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FOR TRI-COUNTY EC MEMBERS

NOVEMBER 2023

## Happy Tales

Cowboy poets gather  
in Alpine to spin stories  
and make music



**TRI-COUNTY  
EC NEWS**

SEE PAGE 16



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# November 2023



08

## 'Its Own Sweet Sound'

Cowboy poetry devotees ensure a Western tradition continues to find reverent audiences.

*Story by Jessica Ridge  
Photos by Dave Shafer*

### ON THE COVER

Burleson singer-songwriter  
Kristyn Harris at the Lone Star  
Cowboy Poetry Gathering.

### ABOVE

An ensemble of artists  
performs the finale, a tribute  
to Charles Goodnight.  
*Photos by Dave Shafer*

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Like No Other  
*By Kathleen Cox  
Richardson*



# World Renown

**WILEY POST**, pictured below, famous for his around-the-world flights in the 1930s, was born 125 years ago this month near Grand Saline, east of Dallas.

Post, credited with discovering the jet stream, twice set speed records for circling the globe. The celebrated adventurer, born November 22, 1898, perished with close friend Will Rogers in a plane crash in Alaska in 1935.



## Glorious Overtones

Pamela Dawson, choir director at DeSoto High School, south of Dallas, won a Grammy Music Educator Award in February—a lofty honor for a teacher whose students have performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City and have landed on Broadway.

“I am this lady from Detroit, Michigan, who just loves music and wants to impart that into my students,” says Dawson, who began at DeSoto in 2006.



“Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family in another city.”

—GEORGE BURNS



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## FINISH THIS SENTENCE

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**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 September prompt: **My favorite swimming hole is ...**

As a teen it was Menard Creek, but at 83 it is my bathtub.

PAUL PAGE  
JASPER-NEWTON EC  
KIRBYVILLE

The creek in my backyard.

RAY WOLBRECHT  
PEDERNALES EC  
BLANCO

The next one. I have always been a sucker for swimming holes, ever since childhood. They always have a "Huck Finn" feel to me—very nostalgic—so if I see one, and I have shorts nearby, I jump in.

DAVE BOHN  
PEDERNALES EC  
CANYON LAKE

Balmorhea State Park pool—nothing better.

LISA HOLLOWAY FITZSIMMONS  
VIA FACEBOOK

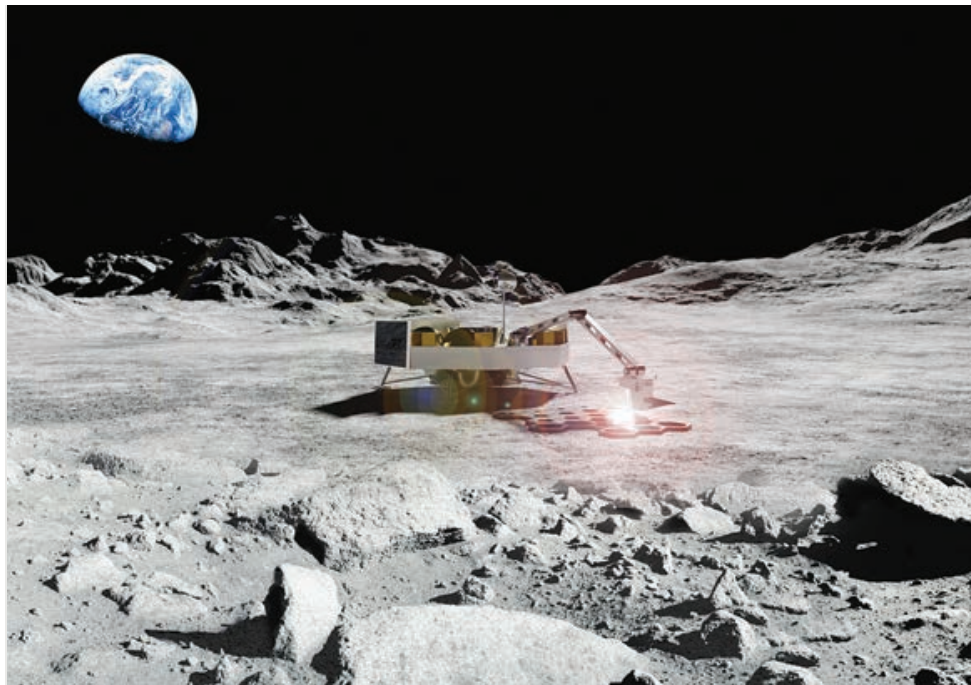
Hamilton Pool.

ALAN ARROWOOD  
VIA FACEBOOK

Visit our website to see more responses.

## In Favor of Heat Pumps

Heat pumps are gaining popularity in the U.S., outselling gas furnaces by a wide margin in 2022. They're more energy-efficient, using much less electricity than traditional heating and air conditioning units.



# There Goes the Neighborhood

**TEXAS' STRONG TIES** to the moon are indisputable. After all, the world listened in as Neil Armstrong uttered these words during the Apollo 11 mission July 20, 1969: "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed."

Now, as NASA prepares to send astronauts back to the moon and establish a long-term presence there, the agency has contracted Austin 3D printing firm Icon to launch construction technologies for lunar landing pads, habitats and roads.

Closer to home, Icon has been creating 3D-printed houses and military barracks using gigantic robotic printers that layer the company's proprietary concrete mix.

## SEPTEMBER 2023 Dance Hall Darlings

“The Triumphs played at our Somerville High School prom, and we went to most of the dance halls mentioned. Brought back many great memories.”

JULIE PAZDRAL FULLER  
COSERV  
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ERICH SCHLEGEL

## Labyrinth Love

My son built a labyrinth in Denton for his Eagle Scout project in 2006 [*Circles of Life*, August 2023]. It's at First Christian Church, 1203 Fulton St., in the grassy area adjacent to the parking lot.

Betsy Deiterman  
Sam Houston EC  
Livingston

It was always a  
good day when the  
Triumphs came  
to town.

BRUCE GOODWYN  
VIA FACEBOOK

## Prize of the Pasture

About the only time my mom would submit to bouncing around the pasture in the pickup with my dad and me on our ranch at Big Lake was when she was on her annual quest for agarita berries [*Make Your Shelf Useful*, August 2023].

We would find the plants here and there and pick off the little berries. When she had enough, Mom would make the most succulent pale red agarita jelly that would complement our breakfast table for months.

Jim McCoy  
Southwest Texas EC  
Big Lake



WYATT MCSPADEN

## Massive Mums

I attended San Marcos High School 1968–71. We had Texas-sized mums back then—real mums [*Bigger and Better—Together*, September 2023]. Most had masses of ribbons, buttons, charms and bells attached. It was a big deal to have one.

Paula T. Phillips  
Pedernales EC  
San Marcos

## Literary Great

*Lonesome Dove* may be the best book I've ever read [*A Page of the Past*, August 2023]. Since I'm 92, I've read a lot of books.

If he had never written anything other than *Lonesome Dove*, Larry McMurtry would still be known among any of the prior great writers.

