

A VILLAGE OF HOPE
IN BANDERA

TEXAS RAISES
THE AMERICAN FLAG

A NEIGHBORHOOD'S
SEED SAVER

Texas Coop Power

FOR CECA MEMBERS

APRIL 2024

Vanishing Act

Conservationists
work to save
native plants in decline



“Physical gold is something that you have control over—it’s in your hands.”

—DIANE, U.S. MONEY RESERVE CLIENT

Free Gold Information Kit

UNLOCK THE SECRET TO WEALTH PROTECTION



Did you know that the average U.S. family’s wealth plunged nearly 40% during the Great Recession of 2007-2009? Meanwhile gold gained more than 75%.

Don’t be caught unprepared when an unexpected economic crisis hits. Learn how to protect and grow your savings by diversifying your assets with physical gold before it’s too late.

As the only precious metals firm guided by two former Directors of the U.S. Mint, U.S. Money Reserve makes diversifying with gold fast, easy, and secure.

Get everything you need to know about gold!

- ✓ Answers to the most commonly asked questions about gold ownership
- ✓ Information on how gold can protect and grow your savings
- ✓ Special introductory offers you won’t find anywhere else
- ✓ Two additional exclusive reports: “Global Gold Forecast” and “Protection in the Risk Zone”

**CALL NOW TO
GET YOUR FREE
GOLD INFO KIT**



1-855-426-7168

VAULT CODE: TX43



©2024 U.S. Money Reserve. The markets for coins are unregulated. Prices can rise or fall and carry some risks. **The company is not affiliated with the U.S. Government and the U.S. Mint.** Past performance of the coin or the market cannot predict future performance. Prices may be more or less based on current market conditions. All calls recorded for quality assurance. Coins enlarged to show detail. Offer void where prohibited.

April 2024



06

Thorny Task 12 Holding Promise

Scientists, landowners and plant lovers work to preserve hundreds of threatened Texas natives.

By Sheryl Smith-Rodgers

Bandera's Helping Hand puts relief within reach for neighbors in need.

Story and photos by Laura Jenkins

ON THE COVER

The flower of the rare night-blooming cereus can be seen just one night a year.

Photo by Dave Shafer

ABOVE

The Hinckley oak is an evergreen shrub in the Chihuahuan Desert.

Photo by Keeper Trout | Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

04

Currents

The latest buzz

05

TCP Talk

Readers respond

16

Co-op News

Information plus energy and safety tips from your cooperative

25

Footnotes in Texas History

Republic's End
By W.F. Strong

26

TCP Kitchen

Perfect Potluck
By Vianney Rodriguez

30

Hit the Road

Carried Treasure
By Chet Garner

33

Focus on Texas

Photo Contest: Pollinators

34

Observations

Seedy Behavior
By Sheryl Smith-Rodgers



FINISH THIS SENTENCE

Wow! The eclipse was ...

TCP Tell us how you would finish that sentence. Email your short responses to letters@TexasCoopPower.com or comment on our Facebook post. Include your co-op and town.

Here are some of the responses to our February prompt: **Campfires remind me of ...**

Telling scary stories as kids.

CATHY ONDREJ
HILCO EC
AQUILLA

Me and my dad camping. We would stare at the fire for hours and say, "This is much better than watching TV."

MIKE EARLY
VIA FACEBOOK

The time I set our tent on fire!

HOOMALIMALI PAULO
VIA FACEBOOK

The possibility of a nostalgic gathering and the surety of an asthma attack.

SHELLY REID
SOUTH PLAINS EC
BECTON

Fresh air, boiled cowboy coffee, staring at the embers.

DURENA KRILEY
VIA FACEBOOK

Visit our website to see more responses.

TCP Contests and More

ENTER CONTESTS AT
TEXASCOOPPOWER.COM



\$500 RECIPE CONTEST
Football Favorites

FOCUS ON TEXAS PHOTOS
Textures

RECOMMENDED READING
Ten years ago we looked at the problems caused by the growing population of feral hogs in Texas. See *Here a Pig, There a Pig* from April 2014 on our website.

Wiring the American Dream

ON LINEWORKER Appreciation Day, April 8, we celebrate the 20 Texas electric cooperative lineworkers who brought electricity to Matasanos, a rural village in Guatemala. They spent two weeks there in November as part of NRECA International, a program that for more than 60 years has delivered electricity to remote places that had none—exactly what co-ops did in rural Texas 85 years ago.

Ten South Texas co-ops sent two crew members each, plus support staff. When they finished, 60 homes had each been wired with four lights, two switches and two outlets. Villagers helped the lineworkers move equipment up the mountain.

"I believe we take the American dream on the road and transplant it to other countries," says Jim Coleman, general manager at Jackson Electric Cooperative in Edna, who has participated in several international projects. He was joined in Guatemala by GMs from four other Texas co-ops.



No Fooling

Some historians say April Fools' Day customs have been around since the 16th century, when France's King Charles IX decreed the new year would begin January 1—not on Easter. Those who clung to the old ways were called April fools.

The Favorite
 “I pay for some magazines, but my very favorite one is yours. Great publication.”

NONA GARDNER
 DEEP EAST TEXAS EC
 GARRISON



R.J. HINKLE PHOTOS

Pieces of Art

We became a fan of Puzzles of Color after meeting them at the Texas State Fair and absolutely loved the artwork of the woman playing bass [Puzzling Times, February 2024]. I made a custom frame for it, and it hangs in our guest bedroom.

Peter Hill
 Pedernales EC
 Austin

The Reality of Gators

We don't always have a resident gator at Magnolia Beach, but most times there's one or two [Later, Gators?, February 2024].

My son and I were fishing when two teens were swimming nearby. I casually asked if they were watching for gators. “What gators?” came back sarcastically. “The one with his nostrils and eyes sticking up under the walking bridge behind you,” I replied.

I swear they walked on water getting to the bank.

Jim Evans
 Victoria EC
 Port Lavaca

The Real Bowie

Yes, Jim Bowie's knife was quite a sensation, and I'm glad you cast some doubt as to his actions at the Alamo, but it might be worth mentioning a bit more of his biography [A Cut Above, February 2024].

He was a slave owner, slave trader, smuggler and an associate of pirates. He also was a land speculator with a suspicious reputation.

Georgia Xydes
 Pedernales EC
 Austin

Shamrock Memories

Glenn McCarthy's two daughters were at Lamar High School when I was [The Green Carpet, January 2024]. The Cork Club was opened on Sunday afternoons for teens to come, dance to a small orchestra and have nonalcoholic drinks.

In 1952, my date and I went with another couple. The featured singer for the week came to entertain us—Tony Bennett. Hearing *I Left My Heart in San Francisco* always reminds me of that very special afternoon.

Betty Akin Morris
 Pedernales EC
 Canyon Lake



DAVID MOORE

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** Neil Hesse, Muenster
- Vice Chair** Avan Irani, Robstown
- Secretary-Treasurer** Bryan Wood, San Augustine
- Board Members** Dale Ancell, Lubbock
 Mark McClain, Roby • Julie Parsley, Johnson City • Brandon Young, McGregor
- PRESIDENT/CEO** Mike Williams, Austin
- COMMUNICATIONS & MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE**
 Mike Ables, Bellville • Matt Bentke, Bastrop
 Marty Haught, Burleson • Gary Miller, Bryan
 Zac Perkins, Hooker, Oklahoma
 John Ed Shinpaugh, Bonham
 Rob Walker, Gilmer • Buff Whitten, Eldorado

MAGAZINE STAFF

- Vice President, Communications & Member Services** Martin Bevins
- Editor** Chris Burrows
- Associate Editor** Tom Widlowski
- Production Manager** Karen Nejtkek
- Creative Manager** Andy Doughty
- Advertising Manager** Elaine Sproull
- Communications Specialist** Samantha Bryant
- Digital Media Specialist** Caytlyn Calhoun
- Assistant Production Manager** Alex Dal Santo
- Print Production Specialist** Grace Fultz
- Food Editor** Vianney Rodriguez
- Senior Designer** Jane Sharpe
- Communications Specialist** Claire Stevens
- Proofreader** Louie Bond

TEXAS CO-OP POWER Volume 80, Number 10 (USPS 540-560). *Texas Co-op Power* is published monthly by Texas Electric Cooperatives. Periodical postage paid at Austin, TX, and at additional offices. TEC is the statewide association representing 76 electric cooperatives. *Texas Co-op Power's* website is TexasCoopPower.com. Call (512) 454-0311 or email editor@TexasCoopPower.com.

