

TEXAS CO-OP POWER



STOCK SHOWS

Young Texans hope for big payoffs

SEE PAGE 18
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the Storm

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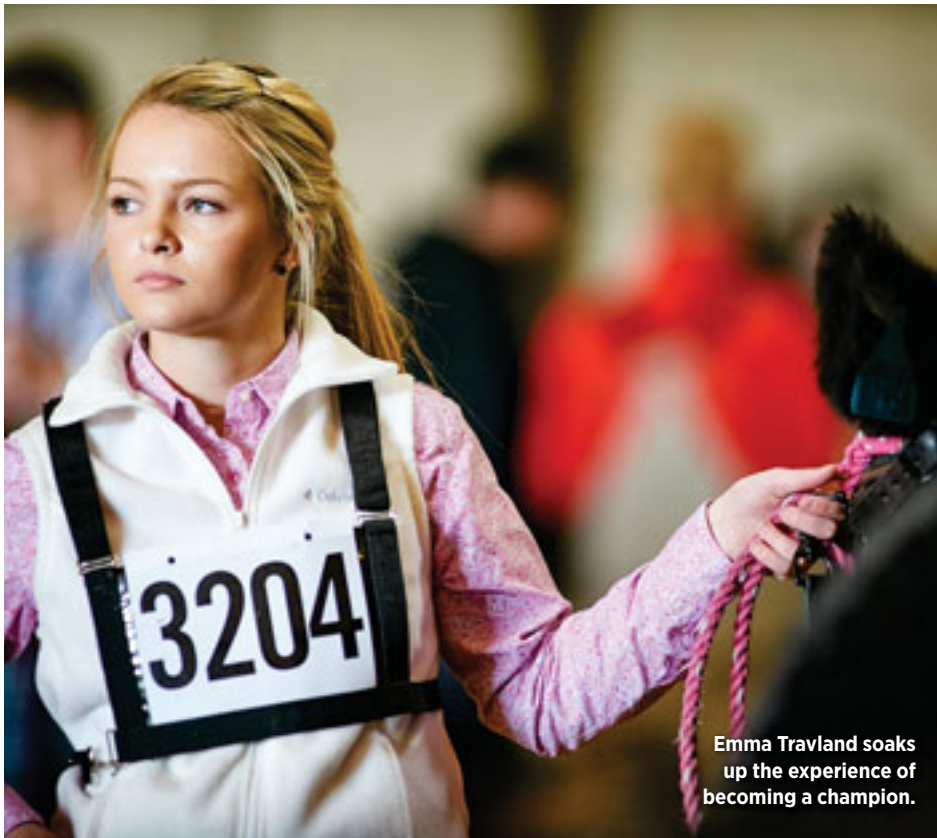
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Emma Travland soaks up the experience of becoming a champion.

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STOCK SHOW: DAVE SHAFER. OWL: LARRY DITTO

ON THE COVER Emma Travland shows off Mopsy, her pride and joy, at the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo. Photo by Dave Shafer

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Bandera Co-op Pioneer

My grandfather, Thomas P. Grant, volunteered to participate in the first officers training camp at Leon Springs from May 8 to August 15, 1917 [*90-Day Wonders*, May 2017]. He was commissioned as a lieutenant after completion of training. At the time, he was an ordained Presbyterian minister from Brady. He served as a chaplain in World War I and was wounded in combat.

He eventually settled in Tarpoley and was instrumental in the founding of Bandera Electric Cooperative in 1938, serving as one of the first directors.

TOM GRANT | JONESTOWN
PEDERNALES EC

Red-Letter Devotion

I enjoyed reading about Nancy Johnson, who makes red hats for babies [*Open Hearts*, February 2017]. How do I reach her organization? I would love to contribute hats.

HARLENE MERCY | FRISCO
COSERV

Editor's note: To find out how to help the cause, visit heart.org, or contact Nancy Johnson at (325) 226-3659 or 19nanjo41@gmail.com.

Out of the Blue

What a pleasant surprise to see a name familiar to my boyhood of the 1940s [*Aisles of Blue*, April 2017]. I lived near blueberry farmer Albert Moorhead. I remember great dinners at the homeplace and going home well-supplied with fresh pork and produce.

BILL WRIGHT | EDGEWOOD
TRINITY VALLEY EC

Heirloom Lightning Welk

I loved your interesting article on seashells [*Treasure From the Gulf*, May 2017]. I have a collection of shells from many places. My aunt, a talented artist who had a studio on the Strand in Galveston, painted me a beautiful lightning welk before her death. I love that she chose the state shell for me.

PAM FARMER | OLNEY | FORT BELKNAP EC

Editor's note: Our poster includes the lightning welk, the state shell of Texas.



Order an illustrated Texas Seashells poster online.

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True-Blue Servants

Just wanted to express our appreciation for the linemen who come out at all hours to get our power back on [*Much Appreciated*, April 2017]. When it's too wet to get their trucks in, I've seen them spike their way up a pole and spend hours in all weather working on the problem. Could not ask for better service.

WILLIAM HILL | FREESTONE COUNTY
NAVARRO COUNTY EC

Haunting Memories

My wife and I visited New London in February [*The New London School Explosion*, January 2017]. The museum is outstanding for a history buff. The whole town gave me a haunted feeling. It interested me that Adolf Hitler sent a letter of condolence to the town.

BILLY HANKS | DALE
BLUEBONNET EC

So Far By Car

The best and truest rhyme about Texas may well be the one my dad used to recite [*There Once Was a Rhyme About Texas*, May 2017]:

*The sun has riz,
The sun has set,
And we ain't left Texas yet.*

Takes me a hard 12-hour drive to reach Amarillo on our way to visit our grandkids in Colorado.

JIM EVANS | PORT LAVACA
VICTORIA EC

Old Magnolia

We really enjoyed the article on Old Magnolia [*Trinity Thumbprint*, February 2017]. We have lived in the area for a while and discovered the defunct town on our own while exploring.

BREANNA AND KENNETH SMITH
HENDERSON COUNTY
TRINITY VALLEY EC

Words of Wisdom

My great-grandson, J.T., age 7, is very interested in learning from your safety- and weather-related tips. I feel he is acquiring valuable life lessons, and even I am still learning.

JEAN SCHWECKE | CARMINE
FAYETTE EC



WEB EXTRAS
► Find more happenings online.

HAPPENINGS

Itchin' for Something Fun?

THE BUZZ IN CLUTE THIS MONTH CENTERS ON, of all things, the mosquito. While the rest of us curse, spray and flail at the annoying, biting insects, the Brazoria County town devotes three days— **JULY 27-29** this year— to the **GREAT TEXAS MOSQUITO FESTIVAL**. The event even features mosquito-calling contests.

The organizers, called the Swat Team, promise a carnival, games, contests and food (for humans of all blood types). One of the main attractions is Willie Man-Chew, the 26-foot-tall mosquito mascot.

INFO ► (979) 265-8392, mosquitofestival.com



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Relish the Idea

July is **NATIONAL HOT DOG MONTH**. On Independence Day, Americans will down 150 million hot dogs, enough to encircle Texas more than 4½ times.

ENERGY INFO

MORE THAN GOODENOUGH

His 1980 discovery impacts our lives every day; now, University of Texas at Austin professor and solid-state physicist **JOHN GOODENOUGH**, who turns 95 this month, is on to an improvement in rechargeable battery technology that could revolutionize our electronics again.

A team of UT engineers led by Goodenough has developed a faster-charging, longer-lasting and safer, noncombustible battery that could someday make its way into our handheld devices, computers and cars.

The new cells use electrodes encapsulated in nanotubes that improve on the performance of lithium-ion batteries with solid-state lithium-sulfur. (Translation: They won't explode.)

HISTORY LESSON

Convenience Catches On

FROM SNYDER TO PALACIOS, 7-ELEVENS have dotted Texas' highway exits for 90 years. The pioneering convenience stores known best for their long hours and Slurpees got their start in the Lone Star State in 1927 when Southland Ice Company started offering milk, bread and eggs at its Dallas icehouse.

FIRST ALL-NIGHTER: One Saturday after a Longhorns home game in 1963, the year the football team earned its first national championship, an Austin location near campus stayed open past the traditional 11 p.m. closing time, keeping its doors open all night to satisfy raucous fans. The precedent spread.

TOTE'M TAKES OFF: The first-of-its kind stores were called Tote'm until 1946; now, there are more than 56,600 7-Elevens, originally named to reflect their 7 a.m.-11 p.m. business hours, in 18 countries.

OH THANK HEAVEN: 7-Elevens offer **FREE SLURPEES** every July 11 (7/11).



ALMANAC

RODEO RAISES THE ROOF

It wasn't **LUCILLE MULHALL's** first rodeo, but for her and the spectators at Cowtown Coliseum in Fort Worth 100 years ago, it was the first indoor rodeo anyone had ever seen.

The Oklahoma trick roper in 1917 organized what she called a "week of frontier sports" at the Fort Worth Stock Show. More than 50 cowpokes competed in roping, riding and bronc busting with legendary "Foghorn" Clancy on the call. Now, indoor rodeos are a staple of stock shows across the state.

Find out what stock shows are doing for youths today by turning to *Raising the Stakes* on Page 8.



WORTH REPEATING

"The genius of the American system is that through freedom we have created extraordinary results from plain old ordinary people."

— **FORMER U.S. SEN. PHIL GRAMM OF TEXAS**, who turns 75 on July 8

STRAW: DULEB64 | DREAMSTIME.COM; SLURPEES: STOCKCREATIONS | SHUTTERSTOCK.COM; MULHALL: NATIONAL COWGIRL MUSEUM AND HALL OF FAME, FORT WORTH, TEXAS; ROPE: ALEX STAROSELSEV | SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

RAISING THE STAKES

Stock shows demand commitment for big payoff



STORY BY BRENDA KISSKO | PHOTOS BY DAVE SHAFER

Her first steer was particularly difficult. It kicked and head-butted her with annoying regularity. As she walked it into the ring for her first county show, the 1,000-pound steer stepped on her foot, its pointed hoof digging into her boot. Emma's showmanship won the moment, and she kept her composure in front of the judge, holding her tears until she left the pen. That's when she embraced the challenge of training the animal and bonding with him so that they could work together to win. Despite their trying relationship, Emma recalls how hard it was to put him on the sale truck when it was time to let him go. She didn't realize she would miss that stubborn steer so much, and she felt the void as the trailer pulled away.

The next March, she chose a new steer, happily taking on her next "project," as show animals are known, that would require years of tenacity, dedication and more tough lessons.

