



MESSAGE
FROM
GENERAL
MANAGER
CODY
LASATER

Simmer on Ideas for Summer Savings

JUNE MARKS THE beginning of Texas' highest electricity consumption season, with average daily usage peaking between 3 and 8 p.m. That spike is driven by air conditioning demand during hot weather and evening appliance use for chores like cooking and laundry.

If you start to feel the heat on your electric bill this summer, take time to do AC system maintenance and change some habits to save money.

Hamilton County Electric Cooperative is committed to helping our members use energy wisely while keeping homes comfortable year-round.

In summer, when your AC is working its hardest, it's still not too late to perform needed maintenance.

Checkups conducted by a licensed professional can help ensure your system is running efficiently, safely and reliably. A well-maintained AC unit uses less energy, lasts longer and helps prevent costly breakdowns when you need it most.

If you're looking for a simple place to start saving, look no further than ceiling fans. Fans don't actually cool or heat the air, but they help you feel more comfortable by moving it.

During warmer months, make sure ceiling fan blades are set to rotate counterclockwise. This creates a downward breeze that makes you feel cooler, allowing you to raise the thermostat a few degrees without sacrificing comfort. In cooler months, reverse the direction of fan blades to create an

updraft that pushes warm air down from the ceiling without creating a breeze.

Adjusting your thermostat just a few degrees can make a difference on your energy bill. As summer continues, try setting it slightly higher. Even a 2- or 3-degree adjustment can noticeably reduce energy use while still keeping your home comfortable—especially when combined with ceiling fans or open windows on those rare mild, pleasant days.

Hot water use is another area where simple habits matter. Taking shorter showers reduces the amount of energy needed to heat water, which makes up a significant portion of most energy bills. Cutting just a few minutes off each shower adds up to savings.

Finally, the time of day you use energy makes a difference. When you run major appliances during off-peak hours (when energy demand is lower), you can help your cooperative take advantage of lower, off-peak wholesale power rates. That helps keep everyone's rates lower and helps reduce pressure on the electric grid—a win-win!

HCEC is here to help every season, every step of the way. We offer energy-saving programs and resources designed to help you lower energy use for your home or business and manage costs.

If you have questions or want to learn more about energy efficiency offerings and programs, visit hamiltonelectric.coop. ■





Have Cool Fun Without the AC

WHEN TEMPERATURES RISE, so can your electric bill as everyone heads inside. Encourage kids to stay cool with these activities that get them outdoors and don't require cranking up the air conditioner.

Jump rope water challenge: Take turns spinning the jump rope while the person jumping holds a paper cup of water. Whoever has the most water in their cup after 10 hops wins.

Ice-age excavation: Take waterproof children's toys and freeze them in blocks of ice. Use kid-friendly tools to chip and melt away the ice to expose the toys.

Cold sweets: Freeze fruit juice or fruit purée poured into ice pop molds or ice cube trays to make cool treats. Ice cream is also a summer staple. To enjoy this summer favorite sans electricity, use a hand-crank ice cream maker.

Plastic waterslide: Whether rented, purchased or improvised with a tarp and hose, a flexible plastic waterslide can provide hours of wet and wild entertainment for the whole family.

Water fight: Challenge your children to a battle with water balloons or squirt guns. Evaporation will help keep you cool! Just be sure to pick up all the balloon pieces when you're done so the little bits don't become litter or choking hazards.

Water table: A water table puts water and toys at toddler height for outdoor play. Create a "duck pond" with rubber duckies and a shallow plastic tub, or make a pouring station with various sized buckets and pitchers.

Water-gun painting: Take this art project outdoors and away from surfaces that you want to keep clean. Fill water guns with washable, nontoxic paint and use them to squirt a piece of paper set up on an easel. ■



DID YOU KNOW?

Inspect the seal between your room air conditioning unit and the window frame to ensure cool air isn't escaping.

IMAGES BY BARBARA | ISTOCK.COM

Hamilton County Electric Cooperative Association

CONTACT US

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Local (254) 386-3123

Toll-Free 1-800-595-3401

Web hamiltonelectric.coop

General Manager

Cody Lasater

Board of Directors

Robert Straley, President, District 4

Dusty Duncan, Vice President, District 5

Brandon Haile, Secretary-Treasurer, District 2

Jack Caldwell, District 1

Sam Campbell, District 6

Ervin Koerth, District 3

John Priddy, District 7

24/7

Outage Hotline Numbers

For information and to report outages, please call us.

