

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. 18

November, 2016

No. 207



On October 8th "The Wish To Fish Foundation" welcomed the Gatica family, 18 year old Dakota and 12 year old Hayden to Lake Fork. Also seen in photo (lt. to rt.) Bart Martin dipping minnows, Chad Marsh, Director, father Jonathon Gatica, Rodney Ellis, Director, and mother Kristy Gatica. (Fisherman's Guide Photo by Don Hampton)

Wish To Fish Foundation Welcomes Gatica Family

By Sue Hampton

We often hear the expression "angels here on earth"... we truly believe there are because we have been blessed with our "Wish To Fish" family, the Gatica's from Fort Worth! We first met parents, Kristy

& Jonathan and their two delightful boys Dakota who is now 18 and Hayden 12 when we invited them to Lake Fork for a day on the water in June 2013.

Dakota and Hayden were both diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. Dakota

was 4 years old and Hayden was diagnosed while still in Kristy's womb. DMD is a progressive neuromuscular disorder and symptoms include fatigue, muscle weakness and difficulty running and

(See Wish to Fish.....
Continued on Page 3-A)



There were big smiles in the 11th Annual Berkley Big Bass Tournament but this might have been the happiest! Walter Thomas Jr. from Alba, TX., won for heaviest over the slot with this 10.15-lb bass in the last weigh-in. For his catch he won \$1,000 plus \$100 Biobor bonus for the hour plus a Skeeter ZX200, powered by Yamaha SHO, with Lowrance Electronics, PowerPole and MinnKota trolling motor. See full story on Page 4-A. (Fisherman's Guide Photo by Sue Hampton)



The heaviest bass 16" or less was also won in the last 15 minutes of the tournament! Joe Todd from Wichita Falls, TX., was almost the last one to the scales during the tournament when he brought the winner in weighing 2.95-lbs. For his catch he won \$400 in the hour and a Skeeter ZX190 powered by a Yamaha SHO, Lowrance Electronics, and MinnKota trolling motor. (Fisherman's Guide Photo by Sue Hampton)



"Happy Thanksgiving"

When It Comes To Thanksgiving, Bubba May Be The Turkey Full of Grace

By: Don Hampton

Bubba isn't an individual that is asked to say the grace much when it comes to meals. Don't get me wrong Bubba considers himself religious and is always thankful to the "Good Lord" for all his blessings. But, come on people, Bubba is Bubba!

If Bubba is asked to say the grace, you never know what kind of thanks you may hear. If he is really hungry you might hear, "Good bread, good meat, God Bless, let's eat, AMEN!" If he is really hungry and not feeling like a bear just out of hibernation and in a good mood you might hear, "Rubby dub, dub, bring on the grub, Yeah God, AMEN!" But, if Bubba has had a snack just before meal time, like tasting the turkey as he is slicing it, get ready for a long winded grace like you've never heard before. During these blessings he would have a country revival preacher squirming in his seat. During this course you might hear Bubette throw in four or five AMENS. Not because she's filled with the spirit or that she agrees with what Bubba is saying, but rather because she's trying to shut him down. This is something one can really expect to hear at Thanksgiving at Bubba and Bubette's home.

Each year at Thanksgiving and Christmas, Bubba is the designated turkey smoker. He does smoke a mean turkey and all his rela-

tives think he is the best and his smoked sweet potatoes and oyster dressing is a culinary delight also. The bad part of this is that the cook tastes his cooking before he will serve it. If you thought this would spoil his appetite, you are wrong. This just puts him at the table not being hungry as a bear and it being Bubba's household the Thanksgiving blessing belongs to him.

The beginning and the end of his grace are book worthy. It is just all of those things in the middle that will have you starving before the last AMEN. Believe me when he says, "AMEN", there is a chorus of "AMENS" around the table!

He will start by thanking God for all the blessings he has bestowed on his family and friends. He asked him to bless this great country we live in and for all the soldiers that defend our freedom and way of life. He will thank God for the food they are about to partake of and that he will nourish it to the goodness of their bodies, but then Bubba will say thanks for everything he feels important.

He is liable to start off by thanking the "Good Lord" for Lake Fork and all of the good lakes he has fished throughout the year. He'll be thankful for his sharp hooks, strong line, and prized possessions such as his rods and reels. He'll put in how much he appreciated the fish biting and that they might on his future trips

be as hungry as some of his kinfolk are getting at the table during his blessing. He will thank the Lord for his boat, motor, electronics and as always for his pickup truck. He'll be thankful for the weather, the tournaments he won, the great guide trips he has been on, and on, and on, and on! Sometimes during these blessings Bubba would run down the EVEREADY Bunny! I do believe he would stretch them out more if he wasn't afraid his food would get cold!

Bubba is pretty smart in a sense the way he explained it to me. He said, "I've got a captive audience! No matter how long I say grace, none of my kinfolk are going to get up and leave a table full of good vittles!"

When Bubba finally says "AMEN", I think the chorus of "AMENS" is basically because everyone's so glad he's finally come to an end, but probably to drown out Bubba putting in a P.S.

Bubba always finishes his prayer with sincere thanks. He is thankful for his life, his wife, his family and friends, for the great country we live in, and that all may be blessed with the Lord's spirit.

Isn't that something we all should put in our prayers!

"Happy Thanksgiving from our home to yours!"

