

Empowering You To Stay Safe



MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MANAGER/CEO STEVE YOUNG

AT HAMILTON COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, we take seriously our duty to provide reliable electricity to our members in the safest, most affordable manner possible. Though we work hard to fulfill that promise year-round, perhaps there is no better time to reiterate our commitment than during National Electrical Safety Month.

Over these next few weeks, as our lineworkers and behind-the-scenes staff go about their vital work as steadfastly as ever, we ask you, our members, to consider your role as our partners

one-fiftieth the amount used by a 60-watt lightbulb. You should not swim near a dock or marina unless you know its wiring is in good repair. You should also never swim near a boat while it's running.

If you see an electric shock drowning taking place, never enter the water. You could become a victim, too. Turn the power off if possible, call 911 and throw a life preserver to the victim or reach out with a fiberglass hook to help the victim get out of the water.

We recommend hiring a licensed electrician to inspect home pools, spas and hot tubs and make any repairs or upgrades necessary to keep the wiring up to date and safe.

Here are a few additional tips for enjoying a day at the pool without risking your well-being or anyone else's:

- ▶ Outdoor electrical outlets (including pools and spas) should be covered and kept dry when not in use.
- ▶ Use a ground-fault circuit interrupter for electrical devices used outdoors. Portable GFCIs are available for \$12–\$30 and don't require tools for installation.
- ▶ Make sure all electrical equipment used for swimming pools, including cleaning equipment, is grounded and working properly. If you notice pool lights flickering, stay out of the water until a licensed electrician has resolved the issue.
- ▶ Electrical devices and cords should be kept at least 10 feet away from pools and spas. Whenever possible, use battery-powered devices outdoors instead.

- ▶ Never handle electrical devices while you are wet, either from swimming or perspiration.
- ▶ Make sure there are no power lines over a swimming pool, and never swim during a thunderstorm. Thunder means lightning is close enough to put you at risk of electrocution.

Our intent in relaying this information is not to frighten but to illustrate how we all must keep a watchful eye toward safety whenever and wherever electricity is present, and remain especially vigilant in settings where its presence may not be obvious.



in ensuring your comfort and safety. Amid the drumbeat of daily routines, balancing work and family, we all can sometimes grow complacent about seemingly innocuous habits or practices that could bear tragic consequences.

One critically important example of this during swimming and boating season involves the risk of electric shock drowning. Docks and marinas carry electricity sources, which faulty wiring or damaged cords can release into water invisibly. As few as 10 milliamps can cause paralysis and drowning. That is

Mark Your Calendar for Savings

NEED A NEW, MORE ENERGY-EFFICIENT dishwasher or refrigerator? If you time it right, you can enjoy a tax-free purchase on qualifying appliances soon. The statewide Energy Star Sales Tax Holiday takes place Memorial Day weekend. This year, it begins Saturday, May 26, at 12:01 a.m. and concludes Monday, May 28, at 11:59 p.m.



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Eligible tax-free appliances include:

- ▶ Air conditioners (models priced at \$6,000 or less)
- ▶ Refrigerators (models priced at \$2,000 or less)
- ▶ Ceiling fans
- ▶ Clothes washers
- ▶ Incandescent and fluorescent lightbulbs
- ▶ Dishwashers
- ▶ Dehumidifiers
- ▶ Programmable thermostats

Keep in mind that appliances purchased for just a few dollars over the allowable amounts will be fully taxed. For example, a refrigerator that costs \$2,050 will be taxed on the entire purchase price, not just the \$50 in excess of the limit. Similarly, if an item's sale price is within the price cap but an additional delivery fee pushes it over the limit, the entire purchase is taxable.

Start researching now so you can take advantage of savings on items that will likely lower your energy bills.



PHOTOGRAPHY | ISTOCK.COM

Happy Mother's Day | Sunday, May 13



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Memorial Day | Hamilton County EC will be closed Monday, May 28, in observance of the holiday.

Hamilton County Electric Cooperative Association

420 N. Rice St. • P.O. Box 753
Hamilton, TX 76531

GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

Steve Young

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

P.M. Gerald Jr., President, *Hamilton*
Sam Campbell, Vice President, *Goldthwaite*
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Dusty Duncan, *Lometa*
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Contact Us

For general information
or to report an outage

CALL US

(254) 386-3123 local or
1-800-595-3401 toll-free

PAYMENT LOCATIONS

Hamilton County EC Office

420 N. Rice St., Hamilton

Brown & Wesson Insurance

915 Third St., Goldthwaite

Fort Gates Water Corporation

103 Gateway Circle, Gatesville

Kempner Water Supply

11986 E. Highway 190, Kempner

Lometa City Hall

109 W. San Saba St., Lometa

Online

hamiltonelectric.coop

Telephone

Call 1-877-833-4031 to pay using our automated phone system (credit/debit card or check).

