A Public Service of McCLAIN'S FOOD MARKET

Shepherd, Texas September 7, 2016

SHEPHERD COMMUNITY NEWS



Grandparents are our heritage and are important members of our families and community.

Shepherd Intermediate School would like for you to invite your grandparents or senior friends to join us in a celebration of National Grandparent's Day. Here is an opportunity for you to spend some time and enjoy breakfast with your grandparents.

When: Friday, September 9, 2016 Time: 7:15 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

Where: Shepherd Intermediate School Cafeteria Food: Breakfast can be purchased through the

school cafeteria at a cost of \$1.75 per adult

We will not require you to register at the office, however, the grandparents and guests must remain in the cafeteria. The grandparents and guests may not go to the students' classroom or other areas of the school. We appreciate you being a part of your grandchild's education and look forward to seeing you on September 9th.

SISD Says Thank You!



Shepherd ISD would like to recognize the business office. The department works tirelessly year round. They assist with grant closing, the yearly budget, manage over 100 activity funds, and expeditures of \$ 10,000,000 in state revenue. The business office team is made up of five members. Mr. JW Kirkham, the Business Manager, came to the district in August 2012. He works with state revenue estimating, local taxes, long range planning, and with the district's budget. Pictured left to right, Mrs. Tanya McAdams, who became part of the team, June 2016, assists in accounting and purchasing along with payroll training. Mrs. Barbie VonKamp was hired in November 2012, and is in purchasing payables. Mrs. Cheryl Ballard, who has been with the district since September 2011, processes payroll and handles the employee benefits. Mrs. Vicki Boyd came to the business office in 2006. She helps with receipting, journal entries and twenty different activity funds. As you can see the business office is a big part of Shepherd ISD and we would like to say thank you for your dedication and commitment that helps make our district a success.

Shepherd Preschool Parent Program

Shepherd ISD is proud to invite all pre-k parents to attend the Preschool Parent Program. Parents will meet other parents, learn about books to read with their children, and participate in activities that pertain to the books. The program will begin at 8AM at Shepherd Primary School on the following Tuesdays: September 13th, September 20th, September 27th, October 4th, October 18th, October 25th, November 1st, November 8th, and November 15th. Childcare will be provided for children ages 2-5 for participating parents. If you have any questions, please contact our Parent Liaison, Sarah Fulcher, at sfulcher@shepherdisd.net.

Pirateers Reading Program at Shepherd Primary School

Parents, grandparents, babysitters, and caregivers are invited to bring your little ones, ages 2-5, to the Pirateers Reading Program.

You do not need to have a student enrolled in Shepherd ISD to attend. This program is free to any child 2-5 years of age. It is designed to provide a positive learning environment for children. You are asked to stay with your child during this time. Each session of Pirateers Reading Program will include: books read aloud, hands-on activities, snacks and lots of fun.

The reading program will be held at Shepherd Primary School from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.on the following Tuesdays: September 13, September 20, September 27, October 4, October 11, October 18, October 25, November 1, November 8, and November 15.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Fulcher, Shepherd ISD Parent Liaison at (936) 628-2904 or email *sfulcher@shepherdisd.net*.



City of Shepherd Budget 2016-2017

The City of Shepherd will have a Public Hearing regarding the 2016/2017 City and EDC Budgets on September 12, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. The City is proposing to adopt the effective tax rate submitted by the Tax Assessor of 0.245598 per \$100.00 which will impose the same total taxes as last year.



East Texas Seed Exchange

EastTexas Seed Exchange is accepting seeds you can mail them or drop them at: 5055 FM 222 Coldspring, Tx 77331 The mission is to pay it forward.

Sharing = Caring

I encourage you to start saving your seeds. We have received okra, green beans, tomatoes, bell pepper etc. to many to list. Very good response. We will be having a exchange date in January so they can be exchanged in time for the spring planting. Please go to our Facebook page and share with your friends!

If I get enough interest in having a class on How to save seeds we will set a date. You can text or call if you are interested in attending. If you have any questions you can contact Teresa R. at (281) 468-4857

Retired School Personnel to Meet

The San Jacinto County Retired School Personnel Association will resume its monthly meetings on Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 5:00 p. m. at the Senior Center in Coldspring. All school personnel retirees are invited for a "Getting to Know You" session and are asked to join our group. Members and guests will enjoy a covered dish dinner.

