

LAKE FORK "The Big Bass Capital of Texas"



"The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" "Lines To Get Hooked On"

2 Sections

www.fishguidenews.com

Free

Vol. 14

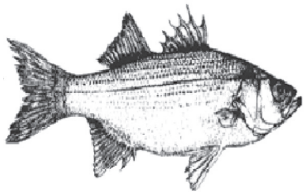
August, 2013

No. 168



Gerald Brown, FLW Pro sponsored by Gene Larew Lures caught this 10.02-lb. Lake Fork hawg at 12:30 P.M. on Thursday July 25th in 17-ft. of water on a hard head rigged with a Gene Larew Biffle Bug. (Courtesy Photo Fisherman's One Stop)

Hook N' Cook Sand Bass Tournament On Lake Fork August 10th



By Don Hampton

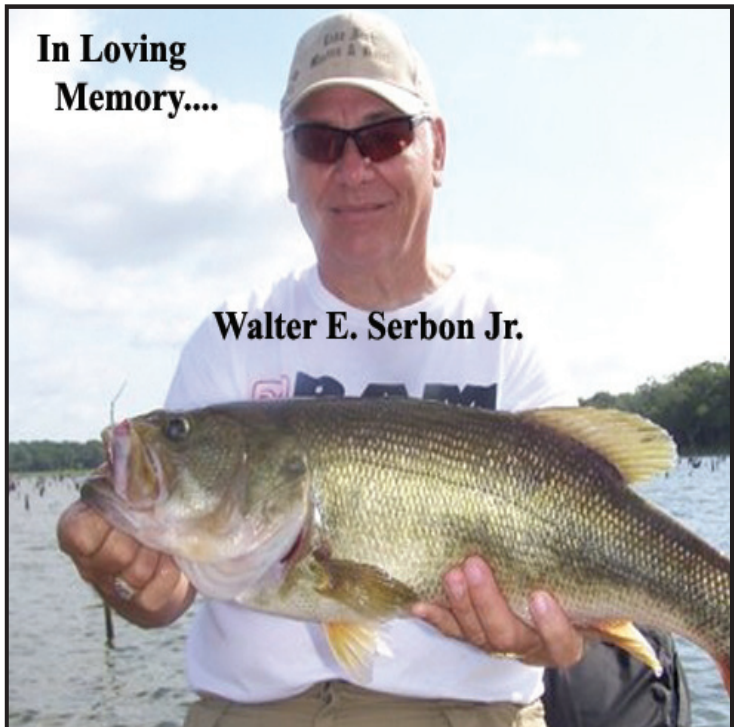
Okay anglers here is your chance to stop all the complaining and do something about it! I've heard from anglers all over the lake how the population of the sand bass is growing and they can be caught everywhere you go on Lake Fork. Well, at the "Hook N' Cook" Sand Bass Tournament to be held on August 10th,

you can help alleviate that problem while decreasing the population of the sandies.

Not only will you be doing all the above, you will also have a good time and enjoy some great fellowship. Tournament headquarters for sign-ups and weigh-in is Fisherman's One Stop. We will be taking entries from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, August 9th and from 5 a.m. to

5:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 10th. Entry fee to participate is \$25 per person with a \$10 optional 'Big Sandie' pot that pays three places for the heaviest. All sand bass must be at least 10" in length and the daily limit is 25 per person. We encourage all participating anglers to bring their limit to the weigh-in but to (See Hook N' Cook ...Continued on Page 14-A)

In Loving
Memory....



Walter E. Serbon Jr.

For those of you that did not know Walter Serbon, you missed a small treasure in life. We all lost Walter in a double fatality boating accident on Monday, July 1st. Walter loved to fish and loved Lake Fork so much that when he retired he moved here from Florida. Walter gave as much of himself to Lake Fork as he did fishing, but wanted to remain anonymous in his actions. He was the key factor in getting the floating dock at Hwy. 154 public ramp and had other projects in the works to benefit Lake Fork and the area. We all will miss our dear friend. Our prayers also go out to the family of Justin Wilcox who also lost his life in the accident.

www.fishguidenews.com

By Don Hampton

We are proud to announce that after a long time coming it is finally here!

Thanks to the professional expertise of Derk Wallace of Mineola, "The Fisherman's Guide News" can be viewed and read in its

entirety on line at www.fishguidenews.com at no cost.

If you have missed an issue, you can scroll down to the issue you wish to read starting with the January 2013 issue.

If you are coming to Lake Fork and are looking for lodging or

accommodations check out our advertisers to plan your trip.

It is our belief that in this day and time with the access of the internet, this will not only promote our magazine but also Lake Fork, the area, local businesses, upcoming events and tournaments.

Five reasons why "Bubba Fishermen" are a species of their own

By Don J. Hampton

"Bubba Fishermen" truly are a species of their own.

There are five basic reasons that set "Bubba Fishermen" in a class of their own.

First, the bravery they possess. Bubba will put a bass boat, or at least try to put a bass boat in places that would terrify the Captain of the Titanic. He will justify it by saying, "Well maybe no one else had the courage to put a boat in there and that could be where that big hawg is laying up!"

Second, the endurance Bubbas possess. Bubba will endure cold freezing weather that Santa Claus wouldn't go out in or weather so hot it would make the devil break a sweat, if he thought the fish were biting or if he could just catch one nice hawg.

Third, persistence. Bubba can be more persistent than an old maid at a bachelor party. If one day wasn't good fishing and that would be 12 to 14 hours on the lake, the next or the next or the next will more than make up for it.

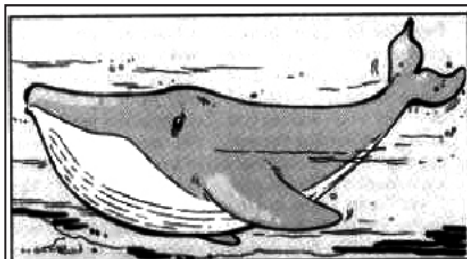
Fourth, patience. No one in the world could be more patient than Bubba when he is fishing. Jobe didn't even have the patience of Bubba. If the fish aren't bit-

ing, he'll just wait them out and keep trying. He knows those scaley critters are just like him and they have to eat sometime. A classic example of this is when I went over to see him the other day. Bubbette went to the dock to get him where he was fishing. When Bubbette told him I was there to see him he said, "I'll be up in a little bit. I just got a good strike here, the day before yesterday, better yet, tell him to come down here I'm busy!"

Fifth, ingenious. I know that doesn't sound at all like Bubba, but it is true. He will try anything to catch the big one. He will try any color, any new gadget on the market, and even come up with some of his own tactics for the big catch. He told me last week when he was crappie fish-

ing, the fish wouldn't bite. So, he took one of his minnows and dipped it in his tequila and threw it out. As soon as he cast it in, the water started churning and the fight was on. Ten minutes later he landed a healthy 8-1/2 pound bass, but he couldn't find the hook in the fishes' mouth. When he turned the bass over, to his surprise that little drunk minnow had a liplock on the bass' jaw and had wrestled it in.