"Bassin' With Bubba Guide Services"



www.bassinwithbubba.com



903-383-7748 or 903-360-6994
email: fishnews@lakefork.net

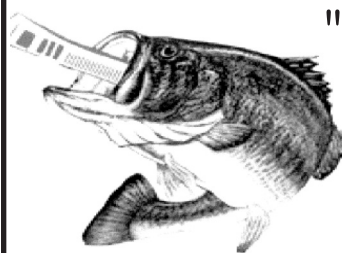
Lake Fork

*"The Big Bass
Capital of Texas"*

**Individual * Group
Corporate
Instructional
& Beginner Trips
Welcome**

NOW BOOKING!!!

**The spawn on Lakes
Monticello and Welsh
LAKE FORK**



"The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use"

Don Hampton, Publisher/Owner
**Member Texas Community
Newspaper Association**

"The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use," is published monthly and is available free through our advertisers, area merchants, Chambers of Commerce, and newsstands in the Northeast Texas area. All rights are reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written consent is strictly prohibited.

We welcome manuscripts and/or photographs. Postage must accompany all materials if return is required.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, reputation or standing of any individual or business will be corrected in the next edition upon being called to the publisher's attention.

For news, articles, or advertising rates contact:

"The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use"

538 Private Road 5861 • Yantis, Tx. 75497

Lake Fork call Don: (903) 383-7748 or

Mobile: (903) 360-6994 Fax: (903) 383-7747

e-mail: fishnews@lakefork.net

Website: www.fishguidenews.com



Wish To Fish Foundation Welcomes Gatica Family *(Continued from Page 1-A)*

jumping. Eventually, muscle weakness will progress causing loss of the ability to walk.

On Oct. 8th we invited this family back to Lake Fork for another day of fishing. The family came in on Friday night and one of our gracious sponsors, Danny & Joyce Azlin, owners of "Scenic 515 Cabins" provided their bunkhouse for the Gatica's to stay in which accommodated them really well for two nights.

The Lord blessed us with a beautiful day on Sat-

urday to fish.

We started the day with breakfast at 7 a.m. at one of our great sponsors, Oak Ridge Marina owned by Barry & Tracy Hatton. We launched from their pier and motored our pontoon boat around to the public ramp at Hwy 154 so we could use the floating ramp to maneuver boarding both wheel chairs. We were having just a slight difficulty loading and needed a board to make a small ramp to roll the chairs on so one of our volunteers to assist for the day was Bart Martin, owner of Fishermans Inn, made a quick run to his garage and cut a piece of ply board that he had on hand and without any other difficulty we were on our way. Rodney Ellis, owner of Quarterhorse Carwash & Storage, was our captain and he, Bart and our son Chad Marsh assisted the boys to make sure their rods & reels were working properly and of course kept their hooks baited with live bait furnished by John Heimgartner,

owner of Fishermans One Stop, another one of our great sponsors. Subway sandwiches were provided by "The Fisherman's Guide News" for lunch. We always have at least one "911 boat" close by should there be any kind of emergency which was manned by Don "Bubba" Hampton. The boys both caught fish, probably got a little too much sun and definitely enjoyed the boat riding.

We completed our day with the delicious buffet at "A.J.'s Fish House" owned by Andy & Carolyn Johnson, another one of our very much appreciated sponsors.

(See Wish to Fish...Continued on Page 7-A)



Hayden and Dakota had a great time catching fish on their trip but they enjoyed the boat ride and scenery just as much under a watchful eye.



CEO/Founders of 'The Wish To Fish Foundation' Don and Sue Hampton may see the trips come to an end but never the friendship and love for the children and their families.



Great Lodging Accommodations at Texas' #1 Bass Fishing Lake 15 Cabins & Bunkhouse

Nestled Among Beautiful Oak & Hickory Trees • Covered Boat Parking • Clean Cabins • Full Baths
Direct TV • Small Refrigerator • Microwave • Coffee Pot • Two Double Beds • Guide Services Available

**"Check Out November Specials!" \$50/Night Cabins
\$110/Night Bunkhouse 903-383-7885**



Located on 515 Between Hwy 154 & Hwy 17

Website: www.scenic515cabins.com • Email: scenic515cabins@peoplescom.net

11th Annual Berkley Big Bass Tournament on Lake Fork on Oct. 15 & 16

By Don Hampton

The 11th Annual Berkley Big Bass Tournament presented by Bass Champs, Inc. was held on Lake Fork at Lake Fork Marina on October 15th and 16th. Twenty places per hour for the two days of the tournament were paid for the heaviest bass weighed in during each hour in

celebration of their 11th Annual Tournament on Lake Fork. For the angler catching the heaviest bass over the 24" inch slot, that angler was guaranteed to be taking home the grand prize of a 2016 Skeeter ZX 200 powered by a Yamaha 200 SHO, equipped with Lowrance Electronics and MinnKota trolling motor and PowerPole. For the heaviest bass under the 16" slot the winner would be acquiring a 2016 Skeeter ZX 190 powered by a Yamaha 150, equipped with Lowrance Electronics and MinnKota trolling

motor. The tournament drew over 1,128 anglers to Lake Fork to compete representing 19 states.

Chad Potts, President of Bass Champs, Inc.

(Continued on Next Page)



Andrew Marks, Pure Fishing presented Hagan Thacker, 8 years old, from East Tawakoni TX., with an Abu Garcia Revo rod n' reel for being the youngest angler in the tournament. (Fisherman's Guide Photo)



Winners in the Ladies Division at the 11th Annual Berkley Tournament were (rt. to lt.) 1st Place Kathy Magers with 2.22-lbs.; 2nd Place Donna Biondi with 2.02-lbs.; 3rd Place Daphne Carter with 2.00-lbs. (Fisherman's Guide Photo)



"Well that's fishing!" Randy Horton (lt) from Russelville, AR., was winning with the heaviest bass over the slot with a 9.82-lb. and Billy Pritchett from Kerens, TX., was winning with heaviest under the slot with a 2.83-lb. until the last 15 minutes of the tournament. When you can lose a 2016 Skeeter boat and still smile, you are a true sportsman!