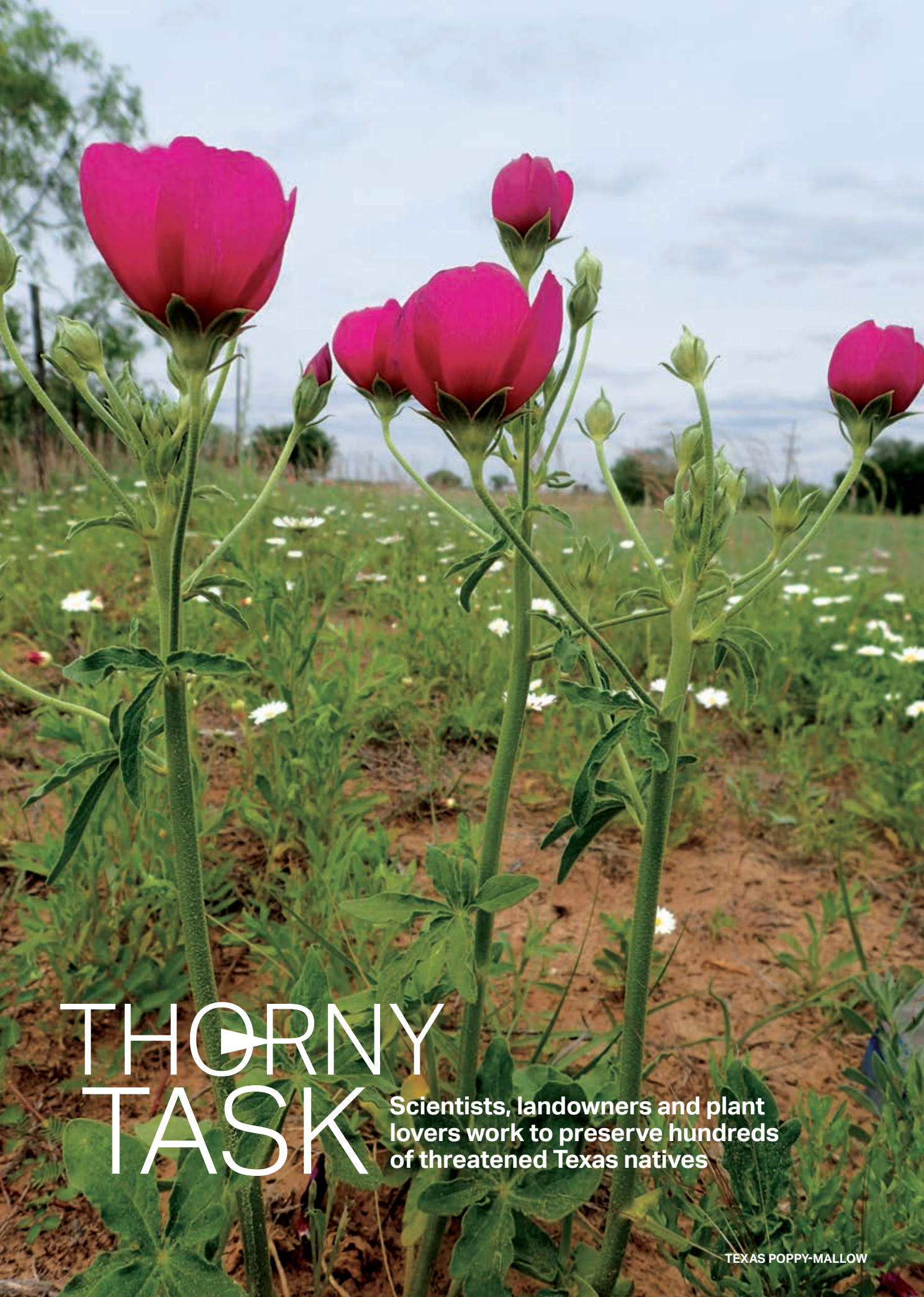
SUBSCRIPTIONS Subscription price is \$4.44 per year for individual members of subscribing cooperatives and is paid from equity accruing to the member. If you are not a member of a subscribing cooperative, you can purchase an annual subscription at the nonmember rate of \$7.50. **Co-op members:** Please notify your co-op of address changes or other subscription requests.

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 Contact Elaine Sproull at (512) 486-6251 or esproull@texas-ec.org for information about purchasing display ad space in *Texas Co-op Power* and/or in our 26 sister publications in other states. 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.

COPYRIGHT All content © 2024 Texas Electric Cooperatives Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction of this issue or any portion of it is expressly prohibited without written permission. Willie Wirehand © 2024 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.





THORNY TASK

Scientists, landowners and plant lovers work to preserve hundreds of threatened Texas natives

TEXAS POPPY-MALLOW

Randy Deming often walks his 10 acres of rural land in Callahan County, near Abilene, always on the lookout for a flower, insect or bird he hasn't spotted before.

Using an app called iNaturalist, he documents the native grasses, yuccas, Ashe junipers, live oaks and other plants that grow there. Thanks to the app, Deming learned in 2021 that one of his flowering species could be one of only a few remaining populations in Texas.

"I took pictures of a pretty flower and forgot about it," recalls Deming, a member of the Texas Master Naturalist Program and Taylor Electric Cooperative. "A few months later, I was skeptical when someone contacted me through iNaturalist and asked to see my large-flower beardtongues.

"When they told me how rare they are, I was excited," Deming says. "I could have mowed them down! Now I'm watching over them."

In the future, large-flower beardtongues—a tall, erect perennial with tubular purple blooms—could be legally protected if researchers collect enough ecological data to substantiate the designation. In the meantime, 437 other Texas plants have already been designated by the state as "species of greatest conservation need," meaning they're in decline and need attention. Some of those species require even more urgent measures. These are further labeled as threatened or endangered.

The two legal terms stem from the Endangered Species Act, a federal law enacted in 1973 to protect and help recover the nation's imperiled plant and animal species and their habitats. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service oversees the federal list and partners with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, which manages the Texas list. A species can be federally and state protected, such as shrubby Texas snowbells in the Hill Country, or just one or the other.

However, the process for federally listing a species can stretch out for years. Consider the bracted twistflower, a tall annual with lavender flowers that has been increasingly lost to urban sprawl and hungry herbivores. Found only within the Edwards Plateau, the wildflower has been marked as imperiled since 1975 and was petitioned for



TURNER'S CLIFF THISTLE

federal listing in 2014. In May 2023—nine years later—the USFWS finally listed the bracted twistflower as threatened. In Coryell County, the imperiled Texabama croton faces similar challenges.

Plants of all kinds in Texas face many pressures. Every year, development scrapes away one natural area after another. Invasive plants, agriculture, poaching, mining, weather, loss of pollinators, and land and water management also negatively impact the state's flora.

But does it really matter if a few of Texas' estimated 5,000-plus native plant species go away? The answer is yes.

"We have biodiversity for a reason," says Anna Strong, a rare species botanist with TPWD. "Each organism interacts with others in specific ways. Regardless of whether it's rare or common, if we take out one organism, we don't know the implications amongst all the organisms. If we take out one flower, we may take a food source away from a specific insect that relies on that species."

At the San Antonio Botanical Garden, botanist Michael Eason works to conserve and propagate rare Texas plants. "We have more than 90 species in our collections," Eason says. "Some are displayed in our gardens, which helps to educate the public. Others are seed collections, which haven't been propagated yet."

One of those species, prostrate milkweed, a low-growing perennial, is endemic only to Starr and Zapata counties and northeastern Mexico. Since at least 1980, invasive

TEXAS POPPY-MALLOW: ANNA STRONG | TPWD. THISTLE: MICHAEL EASON | SAN ANTONIO BOTANICAL GARDEN



Glossary

An endangered species is defined under the Endangered Species Act as “any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.”

A threatened species is defined under the ESA as “any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.”

Imperiled is not a legal term. Biologically, it refers to unprotected species that are in decline and may be in danger of extinction.

Rare plants have very limited ranges or exist in low numbers.

buffelgrass, road construction and development have drastically reduced its numbers. After several petitions to the USFWS, prostrate milkweed—an important monarch butterfly host plant—was federally listed as endangered in March 2023. The agency also designated 661 acres as critical habitat needed by the species to survive.

For his part, Eason spent five years tracking down the scarce milkweeds and collecting seeds, then having a milkweed specialist grow the plants to maturity. “We ended up with 150 plants,” he says. “We passed some to other botanical gardens. We’ll install some in our rare plant gardens. The remainder will be kept for perhaps reintroductions in South Texas and donations to other institutions with the Center for Plant Conservation.”

Headquartered in Escondido, California, the CPC is a



TEXAS SNOWBELL

TEXAS SNOWBELL: CHASE FOUNTAIN | TPWD. TEXABAMA CROTON: RAY MATHEWS | LADY BIRD JOHNSON WILDFLOWER CENTER

Grassroots Efforts

The Texas Department of Transportation monitors for rare plants prior to road construction and along state highways and rights of way. Edd Paradise, a TxDOT environmental planner in Pharr and a Magic Valley Electric Cooperative member, worked with USFWS to relocate endangered Zapata bladder-pods in Starr County.

Aaron Lincoln—a biodiversity manager with Lhoist, a global corporation—oversees a pilot project to restore grasslands and a pocket prairie at a 3,000-acre chemical lime plant and quarry in Bosque County. So far, he’s documented glandular blazing stars, Hall’s prairie clover, lemonscent and other declining species. Lincoln also hopes to set aside 122 acres as a refuge for white troutlilies and morel mushrooms.

The Friends of the Warren Ferris Cemetery in Dallas rallied to transform the historic cemetery’s neglected grounds into native habitat. Today, the Constellation of Living Memorials pilot project includes eight old cemeteries and will serve as an example for revitalizing the state’s 5,000-plus historic cemeteries. One project goal is to encourage the recovery of threatened and endangered plant species.



TEXABAMA CROTON

nationwide network of organizations working together to save imperiled native plants. The San Antonio Botanical Garden partners with the CPC, as do the Botanical Research Institute of Texas at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, Mercer Botanic Gardens in Humble and the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin.

As part of its conservation efforts, the wildflower center stores seeds of 575 Texas plant species for research and sharing with botanical gardens and conservation organizations. The seed bank, housed mostly in freezers, also serves as an insurance policy against the loss of imperiled species.

“We visit wild populations that we have permission to access, either on public land or through contacting land-owners,” explains Jonathan Flickinger, conservation collections manager at the wildflower center. “We harvest seeds



BRACED TWISTFLOWER

from plants, but we don't take too many because our priority is to conserve the plants in their natural habitat."

In some cases, researchers may rescue plants by digging them up. That happened with the Texas poppy-mallow, listed as federally endangered in 1981. The tall perennial with reddish purple flowers grows in deep sandy soils along the Colorado River in four counties.

In 2010, some conservation-minded landowners asked that a population of poppy-mallows be removed from a future construction site on their property. That summer, wildflower center staff and other colleagues extracted 54 plants and fostered them in pots for three years.

"We harvested more than 3,000 seeds from them for our seed bank," Flickinger says. "Then we identified another site where they were reintroduced."

Landowners play a huge role in plant conservation, namely because about 95% of Texas' land is privately owned. When threatened or endangered plants grow on private land, landowners are not legally required to manage them under the Endangered Species Act (the law differs for listed birds and animals).

Botanists and other officials must always ask permission before accessing private land. Typically, they want to survey plant species, perhaps harvest a small amount of seeds and collect plant material for herbarium vouchers.

The Fish and Wildlife Service offers a program that provides property owners with free technical and financial assistance for improving wildlife habitat on their land. "We're always looking for opportunities to work with landowners," says Chris Best, USFWS botanist. "Most of the ones I've met want to protect their land's natural resources."

That aptly describes attorney Liz Rogers, a Medina Electric Cooperative member. For more than two decades, she's welcomed researchers onto her family's 8,000-acre cattle ranch in southeastern Brewster County, along the Mexico border. "They always show me cool things, which has made me appreciate our ranch even more," she says.

Eason has been among many plant conservationists who have botanized the ranch's Trans-Pecos deserts, canyons and mountainsides. "Liz has an assortment of rare plants found along cliff faces and other protected areas," he says. "We've collected plants such as Turner's cliff thistle, rock-daisy and Barton's dalea. She also has a small population of night-blooming cereus."

Whether rare or not, showy or inconspicuous, every native plant matters. "We shouldn't focus conservation merely on species that have declined so far that they're teetering on the brink of extinction," Best says. "We should be working to keep common plants common." ■



Noah's Arks for Seeds

Just as the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin stores seeds of 575 Texas plant species for research, national and global seed vaults do the same—preserving plant types in case they are wiped out by natural or human-made disasters.