Members are reminded to bring children's books for Care Share and Helping Hands. For further information, call Membership Chairperson Shirley Rand at (936) 628-3218.

FFA Annual Progress Show



On Saturday, August 27th, the Shepherd FFA hosted their annual Progress show. This year was a huge success with more donations and livestockexhibitors than the previous year. Livestock Placing were...

Lambs:

Grand Champion: Jordan Cutaia Reserve Champion: Hunter Goodman





Swine:

Grand Champion: Wade Currie Reserve Champion: David Neal Sr. Grand Showmanship: Hunter Yarbrough Reserve Showmanship: MaKayla Yarbrough Jr. Grand Showmanship: Wade Currie Jr. Reserve Showmanship: James Clark

Cattle:



Grand Champion Replacement Heifer: Ashley Adams Grand Registered Heifer: Kirsten Schlagel Grand Steer: Ashley Adams

Goats:

Grand Champion- Kaycee Cooper Reserve Champion- Leah Phillips

Cake Auction Buyers:



People State Bank Cleveland Asphalt Debbie Rhodes Pace Stancil Thomas Catering

Steve Pierce

Patricia Marrs

Jerry Cutaia
Lambert Ready Mix
Browders Marina
Brandon Gregson
Matt & Buna Jones
San Jacinto Farm Bureau
Tommy Hughts

Ernest Bailes
Mile Robinson
Debbie Rhodes
Repro Select
Lake Side Builders
Levi Herrod
Sheriff Capers

Thank you to all the donators and contributors to the Progress Show. Without your help, this event would not have been such a huge success! We look forward to seeing everyone at the San Jacinto County Fair in three weeks!

Obituaries

Jerry Edward Jeffcoat



January 12, 1979 - August 8, 2016

Jerry Edward Jeffcoat was born on January 12, 1979 and passed away on August 8, 2016. He is survived by his spouse, Jodi Davis; mother, Oleta Cherry and husband Charles; children, Jonathan Eric Jeffcoat, Addison Davis, and Steven Ray Jeffcoat; siblings, Robert (Bobby) Jeffcoat, Charles Cherry, Bobby Bush, Jessie Cazalas, Tammy Morgan, Lynn Cox and husband Mike, Billie Smith and husband Travis, Kimberly Bledsoe; plus numerous other family members and treasured friends.

He is preceded in death by his father, Robert Jeffocat; brothers, Jonathan Eric Jeffcoat and Robbie Jeffcoat; grandparents, Steve Jeffcoat, Geraldine Jeffcoat, Willie Fulchers, James Sims.

Services for Jerry were held on August 15, 2016 at Magnolia Memorial Park with Reverend Melvin Holifield officiated.

(We sincerely apologize for the date of birth typo last week)

Stanson Ray McFairen January 18, 1963 - August 12, 2016

Stanson was born on January 18, 1963 and passed away on Friday, August 12, 2016. Memorial services were held on Friday August 19 2016 at 3:30 p.m. in the Cochran Funeral Home Chapel in Livingston Texas. Visitation was held at the Cochran Funeral Home in Livingston Texas on Thursday August 18 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Phyllis Maren Smith



February 3, 1928 - August 25, 2016

Phyllis Maren Smith, age 88 of Cleveland, Texas, passed away Thursday, August 25, 2016. She was born February 3, 1928 in Yankton, South Dakota to parents Clarence and Esther Johnson who preceded her in death along with her husband, Edwin Smith (Smitty); son-in-law, Scooter Page; brothers, Willis Johnson and Elwyn Johnson.