Hwy. 69 to Alba North 3 miles
on FM 17 or Hwy 515 to FM 17
South 3 Miles

"Why Stay Anywhere Else"

2712 N. Hwy. 17
Alba, Texas 75410
903-474-7479



Room Amenities Include:

Refrigerator, Coffee Pot, Microwave,
2 full size beds, flat screen Direct TV,
New AC/Heating Units

3 Bdrm. 2 Bath Loft

Event Center ~ Let Us Host Your Next Event

Motel * RV Park * Guide Service * Boat

Ramp * Boat Storage Units \$45/mo.

Visit Us Online

www.gofishfork.com



**HAPPY THANKSGIVING
TO ALL ANGLERS AND
VISITORS TO LAKE FORK**

Wood County National Bank Wood County National Bank

417 South Main

1947 FM 2946

Quitman, Texas

Emory, Texas

903-763-4545

903-474-8044

Wood County National Bank

100 NW Loop 564

Mineola, Texas

903-569-1082



www.wcnbquitman.com
"Branches of First National Bank
of Gilmer"

Member
FDIC

stated, "I'm excited to see this event continuing to grow each year. Anglers could not have asked for better weather. It was cool in the early morning hours but turned out to be beautiful days in the upper 70's. I was glad to see we avoided any bad storms, and once again had a great turnout again." Potts continued, "I would like to thank Berkley for their continued support of this event and grass roots tournament anglers. They are a great partner."

Berkley baits made a great showing on Lake Fork especially with the introduction of their new line of hard baits. Mother Nature was kind enough to keep the rain away during the course of the event but she did hit with breezy conditions. With these conditions plus the bass recovering from the lake turning over this became quite evident when the larger bass this reservoir is known for did not show up at the scales. On the first day only four bass over the 24" slot came to the scales, but there were a lot of 1 and 2-pounders. Anglers were able to fish the main points and deep structure of the open lake without being tossed but the large bass remained elusive. Only two bass over the Lake Fork 24" slot were weighed in during the second day of the tournament. More than a few anglers reported their hearts being broken by bass that didn't quite reach the 24-inch mark or exceeded the 16-inch mark.

The winning bass under the slot was weighed in during the last 15 minutes of the tournament. Joe Todd from Wichita Falls, Texas brought his catch weighing 2.95-pounds to the scale knowing his would hold up for the grand prize for the heaviest bass under 16-inches. "I was fishing lily pads on the far north end of the lake catching small ones and bass in the slot. When I was reeling this one in, I was thinking it was a slot also. When I measured it I knew I had a chance so hurried to the weigh-in," said Todd. His fish was a winner as the heaviest bass under the slot winning him not only

the 2nd Place check of \$400 for the hour but also a Skeeter 201 ZX 190 powered by a Yamaha SHO, Lowrance Electronics and Minn-Kota trolling motor.

The heaviest bass over the slot was

caught by Walter Thomas, Jr. from Alba, Texas weighing 10.15-pounds. "I was in 30-feet of water and caught her off of a stump in about 17-feet of water" said Walter. His catch won him

\$1,000 in the hour, \$100 for the BioBor and the grand prize of a 2016 Skeeter ZX 200 powered by a Yamaha 200 SHO, and equipped with Low- (See 11th Annual Berkley... Continued on Page 21-A)



During the tournament festivities the Lake Fork Sportsmans Association held their drawing closing out their Fall Raffle Fund Raiser. Individuals that didn't purchase tickets missed out on the opportunity to win some excellent prizes from rifles, pistols to Yeti Coolers.

JOIN US FOR A

Thanksgiving Day Feast on Lake Fork

NOVEMBER 24TH

Served with all the fixin's

- Smoked Turkey and Ham
- Grandma's Dressing
- Sweet Potato Casserole
- Mashed Potatoes
- Green Beans
- Dinner Rolls
- Salad Bar
- Pumpkin Pie
- Pecan Cobbler

Pre-Order Smoked Whole Turkey To Go

10 - 12 lb. \$49.99

12 -14 lbs. \$69.99

Make Your Reservations Now!

OAK RIDGE Marina

Only \$15⁹⁹ (Kids 9⁹⁹)

Hwy 154 - Quitman on Lake Fork

(903)878-2529

www.oakridgemarina.com

Breakfast Served 8 am to 11 am

Dinner Served 11 am to 3 pm

Full menu will be available

November on Fork is a great fishing month

By David Ozio

"Fall is finally upon us and the cold fronts are starting to roar in like a lion. This is actually code for "we need to be on the water". Surface water temps have started to drop and are currently hovering in the low 70's. The annual lake turnover is behind us and the bass are moving to the backs of the creeks as they always do at this time of the season. November is a great fishing month as the big largemouth start to feed up for the winter and Fork is the place to be if you are in the market for a wall hanger.

