

# TEXAS CO-OP POWER



## COUNT ON TEXAS

Record-setting Youth Tour group explores D.C.



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Youth Tour visitors in the office of U.S. Rep. Michael McCaul of Texas

**WEB EXTRAS**

▶ Watch the 2017 Youth Tour video online.

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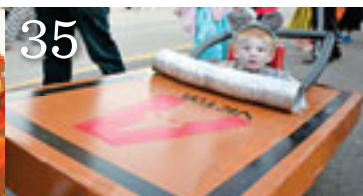
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By Joe O'Connell



**NEXT MONTH**

**Welcome Home** *The Gary Sinise Foundation provides new homes and a new start for injured veterans.*



YOUTH TOUR: ANNIE MCGINNIS | TEC. VETERAN: JULIA ROBINSON

**ON THE COVER** *Margo Cruz, Lauryn Jones and Mary Robinson at the National Mall in Washington, D.C.* Photo by Annie McGinnis | TEC

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From the publishers of *Texas Co-op Power*



## More Hot Tips

Having worn contact lenses for 50-plus years and loving hot peppers, I empathized with your comment about getting capsaicin in your eyes [*Tame the Flame*, Recipes, August 2017]. Yeowww!

Here are a couple more tips I've discovered to mitigate the pain:

► Scrub your hands with soap and water and a bristle brush immediately after handling peppers. The capsaicin seems to soak into your skin, making it more difficult to remove the longer you wait.

► Or rinse your hands with a little rubbing (isopropyl) alcohol.

► When hand-washing, use cold water. Hot water will volatilize the capsaicin, resulting in a pungent, mucous membrane-irritating, pepper-spray aroma.

**KEN KONVICKA | GRAHAM UNITED COOPERATIVE SERVICES**

## Derailed by Blizzard

Although I was in the third grade, the blizzard [*Blizzard of 1957*, March 2017] is a special memory of mine! My daddy was an engineer for the Santa Fe Railway. He received orders to take a crew to the north out of Amarillo to try to locate anyone who was stranded. As the train traveled north, the drifts of snow covering the tracks prevented his train from moving fast until finally it just stopped! The packed snow was just too much for the powerful diesel engine.

Even the radios in the engine and caboose ceased to operate. For eight days, there was no word from the train. The crew gathered in the caboose and

## Restoring Power After Harvey

It is great to see cooperative helping cooperative during a time of need.

Thanks to the electric cooperatives for their great service to rural and suburban Texans.

**JOHN D. BRADFORD | VIA FACEBOOK**



eventually had to tear out some inside wood of the caboose to burn in the stove to keep warm.

My mom put up a good front so my sister and I wouldn't worry. They had no food until a crewman whittled a slingshot and was able to provide a few sparrows to nibble on.

One day, after lunch, we were marching to our classroom, and I saw my daddy standing beside the door. I broke line and ran to those big arms held out to scoop me up. Daddy was safe and home again!

Until the day he died, he always carried some crackers



and a can of Vienna sausages either in his work satchel or in the glove box of our car—just in case.

**LINDA SANDERSON MOORE | LUBBOCK SOUTH PLAINS EC**

## Counting on UConn

Thank you for mentioning the University of Connecticut women Huskies in the By the Numbers section [*Currents*, March 2017]. It was a lovely surprise for a proud alumnus happily living in Austin. I guess we'll have to wait for them to get their 12th Final Four win, in 2018.

**RENEE OPELT PEDERNALES EC**

## Warms the Heart

My family has been playing dominoes for 80-plus years [*Bonding Over 42*, Letters, April 2017]. When growing up, my brother and my dad would sit on the foot of my bed on cold

winter nights with a board in the center of the bed, and my sister and I would have our feet under the cover. We would play 42 while mom popped popcorn and played the piano.

**MARY KING | ATHENS TRINITY VALLEY EC**

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

**Texas Co-op Power**

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## HAPPENINGS

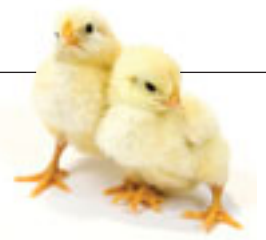
# Let Bacon Be Your Beacon

YOU'LL NEED A MAP—AND MAYBE SIRI—to find the self-proclaimed nation's largest bacon cook-off. **BACON BASH TEXAS, OCTOBER 21**, is in **CRANFILLS GAP**. Even the event's website concedes, "We have to be honest. Cranfills Gap, Texas, is out in the middle of nowhere!"

About 55 miles northwest of Waco, in United Cooperative Services' territory, pork, music and charitable causes have taken over the town of 265 for one day every year since 2012.

Bacon Bash, which includes an auction and other fundraisers, benefits Niki Warms the Cold and children with Type 1 diabetes. Niki Warms the Cold distributes coats and blankets to those in need across Texas. Pederson's Natural Farms, a member of Hamilton County Electric Cooperative, donates more than 750 pounds of bacon for the cook-off. The winning team gets featured on Pederson's bacon packages distributed nationwide.

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## HONORS

### Here a Chick, There a Chick

**Counting your chickens** before they hatch is frowned upon. After that, though, it can be quite lucrative.

**Luke Robitaille**, from the Fort Worth suburb of Euless, found that out at the Raytheon Mathcounts National Competition in May. Robitaille, a home-schooled seventh-grader, answered the final question in less than a second to win a \$20,000 scholarship and a trip to Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama.

**The question:** In a barn, 100 chicks sit peacefully in a circle. Suddenly, each chick pecks the chick immediately to its left or right. What is the expected number of unpecked chicks?

#### WEB EXTRAS

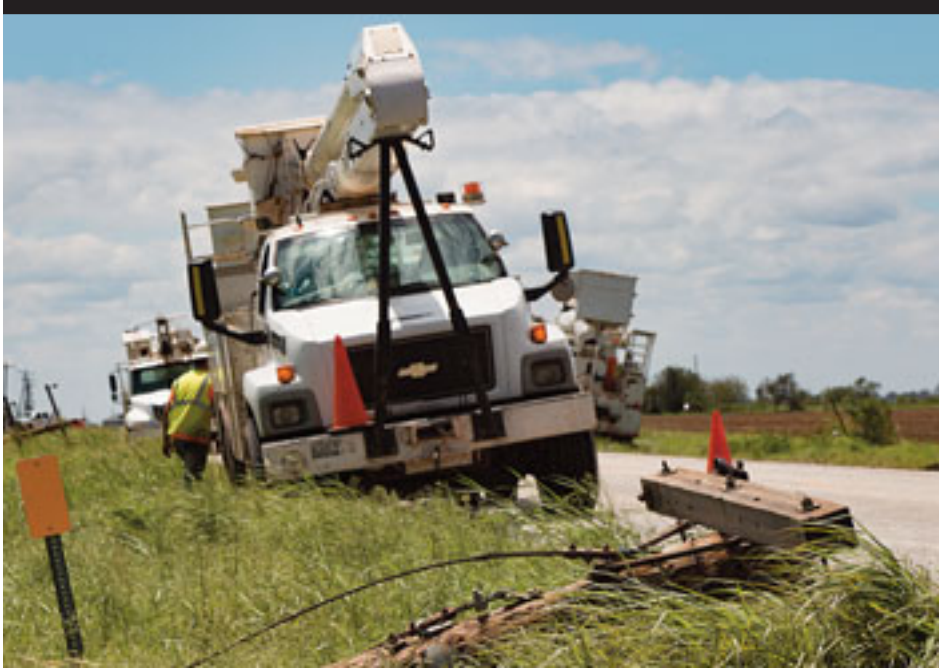
▶ Find the answer online.

## WORTH REPEATING

*“Always try to associate yourself with and learn as much as you can from those who know more than you do, who do better than you, who see more clearly than you.”*

**—DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER**, born October 14, 1890, in Denison, making him the first of two U.S. presidents born in Texas. Lyndon B. Johnson of Stonewall is the other.





Crews work to restore power for Victoria EC members.

#### COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES

## Co-ops Respond to Hurricane Harvey

**WHEN HURRICANE HARVEY** made landfall August 25, Co-op Country took the brunt of the most powerful storm to strike the state in decades. First 130 mph winds ravaged the Coastal Bend; then the Category 4 storm dumped unprecedented rainfall on areas inland. Both wreaked havoc on property, people and power lines.

Texas' electric cooperatives rallied. They sent crews and supplies from all corners of the state to restore power and help those in need. These numbers illustrate the swift and massive response:

▶ **179,016** co-op meters lost power due to the storm. About 97 percent were back online 10 days later. Hurricane Ike took out some 300,000 co-op meters in 2008.

▶ **300** outside lineworkers were housed and fed by Victoria EC, which lost power to its entire system during the storm. Many worked stretches of 13 hours or more in the wind, rain and mud. "I can't say enough about the support that we've received from people all across the state—without hesitation, willing to leave their families to come restore power to our members," said Blaine Warzecha, VEC general manager. "That is truly touching."

▶ **ABOUT ONE-THIRD** of Texas' 67 distribution electric cooperatives sent crews to help with restoration efforts needed at the 15 Texas co-ops affected by the storm. Crews from the Panhandle and North and West Texas traveled hundreds of miles to assist.

▶ **\$75 BILLION** in total losses due to the storm, including property damage, lost wages and disrupted business—mostly due to hard-hit Houston—make it one of the most expensive in history, according to Moody's Analytics. More than 70 deaths are attributed to Harvey.

#### HISTORY LESSON

## Land Sakes!

**The oldest state agency** in Texas, the General Land Office, opened October 1, 1837, in Houston. John P. Borden had the herculean task of compiling and preserving the Spanish and Mexican land titles issued before the republic. With no funds or employees, he acquired documents from all over Texas by the end of 1837. In 1839, he hauled almost 2½ tons of documents by wagon and moved the GLO to Austin.

**Today the GLO** manages state lands, provides veterans benefits, helps Texans recovering from natural disasters and manages the vast Texas coast. Its website, [glo.texas.gov](http://glo.texas.gov), offers information for disaster relief, road conditions and other Hurricane Harvey recovery resources.



#### BY THE NUMBERS



**The Longhorn Army Ammunition Plant**, also called the Longhorn Ordnance Works, at Caddo Lake, began producing munitions 75 years ago. From October 18, 1942, to August 14, 1945, when Japan formally surrendered, effectively ending World War II, the plant produced 414,805,500 pounds of TNT. It played a role in defense production during the Cold War and was where the first U.S. missiles were destroyed in 1988 as the U.S. and Soviet Union agreed to end the nuclear arms race.





