



MESSAGE
FROM
GENERAL
MANAGER
**CODY
LASATER**

Democracy at Your Cooperative

HAMILTON COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE is a democracy, and one of the most important activities we conduct every year is an election for the board of directors. These are the people you entrust to guide the co-op in matters of policy and ensure its thoughtful governance.

The directors of a co-op are also members of the co-op. Board members make strategic decisions for the organization while employees handle the operations.

Electric co-ops need your active participation, and at Hamilton County EC we try to make it as convenient as possible for members to have their say.

As a member of Hamilton County EC, you have the right, and obligation, to vote in cooperative elections. Hamilton County EC mailed out director election ballots August 22.



NORTONRSX | ISTOCK.COM

The 2023 ballot includes director elections for districts 4, 6 and 7. Learn more about the board of director nominees in the next few pages.

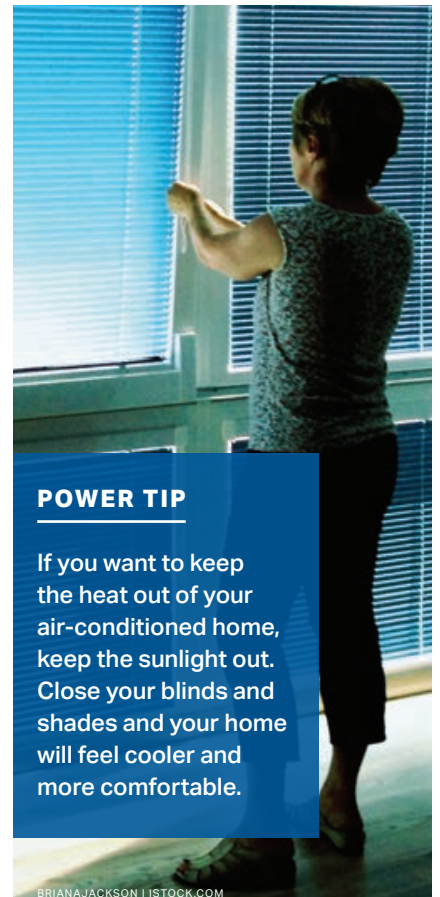
We know that democracy is not a perfect form of governing; it just happens to be the best one we know of. If we can practice doing it well at the local level, perhaps we can have a positive impact on our democratic nation. ■



DID YOU KNOW?

Ceiling fans can make a room feel 4 degrees cooler. To save energy with a ceiling fan, remember to raise your thermostat a few degrees while fans are turned on.

WHYFRAMESTUDIO | ISTOCK.COM



POWER TIP

If you want to keep the heat out of your air-conditioned home, keep the sunlight out. Close your blinds and shades and your home will feel cooler and more comfortable.

BRIANA JACKSON | ISTOCK.COM



LYSENKOALEXANDER | ISTOCK.COM

Hamilton County EC Annual Membership Meeting

Tuesday, October 3
Circle T Arena, 4007 Highway 36, Hamilton

Hamilton County Electric Cooperative invites members to attend the annual membership meeting October 3 at Circle T Arena.

Dinner 5–6:15 p.m.—Circle T Arena's Crossfire Steakhouse and Cantina will cater a buffet-style meal featuring fried catfish and shrimp, grilled chicken breast, barbecue brisket and sausage, and a selection of sides and dessert. It's not necessary to register before dining.

Registration—A registration card was mailed to each member August 22 along with the ballot for the director elections. Be sure to bring your registration card with you to avoid waiting in line to obtain one. You will present the card to receive an attendance gift and to be entered for the prize drawings. Members must be present to win prizes.

Business Meeting—The meeting's official business will begin at 7 p.m. in the Circle T Arena. Attendees will hear information on the operation of the cooperative, results of the director elections and highlights of co-op accomplishments throughout the past year.

We hope you will come out and help us celebrate 84 years of providing electric service.

84th Annual Membership Meeting Tentative Agenda

- ▶ Call to Order
- ▶ Invocation
- ▶ National anthem and Pledge of Allegiance
- ▶ Introduction of directors and guests
- ▶ President's opening remarks
- ▶ Order of business, including director elections results
- ▶ Manager's comments and adjournment
- ▶ Drawing for prizes

Hamilton County Electric Cooperative Association

CONTACT US

112 E. Gentry St., Hamilton, TX 76531

P.O. Box 753, Hamilton, TX 76531

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.