Jerry Pentecost  
Jackson EC  
Port Lavaca

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letters@TexasCoopPower.com

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1122 Colorado St., 24th Floor  
Austin, TX 78701

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

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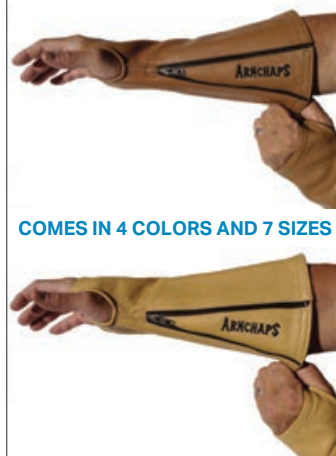
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## COWBOY POETRY devotees ensure a Western tradition continues to find rapt audiences

A pint-size poet steps up to a microphone stand that towers over her. It's a February morning in far West Texas as Bethia Baize, 5, recites *The Well-Used Cayuse*, inspired by her horse. Emcee Karen McGuire holds the mic at the kindergartener's height. Bethia speaks softly, from memory, to a rapt audience in a Sul Ross State University lecture hall, her voice and words kicking off a youth poetry contest. When she's finished, the

room thunders with applause, and Bethia claims the first-place plaque for her age group.

For the rest of the session, which is one of dozens at the annual Lone Star Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Alpine, the energy in the room is electric. Parents, grandparents and other supporters fill every seat and line the walls as 16 young poets recite their award-winning works about cattle and coyotes, cowboys and cowgirls, and the rhythms of






Montana brother-sister duo Brigid and Johnny Reedy rehearse before one of their sessions at the Lone Star Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Alpine. Their stirring vocal harmonies left audiences spellbound that weekend in February.

# *‘Its Own Sweet, Sound’*


BY JESSICA RIDGE • PHOTOS BY DAVE SHAFER

ranch life. The room pulses with pride, love and nerves—like a spelling bee, but giddier and more exuberant.

Bethia’s aunt, Elizabeth Baize, a member of the poetry gathering’s board of directors, co-hosted the youth poetry contest with McGuire, also a board member. In the weeks before the event, Baize visits area schools to spur students to enter. She encourages them to talk with older relatives who might have ranch life experience and to look at photographs or paintings that might inspire them to write a story in the form of a poem.



*“Poetry is  
a language  
of the heart.  
It’s a language  
of emotion.  
Prose is language,  
but poetry is  
what sears it  
into our being.”*



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT  
Andy Wilkinson of Lubbock  
reviews his notes back-  
stage. Kristyn Harris calls  
the gathering a place for  
“sharing your art, sharing  
yourself.” Mornings begin  
outside with cowboy coffee  
over a fire.

**I**t’s no mean feat winnowing down the annual crop of entries to the winners. As the judges read the entries, “there are giggles and good belly laughs, tears and sniffles, and ‘Oh my, listen to this!’” McGuire says.

The future of cowboy poetry is in good hands.

McGuire and Baize—and scores of organizers and volunteers—work hard to ensure that future. They helped stage this year’s gathering, which drew north of 2,200 attendees and featured 40-plus performers of cowboy poetry, which encompasses music, spoken-word poetry and storytelling by ranch hands, cowboys and cowgirls and has been enshrined as an oral tradition by Library of Congress folklorists.

In North America, the Texas gathering is second in size only to the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Nevada, according to Bob Saul, the gathering’s volunteer event producer. This year’s event delivered at least five times as many free performances and sessions as ticketed







ones. That's by design, Saul says.

"We want people to come. Some of the cowboy poetry gatherings have gone to all paid; there's nothing free you can go to," Saul, 79, says. "But our board has decided that we're going to carry on the tradition and the mission, that we will do our best to provide cowboy poetry, as much of it as possible, free of charge.

"In other words, it's for ranching families."

In 2019, Saul was in the audience at the Texas Cowboy Poetry Gathering (the original iteration of the event in Alpine) when it was announced that that year's gathering would be the last. Saul immediately began canvassing for volunteers to keep the event, or some semblance of it, alive.

"I just started talking to people and asking if they would be willing to help, if we could get it restarted, would they volunteer," Saul says. "And I came back to Fort Worth after two days with 142 email addresses in my pocket."

Over several months, Bob and his wife, Nancy Saul, a graphic designer who creates the gathering's annual programs, made more than a dozen 15-hour round trips

between their North Texas home and Alpine to help the new gathering find its footing. Those pilgrimages were rooted in a deep affinity.

"Poetry is a language of the heart," Saul says. "It's a language of emotion. Prose is language, but poetry is what sears it into our being. And today poetry is mostly academic. You don't hear, like you used to, people going to hear people quote poetry; except when you go hear the fishermen and the miners and the loggers and the cowboys.

"Those kinds of industries, where people are working long hours and they are more alone, they've got time to think. And they've got time to sing. And they've got time to recite to themselves."

That reverence reverberates across the gathering, which takes place the third weekend in February. At sessions with names like Western Harmony, Ranch Women and Working Ranch Families, audiences are focused and present, bearers of a quietude

punctuated only by bursts of applause or laughter. Almost every cellphone is out of sight, every eye on the performers. Those wearing cowboy hats are kindly asked to remove them so as not to obstruct the view for others.

Kay Nowell, co-chair of the gathering, describes the genre as a celebration of a tradition and a way of life. “What cowboy poetry is real,” she says. “People get taken into rural people’s life, and they get to experience it through their poems and their songs. It’s a culture that adheres to a code.”



The Mellard brothers from outside Marfa found success during the youth poetry contest. From left, Travis and Thomas earned honorable mentions, and Alden claimed second place in his age group.

Nowell has conformed to that code for decades. She was a featured poet at the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering in 1989, which led to an appearance on *The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson*, where she recited her poem *A What?!!*

A chuck wagon breakfast kicks off each day of the Alpine gathering. This year temperatures stay below freezing as Alpine Lions Club members serve scrambled eggs and biscuits and gravy in the peaceful Poet’s Grove at Kokernot Park. Cups of coffee skate across iced-over tables as the sun crests a hill, and a blazing firepit and easy conversation counter the chill.

The spirit of camaraderie and mindful attention extends to the gathering’s open mic sessions, another free daily offering open to the public. Musicians and spoken-word performers sign up in advance, wait for their names to be called and then amble down to speak, sing or play their piece. Jan Hartman is up first Friday and plays *Amazing Grace* and taps on her fife.

The instrument “has its own sweet sound, I think,” Hartman says. “It has more of a country sound than an orchestra sound.” Hartman, who lives in Alpine and has participated in the open mic for the past five years, says she still gets nervous before she plays. It’s worth it, though.

“It makes you stand out a little bit, just to be able to play before some people, and be able to tell a testimony or a story or, there again, a poem that you’ve heard,” Hartman says. “So it just makes you feel a little special.”

One of the musicians Hartman most looks forward to each year is Kristyn Harris, who first appeared at the gathering’s open mic more than a decade ago. The singer and yodeler, songwriter, swing rhythm guitarist, and winner of multiple International Western Music Association awards performed in several sessions at this year’s event.

