

WOMEN'S PUSH FOR  
CARNEGIE LIBRARIES

SCARIEST BRIDGE  
IN TEXAS

READER RECIPES  
A HIT IN NEVADA

# Texas Coop Power

FOR BLUEBONNET EC MEMBERS

JANUARY 2021

**BLUEBONNET  
EC NEWS**

SEE PAGE 18

## Gotcha!

Pro tips on photographing  
where the wild things are





great looks &  
long-lasting  
*performance*

Mueller metal roofs offer many advantages, including curb appeal, weather resistance and durability. You can choose from a wide range of designer colors to complement your home, backed by up to a 30 year limited paint warranty. It all adds up to lasting peace of mind. Get a metal roof you can trust from a company you can trust – a Mueller metal roof.

Learn more at: [www.muellerinc.com/roofing](http://www.muellerinc.com/roofing)



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

# January 2021



08

## Captured!

Take memorable wildlife photos with preparation, research and sleuthing.

*Story and photos by Russell A. Graves*

## 14 Literary Fortunes

Women of the early 20th century wrangled Carnegie grants and libraries for their towns.

*By Melissa Gaskill*

04

### Currents

The latest buzz

06

### TCP Talk

Readers respond

18

### Co-op News

Information plus energy and safety tips from your cooperative

29

### Footnotes in Texas History

The Scariest Bridge in Texas  
*By W.F. Strong*

30

### TCP Kitchen

Vegetarian  
*By Megan Myers*

34

### Hit the Road

Upscale Lodging  
*By Chet Garner*

37

### Focus on Texas

Photo Contest: Forests

38

### Observations

Cook Like a Texan  
*By Suzanne Featherston*

ON THE COVER

A brown bear at Katmai National Park and Preserve in Alaska.

ABOVE

A cottontail near Childress, on the southern edge of the Panhandle.

*Photos by Russell A. Graves*

# Flying Colors

**ONE OF THE BLACK MARKS** against wind turbines is the number of birds killed by the rotating blades. Black marks, it turns out, could help resolve the problem.

Scientists in Norway found that painting one of the three blades on a wind turbine black reduces avian deaths by 72%.

The paper produced by the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research explains that painting one blade black is believed to create motion smear patterns that birds perceive as moving objects, enabling birds to take evasive action.

Of the more than 60,000 wind turbines in the U.S., Texas has some 15,000—the most of any state.



## Tons of Tomatoes

If you love tomatoes, you have about a week left to enter our recipe contest that celebrates the fruit.

Tomatoes are a big deal in Jacksonville. A big deal. The East Texas city has hundreds of huge concrete tomatoes, some weighing 665 pounds, scattered around town as a declaration of its love for the juicy fruit that many people consider a vegetable.



## UPLOADS OF CASH

Parents of K–12 students planned to spend a record \$789.49 per family for back-to-school supplies last fall. Purchases of laptops and computer accessories in anticipation of more online schooling because of the COVID-19 pandemic helped break the record set in 2019 by almost \$100.

# There are 78 snake species in Texas.



We spotlighted rattlesnakes, one of the most common, in *A Snake To Love*, April 2020.



## TCP Contests and More

ON TEXASCOOPPOWER.COM

### \$500 RECIPE CONTEST

Tomatoes

### FOCUS ON TEXAS PHOTOS

Historic Texas

### WEB EXTRA

Learn more about the 30 cities in Texas selected for Carnegie libraries—some of which still exist.

## Power of Our People A Cupboard Never Bare

**CHRISTINA KUPER** grew up in Indiana, where she watched a neighbor she called Grandma Hiner, though they weren't related, regularly sharing food from her pantry with others.

"I think that's where giving was implanted into my heart," says Kuper, a member of Taylor Electric Cooperative. "Throughout my life I have always tried to give to others."

Thus began a lifetime of charity that included Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, Girl Scouts food drives and baking for military troops away during the holidays. When a debilitating respiratory disease left Kuper homebound in Hawley, about 10 miles north of Abilene, she refocused her benevolence.

Kuper installed the Hawley Sharing Box, left, at the end of her driveway in 2017. Based on the Little Free Pantry program, itself inspired by the Little Free Library project, Kuper's sharing box makes food, toys, school supplies and toiletries available for anybody—and Kuper stresses *anybody*—driving past 225 12th St., near the edge of town.

Daily updates on Facebook tell what's available and what's needed, and Kuper says the box is stocked almost completely by community donations.

"Kindness is addicting and contagious," she says, "and it should be spread everywhere."

**INFO** ▶ [facebook.com/hawleysharingbox](https://facebook.com/hawleysharingbox)



**TCP POWER OF OUR PEOPLE** To nominate a co-op member who is making a difference in your community, email details to [people@texascooppower.com](mailto:people@texascooppower.com).

## FINISH THIS SENTENCE LIFE WAS BETTER ...

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

The little bitty space where my pets let me sleep in my own bed.

**SUE CALDWELL**  
BANDERA EC  
PIPE CREEK

My health, friends and warm home tonight.

**MATTIE WOODFIN BORDERS**  
VIA FACEBOOK

My beloved brother, Rob, who, 31 years ago in December, donated his bone marrow to me and saved my life.

**ANNE SWEET**  
PEDERNALES EC  
GEORGETOWN

To see more responses, read Currents online.



ERIC W. POHL

**Bat Lodging**

“What a great endeavor to improve the planet. Thank you, Mr. Bamberger.”

NANCY GREENHAW  
CENTRAL TEXAS EC  
FREDERICKSBURG

**Farrier Finesse**

I went to farrier school in 1981, not to become a professional farrier but because I owned nearly 50 head of horses [Why Horses Wear Shoes, October 2020]. Pleased to see more women taking up that profession as brute strength is not as important as understanding the horse you’re shoeing.

Ken Wade  
Central Texas EC  
Fredericksburg



I have made these with vanilla wafers for as long as I can remember [Cookie Swap, Bourbon Balls, November 2020].

SHARON STOLL  
VIA FACEBOOK

**No Small Potatoes**

J. David Bamberger is a hero in the Texas conservation world and has shown us all how being a good steward of the land can enable nature to thrive [Bat Lodging, November 2020]. Pam LeBlanc’s coverage of his “chiroptorium” showed Bamberger’s persistence and determination as well as his warm, down-home nature.

Yes, J. David, I agree: Your potatoes are, indeed, “terribly important!”

Elizabeth Bowerman  
Comal County Conservation  
Alliance  
Pedernales EC  
New Braunfels

I saw that cave soon after it was built. Love that beautiful ranch and the man who made this real.

Beverly Barnt  
Via Facebook

**Matagorda Connection**

My great-grandfather was the assistant keeper there in the 1890s, leaving and then returning as keeper in the early 1900s until his death in 1913 [Matagorda Island Lighthouse, October 2020]. His sister, my great-great aunt, perished with her children at Indianola in the 1875 hurricane.

Bill Reeves  
Pedernales EC  
Georgetown



MEGAN MYERS

**TCP WRITE TO US**  
letters@TexasCoopPower.com

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

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

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn Texas Co-op Power

**TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Chair** Robert Loth III, Fredericksburg • **Vice Chair** Gary Raybon, El Campo  
**Secretary-Treasurer** Kelly Lankford, San Angelo • **Board Members** Greg Henley, Tahoka  
 Billy Jones, Corsicana • David McGinnis, Van Alstyne • Doug Turk, Livingston  
**PRESIDENT/CEO** Mike Williams, Austin  
**COMMUNICATIONS & MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
 Marty Haught, Burleson • Bill Hetherington, Bandera • Ron Hughes, Sinton  
 Boyd McCamish, Littlefield • John Ed Shinpaugh, Bonham • Robert Walker, Gilmer  
 Buff Whitten, Eldorado • Brandon Young, McGregor  
**MAGAZINE STAFF**  
**Vice President, Communications & Member Services** Martin Bevins  
**Editor** Charles J. Lohrmann • **Associate Editor** Tom Widowski  
**Production Manager** Karen Nejttek • **Creative Manager** Andy Doughty  
**Advertising Manager** Elaine Sproull • **Senior Communications Specialist** Chris Burrows  
**Print Production Specialist** Grace Fultz • **Communications Specialist** Travis Hill  
**Food Editor** Megan Myers • **Communications Specialist** Jessica Ridge  
**Digital Content Producer** Chris Salazar • **Senior Designer** Jane Sharpe  
**Proofreader** Shannon Oelrich

**TEXAS CO-OP POWER** Volume 77, Number 7 (USPS 540-560). *Texas Co-op Power* is published monthly by Texas Electric Cooperatives (TEC). Periodical postage paid at Austin, TX, and at additional offices. TEC is the statewide association representing 75 electric cooperatives. *Texas Co-op Power*'s website is TexasCoopPower.com. Call (512) 454-0311 or email editor@TexasCoopPower.com.  
**SUBSCRIPTIONS** Subscription price is \$4.20 per year for individual members of subscribing cooperatives and is paid from equity accruing to the member. If you are not a member of a subscribing cooperative, you can purchase an annual subscription at the nonmember rate of \$7.50. Individual copies and back issues are available for \$3 each.  
**POSTMASTER** Send address changes to *Texas Co-op Power* (USPS 540-560), 1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor, Austin, TX 78701. Please enclose label from this copy of *Texas Co-op Power* showing old address and key numbers.  
**ADVERTISING** Advertisers interested in buying display ad space in *Texas Co-op Power* and/or in our 30 sister publications in other states, contact Elaine Sproull at (512) 486-6251. Advertisements in *Texas Co-op Power* are paid solicitations. The publisher neither endorses nor guarantees in any manner any product or company included in this publication. Product satisfaction and delivery responsibility lie solely with the advertiser. © Copyright 2021 Texas Electric Cooperatives Inc. Reproduction of this issue or any portion of it is expressly prohibited without written permission. Willie Wirehand © Copyright 2021 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.



 PUBLISHERS CLEARING HOUSE



“Clip It Now...  
**WIN IT  
ALL!**”

**OFFICIAL RULES:** ALL PRIZES GUARANTEED TO BE AWARDED AS OFFERED. NO PURCHASE OR PAYMENT NECESSARY TO WIN. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. ALL GIVEAWAYS ARE VOID IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC AND RESIDENTS OF THAT PROVINCE ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO ENTER OR WIN. A prize of \$5,000.00 A-Week-Forever will be paid to the winner for life (and thereafter to one other natural person designated by the winner) if the timely returned winning entry from Giveaway No. 16000 for our February 28th SuperPrize comes from this promotion. Award subject to verification of identity and eligibility. Winner must sign an Affidavit of Eligibility within 30 days or alternate winner will be selected. Principals and employees of PCH and their immediate families are not eligible. Board of Judges' decisions are final. Bulk entries will not be accepted. Not responsible for lost or mutilated mail. Entry constitutes permission to use winner's name and photograph in television commercials, in website promotions, and for other promotional purposes, unless prohibited by law. Subject to complete Official Rules available at website or mail address provided. Entry must be received by 2/5/21.

Please visit [www.pch.com](http://www.pch.com) to view our Privacy Policy and California Consumer Privacy Act Disclosures or to exercise your rights under that Act. You can also exercise your rights by calling 1-844-557-8505.

**SWEEPS FACTS:** Giveaway No. 16000; End Date: 2/24/21; Est. Odds of Winning: 1 in 6,200,000,000. **You Have Not Yet Won. All Entries Have the Same Chance of Winning.** We don't know who the winner is. **Enter For Free.** You don't have to buy anything to enter. **Enter As Often As You Like.** You may submit additional entries by writing to the address provided. Each entry request must be mailed separately. **Buying Won't Help You Win.** Your chances of winning are the same as someone who buys something.

 **OFFICIAL ENTRY COUPON**

**\$5,000.00  
A WEEK "FOREVER"**

**WIN IT ALL FEBRUARY 28TH**



**YES, I WANT TO WIN \$5,000.00 A WEEK FOR MY LIFETIME PLUS, AFTER THAT, \$5,000.00 A WEEK FOR THE LIFETIME OF SOMEONE I'D CHOOSE.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:** Publishers Clearing House  
18 Contest Processing Center  
St. Cloud, MN 56388-0018

**IT'S FREE, BUT HURRY!  
NO ENTRY ACCEPTED AFTER  
FEBRUARY 5TH.**



**OR GO TO:** [www.pch.com/CLIP](http://www.pch.com/CLIP)



21-PB562M0



# CAPTURE

Take memorable wildlife photos with





# RED!

preparation, research and sleuthing



**WO MINUTES AFTER** I start blowing a predator call, I see movement to the northeast of the cedar tree in which I am hiding. Out of nowhere a sleek coyote takes a step into a clearing where I'd hoped one might and glares in my direction. Everything I planned to make this moment happen materializes 20 yards away: A predator stands in the burnished orange bluestem in perfect afternoon light and remains motionless long enough for me to focus and squeeze the shutter. I capture two frames of 35 mm slide film, and then the animal disappears. Then I notice my heart is pounding.

