

# TEXAS CO-OP POWER

## RAISING EXOTICS

Landowners  
turn to foreign  
breeds







To fuel my passion. This is why I do it.

**RTV-X1140**



Make the most of your rural lifestyle with a Kubota RTV-X1140 utility vehicle. Take on daily chores, weekend projects and big adventures with impressive towing capacity, a standard hydraulic dumping bed, smooth-riding independent rear suspension and a powerful Kubota diesel engine. Choose from one- or two-row seating options, a line of helpful attachments and more!

**\$0 Down and 0%<sub>A.P.R.</sub> Financing for 48 Months\***

See your local Kubota dealer for details.  
Offer ends 9/30/2017.



\*\$0 down, 0% A.P.R. financing for up to 48 months on purchases of select new Kubota RTV X-Series equipment from participating dealers' in-stock inventory is available to qualified purchasers through Kubota Credit Corporation, U.S.A.; subject to credit approval. Some exceptions apply. Example: 48 monthly payments of \$20.83 per \$1,000 financed. Offer expires 9/30/17. See your Kubota dealer or go to [www.KubotaUSA.com](http://www.KubotaUSA.com) for more information. Optional equipment may be shown.

**KubotaUSA.com**



© Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2017





An axis doe in Central Texas

## FEATURES

### 8 Exotic Answers Landowners stock foreign breeds in quest to optimize use of family land

Story by Sheryl Smith-Rodgers | Photos by Wyatt McSpadden

### 12 Big Screens in Small Towns Film festivals draw serious crowds in unexpected places

Story by Gene Fowler | Illustration by John Kachik

## FAVORITES

5 Letters

6 Currents

18 Local Co-op News

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

29 Texas History

*The Winchester Quarantine*

By Martha Deeringer

31 Recipes

*Tailgating Favorites*

35 Focus on Texas

*Photo Contest: At the Rodeo*

36 Around Texas

*List of Local Events*

38 Hit the Road

*A Lake in the Desert*

By Brenda Kissko

## ONLINE

**TexasCoopPower.com**

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

**Texas USA**

*Taylor's Twain*

By Joe O'Connell

**Observations**

*Chairs Just Like Mom 'n' Them Had*

By Chris Burrows

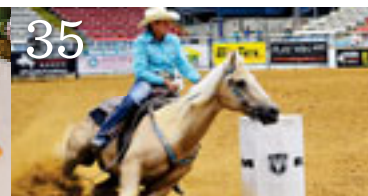
## NEXT MONTH

**The State With the Most** Texas

*Youth Tour contingent proves everything is bigger ... in Washington.*



EXOTICS: WYATT MCSADDEN. YOUTH TOUR: ANNIE MCGINNIS | TEC



**ON THE COVER** Pamela and Gino Giannotti ride along the perimeter of Tillie's Game Ranch. Photo by Wyatt McSpadden

**TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Bryan Lightfoot, Chair, Bartlett; Blaine Warzecha, Vice Chair, Victoria; Alan Lesley, Secretary-Treasurer, Comanche; Mark Boyd, Douglassville; William F. Hetherington, Bandera; Anne Vaden, Corinth; Brent Wheeler, Dalhart • **PRESIDENT/CEO:** Mike Williams, Austin • **COMMUNICATIONS & MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE:** Jerry Boze, Kaufman; Clint Gardner, Coleman; Rick Haile, McGregor; Greg Henley, Tahoka; Billy Marricle, Bellville; Mark McClain, Roby; Gary Raybon, El Campo; Kathy Wood, Marshall • **MAGAZINE STAFF:** Martin Bevins, Vice President, Communications & Member Services; Charles J. Lohrmann, Editor; Tom Widlowski, Associate Editor; Karen Nejtke, Production Manager; Andy Doughty, Creative Manager; Grace Arsiaga, Print Production Specialist; Chris Burrows, Senior Communications Specialist; Christine Carlson, Communications & Member Services Assistant; Paula Disbrow, Food Editor; Taylor Montgomery, Digital Field Editor; Jane Sharpe, Senior Designer; Ellen Stader, Senior Communications Specialist; Shannon Oelrich, Proofreader



# WE'RE BIG ON STORAGE

Customize a high-quality Mueller steel building to your exact specifications - from size to features to colors. Our versatile structures are perfect for storing boats, RVs and everything in between. Contact us to start your Mueller building project today!



[www.muellerinc.com](http://www.muellerinc.com)  
877-2-MUELLER  
(877-268-3553)





## Tracking Raiders

The article [*The Mystery of Sain-toh-oodie Goombi*, July 2017] also mentions Britt Johnson, who tracked raiders into Indian Territory and rescued his family. San Antonio author Paulette Jiles tells a fictionalized version of Britt Johnson's story in *The Color of Lightning*. In *News of the World*, Jiles writes about a young Kiowa captive who is reluctant to return to "civilization." Stories of this part of Texas history deserve to be told.

PAMALA NELSON | BUDA  
PEDERNALES EC

## A Home Unburdened

*Home Made* by Brenda Kissko [June 2017] was a delightful surprise and a sentimental journey. The house she wrote of was a favorite summer destination for my family and me. Her mother, my college roommate, and I gathered in the summer at the ranch to catch up after a year of visiting only in letters and by phone.

Morning coffee on the porch, the quiet of the landscape, the cool of the swamp cooler in the afternoon. Every child should be so fortunate to grow up without the burden of so much technology.

MARLENE TUCKER | AXTELL  
NAVASOTA VALLEY EC



## Finding Millie Durgan's Family

A big thank you for *The Mystery of Sain-toh-oodie Goombi* [July 2017], about my grandfather Ben J. Brothers' role in finding Millie Durgan's family. It contained some information I had never heard before. One reason he was successful was because he had been an early brand inspector for the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association. Through his investigations, he got to know many people in the area where Millie had been taken.

SARAH HARDY | ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA



## Another Poetry Whiz

Thanks to the reader from Port Lavaca for submitting this rhyme [*So Far By Car*, Letters, July 2017]. However, the true rhyme should be as follows:

*The sun has riz,  
the sun has set,  
and here we is,  
in Texas yet.*

ELVIS GILMORE | GREENVILLE  
FARMERS EC

## Resurgence in Childress

I spent every summer in Childress [*Panhandle Prosperity*, July 2017] in the '50s and early '60s with my great-grandparents, Jake and Edna Swafford, and my great-aunt. My great-grandfather was the oldest citizen in Childress for several years and always was acknowledged at the Old Settlers Reunion.

I traveled to Childress last year to check on our family gravesite and just drove around,

remembering the bustling little town it was when I was growing up. So glad businesses are beginning to pop up again there.

LINDA PRICE | KATY  
SOUTHWEST RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

## Books in the Barn

My book find was in a barn [*Blue Highway Literature*, June 2017]. Our son bought a home-stand from an elderly couple, and in the barn we found many plastic containers full of books.

The woman who lived there read extensively. Among the books was a 1938 publication of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, a collection of 75 Zane Grey books and a brown leatherette collection of 37 Louis L'Amour books. Of course, no book collection in Texas would be complete without Larry McMurtry's *Lonesome Dove* and *Comanche Moon*.

MYRA BLOUNT | LAMAR COUNTY  
LAMAR ELECTRIC

## The Best Chicken

The Strawberry, Basil & Goat Cheese Grilled Chicken [Recipes, April 2017] was wonderful. Thank you for your excellent recipes. We always enjoy them, but that chicken was the best.

SHARON FLOURNOY | ROSANKY  
BLUEBONNET EC

## GET MORE TCP AT TexasCoopPower.com

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

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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

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



Texas Co-op Power

**TEXAS CO-OP POWER VOLUME 74, 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 2017 Texas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. Reproduction of this issue or any portion of it is expressly prohibited without written permission. Willie Wirehand © Copyright 2017 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.



Texas Electric Cooperatives  
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

## HAPPENINGS

# Wish You Were Here

### WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU SENT OR RECEIVED A POSTCARD?

"This month," says Yvette Foster. "I often use old postcards to make birthday and special cards."

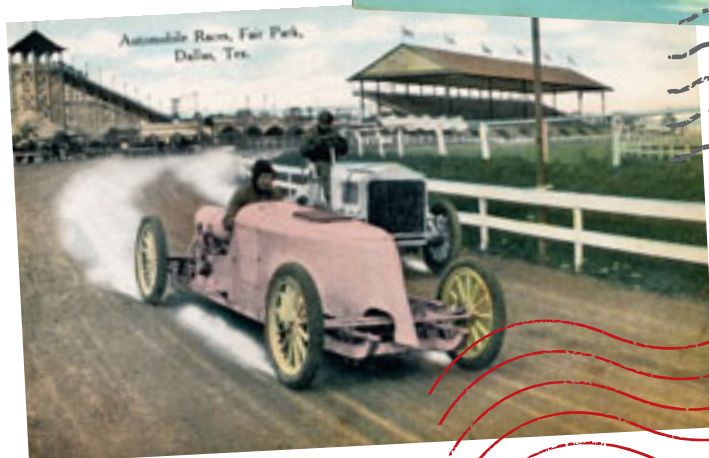
In addition to being resourceful, Foster also is a collector and a member of the Capital of Texas Postcard Club, which hosts the **CAPITAL OF TEXAS ANTIQUE POSTCARDS & VINTAGE PAPER SHOW** on **OCTOBER 6-7** in Austin.

"They are like little works of art, and I enjoy reading the messages and seeing the often elegant writing on the back," she says. "I have hundreds of Santa and Christmas postcards."

Postcards came into existence in the mid-1800s and after the turn of the century grew into a popular way folks stayed in touch. Postcards depicted works of art, scenes and even photos of natural disasters.

"Postcards would be considered the texting of the current day," says Foster, a member of Pedernales Electric Cooperative. "When there wasn't time to write a full letter, a postcard often just said: I've arrived. Or I'll be home Saturday. Or I'm thinking of you."

**INFO** ▶ (512) 302-4722, [ctxpc.org](http://ctxpc.org)



### WEB EXTRAS

▶ Find more happenings online.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**National Tailgating Day** is **September 2**, the first full Saturday of college football season. Check out *Tailgating Favorites* on Page 31 to kick off your season with winning recipes.



## BY THE NUMBERS

### Man, Verses, Words

**There once** was a writer who worked in a cube. He had so many words, he was one busy dude. He typed them all down five years in a row; Three hundred blurbs is what he can show.

**Tom Widlowski** recently celebrated his fifth anniversary as associate editor of *Texas Co-op Power*. In that time, he's written an estimated 300 tidbits (but not this one), totaling about 15,000 words for this section of the magazine. How does that make him feel? "Somewhat dizzy—but proud," he says. "On to the next 300."





## HONORS

# What in the World?

**PEGGY WHITSON** runs circles around every other American astronaut who has flown in space. Whitson, a biochemist who earned her doctorate at Rice University in Houston, surpassed the record for most accumulated time in orbit in late April. She is due to return to Earth in September, when she'll have logged 666 days off the planet after three missions to the International Space Station.

**THE WORLD RECORD**—879 days—is held by Russian Gennady Padalka.

**WHITSON IS THE WORLD'S** most experienced spacewoman and female spacewalker and, at 57, the oldest woman in space.

### WEB EXTRAS

► Download NASA audio and ringtones from its radio station.

## Did You Know?



**THE ISS ORBITS EARTH** at about 17,500 mph. It travels at an altitude of around 250 miles, circling Earth about every 90 minutes. Track it at [iss.astrovviewer.net](http://iss.astrovviewer.net).

## ALMANAC

# Speaking of the Wild Blue Yonder

The U.S. Air Force turns 70 on September 18.

Though the U.S. Army Signal Corps started an Aeronautical Division in 1907 and received its first airplane in 1909—from the Wright brothers—the Air Force didn't become a separate branch of the military until 1947.



## HISTORY LESSON

# & NOW YOU KNOW

The English alphabet had a 27th letter until around 1900. Though it no longer is an honored member of the alphabet, it gets celebrated every September 8 on National Ampersand Day.

The ampersand started as a ligature of the letters "E" and "T" from the Latin word *et*, which means "and." The word "ampersand" was added to dictionaries in 1837. It's a slurred form of "and per se and." Per se means "by itself," and schoolchildren would end their recitations of the ABCs by saying, "X, Y, Z and per se and."

## WORTH REPEATING

*"It's a fixer-upper of a planet, but we could make it work."*

—**ELON MUSK**, CEO of SpaceX, speaking in May 2013 about the possibility of humans eventually settling on Mars. SpaceX has a rocket-development facility in McGregor and offices in Houston, and is building a launch site at Boca Chica Beach in Brownsville.

# EXOTIC ANSWERS



## Landowners stock foreign breeds in quest to optimize family land

Gillespie County rancher Gino Giannotti slows his green Kawasaki Mule on a rocky road and gazes toward a distant motte of live oaks. Braking to a stop, he says, “Look!” and points toward a blackish-brown antelope with white eye patches and V-shaped, corkscrew horns. Startled, the animal bounds away and disappears into the trees. “That was a male blackbuck antelope,” Giannotti says, revving the off-road vehicle. “The females are tan and don’t have horns.”

Within a few minutes, he spots chestnut and white-spotted axis deer along with a large-bodied, scimitar-horned oryx, with its distinctive back-swept horns. Native white-tailed deer graze nearby. These animals help ensure that Tillie’s Game Ranch, a member of Central Texas Electric Cooperative, won’t be broken up and sold any time soon.