Phyllis was a teacher at Cleveland ISD for 30 years. She was active in the Cleveland Senior Center and enjoyed her Canasta Club. She was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, Women League of Cleveland and the First United Methodist Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Nelda Kovar and husband Clarence, Sue McLelland and husband Joe, Jan Page; son, Edwin Smith, Jr. "Buddy" and wife Darlene; sister-in-law, Alice Johnson; grandchildren, Amanda Smith and husband MC, Amy Owens and husband Cuyler, Leslie Garza and husband Clint, Lisa Williams and husband Bret, Lori McLelland and husband Andy, Ross McLelland and wife Lucinda, Jamie Dean and husband Michael, Jake Page, Ashley Smith, Tiffany Smith, Shelby Smith, Marnie Smith, Cole Feild, Bridget Hosford and husband Chuck; great-grandchildren, Rylan Garza, Colton Garza, Molly Williams, Hattie Williams, Kennedy Dean, Karsyn Dean, Sawyer Griego, Elliot Griego, Hudson Owens, Landon Hosford and Carter Hosford; numerous other relatives and friends.

Visitation was held from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Friday, August 26, 2016 at Pace Stancil Funeral Home, Cleveland, Texas. Services were held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, August 27, 2016 at Pace Stancil Chapel, Cleveland, Texas. Interment will follow at Cleveland City Cemetery, Cleveland, Texas. For those who desire, donations may be made to Cleveland Senior Citizens P.O. Box 1095 Cleveland, Texas 77327 or Delta Kappa Gamma Scholarship Claire Barker 11 Pebble Spring Cleveland, Texas 77327.

Did you know...

This week a group of City employees, including Library staff and three of us from the Chamber of Commerce had our lunch at a new member of our Chamber, Sonic in Shepherd. Luckily there was a light breeze and we sat outside and enjoyed our selves. If you haven't been to Sonic recently, give it a try. I ordered 'Breakfast Burrito' with bacon which is an all day item on their menu. Everyone had something different and we munched away happily while Helenmarie took photos of our group. If you don't see them here this week, you will soon.

Sonic is our only fast food restaurant in Shepherd since Glo Glo closed. It is also the only place which is open late at night. They are open every day from 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., except on Friday and Saturday when they stay open even later, until 11:00 p.m. The menu is very varied, from ice cream to burgers, from milkshakes to onion rings and desserts and fries or tater tots and the list on and on.

However, Sonic is more to our community than just a fast food place. Sonic does fund raisers when possible with our schools, like their Community Cards which sell for \$5 and 100% of the profit goes to the schools. They contributed to the 'Hug a Tree/Kiss a Fish ' fundraiser and they help the community when disasters happen, as when we had flood victims living in Shepherd Community Center recently. They give all school district employees discounts and donate to the schools 'Accent on Kids- A- Honor Roll/ Perfect Attendance'.

The owner Larry Beckler, and his manager son Michael, have reorganized their kitchen and are in the process of hiring a night manager. For more information call them at (936) 628-2355. Located at 6400 on the US 59 frontage road, beside First State Bank. Call in and treat yourself!

Shepherd Chamber of Commerce welcomes another new member! Layla Johnson opened her hair salon in the middle of town, next door to City Hall. She is getting ready to expand into the front room, currently occupied by Shey, sometime in October. She will have her Grand Opening on November 8. Her present location is just behind Shey's salon, enter by the door next to Shey. 'Hair by Layla' is a cozy, comfortable salon with an innovative owner who likes to try new ideas. She is welcoming and makes her clients feel right at home. The customer who had just had her hair done said how appreciative Layla was of her clients. Look her up on Facebook! Hours are 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., text or go to Facebook to make an appointment and to see photos of some of her clients styles, or call her at (281) 761-8660. 'Hair by Layla' located at 11018 Hwy 150.

First State Bank have a leaflet at the counter which reads 'Text Fraud Alerts'. The leaflet tells you how to join 'Guardian' to prevent thieves stealing your bank card or using the number even if you still have the card. Go to the Bank's web site and follow the instructions. The leaflet will also help you to enroll in the Guardian program so that you will receive an alert from them if someone else tries to use your bank card. Some years ago I was mugged while in a parking lot and my handbag stolen. The thieves cleaned out my bank account in 30 minutes while I was on the phone trying to get help. This kind of program can be a great help in that kind of situation!

Need answers for your business questions? Not sure about the rules and regulations of your business? Call your local chamber to make an appointment with Director Bob Barragan. Bob travels to 10 counties in our area helping people with their problems. He is Director of the Sam Houston State S.B.D.C.