The State

With the  
**Most**

// By **Suzanne Featherston**

TEXAS YOUTH TOUR CONTINGENT  
PROVES EVERYTHING IS BIGGER ...  
IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

**ONE HUNDRED FORTY-SEVEN YOUNG TEXANS** made history in 2017 as the largest group of Texas teens to visit Washington, D.C., on the Government-in-Action Youth Tour, the annual action-packed trip sponsored by electric cooperatives. The state also sent the most high school-age students of any of the 46 states that participated this June.

“You’re the largest delegation,” said Braden Huggins, a 2016 alum sponsored by HILCO Electric Cooperative, who welcomed the 2017 group of high school students and recent graduates at orientation. “Every chance you get when you talk to someone else from another state, make sure they know that Texas is the largest state. You gotta let ‘em know. Brag about it.”

With a group that large—large enough to justify a chartered flight from Austin to Dulles International Airport, three private buses and two floors of an Arlington hotel—a kid might blend

YOUTH TOUR: TAYLOR MONTGOMERY | TEC





into the crowd. Instead, the experience of exploring icons of American government, heritage and culture with that many people in the same stage of life helps each student better see his or her place in the world and be inspired to make a difference.

“It takes one person to change the world for the better,” said Thelma McGhee, a 1965 participant sponsored by Comanche EC, during orientation. “That person is you.”

Over the program’s 53 years, Texas co-ops have sent 4,030 teens to Washington. Today, Youth Tour’s whirlwind itinerary features more than 25 destinations in the state and national capitals, inspirational speakers, appointments with elected officials, tours, dances and an endless parade of pizza, sub sandwiches and Oreos. To say it is a marathon is an understatement because, in fact, it’s closer to three marathons. This year, Tracy Begley, a chaperone from Grayson-Collin EC, logged 68.76 miles walking June 7–16. “... with 49.75 hours of sleep in 10 days,” said Begley, one of 18 chaperones. “Yeehaw!”

**2017 Youth Tour participants start their trip at the Texas Capitol.**



### **Make It // YOUR TOUR**

Local electric cooperatives select Youth Tour winners through annual competitions such as essay, speech or video contests. Each winner’s travel expenses are covered by her or his co-op and sponsors, and coordinators at Texas Electric Cooperatives and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association handle all the arrangements. Contact your local co-op to apply, and visit [texasyouthtour.com](http://texasyouthtour.com) for more information.



★ *In honor of being the state with the most students,* here are some of the most memorable moments for the young Texans who went on the 2017 trip.

**MOST EMBARRASSING** // Ambika Kapil so admired the beauty of the U.S. Capitol that she felt compelled to get a picture of herself there. She turned to the closest man in a suit for help. “I was like, ‘Hey, can you do a picture?’” recalled Kapil, sponsored by CoServ. The man agreed and offered to be in the photo, too. She hesitated, so he snapped a photo of her alone. “I was like, ‘Thanks, sir,’ and walked away,” she said. “Then I heard this girl say, ‘Mike Pence!’” The vice president of the United States had just taken her photo, which she then accidentally deleted.



**MOST EMBARRASSING**

AMBIKA KAPIL

Other embarrassing moments brought laughter to the journey, too, such as when **Jarrett Pistle** from Bartlett EC ripped his pants at a dance (“I was doing a whip, and it just got a little too ‘turnt up,’” he said); and when **Mia Diaz** from Lamb County EC lost her brand-new cellphone in Austin and had to have it shipped overnight to Washington; and when a chaperone tripped and fell (without serious injury) during a tour of Capitol Hill while a congressional intern pressured her to hurry. *Clap, clap, clap.* “Come on, ladies,” said the intern, oblivious to the chaperone lying on the marble floor.

**MOST PROUD** // For her humility, **Annette Calderon** from Comanche EC earned a place on the Youth Leadership Council, a national program that invites one student from every state participating in Youth Tour to return to Washington for a leadership workshop then attend the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association’s annual meeting. During an interview, Calderon made the judges proud with her answer to the question, “Why should we select you as the Texas representative?” She responded by

saying, “I am not above anyone ...” and described how she would use the leadership lessons of YLC to help children, as she aspires to become a pediatric oncologist.

**MOST PROUD**



ANNETTE CALDERON



BAILEY MCCLURE

Other proud moments included hearing young Texans ask intelligent and relevant questions of their congressional representatives on Capitol Hill and watching **Bailey McClure** from Swisher EC visit the Newseum, where she expressed her opinion by pinning a sticker on the “no” side of an interactive sign that asked if hate speech should be banned. “Because what is hate speech?” she asked. “That’s purposely vague.”

YOUTH TOUR: ANNIE MCGINNIS & TAYLOR MONTGOMERY | TEC: HEADSHOTS: COURTESY PARTICIPANTS; BANNERS: BLAN-K | SHUTTERSTOCK.COM





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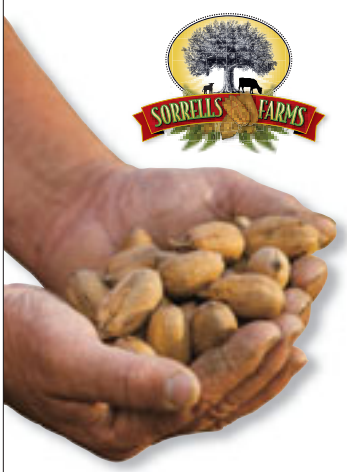
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ABIGAIL MORALES

MOST  
REAL



JOSIE HEFLIN

**MOST REAL** // For Abigail Morales of Magic Valley EC, the reality of being in Washington didn't sink in until she stood before the Lincoln Memorial. "When I was looking at the monument, I got so emotional ... I can't believe it's real," she said. "It didn't hit me that we were here until I touched one of the columns."

Another moment of realization came on Creighton Rogers' 18th birthday, which he celebrated in Washington. That morning, the group encountered 25 military veterans visiting the capital to see war memorials, thanks to the Honor Flight Network. Rogers, sponsored by Rusk County EC, shook the veterans' hands and thanked them for their service. As he did, one gentleman said he'd served in World War II and photographed the dropping of an atomic bomb when he was 18 years old—the same age as Rogers.

**MOST FUN** // Roaring laughter could be heard from the halls of the Kennedy Center while the young Texans watched *Shear Madness*. The flexible and partially ad-libbed production humorously depicts a murder mystery but changes outcomes based on audience interaction. The Youth Tour participants demonstrated their spirit of cooperation by chiming in with information about the case, eventually singling out a culprit. Before being led off the stage in handcuffs, the actor playing that night's chosen criminal said he had one last remark: "The stars at night ..." he said, and the audience—mostly Texas Youth Tour students—finished the line with "are big and bright—clap, clap, clap, clap—deep in the heart of Texas!" Applause erupted.

**MOST SURPRISING** // Rep. Louie Gohmert of Tyler invited his young East Texas constituents to the Capitol for a special behind-

the-scenes nighttime tour. Four students—Rogers; Josie Heflin from Upshur Rural EC; and Jess Hill and Brianna Anding from Deep East Texas EC—got an up-close look at features including the rotunda and the Senate floor. For Heflin, the highlight of the evening was looking out over the city from the balcony where presidential inaugurations are held.

"My favorite part was to see how lit up it was," she said. "It was as if you could see for miles and miles. If you look to your left, you could see the monuments. If you look to the right, you can see the Kennedy Center."

Youth Tour also offered unexpected moments—little life lessons—such as when Abby Busby from Bandera EC gleefully figured out the best way to wheel her suitcase off an escalator; and when Kallie Cox from Swisher EC and Gwyneth James from CoServ discussed the differences between "tacos" and "burritos," and "pop" and "coke." More surprises included a Secret Service agent at the White House answering all the questions of Caroline Wakefield from Houston County EC, including if he would dive in front of a bullet (he said it would be an honor); and a chaperone catching a bull snake hatchling she found slithering over tea cups in a gift store at Mount Vernon.

**MOST EMOTIONAL** // Ben Seago from Bryan Texas Utilities knelt at the grave of his great-grandfather at Arlington National Cemetery. Using an app, he navigated among the more than 400,000 tombstones to pay his respects to Army Lt. Gen. Edward J. O'Neill, who served in World War II.

Moments before, the delegation witnessed four of their peers—



**MOST SURPRISING**

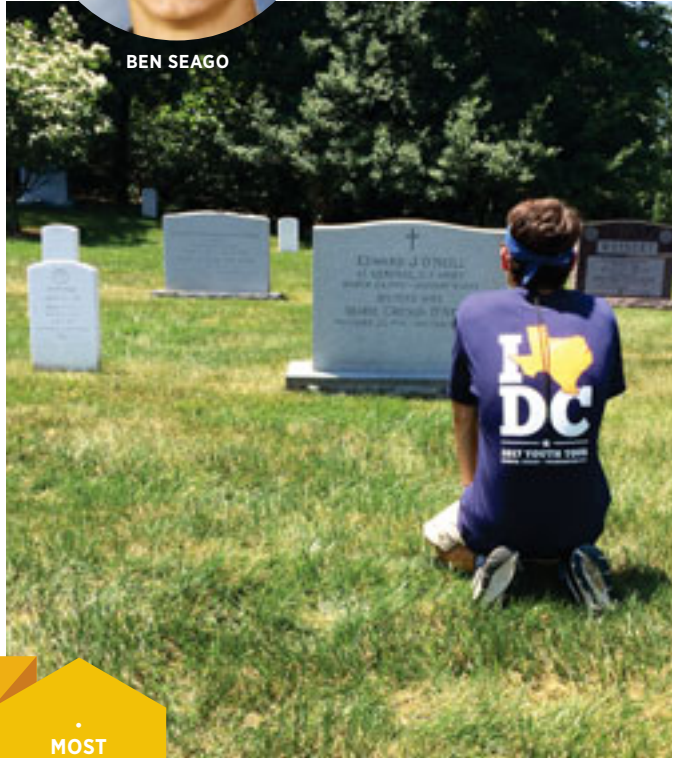


**CREIGHTON ROGERS    JESS HILL    BRIANNA ANDING**



**BEN SEAGO**

► **WANT IN ON THE FUN?**  
Watch the 2017 Youth Tour video online and see our *10 Reasons To Apply for Youth Tour* on Page 14.



**MOST EMOTIONAL**

**Chloe Hunt** from Navasota Valley EC; **Jordan Pyatt** from Victoria EC; **Jack Morgan** from Medina EC; and **Bentley Harbison** from

South Plains EC—participate in a ceremony to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Seago’s great-grandfather was the commander who traveled to France in 1958 to select the body of the unidentified WWI soldier to be reburied in that very tomb.