Okay, I didn't believe him either. Maybe that should be the sixth reason "Bubba Fishermen" are a species of their own. Give them a couple of beers and their stories get bigger and the fish get bigger with every telling of the story.



A baby blue whale is 25 feet long at birth.



Human beings normally have 26 chromosomes; a goldfish, on the other hand, has 94.



When a sea elephant gets angry, his nose fills with air, swells like a balloon and forms a snout up to 20 inches long.



The lantern fish creates its own light as it swims about the dark depths of the ocean.



As a flounder grows, the eye on its lower side moves gradually around to the upper side of its head.

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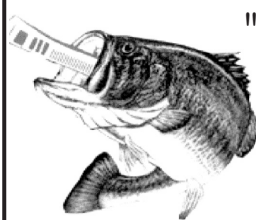
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Special Issue of Texas Parks & Wildlife Magazine Focuses on Agency's Past and Future as it Turns 50

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department marks its 50th anniversary this summer with a special issue of Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine. The magazine tips a figurative Stetson to the various partners who helped further the agency's conservation mission over the last five decades, and looks ahead to the next half century.

Anyone can see the special issue at www.lifesbetteroutside.org, where online readers can receive a complimentary copy of the 50th anniversary magazine and a free Life's Better Outside window decal by signing up to become a Texas Parks and Wildlife ambassador.

The 74-page special issue includes articles on the agency's history, accomplishments and partners. Also featured are vintage black and white photos along with striking color images of some of the people, places and things that make the Texas outdoors special.

While the department traces its heritage to 1895, with the creation of the Fish and Oyster Commission, the spe-

cial issue points out how the modern history of TPWD dates to 1963. That's when the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 21, a measure introduced by Weatherford State Rep. James M. Cotton. The bill, pushed by Gov. John B. Connally as part of his campaign to modernize state government, merged the Game and Fish Commission with the State Parks Board. The final bill passed in the Senate in early April and Connally later signed it into law with an effective date of Aug. 23.

In "The Next 50 Years," TPWD Executive Director Carter Smith looks toward the agency's next half-century.

"We can't and won't rest on our laurels," Smith writes. "The state is growing by leaps and bounds, and TPWD must contend not only with burgeoning pressures on our fish and wildlife populations and their habitats, but also with a citizenry that is more urban, more diverse and more disconnected from the outdoors than any previous generation."

In coming years, he writes, the de-

partment will face a wide variety of issues ranging from loss of wildlife habitat to the availability of water. State parks will have to be maintained and improved, and new park land acquired.

"The essential work of your Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will always be measured in generational terms, not in short-term fiscal cycles," Smith concludes. "In many ways, it is tantamount to the timeless parable about planting a tree so that someone else can enjoy the shade it ultimately provides." The 50th anniversary website www.lifesbetteroutside.org features stories and photos already submitted by people across the state. The department is inviting people to submit stories and photos about their best outdoor memories in Texas and sign up to become ambassadors, pledging to do things like visit a state park, take a kid hunting or fishing, and watch and share a video showcasing what's made life better outside in Texas.

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Aug. 17 Celebration to Mark 100th Anniversary of Old Tunnel

Old Tunnel State Park will host a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the first train's steaming through the only tunnel on the San Antonio Fredericksburg & Northern Railroad's 24-mile rail line on Saturday, Aug. 17.

An afternoon of activities, many geared toward youngsters, begins at 1 p.m. and ends at 5:30 p.m. with a talk on the history of the railroad and tunnel by a member of the Kendall County Historical Society. After the event, visitors are invited to stay for the nightly bat emergence from the tunnel.

The first 70 visitors can pay \$5 to walk the half-mile nature trail down to the lower viewing area to see the bat emergence up close. Tickets will go on sale about 6 p.m. Seating for the lower viewing area is limited to 70 visitors. Any remaining visitors can watch from the upper viewing area for free.

Approximately 20,000 people visit the state park each year, primarily to view the bats emerging from the abandoned rail tunnel in their nightly search for insects. The tunnel is home to approximately 3,000 cave myotis bats and up to 3 million Mexican free-tailed bats from May through October.

"For the kids, we will be offering bat crafts, a storybook trail and face-painting," says Nyta Brown, Old Tunnel State Park superintendent. "We'll

also have interpreters from Enchanted Rock State Natural Area and Lyndon B. Johnson, Blanco and Guadalupe River state parks on hand doing demonstrations and providing information about their parks."

According to an article on the Texas Transportation Museum website, the long-awaited rail service in 1913 out of Fredericksburg cut the usual travel time by mule-drawn stagecoach from the Texas Hill Country burg to San Antonio by more than a day and a half. The SAF&N railroad connected with the main San Antonio & Aransas Pass rail line between Waring and Comfort.

The railroad's 24 miles of track through rugged hill country terrain required 24 bridges and trestles, and the blasting of a tunnel through a limestone hillside at the highest point along the route about 11 miles southeast of Fredericksburg and 13 miles north of Comfort. The rail line, by then known as the Fredericksburg & Northern Railroad, was abandoned in 1942 due to financial difficulties and the success of bus service between the two cities.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department purchased the 16 acres, which includes the 920-foot long Old Tunnel, in 1991 to operate as a wildlife management area. Due to the large number of visitors, the property was transferred to the State

Parks Division in 2011 to become a state park.

Old Tunnel State Park, which is located at 10619 Old San Antonio Road, is open year-round from sunrise to sunset. Bat viewing occurs nightly from May through October. There is no fee to watch the bat emergence from the upper viewing area. The lower viewing area is closed Monday through Wednesday, May through October, but is accessible the rest of the week via a half-mile, primitive trail by paying a \$5 fee. Visitors must stay on designated trails and are not allowed inside the tunnel.

Call (866) 978-2287 for up-to-date bat emergence information. For directions and to learn more about Old Tunnel State Park, visit: <http://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/old-tunnel>.

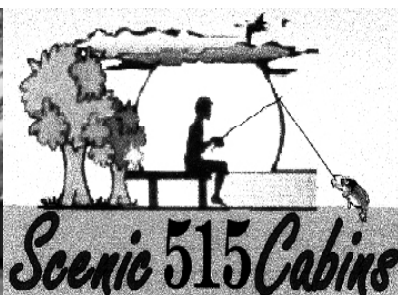
To see downloadable Old Tunnel images, visit: http://tpwd.texas.gov/newsmedia/news_images/?g=old_tunnel_state_park



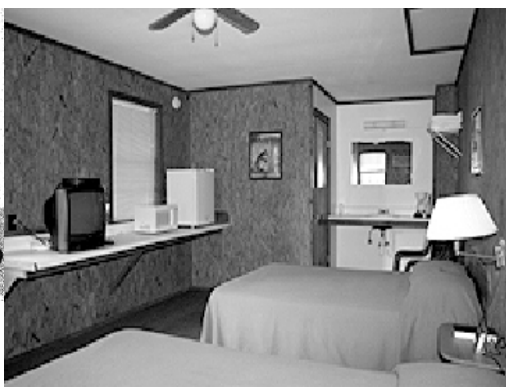
The ancient Gauls, who lived in France, colored their hair red.