Coldspring-San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce

31 N. Butler, Coldspring 77331 Call (936) 653-2184 www.coldspringtexas.org

Shepherd Chamber of Commerce

Mail to PO Box 520 Shepherd, 77371 Call (936) 628-3515

www.greatershepherdchamberofcommerce.org







Now You See Me 2 (PG-13) action/adventure: The Four Horsemen resurface and are forcibly recruited by a tech genius to pull off their most impossible heist vet.

Starring: Jesse Eisenberg, Mark Ruffalo, Woody Harrelson



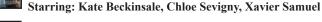
Money Monster (R) crime/drama: Financial TV host Lee Gates and his producer Patty are put in an extreme situation when an irate investor takes over their studio. Starring: George Clooney, Julia Roberts, Jack O'Connell



The Darkness (PG-13) horror/thriller: A family returns from a Grand Canyon vacation, haunted by an ancient supernatural entity they unknowingly awakened and engages them in a fight for their survival. Starring: Kevin Bacon, Radha Mitchell, David Mazouz



Love & Friendship (PG) comedy/drama: Lady Susan Vernon takes up temporary residence at her in-laws' estate and, while there, is determined to be a matchmaker for her daughter Frederica -- and herself too, naturally.





The Meddler (PG-13) comedy/drama: An aging widow from New York City follows her daughter to Los Angeles in hopes of starting a new life after her husband passes away. Starring: Susan Sarandon, Rose Byrne, J.K. Simmons

McClain's does not maintain Cajun DVD movie kiosk

and therefore cannot guarantee all movie releases.

Buy \$mart, Eat Well

SIOW COOKER APPLE CINNAMON PORK LOIN

9ngredients

- 1 (3lb.) pork loin (on sale \$1.69lb!) • 1 large apple, sliced
- 3 tbsp. of honey
- 2 tbsp. of cinnamon
- 1 medium onion, sliced (yellow onions on sale \$0.38lb!)

Directions

- Grease the bottom of a slow-cooker with cooking spray.
- Slice slits into the pork loin, horizontally, about 1/2 inch apart down the legth of the tenderloin. Fill each slit with an apple slice.
- Drizzle honey and sprinkle cinnamon on top of the pork loin. Transfer pork loin to slow cooker.
- Layer sliced onion pieces on top of the pork loin. Cook on low for 3 to 4
- hours or until pork is tender.
- Delicious served with cranberry sauce!

Make it a Meal! Serve with a buttered sweet potato and fresh steamed broccoli (broccoli crowns on sale \$0.98lb!) to make this a delicious and easy week night meal. Recipe found at www.tastesbetterfromscratch.com

Senior Menu

MON 9/5: LABOR DAY

TUE 9/6: Beef Sausage & Chicken Jambalaya, Pinto Beans, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit

WED 9/7: Chicken Fried Chicken Breasts, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Broccoli & Cheese, Cornbread, Salad, Pudding

THUR 9/8: Grilled Ham, Sweet Potato Tots, Lima Beans, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit

FRI 9/9: Hamburger Goulash, Greens, Cornbread, Tossed Salad & Dressing, Fruit

MON 9/12: Beef Patty & Onions & Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Black-eyed Peas, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit

TUE 9/13: Sloppy Joe's, French Fries, Baked Beans, Salad, Fruit, Birthday Cake WED 9/14: Chicken Fried Steak & Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Corn Casserole, Rolls, Salad, Fruit

THUR 9/15: Salmon Patties, Macaroni & Cheese, Fried Okra, Garlic Bread, Fruit

FRI 9/16: Smothered Chicken, Broccoli & Rice Casserole, Navy Beans, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit

MON 9/19: Beef Macaroni Casserole, Pinto Beans, Buttered Carrots, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit

TUE 9/20: Smothered Pork Cutlet & Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Greens, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit

WED 9/21: Chicken & Dumplings, Okra & Tomatoes, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit THUR 9/22: BBQ Pork Sandwich, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Salad, Fruit FRI 9/23: Meatloaf, Sweet Potato Fries, Squash Casserole, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit

MON 9/26: Pork Loin, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Cabbage, Cornbread, Salad, Jell-O

TUE 9/27: Smothered Chicken Tenders, Macaroni & Cheese, Green Beans, Rolls, Salad, Fruit WED 9/28: Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Cream Gravy, Creamed

Spinach, Rolls, Salad, Fruit THUR 9/29: Beef Enchiladas, Rice & Green Chile Casserole, Refried

Beans, Tossed Salad, & Dressing, Fruit FRI 9/30: Baked Potato Stuffed With Chicken Nuggets & Cream Gravy, Black Eye Peas, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit



Menu's are Subject To Change Due To Availability.