After Seago rose to his feet, he brushed away his knee prints from the grass with his toe. He said he understands how the retired lieutenant general “not only contributed to an amazing country but that he brought up an amazing family.”

The trip offered other moving moments, too, such as when **Kristen Wolfe** from Farmers EC wept in the Holocaust Memorial Museum, prompting **Justin Morrison** of Bandera EC to offer a consoling shoulder; and when **Laryssa Garcia** from Magic Valley EC searched for her uncle’s name among the 58,195 engraved on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.

More tears flowed when it came time to say goodbye on the 10th day, back in Austin, when hardly a dry eye watched the farewell celebration.

Addressing the group that final night, Calderon reflected on their journey. She said the memorials honoring leaders in government, history and faith inspired her. “How grand it is to say, ‘I want to be the same as them,’” she said. “I want to be the best American citizen I can be.”

**Suzanne Featherston**, a former Texas Electric Cooperatives communications specialist who served as a Youth Tour chaperone for the first time in 2017, is now the editor of *Mining Quarterly* in northeastern Nevada.

**YOUTH TOUR // Legacy**

Youth Tour harkens to Lyndon B. Johnson’s days as a senator. Seeing what he perceived as young Americans’ apathy toward democracy inspired him to make a request. In 1957, Johnson charged co-op leaders with sending teenagers to the nation’s capital “to see what our flag stands for and represents.”

Because these nonprofit, member-owned organizations formed out of a grassroots movement that allowed rural areas to receive electricity through the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, co-op leaders recognized the importance of educating the next generation about government and community involvement.

In 1965, Texas co-ops joined the nationwide Youth Tour program and have since sent 4,030 on what alumni call the trip of a lifetime.



**BENTLEY HARBISON    CHLOE HUNT    JORDAN PYATT    JACK MORGAN**





# 10

## REASONS TO APPLY FOR YOUTH TOUR

You could stay home next summer, or you could kick it off with a 10-day trip to Washington, D.C. On Youth Tour, you'll laugh until your face hurts, crane your neck at tall buildings, stand humbled by national memorials and get inspired by leaders. You'll love it so much that you'll weep when it's over. Need more convincing? Here are 10 reasons to apply for Youth Tour.

### 1. It's free.

Your electric cooperative, statewide association and sponsors completely cover the cost of Youth Tour, including airfare, hotels, meals and attractions.

Go to [TexasYouthTour.com](http://TexasYouthTour.com) to find your co-op and apply!



You spend days touring popular attractions in D.C., including memorials, monuments and museums. You'll go on a cruise on the Potomac River and see a show at the Kennedy Center.

### 2. IT'S FUN.

### 3. You get to travel.

You get to leave your summer job, siblings and routine behind for 10 days! No making your bed for 10 days!



### 4. You meet new people.

You'll make new friends from among the more than 1,700 teens from across the nation, including more than 145 from all over Texas.







Washington, D.C., is rich in history and heritage. That's why Youth Tour was created more than 50 years ago, inspired by Lyndon B. Johnson, to give you the opportunity to discover "what the flag stands for and represents."

## 5. You get a classic American adventure.

**6. You learn a lot.**

You are surrounded by venues that focus on science, art, history, space, American culture and so much more. You return home with a ton of newfound knowledge.



## 7. YOU CAN GAIN LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE.

Any Youth Tour participant can apply to be on the national Youth Leadership Council. One student selected from each state returns to D.C. in July for a leadership workshop.

## 8. *You can make your voice heard.*

You spend a day on Capitol Hill and meet with your elected officials. You get face time with some of the most powerful people in the nation and an opportunity to talk about what's important to you and your community.



## 9. You can put it on your résumé.

When you apply for college or a job, Youth Tour can help you stand out. The trip offers experiences that can shape your college application, essays and career path.



## 10. YOUR

You get plugged into the electric co-op community and are in a great position to learn about scholarships, internships and jobs offered through this network.

**You connect with opportunity.**



1.5 total carats of genuine Ethiopian opal for under \$60.



## ADD SOME WOW TO YOUR VOWS

Put a rainbow on her finger with the opal that's taking the jewelry industry by storm.

Long ago, we made a vow: We would not produce a five-opal anniversary ring until two very specific conditions were met. First, the opals had to be of superior quality, with the joyous iridescence to delight all who saw the precious stone's colors dance in the light. Second, the price had to be right, so that we could provide the value Stauer clients expect from us. So when The New York Times style section called Ethiopian opal the "undisputed winner" of the Gem Show, we decided to pounce. The result is the astoundingly beautiful **Five-Star Opal Anniversary Ring**.

All five of these exotic beauties possess the radiant rainbow of color we've been looking for. Arranged in a sterling silver setting finished in lustrous gold, this ring is a beautiful tribute to your lasting love.

**So how about our price promise?** We met that too. We want you to know there is absolutely no reason to overpay for luxury gemstones. The big name jewelers have been deceiving the public long enough, charging as much as \$16,000 for an Ethiopian opal ring. We won't trump up the price to make you think it's luxurious. This ring is just as luxurious (if not more) than the big designer name rings, AND it's yours for **under \$60**. I think it's safe to say we more than met our price promise. We exceeded it... by well over 16,000%!

*"Opal's spectacular play-of-color can display all the colors of the rainbow."* — Gemological Institute of America

*"The play of color in opals is so gorgeous they sometimes don't even seem real and yet they are."* — from the Couture Show

**Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed.** Slip this rainbow on her finger. If she's not absolutely delighted simply send it back within 30 days for a complete refund of the item price. See if your jewelry store can match that!

**The Five-Star Opal Ring is one of Stauer's fastest sellers. Supplies are limited.** We can't seem to keep this ring in stock. Don't miss this rare opportunity. Order the **Five-Star Opal Anniversary Ring** today and catch this radiant rainbow before it's gone!

**TAKE 85% OFF INSTANTLY!**

**When you use your OFFER CODE**

**Five-Star Opal Anniversary Ring (1.5 ctw) ~~\$399†~~**

Offer Code Price Only **\$59** + S&P Save \$340!

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

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**Your Insider Offer Code: OAR283-03**

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Rating of A+



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

1.5 ctw Ethiopian opal • Gold-finished .925 sterling silver setting • Whole ring sizes 5–10

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# HOW TO SPEAK ITALIAN WITHOUT SAYING A WORD?

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

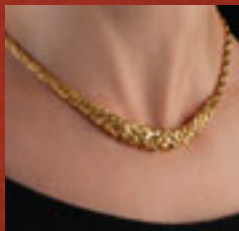
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For over fifty years they've created unsurpassed artisan jewelry that combines age-old Etruscan metalsmithing techniques with innovative design. Today, we bring their talents to America.

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

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



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



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

— Angie, El Cajon, CA

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

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

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

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

*Also available*

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

Stunningly well-priced at **\$595** with **FREE SHIPPING**  
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• Made in Arezzo, Italy • Available as sterling silver finished in 18K yellow gold or 14K real yellow gold • 18"; lobster clasp

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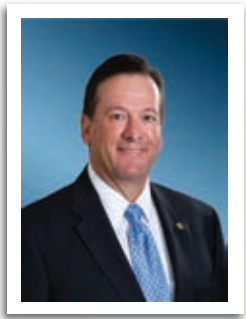
14101 Southcross Drive W., Dept. RFA138-01, Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 [www.raffinatoitaly.com](http://www.raffinatoitaly.com)

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



# Cooperative History, Cooperative Future

Looking back provides the path forward



**John W. Herrera**

## MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

One of my favorite sayings always has been, “Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” Yet sometimes, remembering our history with the goal of repeating it—and improving on it—can be a good thing.

For example, we never forget the struggles thousands of rural families endured before their homes were electrified, and the way electric cooperatives formed to bring light to that darkness. As a result, employees from more than 900 cooperatives across the United States dedicate themselves daily to making life better for member-owners.

As the nation’s 30,000 co-op employees celebrate National Co-op Month this October, I think it is a perfect time to take a look back—and a look forward.

Magic Valley Electric Cooperative was founded when neighbors worked together to bring electricity to our rural communities. Big, investor-owned power companies, thought they couldn’t generate enough profit in rural areas, so they bypassed them and only electrified the cities. Back then, there were frequent meetings among neighbors to discuss the formation of this cooperative. Once established, the co-op’s annual meetings became “must-attend” events every year.

Fast-forward to today—and tomorrow: Magic Valley provides service to over 97,000 members, gives scholarships to local students and supports numerous community service organizations in the area. We also regularly return capital credits to our members.

We started out providing electricity, but our impact—with your support and input—has grown.

Over the years, we’ve listened to you and your fellow co-op member-owners, and we know that we must keep pace as technology and consumer needs evolve. While times and technology will continue to change, our commitment to you will not. We understand that the spirit that helped create this co-op must be nurtured continually.

You can be confident that Magic Valley will keep exploring new ways to help our members and our community. We welcome your input as we plan for the future.

Respectfully,

**John W. Herrera**  
General Manager

## Magic Valley Electric Cooperative

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



### GENERAL MANAGER

**John W. Herrera**

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Board Member

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### CONTACT US

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**SERVING A COMMUNITY INVOLVES MORE  
THAN PROVIDING ELECTRICITY**



**Is Committed To Serving Our Members**

**Celebrate Co-op Month This October**

**#coopmonth**

**COOPERATIVES ARE:**

**VOLUNTARY • DEMOCRATIC • EQUITABLE • INDEPENDENT • INFORMATIVE • COLLABORATIVE • COMMUNITY**



# Nominate Local Heroes for the Second Annual #WhoPowersYou Contest

Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, in partnership with Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, is pleased to announce the second annual #WhoPowersYou Contest, honoring local heroes. It's a chance for Magic Valley members and employees to nominate someone who's making a difference in our community, and an opportunity to celebrate the power of human connections. In addition to being nationally recognized, nominees can win up to \$5,000 for the cause they champion.

To nominate a local hero in the Rio Grande Valley, members and employees can go to [www.whopowersyou.com](http://www.whopowersyou.com) and submit their nominee's name, photo and a brief description of how they make a difference in our community. Nominations open on Oct. 2 and must be submitted by midnight on Nov. 4. Only members of Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, including those of Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, are eligible to nominate a candidate.

Winners will be announced in December. An independent panel of judges will select winners based upon the positive impact they make on the community, creativity of the entry and the number of votes they receive.

