

CO-OPS COUNT:  
BY THE NUMBERS

1918 PANDEMIC  
HIT OIL FIELDS

FINDING PORTRAITS  
IN EVERYDAY LIFE

# Texas Coop Power

FOR TRINITY VALLEY EC MEMBERS

OCTOBER 2020

## If the Shoe Fits

Farriers help build horse health from the ground up

TRINITY  
VALLEY EC  
NEWS

SEE PAGE 18





## LET YOUR DREAMS TAKE FLIGHT

At Mueller, we soar above the rest with our manufacturing capabilities, outstanding quality and long-lasting performance. From workshops and agricultural buildings to complex projects such as airplane hangars, we provide solid building solutions backed by an even stronger warranty. Contact us today to take-off on your dream building.



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



# October 2020



10

## 08 By the Numbers

The countless ways electric co-ops make a difference across Texas.

*Story by Tom Widlowski  
Illustration by Shaw Nielsen*

## Why Horses Wear Shoes

Texas farriers truly know the way to a horse's heart.

*Story by Brenda Kissko  
Photos by Kristin Tyler*

ON THE COVER

Farrier Jim Crawford at McManus Ranch in Irion County.

ABOVE

Crawford shapes a horseshoe.

*Photos by Kristin Tyler*

04 **Currents**

06 **TCP Talk**

18 **Co-op News**  
Get the latest information plus energy and safety tips from your cooperative.

29 **Footnotes in Texas History**  
Boomtown Pandemic  
*By Gene Fowler*

30 **TCP Kitchen**  
Buckles, Betties, Cobblers and Crisps  
*By Megan Myers*

34 **Hit the Road**  
Matagorda Island Lighthouse  
*By Chet Garner*

37 **Focus on Texas**  
Photo Contest: Selfies

38 **Observations**  
Memorable Moment  
*By Julia Robinson*

# Howdy, Pandowdy

**OUR RECIPES THEME** this month (Page 30) is Cobblers, Crisps, Buckles and Betties. Seems like a lot of names for a dish that is essentially fruit baked with batter, biscuits, dough or crumble.

Turns out those dishes, which have been around since colonists arrived in this country with their recipes from England, go by many other names, including crumbles, grunts, slumps, bird's nest pudding, sonkers and pandowdies.



## Lights Out

General Electric, co-founded by Thomas Edison, inventor of the modern lightbulb, recently sold its 129-year-old lighting business.

*The New York Times* compared this move to Kellogg abandoning cornflakes or Ford getting out of the auto industry.

## Worms in Space?

Absolutely.

NASA's red, sleek and wavy typographical logo from the 1980s returned to the heavens May 30, adorning the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket that launched two American astronauts aboard the Crew Dragon.

When the logo debuted in 1975, it became known as the worm, and the original NASA logo, which debuted in 1959 with the agency, was coined the meatball. The worm was NASA's official logo 1975–1992, then the agency went back to the meatball.

The minimalist worm was popular in the marketing industry but scorned by NASA insiders, who favored the round blue meatball with its white type, planets, stars and orbital path enhanced with a red chevron.



# \$30

That's the average weekly allowance, which about two-thirds of parents fork over to kids.

## FINISH THIS SENTENCE

### THE BEST CHRISTMAS GIFT I EVER GOT WAS ...

**TCP** Tell us how you would finish that sentence. Email your short responses to [letters@TexasCoopPower.com](mailto:letters@TexasCoopPower.com) or comment on our Facebook post. Include your co-op and town. Here are some of the responses to our August prompt: **When I think of Texas, I think of ...**

Mermaids in San Marcos, Big Tex in Dallas and Prada in Marfa.

WHITNEY OLDFATHER  
PEDERNALES EC  
SAN MARCOS

Blue skies, bluebonnets and Willie.

PJAE STANLEY  
COSERV  
LITTLE ELM

Home.

PAM SHORT ALFRED  
HOUSTON COUNTY EC  
KENNARD

Big sky and endless horizon.

AUTUMN VOGEL  
TRINITY VALLEY EC  
ELMO

Beaches, forests, mountains, two time zones, and taking two days to go north to south or east to west.

DEBBIE MOBLEY  
HEART OF TEXAS EC  
VALLEY MILLS

Windmills, sunsets, dirt roads, and cornbread and beans.

DONNA GENTRY WEEDEN  
VIA FACEBOOK

To see more responses, read Currents online.



## Now This Is a Selfie

**WE KNOW YOU LOVE** your selfies, our Focus on Texas theme this month (Page 37).

The selfie above might be the coolest of all—because it was the first.

Robert Cornelius, an amateur chemist and photography enthusiast in Philadelphia, made a daguerreotype of himself in 1839. He removed the camera's lens cap; ran into the frame, where he sat for several minutes; then covered the lens again.



### **TCP** Contests and More

**ON TEXASCOOPPOWER.COM**

**FOCUS ON TEXAS PHOTO CONTEST**  
Saddles

**\$500 RECIPE CONTEST**  
Tacos

**FROM OUR ARCHIVE**

*More Than Electricity*, October 2018, tells how co-ops are "the fabric of the community."



WYATT MCSPADDEN

My TX

“My family told about bad luck superstitions. One was putting a hat on a bed, as was wearing more than one hat at a time.”

JANICE MARTIN  
CENTRAL TEXAS EC  
KINGSLAND

My TX Moment

My personal *My TX* [August 2020] moment was 30 years ago and half a world away. I was deployed to Operation Desert Shield/Storm in Saudi Arabia. Near our camp was a group of Mujahedeen fighters, and they always left a grizzled old man to guard their camp.

One day he flagged us down. He started talking and pointing up and to the rear of my vehicle. I asked my interpreter what he wanted, and he said, “Texas.” The man recognized the small Texas flag on my radio aerial.

Alfred W. Evans  
Hamilton County EC  
Gatesville



The canyon is so beautiful [Palo Duro Love Letters, July 2020]. Very cool to have this famous artist’s work and letters reflecting that beauty.

CINDI RAK MULCAHEY  
VIA FACEBOOK

Their TX

Congratulations, Pam LeBlanc, for declaring yourself a Texan [No Longer a Yankee, July 2020].

Without saying it, you seemed to echo Jay B Saucedá’s comment that Texas mystique is not built on small stuff or mediocrity or even above-average stuff but on the overwhelming.

J.K. Goode  
Fayette EC  
Weimar

Fixin’ To Learn

I didn’t realize the word *fixin’* was Texan—as I’ve used it all my life having been born in Shreveport and raised in south Louisiana [Finish This Sentence, August 2020]. My husband has always asked me where I got it. Now I know how to answer him.

Paula Bonin  
Trinity Valley EC  
Gun Barrel City



COURTESY JACK CHASE

I am fortunate enough to own an SRV flat-top hat from Texas Hatters. I was a regional VP for Epic Records and helped launch Stevie Ray Vaughan and Double Trouble. I bought several of these hats from the Texas Hatters shop when the album *Texas Flood* was released in 1983.

Jack Chase  
CoServ  
Carrollton

TCP WRITE TO US

letters@TexasCoopPower.com

Editor, Texas Co-op Power  
1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor  
Austin, TX 78701

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

Facebook Instagram Twitter YouTube Pinterest Texas Co-op Power

TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair Robert Loth III, Fredericksburg • Vice Chair Gary Raybon, El Campo  
Secretary-Treasurer Kelly Lankford, San Angelo  
Board Members Greg Henley, Tahoka • Billy Jones, Corsicana  
David McGinnis, Van Alstyne • Doug Turk, Livingston

PRESIDENT/CEO Mike Williams, Austin

COMMUNICATIONS & MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

Marty Haight, Burleson • Bill Hetherington, Bandera • Ron Hughes, Sinton  
Boyd McCamish, Littlefield • John Ed Shinpaugh, Bonham • Robert Walker, Gilmer  
Buff Whitten, Eldorado • Brandon Young, McGregor

MAGAZINE STAFF

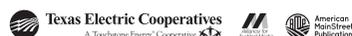
Vice President, Communications & Member Services Martin Bevins  
Editor Charles J. Lohrmann • Associate Editor Tom Widlowski  
Production Manager Karen Nejtsek • Creative Manager Andy Doughty  
Advertising Manager Elaine Sproull • Senior Communications Specialist Chris Burrows  
Print Production Specialist Grace Fultz • Communications Specialist Travis Hill  
Food Editor Megan Myers • Communications Specialist Jessica Ridge  
Digital Field Editor Chris Salazar • Senior Designer Jane Sharpe • Proofreader Shannon Oelrich

TEXAS CO-OP POWER Volume 77, Number 4 (USPS 540-560). *Texas Co-op Power* is published monthly by Texas Electric Cooperatives (TEC). Periodical postage paid at Austin, TX, and at additional offices. TEC is the statewide association representing 75 electric cooperatives. *Texas Co-op Power*’s website is TexasCoopPower.com. Call (512) 454-0311 or email editor@TexasCoopPower.com.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 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 2020 Texas Electric Cooperatives Inc. Reproduction of this issue or any portion of it is expressly prohibited without written permission. Willie Wiredhand © Copyright 2020 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.



# Bad to the Bone

Full tang stainless steel blade with natural bone handle —now **ONLY \$79!**

The very best hunting knives possess a perfect balance of form and function. They're carefully constructed from fine materials, but also have that little something extra to connect the owner with nature.

If you're on the hunt for a knife that combines impeccable craftsmanship with a sense of wonder, the **\$79 Huntsman Blade** is the trophy you're looking for.

The blade is full tang, meaning it doesn't stop at the handle but extends to the length of the grip for the ultimate in strength. The blade is made from 420 surgical steel, famed for its sharpness and its resistance to corrosion.

The handle is made from genuine natural bone, and features decorative wood spacers and a hand-carved motif of two overlapping feathers—a reminder for you to respect and connect with the natural world.

This fusion of substance and style can garner a high price tag out in the marketplace. In fact, we found full tang, stainless steel blades with bone handles in excess of \$2,000. Well, that won't cut it around here. We have mastered the hunt for the best deal, and in turn pass the spoils on to our customers.

**But we don't stop there.** While supplies last, we'll include a pair of \$99 8x21 power compact binoculars *and* a genuine leather sheath **FREE** when you purchase the **Huntsman Blade**.

**Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed.** Feel the knife in your hands, wear it on your hip, inspect the impeccable craftsmanship. If you don't feel like we cut you a fair deal, send it back within 30 days for a complete refund of the item price.

**Limited Reserves.** A deal like this won't last long. We have only 1120 **Huntsman Blades** for this ad only. Don't let this beauty slip through your fingers. Call today!

**Huntsman Blade \$249\***

Offer Code Price Only **\$79** + S&P **Save \$170**

## 1-800-333-2045

Your Insider Offer Code: **HUK273-01**

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



Rating of **A+**

**Stauer®** 14101 Southcross Drive W., Ste 155, Dept. HUK273-01  
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 [www.stauer.com](http://www.stauer.com)

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

**California residents please call 1-800-333-2045 regarding Proposition 65 regulations before purchasing this product.**

- 12" overall length; 6 1/2" stainless steel full tang blade
- Genuine bone handle with brass hand guard & bolsters
- Includes genuine leather sheath

Stauer... *Afford the Extraordinary.®*

**EXCLUSIVE  
FREE**

Stauer® 8x21  
Compact  
Binoculars

-a **\$99 value-**  
with purchase of  
Huntsman Blade



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

### What Stauer Clients Are Saying About Our Knives



*"This knife is beautiful!"*

— J., La Crescent, MN



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

— H., Arvada, CO



BY TOM WIDLANSKI  
ILLUSTRATION BY SHAW NIELSEN

# By the Numbers

The countless ways electric co-ops make a difference across Texas

**IN SOME WAYS**, the less you think about your electric cooperative, the better. That means your power has stayed on almost without fail, outages are quickly remedied, and your monthly bills are fair and reasonable.