"If I didn't show, I would not be the same person I am today," Emma says. "Showing has taught me different values, like hard work and to always be honest," she adds. "It has taught me good morals. I have gotten a pretty good work ethic out of showing and have all A's in advanced courses. Showing has really helped me in school—a ton."

Emma wants to be a doctor. Possibly a surgeon. Through showing livestock, she is working toward her goal of earning scholarships and gaining the confidence, compassion and courage necessary to be a working professional.

She brushes Mopsy, her Angus, so named because of the unruly mop of hair he had as a calf, and

It's 6:30 on this Hill Country autumn morning, and an orange glow lines the curve of a cool sky with purple clouds. Chickens peck the ground, a rooster crows and two old friends—Duke, a hound, and Abby, a calico cat—huddle together to ward off the chilly morning air. Fourteen-year-old Emma Travland has already been up for half an hour to herd two steers in from the pasture, then wash, dry, groom and feed them before loading them up for the Kerr County Fair Steer Show.

Emma is a freshman at Fredericksburg High School, and her family is a member of Central Texas Electric Cooperative. A 6 a.m. wake-up call is part of her routine because she has been showing livestock since she was 7. Her mother, Karen, showed steers growing up, and her aunt showed hogs, so showing livestock was integral to her family life. Even so, Emma concedes she did not enjoy showing animals the first couple of years. It was a lot of work, and she found it intimidating.

Emma Travland and Mopsy strut their stuff to a full house at the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo, where Mopsy claimed the title of reserve champion.



WEB EXTRAS

► Learn how to get involved in youth stock shows and see a slideshow of Emma's adventure.



then turns to Pepito, her young black-and-white exotic. He has been in only one show before today, and she hesitates to bring him. This is a smaller prospect show and a perfect opportunity to give her practice with her steers before the “majors.”

The majors begin in January with the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo, then continue in San Angelo and San Antonio in February. Finally, shows in Austin and Houston in March set the stage for the State Fair of Texas and Waco’s Heart O’ Texas Fair & Rodeo in the fall. These are the shows where grand champions sell at auction for six figures, and scholarships can reach into five figures. Throughout 2015, more than 57,000 total animals were validated for competition in Texas. Validation categories include market hogs (nearly half of the total), market lambs, market goats, market steers, heifers, wether dams, breeding sheep, wether doe and breeding goats.

Spectators and buyers travel from across the globe to attend famed Texas stock shows and rodeos. Visitors don cowboy boots and 10-gallon hats to get a close look at the care and precision that goes into Lone Star livestock. These events are a true testament to the old saying, “Everything’s bigger in Texas.”

Texas stock show culture began in 1896, when the first livestock show was held on the banks of Marine Creek in North Fort Worth. It grew each year and, in 1907, charged its first admission:

These events are a true testament to the old saying, “Everything’s bigger in Texas.”

25 cents. Now the show attracts more than 1 million visitors and exhibitors from more than 90 countries. Since 1980, the Fort Worth Stock Show Syndicate, a group of area business leaders, has awarded more than \$20 million in scholarships and sale money to youth participants. The Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo stands as the oldest continuously running show in the state.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is the largest in the world, drawing more than 2.4 million visitors in 2016 and contributing more than \$430 million to Texas youths since 1932. What started as a discussion between seven men brainstorming over lunch about how to promote and preserve the cattle industry along the Texas coast is now a show that sets world records at its auction. In 2016, five world records were set, including the grand champion junior market lamb going for \$261,000 and the grand champion junior market barrow, a hog, going for \$209,000. That same year, the grand champion junior market steer sold for \$375,000, but that price does not measure up to the world record

set in Houston in 2002, when the grand champion steer went for \$600,001.

The students who show animals earn money by winning premiums, through scholarships and at auction sales, though some shows set a cap on how much of the sale price

Clockwise from top: The competitors stir into action at 5 a.m., sometimes begrudgingly. Emma Travland and Mopsy await their turn for the grand march—after adjusting the show halter. Sundown means dinner for Mopsy.

the student will receive—everything above that goes toward scholarships and expenses. Many participating youths graduate with a good portion of their college bill paid through their hard work, endless early mornings and late nights with their animals, as well as the thousands of dollars required to buy and care for the animals.

Duery Menzies, a Central Texas EC member, is retired and lives just outside Fredericksburg. The livestock show world brought him the love of his life. He met his late wife, LaWanda, when they were both county extension agents. She showed hogs,

Visitors don cowboy boots and 10-gallon hats to get a close look at the care and precision that goes into Lone Star livestock.

a few steers and capons when she was growing up, and Menzies showed market lambs and breeding sheep. Menzies recalls sleeping in tents and bedrolls in the barn with the animals in his early years of showing. His mother was the first home demonstration agent in Menard County, and he served as Gillespie County’s extension agent for more than 25 years. In the 1970s and ’80s, he also judged livestock.

“As a judge, you can see self-confidence,” Menzies says. “Winning takes someone who can read livestock. It takes diligence and discipline. People need to learn hard work.”

The numerous prospect shows throughout the state not only provide the opportunity to gain experience; they also make a big impact. In 2015, 47,452 youths participated in county shows across the state, and more than \$77 million was invested back into those participants through premiums and auction sales.

Billy Zanolini, assistant professor and extension specialist for youth livestock and agriculture at Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, said he was surprised by the rising number of poultry and rabbits and attributed it to the fact that these projects take up less space and are less expensive. Smaller show animals create an opportunity for youths to get involved even without access to the land necessary for some of the larger animals.

Emma, Karen, Mopsy and Pepito arrive at the Kerr County Fair Steer Show, and immediately Emma goes to work preparing the animals’ pen and grooming them. She’s had some success in the past, having won reserve American breed champion at the State Fair of Texas in 2013 and grand champion steer at the Texas Junior State Angus Show in 2015, but she is nervous about these two today.

She first brings Mopsy into the ring for the junior showmanship competition. This is all about showing the animal—how she leads, how quickly she sets up, how well she answers questions about topics such as protein content in the feed, and if she makes eye contact. Emma wins third place. Then Mopsy wins reserve British breed champion. And Pepito? Pepito receives fourth place in the exotic middleweights, and the judge remarks that he sees a lot of potential in the way the young steer is filling out. Emma believes Pepito is right where he needs to be, on track to show in the majors.

Brenda Kissko finished her first novel, a coming-of-age story set in West Texas. Visit her online at brendakissko.com.



BY BARBRA A. RODRIGUEZ

Home *on the* Range

Texas Master Naturalist volunteers help preserve natural heritage

For Janet Price, volunteering with the Mid-Coast Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist program has included counting migrating buff-breasted sandpipers to determine whether they have enough coastal habitat; wading into a muddy shoreline on a hot summer day to plant erosion-controlling grasses; and participating in daylong Christmas bird counts, when her team once identified 72 species. “It’s a treat when you get to see something that you haven’t seen before,” says Price, a member of Jackson Electric Cooperative.

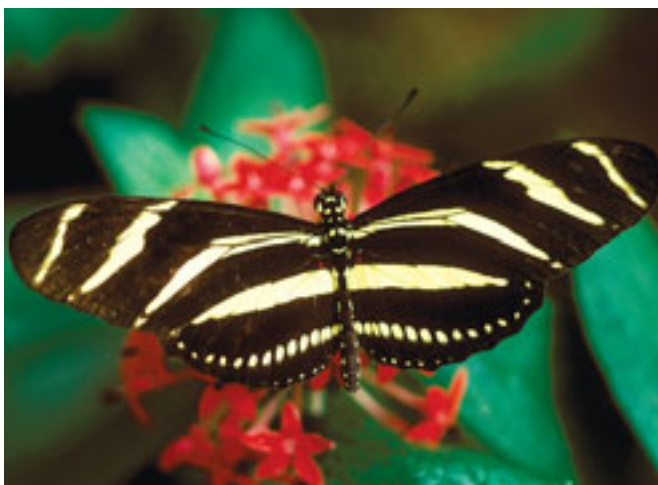
For other master naturalists, volunteering has revealed a new calling. That was true for Becky Etzler, who in 2012 trained with the Hill Country Chapter after moving to Harper with her husband. Expecting to restart a career managing a veterinary clinic, she

began helping the Texas Wildlife Association teach schoolchildren about groundwater issues and managing healthy landscapes.

Etzler began testing landscape tips while revitalizing her own 27 acres of savanna to create a better wildlife habitat. The former Floridian admits she became obsessed with identifying native wildlife and plants. As one of more than a dozen members of Central Texas Electric Cooperative who serve in the Hill Country Chapter, she now directs Kerrville’s Riverside Nature Center.

“I was able to see a whole new world,” she says of the master naturalist training. “It’s such a life changer, opening your eyes to natural resources and to conserving them.”

Etzler and others count themselves among more than 10,000 volunteers in 48 chapters of the Texas Master Naturalist program. The largest and oldest statewide program of its type, Texas Master



Naturalists began with a chapter in San Antonio in the 1990s. That first group was organized by a city naturalist working with a Texas Parks & Wildlife Department staffer who required help completing a range of projects. Member naturalists trained by TPWD and the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service are active from the Pineywoods to the Rio Grande Valley to the Panhandle. Their activities include counting wild parrot flocks, studying native plants and wildlife for conservation projects, conducting birding and stargazing tours, and building butterfly houses.

“They’re making a difference for the future of natural resources by allowing our county governments and the whole gamut of agencies that touch Texas’ landscapes to get so much more done with an ever-decreasing staff size,” says Michelle Haggerty, Texas Master Naturalists’ state coordinator. “We couldn’t do our conservation

Clockwise from opposite: A full moon hangs over a ranch outside Brady; peregrine falcon; zebra longwing; Dave Benoit surveys a native prairie.

and natural resource work today without them.”

All told, these citizen scientists annually educate close to 200,000 Texans, improve the health of approximately 2,000 acres of public land and build dozens of miles of trails in natural areas. Even before doing all that work, certified master naturalists complete 40 hours of field and classroom training followed by 40 hours of required volunteer work. The volunteers assist local, state and national organizations, and the program has inspired similar naturalist endeavors in more than 20 states.

Master naturalists across Texas share their training in ways specific to the landscape, such as the Blackland Prairie Chapter’s



Black-capped vireo, left; a Heartwood Chapter master naturalist journals in Conroe.