“The audiences here are really here to soak it up, and you really connect with them,” says Harris, a Burleson resident and member of United Cooperative Services, an electric cooperative in the Metroplex. “Rather than just performing for people, it’s like sharing your art, sharing yourself



## PLAN FOR *Poetry*

The next Lone Star  
Cowboy Poetry  
Gathering is set  
for February 15–17,  
2024, in Alpine.



Nevada rancher Waddie Mitchell has been a performing poet for decades.

and sharing your history.”

In a Saturday afternoon show, Harris covers the jazz standard *All of Me* in a Western Swing style on the heels

of Juni Fisher’s spare, moving rendition of Simon and Garfunkel’s folk classic *The Boxer*. The talent on display is dizzying, the audience enraptured, and the trio onstage—with poet Amy Hale emceeding—exude a sisterhood in their banter and backing of each other.

“I’ve played festivals that are *festivals*, and then the gathering is different,” Harris says. “There are performers here that I really look up to, that I could see as celebrities, but here no one is a big celebrity.”

Loren Schooley, a musician from Marfa who works in information technology and performs at Friday’s open mic, echoes that sentiment. “Usually you go to a gig, and then you see the band or two, and then that’s it,” Schooley says. “But here it’s almost like a conference. You never know what you’re going to step into if you go into some of these rooms. And when you find the sweet spot—I’ve shed more tears here and laughter. You just can’t get that anywhere else.”

The gathering’s performers are similarly compelled. “The best way I can describe it is it’s family,” Harris says.

“There’s a big, big, big Texas spirit about this gathering that’s also different from some other poetry gatherings that are in other parts of the country. Everyone is just so Texan: friendly, wants to give you a big hug and just gives you that warm feeling.”

The sweet spots and Texas spirit alchemize into what Nowell calls magic sessions. “They’re intoxicating,” she says. “A lot of times when I’ve been in one you just throw away your setlist and feed off the last guy’s stuff. And it’s all one piece. A lot’s going on up there on that stage, and the audience feels it, and they’re taken along on the ride. But the performers are having a blast.”

Community investment helps sustain that improvisation. “Volunteers are critical to this,” Nowell says. “We can’t put this on without support from members and support from sponsors.”

Tradition and fortitude are woven into the gathering’s rough-hewn fabric. “The Lone Star is bound and determined to keep it cowboy,” Nowell says. “Weather, government, markets; it’s a hard life. But it’s something people want to raise their children in.” ■

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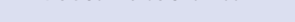
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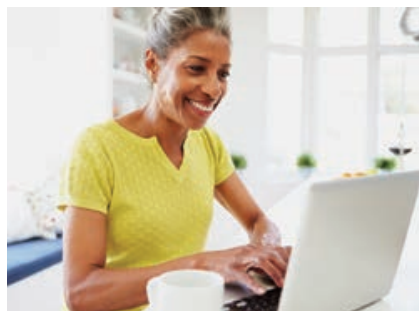
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## Run-Off Election Notice

Tri-County Electric Cooperative's 2023 Election results were announced at the 84th Annual Meeting of the Members on Monday, October 16. Three board districts were on the ballot this year for the entire membership to vote. Survey and Ballot Systems, our third-party election partner, provided the election results as follows:

- District 1: incumbent Kevin Ingle ran unopposed and therefore elected by acclamation.
- District 2: incumbent Margaret Koprek ran unopposed and therefore elected by acclamation.
- District 4
  - Incumbent Jerry Walden received 38.1 % of ballots cast.
  - Nomination candidate David Miller received 29.4 % of ballots cast.
  - Petitioning candidate Julie Walden received 25.2 % of ballots cast.
  - Petitioning candidate Stan Mickle received 7.3 % of ballots cast.

In District 4, none of the four candidates received the majority of the votes. According to section 3.8 of our bylaws, if a candidate does not receive a majority, a run-off election must be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order. 8002423802

Since incumbent Jerry Walden received 38.1% of the votes and nomination candidate David Miller received 29.4% of the votes, they will be placed on the run-off election ballot.

The District 4 Run-Off Election will be conducted in a similar matter as the 2023 Official Election. Members will receive their official 2023 District 4 Run-Off Election Ballot on the December *Texas Co-op Power* magazine. Additionally, members with active emails on file will receive an email on December 1 with their member-specific link to vote online. Voting will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 20. Members who vote in the run-off election by the deadline will receive a \$10 bill credit. Credits will be applied in January and will appear on January or February billing statements depending on billing cycle.

## WHY VOTE

The board members represent the entire membership. Participating in the election gives you a voice on who represents you in the board room. Additionally, members who vote by the deadline will receive a \$10 bill credit.

## WHO CAN VOTE?

All Tri-County Electric Co-op members – not just district 4 members – are able to vote in this run-off election.

The District 4 Run-Off Election opens at 8 a.m. on Friday, December 1 and closes at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 20.

## WHEN TO VOTE

## HOW TO VOTE

*All votes must be received by Wednesday December 20 at 5 p.m.*

ONLINE



Go to [directvote.net/TCECTX](https://directvote.net/TCECTX) and enter your ballot ID and election passcode printed on the back of the December *Texas Co-op Power* magazine.

EMAIL



Members with valid email addresses will receive an email on December 1 with member-specific voting credentials and a link to vote online.

MAIL-IN



Complete the ballot on your December *Texas Co-op Power* magazine and mail to Survey and Ballot Systems.





# MEMBER ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Tri-County Electric Cooperative is attending community events in our service territory in an effort to reach more of our membership. This will provide you with one-on-one access with employees across departments in your co-op. Win bill credits and take home gifts when you visit our bright red tent and register. Bring the event ticket below to our booth and you will take home a member-exclusive gift.

**Check out the upcoming event below or visit [tcectexas.com/MEE](https://tcectexas.com/MEE) for more information!**

Tri-County Electric Co-op's Member Engagement Team popped our tent at two local community events in September. We appreciate the 172 members who stopped by in Azle and the 264 members who registered in Springtown. Congratulations to the bill credit winners below!

## Azle Sting Fling

- \$250 – Kimberly Lembley of Azle
- \$100 – Harry Messner of Azle
- \$100 – James Moon of Springtown
- \$100 – Beau Bollier of Springtown
- \$50 – John Molzen of Azle
- \$50 – Sally Daniels of Boyd
- \$50 – Kurt Raggi of Haslet

## Springtown Wild West Festival

- \$250 – Tony Walters of Springtown
- \$100 – David Wells of Weatherford
- \$100 – Cara Speicher of Weatherford
- \$100 – Harlos Hardee of Weatherford
- \$50 – Mike Allmett of Springtown
- \$50 – Debbie Stein of Springtown
- \$50 – Khaled Najjar of Springtown

## UPCOMING EVENT

*Hometown Christmas*



Dec. 3

Brock, Texas

# HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

## FROM THE FRONT LINES TO POWER LINES

BY KENNEDY HILL, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

Electric co-ops have long had a special affinity for veterans. Perhaps because they are both so closely aligned in outlook, focusing on service, mission, and country. Maybe it's because a disproportionate number of veterans come from rural communities and return to their hometowns following active duty. Or maybe it's due to the shared work ethic of teamwork, cooperation and a "get it done" attitude. Most likely, it is all the above. 800928420

### Network of caring

At Tri-County Electric Cooperative we are among the more than 900 electric co-ops across the country that support and honor our nation's veterans of all generations. We are grateful to have veterans within our ranks, and we are proud to serve veterans and their families within our local community. In addition to providing safe, reliable, and affordable electricity, we care for the veteran community in a variety of ways.