LOCAL

(254) 386-3123

TOLL-FREE

1-800-595-3401

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 1-877-833-4031 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

Director Nominees

Ballots will be counted October 3

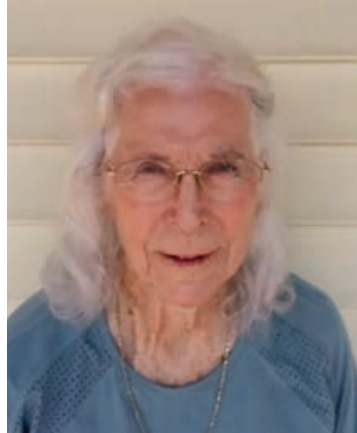
DISTRICT 4

The area east of U.S. Highway 281 in Lampasas County served by the cooperative



Robert Straley, District 4

Straley has been a Hamilton County Electric Cooperative director since 2020 and has served as the board president since September 2, 2021. He previously served as the board secretary-treasurer from February to September 2021. He resides 16 miles northeast of Lampasas and has been a member of HCEC for 31 years. Straley earned a Bachelor of Business Administration from Tarleton State University and works as a farmer/rancher. He currently serves as the chairman of deacons for School Creek Baptist Church. He also served on the U.S. Department of Agriculture board for nine years, the Farm Bureau board, and the Young Farmer and Rancher Board of Lampasas County Farm Bureau.



Shirley McClintock, District 4

McClintock resides 4 miles east of Highway 580 near Kempner and has been a member of HCEC for 18 years. She attended Manhattan Area Technical College and specialized in computer science and is currently retired. McClintock has worked as an administrative assistant, an office manager and in computer operations. She served on the board of directors of Platte-Clay Electric Cooperative in Missouri for nine years and worked on election boards in Kansas, Missouri and Texas. She also served on the Lampasas County Child Protective Services Board for 10 years. McClintock has done volunteer work for Girl Scouts of the USA for 10 years, the American Red Cross for 35 years and as a court-appointed special advocate for 10 years. She is a life member and past Missouri district president of VFW Auxiliary.

DISTRICT 6

The area south of U.S. Highway 84 in Mills County and west to the cooperative boundary served by the cooperative



Sam Campbell, District 6

Campbell has been on the HCEC Board of Directors since 1993. He served as board president August 2019–September 2021, and as vice president 2002–2019. Campbell resides 4 miles southwest of Star, 6 miles southeast of Center City and has been a member of HCEC for 43 years. He earned a Bachelor of Science in agriculture and works as a self-employed rancher. Campbell is the San Saba/Mills County Gideons chaplain, Star Volunteer Fire Department secretary-treasurer and Simms Creek Wildlife Management Association treasurer. He is a Star Global Methodist Church lay leader and delegate for the church's annual conference.



Derrick Head, District 6

Head is a lifelong Mills County resident and has been a member of HCEC for 12 years. Head and his family live 10 miles east of Goldthwaite on Highway 84 in Center City. He is a Goldthwaite Independent School District graduate and a sales associate at Heads Hardware in Goldthwaite. Head also owns and operates a construction and dirt work business focusing on dozer and excavator projects and is a cattle producer.

DISTRICT 7

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



John Priddy, District 7

Priddy was appointed to the HCEC Board of Directors in May 2021. He resides 3 miles west of Priddy and has been a member of the co-op for more than 30 years. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Howard Payne University. Priddy has been a farmer and rancher for more than 40 years and has owned

and operated Priddy Plants, a commercial greenhouse business, since 1987. Priddy was appointed to the school board of Priddy ISD in February 2023. He previously served on the Priddy ISD board for 20 years, 1992–2012, 15 of those years as board president. He served on the Mills County Chamber of Commerce board of directors for two years and volunteered with the Mills County Junior Livestock Show for many years. Priddy is a member of Priddy Baptist Church and has served as interim pastor there for two years.