Bill payments can be set up to be bank drafted or charged to a debit or credit card monthly.

Notice of Director Election

THE MEMBERS OF HAMILTON COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE WILL ELECT DIRECTORS BY MAIL-IN BALLOT FRIDAY, AUGUST 3.

In accordance with cooperative bylaws, a nominating committee was appointed by the board of directors at its regular board meeting April 26. The Nominating Committee will meet June 7 at 2 p.m. at the cooperative’s main office at 420 N. Rice St. in Hamilton, to make nominations for directors to serve in districts 2 and 5. Terms of the incumbents in these districts expire this year.

District 2: The area east of U.S. Highway 281 in Hamilton County.

District 5: The area west of U.S. Highway 281 in Lampasas County and including all areas in San Saba and Llano counties.

Members residing in District 2 or District 5 who wish to be considered as a candidate can contact the cooperative’s main office at 1-800-595-3401 by May 31. Prospective candidates must meet the director qualifications as specified in HCEC bylaws (Article III Directors, Section 4.02 (a) Director Qualifications).

Ballots will be mailed to members July 11 and should be returned to the cooperative no later than 1 p.m., Friday, August 3, at which time the ballots will be counted. The results of the election will be announced during Hamilton County EC’s annual membership meeting Friday, August 3.

Following are excerpts from the bylaws of Hamilton County Electric Cooperative Association, which explain the nomination and election procedures.

ARTICLE IV DIRECTORS

SECTION 4.01. NUMBER AND GENERAL POWERS. The business and affairs of the Cooperative shall be managed by a Board of seven (7) Directors or under their authority, and subject to the Board’s direction and oversight. The Board shall exercise all of the powers of the Cooperative except such as are by law or by the Cooperative’s Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws conferred upon or reserved to the Members and such as the Board may delegate to or authorize to be performed by the Cooperative’s management and employees.

SECTION 4.02. QUALIFICATIONS. A Director or Director candidate must comply with the following Bylaw provisions:

(A) DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS. To be eligible to become or remain a Director of the Cooperative, a person shall:

- (i) Be a natural person;
- (ii) Be a Member of the Cooperative for a period of twenty-four (24) consecutive months immediately prior to election;
- (iii) Be a Member in good standing with the Cooperative and shall not have (or if a Joint Member with a spouse who has) one or more accounts with the Cooperative or its affiliates that are not in good financial standing, or have (or if a Joint Member with a spouse who has) a controlling interest in another entity, association, organization, or trust that has one or more accounts with the Cooperative or its affiliates that are not in good financial standing;

(iv) As provided in Section 1.04(f) of these Bylaws, in a Joint Membership, either spouse may serve as a Director, but not simultaneously, and only if both spouses meet the qualifications for Director as stated herein; otherwise, neither spouse may serve as Director;

(v) For at least twenty-four (24) consecutive months immediately prior to election and throughout such person’s term as Director if elected, maintain a principal place of residence, as required to claim such person’s residence homestead exemption pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Texas Tax Code, in the District for which such person seeks election or was elected;

(vi) Receive electric service from the Cooperative at such principal place of residence;

(vii) Not be employed by the Cooperative or have been an employee of the Cooperative within twenty (20) years of serving on the Cooperative’s Board of Directors;

(viii) Not be a close relative of an incumbent Director or of an employee of the Cooperative, unless otherwise determined by the Board of Directors in its sole discretion;

(ix) Not hold office as a Director who is an incumbent or candidate for public office for which a salary or wage is paid;

(x) Not be in any way employed by or financially associated in a competing enterprise, or a business selling electric energy or selling products or services to the Cooperative;

(xi) Unless excused by the Board of Directors, which action shall be noted in the minutes of that meeting of the Board of Directors, not miss three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the Board of Directors, or miss three (3) regular meetings of the Board of Directors within the most recent twelve (12) month period; and

(xii) Not have been convicted of a felony in this State or any other State.

