Latvia, and South Africa. The band's trademark hillbilly beards, sunglasses, Harleys, hot rods, key chains, and droll, synchronized stage antics—not to mention the



“That little ol’ band from Texas” has been honored as “Official Texas Heroes” by the Texas House, performed at President George W. Bush’s inaugural celebration and offered its services to NASA as the lounge band for the first passenger flight to the moon.

shapely dancing girls on stage—cemented the band’s quirky, Delta-blues-based image. And ZZ Top’s famous songs “Legs,” “Sharp Dressed Man,” and “Gimme All Your Lovin’ ” imprinted the band’s persona on at least two generations.

“That little ol’ band from Texas,” as the band is affectionately called, has been honored as “Official Texas Heroes” by the Texas House of Representatives and been nominated by Saturday Night Live as a write-in candidate for president. ZZ Top even performed at President George W. Bush’s inaugural celebration, in a show

ZZ Top bassist Dusty Hill, left, guitarist Billy F. Gibbons, right, and drummer Frank Beard at the Old Humble Barbershop in Humble

billed as “The Best Little Ball in DC.”

The band was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2004. ZZ Top’s other claim to fame: it offered its services to NASA as the lounge band for the first passenger flight to the moon. Incidentally, neither Gibbons nor Hill has had a close encounter with scissors since 1979.

Excerpted from *The Face of Texas*, University of Texas Press, 2014

Brazil Expedition Uncovers Thousands of Carats of Exquisite Natural Emeralds

Brandish a whopping 50 carats of genuine South American emeralds in a handcrafted new necklace design for less than \$100!

Halfway into our ambitious trek through the rain forest I had to remind myself that "Nothing good comes easy." These days it seems that every business trip to Brazil includes a sweltering hike through overgrown jungles, around cascading waterfalls and down steep rock cliffs. But our gem broker insisted it was worth the trouble. To tell you the truth, for the dazzling emeralds he delivered, I'd gladly go back to stomping through jaguar country.

Now our good fortune is your great reward. Don't miss this rare opportunity to own an impressive 50 total carat strand of genuine South American emeralds for under \$100.

Faced with this embarrassment of riches, our designer transformed this spectacular cache of large stones (each is over 8 carats average weight) into a stunning 50 total carat necklace of faceted emeralds set into .925 sterling silver. Each emerald is surrounded by delicate sterling silver rope work and filigree in the Bali-style. The 18" necklace dangles from a sterling silver chain that fastens with a secure double-sided shepherd's hook clasp.

What is the source of our emerald's timeless appeal? The enchanting color of the Stauer Carnival Faceted Emerald Necklace comes from nature's chemistry. Our polished and faceted, well-formed natural emeralds are immediately recognized as something special. Indeed, when we evaluated these emeralds, color was the most important quality factor. Today, scientists tell us that the human eye is more sensitive to the color green than to any other. Perhaps that is why green is so soothing to the eye, and why the color green complements every other color in your wardrobe.

Emeralds are, by weight, the most valuable gemstone in the world. Now you can wear genuine emeralds and feel great about knowing that you were able to treat yourself to precious gems without paying a precious price. A top-quality 50 carat emerald necklace found on Rodeo Drive or 5th Avenue could cost well over \$100,000...but not from Stauer. Wear and admire the exquisite Stauer Carnival Faceted Emerald Necklace for 60 days. If for any reason you are not dancing the Samba with pure satisfaction after receiving your faceted emerald necklace, simply return it to us for a full refund of the purchase price. But we're confident that when you examine this stunning jewelry, you'll be reminded of the raw beauty of the Amazon rain forests mixed with the flash and dazzle of the exotic Carnival in Rio de Janeiro. Call today! This cache of genuine emeralds is extremely limited.

Carnival Faceted Emerald Necklace (50 ctw) ~~\$299~~†

Offer Code Price— **\$95** + S&P **Save \$204**

1-888-306-7179

Your Insider Offer Code FEN441-10

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

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

TAKE 68% OFF INSTANTLY
when you use your
Insider Offer Code

50 ctw of genuine emeralds. Enlarged to show exquisite details.

"You will rarely find an emerald necklace with 50 carats and certainly not at this price!"

— JAMES T. FENT, Stauer GIA Graduate Gemologist

Stauer®

14101 Southcross Drive W.,
Dept. FEN441-10,
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337
www.stauer.com



Rating of A+

50 ctw of genuine emerald (6 stones) • Oxidized sterling silver settings and chain • 18" length (+2" extender) with double-sided shepherd's hook clasp

Smart Luxuries—Surprising Prices™



Enjoy a bath again...

Safely and affordably



**FREE
\$200
Gift**

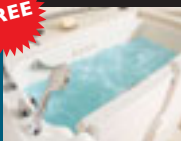
Why the Jacuzzi® Hydrotherapy Walk-In Tub is the Best...

- ✓ **Easy and Safe Entry** - Low entry, double sealed leak-proof door that is easy to open and close.
- ✓ **Durable and Easy to Clean** - State-of-the-art acrylic surface.
- ✓ **Comfortable Seating** - Convenient 17-inch raised seat.
- ✓ **Worry Free Enjoyment** - Thanks to Jacuzzi Inc.'s Lifetime Limited Warranty.
- ✓ **Maximum Pain Relief** - Therapeutic water AND air jets to help you feel your best.
- ✓ **Relax Fully** - All controls are within easy reach.
- ✓ **Personalized Massage** - New adjustable jet placement for pinpoint control. This tub is the first to offer a specialized foot massage experience. Its unique spinning motion provides optimal therapy to feet and legs. Best of all, you get it at no additional charge.
- ✓ **No Hassle Installation** - Designed to fit in your existing tub space.

SPECIAL REPORT

TIPS ON LIVING TO BE 100
Including the Secret Benefits
of Hydrotherapy

FREE



For your **FREE** special report
and details on a **FREE \$200 gift**

Call Toll-Free Today
1-888-508-4942

Please mention promotional code 101263.

\$1000 OFF

when you mention this ad


for a limited time only

Call Us Toll Free 1-888-508-4942

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

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 



NORTH TEXAS AUDIENCE
Circulation 341,200 • Readership 853,000

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

Target customers close to home with the North Texas advertising section of Texas Co-op Power. Be part of a statewide magazine—without the statewide cost. Call or email today.