We are not alone in our efforts to honor and serve veterans. As part of our national network of electric cooperatives, spanning 47 states and covering 75 percent of the nation's landmass, there are countless programs that our family of co-ops has initiated. At the national level, we support the "Serve our Co-ops; Serve Our Country" program, a nationwide initiative aimed at employing and honoring veterans, military service members and their spouses. This program came with a great vision of forming a national coalition with the shared goal of hiring veterans into co-op jobs across rural and suburban America and setting them up for success in their local communities.

Tri-County Electric Co-op supports Vets Power Us, a program to recruit and employ veterans. Currently, we employ over two dozen veterans or active military personnel. From recruiting at career fairs to meeting eager vets at Member Engagement Events, we listen and learn the stories behind these proud visitors of our booth who want to learn more about what we offer as a supportive and patriotic organization of the military. We value and appreciate the skills and intellect our veterans bring to our co-op. From staking to cybersecurity, our company provides a plethora of opportunities for those who have served our nation to continue to utilize their skills and become part of a team and environment that appreciates and supports the experience brought within. 800600395

As part of a co-op veteran outreach effort, America's electric cooperatives are working closely with federal partners, including the Department of Energy, Department of Labor, Department of Defense, Veterans Administration, labor unions and other trade associations on an industry-wide veteran hiring initiative, The Utility Workforce Initiative. Together, these groups are establishing a national employee resource group, Veterans in Energy, which will launch later this year to provide transition, retention and professional development support to military veterans working in the energy industry.

VETERAN'S  
DAY  
2023



# Training ground for life

“Camaraderie.”

“Using the available resources to get the job done.”

“Staying with it, non-stop, until you’re through.”

“Getting out of your comfort zone.”

Those are the kinds of lessons more than two dozen Tri-County Electric Co-op employees learned in the military.

“I learned all my skills in that first squadron,” Brenden Bass, network engineer, said. “The military, essentially, was a great foundation for what I do here.” 7387600001

Fleet manager Joe Friske said the biggest lesson he learned was to use every available resource to the job done.

“I have used this skill to purchase vehicles and equipment we needed to replace or add on to the fleet,” he said. “Other co-ops are having issues getting vehicles, equipment and parts because they stayed in their comfort zone.”

Bass, an Air Force veteran, helped set up communications systems from ground crews to airplanes, including bombers, jets and unmanned aerial vehicles.

“You’ve got to be the best you can be – cutting-edge,” he said. “It’s pretty important.”

Both cite teamwork as the biggest thing that carries over from the military to the co-op’s operations – the idea that you have each other’s back and you’re in it together.

“Without a team, it’s very hard to get work done efficiently,” Friske said. 800890835

The lessons these and other veterans learned in the service of our country now benefit our members, every day.

At Tri-County Electric Co-op, they are recognized and respected for that service.

**FOR  
TRI-COUNTY  
VETERANS,  
MILITARY  
SERVICE  
PROVIDED  
VALUABLE  
TRAINING FOR  
WHAT THEY  
DO AT THE  
CO-OP**

BY BOB BUCKEL,  
CONTENT  
COMMUNICATIONS  
SPECIALIST

OFFICES  
WILL BE  
CLOSED  
ON FRIDAY,  
NOVEMBER 10  
IN OBSERVANCE  
OF VETERAN'S  
DAY





## WAYS TO SAVE THIS THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Preparing a Thanksgiving feast means you'll be using more energy than usual. Here's how to keep it under control:

1. Lower the thermostat a couple of degrees before company arrives. You'll be using the stove and oven all day, so the house will be warmer than usual anyway. Plus, people generate heat, so a cooler house will feel more comfortable.
2. Consider alternative versions of your Thanksgiving favorites for a fresh, healthy spin on tradition that doesn't require as much energy to cook. A bean salad could replace green bean casserole. Try a green salad with dried cranberries and feta cheese. Smoke or fry a turkey outside instead of in the oven. Or make mashed potatoes in the slow cooker or electric pressure cooker instead of on the stove. Fresh fruit for dessert could replace apple pie and provide a refreshing, light option.
3. Keep an eye on the refrigerator and freezer so you'll know the doors are snugly closed. Doors that aren't tightly sealed will send cold air into the kitchen.
4. Wait until leftovers cool off a bit before placing them in the refrigerator. The appliance has to work harder to cool hot food than to keep cool food cold. 800892595
5. Place lids on pots and pans as you use them for cooking. The lids keep heat in, so food cooks quicker.
6. Heat up whatever you can in the microwave instead of on the stovetop or in the oven. Microwaves use about half as much energy as your oven.
7. Fill your oven with as many different dishes as you can fit and cook them all at once. As long as the recipes don't call for temperatures that vary by more than 25 degrees, everything should cook or bake evenly.
8. Resist the temptation to open the oven door and peek at dinner's progress. Every time you open the oven door, the appliance loses heat and sets back the cooking time.
9. Don't buy a bigger turkey than you need. A smaller turkey takes less time to cook. If you're roasting your turkey for several hours, then it isn't necessary to preheat the oven. Just make sure the meat reaches an internal temperature of at least 165 degrees.

## ELECTRICAL SAFETY FOR HUNTERS

This hunting season, we encourage all members to be aware of electrical equipment and take necessary precautions while hunting. Keep these safety tips in mind as you enjoy the great outdoors.

1. Be especially careful in wooded areas where power lines may not be visible.
2. Do not shoot at or near power lines or insulators.
3. Do not place deer stands on utility poles or climb poles. Energized lines and equipment can conduct electricity to anyone who comes in contact with them, causing shock or electrocution.
4. Do not place decoys on power lines or other utility equipment. Any non-electrical equipment attached to a pole can pose an obstruction and serious hazards to our line crews.
5. Take notice of posted warning signs and keep clear of electrical equipment.
6. Know where power lines and equipment are located on the land where you hunt.



# Brazos Electric Ratepayer Hardship Fund

As a result of Winter Storm Uri and the Brazos Electric Power Cooperative bankruptcy, Tri-County Electric Cooperative members have a per kilowatt hour tariff, the Brazos Financing Rider, on billing statements. The Brazos Financing Utility Plan Rider recovers Brazos-related Winter Storm Uri costs and the cost of exiting our all-requirements contract with Brazos.

A hardship fund was established as a result of the Brazos bankruptcy proceedings to help offset costs for low-income members. The Brazos Electric Ratepayer Hardship Fund is a third-party administered program that provides bill credits to help offset the costs of the Brazos Financing Rider.

