



## SAVE THE DATE!

### 2016 HEART OF TEXAS EC Annual Meeting

Tuesday, October 18, 2016 | 7:30 p.m.  
Frank W. Mayborn Civic & Convention Center  
3303 N. Third St., Temple

#### MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND

Door prizes • Board elections • Refreshments

## Member Participation Matters

**IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN:** Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative is planning the 2016 annual membership meeting. This is the opportunity for you, our members, to tell us how we are doing. HOTEK employees work hard to prepare for this event, and we encourage our members to attend.

As a member and part owner of this utility, you have a voice. The annual meeting gives members the opportunity to visit with the staff, share experiences, hear from co-op leaders and address any concerns.

Your electric cooperative is not owned by big-city investors, and it is not run by an appointed board of directors. Your electric cooperative is run by a democratically elected board—one that is elected by you.

Each member of a cooperative is an equal partner in the utility. You may run for a seat on the board of directors. You may vote for the candidates who do run, and know that every candidate is also a member of HOTEK. You can feel good knowing that you had a voice in how your electric cooperative is run.

The nominating committee met in June and selected the following nominees: District 1, Garland Cook; District 3, Kenneth Hollas; and District 7, Kermit Dreyer.

Please save the date, Tuesday, October 18, and come join us for the 2016 Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting at the Frank W. Mayborn Civic and Convention Center in Temple. Our guest speaker this year will be J.B. Smith, former sheriff of Smith County, a rancher, businessman, award-winning author and humorist.

Door prizes will be awarded, including two \$500 bill credits. Refreshments will be available. We look forward to seeing you!



Gift cards, tools and other door prizes were a big hit with our members during the 2015 annual membership meeting. More than \$2,500 in prizes were awarded, including a pair of \$500 bill credits.



You can leave the driving to us! Shuttle buses will transport you from our offices in Rosebud and McGregor to the convention center in Temple. Simply call 1-800-840-2957 to reserve your seat on the bus.



Downtown McGregor will be the site of the 2016 Founder's Day celebration. The parade will travel down Main Street, booths will line Madison, and a street dance will be held in front of Magnolia House.

## McGregor's Founder's Day

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MCGREGOR!** The town of McGregor will celebrate its 134th birthday this year with a daylong celebration downtown Saturday, September 17.

Founder's Day 2016 will get underway at 8 a.m. with fun for all ages. This family-oriented event will feature a parade, car show, live music performances, inflatables for the kids, tempting food booths and a variety of arts and crafts vendors from around the state. Booths will be lined up along Madison.

The parade will travel down Main Street. Lineup will begin at 7 a.m., with judging at 8:30 a.m. Cash prizes will be awarded to the best entries. The parade will start at 9 a.m.

Exhibitors in the Founder's Day Car Show are invited to bring their cars—old, new or customized—and cruise in the parade. There is a \$25 entry fee per vehicle for the show, with trophies awarded in multiple categories.

The day's activities will close with a street dance in front of Magnolia House.

For more information on McGregor Founder's Day, visit Facebook at [facebook.com/mcgregor.founders](https://facebook.com/mcgregor.founders), or direct your questions via email to [themcgregormovement@yahoo.com](mailto:themcgregormovement@yahoo.com). You don't want to miss it!



### 2016 HEART OF TEXAS BUILDERS ASSOCIATION PARADE OF HOMES

**September 10–11 and 17–18**

Saturdays 11 a.m.–5 p.m. • Sundays noon–5 p.m.

Tour the extraordinary collection of new homes designed for modern lifestyles, all complete with the latest and greatest in technology, energy efficiency, fabulous floor plans and luxurious finishes!

For more information, visit [hotbawaco.com/hotba-2016-parade-of-homes](http://hotbawaco.com/hotba-2016-parade-of-homes).