TOLL-FREE

1-855-955-3183

ABOUT HAMILTON COUNTY EC

HCEC owns and maintains more than 4,000 miles of line to provide electric service to more than 13,000 members in Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Mills and San Saba counties.

PAYMENT OPTIONS AND LOCATIONS

Online at hamiltonelectric.coop

Call 1-855-955-3183 to pay using our automated phone system (credit/debit card or check).

Bank draft can be set up or bill payments can be charged to a debit or credit card monthly.

Hamilton County EC Office

112 E. Gentry St., Hamilton

Fort Gates Water Corp.

103 Gateway Circle, Gatesville

Head Insurance

1006 Fourth St., Goldthwaite

Kempner Water Supply

11986 E. Highway 190, Kempner

Lometa City Hall

109 W. San Saba St., Lometa

VISIT US ONLINE

hamiltonelectric.coop



Check us out at

TexasCoopPower.com/hamilton

Notice of Director Election

Nominating committee to name board nominees

THE MEMBERS OF Hamilton County Electric Cooperative will elect directors by mail-in ballot October 6.

In accordance with cooperative bylaws, a nominating committee will be appointed by the board of directors at its regular board meeting May 28. The nominating committee will meet at 10 a.m. June 29 at the cooperative's main office at 112 E. Gentry St. in Hamilton to make nominations for directors to serve in districts 4, 6 and 7. Terms of the incumbents in those districts expire this year.

District 4 is the area east of U.S. Highway 281 in Lampasas County served by the cooperative.

District 6 is the area south of U.S. Highway 84 in Mills County and west to the cooperative boundary line.

District 7 is the area north of U.S. Highway 84 bounded on the east by Hamilton County line and on the west by the cooperative boundary line.

Prospective candidates must meet the director qualifications as specified in the HCEC bylaws (Article IV, Section 4.02 (a) Director Qualifications).

Ballots will be mailed to members August 25 and should be returned to the co-op no later than 1 p.m. October 6, at which time the ballots will be counted. The results of the election will be announced on the co-op's website, hamiltonelectric.coop; on its Facebook page; and at the annual membership meeting October 6.

Following are excerpts from the bylaws of Hamilton County EC, 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 (herein referred to individually as "Director" and collectively as "Directors", "Board of Directors" or "Board") or under the authority of such Board of Directors, 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 nomination or petition for 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 Article I, Section 1.04(f) of the 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 nomination or petition for 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 described in Section 4.02 (a)(v);

(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, any other State in the United States, or received the equivalence of a felony conviction in any other country.

(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 4.07 of the 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 the 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 the 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 and maintains his or her principal place of residence in that District, as provided in Section 4.02 (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: (i) increase an existing Director's term, or (ii) 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 each of 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. If only one Candidate is nominated in a district, then the Director Candidate may be elected by acclamation of the Members without the need for mailing or circulating mail-in-ballots.

(b) Nomination by Petition. Any seventy-five (75) or more Members of the Cooperative, acting together, may submit to the Secretary of the Cooperative additional nominations in writing over such Members' signatures, listing the Members' nominee(s) in like manner, not less than one hundred (100) days prior to the date the votes are to be counted, and the Nominating Committee shall post such nominations at the same time and 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 4.06 of the 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. Campaigning for Election; Voting for Directors; Validity of Board Action. Any and all candidate(s) for election or re-election as Director shall: (i) comply with the Bylaws and policies of the Cooperative, as adopted by the Board of Directors; and (ii) notify the Cooperative CEO/Manager in writing, no more than fourteen (14) days after the date the nominee is notified by the Cooperative that his or her name has been certified by the nominating committee, of the candidate(s)' intention to campaign for Director, including, but not limited to, the manner and means of campaign. The election of Directors shall be held annually by mail-in ballot, unless otherwise provided herein. 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 Districts shall be invalid and shall not be counted with respect to such District or Districts. If only one Candidate is nominated in a District or where an incumbent Director runs unopposed, then the Director Candidate may be elected by acclamation of the Members present at the meeting of the Members without the need for mailing or circulating mail-in ballots. 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 the 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. ■



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Keep Scammers Out During Outages

SCAMMERS TAKE ADVANTAGE when widespread power outages occur. Don't fall victim to their tricks.