The National Laboratory for Genetic Resources Preservation on the campus of Colorado State University is run by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It houses more than 850,000 plant seeds and materials, as well as DNA samples from about 160 breeds of livestock.

The Svalbard Global Seed Vault, located about halfway between the North Pole and the coast of Norway, is more than 300 feet inside a mountain, where the permafrost maintains a stable temperature between 26 and 39 degrees. Three large concrete chambers have the capacity to hold 3.5 million seed samples.



HOLDING PROMISE

BANDERA'S **HELPING HAND** PUTS RELIEF WITHIN REACH FOR NEIGHBORS IN NEED



FROM THE ROAD, it doesn't stand out from any other small office complex you might find in the Hill Country. But once you pass through the towering iron gate, get out of your car and start walking, the landscape becomes much more inviting: winding paths that lead to a peaceful courtyard and a sprawling pergola nestled against a scenic lily pond.

This is what hope looks like. More specifically, the Village of Hope—the cluster of buildings owned by Bandera County Helping Hand, a haven for residents facing a personal crisis. Are you sick? There's a free medical clinic. Is your cupboard bare? Head over to the food pantry. Do you need shoes, clothes or basic household items? The thrift store has what you need.

Since 1984, Bandera Helping Hand has been a steadfast safety net for folks who have hit hard times.

"We're here to help people get on their feet," says Jesse Parks, executive director of Helping Hand. "You never know what tomorrow will bring. Everything's great until all of a sudden there's a car wreck and somebody's gone or there's a flood or a fire and you've lost everything. It's devastating."

Parks speaks from experience. In the late 1990s, she and her husband uprooted their lives in Corpus Christi and moved to Medina, just west of Bandera, where they signed a long-term lease on a piece of land and started working on their dream: building a facility for teens experiencing crisis. Two years later, without warning, the landowner sold it out from under them, including the structures and improvements they'd funded with their own money.

They lost everything. To make ends meet, Parks got a job at the Apple Store in Medina (which actually sells fruit). One day a friend came in and told her that she'd recommended Parks for the director position at Helping Hand. Even though she'd never worked at a nonprofit, Parks accepted the position and has led the organization since 2000.

Helping Hand began 16 years earlier, in 1984, when local churches came together to assist neighbors in need. The aim was to pool resources and provide a central place where people could go for help. In the early days, Helping Hand operated a thrift store and a food pantry and provided school supplies for children. It also helped struggling residents pay their utility bills.

But when the Medina River swept through the town during the devastating South Texas floods of 2002, it demolished Helping Hand's facilities. Quite suddenly they were among those in crisis.

"Our building was completely destroyed," Parks remembers, "so we set up shop in a warehouse and started gathering donations from other food banks. The Salvation Army came in and helped us provide aid for flood victims as well."

Seeing how generously and efficiently Helping Hand had been serving the community, Bandera's city council offered them space so they could continue helping residents while they figured out how to start over themselves. And that's when offers of help started pouring in.

"A retired grant writer by the name of Dan Wise got in touch and offered to help us raise funds to rebuild," says Parks, a member of Bandera Electric Cooperative. "I looked forever for land that was not in a flood plain and finally found this 3.77 acres. We bought it with money we borrowed from Bandera Bank but were able to pay it back within a year using the grants that Mr. Wise helped us get from various foundations."

By early 2004, Helping Hand's crisis intervention center was complete. At the building's dedication, then-board President Comellia Rue announced that the next structure they would build was a free medical clinic to serve the county's uninsured residents. But no one had any idea where the money would come from.

Enter Kerrville businessman Arthur Nagel, who approached the pastor of a local church and told him God had given him a vision to start a medical clinic in Bandera. The pastor introduced Parks to Nagel, who donated \$150,000 to construct the shell of the clinic building on the Village of Hope grounds. Within a year, Helping Hand had raised enough money to complete the clinic and operate it for a year. The clinic formed its own nonprofit and opened its door to patients in 2008.

Today the Arthur Nagel Community Clinic is open three days a week. In addition to primary care, the clinic offers mental health services and teen and elder care programs. Healthy cooking and cardio fitness classes are also available. The clinic provided an estimated \$1.9 million in health services to 443 Bandera County residents in 2023, says clinic director Chuck Lutke.

The food pantry stays stocked thanks to food and cash donations from individuals and contributions from other food banks. As a result, Helping Hand can feed an average of 130 families a month.

At the thrift store, which thrives on steady donations of gently used clothing and household items, residents purchase what they need at affordable prices. Sales cover nearly three-fourths of Helping Hand's annual operating budget.

"Helping Hand is about community," Parks says. "We all work as a team. I see us as a community of 'hands' that resources pass through. Each one of us has been through hard times and knows what a little compassion and love can mean in a crisis situation.

"Helping people get back on their feet and feeling good about themselves as they overcome whatever they're going through is a privilege.

"It's not a *handout*, it's a *hand up*." ■

OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP The Village of Hope welcomes folks who have hit hard times. Angelica Hernandez greets patients at the medical clinic, which is open three days a week. The food pantry can feed 130 families a month.

TCP See this story on our website to donate to the Village of Hope.

150 Years of
Iconic U.S. Silver
Dollars

FIVE OF THE MOST
SOUGHT-AFTER U.S. SILVER
DOLLARS, IN ONE SET!

Peace

Silver Eagle
Type 1



Morgan



Eisenhower



Silver Eagle
Type 2



Dates
will vary

Actual sizes:
38.1-40.6 mm

YOUR ULTIMATE SILVER DOLLAR SET

150 Years of Iconic U.S. Silver Dollars from the Morgan to the Silver Eagle in One Master Collection!

The heritage of American Silver Dollars is rich and diverse, marked by stunningly beautiful designs, leading to an enduring desirability in the hearts of collectors around the world. In this iconic U.S. Silver Dollar set, spanning nearly 150 years, you're getting FIVE American Silver Dollars issued over the last 15 decades that each reflect the history, culture and economic aspects of the United States.

We've Done the Work for You with this Extraordinary 5-Pc. U.S. Silver Dollar Set

Each of these U.S. Silver Dollars is sought-after by collectors individually, but this set includes every design of U.S. Silver Dollar in American history, issued from 1878 to 2024!

Morgan Silver Dollar: First struck 146 years ago in 1878, the Morgan has a historic legacy as the coin that helped build the American West. Minted until 1904, then again in 1921, this 90% silver coin with its iconic Lady Liberty design is the most collected vintage Silver Dollar in the world. Extremely Fine (XF) condition coin included in set.

Peace Silver Dollar: With a beautiful design memorializing peace following the end of World War I, the 90% silver Peace Dollar was intended as a one-year only release struck in 1921—but it proved so popular with the American people, it was struck until 1928, then again in 1934-35. Extremely Fine (XF) condition coin included in set.

Eisenhower Dollar: The last circulating U.S. dollar coin, the Eisenhower Dollar, aka the "Ike Dollar," was prized by Americans, with its design featuring war hero President Dwight D. Eisenhower, backed by an image symbolizing the Apollo II moon landing. First struck with silver 1971-1976, the Eisenhower Dollar in this set was struck in 40% silver for collectors, and you will receive a coin in Brilliant Uncirculated (BU) condition.

Silver Eagle Type 1: The first-ever U.S. Silver Dollar minted in 99.9% silver, these coins were first minted in 1986 following President Ronald Reagan's signing of the Liberty Coin Act into law on July 9, 1985, which authorized the U.S. Mint to strike America's new silver bullion coin. This gorgeous Silver Dollar features the original, revered Type 1 "Heraldic Eagle" reverse design by John Mercanti, 12th Chief Engraver of the U.S. Mint. Brilliant Uncirculated (BU) condition coin included in set.

Silver Eagle Type 2: In honor of the popular 99.9% silver coin's 35th anniversary in 2021, the Silver Eagle received a new, esteemed Type 2 "Eagle Landing" reverse design. This is the current issued coin by the U.S. Mint. Brilliant Uncirculated (BU) condition coin included in set.

SAVE with this Ultimate U.S. Silver Dollar Set!

You'll save both time and money on this 150 Year U.S. Silver Dollar Set, with FREE SHIPPING and a BONUS presentation case, plus a new and informative 150 Years U.S. Silver Dollars booklet! Call right now to get yours before they're gone!

Ultimate U.S. Silver Dollars Set — Regular Price \$249 - \$199
Save \$50.00 (over 20%) + FREE SHIPPING

For fastest service call today toll-free

1-800-517-6468

Offer Code YSL165-01

Please mention this code when you call.

SPECIAL CALL-IN ONLY OFFER

FREE SHIPPING: Standard domestic shipping. Not valid on previous purchases.

GovMint • 1300 Corporate Center Curve, Dept. YSL165-01, Eagan, MN 55121

Asset Marketing Services, LLC d/b/a GovMint 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. 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 AMS's Terms and Conditions (www.amsi-corp.com/terms-conditions); to decline, return your purchase pursuant to our Return Policy (www.amsi-corp.com/product-return-policy). Keeping your purchase means you agree to the Terms and Conditions. © 2024 GovMint. All rights reserved.



RENEWAL
by **ANDERSEN**
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

Get a **FREE** consultation!
Call **855-560-3065**

SPRING SAVINGS EVENT

Save Big on Replacement Windows and Doors!

Buy One, Get One

40% OFF

AND

For a Limited Time, Get

\$30 OFF

All Windows and Doors¹

MINIMUM PURCHASE OF 4

Each Window and Door¹

MINIMUM PURCHASE OF 4

AND **\$0** Money Down | **\$0** Monthly Payments | **\$0** Interest for 12 months¹

MINIMUM PURCHASE OF 4 - INTEREST ACCRUES FROM THE DATE OF PURCHASE BUT IS WAIVED IF PAID IN FULL WITHIN 12 MONTHS



TESTED, TRUSTED, AND TOTALLY PROVEN.²



Offer Ends **6/30/2024**

Call for your **FREE** consultation.