In that instant I made my first truly memorable wildlife image. It was exhilarating. Even though the scene is three decades old, I can recall it clearly. It was a defining moment in my eventual career as a photographer.

But here's the truth: Initially I didn't know the image was that good. Those were the days before digital photography, when I still had to expose the entire roll of film, ship it to a distant photo lab and wait for the images to return. A couple of weeks passed before I was finally able to look through the cardboard-mounted slips of film and find the coyote. First I thought someone else's pictures had been mixed in with mine. I quickly realized that the slides were indeed my own. In the Northeast Texas wild, everything I'd learned about how to make an engaging wildlife photo clicked.

Since that day, my photographs have appeared on more than 500 magazine covers, and I now guide photo tours all over the world. Recently I took a group to photograph bears in Katmai National Park and Preserve in Alaska.

A lot has changed since that moment calling up a coyote in Fannin County. A few years after the coyote stepped in front of my lens, digital photography revolutionized how images are made and democratized the medium to the point that even the best equipment made is truly affordable.

Some things have not changed with time and technology. Wildlife is still wild, and the steps required to capture great wildlife images are the same.

LEFT A brown bear atop Brooks Falls in in Katmai National Park and Preserve in Alaska anticipates a meal of a spawning salmon. ABOVE Camouflage helps photographers get closer to wildlife.



ABOVE A bobcat approaches near Dodd City in North Texas. BELOW A motion-sensor camera can capture shy animals, such as this badger in Montana.

**TCP WEB EXTRA**

Enter online to win a digital copy of *The Big Book of Wildlife and Nature Photography* by Russell A. Graves.

**Here are proven techniques that can help ensure your wildlife images are engaging and dynamic.**

**◀ FOCUS ON THE EYES**

You've heard the saying that the eyes are the windows to the soul. That trite phrase holds true for wildlife, too. When planning a photograph, pay close attention to the eyes. Many cameras now include an eye-tracking feature that can automatically detect an animal's eyes and ensure that the focus locks on accurately.

The reason the eyes are of utmost importance is simple: When you look at another person or an animal, you first notice the eyes. That's where you make a connection with the subject. If the animal's tail is out of focus, that's OK. Blow the focus on the eyes, and the image suffers.

**▼ GET CLOSE**

There's a popular misconception that wildlife photographers use giant lenses and stand hundreds of yards from their subjects to obtain quality photographs. Nope!

To get really impressive photographs of any animal, you must get close. For larger animals like deer, it is best to be within 50 yards. With smaller creatures like quail, try to get within a few feet.

It is possible to use extreme telephoto lenses to get optically closer, but the more air you shoot through, the less sharp your images will be. Since air is filled with particu-





A bighorn sheep in Montana grazes just a few feet away.

lates, subjects become optically softer as distance increases, so the objects or animals look hazy. It is a good practice in wildlife photography to get as close as you can.

You can achieve the goal of proximity in a number of ways. State and national parks are ideal locations because the animals are accustomed to seeing people and are not as likely to run when they see a photographer. When working in wilder locations, consider including a blind in your setup. Think like a hunter and use the same tools hunters use to get close to wildlife.

#### ▲ LEARN ABOUT YOUR SUBJECT

One essential goal of wildlife photography is to control as many variables as possible. You can't control whether an animal will show up and walk into your line of sight, but you can learn your camera's features, the craft of photography and the basics of composition.

In addition, learn all you can about the species you wish to photograph. By becoming a student of creative photography and a student of wildlife, you'll be more likely to see a particular species.

If you want to photograph mule deer, understand what habitat they prefer and the most likely time to find them. By understanding everything possible about your subject, you will tip the odds in favor of finding your target species.



ABOVE A curious chipmunk in Colorado comes within inches of the camera. RIGHT A crane wades among feeding ducks in New Mexico.

### ▲ THINK ABOUT COMPOSITION

Great photographs rely on strong composition. Composition is the arrangement of the elements in a photograph that are visually balanced and pleasing. Typically with wildlife, that means composing them vertically or horizontally and relying on the compositional rule called the rule of thirds. The rule of thirds is a basic guide for where the main interest points in an image should lie inside the frame—a third of the way into the frame vertically and horizontally. This rule discourages centering the subject in the frame.

### ► LIGHTING IS KEY

Another essential consideration for a good wildlife photograph is how it is lit. Natural light looks best during the earliest and latest hours of the day. When the sun is low on the horizon, shadows fall away from the subject and the colors cast by sunlight take on a warm glow. The sun's light is always harshest during the middle of the day. So it is important to be in the field during the beginning and end of the day. Use the middle of the day to review the pictures you shot in the morning or scout for afternoon opportunities. Not only is the light better in early morning and late afternoon, but that's also when wildlife is most active.

What if the weather is overcast? Overcast days are great because the soft, nondirectional light extends your shooting day. I actually prefer to photograph on overcast days.



### DON'T OVERTHINK IT

Don't complicate the process. Photography requires the mastery of a few fundamentals and then doing the same thing over and over so that results become predictable. Today's digital cameras are capable of performing many functions, but the truth is, a thorough understanding of aperture, shutter speed and sensor sensitivity will make more memorable photos.

Wildlife photography is comparable to golf. Golfers play the game knowing they'll never be perfect. Top photographers take the same approach. They pursue the perfect shot, and that addictive pursuit keeps them heading afield. ■

# Bad to the Bone

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

The very best hunting knives possess a perfect balance of form and function. They're carefully constructed from fine materials, but also have that little something extra to connect the owner with nature. If you're on the hunt for a knife that combines impeccable craftsmanship with a sense of wonder, the **\$79 Huntsman Blade** is the trophy you're looking for.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Huntsman Blade \$249\***

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

## 1-800-333-2045

**Your Insider Offer Code: HUK394-01**

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



**Stauer®** 14101 Southcross Drive W., Ste 155, Dept. HUK394-01  
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 [www.stauer.com](http://www.stauer.com)

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

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

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

Stauer... *Afford the Extraordinary.®*

**EXCLUSIVE  
FREE**

Stauer® 8x21  
Compact  
Binoculars

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



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

### What Stauer Clients Are Saying About Our Knives



*"This knife is beautiful!"*

— J., La Crescent, MN



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

— H., Arvada, CO





# LITERARY = FORTUNES

Women of the early 20th century wrangled Carnegie grants and libraries for their towns

BY MELISSA GASKILL

**V**ISITORS TO BRYAN IN 1902 walked unpaved streets and bought drinks at one of a dozen saloons. Many carried guns, and it was possible to witness a public hanging on the courthouse lawn. Local women sought to correct the situation and founded the Mutual Improvement Club.

“The ladies of the club were upset with the saloon-town atmosphere and wanted to bring in some culture and learning,” says Rachael C. Altman, manager of Bryan’s Carnegie History Center, housed in the town’s historic library.

Club member Lillie Wilson’s brother-in-law, Thomas W. Stewart, had been introduced to Andrew Carnegie. The Pennsylvania steel magnate was donating money to build libraries, and club leaders urged Wilson to contact Carnegie through her connection. “They were very persistent,” Altman says. Carnegie gave them a grant, and the Bryan Carnegie Library opened in December 1903.

A total of 2,509 Carnegie libraries were built between

1883 and 1929, including about 1,700 in the United States—32 of them in Texas. Many were funded through the efforts of women. Twenty of the original 32 buildings have been lost to demolition or fire, and eight of those surviving 12 remain in use, though not as libraries. Just four original Carnegie Libraries remain open in Texas—in Stamford, Ballinger, Franklin and Jefferson.

Carnegie sold his steel company to J.P. Morgan in 1901 for almost \$500 million, making him the world’s richest man. But “the man who dies rich dies in disgrace,” he said as he gave away \$350 million. Estimates suggest \$60 million went specifically toward libraries because Carnegie believed a free library was the best gift he could give a community. The keystones of the library program required that the facilities be public and free, and Carnegie required recipient cities to invest at least 10% of the grant annually to fund the libraries.

The northeast Texas town of Pittsburg had fewer than 1,500 inhabitants when it received the first Carnegie grant in the state in 1898, using it to build a small library and reading room. It burned down in 1939.



CLOCKWISE FROM OPPOSITE The 1905 Greek Revival-style Carnegie library in Cleburne is today home to the Layland Museum. Steel magnate Andrew Carnegie. A postcard of the Jefferson Carnegie Library.

**TCP WEB EXTRA** See a map of Texas' Carnegie libraries and a slideshow of vintage postcards.



In Northeast Texas, the Jefferson Library Association tried several fundraising strategies before applying successfully for a Carnegie grant. The Jefferson Carnegie Library was built in 1907 and was restored a century later.

The Classical Revival brick-and-limestone Carnegie Library in Stamford, north of Abilene, where Big Country EC has an office, features massive Ionic columns and corner pilasters. It hosted high school dances and, during World War II, games and socializing for airmen training nearby.

In Ballinger, south of Abilene, a Carnegie library built in 1911 is on the Texas Forts Trail as well as listed on the National Register of Historic Places and recognized as a State Antiquities Landmark and a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. The building has continuously served as a library but needed extensive renovations by 1976. "It was in such bad shape the city had already bought another place to build a library then decided to save this one," says library director Carolyn Kraatz.

The Franklin Carnegie Library, north of Bryan, completed in 1914, served as a library through 1918 and then housed school classrooms and public activities until 1984. The building was restored and reopened as a library in May 2009. It originally came into being thanks to then-mayor R.M. Cole, who applied to Carnegie for funds in 1913.

Bryan's library building, designed by a professor at Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College (now Texas A&M University), today houses the Carnegie History Center. It served as a library until 1969 and then was used for city offices, says Altman. Matching handcarved pine stairways, tongue-and-groove pine flooring on the first floor and a decorative pressed metal ceiling all are original. Its restoration in 1999 took place with the help of the Women's Club, a modern incarnation of the Mutual Improvement Club.

Upstairs, the Bryan library hosted Red Cross gatherings during both world wars. The second floor now houses a genealogy research collection, which is free to the public along with access to online search services.

With so much of what people do being dependent on technology today, access to that technology is a crucial service provided by libraries, especially in small towns, says Karin Gerstenhaber of the Tocker Foundation, a nonprofit created in 1964 to support rural libraries in Texas.

"Carnegie felt that building libraries gave people opportunities to advance themselves," she adds. "The libraries provided free access to information, and those buildings were used for so many different purposes that brought people together. They filled a real need." ■

The Dallas, Fort Worth and San Antonio public library associations and the Woman's Club of Houston received grants around the turn of the century. The El Paso Public Library Association received one in 1904. And Clarksville, Waco, Belton, Tyler, Gainesville and Sherman received grants, all thanks to applications from local women's clubs.

Cleburne, south of Fort Worth and now home to a United Cooperative Services office, also built a Carnegie Library thanks to persistent women, in 1905. "A determined committee of ladies from the local women's club decided that the young town needed to become civilized and, we are told, traveled to New York to visit Carnegie's office without an appointment," says Stephanie Montero, manager of the Layland Museum now housed in the building. "He offered them \$10,000, but the committee felt that wasn't enough." Carnegie doubled his offer.

The Greek Revival-style building served as Cleburne's library until 1978, when it became part of the museum. The front entrance and main room feature Ionic columns with ornamental necking, and plaster details decorate interior and exterior walls.

CARNEGIE: NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY/SMITHSONIAN; JEFFERSON POSTCARD: COURTESY JUDY AULIK

# Discovered! Unopened Bag of 138-Year-Old Morgan Silver Dollars

Unopened for  
138 Years!

*Coin experts amazed by  
“Incredible Opportunity”*

The Morgan Silver Dollar is the most popular and iconic vintage U.S. coin. They were the Silver Dollars of the Wild West, going on countless untold adventures in dusty saddlebags across the nation. Finding a secret hoard of Morgans doesn't happen often—and when it does, it's a *big deal*.