But a lot of thought goes into electric co-ops because they are so much more than power providers. They are united by a business model that values community over profits. They are locally owned and democratically controlled by their customers, called members. They work together to achieve goals and solve problems. Your cooperative is one of more than 900 electric co-ops in the U.S.

The co-op business model is used by a wide variety of organizations—not just electric utilities. Ace Hardware; REI, which specializes in outdoor clothing and gear; Ocean Spray; Sunkist; and Land O'Lakes operate as co-ops. In fact, there are more than 40,000 co-op businesses in the U.S., with 350 million members, according to a University of Wisconsin study.

October is National Cooperative Month, a good opportunity to show the reach, scope and numbers behind Texas' electric co-ops that, when added up, reveal the significant impact they have on rural and suburban communities. ■



**30–35**  
pounds of gear

weighs down lineworkers when climbing a pole—hooks, a belt, tools and more.

**9,300**  
people work at the  
**69**  
electric co-ops in the state.



**3.7**  
million readers

of Texas Co-op Power, which has been landing in mailboxes since 1944. That's like everybody in Houston and Dallas having the same favorite magazine as you.

**85**  
years

of co-ops in Texas. Bartlett EC, formed in 1935 as the first co-op in the country to receive a Rural Electrification Administration loan, turned on its first light March 7, 1936, at a farmhouse outside Bartlett.

# 3

## million Texans

enjoy co-op electric service, mostly in rural and suburban areas.



# 241

## of Texas' 254 counties are served by electric co-ops.



# 325,000

## miles of co-op power lines in Texas, enough to encircle Earth more than 13 times.



# \$1.6 million

in scholarships awarded annually to college students by co-ops. A stack of 1.6 million \$1 bills would reach 573 feet high—or nearly twice the height of the Texas Capitol.

# 1,338,828

## hours worked

without a lost-time incident at Bandera EC, which was honored in March for that long stretch of safety—remarkable considering the high voltage within arm's length of its lineworkers every day.

# 47 million lightning bolts

struck Texas in 2019—the most of any state by far. Not all of them knocked out power, but you can bet many of them put workers on edge.

# 5.5 million poles hold up power lines in Co-op Country in Texas.



Texas farriers truly know the way to a horse's heart

# Why Horses Wear Shoes

It's another sunny December day in West Texas, and Jim Crawford crosses the fifth and final cattle guard on his two-hour drive to the McManus Ranch from his home near Ballinger. Crawford is there to shoe horses, as he has been doing on this ranch since the early 1970s. He pulls his trailer to a convenient spot near the barn.

He wears denim, lace-up boots, suspenders and his signature red-and-white polka-dot welding cap. Last he ties on the leather farrier apron he stitched himself. Crawford is wearing the same outfit I remember him always wearing when he visited as I grew up on this ranch. My dad, Beaver McManus, a member of Concho Valley Electric Cooperative, says it's the same uniform young Crawford wore the day he met him as a junior high boy when he came out to the ranch with his great-uncle Houston Crawford.

When you live this far out, you look forward to visitors. The days that Crawford comes to the ranch to shoe horses are days filled with storytelling. More often than not, farriers become lifelong friends with horse owners. "I couldn't have gotten along without him the last 30 years," Dad says. "He's more than someone who just came out to shoe our horses. He's part of our extended family."

Farrier, derived from the Latin word *ferrarius*, meaning blacksmith, is the professional name given to horseshoers. Many prefer to be called farriers, but others, like Crawford, prefer the simpler term "horseshoer." No matter what they're called, they're necessary to the state's equine industry.

Crawford recalls first getting the horseshoeing gig at the ranch. Houston asked him to meet at the mailbox before dawn, and the young shoer beat him there. "I think that impressed him, that he didn't have to wait on me," says Crawford, a member of Coleman County Electric Coopera-

tive. Houston welcomed him to the house and made his signature extra-strong coffee. "It was boiling in the cup," Crawford laughs. "I thought, jeez, how does his system handle that? Must be cast iron." Nearly 50 years later, he still remembers the gray horse he shod that day.

Crawford loves his work, but he originally dreamed of becoming a calf roper.

"I had a lot of try, but I didn't have the talent," he jokes. "I could win fifth if they were paying four." The first horse Crawford shod was his own calf roping horse, Wimp, named after the horse's grandfather, Wimpy P-1, born on the King Ranch and the first horse registered with the American



OPPOSITE Farrier Jim Crawford has been fitting shoes onto horses for decades. ABOVE Crawford rasps one of Peanut's hooves for a final fit at McManus Ranch in Irion County.



## Originally, nearly 100% of his clients were ranchers with working horses. Now more than half are pleasure horses.

Quarter Horse Association. Crawford hoped a regular horseshoeing clientele would enable him to stay at the roping gig longer.

In the spring of 1972, Crawford used his GI Bill benefits to go to horseshoeing school. An outbreak of screwworms in the summer of '72 forced ranchers to ride their land daily to monitor their livestock. This created high demand for farriers. Crawford was getting calls to book his services before he'd completed the 10-week course. When he finished, he had a satisfying work schedule and a long list of clients. He became so busy shoeing horses he never returned to roping.

Crawford's customers come to him through word-of-mouth recommendations. A stack of spiral notebooks tell the stories and names of most horses he's shod through the decades.

"Showing up and having the shoe stay on made my career," Crawford says. "When I first started, guys used their horses hard." Originally, nearly 100% of his clients

were ranchers with working horses. Now more than half are pleasure horses.

Texas ranks No. 1 in the nation for its inventory of horses, ponies, mules, burros and donkeys. Though there's been a transition in the horse's function from work to pleasure, horses are still big business in Texas and create a constant demand for farriers.

**W**hy do horses need shoes? There's an old saying, "no foot, no horse," which speaks to the importance of a horse's feet to its overall health. Each horse's foot includes a mechanism that pumps blood back up to the heart, so each foot is like an auxiliary heart for the



CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT Crawford shapes a horse shoe at his anvil. The tools and nails he uses. Crawford explains how he gives horses a proper fit. A homemade tool used to nail shoes to hooves. Crawford shows up for jobs with racks of horse shoes in the bed of his pickup.

edgeable in the treatment of many hoof diseases, such as laminitis, navicular disease and thrush.

It's believed that the horse was domesticated around 3000 B.C., and Egyptians and Persians are credited with creating the first horseshoes from woven reeds and grass. The horseshoe has evolved through the ages, though the steel shoe has not changed much since the mid-1800s, when Henry Burden patented a machine that could mass-produce horseshoes. Although many synthetic shoes have come on the market in recent years, the majority of farriers still put on a steel shoe that's either hand-forged or ready-made and shaped either cold or hot and fitted to the animal.

Before a shoe is placed, the farrier will clean and trim the hoof to ensure a level and balanced foot. Even hooves that go without shoes likely need to be trimmed on a regular basis. The farrier will then customize the shoe to mimic the shape of that horse's hoof wall. The shoe is nailed outside of the wall from the bottom, so the nails penetrate the portion of the hoof that has no feeling.

The Texas Professional Farriers Association comprises about 200 members that meet regularly for continuing education. Texas does not require farriers to have a license to practice, but the TPFA helps members achieve certification through the American Farrier's Association. Certification exams include a written and a practical

animal. A horse's hoof is a living, growing part of that anatomy. Most components of a horse's hoof are elastic, so they also act as shock absorbers.

When the growth of the hoof is balanced by equal wear and no disease or abnormalities are present, horseshoes are not necessary. Horseshoes are used for protection, traction and correction. Whether it is racing, ranching or rodeoing, a horse's work is rough on its feet. That's when shoes are necessary. Shoes also correct some problems with gait and lameness.

Horseshoeing is both art and science, and skilled farriers pride themselves on helping to keep horses sound. Farriers study the anatomy of a horse's entire leg and are knowl-

Crawford, who once dreamed of becoming a calf roper, found his calling in 1972.

**TCP WEB EXTRA** Learn more about alternative shoes and how to find or become a farrier, and read a proverb that puts a fine point on the value of horseshoes.

component. The TPFA also hosts clinics and competitions throughout the year.

“A shoe should be a complement to the horse, not an interruption,” says Danny Anderson, TPFA president. Anderson owns Indian Creek Forge in Whitesboro and is a member of PenTex Energy. He says the organization is growing, and there is an up-and-coming generation of farriers.

**V**eterans in the industry are passing along their knowledge of the trade to new members, and they don’t all look like Crawford. Women have gotten involved.

According to the 2019 Farrier Business Practices Report produced by *American Farriers Journal*, 18% of farriers are women, up from 8% reported three years prior. In 2018 Cornell University admitted its first all-female class to its farrier program.

Nichole Smith co-owns SS Horseshoeing in Wichita Falls with her husband, Stephen, and is leading the way in the growing sector of female farriers. She was the first woman in the world to achieve multiple farrier certifications and has mentored other women.

“I’m really excited that so many young ladies are getting involved and doing so well,” Smith says. “Some ladies are small-statured, and they need to be prepared to use their brain to overcome some of the challenges. I’ve always been welcomed in this industry, like family, and I appreci-



ate that.” Smith forges all the steel and aluminum shoes she sets.

Although technology like 3D printing is quickly advancing this industry, there’s no replacement for the friendly smile and personal care for horses a farrier brings.

Crawford smiles as he looks back at his career: “Having people know that I did a good job and knowing that I was appreciated—that’s the reward.” ■

# October is **FREE** WINDOWS MONTH at Renewal by Andersen.<sup>1</sup>



## Why is October one of the best times to replace your windows?

Because if you call us now, you can get your more energy-efficient windows installed and enjoy a **more comfortable home right away**. And know that we've adjusted our operations to serve you in the safest way possible.

Our exclusive High-Performance™ Low-E4® SmartSun™ glass is **up to 70% more energy efficient.**<sup>†</sup> It's engineered to make your home more comfortable in the colder and warmer months.

**Call before October 31<sup>st</sup>!**



Now offering  
virtual  
appointments,  
too!

## Why have our customers chosen us over another window company?

### 1. Fibrex® Material

Our Fibrex material was **researched by Andersen** for 30 years before it was installed in even one home. **Our Fibrex material is twice as strong as vinyl.**

### 2. Unique Look

Our window has the **elegant look and strength of a wood window**, but our Fibrex material doesn't demand the same maintenance of wood.<sup>\*\*</sup>

### 3. Accountability

There's no frustrating "middle man" to deal with. **We manage the entire process—from building to installation to the warranty—on windows and doors.**

It's like getting  
**FREE WINDOWS**  
for 1 year<sup>1</sup>

**NO** MONEY  
DOWN

**NO** PAYMENTS

**NO** INTEREST

**FOR 1 YEAR<sup>1</sup>**

and

**BUY 1 WINDOW  
OR DOOR,  
GET 1 WINDOW  
OR DOOR**

**40% OFF<sup>1</sup>**

Call for your **FREE Window and Door Diagnosis**

**Renewal  
by Andersen**



WINDOW REPLACEMENT an Andersen Company

**AUSTIN**

**512-298-1858**

**WEST TEXAS**

**469-458-1925**

**DALLAS/FORT WORTH**

**469-606-5229**

**SAN ANTONIO**

**210-961-9990**

**TopWindowSolution.com**

<sup>1</sup>Offer not available in all areas. Discount applied by retailer representative at time of contract execution and **applies to purchase of 4 or more windows and/or doors**. Buy two windows and/or doors, get the second two windows and/or doors, of equal or lesser value, 40% off. Discount applied to lowest priced window and/or door products in purchase. Cannot be combined with other offers. Initial contact for a free Window and Door Diagnosis must be made and documented on or before 10/31/20, with the appointment then occurring no more than 10 days after the initial contact. No payments and deferred interest for 12 months available to well qualified buyers on approved credit only. Not all customers may qualify. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Renewal by Andersen retailers are independently owned and operated retailers, and are neither brokers nor lenders. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only, and all financing is provided by third-party lenders unaffiliated with Renewal by Andersen retailers, under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender. South Texas Windows & Doors LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Austin and San Antonio. North Texas Windows & Doors LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Dallas/Fort Worth and West Texas. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are marks of Andersen Corporation. ©2020 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. \*Using U.S. and imported parts. \*\*See limited warranty for details at <https://www.renewalbyandersen.com/homeowner-help/warranty>. †Values are based on comparison of Renewal by Andersen® double-hung window U-Factor to the U-Factor for clear dual pane glass non-metal frame default values from the 2006, 2009, 2012, 2015 and 2018 International Energy Conservation Code "Glazed Fenestration" Default Tables. **All sales, marketing and installation of windows is conducted by Renewal by Andersen of Austin and San Antonio, and by Renewal by Andersen of Dallas/Fort Worth and West Texas. All are independently owned and operated affiliates operating in TX.**

**NEW**

# RECHARGEABLE Digital Hearing Aid

Introducing the **VOLT** *What's New*  
from MDHearingAid...