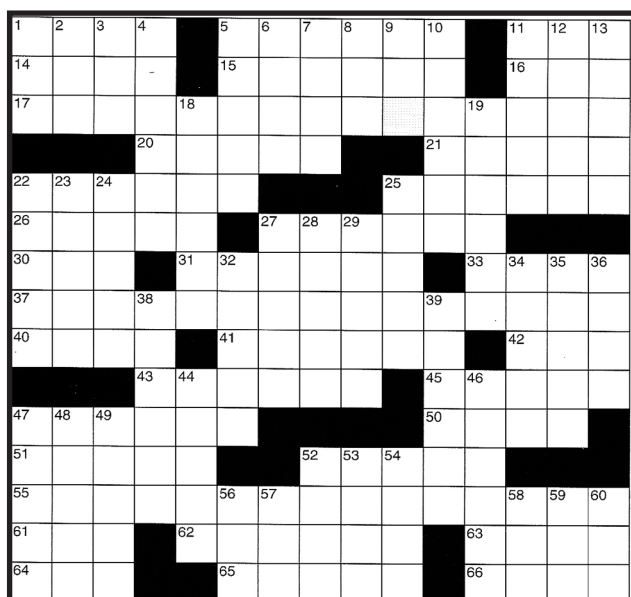
The lake is in great condition especially with some recent rain. Water clarity ranges from somewhat clear down south to very stained in the backs of the main creeks that feed the lake. Fork is about

two foot low at the moment and I am already seeing the bass gang up on typical fall spots, points, humps and the mouths of major creeks. How you approach these bass will depend upon where you prefer to fish whether it's main lake or in the far reaches of the main creek arms. With this in mind, the shallow bite is ramping up and big bass can be caught in all parts of the lake. Let's start the morning searching for top water fish. Shallow vegetation is key to your success and now that the water is fairly stable, bank grass, milfoil, alligator grass and hydrilla will dominate the skinny water. In extreme off color water, use a noisy bait that stirs up the water. Prop baits are excellent choices in this case. If the water is only slightly stained in the backs of the creeks and pockets, tie on a Zara Spook, Yellow Magic or a Sammy and start covering water. Shad are also moving to the backs of these areas and big bass are right on their tail. Schooling activity is not uncommon in November so focus on using shad colors on most any lure you throw and hang on for some jolting strikes. Pick out secondary points or small points of vegetation. All should hold fish. Also, don't be afraid to chunk a Spro frog around any vegetation you encounter. Huge bass can't resist the way they move through the water.

As your hunt starts to reach mid morning, switch



your strategy to baits that descend into the water column. If the water is heavily stained, throw the chatterbait, spinnerbait or squarebill in the same areas. If the water is slightly stained, use a five inch swimbait, swimjig or chatterbait. Hydrilla or milfoil will change the game slightly, use a lipless crankbait and key on the outer edges of the grass. As the water temps degrades throughout the month, switch your lipless colors to gold or red. As the afternoon approaches with the sun now high in the sky migrate your way out to deep water and graph the usual haunts, humps, ridges, roadbeds and structure. Fall on Fork has always been great fishing for these patterns during the



CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Hacks | 37. Murder trial issue |
| 5. Esteem | 40. Goidelic language of Ireland |
| 11. Returned material authorization, abbr. | 41. Jean Paul __, author |
| 14. Absorbed | 42. Manipulate |
| 15. Bullrings, for one | 43. Readies |
| 16. Food grain | 45. Locomotor organ |
| 17. Words heard at a trial | 47. Preferences |
| 20. Base of statue | 50. Children |
| 21. Reeds and sugar cane | 51. Drama awards |
| 22. Forms | 52. Any valuable or useful possession |
| 25. Can or bottle _____ | 55. Dominate |
| 26. Not technical | 61. Substitute, abbr. |
| 27. Makes containers | 62. Right-wingers |
| 30. Programs for _____ arrays | 63. Oh, God! |
| (Computers) | 64. A very large body of water |
| 31. Recluse | 65. Hoodwinks |
| 33. Executes | 66. Dekagrams |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Electronic equipment, abbr. | 34. Extinguished, sort of |
| 2. Swiss river | 35. Black colors |
| 3. Barrels per day, abbr. | 36. Eyelid infection |
| 4. Extensive plain without trees | 38. Musical group |
| 5. Forays | 39. One who floors someone |
| 6. Bulky grayish-brown eagle | 44. Iranian city |
| 7. Favourites | 46. Donated income regularly |
| 8. Unnilhexium, abbr. | 47. Cloaks |
| 9. To, in Scotland | 48. White aspen |
| 10. Discharge | 49. Nuthatch genus |
| 11. French city | 52. Celery (Spanish) |
| 12. French river | 53. Vomit |
| 13. Oil or perfume obtained from flowers | 54. The dried leaves of the hemp plant |
| 18. Resound | 56. The winged goddess of the dawn |
| 19. Exaggerate | 57. A large vessel |
| 22. Type of noose | 58. Honorable title (Turkish) |
| 23. One who expects | 59. Annoy constantly |
| 24. Reference book | 60. Tooth caregiver, abbr. |
| 25. Aquatic animal | |
| 27. Fishing vessel (Naut.) | |
| 28. Shaded colors | |
| 29. Sways | |
| 32. Razor clams | |

