

Bluebonnet, LCRA help make community projects a reality



The Lower Colorado River Authority and Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative have provided multiple grants to nonprofit groups and first responders in Bluebonnet's service area. The grants are part of LCRA's Community Development Partnership Program.

The Bleiberville Volunteer Fire Department will replace an aging fire engine with the help of a \$25,000 community development grant from the Lower Colorado River Authority and Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative. Front row, from left, are Kate Holman, LCRA Governmental and Regional Affairs representative; Byron Balke, Bluebonnet Board member; Hondo Powell, Bluebonnet community and development services representative; T.J. Schulz, VFD treasurer; Kathy Ignasiak, VFD secretary; Tim Lapham, Austin County judge; and Lori A. Berger, LCRA board member. Middle row, from left, are Bobby Rinn, Austin County commissioner; Jerrel Schovajsa, VFD director/firefighter; Joe Chovanec, firefighter; and Steven Doty, VFD president. Back row, from left, are Greg Giebel, firefighter, and Carl Kokemor, VFD training officer/firefighter.



The community of Fayetteville hopes to draw more visitors and business with new lighting of its highway billboard, thanks to a \$2,550 grant. From left are Liz Cubage, Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce treasurer; Kathy Mabry, chamber member; Tami Blaschke-Walker, Schulenburg city administrator and community grants review committee member; Terri McPherson, chamber president; Dean Mabry, chamber member; Byron Balke, Bluebonnet Board member; Hondo Powell, Bluebonnet community and development services representative; Judy Burkland, chamber member; and Lori A. Berger, LCRA Board member.



The Ellinger Community Center will get much-needed improvements with a \$16,002 grant from LCRA and Bluebonnet. From left are Charlotte Michalsky, chamber director; Tami Blaschke-Walker, Schulenburg city administrator and community grants review committee member; Michael Schlabach, Ellinger Chamber of Commerce president; Miranda Schlabach, grant writer; Tom Kubena, chamber secretary; Byron Balke, Bluebonnet Board member; Diane Marusik, chamber director; Hondo Powell, Bluebonnet community and development services representative; William Koehl, chamber vice president; and Lori A. Berger, LCRA Board member.



The Martindale Volunteer Fire Department purchased new hydraulic extrication tools to help rescue people injured or trapped during vehicle accidents, thanks to a \$20,000 community development grant from LCRA and Bluebonnet. Front row, from left, are Kimberly Smith, Martindale mayor; Lori A. Berger, LCRA Board member; Bill Hamilton, Martindale VFD president; Joyce Buckner, Bluebonnet representative; Richard Salmon, Martindale VFD board treasurer; and Laurel Schuelke, Martindale VFD bookkeeper. Back row, from left, are Rick Arnic, LCRA Governmental and Regional Affairs representative; Adrian Castanon, emergency medical technician; Kaleb Kelley, firefighter/EMT; Max Ruoizzi, firefighter; Milton Shaw, Bluebonnet Board member; and Drew Schulle, firefighter.