How big? Here's numismatist, author and consultant to the Smithsonian® Jeff Garrett:

*“It's very rare to find large quantities of Morgan Silver Dollars, especially in bags that have been sealed... to find several thousand Morgan Silver Dollars that are from the U.S. Treasury Hoards, still unopened, is really an incredible opportunity.”*

-Jeff Garrett

But where did this unique hoard come from? Read on...

## Morgans from the New Orleans Mint

In 1859, Nevada's Comstock Lode was discovered, and soon its rich silver ore made its way across the nation, including to the fabled New Orleans Mint, the only U.S. Mint branch to have served under the U.S. government, the State of Louisiana and the Confederacy. In 1882, some of that silver was struck into Morgan Silver Dollars, each featuring the iconic “O” mint mark of the New Orleans Mint. Employees then placed the freshly struck coins into canvas bags...

## The U.S. Treasury Hoard

Fast-forward nearly 80 years. In the 1960s, the U.S. government opened its vaults and revealed a massive store of Morgan Silver Dollars—including *full, unopened bags* of “fresh” 1882-O Morgan Silver Dollars. A number of bags were secured by a child of the Great Depression—a southern gentleman whose upbringing showed him the value of hard assets like silver. He stashed the unopened bags of “fresh” Morgans away, and there they stayed...

## The Great Southern Treasury Hoard

That is, until *another* 50 years later, when the man's family finally decided to sell the coins—still in their unopened bags—which we secured, bag and all! We submitted the coins to respected



Actual size is 38.1 mm

- ✓ Historic Morgan Silver Dollars
- ✓ Minted in New Orleans
- ✓ Struck and bagged in 1882
- ✓ Unopened for 138 years
- ✓ 26.73 grams of 90% fine silver
- ✓ Hefty 38.1 mm diameter
- ✓ Certified Brilliant Uncirculated by NGC
- ✓ Certified “Great Southern Treasury Hoard” pedigree
- ✓ Limit five coins per household

third-party grading service Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC), and they agreed to honor the southern gentleman by giving the coins the pedigree of the “Great Southern Treasury Hoard.”

These gorgeous 1882-O Morgans are as bright and new as the day they were struck and bagged 138 years ago. Coins are graded on a 70-point scale, with those graded at least Mint State-60 (MS60) often referred to as “Brilliant Uncirculated” or BU. Of all 1882-O Morgans struck, *LESS THAN 1% have earned a Mint State grade*. This makes these unopened bags of 1882-O Morgans extremely rare, certified as being in BU condition—nearly unheard of for coins 138 years old.

## Don't Miss This Rare Opportunity—Order Now!

Regular 1882-O Morgans sell elsewhere for as much as \$133, and that's without the original brilliant shine these “fresh” 138-year-old coins have, without their special NGC hoard designation, and without their ability to tell their full, complete story from the Comstock Lode all the way to your collection.

Given the limited quantity of coins available from this historic hoard, we must set a strict limit of five coins per household. Call quickly to secure yours today as supplies are sure to sell out quickly!

**1882-O Morgan Silver Dollar NGC Certified BU from the Great Southern Treasury Hoard — \$99 ea.**

## FREE SHIPPING on 2 or More!

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

Call today toll-free for fastest service

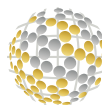
**1-888-324-9125**

Offer Code MSH285-01

Please mention this code when you call



GovMint.com • 14101 Southcross Dr. W., Suite 175, Dept. MSH285-01, Burnsville, MN 55337



GOVMINT.COM®

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





# Goodbye 2020 Window & Door Event



• With all that 2020 threw at us, we're happy to see it go **and give you a HUGE discount!**

• **We'll give you a price that's good for a year.** While visiting your home we'll talk about all your options and give you an honest and exact price quote. We'll never try to talk you into windows you don't need.

• Our Fibrex® composite material is so strong **we're able to build thinner frames with a greater glass area** that allows more natural light into your home.

• For your safety and peace of mind, we've adjusted our operations to serve you in the **safest** way possible.



Now offering virtual appointments, too!



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

**Goodbye 2020 Event ends January 31<sup>st</sup>!**

**Buy 1 window or door, get 1 window or door**

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

★★★★★ **and** ★★★★★

**NO** Money Down

**NO** Payments

**NO** Interest

**for 1 year!<sup>1</sup>**

★★★★★

Austin: **512-298-1858**

Dallas/  
Fort Worth: **469-606-5229**

San Antonio: **210-961-9990**

**TopWindowSolution.com**

<sup>1</sup>Offer not available in all areas. Discount applied by retailer representative at time of contract execution and **applies to purchase of 4 or more windows and/or patio doors.** Buy two windows and/or doors, get the second two windows and/or doors, of equal or lesser value, 40% off. Discount applied to lowest priced window and/or door products in purchase. Cannot be combined with other offers. Initial contact for a free Window and Door Diagnosis must be made and documented on or before 1/31/21, with the appointment then occurring no more than 10 days after the initial contact. No payments and deferred interest for 12 months available to well qualified buyers on approved credit only. Not all customers may qualify. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Renewal by Andersen retailers are independently owned and operated retailers, and are neither brokers nor lenders. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only, and all financing is provided by third-party lenders unaffiliated with Renewal by Andersen retailers, under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender. Central Texas Windows & Doors LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Austin and San Antonio. North Texas Windows & Doors LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Dallas/Fort Worth and West Texas. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are marks of Andersen Corporation. ©2021 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2021 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. **All sales, marketing and installation of windows is conducted by Renewal by Andersen of Austin and San Antonio, and by Renewal by Andersen of Dallas/Fort Worth and West Texas. All are independently owned and operated affiliates operating in TX.**



Constantine Caloudas and his horse Karlos demonstrate the practice of cutting, which traces its roots to the days of the open range, when cowboys had to separate a calf or cow from the herd. Some horses were better at the task, using 'cow sense' to see and counter their quarry's every move.

What does it take to make a world-champion 'cutter'? Experience, dedication and a well-trained horse with 'cow sense.'

# the CUTTING edge



Story by Pam LeBlanc  
Photos by Sarah Beal

**IN A COVERED ARENA** in Washington County, Constantine Caloudas and his horse Karlos kick up a cloud of dust as they separate a fidgety, rust-colored calf from a milling herd.

As the calf makes a break, the horse instinctively bows low and blocks its way. The calf tries to scramble back to the safety of the herd, but Karlos mirrors every move, keeping it on the run.

Caloudas, 53, a two-time world champion “cutter” owns the 75-acre Nueces Canyon Ranch west of Brenham. The ranch gets its electricity from Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative. Caloudas has been training and showing these finely tuned equine athletes for about 30 years. He compares riding a cutting horse to sitting atop a load of explosives.

“I’ve never felt anything like it,” he says after a 30-minute demonstration. “When you get on a 1,200-pound animal that’s doing its job and you’re just there for the ride, you can’t believe it. Think about straddling a 1,000-pound stick of dynamite with an extremely short fuse and you have no idea what’s fixing to happen next. Bottle that up in a two-and-a-half-minute ride. It’s amazing.”

The demo by Caloudas is mesmerizing. He hardly moves as the horse lurches side to side, doing one of those “break-down” moves that dogs execute when you wave a stick or a tennis ball at them.

Cutting traces its roots to the days of the open range, when cowboys periodically had to pull an animal from a herd to brand, castrate or treat it. Some horses were better at keeping a calf separated from the group than others, using what’s called “cow sense” to predict which direction the calf would try to run and countering its every move. The skill evolved into competition, and the first recorded cutting horse contest took place in 1898 in Haskell, Texas.

More than two decades later, the first cutting exhibition for a rodeo crowd was at the Fort Worth exposition and stock show in 1919.

Today, cutting horse competitors get a two-and-a-half minute “run” to show a judge how well their horse can cut a calf from a

Continued on page 20



Writer Pam LeBlanc gets her first lesson in how to sit atop a cutting horse, in this case Karlos, at the Nueces Canyon Ranch west of Brenham.

## Continued from page 19

herd and keep it out. While subtle direction from the rider's legs can make the critical difference between winning and losing in the sport, Caloudas gives most credit to the hoofed member of the team.

"It's 90 percent the horse," he says.

It's a point he illustrates on a chilly November day by reaching forward and removing Karlos' bridle. Caloudas sits quietly while the horse matches wits with another calf, staring it down, hopping when it hops, and refusing to let it rejoin its cow comrades.

What looks like amazing talent is typical cutting horse behavior, Caloudas says. "It's not magic. It's just two years of training."

Caloudas was born in Dallas and raised in Houston. His father left his job as a commercial pilot to start a barbecue business in the Houston area. He sold the restaurant in the early 1980s and wanted to become a cowboy. The family moved to Brenham, where he opened a horse training facility in 1984.

While his dad learned the ropes, Caloudas played football and swam competitively in high school. He didn't care much about equestrian sports. Then, during his final year studying business at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, he realized he needed a long-term plan.

"Dad had this facility, and I said, 'I'll just train horses,'" Caloudas says.

His father chuckled at the idea. It was a stretch for his son, whose equestrian experience was a single summer visit to a dude ranch in eighth grade. But Caloudas, a natural athlete, started riding, and something clicked when he tried cutting. After three weeks, he entered his first competition and won it.

"Aspects of cutting are so mental," he says. "If you've never ridden a cutting horse, it's



Constantine Caloudas has won about 80 belts, including reserve champion with Honey (registered as 'W.R. This Cats Smooth') at the National Cutting Horse Association's 2019 Super Stakes Classic Open.

just an incredible feeling. You can't believe the explosiveness, the power and strength, how the horse can move."

Caloudas told his father that horse cutting seemed easy, and he'd like to pursue it. But a good cutting horse doesn't come cheap. Caloudas borrowed \$10,000 from the bank to buy his first horse and started competing in 1988. At 22, he was traveling the country competing. Within a few years, he won two world championships and has made it to the finals in numerous National Cutting Horse Association championships.

"It was a hell of a lot of fun," he says. "It was just a great change. The cowboy life, it's a blast."

*Pam LeBlanc has written about fitness, adventure and recreation in Central Texas for decades. Her work has appeared in Texas Monthly, Texas Highways, Texas Parks & Wildlife and Real Simple magazines, and the Austin American-Statesman.*

Watch video of Constantine Caloudas in action at <https://bit.ly/39QfJx0>

Caloudas later became a show promoter, hosting events at Nueces Canyon Ranch. Today he focuses mainly on training and showing horses. He's learned that cutting requires lots of practice. A sign burned into the wood above his office desk at one end of the covered arena says, "Victory belongs to those who believe in it the most."

"It takes two years to train an animal," he says. "Some make it, some don't. I can ride a horse and in six weeks know if it will make a good cutter."

Training a horse to cut requires a supply of "fresh" calves never cut from a herd. (Once they've been through the ordeal, they wise up.) Because Nueces Canyon Ranch also preps calves for market, Caloudas can pick from a constantly rotating group. When a batch of calves arrives, Caloudas lets his horses match wits with them.

Only the best of the best become cutting horses. Horses that don't measure up often are used for other rodeo events, like barrel racing or calf roping.

Caloudas also works with other riders, like veterinarian Bill Collier of Waller. Collier, who started competing in 2009, likens the sport to golf. "You can never master it, and when things go wrong it's generally you," he says.

Caloudas offers to let me ride Karlos to experience what it's like to ride dynamite. It feels like I'm in the cockpit of a Ferrari. I barely twitch a muscle and Karlos moves.

I don't have the skill to cut a calf from the herd, but I amble near the calves in one corner of the arena. One trots away, and I can feel Karlos ready to jump into action. I'm not a seasoned rider and only took rid-

Continued on page 22

# CHAMPION CUTTING HORSE 101

Constantine Caloudas, a world-champion cutting horse competitor, and Honey, his 6-year-old quarter-horse mare (official name W.R. This Cats Smooth) have won some \$30,000 in prize money. (Over his career, Caloudas has won more than \$600,000.) What does it take to create a winner? Here are some of his insights.

**AGE:** Cutting horses, typically quarter horses, usually begin to compete after age 3 and can remain competitive for some 12 to 14 years.

**BRIDLE:** Honey has a 'shank correction' bit, rather than the more common solid bit, to give Caloudas more lateral control. 'She gets a little stiff in her front end,' Caloudas said.

