

TEXAS CO-OP POWER



# OFFICIAL NOTICE

---

**Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative**

## **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

---

**Thursday, October 11, 2018**

**Canton Civic Center • Canton, Texas**

Registration and Food • 6 p.m.

Business Meeting • 7 p.m.

Prize Drawings to Follow

Jo Ann Hanstrom, Secretary

---

**Vote in this year's director election,  
and you could win one of four  
\$500 electric bill credits.**

Four bill credit winners will be chosen at random from ballots that are received by 5 p.m., Tuesday, October 9, 2018, at the offices of Bolinger, Segars, Gilbert & Moss, L.L.P. in Lubbock, Texas.

**OFFICIAL BALLOT ON INSIDE COVER**

# VOTING PROCESS FOR 2018 ELECTION

This year's board election is conducted by mail-in ballot only. The cooperative's auditing firm, Bolinger, Segars, Gilbert & Moss, L.L.P., will conduct the tabulation of ballots and present the final election results at the annual meeting. No ballots will be accepted the day of the annual meeting or at any TVEC office. The official 2018 Director Election Ballot is included below. A postage-paid return envelope addressed to the cooperative's auditing firm is included inside this magazine.

According to the cooperative's bylaws, you must be a member as of August 10, 2018, to vote.

To cast your vote for a listed candidate, place an "X" in the box before the candidate's name. **You may vote regardless of which district you reside in.** If you wish to vote for a write-in nominee, write his or her name in the blank space provided and place an "X" in the box before the name.

Write-in nominees must meet the qualifications for a director as set forth in the cooperative's

bylaws.

Be sure to mark your ballot exactly as instructed. If not marked correctly, the ballot will be invalid. After marking your ballot, sign your name (member name) in the space provided, and place the ballot in the return envelope. Ballots must be received by 5 p.m., Tuesday, October 9, 2018.

If your ballot is received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, October 9, 2018, you will be eligible for a drawing to receive a \$500 bill credit. Four winners will be randomly selected.

## CAST YOUR VOTE

**Your vote is important. Your vote is the determining factor in meeting a required quorum at the annual meeting. Meeting the quorum is necessary for the co-op to conduct business, including election of directors, so please take the time to check your ballot and vote.**

- 1) **Mark your ballot** by placing an "X" in the appropriate box.
- 2) **Remember**, you may vote regardless of the district you reside in.
- 3) **Sign your ballot** in the space provided. Your signature is an essential part of the election validation process.
- 4) **Place your ballot** in the enclosed business-reply postage-paid envelope.
- 5) **Ballots** must be received at the offices of Bolinger, Segars, Gilbert & Moss, L.L.P. in Lubbock, Texas by 5 p.m. Tuesday, October 9, 2018, to be valid.

•Candidate biography is located on Page 20•

## OFFICIAL 2018 DIRECTOR ELECTION BALLOT

To cast your vote for a listed candidate, place an "X" in the box before the candidate's name. If you wish to vote for a write-in nominee, write his or her name in the blank space provided and place an "X" in the box before the name. Write-in nominees must meet the qualifications for a director as set forth in the cooperative's bylaws.

**Ballot must be received at the offices of Bolinger, Segars, Gilbert & Moss, L.L.P. in Lubbock, Texas by 5 p.m. Tuesday, October 9, 2018, to be valid.**

### District 3

(Choose One)

Paul Weatherford

\_\_\_\_\_ WRITE-IN

Member Account Number or Address

Print Full Member Name

Member Signature Required

Ballot must be signed to be valid.

Explore the Hill Country Win a Fredericksburg Getaway

# TEXAS CO-OP POWER

SPECIAL  
TRAVEL  
ISSUE

## HILL COUNTRY Ramble

Finding the sweet spot  
in Central Texas

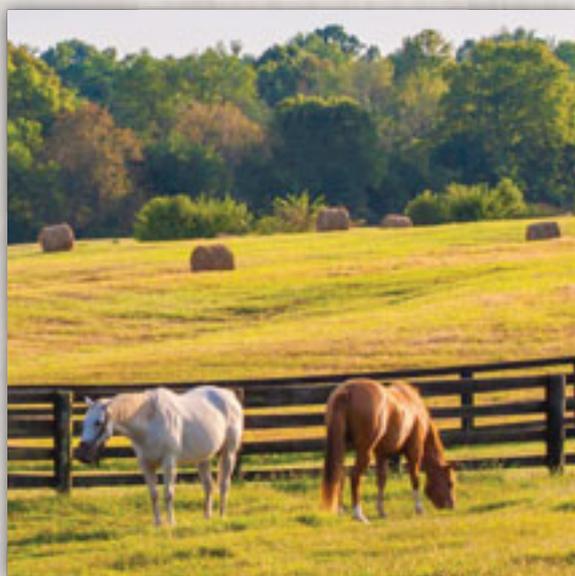


Trinity Valley EC  
Local News  
SEE PAGE 18

# A BARN THAT GOES BEYOND



## COUNTRY LIVING MADE EASIER WITH MUELLER STEEL BUILDINGS



Mueller steel buildings can be customized to meet your agricultural needs. Whether it's a storage space or a multi-functional ranch facility, we can help design and manufacture a barn that goes beyond your expectations.

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

  
**MUELLER, INC.**  
METAL BUILDINGS, ROOFING & COMPONENTS



Gorman Falls at Colorado Bend State Park near Bend.

**SPECIAL TRAVEL ISSUE**

**FEATURES**

**8 Hill Country Ramble** Discover culture, fun and tasty treasures along a scenic swath of Central Texas.

Story and photos by Julia Robinson

**14 Frontier Texas** Where the West—and the Texas Forts Trail—begins.

By Charles Lohrmann

**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**

*Blanco's Buggy Barn Museum*

By Martha Deeringer

**31 Recipes**

*All Hail the Cookie Jar*

**35 Focus on Texas**

*Photo Contest: Wedding Funnies*

**36 Around Texas**

*List of Local Events*

**38 Hit the Road**

*Houston, We Have a Road Trip*

By Melissa Gaskill

**ONLINE**

**TexasCoopPower.com**

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

**Observations**

*Trying To Be Cool*

By Mike Cox

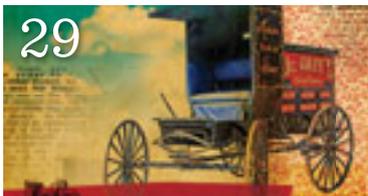
**Texas USA**

*Trees That Speak*

Excerpt by Jimmy W. Arterberry

**NEXT MONTH**

**More Than Electricity** Electric cooperatives prove "they are the fabric of the community."



29



31



35



38

FALLS: JULIA ROBINSON. DONATION: SPEEDKINGZ | SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

**ON THE COVER** *Love Creek Orchards' Apple Store in Medina is famous for its apple pies, strudels and ice cream.* Photo by Julia Robinson

**TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Blaine Warzecha, Chair, Victoria; Alan Lesley, Vice Chair, Comanche; Robert Loth III, Secretary-Treasurer, Fredericksburg; Mark Boyd, Douglassville; Billy Jones, Corsicana; David McGinnis, Van Alstyne; Brent Wheeler, Dalhart • **PRESIDENT/CEO:** Mike Williams, Austin • **COMMUNICATIONS & MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE:** Jerry Boze, Kaufman; Clint Gardner, Coleman; Greg Henley, Tahoka; Billy Marricle, Bellville; Mark McClain, Roby; Gary Raybon, El Campo; Kathy Wood, Marshall; Brandon Young, McGregor • **MAGAZINE STAFF:** Martin Bevins, Vice President, Communications & Member Services; Charles J. Lohrmann, Editor; Tom Widlowski, Associate Editor; Karen Nejtek, Production Manager; Andy Doughty, Creative Manager; Elaine Sproull, Advertising Manager; Grace Arsiaga, Print Production Specialist; Chris Burrows, Senior Communications Specialist; Christine Carlson, Administrative Assistant; Paula Disbrowe, Food Editor; Travis Hill, Communications Specialist; Qasim K. Johnson, Administrative Assistant; Jessica Ridge, Communications Specialist; Jane Sharpe, Senior Designer; Britian Lee, Intern, Shannon Oelrich, Proofreader

# Consumer Cellular®

**SWITCH TODAY, FREE & EASY**  
For a limited time, your first month is free!

**FIRST  
MONTH**

**FREE**

**AUGUST 15 THRU  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2018**



## WIRELESS THE WAY YOU LIKE IT—SWITCH TODAY!



### LOW PRICES

Plans start as low as \$15/month, and activation is free!



### VARIETY OF PHONES & DEVICES

Select any device, from flip phones to smartphones—including the latest iPhones.



### BRING YOUR OWN PHONE

With our free SIM card, you can even bring your own phone if you'd like!



### RANKED #1 BY J.D. POWER

*"Highest in Customer Service among Non-Contract Value Wireless Providers, 4 Times in a Row!"*



### WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

Enjoy superior service on the nation's largest cellular networks.



### Member ~~Advantages~~

### AARP MEMBER BENEFITS

AARP members receive a 5% discount on service and usage every month.

**OUR MOST POPULAR PLANS FOR 1 & 2 LINES!** See all of our plans at [ConsumerCellular.com](http://ConsumerCellular.com)

**\$15**  
A MONTH

1 LINE  
INCLUDED

250  
MINUTES  
TALK

**\$25**  
A MONTH

1 LINE  
INCLUDED

UNLIMITED  
TALK

UNLIMITED  
TEXT

250MB  
DATA

**\$45**  
A MONTH

2 LINES  
INCLUDED

UNLIMITED  
TALK

UNLIMITED  
TEXT

1GB  
DATA

**CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR AT**  
(888) 662-3833

**VISIT US ONLINE AT**  
[ConsumerCellular.com/3833](http://ConsumerCellular.com/3833)

AVAILABLE AT  **TARGET**

© 2018 Consumer Cellular, Inc. New service activation on approved credit. Cellular service is not available in all areas and is subject to system limitations. Terms and Conditions subject to change. The totals shown here are costs for monthly Consumer Cellular service only. They do not include any state or local taxes. First Month Free offer applies only to new customers for service activated August 15-September 30, 2018. Costs of Talk and Connect Plans, plus access fees on all lines, are free for the first monthly billing cycle following activation. Offer does not cover any additional costs, such as equipment purchase, extended warranties, 411 charges, data over 10GB, international calling, any mandatory government surcharges, taxes, fees, etc. Current customers adding a line during this promotion receive a \$15 credit for one-month additional line fee. Consumer Cellular received the highest number among four non-contract value providers in the J.D. Power 2016 V2 - 2018 V1 U.S. Wireless Customer Care Performance Study, 2018 V1 based on 4,210 total responses measuring the experiences of current wireless service customers who made a sales transaction with their current carrier within the past three months, surveyed July-December 2017. Your experiences may vary. Visit [jdpower.com](http://jdpower.com). AARP member benefits are provided by third parties, not by AARP or its affiliates. Providers pay a royalty fee to AARP for the use of its intellectual property. These fees are used for the general purposes of AARP. Some provider offers are subject to change and may have restrictions. Please contact the provider directly for details.

## Nurturing Wildflowers

I empathize with the reader's letter [*Habitat Destruction*, July 2018]. I, too, have noticed that untimely mowing has caused many wildflowers to disappear, which means habitat loss for those feeding on them.

My neighborhood subdivision has lovely homes with beautifully maintained yards and cultivated plants. I maintain my front yard to conform. I have a corner lot that has a county road on one side. I reserve a strip of property along the right-of-way for wildflowers, and I delay mowing there.

SARAH MILNER | FLINT  
CHEROKEE COUNTY EC

## He Gets His Kicks

You so are right that Route 66 [*Rendezvous on Route 66*, July 2018] is celebrated in so many ways. I have been a ham radio operator since 1960, and each September, the Citrus Belt Amateur Radio Club in San Bernardino, California, sponsors Route 66 on the Air. I get to talk to my friends on the radio who are on the air up and down the old highway from Los Angeles to Amarillo to Chicago. I even have a T-shirt with the



**TEXAS CO-OP POWER VOLUME 75, 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](http://TexasCoopPower.com). Call (512) 454-0311 or email [editor@TexasCoopPower.com](mailto:editor@TexasCoopPower.com). **SUBSCRIPTION PRICE** is \$4.20 per year for individual members of subscribing cooperatives and is paid from equity accruing to the member. If you are not a member of a subscribing cooperative, you can purchase an annual subscription at the nonmember rate of \$7.50. Individual copies and back issues are available for \$3 each. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Texas Co-op Power* (USPS 540-560), 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701. Please enclose label from this copy of *Texas Co-op Power* showing old address and key numbers. **ADVERTISING:** Advertisers interested in buying display ad space in *Texas Co-op Power* and/or in our 30 sister publications in other states, contact Elaine Sproull at (512) 486-6251. Advertisements in *Texas Co-op Power* are paid solicitations. The publisher neither endorses nor guarantees in any manner any product or company included in this publication. Product satisfaction and delivery responsibility lie solely with the advertiser.