Giannotti and his wife, Pamela, inherited the Hill Country land in the 1990s from Pamela’s great-aunt, Tillie Evers Durden, a descendant of Ludwig Evers, who founded the ranch near Doss in the 1850s. For the first 16 years, the couple, who live and work in Austin, ran cattle on the ranch. Then, an extended drought brought uncertainty. Commercial hunts for white-tailed deer generated extra income—but for only a few months out of the year.

Something had to give. With iffy cattle markets and notorious Texas weather, the couple did not see how they could continue to afford the land *and* pass it along intact to their children. In-depth research and lengthy discussions finally led Giannotti and his wife to a solution.

“We decided to stock and breed exotic game,” he says. “The animals can be hunted year-around, and we could create a revenue stream that would cover the ranch’s expenses, and the land would not be a financial burden down the road for our two daughters.”

The Gianottis are not alone. Across Texas, more than 3,300 property owners run exotic game species on their land, according to the Exotic Wildlife Association, based in Ingram. Generally, the term “exotic” refers to animals brought into the state from foreign countries. In Texas, the majority of exotic hoofed deer, antelope, goats and sheep originate in Africa. Most are contained



STORY BY **Sheryl Smith-Rodgers**

PHOTOS BY **Wyatt McSpadden**





Opposite: A young bison (not an exotic) from a herd of about 15 at Tillie's Game Ranch. Left: Gino Giannotti searches for exotics. Below: Early spring wildflowers add color to a clearing at Tillie's.





From left: Giannotti brings feed to his bison. A skittish herd of blackbuck antelope from India scurry for cover. Gino and Pamela Giannotti and their dog, Hank, on the back porch of the lodge at Tillie's.



in high-fenced property. Some roam more freely in Central and South Texas, where the climate and terrain resemble that of their savannah homelands.

Over the years, the number of “Texotics” (a term likely first coined as the title of a 1976 bulletin published by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department) has increased dramatically. In 1963, a TPWD census counted 13 exotic species totaling some 13,000 animals in 46 counties. In 1988, a department survey found 67 species totaling an estimated 164,257 animals in 137 counties. A TPWD survey in 1996 numbered 76 species and 190,000 animals. Today, the EWA estimates that more than 1 million exotics representing 135 species live in the state.

All exotic animals are regulated by the Texas Animal Health Commission, which oversees the state’s livestock industry. Exotics are listed along with cattle, horses and other domestic animals.

Under TPWD regulations, hunters may harvest exotic animals with no bag limits at any time of the year. However, a valid hunting license and landowner permission are required. Also, hunting is not permitted on public roads or rights-of-way.

**T**he exotic game industry’s economic impact in rural America is substantial. Exotic wildlife operations and sports enthusiasts spend more than \$822 million each year, according to a 2007 Texas A&M University study. The industry’s total impact amounts to \$1.3 billion and generates more than 14,300 jobs annually, largely in rural areas where exotic wildlife owners operate.

The first exotic game in Texas came to the legendary King

## Balanced management is key, whether exotics are present or not.

Ranch. Starting in the 1920s, nilgai antelopes, purchased from the San Diego Zoo, were released on the ranch’s Norias Division. Today, more than 12,000 nilgai, a large brown or gray antelope indigenous to India, draw hunters and visitors from around the world to King Ranch.

In the 1930s, Richard Friedrich fenced off 775 acres of his Kerr County ranch and released sambar, fallow, axis and sika deer that he acquired from the San Antonio Zoo, where he served as a board member. Now under different ownership, the Patio Ranch, which bills itself as the state’s oldest exotic game ranch, breeds 15 exotic game species for commercial hunts and live animal sales.

In 1953, the late Charles Schreiner III acquired blackbuck antelope for his family’s famed Y.O. Ranch, established in 1880 in Kerr County. In the 1960s, Schreiner added more game species to boost the ranch’s reputation as a tourist and hunting destination. In 1967, Schreiner helped found the EWA to support and promote the industry. Today, Byron and Sandra Sadler, members of Pedernales EC, own the original portion of the historic ranch, which they renamed Y.O. Headquarters. Hunting, horseback riding and exotic game tours are available for visitors.

“We know the Schreiner family, and we’re native Texans, so we want to preserve the ranch and keep its legacy intact,” Byron Sadler says.





Across the state, private landowners own exotic game for numerous reasons. Many ranchers offer hunting packages that can cost a few hundred to several thousand dollars. Others breed and sell animals as breeding stock, for new releases on game ranches or as meat to restaurants. In some cases, ranchers tend endangered species in partnership with conservation projects, such as the Species Survival Plan program administered by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

Landowners should do their homework before venturing into exotics. “We advise people to consider the three C’s first,” says James Gallagher, a TPWD biologist at the 5,300-acre, high-fenced Mason Mountain Wildlife Management Area, a Central Texas EC member. “Can they *contain* exotics on their land? Can they *control* their numbers? Will exotics *compete* with native species?”

Gallagher, who manages greater kudu, Thompson’s gazelle and three other exotic species for demonstrations at the Mason WMA, also cautions potential owners to become well-versed in the behaviors and feeding habits of specific species. “One lesson we’ve learned here is that some exotics only use metal shelters when they are about to die,” he says.

What about the exotics’ effect on nature? “It’s all about numbers,” says Mitch Lockwood, TPWD big game program director. “As long as animal numbers remain within the carrying capacity



#### WEB EXTRAS

► Learn more about exotic species, including where to see them and how other landowners manage them.

of your land, exotics can be part of an overall wildlife management plan that focuses on the management of native wildlife species and their habitat. When requested, we give landowners technical guidance in managing habitat and wildlife, including exotics, for the benefit of native species. But if not managed, then exotics can have a detrimental impact on native species and habitat.”

“We learned at the Kerr Wildlife Management Area that exotics can outcompete white-tailed deer, which eat only forbs and browse,” Lockwood says. “Most of the common exotics also like browse and forbs, but they do well on grass, too. Past studies showed that unmanaged exotics enclosed with white-tailed deer always increased in numbers while the natives went to zero. That’s because white-tailed deer will starve to death on grass alone.”

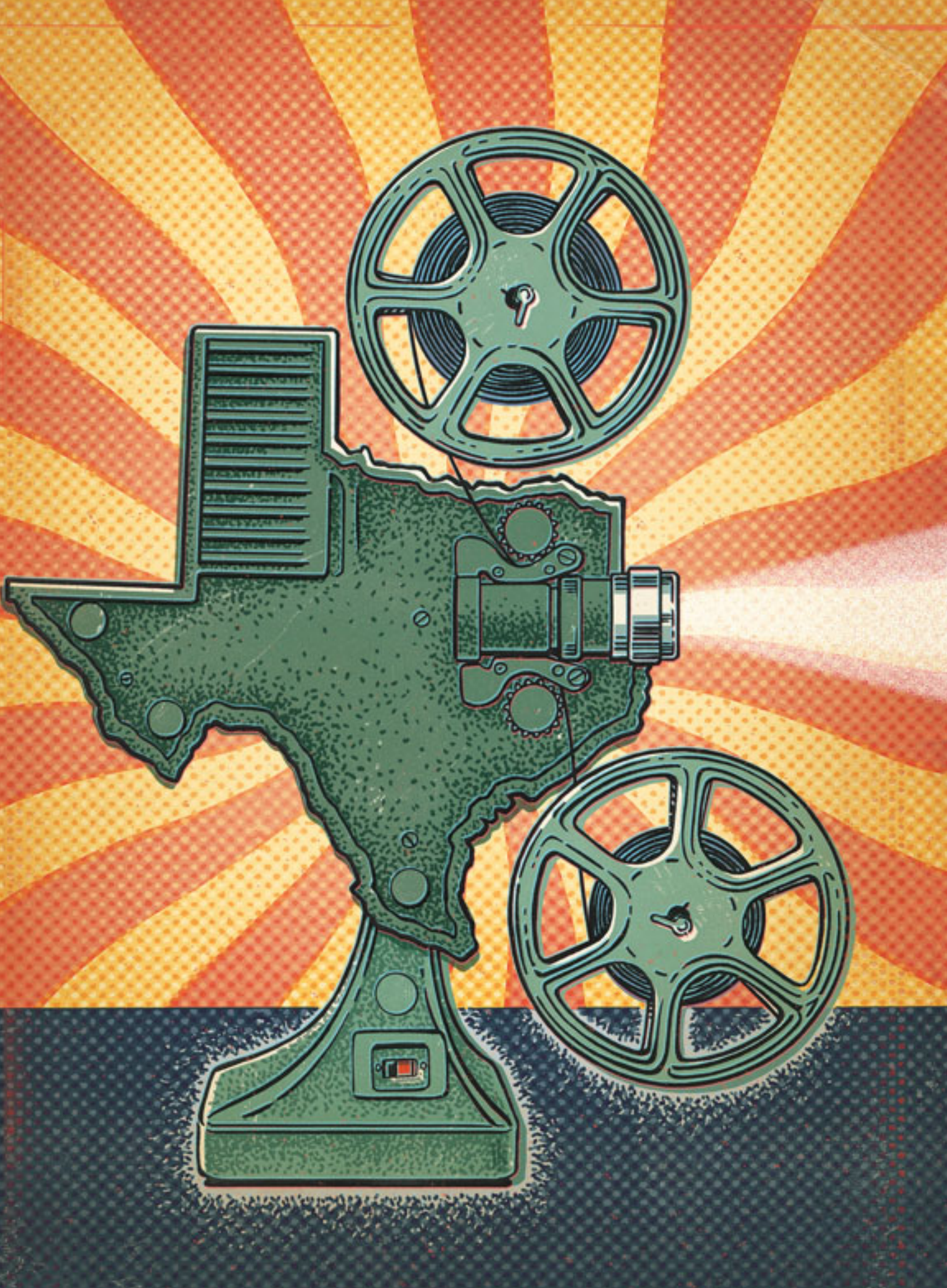
Balanced management is key, whether exotics are present or not. “We don’t like the idea, but we recognize the economic importance of private landowners making money off their land,” says biologist Romey Swanson, a conservation project manager with the Hill Country Conservancy. “And sometimes the best way to do that is to offer hunting opportunities. But we would hope that landowners manage animals so that range conditions aren’t depleted over time.”

Back at Tillie’s Game Ranch, Giannotti drives through a final gate and locks it. Then he steers the dusty ATV into a carport at the ranch’s tin-roofed rock lodge, which houses two upstairs bedrooms for hunters. On the front porch, he pauses to gaze at the distant hills.

“Sometimes I look at how rugged this land is and think back to German immigrants who settled here,” Giannotti reflects. “They had to be a strong people to survive. You can’t walk a foot on this land without kicking a rock. But they worked it and made a living. We are, too. Someday our daughters will own this land after us. But in the meantime, I’m having a ball raising exotics!”

**Sheryl Smith-Rodgers**, a member of Pedernales EC, lives in Blanco.







# BIG SCREENS IN SMALL TOWNS

## FILM FESTIVALS DRAW SERIOUS CROWDS IN UNEXPECTED PLACES

Once upon a time, in the last century, an event as exotic as a film festival could only be experienced in an urban capital of culture. Today, however, such concentrated celebrations of the cinematic art seem to spring from the very soil of Texas. From Marfa to Nacogdoches, Rockport to Waxahachie, auteurs travel the Lone Star highways in search of an audience for their flicks. The film festival has come to the small towns of Texas.

Movies shown at the events run the gamut from traditional Westerns to the sometimes inscrutable creations of the avant-garde. Waxahachie's Crossroads of Texas Film Festival and the Nacogdoches Film Festival focus on films that were made in Texas, set in Texas or have a strong connection to the state.

Several of the movies shown at the Crossroads festival, which began in 2014, were at least partly shot in Waxahachie, including the 1984 picture *Places in the Heart*. Directed by Waxahachie native Robert Benton, the film stars Sally Field as a widow struggling to hold on to the family cotton farm. Festivalgoers also recognized the landscape in *Tender Mercies*, Horton Foote's 1983 redemption story about a fallen country-western singer played letter-perfectly by Robert Duvall.

And although some festival films can be viewed at home, seeing them with a crowd on the big screen provides a more immersive cinematic encounter. The Crossroads website says that the 2015 screening of *The Trip to Bountiful*, Foote's 1985 film about an elderly woman who sets out to visit her long-deserted homeplace, was the first time the movie had been seen on the big screen in 30 years.

The Waxahachie festival expands the viewing experience by screening films in historic or uncommon settings, such as the 1902 Chautauqua Auditorium, the 1925 Tudor-style Ellis County Woman's Building and the 1895 Texas Theatre. "We showed *8 Seconds*, the film about the late bull rider Lane Frost, at our local rodeo arena," says Amy Borders, director of the Crossroads of Texas Film Festival.

Music was the theme of the 2016 Crossroads festival, which included biopics on Tex-Mex powerhouses Selena and Doug Sahm. The 2017 fest in April, with the theme "Trailblazers and Outlaws," included *The Buddy Holly Story*, *The Newton Boys*, *Crazy Heart* and *The Last Picture Show*.