Prize money totaling \$9,000 will be awarded to the following winners:

- **Grand Prize Winner:** \$5,000
- **Second Place:** \$2,000
- **Third Place:** \$1,500
- **Honorable Mention:** \$500

Magic Valley Electric Cooperative and Touchstone Energy Cooperatives launched the #WhoPowersYou Contest in 2016 to honor people making a powerful impact in their community. The first contest received thousands of votes from across the country for 62 local heroes in Touchstone Energy's cooperative communities.

## About Touchstone Energy

Touchstone Energy Cooperatives ([www.touchstoneenergy.com](http://www.touchstoneenergy.com)) is a nationwide alliance of more than 750 consumer-owned electric cooperatives dedicated to serving their members and communities with integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community. Touchstone Energy co-ops collectively deliver power and energy solutions to more than 30 million members every day.



YOUR NOMINEE COULD  
WIN UP TO \$5,000

#WHOPOWERSYOU

 Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives  
The power of human connections®



# Your community. Your inspiration.

➔ [WhoPowersYou.com/Enter](http://WhoPowersYou.com/Enter)

Nominate someone today for  
the **#WhoPowersYou** contest

This is your chance to honor someone in your community and celebrate the power of human connections. Visit [whopowersyou.com/enter](http://whopowersyou.com/enter) between 10/2/17 and 11/4/17 and submit a photo of your nominee. Then tell us why that person inspires you and how they make a difference in your co-op community—and they could win a cash prize!

## CONTEST PRIZES

GRAND PRIZE **\$5,000**

SECOND PLACE **\$2,000**

THIRD PLACE **\$1,500**

HONORABLE MENTION **\$500**

## Together, let's celebrate the power of human connections

As the national network of more than 740 co-ops, Touchstone Energy Cooperatives value the people who elevate and energize our communities. That's why we are launching a contest to honor inspirational community members across the country.

Winners will be selected by a panel of judges based on the impact they on the community. All entries must be submitted by November 4, 2017. Winners will be announced January 2018. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. Visit [whopowersyou.com](http://whopowersyou.com) for full contest rules.



# \$15K SCHOLARSHIP

- **Do you want to go to college?**

Every year we **award scholarships** to aspiring young men and women to help make their college dreams a reality.

- **Are you a Magic Valley member?**

If you're a graduating high school senior, you're eligible for our **\$15,000 scholarship!**



**DEADLINE:  
DEC. 7, 2017**

For more information  
visit our website  
**[www.magicvalley.coop](http://www.magicvalley.coop)** &  
download an application.

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For more information about our Scholarship opportunity, contact us at:

Email: [info@magicvalley.coop](mailto:info@magicvalley.coop)

Phone: 866-225-5683





The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

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COMMUNITY DAY

OCTOBER 7, 2017 • 4 - 10 P.M.



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For more information or special accommodations, contact the Office of Community Relations in Edinburg (956) 665-3361 or Brownsville (956) 882-5845 or at HESTEC@UTRGV.EDU.





# Who You Gonna Call? Scam Busters!

Scams preying on electric cooperative members appear to be on the rise again. In several states, electric co-ops and other utilities are joining together to warn the public about phone calls, emails and visits from scammers.

## Mechanics of a Scam

Here's how a typical scam works: Someone impersonating an employee from an electric cooperative's billing/collections department contacts a co-op member and claims the co-op has not received payment for the member's bill. The caller threatens to shut off the customer's electricity if payment is not received immediately. The member panics and figures out a quick way to pay, whether through a prepaid card, a money transfer, or giving the caller their bank account or debit/credit card information.

Any members who fall for such a scam—which can happen to anyone—are still responsible for their electric bills, in addition to having lost the amount they “paid” (and possibly much more, if they provided banking numbers or other personal information that thieves could reuse).

## A Flair for Fraud

Scammers are becoming craftier and more tech savvy by making it appear that they're calling from local area codes or telephone exchanges. Some members have reported that their co-op's name appeared on the caller ID, prompting them to take the call and believe the caller's identity claim. It's even been reported that some scammers have offered rebates for good payment history!

Co-ops around the country are seeing other types of fraud, too. In South Carolina, several co-op members reported a man wearing a co-op badge, claiming to be a solar provider working in partnership with the cooperative. The man, who drives a white unmarked

van, solicits members for appointments to discuss solar installations. This is how he gains entry to members' homes. The co-op warned its members via social media that it has no such partnerships with any solar providers, nor would its employees ask to enter a member's home.

## Where To Turn for Help

Public awareness and protection initiatives started by electric cooperatives and other utilities—such as the national coalition Utilities United Against Scams and Vermont's new Scam Busters campaign—are using social media, local news and bill inserts to educate and protect members and customers by ensuring that they know what to do when thieves come knocking or calling. During such a call, if any co-op member is unsure about who is on the other end of the phone, they should neither make a payment nor give out any personal information. Instead, they should hang up on the caller, then call their electric cooperative and the police.

To avoid falling for scams, the Texas Attorney General's office advises member-customers to remember three tips:

- If someone calls claiming to represent your Magic Valley and demands immediate payment or personal information, hang up the phone and call the member service number listed on your electric bill.
- Do not give in to high-pressure calls seeking personal information. Never provide Social Security numbers, credit card numbers or bank account information to anyone who requests it during an unsolicited phone call or in-home visit.
- Never allow anyone into your home to check electrical wiring, natural gas pipes or appliances unless you've scheduled an appointment or reported a utility problem. Anytime an MVEC employee arrives at your residence, request that they produce proper identification before transacting any business.



# Pan de Muertos (Mexican Bread of the Dead)

This is a version of the bread that is made for the November 2 celebration known as the Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) in Mexico. You can also mold the bread into different shapes like angels and animals.



Recipe by: Lola from Allrecipies.com

## INGREDIENTS

- 1/4 cup margarine
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1/4 cup warm water (110 degrees F/45 degrees C)
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/4 teaspoons active dry yeast
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons anise seed
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 2 teaspoons orange zest
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1/4 cup orange juice
- 1 tablespoon orange zest
- 2 tablespoons white sugar

## Directions

1. Heat the milk and the butter together in a medium saucepan, until the butter melts. Remove from the heat and add them warm water. The mixture should be around 110 degrees F (43 degrees C).
2. In a large bowl combine 1 cup of the flour, yeast, salt, anise seed and 1/4 cup of the sugar. Beat in the warm milk mixture then add the eggs and orange zest and beat until well combined. Stir in 1/2 cup of flour and continue adding more flour until the dough is soft.
3. Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured surface and knead until smooth and elastic.
4. Place the dough into a lightly greased bowl cover with plastic wrap and let rise in a warm place until doubled in size. This will take about 1 to 2 hours. Punch the dough down and shape it into a large round loaf with a round knob on top. Place dough onto a baking sheet, loosely cover with plastic wrap and let rise in a warm place for about 1 hour or until just about doubled in size.
5. Bake in a preheated 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) oven for about 35 to 45 minutes. Remove from oven let cool slightly then brush with glaze.
6. To make glaze: In a small saucepan combine the 1/4 cup sugar, orange juice and orange zest. Bring to a boil over medium heat and boil for 2 minutes. Brush

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



PAUL BRADBURY | ISTOCK.COM

# Happy Halloween

MVEC wishes everyone a scary—but safe—Halloween!

# Historia de la Cooperativa, Futuro de la Cooperativa

*El pasado nos da el camino al futuro*



**John W. Herrera**

## MENSAJE DEL DIRECTOR GENERAL

Uno de mis refranes favoritos siempre ha sido, "Quienes no recuerdan el pasado, están condenados a repetirlo." Sin embargo, algunas veces recordar nuestra historia con el objetivo de repetirla y mejorarla puede ser algo bueno.

Por ejemplo, nunca hemos olvidado la gran lucha de miles de familias rurales antes de que sus hogares fueron electrificados y la forma en cómo las cooperativas se formaron para llevar la luz a esa oscuridad. Como resultado, más de 30,000 empleados de las cooperativas

a través de los Estados Unidos se dedican diariamente a mejorar la calidad de vida para los miembros propietarios.

Mientras las 900 cooperativas de nuestra nación celebran el mes de las cooperativas este mes de octubre, creo que es el momento perfecto para mirar hacia atrás y también hacia el futuro. Magic Valley Electric Cooperative fue fundada cuando las y los vecinos trabajaron juntos para llevar electricidad a nuestra comunidad rural. Las empresas privadas, habían concluido que no generarían suficientes ganancias y decidieron electrificar solamente las ciudades. En aquel entonces, había juntas frecuentes entre vecinos para discutir la formación de esta cooperativa. Una vez establecida, la junta anual se convirtió en el evento al que hay que asistir cada año.

El día de hoy – y mañana: Magic Valley suministra energía a más de 97,000 miembros, otorga becas estudiantiles y apoya a numerosas organizaciones benéficas locales. También, cada año reembolsamos créditos de capital para nuestros miembros.

Nuestra misión inicial fue suministrar electricidad, pero nuestro impacto, con tu apoyo y participación, ha crecido.

A lo largo de los años, te hemos escuchado a ti y a otros miembros de la cooperativa y sabemos que debemos de mantener el paso a medida que la tecnología y las necesidades de los consumidores se modifican. Aunque los tiempos y la tecnología seguirán evolucionando, nuestro compromiso contigo no cambiará. Sabemos que el espíritu que ayudó a crear esta cooperativa debe nutrirse y mantenerse continuamente.

Puedes estar seguro de que tu cooperativa seguirá explorando nuevas maneras de ayudar a nuestros miembros y a nuestra comunidad. Agradecemos tu participación en nuestros planes para el futuro.

Respetuosamente,



**John W. Herrera**  
General Manager

## Magic Valley Electric Cooperative

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



### DIRECTOR GENERAL

**John W. Herrera**

### MESA DIRECTIVA

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Presidente

**Reynaldo L. Lopez,**  
Vicepresidente

**Barbara S. Miller,**  
Secretaria-Tesorera

**Rolando Alaniz,**  
Asistente Secretario-Tesorero

**Doug Martin,**  
Director

**Nila T. Wipf,**  
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**Adrienne Peña-Garza,**  
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- 1311 S. Cage Blvd  
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**SÍGANOS EN**





# Nomina a un héroe local durante el segundo concurso anual de #WhoPowersYou

Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, en asociación con Touchstone Energy Cooperative, se complace en anunciar el segundo concurso anual de #WhoPowersYou, honrando a héroes locales. Esta es una oportunidad para que los miembros y empleados de Magic Valley puedan nominar a alguien que está haciendo la diferencia en nuestra comunidad, y una oportunidad para celebrar el poder de los lazos humanos. Además de ser reconocidos nacionalmente, los nominados pueden ganar hasta \$5,000 para donar a una causa benéfica.