“There’s just a wealth of life up there in a seemingly barren environment. You just have to know where to look.” —RUSSELL VOWELL, TEXAS HILL COUNTRY CHAPTER

providing Plano students with weekly nature activities. A priority for the 140-member Blackland Prairie Chapter, which includes many young adults, is restoring 100-plus acres of endangered Blackland Prairie in Collin and Hunt counties. Other volunteers statewide play dirty by building fire lanes or removing cedar trees and other invasives at sites such as Enchanted Rock.

Judy Rowe, an educator at McKinney’s Heard Natural Science Museum, is among members helping students revitalize a school butterfly garden and explore Plano’s Heritage Farmstead Museum, just blocks away from Ammie E. Wilson Middle School. She has watched these junior naturalists develop from scrunch-faced and hesitant to hurrying between basins to see what friends have found while viewing diving beetles, common duckweed, dragonfly nymphs and other residents of local ponds or water features. “Just seeing them get excited about being outside and looking at bugs and critters gets me excited,” Rowe says.

There’s more: Master naturalists can choose office work, such as stuffing envelopes or answering phone calls, or accomplish field work by taking photographs and logging GPS information via a cellphone app.

Through observations like this, master naturalists expand available data about species that face challenges, including habitat loss and weather extremes. More than 200 species are considered endangered or threatened in Texas. These include orchids called Navasota ladies’ tresses, the southwestern willow flycatcher and long-tailed Texas kangaroo rats. With detailed data on the population and whereabouts of flora and fauna, organizations such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service can adjust approaches to fostering their survival or reducing the stranglehold of aggressive, nonnative species that compete with natives for resources.

On a master naturalist tour of Enchanted Rock, volunteer docents Rose Ellis and Russell Vowell guide hikers and provide lessons about its native denizens, geology and history. Ellis draws

the group’s attention to white, tick-sized specks on a prickly pear cactus. Squishing one between her fingertips to release

its red juice, she describes how the cochineal insects once were prized as a dye for robes at the Vatican. Along the climb to the rock’s windswept summit, Vowell points out a 2-foot-tall clump of bunchgrass, noting that the plant’s leaves served Native Americans for basket weaving and early European settlers for rope making.

More than 900 unique plants and animals call Texas’ Hill Country home. “There’s just a wealth of life up there in a seemingly barren environment,” Vowell says. “You just have to know where to look.”

WEB EXTRAS

► **Learn more about becoming a master naturalist.**

Among the sightings master naturalists have posted on iNaturalist, a crowdsourcing website, are a rare spotted skunk in Milam County, a once-in-a-decade sighting of a spot-tailed earless lizard in the South Texas plains and the first confirmation of a nonnative and harmful

zebra mussel in one of the Brazos River basin lakes.

Conservation benefits aside, some master naturalists simply enjoy the excuse to step outside. Take Nita Schiro, an adjunct professor of digital media and web design at Lone Star College-Montgomery. A highlight of her master naturalist training at W.G. Jones State Forest was standing alone within the pine tree haven, with just the trill of a pine warbler to interrupt the silence. “That experience was really different from anything I’d done in such a long time,” Schiro says. “I just really got lost in the peacefulness of it.”

Now she posts butterfly and other sightings on iNaturalist, gives talks about the reliance of wildlife on native plants and invites passersby on tours of the butterfly garden she developed at home in the Woodlands. Tour-takers have included a couple reclaiming a vacant lot as a garden at their home in Harlem, New York. Sensing kindred spirits on the tour, Schiro slipped in a mention of becoming master naturalists. She says, “We are all trying to make a difference in some small way.”

Writer and editor **Barbra A. Rodriguez** lives in Austin.

Steel of Approval

At \$49, this blade of Damascus steel is a real steal

Damascus steel is legendary. Tales of its unmatched strength, sharpness and durability ring through the ages. There are stories of gun rifles being sliced in two by Damascus steel swords and individual strands of hair being sliced in half, even if they gently floated down on to the edge of the blade.

Now, you can be a part of the legend. The *Legend Knife* boasts nearly 4" of famed Damascus steel with its signature, wavy pattern. Damascus steel blade knives can cost thousands. So, at **\$49**, the price itself is almost legendary.

Cast Damascus steel, known as wootz, was popular in the East and it's an exacting process that's part metalwork, part chemistry. It's produced by melting pieces of iron and steel with charcoal in a low oxygen environment. During the process, the metals absorb carbon from the charcoal and the resulting alloy is cooled at a very slow rate. The outcome is a beautiful one-of-a-kind pattern of banding and mottling reminiscent of flowing water.

Once a lost art, we sought out a knifemaker who has resurrected the craftsmanship of Damascus steel to create the *Legend Knife*. The genuine Damascus steel blade folds into a tri-colored pakkawood handle that's prepared to resist the ravages of the great outdoors. When not in use or on display, The *Legend Knife* stays protected in the included genuine leather sheath.

"If you have a Damascus steel blade knife, you have a knife blade with unique beauty. With its historical reputation as the metal used for the best swords over hundreds of years, and its distinctive wavy design, Damascus steel is a beauty to behold."

— knifearth.com

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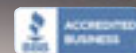


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The Path to Efficiency Independence



John W. Herrera

MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

While fireworks and Independence Day parades are synonymous with the Fourth of July, no such fanfare comes to mind when discussing energy efficiency. Perhaps it should. If you think about it, energy efficiency not only benefits individuals and families, but the country as a whole. Energy efficiency combined with energy conservation and advances in technology in the utility industry, ultimately help our country to a path toward greater energy independence. And that's worth celebrating.

Benefits of Efficiency

At its essence, greater efficiency means less energy is used for the production of goods and services. For individual consumers, a reduction in energy use usually translates to a tangible financial benefit – more money in your wallet at the end of the month. If your co-op neighbors are also using less energy, collectively, it means the overall cost of providing that electricity could be lower and may result in reduced costs for co-op members. For many, this is reason enough to strive for greater energy efficiency. On a national level, energy efficiency, sometimes called the “fifth fuel,” has a more profound impact. It can potentially boost the economy by allowing consumers and businesses to invest in other areas. As importantly, greater energy efficiency may slow the rate at which domestic energy is depleted, and therefore reduce or diminish the need for foreign energy.

Strike up the Band

There's no need to wait for the first exploding burst of fireworks in the night sky to start your energy efficiency efforts. Every American can take charge of their own energy use, regardless of the date on the calendar. Small steps can lead to a big difference for you and your neighbors, whether across the road or across the country.

Energy efficiency can generally be achieved two ways. The first is with mechanical change, such as replacing an older HVAC unit or less efficient appliance with a new ENERGY STAR model or upgrading to new, insulated windows. Less expensive actions include improving the seal of your home's “envelope” by caulking exterior windows and doors and sealing openings where pipes and ductwork meet the outside. Swapping out the last incandescent bulbs (inside and outside) with LEDs also makes a noticeable difference.

Smart Control

The second way to realize energy efficiency is through smarter management of your energy use. Leveraging smart thermostat technology is a good place to start. Most smart thermostats contain an app allowing remote control by mobile phone or tablet. Program your thermostat to reflect your family's schedule. Many thermostat programs allow you to view and edit your thermostat schedule and monitor the amount of energy used. Sometimes, however, energy efficiency is simply a matter of changing old habits such as washing clothes in cold water instead of hot or running the dishwasher during off-peak times.

Regardless of the path you take on the road to energy efficiency and independence, Magic Valley Electric Cooperative can help you on the journey. For information about energy efficiency programs, you can visit our website at magicvalley.coop or by calling 1-866-225-5683.

Respectfully,

John W. Herrera
General Manager

Magic Valley Electric Cooperative

P.O. Box 267
1 3/4 Mi. W. Hwy 83
Mercedes, TX 78570



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John W. Herrera

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Ask Willie Wiredhand

WHY IS MY ELECTRIC BILL SO HIGH?

If your electric bill seems higher than it used to be, it's time to investigate.

- 1. Check your billing history.** You can do this online at magicvalley.coop. Verify that the bill truly is higher. If you don't have access online, you can call us at 866-225-5683 to ask for a review of your bills over the past year. You might be surprised to see how much your usage fluctuates depending on the season.
- 2. Check the weather.** Fluctuations in outdoor temperatures can lead your family to crank up the air conditioning on especially hot days. Most people with air conditioning use more electricity during the hottest summer months than at any other time of the year.
- 3. Check what's plugged in.** If you thought your bill would be lower during a month when your family was on vacation, you might be surprised to realize that your appliances still use substantial electricity when the house is empty. Your refrigerator, landscape irrigator and well pump, for instance, keep running while you're gone unless you have unplugged them. In fact, any appliance plugged into the wall uses electricity, whether or not anybody is home to use them.
- 4. Check your equipment.** As appliances such as refrigerators and water heaters age, they become less efficient. If your air-conditioning and heating system or another large appliance is more than 15 years old, consider replacing it with a more energy-efficient model.
- 5. Check your lifestyle.** If your college-age child is home for the summer, your electric bill will be a bit higher than it was while he or she was away. If your grandkids are enjoying their vacation at your house, your bill could go up. If you've had guests, you've used more electricity. If you've added a major appliance, such as a pool with a pump, a hot tub or even an oversized TV, that has affected your electric bill, too.
- 6. Don't rely on your neighbors.** No two families use electricity the same way, so if you believe your bill is too high because your neighbor's is lower, you're not making an even comparison. The better comparison is between your use of electricity now compared with the same time last year.

If you still think your bill is higher than it should be, contact us at 1-866-225-5683 for help figuring it out.



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3 Summer Projects

Make your home more efficient

Take some time this summer to invest in your home's energy efficiency. Here are three projects that will pay off in lower energy bills.

- 1. Install a programmable thermostat.** It's one of the best ways to save energy, and not just in the summer. The catch: It doesn't save energy if you don't program it. Tell it to raise the temperature of your home by at least 7 degrees when everyone leaves the house for the day, and 4 degrees at bedtime. This could save you up to \$180 a year.
- 2. Change your AC filters.** You should do this every month. Dirty filters prevent air from flowing through them, forcing your AC to work extra hard. That's a big waste of energy.
- 3. Switch to LED lights.** Make the switch this summer from outdated incandescent and compact fluorescent bulbs. LED lights save more energy and last longer than either. Look for the Energy Star label on lightbulbs; those use up to 90 percent less energy and give off less heat, and can save you more than \$30 on electricity over the life of the bulb or fixture.

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TEACH FOR AMERICA

Abhinav Mishra is driven to create opportunities for low-income students at Edcouch-Elsa High School.