STEVE COLE IMAGES | LISTOCK.COM



## Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative

Operating in Bell, Bosque, Coryell, Falls, Hamilton, McLennan and Milam counties

### CEO AND GENERAL MANAGER

Rick Haile

### DIRECTORS

- Garland Cook, District 1
- DeWayne Draeger, District 6
- Kermit Dreyer, District 7
- Paul Edge, District 2
- Dan Foster, District 9
- Kenneth Hollas, District 3
- Bobby Nawara, District 4
- Allen Shows, District 5
- Larry Stock, District 8



## Contact Us

### MCGREGOR OFFICE

**(254) 840-2871** local

**1-800-840-2957** toll-free

1111 S. Johnson Drive • P.O. Box 357  
McGregor, TX 76657

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Drive-thru 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

### ROSEBUD OFFICE

**(254) 231-0444** local

**1-800-840-2957** toll-free

159 Loop 265 • P.O. Box 598  
Rosebud, TX 76570

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

### CREDIT/DEBIT CARD PAYMENTS

Online at [hotec.coop](http://hotec.coop)

By phone at 1-855-399-2688

### FIND US ON THE WEB

[hotec.coop](http://hotec.coop)



AT HEART OF TEXAS EC

# Member Service Is Our Job

**OUR MEMBERS ARE IMPORTANT** to Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative, and our member services team is always striving to find ways of improving members' experience. With that in mind, we want to remind our members of several features that have been implemented to enhance their member services experience.

### Credit/Debit Card Direct Payment Line: 1-855-399-2688

Heart of Texas EC has a direct line for members who want to pay their account with a credit or debit card or an e-check. By calling 1-855-399-2688, members reach our automated bill-pay service and can process their payment immediately. Please be sure you have your account number handy when calling. You can also pay online: Visit [hotec.coop](http://hotec.coop) and click on the yellow box.

### Outage Texting

Another service is the reporting of an outage via text message. Call the HOTEK office and make sure that your cellphone number and email address are listed in your account information, then visit [hotec.coop](http://hotec.coop) to access the Member Login page. Enter your email address and a password, and click the Register button. Read and accept the website's terms and conditions. On the account verification page, enter your cellphone number and click the Submit button.

A text will be sent to your cellphone with an account verification code. Enter the code in the applicable web page field and click the Submit button. To confirm successful completion of the registration process, you will receive a text message thanking you for joining the outage texting service.

You will then be directed to a screen listing the account number(s) associated with your cellphone number. On this screen, you'll find the number to which outages should be texted. Make sure to add this number to your cellphone's contact list so it will be readily available when a power outage occurs.

If you need help setting up this service, give the office a call at 1-800-840-2957.

### Meter Upgrade Continues

Heart of Texas EC's advanced meter-reading system upgrades are continuing on schedule. All the substations have been commissioned, and the installation of the PLX meters is ongoing. These meters will provide more accurate information about outages and restoration times, allow for faster response times to outages, and ultimately lead to fewer outages. Improved power quality and more efficient power distribution will help keep costs down for our members. Better detection of power theft will also be a benefit.

### Service Available 24/7 at 1-800-840-2957

At Heart of Texas EC, there is someone available 24/7 to answer your call. When the office staff is not available, our answering service will take your call. In the case of an outage after hours, the answering service will contact the on-call personnel and dispatch a service worker.

### Staying in Touch

Heart of Texas EC phone numbers are: 1-800-840-2957, toll-free; (254) 840-2871, McGregor; (254) 231-0444, Rosebud. Our website is [hotec.coop](http://hotec.coop). HOTEK is on Facebook; however, the page is not monitored 24 hours a day.

Heart of Texas EC is dedicated to providing our members with the best member service possible.



**HAPPY**  
**Labor Day**

Heart of Texas EC will be closed Monday, September 5, in observance of Labor Day.

Call 1-800-840-2957 in the event of an outage.

DEKLOFENAK | ISTOCK.COM



**Give friends and family the Best of Texas.**

**The Best of Typically Texas Cookbook** features more than 700 best-loved recipes (with more than 300 desserts) from two of our most popular cookbooks.

**Now available at Heart of Texas EC.** Come by and purchase your copy today!



When operating large machinery, use a spotter to avoid any nearby power lines.

## Focus on Safety During Harvest

**DURING HARVEST SEASON**, many farmers reap the benefits of advancements in agricultural technology. With the help of GPS auto-steer devices, farmers are able to decrease driver error and maximize productivity. Yet despite these advances, safety risks remain.

One critical part of safety around electricity is awareness. It's important to remember that farm machinery is vulnerable to hitting power lines because of its large size, height and extensions. Being aware of the location of overhead power lines and planning a safe equipment route can help reduce accidents.