Para poder nominar a un héroe local en el Valle del Río Grande, las y los miembros y empleados pueden visitar la página web de [whopowersyou.com](http://whopowersyou.com) y enviar el nombre de la persona nominada, foto y una breve descripción de cómo esta persona está haciendo una gran diferencia en nuestra comunidad. Las nominaciones serán aceptadas a partir del 2 de octubre y deben ser enviadas antes de la medianoche del 4 de noviembre. Solo miembros de Touchstone Energy Cooperative, incluyendo a los miembros de Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, son elegibles para nominar a un candidato.

Los ganadores serán anunciados en diciembre. Un jurado independiente seleccionará a las personas ganadoras basándose en el impacto que tienen en

la comunidad, la creatividad de la nominación y el número de votos que reciben.

El premio incluye un total de \$ 9,000 dólares, que serán otorgados de la siguiente manera:

- **El gran premio ganador:** \$5,000
- **Segundo lugar:** \$2,000
- **Tercer lugar:** \$1,500
- **Mención honorífica:** \$500

Magic Valley Electric Cooperative y Touchstone Energy Cooperative lanzaron el concurso #WhoPowersYou en el 2016 para honrar a las personas que están teniendo un gran impacto en su comunidad. El primer concurso recibió miles de votos de todo el país para 62 héroes locales en las comunidades de Touchstone Energy.

## Acerca de Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Touchstone Energy Cooperative ([www.touchstoneenergy.com](http://www.touchstoneenergy.com)) es una alianza nacional de más de 750 cooperativas eléctricas dedicadas a servir a los miembros y comunidades con integridad, responsabilidad, innovación y compromiso con la comunidad. Las cooperativas que son parte de Touchstone Energy colectivamente proporcionan fuerza y energía a más de 30 millones de usuarios cada día.



**TU NOMINADO PUEDE GANAR HASTA \$5000**

#WHOPOWERSYOU

 Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives  
The power of human connections®

# ¿A quién vas a llamar? ¡A los caza estafadores!

Las víctimas de estafas a miembros de cooperativas eléctrica parecen ir nuevamente en aumento. En varios estados, las cooperativas eléctricas y otras empresas de servicios públicos están uniéndose para alertar al público acerca de llamadas telefónicas, correos electrónicos y visitas de estafadores.

## Mecánica de una estafa

Así es como una estafa típica funciona: Alguien se hace pasar por un empleado de una cooperativa eléctrica del departamento de facturación/pagos y afirma que la cooperativa no ha recibido el pago de la cuenta de luz. El autor de la llamada amenaza que cortará la electricidad del cliente si el pago no se recibe inmediatamente. El miembro entra en pánico y busca una forma rápida de pagar, ya sea a través de una tarjeta de prepago, una transferencia de dinero o al dar la información de la cuenta bancaria personal o tarjeta de crédito/débito. La persona que cae en esta estafa, que le puede pasar a cualquiera, sigue siendo responsable de su factura de electricidad, además de perder la cantidad que "pagó" (y posiblemente mucho más, si dan números bancarios o cualquier otra información personal que los ladrones pueden utilizar de nuevo).

## Un talento para el fraude

Los estafadores se están haciendo más inteligentes y utilizan tecnología haciéndola aparecer como que están llamando desde los códigos de área locales. Algunos miembros han reportado que el nombre de la cooperativa apareció en el identificador de llamadas, incitándolos a tomar la llamada y creer en la identidad de la persona que está llamando. Incluso se ha informado que algunos estafadores han ofrecido hacer descuentos por buen historial de pago.

También, las cooperativas de todo el país están viendo otros tipos de fraude. En Carolina del Sur, varios de los miembros de la cooperativa informaron de un hombre que portaba una identificación falsa de la cooperativa, diciendo ser un proveedor solar que trabaja en asociación con la cooperativa. El hombre, que conduce una van color blanco, sin marcas, solicita a miembros agendar citas para hablar sobre instalaciones solares. De esta manera puede entrar a las casas de los miembros.

La cooperativa advirtió a sus miembros a través de las redes sociales que no tiene tales asociaciones con proveedores solares, ni sus empleados piden entrar a la casa de los miembros.

## Dónde pedir ayuda

La información pública y las iniciativas de protección emprendidas por cooperativas eléctricas y otras empresas de servicios públicos, así como la coalición Utilities United Against Scams (empresas de servicio público unidas contra estafadores) y la campaña de Vermont's New Scam Busters (caza estafadores de Vermont) están utilizando las redes sociales, noticias locales y boletines para educar y proteger a los miembros y clientes, asegurándose de que sepan qué hacer cuando los estafadores lleguen a tocar la puerta de la casa o llamen por teléfono.

Durante una llamada, si cualquier miembro de la cooperativa no está seguro acerca de quién está al otro lado de la línea telefónica, no deben hacer ningún pago ni dar ninguna información personal. Por el contrario, deben colgar y después llamar a su cooperativa eléctrica y a la policía.

Para evitar caer en estafas, el Procurador General de Texas aconseja a los clientes recordar estos tres consejos:

- Si alguien llama y afirma representar a tu cooperativa Magic Valley y exige el pago inmediato o información personal, cuelga el teléfono y llama al número de centro de llamadas que se encuentra en tu factura eléctrica.
- No ceder a las llamadas que te presionan solicitando información personal. Nunca des los números de Seguro Social, números de tarjeta de crédito o cuenta bancaria a cualquiera que lo pida durante una llamada de teléfono no solicitada.
- Nunca permitas que nadie entre a tu casa para revisar el cableado eléctrico, tuberías de gas natural o electrodomésticos, a menos que hayas programado una cita. Cada vez que un empleado de MVEC llegue a tu residencia, pídele una identificación antes de que inicie cualquier acción o transacción comercial.



# Pan de Muertos

Esta es una versión del pan que se hace para el 2 de noviembre en la celebración conocida como el Día de los Muertos en México. También puedes moldear el pan en diferentes formas como ángeles y animales



Receta de: Lola de Allrecipies.com

## INGREDIENTES

### Para el pan

- 1/4 taza de mantequilla o mantequilla
- 1/4 de taza de leche
- 1/4 de taza de agua caliente (110 grados F/45 grados C)
- 3 tazas de harina normal
- 1 1/4 cucharadita de levadura seca activa
- 1/2 cucharadita de sal
- 2 cucharaditas de semillas de anís

### Para el glaseado

- 1/4 de taza de azúcar blanco
- 2 huevos, batidos
- 2 cucharaditas de cáscara de naranja
- 1/4 de taza de azúcar blanco
- 1/4 taza de jugo de naranja
- 1 cucharada de cáscara de naranja
- 2 cucharadas de azúcar blanco

## INSTRUCCIONES

1. Calienta la leche y la mantequilla juntas en una cacerola mediana, hasta que la mantequilla se derrita. Retírala del fuego y agregar agua tibia. La mezcla debe estar alrededor de 110 grados F (43 grados C).
2. En un recipiente grande, combina 1 taza de la harina, levadura, sal, semillas de anís y 1/4 de taza de azúcar. Juntar con la mezcla de leche caliente y luego agregar los huevos y la ralladura de naranja y batir hasta que estén bien combinados. Agregar 1/2 taza de harina y continuar agregando más harina hasta que la masa esté blanda.
3. Colocar la masa sobre una superficie ligeramente enharinada y amasar hasta que esté suave y elástica.
4. Colocar la masa en un recipiente ligeramente engrasado, cubrirlo con plástico y dejar que la masa se levante en un lugar cálido hasta que el tamaño se duplique. Esto tardará aproximadamente de 1 a 2 horas. Aplanar la masa a golpes y darle forma de media esfera con una pequeña protuberancia redonda encima. Poner la masa en una bandeja para hornear, ligeramente cubierta con plástico y dejarla a que se levante en un lugar cálido durante aproximadamente 1 hora o hasta que casi se duplique en tamaño.

## CALENDARIO DE EVENTOS



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**12" SLIDING COMPOUND DOUBLE-BEVEL MITER SAW**

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

**SAVE \$169**

**\$1299** Compare \$299

ITEM 61969 61970 69684 shown

Blade sold separately.

26282007

LIMIT 3 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**CENTRAL PNEUMATIC** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**21 GALLON, 2.5 HP, 125 PSI VERTICAL OIL-LUBE AIR COMPRESSOR**

- Air delivery: 5.8 CFM @ 40 PSI, 4.7 CFM @ 90 PSI

**SAVE \$49**

**\$1499** Compare \$199

ITEM 69091/61454/62803/63635/67847 shown

26855753

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**SUPER COUPON**

**FREE**

WITH ANY PURCHASE

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

**\$497 VALUE**

ITEM 69111 63599/62522/62573 63875/63884/63886 63888/69052 shown

26024911

LIMIT 1 - Cannot be used with other discount, coupon or prior purchase. Coupon good at our stores. HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2867. Offer good while supplies last. Shipping & Handling charges may apply if not picked up in-store. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 2/7/18. Limit one FREE Gift coupon per customer per day.

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26204559

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**PREDATOR** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**8750 MAX. STARTING/7000 RUNNING WATTS 13 HP (420 CC) GAS GENERATOR**

- Includes GFCI outlets

**SAVE \$2170**

**\$5299** Compare \$2700

ITEM 68530/63086/69671/63085 shown

ITEM 68525/63087/63088 CALIFORNIA ONLY

Wheel kit and battery sold separately.

26863551

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**COVERPRO** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**10 FT. x 17 FT. PORTABLE GARAGE**

**SAVE \$113**

**\$1699** Compare \$283.50

ITEM 62859/63055 62860 shown

26871806

LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**PITTSBURGH** **SUPER COUPON**

**#1 SELLING JACKS IN AMERICA**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**RAPID PUMP® 1.5 TON ALUMINUM RACING JACK**

- 3-1/2 Pumps Lifts Most Vehicles
- Lifts from 3-1/2" to 14-1/8"
- Lightweight 34 lbs.

**SAVE \$50**

**\$799** Compare \$109.99

ITEM 68053/62160 62496/62516/60569 shown

26875546

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**U.S. GENERAL** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**26" 4 DRAWER TOOL CART**

- 6200 cu. in. of storage
- 580 lb. capacity
- Weights 97 lbs.