Answers on Page 21-A

BEER • WINE • SPIRITS

DOUBLE H

PACKAGE STORE

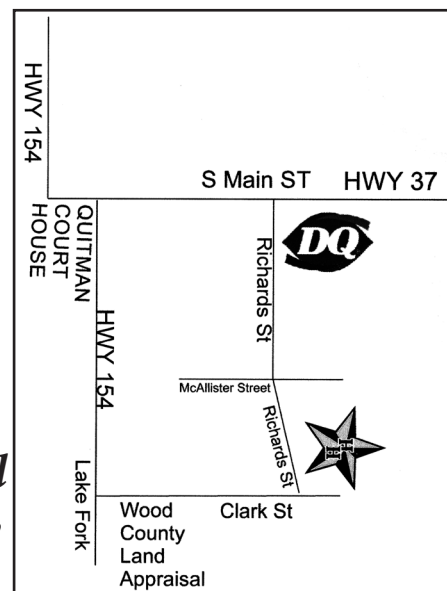
304 RICHARDS ST
QUITMAN, TX
903-760-BEER

Hours
10 AM till
9 PM
Monday thru
Saturday
Closed
Sundays

Glenn & Tina Hanner ~ Owners



**"When You Sit Down
To Your Holiday Feast,
Don't Forget Your
Beverages!
We Have What You Need
To Quinch That Holiday
Thirst!"**



(See Cooler Weather....
Continued on Page 20-A)

Fish Friendly

Practice C.P.R.

If you would like
**"THE
FISHERMAN'S
GUIDE, NEWS"**
Delivered to you, a
friend, or relative's
home for 1 year
(12 Issues)
For Only \$30,
Send check or
Money Order
Name & Address to:
**The Fisherman's
Guide News
538 PR 5861
Yantis, TX.,
75497**

Fish Friendly

Wish to Fish (Continued from Page 3-A)

In 2015, Kristy & Jonathan felt life was passing them by and they were just going through the motions. They took a leap of faith and decided to quit their jobs, cash in their life savings, purchase an RV and take the boys on a 48 state road trip across America from May to Nov. 2015! They

wanted to give the boys a lifetime of memories and they wanted them to know that it doesn't matter what disability you have, you can do anything you want to do or put your mind to. Remember my first paragraph when I spoke of angels here on earth... how many parents would do this for

their children? You can visit their web site at HayKota.com for more details. They brought Don and I both a sack of unique goodies that can be purchased off their web site.

Both Dakota and Hayden are doing great! Their health has remained the same.

All of us from the "Wish to Fish Foundation" want to extend another very special "thank you" to our sponsors. We could not do this without you and we thank the Gatica family because after having met each one of you, our world is a better place and you have left an impression on our hearts forever.



Hayden with one of his good catches!



Dakota with his big bass!

Guys & Dolls Hair Salon

A Salon For The
Whole Family!

Downtown Alba • WIFI available

129 S. Broadway * 903-765-2420

~ Stylists ~ Jacy * Rebecca

* Amber * Lanice * Samantha



INVESTED THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN YOUR BOAT AND EQUIPMENT?

If you do not have a boat or just want to spend an enjoyable day on the lake fishing in someone else's boat - hire a guide!!! However, if you have invested thousands of dollars in a boat and equipment, or know someone who has, and want to spend enjoyable time on the water, call me!!! For a fraction of the cost of a guide trip, I will help you master your electronics to locate fish. I will help you learn the lake so you can find and catch fish with the fishing equipment you already have and I will provide the lures. I specialize in jig fishing for bass (and crappie). I instruct in all the new fish catching techniques as well as the basics. I look forward to hearing from you soon. Excellent fly fishing and outstanding bass fishing trips on Private Lake near Lake Fork. Call Roy Greer at 903-765-2075 or Write to P.O. Box 244, Alba, Tx. 75410-0244

THE "BASS CLINIC"

Learn or Improve Fishing Techniques

- Jigs • Spoons • Carolina Rigs • Wacky Worms • Light Tackle Drop Shotting
- Lure Selection • Lure Presentation • Reading Structure (Electronics)
- Aquatic Vegetation • Night Fishing • Fly Fishing

CLINIC ON BEAUTIFUL LAKE FORK

Roy Greer (903) 765-2075

e-mail: roy@thebassclinic.com

website: www.thebassclinic.com



Crappie
Trips



Junction of Hwy 515 & CR 1970 * Yantis, TX.

903-383-7121

Store Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 5:30 to 6:00

Fri. & Sat. 5:30 to 9:00 * Sun. 5:30 to 6:00

Best Selection of Tackle on Lake Fork!

Stocking
Dealer For:



Rods & Reels

BRO'S Closed till
Feb. 2017

Thanks To All Of Our
Customers & Friends, We
Look Forward To Seeing
You In The Spring!



"Happy Holidays"
For The Perfect Gift



Fishermans One Stop
& Bro's Introduces The Combo
Gift Certificates From \$25, \$50,
\$100 ~ Redeemable at Bro's or
Fishermans One Stop!

Lake Fork's Largest & Finest



Motel-Lodges-RV Park
Tent Camping-Boat Ramp
Tackle/Gift Store-Restaurant
Gasoline-Propane-WIFI



275 CR 1558 • Alba, TX 75410 • 903-765-2764 • www.lakeforkmarina.com

5 miles N of Alba on Hwy.17



Paul Bacon
Licensed
Master Physical
Therapist

**Lake Fork
Physical Therapy**

**AQUATICS * STATE OF THE
ART EQUIPMENT**

TREATMENTS FOR:

- * Back & Neck Pain
- * Joint Pain Or Injury
- * Geriatric Ailments
- * Chronic Headaches
- * Pre/Post Op Rehab
- * Sports Injuries
- * Workers' Comp. Injuries
- * Dizziness/Vertigo

903-474-9436
903 E. Lennon St. #101

Emory, Texas

"The Moon Report" November Crappie On Fork

It's here – my very favorite time of year to fish! The couple of cool snaps we had in October was perfect to start these crappie into their fall transition. It definitely put them in a feeding mode, and are really starting to fatten up.