TEXAS CO-OP POWER

Call: Martin Bevins at (512) 486-6249
Email: advertising@TexasCoopPower.com



LONGHORN SOLAR REBATES NOW AVAILABLE!

Many Texans have installed solar with us and here are their approximate results to date:

Total Installations
840

Total Kilowatts Installed
5,192

Total kWh Created
10,060,807

Our Customers Saved
\$1,056,385 (OVER \$1 MILLION!)

*Estimated cumulative average savings from Longhorn Solar customers in Texas since 2009 based on PV Watts kWh solar production calculator at 0.105 kWh.

Longhorn Solar

San Antonio: (210) 566-8000 | Austin: (512) 436-0110 | Dallas/Fort Worth: (972) 850-7764

WWW.LONGHORNSOLAR.COM

MARKETPLACE

BUY • SELL • TRADE • ACROSS TOWN • ACROSS TEXAS

NATIONAL BARN
COMPANY
nationalbarn.com
1.800.582.2276

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.

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

OCEAN FREIGHT CONTAINERS
SALES OR RENT-TO-OWN
SECURE STORAGE
Water-Tight/Rodent Proof
LARRY SINGLEY
1-866-992-9122
CALL (817) 992-9122 

TEXAS MEDICAL PLANS
Independent, Authorized Agent for
 **BlueCross BlueShield of Texas**
An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association
MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT COVERAGE
1-888-888-6698

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

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 

A&C BARN BUILDERS LLC

Over 4,500 Barns Built Across The US
Specializing in Post Frame & Red Iron Buildings
• **800-889-1096** •
www.aandcbuilders.com

SPEARS BARN COMPANY
We Offer Different Sizes & Designs
One 10' sliding door.  30' x 50' x 10'
One walk-through door. Colored Metal
Materials, Delivery, Tax, Labor. Ask About Our Special!
1-877-371-3501 www.spearsbarnco.com

A D V E R T I S E M E N T

Loose Saggy Neck Skin – Can Any Cream Cure Turkey Neck?

DEAR DORRIS: I'm a woman who is 64 years young who suffers from really loose skin under my chin and on my lower neck.



I hate the term, but my grandkids say I have “turkey neck” and frankly, I’ve had enough of it! I have tried some creams designed to help tighten and firm that loose, saggy skin, but they did not work. Is there any cream out there that Might help my loose neck skin?

Turkey Neck, El Paso County

DEAR TURKEY-NECK: In fact, there is a very potent cream on the market that is designed to firm, tighten and invigorate skin cells on the neck area. It is called the **Dermagist Neck Restoration Cream**.

This cream contains an instant-effect ingredient that aims to tighten the skin naturally, as well as deep-moisturizing ingredients aiming to firm the skin and make it more supple. Amazingly, the **Dermagist Neck Restoration Cream** also has Stem Cells taken from *Malus Domesticus*, a special apple from Switzerland.

These apple stem cells target your skin’s aging cells, and strive to bring back their youthful firmness, and elasticity. As an alternative to the scary surgeries or face lifts that many people resort to, this cream has the potential to deliver a big punch to the loose saggy skin of the neck. **The Dermagist Neck Restoration Cream is available online at Dermagist.com** or you can order or learn more by **calling toll-free, 888-771-5355**. Oh, I almost forgot... I was given a promo code when I placed my order that gave me 10% off. The code was “TXN19”. It’s worth a try to see if it still works.

BURN SAFELY

with the
Stainless Steel
BurnCage™

PERFECT FOR:

- Sensitive financial documents
- All burnable household waste*
- Old leaves and branches

STAINLESS STEEL CONSTRUCTION is lightweight, durable, and portable (it folds for easy storage).

PERFORATED LID and sidewalls maximize airflow and trap embers.

1600° TEMPERATURES mean more thorough burning with less ash.

* Always check with local ordinances before burning.

No more UNSAFE and UNSIGHTLY rusty barrel!

Call for **FREE Information Kit!**

TOLL-FREE

888-206-4590

BurnCage.com



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

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

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

All C.D.'s are insured to \$250,000 per institution by the F.D.I.C.
All C.D.'s are subject to availability. Securities offered thru Signal Securities, Inc., Member FINRA/SIPC
300 Throckmorton, Ft. Worth, TX 76102. (817) 827-4256.

Farm-Industrial-Commercial
25 Year Warranty on Roof & Walls:
Flows F.O.B. My Plans;
Seal Stamped Blue Prints;
Easy Bolt Together Design.

PRICES INCLUDE COLOR SIDES & GALVALUME ROOF

Arena Special
(roof & frame)
100' x 100' x 14'...\$34,000
(Local codes may affect prices)

30' x 50' x 10'	\$8,700
40' x 60' x 12'	\$11,950
50' x 75' x 14'	\$17,250
60' x 100' x 12'	\$22,999
100' x 150' x 14'	\$36,850

VISIT OUR WEBSITE **RHINO** VISIT OUR WEBSITE
STEEL BUILDING SYSTEMS

Fax: 940-484-8746 email: info@rhinobldg.com
Website: http://www.RHINOBLDG.COM
Toll Free **1-888-875-8233**

ATTENTION MOBILE HOME OWNERS

**EXPERT
INSTALLATION**

LIFETIME WARRANTY

REDUCED ELECTRIC BILL **INCREASED HOME VALUE**
INSURANCE CREDIT **STOP LEAKS**

NO MORE ROOF RUMBLE

PERMA-ROOF®
from Southern Builders



ASK ABOUT ENERGY STAR



Since 1983
roofover.com
800.633.8969



WIN THE BRUSH WAR RECLAIM YOUR PROPERTY WITH OUR TREE SHEARS & BRUSH MOWERS

Phone: 417-458-4350
www.treeterminator.com

TREE TERMINATOR BY
GRACE
MANUFACTURING

Wholesale Pipe

Attention Dealers & Contractors!!!