Many fishermen throw back the first fish they catch so as to appease unseen spirits



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August Lake Fork Fishing

By John Tanner

Hello everyone and greetings from the great Lake Fork Texas!

The current surface temps are ranging from 83 to 85 degrees in the mornings and then up into the low 90's in the afternoon. That is pretty normal for this time of year. The lake level is running a little over 4 foot low.

The last few weeks have been a blast here on Lake Fork as schooling activity has picked up a bunch. Early in the morning and even during the day there has been a good amount of schooling fish in certain locations. Good baits for us have been crankbaits and topwater plugs. Baits like the Sebile Flatt Shad and topwaters like the Sebile Slim Stick and Spook Jr walking baits have been

working well. We have also been catching fish on swim baits like the new Berkley Havoc Subwoofer rigged on a jig head.

There are tons of baitfish running just below the surface making perfect conditions for schooling bass. During the day the deep bite has been pretty tricky as most of the fish have been suspended way up during the mid day. The best bottom bite out deep has been later in the afternoon and evening on Carolina rigs and Texas rigged 10 inch Berkley Power worms rigged on 5/0 Mustad mega wide gap hooks. Late in the evening there has been some good feeding activity up in shallower water on some of the main lake points. We are catching fish on Texas rigged Berkley Power worms in Blue Fleck color as well as Berkley Havoc Bottom Hoppers rigged on a drop shot in the Red Bug and Shady Watermelon Candy colors.

We are fishing the weed beds and stick-ups on main lake points with deep water adjacent to them. Keep your topwaters and crankbaits handy as the schooling fish have been running in the shallows in the evening as well.

We are having a blast this summer on Lake Fork. If you want to book a trip and learn how to catch them out deep and learn how to use your electronics properly or bring the kids out for one last trip before school starts, give us a ring or drop us a



line at jtanner811@gmail.com or call 903-569-7451. A lot of people do half day morning trips to beat the heat. From the beginner to the expert we will make your trip to Lake Fork one to remember. For more booking info check us out on line at www.lakeforkbassguide.com. Be sure and click on all of the awesome photo pages to take a look at a ton of happy folks holding their Lake Fork Giant Bass. Also check out the cool fishing vid-

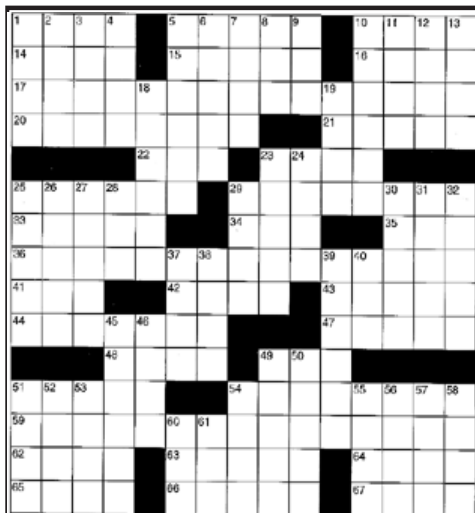
eos and see what Lake Fork is all about. If you are in the area be sure and swing by our local Ranger Boat dealer Diamond Sports Marine over on Hwy 154. They are a full service Ranger and Mercury dealer and have a full parts and service department. Tell 'em Tanner sent ya!

Thank you for reading my article and hopefully this will help you catch more and bigger bass this summer. Also check out our other website at www.tanneroutdoors.com.

I have a 2013 Ranger Z521 rigged with a 250 Mercury pro XS for sale at an awesome price. If you are interested in this boat and want to save some big

(See July Bassin'
Continued on Page 20-A)

Fish Friendly



CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Outer garments | 41. Chinese dynasty |
| 5. Way to act | 42. Tells on |
| 10. Take back (informal) | 43. Sharp, narrow ridge |
| 14. Negative (informal) | 44. Horse homes |
| 15. At no time | 47. Events |
| 16. Beige | 48. Incline from vertical |
| 17. Jane Fonda movie (three words) | 49. Golf-club part |
| 20. Landings | 51. Russian city |
| 21. Sustains, in a way | 54. Protestant denominations |
| 22. Conceit | 59. George Clooney movie (three words) |
| 23. Retail event | 62. Rail |
| 25. ____d', headwaiter | 63. Filmed records |
| 29. Abandoned ship | 64. Lake ____, one of the Great |
| 33. Strayed | 65. Act of apportioning something |
| 34. 007's creator | 66. Faked |
| 35. Volt ampere | 67. Feline sound |
| 36. "Harry Potter and ____" (four words) | |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Pier on a porch | 31. ____ blanche, unrestricted power |
| 2. Niels ____, physicist | 32. Fig and gum |
| 3. Copycat | 37. Maied |
| 4. Partial (prefix) | 38. Emit coherent radiation |
| 5. Anger | 39. Aspects |
| 6. ____ Park, Calif. | 40. Brother |
| 7. Sheep genus | 45. Site of chemical spill |
| 8. Integer | 46. Cleanse with soap and water |
| 9. Work unit | 49. Buckle (obsolete) |
| 10. Add gas | 50. Selected |
| 11. Outside (prefix) | 51. Posttraumatic stress disorder (abbr.) |
| 12. Quarry | 52. Nailed to the underside of a horse's hoof |
| 13. What belongs to us | 53. East Chadie |
| 18. Exaggerate | 54. Motion |
| 19. Competent | 55. Individual unit |
| 23. Hind ends | 56. Open skin infection |
| 24. River in Florence | 57. Set of three |
| 25. Uppers (slang) | 58. Small merganser |
| 26. Saint | 60. Rural free delivery (abbr.) |
| 27. Bird genus | 61. Expresses distaste |
| 28. Two-year-old sheep | |
| 29. Having relatively few calories | |
| 30. Vines | |

Answers on Page 21-A



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Take Care of Texas Campaign Helps Texans Conserve Water During Drought, Care for Air, Water, Parks

In a shared announcement recently, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Texas Parks and Wildlife unveiled a statewide public service campaign to promote outdoor recreation and encourage personal responsibility in protecting our state's natural resources.

Country music star Kevin Fowler donated his talents for radio and TV spots, including writing and performing the campaign's jingle, "Take Care of Texas," which will be broadcast on Texas radio and TV stations throughout the summer.

"Kevin's jingle is not only a catchy song, but it's also a very noteworthy message," says TCEQ Executive Director Zak Covar. "Through this statewide campaign, we hope that everyone who enjoys the abundant outdoor recreation opportunities here will do their part to conserve and protect those natural resources."

"With the punishing drought our state has suffered in recent years, most people know how important it is to conserve water, and public

education efforts like Take Care of Texas are absolutely vital to help get the job done," said Carter Smith, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department executive director. "In poll after poll, Texans have consistently ranked water resources near the very top of public priorities. It's important for people in cities, and it's important for fish and wildlife, state parks and natural habitats--everything is connected, and we all have a role to play. Take Care of Texas provides quick and easy practical

guidance for people to do what they already know is right."

The PSA, as well as a video about the making of it, is available on the TakeCareOfTexas.org website. The website offers Texans easy ways to conserve water and energy, and includes an online calculator

to estimate how much household water, energy, and money they can save by taking these conservation measures in their own home and garden. Everyone who takes an online pledge to help keep Texas clean will receive a free Texas State Park Guide in appreciation for their

efforts.