When severe weather knocks out your electricity, scammers sometimes see an opportunity. They may contact you posing as a Hamilton County Electric Cooperative employee, urging you to act quickly and provide personal information to restore service.

Scammers might say they're sorry your power is out and offer reimbursement but first require your bank account information. Or they might say there's an error in their system and ask you to hand over personal information before they can restore power. They might even threaten to leave your utilities off if you don't send money immediately.

Don't fall for these lies.

Always communicate with Hamilton County EC through official channels, such as by visiting hamiltonelectric.coop or by calling (254) 386-3123. Your safety and personal information are worth taking a moment to pause and verify unknown senders. If something feels off about a call or message, trust your instincts—it's always better to double-check than to risk compromising your personal or financial information.

The Federal Communications Commission and Hamilton County EC recommend taking these actions if you receive a call you think might be a scam.

If you get a suspicious call, thank the caller and hang up. Never call a number left in a voicemail, text or email by a suspi-

cious source. If you're worried, contact the co-op directly using a trusted number.

If you get a call out of the blue and the caller claims you have to pay a past-due bill or your electricity or other services will be shut off, never give banking information over the phone. To pay your bill over the phone, always place the call to a number you know is legitimate.

Scammers rely on panic to cloud your judgment. Take a breath, slow down and remember that we will always give you time and options to resolve an account issue.

If the caller tells you to pay by gift card, cash reload card, money transfer or cryptocurrency, it's a scam. You can report suspicious calls to the FCC at fcc.gov/consumers or to your local authorities to help protect others in your community.

Sharing your experience with neighbors and fellow members is one of the most effective ways to stop scammers from finding their next victim.

As a member-owned cooperative, Hamilton County EC is committed to transparent, respectful communication with every member we serve. If you're ever unsure whether a message is legitimate, don't hesitate to reach out.

Protecting you from fraud is something we take seriously, and no question is too small when your security is at stake. ■

Grill Safely This Father's Day

DADS KNOW: GRILLING outdoors is not only a good way to keep your house cooler and lower your energy bill but also a great way to enjoy Father's Day.

But make sure safety is a priority. Each year, grill fires cause thousands of injuries and millions of dollars in property loss, according to the National Fire Protection Association. Most grill fires can be prevented with proper maintenance and safe use.

Stay safe by following these simple tips from Safe Electricity, a program of the Energy Education Council.

No matter which type of grill you prefer, keep it clean by removing grease or fat buildup from grates and trays. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for proper cleaning practices.

Keep a fire extinguisher nearby, and make sure everyone present knows how to use it.

Place the grill on a stable surface, away from homes, deck railings and overhanging branches.

Keep children and pets at least 3 feet away.

Never leave an active grill unattended.

Use propane and charcoal grills outdoors only, which prevents fire hazards and carbon monoxide poisoning.

Gas grills pose a greater fire risk due to the potential for leaks. To ensure safe grilling, check hoses for leaks each season.

Charcoal Grills

Only use starter fluid designed for grills, never gasoline or other flammable liquids.

Never add lighter fluid to a lit fire—this causes flare-ups.

Store starter fluid away from heat sources and out of children's reach.

Let coals and ashes cool completely before disposing of them in a metal container.

Electric Grills

Ensure your electric grill is outdoor rated to withstand exposure to moisture and varying temperatures.

Never use an electric grill in rainy or wet conditions. Store the grill in a dry place when not in use.

Keep electrical connections away from water, damp surfaces and pools to avoid electric shock.

Always plug your grill into a ground-fault circuit interrupter outlet to protect against shocks. If using an extension cord, make sure it's outdoor-rated and GFCI-protected.

Check the power cord for frays, cracks or damage before use. ■



Community Calendar

The following community event information was gathered in April. Please contact event sources directly to confirm event dates and details.

Comanche

Arts & Crafts Show, June 12–26, Comanche County Museum, 402 Moorman Road. Paintings, handcrafted art pieces and handmade items will be on display. All are invited to bring their homemade art and craft items to the museum by 4 p.m. June 11. Members of the Comanche Art Club will have their art on display. This art show is for adults and kids. For more information, call (325) 356-5115 or email comanchecountytxmuseum@gmail.com.

Comanche Rodeo & Parade, June 19–20, 7 p.m., Comanche Roping Club Arena, 9101 U.S. Highway 377.