Inspired by the film program at Stephen F. Austin State University, the Nacogdoches Film Festival, which launched in 2012, also focuses on Texas films, every February. The 2016 festival included the documentary *Found Footage: Nacogdoches 1938*. The 16 mm footage of local people and places, shot in 1938, was lost and found at least twice through the years but is now restored and supplemented by recent interviews with some of its subjects. "It was great to see the modern interviews of familiar people now in their 80s and then to see them as teenagers in the original footage," says Bill King, festival chairman.

Past festivals have included such documentaries as *Road to Austin*, about the capital city's music scene; *Tomato Republic*, a quirky slice of East Texas life chronicling a recent Jacksonville mayoral race; *Barbecue: A Texas Love Story*, narrated by former Texas Gov. Ann Richards; and *For the Love of Books*, about the

tiara-wearing, book-loving Pulpwood Queens from the East Texas town of Jefferson.

When the Nacogdoches festival screened the 2011 film *Bernie*, directed by Austin's Richard Linklater, some eight or nine of the real-life people who were portrayed by actors in the film drove over from Carthage to attend. Several festival films—*Bubba Ho-Tep*, *Cold in July*, *By the Hair of the Head*—were based on stories by East Texas literary star Joe R. Lansdale, who has made it a practice to be on hand to offer tips to aspiring filmmakers.

Because Nacogdoches is the oldest city in Texas, its festival events and screenings often take place in historic settings, such as the century-old post office, which now houses the convention and visitors bureau. Another festival site, the Cole Art Center at the Old Opera House, had an inadvertent influence on a pivotal event in American film history. In 1907, the Marx brothers, touring as a noncomical musical ensemble called the Four Nightingales, played the opera house. In the middle of the performance, audience members heard someone hollering in the street about a runaway mule. The audience streamed out of the theater to witness the rampage. When the audience members returned, an insulted Groucho Marx began berating everyone present. Instead of taking offense, the Nacogdoches crowd roared with laughter. The comedy empire of the Marx Brothers was born, and Groucho was often heard to reprise one line from that memorable performance: "Nacogdoches is full of roaches."

**When** Hill Country Film Festival director Amy Moskovitz and her brother, writer-director Chad Matthews, decided to start a film festival in 2010, they felt that their home base of Austin already had enough cinema events. Moreover, says Moskovitz, "We felt that independent film went hand in hand with the independent spirit of a small town." The pair decided that Fredericksburg, 80 miles west, best embodied the festival's motto, "Reel Indie, Real Texas."

"We're a destination festival and a boutique festival," Moskovitz explains. "People network here and make connections. The audi-

ence has access to the filmmakers through Q&A sessions. A mom and her son volunteered one year, and then, when he was a high school senior, he had the opportunity to go to New York and intern with a filmmaker he met here." A summer film camp run by the fest offers hands-on opportunities for Fredericksburg students.

When HCFF showed the 2016 documentary *Tower*, about the 1966 shootings at the University of Texas, locals were especially moved to have in attendance in-laws and friends of Ramiro Martinez, one of the officers who stopped the shooter. The 85 films shown at the 2016 fest also included *A Song for You: The Austin City Limits Story* and the border patrol thriller *Transpecos*.

One of the newest festivals, the South Texas International Film Festival, founded in 2015, unfolds each September in Edinburg. "The Mexican Consulate here wanted us to show some films by Mexican filmmakers," says festival director Magdiel Alfonso, "and the idea just grew into a festival. The first year, we received 85 entries and showed six shorts and four features. We've gotten submissions from Mex-

ico, India, Pakistan, Russia, Europe, Canada—people submit them through the platforms FilmFreeway and Withoutabox. We're working to have our festival films be eligible for Oscar consideration."

Festival organizers also hope to establish a filmmaking presence in the Rio Grande Valley and create economic resources for actors, costume designers, cinematographers and other film professionals. This year's festival is September 7–9.

Movie-loving Valley folks surely will charm the film world with Texas hospitality, as did the late L.T. Felty of Waxahachie. Back in the '80s, when the town was becoming a Hollywood outpost in Texas, former high school coach Felty was the man to see if a film production needed a certain location or, say, 800 square dancers on one day's notice. Felty also found himself on the silver screen, appearing in Foote's film *1918*, and playing a duck hunter in David Byrne's *True Stories*.

Most of all, Felty mesmerized the occasionally cutthroat world of Tinseltown with his small-town values. "If you don't lie to them, they'll believe in you as long as you live," he told *The New York Times* in 1985. "Your handshake is your word."

**Gene Fowler** is an Austin writer who specializes in history.

"WE FELT THAT INDEPENDENT  
FILM WENT HAND IN HAND  
WITH THE INDEPENDENT SPIRIT  
OF A SMALL TOWN."



# Steel Yourself

Limited  
Collector's  
Edition

*At \$59, this blade of legendary Damascus steel is a real steal*

Damascus steel is the stuff of legend. Using a technique first mastered in the ancient city, swords made from Damascus steel were known to slice gun barrels in half and separate single strands of hair in two, even if the hair simply floated down onto the blade.

**Now, you can be a part of the legend.** The 7 1/2" *August Knife* features a blade of modern Damascus steel, inspired by the production techniques and legends of history. Damascus steel blade knives can cost thousands. So, at \$59, the price itself is also legendary.

Once a lost art, we sought out a knifemaker who has resurrected the craftsmanship of Damascus steel to create the *August Knife*. The elusive, ancient production technique mixes different steel alloys to form a super steel—the outcome is a beautiful one-of-a-kind pattern of banding and mottling reminiscent of flowing water.

**What customers are saying about Stauer knives...**



*"Very hefty, well-built knife and sheath. Extremely good-looking and utilitarian."*

— R., Lacey, Washington



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

With the *August Knife* you're getting the best blade money can buy. What you won't get is the inflated price tag. We know a thing or two about the hunt—like how to seek out and capture an outstanding, collector's-quality knife that won't cut into your bank account.

**Limited availability.** Only a handful of artisans make these blades, with each handcrafted knife taking months to perfect. We currently can get less than 1500 this year, so we can't promise they'll stick around for long—especially at this price. Call today!

**Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed.** If you don't feel like we cut you a fair deal, send it back within 60 days for a complete refund of the item price. But we believe once you wrap your fingers around the *August's* handle and experience the beauty of its Damascus steel blade, you'll be ready to carve out your own legend.

**August Knife** non offer code price ~~\$149~~\*

Offer Code Price Only \$59 + S&P Save \$90

**1-800-333-2045**

Your Insider Offer Code: AGK150-01

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

**Stauer®** 14101 Southcross Drive W., Dept. AGK150-01  
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 [www.stauer.com](http://www.stauer.com)

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



Not shown  
actual size.



Rating of A+



• 7 1/2" overall length • Genuine Damascus steel blade • Stainless steel guard • Leather handle • Includes genuine leather sheath

*Stauer...Afford the Extraordinary.™*

# Drug Companies Fear Release of the New AloeCure

**Big Pharma stands to lose billions as doctors' recommend drug-free "health cocktail" that adjusts and corrects your body's health conditions.**

by David Waxman  
Seattle Washington:

Drug company execs are nervous. That's because the greatest health advance in decades has hit the streets. And analysts expect it to put a huge crimp in "Big Pharma" profits.

So what's all the fuss about? It's about a new ingredient that's changing the lives of people who use it. Some call it "the greatest discovery since penicillin"!

The name of the product is the AloeCure. It's not a drug. It's something completely different. And the product is available to anyone who wants it, at a reasonable price. But demands may force future prices to rise.

## TOP DOC WARNS: DIGESTION DRUGS CAN CRIPPLE YOU!

Company spokesperson, Dr. Liza Leal; a leading integrative health specialist recommends AloeCure before she decides to prescribe any digestion drug. Especially after the FDA's stern warning about long-term use of drugs classified as proton pump inhibitors like **Prilosec®**, **Nexium®**, and **Prevacid®**. In a nutshell, the FDA statement warned people should avoid taking these digestion drugs for longer than three 14-day treatment periods because there is an increased risk of bone fractures. Many people take them daily and for decades.

Dr. Leal should know. Many patients come to her with bone and joint complaints and she does everything she can to help them. One way for digestion sufferers to help avoid possible risk of tragic joint and bone problems caused by overuse of digestion drugs is to take the AloeCure.

**Analysts expect the AloeCure to put a huge crimp in "Big Pharma" profits.**

The secret to AloeCure's "health adjusting" formula is scientifically tested Acemannan, a polysaccharide extracted from Aloe Vera. But not the same aloe vera that mom used to apply to your cuts, scrapes and burns. This is a perfect strain of aloe that is organically grown under very strict conditions. AloeCure is so powerful it begins to benefit your health the instant you take it. It soothes intestinal discomfort and you can avoid the possibility of bone and health damage caused by overuse of digestion drugs. We all know how well aloe works externally on cuts, scrapes and burns. But did you know

Acemannan has many of other health benefits?...

## HELPS THE IMMUNE SYSTEM TO CALM INFLAMMATION

According to a leading aloe research, when correctly processed for digesting, the Aloe plant has a powerful component for regulating your immune system called Acemannan. So whether it's damage that is physical, bacterial, chemical or autoimmune; the natural plant helps the body stay healthy.

## RAPID ACID AND HEARTBURN NEUTRALIZER

Aloe has proved to have an astonishing effect on users who suffer with digestion problems like bouts of acid reflux, heartburn, cramping, gas and constipation because it acts as a natural acid buffer and soothes the digestive system. But new studies prove it does a whole lot more.

## SIDE-STEP HEART CONCERNS

So you've been taking proton pump inhibitors (PPI's) for years and you feel just fine. In June of 2015 a major study shows that chronic PPI use increases the risk of heart attack in general population.

## UNLEASH YOUR MEMORY

Studies show that your brain needs the healthy bacteria from your gut in order function at its best. Both low and high dosages of digestion drugs are proven to destroy that healthy bacteria and get in the way of brain function. So you're left with a sluggish, slow-to-react brain without a lot of room to store information. The acemannan used in AloeCure actually makes your gut healthier, so healthy bacteria flows freely to your brain so you think better, faster and with a larger capacity for memory.

**Doctors call it "The greatest health discovery in decades!"**

## SLEEP LIKE A BABY

A night without sleep really damages your body. And continued lost sleep can lead to all sorts of health problems. But what you may not realize is the reason why you're not sleeping. Some call it "Ghost Reflux". A low-intensity form of acid reflux discomfort that quietly keeps you awake in the background. AloeCure helps digestion so you may find yourself sleeping through the night.

## CELEBRITY HAIR, SKIN & NAILS

Certain antacids may greatly reduce your



body's ability to break down and absorb calcium. Aloe delivers calcium as it aids in balancing your stomach acidity. The result? Thicker, healthier looking hair...more youthful looking skin... And nails so strong they may never break again.

## SAVE YOUR KIDNEY

National and local news outlets are reporting Kidney Failure linked to PPI's. Your Kidney extracts waste from blood, balance body fluids, form urine, and aid in other important functions of the body. Without it your body would be overrun by deadly toxins. Aloe helps your kidney function properly. Studies suggest, if you started taking aloe today; you'd see a big difference in the way you feel.

## GUARANTEED RESULTS OR DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK

Due to the incredible results people are reporting, AloeCure is being sold with an equally incredible guarantee.

"We can only offer this incredible guarantee because we are 100% certain this product will work for those who use it," Says Dr. Leal.

Here's how it works: Take the pill exactly as directed. You must see and feel remarkable improvements in your digestive health, your mental health, in your physical appearance, the amount inflammation you have throughout your body - even in your ability to fall asleep at night!

Otherwise, simply return the empty bottles with a short note about how you took the pills and followed the simple instructions and the company will send you...Double your money back!

## HOW TO GET ALOECURE

This is the official nationwide release of the new AloeCure pill in the United States. And so, the company is offering our readers up to 3 FREE bottles with their order.

This special give-away is available for readers of this publication only. All you have to do is call TOLL-FREE **1-800-748-5068** and provide the operator with the Free Bottle Approval Code: JC025. The company will do the rest.

**Important:** Due to AloeCure's recent media exposure, phone lines are often busy. If you call and do not immediately get through, please be patient and call back.



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

— J. Fitzgerald, VA



Sit up, lie down —  
and anywhere  
in between!

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

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

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

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



This lift chair puts you  
safely on your feet!

**And there’s more!** The overstuffed, oversized biscuit style back and unique seat design will cradle you in comfort. Generously filled, wide armrests provide enhanced arm support when sitting or reclining. The high and low heat settings along with the multiple massage settings, can provide a soothing relaxation you might get at a spa – just imagine getting all that in a lift chair! It even has a battery backup in case of a power outage. Shipping charge includes white glove delivery. Professionals will deliver the chair to the exact spot in your home where you want it, unpack it, inspect it, test it, position it, and even carry the packaging away! Includes one year service warranty and your choice of fabrics and colors – **Call now!**

**The Perfect Sleep Chair®**

**1-877-492-4789**

Please mention code 106857 when ordering.

**Long Lasting DuraLux Leather**



**DuraLux II Microfiber**



46443

# Get Ready!

*National Preparedness Month offers reminder to plan ahead*

## SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH, REMINDING

us all to prepare for disasters, whether they're weather-related (storms, tornadoes, hurricanes, or floods) or human-created (acts of terrorism, wildfires or collisions). All require planning and action to withstand them safely.

There are several steps you can take now to better prepare for any disaster.