Starting with applications received on or after October 1, eligibility requirements increased from 150% of federal poverty guideline per household to 200% of the federal poverty guideline per household. Additionally, members accepted into the program will be eligible for the bill credits for two years rather than one. This includes members who have already applied and been accepted dating back to March 2023.

Tri-County Electric Co-op members who were previously denied are encouraged to reapply with these new changes.

Additional information on the Brazos Electric Ratepayer Hardship Fund, including the application, can be found at [brazoshardshipfund.com](http://brazoshardshipfund.com). For questions or assistance, members may call 844-770-8549 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday or may email [contact@brazoshardshipfund.com](mailto:contact@brazoshardshipfund.com). 800867579



## Buh-Bye Incandescent Lightbulbs

Even if it's not cold outside yet, it's time to get ready for the day when the temperature falls.

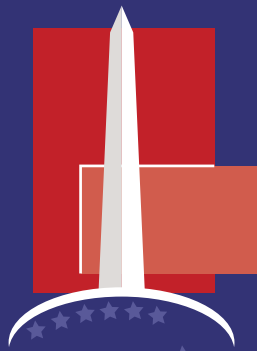
Here are five fall jobs that will prepare your home for cold weather:

1. Caulk around windows and doors, even if you did it last fall. Cracks in old caulk can let cold air in and warm air out.
2. Reverse the direction of ceiling fan blades so they circulate clockwise.
3. Get your chimney inspected and cleaned if you plan to burn wood this season. Buildup of creosote can cause a chimney fire.
4. Call an HVAC tech to inspect your central heating system, perform maintenance and do any needed repairs so you don't lose heat once it gets cold.
5. Change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors before heating season begins.
6. Replace any damaged weatherstripping around doors and windows to create a better seal.



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## Tri-County Electric Cooperative

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200 Bailey Ranch Road  
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Phone 817-444-3201  
Web [tcectexas.com](http://tcectexas.com)

### Board of Directors

**Max Waddell**, District 9 - Chairman  
**John Killough**, District 6 - Vice Chairman  
**Margaret Koprek**, District 2 - Secretary/Treasurer  
**Kevin Ingle**, District 1  
**Jorden Wood**, District 3  
**Jerry A. Walden**, District 4  
**Steve V. Harris**, District 5  
**Sommer Portwood**, District 7  
**Michael Sivertsen**, District 8

**24/7**

## Outage Reporting

For information and  
to report outages, please  
contact us.

Online: [oms.tcectexas.com](http://oms.tcectexas.com)  
App: TCEC Connect  
Phone: 817-444-3201  
Text: OUTAGE to 25069

### ABOUT TRI-COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OP

Tri-County Electric Co-op owns and maintains more than 10,000 miles of line to provide electric service to more than 106,000 members in Archer, Baylor, Denton, Foard, Haskell, Hood, Jack, King, Knox, Palo Pinto, Parker, Stonewall, Tarrant, Throckmorton, Wilbarger, and Wise counties.

### OFFICE LOCATIONS

**Aledo**  
200 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo 76008

**Azle**  
600 NW Parkway, Azle 76020

**Granbury**  
1623 Weatherford Highway, Granbury 76048

**Keller**  
4900 Keller-Hicks Road, Fort Worth 76244

**Seymour**  
419 N. Main, Seymour 76380

### IT PAYS TO STAY INFORMED

Find your account number in pages 16-23 of *Texas Co-op Power*, and you will receive a \$20 credit on your electric bill. Simply contact one of the offices listed above and make them aware of your discovery!

### VISIT US ONLINE

[tcectexas.com](http://tcectexas.com)  
[Facebook.com/TCECTexas](https://www.facebook.com/TCECTexas)





# Carlos Ford

## I work for you

Carlos Ford grew up at El Dorado, north of the Arkansas-Louisiana line, and played high school football. He was working at a tire shop when a friend of his mother suggested he take a test to see if he might make a lineman.

He did, and he passed. When the supervisor at investor-owned Entergy Arkansas called him with a job offer, they ended up talking football.

"The rest is history," he laughs. "I went through the apprenticeship, made journeyman in '07 or '08 and ran a crew from 2009 to about 2017."

Finally, he was promoted to operations coordinator, serving as liaison between the company and its contractors. A couple of years later, he decided to do contract work himself and headed for California. After that, he moved to Springfield, Missouri.

That's where Tri-County Electric Co-op's recruiter found him.

"One day on my lunch break I got a call and they said, 'Would you be interested in this company in Texas?' I said, 'Sure, why not?'"

He interviewed by phone and in person, and made the move.

"I've enjoyed it ever since," he said. "It's been fun."

After working for big utilities where it's easy to be "just a number," he enjoys the family feeling – not just at Tri-County Electric Co-op, but being closer to his daughter in Arkansas, and two brothers, a sister, aunts, uncles and cousins in the Dallas area.

His favorite thing about his job is the variety.

"I just love that there's something different here, every day," he said. "Where you're going and what you're going to be doing, those change from day to day. I like that."

His least favorite thing? After the summer of '03, that would be the heat.

"It is what it is," he said. "They say you get acclimated to it, but like we had this summer? You can't get acclimated to that."

In his spare time, Carlos builds computers – and after overcoming a few health issues, he's ready to start getting back into the gym and back in shape. 146588001

Beyond that? Just keeping cool.

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AND YOUR FINANCES**



**Tri-County Electric Cooperative has partnered with AirMedCare Network (AMCN) to offer you the opportunity to join our membership program at a special rate of just \$65 per year!**

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



# Appraising the Texas Landscape

When Frederick Law Olmsted, designer of New York's Central Park, first laid eyes on a new state

BY W.F. STRONG

**SOME SAY TIME TRAVEL** will be possible one day, and some say it's the stuff of fairy tales.

For now, books are the next best thing. They can help us understand how people lived, thought and talked long ago, especially when they're written for the express purpose of cataloging such things.

Frederick Law Olmsted did exactly that when he toured Texas in the 1850s.

With his brother, he traveled a couple thousand miles around Texas on horseback, chronicling his experiences for the *New-York Daily Times*, a predecessor of

*The New York Times*. His book, *A Journey Through Texas: Or a Saddle-Trip on the Southwestern Frontier*, is an absolute treasure—a priceless, time-sensitive ethnography that includes observations about and objections to slavery.

And it's more than a snapshot. It's an intricate mural of Texas around a decade after it became a state and as the U.S. headed toward civil war.

Many know Olmsted as the father of American landscape architecture. He designed New York's Central Park, the U.S. Capitol grounds and some 100 parks

and recreation grounds.

But before all that, Olmsted arrived in Nacogdoches in December 1853 and then meandered the state. He explored the Piney Woods, Hill Country, coastal plains, Southwest Texas and even some of northern Mexico.

When he arrived in Austin, population 3,000 back then, Olmsted found his hotel dirty and the food inedible. He was also dismayed that there was not one bookstore in town.