– Truckloads –

2-3/8" and 2-7/8"
No.1 USED TUBING

ALL OTHER SIZES AVAILABLE THROUGH
LARGE OD IN NEW & USED

Pipe Unlimited USA

PHONE: 979-830-1300
EMAIL: brad@pipeunltdusa.com

BEST BUY WALK-IN BATH TUBS



Family owned,
Texas-built

Lifetime guarantee
against leaks

Great for circulation,
arthritis, stiff joints
and relaxation

NOW OFFERING
CUSTOM SHOWERS

Visit our Showroom
3411 E. Hwy. 377, Granbury



Granbury Chamber of Commerce Member

888-825-2362 www.bestbuywalkintubs.com

Big Bend Baron

Alfred Stevens Gage created a ranching empire and acclaimed hotel in Marathon

BY E. DAN KLEPPER

WHEN 18-YEAR-OLD ALFRED STEVENS Gage arrived in Texas in 1878 from Ascutneyville, Vermont, his first job as a ranch hand in Shackelford County paid \$12 a month. Gage had journeyed to Texas with encouragement from his half-brother Edward, who was established in Dallas with a land acquisition business.

Gage saved enough money from his ranch work to purchase a cattle operation in Archer County. This venture proved short-lived, as rustlers absconded with his stock. Despite the setback, Gage's initial foray into ranching was the first in a series of business moves that would culminate in his owning thousands of cattle and more than 500,000 acres spread across the Big Bend country.

After selling his land interests in Archer County, Gage agreed to take over Edward's operation along the Big Bend frontier. He arrived in the railroad community of Marathon in 1882. Edward's operation, called the Presidio Live Stock Company, had just acquired 2,000 head of cattle and an established brand, the Running W Bar. Edward pastured the livestock along Maravillas Creek, a 90-mile intermittent stream flowing from the Del Norte Mountains southwest of Marathon to the Rio Grande. Today, the mouth of Maravillas Creek is a favorite take-out point for canoe and raft trips through the Rio Grande's Temple Canyon.

Gage no doubt developed some of his business acumen while working with Edward, an aggressive negotiator. After ending his Dallas-based partnership, Edward recruited investors from the northeast to infuse the Presidio Live Stock Company with funds. He then negotiated deals for the company, including the purchase of 68,000 acres of his own land along with 700 head of his Maravillas cattle and the attendant Running W Bar brand. Additional purchases



increased the company's holdings to more than 10,000 head of cattle, just in time for the onset of a drought and a severe winter.

The rough conditions proved financially calamitous for the Presidio Live Stock Company, dropping the value of each head of livestock from \$30 down to \$5 over four years. Edward continued to suffer financially, and his troubles caused personal despair. He took his own life in 1892.

In the shadow of Edward's untimely death, investors reorganized the company, and a new charter was created: the Alpine Cattle Company, of which Gage became secretary and superintendent. Gage increased the company holdings to more than 100,000 acres. He also enriched his personal stake, purchasing rangeland and stocking it with cattle. By 1910, his personal holdings exceeded those of the company he supervised. His financial ingenuity (and rising cattle prices) helped him secure a controlling interest in the Alpine Cattle Company, and by 1917, he owned its entire stock outright. He also retired the Running W Bar brand, replacing it with his own, known as Lightning, a simple design composed of two parallel

and slanted lines that is still in use today.

Gage moved to San Antonio. He tended his Big Bend interests, traveling to Marathon often enough to warrant building his own hotel. The Gage Hotel, completed in 1927, was designed by El Paso architect Henry Trost. The hotel, a mix of mission and Spanish colonial design, was typical for Trost, and similar to hotels he designed in Marfa (El Paisano), Alpine (the Holland) and Van Horn (El Capitan).

Gage died from complications after an appendectomy a year after the hotel opened, but the business survived. Purchased and restored by another Texas businessman, J.P. Bryan, the Gage Hotel is a destination of choice for travelers visiting Big Bend.

The Gage ranchlands survive as well, under the A.S. Gage Partnership Ltd. Much of the original land holdings, almost 200,000 acres in Brewster and Presidio counties, are still owned by the family. The remaining rangeland has been slow to change since Gage first arrived here, giving visitors to Big Bend a sense of the natural environment of the 19th century.

Photographer, author and artist E. Dan Klepper lives in Marathon.

**RESPONSIBLE
BEAUTY
NATIVE
WILDFLOWER
& GRASS SEED
FREE CATALOG
800.728.4043**




...helping people restore the earth
www.seedsource.com

SOLAR FEEDERS



SOLAR FEEDERS
 Busy? Feed your livestock almost any feed automatically. Save time, fuel and money.
 Rollins Farm Equipment
903-889-2162 | 903-746-6599



Step Into The Real Texas
AMARILLO

WIN A TWO-NIGHT GETAWAY IN HISTORIC AMARILLO
plus certificates for great local restaurants and attractions.

GET DETAILS AND ENTER ONLINE AT
TexasCoopPower.com

Find more info and discount coupons to Amarillo attractions at VisitAmarillo.com

Peanuts.
HAVE YOU SEEN MY POWER PLANT?

Over 30 essential vitamins and nutrients

7 powerful grams of plant-based protein

Nothing beats a handful a day for heart health



The most preferred nut in America



Texas Peanut Producers Board



nationalpeanutboard.org

Scientific evidence suggests but does not prove that eating 1.5 ounces per day of most nuts, including peanuts, as part of a diet low in saturated fat & cholesterol may reduce the risk of heart disease.



Five Ingredients or Fewer

IF YOUR PASSION FOR COOKING OUTWEIGHS your enthusiasm for shopping, you're in good company. From quickie salads to no-brainer desserts, we tasted our way through your shortcuts while enjoying the idea that we could make these at home with minimal fuss and perhaps save a trip to the store for ingredients.

This Mexican-themed baked pasta is a regular at my house because it calls for things I almost always have on hand. Plus, it can be changed up a bit by using different salsas or swapping beef for

turkey or even vegetarian crumbles. As written, this feeds a large family, but if halved and baked in an 8-inch square pan, you can feed a smaller group.

ANNA GINSBERG, FOOD EDITOR

Mexican Pasta Bake

- ½ pound whole-grain corkscrew or penne pasta
- 20 ounces lean ground turkey
- 1 can corn or Mexican corn blend (15 ounces), drained
- 3 cups chunky salsa of your choice, plus more for garnish
- 2 cups shredded "Mexican blend" cheese, divided use

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a

9-by-13-inch casserole dish.

2. Cook the pasta in salted water until it's "al dente," as directed on the package.

3. Cook the turkey in a skillet until it is thoroughly browned. Combine cooked pasta, turkey, corn and salsa.

4. Spread half the mixture in the dish, then sprinkle with half the cheese. Add remaining mixture and cover dish tightly with foil.