**CHAPS:** Lightweight leather made by Dave Hack from Idaho, these cost \$2,500-\$3,000, depending upon touches like fancy conchos.

**BOOTS:** For competition, Caloudas prefers ostrich-skin with a low 'roper' style heel.

**BONES:** A good cutting horse should generally be built low to the ground, a.k.a. 'low hock,' with a short back and good, strong bones so it is not injury-prone.

**EXPRESSION:** In competition, a horse should be 'low-headed' with good 'expression' or 'eye appeal,' meaning it is hyper-focused on the cow, as if reading its mind.

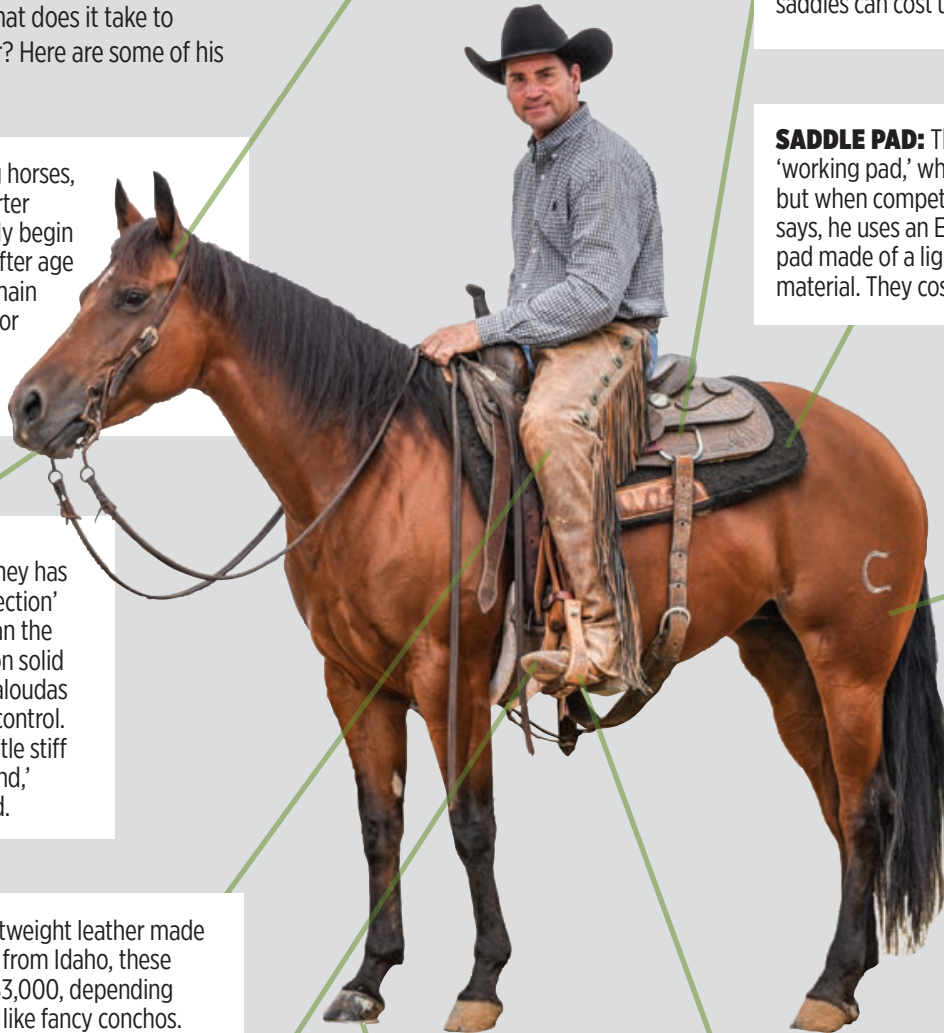
**SADDLE:** Vintage R.D. Monk saddles, which are no longer made, are Caloudas' preference because they sit 'closer to the horse.' He owns 10 of them, which are 20-30 years old. They cost about \$2,000-3,000; high-end name-brand saddles can cost up to \$8,000.

**SADDLE PAD:** This is a wool 'working pad,' which absorbs sweat, but when competing, Caloudas says, he uses an Ecogold saddle pad made of a lightweight synthetic material. They cost about \$300.

**GASKINS:** The large muscles immediately to the right and left of the tail are analogous to human calves. A good cutting horse has thick, powerful gaskins.

**SHOES:** Honey is shod in PLR-Wedge aluminum shoes because 'she's kind of flat-footed.' Shoes are tailored to the horse. The mare is shod every six weeks by a farrier, a specialist in equine foot care. Shoes can be made from a variety of materials, including steel, rubber, plastic or titanium.

**STIRRUPS:** Caloudas prefers all-wood, 2-inch flat-bottomed stirrups. Other riders sometimes prefer aluminum or steel. Some riders prefer half-circle shaped stirrups, which can feel more secure. Caloudas considers them more dangerous because they're harder to free your foot if you fall.



Infographic by  
Joe Stafford;  
Photo by Sarah Beal

# COMPETITIVE CUTTING HORSE FAQs

A cutting horse must be naturally athletic. Just as not everyone becomes a pro football or baseball player, not every horse is cut out for cutting. In addition to cat-like reflexes, flexibility and the ability to pivot on a dime, a cutting horse needs the right mentality. Good cutting horses are born with what cowboys call “cow sense” or “cow smarts.” Just like a good hunting dog can retrieve a bird and deliver it, a cutting horse understands what a cow or calf is thinking and where it’s going to move next. Then it can mirror those moves to keep the animal separated. About 99 percent of cutting horses are quarter horses.

## How valuable is a cutting horse?

A good cutting horse can cost \$25,000 to \$35,000. Add another \$25,000 or so for training. Breeding fees can top \$25,000 for a good stud. “It’s not like golf. You can’t go to Walmart and spend a hundred dollars and if you don’t like it then throw the clubs into the pond,” Caloudas says.

## What exactly does a cutting horse do?

A cutting horse works with a rider to separate a calf—typically a yearling weighing anywhere from 350 to 500 pounds—from a larger group of cattle. The horse positions itself between a calf and the herd, and mirrors its moves to prevent it from rejoining the group.

## How is a cutting horse trained?

First, trainers have their horse follow a group of calves until the horse focuses on them. Next, they walk the horse parallel to a herd while moving around an arena. The horse gradually is guided closer to the cows, but still moving parallel to them. Eventually, when the rider asks the horse to stop at the front of the pack, the cows turn. A trainer then teaches a horse to follow a calf through its turn, so it’s facing the other direction. As the horse gains skill, the rider guides it to work a calf out of a herd and then practices those maneuvers. Some trainers use mechanical calves to assist in training.

## What do cutting horse riders do with their legs and hands?

Probably not as much as you think. The rider places a hand on



Photo by Martha Mericle

Constantine Caloudas rides the horse Playgirls Deal during the 2017 Bluebonnet Cutting Horse Association competition in Brenham. The event is not associated with Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative.

the front of the saddle horn to brace so when the horse bows down and mirrors a calf’s moves, the rider won’t be pitched off. Usually riders stay quiet on the horse, using their legs slightly to encourage the horse to move one way or the other if needed.

## Where can the public watch cutting horse action?

Many National Cutting Horse Association events have been cancelled because of COVID-19, but the 2021 schedule includes the 3 Amigos and Senior World Tour events in Gonzales on Jan. 1-3, Jan. 15-17 and Jan. 29-31, and the Jared Lesh Cutting event in Whitesboro on Jan. 21-23. Find information at [nchacutting.com](http://nchacutting.com). The American Cutting Horse Association’s 2021 schedule includes competitions in Belton on Jan. 2-3 and Jan. 15-17, and in Brenham on Feb. 13-14 and March 20-21. Check for updates at: [achacutting.org](http://achacutting.org). Nueces Canyon Ranch also offers private group tours and demonstrations by appointment for a fee (barbecue included.) Find information at [nuecescanyon.com](http://nuecescanyon.com).

— Pam LeBlanc

## Continued from page 20

ing lessons as a girl. I’m more comfortable on a bicycle than a rocketship of a horse.

My heels sink in the stirrups as I sit up. But for cutting, that’s not the right thing to do, Caloudas tells me. A slouch posture — “kind of like you’re hung over,” Caloudas says — is more appropriate. His son Dylan, who also works at the ranch, demonstrates perfectly, hunching in his saddle, prepared for any move the horse might make.

Cutters also brace one hand on the big horn of the large western saddle to keep from pitching forward if the horse slams on the brakes suddenly.

I may not know what I’m doing, but the horse does. When facing off against a pen of mooing cattle, it’s good to know who’s in charge.

I pat Karlos on the neck. We’ll let that calf relax for another day. ■



Constantine Caloudas gets horse Karlos to take the bit so he can put on the bridle.

# 9

# COOL TIPS TO BE MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT THIS WINTER



## FIND OUT MORE

For more energy-saving tips, visit [bluebonnet.coop](https://bluebonnet.coop) and click on the Energy Solutions tab, then Saving Energy. The news and information there can help you keep your resolution to save energy all year long.

It's time to make New Year's resolutions. Why not make energy efficiency one of your goals for 2021? Saving energy is not only a good way to save money but also conserves our valuable resources. Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative can help with some smart ways to conserve energy this month:

### TAKE DOWN HOLIDAY LIGHTS

As tempting as it might be to extend the holiday season, there is no need to extend the higher electric bill that might come with all the electric-powered decor.

### TURN DOWN THERMOSTAT

You can save about 3 percent on your energy bill for every degree you drop the temperature.

### SWITCH CEILING FAN DIRECTION

Change the direction of your ceiling fans so that they turn clockwise. This pulls cool air toward the ceiling, which in turn pushes the warm air that collects near the ceiling back toward the floor.

### UPGRADE YOUR FIREPLACE

Add an insert or replace your fireplace with an energy-efficient model. Traditional wood-burning fireplaces can draw heat out of your home if not used properly, but a few changes can help keep the warmth inside.

### LET THE SUN IN

Allow natural warmth in through the windows, especially south-facing windows, to take advantage of solar heat gain.

### USE SPACE HEATERS SELECTIVELY

You can save energy by heating only the room you are in.

### WEAR WARM CLOTHES

Putting on a sweater and slippers or wool socks might allow you to lower your thermostat temperature.

### LIMIT THE USE OF EXHAUST FANS

They suck out all the indoor air your heater has worked so hard to heat.

### ELIMINATE DRAFTS

Cold winter air can sneak in around windows, doors and even electrical outlets. Weatherstripping, insulation and insulated curtains can go a long way toward keeping the warm air in and the cold air out.



# New Year's resolution: Keep your home safe in 2021

**MOST OF OUR** New Year's resolutions are along the lines of spending less, saving more, eating less, exercising more, working less and spending more time with family.

This year consider adding a few things to the list to help keep your family safe.

■ Practice "out with the old, in with the new" with appliances. If an appliance snaps, crackles or pops but shouldn't, replace it with a safer, more energy-efficient model.

■ If you have light switch plates or outlets that get warm to the touch with use, or your lights dim when certain appliances come on, it's time to call an electrician. The electrical load of most homes has

increased substantially in the past 20 years, but your home's wiring may not be up to the challenge. To keep your loved ones safe, have the wiring checked out and make the necessary improvements and repairs.

■ If you regularly find yourself headed to the breaker box with a flashlight in hand to restore power, it's probably time for repairs or an upgrade. Have a professional electrician do an inspection and make repairs.

■ Smoke detectors and fire extinguishers only help if they work properly. Regularly test and replace the batteries in smoke detectors. Replace or recharge fire extinguishers so they'll be ready in the event of a fire.



Regularly test smoke detectors and replace or recharge fire extinguishers to keep your home safer.

## 2021 GOVERNMENT YOUTH TOUR CANCELED

The 2021 Government-in-Action Youth Tour — an annual summer trip to Washington, D.C., that is awarded to two high school students in the Bluebonnet service area — has been canceled for Texas participants. Texas Electric Cooperatives, the trade association that hosts the state's participants during the tour, made the decision in December, citing the challenges of COVID-19 restrictions. Applications for the tour have been removed from our website, [bluebonnet.coop](http://bluebonnet.coop). Applications for the 2022 tour will be available in November 2021.

