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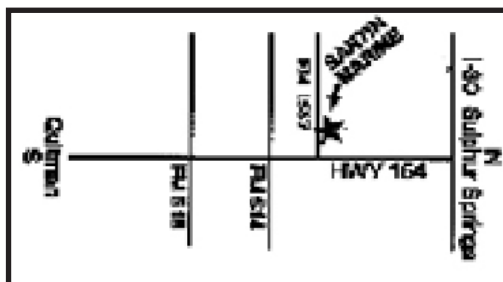


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TPWD Game Warden Field Notes

The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department law enforcement reports.

--Over Limits; Over Line-- A Williamson County game warden received an Operation Game Thief call about people who were shooting over a property line in Jonah. When the warden arrived at the location, he was unable to locate shooters. He returned to the same area later that evening and heard several shots coming from the property. When the warden contacted the shooter, he found that the man was in possession of 19 mourning doves, four over his daily bag limit, did not have a hunting license, and was in possession of a stolen Remington 20-gauge out of

Irving. The shotgun and birds were confiscated and charges are pending.

--Spotlight Shooting-- Two Shelby County game wardens received a call in the early morning hours from the local sheriff's office regarding a traffic stop conducted by state troopers at the Department of Public Safety. The sheriff's office advised the warden that in the trunk of the car was a live deer. When they arrived, the wardens noticed a .22-caliber rifle, two pellet guns, several flashlights, and a live mature doe in the trunk. After interviewing the subjects and examining the doe, the wardens could tell the deer had been shot with the .22-caliber rifle. The subjects admitted to hunting deer at night and using

their car headlights to spotlight and shoot the doe from the roadway. All four subjects were taken to Shelby County Jail.

--Hanging Evidence-- A Pecos County game warden received a call about two mule deer killed on a local ranch enrolled in the Managed Lands Deer Permit program. Since there are several white-tailed deer hunters on the ranch, a Jeff Davis County game warden met up with the game warden and they inspected the place, including a walk-in cooler, while the hunters were out for an afternoon hunt. Inside the cooler, the wardens found two illegal mule deer does. In all, 15 hunters were checked, three

(See Game Warden...

Continued on Page 4-B)

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Strollin' With Stroman



By Dean Stroman

Cold water bass fishing can be very tough when water temperature drops below fifty degrees and stays around the mid-forties to mid-fifties. Bass feeding activities will slow down and bass can go days without feeding at all. They will still feed, but the feeding activity will be short and their movement to feed will not be far from their core area. To get bit you must find big bass' core area and find out what time of day triggers her feeding time.

Baitfish movements slow down and they will group up in big schools off creek channels and ledges in and around deep water, such as humps, ridges, roadbeds,

bridges, mouths of major creeks, major points, rip-rap, and rocks. They key is to stay around the deep water breaklines.

Keep your boat positioned where you are working your lure across the breakline. Good breakline is defined by an area where the water gets deep quickly, i.e., a five foot change in depth over a five and one-half foot linear distance. Key in on areas that have some form of structure, such as wood, hydrilla, manmade or natural, on the edges or in the breaklines. Fish these areas slowly. Remember, patience and persistence will pay off.

Early January key in on deepest water areas. Find the baitfish on these breaklines and fish these

(See Strollin.....
Continued on Page 9-B)

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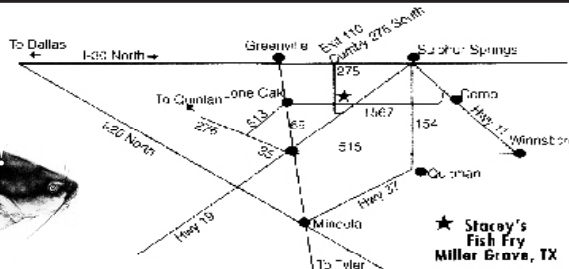
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TPWD Game Warden Field Notes (Continued from Page 2-B)

citations were issued and two mule deer does were seized.

--Smoked Out-- A game warden patrolling Coleman County came across a van with no lights on pulling a trailer. He stopped the vehicle and could smell a strong odor of marijuana. The warden asked the driver and passengers to get out and was surprised to see seven adult males emerge. When the warden asked the passengers where they were coming from, they said Denver and headed to Austin. When asked if they had been smoking marijuana, they said yes but that it was not illegal in Colorado. After gaining consent to search the vehicle, the warden found a pipe and several baggies of marijuana. Tickets for pos-

session of drug paraphernalia were filed on the violators. Cases pending.