A digital, rechargeable hearing aid that's every bit as good as the ones you'll find at expensive clinics, but at a fraction of the price.

**Buy One... Get one FREE**

~~Reg \$599<sup>99</sup>~~

**Only \$299<sup>99</sup>**

*Each when you buy a pair*



## VOLT Features

- **Advanced Digital Technology**
- **Feedback Cancellation - NO Whistling**
- **Dual Directional Microphones**
- **Medical Grade Quality**
- **No Prescription Needed**
- **Unparalleled 24/7 Support**



**Nearly invisible...  
No one will know you're wearing it**

### Doctors Are Tired of Patients Wasting Money at Over-Priced Clinics

#### Best Value ★★★★★

"...this product is just as effective (if not more) than traditional overpriced hearing aids. I will be recommending MDHearingAid to my hearing-impaired patients." – **Dr. Chang**

#### Excellent Quality-to-Price Ratio ★★★★★

"Quite impressive in its performance... an excellent quality-to-price ratio, and I would highly recommend it to my patients with hearing loss." – **J. May, MD**

**MDHearingAid** >>>

DOCTOR DESIGNED | AUDIOLOGIST TESTED | FDA REGISTERED



The new rechargeable VOLT incorporates advanced digital technology at an outstanding price.

We include the same high-quality digital processors as hearing aids costing \$2,400 or more but eliminate the complex components not needed by 95% of the people with hearing loss. **PLUS... we cut out the middleman.**

**Compare it to other rechargeable hearing aids** and you'll find only VOLT has **Feedback Cancellation** and **Dual Directional Microphones** for superior performance.

Plus, we have **24/7 Technical Support** and a **100% Money-Back Guarantee** to ensure you're completely satisfied! No other company provides such extensive support.

### Did you know most people who use one hearing aid really need two?

The brain processes signals from both ears for clarity & balanced sound so if you have hearing loss in both ears, your brain has to process two different sound and clarity levels.

**SHOP AT HOME!**  
**Skip the Clinic with Remote Care**

### RISK-FREE MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE Hear Better Or Your Money Back!

Try MDHearingAids risk free with a 100% money-back guarantee for 45 days.



**Call 1-800-618-6782 Today!**  
**or visit [www.MDVolt.com](http://www.MDVolt.com)**

Be sure to enter offer code **KG28** to receive

**FREE SHIPPING!**

# Moissanite

For your one and only.  
The Moissanite Solitaire Collection



2 Carat  
Solitaire Ring  
at  
**67% OFF**

#### IN THE NEWS:

*Moissanite is a game changer...  
A hot trend in big bling—  
an alternative to diamond...”  
— Today Show on NBC*

## To Call It a Diamond Would Be an Insult

*Possessing fire, brilliance, and luster that far surpasses that of a diamond,  
this Nobel Prize winner's discovery sparkles unlike any gemstone on earth.*

When French chemist, Henri Moissan discovered an incredibly rare mineral in a 50,000 year-old meteorite, little did he know the amazing chain of events that would follow. Along with winning a Nobel prize, he gave the world a stone that surpasses even the finest diamond in virtually every aspect that makes a woman go weak in the knees. And, we have this swoon-worthy stone right here for a down to earth price.

The Stauer *Moissanite Solitaire Ring* and Earrings feature 4 total carats of sparkling perfection elegantly prong-set in sterling silver. Four total-carats of diamonds with this color and clarity would cost more than \$40,000. Much rarer than a diamond, Moissanite is the superior choice, both in beauty and in price.

**The most brilliant fine stone on earth.** According to the GIA (Gemological Institute of America), Moissanite outperforms all jewels in terms of its brilliance, fire, and luster. Brilliance comes from the flashes of white light reflecting from the top and sides of a gemstone. This light show is known as refraction. Moissanite has “double refraction”— which means light goes down into the stone and comes out not once, but twice. No diamond can do this. The way the light dances inside Moissanite is something to behold.

**The genius of affordability.** Two years ago Moissanite was over \$1,000 a carat. Now, for the first time in history, Stauer gemologists have perfected the science of romance, enabling us to price two carats of moissanite at \$199. It's pure genius. Our Nobel Prize-winning chemist would be proud.

**100% Money Back Guarantee.** If for any reason she doesn't fall in love with the *Moissanite Solitaire Ring* or Earrings, simply return them within 30 days for a full refund of the item price. But we have a feeling she'll be over the moon.

#### UNIQUE PROPERTIES COMPARISON

	Refractive Index (Brilliance)	Dispersion (Fire)	Luster
Moissanite	2.65-2.69	0.104	20.4%
Mined Diamond	2.42	0.044	17.2%

#### Moissanite Solitaire Collection

Solitaire Ring (1 carat) ~~\$399~~ \$99  
Solitaire Ring (2 carat) ~~\$599~~ \$199  
Solitaire Earrings (2 ctw) ~~\$499~~ \$199  
**2 ct Solitaire Ring & Earrings** ~~\$1,098~~ \$299

**Best Deal!**

Available in 14K white gold...call for details

Call now and mention the offer code to receive your discount.

**1-800-333-2045**

Offer Code MSR134-03

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

**Stauer®** 14101 Southcross Drive W., Ste 155,  
Dept. MSR134-03, Burnsville, Minnesota 55337  
www.stauer.com

Stauer... *Afford the Extraordinary.®*

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



Rating of A+

• Exquisite 2 carat Moissanite • .925 sterling silver setting • Whole ring sizes 5-10



MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

JEFF LANE

## The Pandemic Has Cut Demand for Electricity

We've adapted to keep power flowing reliably

**THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC** has affected the electric utility industry, including electric cooperatives in Texas, as many folks continue to work from home and reduce their outside activities—as they have for several months. The result is a reduction in electricity consumption, decline in greenhouse gas emissions and shifts in power generation markets.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration in July forecast a 4.2% decrease in electricity consumption this year compared to 2019 because of the pandemic and its economic effects. The most dramatic toll can be seen in the commercial sector, where the EIA predicted a 7% decline in electricity sales as businesses closed or scaled back operations because of the virus. The agency forecast a 5.6% decline in the industrial sector for the year.

But there's a glimmer of good news: The EIA predicted a 12.2% decrease in energy-related carbon dioxide emissions for the year, depending on the course of our nation's economic recovery.

The pandemic is also disrupting power generation resources in ways few could have predicted. The EIA reported that it expects natural gas consumption to decline by 3% in 2020, mainly driven by lower consumption in the industrial sector because of efforts to slow the spread of the virus and a reduction in economic activity. Natural gas use is expected to further decrease in 2021, by 5%, because of a rise in natural gas prices.

Consequently the use of natural gas in power generation will likely decline, and coal is expected to become more competitive again for electricity generation, according to the EIA's forecast. The use of coal in the generation sector had been falling, accounting for 24% of production in 2019 and 18% in 2020, but it's expected to rise slightly, to 21%, in 2021, because of the pandemic.

The use of renewables in electric power generation continues to climb, and that pattern seems likely to continue, with renewables expected to make up 22% of the national electric power generation portfolio in 2021.

Natural gas produces about 50% of Texas' electricity generation currently, according to the U.S. Department of Energy; coal 32%; renewables 7%; and nuclear 9%. Other sources are petroleum and hydropower, making up a very small percentage each.

Whatever the future holds, remember that TVEC is always looking out for its members. From weighing the best power sources that help guarantee economical prices on electricity to sharing ways to conserve electricity, your cooperative is on your side. ■



TEBNAD | ISTOCK.COM

Residential electricity sales, however, are expected to remain steady, as lower electricity use in the first quarter of the year for heating has been offset by more consumption during the remainder of 2020 as people spend more time at home due to the pandemic.

Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative continues to closely monitor the situation and stand up for you, our member-owners, whether you are working at home or cutting back expenses at the workplace: The lights will stay on.

# Important Update: TVEC To Resume Normal Billing Activity in October

TRINITY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE PLANS TO RESUME normal billing activity in October. While not required to do so, TVEC has been voluntarily following Public Utility Commission of Texas guidelines on disconnection for nonpayment of electric service in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This change was originally scheduled to begin in September.

Members who may be at risk of disconnection are encouraged to contact TVEC member services as soon as possible to determine what options may be best for each individual situation.

TVEC members who are behind on their electricity bills are urged to contact TVEC as soon as possible for information regarding assistance organizations or bill payment options in order to maintain uninterrupted service by calling 800-766-9576 or emailing [memberrelations@tvec.coop](mailto:memberrelations@tvec.coop) for TVEC member services.

Through Operation Round Up, the TVEC Charitable Foundation has donated \$36,250 to area bill payment assistance organizations. Contact TVEC member services or visit [tvec.net](http://tvec.net) for contact information for those agencies.

**Stay tuned to [tvec.net](http://tvec.net) and TVEC on Facebook for any updates regarding the co-op's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

## Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

### CONTACT US

1800 E. Highway 243  
Kaufman, Texas  
**Local** (972) 932-2214  
**Toll-Free** 1-800-766-9576  
**Web** [tvec.net](http://tvec.net)

### 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

Jeff Lane

**24/7**

**Outage  
Hotline  
Numbers**

For information and  
to report outages,  
please call us.

**TOLL-FREE**  
1-800-967-9324

**AUTOMATED  
ASSISTANCE**  
1-800-720-3584

**SAVE THE DATE**

**2020** **TVEC**  
TRINITY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
**ANNUAL  
MEMBERSHIP  
MEETING**

**The TVEC Annual Meeting is Moving Online!  
Register to attend at [tvec.net](http://tvec.net)**

**OCTOBER 8TH**

### ABOUT TRINITY VALLEY EC

TVEC operates in Anderson, Dallas, Henderson, Hunt, Kaufman and Van Zandt counties.

### OFFICE LOCATIONS

#### 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

Lobbies temporarily closed.  
Drive-thru in Kaufman  
open 8:15-4:45

### VISIT US ONLINE

[tvec.net](http://tvec.net)





MUSTAFAGUL | ISTOCK.COM

Then. Now. Always.  
We're proud to power your life.  
**October is  
National Co-op Month.**



**#PowerOn**

TRINITY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

## Stay Safe at Home

**ELECTRICAL MALFUNCTIONS ACCOUNT** for thousands of home fires each year, resulting in deaths, injuries and property damage. The average American home was built in 1977, which means many homes simply can't handle the demands of today's electrical appliances and devices. Keep safety in mind with these helpful tips from Electrical Safety Foundation International.