In equipment with auto-guidance systems, less focus is needed on steering, which could lead some drivers to think that they do not need to stay aware of navigation issues. However, even while using a GPS with auto-steering, farmworkers need to keep safety in mind and stay focused on their surroundings.

Varying pass-to-pass accuracy levels and potential issues such as power poles not being correctly plotted in the GPS system reinforce the need for drivers to stay focused on the location of farm equipment while in the field.

**Regardless of the technology used on the farm, workers need to follow these electrical safety guidelines:**

- ▶ Use a spotter when operating large machinery near power lines.
- ▶ Keep equipment at least 10 feet from power lines, at all times, in all directions.
- ▶ Look up and use care when moving any equipment, extending augers or raising truck beds around power lines.
- ▶ Inspect the height of farm equipment to determine clearance.
- ▶ Always set extensions to the lowest setting when moving loads. Grain augers should always be positioned horizontally before being moved.
- ▶ Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance.
- ▶ If a power line is sagging or low, contact Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative.

If your equipment does make contact with a power line, do not leave the cab. Immediately call 911, warn others to stay away and wait for the utility crew to cut the power.

The only reason to exit equipment that has come into contact with overhead lines is if the equipment is on fire, which is rare. If this does happen, jump off the equipment with feet together and avoid touching the ground and machinery at the same time. Then, still keeping both feet together, hop to safety.

## This Fall, Plant a Tree

**WANT TO PURIFY THE AIR**, beautify your home, reduce noise and save money on your energy bill? Plant some trees.

Strategically placed trees and shrubs can shade your home from the sun, keep it cooler in the summer and protect it from harsh weather in the winter. Landscaping for energy efficiency could reduce your air-conditioning costs by as much as 15 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

The best time to plant trees in Texas is in the fall, giving roots enough time to take hold before the winter cold.

When choosing trees, consider whether you want them to block sun in the hot summer but allow the winter sun to shine through. If so, deciduous trees are the best choice.

Evergreen trees, on the other hand, will help protect your home from wind and harsh weather year-round.

Plant trees on the east, south and west sides of the home for optimal shade from summer sun.

Plan ahead when you plant: Do you have enough space for the mature size of the tree? Tall trees can pose a hazard if they grow into power lines.

A best practice: Before you dig, check with your electric cooperative to identify the underground power lines you need to avoid.



# Spare Change Changes Lives

**WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN TOLD** it's the little things that count in life: being kind to our neighbors, returning a lost wallet, picking up after ourselves while enjoying the great outdoors. Although each action might not amount to much on its own, if everyone does a little, we see a big, positive impact in our community.

That's why Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative is a proud supporter of Operation Round Up.

Co-op members who opt in to the Operation Round Up program have their monthly electric bills automatically rounded up to the next whole dollar amount, and the difference is deposited into a fund that assists worthy local service organizations or individuals in need. An independent committee (or sometimes the co-op's board of directors) oversees contributions, evaluates funding applications and distributes funds to recipients such as local volunteer fire departments, community service organizations or residents in need.

**How does it work for a member?** If your bill for one month is \$82.70, that amount would be rounded up to \$83, with 30 cents going to Operation Round Up for that month. Most members don't even notice the extra money they contribute. Over the span of a year, the average amount of spare change contributed by a member is barely more than \$6.

Six dollars doesn't sound like much, but when you put together those small, monthly contributions from all the program members—that's when things start to get exciting. Most of the members of Heart of Texas EC chip in monthly to support Operation Round Up, and that number grows every month.

Last year, your co-op distributed \$71,050 to local organizations. Since we launched Operation Round Up, we've given more than \$650,000 to community groups and folks in need. That's something we can all be proud of: Our assistance is changing lives for the better in our community.

About 250 local electric co-ops nationwide run Operation Round Up programs. All told, consumers at these co-ops have raised more than \$100 million since South Carolina's Palmetto Electric Cooperative originated the idea in 1989.

If you're one of the members who makes Operation Round Up possible, thank you. If you would like to participate, you can sign up on our website at [hotec.coop](http://hotec.coop) or call us at 1-800-840-2957. Together, we can use a little pocket change to change our community.