### Document and Insure Property

Having insurance for your home or business property is the best way to ensure that you can repair, rebuild or replace whatever is damaged.

Make sure you understand your coverage. Coverages to consider include the dwelling and personal property; loss-of-use compensation for temporary relocation; personal liability; and medical protection for anyone injured on your property.

A detailed inventory of belongings can speed claim processing. Take photos and write down descriptions, including years, makes and model numbers.

### Create and Test Communication Plans

Your family might not be all together if a disaster strikes, so take steps to form an emergency communication plan:

1. Equip household members to receive emergency alerts. Check with local emergency management or learn more by visiting [ready.gov/alerts](http://ready.gov/alerts).
2. Choose a safe and familiar (and, if necessary, accessible and/or animal-friendly) emergency meeting place, where your family can go for protection or to reunite.
3. Create a paper copy of contact information that includes names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of family members, medical facilities, doctors, service providers, schools and workplaces. Make sure everyone carries a copy, and post a copy in your home.
4. Have regular household meetings to review plans and travel routes—and then practice, just like a fire drill.

### Access Alerts and Warnings

Local police and fire departments, emergency managers, national agencies and private industry work together to provide alerts through several technologies. Most disaster-related apps can be downloaded to mobile devices for free.

#### Choose any of these apps or services:

**The Integrated Public Alert and Warning System** provides nationwide notifications for presidential, Amber Alerts and imminent threats.

**NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards** notifies the public about weather events, technological incidents such as chemical



spills, Amber Alerts and national emergencies.

**The Federal Emergency Management Agency** app offers emergency updates, methods for staying safe from 20 types of hazards and directions to open shelters.

**The American Red Cross** app combines 35 types of weather and emergency alerts and lets you check to see if loved ones are safe.

### Safeguard Documents

Keep vital information in a secure, convenient location.

Include your insurance company's contact info with your policy numbers and claim-filing instructions. Store paper copies in a waterproof and fireproof box or safe. Secure electronic copies with strong passwords and save them on a flash or external hard drive in another, similar container. Leave copies with trusted relatives or friends.

### Assemble or Update Supplies

Assemble a disaster supplies kit well in advance. Collect enough food and water to last at least 72 hours, and include communications, hygiene and first-aid supplies. Basic services such as electricity, gas, water and telephones may be cut off for days or even longer. Your supplies kit should contain items to help you manage during these outages. Visit [ready.gov/kit](http://ready.gov/kit) to see a list of emergency kit supplies.



# Make the Digital Switch

*Upgrade your lighting from analog to digital with LED bulbs*

**JUST AS YOU UPGRADED YOUR TV AND PHONE FROM ANALOG SYSTEMS TO DIGITAL** for better sound and picture quality, the lighting industry has been modernizing its options and products to offer consumers greater energy efficiency.

For several years, traditional incandescent lightbulbs have been phased out in favor of halogen and compact fluorescent lights. More recent innovations have focused on LED bulbs, which essentially produce digital light.

LEDs generally cost more to purchase than fluorescent lights, but they are much less expensive to operate over time.

## Longevity and Efficiency in One

Known for their longevity and efficiency, LED bulbs have an estimated lifespan of up to 50,000 hours. This means that if you used an LED fixture eight hours per day, it would take about 17 years before it would need to be replaced.

LEDs are different from fluorescent and incandescent light sources, as LEDs do not contain gas or a filament. Instead, the entire unit relies on a semiconductor, which is solid in nature and makes the bulb more durable.



LED bulbs contain two conductive materials placed together on a chip, or diode. Electricity passes through the diode, releasing energy in the form of light.

Unlike some other bulbs, LEDs achieve full illumination immediately.

## Cost

If you use traditional bulbs and your power cost for lighting is \$100, you could lower that amount to \$20 by switching to LED illumination.

## Outdoor Use

LEDs are ideal for outdoor use because of their durability. They are resistant to vibrations, shock and external conditions, such as weather and cold temperatures. LEDs also can be dimmed, allowing maximum flexibility in usage.

## Smart Choice for Emergencies

If you have a portable generator or battery backup to use in the event of a power outage or weather emergency, LEDs are a smart complement. Because they draw so little power, using LED bulbs instead of CFL or traditional bulbs allows you to illuminate more areas and channel the “saved” energy to other applications.

## Don't Be Fooled

When purchasing an LED bulb, look for the Energy Star label to ensure that you have a genuine product, as there are poor-quality LED products in the marketplace.



# Five Easy Steps to Safety at Home

**ARC-FAULT AND GROUND-FAULT CIRCUIT** interrupters protect electrical systems, but they must be tested to work properly.

In areas where water and electricity could combine to create a ground fault—bathrooms and kitchens, or pools or hot tubs—a GFCI can prevent electric shock by shutting off electricity to a faulty circuit.

## To test a GFCI:

1. Push the outlet's RESET button.
2. Plug in a night light and turn it on.
3. Push the TEST button. The night light should turn off.
4. Push the RESET button. The night light should go on again.
5. If the light does not turn off when the TEST button is pushed, stop using the outlet and contact an electrician.

An arc fault in a building's wiring can start a fire in the electrical system. An AFCI in a service panel can detect a fault and cut power to the affected circuit before a fire can start.

## To test an AFCI:

1. Open the electrical service panel.
2. With the breaker switch in the on position, press the TEST button.
3. The breaker should trip.
4. If the breaker trips, it is working. Turn it off and then on again to reset.
5. If it does not trip, contact a licensed electrician to replace it.

# Taylor's Twain

Circleville Philosopher entertained small-town newspaper readers with satire

BY JOE O'CONNELL

PHILOSOPHER HENRY FOX OF CIRCLEVILLE wanted to be elected to the Texas Legislature on a platform of just five of the Ten Commandments, a 1951 *Abilene Reporter-News* article announced. "Seems to me," Fox wrote, "all 10 of 'em ain't very popular with the majority. Some folks favor one set, some another. Under my system, you pick out any five you prefer."

Meet Texas' answer to Mark Twain.

Fox's weekly satire columns were printed in small-town newspapers across the nation, most widely in his home state, from 1935 until his death in 1989, says Gary Borders, who has collected more than 2,500 of the columns for a biography of the down-home sage.

"What struck me was how good he was at satire and humor," Borders says. "Liberals could read him and think he was like them. Conservatives could read him and think he was like them, too."

Fox grew up in Granger and attended nearby Southwestern University in Georgetown, where he discovered his satirical knack through work for the student paper. In one column, he took aim at a professor who required students to read one of his own books. Fox almost got kicked out of school for his opinions, his daughter, Carol Fox, recalls. "He wrote of the book, 'It's too light to serve as a doorstep, too big to fill a mouse hole.'"

After college, Fox spent a year in New York City striving to make his literary mark. Turns out he spent much time in the library, reading, his daughter says. He returned to Texas, lived with his brother and worked without salary for what is now



the *Austin American-Statesman* to learn the newspaper business.

With his father's financial help, Carol Fox says, Henry Fox bought an East Texas newspaper in Centerville then another in Madisonville, where his life changed in big ways. He developed a crush on Marie Price, the editor of the Frankston newspaper, and began writing a satire column as the folksy *Navasota Philosopher* (after the nearby Navasota River), partly to compete with the rival editor but mostly to get her attention. "They got into a Hepburn-Tracy contest, writing back and forth in their columns," his daughter says. In person, Fox was extremely shy; he sent his friend and *Williamson County Sun* publisher Don Scarbrough to take a peek at Price. At Scarbrough's urging, Fox got up the nerve to meet her. Two months later, he proposed.





Fox first gained national attention as the creator of the Madisonville Sidewalk Cattlemen's Association, a group poking fun at boot-wearing lawyers who didn't own cattle. Penalties for such boot wearing were to include dunking in the town fountain. Newspaper wire services spread the group's fame. When a Massachusetts girl heard of it, she wrote asking where she could buy boots, then not readily available nationwide. Fox and his pals flew her in, dressed her in a full cowgirl outfit and raked in publicity for their small town.

After World War II, Henry and Marie Fox moved to a house on the San Gabriel River in Circleville, a dot on the map outside of Taylor. Soon, his column took off. A version of it appeared in *Collier's* magazine nationwide, and he began to self-syndicate a weekly column. Marie and the kids would stuff envelopes and send

his words out to the world. At its peak, Borders says, the column ran in 150 newspapers and claimed a readership of more than a million.

"The Circleville Chamber of Commerce has issued a bulletin to all industries that if they should happen to move to Circleville, they should bring their own labor with them," Fox was quoted as saying in the *Waco News-Tribune* in 1952, adding, "We at Circleville are working all we intend to."

Fox's stroke of business acumen was to let each newspaper personalize the column. He'd leave blanks for names of a local banker or business. The name for the column itself changed, too. It was the *Jollyville Philosopher* in Round Rock; the *Sinking Fork Philosopher* in Charleston, Indiana; and the *Papago Philosopher* in Casa Grande, Arizona. Fox was the actual *Circleville*

*Philosopher* in the *Taylor Daily Press*.

"Most readers thought he was a local guy writing the column," says Borders, who published the Fort Stockton newspaper, where the column was called *Pecos Willie*. Borders became fascinated with the writer and the whole notion of the once-vibrant world of small-town journalism. His book-in-progress has the working title, *Yours Faithfully, JA*, the signoff for each of Fox's columns. "JA" was said to stand for Jack Ass, a term an unhappy reader directed at Fox.

Despite his national following, Fox led a quiet, reclusive life in Circleville, his daughter says. Every day at 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. he would go to the nearby Circleville Store, order a Coke and listen. "He called it his laboratory," Carol Fox says. "It was a place to study human nature."

Joe O'Connell is an Austin writer.

# Just Like Mom 'n' Them Had

Jefferson man writes the book on America's iconic metal lawn chairs

BY CHRIS BURROWS

STEAMBOAT SHIPMENTS FROM NEW ORLEANS marked with the ace of spades began arriving in Jefferson around the time that Texas was becoming Texas. The freight traveled up the Mississippi to the Red River then through Big Cypress Bayou to the spot where a natural dam made the Northeast Texas town a natural port.

Ostensibly, the Louisiana dockworkers who prepared the shipments couldn't read or write. "But they did know how to play cards," Louis "Skip" Torrans, a fifth-generation Jefferson resident, will tell you. "So they would put a symbol of a card on a box."

Torrans would know; his great-great-grandfather, W.P. Torrans, imported supplies of every sort, including lumber, jewelry and furniture, starting in 1850. "It was kind of a clearinghouse for everything that you needed to go into the frontier and make a life," he says.

More than a century and a half later, Torrans and wife Kathy have revived the Torrans Manufacturing name and turned Jefferson back into a shipping hub of sorts. It's no longer steamboats, of course, but giant shipping containers from China that arrive on trucks, and stacks of cardboard boxes bound for every corner of the world.

The Torranches have resurrected an American classic: metal lawn chairs—"just like mom 'n' them had." The furniture holds a special charm for Southerners, including Torranchs, who lived through the 1950s and remembers the cantilever

chairs for the color they brought to porches and patios. The Jefferson couple built a business on the chairs, and Torranchs patched together their history in a book.

It started with an Adirondack chair. That's what first got Torranchs tinkering in his shop during afternoons in about 2000 while Kathy traveled for work. He envisioned an Adirondack chair with the seat and back of a metal lawn chair—an "East Texas Adirondack"—but at home shows, attendees were most interested in the metal parts of the amalgam.

"Every time I showed the chair, people would say, 'Well, I remember those,'" Torranchs says. "Well, how do you remember those? I just made them. 'No, no, no, we mean the ones that had the tube frame that kind of bounces. Do you have any of those?'"

After that, Torranchs put his energy into making and selling metal lawn chairs. By 2003, the Torranches had sold their first shipment of chairs, mostly to wholesalers.

Nowadays, the Torranches and their four employees hawk four styles of chairs in about 30 colors, as well as picnic coolers, patio tables, gliders and love seats—all from their Jefferson warehouse, served by Upshur Rural Electric Cooperative. They sell online and to wholesalers and small retail outlets, including Made in the Shade in downtown Jefferson. As one of the only producers of the steel chairs, they stay busy.

"It's more than full-time,



SKIP AND KATHY TORRANCHS





because even in the off time, even when we're not in our busy season when people are thinking about sitting out in the yard, then we're working on next year," Kathy Torrans says. "It never really stops for us."

Steel lawn chairs came about just before World War II as part of the art deco movement and then saw a resurgence afterward when steel became available again. It's unclear who first created the chairs that could gently bounce without sinking into the yard, but Ed Warmack was a pioneer in the industry who ramped up production in the late 1940s on his way to becoming one of Arkansas' wealthiest businessmen. By the mid-1990s, the chairs weren't being made by anyone.

Torrans searched for experts on the

iconic American furniture, even talking to Warmack before his 2009 death, but found little information. A book collector, he had seen texts on Adirondack and ladderback chairs—but nothing about his beloved rusty cantilevers.

"I always thought, 'I'll meet somebody who knows about this stuff,'" Torrans says, "I'll meet somebody who'll fill in all the blanks."

Finally, he wrote *A History of the Metal Lawn Chair... What We Know Now*, a 240-page tome with pages of photos, drawing on five years of his own notes, travels and photos. It was published in 2014 with help from longtime friend Mitchel Whittington, who runs 23 House Publishing in Jefferson. The book found its way onto *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*, dur-

#### WEB EXTRAS

► Read an excerpt from and watch Jimmy Fallon lampoon Skip's history book.

ing the host's occasional Do Not Read segment poking fun at oddball reads.