© Copyright 2018 Texas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. Reproduction of this issue or any portion of it is expressly prohibited without written permission. Willie Wiredhand © Copyright 2018 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

## Head of the Pack

I enjoyed reading about Hunter Beaton's Eagle Scout project [*Carrying Through, Currents*, July 2018]. What a fine young man to take on this very worthwhile project that will be a gift to so many children in need for years to come. The article did not mention where Hunter will be attending college, but since my allegiance is to Baylor University, I was hoping that was his plan. He would be a great fit.

JUDY SCHMELTEKOPF | CHINA SPRING | HEART OF TEXAS EC



Route 66 logo on it that I wear during the event.

LEE E. KINARD | BURNET  
PEDERNALES EC

## Give Us Credit

The By the Numbers item in *Currents* in July could be misleading. It's possible that because there are so many people in Texas who are not in debt, that is what causes the state to rank 46th among all states in

average credit score. The longer a person goes without paying anything on time, the lower his or her score goes. So, it is possible that our low average just might mean that we have more people who are not in debt.

RUTH LAMPE | QUITMAN  
WOOD COUNTY EC

## New Favorite Author

*East Texas Mojo* [May 2018], about Joe R. Lansdale, introduced me to a writer with whom I was unfamiliar. Right away, I ordered three of his books and before I was half through the second one, I ordered four more.

FRAN LOMAS | SAN ANGELO

## New London Explosion

In 1939, we were living in Atlanta, Texas, and one Saturday morning, I heard a loud explosion [*The New London*

*School Explosion*, January 2017].

I rode my bike uptown and found the Safeway store was only a pile of rubble. There had been a gas leak under the store.

CARROLL JOHNSON  
BOWIE-CASS 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](http://TexasCoopPower.com/share)  
**EMAIL:** [letters@TexasCoopPower.com](mailto: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**



## HAPPENINGS

# Hill Country Goes Cajun

**THE MEDINA LAKE CAJUN FESTIVAL** started in 1981 as the Great Gumbo Cookoff to help keep the Medina Lake Betterment Association, a nonprofit civic organization, afloat. The event's name was changed in 1990 but still features a gumbo cook-off in addition to Cajun food and music.

It's always the fourth Saturday of September—rain or shine—in **LAKEHILLS**, which is in Bandera Electric Cooperative's service territory, northwest of San Antonio. Wayne & Same Ol' Two Step is among the featured performers this year.

**INFO** ▶ (830) 751-2727, [cajunfestival-medinalake.com](http://cajunfestival-medinalake.com)

**WEB EXTRAS**  
▶ Find more happenings online.

## ALMANAC

### 100 Years Ago

**ELIZABETH HOWARD WEST** was named state librarian in 1918—the first woman to head a Texas state agency. She started the county library system and initiated services to minorities and the blind.

## SPORTS SECTION

### Wonder Arm Gives Out



**Pitching star** Nolan Ryan's career ended 25 years ago when he suffered a torn ulnar collateral ligament in a game at the Kingdome in Seattle. Bob Sherwin of the *Seattle Times* described that September 22, 1993, moment so eloquently: "A right-elbow ligament, 46 years, seven months and 24 days old, punished by more than 80,000 big-league pitches, had enough."

With that, just 11 days short of finishing his record 27th and final major-league season, Ryan, a Texas Ranger, left the game and took with him dozens of pitching records, including 5,714 strikeouts and seven no-hitters.

Ryan, who grew up in Alvin, entered the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1999 and is an executive adviser for the Houston Astros, one of his former teams.

CAJUN FESTIVAL: TIM CARROLL; RYAN: JONATHAN DANIEL | GETTY IMAGES

# Fit To Print

**JOHN GRAHAM'S** newspaper career began with a delivery route of 100 subscribers. Decades later, the third-generation newspaperman is owner and publisher of the *Lovington Leader*, a small paper in eastern New Mexico, and the *Denver City Press*, across the border in West Texas. For his work upgrading presses and keeping community-oriented papers going, Graham, president of the Lea County Electric Cooperative board of trustees, was inducted into the New Mexico Press Association Hall of Fame in 2017.



**ON SEPTEMBER 4**, National Newspaper Carrier Day, consider the role of small-town presses in Texas. Graham believes people should actively participate in their communities and that newspapers reflect the communities they serve. He applies this philosophy to his management of the *Leader* and to his life.



## ... AND READ A BOOK



To commemorate **National Read a Book Day**, September 6, the writers and editors at *Texas Co-op Power* tell about the latest books they read:

**Chris Burrows:** *The Night of the Gun* by David Carr. Journalist Carr turns his reporting chops on himself to uncover his own dark past in this memoir published not long before his sudden death in *The New York Times* newsroom.

**Travis Hill:** *CivilWarLand in Bad Decline* by George Saunders. Infused with equal parts humor and horror, these seven stories present a dystopian world in which theme parks are oases for the rich while the rest of humanity battles for scarce resources in a toxic wasteland.

**Charles Lohrmann:** *The World We Used To Live In: Remembering the Powers of the Medicine Men* by Vine Deloria Jr. A renowned Native American legal and religious scholar reviews the history of traditional spirituality.

**Jessica Ridge:** *Commonwealth* by Ann Patchett. A layered, decadeslong meditation on the ways that love, loyalty and compassion converge as two families fracture and meld—chaotically, painfully and sometimes beautifully.

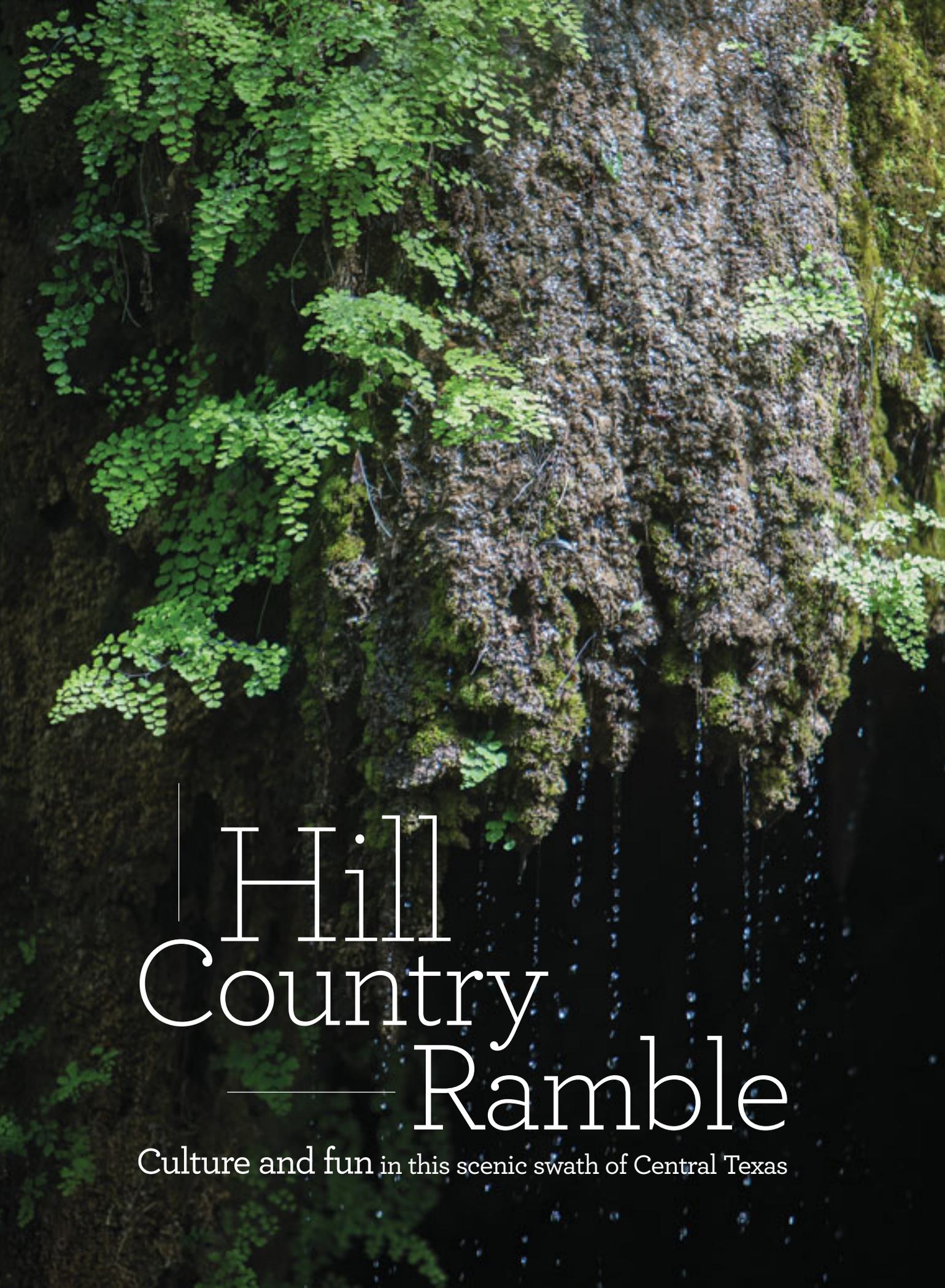
**Tom Widlowski:** *Bluebird, Bluebird* by Attica Locke. The Texas author's dark, heart-breaking murder mystery lays bare racial tensions in a fictional East Texas town.

## TRAVEL: BY THE NUMBERS

**American drivers in cars, trucks, minivans and SUVs logged 3,213,516,000,000 miles on the nation's roads in a 12-month period ending March 1, 2018, according to the Federal Highway Administration. Consider giving your car a break September 22, World Carfree Day.**



# TRILLION



# Hill Country — Ramble

Culture and fun in this scenic swath of Central Texas

Enter online  
to win a  
Fredericksburg  
Getaway.

## I intended to try only the apple turnover.

Five minutes later, I stand at the counter, balancing a jar of apple butter, a jar of jelly, a strudel, a slice of pie and the turnover. That's when another visitor mentions the apple ice cream. "Why hasn't Blue Bell caught on to that flavor?" he asks the cashier.

I turn back to find the ice cream.

Outside Love Creek Orchards' Apple Store in Medina, I spread my bounty on a bright red picnic table and sample the pastries. I savor the pie's flawless golden crust. The ice cream is light, not too sweet, and goes down way too easy.

STORY AND PHOTOS  
BY JULIA ROBINSON



**Opposite: A travertine formation at Gorman Falls in Colorado Bend State Park. Above: Living history re-enactors at Fort Martin Scott in Fredericksburg. Right: Apple turnover at Love Creek Orchards' Apple Store in Medina.**



Such are the pleasures you'll find in the Texas Hill Country, which is adorned with gems like this shop. Visually, the region offers a rolling landscape of limestone-and-granite hills, clear rivers, cedar and cypress trees, and regional haunts that delight weekend visitors and seasoned travelers.

More than 150 years ago, German immigrants were lured to Central Texas by tales of fertile soil and freedom from oppression. Instead, they found rocky fields that had to be cleared by hand and the threat of contentious and fast-moving Comanche. The early settlers persevered and built towns of precise and tidy stone structures, each a day's wagon ride—about 20 miles—from its neighbor. Today, we know some of those settlements as Fredericksburg, Kerrville, New Braunfels, Medina, Mason, Llano and Camp Verde.



Starting in the southwest corner of the Hill Country, FM 337 between Camp Wood and Medina is one of the most scenic drives in Texas. Along a curvaceous stretch popular with motorcyclists, signs warn of “Falling Rocks” going east and “Fallen Rocks” going west, a curious temporal twist. The rise of the Edwards Plateau reveals itself along this 60-mile route, displaying limestone cliffs and following the meandering Medina River.

Along the way, I read about community history. Vanderpool grew out of a Republic of Texas land grant in 1849. Originally called Bugscuffle, the town was abandoned following Comanche raids but re-established in the 1880s. Camp Verde was established to service the region’s military outposts.

East of Medina, freethinkers, including doctors, scholars, philosophers and aristocrats who fled the German Revolution of 1848, sought to establish intellectual, secular and democratic societies advocating scientific reason and religious freedom. They built the towns of Boerne, Comfort, Luckenbach and Sisterdale. Residents met to discuss politics, philosophy and literature; in such meetings, they spoke in the intellectual’s language of Latin, so the towns were dubbed the “Latin Colonies” of Texas.