All TCEQ news releases are available at <http://www.tceq.texas.gov>. To receive news releases and other newly posted information automatically, visit the Sign up for E-mail Updates on the TCEQ home page.

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"The August Moon Crappie Report" on Fork

By Terri Moon

The HEAT is definitely on around here and lake levels are still suffering. We are sitting over 5 ft. low with levels dropping 1 to 2 inches a day through evaporation and yard watering. We just can't seem to get any measurable rainfall in our area. I'm just really hoping things don't get as bad as it did in 2011. But, with these low level conditions, please exercise extreme caution while on the lake. When you're not in the main boat lane, my advice – slow down – and idle! Also, if you are new to Lake Fork, I would suggest looking into getting Lance Vick's "Boat Lane" chip that just inserts in your depth finder and shows you safe routes to get around Lake Fork.

These are available at "Lake Fork Marina Store." He has made a chip for Lowrance and one for Humminbird models. Thanks again Lance for all your hard work making this available!

Now as far as the crappie fishing goes – we've had some really good days and we've had some not so good days – but that's typical for this time of year. Our water temperatures are running from the mid to upper 80's. With the forecast of even higher temps – ex-



pect the water temps to climb into the 90's. When this happens it will be time to watch for a thermalcline on your depth finder. This will tell you how deep you need to be fishing. The fish will hold at levels where the oxygen is optimum. It's truly amazing how my Lowrance HDS-12 details all of this!

Right now the crappie we are catching have been hitting at 16 to 20 ft. in 20 to 30 ft. of water. It's time to start checking main lake points, humps, and irregular bends in the main creek channels. Crappie like to be where they have easy access to shallow and deep water. The crappie have been in and out of the bridges and also producing around the timber and brush piles. The colors working for us have been Lake Fork Tackle's "Live Baby Shad" in blue and pearl, chartreuse and pearl and shad color.

The bream are still biting on night crawlers or crickets in 3 to 12 ft. around timber and lily pads. Hopefully this hot weather won't hang on too long and you can get out there and enjoy the fun of Lake Fork.

I want to send out a sincere "Thank You" to Chuck, Perry, and "Dropshot" at "Service Marine" in Emory for all of their help and tireless work on my boats and equipment. I have to say they have bent over backwards to keep my boats afloat!!! They even revived Jerry's 1972 Skeeter Metro boat that had sat for years. Now it runs like a top! You guys are great! So, if any of you are in need of boat repairs, give them a call @ 903-473-3909. You'll be in good hands!

There is one more thing – if you are in town and needing some fresh produce for your fish fry or dinner, check out "Picketts Plants and Produce." They are just a mile or so west of Alba on 69 – just follow the signs. They've got some of the best peaches you'll ever eat. They even have homemade strawberry and peach ice cream! It tastes great after a hot day on the lake!

Wishing you ALL the best and many blessings!

Texas Game Warden's Efforts Didn't Go Unnoticed July 4th

Case numbers coming in following the July 4th holiday weekend show concentrated enforcement efforts on the state's lakes and waterways had a significant safety impact.

Starting with Operation Dry Water the weekend prior to the holiday, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department game wardens focused on efforts to reduce the number of boat operators operating under the influence. From June 28 to June 30, game wardens arrested 15 subjects for operating under the influence of alcohol. During the weekend, more than 8,000 vessels were checked and roughly 28,000 boaters were contacted.

"The Operation Dry Water Weekend is a nationwide crackdown on boaters who choose to operate under the influence and it has proven to be a significant eye-opener to the public on the weekend just prior to the nation's largest boating weekend," said Asst. Comm. Cody Jones, TPWD Boating Law Administrator.

Over the 4th of July holiday weekend game wardens saw a significant increase in the number of boaters enjoying area lakes and waterways but also noted a rise in the number of designated drivers on the water. "An increased emphasis has been placed on the importance of having a designated driver for your boat," said Maj. Jeff Gillenwaters, supervisor for the 50-county Central Texas region of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Law Enforcement Division. "We are seeing that this emphasis has become a very effective tool in combating boating while intoxicated cases."

Texas boaters enjoying fireworks shows on area lakes saw large crowds and a high presence of game wardens patrolling to keep the area safe. Tragically one person did drown on Lake Possum Kingdom, prompting the cancelation of the scheduled fireworks display so that recovery operations could take place. Game wardens also responded to

several stranded boaters during a fireworks show on Lake Waco when high winds carried several houseboats downstream; more than two dozen children and adults were transported to shore with no reported injuries.

In Houston, game wardens working with the Harris County District Attorney's Office conducted a saturation patrol on Clear Lake that netted four boating while intoxicated cases. Present during the operation was an assistant district attorney, a Houston Police Department drug recognition expert and a certified nurse to draw blood.

"Local area public safety initiatives seem to be paying off to create the safest environment possible for our boating public," said Game Warden Capt. Fred Ruiz, who is based in Harris County, "The numbers speak for themselves."

For more information go to <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us> or call (512) 389-4624.



Big thanks to George & Dustin for help with the brushpiles!

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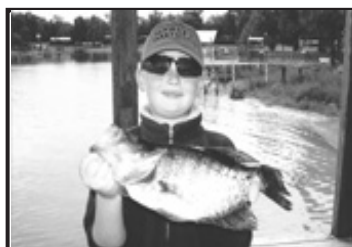
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International Enforcement Operation Exposes Web-based Wildlife Trafficking in Texas and Nationwide

Scores of illegal wildlife traffickers face federal and state charges for selling protected species online last summer. The cases result from a coordinated undercover law enforcement operation conducted simultaneously by Texas game wardens, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, other states and federal agencies, and three Asian countries.

Operation Wild Web, a coordinated effort between the USFWS and the other participating agencies, resulted in more than 150 arrests involving federal wildlife crimes.

"We are proud Texas played a vital role in this operation; we assigned 30 game wardens and led the nation in charges filed, including 61 state and federal cases," said Grahame Jones, TPWD Law Enforcement chief of special operations. That included 20 cases in Houston, 16 in Austin, and 25 in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

"Texas game wardens, including our covert unit, have been steadily increasing their use of the internet and technology in general to solve wildlife crimes and I am extremely proud of their work," Jones added. "Recently, CNN reported the western black rhinoceros has officially become extinct. Unfortunately, that's a very poignant example of why our officers focus on the sale of protected wildlife and wildlife parts. These are global problems that require team coordination with every state and nation."

"Our message is simple and the same: The internet is not an open marketplace for protected species," said Edward Grace, USFWS deputy assistant director for law enforcement. "State partners were essential to the success of this operation, and that cooperation remains critical to disrupting wildlife trafficking on the Web and elsewhere."

Wildlife and wildlife products seized in Texas during Operation Wild Web included a Russian Amur leopard pelt, Hartmann's mountain zebra skin, hawksbill sea turtle, Texas tortoises (a threatened species), invasive freshwater stingrays, and numerous illegal and non-native invasive snakes.