WANTED: Will haul off for free all non-working appliances, AC units, washers, dryers, refrigerators, freezers, treadmills, batteries, scooters, jetskis, dirt bikes, go-karts, 4-wheelers, batteries, generators, solar panels, John boats, inverters, etc. Please call 936-252-9043.

FOR RENT: Small 3BR/2BA mobile home with carport. Prefer no children and non-smokers. \$550.00 per month plus deposits. Please call (281) 467-7533

Community Classifieds

FOR SALE: 500 gallon fuel steel storage tank and holding rack with fuel pump, \$250.00. Please call (281) 753-5106.

FOR SALE: 1993 Chevy pick up, 6 cylinder, needs tires, wiper arm and maybe battery. Runs great, \$700.00. 1992 Chevy pick up 6 cylinder, needs battery and radiator. Runs great, \$700.00. Anna Phillips, 91 Dottie Ln. Lake Runamuck, 3 miles from McClain's, (936) 727-3288.

FOR SALE: 1983 Chevy pickup, has good body, no rust, with 1979 Camaro 305 motor, runs but needs TLC, asking \$500.00 OBO. Gas wood splitter, \$200.00 firm, new motor. Call A.G. (281) 753-5106.

FOR SALE: 3500 Watt Generator, never been used, \$400.00. 1/2 carat diamond engagement ring, 3 diamonds, never worn, cost \$1650.00 will sell for \$700.00. Please call (281) 253-0406.

FOR SALE: Yard Man riding mower, 17-5 HR, 42" cut, \$375.00. 50" deck for Cub-Cadit, \$250.00. 17.5 h. Motor for ryder, \$275.00. Parts for riders. Please call (281) 659-4286.

Community Calendar

9/6 C.A.A.L - Coldspring Area Art League meeting; 6PM

9/9: Grandparent's day, Shepherd Intermediate Cafeteria; 7:15AM 9/12: City of Shepherd Public Hearing (City and EDC Budgets); 6:30PM; Community Center.

9/10: Impact Work Shop; Impact Thrift Shop; 1300 S. Byrd Shepherd, TX

9/12: City Council Meeting, 7pm/Community Center 9/13: 7pm First Station Auxiliary Meeting; 7PM

9/16: Friday Senior Resale Shop Bag Day

9/19: Monday School Board Meeting, 7pm

9/28: Bridge of hope community church "Community Fellowship Dinner", Shepherd Middle School, 7PM.

*Every Monday & Tuesday: SISD Bilingual Parent Involvement, 6-8pm at middle school library.

Church News

CALL TO CALVARY MINISTRIES: A church that preaches the Message of the Cross. 793 Thomas Castleberry Rd. Shepherd (off of FM 1127) Sunday 9:30 a.m. SS Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening 6:30 p.m. Thursday 7:30 p.m. All Welcome!

Good Shepherd Baptist Church



Come Join our fun filled youth program open to our community ages Pre-K through 6th Grade.

Good Shepherd Baptist Church

(Located directly behind McClains SuperMarket) Awana is faith based, designed to teach young minds about God designed specifically to their age

Registration will be September 10,2016 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Registration will begin at our **FAMILY FUN DAY!** There will be water

slides and games, as well as Lazor Tag, food and lots of fun! Don't forget your swim suit and bring your questions! **Program beings October 9,2016**

Awana is a program that goes along with the school year calendar and will meet once a week on Sunday evening. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Brother Larry Allbritton (936) 239-6046 Kristin Herrod (281) 881-6742

SPRING HILL BAPTIST CHURCH: Welcome to our annual church anniversary services celebrating one hundred seventeen years! Sunday, September 25, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. Reverend Frank Mason, Pastor; First Lady, Evelyn Mason; Associate Minister, Douglas Jackson; Prophetess, Sheila Jackson. Speaker: Reverend Russell Hutchinson, Jr. Sunlight Baptist Church, Houston, Texas. For more information please call (936) 767-8421 or (936) 653-4531.