White House Tea Time, July 9, 2–3:30 p.m., Comanche County Museum, 402 Moorman Road. Featuring recipes from the White House Family Cookbook by Executive Chef Henry Haller and tea service from the Newburg Annex. For more information, call (325) 356-5115 or email comanchecountytxmuseum@gmail.com.

Family Game Day, July 23, 4–6:30 p.m., Comanche County Museum, 402 Moorman Road. Featuring games for adults and kids. We have plenty of tables and chairs. We will bring the games. Bring your family and your favorite soda. We will furnish tea, water and ice. Have fun! For more information, call (325) 356-5115 or email comanchecountytxmuseum@gmail.com.

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

Gatesville

Shivaree, June 5–6, Courthouse Square. Different events throughout the two-day event with live music from Clayton Landua and headliner Josh Abbott Band.

Market Days: June 13, July 11; 9 a.m.–1 p.m.; Cotton Belt Depot parking lot. Featuring local vendors, handmade goods, unique finds, food and community fun.

Fire Ant Tour, June 13, Gatesville Civic Center, 301 Veterans Memorial Loop.

Country Music Hall of Fame Show; June 19, July 17; 7 p.m.; Gatesville City Auditorium; 110 N. Eighth St. Free concerts on the

third Friday of every month, the Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame is dedicated to promoting country music and local artists.

Texas Indian Heritage Association Summer Powwow, June 26–27, Gatesville Civic Center, 301 Veterans Memorial Loop.

USA 250th Celebration, July 2–5, festivities in various locations. More details to come.

Pickle Fest, July 3, Gatesville Civic Center, 301 Veterans Memorial Loop.

Fireworks Show, July 4, Gatesville Civic Center, 301 Veterans Memorial Loop. City of Gatesville event.

Gatesville Riding Club Annual Rodeo, July 30–August 1, Gatesville Riding Arena, 301 Veterans Memorial Loop.

For more information on the Civic Center events, contact Morgan Smart at (254) 499-0102 or msmart@gatesvilletx.com.

For information about Gatesville events, call (254) 865-2617, visit gatesvillechamber.com, visit their Facebook page, or email gatesvillecoc@gmail.com.

Goldthwaite

Preserving the Painted Past—Rock Art and Archaeology in the Lower Pecos, June 13, 10–11 a.m., Texas Botanical Gardens & Native American Interpretive Center, 1219 Fisher St. Talk by David Keim, preservation archaeologist at the Shumla Archaeological Research and Education Center.

Kendra Gives Back, June 26, 5–7 p.m., Kendra Scott Flagship, 1701 S. Congress Ave., Austin. Call (325) 451-1075 or visit legacyplaza.org for more information.

Mills County Historical Museum, Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., 1119 Fisher St. Free admission.

Goldthwaite Theatre, 1206 Fisher St. For information on upcoming events, call (325) 451-1811 or visit goldthwaitetheatre.org.

For more information about Goldthwaite events, visit goldthwaiteareachamber.com, call the Goldthwaite Area Chamber of Commerce at (325) 648-3619 or email gcc@centex.net.

Hamilton

Main Street Market on the Square, second Saturday of the month, April–December, downtown Hamilton square. Browse handmade and homemade goods,

visit local shops, and enjoy a relaxed morning on the square. Vendor spots are free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. For vendor applications, contact Hamilton Main Street at (254) 386-8116 or mainstreet@hamiltontx.com.

90 Proof Country, June 19, 8–11 p.m., Circle T Arena, 4007 W. State Highway 36. A tribute to the '90s with 90 Proof Country Band. Tickets are available now.

Dueling Pianos, July 25, 8–11 p.m., Circle T Arena, 4007 W. State Highway 36. 21 and older only. B Flat Dueling Pianos will take the stage at 9 p.m. Arrive early for a delicious dinner at the Crossfire Steakhouse. Catch rodeos, roping, concerts and more at Circle T Arena. For the latest event schedule, visit circletarena.net/events or call (254) 386-3559.

For more information about Hamilton events, visit AllThingsHamilton.org or follow All Things Hamilton on Facebook. Contact Hamilton Historic Main Street at (254) 386-8116 or mainstreet@cityhamiltontx.gov. Visit the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce at hamiltontexaschamberofcommerce.com or contact (254) 386-3216 or hamiltonchambertx@gmail.com.

Hico

Pageant Bingo Night, June 12. The event benefits the Hico Scholarship Pageant.

