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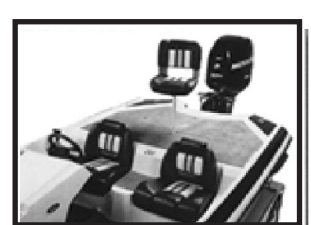
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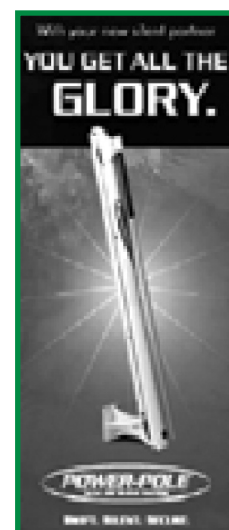
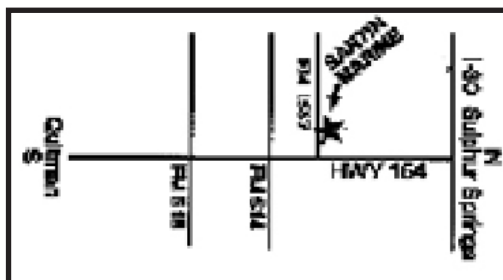


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Strollin' With Stroman



By Dean Stroman

Mother Nature plays a major role in how good bass fishing will be in December. When the water temperature gets below fifty-two degrees and stays there it will be a tough bite, but if you are after that dream bass, you can still be successful. Just slow down your presentation and work the fishing area slowly and quietly. When water temperature is above fifty-two degrees, bass will be more active and feeding periods will last longer.

Remember bass are cold-blooded. When water temperature cools down, bass will be the least active. They will feed, but the feeding period will be a lot

shorter.

Jig/hog craw, hard jerk baits and lipless cranks are top lure choices when fishing shallow water, fifteen feet or less. For jigs: black/blue and watermelon colors are top producing colors. Mismatched colors will also pay off such as black/blue jig with a watermelon Gene Larew hog craw or the Biffle Bug as a jig trailer. Those are my top choices. For hard jerk baits and lipless cranks: red and orange perch patterns are hard to beat. When using lipless cranks be sure to check the hooks on your lure. If they are not quality and not sharp, change them out. If you don't, a Lake Fork giant will break your heart.

Look for the grass flats that are near deep water or that have ledges or creek channels running through the grass flat.

(See Strollin'....

Continued on Next Page)

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Fish Friendly

Strollin' With Stroman

These are excellent areas. Deep water structure fishing is at its best during winter months. It is the time to fine tune your fish finder and hone in your GPS coordinates for those open water humps, ridges, and points. Spoon fishing will be at its peak during the cold days. Bass will be feeding from twenty to thirty feet on tops of humps, ridges, roadbeds and points. During warming trends and just before the next cold front hits, the shallow bite will pick up.

The biggest key to successfully catching Fork's bass during December is to find the baitfish. It is easier to find baitfish, shad, bream, or barfish, than to find bass on your locator. When you mark and locate schools of baitfish over deep or shallow water areas that are near structures, ledges and channels, you have the greatest potential for bass to be in the area.

Fishing cold weather can be deadly. Never fish alone, always bring a buddy. Should you fall in, hypothermia can set in quickly. Check weather predictions before setting out and be sure to dress accordingly.

If you are planning a trip to Lake Fork and need a guide, general fishing information or an updated fishing report to make your Lake Fork fishing experience a good one, you can call me at 903-850-5083 (cell) or 903-383-7214 (land line) or you can email me at dstroman@peoplescom.net.

Dean is sponsored by Legend Boats, Mercury Marine, Mossy Oak, Century 21 Lake Country, Easy Step System, Custom Angle Rods, Revenge Baits and Gene Larew.

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



Game Warden Field Notes

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

--High Stakes on the High Seas-- When a commercial shrimp boat drew too close to his own boat near the Port O'Connor jetties, a fishing guide opened fire with his .45 caliber weapon after the shrimp boat failed to heed his flare pistol warnings. When Matagorda and Wharton County game wardens contacted the shrimp boat crew, the wardens observed what appeared to be seven to nine bullet strikes on the steel-hulled vessel. The wardens turned the investigation over to the Matagorda County Sheriff's Office. The fishing guide faces three counts

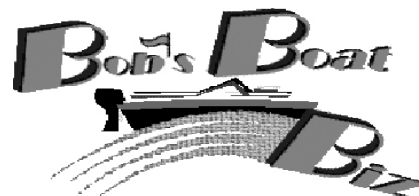
of felony deadly conduct.