855-560-3065

FINDYOURWINDOW.COM

More **5 Star**
Reviews



Than Other Leading Full-Service
Window Replacement
Companies³

¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 6/30/2024. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 40% off, and 12 months \$0 money down, \$0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 4/1/2024 and 6/30/2024. 40% off windows and entry/patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or entry/patio door in the order. Additional \$30 off each window or entry/patio door, minimum purchase of four (4) required, taken after initial discount(s), when you purchase by 6/30/2024 Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. CA License CLSB #1050316. Central CA License #1096271. License #RCE-50303. OR License #198571. WA License #RENEWAP877BM. WA License #RENEWAW856K6. FL #CGC1527613. All other license numbers available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. ²Based on testing of 10 double-hung units per ASTM E2068 20 years after installation. ³It is the only warranty among top selling window companies that meets all of the following requirements: easy to understand terms, unrestricted transferability, installation coverage, labor coverage, geographically unrestricted, coverage for exterior color, insect screens and hardware, and no maintenance requirement. Visit renewalbyandersen.com/nationsbest for details. ⁴Review aggregator survey of 5-star reviews among leading full service window replacement companies. January 2024 Reputation.com. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of their respective owners. © 2024 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. RBA13747

⁵Using U.S. and imported parts.



MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MANAGER

ALAN LESLEY

Co-ops Prioritize Safety

FROM THE CREWS AT CECA to you, the members we serve, we recognize that everyone has a part to play in prioritizing safety.

According to Electrical Safety Foundation International, thousands of people in the U.S. are critically injured or electrocuted as a result of electrical fires and accidents in their own homes every year. Many of these accidents are preventable. Electricity is a necessity, and it powers our daily lives. But we know firsthand how dangerous electricity can be because we work with it every day.

To me, safety is more than a buzzword. As CECA's general manager, it's my responsibility to keep co-op employees safe. But we all want to help keep you and our entire community safe as well.

That's why you'll see CECA hosting safety demonstrations at community events and in schools throughout the year, showing the dangers of electricity. We discuss emergency scenarios, such as what to do in a car wreck involving a utility pole and downed power lines. We caution students on the dangers of padmounted transformers and overloaded circuits.

I don't need to tell you that electricity is an integral part of modern life. It's so common that we can forget the dangers that electricity presents, so I'd like to pass along a few practical safety tips.

Frayed wires pose a serious safety hazard. Power cords can become damaged or frayed from age, heavy use or excessive current flow through the wiring. If cords become frayed or cut, replace them before they cause a shock.

Label circuit breakers to understand the circuits in your home.

Avoid overloading circuits. Circuits can only cope with a limited amount of electricity. Overloads happen when you draw more than that—by having too many devices running on one circuit. Contact a qualified electrician if your home is more than 40 years old and you need to install multiple large appliances that consume large amounts of electricity.

Use extension cords properly. Never plug an extension cord into another extension cord. If you daisy chain them together, it could lead to overheating, creating a fire hazard. Don't exceed the wattage of the cord. Doing so also creates a risk of overloading the cord and starting a fire. Extension cords are not permanent solutions. If you need more outlets, contact a licensed electrician to help.

I encourage you to talk with your kids about playing it safe and smart around electricity. Help them be aware of overhead power lines near where they play outdoors.

Our top priority is providing an uninterrupted energy supply year-round. But equally important is keeping our community safe around electricity.

Contact CECA at 1-800-915-2533 or email memberservices@ceca.coop for additional electrical safety tips or if you would like us to provide a safety demonstration at your school or event. ■



SEATTLEDIGITAL | ISTOCK.COM

Lights.
Air conditioning.
Clean clothes.

Proudly brought to you by CECA

Lineworker Appreciation Day
Monday, April 8



1. Tommy Patterson with his guitar in front of the CECA sign at its headquarters in Comanche.
 2. Patterson performing at the Comanche City Park.
 3. Patterson preparing to perform at the Stone Eagle Beer Garden in Comanche.

A Lineman's Journey Through Life and Music

FROM REPAIRING METERS AND electric lines to writing and singing songs, Tommy Patterson, a retired service lineman and meter technician who worked 19 years at CECA, reflects on his career and musical pursuits, reminding us that every day is a great day to pursue our passions.

Patterson, now 68, played a pivotal role in CECA's commitment to maintaining reliable electricity flow to its members. As a service lineman and meter technician, he worked to ensure that the co-op's electrical equipment functioned properly. Now retired, Patterson has shifted his attention to pursuing his life-long dream in music.

Through his years at CECA and working with hardworking crews, he developed a special spot in his heart for CECA linemen and all linemen across the country, inspiring him to write *The Lineman's Song*.

"Every day was an adventure," Patterson said. "I respect and admire everyone who works at the cooperative. Everybody has an important piece of the puzzle, but especially the linemen and what they have to deal with all the time."

The song, posted February 16 on Facebook and featuring Patterson in his house, garnered the attention of his family, friends, former co-workers and just about anyone he'd ever met.

The song tells the story of a lineman and his crew who leave their families to fix fallen power poles that have caused a power outage in their community. The song illustrates a town without power due and describes some of the devastation, such as several campers blown over and cell towers going down.

At home, the linemen's children and wives anxiously wait and pray for their safe return as the workers navigate the challenges posed by the elements, darkness and the unpredictable nature of electricity. After 18 hours, the outage is restored, and they return home to be with their families again.

The idea to write this song came to him while letting his sheep out. Once he had the idea, he went directly to the house and started writing.

"It's my tribute to the people in the industry," Patterson said.

Patterson explained that working as a lineman is dangerous,

but linemen brave the elements because they're dedicated to restoring your power as quickly and safely as possible.

Patterson recalled a story from a few years back, during a winter storm when he spent three and a half days out in the field working on power lines. He got to go home for about six to seven hours to get a hot meal, shower and sleep for a couple of hours, but after that short rest, he was right back at it, working to repair lines.

"For the most part, you're out there the whole time, and it's cold," Patterson said. "You start to drive on, and you get a mile down the road, and it's back off again. There's a lot that goes into getting people's power back on."

Patterson offered a sense of comfort to families that have a lineman in their family that they love dearly. He explained that the cooperative and other utilities spend a lot of time, money and effort on safety measures. CECA has safety meetings every month so that everyone knows how to get home safe at the end of the day. Patterson equated the linemen with family because of how they watch over each other on every job.

Patterson shared that he had many wonderful adventures as a lineman, but there were some drawbacks, such as being away from his family during outages. Additionally, he mentioned that, as his song implies, there could be instances where linemen are required to work for an extended period without a definite restoration time due to the severity of the situation.

In a broader scope, Patterson explained that being a lineman is rewarding in more ways than one, but there are sometimes unfortunate aspects. Patterson's life-centered approach and his passion for storytelling allow him to share stories of his life and the lives of others with his audience while inspiring people to follow their dreams to the fullest.

Catch Patterson performing his music at the Stone Eagle Beer Garden at 124 N. Austin St. in Comanche at 7 p.m. third Thursdays of each month, except June.

If you have a story idea you'd like to see featured, email tmcgehee@ceca.coop. ■

CECA
Energy Solutions

**SAME RELIABLE ELECTRICITY;
NEW ERA EFFICIENCY
CALL US TODAY! 800-915-2533**

**SPECIALIZING IN
BACK-UP GENERATORS
BATTERY BACK-UP
ROOF MOUNT ARRAYS
GROUND MOUNT ARRAYS**

CECA Offers Residential Solar Solutions for Members

DID YOU KNOW that CECA installs and sells solar power arrays? We have trained professionals who can evaluate your electricity use and property to provide the perfect fit for your home or business based on your usage patterns. We encourage members to include CECA in their solar array installation plans from start to finish.

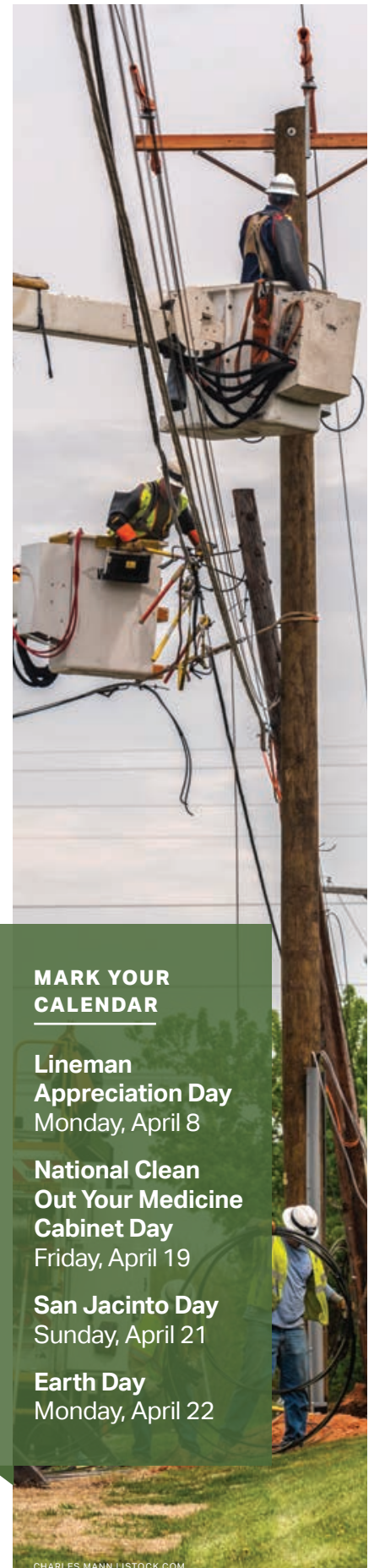
CECA offers various options, from backup generators and battery systems to roof- and ground-mount arrays. Energy efficiency has progressed with new technologies, allowing members to take a more active role in optimizing their energy consumption. We're beyond the days of just turning off the lights or adjusting the thermostat when leaving the house.

If you're interested in optimizing your household's energy consumption, call Riley Hilliard at 1-800-915-2533 to set up a free energy audit and solar power analysis. Solar power may not be a good fit for everyone, but under the right circumstances, it can save members money on their monthly bills.

There are many companies out there marketing the installation of solar panel arrays in every county CECA serves, and this has created confusion around solar buyback plans and raised concerns about fair pricing in a new and changing industry. We're here to help our members navigate this confusion, and if they feel solar may be a good option for them, we can handle the sale and installation.

CECA does require that an application process be completed before interconnection with our system to ensure proper safety, liability and metering standards are met. Regardless of the solar power vendor you choose, please contact us before you start your project to be sure that your plans are compliant and that your project goes smoothly.

You can always discuss your solar project plans with CECA staff for general information or specific needs. Solar power can be a great energy efficiency tool, and we applaud our members who are working to conserve power. Call us at 1-800-915-2533 to learn more about how we can help. ■



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Lineman
Appreciation Day**
Monday, April 8

**National Clean
Out Your Medicine
Cabinet Day**
Friday, April 19

San Jacinto Day
Sunday, April 21

Earth Day
Monday, April 22

CHARLES MANN | ISTOCK.COM

CECA Operation Round-Up Teacher Grant

Grants Available up to \$1,000

**What should be the focus of a
proposal?**

An eligible project should enhance
classroom study, be imaginative, and
use available resources.