(B) DIRECTOR DISQUALIFICATIONS. After being elected or appointed, if a Director does not comply with all Director Qualifications, the Board shall disqualify the Director and the individual is no longer a Director if:

(i) The Board notifies the Director in writing of the basis for the disqualification, and provides the Director an opportunity to comment regarding the Board’s proposed disqualification; and

(ii) Within twenty (20) days after the Board notifies the Director of the proposed disqualification, the Director neither complies with nor meets the Director Qualifications.

SECTION 4.03. ELECTION. Election of Directors shall be held annually by mail-in ballot in accordance with Section 3.07 of these Bylaws.

SECTION 4.04. TENURE. Directors shall serve a term of three (3) years or until Director(s)’ successor(s) has been elected or appointed. Upon the Directors’ election, Directors shall, subject to the provisions of these Bylaws with respect to the removal of Directors, serve until the annual meeting of the Members of the year in which such Directors’ terms expire or until such Directors’ successors shall have been elected and shall have qualified. Whether elected or

appointed, Directors shall have qualified subject to the provisions of these Bylaws with respect to removal or resignation of Directors. Failure of an election for a given year shall allow the incumbents whose directorships would have been voted on to hold over only until the next Member meeting at which a quorum is present.

SECTION 4.05. DIRECTORATE DISTRICTS.

(a) The territory served by the Cooperative shall be divided into the following seven (7) Directorate Districts with each District represented by one Director, who has his or her principal place of residence in that District, as provided in Section 3.02 (a)(v) of this Article:

(1) The area West of U.S. Highway 281 in Hamilton County, designated as "District 1";

(2) The area East of U.S. Highway 281 in Hamilton County, designated as "District 2";

(3) The area in Coryell County, designated as "District 3";

(4) The area East of U.S. Highway 281 in Lampasas County, designated as "District 4";

(5) The area West of U.S. Highway 281 in Lampasas County, including all the area in San Saba and Llano Counties, designated as "District 5";

(6) The area South of U.S. Highway 84 in Mills County and West to the Cooperative boundary line, designated as "District 6"; and

(7) The area North of U.S. Highway 84 bounded on East by Hamilton County line and on West by Cooperative boundary line, designated as "District 7."

(b) The Board of Directors shall annually review and if necessary, re-divide and/or geographically relocate Districts to ensure that Director Districts equitably represent the Members.

(c) Within sixty (60) days following any Director District revision, and at least sixty (60) days before the next Annual Member Meeting, the Cooperative shall notify any Members affected by the Director District revision by mail using direct mail, billing inserts, or the Cooperative's monthly magazine.

(d) No Director District revision may: (1) increase an existing Director's term, or (2) shorten any existing Director's term unless the affected Director gives written consent.

SECTION 4.06. NOMINATIONS.

(A) NOMINATION BY COMMITTEE.

(1) COMMITTEE QUALIFICATIONS. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to appoint, not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date on which Directors are to be elected, a Committee on Nominations, consisting of:

(i) Not less than five (5) and no more than eleven (11) members of the Cooperative;

(ii) Members who are not existing Cooperative employees, agents, officers, Directors or known candidates for Director;

(iii) Members who are not close relatives (as hereinafter defined) or members of the same household of such existing employees, agents, officers, Directors or known candidates for Director; and

(iv) Members who are selected from different geographical sections so as to ensure equitable representation, including at least one (1) Member from the Directorate Districts to be filled at the election.

(2) COMMITTEE NOMINATION PROCESS.

(i) The Committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least twenty (20) days prior to the date of the election of Directors a list of nominations for Directors to be elected, listing separately the nominee(s) for each Directorate District from or with respect to which a Director must, pursuant to this Section, be elected.

(ii) The Committee may include as many nominees for any Director to be elected from or with respect to any Directorate District as it deems desirable.

(B) NOMINATION BY PETITION. Any one hundred fifty (150) or more Members of the Cooperative, acting together, may make additional nominations in writing over such Members' signatures, listing the Members' nominee(s) in like manner, not less than forty-five (45) days prior to the date the votes are to be counted, and the Secretary shall post such nominations at the same place where the list of nominations made by the Committee is posted.

(C) NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS. The Secretary shall mail to the members with the notice of the meeting of the Members at which Directors are to be elected, or separately, but at least ten (10) days prior to the date of such meeting, a statement of the names of all nominee(s) for each Directorate District from or with respect to which one or more Directors must be elected, showing clearly those nominated by the Committee and those nominated by petition, if any. Notice of nominations shall be in accordance Section 3.06 of these Bylaws, subsection (a)(2)(i) for nominations by Committee on Nominations and subsection (b) for nominations by petition.