Boerne was founded in 1849 and originally named Tuscu-



#### WEB EXTRAS

► Read this story on our website to see a map of the Hill Country road trip.

Some of the largest calcite formations in the nation can be found here.



lum, after the home of Roman writer and orator Cicero. In 1852, it was renamed for Jewish-German journalist and satirist Karl Ludwig Börne. The town was known as a health resort in the late 1800s because of its proximity to Cibolo Creek and the Guadalupe River.

**I** drive north along FM 474 to find the Cave Without a Name. Mike Burrell, tour guide and cave manager, leads me down 80 feet of staircases through layers of geologic and human history. At the first landing, a pile of bones is evidence that eons of unlucky animals fell to their deaths through the small entrance above. Down another level, we find a ledge where a whiskey still dripped rebelliously during Prohibition.

In 1935, a group of youngsters shimmied down the sinkhole entrance with a kerosene lantern and crawled through a series of tight turns before finding cathedral-like rooms.

Burrell lights up the rooms as we walk through, one side formed by the subterranean streams of the Guadalupe River, the other by the slow drip of mineral-rich water onto the cave floor. Some of the largest calcite formations in the nation can be found here, and 3½ miles of the cave have been mapped, making it the seventh-longest in Texas.

We pass a small platform where the owners host concerts. Burrell replays a few previous performances on his

**Opposite page, top: Love Creek Orchards' Apple Store. Opposite page, bottom: FM 337 between Camp Wood and Medina.**



**Above: Cave Without a Name, near Boerne. Left: Whiskey pecan and Key lime pie slices at Tootie Pie Co. in Boerne.**

phone and offers me a chance to sing. I manage a few lines of the *Battle Hymn of the Republic* and marvel at the resonance.

Back at ground level, I rush to Tootie's. Ruby

Lorraine "Tootie" Feagan moved her 20-year-old pie company from Medina to Boerne in 2005. The new building, situated in a business park, serves as a bustling outpost for Tootie Pie Co.

To reach the unlikely address, I zoom past a wrecker service and RV repair shop to find the modest storefront, where cubicle walls support a chalkboard listing a dozen offerings and seasonal specials. It's not a homey setting, but the pies are delicious. I sample the heavenly chocolate, lemon icebox and pecan, rolling my eyes in delight.

Another day's wagon ride up Interstate 10 takes me to Comfort, where there are more than 100 historic buildings constructed before 1910. Seven of them, including the old Inguenhuett General Store, were designed by British architect Alfred Giles.

High's Cafe & Store drew in coffee lovers when it opened on

# Fort Martin Scott was the first U.S. Army post on the Texas frontier.



High Street in 2005 and has become a reliable staple for chef-inspired café fare. Proprietors Denise Rabalais and Brent Ault attract a dedicated following, including a steady stream of locals who catch up and share a bite on the covered patio.

Comfort was another of the Latin Colonies, proud of independent thought and human rights for all. In 1862, eight years after the town's founding, the Confederate Army called upon the locals to join their side in the Civil War. Thirty-six men and boys who refused were killed.

I walk a half-mile down the street from the café to see the Treue der Union, or “Loyal to the Union,” Monument. Etched into the surface of the 20-foot-tall limestone obelisk are the 36 names. The 1866 dedication ceremony was front-page news even in *Harper's Weekly*.

**E**ast of Comfort, RM 473 turns onto Old Number 9 Highway and twists past fields of livestock penned by hand-stacked rock walls. Old Tunnel State Park was originally a railroad tunnel built in 1917 to link Fredericksburg to the San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railroad. After falling into disuse in the 1940s, the area was turned into a state park; summering Mexican free-tailed bats took roost in the old tunnel.

I arrive around 7 p.m. and make my way to the viewing area just in time for the evening show. Three million bats stream out of the cave entrance in a counterclockwise wave of mammalian fluttering. “The bats circle around a few times to get elevation to get above the trees, and it looks like a tornado of bats,” says park superintendent Nyta Brown. “I never get tired of it.” Each bat eats its weight in insects each night.

Fredericksburg was first settled in 1846, the second colony founded under the direction of the Adelsverein, the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas. Unlike the freethinkers, the settlers of Fredericksburg were religious—evangelical Protestants, Lutherans, Methodists and Catholics. Each was given a parcel of farmland and a lot in town where many built “Sunday houses” near their house of worship.

Fort Martin Scott on the southeast edge of Fredericksburg was the first U.S. Army post on the Texas frontier, built in 1848. The town had negotiated a treaty with the Comanche by 1847, and soldiers at the fort were the first line of defense.

**Above: Doug Baum poses with two of his camels during Fort Martin Scott Days. Below: Ray Hernandez, known as Chief Broken Eagle, speaks with students at Fort Martin Scott.**



I wander among well-preserved remnants of the fort on a “living history” weekend. The tents of re-enactors and educators line the circle track, and classes of fourth- and seventh-grade Texas history students visit the encampments of Native Americans, soldiers and other period actors.

In one corner, Ray Hernandez, aka Chief Broken Eagle of the Tonkawa tribe, has set up a teepee and shows family heirlooms to wide-eyed children. Rita Rice, the living history coordinator, appears in the officer’s quarters in 1890s period dress. She walks students and adults through the two-room structure, pointing out features of frontier living. “I love seeing the kids in awe when I describe what people lived like back then,” she says.

On the lawn just outside the fort, Doug Baum is tending his camels, Richard and Jadid. Curious groups gather to take

way. Just east of the dam and Inks Bridge, the park has become a civic art project of rock stacking.

Resident Belinda Morgan started the Llano Earth Art Fest to bring attention to Llano’s natural resources. The 2015 fest created the first World Rock Stacking Championship. The spring-time festival leaves stacks of rocks, called cairns, along the riverfront, inspiring others to contribute their own stack.

An ornate sandcastle grabs my attention as I pull into the parking lot. Then an 8-foot-tall dirt armadillo with a saddle on its back emerges from the bridge abutment. I pick my way down the granite boulders toward the water as rock cairns take over the landscape. Arches of rock defy gravity and rival the steel bridge over the river. On hot days, people create their stacks along the shoreline while standing in the cool water. This weekday, I see few visitors, and the park feels like an archaeological mystery created just for me.

Before I head back to the car, I try my hand at creating a stack, collecting medium-sized stones around my feet. Daily stress melts away, and my whole world joyously focuses on the fulcrum between rocks. Delightful.



**N**orth of Llano, I turn off Highway 16 at Cherokee and follow country roads to Colorado Bend State Park for a glimpse of Gorman Falls, a treasure of the Hill Country. The day is sunny but cool, and I head straight to the trailhead. Signs remind hikers to bring water and sunscreen, even though it’s only 1.4 miles to the falls. A few minutes on the trail helps me imagine an ill-prepared summertime hike.

The trail is easy but rocky, and it takes my full attention to keep my ankles true. After more than a mile, I come to a steep vertical descent down

pictures and ask why in the world there are camels in Texas.

Baum explains that in 1857, U.S. Secretary of War Jefferson Davis directed the importation of 34 camels from Egypt to establish a camel corps based in Camp Verde. The animals quickly proved their worth by carrying twice the usual load of survey teams and mail-carrying ventures.

The Civil War interrupted and ultimately doomed the camel experiment, but Baum keeps the curious story alive with this Texas Camel Corps. “I fell in love with the camels and had to get a few of my own.” He now leads camel tours through West Texas.

**Leonard Grenwelge Park in Llano features towers of rocks called cairns lining the shore of the Llano River.**

slick rock (thank goodness for handrails) to the hidden fairy pools of the travertine falls. Verdant green mosses drip water into clear cascading basins. The temperature here is 10–15 degrees cooler than the bright, open flats above, and I bask in wafts of misty breeze coming off the face of the cliff. A few feet from the falls, the titular bend in the Colorado River provides a place to cool yourself and your dog before heading back up the trail.

Now the incline of the trail feels more pronounced. I stop to catch my breath and admire the blooming cactus and try to listen for birdcalls coming from nearby trees. As I head for the parking lot, I pass hikers on their way down, watching their steps, raising their hands against the midday sun and reaching for their water bottles. I smile the secret smile of having seen the hidden splendor, knowing it was worth the struggle.

Learn more about **Julia Robinson** at [juliarobinsonphoto.com](http://juliarobinsonphoto.com).

**T**urn north on State Highway 16 toward Llano, a frontier trading center that grew to prominence in the 1880s when iron deposits, granite quarries and brick-making sparked a boom period in anticipation of the town becoming the “Pittsburgh of the West.” Today, the city still is known for granite but also embraces its connection to Highland Lakes tourism.

Llano’s Leonard Grenwelge Park, along the south side of the Llano River, honors the city’s heritage in a new and charming

# Frontier Texas

Where the West—and the Texas Forts Trail—begins



BY CHARLES LOHRMANN

**This herd of eight 1,000-pound steel buffaloes turns in the wind above Abilene's Frontier Texas.**

Frontier Texas recreates a historic fort. Architect Larry Good explained that when he and architect Bryce Weigand started on the project, they drew inspiration from the historic sites. “We visited Fort Richardson, Fort Belknap, Fort Phantom Hill, Fort Griffin, Fort Chadbourne and Fort McKavett.

“The sculptural chimneys that lead you up to the front door of Frontier Texas

are based on the chimneys at Fort Phantom Hill,” Good says. “The chimneys are the only things left there.”

Fort Phantom Hill sits about 15 miles north of Frontier Texas, so it can be the first stop on your Forts Trail adventure.

**WEB EXTRAS**  
 ▶ Read this story on our website to see a slideshow of Frontier Texas.

Fort Griffin is about 50 miles northeast of Fort Phantom Hill, and that drive offers the combination of the partially restored fort and a recreation of the historic town of Fort Griffin. This notoriously rough village included the Beehive Saloon, where Pat Garrett once tended bar. One of the holographic “spirit guides” in Frontier Texas plays the part of Garrett and retells the story of the night he shot Billy the Kid. Between the restored fort and the town, you’ll find a historic marker designating the site where Gen. Robert E. Lee met with Comanche leaders.

The historic sites, now mostly in ruins, can create a ghostly sense of the frontier experience. Some personal accounts say that contemporary visitors hear mysterious voices, the sounds of horses’ hooves or the jingle of spurs. Usually, the sounds more closely resemble the whisper of wind in the trees.

Back at Frontier Texas, museum director Jeff Salmon says that most visitors are those traveling from east to west, and the Abilene area is where they first see iconic Texas sights. “We try to remain true to the story and still provide entertainment—make an emotional connection,” he says. “We honor the past as best we can.”

Charles Lohrmann is the *Texas Co-op Power* editor.

Among the most popular Hill Country destinations are towns defined by an ethnic history, such as the German heritage of Fredericksburg, Boerne and other picturesque destinations (see Page 8). Another option for exploring the Hill Country is to embark on a tour at the northern reach of the region, at Abilene’s Frontier Texas, and follow a stretch of the Texas Forts Trail. You don’t need to visit all nine historic sites to gain a sense of the intertwined narratives of 19th century settlers, Native Americans, buffalo hunters and adventurers.

On my own foray to Frontier Texas, the last thing I expected was a herd of flying buffalo. But that is what I found when I stopped at this starting point of the 650-mile heritage trail that wanders through 29 counties. These eight steel bison weigh about 1,000 pounds each (400 pounds fewer than the flesh-and-blood version), run in place at the top of their 35-foot posts and turn so that their noses are always into the wind. “It’s the world’s largest wind vane,” says H.C. Zachry, the Abilene artist and advertising executive who designed the flying creatures, “265 feet from one end to the other.”

He enthusiastically describes the engineering marvels nosing into the wind then explains that a tour of the museum inside features stories delivered by holographic characters developed to capture historic personalities and interconnected narratives. “We focused on the period between 1780 to 1880,” Zachary says, “because after 1880, the railroad came through Abilene, and that changed the frontier completely.”

# Portable Oxygen For The Way You Want to Live



The **ALL-NEW** INOGEN ONE<sup>G4</sup>

Includes Everything You Need To Regain Your Freedom

Meets FAA Requirements for Travel

## Portable Oxygen That Will Never Weigh You Down.

At just 2.8 lbs, the Inogen One G4 is the ultralight portable oxygen concentrator you have been waiting for. The Inogen One G4 is approximately half the size of the Inogen One G3.



Actual size:  
L 5.91" x W 2.68" x H 7.2"

© 2018 Inogen, Inc. All rights reserved. MKT-P0057

REQUEST YOUR **FREE** INFORMATION KIT TODAY.