**SAVE \$269**

**\$999** Compare \$369.32

ITEM 61634/61952/95659 shown

26887553

LIMIT 3 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**drillmaster** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**4-1/2" ANGLE GRINDER**

**SAVE 60%**

**\$999** Compare \$1499

ITEM 69645/60625 shown

26875875

LIMIT 8 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**EARTHQUAKE XT** **SUPER COUPON**

**NEW** **1/2" COMPOSITE EXTREME TORQUE AIR IMPACT WRENCH**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

- 1190 ft. lbs. bolt breakaway torque

**SAVE \$394**

**\$1299** Compare \$524.95

ITEM 62891

26879621

LIMIT 8 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**TWO TIER COLLAPSIBLE EASY-STORER STEP LADDER**

ITEM 67514

**SAVE 50%**

**\$1999** Compare \$2099

- 225 lb. capacity

26883573

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**PORTLAND** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**7 AMP ELECTRIC POLE SAW 9.5" BAR**

**SAVE \$34**

**\$6499** Compare \$7999

ITEM 68862 63190/62896 shown

26885040

LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**PITTSBURGH** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**16 OZ. HAMMERS WITH FIBERGLASS HANDLE**

**YOUR CHOICE \$299**

ITEM 69006 60715/60714

ITEM 69005/61262 47873 shown

**SAVE 70%**

**\$499** Compare \$9.97

26895953

LIMIT 8 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**HaulMaster** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**12 VOLT MAGNETIC TOWING LIGHT KIT**

**SAVE 71%**

**\$999** Compare \$34.95

ITEM 63100

26907524

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**SOLAR ROPE LIGHT**

ITEM 62533 63941/68353 shown

**SAVE 66%**

**\$999** Compare \$1399

**\$29.97**

- Great outdoor accent lighting
- Super bright light

26975025

LIMIT 8 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**TILTING FLAT PANEL TV MOUNT**

**SAVE \$85**

**\$1499** Compare \$2499

- 176 lb. capacity

ITEM 62289/61807 shown

27028048

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**UNION SAFE COMPANY** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**1.51 CUBIC FT. SOLID STEEL ELECTRONIC DIGITAL FLOOR SAFE**

**NEW**

**SAVE \$75**

**\$999** Compare \$175

ITEM 91006/62678/62977 shown

27083883

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**GREENWOOD** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**1-1/4 GALLON HOME AND GARDEN SPRAYER**

**SAVE 39%**

**\$899** Compare \$14.97

ITEM 61280/63124 63145/95692 shown

23303518

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**CENTECH** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

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

**SAVE 57%**

**\$2999** Compare \$4999

ITEM 60581 60653 shown

27164282

LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**4 PIECE ANTI-FATIGUE FOAM MAT SET**

**SAVE 65%**

**\$699** Compare \$999

- Each pad measures 25" x 25"

ITEM 61607/62389 94635 shown

27257114

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*



**U.S. GENERAL** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**44" 13 DRAWER INDUSTRIAL QUALITY ROLLER CABINET**

- 14,200 cu. in. of storage
- 2633 lb. capacity
- Weighs 245 lbs.

**\$349<sup>99</sup>**

ITEM 69387/62744  
63271/68784 shown

SAVE **\$2200** Compare **\$2550**

~~\$309<sup>99</sup>~~

27363063

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**Bauer** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**20 VOLT LITHIUM CORDLESS 1/2" COMPACT DRILL/DRIVER KIT**

- 450 in./lbs. torque
- 1.5 amp hour battery
- Weighs 3.4 lbs.

**\$599<sup>99</sup>** **NEW**

Compare **\$99** **SAVE \$39**

~~\$69<sup>99</sup>~~

ITEM 63531

27378222

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**HARDY** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**MECHANIC'S GLOVES**

SIZE	ITEM
MED	62434/62426
LG	62433/62428
X-LG	62432/62429

Item 62429 shown

**YOUR CHOICE \$3<sup>99</sup>**

~~\$5<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$16.12**

SAVE **75%**

28059085

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**BADLAND** **Battle Tested** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**2500 LB. ELECTRIC WINCH WITH WIRELESS REMOTE CONTROL**

**SAVE \$70**

**\$499<sup>99</sup>**

Compare **\$119.99**

~~\$77<sup>99</sup>~~

ITEM 61840/61297/63476/61258 shown

28125129

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**HEAVY DUTY FOLDABLE ALUMINUM SPORTS CHAIR**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

SAVE **50%**

ITEM 62314  
63066/66383 shown

**\$199<sup>99</sup>**

~~\$29<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$39.99**

28215730

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**WARRIOR** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**29 PIECE TITANIUM DRILL BIT SET**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

SAVE **83%**

Compare **\$60** **\$17<sup>99</sup>**

**\$9<sup>99</sup>**

ITEM 62281/61637 shown

28289063

LIMIT 7 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**PITTSBURGH** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**1 TON CAPACITY FOLDABLE SHOP CRANE**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

SAVE **\$169**

**\$999<sup>99</sup>**

~~\$169<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$269**

- Boom extends from 36-1/4" to 50-1/4"
- Crane height adjusts from 82" to 94"

ITEM 69512/61858/69445 shown

28332813

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**PORTLAND** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**1750 PSI PRESSURE WASHER**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

NEW

• 1.3 GPM

• Adjustable spray nozzle

**\$179<sup>99</sup>**

Compare **\$179.33**

~~\$99<sup>99</sup>~~ **SAVE \$99**

ITEM 63255/63254 shown

28421433

LIMIT 3 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**HaulMaster** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

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

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

• 5400 lb. capacity

SAVE **67%**

Compare **\$60.95** **\$29<sup>99</sup>**

**\$199<sup>99</sup>**

ITEM 60658/97711 shown

28488554

LIMIT 4 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**CENTRAL PNEUMATIC** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

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

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

SAVE **\$170**

**\$599<sup>99</sup>**

~~\$89<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$229.99**

ITEM 69265/62344/93897 shown

28534656

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**HaulMaster** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**1000 lb. capacity MOVER'S DOLLY**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 93888 shown  
61899/62399/63095/63096  
60497/63098/63097

**\$799<sup>99</sup>**

~~\$10<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$19.97**

SAVE **59%**

28576560

LIMIT 8 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**HaulMaster** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**3-POINT QUICK HITCH**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

• 2000 lb. capacity

• 27-3/16" Clearance

ITEM 97214

**\$199<sup>99</sup>**

~~\$99<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$169.99**

SAVE **\$90**

28609865

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**CENTECH** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**3-IN-1 PORTABLE POWER PACK WITH JUMP STARTER**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

SAVE **38%**

**\$399<sup>99</sup>**

~~\$54<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$64.99**

ITEM 38391/62376/62306 shown

28641341

LIMIT 9 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**CENTECH** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**AUTOMATIC BATTERY FLOAT CHARGER**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

SAVE **87%**

**\$499<sup>99</sup>**

~~\$9<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$39.99**

ITEM 69594/69955  
42292 shown

28706781

LIMIT 7 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**Bunker Hill Security** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**WIRELESS SECURITY ALERT SYSTEM**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

SAVE **68%**

**\$999<sup>99</sup>**

~~\$15<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$31.46**

ITEM 69590/61910/62447/93068 shown

28753215

LIMIT 6 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

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

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69249/69115  
69137/69129  
69121/877 shown

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

~~\$4<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$8.58**

SAVE **65%**

28813875

LIMIT 5 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**10" PNEUMATIC TIRE**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

• 300 lb. working load

SAVE **79%**

**\$399<sup>99</sup>**

~~\$5<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$19.89**

ITEM 69385/62388/62409  
62698/30900 shown

28853198

LIMIT 9 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**Bunker Hill Security** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**60 LED SOLAR SECURITY LIGHT**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

Includes 6V, 900 mAh NiCd battery pack.

SAVE **57%**

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

~~\$39<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$69.99**

ITEM 62534/69643 shown

28917584

LIMIT 9 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**PITTSBURGH** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**9 PIECE FULLY POLISHED COMBINATION WRENCH SETS**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 69043/63282/42304 shown

SAE

ITEM 42305/69044/63171

METRIC

SAVE **59%**

**\$599<sup>99</sup>**

~~\$7<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$14.97**

YOUR CHOICE

28970250

LIMIT 6 - Coupon valid through 2/7/18\*

**PREDATOR** **SUPER COUPON**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

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

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

ITEM 60363/69730  
ITEM 69727 shown  
CALIFORNIA ONLY

**\$999<sup>99</sup>**

~~\$119<sup>99</sup>~~ Compare **\$329.99**

SAVE **\$230**

29064403

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# Dia de los Muertos

Day of the Dead traditions celebrate the circle of life in Mexican culture

BY GENE FOWLER

MY LATE FRIEND DALLAS HAD A HEALTHY perspective on death.

Also known as Nevada Slim, Dallas Turner, who passed on in 2014 at nearly 90, was a singing cowboy and radio pitchman. Though he was not eager to leave this world, he was excited about discovering the essence that remains when one's blood ceases to pulse. And Dallas promised to return and visit me from the other side. His vow reminds me of the Mexican and Mexican-American traditions of *Dia de los Muertos*, or Day of the Dead.

We all carry in our hearts the memories of loved ones who have traveled on, and each November 1 and 2, many Texans commemorate that remembrance with elaborate celebrations. They prepare *ofrendas*, or altars, for the dead where they display photographs and treasured items of the departed as well as favorite foods and beverages. Celebrants don skeleton costumes, paint their faces like *calaveras* (skulls) and decorate gravesites with sugar skulls and the *flor de los muertos*, or flower of death. Usually marigolds, the bright and pungent flower petals are placed to guide loved ones from their graves back to their former homes.

Celebrate death? Absolutely, Bertha Zubiato of Presidio explains in preparation for Dia de los Muertos at Marfa's Chinati Foundation. The Mexican philosophy that informs Day of the Dead teaches that death does not represent the end of life but rather the passage through another existence. Like the round *pan de muertos*, or bread of death, the Mexican worldview sees life as never-ending.

In her book, *Digging the Days of the Dead*, the late scholar Juanita Garciagodoy traces the roots of Dia de los Muertos to Mesoamerican cultures, following Spanish and folk influences. Over the centuries,



she says, a festival in which the Aztecs reunited with the departed was blended with Catholic observances of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day to initiate the tradition.

"It's important to remember that Day of the Dead is an indigenous celebration of family," explains Ward S. Albro, an adjunct professor at the University of Texas at San Antonio and one of the authors of *The Day of the Dead—Dia de los Muertos*. "When I first got interested in it many years ago, though it was observed in South Texas, it really wasn't widely known in Mexico north of Mexico City. Now it's a national holiday in Mexico."