Notwithstanding the provisions contained in this Section, failure to comply with any of such provisions shall not affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken by the Board of Directors after the election of Directors.

SECTION 4.07. VOTING FOR DIRECTORS; VALIDITY OF BOARD ACTION.

The election of Directors shall be held annually by mail-in ballot. Each Member shall be entitled to cast only one vote for each Directorate District for which a Director is to be elected. Ballots marked in violation of the foregoing restriction with respect to one or more Directorate District shall be invalid and shall not be counted with respect to such District or Districts. Notwithstanding the provisions contained in this Section, failure to comply with any of such provisions shall not affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken by the Board of Directors after the election of Directors.

SECTION 4.13. "CLOSE RELATIVE" DEFINED. As used in these Bylaws, "close relative" means a person who, by blood or marriage, including half, foster, step and adoptive kin, is either a spouse, child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, brother or sister of the principal.

Community Calendar



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Hamilton County EC will be closed Monday, May 28, in observance of Memorial Day and Wednesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

Comanche

Mother’s Day Celebration and Fundraiser Luncheon—May 13, Comanche Community Center, 100 Indian Creek Drive/Highway 377 West. Admission by donation only.

Gustine Homecoming and Rodeo—May 24–26, Gustine Rodeo Grounds, Main Street. A tradition since 1960, this annual event offers vendor and food booths, live entertainment and loads of fun for the kids! Other activities throughout the day include class reunions; chicken, rib, bean and brisket cook-offs; horseshoe and washer tournaments; and a parade. This fun family event occurs annually every Memorial Day weekend starting with a three-night rodeo that kicks off on Thursday night at 7 p.m. Saturday events begin with the national anthem at 9 a.m.

Jams in June Free Concert—June 1, 8, 22, 29; downtown historic square.

Comanche Roping Club Rodeo—June 15–16, 6 p.m., Cowboy Park Arena, 6490 Highway 36W. Dance Saturday night.

Rodeo Parade—June 16, 10 a.m., downtown.

Veterans Lighted and Patriotic Display—June 30–July 5, historic downtown.

For more information about Comanche County events, contact the Comanche Chamber of Commerce at (325) 356-3233 or email comanchetxchamber@gmail.com.

Copperas Cove

Jackrabbit Run 4 Hope—May 6, 8 a.m., Ogletree Gap Park, 1876 Post Office Road. 5K and 10K races through scenic Hill Country. A percentage of the proceeds will be contributed to the Hope Pregnancy Center.

Awards will be given to the top three finishers in each age group. This race is part of the Cen-Tex Race Series.

38th Annual Rabbit Fest—May 17–20, Copperas Cove City Park, 1206 W. Ave. B. Food and craft vendors, carnival rides, live entertainment, a car show and much more. For more information, visit rabbitfest.com.

Rabbit Fest Parade—May 19. For more information, visit rabbitfest.com.

Summer Run to Fun—June 16, 8–11 a.m., South Park, 2602 Dennis Drive.

For more information about Copperas Cove events, contact the Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce at (254) 547-7571, email chamber@copperascove.com or visit copperascove.com.

Evant

281 Trade Days—May 5, June 2, July 7; 9 a.m.–6 p.m.; 203 W. Brooks St. Antiques, plants, vintage finds, food trucks and hand-made items. Vendor spots available. Call (254) 404-5487 or (254) 471-3698.

Evant Rodeo Association Play Day Series—June 23, 9 a.m., Evant Rodeo Arena, 1255 S. U.S. Highway 281.

Evant Rodeo Association Junior Rodeo, Tom Green Rodeo Co.—June 23–24, 8 p.m., Evant Rodeo Arena, 1255 S. U.S. Highway 281.

Evant Rodeo Association Iron Man Series—June 30, 7 p.m., Evant Rodeo Arena, 1255 S. U.S. Highway 281.

For information about Evant events, contact Mary Ann Davison at evantchamber@gmail.com or (254) 404-5487.

Gatesville

Chamber Market Days—The second Saturday of each month in the parking lot of the historic Cotton Belt Depot, 2307 S. Highway 36. Vendors display unique merchandise and farm-fresh foods. Go to visitgatesvilletx.com

for more information.

Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame Show/Jamboree—The third Friday of each month, 7–8 p.m., City Auditorium, 110 N. Eighth St. A family-friendly event. There is no admission fee, but donations are accepted for the performers. For more information, visit gatesvillecountrymusicalloffame.com or call Roger Viersse at (254) 547-6834.

Ed Leonard Band—Every Thursday, 6:30–9:30 p.m., Junction on Route 36, 1216 Texas 36.

Run to Remember—Every Saturday, 8–9 a.m., Faunt Le Roy Park.

Patsy B Invitational Bull Riding Event with Freestyle Bull Fighting show by the Texas Greasepaint Tour—May 5, Gatesville Riding Club Arena. Presented by Lilly G Arena Productions. For more information, see visitgatesvilletx.com or contact Rick at (254) 459-0141.

Gatesville Shivarree—June 1–2. Vendors, music, games, contests. Visit gatesville shivarree.com for more information.

Fire Ant Tour—June 9, 8 a.m., Gatesville Civic Center, 301 Veterans Memorial Dr. Bike routes are approximately 10, 32, 50 and 62.5 miles on paved county roads. Sponsored by the Gatesville Exchange Club.

Marty Haggard Concert—A Tribute to My Dad, Merle Haggard—June 9, 6 p.m., Gatesville City Auditorium, 110 N. Eighth St. Tickets at the door, \$30. Tickets \$25 in advance, online at martyhaggardtickets.com, by phone at 1-800-838-3006 or at Leon River Mercantile in Gatesville, (254) 865-1372.

Gatesville Gun Show, a Whipp Farm Productions event—June 23–24, Saturday 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Gatesville Civic Center, 301 Veterans Memorial Loop. For information, call Charles at (817) 929-1816 or email whipp.events@gmail.com.

4th of July Celebration—July 4, 6–9 p.m., Gatesville Intermediate School parking lot. Booths, games, activities, bounce houses, obstacle course and giveaways, all free for kids!

Concessions available. The celebration will last until the city fireworks show begins. Hosted by the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce.

For more information about Gatesville events, go to visitgatesvilletx.com or call the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce at (254) 865-2617 or Gatesville Convention and Visitors Bureau at (254) 865-8951.

Goldthwaite

Third Saturday Flea/Craft Market—May 19, June 16, July 21, 8 a.m., the Artisan Guild south side of the square and Highway 183. Flea market and craft items, farmers market, and fresh baked goods. Vendors welcome. For more information, call (325) 948-3214.

Full Meal Deal BBQ Brisket and Trimmings—June 10, 11 a.m., Goldthwaite Volunteer Fire Department fundraiser. Donations only.

Patriot Celebration—July 3, Goldthwaite City Park. Children's parade at 6 p.m. and fireworks show at dark. The Mills County Chamber of Commerce serves \$1 hot dogs and drinks, as well as free ice cream.

For more information about Goldthwaite events, visit millscountychamber.com or call Mills County Chamber of Commerce at (325) 451-4334.

Hamilton

Third Annual Cemetery Walk—May 5, 1-4 p.m., the old IOOF and Graves-Gentry Cemeteries, Highway 281, north of the square. First cemeteries on the right. Tickets are \$10 per person, children under 6 free. Tickets sold at Lafranco's or at event. For tickets and information, call (254) 386-5578 or (979) 595-8351.

Slide Into Summer 1 Mile and 5K Fun Run—May 26, 10 a.m., downtown on the square. Come celebrate the start of summer break with some family fun. Participate in the 1 mile or 5K and take a slide down a couple HUGE water slides! For registration information, call (254) 386-3216.

281 Trade Days/Junk in the Trunk—May 5, June 2, July 7; 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; downtown square.

Bikers Welcome Weekend—June 7-10. Bikers from all over will travel to Austin for their yearly biker rally. Participating Hamilton businesses will be welcoming the bikers traveling south and introduce them to the local hospitality.

For more information about Hamilton events, visit Hamilton Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau

tors Center on Facebook, call (254) 386-3216 or email hamiltonchambertx@gmail.com.

Hico

Annual Texas Steak Cook-Off and Wine Festival—May 19, historic downtown. Backyard chefs from all over the Southwest come to Hico to see who can cook the best steak in Texas. For information, visit texassteakcookoff.com.