"Getting publicity is hard if

not impossible these days," Whittington said, "so when something like this falls in your lap, that's a gift."

The book, like the chairs, brings with it a generous helping of Southern charm.

"I was raised around these things," Torrans says. "These chairs were everywhere. It's an iconic American chair. You don't see it anywhere else in the world."

Well, you might now.

Chris Burrows is a senior TEC communications specialist.

# BUY NONE... GET THREE FREE!

Three elegant looks in one necklace.

**FREE\*** for a limited time!

If you would like to drape yourself in 34" of luxury absolutely **FREE\***, all you need to do is call today. You pay only \$2495 for shipping, processing & insurance, our normal fee for a \$195 necklace...and we'll even **pay you back with \$25 in Stauer Gift Dollars**—that's our take on **BETTER THAN FREE** shipping!

**Why would we do this?** By not charging \$195 we will of course lose money, but we would love to build a long-term client relationship with you. We've found that if we invest in our clients and give them free luxurious jewelry, they will come back again and again. We can't think of a better way to introduce you to our vast array of treasures. This is why we don't spend big money on flashy advertising, celebrity photo shoots or retail stores. We'd rather spend it on you. Getting the royal treatment shouldn't cost a fortune.

**Three necklaces for the price of FREE.** The *Perle de Verre Necklace* is really three necklaces in one! There are jewelers out there charging well over a thousand dollars for a similar type necklace, even though their renditions contain significantly fewer beads. The *Perle de Verre Necklace* doesn't skimp—an extra-long (34") strand of magnificently crafted imported glass pearls. The crystal-beaded spheres between the strands separate with a gentle tug, leaving you with two necklaces of different-sized, ivory-white orbs, each 17" long. Hidden magnets in the spheres simply snap together and come apart.

**Strictly Limited Quantities.** We can't lose money forever. So, call to reserve your **FREE Perle de Verre Necklace** today and experience a brilliant new definition of price-less luxury!

**Perle de Verre Necklace** ~~\$195†~~

Your Cost With Offer Code —**FREE\***

**\*pay only shipping & processing of \$2495**

You must use the offer code below to receive this special free necklace.

**1-800-333-2045**

Your Offer Code: **PVN118-01**

- Imported silver glass pearls
- 34" length (separates to 2 x 17")
- Magnetic clasp

**PRAISE FOR STAUER GLASS PEARL NECKLACES**

★★★★★

"OMG, I love it! This is a wonderful, elegant piece."

— B., Yonkers, NY

**Limited to  
the first 1500  
responders to  
this ad only!**

**Stauer®**

14101 Southcross Drive W., Dept. PVN118-01  
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 **www.stauer.com**



Rating of A+



*Stauer...Afford the Extraordinary.™*

\* This offer is valid in the United States (and Puerto Rico) except in TX, FL, CO, OK, RI, NH, WV, OR, SC, VA and ID. These state residents will be charged one cent (\$.01) + shipping & processing for the item. Void where prohibited or restricted by law. Offer subject to state and local regulations. Not valid with any other offers and only while supplies last. This offer is limited to one item per shipping address.

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

*It's 3 necklaces in one!  
Magnetic clasp lets you easily  
transform your look.*



# HOW TO SPEAK ITALIAN WITHOUT SAYING A WORD?

*Drape yourself in a necklace you will call "bellissimo". Handcrafted by Italian artisans, the look is "magnifico"...as is the price.*

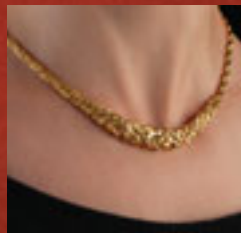
**Raffinato™**  
Italy

The enduring legacy of family. In the 1960s at just 15 years old, Ferrini Pietro and Grotti Rodolfo began their journey as goldsmiths, honing their metalworking skills at a major workshop in Arezzo known for mentoring some of the best artisans in the world.

For over fifty years they've created unsurpassed artisan jewelry that combines age-old Etruscan metalsmithing techniques with innovative design. Today, we bring their talents to America.

**A striking testimony of elegance to the woman who wears it.** *Aria* is Italian for "air" as well as a striking solo musical performance and the name captures the light, yet bold essence of this necklace perfectly. Each necklace is made by hand in Italy from polished 14K yellow gold and celebrates the traditional woven Byzantine design.

**The difference between priceless & overpriced.** High-end design should not carry a high price just because it comes from a big name retailer, where you'll find a similar necklace going for four times as much. We prefer to keep our costs low so we can bring you the very best in Italian design at a cutting edge price.



*18" of handmade Italian artistry that crescendos slightly at the center, creating a stunning look that gracefully hugs the neck.*



*"I love the Aria necklace. It is the perfect length, light-weight and is the type of quiet quality that is instantly noticed no matter where or what I wear it with."*

— Angie, El Cajon, CA

**Masterpiece, not mass produced.** It takes months to create just one of these necklaces which means we have a select number available.

**No questions asked, money back guarantee.** We want you glowing with satisfaction.

**Raffinato™ 18K Gold-Finished Sterling Silver  
Aria Necklace**

Stunningly affordable **\$95** with **FREE SHIPPING**

*Also available*

**Raffinato™ 14K Yellow Gold Aria Necklace**

Stunningly well-priced at **\$595** with **FREE SHIPPING**  
(a \$1,295 value) Save \$700

• Made in Arezzo, Italy • Available as sterling silver finished in 18K yellow gold or 14K real yellow gold • 18"; lobster clasp

**Call today. There's never been a better time to let your elegance shine. 1-888-444-5949**

**Offer Code: RFA127-01.** You must use the offer code to get our special price.

**Raffinato™**

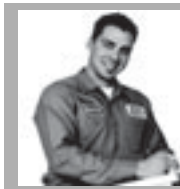
14101 Southcross Drive W., Dept. RFA127-01, Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 [www.raffinatoitaly.com](http://www.raffinatoitaly.com)

*A collection of impeccable design & craftsmanship from Italy.*



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

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



Dear  
Darryl

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

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

*Clogged and Smelly – San Antonio, TX*

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

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

**SeptiCleanse® Shock and Maintenance Programs** are designed to work on any septic system regardless of design or age. From modern day systems to sand mounds, and systems installed generations ago, I have personally seen SeptiCleanse unclog and restore these systems in a matter of weeks. I highly recommend that you try it before spending any money on repairs. SeptiCleanse products are available online at [www.septicleanse.com](http://www.septicleanse.com) or you can order or learn more by calling toll free at 1-888-899-8345. If you use the promo code "TXS2", you can get a free shock treatment, added to your order, which normally costs \$169. So, make sure you use that code when you call or buy online.

## Give friends and family the Best of Texas.



*Texas Co-op Power* presents a collection of best-loved recipes from two of our most popular cookbooks ever, the *Typically Texas Cookbook* and *The Second Typically Texas Cookbook*.

This cookbook is filled with more than 700 recipes, including more than 300 dessert recipes.

Contact your local co-op today, or place your order online at [TexasCoopPower.com](http://TexasCoopPower.com) and put *The Best of Typically Texas Cookbook* in your kitchen for only \$29.95 (price includes tax, shipping and handling).

To order by mail, send a check or money order payable to TEC for \$29.95 to Best of Typically Texas Cookbook, 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701.

**\$29.95**

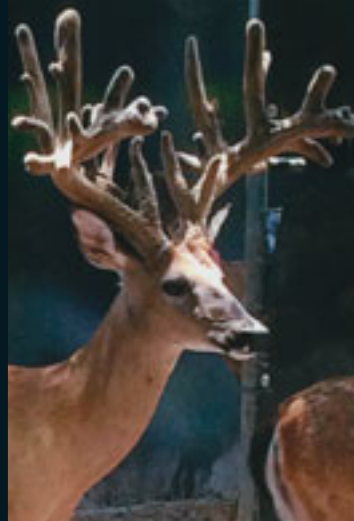
From the publishers of *Texas Co-op Power*



# MARKETPLACE

BUY • SELL • TRADE • ACROSS TOWN • ACROSS TEXAS

## WARD WHITETAILS



### GREAT HUNTING

High Concentration and Lots of Variety  
Trophy Bucks | Shooters-Stockers | Bred Does

### WE ARE A CLASS ONE DEALER

Transportation Available  
Call Neal To Reserve Your Preferred Dates

**361-537-9329**

3141 Vicksburg | Corpus Christi, TX 78410

## DRYER VENT WIZARD

**We clean, repair, replace and install clothes dryer vents from the dryer to the exterior**

- Reduce your energy costs!
- Reduce the time it takes to dry your clothes!
- Increase the life of your clothes dryer!
- Reduce the risk of a dryer fire!



**866-498-7233 • 512-861-4878**

[dryerventwizard.com](http://dryerventwizard.com) • Austin, TX

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

**1-800-359-4940** TEXAS TOLL-FREE  
[www.mattsonfinancialservices.com](http://www.mattsonfinancialservices.com)

**BLAKE MATTSO, CFP™**

Signal Securities, Inc., 5408 Bosque, 4th Floor, Waco, TX 76710

*Serving Customers All Over Texas*

All C.D.'s are insured to \$250,000 per institution by the FDIC. All C.D.'s are subject to availability. Securities offered thru Signal Securities, Inc., Member FINRA/SIPC, 300 Thackeray, Ft. Worth, TX 76102. (817) 673-4256.



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



Farm • Industrial • Commercial

**RHINOBLDG.COM** 888-875-8233  
INFO@RHINOBLDG.COM

## FLOATING FISHING PIER

On your pond or lake, with or without roof.



All sizes—installation available.

**45 YEARS' EXPERIENCE**

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



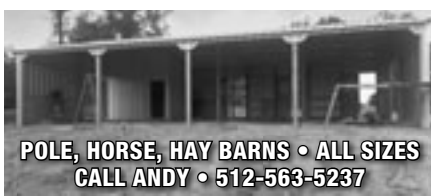
## Permanent Mesquite and Huisache Removal By Tap Root (Not a Grubber)



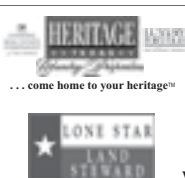
Skid Steer Model (S<sup>2</sup>TB)  
Tractor Model (T<sup>2</sup>B)  
Tractors with Quick Attach Front End Loaders

Tool Bars with fulcrum gain mechanical advantage for pulling larger trees faster and more efficiently.

Check out the video at <http://bit.ly/bigskid>.  
[bigskidsteer.com](http://bigskidsteer.com)  
info@bigskidsteer.com | (512) 753-4944



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



**CARY DIETZMANN**  
BROKER ASSOCIATE  
979.203.3942

- FARM • RANCH • ACREAGE
- Wildlife & Habitat
- Country Living

[www.har.com/carydietzmann](http://www.har.com/carydietzmann)



# HARBOR FREIGHT

QUALITY TOOLS AT RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICES

800+ Stores Nationwide • HarborFreight.com

**PITTSBURGH** ARMOR

#1 SELLING JACKS IN AMERICA

**SUPER COUPON**

## RAPID PUMP® 3 TON HEAVY DUTY STEEL FLOOR JACK

- Lifts from 5" to 18-1/4"
- Weights 74 lbs.
- Super-tough precision welded construction with an industrial grade finish

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**\$74.99**

SAVE \$66

**\$85.99**

Compare \$141.88

ITEM 69227/62116  
62584/68048 shown



LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 1/7/18\*

**U.S. GENERAL**

**SUPER COUPON**



ITEM 61609  
67831 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

- 14,600 cu. in. of storage
- 1060 lb. capacity
- Weights 235 lbs.

**\$299.99**

SAVE \$653

**\$399.99**

Compare \$952.99



LIMIT 3 - Coupon valid through 1/7/18\*

## FREE

WITH ANY PURCHASE

**PITTSBURGH**  
1" x 25 FT. TAPE MEASURE

**\$6.99**  
VALUE



ITEM 69030/69031 shown



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 1/7/18. Limit one FREE GIFT coupon per customer per day.

## 20% OFF

ANY SINGLE ITEM



LIMIT 1 - Coupon per customer per day. Save 20% on any 1 item purchased. \*Cannot be used with other discount, coupon or any of the following items or brands: Inside Truck Club membership, Extended Service Plan, gift card, open box item, 3 day Parking Lot Sale item, compressors, floor jacks, saw mills, storage cabinets, chests or drawers, trailers, ladders, vanladders, Admiral, Bauer, Corgi, CoverPro, Dayton, Eastman, Hercules, Jupiter, Lenz, Porter, Predator, SkunkC, Targate, Wham, Wincor, Zoro. Not valid on prior purchases. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/7/18.