Regina M. Marchi, a Latino Studies professor at Rutgers University, notes in her book *Day of the Dead in the USA* that South Texans have cleaned and decorated ancestors' graves since at least the 1890s, but before the 1970s, these commemorations did not generally include creating *ofrendas*, burning copal incense, or making *pan de muertos* and sugar skulls.

After years of presenting muertos talks through the Humanities Texas Distinguished Speakers Bureau, Albro confirms that the tradition has spread from the Rio Grande to the Red River.

The city of Tyler hosted its first public

Day of the Dead celebration in 2016. The 2017 Denison festival and parade, featuring large skeleton marionettes, will be the town's seventh annual event. Funds raised through the Dia de los Muertos Celebration of Life at West Texas A&M University in Canyon go to scholarships. Denton's lively reunion of the living and the dead has grown to include coffin races since its debut in 2011. The Museum of South Texas History in Edinburg exhibits altars made by residents and maintains an archive of images and stories.

In a radio interview on Marfa Public Radio, Zubiato explained that altars often display as many as 20 symbols. The *papel picado*, colored paper cut with beautiful muertos designs, symbolizes the air as the souls of the dead pass through the paper. Fruits and flowers represent the earth. Fire lights the way for spirits' return, and the vital element of water gives life anew.

"We learn about death when he puts his hand on the ones we love," added radio guest Azusena Nunez, "and that loss is our legacy."

"But nobody really dies," said radio host Lorne Matalon, "until someone stops remembering them."

Gene Fowler specializes in Texas history.

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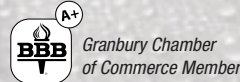


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## Sunday Cooking

THE NOTION OF SUNDAY COOKING suggests a homey, hearty dish that pulls family together around the table for the most restorative meal of the week. Because I grew up in the Midwest, Sunday meant pot roast—especially when the weather cooled. In my favorite recipe, a well-marbled chuck roast is braised in coffee and whiskey. To create the deepest flavors, season the meat an hour before cooking and brown it on all sides before roasting. The aromas that permeate your home will have you anticipating the meal even more than usual.

PAULA DISBROWE, FOOD EDITOR

### Cowboy Pot Roast With Coffee and Whiskey

- 1 boneless chuck roast (about 3 pounds)
- 1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 tablespoon cumin
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh thyme
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh rosemary
- 2 large onions, sliced
- 1 bulb garlic
- 1-3 serrano chiles, as desired for heat
- 1-2 cups beef broth
- 2 tablespoons instant espresso powder
- 1 teaspoon smoked Spanish paprika
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 cups canned tomatoes with their juice
- ½ cup whiskey
- 2-4 fresh bay leaves, torn
- 1 pound carrots, peeled and sliced into 4-inch lengths
- 1 pound Yukon gold or fingerling potatoes, sliced into 2-inch chunks or halved

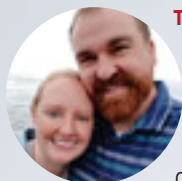
**1.** An hour before you plan to cook, take the beef out of the fridge. Combine the salt, pepper, cumin, thyme and rosemary in a bowl; massage the spicy mixture evenly over the roast.

**2.** While the meat comes to room temperature, preheat the oven to 250 degrees and assemble the other ingredients. Slice each onion into 8 wedges, and peel and crush the garlic cloves. Slice each serrano from just below the stem to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32



## Sunday Cooking



### THIS MONTH'S RECIPE CONTEST WINNER

**JOHN MADISON**  
PEDERNALES EC

"My wife and family

can't get enough of these ribs," Madison says. Double-wrapping the ribs at first lets them benefit from the long, slow cook. You can precook them in the oven and finish them over a charcoal fire, but using your grill or smoker for the entire process is a lot more fun.

### Smoky Fall-off-the-Bone Ribs

- ½ cup light brown sugar
- ⅓ cup chili powder
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1½ teaspoons cumin
- 1½ teaspoons mustard powder
- 1 full rack baby back pork ribs
- Salt and black pepper, to taste
- 3 cloves garlic, minced

1. To make the rub, combine the brown sugar, chili powder, Worcestershire, cumin and mustard powder in a small bowl.
2. Place a large sheet of foil on a sheet pan, and then place the same size sheet of waxed paper on top of the foil.

Slice the rack of ribs in half, then place both halves on the waxed paper, meat-side down.

3. Remove the silver skin from the bone-side of the rack. Generously season the ribs with salt and pepper. Spread the garlic on the bone side of the ribs followed by some of the rub. Spread rub on the meat-side of the ribs.

4. Stack the half racks, meat-side down, in the center of the waxed paper. Wrap the ribs in waxed paper first, then wrap with foil so they are completely sealed.

5. Prepare a grill or smoker for indirect cooking (or heat an oven to 225 degrees) and cook the ribs 3½–4 hours, until tender. Then remove from heat and allow ribs to rest, wrapped, 15–20 minutes.

6. To finish the ribs, prepare a hot grill. Carefully unwrap the ribs (they'll release steam) and grill the racks meat-side down over direct heat until nicely charred, about 3–5 minutes. Flip the rack, baste with your favorite sauce, if desired, and cook a few more minutes. Serves 4.



### \$100 Recipe Contest

March's recipe contest topic is **Luck of the Irish: Potatoes**. Who doesn't love potatoes? The starchy staple can be prepared thousands of ways. Send us your favorite. The deadline is **October 10**.

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

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



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

the tip (so it is split but stays intact).

3. In a large measuring cup, whisk together the beef broth, instant espresso and paprika until blended.

4. When you're ready to cook, heat the olive oil in a large Dutch oven over medium-high heat. When the pot is very hot but not smoking, add the roast and cook until it is crusty and deep brown on all sides.

5. Transfer meat to a plate, lower the heat to medium and place the onions, garlic and chiles in the pot. Cook, stirring, until mixture is coated with beef fat and the onions soften. Add the broth mixture, tomatoes, whiskey and bay leaves, stirring up any browned bits. Return the roast to the pan and nestle into the liquid.

6. Cover the pot and place in the oven. Roast 1 hour, then carefully turn roast over and return to oven for another hour.

7. Remove pot from oven, and tuck carrots and potatoes around the meat. Cover and cook for a final hour or until the vegetables are tender. Remove the pot from the oven and allow the meat to rest, uncovered, for at least 30 minutes or up to 1 hour.

8. To serve, use a fork and tongs to remove pieces of the meat to plates. (It will be very tender.) Surround with vegetables and a generous portion of the juice. Serves 6–8.

**COOK'S TIP** Pot sizes vary, so make sure the broth only comes one-third to halfway up the sides of the roast. Too much liquid will result in more of a stew than slow-roasted meat with gravy.

From *Cowgirl Cuisine: Rustic Recipes and Cowgirl Adventures From a Texas Ranch* (William Morrow, 2007) by Paula Disbrowe

### Hearty Pasta Soup

MILLIE KIRCHOFF | NUECES EC

For a broth with a deeper flavor, use fire-roasted tomatoes and simmer with a Parmesan rind (discard before serving).

- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil, divided use
- 1 pound ground beef or turkey
- 1 small red onion, diced
- 1 large carrot, diced (about 1 cup)
- 3 stalks celery, diced (about 1 cup)
- 2–3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 cans (14.5 ounces each) diced or



- crushed tomatoes
- 1 can (15 ounces) kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can (15 ounces) cannellini beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can (15 ounces) tomato sauce
- 1 can (12 ounces) V-8 Spicy Hot vegetable juice
- 1 tablespoon white vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon each dried basil, oregano and parsley
- 1/2 teaspoon each black pepper and dried thyme
- 2 cups beef, chicken stock or water
- 8 ounces ditalini or other small shape pasta

Shredded Parmesan cheese, for serving  
Crusty bread, for serving

1. Place 1 tablespoon olive oil in a large pot or Dutch oven and brown the ground meat over medium-high heat. Drain excess fat, if desired.
2. Add the remaining olive oil and the onion, carrot, celery and garlic, and

sauté 2–3 minutes. Add remaining ingredients except pasta and simmer 30–40 minutes.

3. Meanwhile, bring a large pot of water to a boil. Cook the pasta to al dente, then drain and briefly rinse.
4. Add pasta to the soup pot, plus additional broth or water for desired consistency. Simmer an additional 8–10 minutes.

5. Adjust seasonings as desired and serve with shredded Parmesan and crusty bread. Serves 6–8.

### Easy “No-Roll” Cabbage Rolls

PATTI SCHOBAY | VICTORIA, EC

Love cabbage rolls but hate the lengthy prep time? This hearty “deconstructed” casserole delivers the satisfaction of the long-simmered flavors with much less work.

- 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter
- 1 large sweet onion, chopped
- 2 bell peppers, chopped

- 4 stalks celery, chopped
  - 2 pounds ground beef
- Salt, black pepper and cayenne pepper to taste
- 1 cup uncooked rice
  - 3 cups V-8 Spicy Hot vegetable juice, or more to taste
  - 1 medium head cabbage, sliced into 1/2-inch strips

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Melt the butter in a large, deep skillet, then add the onion, peppers and celery. Sauté until the onions are lightly browned, then add the ground beef and cook until the meat is browned.
3. Remove from heat, and season with salt, pepper and cayenne to taste. Add the rice and V-8, and stir to combine.
4. Place half the cabbage in an even layer in a 9-by-13-inch baking dish, cover with half the meat mixture, then repeat layers and cover with foil. Bake 45 minutes, then remove foil and bake another 45 minutes, until the cabbage is tender. Serves 8–10.

## FOCUS ON TEXAS PHOTO CONTEST

Every month, Focus on Texas features Texas photos submitted by our readers. Send us your best photos for a chance to see your entry in the magazine!

### Upcoming Contests


**FEBRUARY ISSUE**  
Jailhouses  
Deadline: October 10

**MARCH ISSUE**  
Downtown  
Deadline: November 10


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# Costume Party

YOUNG OR OLD, WITH FRIENDS OR FAMILY, active or just actively seeking candy—Texans love to dress up. These winners are prepped, padded, painted and posed in their favorite getups this month as we celebrate the right to party! **GRACE ARSIAGA**

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

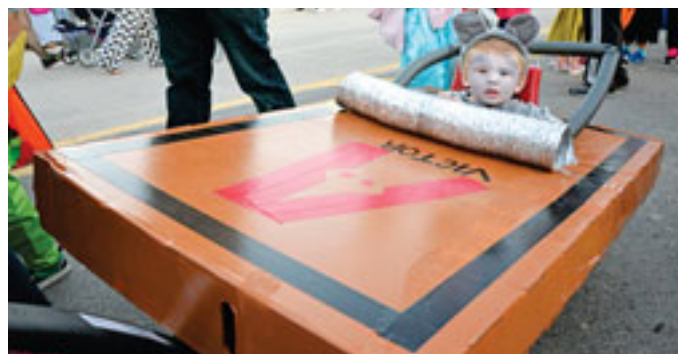
◀ **SHARMYN BAILEY**, United Cooperative Services: Brian Giddens prepares for the Halloween race at Cowtown BMX in Fort Worth.

