

Cooperative History, Cooperative Future

Looking back provides the path forward



MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MANAGER/CEO STEVE YOUNG

ONE OF MY FAVORITE SAYINGS ALWAYS HAS BEEN, “THOSE WHO do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” Yet sometimes, remembering our history with the goal of repeating it—and improving on it—can be a good thing.

For example, we never forget the struggles thousands of rural families endured before their homes were electrified, and the way electric cooperatives formed to bring

light to that darkness. As a result, employees at more than 900 co-ops across the United States dedicate themselves daily to making life better for member-owners.

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

Hamilton County Electric Cooperative was founded when neighbors worked together to bring electricity to our rural community. Big, investor-owned power com-

panies thought they couldn’t generate enough profit, so they bypassed rural areas and only electrified the cities.

Back then, there were frequent meetings among neighbors to discuss the formation of this cooperative. Once established, the co-op’s annual meetings became “must-attend” events every year.

Fast-forward to today—and tomorrow: Your electric co-op currently serves more than 11,500 members, gives scholarships to local students and supports numerous community service organizations in the area. We also regularly return capital credits to our members.

We started out providing electricity, but our impact—with your support and input—has grown. Over the years, we’ve listened to you and your fellow co-op member-owners, and we know that we must keep pace as technology and consumer needs evolve. While times and technology will continue to change, our commitment to you will not. We understand that the spirit that helped create this co-op must be nurtured continually.

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



Stop the Vampires!

THE LITTLE VAMPIRES WHO RING YOUR doorbell on Halloween night aren’t the only fiends you should be afraid of. Electricity vampires are all over your house, all year long.

Electrical vampires are appliances and electronics that continue to draw electricity even when they are turned off.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, vampires account for up to 5 percent of the energy use in your house.

Here is a list of the most likely vampires in your house:

- ▶ Computers, modems, routers, printers and other related equipment.
- ▶ Your flat-screen TV. The larger it is, the more energy it uses—on and off.
- ▶ Home theater equipment, including surround-sound devices.
- ▶ Your cable or satellite TV box.
- ▶ Anything with a digital time display, like your microwave oven or DVD player.

An electrical device is a vampire if it has a continuous display, like your digital clock; charges batteries, like your mobile phone charger; or has a remote control, like your TV.

The best way to stop these vampires is to unplug them when you’re not using them. A power strip lets you flip one switch to stop a group of vampire electronics from using electricity.

Who You Gonna Call? Scam Busters!

SCAMS PREYING ON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE MEMBERS APPEAR TO BE ON THE RISE again. In several states, electric co-ops and other utilities are joining together to warn the public about phone calls, emails and visits from scammers.

Mechanics of a Scam

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

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

A Flair for Fraud

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

Co-ops around the country are seeing other types of fraud, too. In South Carolina, co-op members reported a man wearing a co-op badge, claiming to be a solar provider working with the co-op. The man, who drives a white, unmarked van, solicits members for appointments to discuss solar installations to gain entry to their homes.

Where To Turn for Help

Public awareness and protection initiatives started by electric cooperatives and other utilities—such as the national coalition Utilities United Against Scams and Vermont's new Scam Busters campaign—are using social media, local news and bill inserts to educate and protect members and customers by ensuring that they know what to do when thieves come knocking or calling.

During such a call, if you are unsure about who is on the other end of the phone, don't make a payment or give out any personal information. Instead, hang up on the caller and then call your electric cooperative and the police.

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

- ▶ If someone calls claiming to represent your local electric cooperative and demands immediate payment or personal information, hang up the phone and call the member service number listed on your electric bill.

- ▶ Do not give in to high-pressure calls seeking personal information. Never provide Social Security numbers, credit card numbers or bank account information to anyone who requests it during an unsolicited phone call or in-home visit.

- ▶ Never allow anyone into your home to check electrical wiring, natural gas pipes or appliances unless you've scheduled an appointment or reported a utility problem. Anytime co-op employees arrive at your residence, request that they produce proper identification before transacting any business.



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*
Bob Gardner, Secretary-Treasurer, *Hamilton*
Dusty Duncan, *Lometa*
Melvin Eilers Jr., *Priddy*
Ervin Koerth, *Gatesville*
Henry Langford, *Lampasas*



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. Hwy. 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.