CALL NOW!

**1-800-981-8961**



# TOUR TEXAS NEW WAYS

SPECIAL  
TRAVEL  
ISSUE

In the **APRIL 2019 TRAVEL ISSUE**, we'll share some creative and cool ways to travel Texas and create adventurous memories.

**TEXAS CO-OP POWER** WIN A BIG BEND GETAWAY at [TexasCoopPower.com](http://TexasCoopPower.com)

CHASE & FOUNAIN, TXND

Deadline:  
**SEPT. 10**

FREDERICKSBURG

WIN A TWO-NIGHT  
GETAWAY IN

GET DETAILS AND ENTER ONLINE AT  
**TexasCoopPower.com**

Check out [visitfredericksburgtx.com](http://visitfredericksburgtx.com) for more about Fredericksburg.

# THERAPEUTIC ACUPRESSURE WITH EVERY STEP

Massaging  
Comfort Slides

was \$16<sup>99</sup>

**SAVE \$7.00**

Now Only **\$9.99**

**FREE**  
Shipping & Handling  
when buying 2 or more

*Featherlight  
Support*



Acupressure  
Massage

Ladies'



Sure Grip Soles

**Helps Promote:**

- Circulation
- Relaxation
- Overall Health



Men's

**INSOLES  
MASSAGE &  
INVIGORATE  
YOUR FEET**

Connect With **DreamProducts.com**



website offers  
may vary

**1-800-530-2689**

Order Now Toll-Free

**Receive A Free Surprise Gift  
with every order**

Dept 76986 © 2018 Dream Products, Inc. (Prices valid for 1yr.)

Massaging Comfort Slides Indicate Qty Under Size

Ladies' #678	Sz (5)	Sz (6)	Sz (7)	Sz (8)	Sz (9)	Sz (10)	
Men's #679	Sz (7)	Sz (8)	Sz (9)	Sz (10)	Sz (11)	Sz (12)	Sz (13)

Pr(s) Massaging Comfort Slides @ \$9.99 pr. \$

CA residents must add 7.25% sales tax \$

Regular Shipping & Handling Add \$5.95 1st pair

FREE Shipping & Handling when buying 2 or more pairs \$

**FOR EXPEDITED SHIPPING (optional)**  
Add An Additional \$2.95  
(receive your order 5-7 days from shipment) \$ 2.95

Please Print Clearly

TOTAL \$

Check or money order payable to: **Dream Products, Inc.**  
Send Order To: 412 Dream Lane, Van Nuys, CA 91496

VISA  MasterCard  Discover®/NOVUS<sup>SM</sup>Cards

Card# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Dept. 76986** Email \_\_\_\_\_

### All Day Comfort

Feather-light acupressure massaging sandals have strategically placed nodules that massage and stimulate pressure points with every step. Acupressure is believed to help overall health by increasing circulation. Easy slip on/slip off style with sure-grip soles. Waterproof sole and upper makes it the perfect shoe indoors or out! Fashion import of man-made materials are available for both men and women. Buy two pair and your shipping and handling are FREE!

Satisfaction Guaranteed or Return For Your Money Back

# Survival of the Sharpest

When it's you against nature, there's only one tool you need: the tempered steel Stag Hunter from Stauer—now **ONLY \$49!**

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

Forget about smartphones and GPS, because when it comes to taking on Mother Nature, there's only one tool you really need. Our stunning **Stag Hunter** is the ultimate sidekick for surviving and thriving in the great outdoors. Priced at \$149, the **Stag Hunter** can be yours today for an unbelievable **\$49!** Call now and we'll include a bonus leather sheath!

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

**Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed.**

Feel the knife in your hands, wear it on your hip, inspect the craftsmanship. If you're not completely impressed, send it back within 30 days for a complete refund of the item price. But we believe that once you wrap your fingers around the **Stag Hunter's** handle, you'll be ready to carve your own niche into the wild frontier.



*"This knife is beautiful!"*

— J., La Crescent, MN



*"The feel of this knife is unbelievable...this is an incredibly fine instrument."*

— H., Arvada, CO



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



Not shown actual size.

**Stag Hunter Knife** ~~\$149~~\*

Offer Code Price Only **\$49** + S&P

**1-800-333-2045**

Your Insider Offer Code: **SHK260-04**

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

**Stauer®** 14101 Southcross Drive W., Ste 155, Dept. SHK260-04  
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.



Rating of **A+**



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

*Smart Luxuries—Surprising Prices™*

# Your Cooperative, Your Meeting



MESSAGE FROM  
**GENERAL MANAGER/CEO JERRY BOZE**

**I want to take this opportunity to personally invite** you to this year’s annual membership meeting. The annual meeting gives us the opportunity to meet and visit with members, and get to know each other better.

At this year’s meeting, you will hear reports and updates regarding the operations of the cooperative, the election of directors and what can be expected in the future. Employees will be present at various booths to

answer any questions you may have in the areas of energy management, safety, technology and community involvement, just to name a few.

The directors and employees of TVEC hope that you find the annual membership meeting not only informative but enjoyable as well. A lot of hard work and planning is put in by cooperative employees to ensure the success of this meeting. The planning process starts early in the year and ends just before the meeting is held. In 2017, a record number of members attended the annual meeting. We have also been very pleased that the number of members who have attended for the first time has steadily increased each year. 30042415001

As we prepare for this membership meeting, we reflect on how the electric cooperative program came to be. We look back in admiration of the small groups of rural folks across our great country that took a leap of faith in the late 1930s and decided it was time to improve the quality of life for themselves and their neighbors. Their mission was to bring electricity to rural areas and reap the same benefits that the “city folks” experienced. As a result, electric cooperatives sprang up all over the country, and the movement of electrifying rural America was underway.

The principles that electric cooperatives were founded on back then still exist today. The board of directors, management and employees use those same principles to run the day-to-day affairs of your cooperative.

I hope you are able to attend this year’s annual meeting.

---

## Vote in this year’s director election, and you could win one of four \$500 electric bill credits.

Four bill credit winners will be chosen at random from ballots that are received by 5 p.m., Tuesday, October 9, 2018, at the offices of Bolinger, Segars, Gilbert & Moss, L.L.P.

**OFFICIAL BALLOT ON INSIDE FRONT COVER**



JENIFOTO | ISTOCK.COM

## Happy Labor Day!

TVEC will be closed Monday, September 3, for the holiday. As always, crews will be on standby in the event of an outage or emergency.



RYHOR BRUYEU | ISTOCK.COM

## Power Tip

Look for LED products and fixtures for outdoor use, such as on pathways, steps and porches. Many include features like automatic daylight shut-off and motion sensors.



## TVEC Announces Pay as You Go Pre-Paid Electricity Service

Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative is proud to introduce Pay as You Go pre-paid electricity service.

Unlike traditional billing, Pay as You Go allows members to add money to their accounts at their convenience while eliminating deposits, late fees and monthly bills.

“It is exciting to be able to give members a new alternative for getting signed up with TVEC,” said Shannon Anderson, TVEC manager of member services. “When new members from a new generation come in, we are happy to offer things that they are used to, especially with the use of technology.”

The implementation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure meters and supporting computer systems makes the pre-paid system possible.

“One of the benefits of keeping up-to-date with our systems is that it allows us to implement technology like pre-pay,” said Jerry Woolston, manager of information technology. “Because it is all automated, you can make a payment any time of day. And if you should end up disconnected, you can be back on in 15 minutes.”

Adding the pre-paid option is the result of a two-year process, with careful attention paid to making it a positive experience for members.

“A great group of employees worked

really hard to get us to this point, starting with talking to other co-ops that provide pre-paid service,” Woolston said. “They all had positive things to say and gave us great advice. Co-ops work together, and in this case their experience is a benefit for our members.”

Ultimately, the TVEC Board of Directors approved the development of pre-paid service, seeing it as a valuable option to offer.

“Our first member to sign up for Pay as You Go had moved here from another area and had pre-paid service before,” Anderson said. “It was nice to have this option for her to keep that comfort level, and also avoid a deposit.”

Members who choose Pay as You Go will need to keep an eye on their account balance, but daily text or email alerts are available, along with the myTVEC mobile app and online Member Service Portal—to help avoid any unexpected disconnections.

“It does require a close eye on your usage, which can really be a good thing because you see every day what your energy habits are doing,” Anderson said. “The benefit though, especially for anyone who gets paid weekly or just wants to even out their payment schedule, is that the members can really take control of that and pay at the time that is most convenient.”



### Pre-Pay Benefits:

- No deposit is required. Current members with a deposit on file will have their deposit credited to their pre-pay account.
- Usage and account balance alerts to help manage your account.
- No late fees or monthly billing statement. Simply maintain a credit balance for uninterrupted service.

### How it works:

- New or current TVEC members may sign up for Pay as You Go by visiting one of the four TVEC offices.
- A minimum \$50 credit balance is all it takes to start pre-paid service.
- Pay as You Go members may choose to receive a variety of alerts via text message and/or email to keep track of usage and pre-paid balance amounts.
- If the account balance gets low, alerts can be sent to notify the member. Alerts can also be sent to warn of pending disconnection if the account balance reaches \$0.
- Re-connection of disconnected accounts is usually within 15 minutes when money is added to the account. There is no reconnect fee, and the process is automatic.
- Payments may be made in all the same ways as regularly billed customers, including: by phone, the myTVEC mobile app, the online Member Service Portal at [tvec.net](http://tvec.net) and in person at TVEC offices.

# Candidate for Board Election



Paul Weatherford is a lifelong resident of Van Zandt County. He has been self-employed since 1968, operating a dairy farm, ranching operation, as well as a custom fertilizer business. In addition to owning a trucking company for over 20 years.

“I’ve had the privilege working with other co-ops, feed co-ops, dairy co-ops, and Agriland and they have always seem to support their members “, said Weatherford.

Weatherford being an existing director he knows how the co-op operates. He said, “I consider myself as an honest, caring person - willing to work closely with others - try to make clear sensible decisions that benefit the member-owners I serve.

He and his wife Linda attend the China Grove Baptist Church in their community.

**DISTRICT 3 • INCUMBENT**  
**PAUL WEATHERFORD**

## Rodeo Time

Seven members of TVEC’s operations group made the trip to Seguin to compete in the Texas Lineman’s Rodeo on July 21.

The event gives lineworkers a chance to put their skills to the test while connecting with other co-op and municipal line crews from around the state. TVEC’s competition team of Carlos Cruz, Zach Pollett and Mauricio Robles took second place in the Pole Climb speed event, and the barbecue team of Lance Robison and Brandon Bittinger won second prize with their dessert entry.

Linemen Mack Brewer and Victor Garcia served as judges for the event, ensuring competitors followed best practices for work and safety.



**TVEC 2018 Texas Lineman’s Rodeo participants (from left) Lance Robison, Victor Garcia, Mauricio Robles, Zach Pollett, Carlos Cruz, Mack Brewer and Brandon Bittinger.**



BOB JOHNSON/TVEC



## Be a Good Neighbor to Power Lines

**WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, YOU PROBABLY DON'T THINK ABOUT** its power lines. It's easy to overlook their presence, but power lines can pose serious electrical hazards if forgotten.

Trees can be a power line's worst enemy. Strong winds and storms can blow trees over or break branches, pulling down power lines from poles or supporting towers. It is possible for the line to remain energized and potentially electrify the tree and nearby objects—especially when wet.

Arcing or flashovers between power lines and trees also can cause damage and danger. A voltage surge on a power line from a nearby lightning strike can cause a tree to become electrified as well.

During warm weather or when power lines carry heavy electrical loads, they can heat up and stretch, making the lines longer. Thus, power lines can sag as much as 15 or 20 feet, bringing them even closer to trees.

The electric current caused by arcing or flashovers between power lines and trees easily can injure or even kill an individual caught nearby. It is important to pay attention to power lines in your neighborhood. Here are some tips to keep in mind:

**Always make sure to look for power lines nearby before you begin to cut down any tree or trim branches.** If a tree falls into a power line, do not attempt to move it. Contact Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative immediately.

**Treat all power lines as energized.** Never climb or attempt to handle a tree that has a limb caught in a power line. There may not be any visible evidence that the tree is electrified or dangerous but that doesn't mean it's not.

**Make sure to maintain required clearances between equipment and power lines.** Keep equipment and yourself at least 10 feet away from power lines at all times.

## Don't Hang That Sign!

**THERE ARE MORE THAN 130 MILLION** wooden utility poles in the United States, estimates the North American Wood Pole Council. That ample vertical real estate may look appealing when you need somewhere to hang your sign, deer stand, basketball hoop, clothesline or satellite dish.