This past week we've caught some of the nicest crappie I've seen in a long time! I'll be very honest with you – there is NO "Magic Spot" right now. We are moving around a lot and getting a few here and a few there. Then the bass will move in and seems to run the crappie off. So, we just move on to the next spot. We're also having some big bream move in to the brush piles and around the bridges. We are targeting 12 to 24 ft. of water – but, throughout the day they can be as shallow as 8 ft. or as deep as 22 ft. so really watch that depth finder to monitor any changes in depths of the fish and adjust your casts accordingly...(depth is very critical)! It won't be long and they will be migrating up the creeks



following the baitfish.

This time of year a good depth finder is priceless. I just put a Lowrance HDS12 Gen 3 on the front of my boat and it is awesome! That large screen is sure appreciated by these "old eyes"! Something else I'm sure appreciating is not having to jerk my trolling motor up and down 20 times a day – then to have the anchor button – "PRICELESS!" MinnKota has got it going on! I'm amazing people every day when they see this Ulterra in action. It has definitely made my life easier and the older I get the more I like easier!

Now as far as the baits we're using – Lake Fork Tackle's "Live Baby Shad" w/paddle tail in just about anything with pink in it – like pink/pearl, pink/

chartreuse and on darker days pink/black have been producing for us. Also it doesn't hurt to tip it with a Berkley Power Nibble. Really watch your line – these crappie have been pushing the bait up. If you see slack line, it's probably a fish!

It's really been a fun month of fishing and my thanks to all of you! Don't forget this is "Customer Appreciation" month at Lake Fork Marina. The rooms are \$50 and 25% off all tackle, gifts and apparel. It's a great time to start your Christmas shopping for the fishermen in your life.

My best to you all and "Happy Birthday" to my brother John and glad you're feeling better Pops! Love to all!!

Fish Friendly

TERRI MOON
LAKE FORK
CRAPPIE & BASS
FISHING TRIPS
903-383-7773
GROUP FISH FRYS AVAILABLE






Scott Marler from Benton, LA., was crappie fishing using a Bass Pro Crappie Maxx Ultra-light Rod on 17 lb test line using a baitcast reel in October on Lake Fork when he caught this monster flathead catfish weighing 58.6-pounds. Released to the Grease I'm sure!



Art Barboza from Sacramento, CA., came to Lake Fork to catch a double digit bass in October with guide Andrew Grills and accomplished his goal with this hawg. C.P.R. (Photo Courtesy Andrew Grills Guide Service)



Randy Horton from Russellville, AR., was winning the 11th Annual Berkley Big Bass Tournament with this beast tilting the scales at 9.82-lbs. until the last weigh-in of the tournament. (Fisherman's Guide Photo by Sue Hampton)



Lori Stevens
Patriot Paws
Rockwall, TX.,

TERRI MOON
LAKE FORK
CRAPPIE & BRIM
FISHING TRIPS
903-383-7773
GROUP FISH FRYS AVAILABLE

Zeke and Linda
Robertson



Sonny & Janis Merrill



Josh Vasseur, CA., & Dad
Doug Vasseur, MN.,



J.D. & Aneta Salmons
Blue Springs, MO.,



John Katara, White Deer, TX.,
Mack McAllister, McKinney, TX.,



Clint Granger
Lake Fork, TX.,



Louis Aguilera
Ft. Worth, TX.,



The Brown
Clan



Tim Schlie
Ft. Worth, TX.,

Come Fish Beautiful Lake Fork!! Book Your Trip Today 903-383-7773

Biologists Battle Giant Salvinia Blocking Lake Access for Duck Hunters, Waterfowl

At North Toledo Bend Wildlife Management Area, giant salvinia covers about half of the WMA's 500-acre wetland impoundment, blocking boat access for duck hunters and keeping migrating waterfowl from food and habitat. The problem would be worse without steady work to fight back the invasive floating fern, efforts that got a boost this year by recording funding from the Texas Legislature.

Hundreds of duck hunters will come to North Toledo Bend this winter, and they'll still be able to hunt birds, but the giant salvinia problem does limit their options. According to WMA staff, it can literally depend on "which way the wind is blowing," as floating mats of salvinia blow across the lake.

"In recent weeks the wind has been blowing from the east causing the western part of the WMA to be solid salvinia, with other smaller patches throughout the impoundment ranging in size from 10-15 square feet to several acres, and most of the sloughs or creeks have had some extent of salvinia in them," said Bob Baker, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department wildlife biologist at North Toledo Bend.

"We try to keep it at bay using herbicide through a collaborative effort with our Inland Fisheries team," Baker said, adding that this is comple-

mented by \$50,000 in gamebird stamp funds (paid by hunters) to help treat giant salvinia at North Toledo Bend this year and next. "The hope is that more duck habitat becomes available when salvinia is slower to grow in late fall and winter and begins to die and sink as a result of the herbicide work. Another issue is parts of Toledo Bend reservoir used by hunters to boat to the WMA may be packed with giant salvinia as well."

Giant salvinia may be better known as a problem for fishers and boaters, but it affects hunters, lakeside landowners and many others too. And the hunting access problem is not limited to Toledo Bend.

"Giant salvinia is bad on Caddo Lake Wildlife Management Area this year and has been consistently bad for the last four years at least," said Vanessa Neace, Caddo Lake WMA wildlife biologist. "The closer to the big open water you go, the less salvinia there is. This still allows for some good duck hunting here, but the salvinia is another significant reason duck hunting is not what it once was at Caddo Lake."