Hamilton County EC Annual Membership Meeting

HAMILTON COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CELEBRATED

78 years of providing electric service at our annual membership meeting Friday, August 4. Friendly co-op employees, dressed in matching mint green shirts, guided arriving guests to parking spaces and provided a fun ride right to the entrance doors. A delicious meal was served to all, and co-op members received a jumbo cooler bag at the registration desk before going into the auditorium. Early arrivals were entertained by drawings for drink tumblers and rain gauges, and by the Jason Roberts Band before the meeting was called to order.

The meeting was held in the Chandler Craig Auditorium at Hamilton ISD High School. A total of 512 members registered, and more than 900 people attended altogether. Board President P.M. Gerald Jr. called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. The invocation was given by Pastor Keith Reich of St. John Lutheran Church. Following the invocation, the national anthem was sung by Lori Belcher, and General Manager Steve Young led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Young introduced the board of directors and their wives. All directors were present for the meeting. Young recognized retired director Leon Vernon and his wife, Judy. He also recognized Linda Comer, daughter of retired director Jack Elam, who celebrated his 100th birthday in January. Young acknowledged retired employees and introduced special guests Philip Segrest with Segrest & Segrest law firm, Gary Kafer from Rep. J.D. Sheffield's office and NRECA Senior Field Representative Steve Csobaji. He then turned the meeting over to Gerald.

Gerald welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. He reminisced about annual meetings held many years ago, on the first Friday in August at the Hamilton ISD football field.

Gerald informed the members that a warmer-than-average winter and not-as-hot summer had resulted in a \$1.8 million reduction of revenue. This caused the cooperative's margin to decline \$470,995. The good news is, with normal weather returning, revenues should be sufficient to meet margin requirements. In the meantime, the co-op's management and board of directors are determined to keep costs as low as possible, as are great employees who help keep the lights on. The cooperative is very proud of its employees.

In his concluding statements, Gerald commented, "Now, instead of sweltering in uncomfortable, hot bleachers at the football field like our predecessors, we are cool, well-fed and comfortable while we enjoy the rest of the evening." He ended his speech with a humorous story and turned the meeting over to Segrest.

Segrest conducted the business portion of the annual membership meeting. One order of business was to announce the results of the election of directors. He reported that the cooperative had 11,863 members at the time ballots were mailed out. Members returned 990 ballots. Segrest reminded the audience that each member's name and address must be included on the ballot envelope for their vote to be counted. He stated that all mail-in ballots were required to be received by noon on August 4 at the main office of Hamilton County EC,



1. Friendly co-op employees greet guests with smiles on their faces.
2. Glenda Dennison claims the grand prize, a 50-inch Vizio HDTV, on behalf of her father, Glen Manning of Gatesville.
3. Board President P.M. (Bubba) Gerald Jr. reported on the cooperative's 2016 revenues and margin, and concluded his speech with a humorous story.
4. Lori Belcher from Hico sang a beautiful rendition of the national anthem.
5. The Jason Roberts Band entertained the audience with traditional country, Western swing and cowboy country music.
6. Michael Schrank from Hamilton joined the band onstage for a lively impromptu dance to "Big Ball's in Cowtown."
7. Attendees were treated to a delicious fried fish and barbecue dinner catered by J&M's Hill Country BBQ of Gatesville.

and all ballots were counted the same day at the cooperative's main office, beginning at 1 p.m.

Segrest reported that, as general counsel for the co-op, he observed the ballot counting and tabulation of votes. He also attested that he had been provided a Certification of Election Results certifying that the following individuals were elected as directors: Henry Langford, Place 4; Sam Campbell, Place 6; and Melvin Eilers Jr., Place 7. Segrest congratulated the elected directors and turned the meeting back over to Young.

Young acknowledged the co-op's employees for the enormous amount of preparation they did for the meeting and recognized their hard work during the entire year. He also thanked the members for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend the meeting and for their support throughout the year.

Young asked for a moment of silence for Susan Reinert, a co-op employee who passed away this year. She worked for Hamilton County EC April 21, 2008–June 6, 2017. Susan was a special person, and we will miss her.

Young adjourned the 2017 annual membership meeting at 7:20 p.m. and welcomed back to the stage the Jason Roberts Band. After the entertainment, the drawing for attendance prizes was conducted by Joe Raibourn, director of office services. Glenn Manning of Gatesville was the winner of a 50-inch Vizio LED HDTV. Les Griffin of Lometa was the winner of a M&M-estimation contest prize, a \$100 Visa gift card. Four kids' prizes were awarded in the kids' prize drawing, and 77 prizes were awarded in the main prize drawing.