## OFFICE CLOSINGS

Bluebonnet offices will be closed Jan. 1 for New Year's Day and Jan. 18 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Member service center lobbies remain closed due to COVID-19 restrictions, but drive-through lanes remain open on regular business days. Report outages by texting OUT to 85700 (to register, text BBOUTAGE to that number) or via 800-949-4414, [bluebonnet.coop](http://bluebonnet.coop) or our mobile app. Pay your bill any time online, on our mobile app or by calling 800-842-7708.



### Academic and Trade & Technical

# SCHOLARSHIPS

## TO POWER YOUR EDUCATION

### 60 scholarships — \$2,500 each for graduating high school seniors

GET APPLICATIONS AT [bluebonnetelectric.coop/  
community/scholarships](http://bluebonnetelectric.coop/community/scholarships)

Application  
deadline March 5



# Grants assist area fire departments

Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative and the Lower Colorado River Authority recently provided grants in Bluebonnet's service area. The grants are part of LCRA's Community Development Partnership Program to give back to the communities it serves. Bluebonnet is one of LCRA's wholesale electric customers and a partner in the grant program. Applications for the next round of grants will be accepted through Jan. 31, 2021. More information is available at [lcra.org/cdpp](http://lcra.org/cdpp).

The Chappell Hill Volunteer Fire Department, right, received a \$25,000 grant to help buy an emergency generator. Pictured, from left, are Lori A. Berger, LCRA board member; Mat Kolajajak, Chappell Hill VFD assistant chief; Marcy Kmiec, Chappell Hill VFD vice president; and Robert Mikeska, Bluebonnet Board secretary/treasurer.



Tanglewood Volunteer Fire Department in Lee County received a \$20,000 grant to help buy a rescue truck to carry life-saving equipment to emergency scenes. Above, Guy Hall III, at left, 1st assistant fire chief, and Fire Chief Guy Hall Jr. unveil the new truck.

CHECK OUT  
OUR NEW

# OUTAGE MAP



- See if outages have been reported, verified or restored
- Find out if a crew has been assigned to a given outage
- Use the weather feature to view temperature, precipitation, heat index and wind
- View it on your computer, Apple or Android device
- Check on outages 24/7

**Go to [bluebonnet.coop](http://bluebonnet.coop) and click 'view outage map' today!**

Special Offer for  
New Customers Only

QTY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TOTAL
	3-Coin Collector's Set (limit 4)	\$4.95	
	Add folders for  \$1.95 each (Reg. \$3.95)	\$1.95	
Sales Tax		FREE	
Shipping		FREE	
TOTAL \$			

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN 30 DAYS

Check  VISA  MC  AMEX  DISC

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

\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|

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

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

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

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

Mail to: Littleton Coin Company  
Dept. 5VU400  
1309 Mt. Eustis Rd  
Littleton NH 03561-3737



# Own Three Scarce Collector Classics!

**ONLY \$4.95!**

**NO SALES TAX!**



1913-1938  
Indian/Buffero Nickel

1859-1909  
Indian Head Cent

1883-1913  
Liberty Head "V" Nickel

**FREE Gift!**



Wheat Ears Cent  
*One per customer*

**Long vanished from circulation,** get these coins for **ONLY \$4.95.** Order within 30 days, and you'll get a **FREE gift**, and **FREE Shipping!** Plus, with this special offer, we'll pay your state's sales tax on this order!

You'll also receive a handpicked trial selection of fascinating coins from our risk-free Coins-On-Approval Service, from which you may purchase any or none of the coins – return balance within 15 days – with option to cancel at any time.

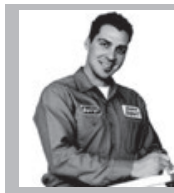
**Mail coupon today or for faster service, order online at: [LittletonCoin.com/Specials](http://LittletonCoin.com/Specials)**

©2021 LCC, Inc.

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

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

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



Dear  
Darryl

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

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

*Clogged and Smelly – El Paso, TX*

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

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

**SeptiCleanse® Shock and Maintenance Programs** are designed to work on any septic system regardless of design or age. From modern day systems to sand mounds, and systems installed generations ago, I have personally seen SeptiCleanse unclog and restore these systems in a matter of weeks. I highly recommend that you try it before spending any money on repairs. SeptiCleanse products are available online at [www.septicleanse.com](http://www.septicleanse.com) or you can order or learn more by calling toll free at 1-888-899-8345. If you use the promo code "TXS12", you can get a free shock treatment, added to your order, which normally costs \$169. So, make sure you use that code when you call or buy online.

# Steel Mobile Home Roofing

Leaks? High energy bill? Roof rumble?

**YOU NEED** →

**MOBILE HOME  
ROOFOVER  
SYSTEMS**



Since 1983

**PERMA-ROOF**  
from Southern Builders

Contact us at **800.633.8969** or [roofover.com](http://roofover.com)

## WD METAL BUILDINGS Turn-Key Solutions



- 5" Reinforced Concrete Slabs
- All Welded Metal Buildings
- Experienced Erection Crews
- Heavy Duty Overhead Doors

Instant Prices at [WDMB.com](http://WDMB.com)

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

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

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

All C.D.'s are insured to \$250,000 per institution by the F.D.I.C. All C.D.'s are subject to availability. Securities offered thru Signal Securities, Inc., Member FINRA/SIPC 700 Throckmorton, Ft. Worth, TX 76102. (817) 877-4256.

**BRUSH SHARK**

**SKID STEER MOUNTED SHEAR**

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

(512) 263-6830 • [www.brushshark.com](http://www.brushshark.com)

**FLOATING FISHING PIER**

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

**ELLISON MARINE • FRANKLIN, TX.**  
45 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

Call for Free Information • (979) 820-3000  
[www.ellisonmarine.com](http://www.ellisonmarine.com) • [ellisonmarine@yahoo.com](mailto:ellisonmarine@yahoo.com)

Medicare Supplemental Insurance

We find the best options for you.

**HCDT**  
BONDS INSURANCE

Jeremy Diller  
210-647-0134  
[Jeremy@hcdtinsurance.com](mailto:Jeremy@hcdtinsurance.com)

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

SHOPS • BARN • CABINS • [WWW.SHOPSBUILT.COM](http://WWW.SHOPSBUILT.COM)

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

**BUILDINGS OF ALL SIZES**  
Shops • Garages • Barns • Equipment Sheds • Barndominiums

**WE MAKE DREAMS COME TRUE!**

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

# Cut Your Cell Phone Bill

**Talk, Text and Data \$20\***

Starting At \$20 per month

**FREE Smart Phone**

POWERED BY  
THE LARGEST, MOST DEPENDABLE  
**4G LTE NETWORKS**

**Talk and Text \$10\***

Starting At \$10 per month

**FREE Camera 4G LTE Flip Phone!**

Give us a call and see how much you can save on your cell phone service!

**Affinity CELLULAR** VETERAN OWNED

**844-809-0123**  
[AffinityCellular.com](http://AffinityCellular.com)

**DISCOUNTS >>> REWARDS**

\*\$10 first 3 months then \$12.39 thereafter. Requires Credit/Debit card and a one-time activation fee.

**TCP Marketplace**  
Across Town | Across Texas

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

# HARBOR FREIGHT

QUALITY TOOLS AT RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICES

Shop When You Need To Online & In-Store

**3-Ply Disposable Face Masks**  
Pack of 10  
YOUR CHOICE OF COLOR  
**\$2.99**  
~~\$3.99~~  
Save 66%  
NEW  
Less Than 30¢ per Mask  
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST  
Black Blue  
ITEM 57933  
In-Store Only  
Compare to Feceady 801712X14 \$8.99  
18242802 LIMIT 4 - Exp. 2/12/21

**PITTSBURGH SERIES 2**  
#1 SELLING JACKS IN AMERICA  
**Rapid Pump® 3 Ton Steel Heavy Duty Floor Jack**  
**\$94.99**  
~~\$104.99~~  
Save \$40  
Compare to Powerbuilt 647593 \$135.27  
ITEM 56621/56622/56623/56624 shown  
Use Online & In-Store  
18681674 LIMIT 2 - Exp. 2/12/21

**WOW! SUPER COUPON**  
SAVE 60%  
THUNDERBOLT  
**Heavy Duty Batteries AA, AAA - 24 Pack**  
YOUR CHOICE  
**WOW! \$1.39**  
~~\$3.49~~  
LIMIT 3  
Use Online & In-Store  
ITEM 61675 shown  
18269336 Exp. 2/12/21

**WELDING**  
CHICAGO ELECTRIC  
**125 AMP Flux Core Welder**  
**\$99.99**  
~~\$129.99~~  
Save \$100  
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO WELD  
ITEM 63582/57798/63582 shown  
Use Online & In-Store  
Compare to Ironlion 65453 \$199.99  
21372701 LIMIT 1 - Exp. 2/12/21

**HaulMaster**  
**18" Working Platform Step Stool**  
**\$19.99**  
~~\$29.99~~  
Save 50%  
Compare to Westcraft 66635 \$39.99  
ITEM 62515/66911 shown  
Use Online & In-Store  
18271736 LIMIT 3 - Exp. 2/12/21

**PITTSBURGH**  
**130 Piece Tool Kit with Case**  
**\$29.99**  
~~\$39.99~~  
LIFETIME WARRANTY  
SAE AND METRIC  
ITEM 64263/68998/63248/64080/63091 shown  
Use Online & In-Store  
Compare to Anvil A137HDS \$75.86  
18277304 LIMIT 2 - Exp. 2/12/21

**BRAUN**  
**5000 Lumen 4 ft. LED Hanging Shop Light**  
**\$19.99**  
~~\$24.99~~  
Save 20%  
Use Online & In-Store  
ITEM 64410  
18287283 LIMIT 4 - Exp. 2/12/21

**CENTRAL PNEUMATIC**  
**3 Gallon, 100 PSI Oil-Free Air Compressors**  
YOUR CHOICE  
**\$39.99**  
~~\$54.99~~  
Save 59%  
Hot Dog Pancake  
ITEM 69269/97080 shown  
Use Online & In-Store  
Compare to Porter-Cable PCFP02003 \$99.62  
18288238 LIMIT 3 - Exp. 2/12/21

**HaulMaster**  
**40" x 72" Moving Blanket**  
**\$3.99**  
~~\$4.99~~  
Save 60%  
Compare to Prati Retail Specialties HOMOVBLAN \$9.96  
ITEM 69504/62336/47262 shown  
Use Online & In-Store  
18293476 LIMIT 4 - Exp. 2/12/21

**U.S. GENERAL**  
**30", 5 Drawer Mechanic's Cart**  
**\$199.99**  
~~\$239.99~~  
Save \$630  
Side tray sold separately.  
YOUR CHOICE OF 2 COLORS  
Compare to Snap-on KRBC10TBPE5 \$830  
ITEM 64061, 64722, 64030, 64721, 64031, 64720, 64629  
18299193 LIMIT 1 - Exp. 2/12/21

**PITTSBURGH**  
**Click-Type Torque Wrenches**  
LIFETIME WARRANTY  
**\$9.99**  
~~\$19.99~~  
Save 88%  
1/4" Drive  
ITEM 61277/63881  
3/8" Drive  
ITEM 61276/63880  
1/2" Drive  
ITEM 62431/63882 shown  
Compare to Husky H2DTWA \$89.97  
18302617 LIMIT 4 - Exp. 2/12/21

**VIKING**  
**4 AMP High Frequency Battery Charger/Maintainer**  
**\$27.99**  
~~\$39.99~~  
Save \$83  
Compare to Snap-on EEBM500A \$111  
ITEM 63350  
18307038 LIMIT 2 - Exp. 2/12/21

**PREDATOR**  
**9000w Max. Starting Extra Long Life Gas Powered Generator**  
**\$649.99**  
~~\$699.99~~  
Save \$2,279  
SUPER QUIET  
CSHA COMPLIANT  
Compare to Honda EM6500SX2AT \$2,929  
ITEM 63971/63970 shown  
ITEM 63969/63968 CALIFORNIA ONLY  
Wheel kit and battery sold separately.  
Use Online & In-Store  
18307328 LIMIT 1 - Exp. 2/12/21

**0.30 cal. Ammo Box**  
**\$34.99**  
~~\$59.99~~  
Save 65%  
Compare to RangeMaxx 1312-92 \$9.99  
ITEM 63135/61451 shown  
Use Online & In-Store  
18309762 LIMIT 4 - Exp. 2/12/21