### Learn the warning signs of an overloaded electrical system:

- ▶ Frequent tripping of circuit breakers or blowing of fuses.
- ▶ Dimming of lights when other devices are turned on.
- ▶ Buzzing sounds from switches or outlets.
- ▶ Discolored outlets.
- ▶ Appliances that seem underpowered.

### How to avoid overloading circuits:

- ▶ Label your circuit breakers to distinguish the different circuits in your home and what they power.
- ▶ Have your home inspected by a qualified electrician if the home is older than 40 years or if you've had a major appliance installed.
- ▶ Have a qualified electrician install new circuits for devices that draw lots of energy.
- ▶ Reduce your electrical load by using energy-efficient appliances and lighting.

### Working from home? Follow these safety tips to keep you and your home safe from electrical hazards.

- ▶ Avoid overloading outlets.
- ▶ Unplug appliances when not in use to save energy and minimize the risk of shock or fire.
- ▶ Regularly inspect electrical cords and extension cords for damage.
- ▶ Extension cords should only be used on a temporary basis.
- ▶ Never plug a space heater or fan into an extension cord or power strip.
- ▶ Never run cords under rugs, carpets, doors or windows.
- ▶ Make sure cords do not become tripping hazards.
- ▶ Keep paper and other potential combustibles at least 3 feet away from heat sources.
- ▶ Use lightbulbs with the proper wattage for lamps and lighting.
- ▶ Make sure your home has smoke alarms. Test them monthly, change batteries annually and replace units every 10 years. ■

# TVEC

TRINITY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

## in focus



TVEC lineworkers from the Athens district who worked to restore power in East Texas after Hurricane Laura included Payden Green, Troy Tullos, Brady Hardy, Rusty Abney and Cody Goforth.



TVEC lineworkers from the Kaufman district who worked to restore power in East Texas after Hurricane Laura included Scott Stewart, Hector Zarate, Victor Garcia, Zach Pollett and Casey Bagwell.



Hurricane Laura caused major damage in Louisiana and East Texas. TVEC crews responded to provide mutual aid at Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative, which had more than 25,000 members without power and many places where lines had to be rebuilt.

## TVEC Crews Provide Assistance After Hurricane Laura

**HURRICANE LAURA HIT** with a bang on August 27, leaving a large swath of damage through Louisiana and a section of East Texas.

Of course Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative linemen were packed and ready to help in no time.

Ten TVEC linemen formed two crews and headed out early Saturday, August 29, to help at Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative. 60195519001

“Our superintendent was extremely impressed with TVEC’s work approach and ethic and asked if they were willing to stay and help in some of our more inhospitable areas,” said DETEC General Manager Bryan Wood. “We were pleased when they agreed and moved into the heart of our hardest hit areas. For five days they worked to restore power in subdivisions adjoining Toledo Bend Reservoir. Our members are forever indebted to the men that came to their rescue.”

Cooperation among Cooperatives is one of the Seven Cooperative Principles, giving co-ops a much greater ability to respond to disasters as well as benefits in common training and work practices. ■

### 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 October 30 to receive a \$25 credit on your electric bill. Don’t miss out—you could be a winner!

# Save Electricity While Working Remotely

AS AMERICAN FAMILIES and businesses transition to remote work to slow the spread of COVID-19, many have seen a surge in home energy use—and in electric bills. Simple money-saving steps can help lower your bills without jeopardizing safety or comfort.

## Recommended energy saving tips include:

- ▶ Program your thermostat to maximize energy savings. Setting your thermostat 1 degree lower when heating or 1 degree higher when cooling can reduce energy use by up to 5%.
- ▶ Do only full loads of laundry and wash with cold water. Using warm water instead of hot can cut a load's energy use in half, and using cold water saves even more.
- ▶ Air-dry dishes. This can cut your dishwasher's energy use by up to 50%.
- ▶ Replace incandescent lightbulbs with LEDs. Lighting can amount to up to 12% of monthly energy use. LEDs can cut lighting costs by 75%.
- ▶ Unplug appliances and electronics when not in use. Small appliances and electronics use energy even when not in use. When powered on, game consoles, TVs and similar electronics are responsible for up to 12% of a home's energy use. ■



CECILIE\_ARCURS | ISTOCK.COM

## 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. If 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** that includes a 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

### Guía para Huracanes

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

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

- ▶ **Discuta los planes de evacuación** con su familia **antes** de la temporada de huracanes, que empieza **el 1 de junio y termina el 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** que incluya un radio, linterna, repuesto de baterías, anteojos extras, agua embotellada, alimentos no perecederos, ropa extra, ropa de cama, información de seguros, documentos importantes, medicinas, copias de recetas medicas y productos especiales para bebés, las personas mayores, miembros de la familia médicamente frágiles y mascotas.
- ▶ **Aprenda sus rutas** de evacuación antes de la temporada de huracanes. Cuando haya un huracán en el Golfo, mantenga el tanque de gasolina lleno. Esté consiente de que habrá demoras de tráfico.
- ▶ **Puede registrarse con el State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry en la página 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 que viven en la Costa del Golfo en zonas de evacuación con una discapacidad o necesidades médicas quienes no tienen amigos o familiares para ayudarles o no tienen transporte deben registrarse con STEAR por adelantado.

CT75/FAN | ISTOCK.COM

## Your Generosity in Action

THE TVEC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION recently awarded six grants totaling \$19,000. Recipients of the grants include:



**Hidden Acres Camp**  
Kaufman, \$2,000  
Complete ongoing projects, including updating the conference center.



**Texas Health Resources Foundation**  
Kaufman County, \$4,000  
Funding for women's services utilizing a mobile health unit.



**Love in Action**  
Athens, \$4,000  
Electrical repairs for additional capacity in serving underserved population in Athens.



**Texas Ramp Project**  
TVEC Service Area, \$5,000  
Home access ramps for low-income and elderly people in the TVEC service area.

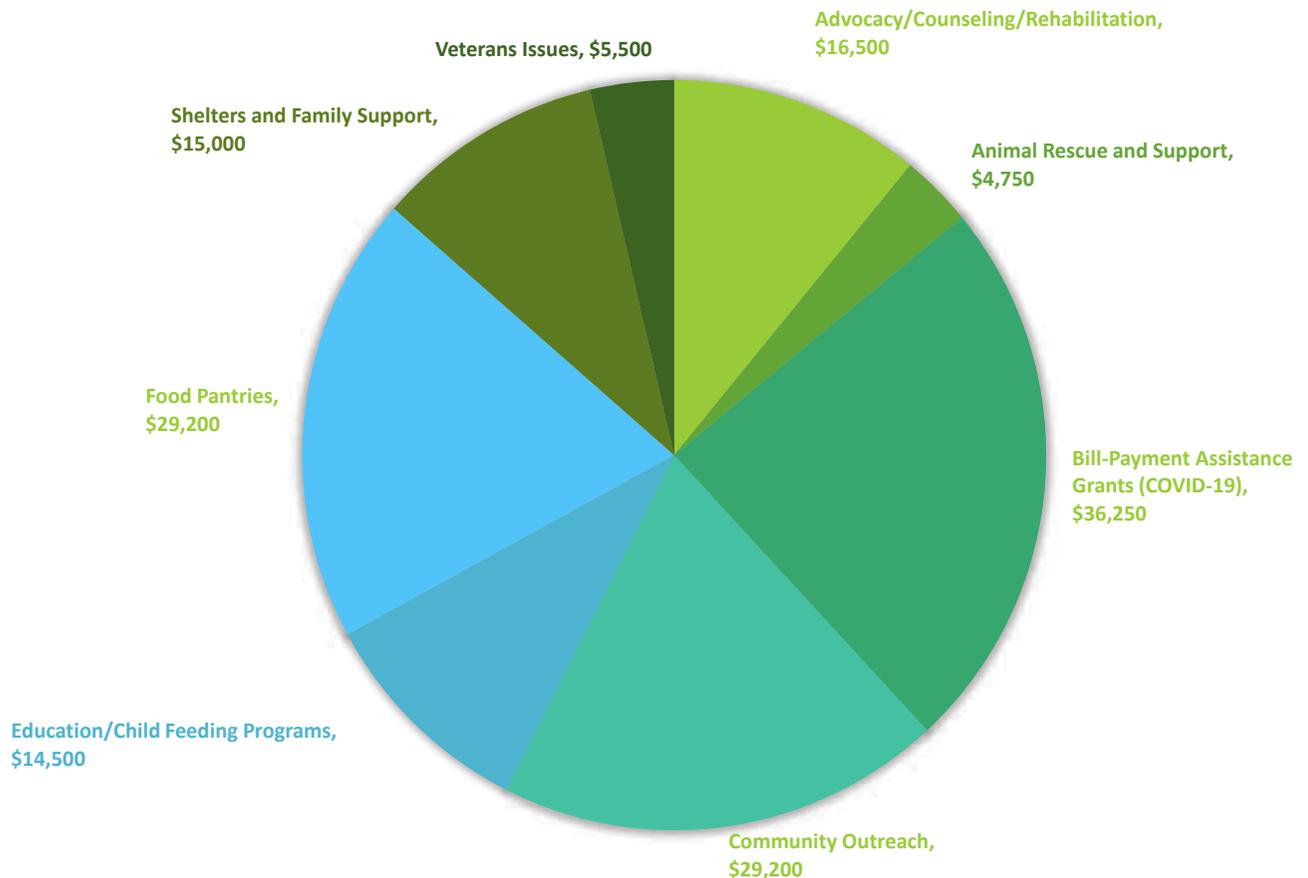


**Myrtle Springs Community Center Project**  
Myrtle Springs, \$2,000  
Community center roofing repairs.



**Wills Point Ladies Club**  
Wills Point, \$2,000  
Various projects, including food and hygiene projects for the backpack program, scholarships and angel tree.

## GRANTS AWARDED IN 2020



# Oil Field Mysticism

The quest to find buried treasure produced scammers and their gadgets

BY CLAY COPPEDGE • ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID PLUNKERT

A TRAVIS COUNTY farmer named Charles Rolff devised an apparatus in the 1930s he called a doodlebug machine, which he believed would locate large underground deposits of oil. “It was described as a secret tube, sealed at both ends,” United Press International wrote. “At one end, there was an opening to insert a 15-inch fork with two handles. In operation, a man takes the fork in both hands with the tube up and holds it over the land or leases, and by some way he can tell whether the land has oil-bearing possibilities or whether it’s dry.”

The doodlebug worked on generally the same principles as a divining rod that dowsers used to find water. Only certain people were believed to have the gift of sensing water or other deposits through the devices.

Rolff and a group of investors sued the Pearl Oil Company for proceeds and royalties in 1935, claiming the company used his doodlebug to find oil in Rusk County. A Williamson County jury decided that the presence of a doodlebug was irrelevant. The jury didn’t say the doodlebug didn’t work, just that it didn’t matter.

An appeals court ruled against Rolff. In his written opinion, James McClendon, chief justice of the Court of Civil Appeals, said, “We take judicial knowledge of the scientific fact that there is no virtue whatever in the ‘doodle bug’ in locating oil or other substances underneath the earth.”

In the early days of oil exploration, a doodlebug or divining rod made as much sense to some people as geology or seismology. In establishing the rule of capture as the water law of the land, the Texas Supreme Court in 1904 had deemed that underground water is too “secret, occult and concealed” to regulate. If the capricious behavior of underground water smacked of mysticism, so did underground oil.