The meeting was a huge success, in part due to the generosity of a couple of local businesses. Billy Lawson with Lawson Implement provided the John Deere Gators used by HCEC staff to transport people from their cars to the air-conditioned buildings. Radio station KCLW-AM 900 announced details of

the meeting during the two weeks beforehand.

Several Hamilton County EC vendors donated prizes. Texas Electric Cooperatives generously contributed 29 prizes. Gift cards were donated by Solomon Corporation, Lower Colorado River Authority, The Nitsche Group, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and Horton Tree Trimming. Emerald Transformer donated a Mississippi gift bag, and JM TEST Systems donated a Pelican Elite cooler.

Hamilton County EC is very thankful for the use of the Hamilton ISD Junior High cafeteria, the high school cafeteria and commons area, and the Chandler Craig Auditorium. We appreciate the assistance Patricia Leach provided with the audiovisual technology and help in obtaining tables and chairs.

Much praise goes out to J&M's Hill Country BBQ for the fantastic job they did in preparing the fried catfish, barbecue, dessert and all the fixings that went along with the meal. Dinner was served in both the Hamilton Junior High cafeteria and the high school commons area. The Hamilton ISD kitchen staff was a great help in the cafeterias.

The Jason Roberts Band entertained the audience with traditional country, Western swing and cowboy country music. Two-time Grammy award-winner Jason Roberts played fiddle and mandolin and was the lead vocalist, singing many of the songs featured on his solo albums *Texas Fiddle Man* and *That's My Home*. Michael Schrank of Hamilton joined the band onstage and performed a lively impromptu dance to a Bob Wills song, *Big Ball's in Cowtown*.

Hamilton County EC appreciates your attendance at the 78th annual membership meeting. The meeting is always a great opportunity for us to see and meet our members. We hope you had a good time and enjoyed the event. We hope to see you at next year's annual meeting, August 3, 2018.

Community Calendar



Comanche

Historic Downtown and Around Trick or Treat, October 31, historic downtown

Deer Hunter Chili Supper, November 3, historic downtown

Tribute to Our Veterans, November 11, Comanche Community Center

Honoring Our Veterans Luncheon, November 12, Comanche Community Center

Christmas Open House, December 2, Comanche County Museum

Christmas in Comanche, December 9, historic downtown and around

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

Copperas Cove

National Night Out Kickoff Party, October 7

National Night Out Block Parties, October 10

Feast of Sharing, November 16

Shop Small Business Saturday, November 25, 8-10 a.m.

Krist Kindle Markt, December 1-3, downtown, 111 Ave. E. Features vendors with Christmas crafts, collectibles, holiday gift ideas and yummy food. For more information, visit kristkindlemarkt.com.

YMCA Christmas Parade, December 2

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

Evant

Movie in the Park, October 21, City Park, at dark, weather permitting

Trunk or Treat, October 31, 6 p.m., City Park

Feed the Hunters and Christmas on the Square, November 11, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Evant square

Jackpot Playday, November 18, 10 a.m. Sponsored by the Evant Rodeo Association. All-around prize for each age division, 70 percent payback in each event. For more information, contact Lauren Goins at (254) 206-0662.

Sip and Stroll, December 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., downtown

Christmas Tree Lighting, December 2, City Park, begins at dark

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

Gatesville

Chamber Market Days, The second Saturday of every month in the parking lot of the Historic Cotton Belt Depot, 2307 S. Highway 36. This not only is a great opportunity for local vendors to set up and show off their unique merchandise but also a great chance for citizens to support local small vendors.

Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame Show/Jamboree, 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 gatesvillecountrymusichalloffame.com or call Roger Vierge at (254) 547-6834.

National Night Out, October 3, 6-8 p.m., Faunt LeRoy Park. Free family activities provided by the Gatesville Police Department and Gatesville area organizations.

Wild Game Dinner and Fundraiser, October 21, 6-10 p.m., Texas Station Event Center. Sponsored by the Gatesville Youth Livestock Supporters. Enjoy a variety of wild game cuisine, silent auction, live auction and entertainment, all benefiting youth participants in the Coryell County Youth Fair. For ticket or sponsorship information, contact Lyle Zoeller at (254) 223-4517.

Boozar, October 28, 6-8 p.m., on the square. Trick-or-treating with local businesses and organizations, games and activities for kids, costume contest, food trucks. For more information, contact Faye at (254) 223-4338.

Gatesville Shop Local, November 3-4, local retail shops and boutiques

Christmas Lights in the Park, Nightly through December. Enjoy a free drive-thru lighted display.