--In the Dark of the Night, the Warden Will Find You-- Late one night as he watched for spot-lights, a Starr County game warden observed a single cab pickup truck traveling slowly on a county road. The warden waited for spotlights from the truck, but none appeared as it continued down the road. The warden, not wanting to give away his position, waited a few minutes before leaving the scene, but the truck turned around and stopped in front of the warden's location for about five minutes before someone got out to look for something. Once the individual got back in the truck and continued down the road, the warden stopped the vehicle

when it turned off into private property. When the warden asked the two occupants what they were doing, they said they were hunting rattlesnakes. Both said they had no hunting licenses. The warden issued citations for hunting without licenses from a public road.

--Run Aground-- For two long hours, a pair of lonely fishermen were stranded on the Rio Grande after their boat ran aground on a gravel bar about 20 miles north of Eagle Pass. Maverick County game wardens responded to the distress call, and with the aid of the U.S. Border Patrol marine unit's airboat, helped free the stuck boat. Both fishermen

(See Game Warden....
Continued on next Page)



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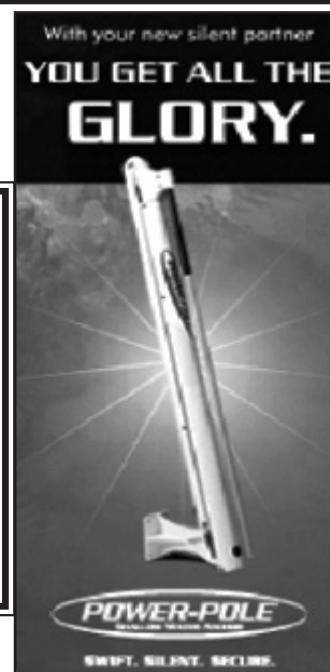


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Game Warden Field Notes (Continued from Page 5-B)

hunter, the man said, "I am in trouble--this is not a dove." The bird was later identified as a Wilson snipe. Two citations were issued to the hunter, one for using an unplugged shotgun, and the other for taking a Wilson snipe out of season.

--Swerving Driver, Hidden Warden-- While on patrol in southern Ward County, a game warden witnessed a vehicle swerve across the centerline, nearly causing a collision with an oncoming vehicle. The warden activated his lights and siren and followed the swerving vehicle for about a mile before the driver abruptly hit his

breaks and pulled over. Talking to the driver, the warden could detect the strong odor of alcohol and see that the individual had glossy, blood-shot eyes. Standard field sobriety tests were conducted, which the driver failed. The individual was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated, and transported to the Ward County Jail.

--Just Keep Swimming-- When a warden received a call from Smith County dispatch, he was informed that a woman had just called 911 to report a man attempting to swim across Lake Palestine. She said the man appeared to be

struggling and was also high on narcotics. A local volunteer fire department launched its boat and attempted to rescue the man, but he was protesting and would not board the boat. A deputy, a Department of Public Safety trooper and the Smith County game warden boarded another VFD boat and went to assist. Once the man saw the second boat approaching, he gave in and boarded. When asked what exactly he was doing, he stated he was just swimming. The man was arrested for public intoxication.

--Six Shots Too Many-- A Texas Parks and

Wildlife biologist called a Smith County game warden to report illegal hunting on a Wildlife Management Area. When the bowhunter was approached, he claimed self-defense against a 5-foot timber rattlesnake. However, when the individual further explained the situation and the six shots he took to kill the snake, it became evident that it was not self-defense. Case and restitution are pending.

--Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head-- An Anderson County game warden encountered a man in the middle of the road, standing in the rain. The Anderson County

Sheriff's Office advised that the subject had jumped in front of several vehicles in an attempt to stop motorists. When the warden stopped his patrol vehicle nearby, the man attempted to get inside. The warden quickly locked the doors, backed up his vehicle and used his speaker to instruct the subject to get off the road and lay down on the ground. While being handcuffed, the subject said, "Thank God! Do what you got to do, and get me out of here! They are watching me right now!" The subject claimed that a terrorist group was not only watching him, but had

also kicked him out of his trailer and beat him up. The subject showed signs of intoxication and impairment from drug use. He was placed in the Anderson County Jail for public intoxication and obstructing a highway.

--Busted Baiters-- While on patrol in Gregg County, a game warden located a group of dove hunters on a baited field. When the warden asked about the milo seed scattered on the ground, the landowner said he had only placed it along outer fence lines for vegetation. The warden toured the baited

(See Game Warden... Continued on Page 9-B)



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A New Tradition: Ultimate Apricot Cheesecake

By Sue Hampton

Searching for new dessert ideas and inspiration this holiday season? The Ultimate Apricot Cheesecake will be a recipe worth keeping. Enhanced with apricot puree, this cheesecake is light on the palate with a mild fruity sweetness.

This recipe could become a holiday tradition for many families!

Ultimate Apricot Cheesecake

1 cup ground vanilla wafers (approx. 25 wafers)



From our family to yours, we want to wish everyone a very "Merry Christmas & Happy New Year"!!

1 cup ground almonds
8 tablespoons (1 stick) unsalted butter, melted
1 pound cream cheese, room temperature
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
6 eggs, separated
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon vanilla extract
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sour cream
1 – 15-1/4 oz. can Del Monte Almond Flavored Apricot Halves, drained and pureed
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar
1 – 15-1/4 oz. Del Monte Almond Flavored Apricot Halves, drained for garnish

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In small bowl, combine ground vanilla wafers, ground almonds and melted butter. Stir with fork until mixed. Pat crumb mixture over bottom and about 1 inch

up sides of 10" spring-form pan. Cook in oven for 10 minutes. Cool.

In large mixing bowl, beat cream cheese until soft and fluffy. Add $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar and beat again until well blended. Beat in egg yolks one at a time, until mixture is fluffy. Add vanilla extract, sour cream and apricot puree, mixing until blended.

In separate bowl, beat egg whites until they hold soft peaks. Slowly add $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar, and beat mixture until whites form stiff peaks. Fold egg whites into the cream cheese mixture.

Pour cream cheese batter into prepared crust. Bake for 1 hour until golden brown and cake has puffed. Remove from oven and cool cake. Refrigerate several hours

or overnight.

Garnish: 1 – 15-1/4 oz. can apricot halves, drained. Cut apricot halves into wedges. Place cheese cake on serving platter and place apricot wedges around cake.

The following is another quick and easy-to-prepare recipe to get your holiday celebrations off to a festive start!

Cranberry Apple Fruit Crisp

For the Filling:

2-1/2 to 3 cups (one bag) cranberries
5 Granny Smith apples, diced
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup brown sugar
2 tablespoons all purpose flour

For the Topping:

1 cup plus 2 tablespoons all purpose flour
1 cup plus 2 tablespoons

rolled oats

1 cup pecans or walnuts (optional)
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup white sugar
 $\frac{1}{3}$ cup brown sugar
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon kosher salt
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup unsalted butter, melted

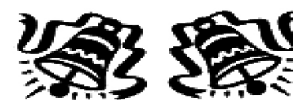
Preheat the oven to 350 F.

To make the filling:

Place all the filling ingredients in a large bowl and toss to combine. Transfer to a 9-inch by 12-inch pan. Set aside.

To make the topping:

Place the flour, oats, nuts, if desired, sugars and salt in a large mixing bowl, and toss together. Add the butter, and toss again. Sprinkle evenly over the filling and place in the oven for 45 to 55 minutes.



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Game Warden Field Notes (Continued from Page 7-B)

ponds and gravel roads, where hunters were sitting, and contacted a Smith County game warden for assistance. Together, the wardens seized more than 50 illegal dove and filed nine charges: hunt dove over bait, place bait to attract, no hunting licenses, unplugged shotguns, rallying or disturbing, hunt from vehicle, no hunters education, hunting protected bird, and no state migratory game bird stamp. Investigation is ongoing, and cases are pending.

