

Be Sure To Deliver All The Packages You Wrap



**MESSAGE
FROM
MANAGER
JERRY D.
WILLIAMS**

Most Thanksgivings, our family gathers around the table as I perform the job of carving the turkey. The usual “bless this food” is expanded to include many other blessings we have received. Over the years, three young ladies have joined our three sons, and now six grandchildren have been added. The noise level has risen considerably, but often the chatter revolves around some of the things we are thankful for. Some things seem trivial, some humorous, some deeply touching.

Once everyone has eaten more than we should and agreed to hold the pumpkin pie till later, I usually get a bit of exercise (three or four steps) as I move to my recliner. My thoughts drift to the question of why we do this only once a year. Are we really only appreciative when the calendar tells us we should be?

I suspect we let the hustle and bustle of day-to-day living get in the way of taking time to appreciate how blessed we are and letting the people responsible for those blessings know how much we appreciate them.

Like most of you, if asked what I’m grateful for, I’d say something like, “I’m grateful for my God, family, friends, good health, a comfortable recliner, deer season and a home to shelter my family.”

But, goodness, that’s an awfully short list for someone who has so much.

I’m also fortunate to have a job that I love—being general manager of Lamar Electric Cooperative. While some days aren’t easy, knowing that

the work we do here at your electric cooperative makes our members’ lives better is richly satisfying. Nowhere in the business world will you find a more dedicated and hardworking group of employees.

Our linemen literally risk life and limb every single day in their efforts to keep power flowing to each and every home and business on our system. Other employees provide critical behind-the-scenes support to make sure everything runs smoothly.

Working in this business, I learned quickly not to take a constant supply of electricity for granted and to be grateful when it is available. While it’s never convenient to be without power, it does give us a moment to reflect on just how much we rely on this invisible servant. Sometimes it’s a convenience we miss, like hot popcorn in 3 minutes from a microwave oven. Other times the absence of electricity can be life-threatening, such as when it’s not available to power a breathing machine or other health-related equipment.

I will always remember the lady who called with a most unusual situation; apparently, there are some electric ovens that have some sort of a safety latch that will not open if the power goes out, and she sat watching the rolls and turkey overcook while the family waited patiently for power so they could eat.

When the power does go out, I’m grateful we have skilled crews available 24/7 to fix the problem and understanding members who patiently await completion of the repairs.

William Arthur Ward is credited with saying, “Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.”

I’m going to do my best throughout the year to make sure every gift I wrap gets delivered.

I wish you and your family a richly blessed Thanksgiving.

Blood Drive Give the Gift of Life

GIVEN BY
Carter BloodCare

HOSTED BY
Lamar Electric Co-op
in our parking lot

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2
Noon to 4 p.m.

Our goal is 18 units. We would like to get more if we can!

Make sure you eat a good breakfast that morning. Afterward, you will get a free T-shirt, cookies and juice.

At the end of the day, we will give away a Lamar Electric Cookbook, “60 Years of Home Cooking” to one of the people donating blood.

If you have any questions or want to schedule your appointment for that day, you can contact:

MARCI THOMPSON

Lamar Electric Co-op
(903) 783-4911



Carter BloodCare



**LAMAR
ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE**

Seal Leaks to Cut Energy Use in Manufactured Home

If the utility bill for your manufactured home seems too high, it could be the result of leaks. Here are some tips from Lamar Electric Cooperative that can help you stop the leaks from your home—and your wallet.

Older manufactured homes, especially those built before 1994, may have leaking ducts and inadequate insulation. Leaky ductwork can reduce the efficiency of your heating and cooling system by as much as 20 percent. A good time to check for leaks is on a windy day, when you'll be able to find drafty spots in your home.

Experts recommend going after the big leaks first. That means plugging all holes around chimneys, vents, water pipes and ductwork. Leaky ducts can be sealed with mastic sealant. Avoid the use of duct tape, which can dry out and disintegrate when used on ductwork. Adding insulation to floor, wall and ceiling cavities can improve energy efficiency, but may be a job for a professional contractor.

Once you've sealed the major leaks, look for smaller ones—around windows, doors, electrical outlets and light switches. Seal gaps around windows and doors, using caulk on nonmoving parts. And replace any worn weatherstripping. Caulk or expanding spray foam can be used where plumbing, wiring, vents and ducting penetrate through walls. Installing foam outlet gaskets in electrical outlets and light switches—especially on outside walls—can save energy, too.

And for safety's sake, make sure that all combustion appliances, such as furnaces, stoves and water heaters, are properly vented.

Find out how the little changes add up at www.TogetherWeSave.com.