SCAN ME



www.ceca.coop/classroom-teacher-grant



Deadline December 1, 2024



GORODENKOFF | ISTOCK.COM



DID YOU KNOW?

The first air conditioner wasn't invented to cool but to control humidity in a publishing house to keep the paper dry and help ink dry faster.

KIWIS | ISTOCK.COM

Fridge Facts for Energy Savings

SELECT REFRIGERATOR AND FREEZER sizes that are just large enough for your family's needs. Energy usage is proportional to cubic feet of refrigerated space, regardless of whether all of the space is utilized.

If your refrigerator or freezer is on its last legs, consider replacing it before it breaks down. Look for the Energy Star label when shopping for appliances. On average, Energy Star models use about 9% less energy than units meeting the minimum federal standards.

Don't put a second refrigerator in the garage. In the winter months, frozen foods may melt (as the temperature sensor in the refrigerator will not activate the compressor if the temperature in the garage is 42 degrees or lower). In the summer months, the temperature in an unconditioned garage can easily exceed 100 degrees, and the refrigerator has to work extra hard to keep food cold. If you need a second unit, place it in an air-conditioned space.

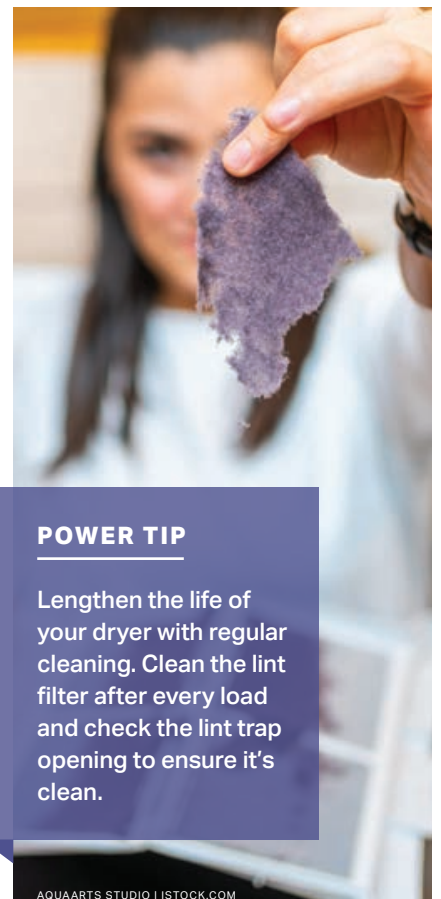
On older units, vacuum the condenser coils of refrigerators and freezers (in the back or at the bottom of cabinets) every three months or so. Dust-covered coils impair the efficiency of compressor operation and increase energy usage.

Door gaskets on fridges and freezers should seal tightly against the frames to prevent infiltration of warm air. To check the condition of the gasket, place a dollar bill against the frame and close the door. If the bill can be pulled out with a very gentle tug or, worse still, simply drops out on its own, the door requires adjustment or the gasket needs to be replaced.

Make sure there are a few inches of space between your refrigerator and the wall to maintain good air circulation. This will help your fridge run more efficiently.

Keep your freezer full. Use gallon jugs of frozen water to help fill empty space.

Check the temperature of your refrigerator and freezer with a thermometer. Set them to whichever setting allows the refrigerator temperature to remain between 35 and 38 degrees and your freezer between 0 and 5 degrees. A refrigerator set 10 degrees colder uses up to 25% more energy. ■



POWER TIP

Lengthen the life of your dryer with regular cleaning. Clean the lint filter after every load and check the lint trap opening to ensure it's clean.

AQUAARTS STUDIO | ISTOCK.COM

Conserve Hot Water To Save Money

EVERY DROP OF HOT WATER you don't use adds up to savings on your energy bill.

Think about how often you run the hot water faucet or an appliance that uses hot water—and whether you could either turn it off or use cold water instead. Heating water is the second-largest energy expense in your home, second only to air conditioning, accounting for about 18% of a typical utility bill.

Here are seven ways to use less hot water:

1. Swap your old showerhead for a low-flow model that displays the Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense label. Typical showerheads deliver 2.5 gallons of water per minute; WaterSense models release no more than 2 gallons per minute.
2. Set a timer for five minutes, and turn the shower off when the alarm rings. You can also turn the water off while you lather up your hair and turn it back on to rinse off.
3. Plug the sink while shaving instead of running the water the whole time to rinse your razor under the spigot. You could save up to 300 gallons of water a month this way.
4. Soak pots and pans instead of scraping them under running water. They'll clean up quicker, and you'll save water and energy.
5. Fix that leaky hot water faucet. It's often a simple repair, but replacing it will cost less than you'll pay for years of wasted water and energy that escapes through a leaky tap.
6. Wait until you have a full load in the dishwasher before you run it.
7. Insulate any hot water lines that you can access to prevent the heat from escaping before it gets to its destination. ■



ANDRESWD | ISTOCK.COM



IRINA GUTRYAK | ISTOCK.COM

Small Changes Can Have a Big Impact

EARTH DAY IS APRIL 22. Celebrate by making an Earth Day "resolution" to change at least one energy-related bad habit at home.

Here are some ideas:

If you haven't already, switch your lamps and overhead light fixtures to LED versions. You can even use LED bulbs in older fixtures.

Turn off the lights when you leave a room and teach your children to do the same. This time-tested advice still applies.

Unplug appliances like the TV and your computer when you're not using them. Appliances that are turned off but still plugged in draw small amounts of electricity.

Take shorter showers. You'll save water and energy.

Plant a tree strategically to create shade over southern-facing windows to protect your home from summer heat, reducing the need for air conditioning.

Switch to a smart thermostat to automatically adjust the temperature for when you're away. ■

Bizarre Bunnies

Unlike wacky jackalopes, very real horned rabbits begot great leaps in medical breakthroughs

BY CLAY COPPEDGE • ILLUSTRATION BY WILLIAM L. BROWN

IN 1915, there appeared in *The Roscoe Times* the story of a horned rabbit that one W.A. Ater said he killed on his ranch just outside the small town, west of Abilene. Ater took the peculiar creature to the newspaper's office to show the skeptics he wasn't lying about the rabbit or its horns.

Sure enough, the little rabbit, a cottontail, had horns—and it wasn't the first horned rabbit to be found in Texas that year. The newspaper noted that another horned rabbit had been killed in South Texas, near San Benito, which “leads to the conclusion on the part of local scientists that there is a distinct breed of this species.”

While we don't know what kind of scientific community existed in Roscoe in 1915, we can be certain that Ater did indeed kill a horned rabbit. The news reporter described it thusly: “The rabbit which Mr. Ater killed and brought into town had two horns, each about four inches in length. It presented a grotesque appearance, resembling a miniature deer more than it did a genuine rabbit.”

Newspapers across the state picked up the story, adding editorial embellishments ranging from curiosity to amusement. An Austin paper snickered, “The discovery of two horned rabbits in Texas leads to the suspicion that there is probably a herd of saber-toothed sheep at large in this section.”

Stories of horned rabbits weren't as rare in 1915 as the skeptics supposed. In fact, they've been around about as long as rabbits. Persian texts from the 13th century mention horned rabbits. The Huichol, an Indigenous people of northern Mexico, told of the horned rabbit as a mysterious creature that gave the deer its horns. In 1915 alone, there were more than 150 stories about horned rabbits in newspapers across America. That Roscoe rabbit was no outlier.

The curious folks who gathered in *The Roscoe Times* office to look at Ater's peculiar bunny concluded that the horns were not very formidable weapons, whether for offense or defense, and were left to ponder what they were good for. Naturalists didn't know why some rabbits developed horns.

The answer remained elusive until 1932, when virologist Richard Shope discovered that rabbits sometimes develop “horns” as the result of a virus that creates tumors called fibromas on the skin. The infections probably arise from insect bites on the

head and face, which evolve into what has come to be known as the Shope papillomavirus, giving a rabbit the appearance of having horns.

Rabbits typically have an immune response that gets rid of the virus and growths, but occasionally the growths occur around the mouth, hindering the animal's ability to eat. More importantly, Shope found that rabbits that survived the virus became immune to it. None of the horned rabbits he studied were susceptible to the virus a second time.

Shope passed his research along to Peyton Rous, a friend and colleague in the field of early cancer research, who found that when he injected the virus deep inside rabbits, they died of cancer. This was a big deal—the first time science had linked a cancer to a virus in a mammal.

The discovery opened a new field of cancer research that led to the creation of successful viral cancer therapies, including the human papillomavirus vaccine that protects against cervical and other cancers. Rous' work earned him the Nobel Prize in medicine in 1966.

Around the same time Shope discovered the papillomavirus in rabbits, brothers Douglas and Ralph Herrick got to messing around in a little amateur taxidermy shop on their Wyoming ranch and mounted the antlers of a small deer to the head of a large jackrabbit, creating a comical “jackalope” creature. The boys sold their version of an antlered rabbit to bar owner Roy Ball for \$10, a handsome sum during the Great Depression.

From there the jackalope went on to become the most profitable taxidermy hoax in the world, adorning postcards, T-shirts, barroom and restaurant walls, shot glasses, keychains, and many other kitschy items.

The humble horned rabbit leaves a more noble legacy—helping further cancer research. ■



©24 WM L BROWN

OVER
1.5 MILLION
SOLD

MDHearing is
Now Available Through Top
Medicare Advantage Plans

RECHARGEABLE In-Your-Ear Hearing Aid

NEW LOW PRICE
70% OFF
AS LOW AS
\$297
For a Pair
REG. \$999.98
PLUS FREE SHIPPING
Limited Time Only!



"I switched to MDHearing aids and so should you. These are better than my \$8,000 hearing aids."

**Joe Namath, Superbowl III MVP
MDHearing Aid User**

How can a rechargeable hearing aid that fits inside your ear and costs as low as \$297 a pair be every bit as good as those that sell for \$4,800 or more?

The answer: Although tremendous strides have been made in Hearing Aid Technology, those cost reductions have not been passed on to you. Until now... **MDHearing™** uses the same kind of technology incorporated into hearing aids that cost thousands more at a small fraction of the price.

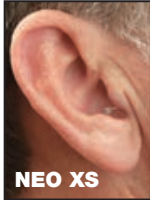
Choose From Our *Smallest NEO XS* or the *Best-Selling NEO*
Both are medical-grade, rechargeable hearing aids offering sophistication and high performance.