Old Settlers Reunion—July 16-21. This week-long event is sponsored by the Hico Civic Club and features a parade through downtown Hico. A carnival and concerts will be held at the Hico City Park. For information, call (254) 796-4221.

For more information about Hico events, visit hicotxchamber.com.

Kempner

Memorial Day Ceremony—May 28, 10 a.m., City Park—Sylvia Tucker Memorial Park, 12641 E. U.S. Highway 190.

Lampasas

Free Guided Tours of the historic Lampasas County Courthouse—Saturdays, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., historic downtown courthouse square. The 30-minute tours visit each floor of the courthouse, including the stately second-floor courtroom as well as the third floor, which houses the tower clockworks. The Lampasas County Courthouse is the third-oldest courthouse in continuous use in Texas. For more information, contact Jim Rutland at (512) 556-5302 during regular business hours.

Lampasas County Museum—Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 303 South Western, between Second and Third streets. Learn



**COPPERAS COVE
Rabbit Fest
May 17-20**

WE WELCOME YOUR EVENT SUBMISSIONS

Hamilton County Electric Cooperative welcomes your local event submissions. If you have any events that you would like listed in the Community Calendar, please contact Donna Harris. Information must be submitted two months in advance for the magazine. The calendar will be published monthly, and it will contain events scheduled in the month of publication and the following two months. HCEC reserves the right to edit and exclude events based on space available and other considerations. We do not certify the accuracy or reliability of any information posted in any listing in this Community Calendar. Please contact the event source directly to confirm event details. Email donna.harris@hamiltonelectric.coop, write to HCEC at P.O. Box 753, Hamilton, TX 76531, or call 1-800-595-3401.

about the history of Lampasas County through permanent displays and special exhibitions. Free of charge.

Lampasas Trade Days—May 5, June 2, July 7; 9 a.m.–4 p.m.; 2646 E. Highway 190. For information, contact Barbara Postel at (512) 734-1294.

Spring Ho Festival—July 9–15. Theme “Let the Good Times Roll.” For information, visit springho.com, call (512) 556-5301 or email info@springho.com

For more information about Lampasas County events, contact the Lampasas County Chamber of Commerce at (512) 556-5172 or visit lampasaschamber.org.



STAR
Cowpokes for
Kids Trail Ride
May 18–20

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Lometa

For information about Lometa events, contact the city of Lometa at (512) 752-3331.

Pearl

Bluegrass Festival—May 5, June 2, July 7; 11 a.m. Stage show, jam rooms, home-cooked food and bookstore. For more information, visit pearlbluegrass.com.

Pearl Book Cottage—May 5, June 2, July 7; 10 a.m.–6 p.m. All kinds of books and resale items. Payment by donation with all proceeds going to charity. For information, call (254) 865-9282 or (254) 865-5864.

Community Meal—The third Thursday of each month, 11:30 a.m., Pearl Baptist Church, Highway 183. Contact Connie at (254) 223-0621.

Pidcoke

The Big Feed—May 5, 5:30 p.m. Texas barbe-

cue and fish fry prepared by men’s group. Donations accepted at the door with proceeds going to food banks in Coryell and Lampasas counties. Contact Lori Maples or Bill Bales at (254) 760-2288.

Pidcoke Baptist and Methodist Church Combined Vacation Bible School—June 11–15, 6–8 p.m., Methodist Church (halfway between Gatesville and Copperas Cove on FM 116). Contact Betty Miller at (254) 421-1823 for the Methodist Church or Petra Heitman at (254) 893-0590 at the Baptist Church. Sandwiches and snacks will be served to participants.

For more information about Pidcoke United Methodist Church events, call (254) 760-2288 or visit pidcoke-umc.org.

San Saba

Pecan Capital Trade Days—May 5, 8 a.m.–2 p.m., courthouse square, 500 Wallace St. For vendor information, contact Joann at (325) 372-4029.

San Saba Farmers Market—Every Wednesday, May 23–August, 9 a.m.–1 p.m., courthouse square, Highway 190 E. San Saba-grown produce and other food items will be sold. No vendor fee.

San Saba Music Series—Gary P. Nunn with John Bauman—May 5, 6:30–11:45 p.m., Digg’s Restaurant & Club. Cost: \$15. Benefiting the Juston Sanderson Memorial Fund. For information, call (325) 372-3010. Sponsored by Hoffpauir.