Christmas Parade and Celebration, December 9

Christmas Classic and Holiday Market, December 16, Civic Center, 301 Veterans Memorial Loop. Coryell County 4-H hosts a lamb and goat jackpot show beginning at 9 a.m. with a Christmas Shopping Market inside, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Booth spaces for the market are available for rent. For more information, call (254) 865-2414. Event is open to the public.

For more information about Gatesville events, call the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce at (254) 865-2617, or Cheri Shepherd at the Gatesville Convention and Visitors Bureau at (254) 499-0102.

Goldthwaite

VIII Prairie Experience, October 7, 5-9 p.m., Botanical Garden Legacy Plaza Pavilion, corner of Third and Parker streets. All About Wildlife, dinner and discussion of wild life. Dinner prepared by well-known Austin chef and owner of Dai Due, Jesse Griffiths. Silent and live auctions of hunting packages, art and collectibles. Tickets \$150 each. To make reservations, contact Jan Fischer (325) 642-7527.

Hunters Appreciation Chili Lunch, November 4, 11 a.m. -3 p.m., Legacy Plaza Pavilion. For more details, call the Mills County Chamber of Commerce at (325) 648-3619.

Parade of Lights, December 2. Local businesses design floats to display in the parade.

Hamilton

Pop-Up Shops, October 5, November 2, December 7, 5:30–8:30 p.m., Studio on the Square, 109 N. Rice St. For more information, visit studioonthesquarehamilton.com.

Harvest Festival, October 6–7, First United Methodist Church, 215 W. Main St. Garage sale Friday and Saturday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Harvest Festival Saturday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Free music, terrific kids' festival, live auction at noon and much more. Barbecue lunch \$10, served 11 a.m.–1 p.m. For more information, contact First United Methodist Church (254) 386-8155 or James Yates at papaj234@aol.com.

Trick-or-Treat Around the Square, October 27

Hamilton County Dove Festival, October 28, courthouse square. Vendors 8 a.m.–4 p.m. Wild wing/hot wing cook-off. Wine walk, 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m. Deviled egg challenge, gun show, car show, rock-climbing wall, hamster ball obstacle course, inflatables. The Magical World of Jeffrey Jester Show, 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. on the courthouse steps. Registration forms available at the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, 103½ N. Rice St.

Dove Festival Parade, October 28, 10 a.m. Registration forms available at the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, 103 1/2 N. Rice St

Cork 'N' Pork 5K, October 28, 12:30 p.m. Timekeeping by Race Day Events. Registration forms available at the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, 103 ½ N. Rice St.

Bull Riding at Circle T, October 28, 6 p.m., Circle T Arena, 4007 W. Highway 36. Mutton bustin', calf scramble, plus band and dance at 9:30 p.m.

Holiday Market, November 11, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Fair Park Pavilions, 1007 Park Road at Alamo. Free admission. Huge Friends of the Hamilton Public Library book sale, vendors galore, food, Kids' Korner, Farmers Propane salsa contest and much more. Sponsored by the Pottsville Extension Education Club. For booth reservations and other information, contact Judy Goodson (325) 226-1670 or myoneofakindbyjudy@gmail.com.

Hamilton Hollydays, November 16. Hamilton kicks off holiday lighting festivities at 6 p.m. on the downtown square. Local shops and restaurants will be open 5–8 p.m. Come to any of the Hamilton Hollyday events for a chance to win a one-night stay at the Inn at Circle T and dinner for two at the Crossfire Steakhouse and Cantina. The more you shop, the better your odds are to win! The winner will be chosen at Christmas on the Square, December 7.



**HAMILTON
October 28
Hamilton County Dove
Festival and Parade**

Small Business Hollydays, November 25, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Shop local campaign

The Jennifer Hall Scholarship Fund Dance, November 25, Jayson Harris Pavilion. Doors open at 6 p.m.; dance at 7:30 p.m. Katy Parrish, daughter of John and Lisa Parrish, opens with the national anthem. Calvin Clary sings, with the Clint Allen Janisch Band to follow, and Clayton Landua closes the show. Concessions and a silent auction. Tickets \$10 at the door.

Hamilton Hollydays, November 30, 5–8 p.m. Shop local campaign

For more information about Hamilton events, visit website hamiltontexas.com, contact the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce at (254) 386-3216 or hamiltonchambertx@gmail.com.

Hico

Burger Bash/Horseshoe Tournament, October 7, City Park. Sponsored by the Hico Memorial Scholarship Foundation. For more information, contact Sherry Schane (254) 796-2978.