Around the same time Rolff was promoting his doodlebug, two men, Ralph Malone and Vivian Buie, were hawking a gadget that operated on the same mysterious principles. In 1935 Malone and Buie found themselves in court, charged with swindling Houston investors out of \$20,000. Buie was sentenced to five years for mail fraud. Malone got three years.

Lawyers Arthur Heemann and C. Ray Smith not only lost the case for Malone and Buie but also

ended up as defendants on mail fraud charges. They hired their own lawyers who argued the two men were not swindlers, even though Heemann had been charged five years earlier for promoting a bogus outfit called the Oil Investors Company. Heemann and Smith were acquitted.

By the late 1940s, the Securities and Exchange Commission was investigating Malone for hawking a device he called a magnetic logger. The SEC concluded: “The claims made for its efficacy in discovering oil were the usual ones and were false.” A 1951 injunction put an end, once and for all, to Malone’s shenanigans.

But oil field fraudsters changed with the times. When America became fascinated with UFOs, Silas Newton and Leo GeBauer claimed to have a machine that “operated on the same magnetic principles as the flying saucers.”

They said they came across a device after an alleged spaceship crashed in Aztec, New Mexico, in 1948. Newton and GeBauer convinced author Frank Scully they were telling the truth, so he published a book called *Behind the Flying Saucers* in 1950 that sold 60,000 copies. *True* magazine checked out the book’s claims in 1952 and deduced that Newton and GeBauer were “oil con artists who had hoaxed a gullible Scully.”

A jury agreed. A headline in the *The Denver Post* announced the verdict: “‘Saucer Scientist’ in \$50,000 Fraud.” Their UFO-inspired oil-finding machine turned out to be a box of radio parts with a bunch of cool-looking dials and switches.

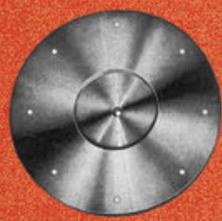
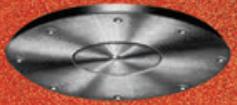
In 1936 the Society of Exploration Geophysicists warned young geophysicists about employing “black magic” or “doodle-bug” methods based on unproven properties of oil, minerals or geological formations.

However, in the 1982 book *Geophysics in the Affairs of Man*, the authors noted that the term doodlebugger had taken on a new meaning by the 1950s.

“Twenty years later, it was a badge of honor to be known as a doodlebugger, i.e., the field personnel of geophysical crews,” they wrote. “Still later, the term was applied to everyone who worked in exploration geophysics.” ■



Here is one of our best. S  
steel blade with solid shank.  
No. 1. Size  
484 F 5726



Pressure Pounds	3/8" No. 60	1/2" No. 61	1" No. 63	1 1/2" No. 64
10	475	825	1360	1910
20	650	1150	1725	2315
30	800	1375	1985	2650
40	900	1575	2220	2950
50	980	1725	2425	3200
60	1050	1850	2600	3425



Plunkert



# WE'RE BRINGING FLEXY BACK

The Stauer Flex gives you vintage style with a throwback price of **only \$79**.

Just like a good wristwatch movement, fashion is cyclical. And there's a certain wristwatch trend that was huge in the 1960s and then again in the 1980s, and is ready for its third time in the spotlight. We're talking, of course, about the flexible stretch watch band.

To purchase a vintage 60s or 80s classic flex watch would stretch anyone's budget, but you can get ahead of the crowd and secure a brand new version for a much lower price.

We're rolling back the years AND the numbers by pricing the *Stauer Flex* like this, so you can put some bend in your band without making a dent in your wallet.

The *Stauer Flex* combines 1960s vintage cool with 1980s boardroom style. The stainless steel flex band ensures minimal fuss and the sleek midnight blue face keeps you on track with date and day subdials.

**Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed.**

Experience the Stauer Flex for 30 days. If you're not convinced you got excellence for less, send it back for a refund of the item price. Your satisfaction is our top priority.

**Time is running out.** As our top selling watch, we can't guarantee the Flex will stick around long. Don't

overpay to be underwhelmed.



Flex your right to put a precision timepiece on your wrist for just \$79. Call today!

*"The quality of their watches is equal to many that can go for ten times the price or more."*

— Jeff from McKinney, TX

**TAKE 74% OFF INSTANTLY!**  
When you use your OFFER CODE

**Stauer Flex Men's Watch** \$299†

Offer Code Price **\$79** + S&P **Save \$220**

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

## 1-800-333-2045

**Your Offer Code: FMW138-01**

Please use this code when you order to receive your discount.

### Stauer®

14101 Southcross Drive W.,  
Ste 155, Dept. FMW138-01  
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337  
www.stauer.com

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



The Looks of a Classic  
Flex Band Watch for  
**only \$79!**

#### Flexible Stretch Watch Bracelets in the News:

"The bracelets are comfortable, they last forever, and they exhibit just the right balance of simplicity and over-engineering"

— Bloomberg.com, 2017



Rating of A+

- Precision movement • Stainless steel crown, caseback & bracelet
- Date window at 6 o'clock; day window at 10 o'clock • Water resistant to 3 ATM • Stretches to fit wrists up to 8 1/2"

Stauer... Afford the Extraordinary.®



**RHINO**  
STEEL BUILDING SYSTEMS

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



Farm • Industrial • Commercial

RHINO.BUILDERS/TX 940-304-8068  
INFO@RHINOBLDG.COM

**Low Cost Pole Barns**

26' x 48' x 10'  
3 Sides Enclosed  
**\$7,995**

Hay/Horse Barns, Shops, Decks, Concrete Work and Pad Sites

**Call Ron: 512-367-0428**

**ARK-LA-TEX**  
SHOP BUILDERS  
"WE GOTCHA COVERED"

SHOPS - BARNs - CABINS • WWW.SHOPSBUILT.COM

**830-730-0515**  
8670 IH 35 N NEW BRAUNFELS, TX




**BUILDINGS OF ALL SIZES**

Shops • Garages • Barns • Equipment Sheds • Barndominiums

**SHOPS STARTING AT \$10,300**

Price includes all labor and materials with 4" steel reinforced concrete slab with moisture barrier, one 10"x10" heavy duty roll up door, one 3 foot steel entry door, concrete aprons, electric stub \*(Dirt may be extra)

**TIRED OF SPRAYING?**

The **Original Root Grubber**

**QUALITY CONSTRUCTION 100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!**

- Kills tree by cutting roots 6" to 8" underground
- Effective on mesquite, juniper, cedar, huisach and other brush problems
- 3-point reversible blade for clearing fence rows

Blade Width	Cat	HP	WT	Delivered Price
18"	I	20-40	230 lb.	<b>\$1,065</b>
27"	II	40-80	285 lb.	<b>\$1,285</b>
30"	II or III	80-110	380 lb.	<b>\$1,685</b>
36"	II or III	110-180	390 lb.	<b>\$1,750</b>




Blade Width 16" Skid-Steer  
Cat Universal  
HP 50-140  
WT 380 lb.  
Delivered Price \$1,880

**JONES MACHINE**  
(800) 919-4949 • Fax: (940) 552-6362  
jonesmachineshop1944@yahoo.com  
P.O. Box 1577, Vernon, Texas 76385



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

**WE BUY MINERALS**



We pay cash for **producing** or **non-producing** mineral interests.

**CALL US TODAY! 1-888-735-5337**

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

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

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

All 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) 877-4256.



**WE PAY TOP PRICES FOR COLLECTIBLES**

Coins • Banknotes • Gold & Silver Jewelry & Scrap  
Vintage Costume Jewelry • Watches • Stamps  
Tokens • Historical Documents • Other Collectibles

**TEXAS BUYERS GROUP • FREDERICKSBURG, TX**  
*All transactions private, confidential & secure.*

**830-997-6339 • rzcoins@twc.com**

**TCP E-news**  
Fast and Direct

**TCP Sign up now**  
TexasCoopPower.com/join



**TCP Gift Shop**

**TCP Shop now**  
TexasCoopPower.com/shop

**PERMA-ROOF**  
from Southern Builders

**Steel Mobile Home Roofing**

High energy bill? Roof rumble? Leaks?



MOBILE HOME ROOFER SYSTEMS

Since 1983

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

**TCP Marketplace**  
Across Town | Across Texas

Advertise in Texas Co-op Power Marketplace  
Elaine Sproull (512) 486-6251  
advertising@TexasCoopPower.com

# EMERGENCY PRODUCTION!



Actual size is 40.6 mm

## Rush Production of U.S. Silver Dollars Creates 2nd Lowest Mintage in History

One of the most popular ways to buy silver is the Silver Eagle—legal-tender U.S. Silver Dollars struck in one ounce of 99.9% pure silver. When the COVID-19 pandemic began sweeping the world, demand skyrocketed. But there was a problem...

### U.S. Mint Halts Production

West Point, the U.S. Mint branch that normally strikes Brilliant Uncirculated (BU) Silver Eagles, went into lockdown. Prices quickly shot up, and freshly struck Silver Eagles became much harder to find at an affordable price. To meet the rising demand, the U.S. Mint knew it had to act—and act fast.

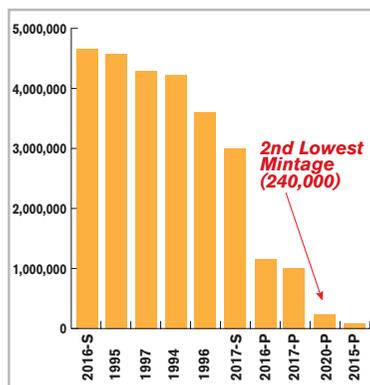
### Philadelphia Steps Up

For just 13 days, the U.S. Mint struck an “Emergency Production” run of U.S. Silver Dollars at the Philadelphia Mint. This was great for silver buyers, and *really* great for collectors. Here’s why:

### The Mystery of Silver Bullion

A coin’s value is often tied to its rarity. One way to determine a coin’s rarity is by its mint mark—a small letter indicating where a coin was struck. Since Silver Eagles are almost always produced solely in West Point, the coins don’t feature one of these mint marks. But this year’s Silver

Eagles were also produced in Philly—so few (a scant 240,000) that they are now the second smallest mintage of Silver Eagles ever struck! So how do we tell a 2020(W) Silver Eagle from a 2020(P)?



### Certified “Struck at” Coins

Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC) is one of the world’s leading third-party coin grading services. Thanks to some skilled detective work, they have certified these coins as being struck at the Philadelphia Mint during this special Emergency Production run. What’s more, a number of these coins have been graded as near-flawless Mint State-69 (MS69) condition—just one point away from absolute perfection!

### Buy More and Save!

We’re currently selling these coins for \$79 each. But you can secure them for as low as \$59 each when you buy 20 or more and mention the special call-in-only offer code below. Call 1-888-201-7639 now!

Date:	2020
Mint:	Philadelphia (P)
Weight:	1oz (31.101 grams)
Purity:	99.9% Silver
Diameter:	40.6 mm
Mintage:	240,000
Condition:	Mint State-69 (MS69)
Certified:	Emergency Production

### 2020(P) Emergency Production American Eagle Silver Dollar

NGC MS69 Early Releases — ~~\$79~~

1-4 coins	— \$69 each + s/h
5-9 coins	— \$67 each
10-14 coins	— \$65 each
15-19 coins	— \$63 each
20+ coins	— \$59 each

### FREE SHIPPING on 3 or More!

Limited time only. Product total over \$149 before taxes (if any). Standard domestic shipping only. Not valid on previous purchases.

Call today toll-free for fastest service

**1-888-201-7639**

**Offer Code EPE224-01**

Please mention this code when you call.