--Lost and Found-- A Burleson County game warden received a call from parents who told the operator that their son was missing and has been known to wander into the neighboring 2,000-acre ranch. The warden and local first responders searched the area and the boy was located about six hours later in a restaurant four miles from his house.

--Excuses, Excuses... A Houston County game warden went into a camp where a doe had been harvested and quartered. The deer had been tagged properly and the harvest log was filled out. The warden asked the hunter if he had shot it with a crossbow, but

the subject said the deer was shot with a regular bow. After observing the bow, the warden noticed a broken, bloody arrow in the quiver. Everything looked okay until the warden examined the meat. There was a broadhead puncture wound and exit wound that the subject kept pointing to. After observing it further, the warden found a small bullet hole in the meat. He asked the hunter if he had any shotguns, rifles or pistols in his truck, and the subject said no. After the man gave permission to search the truck, the warden found a shotgun hidden behind the backseat. He asked the hunter why he didn't tell the truth about the shotgun, and the subject said he thought he had only asked about pistols. The

warden asked the hunter where the gut pile and hide was, and was led to a spot behind the camp, but the warden saw no hide. The subject told the warden that a coyote must have drug it off. After circling the camp, the warden found the hide. When the warden spread out the hide, he noted a buckshot hole. Seeing that, the subject put his hands in the air and asked, "How much is the ticket?" Case and civil restitution pending.

--Recipe for a Citation-- Two Nacogdoches County game wardens were checking bowhunters when they noticed heavy traffic going through a gate. The wardens entered the property and contacted an individual cooking deer meat in a camp over an open fire.

The subject claimed they were only hunting hogs and that no deer had been harvested. Two more hunters arrived in camp with the same story. After the wardens located a skinning rack with deer hair, fresh blood, and a backstrap of a deer in a plastic bag, they investigated the camp further and found a hidden deer head from a buck with a 5 to 6-inch spread. The deer was harvested illegally with a bolt-action rifle during archery-only season. Multiple citations issued. Cases pending.

--Looking for Trouble-- A Montgomery County game warden responded to a call in Walden on Lake Conroe. Montgomery County deputies stopped a suspicious vehicle that was suspected of stealing copper from

houses in the neighborhood. While searching the vehicle, the deputies found a loaded rifle equipped with laser sights, a bow equipped with a flashlight, and a flashlight in the truck. Both subjects were interviewed by the game warden and said they were driving around the subdivision looking for a deer to shoot. The next day, the warden followed up on the call by searching the original location where the subjects were seen and getting a statement from the reporting caller. While searching the lot, the warden found an arrow matching those that were found in the truck. Both subjects were arrested, and multiple cases are pending.

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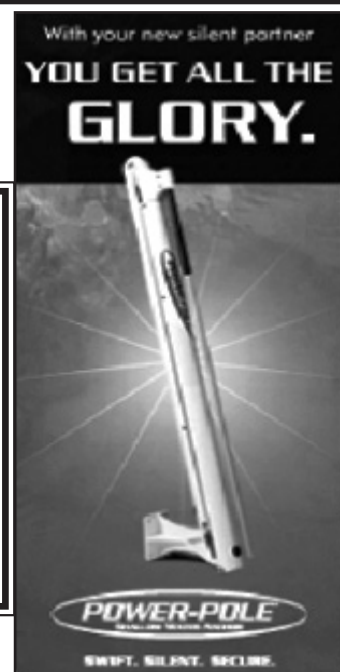
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Corn And Peppers Add Zest To Potato Cakes

By Sue Hampton

You can bring life to leftovers by adding new flavors and ingredients.

For example, leftover mashed Idaho Potatoes can reappear as zesty potato pancakes studded with corn and multicolored pep-

pers. These are baked, not fried, yet they still brown nicely.

Zesty Idaho Potato Cakes

Cooking Spray
2 cups leftover mashed Idaho Potatoes (home-made works best)
½ cup corn kernels (if frozen, thaw first, then

squeeze out excess water)

1/3 cup frozen, diced red and green sweet peppers (thaw, then squeeze out excess water)

1 egg white

½ cup shredded taco cheese (cheese blend with added seasonings)

4 tablespoons all-purpose flour

1 tablespoon minced, dried onion

1 teaspoon salt

¾ teaspoon chili powder

1/8 teaspoon ground cumin

Optional garnish: ¼ cup shredded taco cheese

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Coat a baking sheet with a liberal amount of cooking spray.

In a medium mixing bowl, combine all ingredients and mix well with a fork or wooden spoon.