Don't make that mistake. Attaching items to utility poles is not only illegal, it's dangerous, too.

It may seem innocent, but one pin-hole from a tack, nail or staple lodged in a pole can pierce a lineworker's glove, stripping away critical protection from thousands of volts of electricity. Obstructions also can impede lineworkers' ability to climb and inspect poles.

Anyone placing items on poles also risks exposing themselves to thousands of volts of electricity. This is especially true of structures anchored to poles. It's always wise to keep any structure at least 10 feet away from utility poles.

Please help Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative keep our linemen—and our community—safe. Don't attach unauthorized, dangerous items to our poles.

## Win \$25 Just for Reading

Somewhere, hidden on Pages 18-23, is a TVEC account number. Read closely. If the account number is yours, contact the Member Services Department by September 28 to receive a \$25 credit on your electric bill. Don't miss out—you could be a winner.



TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

## Hurricane Preparedness Guidelines

Preparing for Hurricane Season: June 1–November 30

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

- ▶ **Discuss evacuation plans** with your family **before** hurricane season, June 1–November 30. Make a checklist of what you need to do before you leave town and review it.
- ▶ **Monitor NOAA Weather Radio**, local TV and radio broadcasts during storm season.
- ▶ **Prepare an emergency supply kit** including: radio, flashlight, extra batteries, extra eyeglasses, bottled water, nonperishable food, dry clothes, bedding, insurance information, important documents, medications, copies of prescriptions and special products for babies, seniors, medically fragile family members and pets.
- ▶ **Learn evacuation routes** before storm season. When there's a hurricane in the Gulf, keep your gas tank as full as possible. Expect traffic delays in an evacuation.
- ▶ **Register with the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry online at [stear.dps.texas.gov](http://stear.dps.texas.gov) or dial 211 to register if you have a disability or medical needs, or if you simply do not have transportation.** Gulf Coast residents in evacuation zones who have a disability or medical needs who do not have friends or family to help or do not have transportation should register with STEAR in advance.

DIVISIÓN DE ADMINISTRACIÓN DE EMERGENCIAS DE TEXAS

## Directrices para Huracanes

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

**EVACUACIÓN EN CASO DE HURACÁN:** Cuando exista una amenaza de huracán, escucha las instrucciones de funcionarios locales. Cuando llamen para una evacuación en su área, sálgase del área lo más pronto posible.

- ▶ **Discute los planes de evacuación** con su familia **antes** de la temporada de huracán, que comienza el 1 de junio hasta 30 de noviembre. Haga una lista de lo que usted debe hacer antes de salir de la ciudad y revísela.
- ▶ **Escuche la radio** y televisión durante la temporada de huracanes.
- ▶ **Prepare un equipo de emergencia** incluyendo radio, linterna, repuesto de baterías, anteojos extras, agua embotellada, alimentos no perecederos, ropa extra, ropa de cama, información de seguro, documentos importantes, medicinas, copias de recetas medicas y productos especiales para bebés, las personas mayores, miembros de la familia médicamente frágiles y animales domesticos.
- ▶ **Aprenda sus rutas** de evacuación antes de la temporada de huracanes. Cuando hay un huracán en el Golfo, mantenga el tanque de gasolina lleno. Este consiente de que habrá demoras de tráfico.
- ▶ **Puede registre con el State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry** vía su sitio web: [stear.dps.texas.gov](http://stear.dps.texas.gov) o llamando al 211 para registrarse si usted tiene una discapacidad o necesidades médicas o si simplemente no tiene transporte. Los residentes de la Costa del Golfo en zonas de evacuación con una discapacidad o necesidades médicas quienes no tienen amigos o familiares para ayudarlo o no tienen transporte debe registrarse con STEAR por adelantado.



TRINITY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

*Operating in Anderson, Dallas, Henderson, Hunt, Kaufman and Van Zandt counties*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Howard Tillison, Chairman, *District 6*
- Carolyn Minor, Vice Chairwoman, *District 1*
- Jo Ann Hanstrom, Secretary, *District 4*
- Jerry Priest, *District 2*
- Paul Weatherford, *District 3*
- Edward Reeve, *District 5*
- David Lang, *District 7*

### GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

Jerry B. Boze

### Kaufman District Headquarters

1800 E. Highway 243, Kaufman

### Athens District Office

909 W. Larkin St., Athens

### Cedar Creek District Office

1012 W. Main St., Ste. 102  
Gun Barrel City

### Wills Point District Office

582 N. Fourth St., Wills Point

### Lobby Hours

Monday-Friday, 8:15 a.m.-4:45 p.m.



## Contact Us

*For information during office hours and outages after hours*

### CALL US

**(972) 932-2214** local or  
**1-800-766-9576** toll-free

**24-HOUR AUTOMATED ASSISTANCE**

**1-800-720-3584**

**24-HOUR OUTAGE REPORTING**

**1-800-967-9324**

**FIND US ON THE WEB AT**  
**[tvec.net](http://tvec.net)**



# No. 1 BFTS Museum Highlights Local Connection to WWII

As World War II began to take shape in Europe, the United States remained out of the fray, at least in any official military capacity. In very real and practical ways, however, our involvement began to take shape with assistance to our allies well before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Through the Lend-Lease Act, material support for England and other allied countries began in March 1941. While ships and tanks made their way overseas, British pilot trainees began a journey to Terrell through Canada. The unlikely trek brought them out of the way of German bombers so that they could learn to fly.

Through the efforts of local leaders, the No. 1 British Flying Training School was established on the site that is now Terrell Municipal Airport. Over the course of the war, more than 2,200 Royal Air Force pilots made their way through the school before returning to fight.

“From this school, these pilots flew all over the region, so it was well known at the time” said Rudy Bowling, BFTS Museum board president. “Over time, that memory has faded, and now even the relatives of those who lived here at the time don’t know what went on here during the war.”

The No. 1 BFTS Museum was created for just that task. It serves as a permanent home to memories, artifacts, research materials and tributes to the men and women who prepared for war there.

“We are cognizant of the fact that history isn’t taught the same as it was to us,” Bowling said. “Local donations mean a lot and this money helps us work toward a better education program here at the museum.”

The museum has also expanded its offerings, covering some other parts of World War II history with displays of weapons and items from all of the major combatants, as well as tributes to those who fought in other conflicts.

“We try to work with other institutions and those partnerships really add to what we can do,” Bowling said. “We have a display in the Frontiers of Flight Museum at Love Field in Dallas, and we have borrowed display items here from the Audie Murphy Museum in Greenville.”

The museum also hosts the Flights of Our Fathers Air Show and Fly-In, which features all types of aircraft, and several acrobatic flight displays. The 2018 event, which will be held September 22, is slated to include flight demonstrations from two Mig-17 fighters, a legendary P-51 Mustang and precision formation flying by Falcon Flight.

On the ground, static displays include military setups, aircraft, a variety of food items and family activities for all ages.

The No. 1 BFTS Museum is located at the north end of the Terrell Municipal Airport on Silent Wings Blvd.

Visit [bftsmuseum.org](http://bftsmuseum.org) for more information.



TVEC’s Laura Melton presents an Operation Round Up grant check to Raenell Davis and Peter Taylor of the No. 1 BFTS Museum in Terrell.

**No. 1 British Flying Training School Museum**  
\$500

**THE TVEC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION** recently awarded five grants totaling \$18,500. Recipients of the grants include the above and:

**East Texas Arboretum**  
\$4,000

**Henderson County Performing Arts**  
\$4,000

**Faith In Action Outreach**  
\$5,000

**The Texas Ramp Project**  
\$5,000

Founded in 2013, the TVEC Charitable Foundation is an independent, nonprofit organization. The foundation was created to serve the community and help improve the quality of life for residents in our service area. **The foundation is funded entirely by donations from TVEC members who participate in Operation Round Up.** For more information, please call 1-800-766-9576 or visit [tvec.net](http://tvec.net).



## Beachcombing at home.

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

Order online at [TexasCoopPower.com](http://TexasCoopPower.com) for only \$20 (price includes tax, shipping and handling).

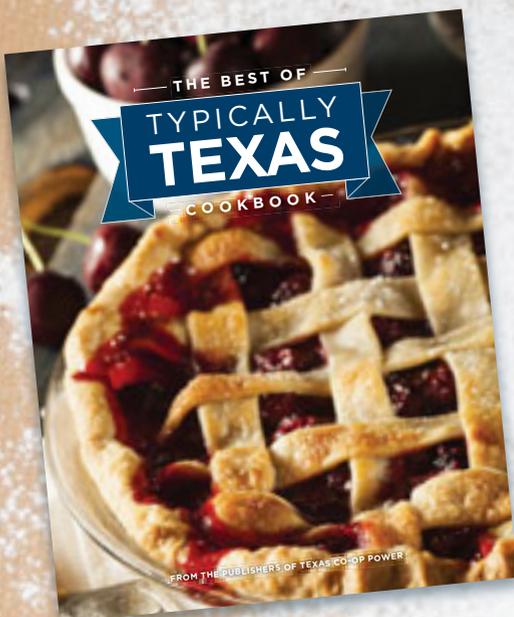
**Bonus offer:** Get 2 posters shipped to the same address for just \$30.

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

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

From the publishers of **TEXASCOOPPOWER**

## 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.

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*

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

# It's not a Wheelchair... It's not a Power Chair... It's a Zinger!



*Meet the future of personal transportation.*

More and more Americans are reaching the age where mobility is an everyday issue. Whether from an injury or from the everyday aches and pains that come from getting older—getting around isn't as easy as it used to be.

You may have tried a power chair or a scooter. The Zinger is NOT a power chair or a scooter! The Zinger is quick and nimble, yet it is not prone to tipping like many scooters. Best of all, it weighs only 47.2 pounds and folds and unfolds with ease so you can take it almost anywhere, providing you with independence and freedom.

Years of work by innovative engineers have resulted in a mobility device that's truly unique. They created a battery that provides powerful energy at a fraction of the weight of most batteries. The Zinger features two steering levers, one on either side of the seat. The user pushes both levers down to go forward, pulls them both up to brake, and pushes one while pulling the other to turn to either side. This enables great mobility, the ability to turn on a dime and to pull right up to tables or desks. The controls are right on the steering arm so it's simple to operate, and its exclusive footrest swings out of the way when you stand up or sit down. With its rugged yet lightweight aluminum frame, the Zinger is sturdy and durable yet lightweight and comfortable! What's more, it easily folds up for storage in a car seat or trunk— you can even gate-check it at the airport like a stroller. Think about it, you can take your Zinger almost anywhere, so you don't have to let mobility issues rule your life. It folds in



## ***Just think of the places you can go:***

- Shopping • Air Travel • Bus Tours
- Restaurants— ride right up to the table!
- Around town or just around your house

seconds without tools and is safe and reliable. It holds up to 250 pounds, and it can go up to 6 mph and operates for up to 8 hours on a single charge.

Why spend another day letting mobility issues hamper your independence or quality of life?

## **Zinger Chair**

Call now toll free

**and get FREE Shipping**

**1-888-669-7815**

Please mention code 109765 when ordering.



**The Zinger folds to a mere 10 Inches.**

Not intended for use by individuals restricted to a sitting position and not covered by Medicare or Medicaid. Zinger is not a medical device.

© 2018 firstSTREET for Boomers and Beyond, Inc.

**Never Seal Your Wood  
or Concrete Again  
Permanent One-Time Solution**

**25% OFF**  
with this ad



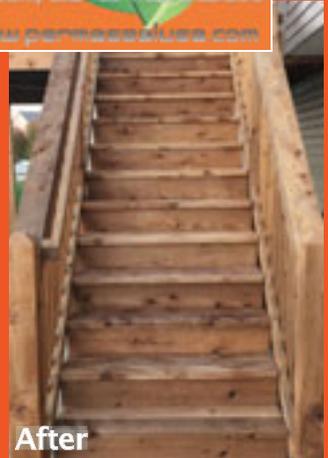
Before



After



Before



After

**Free Estimates**

**844-481-6862**



[www.permasealusa.com](http://www.permasealusa.com) · Backed by Technology

- We clean, restore & permanently preserve your product.
- Prevents wood from rotting, decaying and further damage from moisture.
- Retards mold, mildew & fungus growth.
- Prevents concrete from pitting, flaking, dusting and scaling.
- Prevents salt & alkali damage.