While tutoring students in science at a low-income elementary school as an undergrad at Arizona State University, Abhinav Mishra came to an important conclusion; people may be created equally, but opportunities are not. The north Indian native was teaching a lesson about water molecules, specifically, how they are shaped like Mickey Mouse's head. A second grade student named Felipe loudly exclaimed, "What about the orbitals? I don't want to color - tell me how electrons are pulled!" It was that moment he realized that his students had brilliance that was simply going untapped.

Driven to create opportunities for low-income students, Mishra applied to Teach For America and was accepted into the 2015 Rio Grande Valley corps where he was hired to teach high school science at Edcouch-Elsa High School.

"Sitting on my father's shoulders, I was able to see eye-to-eye with everyone else," said Mishra. "There's been a picture going around social media recently where three

men are standing, trying to view a baseball game over a fence. The tall guy doesn't need a box to stand on, whereas the short guy does. Being there for the short guy is why I came to Teach For America, so I could play my part in educational equity. Students need to see that opportunities exist for them."

One such opportunity came when the National Science Foundation gave Teach For America a \$1 million grant to train teachers in computer science. Mishra immediately jumped at the opportunity.

"I heard about a Computer Science initiative from another Teach For America corps member, who was trying to get more schools involved. I called the Teach For America managing director, Jonathan Stevens, and asked if I could "get in" on the action, so to speak," said Mishra. "He spoke to my principal and our assistant superintendent, and that was it. Next thing I knew, I was on a plane on my way to a computer science training."

El Camino Hacia La Independencia Eficiente



John W. Herrera

MENSAJE DEL DIRECTOR GENERAL

Los fuegos artificiales y desfiles el día de la independencia son sinónimo del cuatro de julio, pero en cuanto a la eficiencia energética no hay la misma emoción; sin embargo, tal vez debería de haberla. Si realmente lo pensamos, la eficiencia energética no solo beneficia a los individuos y sus familias, sino a todo el país. La eficiencia energética combinada con la conservación de energía y los avances tecnológicos en el sector de servicios públicos, podría guiar nuestro país en el camino hacia una mayor independencia energética. Y eso es digno de celebración.

Los Beneficios de la Eficiencia

En su esencia, una mayor eficiencia significa utilizar menos energía para la producción de servicios. Para los consumidores, una reducción en el consumo de energía generalmente se traduce en un beneficio financiero - más dinero en la cartera al final del mes. Si tus vecinos también están usando menos energía, colectivamente significa que el costo total de suministrar electricidad podría ser menor y podría resultar en una reducción de costos para los miembros de la cooperativa. Para muchos, esta es razón suficiente para luchar por una mayor eficiencia energética. A nivel nacional, la eficiencia energética, a veces conocida como el "quinto combustible," tiene un impacto más profundo. Hay una gran posibilidad de mejorar la economía, permitiendo a consumidores y empresas invertir en otras áreas. Lo más importante: una mayor eficiencia energética puede disminuir el ritmo de cómo se consume la energía interna y, por lo tanto, reducir o disminuir la necesidad de energía externa.

Que Suene la Banda

No hay necesidad de esperar a la primera descarga de fuegos artificiales para iniciar las medidas de eficiencia energética. Cada estadounidense puede hacerse cargo de su propio uso de energía, independientemente de la fecha del calendario. Pequeños pasos pueden conducir a una gran diferencia para ti y tus vecinos, ya sea frente a tu casa o en todo el país.

La eficiencia energética generalmente puede lograrse de dos maneras. La primera es con cambios mecánicos, como reemplazar la antigua unidad de aire acondicionado central HVAC por un aparato nuevo modelo ENERGY STAR o instalar nuevas ventanas aisladas. Otras acciones menos costosas incluyen mejorar el aislamiento de su casa, sellar las ventanas exteriores y puertas y aberturas de sellado de tuberías y conductos. Reemplazar las bombillas incandescentes (interior y exterior) con focos LEDs también hace una gran diferencia.

Control Inteligente

La segunda manera de materializar la eficiencia energética es a través de una forma más inteligente del uso de energía. Aprovechar la tecnología de los termostatos inteligentes es un buen inicio. La mayoría de los termostatos inteligentes contienen una aplicación que permite el control remoto por teléfono móvil o tableta. Programa el termostato según el horario de la familia. Muchos de los programas de los termostatos permiten ver y controlar la cantidad de energía utilizada. A veces, la eficiencia energética es simplemente asunto de cambiar los viejos hábitos, como lavar la ropa en agua fría en lugar de caliente o no utilizar el lavavajillas durante las horas pico.

Independientemente de la ruta que tomes hacia la eficiencia y la independencia energética, Magic Valley Electric Cooperative puede ayudarte. Para obtener información acerca de los programas de eficiencia energética, puedes visitar nuestra página web en magicvalley.coop o llamar al 1-866-225-5683.

Respetuosamente,


John W. Herrera
General Manager

Magic Valley Electric Cooperative

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1 3/4 Mi. W. Hwy 83
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Pregúntale a Willie

¿POR QUÉ MI FACTURA ELÉCTRICA ES TAN ALTA?

Si tu factura eléctrica te parece mayor de lo que solía ser, es hora de investigar.

- 1. Revisa el historial de tu cuenta.** Puedes hacerlo en línea en magicvalley.coop. Verifica que realmente el consumo sea mayor. Si no tienes acceso en línea, puedes llamarnos al 866-225-5683 para solicitar un estudio del historial de tu cuenta durante el año pasado. Quizás te sorprenderás al ver cuánto varía el consumo durante cada temporada.
- 2. Revisa el clima.** Las fluctuaciones en las temperaturas externas pueden llevar a tu familia a ajustar la temperatura del aire acondicionado, especialmente en días calurosos. La mayoría de las personas con aire acondicionado utilizan más electricidad durante los meses más calurosos del verano que en cualquier otra época del año.
- 3. Revisa qué está conectado.** Si pensabas que tu recibo sería menor en el mes cuando tu familia se fue de vacaciones, es posible que te sorprendas al darte cuenta de que los aparatos electrónicos utilizan electricidad sustancial aun cuando la casa está vacía. El refrigerador, la irrigación del jardín y la bomba de la cisterna, por ejemplo, siguen funcionando mientras estás ausente, a menos que se hayan desconectado. De hecho, cualquier aparato conectado a la pared utiliza electricidad, aunque nadie esté utilizándolo.
- 4. Revisa tus electrodomésticos.** Los aparatos electrodomésticos como el refrigerador y los calentadores de agua se hacen menos eficientes. Si tu aire acondicionado y sistema de calefacción u otro aparato grande tiene más de 15 años, considera la posibilidad de reemplazarlo con un modelo más eficiente.
- 5. Revisa tu estilo de vida.** Si tu hijo universitario viene a pasar el verano en casa, la factura de electricidad será un poco mayor que cuando él o ella estaba fuera. Si tus nietos están disfrutando de las vacaciones en tu casa, tu factura podría aumentar. Si has tenido huéspedes, has usado más electricidad. Si compraste un electrodoméstico nuevo, como una bomba para la piscina, un jacuzzi o incluso una televisión grande, eso también puede afectar tu factura eléctrica.
- 6. No compares tu factura con la de tus vecinos.** No hay dos familias que utilicen la electricidad de la misma manera; de modo que si crees que tu factura es demasiado alta porque la de tu vecino es menor, no estás haciendo una comparación pareja. La mejor comparación es entre tu uso de electricidad de ahora con el del mismo mes del año pasado.

Si aun así crees que tu factura es más alta de lo que debieras pagar, comunícate con nosotros al 1-866-225-5683 para obtener ayuda sobre tu cuenta.



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Proyectos de verano

Haz tu hogar más eficiente

Toma tiempo este verano para invertir en la eficiencia energética de tu hogar. Te compartimos tres proyectos que te ayudarán a consumir menos energía.

- 1. Instala un termostato programable.** Es una de las mejores formas de ahorrar energía, y no solo durante el verano. El truco: no ahorrarás energía si no lo programas. Programa la temperatura de tu casa por lo menos 7 grados más arriba cuando todos salgan de casa durante el día y 4 grados a la hora de acostarse. Esto te podría ahorrar hasta \$180 al año.
- 2. Cambia los filtros del aire acondicionado.** Debes de hacer esto cada mes. En ese caso, cambia el filtro cada mes. Los filtros sucios no permiten que el aire fluya a través de ellos, obligando a tu aire acondicionado a trabajar más duro. Eso es un gran desperdicio de energía.
- 3. Cámbiate a focos LED.** Haz el cambio este verano de focos incandescentes y lámparas fluorescentes compactas. Las luces LED ahorran más energía y duran más.

Busca la etiqueta Energy Star en los focos; utilizan hasta 90% menos de energía y emiten menos calor y te pueden ahorrar más de \$30 de electricidad durante la vida útil del foco.



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Semana de Preparación para Huracanes

TOMA UNA SEMANA DE PREPARACIÓN PARA LA TEMPORADA DE TORMENTAS DE ESTE AÑO

Toma una semana durante el mes de junio y haz preparativos antes de que tormenta tropical o huracán pueda llegar a nuestra región. Sigue y comparte los siguientes consejos diarios:

Día 1: Calcula los riesgos

Descubre qué tipo de vientos y tormentas pueden ocurrir en el área donde vives. Los huracanes no solo pueden ocurrir en las zonas costeras, sino que sus efectos pueden sentirse a cientos de millas tierra adentro. Huracanes como Ike, Sandy e Isaac nos recuerdan que pueden ocurrir daños significativos, incluso sin un huracán "oficial" de grandes proporciones.

Día 2: Escribe un plan de evacuación y respuesta

Si vives en una zona clasificada como "zona de evacuación" o en una casa que no sea segura durante un huracán, determina a dónde irías durante una evacuación y cómo llegarías ahí. Identifica si alguno de sus amigos o familiares viven fuera de las zonas de peligro y pregúntales si puedes quedarte con ellos en caso de tener que evacuar tu casa. No olvides tomar en cuenta tus mascotas, ya que muchos de los albergues locales no permiten mascotas. Después de asegurar el destino de la evacuación, no olvides comprar de inmediato las provisiones de emergencia necesarias. No es agradable estar en línea en el supermercado a última hora, cuando probablemente muchas de las provisiones se hayan agotado. No olvides poner el plan por escrito y comunicarle la información a tu familia.