Horseshoe Tournament, October 7, 4 p.m., City Park. Sponsored by the Hico Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call (254) 796-4727.

Lord's Acre, October 21, First United Methodist Church Family Life Center, 514 W. First St. Country store, silent auction, live auction, lots of handmade goodies! Barbecue lunch with all the fixin's. Fun for the whole family.

Downtown Trick-or-Treat, October 27, 3–5 p.m., downtown. Kids, come dressed up in your costumes and bring your candy bags! Sponsored by local Hico business owners.

Hico Antique Show, October 27–28. Sponsored by the Sugar Moon Antique Store. \$1 entrance fee at the vendor tent goes to the Hico Volunteer Fire Department.

Downtown Holiday Open House, November 11, a Historic Hico event that features treats, door prizes and special discounts at participating shops.

Billy the Kid Day BBQ Cook-Off, November 14–15, Hico City Park. All profits from this event go to the Hico Volunteer Fire Department. Sponsored by the city of Hico and the Hico EDC, and promoted by the Hico Lions Club.

Christmas Parade, December 2. Sponsored by the Hico Chamber of Commerce

Tour of Homes, December 2

For more information about Hico events, visit hico-tx.com or email hicochamber@mail.com.

Kempner

National Night Out Celebration, October 7, 3–5:30 p.m., City Park

Veterans' Day Ceremony, November 11, 11 a.m., City Park, 12641 E. U.S. Highway 190

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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 (512) 556-5302 during regular business hours.

Herb and Art Festival/Jammin' With Art in the Park, October 14, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Hanna Springs Sculpture Garden at Campbell Park, 501 E. North Ave. Featuring fine arts, an array of vendors, food truck competition, Texas wines and Texas craft beers, live music and an exciting children's area. Hosted by the Lampasas County Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center and the Lampasas Association For the Arts.

Fourth Annual Rifles, Racks and Deer Tracks, October 21, 6-10 p.m., Freedom Flyers Hangar, 3202 S. Water St., Burnet. Join us for a delicious barbecue dinner catered by Peete's Mesquite, music provided by Ben Watson and the Hired Guns, live and silent auctions, and a one-of-a-kind classic car display by Lakes Area Rods and Classics. And don't forget about our annual raffle for a chance to win a 2017 Polaris Ranger XP and a variety of amazing guns. Do not need to be present to win. For more information, contact Whitney Goble at whitneyg@hccac.org or (512) 277-4131.

Lampasas Trade Days, October 28, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., 2646 E. Highway 190. Free admission and free parking. For information, contact Barbara Postel (512) 734-1294.

Squared Silly, October 28, 5-7:30 p.m. A family fun event on the courtyard square. Costume contest for ages 0-12, a haunted house for the wee ones, bouncy house, train ride, booths and

games. Ticket prices begin at 25 cents. All proceeds go to local youth organizations. For information, email info@VisionLampasas.com.

Hunters Welcome, November 3, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., HEB parking lot. The barbecue lunch is \$8 and includes a Texas-size barbecue sandwich with all the fixin's, plus chips, cookie and a drink.

Fall Courtyard Square Garage Sale, November 4, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., courtyard square. For more info, contact Andy Berry at (512) 556-5434.

Carol of Lights, December 2, all day, downtown square. For information, contact Diana Hodges at (512) 525-1871.

Lighted Christmas Parade, December 2, 6:30 p.m., courthouse square. For more information, email info@VisionLampasas.com.

Holiday Tour of Homes, December 3. For information, contact Lampasas County Museum at (512) 556-2224.

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

Lometa

National Night Out, October 3, 6 p.m., City Hall

Trunk or Treat, October 31, Lometa Regional Park

Hometown Christmas, December 9, City Hall

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

Pearl

Bluegrass Festival, October 7, November 4, December 2, 11 a.m. Stage show, jam rooms, home-cooked food and bookstore. For more information, visit pearlbluegrass.com.

Pearl Book Cottage, October 7, November 4, December 2, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. All kinds of books and resale items. Payment by donation. All donations go to charity. For information, call (254) 865-9282 or (254) 865-5864.

Pidcoke

Lord's Acre Auction and Potluck Dinner, October 21, dinner at 5:30 p.m. Auction begins after meal. New and homemade goods for auction. Proceeds go to support community outreach. Bring a potluck dish to share. To donate auction items, contact Margaret Martin at (254) 518-2257.

Pidcoke is halfway between Copperas Cove and Gatesville on FM 116. For more information about Pidcoke United Methodist Church events, call (254) 760-2288 or visit pidcoke-umc.org.