Old Settler's Reunion & Rodeo, July 10–18, Hico City Park. Jam-packed days including a softball tournament, Miss Hico Pageant, Family Night, Poker Run and Hico 5K.

Grand Slam Poker Run, July 18, 8 a.m., Hico City Park. Rev-up for a cause! Grab your crew and your ride—bike, dirt bike or ATV—and hit the trails to support the Hico Baseball & Softball Association. Cruise through the scenic route, soak in the views and stop by awesome local businesses along the way. Collect your digital poker cards at checkpoints then roll back into town for food, fun and good vibes in our one-of-a-kind Hico. To purchase tickets, go to app.acespokerrun.com/acesevent/6XxLuDJDhLG4RpmvmZ1r.

For more information about Hico events, contact the Hico Chamber of Commerce at (254) 434-1249 or visit hicochamber.org or facebook.com/hicochamberofcommerce.

Lampasas

Lampasas County Farmers Market and Crafts, Saturdays, 9 a.m.–1 p.m., downtown courthouse square parking lot.

Second Saturday Sale—Flea Market Style, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Storage Near Me Texas, 1010 E. Fourth St.

Spring Ho Festival, July 6–12, various locations. More details to come.

Toughest 10K in Texas, July 11, 7 a.m., 902 S. Broad St. A 5K and 1-mile fun run are also available. For registration, go to runsignup.com/race/tx/lampasas/toughest10k. All races are chip timed. Medals are awarded for the 10K and 5K and ribbons for the 1-mile run.

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

Lometa

Live Music, Saturdays, 1 p.m.–4 p.m., Fiesta Winery at Bend, 18727 W. FM 580.

Release Party & Vendor Market, June 6, 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Fiesta Winery at Bend, 18727 W. FM 580. Open to all.

Yoga & Mimosas; June 13, July 11; 10 a.m.–11 a.m.; Fiesta Winery at Bend; 18727 W. FM 580.

For more information about Fiesta Winery events at Bend, call (325) 628-3433, email info@fiestawinery.com, or visit fiestawinery.com.

Pearl

Pearl Bluegrass Jam; June 6, July 4; Pearl Community Center; 6301 FM 183. Jam

rooms open at 10 a.m., kitchen at 11 a.m. and stage show at 1 p.m. Free admission for musicians and spectators; all levels of musicians welcome to come and jam. If you would like to book your band for the stage, call or text Jeffrey King at (832) 514-1909. Serving great home cooking and home-made desserts. We now accept credit cards or cash payments. Proceeds benefit the Pearl Community Center. There are 32 RV spaces available; for rental, contact Connie Long at (254) 223-0621. Follow Pearl Bluegrass Jam on Facebook for more information on the monthly schedule.

Junk-in-Your-Trunk and Farmers Market, June 6, 9 a.m.–3 p.m., Pearl Book Cottage and Resale Shop and Community Center parking lot. Books and resale items. All proceeds go to local charities. For information, call Kay Pruett at (254) 865-5864 or Linda Ray at (254) 206-1999.

San Saba

Fireworks Show, July 4, 7–9 p.m., Mill Pond Park, 110 Thomas Stewart Drive. Fireworks display at dark.

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



LAURI PATTERSON | ISTOCK.COM

Sloppy Joe Sandwiches

- 1 medium onion**
- 1 pound ground beef**
- 1½ tablespoons flour**
- ⅔ cup ketchup**
- ¾ cup cola**
- 2 tablespoons vinegar**
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce**
- 1 teaspoon honey**
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard**
(or 1 tablespoon mustard)
- Salt, to taste**
- Ground black pepper, to taste**
- 12 hamburger buns**

1. Chop onion. Add onion and beef to a skillet. Brown beef and drain excess fat.
2. In a bowl, mix remaining ingredients well. Add mixture to skillet. Cover and simmer 40 minutes.
3. Serve on buns. These are best the next day, after all the flavors have melded.

MAKES 12 SANDWICHES

TCP Find this and more delicious recipes online at TexasCoopPower.com.

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 Maria Donahoo. 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 month. 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 maria.donahoo@hamiltonelectric.coop, write to HCEC at P.O. Box 753, Hamilton, TX 76531, or call 1-800-595-3401.

POWER TIP

You can compare your home's annual energy use with similar homes using Energy Star's Home Energy Yardstick at energystar.gov.



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