**PREDATOR**  
**6.5 HP (212 cc) OHV Horizontal Shaft Gas Engine**  
**\$99.99**  
~~\$124.99~~  
Save \$230  
Compare to Honda GX200U2QX2 \$329.99  
ITEM 60363/69730 shown  
ITEM 68121/69732 CALIFORNIA ONLY  
Use Online & In-Store  
18322020 LIMIT 2 - Exp. 2/12/21

**200 Lumen LED Super Bright Flip Light**  
**\$1.99**  
~~\$2.99~~  
Save 60%  
Compare to Premier SW-SWITCH-12/24 \$4.99  
ITEM 64723/64189/63922 shown  
18332534 LIMIT 4 - Exp. 2/12/21

**BADLAND**  
**2500 lb. Capacity Electric Winch with Wireless Remote Control**  
**\$59.99**  
~~\$69.99~~  
Save 29%  
Compare to Ironlion 54123 \$84.99  
ITEM 61297/63476/61840 shown  
Use Online & In-Store  
18334482 LIMIT 2 - Exp. 2/12/21

**HaulMaster**  
**18" x 12", 1000 lb. Capacity Hardwood Mover's Dolly**  
**\$7.99**  
~~\$10.99~~  
Save 62%  
Compare to Buffalo Tools HDFOOLLY \$21.29  
ITEM 61899/63095/63096/63097/63098 shown  
Use Online & In-Store  
18337182 LIMIT 4 - Exp. 2/12/21

**COVER PRO**  
**10 ft. x 10 ft. Portable Shed**  
**\$129.99**  
~~\$164.99~~  
Save \$70  
Compare to ShelterLogic 70833 \$199.99  
ITEM 56184/63297 shown  
18338681 LIMIT 1 - Exp. 2/12/21

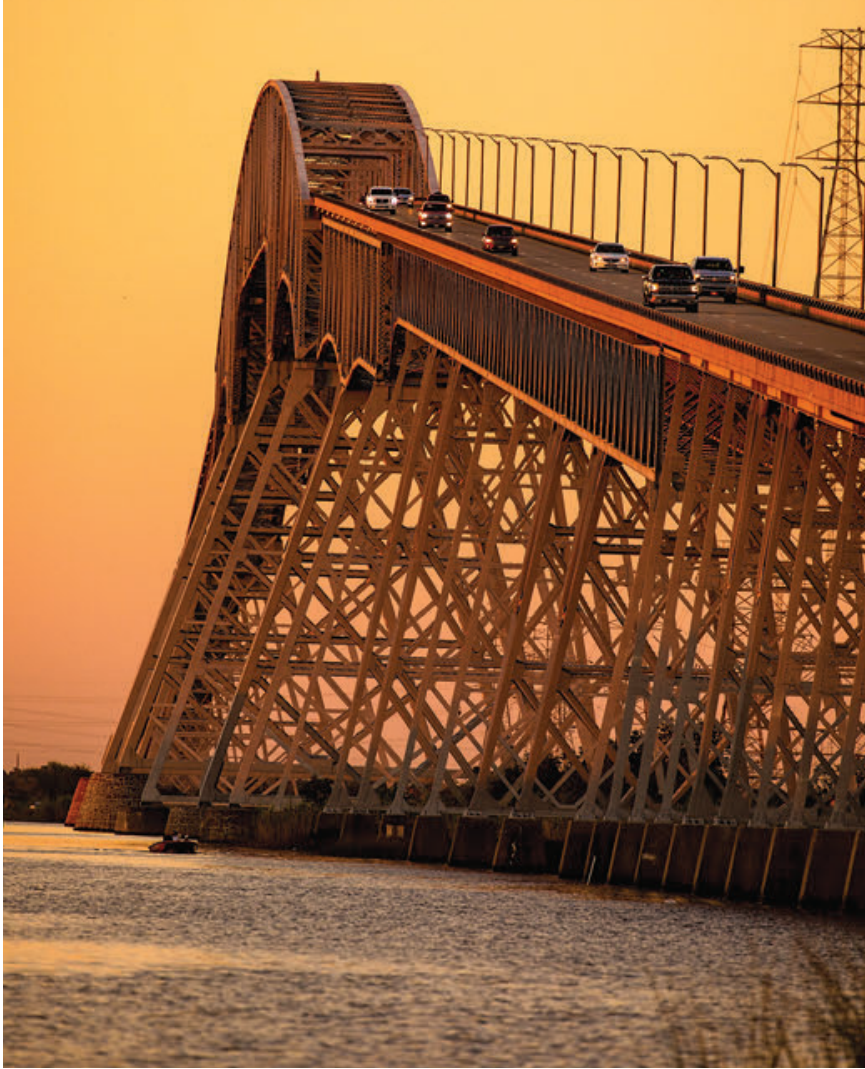
**WARRIOR**  
**18v Lithium-Ion 3/8" Drill/Driver Kit**  
**\$24.99**  
~~\$29.99~~  
Save 68%  
Compare to Ryobi P215K \$79  
ITEM 56122/64118 shown  
18343692 LIMIT 2 - Exp. 2/12/21

1,100+ Stores Nationwide • HarborFreight.com

\*Original coupon only. No use on prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase or without original receipt. Valid through 2/12/21.

Pricing, promotions, and availability may vary by location and at www.harborfreight.com and are subject to change without notice. We reserve the right to limit quantities. "Compare to" advertised price means that the specified comparison, which is an item with the same or similar function, was advertised for sale at or above the "Compare to" price by another national retailer in the U.S. within the past 90 days. Prices advertised by others may vary. Price advertised by others may vary. Price advertised by others may vary. Although we make every effort to assure that our prices and products are advertised as accurately as possible, we are only human and in the event an error is made, we reserve the right to correct it.

TCP WEB EXTRA

Listen to W.F. Strong  
read this story.

# The Scariest Bridge in Texas

The steep Rainbow Bridge connecting Port Arthur and Orange is a nightmare for some

BY W.F. STRONG • PHOTO BY ROBERT SEALE

**THERE'S MORE THAN ONE** Texas bridge that can be especially troubling for those with gephyrophobia—fear of crossing bridges. The U.S. 90 bridge over the Pecos River can certainly give you the willies. The Corpus Christi Harbor Bridge can give you pause if you're hit with the outer bands of a tropical storm when you're on it. Some of those five-stack interchanges in Dallas and Houston can cause a palpitation or two.

But, in my opinion, the scariest bridge in Texas is the Rainbow Bridge between Port Arthur and Orange, on Texas Highway 73. It offers a triple threat. You can

see it coming from a long way off. It has a steep ascent and descent. And it rises frighteningly high over water. These are the things gephyrophobics most dread.

The Rainbow Bridge is scary enough today, with two lanes for one-way traffic southbound, but it used to be much worse. It is 20 stories tall, and drivers had to put up with two narrow lanes carrying cars and loaded 18-wheelers in two directions. When it was completed in 1938, it was the second-tallest bridge in the U.S., second only to the Golden Gate Bridge. (The Veterans Memorial Bridge, built just yards away and completed in 1990, car-

ries one-way traffic northbound.)

As you arrived near the top of the Rainbow Bridge, all you could see was sky in the daytime and the stars at night. You had to have faith that the pavement would be there when you drove over the hump, and that was enough to make some folks take a 30-mile detour. Local driver's education teachers often made students navigate over that bridge on their first day of class.

Originally it was called the Port Arthur-Orange Bridge. I long believed that the Rainbow Bridge name came from Norse mythology, wherein the rainbow bridge connects heaven and earth. But no. In 1957 the North Port Arthur Lions Club had a naming contest, and 6-year-old Christy McClintock submitted the winning entry—Rainbow Bridge. She said it looked like a mechanical rainbow. You will agree if you are there near sunset and see it illuminated in the shimmering hues of the evening. McClintock earned a \$50 U.S. savings bond as her prize.

Why was the bridge, with 177 feet of vertical clearance, built so tall? It crossed an important ship channel and builders wanted the tallest ship in the Navy at the time, the USS Patoka, to be able to pass easily beneath it, pulling a dirigible.

The Rainbow Bridge was more than an engineering marvel. It was also a magnet for teenagers in the night. The high school kids in the area used to climb up into the catwalks. One of those students was destined for worldwide fame. It is said that she used to sit up there high above the moonlit waters of the Neches River and sing in her passionately raw style. I'm sure you've heard of her. Janis Joplin? Her biographer, Myra Friedman, said Joplin would sing up there under the great Texas sky and "scorch the stars." But that's a whole other story.

The tallest ship in the Navy never did pass beneath the Rainbow Bridge. Seems a shame. Somewhat like a bride having planned a perfect wedding, but the groom never showed. ■

# Vegetarian

Creative blends of vegetables and seasonings make for hearty meals

BY MEGAN MYERS, FOOD EDITOR

My family is always looking for more ways to add vegetables to our meals, especially with two growing kids at the table. One way that works for us is to create make-it-yourself bowls that allow each of us to choose our own vegetable and sauce. My husband and I like this carrot-ginger dressing, which can be enjoyed with roasted veggies, as in this recipe, or with a simple salad.

## Roasted Vegetable Farro Bowls With Carrot-Ginger Dressing

**1 cup farro**  
**1 head cauliflower, chopped**  
**1½ cups diced butternut squash**  
**1 head broccoli, chopped**  
**½ cup plus 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided use**  
**⅔ cup chopped carrot**  
**¼ cup diced onion**  
**¼ cup rice vinegar**  
**1 tablespoon grated fresh ginger**  
**½ teaspoon salt**  
**¼ teaspoon pepper**

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Cook farro according to package directions. Drain excess liquid if needed.
2. While the farro is cooking, spread cauliflower and squash onto a rimmed baking sheet and put broccoli into a bowl. Drizzle 2 tablespoons olive oil over the vegetables. Put baking sheet into oven and roast 10 minutes, then add broccoli and give the vegetables a stir. Roast for another 10 minutes, until vegetables are softened and starting to caramelize.
3. While vegetables are cooking, make the dressing. In a food processor or blender, combine ½ cup olive oil, carrot, onion, rice vinegar, ginger, salt and pepper and process until completely smooth. Taste dressing and adjust seasoning if needed.
4. Divide farro and vegetables among 4 bowls with dressing on the side.

SERVES 4

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





## Instant Pot Greek Spanakorizo With Herbed Cashews

KATHERINE SUAREZ  
COSERV

This Greek dish is a great way to get started using an Instant Pot.

**COOK'S TIP** To make this dish without an Instant Pot: In Step 3 increase the water to 3 cups and add it and the rest of the ingredients into a large saucepan. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat to medium-low, cover and simmer for 18 minutes. Remove from heat and let stand 5 minutes, then fluff with a fork before serving.

**2 cups jasmine rice**  
**2 tablespoons plus 1 teaspoon olive oil, divided use**  
**¼ cup cashews**  
**2 teaspoons Greek seasoning, divided use**  
**2 tablespoons fresh dill, divided use**  
**½ medium yellow onion, sliced**  
**4 cloves garlic, minced**  
**2 cups water**  
**1 bag (12 ounces) frozen spinach, thawed and drained**  
**Juice of 1 large lemon**  
**Salt and pepper, to taste**  
**Feta cheese crumbles, for garnish**

1. Rinse the rice until water runs clear, drain and set aside. Set a small sauté pan over medium heat. Add 1 teaspoon of olive oil and the cashews to the pan and toast until golden brown, stirring occasionally. Remove the pan from heat and stir in 1 teaspoon Greek seasoning and a pinch of dill. After removing cashews from the pan, give them a rough chop and set aside.

2. Set an Instant Pot to sauté and add 2 tablespoons olive oil and the sliced onion to the cooker's inner pot. Stir to coat onion and cook until softened, stirring

\$500 WINNER

## Roasted Vegetable Enchiladas

NANCY DENNIS  
BARTLETT EC



Who doesn't love enchiladas? This simple recipe features roasted vegetables for the filling and the sauce. If you have extra filling, use it to make more enchiladas or serve it as a side.