Dean Cagle, District 7

Cagle resides 2 miles northwest of Priddy and has been a member of HCEC for 37 years. He acquired a diesel mechanic and welder certification from Texas State Technical College of Waco. Cagle is the owner of Comanche Livestock Exchange, a cattle auction company that offers various marketing options for livestock producers and has hauling services available. He also operates Cagle Trucks, a trucking company located in Comanche, and is a self-employed rancher. Cagle is a member of the Priddy Volunteer Fire Department and Mills County and Comanche County Livestock associations. He has served on the school board of Priddy ISD since 2001.

Hamilton County EC Election of Directors October 3

TO MAINTAIN EQUITABLE geographical representation of all areas on the board of directors, Hamilton County Electric Cooperative's bylaws provide for seven districts from which directors are to be elected. The three-year terms of the directors representing districts 4, 6 and 7 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 served by the cooperative.

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

The cooperative will elect directors by mailed ballot only.

One ballot was mailed to each membership in a separate mailing August 22. Any member may vote for one candidate in each district listed on the ballot. You do not have to live in one of the three districts with board terms expiring this year to cast your vote. Please include your name and address on the ballot return envelope so the co-op can use it to confirm voter membership. Voter membership must be confirmed for votes to be counted. Please do not enclose bill payment in the ballot envelope.

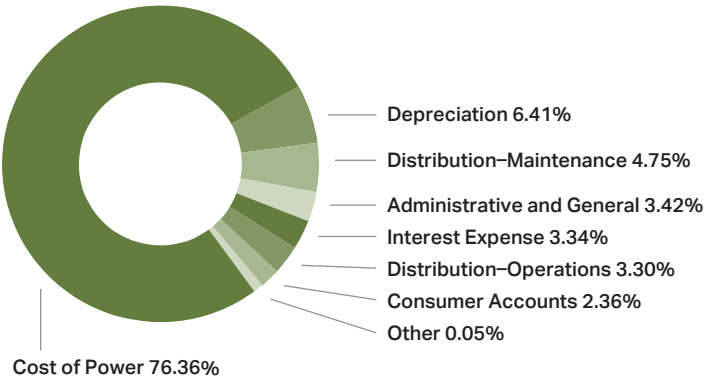
Votes will be counted October 3. Members must mail their ballots in time for them to arrive in the Hamilton County EC post office box by noon Tuesday, October 3. Results of the director election will be announced later that evening during the annual membership meeting and will be posted on Hamilton County EC's website, hamiltonelectric.coop, and its Facebook page and published in the December issue of *Texas Co-op Power*. ■

Statement of Revenue and Expenses

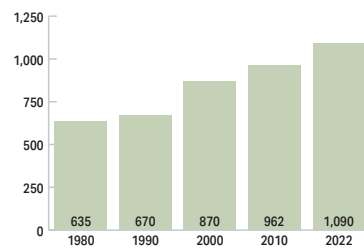
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31	2022	2021
REVENUE		
Operating revenues	\$ 42,405,666	\$ 29,800,402
Cost of power	(31,516,664)	(19,245,336)
Gross margins	\$ 10,889,002	\$ 10,555,066
EXPENSES		
Controllable Expenses		
Distribution—operations	\$ 1,360,882	\$ 1,339,246
Distribution—maintenance	1,961,123	2,016,627
Consumer accounts and sales	976,049	969,975
Administrative and general	1,412,994	1,637,388
Total controllable expenses	\$ 5,711,048	\$ 5,963,236
Fixed and Other Expenses		
Depreciation	\$ 2,647,143	\$ 2,606,638
Interest on long-term debt	1,377,031	1,398,070
Other	21,766	62,140
Total fixed and other expenses	\$ 4,045,940	\$ 4,066,848
Operating Margins	\$1,132,014	\$ 524,982
Nonoperating Margins		
Interest revenue	\$ 140,524	\$ 49,886
Capital credits—power supplier	0	305,558
Capital credits—other	195,579	226,150
Other	241,440	32,340
Total nonoperating margins	\$ 577,543	\$ 613,934
Net Margins	\$ 1,709,557	\$ 1,138,916

The above report was taken from an independent audit made as of December 31, 2022.