"The unregulated commercialization of wildlife resources could lead to the loss of many of our state treasures, whether it is thru the removal of native species or introduction of non-native invasive species that would harm native habitats or species," said Capt. Greg Williford, who leads TPWD's Criminal Investigative Division.

Seven cases were charged in Thailand and Indonesia where animals and parts of animals - such as leopards, tigers, Great Hornbills and Javan eagles - were sold through the Internet.

Federal laws regulating the sale of wildlife include the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (which both prohibit any commercialization of protected birds); the Endangered Species Act (which bans the in-

terstate or international sell of listed species and most products made from them); and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (which limits the sale of most marine mammal parts and products, other than those crafted by Native Alaskans).



Lake Fork guide and owner of Custom Angler Moby Rods Dave Settle caught this nice hawg weighing 8.49-lbs. and measuring 22.5" in length on 7/25/13 while fishing with his wife Victoria who caught a bigger one than he did. I wonder who was guiding who!!! LOL



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First-Ever Citizens Park Ranger Academy Slated for Dinosaur Valley State Park

Fans of Dinosaur Valley State Park and persons interested in discovering what it's like to be a state park ranger are invited to sign up for the Citizens Park Ranger Academy that begins on Saturday, Aug. 17.

The eight-week course, which runs through Oct. 5, will consist of two- to three-hour classes each Saturday, starting at approximately 7 a.m. Academy participants must be at least 15 years of age and reside or own a business in Somervell (home to Dinosaur Valley State Park), Bosque, Erath, Hood or Johnson county. Residents of other counties are encouraged to apply and will

be considered. There is no cost to attend the academy and class size is limited to 35.

Dinosaur Valley State Park police officer Robert Enckhausen says he sees the citizens academy as a way to help area residents and local business community members better understand their local state park and to garner greater park support. The classes will be taught by park staff. "I consider this academy a gateway to building long-lasting partnerships," Enckhausen says. "Academy graduates should gain an in-depth appreciation of Dinosaur Valley, the state park's purpose and mission, and a

greater understanding of the Texas State Park system."

He says program participants must be physically and mentally prepared to walk, hike, crawl, dig, stand, jump, lift and perform other physically demanding tasks as part of the academy. Academy graduates will receive a certificate and t-shirt.

Academy students will be exposed to various areas of park operations, trained in search-and-rescue and wildland firefighting techniques, and learn about park interpretive programs. On most days, students will be asked to apply their

(See Ranger Academy...
continued on Page 17-A)

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Hook N' Cook Sand Bass Tournament (Continued from Page 1-A)

have their five heaviest separated at that time that they wish to weigh. There will be no separating at the scales.

This tournament not

only benefits the lake it also benefits "The Wish to Fish Foundation". Pay-backs are based on 80% of all entry fees and 'Big Sandie'

pays back three places 100% of entries. Based on 100 entries heaviest stringer pays, 1st place \$600, 2nd place \$500, 3rd place \$400,

4th place \$300, and 5th place \$200. 'Big Sandie' based on 100 entries pays 1st place \$500, 2nd place \$300, and 3rd place \$200.

Fishing hours will be from 6 a.m. to 12 a.m. with all anglers having to be in the weigh-in line at Fisherman's One Stop by 1 p.m. on tournament day. The rules are quite simple, meaning their really aren't too many. The tournament is open to any person with a Valid Texas Fishing License. All State and Local Laws Apply. No alcohol or drugs allowed during tournament hours. Trailering is

allowed. No pooling of fish, all persons in boat must be paid entry. Live bait is allowed and fish with as many poles as you want. All fish become property of tournament to be fried. You can even tie up to another person's boat if they will let you. Fish Friendly and release all bass as soon as you catch them. And, last but not least contestants must agree to submit to a polygraph.

Fishing hours from 6 a.m. to 12 p.m. gives everyone a chance to go home and cool off before the check presentation, raffle and free fish fry with all the fixins' that begins at 5 p.m. at Bro's Patio, Fisherman's One Stop. Donations to "The Wish to Fish Foundation" will be accepted at that time but are not required. Everyone is invited to bring their family and BYOB. Bubba will have a cold one in his hand at that time for sure.

Make your plans to come out and join us. A good time is guaranteed and you might just meet some new life long friends. This tournament is mainly just for fun and began by "The Wish To Wish Foundation" and the directors are the ones that will be filleting the sandies as they come in, but we will take volunteers. We hope to see you there.





Hook N' Cook Sand Bass Tournament

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5:30 a.m.








Emergency Zebra Mussels Order Signed

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Executive Director Carter Smith has signed an emergency order adding the West Fork of the Trinity River including Lakes Bridgeport, Eagle Mountain, and Worth to the list of water bodies under special regulations intended to help control the spread of zebra mussels.

Smith's action comes following the discovery in mid-June that veligers or larvae of the destructive invasive species had been found in Lake Bridgeport, west of Bridgeport. Lakes Eagle Mountain and Worth are also included in this emergency order because they are downstream of Lake Bridgeport and zebra mussels readily migrate downstream.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission in 2012 amended TPWD's regulations to help ensure that boats operated on Lake Lavon, parts of the Red River including Lake Texoma, and parts of the Elm Fork of the Trinity River including Lakes Ray Robert and Lewisville are drained (including live wells and bilges) before they leave those water bodies. Taking this precaution is crucial in efforts to slow the spread of this species, since contaminated boats are one of the primary ways this happens. Draining water from boats prevents the spread of a microscopic form of the zebra mussel called a veliger, which is invisible to the naked eye.

The emergency rule does create an exemption for persons to travel on a public roadway via the most direct route to another access point located on the same body of water without draining water from their boat. The emergency action would extend the applicability of the current regulation to all impounded and tributary waters of the West Fork of the Trinity River above the Lake Worth dam including Lakes Bridgeport, Eagle Mountain, and Worth.

The zebra mussel is a small, non-native mussel originally found in Eurasia. It has spread throughout Europe, where it is considered to be a major environmental and industrial menace. The animal appeared in North America in the late 1980s and within 10 years had colonized all five Great Lakes and the Mississippi, Tennessee, Hudson, and Ohio River basins. Since then, they have spread to additional lakes and river systems, including some in North Texas.

Zebra mussels live and feed in many different aquatic habitats, breed prolifically, and cannot be controlled by natural predators. Adult zebra mussels colonize all types of living and non-living surfaces including boats, water-intake pipes, buoys, docks, piers, plants, and slow moving animals such as native clams, crayfish, and turtles. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates the potential economic impact of zebra mussels to be in the billions of dollars.