**GOVMINT.COM**  
THE BEST SOURCE FOR COINS WORLDWIDE

GovMint.com • 14101 Southcross Dr. W., Suite 175, Dept. EPE224-01 • Burnsville, MN 55337

GovMint.com® is a retail distributor of coin and currency issues and is not affiliated with the U.S. government. The collectible coin market is unregulated, highly speculative and involves risk. GovMint.com reserves the right to decline to consummate any sale, within its discretion, including due to pricing errors. Prices, facts, figures and populations deemed accurate as of the date of publication but may change significantly over time. All purchases are expressly conditioned upon your acceptance of GovMint.com’s Terms and Conditions (www.govmint.com/terms-conditions or call 1-800-721-0320); to decline, return your purchase pursuant to GovMint.com’s Return Policy. © 2020 GovMint.com. All rights reserved.



Main Street in Desdemona at the height of the oil boom in 1918, which was also when the flu pandemic struck.

# Boomtown Pandemic

The deadly flu outbreak of 1918 hit oil fields hard

BY GENE FOWLER

**THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC** has drawn comparisons to the influenza outbreak of 1918, what became known as the Spanish flu, which was the 20th century's deadliest pandemic. The Spanish flu infected about 500 million people, or one-third of the world's population, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates. Tens of millions died worldwide, including approximately 675,000 Americans.

Of the 5,000 Texans killed in World War I, a third are believed to have died from influenza. While the battlefield, with soldiers crowded in makeshift ramparts, provided a natural incubator for the virus, social conditions during

Texas' early 20th-century oil boom also allowed the disease to spread unchecked. The lack of suitable housing and access to fresh water, and poor sanitation in towns besieged by thousands of boomers — as Ranger, Burkburnett and Desdemona were in 1918 — created an environment in which infection flourished.

Researcher Ben Wright found evidence of the boomtown epidemic in the Oral History of the Texas Oil Industry, an archive of recordings held by the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History at the University of Texas at Austin. "Part of my job is to work out ways the center's collections inform current issues," said Wright. "The past is never lacking in its

warnings, lessons and reassurances."

The interviews and other materials in the archive were gathered in the 1950s and include direct testimony about the 1918 flu pandemic.

Interviewee Walter Cline, who later became mayor of Burkburnett, served as field director for the Red Cross at Call Field near Wichita Falls when the flu hit. Cline headed into the Burkburnett oil field with doctors and nurses as well as food, clothing, medicine and other donated resources. His team found people "suffering from flu and exposed in covered wagons and under these tarpaulins," he said. "In one place, you'd find a mother dead, with a little 6- or 8-months-old baby crawling around over her breast, trying to open her dress. ... I think on our first trip west of Burkburnett, we gathered up some six or eight dead men, women and children, and they continued to die until we found temporary shelter for them."

Fred Jennings, a rig manager at Goose Creek Oil Field near Baytown, recalled, "The people died, and they just died so fast here till they didn't have no undertakers. You'd just have to put them in pickup trucks and haul them to Houston. Just put them in a pine box and bury them any way you could. ... I saw one man working and walk home and was dead in 30 minutes."

Don Carleton, Briscoe Center executive director, says we don't know the full impact of the 1918 pandemic, but the disease reached Texas' highest office. Researching his forthcoming biography of Gov. William P. Hobby, Carleton learned that Hobby fought the deadly contagion just as desperately as the roughnecks of the oil fields.

"I was quite surprised to learn that even our state's governor was afflicted with the disease," Carleton said. ■

# Buckles, Betties, Cobblers and Crisps

Lots of names for turning fruit and a crunchy topping into irresistible treats

BY MEGAN MYERS, FOOD EDITOR

Buckles and betties and cobblers and crisps—whatever you call them—are the essence of comforting, down-home cooking. Everyone has their favorite recipe in their back pocket, no matter the season. Our family is partial to crisps. That buttery, crunchy topping is tempting enough to eat on its own, and pairing it with juicy fruits (and a scoop of ice cream) makes it difficult to resist. Another bonus: These dishes are easy to make, so dessert can happen any night of the week.



## Mixed Berry Pistachio Crisp

**5 tablespoons cold butter, plus more for greasing the dish**  
**4 cups frozen mixed berries**  
**1 tablespoon lemon juice**  
**¼ cup sugar**  
**4 tablespoons flour, divided use**  
**1 cup rolled oats**  
**¼ cup chopped pistachios**  
**⅓ cup brown sugar**  
**¼ teaspoon salt**  
**¼ teaspoon cinnamon**

**COOK'S TIP** To make this recipe gluten free, use oat flour, almond flour or your favorite gluten-free blend.

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly coat a 9-inch pie dish or oven-safe skillet with butter.
2. In a large bowl, add berries, then sprinkle lemon juice over the top. Combine sugar and 2 tablespoons flour and sprinkle over berries; mix well. Pour into the prepared pan.
3. In a small bowl, combine oats, pistachios, brown sugar, 2 tablespoons flour, salt and cinnamon. Cut in butter using a pastry blender or two forks until large clumps are formed and no dry bits remain. Sprinkle topping evenly over fruit mixture.
4. Bake 45–50 minutes, until browned and bubbly.

**SERVES 6**

**TCP WEB EXTRA** Follow along with Megan Myers and her adventures in the kitchen at [stetted.com](http://stetted.com), where she features a recipe for Blackberry Basil Crumble.



## Cherry Blueberry Buckle

BECKEY BROWN  
NAVASOTA VALLEY EC

### BUCKLE

**½ cup (1 stick) salted butter, softened,  
plus more for greasing the dish**

**½ cup sour cream**

**½ cup sugar**

**1 egg**

**1 teaspoon vanilla extract**

**Zest and juice of 1 orange**

**¼ teaspoon salt**

**¾ cup heavy whipping cream**

**2 cups pancake and waffle mix**

**1¼ cups frozen pitted cherries**

**¾ cup frozen blueberries**

**2 tablespoons brown sugar**

### TOPPING

**1¼ cups heavy whipping cream**

**¼ cup powdered sugar**

**Zest and juice of 1 orange**

**Mint leaves, for garnish**

- 1. BUCKLE** Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly coat a 9-by-13-inch baking dish with butter or cooking spray and set aside.
- Using a stand mixer, cream butter, sour cream and sugar. Add egg, vanilla, orange zest and juice, salt, and whipping cream, mixing on low to combine.
- Slowly add pancake and waffle mix, scraping down sides as needed while mixing.
- Spread batter into prepared pan and top with cherries and blueberries. Sprinkle top with brown sugar.
- Bake 30–35 minutes, until toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean and buckle is puffed and brown. Let cool slightly before serving.
- 6. TOPPING** While the buckle bakes, whip the cream, powdered sugar, zest and juice

CONTINUED >



\$500 WINNER

## PB&J Peach Cobbler

CHUCK BURGESS  
HEART OF TEXAS EC



The unexpected addition of peanut butter makes this cobbler a dish reminiscent of your favorite childhood lunch. To make the mixing easier, warm the peanut butter and preserves in the microwave for 10–15 seconds.

SERVES 12

**½ cup (1 stick) butter, plus more  
for greasing the dish**

**¾ cup crunchy peanut butter**

**¾ cup milk**

**1 cup sugar**

**1 cup flour**

**1 tablespoon baking powder**

**½ teaspoon salt**

**1 can (29 ounces) sliced peaches  
in juice, drained**

**¾ cup peach preserves**

**½ cup brown sugar**

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly grease a 13-by-9-inch glass baking dish with butter.
- Melt remaining butter in a medium bowl. Whisk in peanut butter then milk until blended.
- In another bowl, mix the sugar, flour, baking powder and salt. Add the butter mixture and stir until blended. Pour into baking dish and spread evenly.
- In a medium bowl, mix peaches, preserves and brown sugar. Then spoon evenly over batter. Bake 40–50 minutes, or until the top is golden brown and juices are bubbly.

## TCP \$500 Recipe Contest

TACOS DUE OCT 10

Whether you love them soft, crunchy or puffy, tell us what makes your tacos the best. Enter at [TexasCoopPower.com/Contests](https://TexasCoopPower.com/Contests) by October 10.

RECIPES CONTINUED

together until soft peaks are formed. Chill until ready to serve. Serve buckle with a dollop of whipped cream and a mint leaf.

SERVES 12



## Spiced Apple Cobbler

C. PAIGE YOUNG-CANNON  
PEDERNALES EC

You don't need to peel the apples, making the prep easy enough for kids like Sylvia Cannon, who submitted this recipe with the help of her mom.

FILLING

- 1 tablespoon butter, melted, plus more to grease baking dish
- 5 small sweet apples, cut into chunks
- ¼ cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- ⅛ teaspoon ground ginger
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- Pinch of salt

TOPPING

- ½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened
- ¾ cup plus ⅓ cup sugar, divided use
- 1½ cups self-rising flour
- 5 teaspoons cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- ⅛ teaspoon ground ginger
- ¾ cup milk

**COOK'S TIP** If you don't have self-rising flour, you can make your own. For each cup of all-purpose flour, add in 1½ teaspoons baking powder and ½ teaspoon salt.

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 9-by-9-inch ceramic baking dish with butter and set aside.

2. **FILLING** In a large bowl, pour melted butter over cut apples. Add sugar, cornstarch, cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, vanilla and salt. Stir and set aside.

3. **TOPPING** In a separate bowl, cream butter and ¾ cup sugar until pale and fluffy. Add flour and toss to coat the butter, then cut coated butter into the flour using a pastry blender or two forks. The mixture should resemble sandy crumbs.

4. Add remaining sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger and milk. Mix until smooth; it will be very thick.

5. Pour filling into prepared dish, making sure to include any accumulated juices. Dollop the topping evenly over the apples.

6. Bake until topping is golden and puffed, and filling is bubbling, about 45 minutes.

SERVES 8

Order within 30 days for a **FREE Gift!**  
Original 1909-1958 Lincoln Cent with the Wheat Ears reverse. (Date our choice)

Special Offer for New Customers Only  
**Get a 3-Coin Collector's Set PLUS a FREE Lincoln Wheat Cent!**

**Yes!** Please send my 3-Coin Collector's Set for **ONLY \$4.95** – regularly \$19.95, plus **FREE Shipping** (limit 4 sets). Please also send my **FREE 1909-1958 Lincoln Wheat Cent** (one per customer, please).

**ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN 30 DAYS**



How Many Sets (limit 4): \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost at \$4.95 per set: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Add Custom 20th Century Type Coin Display Folders and **SAVE 36%** at \$2.50 ea. (regularly \$3.95): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Sales Tax: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping & Handling: **\$ FREE!**

**Method of payment:**

- Check payable to Littleton Coin Co.     VISA  
 MasterCard     American Express     Discover

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Please print clearly

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt# \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

\*We are required by law to collect and remit sales tax for all states except FL and MO. Please add the appropriate state and local tax for your order. For your convenience, all orders paid by credit card will have the appropriate sales tax applied at that time. Tax requirements are subject to change at any time. Please visit [LittletonCoin.com/TaxInfo](http://LittletonCoin.com/TaxInfo) for the most up-to-date list of taxable categories by state.  
Please send coupon to:

Littleton Coin Company® Dept. 5UK408  
1309 Mt. Eustis Road, Littleton NH 03561-3737

# Own Three Scarce Collector Classics!

**SAVE 75%!**



(Dates our choice)

**1913-1938 Indian/Bufalo Nickel**  
with a uniquely American coin design

**1859-1909 Indian Head Cent**  
last minted over a century ago

**1883-1913 Liberty Head "V" Nickel**  
from the turn of the 20th century

**Long vanished from circulation**, you get all 3 of these scarce collector favorites in this special set for **ONLY \$4.95** – a savings of 75% OFF the regular price of ~~\$19.95~~. Order within 30 days and you also get a **FREE** Lincoln Wheat cent, last issued over 60 years ago, plus enjoy **FREE Shipping** to your home! You'll also receive our fully illustrated

catalog, plus other fascinating selections from our Free Examination Coins-on-Approval Service, from which you may purchase any or none of the coins – return balance in 15 days – with option to cancel at any time. **Order your 3-Coin Collector's Set now and SAVE!**



Mail coupon today or order online at: [www.LittletonCoin.com/Specials](http://www.LittletonCoin.com/Specials) - 45-Day Money Back Guarantee of Satisfaction



# holiday GIFT GUIDE

In the magazine and on [TexasCoopPower.com](http://TexasCoopPower.com), we make it easy to shop for friends and family.