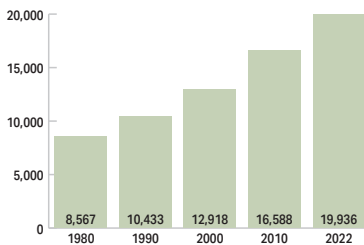
2022 Operating Expenses



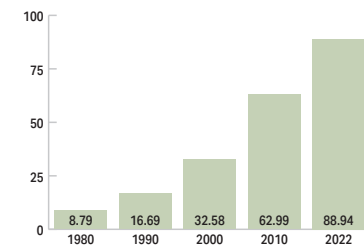
Average Monthly Kilowatt-Hour Usage



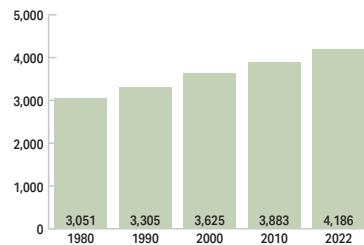
Meters Served



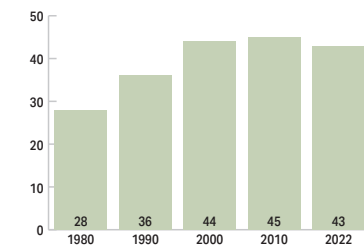
Total Utility Plant in Millions



Miles of Line



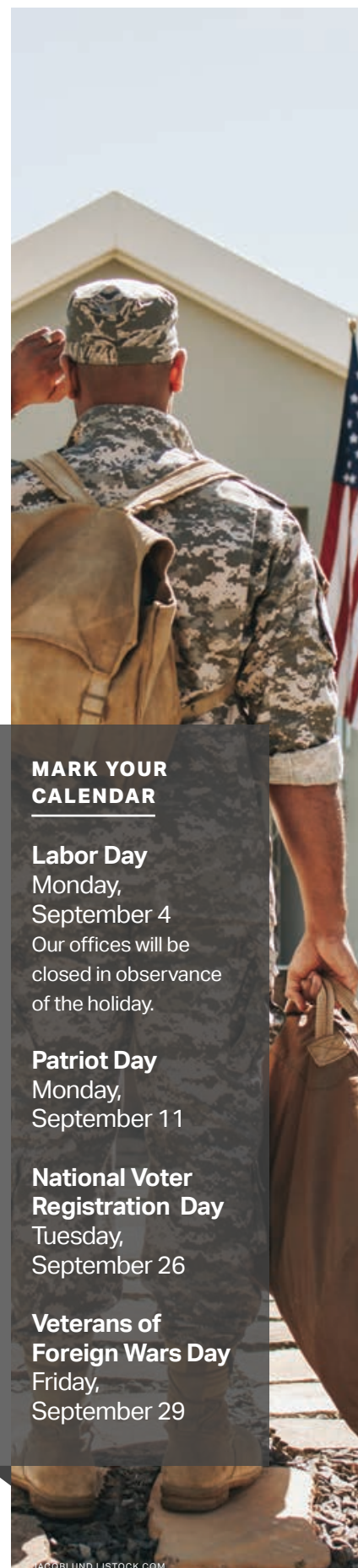
Number of Employees



Balance Sheet

YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31	2022	2021
ASSETS		
UTILITY PLANT		
Electric Plant in Service	\$ 88,943,734	\$ 86,606,062
Construction Work in Progress	553,357	592,551
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(23,149,944)	(21,048,609)
Utility Plant—Net	\$ 66,347,147	\$ 66,150,004
Investments in Associated Organizations	\$ 15,667,361	\$ 15,334,051
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash—General	\$ 4,786,955	\$ 3,683,888
Temporary Cash Investments	2,729,221	352,616
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 7,516,176	\$ 4,036,504
Accounts Receivable, Less Allowance for Doubtful Accounts (\$120,809 in 2022 and \$77,049 in 2021)	\$ 2,938,907	\$ 2,218,231
Materials and Supplies	401,246	226,628
Unbilled Revenue Receivable	1,947,493	812,116
Power Cost Undercollected	2,031,930	0
Prepayments and Other	403,088	373,314
Total Current Assets	\$ 7,722,664	\$ 3,630,289
Deferred Charges	\$ 38,242	\$ 60,095
Total Assets	\$ 97,291,590	\$ 89,210,943
EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES		
EQUITIES		
Memberships	\$ 129,837	\$ 126,111
Patronage Capital	45,973,369	42,444,394
Other Equities	1,835,200	3,654,616
Total Equities	\$ 47,938,406	\$ 46,225,121
LONG-TERM DEBT		
FFB Mortgage Notes	\$31,885,348	\$ 28,641,043
CFC Mortgage Notes	698,647	1,373,795
CoBank Mortgage Notes	6,712,654	\$ 7,401,879
Total Long-Term Debt	\$ 39,296,649	\$ 37,416,717
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt	\$ 1,894,400	\$ 2,075,300
Accounts Payable—Purchased Power	3,283,683	1,450,671
Other Accounts Payable	266,882	120,953
Uninvoiced Purchased Power Payable	1,470,240	505,214
Consumer Deposits	248,057	236,327
Other Accrued Liabilities	975,905	950,814
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 8,139,167	\$ 5,339,279
Deferred Credits	\$ 1,917,368	\$ 229,826
Total Liabilities	\$ 97,291,590	\$ 89,210,943