## RECIPE OF THE MONTH



CAELMI | ISTOCK.COM

## Pecan Praline Crunch

- 1 box (12 ounces) cereal squares of your choice
- 2 cups pecan pieces
- ½ cup light corn syrup
- ½ cup light brown sugar
- ¼ cup (½ stick) butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ teaspoon baking soda

1. Heat oven to 250 degrees. Mix cereal and nuts and set aside.
2. Mix syrup, sugar and butter in microwavable bowl and microwave for 1½ minutes. Stir and microwave another 30 seconds to 1 minute or until boiling.
3. Add vanilla and baking soda, and stir to combine.
4. Pour syrup mixture over cereal mixture until well coated. Spread on large cookie sheet. Bake 1 hour, stirring every 20 minutes.
5. When done, pour onto waxed paper and allow to cool. Store in resealable containers.

BRASICK | ISTOCK.COM

Find this and more delicious recipes online at [TEXASCOOPPOWER.COM](http://TEXASCOOPPOWER.COM)

# Fidelity Express Pay Locations



You have several payment options with Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative. Payment of bills may be made through the mail, in person at either our Rosebud or McGregor office, online or at any location listed below (there is a \$1.50 charge for Fidelity payments). Please report any payments made at these locations to your local office.

**Amigo Food Mart**

2023 Speight Ave.  
Waco, TX 76706  
(254) 755-6324

**Bellmead Food Mart**

3612 Bellmead Drive  
Waco, TX 76705  
(254) 799-8274

**Big Willy's**

707 E. Jefferson Ave.  
Whitney, TX 76692  
(254) 694-1223

**Bosque Mini Mart**

365 Highway 22  
Clifton, TX 76634  
(254) 622-3474

**Brookshire Brothers**

305 NE Fourth St.  
Hubbard, TX 76648  
(254) 576-2005

**Brookshire Brothers**

1810 Ave. D  
Moody, TX 76557  
(254) 853-9072

**Brookshire Brothers**

9263 U.S. Hwy. 6  
Meridian, TX 76665  
(254) 435-2507

**Brookshire Bros. Express**

303 N. Fourth St.  
Valley Mills, TX 76689  
(254) 932-5349

**Buzzy Bee #7**

1116 W. Waco Drive  
Waco, TX 76701  
(254) 235-3598

**Cameron Cleaners**

101 N. Houston Ave.  
Cameron, TX 76520  
(254) 697-8393

**Canyon Food Mart**

1710 Canyon Creek Dr.  
Temple, TX 76502  
(254) 771-2222

**Chapman C.C.**

1121 W. Waco Drive  
Waco, TX 76701  
(254) 754-2003

**Chathams**

10820 St. Hwy. 317  
Belton, TX 76513  
(254) 780-9406

**Chesalon**

3401 N. 19th St.  
Waco, TX 76708  
(254) 714-1451

**Clifton Fast Stop**

102 S. Ave. G  
Clifton, TX 76634  
(254) 675-6111

**Cowboy Mart**

102 E. Veterans  
Memorial Blvd.  
Harker Heights, TX 76548  
(254) 690-7373

**Crawford Coffee Stop**

6659 N. Lone Star  
Pkwy.  
Crawford, TX 76638  
(254) 486-2561

**David's #104**

803 S. Bosque St.  
Whitney, TX 76692  
(254) 694-2277

**David's #105**

614 S. Ave. G  
Clifton, TX 76634  
(254) 675-6345

**David's Express #102**

5307 FM 933  
Whitney, TX 76692  
(254) 694-1261

**EZ Mart**

2128 Bosque Blvd.  
Waco, TX 76707  
(254) 757-0855

**EZ Stop #3**

401 E. Adams Ave.  
Temple, TX 76701  
(254) 899-1156

**Fidelity Bank of Texas**

1901 Lake Shore  
Drive  
Waco, TX 76708  
(254) 755-6555