Spray a 1/3-cup measuring cup with cooking spray. Using the cup, scoop up the potato mixture and level it off with your clean hand. Invert the filled cup over the prepared baking sheet to release the potato mixture. Continue to scoop, making 8 portions (you may need to respray the cup once or twice to help release the potato mixture). Gently press the portions with your palm to form pancakes about ¾-inch thick.

Spray the tops of the pancakes lightly with cooking spray. Bake for 20 minutes. Using

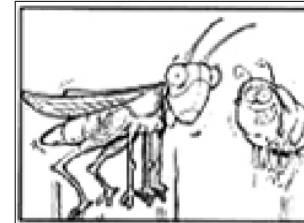
a metal spatula, flip the pancakes and bake another 15 minutes. Transfer pancakes to a serving platter using the spatula, then

sprinkle them with additional taco cheese, if desired. Serve hot with a dollop of sour cream, if you like. (Serves 4).

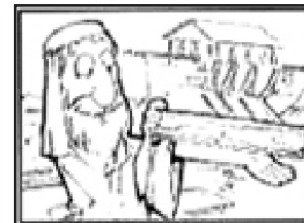
Happy New Year!



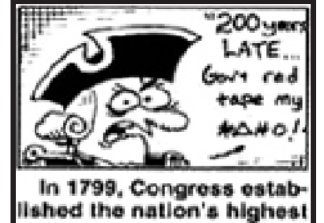
Combining flavors and ingredients in new ways can give leftovers a new life!



Grasshoppers can jump over twenty times their length. Fleas can jump eight feet. Humans could leap the length of a football field, if they had the same skill proportionate to their size.



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Strollin' With Stroman (Continued from Page 3-B)

areas thoroughly. On most January days feeding times will be during the hottest part of the day. Midday to early afternoon will be the best time to catch Miss Big.

Around the end of December the winter solstice occurs and the hours of sunlight per day begins to increase. Bass' annual migration will head to shallow water areas. This movement is caused by the length of days, not the water temperature. Spawning activities will start by water temperature. The trigger that starts this movement is photosynthesis. Period. Bass will start their migration to staging areas around the third week of January no matter what the water temperature for that area.

Older age class bass are the first to move shallow due to spawning instincts. Large females will cruise their spawning site a month before they actually spawn, but they will never be far from deep water. I can't tell you how many times in late January that you can set up in two to three feet of water fishing creek channels that drop off to five to six feet in back ends of some major creeks and the water temperature is in the mid-forties and you will be the only boat in sight until late February. That is when most folks think bass start going shallow to spawn. Little do they know that most big ones have already been there.

Start fishing the upper ends of the lake in January. Look for feeder creeks that run into main lake. Key in on areas where creeks or deep breaklines run near the points or banks. When you find the above areas, concentrate on spots protected from the prevailing north wind. These honey holes will be a few degrees warmer than the surrounding water. When you find these hot spots, you will be in business.

Older age class bass are more weary and more easily spooked than the average bass and should be approached quietly. Turn off the big motor. Use your trolling motor to quietly and slowly approach your fishing area. Keep the noise level inside the boat to minimum. Boat noise will

spook Miss Big. If you have to walk around the boat, do so quietly.

Weather changes also affect how big bass will locate on structure. Concentrate on more shallow breaklines during consistent weather patterns, such as warming trends. During frontal conditions fish the deeper breaklines. Contrary to popular belief, bass will not move out of shallow water areas but will seek the deepest nearby water.

If you need more fishing information or want to book a trip with Dean, call him on his landline 903-383-7214 or cell phone 903-850-5083 or email him at dstroman@peoplescom.net. Book your trip soon as trips are filling quickly for spring. He still has some winter trips available.

Dean is sponsored by Gene Larew, Legend Boats, Mercury Marine, Mossy Oak, Century 21 Lake Country, Sebile Innovative, Arkie Reaction Innovation, Custom Angle Moby Rods and Brass n' Blades Lures.

Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork

28th Semi-Annual Open Tournament

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Big Bass will pay Three (3) places. (Based on 100 entries)

1st Place	\$500.00
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3rd Place	\$200.00