The above report was taken from an independent audit made as of December 31, 2022.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Labor Day

Monday,
September 4

Our offices will be closed in observance of the holiday.

Patriot Day

Monday,
September 11

National Voter Registration Day

Tuesday,
September 26

Veterans of Foreign Wars Day

Friday,
September 29

Community Calendar

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

Comanche

Quanah Parker Day, September 9, Comanche County Museum, 402 Moor-man Road. For more information, call (325) 356-5115.

Comanche County Pow Wow Heritage Festival, September 23–24, Comanche City Park, 1200 Comanche Trail. Live entertainment, Native American performers, artisan and craft vendors, and the best fair food you'll ever find.

Barnie McBee BBQ Cook-Off, September 23, Comanche City Park, 1200 Comanche Trail. Cash awards for all divisions, sanctioned by Lone Star BBQ Society.

Vintage Car Show, September 23, Comanche City Park, 1200 Comanche Trail. Motorcycles are also welcome. Sponsored by the Comanche County Car Club. For more information, contact Eddy Parker at (254) 842-8859 or Mike or Kay Carey at (817) 800-5542.

Tractor and Engine Show, September 23, 9:30 a.m., Comanche City Park, 1200 Comanche Trail. For more information, contact Cliff Conway at (325) 642-5581.

Texas Motorcycle Roadriders Association Motorcycle Show, September 24, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Comanche City Park, 1200 Comanche Trail. For more information, contact Kathy Wellman at (325) 330-0832.

Photography Contest and Art Exhibit and Sale, September 23–24, Community Center, 100 Indian Creek Drive. For more information, visit comanchechamber.org.

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

Copperas Cove

Gallop or Trot 5K, September 16, 8 a.m.–noon, starts at the Civic Center in City Park, 1206 W. Avenue B. For more information, call (254) 547-7571. Register at runsingup.com/galloportrot.

Gatesville

Golf Tournament Scramble, September 23, Gatesville Country Club, 1308 Golf Course Road. Sponsored by American Legion Post 42. For registration and more information, call (254) 865-6917.

Cruzin' Cruzers, September 16, 8 a.m., courthouse square. Visit cruzincruzers.com for car show or vendor registration information.

For more information about Gatesville events, contact the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce at (254) 865-2617 or visit facebook.com/gatesvillecoc.

Goldthwaite

Mills County Historical Museum, open 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.

Soldier's Dinner, September 30, noon–11:55 p.m., 12 TX-16.

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

Circle T Arena, 4007 W. Highway 36. For information on upcoming events, visit circletarena.net/calendar or call (254) 386-3559.

Dove Festival, September 1–3, 5–8 p.m., downtown.

For more information about Hamilton events, visit [Hamilton Chamber of Commerce](http://HamiltonChamberofCommerce.com) and [Visitors Center at Hamilton Texas Chamber of Commerce](http://VisitorsCenteratHamiltonTexasChamberofCommerce.com) or [All Things Hamilton Facebook](http://AllThingsHamiltonFacebook.com), call (254) 386-3216, or email hamiltonchambertx@gmail.com.

Hico

Hico Wine and Art Festival, October 14, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., downtown. Includes a wine walk, local artisan vendors and much more. Proceeds raised go to the Hico ISD arts department. Day-of tickets can be purchased at the Visitor Center at 129 N. Pecan from noon to 4 p.m.