Good Shepherd Baptist Church: We will be hosting a 60th anniversary service on Sunday, September 11, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. Make plans to join us! We would love to see you! INSPIRING HOPE WOMEN'S OUTREACH MINISTRY: Inspiring

Hope Women's Outreach Ministry is extending a "Special Invitation" to women of all ages to come and join us, as we reach out to "touch and change lives" through the study of God's Word. The ministry began in February 2015 when five faithful women, who love God, had a desire to make a difference in their lives as well as the lives of others in the community. Not only do we meet and study God's Word, but we have so much fun doing so! The meetings are on every third Thursday of the month, beginning

with a morning visitation at the Woodland Park Nursing Home in Shepherd, Texas at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., followed with an afternoon bible study of the "Women of the Bible" from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 350 South Hill Street, Shepherd, TX 77371.

It is amazing what this ministry has accomplished within a short period of time! What started out with five dedicated women has now begun to grow. Our members include: Director, Dr. Anita Wright, Margaret Williams, Christie Andrews, Sandra Harrison, Sylvia Scott, Sheryl Griffin, Ann Moreland, Eunice Cavil, Jewel Bogney and Ruby Hubbard. Please come and join us for the next monthly meting scheduled

for Thursday, September 15, 2016. We know you'll be blessed! In the meantime, there is a Question: "What kind of woman am I?" For additional information, please contact: Margaret Williams: (936) 232-2005 Ruby Hubbard: (936) 628-3994

''McClain's Food Market''

Sylvia Scott: (713) 299-1524

Like us on Facebook

Business News

JC's Truecare Pharmacy

We are pleased to announce the new hours of operation

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Please feel free to contact JC's Pharmacy 11011 Hwy 150, Shepherd, TX.

Phone: (936) 628-2099 Fax: (936) 628-2530.

We accept Medicaid-Medicare-Medicare Part D and most insurance cards (compounds-cash only)

Power Washing



We can power wash your house, Trailer, Driveway, Vehicles, Boats RV's, ATV, and UTV. **Gutter Cleaning & Kool Seal** We only use biodegradable cleaners, safe for pets and children

Call Randy for a FREE Estimate (936) 777-1288

It's Capital Credit Time Again for Sam Houston EC Members

Sam Houston ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative KID

Sam Houston Electric Cooperative is continuing its long-standing practice of paying capital credits to its member-owners. In September, members' electric bills will be lowered with their portion of \$3.08 million in capital credits.

In 2015, Co-op members received a total of \$3.16 million in capital credits. In 2014, members were paid \$2.3 million in capital credits on their September statements.

Over the years, Sam Houston EC has paid more than \$39 million in capital credits to its members.

"Capital credits are another benefit of being a member of an electric cooperative," said Kyle J. Kuntz, Sam Houston Electric Cooperative Chief Executive Officer. "Since the Cooperative is not-for-profit, we assign surplus revenues to each member based on the amount of electricity they purchased. This is called a capital credit."

Capital credit dollars are then used to build, upgrade, and operate the Co-op's power distribution system. That means each member owns a part of the lines, poles and substations that deliver electricity to their homes and businesses. This cornerstone of the cooperative business model allows Sam Houston EC to provide members with safe, reliable and cost-effective electricity.

When the Cooperative's financial condition allows, as it does nearly every year, a portion of each member's capital credits is paid to them as a credit on their September bills. This bill credit is also referred to as "retiring" capital credits.

Only in extreme situations are capital credits not paid to members. This occurred following extraordinary repair costs related to Hurricanes Rita and Ike, and also in 2012 and 2013 after the expense of removing more than 200,000 dead and dangerous trees that threatened power lines following severe drought.

"Unlike investor-owned utilities that operate for profit and pay out dividends to shareholders, Sam Houston EC returns unused capital to our member-owners who actually purchase the electricity," Kuntz said. "We work hard to find the best deals on electricity and operate as efficiently as possible in order save our members money. That's what being a not-forprofit cooperative is all about."