5. Bake 35–40 minutes. During last 10 minutes, remove foil and sprinkle with remaining cheese. Garnish with extra salsa if desired.

Servings: 8. Serving size: 8 ounces. Per serving: 360 calories, 25.12 g protein, 14.87 g fat, 33.23 g carbohydrates, 3.48 g dietary fiber, 989 mg sodium, 6.80 g sugars, 82 mg cholesterol

Recipes

Five Ingredients or Fewer



THIS MONTH'S RECIPE CONTEST WINNER

CINDY HANDY | GRAYSON-COLLIN EC

Our resourceful readers submitted recipes with five ingredients or fewer (salt, pepper and oil did not count). The winning dishes—which ran the gamut from vegetable to meat to dessert—showed us that fewer ingredients can make each flavor stand out.

Honey Cheese Bacon Chicken

- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup honey
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup Dijon or creole mustard
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon lemon pepper, or more to taste
- 4 slices bacon, cut in half
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella or provolone cheese

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Apply cooking spray to metal baking dish. Pound the chicken breast halves to an even thickness.

2. Mix together honey, mustard and lemon pepper in a small dish. Place the breast halves in baking dish and drizzle evenly with the honey-mustard mixture.

3. Bake chicken 25 minutes, then top each breast half with 2 bacon pieces and increase oven heat to 400. Continue baking about 7–8 minutes.

4. Top with cheese and bake another 3 minutes or until chicken juices run clear, bacon is crisp and cheese is bubbly. Serve with brown or white rice.

Servings: 4. Serving size: $\frac{1}{2}$ chicken breast. Per serving: 476 calories, 38.17 g protein, 11.18 g fat, 53.10 g carbohydrates, 0.13 g dietary fiber, 519 mg sodium, 52.49 g sugars, 117 mg cholesterol

Mock Enchiladas

STEPHANIE BALDOCK | WOOD COUNTY EC

- 1 box beef taquitos (12 count)
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 can green chile peppers (4 ounces)
- 1 can chili without beans (14–16 ounces)
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Apply cooking spray to an 8-inch square baking dish.

2. Place taquitos in bottom of baking dish. Sprinkle chopped onion and chile peppers over the taquitos.

3. Stir chili with $\frac{1}{3}$ can of water to make sauce and pour over the taquitos.

4. Bake 20 minutes, then sprinkle with cheese and continue baking another 10–12 minutes or until cheese is melted and bubbly.

Servings: 6. Serving size: 2 enchiladas. Per serving: 173 calories, 10.47 g protein, 9.63 g fat, 7.86 g carbohydrates, 0.67 g dietary fiber, 614 mg sodium, 1.75 g sugars, 34 mg cholesterol

Red Cabbage Salad

SIDNEY LENZ | COSERV ELECTRIC

“So, you say you don’t like cabbage? Just try this salad—even those die-hards who won’t touch cabbage love it!”

- 1 small head red cabbage, thinly sliced
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 package blue cheese (8 ounces)
- 1 bottle red wine vinaigrette dressing (16 ounces)
- 1 pound bacon, fried crisp and crumbled

1. Blanch sliced cabbage in large pot of boiling, salted water. Cool blanched cabbage by immersing in a bowl of ice water, then thoroughly drain.

\$100 Recipe Contest

February’s recipe contest is **Touchdown Party Foods**. No matter how your team fares, the right game-day foods can make your Super Bowl party a winner! Submit the recipes that always bowl over your party crowd. The deadline is **September 10**.



SPONSORED BY THE TEXAS PEANUT PRODUCERS BOARD

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

- Toss cabbage with blue cheese and vinaigrette. Refrigerate 8 hours or overnight.
- Just before serving, add bacon and toss.

Servings: 8. Serving size: 5 ounces. Per serving: 436 calories, 27.14 g protein, 30.03 g fat, 6.36 g carbohydrates, 1.19 g dietary fiber, 1,973 mg sodium, 2.82 g sugars, 81 mg cholesterol

Salmon Shoyu

BRIAN HOLLAND | COSERV ELECTRIC

The Department of Agriculture recommends cooking salmon to an internal temperature of 145 degrees. Because fish continues to cook internally when removed from the oven, begin checking the salmon a few minutes before you think it should be done. —AG

- ¼ cup soy sauce
- ¼ cup mayonnaise
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ½ tablespoon chopped fresh ginger
- 1 large salmon filet or whole side of salmon

- Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease a baking dish or line with parchment paper.
- Mix soy, mayonnaise, brown sugar and ginger in a saucepan. Set pan over medium heat and cook, stirring often, until smooth and warm.
- Spread mayonnaise mixture liberally over salmon, then place skin-side-down in prepared dish.
- Bake 25–30 minutes or until fish is flaky and fully cooked. Let cool for 5 minutes. Serve with white rice, if desired.

Servings: 8. Serving size: 4 ounces. Per serving: 267 calories, 23.04 g protein, 11.73 g fat, 14.35 g carbohydrates, 0.11 g dietary fiber, 537 mg sodium, 13.51 g sugars, 62 mg cholesterol

Butterfingers Crunch Dessert

MAUDE COLEMAN | BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES

- 1½ cups milk
- 1 package instant vanilla pudding mix (3.4 ounces)
- 2 cartons nondairy whipped topping (8 ounces each), thawed

- large angel food cake, cubed
- Butterfinger candy bars (2.1 ounces each), crushed

- Apply cooking spray to a 9-by-13-inch baking dish.
- In a large mixing bowl, whisk together milk and pudding mix 2 minutes. Let stand 2 minutes until soft set. Stir in 2 cups whipped topping until well mixed, then fold in remaining whipped topping.
- Layer half the cake cubes in baking dish, then top with pudding mixture and crushed candy bars. Repeat layers.
- Cover and chill at least 2 hours before serving.

Servings: 12. Serving size: 4 ounces. Per serving: 343 calories, 4.27 g protein, 10.99 g fat, 53.95 g carbohydrates, 0.97 g dietary fiber, 460 mg sodium, 26.78 g sugars, 3 mg cholesterol

WEB EXTRAS at TexasCoopPower.com

Count on our website for more dishes with Five Ingredients or Fewer.

COLLECTOR'S SET

8 for \$8

at Face Value!