For more information about Hico events, contact the Hico Chamber of Commerce at (254) 434-1249 or chamberhicotx@gmail.com.

Lampasas

Indian Artifact Show, September 23, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Old Middle School Cafeteria, 107 N. Main St. Admission is \$8 and free for children younger than 12. Food will be available on-site. Come explore our cultural heritage and own a piece of history from a wide array of vendors. Native American artifacts, gems, minerals and more will be showcased, with many available for purchase. Sponsored by Vision Lampasas. For more information, call Warren Bluntzer at (512) 556-7027.



Lampasas County Wine and Spirits Tour, September 23, visit lampasaschamber.org for details.

Merk & Tilley's Host Ladies Night Out, September 28, 4–8 p.m.

Lampasas County Go Texan BBQ Cookoff, October 13–14.

Boots 'N' Blazers, October 14, Campbell Park. Sip and stroll will start at 5 p.m., dinner will be 6–7 p.m., live auction at 8–9 p.m., and at 9 p.m. Bob Wills' Texas Playboys band will perform under the direction of Jason Roberts. Sponsored by LAFTA.

Reverse Raffle, October 21. Sponsored by LCYLA.

Squared Silly, October 28, 5–7:30 p.m., downtown courtyard square. A fun, free event. Activities include a hayride, a not-so-scary haunted house, bounce houses, and costume contests for children and families. For more information, visit Vision Lampasas at visionlampasas.org or email info@visionlampasas.org.

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

Lometa

Fiesta Winery at Bend, 18727 W. FM 580. August 5, noon–4 p.m., live music featuring Cord Jackson; **September 2, noon–4 p.m.,** live music featuring Chase Gassaway; **September 9, 11 a.m.–6 p.m.,** release party. For more information, call (325) 628-3433.

National Night Out, October 1, 6–8 p.m. at the Lometa Volunteer Fire Department, 107 E. San Saba St. Hosted by the Lometa Police Department, this nationwide event promotes local police and community partnerships. For more information, contact the city of Lometa at (512) 752-3331.

Pearl

Pearl Bluegrass, September 9, October 7; doors open at 7 a.m.; Pearl Community Center; 6301 FM 183. Free admission. Come join others to pick or just to listen. Jam rooms for all levels. Open mic opportunities begin at 10 a.m. Contact Ron at (254) 865-6013 to sign up or sign up upon arrival. The kitchen opens at 11 a.m., home cooking and desserts, cash only. Proceeds benefit the Pearl Community Center. For RV spaces, call Connie at (254) 223-0621. For more information, follow us on Facebook at Pearl Community Center Texas or visit pearlbluegrassjam.org.

Pearl Book Cottage, September 9, October 7; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Junk-in-your-trunk and farmers market outside of the book cottage. Vendor booths are \$5. Books and resale items will be available inside the building. For more information, call Kay Pruett (254) 865-5864 or Linda Ray at (254) 865-9282.

Pidcoke

Pidcoke United Methodist Church Yard Sale, September 16, 8 a.m.–noon, 11230 FM 116 N. (halfway between Gatesville and Copperas Cove). Proceeds support com-

munity outreach. For more information, call (254) 394-0941 or visit pidcokemethodist.org.

San Saba

Saturday Nights in San Saba, September 9, October 14; 5–8 p.m., downtown. Live music, drinks and late-night shopping.

Show Barn Fundraiser, September 9, 5–10 p.m., Includes a cocktail hour, polo match, half-time sparkling wine divot stomp, dinner and live music. The event is a fundraiser toward building a new livestock show barn hosted by the San Saba Polo Club and the Community Foundation of San Saba County. For digital tickets and additional information, visit showbarn23.givesmart.com.

Diez Y Seis Celebration, September 16, 11 a.m.–1 p.m., Risien Park, Highway 190 east of San Saba. A family-friendly celebration of Mexico's Independence from Spain hosted by St. Mary's Catholic Church. Admission is \$5 per person and children under 10 are free. Bring your lawn chairs. No outside food or drink.

Casino Night, October 21, 6:30 p.m. Hosted by the Never Surrender Cancer Foundation of San Saba.

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



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 is published monthly and contains 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 donna.harris@hamiltonelectric.coop; write to HCEC at P.O. Box 753, Hamilton, TX 76531; or call 1-800-595-3401.