MDHearing™ *NEO XS*

NEW!

Our smallest hearing aid ever!

At 50% smaller than our previous model, the NEO XS measures only 15mm long and is virtually invisible. And, at only \$397 for a pair, you won't find a better hearing aid.



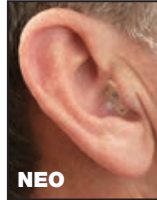
\$397
for a pair



MDHearing™ *NEO*

Our best-selling hearing aid!

At only 20mm long, the NEO is virtually invisible in your ear. And, at only \$297 for a pair of hearing aids, this is our best-selling hearing aid.



\$297
for a pair

Sits discreetly inside your ear canal without anyone knowing

Both products are proudly designed in America and supported by US audiologists

45-DAY RISK-FREE TRIAL!
If you are not completely satisfied with your hearing aids, return them within 45 days for a FULL REFUND!



Carrying cases are also the chargers

For the Lowest Price Call
1-800-592-5598
www.JoeLovesMD.com

MDHearing™
DOCTOR DESIGNED | AUDIOLOGIST TESTED | FDA REGISTERED

Use Code **PX48** and get **FREE Shipping**





Republic's End

'Many a manly cheek was wet with tears' when the Texian flag was lowered for the last time

BY W.F. STRONG

IN ABOUT A YEAR and a half—December 29, 2025—we'll mark the 180th year of Texas statehood. That's the day the proudest of Texans would say the U.S. was allowed to join Texas.

The vast majority of Texans—95%—voted for statehood, a level of agreement we haven't enjoyed since. President James Polk signed the joint resolution making Texas a state December 29, 1845, but there was some confusion as to the official moment that the Republic of Texas passed into history and statehood status began.

Anson Jones, president of the republic at that time, said that February 19, 1846, was the actual day that the republic

ceased to exist. That day, Anson presided over a ceremony in Austin where the flag of the young but venerable republic was lowered for the last time and the U.S. flag was raised in its place.

You see, Texas couldn't just let President Polk's signing of a document 1,300 miles away be all there was to the moment. They couldn't allow the republic that so many had died for to pass into history without properly memorializing the occasion.

So Jones arranged a ceremony in front of the Texas Capitol, really just a wooden house at that time, to mourn the passing of the republic and to celebrate Texas as the newest (and by far the largest) state in the union.

TCP Listen as W.F. Strong narrates this story on our website.



What was needed here was what linguists call a speech act, a moment in time where something is made real by virtue of pronouncement.

Jones began with "I, as president of the Republic ... am now present to surrender into the hands of those whom the people have chosen, the power and the authority which we have some time held."

Noah Smithwick, a blacksmith in attendance, recorded the moment the Texas flag came down. Here is what transpired in that brief ceremony.

"Many a head was bowed, many a broad chest heaved, and many a manly cheek was wet with tears when that broad field of blue in the center of which, like a signal light, glowed the lone star, emblem of the sovereignty of Texas, was furled and laid away among the relics of the dead republic."

The U.S. flag was raised, and the mood changed dramatically.

"We were most of us natives of the United States, and when the stars and stripes, the flag of our fathers, was run up and catching the breeze unrolled its heaven born colors to the light, cheer after cheer rent the air," Smithwick recalled.

He tended toward that creature still common in Texas—the exceptionally proud Texan. Smithwick thought the star in the lower left corner of the U.S. flag should have been especially dedicated to Texas.

The exchanging of the flags made one statement. Jones made another: "The Republic of Texas is no more." He made it politically true but never absolute because the republic lives on in the minds of Texans who still think of it as their country and their nation. ■

Perfect Potluck

Dishes so good you'll be tempted to eat them en route

BY VIANNEY RODRIGUEZ, FOOD EDITOR

Iliana de la Vega, esteemed owner of the Austin restaurant El Naranjo, shares her ultimate potluck dish: "*Rajas poblanas* (poblano strips) is a vegetarian dish that goes beautifully with grilled meats or fish but also with rice and pasta. You can make tacos with it or even use the rajas as a filling for quesadillas and omelets."



Rajas Poblanas

6 poblano chiles, seeds and veins removed

1 tablespoon canola oil

1 white onion, julienned

1 cup crema Mexicana

Salt, to taste

Corn tortillas

COOK'S TIP If crema Mexicana is unavailable where you shop, making your own is simple. Combine 1 cup heavy cream, 1 cup sour cream, 1 teaspoon salt and 1 tablespoon lime juice, and stir until smooth.

1. Preheat broiler. Place poblanos on a baking sheet. Roast under broiler, carefully flipping with tongs until charred on all sides, about 5 minutes. Place charred poblanos in a bowl and cover with plastic wrap until cooled enough to handle, about 15 minutes.

2. Remove skin from chiles. Slice them lengthwise into strips ½ inch thick.

3. Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Sauté the onion just until soft; do not brown.

4. Add the chile strips (rajas) and the crema Mexicana. Cook the chile mixture until heated through, about 5 minutes. Season with salt.

5. Serve immediately with warm corn tortillas.

SERVES 6

TCP Follow Vianney Rodriguez as she cooks in *Cocina Gris* at sweetlifebake.com, where she features a recipe for Mexican Corn Salad.



Perfect Potato Salad

CHERYL LEE
CENTRAL TEXAS EC

Lee's potato salad is hearty and tangy, with a hint of freshness from the dill. It was so tasty and good that I'd eat plates of it by itself—no need for any of the bris-ket, sausage or hot dogs being served.

- 10 small russet potatoes, unpeeled, rinsed and cubed**
- 1 cup mayonnaise**
- 4 tablespoons mustard**
- 1 large onion, finely diced**
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic**
- 1 tablespoon ground oregano**
- 1 teaspoon onion salt**
- 1 teaspoon garlic salt**
- 8 hard-boiled eggs, cubed**
- 1 tablespoon fresh dill for serving**

1. Place potatoes in a saucepan and cover with water. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer until potatoes are fork tender, about 10 minutes. Drain and allow to cool.
2. In a large bowl, stir together mayonnaise, mustard, onion, garlic, oregano, onion salt and garlic salt. Gently stir in potatoes and eggs.
3. Chill until ready to serve.
4. Sprinkle with dill before serving.

SERVES 20

[MORE RECIPES >](#)



\$500 WINNER

Easy Chicken Spaghetti Casserole

DONNA KENNEDY
WOOD COUNTY EC



I love this casserole because it's so simple to make. Leftovers heat up great on day two, plus it freezes like a dream! (If there are leftovers of course.) This is serious comfort food.

SERVES 8

- 2 chicken breasts**
- 3 chicken thighs**
- 1 box spaghetti (16 ounces)**
- 2 tablespoons (¼ stick) butter**
- ½ bell pepper, stem and seeds removed, diced**
- 1 medium onion, diced**
- 1 can cream of chicken soup (10.5 ounces)**
- 1 can cream of celery soup (10.5 ounces)**
- 1 can chicken broth (14.5 ounces)**
- 2 cups shredded mild cheddar cheese**

1. Place chicken in a large saucepan, cover with water and simmer until fork tender.
2. Prepare spaghetti according to package directions.
3. In a skillet over medium-high heat, melt butter. Sauté bell pepper and onion until the onion is light and translucent.
4. Shred chicken and mix all ingredients except cheese together in a large bowl.
5. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Spoon mixture into a 10-by-14-inch baking pan. Bake 15 minutes.
6. Sprinkle cheese on top and bake 10 more minutes or until bubbly.

TCP \$500 Recipe Contest

FOOTBALL FAVORITES DUE APRIL 10
What do the fans of your cooking crave on game day? Send us your recipe by April 10 and you could score big: \$500.





Cold Broccoli Salad

ALEXANDRA DIBRELL
CENTRAL TEXAS EC

This is one of the best broccoli salads I've ever had. Why? It's crisp and fresh, with a pop of heat—exactly what I want broccoli salad to be. It's also seriously addictive, thanks to the sweet and tangy combination of fresh lemon juice and rice vinegar.

- 1 pound fresh broccoli**
- ¼ cup olive oil**
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice**

- 2 tablespoons rice vinegar**
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard**
- 2 cloves garlic, minced**
- ⅛ teaspoon salt**
- ⅛ teaspoon ground black pepper**
- ⅛ teaspoon red pepper flakes**

- 1.** Cut broccoli into bite-size pieces. Steam until tender. Allow to cool, then place in fridge.
- 2.** In a large bowl, stir together olive oil, lemon juice, rice vinegar, mustard, garlic, salt, pepper and red pepper flakes. Place in fridge to chill.
- 3.** When ready to serve, remove bowl from fridge and add broccoli, stir to coat and serve chilled.

SERVES 4

TCP Potluck options abound on our website. After trying all these here, see what else has come out of Co-op Country kitchens. Simply search for a dish or key ingredient.

Don't Leave It All to Luck

BY VIANNEY RODRIGUEZ

Consider whether your contribution will add to high demand for an oven or increase crowding in the kitchen.

If you're not hosting, bring food that travels easily.

Bring the appropriate utensils for your dish: a serving spoon, pair of tongs or ladle. This way dishes won't be double-dipped, and you won't have guests grabbing food with their hands.

Consider the advantages of disposable pans: less mess, no lost casserole dishes and easier cleanup.

Consider the dietary restrictions of other guests.

Remember that beverages will be needed, and this can be your contribution.

TIRED OF SPRAYING?

The **Original Root Grubber**

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

Blade Width	Cat	HP	WT	Delivered Price
18"	I	20-40	230 lb.	\$1,515
27"	II	40-80	285 lb.	\$1,735
30"	II or III	80-110	380 lb.	\$2,085
36"	II or III	110-180	390 lb.	\$2,170

QUALITY CONSTRUCTION 100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!

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

BRUSH SHARK

SKID STEER MOUNTED SHEAR

- ½" to 6" diameter trees and brush.
- Perfect for cedar, shin oak, persimmon, mesquite.

(512) 263-6830 • www.brushshark.com

SPECIAL SAVINGS!

YOUR CHOICE OF A
WALK-IN SHOWER OR WALK-IN TUB

Lifetime Warranty
Custom Sizes Available
100% Financing Available
A+ BBB Rating
Good Contractors List

TUB OR SHOWER FROM \$9,995.00 INSTALLED

BEST BUY WALK-IN TUBS
FEATURING "SEALTITE" TECHNOLOGY

Trusted by Texans for 19 Years
 Tubs and Showers Made in America
 Visit Our Texas Showroom

Call for More Info
682-205-3532 • 888-825-2362
bestbuywalkintubs.com



Plant Faster, Easier with **SUPER PLUGS!**

Pre-cut plugs are 10x bigger!