San Saba

San Saba Decorate for Fall Competition. The San Saba Garden Club challenges local businesses to participate in the San Saba Decorate for Fall competition. As part of the competition, the Garden Club will sell pumpkins as a fundraiser for its various civic projects including city beautification and scholarships. Businesses recognized for their participation will be announced by October 15.

San Saba County Historical Museum Open, Saturdays and Sundays through October, 1:30-4 p.m., housed within Mill Pond Park, Thomas Stewart Drive. Come see San Saba life as it was. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated. For information contact, Lynn Blankenship at (325) 372-8807.

Pecan Capital Trade Day, October 7, November 4, December 2, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Courthouse Square, 500 E. Wallace St. Handcrafted bowls, beautiful crafts, baked goods, jellies, tamales and much more available to you each month through December. For information, contact Joann Van Gorp at (325) 372-4029.

Casino Night and Dance, October 21, 7-10 p.m., Civic Center. Benefiting Never Surrender Cancer Foundation of San Saba County. Tickets are \$25 per person in advance, \$30 at the door. Tickets available at Commercial National Bank, Arrowhead National Bank, City National Bank, Bar D Brew House and Alamo Pecan and Coffee. For more information, phone Donna Shahan at (325) 372-7049.

Individual Stroke Play Tournament, October 21-22, San Saba River Golf Course Tournaments, County Road 102. For registration details and tee times, visit golfsansaba.com or phone the pro shop at (325) 372-3212.

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 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.

Annual Opening Hunters Welcome Weekend, November 3. Hunters will receive goodie bags compliments of the San Saba County Chamber of Commerce. Call (325) 372-5141 for more information.

Hunters Welcome San Saba VFD Steak Dinner and Raffle, November 3, 4:30-7:30 p.m., San Saba Volunteer Firehouse, 702 E. Storey St. Steak dinner plate \$15. For information, visit facebook.com/san.vfd.

Hamrick and Stafford 13th Annual Customer Appreciation Day, November 4, 6-9 p.m., Hamrick's Auto and Stafford Chevron, 611 E. Wallace St. Come and enjoy free food and drinks, plus live music. For information, contact Hamrick's Automotive Services at (325) 372-5775.

Hunter's Stew, November 11, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Civic Center. Warm bowls of hunter's stew await you at this new fundraiser hosted by the San Saba Garden Club.

Christmas Light Extravaganza, November 23-January 5, Mill Pond Park, Thomas Stewart Drive. Dusk-10 p.m., Sunday-Thursday; dusk-midnight, Friday-Saturday.

Downtown Sip n' Stroll Wine Tasting Event, December 9, 2-6 p.m. Pick up tickets at

Everett's Furniture, 310 E. Commerce St. There will be seven wineries visiting in seven downtown businesses. Cost \$20, includes 10 wine-tasting tickets, a wine glass and wine tote bag (while quantities last). Tickets can be purchased in advance on Eventbrite, the chamber of commerce website or at Everett's Furniture. For information, call the Chamber of Commerce at (325) 372-5141 or email executive.director@sansabachamber.com.

River City Holiday Band Concert, December 9, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Courthouse Square, 500 E. Wallace St. Enjoy this free, festive holiday concert while you wait for the Lighted Christmas Parade to begin.

Lighted Christmas Parade, December 9, 6:30-7:30 p.m., downtown, rolling down Wallace Street from Seventh Street, with lights, music and plenty of excitement. For an entry form, contact the chamber at (325) 372-5141.

Santa's Holiday Workshop, December 9, 7-9 p.m., Estep-Burleson Plaza, 116 S. Cherokee St. This FREE family event features photos with Santa and fun activities for the kids.

For more information about San Saba County events, contact the San Saba County Chamber of Commerce at (325) 372-5141 or visit sansabachamber.com.

WHAT IS



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Director Election Results

On August 4, the membership of Hamilton County Electric Cooperative Association elected the following members to its board of directors:

Henry Langford Sam Campbell Melvin Eilers Jr.

The cooperative's board of directors met August 31 and elected officers. The following members comprise the Hamilton County Electric Cooperative Association Board of Directors:

- P.M. Gerald Jr.,** President, Hamilton
- Sam Campbell,** Vice President, Goldthwaite
- Bob Gardner,** Secretary-Treasurer, Hamilton
- Henry Langford,** Director, Lampasas
- Melvin Eilers Jr.,** Director, Priddy
- Ervin Koerth,** Director, Gatesville
- Dusty Duncan,** Director, Lometa



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