**BEST BUY WALK-IN BATH TUBS**

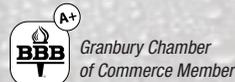


Family owned, Texas-built  
Lifetime guarantee  
against leaks  
Great for circulation,  
arthritis, stiff joints  
and relaxation

**Now Offering ONYX  
Custom Showers**

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

Visit Our Showroom  
3411 E. Hwy. 377, Granbury



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

**TEXAS CO-OP POWER  
GIFT SHOP**



**Find Texas Treasures Online**

Texas food, music, housewares,  
gifts and more—find it all at  
[TexasCoopPower.com/shop](http://TexasCoopPower.com/shop),  
along with great deals for  
*Texas Co-op Power* readers.

Just pick and click—it's easy  
to shop for friends and family  
without leaving home.

**VISIT THE GIFT SHOP TODAY AT  
[TexasCoopPower.com](http://TexasCoopPower.com)**

# MARKETPLACE

BUY • SELL • TRADE • ACROSS TOWN • ACROSS TEXAS

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

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

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

All C.D.'s are insured to \$250,000 per institution by the F.D.I.C. All C.D.'s are subject to availability. Securities offered thru Signal Securities, Inc., Member FINRA/SIPC 700 Throckmorton, Ft. Worth, TX 76102 (817) 873-4256.

**Steel Mobile Home Roofing**  
**Leaks? High energy bill? Roof rumble?**

Contact us at **800.633.8969**  
or **roofover.com**



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

**Mobile Home Roofover Systems** Since 1983

**GET RESULTS! ADVERTISE IN THE**  
**MARKETPLACE**

ELAINE SPROULL (512) 486-6251  
advertising@TexasCoopPower.com

**BRUSH SHARK**



**SKID STEER MOUNTED SHEAR**

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

**(512) 263-6830 • www.brushshark.com**

**FLOATING FISHING PIER**

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



**45 YEARS' EXPERIENCE** 

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

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

# 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 – Corpus Christi, 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** or you can order or learn more by calling **toll free at 1-888-899-8345**. If you use the promo code "TXS5", 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.

# HARBOR FREIGHT

QUALITY TOOLS AT RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICES

900 Stores Nationwide • HarborFreight.com

## PREDATOR SUPER COUPON

4000 MAX. STARTING/  
3200 RUNNING WATTS  
6.5 HP (212 CC) GAS GENERATOR



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$289.99**  
 GFCI outlets  
 Wheel kit sold separately.  
 COMPARE TO HONDA **\$1,999**  
 ITEM 69729/63080/63079 shown  
 ITEM 63089/63090, CALIFORNIA ONLY

COMPARE TO **\$339.99** SAVE **\$1,709**  
 MODEL: EM400DSX  
 10052000  
 LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## HaulMaster SUPER COUPON

72" x 80" MOVING BLANKET



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$5.99**  
 COMPARE TO BLUE HAWK **\$19.99**  
 MODEL: 77280  
 SAVE **70%**  
 ITEM 69505/62418/66537 shown

10059584  
 LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## SCISSOR SUPER COUPON

# FREE

WITH ANY PURCHASE

### PITTSBURGH

6 PIECE SCREWDRIVER SET



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$7.97**  
 COMPARE TO HUSKY **\$7.97**  
 MODEL: 20210003  
 LIFETIME WARRANTY  
 ITEM 47770/62583/62728/62570 shown

10050594  
 Cannot be used with other discounts or prior purchases. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/7/15 while supplies last. Limit 1 FREE GIFT per customer per day.

## SCISSOR SUPER COUPON

# 20% OFF

ANY SINGLE ITEM\*

10037965  
 Limit 1 coupon per customer per day. Save 20% on any 1 item purchased. \*Cannot be used with other discounts, except for any of the following items or brands: Honda Truck Club membership, Extended Service Plan, gift card, open box item, 3 day Parking Lot Sale (item compressors, floor jacks, sales, saw mills, storage cabinets, chests or carts, trailers, trencher/backhoes, welders, Airline, Ames, Bostitch, Craftsman, Craftsman, Eastpak, Fiskars, Hercules, Icon, Jagger, Lynx, Posi-Lon, Predator, Tailgator, Viking, Volcano, Zurich. Not valid on prior purchases. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/7/15.

## PITTSBURGH #1 SELLING JACKS IN AMERICA SUPER COUPON

RAPID PUMP® 1.5 TON LIGHTWEIGHT ALUMINUM FLOOR JACK



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$59.99**  
 3-1/2 pumps lifts most vehicles  
 Lifts from 3-1/2" to 14-1/8"  
 Weighs 34 lbs.  
 COMPARE TO K TOOL **\$125.88**  
 MODEL: KT163094  
 ITEM 68053/62160/62496/62516/60569 shown

10064750  
 LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## CENTRAL PNEUMATIC SUPER COUPON

3 GALLON, 100 PSI OIL-FREE AIR COMPRESSORS



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 A. HOT DOG  
 ITEM 69269/97080 shown  
 B. PANCAKE  
 ITEM 60637/61615/95275 shown  
 Air delivery:  
 0.6 CFM @ 90 PSI  
 1 CFM @ 40 PSI  
 YOUR CHOICE **\$39.99**  
 COMPARE TO PORTER-CABLE **\$98.62**  
 MODEL: PCFF02003  
 SAVE **59%**  
 \$54.99

10068599  
 LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## HARDY SUPER COUPON

MECHANIC'S GLOVES



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$3.99**  
 COMPARE TO VALED **\$11.02**  
 MODEL: 28521  
 SAVE **63%**  
 ITEM 62434, 62426, 62433, 62432, 62429, 64178, 64179, 62428 shown

10073143  
 LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## PORTLAND SUPER COUPON

1750 PSI ELECTRIC PRESSURE WASHER



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$79.99**  
 1.3 GPM  
 Adjustable spray nozzle  
 COMPARE TO BRIGGS & STRATTON **\$99.99**  
 MODEL: 20600  
 SAVE **\$94**  
 ITEM 63255/63254 shown

10080316  
 LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## CENTECH SUPER COUPON

2/10/50 AMP, 12 VOLT BATTERY CHARGER/ENGINE STARTER



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$29.99**  
 COMPARE TO SCHUMACHER ELECTRIC **\$59.99**  
 MODEL: SE-1250  
 ITEM 60581/60653 shown

10086900  
 LIMIT 3 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## drillmaster SUPER COUPON

4-1/2" ANGLE GRINDER



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$9.99**  
 COMPARE TO PERFORMAX **\$28.99**  
 MODEL: 2411-1  
 SAVE **65%**  
 \$14.99

10088343  
 LIMIT 6 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## COVER PRO SUPER COUPON

10 FT. x 17 FT. PORTABLE GARAGE



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$169.99**  
 COMPARE TO SHELTER LOGIC **\$270**  
 MODEL: 76377  
 SAVE **\$100**  
 ITEM 62859/63055/62860 shown

10099494  
 LIMIT 3 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## HaulMaster SUPER COUPON

4 PIECE, 1" x 15 FT. RATCHETING TIE DOWNS



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$6.99**  
 400 lb. working load  
 COMPARE TO ATE TOOLS **\$54.88**  
 MODEL: 33079  
 SAVE **87%**  
 ITEM 90984/60405/63056/63057/63150/63094/61524 shown

10102538  
 LIMIT 6 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## HaulMaster SUPER COUPON

18" x 12" MOVER'S DOLLY



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$7.99**  
 COMPARE TO BUFFALO TOOLS **\$17.65**  
 MODEL: HDFFOLLY  
 SAVE **54%**  
 \$10.99  
 ITEM 61899/63095/63096/63097/63098/93888 shown

10112537  
 LIMIT 8 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## PREDATOR SUPER COUPON

6.5 HP (212 CC) OHV HORIZONTAL SHAFT GAS ENGINE



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$99.99**  
 COMPARE TO HONDA **\$329.99**  
 MODEL: GX200UT20X2  
 SAVE **\$230**  
 \$119.99  
 ITEM 60363/69730  
 ITEM 69727 shown  
 CALIFORNIA ONLY

10114367  
 LIMIT 3 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## GREENWOOD SUPER COUPON

1-1/4 GALLON HOME AND GARDEN SPRAYER



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$8.99**  
 COMPARE TO ROUNDUP **\$14.97**  
 MODEL: 190315  
 SAVE **39%**  
 \$12.99  
 ITEM 63145/63124/95692 shown

10125478  
 LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## U.S. GENERAL SUPER COUPON

30" BULK STORAGE TECH CART



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$79.99**  
 COMPARE TO SNAP-ON **\$395**  
 MODEL: KRBCFLTPC  
 SAVE **\$315**  
 4847 cu. in. of storage  
 355 lb. capacity  
 Extra deep top compartment and drawer for maximum storage space  
 Side tray sold separately.  
 ITEM 64002

10127458  
 LIMIT 3 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## CHICAGO ELECTRIC POWER TOOLS SUPER COUPON

12" DOUBLE-BEVEL SLIDING COMPOUND MITER SAW



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$129.99**  
 COMPARE TO RYOBI **\$249**  
 MODEL: TSS120L  
 SAVE **\$119**  
 Blade sold separately.  
 ITEM 69684/61970/61969 shown

10133616  
 LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## HaulMaster SUPER COUPON

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



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$19.99**  
 COMPARE TO MIBRO **\$64.99**  
 MODEL: 426920  
 SAVE **69%**  
 \$39.99  
 5400 lb. capacity  
 ITEM 60658/97711 shown

10141824  
 LIMIT 7 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## CENTRAL MACHINERY SUPER COUPON

8", 5 SPEED BENCHTOP DRILL PRESS



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$49.99**  
 COMPARE TO BUFFALO BLACK **\$110.95**  
 MODEL: BP5UL  
 SAVE **\$60**  
 \$64.99  
 ITEM 62520/60238 shown

10141999  
 LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

## SCISSOR SUPER COUPON

HEAVY DUTY FOLDABLE ALUMINUM SPORTS CHAIR



Customer Rating **★★★★★**  
 NOW **\$19.99**  
 COMPARE TO COLEMAN **\$49.99**  
 MODEL: 2000020293  
 SAVE **\$27.99**  
 \$60%  
 ITEM 63066/62314/66383 shown

10143952  
 LIMIT 6 - Coupon valid through 1/7/15

\*Original coupon only. No use on prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase or without original receipt. Valid through 1/7/15.

At Harbor Freight Tools, the "Compare to" price means that the specified comparison, which is an item with the same or similar function, was advertised for sale at or above the "Compare to" price by another national retailer in the U.S. within the past 90 days. Prices advertised by others may vary by location. No other meaning of "Compare to" should be implied. For more information, go to HarborFreight.com or see store associate.

# Marvels of Horsepower

Blanco's Buggy Barn Museum takes a turn into the 19th century

BY MARTHA DEERING

THE MUFFLED CADENCE OF TROTTING horses drifts in the Hill Country breeze when I arrive at the Buggy Barn Museum to enjoy a version of Old West atmosphere. Proprietor Dennis Moore, in his battered hat and dusty boots, could have stepped straight out of a classic Western. In fact, on the day I visit the museum, Moore had just returned from working on a film set in Austin.

The 10-acre site on the northern edge of Blanco, on U.S. 281, features nary a nod to modern times. The museum's office, just inside the red gates, recalls the 19th century. It occupies a rustic cabin with a wooden porch and an inviting rocking chair. Longhorn cattle contentedly ruminate in the shade of trees near the highway, and a line of buggies and wagons is visible outside the museum's red door.

The 140-plus horse-drawn vehicles in the museum provide a hands-on history of travel from the early 1860s to about 1900. Each buggy, carriage, hearse and wagon embodies its own story, and Moore demonstrates knowledge of every nuance.

Moore's fixation began in childhood when his father bought a pony and cart for him and his brother. Serious collecting over the past 18 years has filled the large museum and expanded onto the surrounding grounds. From a massive Conestoga wagon to a light and classy Studebaker surrey with red fringe on top, the vehicles served the needs of a range of 19th-century travelers.

Moore is a fifth-generation Blanco resident who has encouraged his wife, children and extended family members to take an interest in the collection. His wife's



lifelong love of horses made her easy to convince. "It wouldn't be nearly as much fun without the family involved," Moore says. "My grandchildren, ages 7 and 11, love to give tours."

The Buggy Barn Museum provides an educational opportunity to step back into the days of horse-drawn travel. Expansion of the collection and preservation of the history of horse-drawn transportation are the museum's primary goals. Moore uses the vehicles in parades and re-enactments, but along the way, word spread to film companies that horse-drawn vehicles could be rented from the Buggy Barn along with horses to pull them and drivers to handle the reins. In recent years, the movie business has kept Moore busy. Between 30 and 40 of his vehicles were used in the 2010 remake of *True Grit*.