**LAMAR
ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE**

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For general information and outages after hours, call **(903) 784-4303** local or **1-800-782-9010** toll-free

Operating in Lamar, Red River, Delta and Fannin counties

Find us on the web at www.lamarelectric.coop

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YOUR "LOCAL PAGES"

This section of Texas Co-op Power magazine is produced by LEC each month to provide you with information about current events, safety, special programs and other activities of the cooperative. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact the local office.

MEMBER BENEFITS:

- Level billing
- Automated meter reading
- Free bank draft service
- E-Bill
- Visa and MasterCard accepted



*May your
Thanksgiving
be rich
in memories—
old and new.*



Happy Thanksgiving
from Lamar Electric Cooperative

*Our offices will be closed
November 25 and 26 for the holiday.*

Tax Credits To Expire in December

If you need new windows, roofing, insulation or an air conditioner, consider replacing them by December 31.

That's when the federal tax credit for energy-efficient home improvements expires.

For qualifying products that you have installed by the end of the year, you can take a tax credit of up to \$1,500 on your 2010 taxes. You can claim the credit on 30 percent of the cost of the following products:

- Windows, doors and skylights
- Metal or asphalt roofs (other kinds don't qualify)
- Insulation
- Electric heat-pump water heaters; gas, oil or propane water heaters
- Air-conditioning and heating systems
- Biomass stoves

You can claim the credit on 30 percent of the cost of

the following products—with no limit at all—until the end of 2016:

- Geothermal heat pumps
- Solar panels
- Solar water heaters
- Small wind-energy systems
- Fuel cells

THE CATCH: The requirements for each product are very specific. Not every product is eligible for the tax credit; not even every energy-efficient or Energy Star product is eligible.

So don't assume that you'll qualify for the tax credit just because you're buying an energy-efficient device in one of these categories. Double-check before you buy by visiting the federal government's Energy Star page at www.energystar.gov.

NOVEMBER 20, 2010
 Saturday 9am - 4pm **Love Civic Center**

Jinval & Tidings

Indoor & Out **Holiday arts & crafts bazaar**

food, fun, holiday song and hand-crafted goods

more than **120** vendors from near and far **annual Senior Citizen's Bazaar**

HOSTED ANNUALLY and BENEFITTING THE ywca paris and lamar county

Deer Hunting Safety Tips

1. Treat every firearm as though it's loaded.
2. Look carefully BEYOND the animal you're shooting at before you pull the trigger.
3. When walking, your gun should be pointed straight down at the ground, and the safety should be on.
4. Wear hunter orange going to and from your stand.
5. Allergic to bee or wasp stings? Take along an EpiPen (an auto-injector used to treat anaphylactic shock).
6. Wear good, supportive footwear.
7. Avoid dehydration by taking liquids with you.
8. DO NOT place a deer stand against an electric pole.
9. DO NOT hunt in electric company rights-of-way.
10. When hunting, if you see a downed power line, assume it's energized and report it.

Six Decades of Texas' Favorite Foods, Fads & Facts

Full Color, Hardbound, More Than 600 Recipes From 60 Years of Texas Co-op Power



NOW AVAILABLE

at Lamar EC.
Come by and purchase your copy today!

COUNTRY CORNER EVENTS

NOVEMBER

2 Lamar Electric Co-op Blood Drive
Noon-4 p.m. in parking lot of Lamar Electric Cooperative headquarters.

5 "Cruisin on the Plaza"
6 p.m. in downtown Paris on the square. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy classic cars, fellowship and music.

20 Paris YWCA Tinsel & Tidings
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Love Civic Center in Paris.

20 "Christmas in the Country" Tour of Homes in Roxton
11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. For tickets, contact Lou Rutherford at (903) 346-2939.

25 Annual Turkey Trot
For more information, contact the Paris Chamber of Commerce at (903) 784-2501.

25-26 Thanksgiving Holiday
LEC will be closed.

27 Breakfast With Santa
9 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Love Civic Center in Paris. Adults \$5, children \$8.

If you have any events that you would like listed for Delta, Lamar or Red River counties, please contact Marci Thompson. Information must be submitted two months in advance for the magazine. E-mail marci@lamarelectric.coop or call (903) 783-4911.

More than 150,000 troops are serving overseas. Cell Phones for Soldiers is calling on all Americans to support the troops by donating old cell phones. Cell Phones for Soldiers hopes to collect over 50,000 unused cell phones this year. Proceeds will be used to purchase calling cards for our troops so they can stay connected with their families.

www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com

Phones may be dropped off at Lamar EC Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.