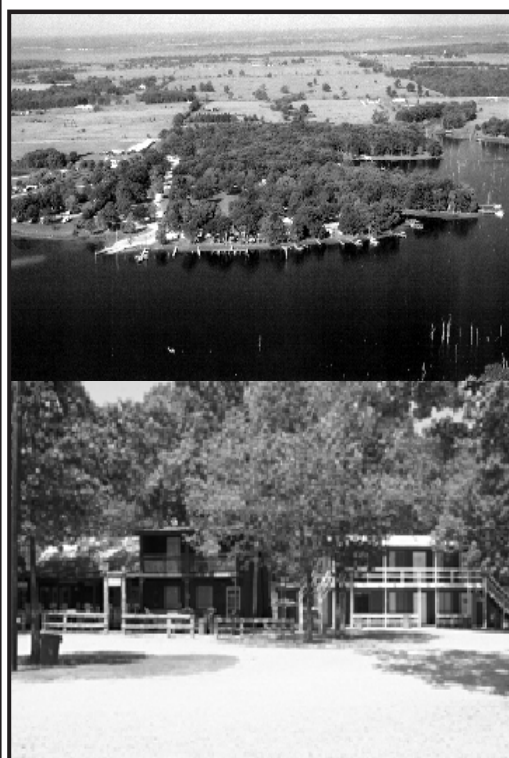


Tony Mayville from Dubois, Illinois was fishing Lake Fork with crappie guide Terri Moon when he caught this nice hawg. Quite the accomplishment on a Shimano Ultralite. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo Terri Moon Guide Service)

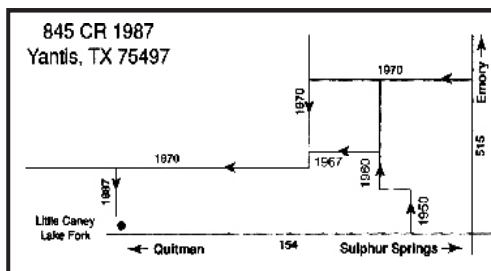
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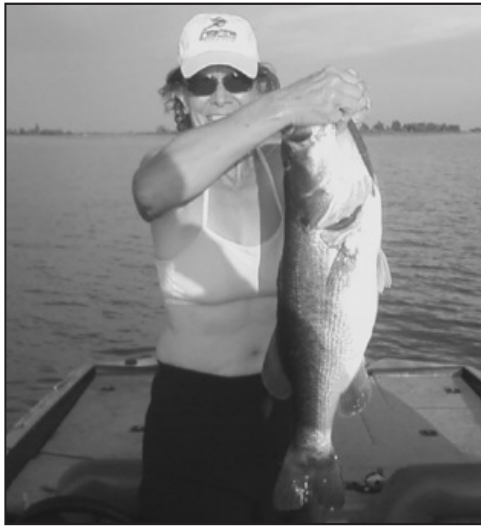
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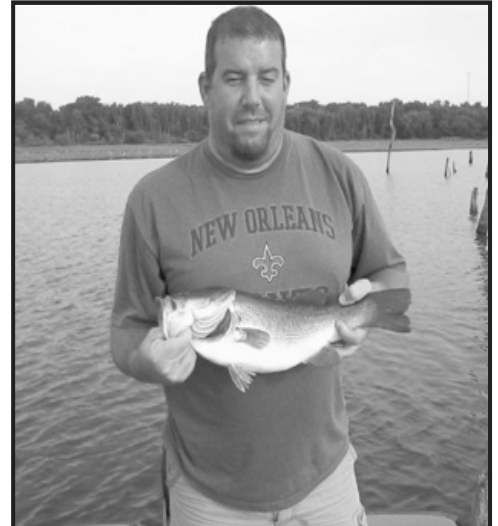
1-(903) 383-2733 or 1-(877) 383-5203



Victoria Settle had a great day fishing Lake Fork with her husband Dave on 7/25/13 when she caught this 9.26-lb., 24.5" hawg in 17-ft. of water C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo)



Jim Bonds from Gilmer, Texas caught this nice bass while fishing Lake Fork with his son on a HOT June day. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo)



Philip Bonds from West Monroe, Louisiana caught this nice bass while fishing Lake Fork with his father. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo)

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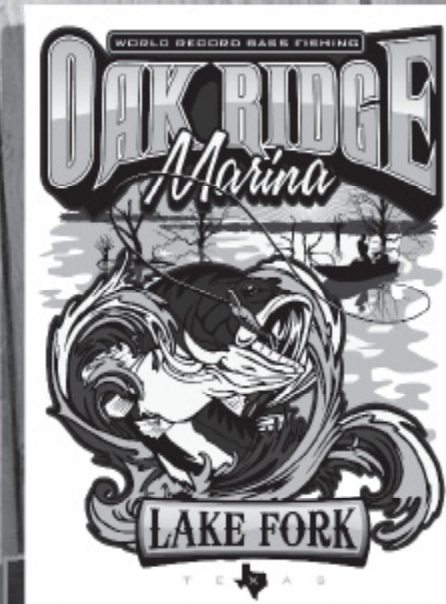
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Ranger Academy (Continued from Page 11-A)

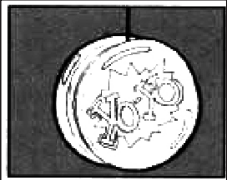
new-found skills in simulated scenarios.

Persons interested in enrolling in the academy can obtain an application from Enckhausen by calling (254) 897-4588 or

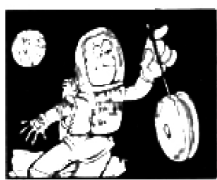
e-mailing him at: Robert.enckhausen@tpwd.texas.gov,

Dinosaur Valley State Park, located just northwest of Glen Rose in Somervell County,

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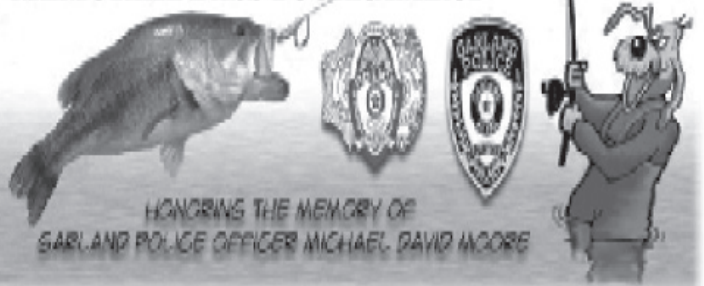
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"Pack of Knowledge" Rules of Thumb for Texas & Carolina Rigs

By Tom Redington

During the summer on most reservoirs you can count on two things—hot weather and offshore bass. And if the bass are deep, Texas rigs and Carolina rigs (C-rig) are often your best weapons. Both will catch bass, but how do you decide which setup to choose and how should you rig it up based on the conditions you're confronting? This article will focus on a few basic rules of thumb to help you answer some of the whens,

wheres, and whys for TX rigs and C-rigs.

C-rigs, especially when rigged with a heavy sinker (3/4 to 1 oz), work best in several different situations. First, a heavy sinker allows you to make long casts and quickly drag the bait across a wide area while maintaining contact with the bottom the whole time to locate bass fast. In addition, fluorocarbon line, a sensitive rod like a Dobyns Champion 804C "Carolina Rigging Special", and a heavy sinker clearly transmit changes in bottom composition or pieces of isolated cover. I work the bait quickly until I find rocks, weeds, or wood, and then slowly work my bait through this fish holding cover. The ability to cover a lot of water and find small areas of cover makes the C-rig a premier search bait as well as a good way to catch bass once they're found.