Along with buggies and wagons, the museum houses a collection of vintage saddles, boots, guns and other memorabilia important for dressing a film set. Many of the museum's artifacts graced the screen in the recent Western series *The Son*. Moore also furnished horses and wagons for *There Will Be Blood*, filmed in Marfa with actor Daniel Day-Lewis.

Trailers with raised ceilings haul the horses, vehicles and equipment to a film's location. Moore has 20 horses, two donkeys and a black German shepherd named Kira who also is a movie star. With his grizzled beard and mustache, Moore looks right at home driving a team in a Western movie. In his most recent movie venture, *Support the Girls* (not a Western), he held the title of transportation coordinator, working all week in Austin and returning to Blanco on weekends.

With his encyclopedic knowledge of the Old West, Moore explains exactly how metal foot warmers burned coal to keep passengers from arriving at their destinations with frozen feet. He can point out the differences between a phaeton and a brougham and show visitors the tube that made it possible for those inside to talk to the driver. This is a man who lives and breathes the Old West—although he has been known to put a set of small wheels under a bright red sleigh and drive Santa in the Blanco Christmas Parade.

**Martha Deering**, a member of Heart of Texas EC, lives near McGregor. Her recent book, *Elephant Dreams*, is available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

# FREEZE DRY AT HOME



Actual  
Freeze Dried  
Food

## New, Revolutionary Home Freeze Dryers

### **BE PREPARED**

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

### **FOOD STAYS FRESH**

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

### **YEAR-ROUND FLAVORS**

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

  
HARVESTRIGHT

More Color  
Options  
Available!



 MADE IN AMERICA

1.800.726.7990

HarvestRight.com

## All Hail the Cookie Jar

WHILE I'VE NEVER MET A COOKIE I didn't like, I like oatmeal cookies more than most. The best kinds are a comforting and welcome treat after school or midafternoon, when you need a boost. Whole grains and dried fruit even make them feel somewhat virtuous—no shame in eating one for breakfast, right? A few details give this recipe (slightly adapted from Food 52's website) extraordinary flavor and texture. First, the butter is browned before mixing, which gives the cookies a rich, nutty flavor. Second, the raisins are puréed before they're incorporated into the dough, creating a moist, chewy texture. Rolling the cookies in sugar before baking gives a delightfully crunchy coating.

PAULA DISBROWE, FOOD EDITOR

### Brown Butter Oatmeal Raisin Cookies

- 2 cups dark raisins
- 2 cups flour, divided use
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter
- 1 cup light brown sugar
- 1 cup dark brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 eggs
- 2 cups old-fashioned rolled oats
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1¼ teaspoons kosher salt
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon espresso powder
- Sugar or turbinado sugar, for rolling (optional)

**1.** Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line two rimmed baking sheets with parchment.

**2.** Toss the raisins with ¼ cup flour. Place them in a food processor and pulse 20–30 seconds, until the raisins form a very thick paste and come together in a ball.

**3.** Heat the butter in a skillet over medium heat, watching it closely. When you see the bottom of the pan

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

# Recipes

## All Hail the Cookie Jar



THIS MONTH'S RECIPE CONTEST WINNER

HEATHER BRADFORD | PEDERNALES EC

The fragrant oil of bergamot, a variety of orange grown in Italy and France, gives Earl Grey tea its distinctive aroma. That same flavor (and a generous amount of lemon zest) perfumes these delicate sugar cookies.

To increase the citrus flavor, drizzle the cooled cookies with lemon glaze.

### Earl Grey Lemon Cookies

#### DOUGH

- 4½ cups flour
  - 2 teaspoons baking powder
  - ½ teaspoon kosher salt
  - 2 individual bags Earl Grey tea (or 2 tablespoons loose leaf tea), ground
  - 1 cup sugar
  - Finely grated zest of 2 lemons
  - ¼ cups (2½ sticks) unsalted butter, softened
  - 1 egg
  - 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
  - ½ cup buttermilk, divided use
- Powdered sugar, for rolling dough

#### LEMON GLAZE

- 2 cups powdered sugar, sifted
- ⅓ cup freshly squeezed lemon juice

- 1. DOUGH:** Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line two rimmed baking sheets with parchment.
- In a medium bowl, whisk together

the flour, baking powder, salt and loose tea leaves until combined.

**3.** Combine the sugar and lemon zest in a standing mixer bowl fitted with a paddle attachment. Mix the sugar and zest on low speed until the mixture is very aromatic and resembles wet sand. Add the butter and beat on medium-high speed for 3 minutes or until light and fluffy. Add the egg, vanilla and ¼ cup buttermilk, and mix on low speed until combined.

**4.** Add 2½ cups of the flour mixture to the bowl and mix slowly, until just combined. Stir in remaining buttermilk, then add the remaining flour mixture and process just until the dry ingredients are absorbed. The dough should be smooth and supple (if too sticky, add an additional ¼ cup flour).

**5.** Wrap the dough in plastic wrap and chill at least 30 minutes, or up to 2 days in advance (if you chill the dough for an extended time, remove it from the fridge 30 minutes before rolling out the cookies, to soften).

**6.** Dust a work surface with powdered sugar, then roll out the dough ¼ inch thick. Cut the cookies into rounds (or any shape desired) and use a thin spatula to transfer them to the prepared baking sheet.

**7.** Bake the cookies 10–12 minutes, until the edges start to turn golden. Transfer cookies to a wire rack to cool completely.

**8. LEMON GLAZE:** Whisk together ingredients until the mixture is smooth. Use a spoon, fork or pastry bag with a small tip to glaze the cookies. Store in an airtight container up to 1 week. ▶ Makes about 3 dozen cookies.

**COOK'S TIP** To grind the tea, place it in a sealable plastic bag and use a rolling pin to break down the leaves.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

becoming browned, remove from heat and set aside.

**4.** Combine the sugars, vanilla and browned butter in the bowl of a standing mixer fitted with a paddle attachment and mix on medium speed about 5 minutes. Add the eggs one at a time and continue to mix on medium speed. When the mixture pulls together into an even texture, add the raisin paste and mix until thoroughly combined.

**5.** In a separate bowl, combine the remaining flour, oats, baking soda, salt, cinnamon and espresso powder. Mix the dry ingredients into the wet mixture in two additions, until there is no flour visible.

**6.** Using a soup spoon and your hands, roll the dough into rounds about the size of a Ping-Pong ball. Roll the balls of dough in a dish of sugar and place them on the prepared baking sheet, about 2 inches apart. Using the flat part of your palm, flatten each dough ball slightly to allow for even baking.

**7.** Bake 12–15 minutes, until cookies just begin to turn golden brown and are crinkly on top. Another good way of testing is to lift a corner of the cookie—if it bends slightly and re-forms when let go, they are ready. Allow to cool 5 minutes on the baking sheet before transferring cookies to a wire rack to cool completely. Store in an airtight container up to 10 days. ▶ Makes about 40 cookies.

### Pecan Thin Crisps

GAYLYN HERRO | BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES

These wonderful “make ahead and bake later” cookies have been a treasured family recipe since 1959, when Herro’s parents, Emma Jean and Keith Jaeger, were married. Traditionally, the cookies were prepared and frozen the week after Thanksgiving (pecan season) then baked in mid-December for Christmas gifts for family members, friends and the community. This recipe also can be cut in half to make fewer cookies if preferred.

- 2 cups (4 sticks) butter, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract



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

### \$100 Recipe Contest

February’s recipe contest theme is **Cozy Casseroles**, comforting, one-pan meals that are baked until bubbly and feed the entire family. 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.

- 4 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 3 cups finely chopped pecans

1. Place the butter in the bowl of a standing mixer fitted with a paddle attachment and beat until smooth. Gradually add the sugars and beat on medium-high speed until the mixture is light and fluffy. Add the eggs and vanilla; mix well.

2. Sift together the flour, baking soda and salt, then gradually add the dry ingredients to the butter mixture, beating well after each addition. Add the pecans and stir until just combined. Do not overmix the dough.

3. Transfer the cookie dough to a work surface and divide into six equal portions then refrigerate them on a plate 5–10 minutes (chilling makes the dough easier to work with). Prepare six 6- to 8-inch rectangles of waxed paper or aluminum foil, then place a chilled dough portion in the center of each wrapper sheet and shape it into a roll approxi-

mately 1¾ inches in diameter, wrapping tightly, then freeze until firm (usually overnight). The cookie rolls will maintain freshness in the freezer for more than 6 months.

4. When you're ready to bake, preheat oven to 375 degrees. Slice the frozen dough with a sharp knife in approximately ¼-inch sections then place on lightly greased baking sheet. Bake 10–12 minutes until lightly browned. Remove cookies to cooling rack. ▶ Makes about 18 dozen cookies.

**COOK'S TIP** For the best results, slice and bake these cookies when the dough is still frozen. A food processor makes quick work of chopping the pecans. Simply pulse them into a coarse mixture. If you plan on freezing the cookies for longer than a week, wrap them in plastic wrap or waxed paper and an additional layer of aluminum foil.

**WEB EXTRAS** ▶ Read this story on our website to see a recipe for Mexican Pepper Cookies from a Central Texas EC member.

## Bake Better Cookies

**LINE BAKING SHEETS** with parchment paper or a Silpat baking liner for easier cleanup.

**SOFTENED BUTTER** should be at room temperature or slightly cool to the touch—but not melted. (That will yield an entirely different texture in the baked cookie.)

**CREAMING BUTTER** and sugar until “light and fluffy” typically takes 3–5 minutes; it's ready when it no longer feels grainy between your fingertips. The process creates tiny air bubbles that give the dough structure and help the cookies rise in the oven.

**USING A HEAVY HAND** with flour will create tougher cookies. To measure it accurately, spoon it lightly into a dry measuring cup and then level the cup off with a knife. Resist scooping the cup into the flour or tapping the measuring cup with a knife, this will make the measure too dense and heavy.

**NUTS AND DRIED FRUIT** are interchangeable; feel free to swap in your favorite flavors. —PD

# THE TEXAS TRACTOR PACKAGE LEADER!

## NEW MASSEY FERGUSON 1726L 4WD 25HP DIESEL TRACTOR PACKAGE



**SALES PRICE \$23,998.00 CASH OR \$299.00 PER MONTH**

### Packages Include:

- MF Quick Attach L-105 Front End Loader with Skid Steer Bucket
  - Woods 5' Rotary Cutter
  - 5' Box Blade with Scarifiers
  - Post Hole Digger with 9" Auger
  - 3 Point Quick Hitch
- Insulated Canopy Top
- 16' HD Trailer with Ramps, Brakes & Spare Tire
- No DPF Filter
- Choose Ag. or Ind. Tires

## MASSEY FERGUSON 2706L 4WD 60HP DIESEL TRACTOR PACKAGE



**SALES PRICE \$33,998.00 CASH OR \$429.00 PER MONTH**

### Packages Include:

- MF Quick Attach L-135E Front End Loader with Skid Steer Bucket
  - Woods 6' Rotary Cutter with Slip Clutch
  - Post Hole Digger with 9" Auger
  - 3 Point Quick Hitch
- Insulated Canopy Top
- 6' Box Blade with Scarifiers
- 20' HD Trailer with Ramps, Brakes & Spare Tire
- No DPF Filter
- Choose Ag. or Ind. Tires



**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 listed are based on a 0.9% interest rate for 84 months with 10% of purchase price down with approved credit through Agco Finance Corp. Prices listed may not include Sales Taxes, Freight, Set up, or Doc fees where applicable. Cash prices only apply to a cash sale or standard rate financing. All HP ratings listed are approximate Engine Horse Power Ratings.

# 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 \$130.00 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.

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: TX29



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:

# \$130<sup>00</sup>

PER GOLD COIN

SPECIAL GOLD ALLOTMENT EXCLUSIVELY FOR RECIPIENT'S 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   | \$ 130.00   |
| 5 - Gov't-Issued Gold Coins  | \$ 650.00   |
| 10 - Gov't-Issued Gold Coins | \$ 1,300.00 |

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



©2018 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.

# Wedding Funnies



CHURCH WEDDIN’S OR SOMETHIN’ A LITTLE LESS FORMAL, Texans love to get hitched. Who would’a thought they were such emotional occasions? Even the cake is in tiers. We’re just hats over heels for these bridal shots. Now, it’s time for the bouquet toss, so all y’all single ladies c’mon up front!

**GRACE ARSIAGA**

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

▼ **EUNICE BAETHGE**, Central Texas EC: “The middle groomsman, James, was genuinely helping my daughter-in-law, Caroline, with her dress when Ryan, who is always an opportunist, helped James.”

▲ **MELISSA STEELE**, Fayette EC: Houston firefighter Justin Steele weds Houston nurse Courtney with Courtney’s son, Gavin, by their side. “Gavin was all smiles until the kiss!”