OR...Plant Your Way with **FREESTYLE PLUGS!**

Cut any size plugs from sheets!



THE ONE-TIME, LIFETIME LAWN SOLUTION

SAVE OVER 50%



Scan QR code to learn more

7 Ways Our Amazoy™ Zoysia Lawn Saves You Time, Work and Money!

- 1 - CUTS WATER BILLS AND MOWING BY AS MUCH AS 2/3
- 2 - NO GARDENING EXPERIENCE NEEDED - NO DIGGING UP OLD GRASS
- 3 - GROWS IN POOR, ROCKY, SANDY OR CLAY SOIL - IT DOESN'T MATTER
- 4 - FOR SLOPES, PLAY AREAS, BARE SPOTS AND PARTIAL SHADE
- 5 - STAYS GREEN IN SPITE OF HEAT AND DROUGHT
- 6 - STOPS CRABGRASS AND MOST SUMMER WEEDS FROM GERMINATING
- 7 - ENDS COSTLY RE-SEEDING AND NEVER NEEDS REPLACEMENT

Zoysia Farm
NURSERIES
Improving America's Lawns Since 1953

GUARANTEED TO GROW Or We'll Replace Plugs FREE!

NOW 3 WAYS TO START YOUR AMAZOY ZOYSIA LAWN!

1. **Precut Super Plugs** come in handy trays, pre-cut as individual 3"x3" plugs ready to plant. Enough for 60 sq. ft. from \$27.50+ shipping.
2. **Freestyle Plugs** come in uncut sheets with up to 150 -1" plugs. Or for less cutting and planting, make each plug bigger and plant them farther apart - your choice. Enough for 450 sq. ft. from \$47.50+ shipping.
3. **Amazoy-Approved Seed** - As the Zoysia Experts for 70 years, we finally have a Zoysia seed that meets our standards and homeowners' expectations. Available in 2-lb. bags, enough to cover over 1,000 sq. ft.

ORDER YOUR WAY TODAY!
www.ZoysiaFarms.com/mag

410-756-2311

Promo Code
5347

Harvested Daily From Our Farms And Shipped To You Direct!

Amazoy is the trademark registered U.S. Patent Office for our Meyer Zoysia grass.
© 2024 Zoysia Farm Nurseries, 3617 Old Taneytown Rd, Taneytown, MD 21187

★ STILL THE TRACTOR PACKAGE LEADER ★



Pkg. includes 4' Box Blade and Cutter

MT-122 & MT-125 Subcompact Tractor Packages

22 & 25 HP Diesels, 4x4, Hydro Trans, ROPS, R4 Industrial Tires, Quick Attach Loaders and Buckets, 4' Rotary Cutter and 4' Box Blades

AS LOW AS \$239 per month

0 Down @ 3.9% interest for up to 84 months WAC



Pkg. includes 6' Box Blade and Cutter

MT-355 H Full Size 55 HP Tractor Package

55 HP diesel, 4x4, Hydro Trans, R4 Tires, ROPS, Quick Attach Front Loader & Bucket, 6' Rotary Cutter and 6' Box Blade included

AS LOW AS \$449 per month

0 Down @ 3.9% Interest for up to 84 months WAC



Pkg. includes 5' Box Blade and Cutter

MT-225 H 25 HP Compact Tractor

4x4, Hydro Trans, Quick Attach Front Loader, and Skid Steer Bucket, R4 Tires, ROPS, 5' Rotary Cutter and 5' Box Blade included

AS LOW AS \$315 per month

0 Down @ 3.9% Interest for up to 84 months WAC



Pkg. includes 6' Box Blade and Cutter

MT-458 CPS 58 HP Cab Tractor Package

Power Shuttle Trans, 4x4, R4 Tires, 2 Sets of Rear Hydraulic Remotes, AC & Heat, Stereo Ready, Quick Attach Loader and Bucket, 6' Rotary Cutter and 6' Box Blade, Fully Loaded With All Options!

AS LOW AS \$625 per month

0 Down @ 3.9% Interest for up to 84 months WAC

DELIVERY AVAILABLE



FOSTER'S WORK & PLAY

936-967-0011 • fostersworknplay.com

3601 US Hwy 190 W • Livingston, Texas 77351 • sales@fostersworknplay.com

All HP ratings are gross HP. Prices and payments are approximate WAC. 3.9% financing through Wells Fargo Finance WAC. All prices and payments may not include freight, set up, insurance or delivery charges. Text questions to 713-899-7976.





COURTESY CHET GARNER

Carried Treasure

Canton has hosted the World’s Largest Flea Market since the 1850s

BY CHET GARNER

THIS DEFINITELY wasn’t the shopping trip I expected, I thought, as I loaded an 8-foot-tall Bigfoot sculpture into the back of my truck. I had just finished securing my new (to me) cowhide, vintage street signs and antique chair. I should have brought more tow straps.

This is the experience of visiting the World’s Largest Flea Market, which happens every month in the town of Canton, midway between Dallas and Tyler. My legs, wallet and stomach were not prepared.

The tradition goes back to the 1850s when the circuit judge would make his monthly trip to town and the locals would congregate around the courthouse. They started bringing items to swap and sell: a gun for a dog or a cantaloupe for a dozen eggs. Soon a tradition was born that now attracts upwards of 150,000 visitors to First Monday Trade Days (which actually happens the weekend before the first Monday of each month).

As soon as I stepped onto the grounds, I realized that this wasn’t a normal swap meet. The official area boasts more than 5,000 vendors across 400 acres. That doesn’t even include the dozens (if not hundreds) of merchants who fill the streets and buildings of the town.

I walked from booth to booth, chatting with junkers and thrifters who had brought their special wares in search of the perfect buyer. While there was more than enough vintage “junk,” I was surprised at the unique artisans selling incredible handcrafted goods—furniture, décor and even metal tools.

Very soon I had worked up an appetite and stuffed my face with some of the best fair food in Texas, including corny dogs and “upside-down” lemonade. Hey, with all the walking I did, I figured I had earned it. And so I ordered an extra piece of peach pie. ■

ABOVE The finds for sale at First Monday Trade Days in Canton stretch across 400 acres.

TCP Join Chet as he wades through acres of stuff. Watch the video on our website and see all his Texplorations on *The Daytripper* on PBS.



Know Before You Go

Call ahead or check an event’s website for scheduling details, and check our website for many more upcoming events.

APRIL

8

Kerrville Totality at the Ridge, (830) 896-0420, shopsattheridge.com

McKinney Total Eclipse of the Heard, (972) 562-5566, heardmuseum.org

12

Poteet [12–14] Strawberry Festival, 1-888-742-8144, strawberryfestival.com

13

Sealy Spring Fest, (832) 492-4244, sealyhistoricalsociety.org

Waxahachie Cowboy Gathering, (469) 309-4040, waxahachiecowboy.com

Chappell Hill [13–14] Bluebonnet Festival, (979) 836-6033, chappellhillhistoricalsociety.com

Temple [13–14] Texas State Button Society Spring Show and Sale, texasstatebuttonssociety.com

19

Granbury [19–20] North Texas Gourd Festival, (903) 258-7410, texasgourdsociety.org

Lakeway [19–21] Art Walk, (512) 261-1010, lakewayartsdistrict.com

20

Burton Cotton Gin Festival, (979) 289-3378, texascottonginmuseum.org

Channing Panhandle Children’s Foundation Hogs at the Point, (806) 935-5598, talonpoint.org

26

Gun Barrel City [26-27] Quilt Show, (903) 391-3241, gunbarrelquiltersguild.org

Hallettsville [26-28] Texas State Championship Fiddlers Frolics, (361) 798-2311, fiddlersfrolics.com

Ingram [26-27, May 2, 4-5, 10-12] The Explorers' Club, (830) 367-5121, hcaf.com

27

Castroville Alsatian Festival of Texas, castrovilletx.gov

Corsicana Derrick Days, (903) 654-4850, derrickdays.com

Huntsville Gen. Sam Houston Day, (936) 294-1832, samhoustonmemorialmuseum.com

Lewisville ColorPalooza, (972) 219-3401, visitlewisville.com

Wimberley Pie Social, info@wimwic.org, wimwic.org

28

Bellville Fruehling Saengerfest, (713) 582-2461, bellvilleions.org

MAY

2

New Braunfels Soul Sessions' Tribute to Tina Turner, (830) 627-0808, brauntex.org

4

Brenham [4-5] Maifest, (979) 337-7580, brenhammaifest.com

TCP Submit Your Event

We pick events for the magazine directly from TexasCoopPower.com. Submit your July event by May 1, and it just might be featured in this calendar.

Thanks a Million

The Nature Conservancy is proud to have protected **one million acres of land in Texas**. This milestone could not have been achieved without the collaborative efforts of landowners, partners and supporters across the Lone Star State. Yet, the urgency to protect and preserve Texas' treasured landscapes, rivers, wildlife and way of life is greater now than ever. Together, we can find a way to achieve even more.



nature.org/millionacremilestone



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

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

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

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

PERMA-ROOF
from **Southern Builders**

Steel Mobile Home Roofing

High energy bill?
Roof rumble?
Leaks?

MOBILE HOME ROOFER SYSTEMS

Since 1983

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

Heirloom Seed Kits

— 100% NON-HYBRID • 100% NON-GMO —

Start A Home Garden Or Store Seed Vaults For Years To Come!

Provide for your family with **100% Non-GMO / Non-Hybrid** heirloom seeds that have been passed down from generation to generation.



(125) VARIETY SEED VAULT

(With Ammo Storage Box) Includes 22,000+ seeds & 125 varieties of vegetables, garden-fruits, & herbs, packed in an ammo box, for long-term storage. **\$119**

(50) VARIETY SEED KIT

50 varieties of vegetables, garden-fruits, & herbs, packed in a moisture proof, mylar bag. **\$49**

Now Shipping Fresh Seeds for the 2024 Growing Season!



HeartsgoodFarms.com

(866) 861-7111

Family-owned & operated.
Cave Springs, Arkansas



APRIL 6 THRU MAY 27



43rd Annual

Scarborough Renaissance Festival

STEP BACK
IN TIME
FOR THE TIME
OF YOUR LIFE

SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS & MEMORIAL DAY MONDAY

Full Combat Jousting • 20+ Stages
Artisan Marketplace with 200+ Shoppes
Authentic Artisan Demonstrations
Birds of Prey Exhibitions

Themed Weekends • Fun for Kids & so much more!