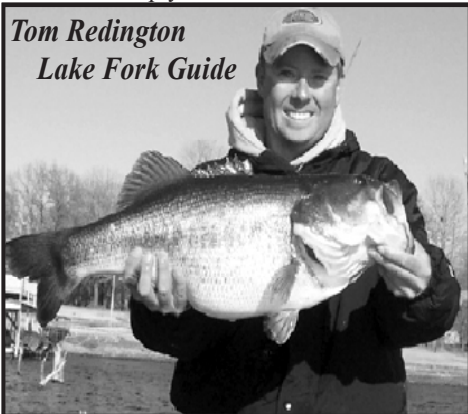
TX rigs, in contrast, typically work best when fishing heavy cover, specific targets, or steep drops. In heavy cover, a C-rig often hangs up more and will not get into the small holes in grass clumps or brush piles as well as a TX rig. In addition, when bass are located in very specific pieces of cover, a TX rig provides great action while shaking it in place (similar to the way you shake a worm on a shaky head jig). This subtle quivering action while leaving the bait in place often triggers inac-

tive fish that won't react to a rapidly moving or a dead-sticked C-rig. Finally, when fishing very steep banks, pond dams, or ledges, TX rigs can be slowly crawled down the slope while a C-rig will often pull your bait all the way to the bottom of the break too quickly.

Another factor to consider is the size of the weight you use. Heavy weights are often good in summer, as the fast fall triggers fish into a reaction strike. Furthermore, they reach the bottom quicker and allow better feel on windy days. While the slow fall of a small weight will sometimes get finicky fish to bite, I often start with a heavy weight and go smaller if I must, instead of the other way around.

In addition to the size of weight, the soft plastic lure you use on your rig also affects the drop speed and performance of your set up. Bulky baits with big tails or appendages will slow the fall of your rig and work best when paired with bigger weights and moved aggressively. Lures like Fork Creatures, Hyper Worms, and big ribbon-tail ring worms like 10" Fork Worms move a lot of water and trigger big bass that are actively feeding. Hop and swim these baits on a TX rig or C-rig to get their full action. Conversely, when the bite is tougher and you need to coax those big

(See Pack of Knowledge...Continued on Page 22-A)



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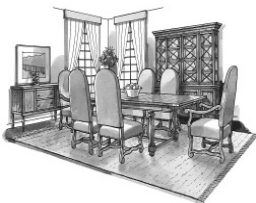
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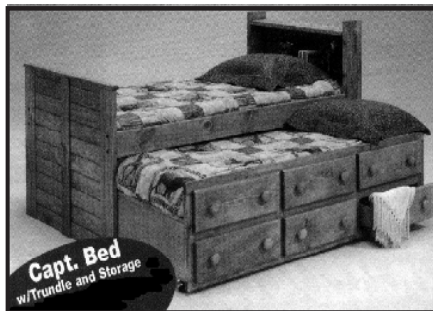


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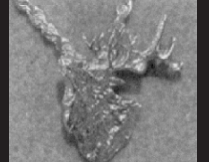
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August Lake Fork Fishing (Continued from Page 6-A)

bucks give me a ring at 903-569-7451. I reorder a boat every year, so it is time to sell this one.

Please pray for our troops and our country. Also pray for those in need and those who are lost. John 3:16. God Bless and Good Fishing!

John Tanner is a professional resident fishing guide on Lake Fork. He has been fishing Lake Fork since 1982. John is professionally sponsored by Ranger Boats, Ranger Trail Trailers, Mercury, International Precious Metals, Minn Kota Trolling Motors, Lowrance Electronics, Navionics, Berkeley, ABU Garcia, All Star Rods, Tru Tungsten,

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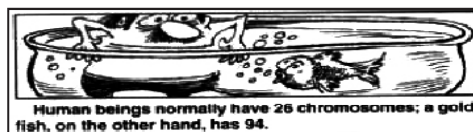
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Mike Pharr from Shreveport, Louisiana was fishing Lake Fork using a V&M PBJ Football jig with a 5" Twin Tail Amber Green on a Custom Angle Flipmaster Rod when he caught this hawg. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo)



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Art Becomes a New Feature at Texas State Parks

Grab your paintbrushes, easels, and cameras and head to a local state park to participate in the new Arts in the Park events.

Media ranging from drawing, photography, and music will be available for visitors at parks around the state.

The Arts in the Parks program is one of many new projects and coming events that will be featured at Texas state parks. The goal of this program is to provide diverse opportunities to Texans of all ages to get outside, use their imagination and connect with the outdoors though art.

To kick off this new program, Texas state parks are partnering with the "Get to Know" organization and launching the "Get to Know" Texas State Parks Youth Art Contest. The contest will be open to youth (19 and younger) and gives them an opportunity to go outdoors and share their outdoor experiences through art, writing, photography, video and music.

The contest runs from

now until November 1. Instructions on how to enter are available online on the "Get to Know" website, and all submitted entries will be displayed on the Texas State Parks Gallery.

Participants will have a chance to win prizes at the national level, including digital camera,

underwater camcorders, art supplies, binoculars, fishing rods, writing supplies and more, as well as special Texas prize packages that will be announced.

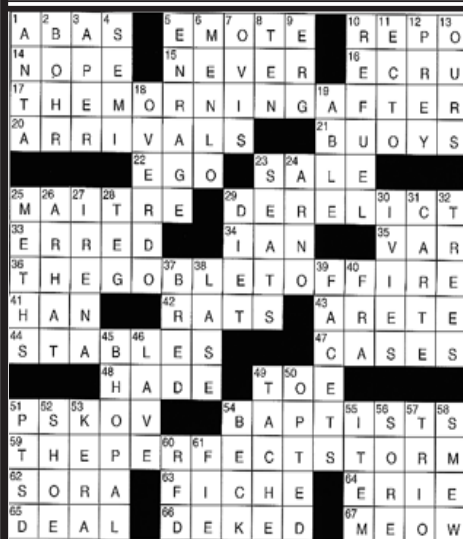
For more arts and crafts events coming to state parks, visit the Texas Parks and Wildlife "Arts and Crafts" calendar page.

Just The Right Answers

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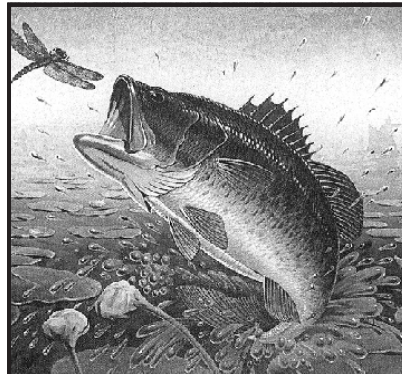
Fruit Find

There are 14 fruits hidden throughout the scrambled puzzle below. See how many you can find and circle. The words go horizontally and vertically, backward and forward.

APPLE
BLUEBERRY
CURRANT
GRAPE
GRAPEFRUIT
GUAVA
HONEYDEW

KIWI
LEMON
MANGO
ORANGE
PAPAYA
PEAR
PINEAPPLE

A H O N Y T R F E P R G
P O N E N O M E L P P A
L N A E V L E N O A E V
E E M L U E R A E P N A
C Y A P L E B Y R A R U
U D L P N A R R N Y S G
E E P A U C U R R A N T
P W E E G N O E A P P U
A P A N Y A L B N A V R
R A N I R R B E K I W F
G R A P E F R U I T A P
U A N E G M E L W Y R G
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When birds live with people, they are believed to think of them as flock members.