## It's Time To Bake Pecan Treats for the Holidays!

Berdoll's has been family-owned for 40 years. We provide delicious chocolate pecans, honey glazed pecans, pecan pies and more! Visit our squirrel, Ms. Pearl, at our retail store or order online.

512-321-6157  
[berdoll.com](http://berdoll.com)



## 2021 Best of Texas Calendar

Celebrating 35 years of publication. Large 15" x 20" calendar with 12 watercolors by Texas State Artist George Boutwell. \$12.50 plus sales tax and \$3.50 shipping. Quantity price on website.

800-243-4316  
[gboutwell.com](http://gboutwell.com)



## Stands Tall, Stores Small

Putting up holiday lights? Cleaning gutters? Our aluminum alloy ladder extends to a 14-foot reach, collapses to 31" for easy transport/storage, and features non-slip tread steps for extra safety.

800-423-2567  
[harborfreight.com](http://harborfreight.com)



## Texas Red Grapefruit and Avocados

Always a gift in good taste! Orchard-fresh grapefruit and other Texas products are all hand-selected, carefully packed and shipped to be delivered just in time for the holidays.

1-800-580-1900  
[crockettfarms.com](http://crockettfarms.com)



## Fresh "New Crop" Pecans

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

325-356-3616  
[sorrellsfarms.com](http://sorrellsfarms.com)



## Texas Capitol Ornament

Celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Texas Capitol Ornament program with this special commemorative ornament, finished in 24K gold. Sales support preservation and educational programs at the Capitol.

[TexasCapitolGiftShop.com](http://TexasCapitolGiftShop.com)



COURTESY CHET GARNER

## Matagorda Island Lighthouse

Ancient tower once guided ships to Indianola

BY CHET GARNER

IF THE HEAT DIDN'T TAKE ME, the mosquitoes would, so I pedaled as fast as I could through the grass and sand, hoping I was rolling in the right direction. I was committed to seeing the Matagorda Island lighthouse, and the price of admission is a 2.5-mile trek across this desolate island.

The barrier island is 38 miles long and uninhabited, save for a small outpost used by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. TPWD ran a daily ferry to the island until 2003, when a fire destroyed the state's boat, and the ferry service was lost in the flames. If you want to visit Matagorda Island now, you either float your own boat across Espiritu Santo Bay or enlist a fishing guide in Port O'Connor. I reached the island with the help of guide Mike Bohac, who delivered me to Matagorda, pointed toward the lighthouse and said, "Head that way."

After an hour of pedaling, I could see the lighthouse. It was built in 1852 to guide ships through Pass Cavallo on their way to Indianola. Numerous renovations and a relocation raised the structure to where it now sits, 91 feet above sea level. The Confederate States army tried to blow up the lighthouse to keep it from falling into Union hands, but the cast-iron structure survived.

I peered into a small glass window at the bottom of the lighthouse and wondered what the view was like from the top. Volunteers open it up on special occasions, but my trip was not one of those. Near the lighthouse, I inspected the foundation for the lightkeeper's home and a small cemetery where deceased keepers lie in rest, still guarding the tower.

It was easy to imagine the isolation they must have felt here on the edge of Texas. ■

ABOVE Chet takes a selfie with the 1852 Matagorda Island lighthouse.

**TCP WEB EXTRA** See Chet's video from the Matagorda lighthouse and check out his Texplorations on *The Daytripper* on PBS.

### Know Before You Go

Some events may have been affected by COVID-19. Call or check an event's website for scheduling details.

## OCTOBER

03

**Alvarado [3-4, 10-11, 17-18, 24-25, 31] Sunset Hill Tree Farm Pumpkin Patch**, (817) 713-6114, sunsethilltreefarm.com

08

**Tyler [8-11] Fall Fun—Hunter/Jumper Horse Show**, (903) 882-8696, texasrosehorsepark.com

09

**Ingram [9-10, 16-17, 23-24] Count Dracula**, (830) 367-5121, hcaf.com

10

**Jacksonville Cherokee Craft & Trade Fair**, (903) 268-1598

**Kerrville Kerr County Market Days and Hill Country Swap Meet**, (830) 459-6198, kerrmarketdays.org

**Brenham [10, 16-17, 24] Hot Nights, Cool Tunes**, (979) 337-7580, downtownbrenham.com

11

**Dallas Prism Health North Texas Virtual LifeWalk 2020**, (214) 521-5191, lifewalk.org/event/lifewalk

16

**Austin [16-19] American Institute of Architects Austin Homes Tour**, (512) 452-4332, aiaaustin.org/homes-tour/2020

**Terlingua [16-17] Ride 4 Trails**, (432) 371-3382, ride4trails.com

17

**Tyler [17-18] North Texas Hunter Jumper Club Fall Horse Show**, (903) 882-8696, texasrosehorsepark.com

20

**Edinburg [20-24] Virtual Los Muertos Bailan,** (956) 383-6246, edinburgarts.com/ losmuertosbailan

22

**Canton [22-24] Classic Country & Honky Tonk Halloween Party,** (903) 245-6300, visitcantontx.com

24

**Grand Saline Goody Trail & Trunk or Treat on Main,** (903) 962-5631, grandsalinemainstreet.com

**New Braunfels Simpson Texas Car and Bike Show,** (830) 625-1774, playinnewbraunfels.com

**Kerrville [24-25] Haunted Ghoul Pool,** (830) 257-7300, kerrvilletx.gov

**Rusk [24-25] Pumpkin Patch Train Ride,** (855) 632-7729, texasstaterailroad.net

**Buffalo Gap [24-Nov. 7] Scarecrow Festival,** (325) 572-3365, taylorcountyhistorycenter.org/ scarecrow-festival

26

**Jacksonville Trunk or Treat,** (903) 586-2217, jacksonvilletexas.com

28

**Rosanky Christmas in October Toy Drive,** (512) 360-3968, rosankybaptistchurch.com

30

**Tyler [30-Nov. 1] Texas Rose Autumn Breed Show,** (903) 882-8696, texasrosehorsepark.com

MORE EVENTS >

**TCP Submit Your Event**

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

A RIDE PRESERVED FOR GENERATIONS.  
IN THE BUILDING MADE FOR GENERATIONS.



Your dream garage begins with limited-time savings when you commit during Building Value Days. Now through November 30.

800-447-7436 | MORTONBUILDINGS.COM



©2020 Morton Buildings, Inc. A listing of GC licenses available at mortonbuildings.com/licenses. Certain restrictions apply, Ref Code 606



TRISH RAWLS

# Fredericksburg

## Getaway Contest

Enter online for a chance to win a two-night getaway in picturesque Fredericksburg, including a half-day wine tour, museum passes and gift certificates for great local restaurants.

**TCP Enter Today**

**TexasCoopPower.com/Contests**

**WALK IN TUBS FROM \$7995 INSTALLED!**



**WE INSTALL ACROSS TEXAS!**



**BEST BUY WALK-IN TUBS**  
FEATURING "SEALTITE" TECHNOLOGY

★ CELEBRATING 15 YEARS ★

**CALL US, DON'T WAIT ANOTHER DAY.**

Our products have been made in Texas since 2006. We customize, so why pay for something you don't want? Get exactly what you want at an affordable price. So stop struggling and start enjoying your bath again. Call us for an in-home no-pressure presentation. What do you have to lose?

Visit our showroom at 311 Kings Plaza in Granbury.

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

COURTESY CHISHOLM TRAIL HERITAGE MUSEUM



*Pick of the Month*

**Two Women Look West**

Cuero, Oct. 8–Nov. 1  
(361) 277-2866,  
[chisholmtrailmuseum.org](http://chisholmtrailmuseum.org)

The Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum features photographs of the King Ranch by Helen C. Kleberg and Toni Frissell. Kleberg was a self-taught photographer and wife of the longtime CEO of the King Ranch. Frissell was a New York fashion photographer. They photographed the King Ranch from the 1930s to the 1950s.

OCTOBER EVENTS CONTINUED

31

**Kerrville Family Fright Night**, (830) 257-7300,  
[kerrvilletx.gov](http://kerrvilletx.gov)

**Kerrville Pumpkin Run/Walk and Harvest Festival**, (830) 315-5762,  
[kerrvillekroc.org](http://kerrvillekroc.org)

**Austin [Oct. 31–Nov. 15] Virtual Texas Book Festival**, (512) 477-4055,  
[texasbookfestival.org](http://texasbookfestival.org)

NOVEMBER

01

**Houston Rockin' Resiliency Virtual Luncheon**, (713) 623-6543,  
[thewomensfund.org/events](http://thewomensfund.org/events)

**Lubbock West Texas Latino Artist Día De Los Muertos Celebración**, (806) 792-1212,  
[loshermanosfamilia.org](http://loshermanosfamilia.org)

07

**George West A Day of Stories**, (361) 436-1098,  
[dobie-westtheatre.com](http://dobie-westtheatre.com)



**HUNTER BEATON DAY I BAGS**

provides foster children with duffel bags filled with supplies for their move to a new home.

**POWER OF OUR PEOPLE | APRIL 2019**

**POWER OF OUR PEOPLE**

Texas Coop Power

**\$100 WINNER**

**Nominate someone today!**

**TCP** Tell us about somebody who improves the quality of life in your community. Email your nomination to [people@texascooppower.com](mailto:people@texascooppower.com). Include the person's name, co-op affiliation and a short description of his or her work in the community. Featured nominees will receive a \$100 donation for their cause.

# Selfies

The modern self-portrait, a selfie captures Texas life in a personal way. Now, thanks to technology, it's easier than ever to put ourselves in someone else's boots.

GRACE FULTZ



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP

**GAIL WISE**  
TRI-COUNTY EC

This little fella "came over any time we worked the cows."

**VIRGINIA GARCIA**  
KARNES EC

Cinnamon, a new chick on the farm, loves taking selfies.

**DOUGLAS RATCHFORD**  
BLUEBONNET EC

"An early morning flight in a good friend's 1930 Waco biplane."

**DOLLY HOLLINGSWORTH**  
SAN PATRICIO EC

"I said smile for the camera, and she sure did."



## Upcoming Contests

- DUE OCT 10** Saddles
- DUE NOV 10** Diners
- DUE DEC 10** Storms

Enter online and review submission rules at [TexasCoopPower.com/Contests](https://TexasCoopPower.com/Contests).

**TCP WEB EXTRA** See Focus on Texas on our website for more photos from readers.



Francisco “Panchito” Flores of San Antonio is a third-generation *charro*—Spanish for cowboy—learning the Mexican rodeo tradition of *charreada*.

## Memorable Moment

Look for striking portraits in your everyday life

STORY AND PHOTO  
BY JULIA ROBINSON

WHEN I BECAME a photojournalist, portraits were a dreaded assignment. I wanted to document real people living real lives, not direct them like a studio photographer.

Initially I hid behind my documentarian role to avoid the hard work of corralling light. But as I learned more about portraiture, I wanted to get better—so I consumed the lavish sets of Annie Leibovitz; the sculpted light of Martin Schoeller; the whimsical, dark vision of Dan Winters; the dynamism of Robert Seale.