1. Entry fee is \$40.00 - late entry is \$45.00.
2. Early entries must be postmarked by Mar. 30, 2014.
3. All entry fees must be paid before 6 a.m. Saturday, April 12, 2014.
4. Check in time: Friday, April 11, 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday, April 12, 4 a.m. to 6 a.m. at Oakridge Marina.
5. To qualify, contestants must check in at tournament headquarters before fishing.
6. Fishing hours will be 6:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (official clock at sign-in station). NO FISHING from midnight till start time.
7. Fishing will be done on Lake Fork only (trailer allowed).
8. Contestants must fish from a boat. No bank fishing or leaving the boat to land a fish.
9. Life jackets must be worn any time their outboard motor is running.
10. All state, federal, and local laws must be obeyed or contestant and fish may be disqualified. No slot fish may be brought to weigh-in.
11. No one may have more than five (5) fish in their possession at any time. Only one (1) may be 24" or greater.
12. Largemouth bass 12" to 16" or 24" or greater in length may be weighed. No fish under 12" or between 16" and 24" will be weighed (or state law limits at the time of the tournament).
13. All fish must be brought to the scales in weigh-in bags.
14. Weigh-in starts at 3:00 p.m. (official clock at sign-in). You must be in the weigh-in line by 3:30 p.m.
15. All fish must be brought to the scales in weigh-in bags.
16. No iced or frozen fish will be weighed. Ice may be added ONLY to aid in survival of fish.
17. Each contestant will be responsible for weighing his or her own fish. (No pooling of fish).
18. Dead fish at weigh-in will be penalized 1/2 (.5) pound. All fish weighed in become the property of Texas Trails Bassmasters and will be released (with the exception of trophy or dead fish).

19. In the event of a tie for any position, prize money for that position and the following position will be combined and evenly divided between the tying contestants.
20. Contestants may not have served as a compensated guide on Lake Fork 30 days prior to this tournament.
21. Contestants may fished with a guide on Lake Fork prior to the day before fishing this TTB tournament.
22. Use of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES or CONTROLLED DRUGS are prohibited during tournament hours. Prescription drug use should be declared at sign-in.
23. Anyone who has ever been disqualified for cheating or misconduct from any tournament is ineligible to fish.
24. Any contestant who violates any rule may be disqualified. Any act of a competitor, verbal or physical, that reflects unfavorably upon Texas Trails Bassmasters effort to promote fishing, conservation, clean waters, courtesy or safety shall be reason for disqualification from this and all future Texas Trails Bassmasters tournaments.
25. Parent or guardian must accompany contestants under 18 years of age.
26. All protests must be registered in writing with the tournament judges within 15 minutes after designated weigh-in time. All decisions of the tournament judges will be final in all matters. Anyone protesting the outcome of an Open tournament will have to pay for any additional polygraph test given.
27. All boats must be 8 feet in length or longer. An aerated live well is recommended to aid in fish survival for live release. Anglers cannot leave boat to land a fish.
28. All contestants are responsible to have read these rules and must agree to abide by them (by signing the entry form) while competing in this Texas Trails Bassmasters event.
29. Contestants will be subject to polygraph test. Failure to take and/or pass such a test will result in disqualification.

Additional Information

For more information or for information on joining Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork visit our website



www.texas trails bassmasters.com

Remove entry form below this line. Retain above portion for your records



Entry Application

Entry fee of \$40 must accompany mailed entry and must be postmarked on or before Mar. 30th to Texas Trails Bassmasters, 538 PR 5861, Yantis, TX 75497, or you may pay \$45 at tournament headquarters before starting time of tournament. \$10 extra for Big Bass (optional). Print clearly.

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Having read and understood the tournament rules, by my signature I agree to accept all decisions of the judges as final. By my signature I waive, release and hold harmless all members, officials and sponsors of any and all alleged liabilities to me and/or my equipment.

Contestant Signature _____

Minor's release: Signed by _____ Parent/Guardian

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Entry Fee _____

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2014

Jan. 2014

Jan. 5 ~ Bass N' Bucks

Pope's Landing

Jan. 18 ~ Bud Light

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Feb. 2014

Feb. 2 ~ Budlight Trail

Pope's Landing

Feb. 15 ~ Bass N' Bucks

Pope's Landing

Feb. 15 ~ Media Teams

Minnow Bucket

Feb. 22 ~ JC Outdoors Teams

Minnow Bucket

Feb. 23 ~ JC Outdoors Ind.

Minnow Bucket

Mar. 2014

Mar. 2 ~ Bass N' Bucks

Pope's Landing

Mar. 15 ~ Budlight Trail

Pope's Landing

Mar. 15 ~ Media Teams

Minnow Bucket

Mar. 16 ~ JC Outdoors Ind.

Minnow Bucket

Mar. 22 ~ JC Outdoors Teams

Minnow Bucket

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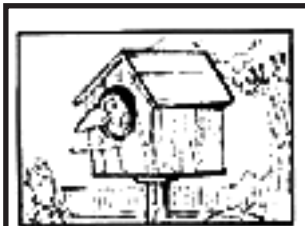
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*For Scheduling or More Info Contact: Don Hampton, Founder & Program Director
visit our website: www.wishtofishfoundation.com*



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