Día 3. Revisa la póliza de seguro de tu casa

Llama a tu agente o empresa del seguro de tu casa y asegúrate de tener cobertura suficiente para reparar o incluso reconstruir su casa. También asegúrate de tener suficientemente asegurado tu coche o lancha. La póliza estándar de seguro de propiedad no cubre inundaciones, independientemente de que seas propietario o rentero; necesitarás una póliza independiente para inundaciones. La póliza para inundaciones está disponible por medio de tu agente o el programa de National Flood Insurance en floodsmart.gov. Actúa de inmediato, pues la póliza para inundaciones requiere de 30 días para ser activada.

Día 4: Compra los suministros necesarios para desastres

No olvides comprar los suministros necesarios no solo para la duración de la tormenta sino también para después. Ten suficiente alimentos enlatados, agua, medicamentos por lo menos para que tu familia sobreviva por una semana. Necesitarás dinero extra, cobijas, baterías para el radio y linternas. El teléfono celular puede ser muy útil, pero requiere batería, por lo que se necesita un cargador solar portátil. La agencia federal de emergencias de FEMA fema.org tiene una lista extensa de productos que tu botiquín de emergencia debe contener.

Día 5: Refuerza tu casa

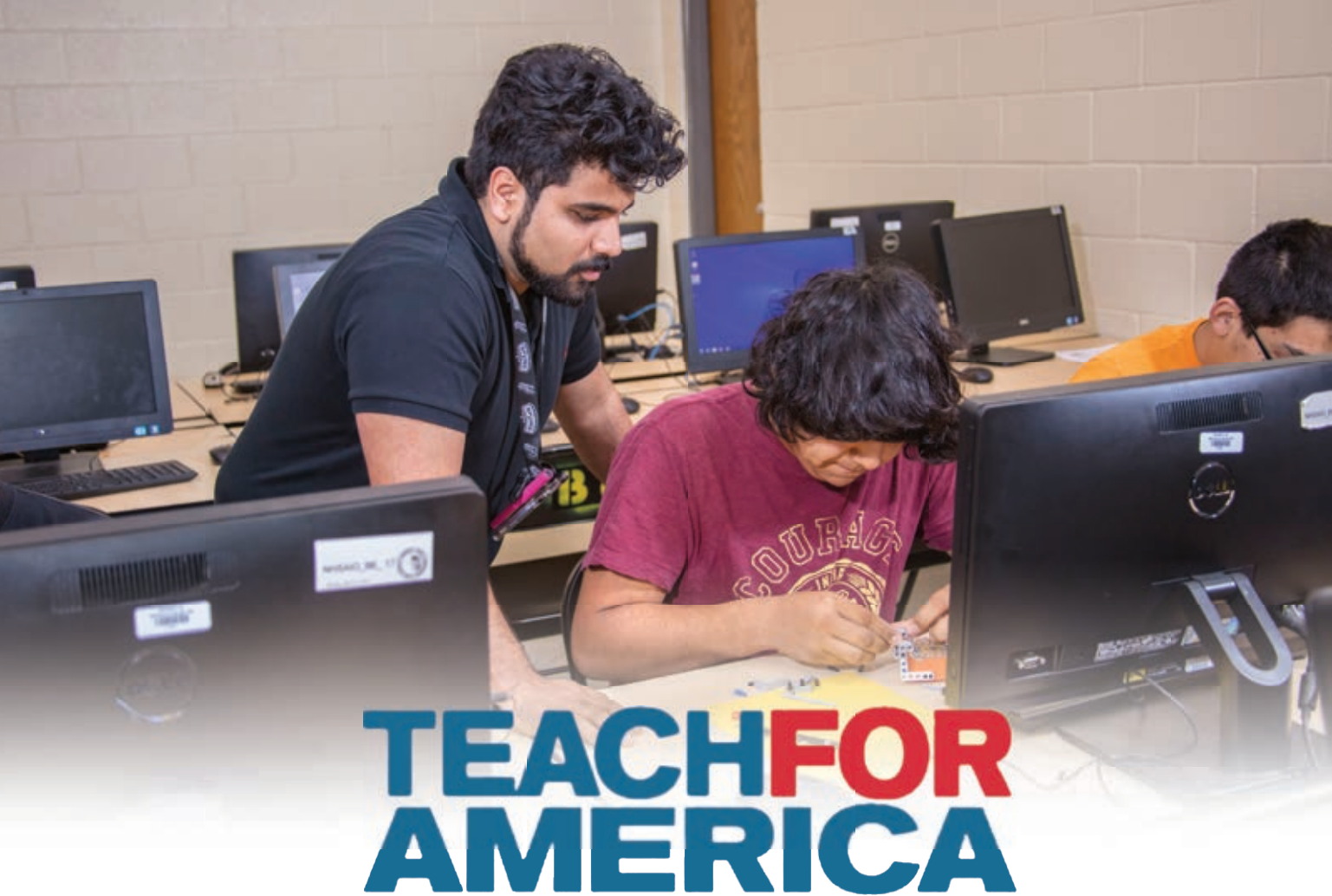
Si vas a permanecer en su casa durante la tormenta, asegúrate de que esta cumpla con las condiciones de código necesarias para resistir un huracán. Muchos de los ajustes que necesita tu casa para cumplir con los códigos necesarios para resistir un huracán tienen costos bajos. Asegúrate de instalar el material necesario como tablas de plywood, paneles de aluminio o acero alrededor de ventanas y puertas.

Día 6. Busca fuentes de información

El Centro Nacional de Huracanes (NOAA, por sus siglas en inglés) es la fuente oficial de pronósticos y avisos de emergencias. Los coordinadores de emergencia regionales evalúan y toman decisiones de evacuación. Los equipos de ayuda, incluyendo la Cruz Roja, transmiten recomendaciones de seguridad a través de los medios de comunicación locales y regionales. Este tipo de organizaciones trabajan en conjunto y sirven como fuente de información confiable, especialmente para las personas que tienen menores posibilidades de cuidarse a sí mismas.

Día 7. Finalizar el plan de evacuación

Toma tiempo para finalizar los detalles del plan de evacuación. El momento para prepararse para un huracán es antes de que llegue la temporada, cuando tienes tiempo y no estás bajo presión. Prepararte con anticipación te puede ayudar a recuperarte más pronto de un huracán y puede ser la diferencia entre ser víctima o sobreviviente.



TEACH FOR AMERICA

Abhinav Mishra se esfuerza por crear oportunidades para los estudiantes de Edcouch-Elsa High School.

Mientras era tutor de ciencias para estudiantes en una escuela primaria de bajos ingresos durante sus estudios en la Universidad del Estado de Arizona, Abhinav Mishra llegó a una importante conclusión: las personas pueden ser iguales, pero las oportunidades no lo son. Este nativo del norte de la India estaba enseñando una lección sobre las moléculas de agua, específicamente, cómo su forma se parece a la cabeza de Mickey Mouse. Felipe, un estudiante de segundo grado, exclamó: "¡Qué me dices de las órbitas? No quiero colorear - dime cómo se extraen los electrones!" fue en ese momento que se dio cuenta de que sus estudiantes tenían inteligencias brillantes que simplemente no se estaban utilizando.

Decidido a crear oportunidades para estudiantes de bajos ingresos, Mishra solicitó admisión a Teach for America y fue aceptado en el cuerpo del Río Grande Valley del 2015, donde fue contratado para enseñar ciencias en la escuela Edcouch-Elsa High School.

"Sentado sobre los hombros de mi padre, podía

verme cara a cara con todos los demás," dijo Mishra. "Hay una imagen circulando recientemente las redes sociales; en ella hay tres hombres de pie, tratando de ver un juego de béisbol a través de una valla. El alto no necesita pararse sobre una caja, pero el bajito sí. Estar allí para apoyar al bajito es lo que me trajo a Teach for America, para así poder hacer mi parte para la equidad educativa. Los estudiantes necesitan ver que existen oportunidades para ellos."

Una oportunidad así llegó cuando la Fundación Nacional para la Ciencia otorgó a Teach for America una subvención de \$1 millón para capacitar docentes en ciencias de la computación. Mishra inmediatamente aprovechó la oportunidad.

"Me enteré de la iniciativa informática por otro miembro de Teach for America, que estaba tratando de involucrar a más escuelas. Llamé al director administrativo de Teach for America, Jonathan Stevens, y le pregunté si podía "ser parte de la acción, por así decirlo," dijo Mishra. "Él habló con mi director y

nuestro superintendente adjunto, y eso fue todo. Después de eso, me encontré en un avión, camino a mi entrenamiento en informática."

Después de recibir su formación, Mishra comenzó la primera clase electiva de computación en Edcouch. Consciente de las oportunidades que la informática generó en su propia familia, pues varios trabajan para compañías como Google, estaba emocionado de ver esas mismas puertas abrirse para sus estudiantes.

Mishra señaló que aunque muchos de sus estudiantes saben usar la tecnología, no entienden los conceptos básicos de cómo funcionan los equipos. Por lo tanto, en su clase, los estudiantes aprenden todos los conceptos básicos de informática, incluyendo los lenguajes de programación de páginas web y robótica. Por lo tanto, los alumnos de Mishra no están solo aprendiendo informática, sino que están sobresaliendo en ese campo.

"Por primera vez en la historia, Edcouch-Elsa High School ganó el primer lugar en ciencias de la computación en la Liga Interescolástica Universitaria a nivel de distrito," dijo Mishra. "También hay un plan para introducir las primeras clases Avanzadas para Ciencias de la computación. ¿No es increíble!?"

Mishra está extraordinariamente orgulloso de todos sus estudiantes y su duro trabajo, incluso en los días cuando su trabajo es difícil.

"Entré al salón, agotado después de un largo día. Encontré esta pequeña tarjeta que dice 'gracias', y un mensaje dulce y sincero escrito en ella. Otro alumno también me dio las gracias por ayudarlo a entrar a un programa de verano de la Universidad de Yale. Momentos como estos son los que me llenan de esperanza e inspiración. Los chicos a menudo no se dan cuenta de lo mucho que ellos nos inspiran a nosotros y, no solo al revés."

Magic Valley ha sido un promotor del programa Teach for America desde 2003. Durante ese tiempo, han patrocinado numerosos educadores locales que han aumentado las oportunidades para los estudiantes en las escuelas más necesitadas de nuestra región. Las y los maestros patrocinados incluyen profesores del año, los maestros que trajeron nuevos cursos avanzados a las escuelas y educadores que han se han convertido en administradores y han impactado las vidas de miles de chicos en su carrera. Además, los miembros de Teach for America ayudan a promover el programa anual de becas de Magic Valley Electric

Coop y animar a las y los estudiantes a aprovechar esta oportunidad educativa.