**CENTRALPNEUMATIC**

**SUPER COUPON**

## 3 GALLON, 100 PSI OIL-FREE AIR COMPRESSORS



A. HOT DOG  
ITEM 69269/97080 shown

B. PANCAKE  
ITEM 95275 shown  
60637/61615

YOUR CHOICE **\$39.99**

- Air delivery: 0.6 CFM @ 90 PSI, 1 CFM @ 40 PSI

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

SAVE 59%

**\$54.99**

Compare \$98.62



LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 1/7/18\*

**HARDY**

**SUPER COUPON**

## POWDER-FREE NITRILE GLOVES

PACK OF 100

SIZE  
MED 68496/61363  
LG 68497/61360  
X-LG 68498/61359

SAVE 53%

Item 68498 shown

YOUR CHOICE **\$5.99**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

- 5 mil thickness

**\$7.99**

Compare \$12.99



LIMIT 8 - Coupon valid through 1/7/18\*

**BADLAND**

**SUPER COUPON**

Battle Tested

## 12,000 LB. ELECTRIC WINCH WITH REMOTE CONTROL AND AUTOMATIC BRAKE



Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 61256  
61889  
60813 shown

**\$289.99**

Compare \$699.99



LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 1/7/18\*

**SUPER COUPON**

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



Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69249/69115/69137  
69129/69121/877 shown

**\$2.99**

Compare \$4.99

Compare \$8.58

SAVE 65%



LIMIT 8 - Coupon valid through 1/7/18\*

**CENTRALPNEUMATIC**

**SUPER COUPON**

## 3/8" x 50 FT. RETRACTABLE AIR HOSE REEL



Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 93897 shown  
69265/62344

**\$59.99**

SAVE \$170

**\$89.99**

Compare \$229.99



LIMIT 3 - Coupon valid through 1/7/18\*

**CHICAGO ELECTRIC**

**SUPER COUPON**

## 12" SLIDING COMPOUND DOUBLE-BEVEL MITER SAW

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 61969  
61970/69684 shown



- Powerful 15 amp motor
- Makes precision cross, bevel and miter cuts
- Laser guide

SAVE \$169

**\$129.99**

Compare \$299



LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 1/7/18\*

**SUPER COUPON**

## TWO TIER COLLAPSIBLE EASY-STORE STEP LADDER



ITEM 67514

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

- 225 lb. capacity

SAVE 50%

**\$19.99**

Compare \$39.99



LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 1/7/18\*

**PREDATOR**

**SUPER COUPON**

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



Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69676/69729/63080/63079 shown  
ITEM 69675/69728/63090/63089  
CALIFORNIA ONLY

SAVE \$1709

**\$289.99**

Compare \$1999



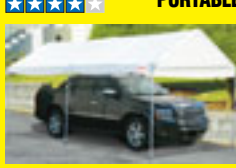
LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 1/7/18\*

**COVERPRO**

**SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

## 10 FT. x 20 FT. PORTABLE CAR CANOPY



ITEM 69034  
63054/62858 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69034  
63054/62858 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69034  
63054/62858 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69034  
63054/62858 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69034  
63054/62858 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69034  
63054/62858 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69034  
63054/62858 shown

SAVE \$106

**\$99.99**

Compare \$205.99

**\$129.99**

Compare \$205.99



LIMIT 3 - Coupon valid through 1/7/18\*

**drillmaster**

**SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

## 4-1/2" ANGLE GRINDER



Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

SAVE 60%

**\$9.99**

Compare \$24.98

**\$14.99**

Compare \$24.98



LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 1/7/18\*

**PREDATOR**

**SUPER COUPON**

## 6.5 HP (212 CC) OHV HORIZONTAL SHAFT GAS ENGINE



Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60363/69730  
ITEM 69727 shown  
CALIFORNIA ONLY

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60363/69730  
ITEM 69727 shown  
CALIFORNIA ONLY

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60363/69730  
ITEM 69727 shown  
CALIFORNIA ONLY

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60363/69730  
ITEM 69727 shown  
CALIFORNIA ONLY

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60363/69730  
ITEM 69727 shown  
CALIFORNIA ONLY

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60363/69730  
ITEM 69727 shown  
CALIFORNIA ONLY

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60363/69730  
ITEM 69727 shown  
CALIFORNIA ONLY

SAVE \$230

**\$119.99**

Compare \$329.99

**\$99.99**

Compare \$329.99



LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 1/7/18\*

**HaulMaster**

**SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

## 3/8" x 14 FT. GRADE 43 TOWING CHAIN



Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60658/97711 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60658/97711 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60658/97711 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60658/97711 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60658/97711 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60658/97711 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60658/97711 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60658/97711 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

</



# The Winchester Quarantine

Texas ranchers turned to rifles when deadly tick-borne disease threatened their herds

BY MARTHA DEERING

IN JUNE 1868, WHEN A FATAL DISEASE broke out among cattle in North Texas, a group of ranchers decided to take matters into their own hands. They realized that the Texas fever, which had a 95 percent death rate among their cattle, came from South Texas longhorns on the way to market. These longhorns carried disease-causing bacteria in their blood, transferred to other animals by ticks.

The wiry longhorns of South Texas had developed immunity to the disease, but cattle in the Panhandle and Midwestern states died in droves within a few days of exposure.

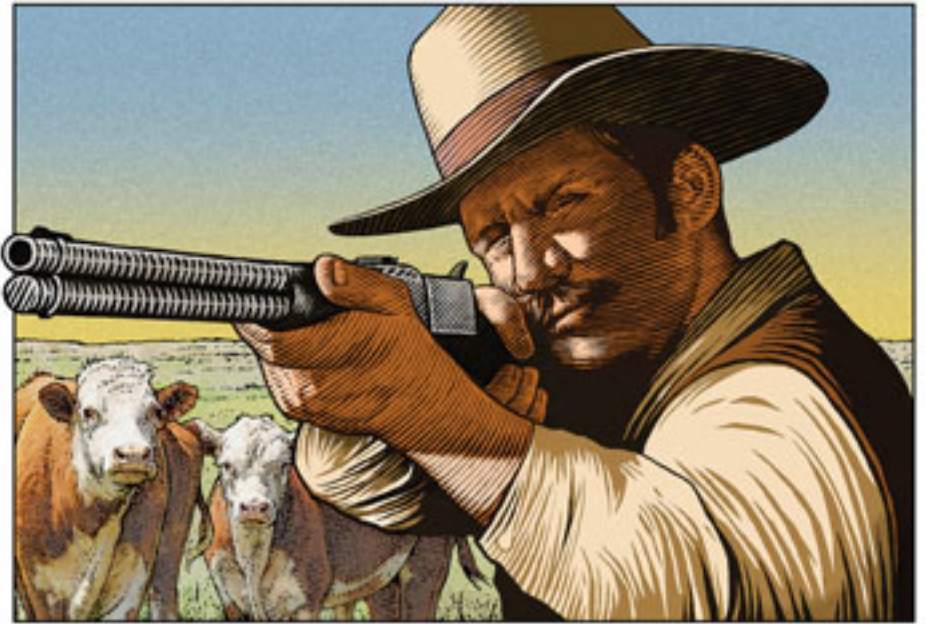
Diplomacy preceded. North Texas cattlemen suggested that cattle infested with ticks be wintered in isolated pastures north of the quarantine line, which ran through Waco.

This idea was not popular with South Texas ranchers, who had to establish what amounted to a second ranch and hire another roster of cowboys to hold the cattle over the winter. In some cases, the year-long delay in getting the cattle to market resulted in bankruptcy.

Instead, the South Texas ranchers suggested a fenced cattle trail 20 miles wide that would run straight from South Texas to the railheads in Kansas. This proposed trail would cleave some ranches in half and fence off others' water supplies. And funding was not established. Other ideas included spraying or dipping cattle to kill ticks. Ranchers responded that dipping was too expensive and spraying might contaminate the beef with arsenic.

As tensions mounted, dipping vats were dynamited and law officers were fired upon. Loaded rifles appeared in more saddles. The Winchester Quarantine had begun.

First Kansas, then the Oklahoma Territory and finally Texas passed laws requiring



that cattle be certified disease-free before being driven or shipped north. In 1881, Panhandle ranchers formed the Panhandle Stock Association, which pitted North Texas cattlemen against their South Texas counterparts. Demand for cattle was high at the railheads, as buyers rushed to fill orders for beef.

The Panhandle Stock Association met in 1882 in Dallas, and members negotiated with drovers. Association members asked the drovers to establish a mile-and-a-half buffer zone around their ranches or to drive cattle around the Panhandle region altogether. Southern cattlemen scoffed, pointing out that their herds appeared perfectly healthy.

After much wrangling, Charles Goodnight of the JA Ranch and Orville Nelson of the Shoe Bar Ranch sent armed cowboys to guard a 45-mile stretch where the two ranches met. The cowboys had instructions to do whatever necessary to hold the Southern herds back until an injunction could stop the drive in its tracks.

Goodnight sent a letter to an old friend, George Reynolds, who had plans to drive a herd north. "I hope you will take this advice as yourselves and I have always been

good friends," Goodnight wrote, "but even friendship will not protect you in the drive through here. I hope you will not treat this as idle talk, for I mean every word of it. My cattle are now dying of the fever contracted from cattle driven from Ft. Worth, therefore do not have any hope that you can convince me that your cattle will not give mine the fever." In closing, he warned, "I simply say to you that you will never pass through here in good health."

The Panhandle Stock Association's procedure, backed by a forest of Winchester rifles, protected Panhandle cattle from Texas fever for several years.

By the mid-1880s, barbed-wire fences crisscrossed the region to help manage the movement of cattle and men. Dips and sprays made inroads on the tick population, but the long and bitter fight and the heavy losses among cattle had taken a toll.

A Bureau of Animal Industry report in 1884 stated that the conflict "enhanced the prejudice against Texas beef, unsettled the trails and markets, agitated the law-making bodies of the West as well as Congress and reduced the consumption of beef."

Martha Deering, a member of Heart of Texas EC, lives near McGregor.

# YOUR CHANCE TO WIN *Is Back!*



## WITH OUR ANNUAL GIVING AWAY THE FARM SWEEPSTAKES 2017

Now is your opportunity to win over \$100,000 in prizes which includes a credit towards a new Morton building\* and a Cat® 259D Compact Track Loader. Register online or at participating trade shows. Visit [mortonbuildings.com](http://mortonbuildings.com) for more information.



\*Awarded as a \$50,000.00 credit towards the construction of a Morton Buildings building of winner's choice (subject to Sponsor's approval). NO PURCHASE OR PAYMENT NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. Open to legal residents of the 48 contiguous United States and D.C., who are 21 years of age or older who own land within the Morton Buildings service area (excludes all of Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, and Washington). Sweepstakes starts at 12:00:01 a.m. CT on July 11, 2017 and ends at 11:59:59 p.m. CT on October 19, 2017. Void where prohibited. See official rules at [www.MortonBuildingSweepstakes.com](http://www.MortonBuildingSweepstakes.com) for details, including prize details. Sponsored by Morton Buildings, Inc., Morton, IL. ©2017 Morton Buildings, Inc. A listing of GC licenses available at [mortonbuildings.com/licenses](http://mortonbuildings.com/licenses). Ref Code 537

## 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 local ordinances before burning.



No more UNSAFE and UNSIGHTLY rusty barrel!

Call for **FREE Information Kit and Factory Direct Coupon!**

TOLL-FREE  
**888-206-4590**  
[BurnCage.com](http://BurnCage.com)



97648X © 2017

## BEST BUY WALK-IN BATH TUBS



Family owned, Texas-built  
Lifetime guarantee  
against leaks

Great for circulation,  
arthritis, stiff joints  
and relaxation

Now Offering **ONYX  
Custom Showers**

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

Visit Our Showroom  
3411 E. Hwy. 377, Granbury



Granbury Chamber  
of Commerce Member

**888-825-2362** [www.bestbuywalkintubs.com](http://www.bestbuywalkintubs.com)

## TRACTOR GEAR FOR YOUR FRONTIER



Visit [www.bucketteegear.com](http://www.bucketteegear.com)  
for product video, testimonials and dealer locations.

[david@bucketteegear.com](mailto:david@bucketteegear.com)  
**254-650-5014**

**MULTIPLE TOOL IMPLEMENT WITH  
UNLIMITED USES!  
DEALER INQUIRES WELCOME!**

GET THE TEXAS CO-OP POWER  
**E-NEWSLETTER**

SIGN UP TODAY AT  
[TexasCoopPower.com](http://TexasCoopPower.com)





## Tailgating Favorites

JEFF SAVELL, LEADER OF THE MEAT Science Section in the Department of Animal Science at Texas A&M University, is seasoned in the art of barbecue and pregame eating. This recipe, from his daughter, Jennifer Larriviere, is a family favorite.

"This is one of those recipes that everyone asks for because it's the perfect combination of flavor and texture," Larriviere says. "The Chili Cheese Fritos gives it just the right amount of crunch!"

Her father agrees. "With so many of our Aggie football games in September and October, we fight the heat more than cold when we tailgate," he says. "This corn salad is refreshing and goes so well with so many grilled or barbecued meats."

PAULA DISBROWE, FOOD EDITOR

### Corn Salad With Fritos

- 1 can (15 ounces) whole-kernel corn, drained
- ½ cup diced red onion
- ½ cup diced green bell pepper
- 1 cup grated sharp cheddar cheese
- ½ cup mayonnaise
- ½ bag (10.5 ounces) crushed Chili Cheese Fritos

**1.** Combine all ingredients except Fritos. (You can do this the night before the game and refrigerate overnight.)

**2.** Just before serving, fold in Fritos. Serves 4–6.

**COOK'S TIP** If you're multiplying this recipe to serve a crowd, use both green and red peppers for variety.

MELISSA BRISKO



# Recipes

## Tailgating Favorites



### THIS MONTH'S RECIPE CONTEST WINNER

LISA WILLIAMS

CENTRAL TEXAS EC

"If you live in Texas or the South, you can't not like pimento cheese," Williams says. We fully agree. Her recipe is spicy, savory and delicious. She suggests preparing the cheese and bread slices at home before heading to the game, so on-site assembly is easy.