Pack of Knowledge (Continued from Page 18-A)

girls into biting, more streamlined soft plastics are in order. In this case, I'll rig up with straight tailed worms like Hyper Finesse Worms, Ring Frys, and Hyper Sticks. And for an especially tantalizing slow fall, try a Magic Shad or Live Magic Shad

on the business end of your C-rig—bass out deep love them just as much as they did when they were up shallow in

the spring. Finally, keep in mind that big weights cause baits to drop more nose down, while lighter weights make the same bait glide more to the bottom, as do baits with more tails and appendages. Sometimes they want more of glide, while other days a straight drop triggers more bites.

I use a slightly different rod for each presentation. Since I'm fishing a very heavy weight and keeping my rod tip down, a heavy duty rod that is sensitive works well with C-rigs. Because I often throw long 3' to 5' leaders, a longer rod makes casting easier. The 8' Dobyns Champion 804C is specifically designed for Carolina rigs, supplying the feel, power and length needed. With the Texas rig, I'm looking for even more feel and a bit lighter tip to help cast lighter weights. I still prefer a long rod, as the extra length delivers better hook sets and keeps fish on during power runs and jumps. The Dobyns Extreme DX744C is ultrasensitive to help you feel your way through thick snags and to detect the faintest bites. It'll still cast smaller 5 to 7 inch worms up to big 10" worms, yet the strong backbone of this 7'4" rod can handle the biggest of bass.

Of course, there are no absolutes in bass fishing. However, I hope these basic rules of thumb help make your decision on what to rig up a little easier on your next trip. If I can be of assistance, drop me a line at tom@lakeforkguidetrips.com or

check out my website www.LakeForkGuide-Trips.com for more info.

Tom Redington is a FLW Tour pro, host of TV's "Big Bass Battle" & a bass guide on Lake Fork. To make the most of your experience in the outdoors, he recommends the Boy Scouts of America, Lake Fork Trophy Lures, Dobyns Rods, Ranger Boats, Mercury Outboards, Diamond Sports Marine, Lucky Craft, Costa Sunglasses, Lowrance, Navionics, & Power Pole.





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PENDING

GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD. Beautiful wood floors and uniquely textured walls, formal dining & large living area with bookcase library, wb fireplace, access to outside covered patio. Great kitchen, granite island & counters, tiled backsplash & floors, breakfast area with half bath, large utility room 2-car garage. Downstairs master bedroom, separate shower & tub, 4th bedroom/office. Upstairs is media room, 2 bedrooms separated by full bath. Property sits on 2 lots with RV carport, two shops/storage. \$249,000.



PENDING

WATERFRONT QUALITY CONSTRUCTION THROUGHOUT by Lee Knight. Home is eclectic with gorgeous spectrums of grays and whites. Kitchen looks to be from a design kitchen magazine. Unique lighter-color granite counters & kitchen bar, top of line stainless appliances. Beautiful master bath with old-fashion foot tub, walk-in & sit-in masterfully designed, tiled shower. Open living/kitchen/breakfast, formal dining. Hand-hewn wood floors, rock fireplace. View of lake from living, master bedroom, kitchen, breakfast area & media/office/2nd living area. Oversized 2-car garage long enough for bass boat, cabinets, counters & work station. Located on good, deep water, the 2-stall boathouse with lifts has fishing deck & granite cleaning station. \$420,000.



SOLD

LAKE FORK WATERFRONT. 2128 sf living area with granite counters, tile floors, open living/dining/kitchen. Beautiful wood fireplace, high ceilings. Master bedroom large open-type shower & huge closet. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, detached 2-car garage with work area plus covered area for boat. Great view from deck. Lot is irrigated from lake. Single boathouse, gazebo, storage building, concrete drive. Perfect lake home. \$270,000



PENDING

NEW HOME ON 5.1 ACRES. Barely lived in for 6 months. Beautiful custom work, approximately 12 ft. ceilings in living & dining. Formal dining area has wood floors, living area has tile with stone fireplace. Open kitchen/living area with breakfast bar and breakfast room. Kitchen has granite counters, tile backsplash, beautiful cabinetry, stainless appliances. Large master bedroom with laminate wood floors, tray ceiling. Master bath has double lavatories, separate tub and shower, large walk-in closet. On opposite of home are 2 bedrooms with laminate floors, separated by bath. 2-car garage and sprinkler system. Sitting on 5.1 acres, there is room for a small man-made pond. Property is on a county-maintained road. A nice, new place in the country. \$224,000



SOLD

LIVING IN THE COUNTRY WITH ACCESS TO PRIVATE LAKE. Sitting on top of a hill on 2.99 wooded acres, this beautiful home has stone FP with backdrop of Aspen wood, vaulted ceilings, open living, kitchen & dining. Custom Aspen kitchen cabinets, breakfast bar, separate dining area. Master suite has large Jacuzzi-type tub. Second bath has shower only. Aspen walls. Back covered patio and uncovered deck in back with a sense of no one around. 2 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2-carport. You'll be impressed with this like-new home. \$135,900.



8.562 ACRES, LAKE FORK. Interior acreage in Arrowhead subdivision, a Lake Fork waterfront subdivision. The property has a water view of Lake Fork and is the only interior acreage. There is a common boat ramp currently used by homeowners. There are two separate tracts of 4.28 and 4.286 acres, but owner wants to sell as a whole, not separate. \$55,000



5 ACRES WITH SMALL HOME. Some beautiful acreage on this property. Home is older and has original hardwood floors that are in good shape. Two bedrooms, one bath, good-sized living area, kitchen and small eating area. Utility room is in separate outside. There is a small 3-car carport. There is an easement road into the property and the 5 acres will have to be surveyed out of a larger tract. \$55,000



RESTAURANT, SMOKEHOUSE ON LAKE FORK. Seats approximately 84 with plenty of parking. The property sits on 2.7 acres with leaseback and old boat ramp to Lake Fork. This location has lots of potential. Nicely decorated in rustic décor. Fully equipped, clean kitchen, walk-in coolers, freezers, 2-smokers. Commercial septic, fully approved. Great location on Hwy 154, approximately 3500 cars per day travel this road. Located right on Lake Fork where there are many tournaments, weekend and holiday fishermen. Area has a large retirement community. This is a great opportunity. just walk-in and start serving. \$145,000



LAKE FORK WATERFRONT built for entertaining with an inside hot-tub, concrete patio, screened porch. This 3 bedroom, 2 bath log home is a perfect lake home getaway. Set back in the woods, nicely landscaped, small pond in front, 2-car attached garage, concrete parking area. Private boat dock and neighborhood boat ramp. There is a loft with inside circle stairway and an outside entry. \$265,000.

\$We have too many properties for sale to show here. To view these and ALL MLS PROPERTY LISTINGS, go to: www.c21lakecountryrealty.com



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