Making an emotional connection with a subject to tell a story with an image is a skill I find more valuable than slick lighting, perfect hair and teeth, or a celebrity face. The portraits made by Dorothea Lange, Diane Arbus, Robert Frank, Walker Evans and Sally Mann

have helped me tell the story of a person, a place or a moment in history.

I’ve gotten better at lighting and directing people who begin a photo session with, “I hate photos of myself.” The most meaningful portraits I have made are not those for a newspaper or a business client. They’ve been grandparents at someone’s wedding, my nieces as they grow, my family at ease. The portraits I value the most are the environmental and the informal.

Looking back through my family photos, it’s the candid portraits that stand out. A moment of connection between family members, the peak action of a laugh, the details of a bedroom or a set of toys that add to the nostalgia. Portraits don’t always need to be taken in a studio or in our best clothes. They can be “found” in our everyday lives.

The class photo on the mantel has an official purpose—to pause the march of time from grade to grade. The same is true for the annual family Christmas card and the child in bluebonnets. The images that stop me in my tracks, however, are the laughter, the quiet connection, the unaware expressions of self.

The only secret is practice. Try bringing your camera everywhere for a day. If you make picture-taking a seamless part of everyday life, the people you photograph won’t think twice when you point the lens in their direction.

Hunt the good light in your house, your backyard or on the walk to the park. If you want to make a noncandid portrait, the window light from a north- or south-facing window will be the most flattering, along with the golden hours just before dusk and just after dawn.

Observe the moments that spark your connection and joy. Think about what makes a person light up, and see if you can capture it. One fleeting and hard-won image like this is worth a thousand studio sessions. ■

# HARBOR FREIGHT

QUALITY TOOLS AT RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICES

Shop When You Need To Online & In-Store

**WOW! SUPER COUPON**

**3-Ply Disposable Face Masks** ★★★★★ (1464)

**Pack of 10**

**\$3.99**

**NEW**

Less Than 40¢ per Mask

While Supplies Last

Non-medical.

**In-Store Only**

Compare to Porter-Cable 118903799 \$249.99 ITEM 5241 64857 shown

34665862 **LIMIT 4** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**McGRAW** ★★★★★ (682)

**20 Gallon, 135 PSI Oil-Lube Air Compressor**

**\$164.99**

~~\$189.99~~

Save \$85

Compare to Porter-Cable 118903799 \$249.99 ITEM 5241 64857 shown

Use Online & In-Store

34589341 **LIMIT 1** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**WOW! SUPER COUPON**

**Grant's** ★★★★★ (6220)

**12" x 12" Microfiber Cleaning Cloths**

**Pack of 4**

**\$69.99**

~~\$2.99~~

Compare to ProElite AZC0AB \$5.99

Use Online & In-Store

34592343 **LIMIT 3** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**WOW! SUPER COUPON**

**20% OFF**

ANY SINGLE ITEM\*

Use Online & In-Store

34583010

Limit 1 coupon per customer per day. Save 20% on any 1 item purchased. \*Cannot be used with other discount, coupon or any of the following items or brands: Inside Track Club membership, Extended Service Plan, Gift Card, Open Box Item, 3 Day Parking Lot Sale Item, compressors, floor jacks, power stations, safes, storage cabinets, chests or cante, trailers, welders, Admiral, Ames, Atlas, Bauer, Central Machinery, Cobalt, CoverPro, Dayton, Diamantack, Earthquake, Fisher, Hercules, Inco, Jopliff, Luvex, Poulson, Predator, Talligator, Viking, Vulcan, Zurich. Not valid on prior purchases. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 11/15/20.

**U.S. GENERAL** ★★★★★ (1662)

**30", 5 Drawer Mechanic's Cart**

**\$199.99**

~~\$239.99~~

Save \$630

Side tray sold separately.

YOUR CHOICE OF 7 COLORS

Compare to Snap-on KR6C10TBPES \$330 ITEM 64721 64722 64030 64031 64061 64720 56429

Use Online & In-Store

34599299 **LIMIT 1** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**HaulMaster** ★★★★★ (6378)

**4 Piece, 1" x 15 ft. Ratcheting Tie Downs**

**\$6.99**

~~\$12.99~~

Save 69%

Compare to Keeper 5505 \$22.80

Use Online & In-Store

34601928 **LIMIT 4** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**PITTSBURGH** ★★★★★ (1716)

**Rapid Pump® 1.5 Ton Light Weight Aluminum Floor Jack**

**\$59.99**

~~\$79.99~~

Save \$91

Compare to K Tool KT1630094 \$151.42 ITEM 44552 64832/64980 64545 shown

Use Online & In-Store

34602852 **LIMIT 1** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**WARRIOR** ★★★★★ (5138)

**Heavy Duty Foldable Aluminum Sports Chairs**

**\$19.99**

~~\$29.99~~

Save 50%

YOUR CHOICE OF COLOR

Blue ITEM 56719 Green ITEM 63066/62314 shown

Compare to Coleman 635394 \$39.99

Use Online & In-Store

34607374 **LIMIT 4** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**CHICAGO** ★★★★★ (4947)

**6 AMP Variable Speed Reciprocating Saw**

**\$19.99**

~~\$27.99~~

Save 66%

Blade sold separately.

Compare to Porter-Cable PCC361 \$59.98

Use Online & In-Store

34625103 **LIMIT 4** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**PREDATOR** ★★★★★ (1497)

**2000w Super Quiet Inverter Generator**

**\$449.99**

~~\$499.99~~

Save \$559

Compare to Honda EU2000i \$1,009 ITEM 62523

Use Online & In-Store

34625382 **LIMIT 1** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**200 Lumen LED Super Bright Flip Light**

**\$1.99**

~~\$3.99~~

Save 60%

Compare to Premier SW-SWITCH-12/24 \$4.99 ITEM 64723 64109 63922 shown

Use Online & In-Store

34627121 **LIMIT 4** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**WARRIOR** ★★★★★ (5034)

**29 Piece Titanium Drill Bit Set**

**\$10.99**

~~\$18.99~~

Save 83%

Compare to Dewalt DW1369 \$68.14 ITEM 5889 62281 61637 shown

Use Online & In-Store

34632411 **LIMIT 3** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**HaulMaster** ★★★★★ (6067)

**72" x 80" Moving Blanket**

**\$5.99**

~~\$8.99~~

Save 70%

Compare to Blue Hawk 77280 \$19.99 ITEM 49505 62418/66537 shown

Use Online & In-Store

34633698 **LIMIT 4** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**COVERPRO** ★★★★★ (1890)

**10 ft. x 17 ft. Portable Garage**

**\$169.99**

~~\$199.99~~

Save \$120

Compare to Shelter Logic 76377 \$290.75 ITEM 62859/63055 62860 shown

Use Online & In-Store

34643751 **LIMIT 1** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**Two Tier Easy-Store Step Ladder**

**\$19.99**

~~\$29.99~~

Save 40%

Compare to Werner S322A-1 \$33.88 ITEM 67514

Use Online & In-Store

34647584 **LIMIT 4** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**PORTLAND** ★★★★★ (7226)

**7 AMP Electric Pole Saw**

**\$59.99**

~~\$79.99~~

Save \$39

Compare to Worx WC309 \$99.98 ITEM 56808/68842 63190/6296 shown

Use Online & In-Store

34647598 **LIMIT 2** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**PREDATOR** ★★★★★ (3554)

**6.5 HP (212 cc) OHV Horizontal Shaft Gas Engine**

**\$99.99**

~~\$124.99~~

Save \$230

Compare to Honda GX200UT20X2 \$329.99 ITEM 60363/69730 shown

Use Online & In-Store

34652627 **LIMIT 2** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**HaulMaster** ★★★★★ (6548)

**18" x 12", 1000 lb. Capacity Hardwood Mover's Dolly**

**\$7.99**

~~\$10.99~~

Save 65%

Compare to Buffalo Tools HDFO29LL \$22.99 ITEM 61899 63095/63096 63097/63098 shown

Use Online & In-Store

34654220 **LIMIT 4** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**THUNDERBOLT solar** ★★★★★ (878)

**100w Solar Panel Kit**

**\$189.99**

~~\$199.99~~

Save \$102

RENEWABLE ENERGY ANYWHERE

Compare to WindyNation SOK-100WP-P30L \$292.44 ITEM 63585

Use Online & In-Store

34659110 **LIMIT 1** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

**PITTSBURGH** ★★★★★ (3872)

**130 Piece Tool Kit with Case**

**\$29.99**

~~\$39.99~~

Save 54%

LIFETIME WARRANTY SAE AND METRIC

Compare to Anvil A137HDS \$66.39 ITEM 68999 64562/64568 64080 63091 shown

Use Online & In-Store

34663101 **LIMIT 1** - Exp. 11/15/20\*

1,000+ Stores Nationwide • HarborFreight.com

\*Original coupon only. No use on prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase or without original receipt. Valid through 11/15/20.

Pricing, promotions, and availability may vary by location and at www.harborfreight.com and are subject to change without notice. We reserve the right to limit quantities. "Compare to" advertised 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. No other meaning of "compare to" should be implied. Although we make every effort to assure that our prices and products are advertised as accurately as possible, we are only human and in the event an error is made, we reserve the right to correct it.

# dish

## Save a Bundle on TV and Internet!



**\$59<sup>99</sup>** month for TV  
**2-YEAR TV PRICE LOCK!**

**Add Internet!**

**+ Blazing-Fast Internet**

**It's All Included!**

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


 Plus More!

**FREE Premium Channels** After 3 mos. you will be billed \$30/mo unless you call to cancel.

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

~~\$59<sup>99</sup>~~ month for Internet  
**\$40** per month for Internet

- Speeds from 25Mbps-1 Gbps
- No Matter Where You Live
- Now with Unlimited Data!

**Save up to \$20/month!\***

\*\$ off discount offers vary by service address. TV service not required for Internet. Speeds and prices vary by provider. Call for details or visit godish.com/internet/hughesnet

godish.com/pricelock 🔍

**1-866-290-7151**  
Mon-Fri: 7am-10pm • Sat: 7am-9pm • Sun: 10am-7pm Central Time

**iSe Habla Español!**  
**dish**  
 Authorized Retailer

Offer for new and qualifying former customers only. Important Terms and Conditions:  
 Qualification: Advertised price requires credit qualification and 24-month commitment. Upfront activation and/or receiver upgrade fees may apply based on credit qualification. Offer ends 1/13/21. 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 Smart DVR for 1 TV. Included in 2-year price guarantee for additional cost: Programming package upgrades (\$74.99 for AT120+, \$84.99 for AT200, \$94.99 for AT250), monthly fees for upgraded or additional receivers (\$5-\$7 per additional TV, receivers with additional functionality may be \$10-\$15). Regional Sports: RSN Surcharge up to \$3/mo. applies to AT120+ and higher packages and varies based on location. 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 or go online to cancel. Remote: The DISH Voice Remote with the Google Assistant requires internet-connected Hopper, Joey, or Wally device. Customer must press Voice Remote button to activate feature. The Google Assistant Smart Home features require Google account and compatible devices. Google is a trademark of Google LLC. 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 \$9.99/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. Indiana C.P.D Reg. No. - 19-08615. ©2020 GoDISH.com. All rights reserved. Internet speeds, prices, and providers vary by customer address. \$40 price refers to widely available plan from multiple providers. Restrictions apply. Nationwide availability of 25 Mbps plan is subject to change without notice. The application of "Unlimited Data with no Hard Data Limits" varies by provider, but commonly mean that your access to the internet will not be stopped by going over a data limit, but that speeds may be lowered. Call for details. Internet not provided by DISH and will be billed separately.