--Without a Paddle-- A Robertson County game warden was contacted by the local sheriff's department regarding a 911 call from two kayakers stranded on the Brazos River. They had gone two nights without food or water. Their cell phone went dead during the call, so not much information could be received. Until a helicopter search could take place, the warden would be monitoring a bridge crossing. On the way to the bridge, he checked a small section of river that ran along the back side of a ranch. The warden was joined by a deputy who arrived at the river and shut off the patrol truck, hitting the horn three times. To their surprise, they heard a call back and discovered the kayakers were positioned directly across the river. The kayakers were rescued after a challenging climb up the riverbank and through the woods.

--Birds of a Feather Get Caught Together-- Two Zapata County game wardens entered a large ranch to check for

signs of dove hunters while patrolling during the special whitewing season. A bucket was located near camp with the carcasses of freshly cleaned birds, including 31 mourning doves, one Inca dove and one scaled quail. After a few shots were heard in the distance, a truck pulled up at camp and contact was made. The wardens discovered a freshly killed whitetail fawn in the bed of the pickup truck, along with 11 additional mourning doves. The five subjects were interviewed, and the wardens received confessions on all the illegal hunting that took place. Multiple citations were issued for exceeding daily bag limit on mourning dove, no hunting license, hunting a protected bird, hunting quail out of season, possession of untagged deer, and hunting deer

out of season. Cases are pending.

--The Three Not-So-Wise Men-- A Henderson County game warden teamed up with an officer from the Henderson County Sheriff's Department after receiving numerous reports of personal watercrafts being stolen from boat docks on Cedar Creek Lake. One caller witnessed three male subjects attempting to steal a PWC out of a boatlift. A group of three males fitting the description of jet skis that had been reported stolen. The three subjects, all juveniles, were turned over to the sheriff's department once it was verified that the PWCs were stolen. Five PWCs were recovered and returned to their owners. Charges are still pending.

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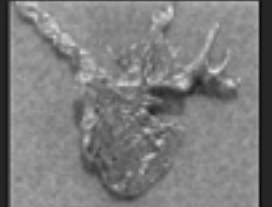
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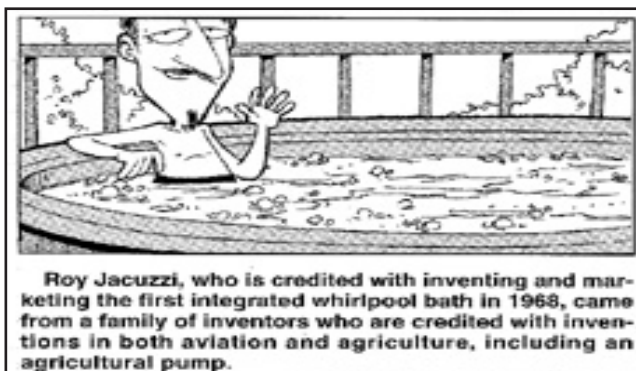
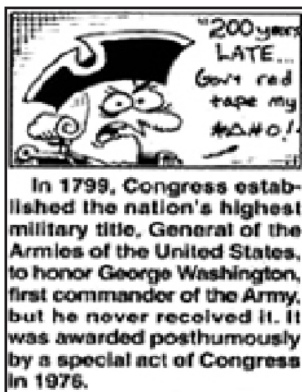
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Needs Your Help!!!

If you know a family that has a child that meets our criteria, just have them call us.

We'll take over from there!

*"Every child deserves a chance to fish!" Children diagnosed or who have experienced a life-threatening illness or accident sometimes do not have that opportunity. Now through the "Wish to Fish Foundation" they can have that day in the sun with their family. Any family with a child between the ages 3 to 18 years of age that has been diagnosed or treated for a life-threatening illness or accident is invited to come fish Lake Fork for any species of fish at **NO COST!** Lodging, meals, and fishing are provided for. This allows the family to spend quality time together fishing without worries or expenses. The outing includes one night lodging, meals, refreshments, snacks, all on a 26' Tritoon Pontoon, (accompanied with a 9-1-1 chase boat for any emergency that may occur. All bait and fishing equipment provided. If you are, or know of a family that meets the above criteria, contact us! Help us spread the word, we are here for the children!*

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



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