But he loved New Braunfels. The German communities and natural magnificence of the lands along the Guadalupe River were so impressive to Olmsted that he almost stayed. He was enchanted by the springtime wildflowers in the Hill Country, and he affirmed the German saying that “the sky is nearer in Texas.”

Riding out west to Eagle Pass, Olmsted killed an enormous 5½-foot rattlesnake. Olmsted worried in the daytime that his horse would get bitten, and at night he worried that a rattler would snuggle up with him in his bedroll. He also saw his first horny toads and so loved the little creatures that he shipped some back home to New York to be kept as pets.

In San Antonio he fell in love with the river. “We are so struck by its beauty,” he wrote. “It is of a rich blue and pure as crystal, flowing rapidly but noiselessly over pebbles and between reedy banks.”

But Texas was still the Wild West, and gunfights were common in the plaza. “As the actors are under ... excitement, their aim is not apt to be of the most careful and sure, consequently, it is, not seldom, the passers-by who suffer,” he wrote.

Maybe time travel is best done at the library after all. ■



# Holiday Desserts

Fruity flavors rise to the occasion during the season of sharing

BY VIANNEY RODRIGUEZ, FOOD EDITOR

This delicious cake makes for a sweet ending to a holiday meal. Cranberry sauce baked into a vanilla-scented batter balances tart and sweet flavors to please palates that like a bit of both.

## Cranberry Cake

**3 eggs**  
**2 cups sugar**  
**¾ cup (1½ sticks) unsalted butter,**  
**room temperature**  
**1½ teaspoons vanilla extract**  
**2 tablespoons milk**  
**1 teaspoon salt**  
**2 cups flour**  
**1 can whole berry cranberry sauce**  
**(14 ounces)**  
**¼ cup powdered sugar**  
**1 cup cranberry jam, optional**

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Liberally coat a 9-by-13-inch baking pan with non-stick cooking spray.
2. In a large bowl, beat eggs and sugar for 5 minutes, until eggs have increased in volume.
3. Add butter and vanilla and continue beating for an additional 2 minutes. Beat in milk and salt.
4. Stir in flour and then fold in cranberry sauce. Spoon into baking pan.
5. Bake 40 minutes or until a toothpick inserted comes out clean.
6. Let cool, slice and serve dusted with powdered sugar. Top with cranberry jam, if desired.

**SERVES 12**

**TCP** Follow Vianney Rodriguez while she cooks in Cocina Gris at [sweetlifebake.com](http://sweetlifebake.com), where she features a recipe for Cranberry Punch.







## Mini Cherry Muffins

ANN BASHARA  
GRAYSON-COLLIN EC

Mini muffins sweetened with maraschino cherries are the tastiest little holiday bites. Bashara's mother made these tiny treats every year for Christmas parties, and they soon became a family tradition.

- 4 tablespoons (½ stick) butter, room temperature, plus 2 tablespoons for buttering muffin pans**
- ½ cup brown sugar**
- ½ cup sugar**
- 2 eggs, separated**
- 1 cup flour**
- ¼ teaspoon baking powder**
- 1 jar maraschino cherries (10 ounces), drained, juice reserved**
- ½ cup finely chopped pecans**
- 1 cup powdered sugar, for dusting muffins**

- 1.** Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Grease mini muffin pans with butter.
- 2.** In a medium bowl, cream butter and sugars until light and creamy. Slightly beat egg yolks and add to mixture along with flour, baking powder and 3 tablespoons of reserved cherry juice and blend.
- 3.** Beat egg whites until light and fluffy. Gently fold into batter.
- 4.** Sprinkle ¼ teaspoon of pecans into the bottom of each muffin tin. Spoon 1 teaspoon of batter over pecans, then place one cherry in center of batter. Top with an additional teaspoon of batter to cover cherries.
- 5.** Bake 10–12 minutes.
- 6.** Dust with powdered sugar and serve warm.

**MAKES 3 DOZEN**

[MORE RECIPES >](#)



**\$500 WINNER**

## Mom's Pear Cake

GINGER CLARDY  
BANDERA EC



A quick and easy Bundt cake is the perfect dessert for the holiday table or feeding a breakfast crowd. Clardy's creation is studded with pears, cinnamon and pecans and drizzled with a sweet glaze.

**SERVES 12**

### CAKE

- 3 eggs**
- 2 cups sugar**
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract**
- 1 cup vegetable oil**
- 3 cups flour**
- ½ teaspoon salt**
- 1 teaspoon baking soda**
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon**
- 1 cup chopped pecans**
- 4 cups diced pears, plus ½ cup for garnish, if desired**

### GLAZE

- 2 tablespoons (¼ stick) butter**
- 2 cups powdered sugar**
- 2 tablespoons milk**

- 1. CAKE** Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Liberally coat a Bundt pan with nonstick cooking spray.
- 2.** In a large bowl, whisk together eggs, sugar, vanilla and vegetable oil until smooth.
- 3.** Stir in flour, salt, baking soda and cinnamon. Batter will be thick.
- 4.** Fold in pecans and pears.
- 5.** Spoon batter into Bundt pan. Bake 40–50 minutes or until a toothpick inserted comes out clean.
- 6. GLAZE** Melt butter over low heat. Add powdered sugar and milk, whisk until smooth. Drizzle over warm cake. Garnish with diced pears, if desired.

## \$500 Recipe Contest

**PERFECT POTLUCK** DUE NOVEMBER 10

Everybody looks forward to your contribution. Share your potluck specialty and you might win \$500. Submit your favorite online by November 10.





## Holiday Bark

RITA PAUL  
UNITED COOPERATIVE SERVICES

If you're searching for a last-minute holiday treat that everyone will love, Paul's holiday bark has you covered. This bark can easily be adapted to include a variety of nuts, dried fruits or candies. It's done in a little over an hour and makes for the ultimate edible gift.

**16 ounces chopped white chocolate**  
**1 cup dried cranberries**

**1 cup shelled, chopped pistachios**  
**1 cup cashew halves**

1. Line a baking sheet with parchment.
2. In a double boiler melt white chocolate, stirring occasionally until smooth.
3. Pour melted chocolate onto baking sheet. Using a knife or rubber spatula, spread into a 9-by-12-inch rectangle.
4. Sprinkle chocolate with cranberries, pistachios and cashews.
5. Refrigerate at least 1 hour. Break into pieces before serving.

**MAKES ABOUT 1 DOZEN PIECES**

**TCP** Want more dessert options heading into the holidays? We're happy to help with that. With more than 1,000 recipes from Co-op Country in our archives, you're sure to find the perfect sweet treat. You can find them all on our website.

## Over the River and Through the Woods

BY VIANNEY RODRIGUEZ

### Tips for traveling with holiday treats:

Use muffin tins for deviled eggs, cupcakes and cold appetizers.

Frost and decorate cupcakes and cakes after you arrive to avoid smudges.

Add ice to a cooler before adding a cold dessert.

Wrap the entire cookie tray in plastic wrap to keep it secure.

When stacking frosted cookies, place waxed paper between each layer.