▼ **PEARL NEMETH**, Grayson-Collin EC: “My friends and I dressed as Spice Girls for a trivia night at our church.”



◀ **GARY JOSEFF**, CoServ: Joseff’s granddaughter, Kaiya Ellis, 8, celebrates her birthday party on a “pirate ship” out of Port Aransas.

▼ **JUDY TRUESDELL**, Farmers EC: “Little mouse Tristan Zachary is pulled along by his dad at Wylie’s Boo on Ballard trick-or-treat event.”



◀ **PENNY SMITH**, Bowie-Cass EC: Co-op members James and Penny Smith (Shaggy and Velma, right), with grandson Gavin Porterfield (Scooby-Doo, center), and Brian and Marilyn Porterfield (Fred and Daphne) are ready for the annual family Halloween party.

## UPCOMING CONTESTS

FEBRUARY	JAILHOUSES	DUE OCTOBER 10
MARCH	DOWNTOWN	DUE NOVEMBER 10
APRIL	WESTERN WEAR	DUE DECEMBER 10

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

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





## Pick of the Month Texas State Title Cobbler Championship

**Llano** October 21

(325) 247-5354, llanochamber.org

Cobbler dates to the mid-1800s in Llano. Blackberry and peach are favorites, but you'll see varieties of savory and sweet cobblers in the competition. This year's contest is part of the Llano River Chuck Wagon Cook-Off, featuring family and kids activities, plus music.

COBBLER: STEPHANIE FREY | DREAMSTIME.COM. SCARECROW: PRYZMAT | DREAMSTIME.COM. GUITAR: NONOHARI | DREAMSTIME.COM

## October 7

**Geronimo** Volunteer Fire Department Fundraiser, (830) 708-1549

**Johnson City** Wild Game Dinner, (830) 833-5335

**Liberty Hill** Sculpture Garden Festival, (512) 470-1326, lhsculptures.com

**Pin Oak** St. Mary's Church Festival, (512) 921-0751

## 11

**Rockport** [11-31] First Learning Tree Pumpkin Patch & Festival, (361) 729-0883, fltree.org

## 12

**Neches** [12-15] Muddin' for a Cure, (903) 724-4100, riverrunpark.com

## 13

**Mesquite** [13-14] Treasures Barn Sale, (972) 216-6468, historicmesquite.org

**Cuero** [13-15] Turkeyfest, (361) 275-2112, turkeyfest.org

## 14

**Denison** Eisenhower Birthday Celebration, (903) 465-8908, visiteisenhowerbirthplace.com

**Greenwood** Fall Festival, (940) 389-8497

**Leesville** Country Fair, (830) 424-3622

**Ponder** Barn Dance Benefit, (469) 682-9723, ridingunlimited.org

**Chappell Hill** [14-15] Scarecrow Festival, (979) 836-6033, chappellhillhistoricalsociety.com

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Scarecrow  
Festival



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**Edom [14-15] Art Festival**, (903) 852-6473, visitedom.com

## 20

**Farmers Branch [20-21] Bloomin' Bluegrass Festival and Chili Cookoff**, (972) 919-2631, bloominbluegrass.com

**Brenham [20-22] Texas Arts and Music Festival**, 1-888-273-6426, texasartsandmusicfestival.com

**Dripping Springs [20-22] Songwriters Festival**, (512) 659-1576, dripping Springs songwriters festival.com

## 21

**Cleveland MusicFest**, (281) 592-8786

**Southlake North Texas Walk for PKD**, (817) 647-5553, walkforpkd.org/northtexas

**Fredericksburg Hill Country Indian Artifact Show**, (830) 626-5561, hillcountryindianartifacts.com

**Jasper Fall Fest**, (409) 384-2762, jaspercoc.org

**Kerens Cotton Harvest Festival**, (903) 396-2665, kerenscottonharvestfestival.com

**Spring Branch BSB Fire & EMS Gala: Feathers & Fedoras**, (830) 228-4206, bsb911.com/2017-gala



Dripping Springs  
October 20-22  
Songwriters Festival

**Whitesboro United Methodist Men's Annual BBQ**, (817) 908-7282

## 26

**Wylie Boo on Ballard**, (972) 516-6000, wylietexas.gov

## 28

**Anna Glowfest**, (972) 924-8533, annaglowfest.com

**Cedar Park Barktoberfest**, (512) 260-7722, centraltexasppca.org/barktoberfest

## 29

**Schertz Bexar County Czech-Slovak Heritage Festival**, (210) 659-9132, bexarcounyczechsociety.com

## 31

**Bastrop Trick or Treat Trail**, (512) 332-8990, bastropdowntown.com

# November

## 3

**Bluff Dale [3-4] Junk & Antique Market**, (817) 894-2036, cowsmith.com

## 4

**Crockett The Wonder Bread Years**, (936) 544-4276, pwfaa.org

**McKinney St. Gabriel's Holiday Boutique**, (972) 542-7170, stgabriel.org

## Submit Your Event!

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

# AROUND TEXAS EVENT CALENDAR

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# All the King's Horses

Kingsville and the Wild Horse Desert offer visitors glimpse of ranching legacy

BY E. DAN KLEPPER

THE SOUTH TEXAS GRASSLANDS ONCE stretched from the Nueces River to the Rio Grande. Called the Wild Horse Desert by Texians, the region was named for the mustangs that roamed the robust wildlands and was legendary for desperadoes' lawlessness. After the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the Mexican-American War in 1848 and established the Rio Grande as the U.S. border with Mexico, the horses and criminals remained, but their demise came inexorably through the work of hunters, sheriffs and ranchers until settlers, the rule of law and fences took over.

Today, the region provides modern conveniences alongside a hefty dose of history, all accessible by following U.S. Highway 77, a huisache-scented byway, from Kingsville to Raymondville. Start in Kingsville, named for King Ranch founder Richard King. Head first to the **King Ranch Museum** for an introduction. Housed in the Henrietta Memorial Center, constructed in 1907 to house Kingsville's ice factory and power plant, the museum displays saddles, guns, vintage cars and photographs.

Now a National Historic Landmark, the massive King Ranch has evolved and diversified. The habitat may be the ranch's greatest asset, encompassing a wildlife-rich environment that covers more than 825,000 acres of coastal plains, bay shores, thorn scrub, savannahs and grassland. Native species thrive. For a firsthand look, head to the visitors center on the ranch's Santa Gertrudis Division, just west of town.

Daily bus tours feature views of the ranch's wildlife and its Santa Gertrudis cattle. See the camp house and pens that are landmarks in the annual roundups. View Henrietta King's home, built in 1912 after the first ranch residence burned. Or get a closer look at the wildlife and Wild Horse Desert habitat by scheduling a King Ranch birding tour. The tours offer op-



**Master craftsman Roberto Salas at the King Ranch Saddle Shop**

portunities to explore native habitat. More than 350 species of birds have been confirmed on the ranch, and Tom Langschied, the head birding guide, shows birders white-faced ibis, green jays and brush-loving songbirds.

Back in town, you can visit small-town attractions such as **Roy's Hobbies and Electronics**, King Barber Shop and a food truck named Brink's that serves fresh Gulf seafood. Stop by the **King Ranch Saddle Shop** to see more of the King Ranch legacy.

South of Kingsville, off U.S. 77 and 8 miles north of Riviera, FM 628 provides scenic access to Baffin Bay. You'll pass through the community of Vattman where, in 1907, a Minnesota land developer purchased land from the King Ranch, then partnered with Fr. Edward Vattmann and the Catholic Colonization Society of America to recruit families and form communities. Vattman's church, rebuilt after a 1916 hurricane destroyed the original, remains in use today. The handsome brick building features stained-glass windows imported from Germany. The church hosts an annual Thanksgiving dinner fundraiser (as it has for more than 90

years). If you enjoy a home-cooked holiday meal, purchase your tickets early.

Drive another 3 miles east on FM 628, and you'll arrive at the shores of Cayo del Grullo, where you'll find **King's Inn**, a Coastal Bend landmark. Established in 1935, the inn serves meals family-style. Order shrimp, oysters, frog legs or catch of the day. Fried or grilled, the platters of seafood include hush puppies, an avocado-curry salad and a view of the bay.

Back south along U.S. 77, you'll find yourself in the town of Sarita, where exhibits at the **Kenedy Ranch Museum of South Texas** recount the legacy of the Kenedy family. Sarita Kenedy devoted much of her significant inheritance to establishing the Kenedy Memorial Foundation.

Finish up your Wild Horse Desert tour in Raymondville, eastern gateway to the Rio Grande Valley. Raymondville is a farming community with an eye on the future. Its vast array of giant wind turbines suggests that wind power, not ranching, could ascend in the modern age.

**E. Dan Klepper** is a photographer, author and artist who lives in Marathon.

 **WEB EXTRAS** ▶ Learn more about visiting these Wild Horse Desert places.



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50-54	\$11.50	\$9.70	\$18.50	\$15.50	\$36.00	\$30.00	\$88.50	\$73.50
55-59	\$14.20	\$11.95	\$23.00	\$19.25	\$45.00	\$37.50	\$111.00	\$92.25
60-64	\$17.20	\$13.30	\$28.00	\$21.50	\$55.00	\$42.00	\$136.00	\$103.50
65-69	\$20.50	\$16.00	\$33.50	\$26.00	\$66.00	\$51.00	\$163.50	\$126.00
70-74	\$27.40	\$21.40	\$45.00	\$35.00	\$89.00	\$69.00	\$221.00	\$171.00
75-79	\$37.00	\$30.10	\$61.00	\$49.50	\$121.00	\$98.00	\$301.00	\$243.50
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Not available in all states. In NY, during the first two years, 110% of premiums will be paid. Website unavailable for NY residents. EASY WAY Whole Life Insurance is underwritten by United of Omaha Life Insurance Company, Omaha, NE 68175, which is licensed nationwide except NY. Life insurance policies issued in NY are underwritten by Companion Life Insurance Company, Hauppauge, NY 11788. Each company is responsible for its own financial and contractual obligations. \*Age eligibility and benefits may vary by state.

\*\*\*In FL policy is renewable until age 121.

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