Never to be minted again!

Get a **Complete 8-Coin Set of 2015 Presidential Dollars at face value of \$8!** You'll receive Uncirculated Philadelphia "P" and Denver "D" issues of all four 2015 designs – honoring Presidents Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson! These 2015 coins are struck for 3 months each and will never be minted again. Get the 8-coin year set at **FACE VALUE – limit one set!**

SAVE 65% plus receive a FREE GIFT

Order your Complete Uncirculated 8-coin set today at face value of **ONLY \$8** and **SAVE 65%** off the regular price of \$22.95. Plus, respond by deadline and get a **FREE** Uncirculated 2015 Blue Ridge Quarter. This coin honors the scenic parkway that winds its way through panoramic views of North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains, into Virginia.

You'll also receive our fully illustrated catalog, plus other fascinating selections from our Free Examination Coins-on-Approval Service, from which you may purchase any or none of the coins – return balance in 15 days – with option to cancel at any time. **Order your complete 8-coin set and SAVE!**

Get a **FREE** Uncirculated 2015 Blue Ridge Quarter when you order by deadline.

Mail coupon today or order online at: www.LittletonCoin.com/specials

45-Day Money Back Guarantee of Satisfaction

★ **John F. Kennedy** ★

Kennedy vowed to put a man on the moon by the end of the decade and led the nation through the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Special Offer for New Customers Only

YES! Please send me a Complete Uncirculated 8-Coin Set of 2015 P&D Presidential Dollars at FACE VALUE OF ONLY \$8.00 – regularly \$22.95, plus Free Shipping (limit one set). Also send my **FREE** Uncirculated 2015 Blue Ridge National Park Quarter (one per customer, please).

SAVE! Add Custom 2007-Date Presidential Dollar Display Folders for \$2.95 – regularly \$3.49 – and **SAVE!**

Name _____
Please print your complete name and address clearly

Address _____ Apt # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

QTY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TOTAL
1	8-Coin Collector's Set (limit 1 set)	\$8.00	\$8.00
	Display Folders – SAVE 15%	\$2.95	
	FREE Shipping! Merchandise TOTAL \$		

Order Deadline: 12:00 Midnight, October 31, 2015

Check or Money Order payable to Littleton Coin Company

Charge my: VISA MasterCard
 American Express Discover Network

Card No. _____ Exp. Date ____/____/____

Please send coupon to:
Littleton Coin Co., Dept. 3WU419
 1309 Mt. Eustis Rd, Littleton NH 03561-3737
 America's Favorite Coin Source • TRUSTED SINCE 1945

HARBOR FREIGHT

QUALITY TOOLS AT RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICES

How Does Harbor Freight Sell GREAT QUALITY Tools at the LOWEST Prices?

We have invested millions of dollars in our own state-of-the-art quality test labs and millions more in our factories, so our tools will go toe-to-toe with the top professional brands. And we can sell them for a fraction of the price because we cut out the middle man and pass the savings on to you. It's just that simple! Come visit one of our 600 Stores Nationwide.

SUPER COUPON

20% OFF

ANY SINGLE ITEM

LIMIT 1 - Save 20% on any one item purchased at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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, Towable Ride-On Trencher, Saw Mill (Item 61712/62366/67138), Predator Gas Power items, 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 1/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON

FREE

WITH ANY PURCHASE

3-1/2" SUPER BRIGHT NINE LED ALUMINUM FLASHLIGHT

LOT 69052 shown
69111/62522/62573

\$6.99 VALUE

LIMIT 1 - Cannot be used with other discount, coupon or prior purchase. Coupon good at our stores, HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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 1/1/16. Limit one FREE GIFT coupon per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON



CENTRAL PNEUMATIC 3 GALLON, 100 PSI OILLESS PANCAKE AIR COMPRESSOR

LOT 95275 shown
60637/61615

\$39.99 REG. PRICE \$89.99

SAVE 55%

92715019

LIMIT 5 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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 1/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON

WOW

POWDER-FREE NITRILE GLOVES HARDY PACK OF 100

• 5 mil. thickness

YOUR CHOICE!

SMALL MEDIUM LARGE X-LARGE

LOT 68496/61363
LOT 68497/61360
LOT 61359
68498 shown

\$6.49 REG. PRICE \$11.99

SAVE 45%

92666223

LIMIT 3 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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 1/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON

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

• Weighs 77 lbs.

20"

LOT 68049/62326
62670/61282/61253 shown

\$84.99 REG. PRICE \$169.99

SAVE \$85

92667279

LIMIT 4 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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 1/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON



4-1/2" ANGLE GRINDER

drillmaster

LOT 60625 shown
95578/69645

\$9.99 REG. PRICE \$19.99

SAVE 50%

92686538

LIMIT 7 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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 1/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON

WOW

10 FT. x 20 FT. PORTABLE CAR CANOPY

LOT 60728
69034 shown

\$119.99 REG. PRICE \$199.99

SAVE \$80

92743854

LIMIT 3 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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 1/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON

16 OZ. HAMMERS WITH FIBERGLASS HANDLE

PITTSBURGH

CLAW RIP

LOT 69006
60715/60714/47872

LOT 47873 shown
69005/61262

\$2.99 REG. PRICE \$7.99

YOUR CHOICE!

92674697

LIMIT 7 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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 1/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON

WOW

STEP STOOL/WORKING PLATFORM

HaulMaster

• 350 lb. Capacity

LOT 62515
66911 shown

\$19.99 REG. PRICE \$34.99

SAVE 42%

926881640

LIMIT 6 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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 1/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON

PREDATOR GENERATORS

4000 PEAK/3200 RUNNING WATTS 6.5 HP (212 CC) GAS GENERATORS

• 70 dB Noise Level

LOT 69729/68528/69676 shown
LOT 69675/69728
CALIFORNIA ONLY

\$299.99 REG. PRICE \$499.99

SAVE \$200

92666447

LIMIT 3 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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 1/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON

26", 4 DRAWER TOOL CART

US • GENERAL

★ WINNER ★
- Truckin' Magazine

LOT 95659 shown
61634/61952

• 580 lb. Capacity

\$99.99 REG. PRICE \$279.99

SAVE \$180

92674564

LIMIT 4 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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 1/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON



AIRLESS PAINT SPRAYER KIT

KRAUSE & BECKER

LOT 60600

\$174.99 REG. PRICE \$299.99

SAVE \$125

92712468

LIMIT 5 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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 1/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON

HaulMaster TRIPLE BALL TRAILER HITCH

LOT 61913 shown
69874/61914

\$19.99 REG. PRICE \$59.99

SAVE 66%

92721089

LIMIT 6 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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 1/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

SUPER COUPON

WOW

1.5 HP ELECTRIC POLE SAW

CHICAGO ELECTRIC TOOL CO. OUTDOOR

• Extends from 6 ft. to 8 ft. 10"

LOT 68862

\$64.99 REG. PRICE \$99.99

SAVE \$35

92725453

LIMIT 5 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. 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 1/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

• 100% Satisfaction Guaranteed • No Hassle Return Policy • 600 Stores Nationwide
 • Over 25 Million Satisfied Customers • Lifetime Warranty On All Hand Tools • HarborFreight.com 800-423-2567

My Favorite Teacher

THEY SAY EXPERIENCE IS THE BEST TEACHER, and we wondered who your favorite teachers are. These photos show the teachers who mean the most to readers and move to the head of the class.

GRACE ARSIAGA

WEB EXTRAS at TexasCoopPower.com Find more class acts online.

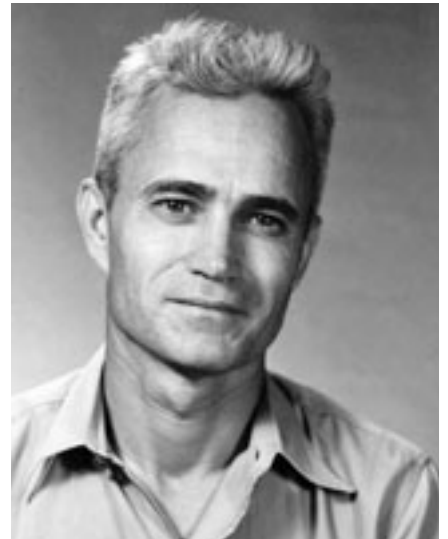
► **LALINDA MIRSKY**, CoServ Electric: Mrs. Mirsky (fifth grade) and Mrs. Cohen (P.E.) dressed up as Thing 1 and Thing 2, respectively, for Character Day at school.



▼ **LEIGH OWENS**, Heart of Texas EC: Jaxon, age 2, learns the tricks of the trade from his dad, Scott Owens.

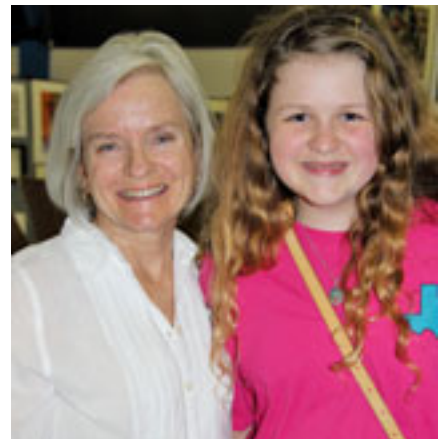


► **SARAH DILWORTH**, Central Texas EC: "I took this for a photography class the week before my mother passed away from ovarian cancer, and yet she still had reason to smile. Everything that is good in me came from her. This is a beautiful image of her in her most trying time."



▲ **JOHN YOUNG**, Pedernales EC: "My dad, William Lee Young, taught vocational agriculture in Moulton for 36 years. He was my best teacher at school and at home. He prepared his students for life."

▼ **SUSAN WELLS**, Trinity Valley EC: Daughter Caroline, 11, has taken art with Jane Adams at All Saints Episcopal School in Tyler for the past five years. She covers a different period of art each year. In second grade they studied impressionism.



UPCOMING CONTESTS

JANUARY PATTERNS	DUE SEPTEMBER 10
FEBRUARY BETTER TOGETHER	DUE OCTOBER 10
MARCH BOATS	DUE NOVEMBER 10

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

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



Pick of the Month
Remember Our Fallen

Cameron [September 12-15]

(254) 627-0179, kmil.com/bulletin.php

Ben Milam Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2010 honors Texans who have died in the wars on terrorism with a display of more than 600 pictures. "If we forget our fallen and our history, then history will repeat itself," says Heart of Texas EC member Thomas W. Wiley III, the VFW post commander and a Vietnam War veteran.

September

9

Alvarado [9-12] Johnson County Pioneers and Old Settlers Reunion, (817) 790-2480

10

Dimmitt [10-12] Castro County Harvest Days, (806) 647-2524, dimmittchamberofcommerce.com

11

Giddings Texas Word Wrangler Book Festival, (979) 542-2716, texaswordwrangler.com

Lubbock [11-13] National Cowboy Symposium & Celebration, (806) 798-7825, cowboy.org

12

Blanco Hill Country Heartbeat, (512) 970-8332, hillcountryheartbeat.org

Cranfills Gap Septemberfest, (254) 597-2215, sept-fest.net

Ladonia Boyd Music Festival, (903) 486-8912, boydmusicfestival.com

La Grange Patriot Day Ceremony, (979) 968-3017, visitlagrangetx.com

17

Hallsville [17-20] Battle of Fort Crawford, (903) 241-2861, battleoffortcrawford.com

September 11 Giddings Texas Word Wrangler Book Festival



SOLDIER: RACHATA SINTHOPACHAKUL | SHUTTERSTOCK.COM. BOOK: GAYVORONSKAYA YANA | SHUTTERSTOCK.COM. MUSGRAVES: KELLY CHRISTINE SUTTON

AROUND TEXAS
EVENT LISTINGS
PLAN YOUR TRIP TODAY AT
TexasCoopPower.com

PECAN FEST
(There's a Bunch of Nuts Here!)
OCTOBER 24
Beer & Wine Garden, Live Bands,
Food, 80+ Trade Booths,
Pecan Treats, Pecan Pie Contest,
HEB TX Vanilla Seguin Pecan Ice Cream,
Hat Parade & Street Dance,
Pumpkin Patch, Pumpkin Decorating,
Nutcracker Museum Tours,
Sebastopol & Magnolia Hotel Tours,
Quilt Show, Pottery Show, Car Show
Ghost Tours: Oct 23 & 24
Tour de Pecan Bike Ride: Oct 24
Cemetery & Magnolia Tours: Oct 25
SEGUIN *Go Nuts!*
SEGUINGONUTS.COM ★ 830-401-0810

THE BEST MACHINES FOR MORE JOBS.
Whether you're in construction, professional landscaping or agriculture, Brookside Equipment's lineup of John Deere Commercial Worksite Products and customer support can help you get more done, more reliably.