### Pimento Chiko-Baco Bites

- 2 cups shredded extra-sharp cheddar cheese
  - 8 ounces cream cheese, softened
  - ½ cup mayonnaise
  - 1 poblano pepper, seeded and minced
  - 1 jar (4 ounces) diced pimiento peppers, drained and minced
  - 3 tablespoons minced chives, plus more for garnish
  - ¼ teaspoon ground cayenne pepper
  - ¼ teaspoon garlic powder
  - ¼ teaspoon onion powder
  - 1 cup crisply cooked bacon crumbles
  - 1 cup shredded deli rotisserie chicken
- Salt and black pepper to taste

- 1 baguette, cut into ¼- to ½-inch slices
- 1 tablespoon olive oil

**1. PREPARE EARLY:** Place the cheeses, mayonnaise, peppers, chives, cayenne pepper, and garlic and onion powders in a food processor and pulse until thoroughly combined.

**2.** Add bacon crumbles and shredded chicken, and pulse to mix thoroughly. Season to taste with salt and black pepper. Serve immediately or refrigerate for up to one week.

**3. BEFORE TAILGATING:** Brush each slice of baguette with oil, then grill 3–5 minutes or until bread is lightly golden.

**4.** Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or oil-sprayed foil. Take bread off the grill and place slices with sides touching in a single layer on the baking sheet. Spoon cheese mixture onto toasts and garnish with chives.

**5.** Heat on a covered grill about 10 minutes, or until cheese is melted and golden brown. Serve warm. Makes 24 toasts (and a generous quart of pimento cheese).

**COOK'S TIP** The recipe also makes a great heated dip for crackers or tortilla chips.

## Kimchi Deviled Eggs

A native Austinite, Longhorns fan and Florida State graduate (go, Seminoles!), Evan LeRoy, pit-master at LeRoy and Lewis Barbeque food truck, understands the essentials of pregame snacks. "Any tailgate food needs to be able to be consumed with one hand and, preferably, in one or two bites," he says. *Kimchi*, Korean salted and fermented vegetables, and *sambal*, an Asian red chile sauce, give his deviled eggs a zippy kick. —PD

- 12 eggs
  - ½ cup mayonnaise
  - ¼ cup yellow mustard
  - 2 tablespoons strained kimchi juice
  - 1 tablespoon sambal
- Salt, to taste
- 1 teaspoon Szechuan peppercorns, ground
  - 1 teaspoon minced parsley
  - 1 cup kimchi

**1.** Bring a large pot of water to a rolling boil. Place eggs in a strainer basket and slowly lower into water. Boil 9 minutes.

**2.** Remove strainer basket from boiling water and shock eggs in ice water, then cool 10 minutes and carefully peel.

**3.** Slice eggs in half lengthwise, remove yolks and reserve. Place egg whites on a tray and reserve in the refrigerator.

**4.** In a food processor, combine egg yolks, mayonnaise, mustard, kimchi juice and sambal. Purée until smooth. Taste and add salt if needed. (Kimchi juice is salty.)

**5.** Artfully arrange kimchi on a plate, placing egg whites around and atop kimchi pieces. With a spoon or piping bag, fill each egg white with approximately 2 tablespoons yolk filling. Garnish with ground Szechuan peppercorns and parsley. Makes 24 deviled eggs.

**COOK'S TIP** Kimchi and sambal usually can be found in the international foods sections of most grocery stores.

## Head-to-Tailgate Superchicken

ANASTASIA BARRINGER | GUADALUPE VALLEY EC

A big, busy family with a desire for fun, on-the-go foods inspired Barringer to create this rustic, homey dish with sweet, buttery pan juices. For tailgating, she suggests serving the drumsticks in

### \$100 Recipe Contest

February's recipe contest topic is **Chocolate + Peanut Butter (A Love Story)**—the "two great tastes that taste great together!" Send us your favorite recipes for this classic combo. The deadline is **September 10**.

**ENTER ONLINE** at [TexasCoopPower.com/contests](http://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.

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





a hollowed-out loaf of bread, with the juices on the side for dipping.

- 6 chicken drumsticks
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup (1½ sticks) unsalted butter, divided use
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 dashes paprika
- 3 dashes ground coriander
- 1 dash cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon cumin
- $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 3 tablespoons maple syrup
- 4 drops sesame oil
- 6 strips bacon (optional)

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Pat the chicken dry with paper towels.
2. Heat 2 tablespoons butter with olive oil in a large cast-iron skillet over medium-high heat. Brown the chicken on all sides (in batches if necessary to avoid overcrowding), about 7–10 minutes total, then remove skillet from heat.
3. Arrange chicken in skillet, alternating

positions so drumsticks nestle side-by-side. Combine the spices with salt and sprinkle the mixture over chicken. Dot the meaty top of each drumstick with about a teaspoon of butter. Bake 15 minutes.

4. Make a basting syrup by combining the remaining butter, brown sugar, maple syrup and sesame oil, and microwaving until the butter melts.

5. Pour syrup over the chicken, wrap partially cooked bacon strips, if using, around each leg and bake an additional 15 minutes, or until cooked through. Makes 6 drumsticks.

## Parking Lot Legs

LAURA SELLMAN | VICTORIA EC

With a kick of smoky heat (courtesy of chipotle seasoning or chile powder) and a coating of Parmesan cheese and fresh cilantro, these drumsticks deliver game-winning flavor.

- 8 large chicken drumsticks
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup chipotle seasoning
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese

- $\frac{1}{2}$  tablespoon garlic powder
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tablespoon lemon pepper
- Chopped cilantro, for garnish

1. Heat a grill to medium-high. Rinse drumsticks and pat dry with paper towels. Season them with chipotle seasoning. Grill them until cooked through. (They should reach an internal temperature of 165 degrees, and the juices should run clear when pierced with a knife.)

2. In a small bowl, combine Parmesan, garlic powder and lemon pepper.

3. Remove fully cooked chicken from grill. Roll the warm drumsticks in seasoning mixture, sprinkle with cilantro, and serve warm or at room temperature. Makes 8 drumsticks.

**COOK'S TIP** If you can't find chipotle seasoning, feel free to use an equal amount of any Mexican-style meat seasoning, or generously season the chicken with salt, pepper and about 3 tablespoons of pure ground chipotle chile. The chile seasoning provides plenty of flavor, so feel free to omit the garlic powder and lemon pepper.



# Bring Texas nature home.



**Texas Co-op Power** presents an illustrated *Seashells of Texas* poster by Aletha St. Romain (artist for our popular *Hummingbirds of Texas*), 20x16 inches, suitable for framing.

Order online at [TexasCoopPower.com](http://TexasCoopPower.com) for only \$20 each, or get a set of 2 posters (either design) shipped to the same address for just \$30 (includes tax, shipping and handling).

**\$20**  
or 2 for  
**\$30**

From the publishers of **TexasCoopPower**



2016 MF GC1705L



**MASSEY FERGUSON**  
THE LEGEND SINCE 1847



2016 MF 1526L

23 HP, 4WD, Hydro-Transmission,  
Quick Attach DL 95 Front End Loader  
**\$11,998 Cash or \$149.00 per month**

25 HP, 4WD, Hydro-Transmission,  
Quick Attach L 100 Front End Loader  
**\$16,998 Cash or \$219.00 per month**



2016 MF 1734EL

34 HP, 4WD, Gear Drive Transmission,  
Quick Attach L 105 Front End Loader  
**\$17,998 Cash or \$229.00 per month**



2016 MF 2705EL

50 HP, 4WD, Shuttle-Transmission,  
Quick Attach L 135 Front End Loader  
**\$24,998 Cash or \$309.00 per month**



**WE DELIVER EVERYWHERE!**

### FOSTERS WORK & PLAY

3601 US Hwy. 190 W  
Livingston, Texas 77351

**(936) 967 - 0011**

[www.fostersworknplay.com](http://www.fostersworknplay.com)  
[sales@fostersworknplay.com](mailto:sales@fostersworknplay.com)

\*Disclaimer: All payments based on 3.49% Interest rate (for a term of 72 months) with approved credit through Agco Finance Corp. Prices do not include sales taxes, freight or set up charges where applicable. All HP ratings listed are approximate base engine HP.

# LOW COST

## Mobile Home Insurance

Start Saving *Today!*

- Replacement Cost for Most Homes
- Knowledgeable Agents Specializing in Manufactured Homes - It's All We Do!
- Flexible Deductibles
- Escrow Billing and Payment Plans
- Call to Switch Today!



**www.stdins.com**

Call For A Custom Quote  
**800-522-0146**

Serving  
Texas Mobile  
Homeowners  
since 1961



# ATTENTION MOBILE HOME OWNERS

**EXPERT  
INSTALLATION**

**LIFETIME WARRANTY**

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

**NO MORE ROOF RUMBLE**

**PERMA-ROOF®**  
from **Southern Builders**



Since 1983  
**roofover.com**  
**800.633.8969**





# At the Rodeo

STEER WRESTLING, TEAM ROPING, mutton bustin' and more: The rodeo has something for everyone. Gather around as these cowpokes head for the chutes. **GRACE ARSIAGA**

**WEB EXTRAS** ► See more photos online.



▲ **BRANDI SWEENEY**, Farmers EC: "Kollin Sweeney dismounting Red for goat tying"

► **RICHARD BROWNE**: This woman cuts a tight turn while barrel racing at the Mesquite rodeo.

▼ **CAROL HOLBERT**, Concho Valley EC: "No fear, it is all about trust."



## UPCOMING CONTESTS

JANUARY SNOW DAY	DUE SEPTEMBER 10
FEBRUARY JAILHOUSES	DUE OCTOBER 10
MARCH DOWNTOWN	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](http://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.



▲ **CHERYL BRUCE**, Lighthouse EC: Roping at 8 years old requires focus for Cutter T. Bruce, grandson of co-op members Gene and Cheryl Bruce.

◀ **JANICE JOHNSON**, Greenbelt EC: A boy ties a goat while his horse looks on.

## Pick of the Month Kolache Fest 42 Tournament

**Hallettsville** September 30  
(361) 798-2662, hallettsville.com

Kolache Fest, which celebrates the rich German and Czech heritage of Hallettsville, kicks off with a dominoes tournament that this year will pair 8-year-old Brynn Ebe, below, with two-time state champion Leslie Houston.



EBE: MATTHEW WILSON | HALLETTSVILLE TRIBUNE-HERALD. COTTON: VALENTINAR | DREAMSTIME.COM. RIDER: COURTESY RIDING THERAPY CENTER OF VICTORIA

## September

**8**

**Lubbock** [8-10] National Cowboy Symposium & Celebration, (806) 798-7825, cowboy.org

**9**

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

**Miles Cotton Festival**, (325) 245-7059, milestexas.com

**Paige Founders Day**, (512) 348-5882, e-clubhouse.org/sites/paigetx

**Round Top** Wine & Dine With Patsy Cline, (979) 249-2700, ilovetoread.org

**Sanger** SELLabration, (940) 458-7702, sangertexas.com

**10**

**Inez** St. Joseph Catholic Church Picnic, (361) 782-3181, stjosephineez.org

**Marak** Sts. Cyril and Methodius Homecoming Picnic, (254) 985-2280, marakchurch.org



**September 9**  
**Miles**  
**Cotton Festival**

**11**

**San Augustine** An American Main Street, (936) 596-8411, sanaugustinemainstreet.com

**14**

**Corpus Christi** The Ark Gala 2017, (361) 241-6566, ark4kids.com

**Victoria** [14-15] Riding Therapy Center of Victoria Golf Tournament, (361) 578-8182, theridingtherapycenter.org



**Exotic and Trophy Whitetail Hunting • Corporate Retreat  
Trophy Bass Fishing • Trap and Skeet Shooting  
Long Range Rifle Range • Stocker Bucks and Bred Does For Sale**



Located just 90 minutes  
from Dallas / Ft. Worth  
in beautiful Iredell, TX

**Class One Breeder  
Transportation Available**

**For more information, contact: John Barber (817) 239-3037  
www.flying5B.com**



**Fun, Educational & Historic,  
Huntsville, Texas  
Museums**

**Art & Culture  
Parks & Recreation  
Historic Downtown  
Antiques**

**Fairs & Festivals**  
*For more information,  
annual events &  
hotel accommodations visit  
www.huntsvilletexas.com*

### 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**



16

**Angleton** Texas Navy Day Celebration, (979) 849-5965

**Pontotoc** Pontotoc Volunteer Fire Association Barbecue and Cake Auction, (325) 251-6670

17

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

22

**Bryan** [22-24] Texas Reds Steak & Grape Festival, (979) 822-4920, downtownbryan.com

23

**Boerne** Paddle Battle, (210) 842-4057, visitboerne.org

**Bonham** Red River Valley Car Club Show, (903) 487-6698, facebook.com/RedRiverValleyCarClub

**Martindale** Texas Mamma Jamma Ride, (512) 297-7740, mammajammaride.org

24

**Victoria** Czech Heritage Festival, (361) 571-4777, victoriaczehs.org

28

**DeSoto** Taste of DeSoto, (972) 224-3565, desotochamber.org

29

**Galveston** [29-30] Galveston Island Shrimp Festival, (409) 770-0999, galvestonislandshrimpfestival.com

30

**Waxahachie** Chautauqua Assembly, (469) 309-4045, waxahachiechautauqua.org



September 14-15  
Victoria  
Riding Therapy Center of  
Victoria Golf Tournament

October

2

**Livingston** Deer Hunter's Chili Supper, (936) 327-4417, fbclivingston.org

5

**Brownwood** [Oct. 5-Dec. 30] Break Out Brownwood, (325) 998-5938, facebook.com/breakoutbrownwood

6

**Greenville** [6-7] A Harvest of Quilts, (503) 428-8445, cottonpatchquilt.com

7

**Farmersville** Old Time Saturday LSGTPA Tractor Pull, (214) 918-5596, lsgtpa.com

**Glen Rose** Paluxy Pedal, (817) 279-3549, paluxypedal.com

**Grand Prairie** Kids' Fishing Day, (972) 237-8100, grandfunp.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.



**When you order within 30 days**  
**FREE Gift!**

Now get all 4 Lincoln Cent 100th Anniversary Designs - All Uncirculated, struck only in 2009 & no longer minted!