Three-Person Scramble Golf Tournament—May 19–20, San Saba River Golf Course. For information, call (325) 372-3212 or visit goldsansaba.com.

San Saba Pro Rodeo Days and Parade—June 1–2, 6:30–10:30 p.m., San Saba Rodeo Arena. For information, contact Rodeo Asso-

ciation at (325) 372-5416.

Guys and Dolls Scramble—June 2–3, San Saba River Golf Course. For information, call (325) 372-3212 or visit goldsansaba.com.

Cow Camp BBQ Cook-Off—June 8–9, Risien Park. For information on this Lonestar BBQ event and FREE concert, call Cole at (325) 372-7363. Sponsored by Hoffpauir.

San Saba Music Series—Koe Wetzel with Copper Chief—June 8, 6:30–11:45 p.m., Risien Park, at the Cow Camp Cook-off. Cost: \$15. For information, contact the city of San Saba at (325) 372-8291.

5th Annual Tournament of Hope in Memory of Larry McNeely—June 23, Noon–7 p.m., San Saba River Golf Course. For information, call (325) 372-3212 or visit goldsansaba.com.

San Saba Music Series—Dirty River Boys with Grady Spencer—June 23, 6:30 p.m.–11:45 p.m., Digg’s Restaurant & Club. Cost: \$15. Benefiting the Larry McNeely Memorial Scholarship Fund. For information, contact the city of San Saba at (325) 372-8291.

Fourth of July Celebration in the Park—July 4, beginning at dusk, Mill Pond Park, S. Thomas Stewart Drive. For information, contact Sharon O’Neill at (325) 372-5144.

Two-Person Scramble Golf Tournament—July 21–22, San Saba River Golf Course. For information, call (325) 372-3212 or visit goldsansaba.com.

San Saba Music Series—Rift Music Group Showcase featuring Shea Abshier, Giovannie and the Hired Guns and Ryan Wilcox—July 21, 6:30 p.m.–11:45 p.m., Digg’s Restaurant & Club. Cost: \$15. Benefiting the Never Surrender Organization. For information, contact the city of San Saba at (325) 372-8291.

For more information about San Saba events, contact the San Saba Visitor Center at (325) 372-5200 or visit sansabatexas.com/calendar or sansabachamber.com.

Star

Cowpokes for Kids Trail Ride—May 18–20. Enjoy the beautiful rolling hills with incredible views while trotting horseback along the trails of the McCasland, Youman and Pig Foot ranches. This is a donation-only trail ride. There will be three rides, food, refreshments, a dance and an auction. All proceeds from this event will go to New Horizons. New Horizons provides specialized treatment and care to boys and girls who have experienced abuse and neglect. For more information, visit cowpokesforkids.com.



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Practical Pointers for Electrical Safety Month

MAY IS NATIONAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH, AND HAMILTON COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE is working to raise awareness about potential home electrical hazards and the importance of electrical safety.

Our modern lives depend on electricity, and if you don't properly maintain your electrical products, they can create hazards. The good news is that eliminating electrical hazards from your home doesn't have to be difficult or expensive.

Many homes and their electrical systems were built before most modern-day home electronics and appliances were even invented. Today's increased demand for energy can overburden an older home's electrical system. If you notice flickering or dimming lights, it may indicate your home's wiring is inadequate for your needs. Have it checked by an electrician.

Hamilton County EC offers the following tips to help identify and eliminate electrical hazards to protect yourself, your family and your home:

- ▶ Make sure televisions, game systems and computer equipment have plenty of space around them for ventilation.
- ▶ Use extension cords as temporary solutions only.
- ▶ Do not place extension cords in high-traffic areas or under carpets.
- ▶ Use a surge protector to help protect your computer, televisions and other electronic equipment from damage caused by voltage changes.
- ▶ Heavy reliance on power strips is an indication that you have too few outlets for your needs. Have additional outlets installed by a licensed electrician.
- ▶ Keep liquids away from electrical items such as televisions and computers.
- ▶ Make sure a lightbulb's wattage is right for the fixture. Lightbulbs with wattages that are too high for the fixture can overheat and cause a fire.
- ▶ Create a guide for your breaker box so that you know which breaker to turn off when needed.
- ▶ Recurring tripped circuit breakers or multiple blown fuses can signify a serious and dangerous electrical problem. Contact a licensed electrician immediately. As always, Hamilton County EC encourages you and your family to stay safe.

WHAT IS



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WHAT IS SMARTHUB?



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