**SERVES 4**



**3 red bell peppers, quartered, seeds and stems removed**  
**2 zucchini, cut into 1-inch chunks**  
**2 yellow squashes, cut into 1-inch chunks**  
**½ yellow onion, cut into 1-inch chunks**  
**1 jalapeño pepper, halved, seeds and stem removed**  
**2 cloves garlic, skin on**  
**Olive oil, for drizzling**  
**8 ounces light sour cream**  
**1 teaspoon ground cumin**  
**2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro, divided use**  
**Salt and pepper, to taste**  
**6–7 corn tortillas, warmed**  
**1 cup queso fresco, crumbled**

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Spread the vegetables and garlic onto a baking sheet and drizzle with olive oil. Roast vegetables 25–35 minutes, until slightly browned. Stir every 10 minutes, checking on garlic and bell peppers, and removing garlic once soft and bell peppers once skin is browned and beginning to peel.
2. Place the bell peppers in a bowl and cover for 10 minutes. Set aside the rest of the vegetables. Once peppers are cool enough to handle, remove the skins from the peppers and the garlic.
3. Place the bell peppers, jalapeño, garlic, sour cream, cumin and 1 tablespoon cilantro in a food processor or blender and purée until smooth. Add salt and pepper.
4. Spread a large spoonful of the sauce in an 8-by-8-inch baking dish. Roll into each corn tortilla about ¼ cup of the roasted vegetables and a sprinkling of cheese and place carefully in the dish. Spread the remaining sauce over the top.
5. Bake enchiladas 20–25 minutes. Top with remaining cheese and cilantro and serve.

## TCP \$500 Recipe Contest

**TOMATOES** DUE JAN 10

What's more perfect for summer than tomatoes? No matter how you slice them, we want your best tomato recipe. Enter at [TexasCoopPower.com/Contests](http://TexasCoopPower.com/Contests) by January 10.

CONTINUED >

RECIPES CONTINUED

occasionally. Add garlic and sauté for about 1 minute, being careful to not burn it.

**3.** Add the water, spinach, rice, rest of the dill and 1 teaspoon Greek seasoning into the Instant Pot. Stir, place the lid and set to high pressure for 1 minute, then let rest for 15 minutes to allow the pressure to release naturally. Release excess pressure if needed before removing lid. Stir in lemon juice and salt and pepper. Sprinkle the top of the spanakorizo with cashews and cheese before serving.

SERVES 8

### Mujadara

SHANNON SKAALURE  
TRI-COUNTY EC

Lentils are a great ingredient for meatless meals, and this staple Middle Eastern dish is an excellent option. Even though cooking the onions down takes time, the results are worth it. Serve topped with



yogurt or labneh—strained yogurt—if you like.

- 4 tablespoons olive oil**
- 2 large onions, thinly sliced**
- Salt, to taste**
- 4 cloves garlic, thinly sliced**
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin**
- ¼ teaspoon ground allspice**
- Pinch ground cayenne pepper**
- Large pinch dried thyme, oregano and/or rosemary**
- 5 cups vegetable broth**
- 1 cup green, brown or red lentils**
- ¾ cup rice**
- 1–2 tablespoons lemon juice**
- Pepper, to taste**

**Pinch red pepper flakes, for garnish**  
**Chopped fresh herbs, for garnish**

**1.** Heat olive oil in a large, deep skillet over medium heat, then add onions. Add a pinch of salt and sauté until the onions turn golden brown, 15–45 minutes, stirring often so they don't burn. Transfer half of the onions to a plate, leaving remaining half in the skillet.

**2.** Add garlic to skillet and sauté until fragrant, about 1 minute, then add cumin, allspice and cayenne and sauté a few seconds to toast the spices. Stir in herbs and broth, bring to a simmer, and add salt to taste.

**3.** Add in lentils, cover and simmer with lid cracked until lentils are almost done (25–30 minutes for green and brown lentils, 15–20 minutes for red). Stir rice into the pot and continue to cook until everything is tender, 15–20 minutes. Close lid completely if it looks too thick while cooking.

**4.** Add lemon juice and salt and pepper to taste. Top with reserved onions and garnishes.

SERVES 8

**Experience the freshest fruits and vegetables at your local farmers market.**

**Find a TDA Certified Farmers Market near you at [gotexan.org](http://gotexan.org)**

**GO TEXAN.**

*Email [GOTEXAN@TexasAgriculture.gov](mailto:GOTEXAN@TexasAgriculture.gov) for a copy of our "Texas Produce Availability Chart."*

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER**



## Hit the Road

### Event Calendar

Fairs, festivals, food and family fun! Pick your region. Pick your month. Pick your event.

With hundreds of events across Texas listed every month, [TexasCoopPower.com](http://TexasCoopPower.com) has something for you.

**TCP Plan now**  
[TexasCoopPower.com/events](http://TexasCoopPower.com/events)



# SACRED STONE OF THE SOUTHWEST IS ON THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION



Centuries ago, Persians, Tibetans and Mayans considered turquoise a gemstone of the heavens, believing the striking blue stones were sacred pieces of sky. Today, the rarest and most valuable turquoise is found in the American Southwest— but the future of the blue beauty is unclear.

On a recent trip to Tucson, we spoke with fourth generation turquoise traders who explained that less than five percent of turquoise mined worldwide can be set into jewelry and only about twenty mines in the Southwest supply gem-quality turquoise. Once a thriving industry, many Southwest mines have run dry and are now closed.

We found a limited supply of turquoise from Arizona and snatched it up for our *Sedona Turquoise Collection*. Inspired by the work of those ancient craftsmen and designed to showcase the exceptional blue stone, each stabilized vibrant cabochon features a unique,

one-of-a-kind matrix surrounded in Bali metalwork. You could drop over \$1,200 on a turquoise pendant, or you could secure 26 carats of genuine Arizona turquoise for **just \$99**.

**Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed.** If you aren't completely happy with your purchase, send it back within 30 days for a complete refund of the item price.

The supply of Arizona turquoise is limited, don't miss your chance to own the Southwest's brilliant blue treasure. Call today!

## Jewelry Specifications:

- Arizona turquoise • Silver-finished settings

### Sedona Turquoise Collection

A. Pendant (26 cts)	<del>\$299</del>	\$99*	<b>Save \$200</b>
B. 18" Bali Naga woven sterling silver chain		\$149	
C. 1 1/2" Earrings (10 ctw)	<del>\$299</del>	\$99*	<b>Save \$200</b>
<b>Complete Set**</b>	<del>\$747</del>	<b>\$249</b>	<b>Save \$498</b>

\*\* Complete set includes pendant, chain and earrings.

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

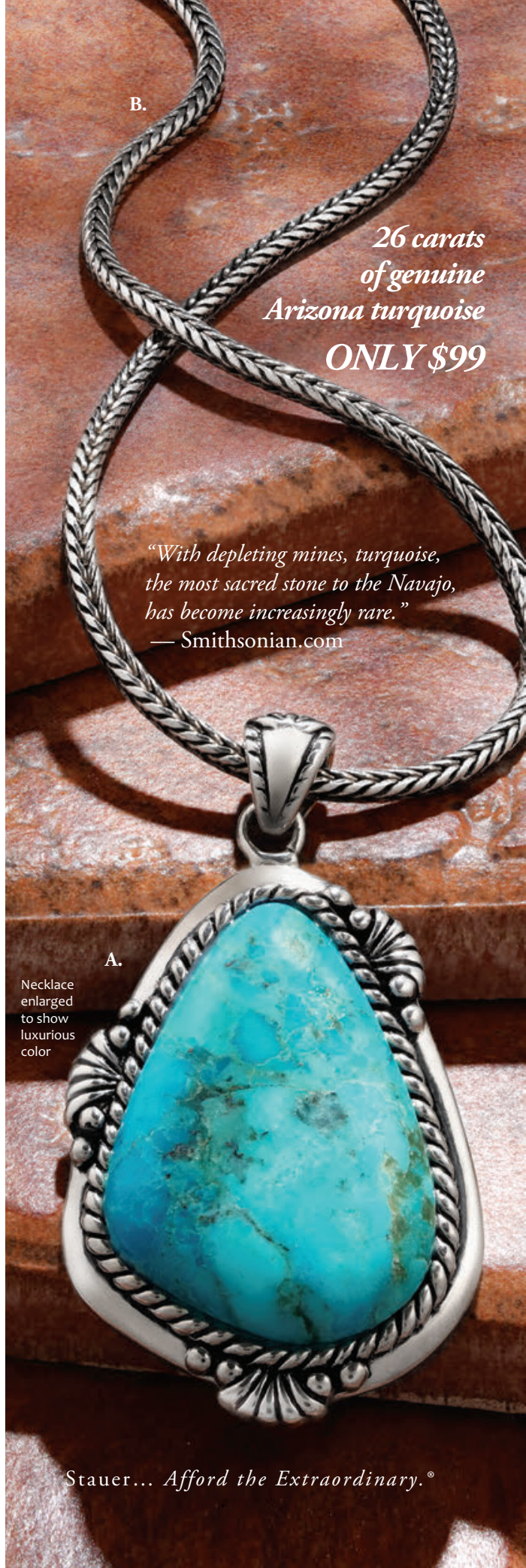
## 1-800-333-2045

Offer Code **STC356-01**

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

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

**Stauer**® 14101 Southcross Drive W., Ste 155, Dept. STC356-01, Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 [www.stauer.com](http://www.stauer.com)



B.

26 carats  
of genuine  
Arizona turquoise  
**ONLY \$99**

*"With depleting mines, turquoise, the most sacred stone to the Navajo, has become increasingly rare."*  
— Smithsonian.com

A.

Necklace enlarged to show luxurious color

Stauer... Afford the Extraordinary.®



COURTESY CHET GARNER

## Upscale Lodging

The Tarpon Inn embodies the historical vibe of Port A

BY CHET GARNER

**TEXANS HAVE ALWAYS** been good at telling fish stories, but the Tarpon Inn in Port Aransas can out-exaggerate even the saltiest fisherman. This beachy hotel has been giving Mustang Island visitors a place to rest their heads and share their stories since 1886.

I traveled to the coast to enjoy that golden time when the weather turns colder and “island time” slows to a standstill. After walking the quiet streets of Port Aransas, I found myself standing in front of the long, two-story building with its porch and balcony that run from end to end. Folks sat in red rocking chairs, soaking in the relaxed pace of life in Port A.

I expected the smile I received when I stepped into the small lobby, but I did not expect the lobby’s decor. Covering the walls from the base of the windows to the ceiling are more than 7,000 tarpon scales, each signed and dated by a proud angler. In the early 1900s, these colossal fish were so plentiful that Port Aransas was nicknamed “Tarpon, Texas.” When a guest caught one, they noted the catch’s size and weight on a scale removed from the fish, then signed and pinned the silver-tipped trophy to the lobby wall.

I scanned the walls and found that most of the anglers were from Texas. Some scales recorded fish that were well over 6 feet long, while others bragged that the fish was caught using only “light tackle.” I found one scale safely behind glass and inscribed with the name Franklin D. Roosevelt, who traveled to Port Aransas in 1937 while serving his second term as president. During this trip he reeled in a 5-foot-1-inch, 77-pound tarpon and added its scale to the wall.

I walked out eager to see if there were any tarpons swimming in the nearby Gulf. ■

ABOVE Chet points out the tarpon scale signed by President Roosevelt in 1937.

**TCP WEB EXTRA** See Chet’s video from the Tarpon Inn and check out his Explorations on *The Daytripper* on PBS.

## Know Before You Go

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

## JANUARY

01

**Austin [1–31] Fortlandia**, (512) 232-0100, wildflower.org/event/fortlandia

09

**Brenham Johnny Cash Tribute by Bennie Wheels**, (979) 337-7240, thebarnhillcenter.com/events

12

**Seguin Seguin Chamber Virtual Centennial Celebration**, (830) 379-6382, seguinchamber.com

14

**Amarillo [14–16, 21–24] Little Women**, (806) 355-9991, amarillolittletheatre.org/current-season

15

**San Angelo [15–16] Texas State Federation of Square & Round Dancers Nominating Meeting and Dance**, (432) 685-3226, pbsrda.com

16

**Brenham Uptown Swirl in Downtown Brenham**, (979) 337-7580, downtownbrenham.com

17

**Hallettsville State Championship Domino Tournament**, (361) 798-2311, kchall.com

22

**Amarillo [22–23] Beethoven’s Fifth & Project Trio**, (806) 376-8782, amarillosymphony.org

28

**New Braunfels Neal McCoy**, (830) 627-0808, brauntex.org

30

**Bandera Grace Lutheran Wild Game Dinner**, (830) 796-3091, gracebandera.weebly.com/wild-game-dinner-2021

**Brenham Bob Wills' Texas Playboys Starring Jason Roberts**, (979) 337-7240, thebarnhillcenter.com/events

**Nocona Mardi Gras Ball**, (940) 825-3526, facebook.com/mardigrasnoconastyle

## FEBRUARY

02

**Austin Samin Nosrat**, (512) 474-5664, thelongcenter.org

03

**Bandera [3-6] Cowboy Mardi Gras**, (830) 796-4849, 11thstreetcowboybar.com

FERGREGORY | DREAMSTIME.COM



### Pick of the Month

#### South Texas International Film Festival

Edinburg, January 22-31  
(956) 383-6246  
stxiff.com

The festival goes online this year. Visitors to stxiff.com can watch all film selections free and on-demand, access panels for insight from guests and directors, participate in workshops, and meet celebrities virtually. The festival will feature productions from the Rio Grande Valley and more than 20 countries.