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The Mystery of Sain-toh-oodie Goombi

Captured as a toddler, woman lives 66 years with Kiowa family

BY GENE FOWLER

AMONG THE FASCINATING STORIES FROM the collision of cultures in 19th-century Texas are those about the children of settler families kidnapped by Native Americans. Some, like Cynthia Ann Parker, mother of Comanche leader Quanah Parker, were unable to readjust to “civilization” after adopting native ways. Cynthia Ann, who did not willingly return to the white world, mourned the separation from her Comanche family for the rest of her life.

Other narratives, such as the story of Sain-toh-oodie Goombi, ended more peacefully. In 1930, long after she had married into a Kiowa family in Oklahoma and was blessed with several grandchildren, Goombi became convinced that she was actually Millie Durgan.

Durgan was 18 months old in 1864 when she was taken by Kiowa and Comanche who raided Elm Creek settlements in present Young County in north Central Texas.

Blue-eyed Goombi had been told early in life that she was white, but she adapted so well to Kiowa life that she didn't think of returning. Later, though, she began to wonder about her birth family.

In a 1955 letter to *Dallas Morning News* columnist Frank X. Tolbert, Ben Brothers of Mount Enterprise recalled how the Goombi-Durgan connection was established years earlier. In 1930, Brothers, who had been a friend of Quanah Parker, was in Lawton, Oklahoma, for the unveiling of a monument to Cynthia Ann Parker. One of Goombi's daughters, Mrs. George Hunt, shared a secret with Brothers. She said her mother was a white woman and asked Brothers if he might help Goombi find her family members. He replied that even though it sounded like a tough assignment, he was good at reading signs and following a trail.

After reading up on Indian raids, Brothers decided there was a good chance that



Sain-toh-oodie Goombi was believed to be Millie Durgan, kidnapped at 18 months old.

Goombi might be Durgan. He learned that a former slave named Britt Johnson had tracked the Elm Creek raiders into the Indian Territory and rescued his family. But the Kiowa claimed that Durgan, taken in the same raid, was dead.

Brothers contacted history-minded folks in Young County and Comanche County, Oklahoma. After consultations with George Poolaw, Kiowa historian and keeper of tribal “picture records,” all agreed that Goombi must be the Durgan girl. Soon, Goombi, who presumably had been carried from Texas 66 years earlier as a toddler, left her home in Mountain Park, Oklahoma, to visit the people among whom she once lived.

In Newcastle, Texas, Goombi and family members were warmly received by the Kutch-Manning Pioneer Association. Son-in-law George Hunt served as interpreter because Goombi could speak only Kiowa.

On the stage of the high school auditorium, her grandchildren performed Kiowa dances and songs. The group repeated the program in Archer City and Olney, and Goombi spoke on Wichita Falls radio. Barbara A. Neal Ledbetter, who witnessed the Newcastle presentation, said the Kiowa party also traveled to Austin, where Goombi met Gov. Dan Moody.

Though Ledbetter argued in her 1982 book, *Fort Belknap Frontier Saga*, that the “leathery bronze-skinned woman” was not Durgan,

Goombi toured North Texas annually until her death in 1934, meeting the public and soothing long-simmering interracial enmity with her grandchildren's smiling faces and performances. While in Jacksboro, she visited Fort Richardson, where she learned about the trials and imprisonment of Kiowa chiefs Satank, Big Tree and Satanta for the Warren Wagon Train Raid of 1871. *The Paducah Post* reported that the program included “war dancing, round dancing and numerous songs sung in Kiowa and English.”

While later being treated for pneumonia at a Fort Sill hospital, Goombi told Western historian W.S. Nye that she wanted to go home for her “die day.” Because one of Goombi's late husbands had been a scout for the U.S. Army, Nye arranged for a bugler to play taps, and an American flag was draped over her casket.

Gene Fowler specializes in Texas history.



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Texas Gulf Shrimp

WHILE WORKING ON MY LATEST cookbook—devoted to “any night grilling”—I discovered that sweet Gulf shrimp is one of the most delicious foods to fire on a grill. Most recipes call for skewering shrimp, but I prefer to grill them in a pre-heated basket (see a photo online) or cast-iron skillet that allows me to work my grill like a range. I pour the marinated shrimp into the basket (an olive oil marinade prevents sticking) then flip, rotate and shake the basket as needed, so they cook evenly. The lightly charred shrimp is a natural partner for orzo flavored with lemon zest, grilled lemons, crumbled feta and olives.

PAULA DISBROWE, FOOD EDITOR

Grilled Shrimp With Lemony Orzo and Feta

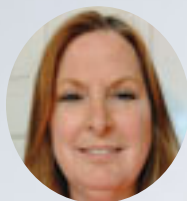
- 2 pounds (18–20) shrimp, peeled and deveined
- Extra-virgin olive oil, as needed
- Kosher salt, to taste
- Freshly ground pepper, to taste
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh oregano or marjoram
- 2 teaspoons chopped fresh thyme leaves
- Pinch crushed red pepper flakes
- 16 ounces uncooked orzo
- 2 lemons
- ½ cup thinly sliced scallions (white and green parts) or chopped red onion
- ½ cup green olives (any variety) or Kalamata or oil-cured olives
- ½ cup lightly chopped Italian parsley
- 8 ounces crumbled feta cheese

1. Place the shrimp in a large mixing bowl, drizzle with enough olive oil to lightly coat, season with salt and pepper, and toss to combine. Add the oregano or marjoram, thyme and red pepper flakes, and toss again,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

Recipes

Texas Gulf Shrimp



THIS MONTH'S RECIPE CONTEST WINNER

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Spicy grilled shrimp and a crunchy, citrusy slaw create satisfying tacos that are “great to share on a warm summer day,” Negrete says.

Spicy Grilled Shrimp Tacos With Sweet and Sour Slaw

SHRIMP

- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- ½ teaspoon ground black pepper
- 2 chipotle peppers in adobo sauce
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
- ¼ teaspoon ground chipotle pepper (or other chile pepper)
- 2 pounds medium Texas Gulf shrimp, peeled and deveined

SLAW

- ½ head green cabbage, cored and shredded
- ½ head red cabbage, cored and shredded
- 5–6 medium carrots, peeled and shredded
- 1 small bunch cilantro—stems removed—coarsely chopped
- Juice from 5 limes
- Juice from 1 lemon
- ½ cup olive or vegetable oil
- 2 tablespoons agave nectar
- Corn tortillas, for serving
- Lime wedges, for serving

1. SHRIMP: In a food processor, combine the salt, pepper, chipotle peppers, garlic, lime juice and ground chipotle, and purée until smooth. Place the shrimp in a gallon plastic bag and pour in the chipotle marinade. Seal bag and toss until shrimp is evenly coated with marinade, then refrigerate 1–2 hours.

2. SLAW: Combine the cabbages, carrots and cilantro in a large bowl. Combine the citrus juices, oil and agave nectar in a glass jar with a lid, and shake to combine. Pour the dressing over the vegetables, toss to combine, then cover and refrigerate until needed.

3. Heat a grill to medium and lightly oil the grate. Drain shrimp in a colander and discard excess marinade. Thread shrimp onto metal skewers, or bamboo skewers that have been soaked in water for at least 30 minutes. (Alternatively, you can grill shrimp in a grill basket. See opening recipe for method.) Grill shrimp about 3 minutes per side, until opaque, then remove from heat.

4. Serve grilled shrimp with the slaw, tortillas and lime wedges on the side. Serves 4–6.

Enter online to win 5 pounds of Texas Gulf shrimp.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

then set aside to marinate at room temperature while preparing the grill.

2. Prepare grill for two-zone (indirect grilling): Build a medium-high fire in a charcoal grill (or light a gas grill to high). If you're using a grill basket or cast-iron skillet, allow it to heat on the grill 5–10 minutes before cooking.

3. While the grill heats, bring a large pot of generously salted water to a boil. Add the orzo and cook per package directions until al dente, then drain. Transfer orzo to a mixing bowl, drizzle with olive oil and toss to combine (to help prevent pasta from sticking).

4. Finely grate the zest from 1 lemon and add zest to orzo, then halve both lemons horizontally.

5. When you're ready to cook, place shrimp directly in preheated grill basket or directly on grates. Flip and rotate shrimp around the heat as needed until fully cooked, about 5–6 minutes total, then remove from heat.

6. Brush the cut-side of the lemons with olive oil and grill until deep char marks appear, about 2–3 minutes.

7. Combine the warm shrimp with the orzo and toss to combine. Add about ¼ cup olive oil, scallions, olives, parsley and feta, and toss gently to combine. Taste, and add salt or pepper as desired. Serve warm or at room temperature with grilled lemon halves. Serves 4–6.

COOK'S TIP If you prefer to grill directly on the grates, you can use large or jumbo shrimp, which are easier to turn. If you prefer to grill the shrimp on bamboo skewers, soak the skewers in water 30 minutes before grilling so they won't catch fire.

Texas Gulf Shrimp Cheddar Beer Soup

CARMEN LARA | BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES

This soup has fantastic flavor and a velvety texture. For best results, make sure you don't overcook the shrimp in the initial boil, since you'll reheat it again in the soup before serving.

- ½ pound medium or large Texas Gulf shrimp, unpeeled
- ¼ cup (½ stick) unsalted butter
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 2 medium cloves garlic, minced or pressed

\$5,000 Holiday Recipe Contest

December's issue will feature winners of the 13th annual **Holiday Recipe Contest**. Share the dishes that make your holiday gatherings so special. Send us your best **ORIGINAL** recipes in the **Savory Dish** or **Sweet Dish** category, and your recipe could appear in *Texas Co-op Power* and win you a cash prize. The deadline is **July 10**. See complete rules at TexasCoopPower.com.

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

1/3 cup unbleached flour
 1 3/4 cups low-sodium chicken broth
 1 bottle (12 ounces) beer
 2 cups whole or low-fat milk
 3 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese
 1 cup shredded American cheese
 2 teaspoons cornstarch
 Salt
 Ground black pepper
 Chives, for garnish

1. Bring a large pot of salted water to a rolling boil, add shrimp and boil until pink and cooked through, about 2–3 minutes, then drain. When shrimp is cool enough to handle, shell, devein, rinse under cold water and set aside.
2. Melt butter in a large saucepan over medium heat. Add onion and stir until lightly browned, about 10 minutes. Add garlic and cook until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Stir in flour and cook until golden, about 1 minute. Slowly whisk in broth, beer and milk. Bring mixture to simmer, then reduce heat to low and simmer gently (do not boil) until thickened,

about 20–25 minutes. Remove from heat.
3. Meanwhile, toss the shredded cheeses and cornstarch together in a large bowl until combined. Purée soup mixture in blender in 2 batches until completely smooth. Return to saucepan and simmer over medium-low heat. Add cheese mixture 1 cup at a time, whisking until smooth, then season with salt and pepper. Add cooked shrimp to the purée and use a ladle to gently combine.
4. Serve warm, with snipped chives on top for garnish. Serves 6–8.