45-Day Money Back Guarantee of Satisfaction

### Special Offer for New Customers Only

**YES!** Please send me the complete 9-Coin Set of Uncirculated 2009-2017 Native American Dollars for the special price of \$9.00 - regularly \$63.50, plus Free Shipping (limit 1 set). Also, send my FREE 4-Coin Lincoln Head 100th Anniversary Cent Set (one per customer, please).

**SAVE!** Add Custom Native American Dollar Display Folders and **SAVE 28%** at 2.50 each (reg. \$3.49). Buy both to display all 9 coins.

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN 30 DAYS

QTY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TOTAL
1	9-Coin Collector's Set (limit 1 set)	\$9.00	\$9.00
	Folders for 2000-2015 coins	\$2.50	
	Folders for 2016-Date coins	\$2.50	
<b>FREE Shipping!</b>		Merchandise TOTAL	\$

☐ Check or Money Order payable to Littleton Coin Co.

Charge my: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Card #: Exp. Date

Name

Address Apt#

City State Zip

E-Mail

Please send coupon to: Dept. 4MP412

1309 Mt. Eustis Road

Littleton NH 03561-3737

41816

©2017 LCC, Inc.

41816

41816

41816

41816

41816

41816

## Amazing value! Complete 9-Coin Set of Native American Dollars ONLY \$9!

**Includes first year of issue!**



Each dollar's date & mint mark is on the coin's edge.

- ✓ All 9 designs of 2009-2017
- ✓ All Uncirculated
- ✓ Each design struck only for one year
- ✓ Free Gift - 100th Anniversary cents!
- ✓ Save 85%, plus get FREE shipping

Get a complete 9-coin set of Native American dollars at face value - **ONLY \$9!** You'll get the first nine years of this series honoring Native American contributions with historic one-year designs. Your set includes all the themes, ranging from the prized 2009 first-year Agricultural dollar to the latest 2017 issue honoring Sequoyah, who created the Cherokee syllabary - a table of syllables that made reading and writing in the Cherokee language possible. These historic coins depicting Sacagawea on the obverse are each struck for one year only and never again!

### 9-Coin Set at Face Value, plus FREE Shipping!

For a limited time, get the first 9 coins of this prized series in a complete Uncirculated collector's set at face value - **ONLY \$9!** Plus, you get **FREE** shipping and **SAVE 85%** off the regular price of \$63.50!

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. **Hurry, special low price - order right away!**

Mail today or order online at: [www.LittletonCoin.com/specials](http://www.LittletonCoin.com/specials)

America's Favorite Coin Source • TRUSTED SINCE 1945

# A Lake in the Desert

I-20 Wildlife Preserve offers unexpected nature viewing in the shadows of downtown Midland

BY BRENDA KISSKO

ON THE FLAT WEST TEXAS HORIZON, A stone's throw from the towering buildings of Midland, you might be surprised to find an urban playa lake. The 86-acre lake is the heart of the I-20 Wildlife Preserve and Jenna Welch Nature Study Center, which has almost 14 additional acres for exploration. The preserve opened in 2013 and now annually welcomes more than 24,000 visitors looking for a place to hike, bird or breathe fresh air and reconnect with nature.

In a land known for its abundance of oil and shortage of water, the preserve underscores the importance of water conservation and playa lakes, which are shallow wetlands that experience frequent, unpredictable wet-dry cycles. Playas are a vital part of the region's ecosystem, as they recharge the Ogallala Aquifer, the main water supply for residents of the High Plains (which runs through eight states), and support nearly one-fifth of the country's cattle, corn, cotton and wheat.

"Visitors walk in, and they're all so shocked it's here," says Elaine Magruder, board president and co-founder of the preserve. "It really is a jewel. We call it Midland's best-kept secret."

As you walk among the large cottonwoods, bigtooth maples, black willows and western soapberry trees, you forget you're so close to Interstate 20. Traffic is no longer audible, and the desert landscape vanishes, replaced by a peaceful oasis. Ducks dive underwater. Butterflies flutter from flower to flower, and a mockingbird sings.

Visitors can hike more than 3 miles of trails and boardwalk, of which nearly half is wheelchair accessible, bird-watch at seven observation blinds or from the two-story deck, and watch butterflies in the butterfly garden. The preserve teems with



The preserve is on the southwestern edge of Midland.

life, including coyotes, foxes, porcupines and raccoons. Guests also are encouraged to keep an eye out for the resident bobcat.

Each season brings something new. In the spring, wildflowers appear, and hummingbirds flit through. In the summer and fall, several species of migratory birds such as egrets, ibis and Mississippi kites stop over. In winter, an array of ducks makes the preserve their home.

The original 86 acres were donated to the City of Midland in the late 1960s to become a park. At that time, the city was unable to budget for the park, and so for more than 30 years the Midland Naturalists volunteered to care for the land. Birding enthusiast Jenna Welch, mother of former first lady Laura Bush, was one of those volunteers. In 2006, a three-phase master plan for the preserve was developed and approved by the city. The I-20 Wildlife Preserve became a nonprofit in 2007 and later purchased additional acreage surrounding the playa as a buffer zone.

During the second phase of the plan, the preserve received a matching grant of \$1 million from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and these funds helped build the observation deck, boardwalk and trails. Now in phase three, the

preserve's board of directors has begun to raise money to build the Jenna Welch Nature Study Center, which is planned to house a visitors center.

"The Jenna Welch Nature Study Center will provide educational opportunities for children all across the Permian Basin and will give a great place for children to be able to see what the natural wildlife is here in our part of the state," Bush says. "That is my hope for every child, that they will come to know the simple pleasures of the natural world."

The I-20 Wildlife Preserve maintains a natural connection with early inhabitants of the area. Black willows often were planted near playas by Native Americans for the medicinal uses of its inner bark. The preserve's logo is a dragonfly because Native Americans regarded dragonflies as a sign that water was near.

Next time you're driving down I-20 on a quest for the great outdoors, stop by the I-20 Wildlife Preserve, where you can slow down and listen to nature.

Brenda Kissko is a member of South Plains EC. Visit her website at [brendakissko.com](http://brendakissko.com).



**WEB EXTRAS** ▶ Read about previous visits to Midland and Odessa.



# ONE ASSET SOARS ABOVE ALL OTHERS.



## SPECIAL RELEASE U.S. GOVERNMENT-ISSUED AT-COST GOLD COINS FROM THE U.S. MINT

One of America's largest gold distributors today announces special, rock-bottom pricing on official U.S. government-issued gold coins from the United States Mint. For one month or while supplies last, U.S. Money Reserve is offering you the opportunity to purchase Gold American Eagle Coins at the incredible at-cost price of only \$126.00 each—one of the best government-issued gold coin deals available anywhere today.

Designated as official U.S. legal tender, these gold coins are fully backed by the U.S. government for their gold weight, content and purity. Congressionally authorized gold coins provide American citizens with a way to convert their money from a declining paper currency into a tangible precious metal. Even gold's recent 10-year performance has surpassed major stock indexes, including the Dow and S&P 500.

If you have been waiting to enter the gold market, this is your opportunity to join the thousands of Americans who are protecting their wealth with physical gold.

CALL NOW:  
**1-855-426-7168**

Vault No: TX25



[www.usmoneyreserve.com](http://www.usmoneyreserve.com)



1/10-ounce Gold  
American Eagle

*Official Gold Coin of the United States of America: \$5 American Eagle*

## GET IN ON ONE OF THE BEST GOLD OFFERS AVAILABLE.

At cost, completely free of dealer markup:

**\$126<sup>00</sup>**  
PER GOLD COIN

SPECIAL GOLD ALLOTMENT EXCLUSIVELY FOR RECIPIENTS OF THIS OFFER! BEGINNING TODAY, TELEPHONE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS ACCORDING TO THE TIME AND DATE OF THE ORDER.

- |                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 - Gov't-Issued Gold Coin   | \$ 126.00   |
| 5 - Gov't-Issued Gold Coins  | \$ 630.00   |
| 10 - Gov't-Issued Gold Coins | \$ 1,260.00 |

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



©2017 U.S. Money Reserve. 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. Prices may be more or less based on current market conditions. Special offer is strictly limited to only one lifetime purchase of 10 below- or at-cost coins (regardless of price paid) per household, plus shipping and insurance (\$15-\$35). Price not valid for precious metals dealers. All calls recorded for quality assurance. 1/10-oz. coins enlarged to show detail. Offer void where prohibited. Offer valid for up to 30 days or while supplies last. Coin dates our choice.

# dish

## 2-YEAR TV PRICE LOCK!

# \$49<sup>99</sup>

month  
for TV

- Local channels included
- No HD programming fee
- Includes one room, add more for just \$5\*

# 45 FREE Premium Channels

Limited  
Time Offer  
HBO Included  
For 1 Year!

**HBO** **CINEMAX** **STARZ**  
**SHOWTIME** **MOVIE PACK** for 3 Months

# NETFLIX

– Fully Integrated –  
Just Change The Channel  
And Watch!

## Save a Bundle on TV and Internet!

Get DISH.Get \$100.

Must mention  
offer code  
**Gift100**.  
Courtesy of  
GoDISH.com.



Our Most Popular Package Is Back  
At An **Unbeatable** Price!

**190 Channels!**



**ADD INTERNET!**  
**Blazing-Fast  
Internet**

No Matter Where  
You Live!

No TV Service Required  
For Internet.

**Brand  
New!**

Speeds from 25 Mbps-1 Gbps  
Only \$49<sup>99</sup>/mo. for 25 Mbps!

# 1-866-290-7151

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

¡Se Habla Español!



**GoDish.com/Pricelock**



**dish**  
AUTHORIZED RETAILER

\* Upgrade or additional monthly receiver fees may apply.

All offers require credit qualification, 2-Year commitment with early termination fee and eAutoPay.

Offer for new and qualifying former customers only. Important Terms and Conditions: Qualification: Advertised price requires credit qualification and eAutoPay. Upfront activation and/or receiver upgrade fees may apply based on credit qualification. Offer ends 10/18/17. 2-Year Commitment: Early termination fee of \$20/mo. remaining applies if you cancel early. Included in 2-year price guarantee at \$49.99 advertised price: America's Top 120 programming package, Local channels HD service fees, and equipment for 1 TV. Included in 2-year price guarantee for additional cost: Programming package upgrades (\$59.99 for AT120+, \$69.99 for AT200, \$79.99 for AT250), monthly fees for additional receivers (\$5-\$7 per additional TV, receivers with additional functionality may be \$10-\$15) and monthly DVR fees (\$10-\$15). NOT included in 2-year price guarantee or advertised price (and subject to change): Taxes & surcharges, add-on programming (including premium channels), DISH Protect, and transactional fees. Premium Channels: [if HBO offer mentioned] HBO: After 12 mos., you will be billed \$15/mo. unless you call to cancel. 3 Mos. Free: After 3 mos., you will be billed \$40/mo. for Cinemax, Showtime, Starz and DISH Movie Pack unless you call to cancel. Gift and Pre-paid Cards: Courtesy of GoDish.com for credit-qualified customers. Customers who do not qualify may be eligible for a secondary gift offer. Cards are issued by Citibank, N.A. pursuant to a license from Visa® U.S.A. Inc. and managed by Citi Prepaid Services. Cards will not have cash access and can be used everywhere Visa® debit cards are accepted. Cards expire 6 months from date issued. Mail-in redemption form is required within 60 days of qualified activation to receive gift. Customer account must be current and in good standing at the time of redemption. Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery of gift. Other: Netflix steaming membership required. All packages, programming, features, and functionality are subject to change without notice. After 2 years, then-current everyday prices for all services apply. Upfront or additional monthly fees may apply. HBO®, Cinemax® and related channels and service marks are the property of Home Box Office, Inc. SHOWTIME is a registered trademark of Showtime Networks Inc., a CBS Company. STARZ and related channels and service marks are property of Starz Entertainment, LLC. © 2017 GoDish.com. All rights reserved.

Internet speeds, prices and providers vary by customer address. Restrictions Apply. Subject to Availability. Call for details.