### TCP Submit Your Event

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

## LOW COST Mobile Home Insurance

*Covered with a national carrier?*

# Get your Declaration Page & call to compare!

### Start Saving *Today!*



- Replacement Cost for Most Homes
- Escrow Billing, Payment Plans, Customer Portal and Online Payments

**4.8 Google Rating**  
12/01/2020

[www.stdins.com](http://www.stdins.com)  
CALL NOW  
**800-522-0146**



Serving Texas Mobile Homeowners since 1961



### WALK-IN TUBS FROM \$7,995 INSTALLED!



**ONYX SHOWERS FROM \$8,995 INSTALLED**



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

★ CELEBRATING 15 YEARS ★

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

Enhance your quality of life with a Best Buy Walk-in Tub. As the oldest manufacturer of walk-in tubs in America, we've been setting the industry standard for more than 15 years. Call us today to find the perfect custom solution for you.

Visit our showroom at 311 Kings Plaza in Granbury.



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

# SOOTHING COMFORT & WARMTH

For Swollen, Arthritic Or Diabetic Feet With Poor Circulation!

Adjustable Swollen Feet Loafers

only **\$19.99**

**FREE SHIPPING & HANDLING!**



Soft Plush Lining

Tan

Easy Magic One Touch Closure Flap

Source Code 79919 © Dream Products, Inc. (Prices valid for 1yr.)

## Easy On, Easy Off Adjustable-Fit Loafers Provide The ULTIMATE IN COMFORT!



Memory Foam Insoles For A Perfect Fit

Adjustable Width

Slip-Resistant Safety Soles



Black

Our roomy Swollen Feet Loafers have adjustable magic one touch flap closures for easy access and a custom, non-binding fit. Orthopedic design provides comforting relief from edema, corns, sores and bunions, plus added warmth for poor circulation. Extra roomy for wide feet, too. Washable polyester and acrylic import value. Ladies' sizes 5-10½; Men's sizes 6-12. Get **FREE SHIPPING & HANDLING** when you order now.

Swollen Feet Loafers <small>Indicate Qty Under Size</small>				
#369907	S 5-6 (212)	M 6½-7½ (213)	L 8-9 (214)	XL 9½-10½ (215)
<b>Ladies'</b>				
Tan (247)				
Black (101)				
#369908	S 6-7 (212)	M 7½-8½ (213)	L 9-10 (214)	XL 11-12 (215)
<b>Mens'</b>				
Tan (247)				
Black (101)				
____ Pr(s) Swollen Feet Loafers @ \$19.99				\$
*Add applicable State & Local SALES TAX on the Subtotal				\$
<b>FREE Shipping and Handling</b>				<b>FREE</b>
Please Print Clearly				Total \$

VISA  
 MasterCard  
 Card# \_\_\_\_\_

American Express  
 Discover®/NOVUS<sup>SM</sup> Cards  
 Exp. Date /

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Order Now Toll-Free  
**1-800-530-2689**  
M-F 6am-1am CST  
S-S 6am-9pm CST

---

Connect With  
**DreamProducts.com**  
website offers may vary

---

**\*We may be required to collect sales tax. Please visit DreamProducts.com FAQ page if you need more information.**  
Satisfaction Guaranteed or Return For Your Money Back

79919

Send order to Dream Products 412 Dream Lane, P.O. Box 3690, Oshkosh, WI 54903-3690

**Source Code 79919**

To receive this offer on the web, you MUST input the source code when ordering

# Forests

Deep and mysterious or sunlit and dreamy, Texas forests call to us. Forests provide a serene setting for active fun like picnicking, camping, hiking, bird-watching and more. We have five beautiful national forests and preserves to check out right here in the Lone Star State, so what are you waiting for?

GRACE FULTZ



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT

**ANNA RUSSELL**  
**CHEROKEE COUNTY EC**  
 "This part of Colorado was once part of Texas."

**SABINE BREDOW**  
**PEDERNALES EC**  
 Bald cypress trees covered in Spanish moss in the world's largest cypress forest—around Caddo Lake in deep East Texas.

**MIKE PRESTIGIACOMO**  
**BARTLETT EC**  
 The forest *and* the trees.

**TREY WATSON**  
**DEEP EAST TEXAS EC**  
 "Drone photo of my forested property in the East Texas summer."

## Upcoming Contests

- DUE JAN 10** Historic Texas
- DUE FEB 10** Manmade vs. Nature
- DUE MAR 10** Night Life

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

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



## Cook Like a Texan

Memorable readers' recipes now delight diners in Nevada

BY SUZANNE FEATHERSTON  
ILLUSTRATION BY MITCH BLUNT

I MIGHT NOT LIVE IN TEXAS anymore, but sometimes I still cook like a Texan.

Thank you, *Texas Co-op Power* readers, for teaching me about Southern cooking. Through the monthly reader recipe section, I learned about flavors and techniques that will stay with me forever.

When I joined *Texas Co-op Power* in 2011, I was thrilled to find out that the editorial staff participated in recipe testing for the recipe contest.

Every month the food editor would send out selected submitted recipes, and the editorial staff would race to pick out the most appealing ones to prepare for a panel of co-workers. We did not have a professional test kitchen, but we were a realistic representation of Texas home cooks.

Contestants showed their culinary acumen with instructions as simple as melting Velveeta into almost anything to the more meticulous, such as stuffing upright rigatoni noodles for Butternut Squash and Gorgonzola Rigatoni Pasta Pie With Fried Sage (July 2016).

Sometimes if I was late in choosing, I'd wind up preparing a more technical or time-consuming recipe, like the Red Velvet Cupcake in a Jar (November 2012) that took me three hours to make. At other times recipes picked me, like the Blueberry-Lime Jam (June 2012) because I owned a hot-water bath canner.

For the Chili Cook-Off contest of 2013, Jenny Sparks of Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative shared a recipe for Venison Chili that uses ground venison, chipotle peppers and hot chocolate mix. Being the only staff member with venison in my freezer at the time, I lucked out with that one. Not only did it win the contest, but it also became a favorite in my recipe repertoire. I make it mostly for company, often using beef instead of venison and adding beans (controversial, I know) to make it stretch. People love the sweet and smoky flavors, and I love telling them about *Texas Co-op Power*.

Several other Texas recipes and concepts made their way into my cooking routine, thanks to the magazine. Sweet and Savory Sprouts (March 2017) with pancetta or bacon and maple syrup, it turns out, is good hot or cold. Aunt Sharn's Saag (July 2011) is a yummy way to use an overabundance of greens such as spinach from the garden, and it freezes well.

The experience also exposed me to using nontraditional ingredients in pesto, such as beans as in the Cannellini Pesto Pasta Sauce (March 2012) and pecans instead of pine nuts as in Texas Pecan Pesto (March 2012).

These and many other *Texas Co-op Power* recipes are now folded into my binder, so I can continue to cook like a Texan. ■



# LIVE LIFE WITHOUT PAIN

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



**PATENTED VERSOSHOCK® SOLE**  
SHOCK ABSORPTION SYSTEM



**Corrective Fit Orthotic**  
\$50 Value Free  
podiatrist-grade support with  
every shoe purchase  
Excludes sandals.



**85%**

**LESS  
KNEE  
PAIN**



**91%**

**LESS  
BACK  
PAIN**



**92%**

**LESS  
ANKLE  
PAIN**



**75%**

**LESS  
FOOT  
PAIN**

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

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

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

## G-DEFY MIGHTY WALK \$155

**X-WIDE  
WIDTH  
AVAILABLE**

**Men Sizes 7.5-15 M/W/XW**

- Gray TB9024MGS
- Blue/Black TB9024MLU
- Black TB9024MBL

**Women Sizes 6-11 M/W/XW**

- Gray TB9024FGS
- Salmon/Gray TB9024FGP
- Purple/Black TB9024FLP



**Free Corrective Fit Orthotics**  
plus socks with every shoe order

**Promo Code MQ8BNP7**

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

Expires April 30, 2021

Free Exchanges • Free Returns

**100% Satisfaction Guaranteed**

Call 1(800) 429-0039

Gravity Defyer Corp.

10643 Glenoaks Blvd. Pacoima, CA 91331



VersoShock® U.S Patent #US8,555,526 B2. May be eligible for Medicare reimbursement. This product is not intended to treat, cure or prevent any disease. Cannot be combined with other offers. Free socks only available directly from Gravity Defyer. 9% CA sales tax applies to orders in California. Shoes must be returned within 30 days in like-new condition for full refund or exchange. Credit card authorization required. See website for complete details.

# dish

## Save a Bundle on TV and Internet!

**\$200** Visa® Prepaid Card

Get TV. Get \$100. Add Internet. Get \$200.

1234 5678 9012 3456

4000

Gift Card

EXPIRES END 01/25

VISA

Mention code Card100 when you order TV only. Mention code Card200 when you order both TV and internet services. Courtesy of GoDISH.com with activation, certain conditions apply. Free \$200 VISA Gift Card when you order a qualifying service (premium customer qualification only).

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

### 2-YEAR TV PRICE LOCK!

## It's All Included!

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



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

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

## Add Internet!

# Blazing-Fast Internet

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

**\$40** per month for Internet

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

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

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

godish.com/pricelock

iSe Habla Español!

# 1-866-290-7151

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

**dish**  
Authorized Retailer

Offer for new and qualifying former customers only. Important Terms and Conditions:  
Qualification: Advertised price requires credit qualification and 24-month commitment. Upfront activation and/or receiver upgrade fees may apply based on credit qualification. Offer ends 1/13/21. 2-Year Commitment: Early termination fee of \$20/mo. remaining applies if you cancel early. Included in 2-year price guarantee at \$59.99 advertised price: America's Top 120 programming package, local channels, HD service fees, and Hopper Duo Smart DVR for 1 TV. Included in 2-year price guarantee for additional cost: Programming package upgrades (\$74.99 for AT120+, \$84.99 for AT200, \$94.99 for AT250), monthly fees for upgraded or additional receivers (\$5-\$7 per additional TV, receivers with additional functionality may be \$10-\$15). Regional Sports: RSN Surcharge up to \$3/mo. applies to AT120+ and higher packages and varies based on location. NOT included in 2-year price guarantee or advertised price (and subject to change): Taxes & surcharges, add-on programming (including premium channels), DISH Protect, and transactional fees. Premium Channels: 3 Mos. Free: After 3 mos., you will be billed \$30/mo. for Showtime, Starz, and DISH Movie Pack unless you call or go online to cancel. Remote: The DISH Voice Remote with the Google Assistant requires internet-connected Hopper, Joey, or Wally device. Customer must press Voice Remote button to activate feature. The Google Assistant Smart Home features require Google account and compatible devices. Google is a trademark of Google LLC. Other: Netflix streaming membership required. All packages, programming, features, and functionality and all prices and fees not included in price lock are subject to change without notice. After 6 mos., if selected, you will be billed \$9.99/mo. for DISH Protect Silver unless you call to cancel. After 2 years, then-current everyday prices for all services apply. For business customers, additional monthly fees may apply. Free standard professional installation only. Indiana C.P.D Reg. No. - 19-08615. ©2020 GoDISH.com. All rights reserved. Internet speeds, prices, and providers vary by customer address. \$40 price refers to widely available plan from multiple providers. Restrictions apply. Nationwide availability of 25 Mbps plan is subject to change without notice. The application of "Unlimited Data with no Hard Data Limits" varies by provider, but commonly mean that your access to the internet will not be stopped by going over a data limit, but that speeds may be lowered. Call for details. Internet not provided by DISH and will be billed separately.