DO MORE. SAVE MORE.
Over 100 available WorksitePro™ attachments to dig, till, rake, load and more.

0% FOR 48 MONTHS OR **0.9% FOR 60 MONTHS***
on Skid Steers, Compact Track Loaders and Compact Excavators*

The BROOKSIDE ADVANTAGE
CONVENIENCE: 8 locations
EXPERIENCE: 41 years in business
EXPERTISE: Gold Star Certified Dealer
SERVICE: On Site Field Service
STRONG: More than 120 employees supporting your equipment

www.BrooksideUSA.com

Angleton, TX 17000 Hwy 288B (979) 849-2325 2 miles south of CR220	SW Houston, TX 11700 S. Sam Houston Pkwy W. (713) 541-3535 Near SW Frwy (Hwy 59)	Spring, TX 19003 I-45 North Frwy (281) 353-0204 Gyresswood Exit
Hockley, TX 33400 Hempstead Hwy (281) 256-6900 US Hwy 290 @ Roberts Rd.	Jersey Village, TX 13250 West Rd. (713) 466-7456 Hwy 290 @ West Rd.	Katy, TX 28715 Hwy 90 (281) 391-2165 Hwy 90, Exit I-10 at Pedersen Rd.
League City, TX 2135 Gulf Frwy South (281) 338-1300 League City Pkwy Exit	Houston, TX 9125 I-45 Gulf Frwy (713) 943-7100 College / Airport Exit	

*Offer ends 10/31/15. Fixed rate of 0% for 48 months on all skid steers, compact track loaders and compact excavators. Subject to approved installment credit with John Deere Financial. Offer includes new John Deere Skid Steers, Compact Track Loaders and Compact Excavators. Some restrictions apply. Other offers available. See dealer for complete details and other financing options. Available at participating dealers.

JOHN DEERE | **BROOKSIDE EQUIPMENT SALES**

19

Pontotoc Pontotoc Ranch VFD BBQ & Cake Auction, (325) 251-6670

Quitaque Texas State Bison Music Festival, (806) 455-1492

Sherman Texoma Woodcarvers Show, (972) 632-8402

Surfside Beach Texas Navy Day Celebration, (979) 864-1541, brazoria-county.com/parks

Burnet [19-20] Art Festival, (830) 613-1055, artburnet.com

Hondo [19-20] Medina County Fair, (830) 426-5406, medinacountyfair.org

20

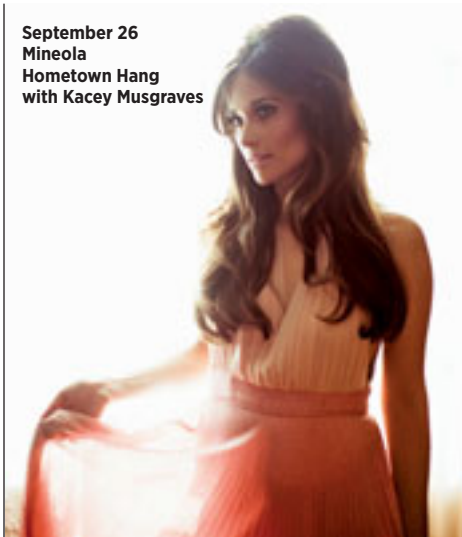
Smithville Grace Lutheran Church Annual Bazaar, (512) 237-2108, glcs.org

25

Hillje [25-26] Louise/Hillje BBQ Cook-Off & Fall Festival, (979) 541-7056

Lewisville [25-26] Western Days Festival, (972) 219-3710, LewisvilleWesternDays.com

September 26
Mineola
Hometown Hang
with Kacey Musgraves



26

Bowie Battle of the BBQ, (940) 872-1173, bowietxchamber.org

Martindale Mamma Jamma Ride, (512) 765-5526, mammajammaride.org

Mineola Hometown Hang with Kacey Musgraves, (903) 569-6183

27

Rosanky St. Mary's of the Assumption Festival, (512) 303-0553

October

1

Center [1-3] East Texas Poultry Festival, (936) 598-3682, shelbycounty-chamber.com

Mineral Wells [1-3] Tommy Alverson's Family Gathering, (940) 682-6694, tommyalverson.com

2

Trinity [2-3] Trinity Community Fair, (936) 662-4175, trinitycommunityfair.com

Submit Your Event!

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

LOW COST

Mobile Home Insurance





- Complete coverage
- Superior service
- Easy payment plans
(Including the option of Credit Cards)
- Low deductibles
- Free & easy online quotes

www.stdins.com

Call For A Custom Quote

800-522-0146

Start Saving Today!

Serving Texas Mobile Homeowners since 1961



WILLKOMMEN
FREDERICKSBURG, TX

OKTOBERFEST OCTOBER 2-4

35 Years of Gemütlichkeit! Some of the fun includes four stages, sing-a-longs, Oktubafest, Hauptstrasse Chicken Dance, 42 Tournament, lots of good food and drink, fun kid's area. A great family festival. OktoberfestInFbg.com

FOOD & WINE FEST OCTOBER 24

Celebrate Texas Wine, Food, Friends & Fun! Three special events- Wine Celebrations, MarktPlatz Patron Brunch plus our Fest! Fest offers Guest Chefs, Twenty Five at Five, Texas Wineries, Booths, Lively Tunes, and more! FbgFoodandWineFest.com

INFO: 830-997-8515




Gonzales Offers More Than Mystique

Barbecue, architectural antiques, historic museum and touchstones of Texas Independence

BY RUSSELL GRAVES

THE BATTLE FOR TEXAS INDEPENDENCE happened nearly 180 years ago, but when you visit Gonzales today, you'd think it was more recent. The battle, which started here in October 1835, was a pivotal event in the shaping of the Texas mystique. And that "Come and Take It" spirit is still alive in Gonzales.