◀ **JENNIFER LITTLETON**, Pedernales EC: “I should have seen it coming, but I didn’t! How about a nice bit of chocolate cake to go with your bright white wedding dress and perfect manicure?”

▶ **LISA GLENN**, Pedernales EC: “Jacob and his friends recreated a photo from their senior year in high school at his wedding.”



## UPCOMING CONTESTS

JANUARY HARVEST DUE SEPTEMBER 10

FEBRUARY TWO OF A KIND DUE OCTOBER 10

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

◀ **TIFFANY STALNAKER**, Bluebonnet EC: As the minister begins, one of the bridesmaids shushes a younger one.



## Pick of the Month Founder's Day

**McGregor** September 14-15

(254) 495-0041, mcgregorfoundersday.com

Founder's Day is a long-standing tradition in McGregor, home of Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative, featuring live music and entertainment all day Saturday. Festivities kick off with a barbecue cook-off and concert Friday night and continue the next day with a 5K run, parade, cute baby contest, car show, washer tournament, kids zone, food trucks, and local craft and artisan vendors.

## September

7

**Montalba** [7-8] McKenzie Creek Trail Ride and Campout, (832) 427-9584

**Stafford** [7-8] A Decade in Stitches: Coastal Prairie Quilt Guild Quilt Showcase, (281) 491-5144, cpqgtx.org

8

**Harker Heights** Food, Wine & Brew Fest, (254) 699-4999, hhfoodandwine.com

**San Antonio** San Antonio Walk for PKD, (210) 414-6614, walkforpkd.org/sanantonio

**San Saba** Bellamy Brothers at Pecan Capital Street Dance XIX, (325) 372-5200, visitsansabatexas.com

12

**Austin** Boys & Girls Clubs of the Austin Area Club Classic at Topgolf, (512) 444-7199, bgcaustin.org/events/golfclassic

**Alvarado** [12-15] Johnson County Pioneer and Old Settlers Reunion, (817) 614-6574, alvaradopubliclibrary.org

13

**Grapevine** [13-16] GrapeFest, (817) 410-3185, grapevinetexasusa.com/grapefest

**Rockport** [13-16] HummerBird Celebration, (361) 729-6445, rockport-fulton.org/hb

14

**Sulphur Springs** [14-15] Lone Star Heritage Quilt Guild Quilt Show, (903) 994-2570, sulphurspringstxquilts.com



September 7-8  
Montalba  
McKenzie Creek Trail Ride  
and Campout

BABY: LANDONARNOLD | STOCK.ADOBE.COM. HORSES: LKOIMAGES | STOCK.ADOBE.COM. PAINTER: GILITUKHA | STOCK.ADOBE.COM

# LOW COST

## Mobile Home Insurance

Call to Switch  
& Start Saving *Today!*

- Replacement Cost for Most Homes
- Our Agents Specialize in Manufactured Homes. It's All We Do!
- Flexible Deductibles
- Escrow Billing & Payment Plans
- Online Payments & Customer Portal
- 97% Claims Satisfaction

Call For A Custom Quote

## 800-522-0146

www.stdins.com

Serving  
Texas Mobile  
Homeowners  
since 1961

An Affiliate of Cavco • Palm Harbor Homes • Fleetwood Homes

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

Farm • Industrial • Commercial

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

REEL SOLITUDE  
PRIVATE WATER  
*Fishing*

## We Lease Fishing Lakes!

- Generate steady stream of income
- Strong liability insurance coverage included
- Free lake management consultations
- Fishing by advanced 24 hour reservations
- No interaction with members is required

214.871.0044

www.privatewaterfishing.com



# Houston, We Have a Road Trip

Bay Area Houston offers a glimpse at Mars and a historic battleground

BY MELISSA GASKILL

A CLUSTER OF COMMUNITIES ON THE southeast side of Houston has played a major role in space exploration, from missions to the moon almost 50 years ago to space shuttle flights and research aboard the International Space Station. **Space Center Houston**, the official visitor center of NASA's **Johnson Space Center**, chronicles the out-of-this-world feats in interactive exhibits, full-scale displays, spacecraft and more than 400 artifacts.

My favorites include one of the actual Boeing 747s that ferried space shuttles across Earth and a full-size replica of the shuttle *Independence*, along with the chance to touch Mars and the moon in one morning—a meteorite from the former and one of 840 pounds of rocks brought back from the latter. I also geek out on exhibits on the current weather on Mars (spoiler alert: It's cold!), how astronauts sleep on the space station, and the hole that a speck traveling at 15,200 mph would make in a spaceship.

Two theaters show films, including *Human Destiny*, a history of NASA missions with plenty of archival footage. *Mission Mars* uses interactive exhibits, films, and scale models of spacecraft and rockets to detail the planned journey to this far-away planet. Fridays and Saturdays, visitors with reservations can share lunch with an astronaut and have their pictures taken as souvenirs.

Ninety-minute tram tours include historic mission control facilities for Apollo and the shuttles and working buildings in Johnson Space Center. A five-hour Level 9 guided VIP tour includes even more working buildings, plus lunch in the space center cafeteria where multiple astronauts dine



**The Skylab 1-G Trainer at Space Center Houston.**

and next-day admission to Space Center Houston. While many cities boast science museums or even space centers, this one can't be beat for history and authenticity.

Folks in these parts take equal pride in their role in events further back in history, so I drive about 30 minutes to the **San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site**. Here, in 1836, a ragtag band of Texians under Sam Houston defeated Gen. Antonio López de Santa Anna's Mexican army to win independence for the Republic of Texas. I take in the view from the 570-foot-tall San Jacinto Monument (taller than the Washington Monument, which is 555 feet tall) and browse historic exhibits and a wealth of artifacts in the museum at its base.

Across the 1,800-foot-long reflecting pond, the spot where Houston's men camped along Buffalo Bayou, rests **Battleship Texas State Historic Site** and its namesake vessel. Commissioned in 1914, it fought in both world wars, including the Atlantic and Pacific theaters in World War II. Visitors can wander the 573-foot-long ship, up onto the foremast, around decks and gun turrets

that move, and through living quarters for a crew of 1,600, a maze of kitchens, doctor and dentist offices, and more.

As I leave the venerable old ship, modern-day craft pass on the waters of Buffalo Bayou, also known as the Houston Ship Channel, as do dolphins and birds, including roseate spoonbills and an osprey.

Experience flights of a different kind at **Saloon Door Brewing**, just off the NASA bypass, where a beer flight offers a nice wind-down from a full day's activities.

Friends who work at Johnson Space Center recommend waterside **Boondoggle's Pizzeria & Pub**. Diners sometimes spot astronauts at the next table, they tell me, and if not, there are plenty of them in photos on the walls. Boondoggle's offers more than 50 craft beers on tap, including the aptly named *Rocket Fuel* and *Space Dust*, plus gourmet pizzas from a wood-burning oven, sandwiches, burgers, salads and more.

Houston, our road trip has landed.

Read more about **Melissa Gaskill's** work at [melissagaskill.blogspot.com](http://melissagaskill.blogspot.com).

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

# LIVE LIFE WITHOUT PAIN

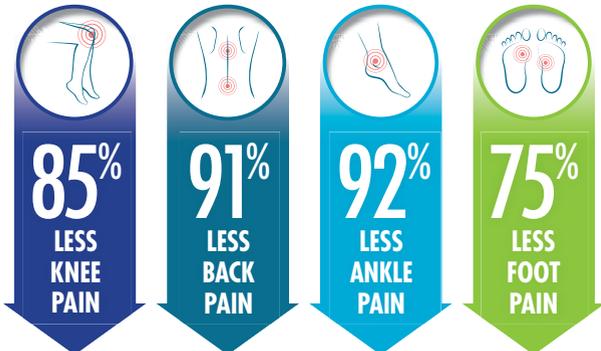
Plantar Fasciitis • Arthritis • Joint Pain • Heel Spurs • Back & Knee Pain



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

– Bill F.

## PATENTED VERSOSHOCK® SOLE SHOCK ABSORPTION SYSTEM



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

**Enjoy the benefits of exercise**  
*with proven pain relief.*

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

## G-DEFY MIGHTY WALK \$150

**X-WIDE WIDTH AVAILABLE**

Men Sizes 7.5-15 M/W/XW

- Gray TB9024MGS
- Red/Gray TB9024MLU

Women Sizes 6-11 M/W/XW

- Gray TB9024FGS
- Gray/Salmon TB9024FGP



## \$30 OFF YOUR ORDER

**Promo Code MQ8JKJ7**

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

Expires December 31, 2018

**Free Exchanges • Free Returns**

**100% Satisfaction Guaranteed**

Call 1(800) 429-0039

Gravity Defyer Corp.

10643 Glenoaks Blvd. Pacoima, CA 91331



VersoShock® U.S Patent #US8,555,526 B2. This product has not been evaluated by the FDA. Not intended to treat, cure or prevent any disease. \$30 off applies to orders of \$100 or more for this limited time offer. 9% CA sales tax applies to orders in California. Shoes must be returned within 30 days in like-new condition for full refund or exchange. Credit card authorization required. See website for complete details.

# Save a Bundle on TV and Internet!



# 2-YEAR TV PRICE LOCK!

**\$59<sup>99</sup>** month for TV

+

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

No Matter Where You Live

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

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

## It's All Included!

- ✓ Includes Hopper Smart HD DVR
- ✓ Includes HD Programming
- ✓ Includes One TV, Add More for \$5
- ✓ Includes Voice Remote Requires internet connected Hopper.
- ✓ Includes 190 Channels with Locals



## 30+ FREE Premium Channels



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

## Get DISH. Get \$100.



Must mention offer code **Card100**.

**1-866-290-7151**

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

[godish.com/pricelock](http://godish.com/pricelock) 🔍

**iSe Haba Español!**



\*Prices include Hopper Duo for qualifying customers. Hopper, Hopper w/Sling or Hopper 3 \$5/mo. more. Upfront fees may apply based on credit qualification. Fees apply for additional TVs: Hopper \$15/mo., Joey \$5/mo., Super Joey \$10/mo. All offers require credit qualification, 2-Year commitment with early termination fee and eAutoPay. Offer for new and qualifying former customers only. Important Terms and Conditions: Qualification: Advertised price requires credit qualification and eAutoPay. Upfront activation and/or receiver upgrade fees may apply based on credit qualification. Offer ends 11/14/18. 2-Year Commitment: Early termination fee of \$20/mo. remaining applies if you cancel early. Included in 2-year price guarantee at \$59.99 advertised price: America's Top 120 programming package, local channels, HD service fees, and Hopper Duo for 1 TV. Included in 2-year price guarantee for additional cost: Programming package upgrades (\$69.99 for AT120+, \$79.99 for AT200, \$89.99 for AT250), monthly fees for upgraded or additional receivers (\$5-\$7 per additional TV, receivers with additional functionality may be \$10-\$15). NOT included in 2-year price guarantee or advertised price (and subject to change): Taxes & surcharges, add-on programming (including premium channels), DISH Protect, and transactional fees. Premium Channels: 3 Mos. Free: After 3 mos., you will be billed \$30/mo. for Showtime, Starz and DISH Movie Pack unless you call to cancel. Gift and Pre-paid Cards: Courtesy of GoDISH.com for credit-qualified customers. Customers who do not qualify may be eligible for a secondary gift offer. Cards are issued by Citibank, N.A. pursuant to a license from Visa® U.S.A. Inc. and managed by Citi Prepaid Services. Cards will not have cash access and can be used everywhere Visa® debit cards are accepted. Cards expire 6 months from date issued. Mail-in redemption form is required within 60 days of qualified activation to receive gift. Customer account must be current and in good standing at the time of redemption. Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery of gift. Other: Netflix streaming membership required. All packages, programming, features, and functionality and all prices and fees not included in price lock are subject to change without notice. After 6 mos., if selected you will be billed \$8.99/mo. for DISH Protect Silver unless you call to cancel. After 2 years, then-current everyday prices for all services apply. For business customers, additional monthly fees may apply. Free standard professional installation only. SHOWTIME is a registered trademark of Showtime Networks Inc., a CBS Company. STARZ and related channels and service marks are property of Starz Entertainment, LLC. © 2018 GoDISH.com. All rights reserved. Internet speeds, prices, and providers vary by customer address. \$49.99 price refers to 25Mbps plan. Restrictions apply. 25 Mbps internet service available nationwide, but may become temporarily unavailable to certain addresses based on local beam capacity. Availability is subject to change without notice. Internet not provided by DISH and will be billed separately. Call for details.