Neace points to an April 2016 photo of a duck blind placed in what hunters would have called a great duck hunting hole on Caddo Lake.

"This picture was taken after the 50-year Caddo Lake flood of March 2016," Neace said. "The

blind is draped in dead salvinia that was present during that March flood and simply clung to the blind as the water receded. I can show you photo after photo of this scene repeating at location after location, year after year, since about 2007. Getting to these locations requires a powerful air cooled boat engine and then it's still not guaranteed you will get to that hole."

Herbicide is also sprayed at Caddo Lake--EPA-approved herbicide that's safe for use in water, doesn't hurt wildlife and is sprayed directly on the problem plant by trained contractors. It's part of a multi-faceted, statewide effort to slow the spread of aquatic invasive species. The success of this effort also relies on hunters, fishers and boaters to help take action to avoid spreading invasive species. And biologists have another tool in their arsenal--weevils that eat giant salvinia.

"Here on Caddo Lake, as at North Toledo Bend, the Inland Fisheries Aquatic Vegetation Management Program hires contractors to treat our salvinia," said Neace. "They use herbicide and they grow giant salvinia weevils. Fortunately for Caddo Lake, we also have the Caddo Biocontrol Alliance and the Morley Hudson Weevil Greenhouse."

Bio-controls will likely never completely replace

(See Biologists Battle Giant.....Continued on Page 14-A)



ARMADILLO



ROD & REEL REPAIR

REASONABLE RATES
QUALITY SERVICE

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY
DROP OFF & PICK UP
REPAIR WORK AT
LAKE FORK
MARINA

COME IN & CHECK OUR LOW PRICES!
I WILL BE TAKING SOLDIERS
FISHING! ANY QUESTIONS CALL ME!
903-850-7131



JOE ARMOLD

Website: www.ets-systems.com/reelrepair
(903) 850-7131





BLUEWATERLED

Authorized Installer & Distributor

LIFE TIME WARRANTY
Let me install your bow
lights today!
Red & Green Bow Lights
Everyday \$60
Installed

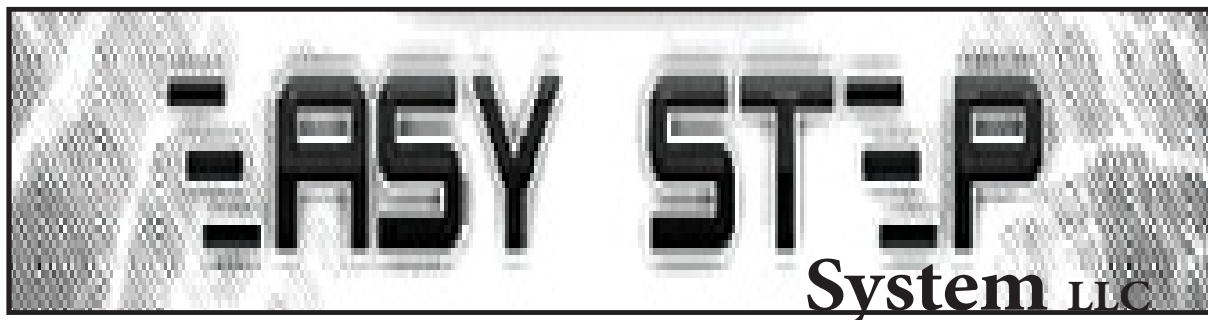
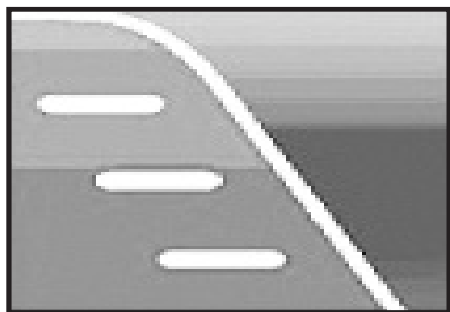


Wintertime Special
8 ~ 20" BLUEWATERLED Lights
With On/Off Dimmer Switch \$350
Parts & Labor Included

All Joints Soldered Joint to Joint
Also Available for Boats, Trailers, Motorcycles, Motor
Homes, Fishing Docks, Patios

Lake Fork Boat Accessories
LED Lighting & Installation Specialist
Electronics * Trolling Motors

Bill Macon 205-441-5399
lakeforkboataccessories@yahoo.com



Boat Trailer Steps by R C Marine Products Fixed and Swing Away Models Available Five Easy Step Models To Choose From



The ESS-3

A 3-step Powder-Coated Steel model that fits most air, aluminum, bass, flats, and pleasure boat trailers.

Easy Step System boat trailer steps:

- No more crawling on your hands and knees
- No more slipping, searching for the fender
- No more falling, searching for the trailer frame
- No more scratching trailer fenders with your shoes
- No more worrying about loading or unloading your boat by yourself
- Has a handrail to hold when entering and exiting
- Has a strong and durable powder coat finish for a lasting new appearance.
- Capacity rating 400 lbs.



The ESS-3-SS

A 3-step Stainless Steel model that fits most air, aluminum, bass, flats, and pleasure boat trailers.

Easy Step System boat trailer steps mount to the tongue or frame of your trailer so you can load or unload everyone and everything on or off of your boat safely and easily while still on the trailer.
Made In America
In Tyler, Texas



The ESS-3SA

A 3-step model that folds down and away that fits most swing-away tongue trailers.