Southern-Style Shrimp & Rice Salad

ROSEMARY KALINA | BLUEBONNET EC

Cooking rice in the spicy “shrimp boil” water gives this salad a wonderful flavor that’s balanced by green olives.

4 cups water
 1 1/2 tablespoons Old Bay shrimp boil
 2 pounds Texas Gulf shrimp, peeled and deveined

1 cup uncooked white rice
 1/2 cup chopped onion
 1/2 cup chopped green olives
 Black pepper, to taste
 1 cup mayonnaise

1. Combine water and shrimp boil in a pot and bring to a boil. Add shrimp and cook 4 minutes, until just cooked through, then drain, reserving the water. Chop shrimp into bite-sized chunks and allow them to cool on paper towels to help absorb excess moisture.
2. Return the shrimp water to a boil, add rice and cook until tender, then drain and set aside to cool.
3. In a large bowl, use a rubber spatula to combine the rice, onion, olives and black pepper. Fold in mayonnaise and cooled, dry shrimp, and gently stir to incorporate all ingredients.
4. Serve immediately or refrigerate up to 3 days. Serves 6.

WEB EXTRAS ▶ No skimping on shrimp: Check out a pasta dish and stuffed avocados.



2016 \$3,000 GRAND PRIZEWINNER
Stuffed Chicken With Mushroom Pan Jus
 Karen Bergman | Trinity Valley EC
 Get the recipe at TexasCoopPower.com.

13TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY RECIPE CONTEST

\$5,000 IN PRIZES

\$3,000 GRAND PRIZEWINNER | Two \$500 Best Savory Dish Winners
 Two \$500 Best Sweet Dish Winners

Send us your best original recipes!

Show us how you add your personal touch to every part of a meal—from savory beginnings to sweet endings—for fun and festive holiday gatherings.

Send us your best ORIGINAL holiday recipes—ones you’ve developed, not copied from a friend or found in a book or magazine. Winners will be featured in our December 2017 issue. Enter by July 10 at TexasCoopPower.com.

Go to TexasCoopPower.com for details and official rules.

TEXAS CO-OP POWER

Enter online at TexasCoopPower.com. Each entry MUST include your name, address and phone number, plus the name of your Texas electric cooperative, or it will be disqualified. Specify which category you are entering, Sweet or Savory, on each recipe. Mail entries to: Texas Co-op Power/Holiday Recipe Contest, 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701. You can also fax entries to (512) 763-3401. Up to three total entries are allowed per co-op membership. Each should be submitted on a separate piece of paper if mailed or faxed. Mailed entries all can be sent in one envelope. No email entries will be accepted. For official rules, visit TexasCoopPower.com. **Entry deadline: July 10, 2017.**

Deadline:
JULY 10

Chicago Doctor Invents

Advanced Hearing Aid Technology for under \$300

Outperforms Many Expensive Hearing Aids

Reported by J. Page

CHICAGO: A local board-certified Ear, Nose, Throat (ENT) physician, Dr. S. Cherukuri, has just shaken up the hearing aid industry with the invention of a medical-grade, affordable hearing aid. **This revolutionary hearing aid is designed to help millions of people with hearing loss who cannot afford—or do not wish to pay—the much higher cost of traditional hearing aids.**

an affordable price, similar to the “one-size-fits-most” reading glasses available at drug stores.

Superb Performance Affordable Hearing Aid

The high cost of hearing aids is a result of layers of middlemen and expensive unnecessary features. Dr. Cherukuri concluded that it would be possible to develop a medical-grade hearing aid

DOCTORS AND PATIENTS AGREE: “BEST QUALITY SOUND” “LOWEST AFFORDABLE PRICE”

“I have been wearing hearing aids for over 25 years and these are the best Behind-the-Ear aids I have tried. Their sound quality rivals that of my \$3,000 custom pair of Phonak® Xtra digital ITE.”

—Gerald Levy

“I have a \$2,000 Resound® Live hearing aid in my left ear and the MDHearingAid® in the right ear. I am not able to notice a significant difference in sound quality between the two hearing aids.”

—Dr. May, ENT Physician

“Perhaps the best quality-to-price ratio in the hearing aid industry” —Dr. Babu, Board-Certified ENT Physician

Dr. Cherukuri knew that untreated hearing loss could lead to depression, social isolation, anxiety, and symptoms consistent with Alzheimer’s disease. **He could not understand why the cost of hearing aids was so high when the prices of so many consumer electronics like TVs, DVD players, cell phones, and digital cameras had fallen.**

Since Medicare and most private insurance plans do not cover the costs of hearing aids, which traditionally run between \$2,000-\$6,000 for a pair, many of the doctor’s patients could not afford the expense. Dr. Cherukuri’s goal was to find a reasonable solution that would help with the most common types of hearing loss at

without sacrificing the quality of components. The result is the **MDHearingAid PRO®**, your price \$299. **It has been declared to be the best low-cost hearing aid that amplifies the range of sounds associated with the human voice without overly amplifying background noise.**

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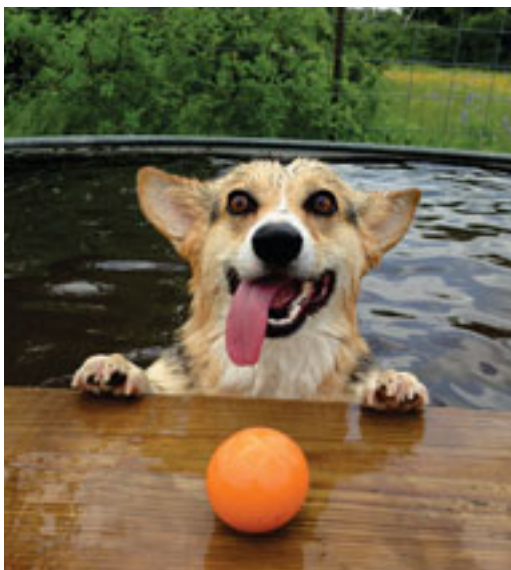
THE WEATHER IS FINE, and the smell of popcorn is in the air. No matter the game, Texans are great sports. And when it comes to capturing that perfect moment, these readers are ready for the big leagues. **GRACE ARSIAGA**

WEB EXTRAS ▶ See more photos online.



▲ **CHERYL HOOPER**, Nueces EC: “South Texas baseball—dry and hot as this pitch.”

▼ **LORY VON STADEN**, Heart of Texas EC: The Lorena Dirtbags show off their runner-up rings after a long tournament.



▲ **ELAINE VENTERS**, Pedernales EC: “My corgi, Dylan, will chase a ball anywhere. His favorite thing is dock diving into the stock tank.”



▶ **MARVIN ANN PATTERSON**: “The little guys were totally into their game.”



▲ **MICHAEL WADE**, HILCO EC: Teamwork is what it's all about.



UPCOMING CONTESTS

NOVEMBER INTO THE WOODS	DUE JULY 10
DECEMBER STAIRWAYS	DUE AUGUST 10
JANUARY SNOW DAY	DUE SEPTEMBER 10

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

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

Pick of the Month

Texas Lineman's Rodeo

Seguin July 15

1-800-223-4832, tltra.org

Electrical linemen from around the state converge at Nolte Island Recreation Area every year for a test of skills, including pole climbing and simulated pole-top rescues. The competition is spirited, and so is the camaraderie afterward. Fifteen Texas co-ops sent participants in 2016.



RODEO: DAVE SHAFER. DOILY: HORACE WAYNE CALLAWAY | COURTESY SUZANN THOMPSON. STARGAZING: AZPWORLDWIDE | DREAMSTIME.COM

July

1

Stephenville [1-Aug. 24] Celebrate Doilies, (254) 965-6190, ctfac.com

7

Kemp Annual Aley Picnic, (903) 498-6482

McDade [7-8] Watermelon Festival, (512) 332-1270, mcdadetexas.com

Laredo [7-9] International Sister Cities Festival, 1-800-361-3360, visitlaredo.com

Clute [7-9, 14-16] Mary Poppins, (979) 265-7661, bcfas.org

8

Grand Prairie Festival de Mariachi, (972) 647-2331, tradersvillage.com/grand-prairie

Weatherford Parker County Peach Festival, (817) 596-3801, parkercountypeachfestival.org

9

Gruene Gospel Brunch With a Texas Twist, (830) 629-5077, gruenehall.com



July 1-August 24
Stephenville
Celebrate Doilies

12

Fort Worth [12-15] Wild West History Association Roundup, (210) 490-2433, wildwesthistory.org

14

Sugar Land Dancing Under the Stars, (281) 276-6000, sugarlandtownsquare.com

Waco [14-15] Coryell Creek Critters BBQ Cook-Off & Festival, (254) 865-7163, coryellcreekcritters.org

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15

Fredericksburg Night in Old Fredericksburg, (830) 997-2359, gillespiefair.com

20

Plano [20-29] 10-Minute Play Festival, (972) 849-0358, roverdramawerks.com

San Angelo [20-Sep. 24] Critical Angles: Featuring the Work of Cathy Cunningham Little, (325) 653-3333, samfa.org

21

Boerne Star Party, (830) 249-9511, visitboerne.org

22

Arlington CONCACAF Gold Cup, (817) 892-4000, attstadium.com

Corpus Christi Nature CSI, (361) 852-2100, stxbot.org

Salado [22, 29, Aug. 5] *Salado Legends*, (254) 947-9205, tablerock.org

25

Kerrville [25-28] Heart of the Hills Golf Tournament, (830) 895-1027, hohkerr.com

27

Longview [27-30] *The Pirates of Penzance Jr.*, (903) 236-7535, artsviewchildrenstheatre.com

29

Glen Rose World Nature Conservation Day, (254) 897-2960, fossilrim.org

Monahans Butterfield Festival, (432) 943-2187, monahans.org

Orange National Dance Day, (409) 728-5970, octx.info



Richmond Murder and Moore: A Murder Mystery Party, (281) 342-6478, fortbendmuseum.org

Smithville Casino Night, (512) 237-2313, explorebastropcounty.com

August

2

South Padre Island [2-6] Texas International Fishing Tournament, 1-800-657-2373, sopadre.com

3

Bastrop [3-5] Homecoming and Rodeo, (512) 303-0558, explorebastropcounty.com

Dalhart [3-5] XIT Rodeo and Reunion, (806) 244-5646, dalhart.org

Midland [3-5] Rock the Desert, (432) 563-3434, rockthedesert.com

Submit Your Event!