Place four toothpicks into your frosted cake then gently drape foil over the cake to protect frosting.

Use canning jars to transport sauces, fudge, cocoa mix and spiced nuts.



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COURTESY CHET GARNER

## Kid Stuff

Legend has it that outlaw Billy the Kid lived out his days in Hico

BY CHET GARNER

I REMEMBER sitting around the campfire telling stories about the Wild West. Specifically, the story of how infamous gunslinger Billy the Kid outsmarted everyone and lived to old age in Hico under a fake name. Was it true? I headed to the small town southwest of Fort Worth to find out.

There are a couple things I do every time I'm in Hico. First I eat a chicken-fried steak at Koffee Kup Family Restaurant, and then I buy pecan toffee from Wiseman House Chocolates. After that, I'm ready to investigate.

Hico's historic downtown is booming these days, and the Billy the Kid Museum is right in the middle of it. The museum archives all the stories of Hico's history and its infamous (alleged) resident.

I walked the displays and dug deep into the legend of Henry McCarty, aka William H. Bonney, aka Billy the Kid. It seems even his real name is up for debate. What is certain is that Billy was a notorious outlaw who stole cattle and gunned down many men across the Southwest.

Many say that lawman Pat Garrett shot and killed Billy in Fort Sumner, New Mexico, in 1881. There's even a grave in that town with his name on it. But some say Garrett granted Billy mercy on the condition that he promise to never kill again.

In the 1940s, a reporter with a hot tip tracked down a man named "Brushy Bill" Roberts in Hico. Brushy claimed he was indeed the outlaw, with the scars and stories to prove it. However, before he could receive an official pardon from the governor of New Mexico, he died of a heart attack. Many questions remain, but the folks in Hico believe it was Billy himself.

Take a trip to Hico, conduct your own investigation and decide for yourself. ■

ABOVE Billy the Kid, in sculpted form, maintains a presence in downtown Hico.

**TCP** See more of Chet's search into the Billy the Kid mystery in 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.

## NOVEMBER

### 10

**The Colony [10-11] American Heroes: A Salute to Veterans & First Responders**, (972) 625-1106, [thecolonytx.gov](http://thecolonytx.gov)

### 11

**Brenham The Gatlin Brothers**, (979) 337-7240, [thebarnhillcenter.com](http://thebarnhillcenter.com)

**Fredericksburg St. Martin's Day Celebration**, (830) 990-2044, [visitfredericksburgtx.com](http://visitfredericksburgtx.com)

**San Marcos Hangar Dance**, (737) 285-0015, [hangardance.org](http://hangardance.org)

### 16

**Corsicana Holiday Tree Lighting**, (903) 654-4850, [visitcorsicana.com](http://visitcorsicana.com)

**Marble Falls Pastel Demo With Dina Gregory**, (830) 693-7324, [visitmarblefalls.org](http://visitmarblefalls.org)

### 18

**Bluff Dale Front Porch Christmas Market**, (817) 946-0141, [facebook.com/thefrontporchbluffdale](https://facebook.com/thefrontporchbluffdale)

**Bowie Hanging of the Greens**, (940) 872-6246, [cityofbowietx.com](http://cityofbowietx.com)

**Burnet Sip n' Shop**, (512) 766-0555, [tornalochs.com](http://tornalochs.com)

**Fredericksburg Willow City Quilt Show and Live Auction**, (830) 685-3376, [willowcityfd.com](http://willowcityfd.com)

**Henderson A Very Merry Market**, (318) 780-0620, [thechurchatlakecherokee.com](http://thechurchatlakecherokee.com)



19

**Kerrville Holiday Lighted Parade**, (830) 257-7300, [kerrvilletx.gov](http://kerrvilletx.gov)

25

**Giddings Sip & Shop Christmas Market**, (979) 542-3455, [giddingstx.com](http://giddingstx.com)

28

**Stonewall Deck the Halls**, (830) 644-2252, [tpwd.texas.gov](http://tpwd.texas.gov)

**Ingram [25-26, Dec. 1-3, 8-10, 15-16] A Christmas Carol**, (830) 367-5121, [hcaf.com](http://hcaf.com)

29

**Columbus Christmas on the Colorado Lighted Parade**, (979) 732-8385, [columbustexas.org](http://columbustexas.org)

**Tyler [29-Dec. 2] Mistletoe & Magic**, (903) 595-5426, [juniorleagueoftyler.org](http://juniorleagueoftyler.org)

## DECEMBER

01

**Bowie Sweet Gingerbread Sip and Stroll With Me**, (940) 872-6246, [cityofbowietx.com](http://cityofbowietx.com)

**Kerrville [1-2, 8-10, 15-17] One Christmas Eve at Evergreen Mall**, (830) 896-9393, [caillouxperformingarts.com](http://caillouxperformingarts.com)

02

**Lufkin Christmas in the Pines**, (936) 633-0359, [visitlufkin.com](http://visitlufkin.com)

**Post Light Up Post**, (806) 495-2811, [postcitytexas.com](http://postcitytexas.com)

07

**New Braunfels Christmas Market at Historic Old Town**, (830) 629-2943, [newbraunfelsconservation.org](http://newbraunfelsconservation.org)

### **Submit Your Event**

We pick events for the magazine directly from [TexasCoopPower.com](http://TexasCoopPower.com). Submit your February event by December 1, and it just might be featured in this calendar.



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True artisanship in Austrian crystal and yellow gold. This necklace and earring set features gorgeous multicolored enamel paired with Austrian crystals and a yellow gold finish. Ask any jeweler and they'll tell you it takes true artisanship to properly blend the blues and purples found in this enamel. While art nouveau dragonflies are hard to come by, we're helping to repopulate their numbers with this artfully stylized depiction of some of nature's smallest wonders!

Buy the pendant, get the earrings FREE. If Stauer were a normal company, we'd sell the necklace and earrings for \$199 each, but because we engage the world's best artisans and cut out the middlemen to sell directly to you, we're offering the necklace for JUST \$29! Even better: If you buy within the next few days, we'll throw in the earrings for FREE! That's a nearly \$400 value for JUST \$29!

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c. Total Paid Distribution	1,886,539	1,912,006
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e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution	10,014	10,225
f. Total Distribution	1,896,553	1,922,231
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c. Total Print and Electronic Distribution	1,896,553	1,922,231
d. Percentage Paid	99.40%	99.42%

I certify that 50% of all my distribution copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

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I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).



# Golden Hour

There are magical moments each day when the rising and setting sun kisses the surface of all it touches, transforming the world into hues of fiery gold. If you're quick, you can capture it as these Texans have. Now pull up a chair and rest a spell. It's the golden hour.

CURATED BY GRACE FULTZ



**1 RICK KIEFFER**  
BLUEBONNET EC

"A beautiful spring sunrise over Beaver Lake."