GET DISCOUNT TICKETS TODAY AT SRFESTIVAL.COM

LEGACY CHEVROLET GMC | Pepsi | Tom Thumb | Albertsons

Just 30 minutes south of the downtowns of Dallas & Fort Worth in Waxahachie

Pollinators

All aflutter, we are humming with anticipation. Photos flew in from every corner of the state, and we managed to alight on a few critters that have crawled their way to the top. No sting of disappointment here, just a swarm of entries that leave us buzzing with excitement.

CURATED BY GRACE FULTZ



1 MARK BONAME
JACKSON EC

"It is a rare sight to see hummingbirds feeding on sunflowers, but the drought this year in Texas made these little guys feed on whatever they could find."

2 CINDY VIGIL
GVEC

"Gulf fritillary butterflies love this pride of Barbados."

3 SUSAN KNAPP GIBBONS
UNITED COOPERATIVE SERVICES

A feeding butterfly.

4 GAIL EINKAUF
SAN BERNARD EC

"Taken at Sweet Berry Farm in Marble Falls."



Upcoming Contests

- DUE APR 10** Textures
- DUE MAY 10** Parenthood
- DUE JUN 10** Climbing High



Enter online at TexasCoopPower.com/contests.

TCP See Focus on Texas on our website for more Pollinators photos from readers.



Seedy Behavior

Gardening scavengers stoop low to help native species

BY SHERYL SMITH-RODGERS
ILLUSTRATION BY
CHANELLE NIBBELINK

COME MID-MAY, I turn into a street walker. Not *that* kind, mind you. Instead, I ply my trade with a green plastic cup and sharp eyes.

“Oh, there you are,” hollers James, my husband, who’s strolling along Greenlawn Parkway. “I figured I’d find you over here!”

My gaze is fastened on clumps of lazy daisies growing along the street. Among the white-petaled blooms with orange centers, I scan for dried seed heads. Now and then, I spot one. Happily, I lean down, pinch it off, then drop the itsy-bitsy treasure into my cup.

We walk while I scope out wildflowers that grow along a ditch. Patiently, I’m watching for Texas prairie parsleys, wine-cups and beeblossoms going to seed. I’ll collect some seeds—but not all. I want to admire them again next spring.

I also want to establish them in our yard. Since 2008, we’ve nurtured Texas native plant gardens at our Blanco home and adjoining meadow, a former vacant lot. Since then, I’ve expanded into rescuing, preserving and protecting overlooked native species that grow in our neighborhood. I collect seeds whenever I can.

Sometimes I dig up and relocate plants, too. For instance, a next-door neighbor several years ago gave me permission to transplant a yellow passionflower, Texas lespedeza and hoary false goldenaster that grew on her side of the fence, where they were often mowed down. Now the trio grows, unrestrained and lush, in our backyard.

I’ve also relocated Indian mallow, Texas snoutbean, scarlet pea, narrowleaf blue-eyed grass and Texas frogfruit to our gardens. Roemer’s mimosa, too. I love to show kids how their tiny leaves fold up when touched. Magic!

Two regular walkers once rang our doorbell. “What’s this?” asked Yalene, while daughter Arden held up a slender branch with yellow flowers. I eyeballed the specimen. Lindheimer’s senna? James and I beelined to the easement where they’d found the plant. It was twoleaf senna, a new-to-me species. A few weeks later, I collected seeds from the site, which has since been cleared. Hopefully the seeds will germinate in our meadow, and the twoleaf senna will live on.

Why go to all that trouble? Because I deeply care about these plants. Because they were here long before us. Because they’re resilient and adapted to our soils and climate. Because they, unlike most ornamental plants, sustain the pollinators and other wildlife that inhabit this place we call home.

From blunt-leaf rabbit-tobacco to zizotes milkweed, we’ve welcomed neighborhood natives into our gardens, where I hope they’ll be appreciated and perpetuated for years to come. So call me a renegade. Or call me a tree hugger. I’ll answer to either one and make no excuses.

I’m a street walker on a mission in a green-light district. ■



MUELLER METAL ROOFING

Protection and Style all with One Roof.

Beauty, strength, and durability are what you get with a Mueller metal roof. Select from our designer colors and various panel styles to complement your home. Protection and curb appeal from a company you can trust.



Learn more at: Muellerinc.com 877-2-MUELLER (877-268-3553)



THE PERFECT PAIR GET THE BEST OF TV + INTERNET

DIRECTV

DON'T COMPROMISE ON ENTERTAINMENT.
GET DIRECTV.

2-YEAR PRICE GUARANTEE – STOP WORRYING

ABOUT YOUR BILL AND START WATCHING

Taxes/fees apply. Via Satellite req's 24-mo. agmt.

LEADER IN SPORTS – NATIONAL, REGIONAL
AND LOCAL SPORTS 24/7



Claim based on offering of Nat'l and Regional Sports Networks. RSNs avail. with CHOICEpackage or higher. Blackout restr's apply. Availability of RSNs varies by ZIP code and package.

ACCESS LIVE TV & **THOUSANDS OF STREAMING APPS**

Req's separate subscription/login for Netflix, Max, Prime Video (see amazon.com/amazonprime for details) and other 3rd party apps. Restrictions apply. High speed internet-connected compatible device required. Google login required.

ENTERTAINMENT PACKAGE

75+
CHANNELS

\$69^{99*}
MO.
for 24 months
+ taxes and fees

(\$84.99/mo. w/ req'd ARS \$15/mo. Fee) w/24-mo. agmt. + taxes, fees, AutoPay & Paperless Bill.

IT'S FINALLY HERE.

**FAST &
AFFORDABLE
HOME INTERNET**

- ✓ NO CREDIT CHECK
- ✓ NO CONTRACT
- ✓ SELF INSTALL
- ✓ PRICE GUARANTEE



CALL NOW!

TV service not required. Speeds and prices vary by provider.

Connect Us Everywhere, LLC

866.670.2836



Available only in the U.S. (excludes Puerto Rico and U.S.V.I.). Some offers may not be available through all channels and in select areas. Different offers may apply for eligible multi-dwelling units. All offers, packages, programming, promotions, features, terms, restrictions & conditions and all prices and fees not included in price guarantee are subject to change or discontinuation without notice. Visit directv.com/legal/ or call for details.

VIA SATELLITE: Pricing: ENTERTAINMENT \$69.99/mo., CHOICE \$84.99/mo., ULTIMATE \$114.99/mo., PREMIER \$159.99/mo. for two years. After 2 years, then month to month at then-current prevailing prices unless cancelled. Price excludes Advanced Receiver Service Fee of \$15/mo. (which is extra and applies to all packages) and Regional Sports Fee of up to \$15.99/mo. (which is extra & applies to CHOICE pkg or higher) and certain other add'l fees & charges. Additional Fees & Taxes: \$7/mo. for each additional TV connection on your account. Wireless upgrade with HD DVR \$99.00. Applicable use tax expense surcharge on retail value of installation, custom installation charges, equipment upgrades/add-ons, and certain other add'l fees & chrgs. See directv.com/directv-fees/ for additional information. \$10/mo. Autopay and Paperless Bill Discount: Must enroll in autopay & paperless bill within 30 days of TV activation to receive bill credit starting in 1-3 bill cycles (pay \$10 more/mo. until discount begins). Must maintain autopay/paperless bill and valid email address to continue credits. DIRECTV Svc Terms: Subject to Equipment Lease & Customer Agreements. Taxes, surcharges, add-on programming (including premium channels), protection plan, transactional fees, and Federal Cost Recovery Fee are not included in two-year price guarantee. Visit directv.com/legal/ or call for details. Equipment Non-Return-Fees: If you cancel your service, you must return your leased equipment. Failure to return any equipment will result in fees of \$45 for each standard DIRECTV Receiver, each HD DIRECTV Receiver, each Genie Mini and each Genie receiver and \$135 for each DVR, HD DVR, Genie® HD DVR and/or Genie 2 DIRECTV Receiver. GEMINI DEVICE: To use the Device, you will need an Internet connection, your use of which is subject to the fees, restrictions, terms, and limitations imposed by your Internet service provider. Gemini Device(s) will deactivate after 90 consecutive days without internet connection. If that happens, you will not be able to receive service through that Device until you (re)connect to the internet.

VIA INTERNET: Service subject to DIRECTV delivered via internet terms and conditions (see <https://www.directv.com/legal/legal-policy-center/>). Requires high speed internet. Minimum internet speed of 8Mbps per stream recommended for optimal viewing. Residential customers only. Pricing: ENTERTAINMENT \$69.99/mo., CHOICE \$84.99/mo., ULTIMATE \$114.99/mo., PREMIER \$159.99/mo. for two years. After 2 years, continues month to month at then-current prevailing prices unless cancelled. Additional Fees & Taxes: Price excludes Advanced Receiver Service Fee of \$15/mo. (which is extra and applies to all packages) and Regional Sports Fee of up to \$15.99/mo. (which is extra & applies to CHOICE pkg or higher) and certain other add'l fees & charges. See directv.com/directv-fees/ for additional information. State and local taxes or other governmental fees and charges may apply including any such taxes, fees or charges assessed against discounted fees or service credits. DIRECTV Svc Terms: Subject to Customer Agreement. GEMINI/GEMINI AIR DEVICE: First device included for well qualified customers; otherwise \$120 for new Gemini/Gemini Air or \$49.99 for Certified Restored Gemini. Applicable taxes due at sale. Additional Gemini/Gemini Air: Additional device for well-qualified customers \$10/mo. for 12 mos., otherwise \$120 each or \$49.99 for each Certified Restored Gemini. Purchased Gemini/Gemini Air may be returned within 14 days of the Ship Date for a full refund, however all monthly fees, including additional monthly fees, will continue to apply. Additional Gemini/Gemini Air purchased on installment agreement subject to additional terms and conditions. If you cancel your service in the first 14 days of order, you must return the included Gemini within 14 days of order to avoid a non-return fee of \$120. Once you're canceled, you can access DIRECTV through the remaining monthly period. No refunds or credits for any partial-month periods or unwatched content. Gemini/Gemini Air purchased on installment agreement subject to additional terms and conditions. See cancellation policy at directv.com/CancellationPolicyStream for more details.

All offers, programming, promotions, pricing, terms, restrictions & conditions subject to change & may be modified, discontinued, or terminated at any time without notice. See directv.com for details.

©2023 DIRECTV. DIRECTV and all other DIRECTV marks are trademarks of DIRECTV, LLC. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.