I arrive at lunchtime, and near the Gonzales County Courthouse I discover the **Gonzales Food Market**. Judging by the line that extends from the counter to the door, the locals appreciate the place. The sweet smell of smoke permeates the place, a business that was once a grocery store and is now more of a barbecue joint.

I order a sausage sandwich on white bread. The meat is spicy but not hot; the soft bread blends well with the creamy yellow mustard; and the sausage skin has the right amount of snap when I bite into it.

After my hearty lunch, I stroll around the downtown area where I see a collection of law offices, insurance companies, antique stores and specialty shops. The place that intrigues me most is **Discovery Architectural Antiques**. The store occupies several buildings and is home to architectural details harvested from old structures and presented for sale by Suzanne Kittel.

I encounter rows of stained-glass windows. Farther back, I find bins filled with antique doorknobs and hinges carefully curated so that similar pieces can be found together.

In the next room, I find well-aged beams destined to become mantels or architectural elements. Nearby, windows and doors are destined to match a historical remodel.

"My mission has always been to preserve what I could of the past—specifically, old house pieces and parts," Kittel says. "I have always been intrigued by what might have been in an old house or who has gone through a certain door and touched a specific knob." She says old houses interest



Gonzales Memorial Museum

her because she grew up in one. So in 1997, she moved from Austin and opened the store in downtown Gonzales.

Many of her customers seek a specific type of doorknob or other detail to match the features in old homes under renovation, she explains. With customers all over the United States, she admits that it's this common passion for historical restoration that keeps her engaged.

The historical theme continues at the **Gonzales Memorial Museum**. The museum, built to commemorate the Texas Centennial in 1936, is small in size but grand in architecture. The building faces a reflecting pool, and on the opposite side is an amphitheater. The museum consists of two main rooms separated by a breezeway. One room contains mostly items of local historical significance. The other contains rare documents pertaining to the Texas battle for independence, as well as the cannon illustrated on the "Come and Take It" flag.


The site of the first shot of the Texas Revolution is a few miles outside of town near the community of Cost. Along State Highway 97, a stone marker tells the story

of the revolution, but a few miles north on a county road, Texas history enthusiasts can visit the actual spot next to the Guadalupe River.

Before I leave, I head east from town to find the **Houston Oak**. Even though the oak itself sits on private land, you can see the tree from the county road. Under this tree in March 1836, Sam Houston regrouped with his army of volunteers, mostly men from Gonzales, and marched off to engage the Mexican army in the seminal Battle of San Jacinto that initiated Texas as a nation and still influences the state nearly 200 years later.

I stand silently at the county road and take in the significance of the spot. As I get in my truck to leave, another car stops so those inside can practice the same ritual. In Gonzales, Texas history and small-town culture run deep.

Writer and photographer **Russell Graves** is a member of South Plains EC.

 **WEB EXTRAS at TexasCoopPower.com**
Get more travel information before you head to Gonzales.

Paid Advertisement



Official United States
Government-Issued
Gold Eagle Coins

Special Arrangements
Can Be Made for Gold
Orders Over \$50,000

U.S. Government*

GOLD EAGLE

PUBLIC RELEASE

AMERICANS OWN GOLD FOR ONLY \$128!

The U.S. Money Reserve Main Vault Facility announces our latest release of U.S. government-issued gold coins previously held in the West Point Depository/U.S. Mint. U.S. citizens can buy government-issued \$5 gold coins at the incredible price of only \$128.00 each. Gold is currently around \$1,200 per ounce—an incredible deal considering gold's record price of \$1,923 per ounce last seen only a few years ago. Take advantage of this offer before gold could hit new record highs in the future! Please be advised: **These U.S. government gold coins, currently held in our inventory, will be priced at \$128.00 each while supplies last or for up to 30 days.** Call now to avoid disappointment! Orders that are not immediately received or reserved with the order center could be subject to cancellation and your checks returned uncashed.



\$5 AMERICAN EAGLE GOLD COIN
APPROVED: PUBLIC LAW 99-185

We hope that everyone will have a chance to purchase this special U.S. government-issued gold at this price before gold could make its predicted move to higher price levels. Order immediately before our allotted inventory sells out completely! **Call toll-free 1-855-426-7168 today.** If you would have taken \$150,000 of your money and bought gold in 2001, then that initial purchase would have been worth over \$1 million exactly 10 years later in 2011!† This means that specific 10-year period saw an

incredible increase of 600% in the price of gold. **Even gold's recent 10-year performance to date has surpassed the Nasdaq, Dow and S&P 500.** When you convert money to gold, you have transferred it from a paper currency into a precious metal that can rise in both market and numismatic value. This is how the genius of owning gold may protect your money in today's volatile market.

With gold market predictions of its price rising past its record high in the future and the potential threat of another economic meltdown, how can you and your family be protected amidst this uncertainty? In our opinion, individuals are currently moving up to 30% of their assets into gold. Join the many Americans who have already transferred their dollars to gold and call U.S. Money Reserve today!

† Based on the change in gold's price from September 6, 2001 (\$272/oz.) to September 6, 2011 (\$1,923.70/oz.)



CALL NOW: 1-855-426-7168

Offer valid for
up to 30 days
Or while supplies last

BEGINNING TODAY, TELEPHONE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS ACCORDING TO THE TIME AND DATE OF THE ORDER!

MASTERCARD • VISA • AMEX • DISCOVER • CHECK • BANK WIRE

* Special offer is strictly limited to only one lifetime purchase of ten coins (regardless of price paid) per household, plus shipping and insurance (\$15-\$35). Prices may be more or less based on current market conditions. The markets for coins are unregulated. Prices can rise or fall and carry some risks. The company is not affiliated with the U.S. Government and the U.S. Mint. Past performance of the coin or the market cannot predict future performance. Price not valid for precious metals dealers. All calls recorded for quality assurance. Offer void where prohibited. Coin dates our choice. 1/10-ounce coins enlarged to show detail.

© 2015 U.S. Money Reserve

VAULT CODE:
TX19-128



FINANCING LAND OWNERSHIP

NMLS493828

Let us finance your peace of mind

FINANCING

Rural Land
Homes
Farms & Ranches
Livestock & Equipment
Operating Capital
Improvements
Agribusiness

SERVICES

Real Estate Appraisal
Crop Insurance
Leasing

877.944.5500 | CapitalFarmCredit.com

proud member of the Farm Credit System      