**Fidelity Bank of Texas**

410 S. Robinson Drive  
Waco, TX 76706  
(254) 662-3931

**FoodMart**

1624 W. Waco Drive  
Waco, TX 76701  
(254) 754-8800

**Gem Pawn Shop**

1305 W. Adams Ave.  
Temple, TX 76504  
(254) 773-4708

**Hap's Ice House**

1905 N. 39th St.  
Waco, TX 76707  
(254) 754-5810

**Hewitt Food Mart**

318 N. Hewitt Drive  
Hewitt, TX 76643  
(254) 420-1971

**Huggie Bear Food Mart**

2924 Gholson Road  
Waco, TX 76704  
(254) 412-0144

**J Food Mart**

801 S. 30th St.  
Temple, TX 76501  
(254) 899-2300

**Josie's Drive In**

305 S. Ellis St.  
Groesbeck, TX 76642  
(254) 729-3257

**Lacy Lakeview Food Mart**

1019 E. Craven Ave.  
Lacy Lakeview, TX

76705  
(254) 867-1519

**Legend of Troy**

1 E. Main St.  
Troy, TX 76579  
(254) 938-2261

**Marlin Exxon**

101 Craik St.  
Marlin, TX 76661  
(254) 883-2688

**McGregor Fast Stop**

307 W. McGregor  
Drive  
McGregor, TX 76657  
(254) 840-4046

**Midway Food Mart**

621 Hewitt Drive  
Hewitt, TX 76643  
(254) 666-3967

**Midway Grocery**

446 Murray Ave.  
Rockdale, TX 76567  
(512) 446-5462

**Mungi's Grocery Store**

701 S. MLK Drive  
Temple, TX 76504  
(254) 778-9000

**New Seven Heaven**

1724 Richter Ave.  
Waco, TX 76711  
(254) 754-7223

**Newman's Quick Stop**

1500 St. Hwy. 317  
Moody, TX 76557  
(254) 853-2022

**Nomads**

2502 Lake Road  
Belton, TX 76513  
(254) 933-2401

**Pit Stop Express #2**

209 N. Bosque St.  
Whitney, TX 76692  
(254) 694-6011

**Pit Stop Express**

1072 FM 1713  
Whitney, TX 76692  
(254) 694-9557

**Pools Quick Stop**

1720 S. First St.  
Temple, TX 76504  
(254) 773-8812

**Quick N**

526 Live Oak St.  
Marlin, TX 76661  
(254) 883-5326

**Quick Pick Food Mart**

810 W. Ave. D.  
Belton, TX 76513  
(254) 939-8086

**Raina Food Mart**

1600 N. Roy  
Reynolds Drive  
Killeen, TX 76543  
(254) 699-2967

**RIDA Corner Store**

1825 Alexander Ave.  
Waco, TX 76708  
(254) 296-0101

**RIDA Corner Store #2**

2232 Air Base Road  
Lacy Lakeview, TX 76705  
(254) 799-5177

**S & A Express**

1579 St. Hwy. 22  
Whitney, TX 76692  
(254) 694-0221

**Select Food Mart**

93 E. Elms Road  
Killeen, TX 76542  
(254) 432-7153

**Sidra Food Mart**

2603 E. Main St.  
Gatesville, TX 76528  
(254) 865-5963

**Speedy Pac #2**

2705 Zephyr Road  
Killeen, TX 76543  
(254) 699-0567

**Stop N Save**

3202 Westcliff,  
Ste. 200  
Killeen, TX 76543  
(254) 554-3717

**Sunny's Food Mart**

1300 W. Cameron  
Ave.  
Rockdale, TX 76567  
(512) 446-2652

**Super Quick Food Mart #3**

3101 W. Stan  
Schlueter Loop  
Killeen, TX 76549  
(254) 634-5003

**Temple Star Food Mart**

3804 S. Fifth St.  
Temple, TX 76702  
(254) 774-7262

**Texan Mart**

3000 Lake Road  
Killeen, TX 76543  
(254) 768-0114

**Tigermart**

211 N. Bosque St.  
Whitney, TX 76692  
(254) 694-6639

**Waco Food Stop**

1900 E. Crest Drive  
Lacy Lakeview, TX 76705  
(254) 799-1851

**First National Bank, Bosque County and Valley Mills**

418 Ave. C  
(254) 932-5345  
Clifton  
Hwy. 6 & Riverside  
(254) 675-6570

**First National Bank, Moody**

7th & Ave. D  
(254) 853-2115