**2 ANGELA ROBERTSON**  
BANDERA EC

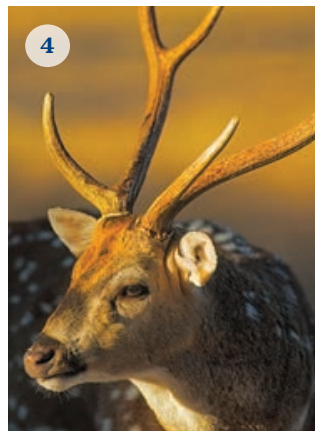
"Dancing on the water."

**3 PAUL LAUDER**  
FARMERS EC

"Canoeing on a small lake near Anchorage, Alaska, at sunset."

**4 JOHN TELFORD**  
CENTRAL TEXAS EC

"Taken in the Hill Country during the last light of a cold December day. One look and then he was gone."



## Upcoming Contests

DUE NOV 10 Architecture

DUE DEC 10 Pollinators

DUE JAN 10 Rides



Enter online at [TexasCoopPower.com/contests](https://TexasCoopPower.com/contests).

**TCP** See Focus on Texas on our website for more Golden Hour photos from readers.



## A School Day Like No Other

60 years ago this month, time stopped for Texans wherever they were

BY KATHLEEN COX RICHARDSON  
ILLUSTRATION BY  
STEPHANIE SHAFER

ON NOVEMBER 21, 1963, the principal of Dolores School in South Austin told the teachers that President John F. Kennedy and his beautiful wife were coming to visit Austin. We were to take the children downtown from our Catholic school in the old yellow buses, stand along the main drag and wave to them as they drove through the city in an open car.

After lunch the next day, the children lined up in order in the parking lot, first grade up to eighth grade. They stood quietly, but I could sense a wave of controlled excitement rippling through us. This was an opportunity of a lifetime—seeing our hero, our president.

All eyes were on the mother superior, our principal, while we watched for her signal to begin boarding the buses. “Mother, mother!” the school secretary

called as she ran toward us. She whispered to the principal, handing her a transistor radio. Then Mother turned to us and said, “Gov. Connally has been shot. We’re going into the church to pray for him.”

Stunned, we turned around, still in orderly lines, first graders first.

We filed into the pews and knelt, hands clasped, heads bowed. Mother stood in front of us, holding the small radio close to her ear; we heard a muted voice but could not make out the words. Then she moved the radio away from her ear and said to us, her voice steady, “The president has been shot. Pray for the president.”

A universal gasp coursed through the church. The little children squirmed as they knelt. The older girls began crying, softly. The radio continued its secret words. Little candle flames trembled in their blood-red holders, poised for news.

Then we heard the worst: “The president is dead. Pray for our president, John F. Kennedy”—all of this delivered by a calm, tearless woman. Shocked, I mumbled some sort of prayer, tears running down my face.

In orderly lines, we returned to our classrooms. With fearful eyes, my second graders stared at me. They knew something bad had happened but weren’t sure what it was. A few of the girls began crying.

I swiped my face with a tissue and reassured them that I was OK. They returned to their seats. One of the boys raised his hand.

“Miss Cox.”

“Yes, Jimmy.”

“Does this mean we don’t get out of school?”

“Yes, that’s what it means.”

A hushed “aw” came in unison from out of their innocent mouths. What did they know? They were so young; they didn’t comprehend the impact of the horrible news.

Mother stopped by my classroom to tell me the children would be dismissed early.

Thank goodness. I didn’t have to continue the facade. ■



# 1920s Style for a 1920s Price

It was a warm summer afternoon and my wife and I were mingling with the best of them. The occasion was a 1920s-themed party, and everyone was dressed to the nines. Parked on the manse's circular driveway was a beautiful classic convertible. It was here that I got the idea for our new 1920s Retrograde Watch.

Never ones to miss an opportunity, we carefully steadied our glasses of bubbly and climbed into the car's long front seat. Among the many opulent features on display was a series of dashboard dials that accentuated the car's lavish aura. One of those dials inspired our 1920s Retrograde Watch, a genuinely unique timepiece that marries timeless style with modern technology.

With its remarkable retrograde hour and minute indicators, sunburst guilloché face and precision movement, this design is truly one of a kind. What does retrograde mean? Instead of displaying the hands rotating on an axis like most watches, the hands sweep in a semicircle, then return to their starting point and begin all over again.

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30	8.86	7.69	9.77	8.61	14	11	18	16	58	27.68	21.78	50.44	36.04	89	62	172	117
36	9.04	8.07	10.33	9.43	15	13	22	18	59	30.35	23.38	55.51	38.76	98	68	190	129
37	9.21	8.30	10.52	9.79	15	13	22	20	60	33.50	25.27	59.99	41.71	109	73	207	140
38	9.21	8.42	11.69	10.14	16	14	24	21	61	36.50	27.13	66.44	47.11	122	84	236	155
39	9.39	8.55	12.35	10.48	17	15	25	22	62	40.06	29.18	73.91	51.33	137	92	261	172
40	9.63	8.76	12.94	11.01	18	16	27	24	63	43.47	34.39	84.94	59.61	151	100	284	187
41	10.05	8.97	13.66	11.61	20	17	30	27	64	48.24	38.53	93.16	64.39	168	110	323	206
42	10.44	9.18	14.21	12.41	22	19	33	29	65	52.56	41.15	100.34	69.75	188	122	356	229
43	10.90	9.39	14.73	13.25	24	20	38	31	66	59.15	44.62	115.13	75.41	208	135	392	248
44	11.49	9.73	15.68	14.10	26	22	41	34	67	65.66	49.09	129.28	83.65	231	148	436	272
45	12.17	10.15	16.87	15.16	28	24	46	38	68	74.33	59.65	145.11	112.92	262	174	491	322
46	12.76	10.61	17.85	15.83	30	25	49	41	69	82.98	65.91	161.68	129.33	293	188	548	352
47	13.27	11.09	19.15	16.84	33	27	54	44	70	93.20	73.30	181.25	148.72	330	204	615	387
48	13.39	11.90	20.46	17.78	35	29	58	48	71	102.45	82.71	204.38	159.34	374	235	702	443
49	13.69	12.16	21.78	18.78	38	31	63	52	72	113.68	94.13	232.46	172.23	427	272	807	512
50	14.13	12.83	23.42	20.01	40	34	69	57	73	127.55	108.24	267.15	188.15	493	319	937	596
51	15.38	13.74	25.39	21.19	45	35	78	62	74	142.08	123.01	303.50	204.84	562	367	1074	685
52	16.37	14.89	28.03	22.77	49	38	87	67	75	159.25	140.48	346.45	224.56	644	424	1235	789
53	17.47	15.89	30.97	24.82	55	44	101	77	76	200.03	174.92	418.29	276.67	785	530	1489	982
54	18.69	16.73	34.01	26.22	60	46	112	83	77	249.54	216.74	505.52	339.94	956	658	1797	1215
55	20.64	17.51	37.15	27.87	67	50	122	90	78	310.70	268.40	613.27	418.11	1167	817	2179	1504
56	22.70	19.49	41.68	31.08	74	53	139	97	79	374.78	322.52	726.16	500.00	1389	983	2578	1807
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