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




Summer Break Fun

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- Parks & Recreation
- Historic Downtown
- Antiques
- Fairs & Festivals


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AROUND TEXAS
EVENT CALENDAR

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Panhandle Prosperity

Childress bustles its way to historic restoration and retail reinvention

BY RUSSELL A. GRAVES

ON SATURDAY MORNINGS, CHILDRESS offers its true character to visitors. Even though its population is 6,500, it bustles with a tempo that belies its rurality.

U.S. Highway 287 runs through town and brings travelers from downstate, the Gulf Coast or the Rocky Mountain states. On Childress' west side, 287 intersects Highway 83, which runs from Mexico to Canada. With busy blacktops, Childress prospers as a center for retail, agriculture, government and medical care.

"Childress has come so far over the past couple of decades," says Adam Bishop, a vintner who owns **501 Winery** downtown. "We've got a good group of people who think big and are transforming the town into a special place, to make sure our kids have a reason to raise their families here."

Every Saturday, my wife, Kristy, and I spend the day in town to catch up with friends and do our weekly shopping. It's a date night on Saturday morning. While we shop for necessities to keep our hobby farm humming, others watch a mounted shooting competition in the event center. Nearby sits Rock Field, a historic 75-year-old Civilian Conservation Corps project with the character of a minor-league baseball park.

"We always look forward to stopping in Childress," says Coloradan Brian Strickland, who visits Childress on his way to see family in East Texas.

"I'm an avid golfer, so I look forward to playing a round on the course there," he says. While he plays, his wife walks downtown to take pictures of historic buildings.

"It's really got a great small-town feel," he says. "I've been fortunate enough to befriend some people who live in Childress and sometimes come back to hunt deer or turkey."

At about 1,800 feet elevation, the town



Shopping for kitchenware at Ballyhoo

lies on a ridge that's the geographic divide between the Red River to the north and the Pease River to the south. Childress lives in the corner of Texas where the Panhandle meets the Red River, so the Oklahoma border is just a few miles northeast.

For Kristy and me, Saturday breakfast is always at **Dawson's Family Restaurant**. With décor that leans toward Western, friendly waitresses and a talkative clientele, Dawson's is the ideal diner.

After we leave Dawson's, we head to **Amazing Grace Antiques and Gifts**. The store is in a tiny house, but when you walk in and see the eclectic offerings that are stacked wall to wall, the place seems huge. I buy a couple of turquoise-colored antique telegraph insulators.

Kristy suggests we visit **Ballyhoo**, part home-décor showroom, part coffee-and-sweet shop. We each order a salted caramel macchiato to sip as we browse the farmhouse-inspired collection.

Recently named to the National Register of Historic Places, downtown Childress is marked by its brick streets and architecture that includes art deco and West Texas functional. The brick streets were laid by the Works Progress Administration in the 1930s. Around town, rem-

nants of that era tell a story: the World War II army airfield that now serves as the municipal airport, and the living hedgerows, called shelterbelts, planted during the Dust Bowl to halt desertification.

The historic Childress downtown is making a comeback, with redevelopment funds transforming long-vacant buildings into commercial, public-use and residential space. Notable is the six-story Hotel Childress, the town's only "skyscraper," which dates to the 1920s.

By midday, Kristy and I are enjoying food at **JT's Drive In**, a barbecue place that stands as another standard-setter of local establishments. The smoke rolling from its train-shaped smoker lures passersby. By most modern indices, JT's is small—about 1,200 square feet, with less than half reserved for the dining area. The flavor of the chopped barbecue sandwich, however, is huge. We eat at picnic tables outside as the cars pass by on the highway. The traffic is another reminder that the town, even for its small size, really bustles.

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

 **WEB EXTRAS** ▶ Area around Childress belies Panhandle's flat reputation.

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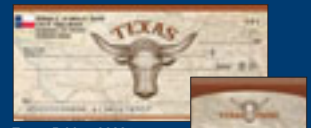
New Day w/verse "Each day brings hope!" - 00447 Leather Cover and Labels - 00447 ☆



Cowboy Round Up - 00380 Leather Cover and Labels - 00380 ☆



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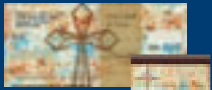
Words of Faith w/verse "With God all things are possible." - 00551 Leather Cover and Labels - 00551 ☆



Jesus, Light of the World - 00018 Leather Cover and Labels - 00018 ☆



Spirit of the Wilderness - 00024 Leather Cover and Labels - 00024 ☆



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Lena Liu's Morning Serenade - 00029 Leather Cover and Labels - 00029 ☆



Moments of Majesty - 00001 Leather Cover and Labels - 00001 ☆



On the Wings of Hope - 00384 One image. Leather Cover and Labels - 00384 ☆
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God Bless America - 00006 Leather Cover and Labels - 00006 ☆



Prayers of Serenity w/verse "Trust in the Lord with all your heart" - 00194 Leather Cover and Labels - 00194 ☆



Sunflowers - 00334 Leather Cover and Labels - 00334 ☆



America's National Parks - 00055 Leather Cover - 00151 Labels - 00055 ☆



Thomas Kinkadee's Faith for All Seasons w/verse "Believe all things are possible with God" - 00105 Leather Cover and Labels - 00105 ☆



Rescued Is My Breed of Choice - 00379 Leather Cover and Labels - 00379 ☆
A portion of the proceeds will be donated to a national no-kill animal shelter.



Faith, Hope, Christ - 00633 Fabric Cover and Labels - 00633 ☆



Grandkids Rule! w/verse "I'd rather be with my grandkids." - 00437 Leather Cover and Labels - 00437 ☆



Challis & Roos Awesome Owls - 00337 Leather Cover and Labels - 00337 ☆



Painted Ponies - 00600 Leather Cover and Labels - 00600 ☆



Lightning Strikes - 00178 Leather Cover and Labels - 00178 ☆



Footprints w/verse "One night I dreamed that I was walking along the beach with the Lord." - 00667 Leather Cover and Labels - 00667 ☆



Live, Laugh, Love, Learn w/verse "Life is not measured by the breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away" - 00332 Leather Cover and Labels - 00332 ☆



Day of the Dead - 01134 Leather Cover and Labels - 01134 ☆



Winter Calm - 00017 Leather Cover and Labels - 00017 ☆



Tropical Paradise - 00052 Leather Cover and Labels - 00052 ☆



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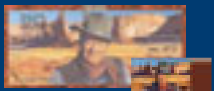
Cowboy Hats - 00965 Leather Cover and Labels - 00965 ☆



Cowboy Boots - 00434 Leather Cover and Labels - 00434 ☆



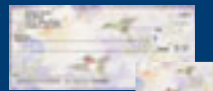
Cowboy Kids - 00527 Leather Cover and Labels - 00527 ☆



John Wayne: An American Legend - 00204 Leather Cover and Labels - 00204 ☆



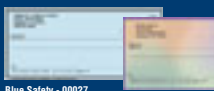
A Walk on the Beach - 01020 Leather Cover and Labels - 01020 ☆



Lena Liu's Flights of Fancy - 00007 Leather Cover and Labels - 00007 ☆



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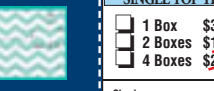
Reflections - 00125 Leather Cover and Labels - 00125 ☆



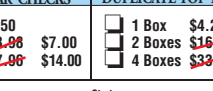
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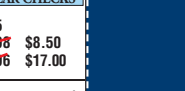
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3 EASY WAYS TO ORDER

- PHONE 1-800-323-8104**
Phone Hours: Mon-Fri 7:00 am to 10:00 pm (CT)
Sat/Sun 7:00 am to 9:00 pm (CT)
Mention offer code to receive this special offer. 2-box minimum and processing fee apply. See habla Español. Call for Signature Required Delivery option.
- INTERNET—SAFE SECURE SITE**
www.BEChecks.com
- MAIL—Send completed Order Form**

- Also Include
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 - Voided Check with changes noted OR Reorder Form
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1 Your Information

BRADFORD EXCHANGE CHECKS

9305 N. Milwaukee Ave. Niles, IL 60714

NAME _____

PHONE () _____ Day Evening

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

LIMITED-TIME OFFER FOR NEW CUSTOMERS
(Please respond promptly!)

2 Check Options

✓ Check the items you wish to order and enter the price in the spaces provided. Only ONE check design per order.

SINGLE TOP TEAR CHECKS		DUPLICATE TOP TEAR CHECKS	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Box	\$3.50	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Box	\$4.25
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Boxes	\$13.00 \$7.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Boxes	\$16.50 \$8.50
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Boxes	\$27.00 \$14.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Boxes	\$33.00 \$17.00

Check Design _____ Start Checks at # _____

*If no check start number is specified, 1001 will be used.

Enter Check price from chart above \$ _____

Distinctive Lettering ~~\$2.50~~ each De Cordial Grand Script English **FREE**

Matching Cover Code No. _____ add \$19.99 \$ _____

Matching Labels Code No. _____ (If name and address other than checks, please enclose separate paper)

Add \$6.99 for DESIGNER Labels
Add \$7.99 for CHOICE * & MASTER + Labels

EZSHIELD CHECK FRAUD PROTECTION PROGRAM® \$ _____
\$2.50 x # of Boxes =

EZSHIELD PRO® (Must also purchase EZShield Check Fraud Protection above) Add \$8.00 total \$ _____

3 Shipping & Handling

REQUIRED SERVICE/HANDLING \$2.95 x # of Boxes/Items = \$ _____

SECURESHIP™ (4-9 bus. days) Checks Only
Trackable • Guaranteed Delivery
Includes FREE IN-PLANT RUSH (045) \$5.99
Add \$8.95 total \$ _____

IN-PLANT RUSH (checks only) Saves 1-3 Days (070) \$5.99 \$ _____

Untrackable delivery: Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery. All items shipped separately. Delivery to Alaska and Hawaii may take longer. **FREE**

Offer Code: 22011XFL SUBTOTAL \$ _____
Add sales tax for shipment to Illinois (10.25%) \$ _____
TOTAL: \$ _____

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