The ESS-4

A 4-step model that fits most bay, center console, and high bow pleasure boat trailers.



The ESS-4-SS

A 4-step Stainless Steel model that fits most bay, center console, and high bow pleasure boat trailers.

Endorsed By:



Proud Sponsor of the "13th Annual Legend of Lake Fork Big Bass Tournament"



Call 800-966-1502 Mon. - Fri. 8a.m. to 5p.m.

web: www.easystepsystem.com email: info@easystepsystem.com

Follow me and I will make you fishers of men. ~ Matthew 4:19 ~



SIMPLICITY IS THE ULTIMATE SOPHISTICATION.

Introducing the All-New Black Diamond Edition from Legend; the bass boat
that truly defines understated elegance.

LEARN MORE at legendmarine.com/blackdiamond

LEGEND
BOATS

**Now Accepting Reservations For
Commercial & Vendor Spaces
For May 18, 19, 20, 21, 2017 At The**

13th Annual

LEGEND



**OF LAKE FORK
BIG BASS TOURNAMENT**

May 19, 20, 21, 2017

*Anglers from all over the nation will be converging on Lake
Fork to fish this tournament! What better time to advertise &
promote your products, merchandise, or company!*

Call Today: 903-383-7748 Email: fishnews@lakefork.net

Biologists Battle Giant Salvinia (Continued from Page 10-A)

management tools like herbicide, but the weevils are showing progress. Some key boat lanes are more open now because of herbicide treatment, and there is evidence of giant salvinia damage caused by weevils. But once a plant like this becomes established, eradication becomes almost impossible, and that makes steady management a ne-

cessity.

That kind of management, plus research to understand problems and explore practical solutions, is being greatly expanded because of a record funding increase in state dollars to fight aquatic invaders in waterways. In 2015, the Texas Legislative appropriated \$6.3 million to Texas Parks and

Wildlife Department for the 2016-2017 biennium to manage aquatic invasive species, an increase from \$1.1 million in the previous two-year funding cycle.

Most of the funding is going for management actions to control multiple aquatic invasive species. But thanks to the increase, TPWD has also been able to fund a giant salvinia awareness campaign, which is also supported by contributions from the Sabine River Authority and Brazos River Authority. The campaign reminds people to "Clean, Drain and Dry" their boats, trailers, and gear before traveling from one water body to another.

More information about how to identify and help control giant salvinia and other invasive species is at www.texasinvasives.org. Anyone can find more information about Texas public hunting and hunting at state wildlife management areas on the TPWD website.

RAN BY FISHERMEN FOR FISHERMEN



**Motel, Lodge,
RV Park
Bass Lantern
Restaurant**
"All Newly Remodeled!"

903-878-2500 Fax: 903-878-7131 Hwy. 154, Lake Fork

- * Lakeside Pavilion
Perfect for Tournaments
and Outdoor Events
 - * Beautiful Lake View
 - * Modern Store
 - * Full Tackle
 - * Bait
 - * Gas at the pump & On
the water at the pier
 - * Dump Station
 - * Big Fish Aquarium
 - * Paved Parking
 - * Fish Cleaning
Station
 - * Boat Launches
 - * Generous Parking
 - * Annual RV Sites
 - * RV & Tent
Camping
 - * Satellite TV
 - * Wi-Fi
- Now Available*



Paved Parking Lot & Drive



**Fishing Piers & Cleaning
Station**



**Outside Pavilion Great For
Tournaments, Family Reunions,
Social Gatherings**



Paved Parking Room Fronts

We Now Fill Propane Bottles

email: MinnowOne@aol.com

web: www.minnowbucketmarina.com

*Help Us To Be The Best... Plan Your
Trips To Lake Fork With
"The Fisherman's Guide News"*

**13th Annual Legend
Of Lake Fork
Big Bass Tournament
May 19, 20, 21, 2017
\$320,000
Guaranteed In
Cash & Prizes
All Boats, Makes &
Models Welcome!!**



Entry Forms Now Available At All Local
Businesses or online:
www.legendoflakefork.com
or call: 903-383-7748 to be put on
Mailing List!!

Rural Residents, Hunters in Northeast Texas Advised to Be Bear Aware

Wildlife biologists are advising hunters, ranchers and rural residents in Northeast Texas of a handful of confirmed black bear sightings recently.

At least four sightings have been documented on game trail cameras between June and late August in Bowie, Red River and Smith counties. Wildlife biologists with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) confirmed the sightings and speculate the bears, which appear to be young males, are looking to establish their own new home ranges and likely dispersed from Oklahoma or Arkansas where bear numbers have increased in recent years.

This is the first confirmed presence of black bears in East Texas since September 2011. Breeding black bear populations have been absent from this region for almost 100 years, but bears from Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana occasionally wander into East Texas.

"Once these bears figure out there's no opportunity for companionship over here they will likely retreat," says Dave Holdermann, a non-game wildlife biologist with TPWD in Tyler.

Holdermann said as hunters in this area head to the field in preparation for deer season, some might see signs of bears attempting to enter camps where food is kept or wildlife feeders overturned. Bears eat mostly plant material and that's probably their greatest source of protein; for example,

seeds, acorns, nuts and even herbage has protein.

According to Holdermann, bears are normally shy and not aggressive to humans. But if a bear regularly visits a ranch or deer stand, people should try to scare it with rocks, a slingshot or air horn.

"If people encounter a bear at close range, they should talk calmly while backing away slowly. Don't make direct eye contact, and don't run away," he advised. "If a bear approaches you, stand your ground and raise your arms, backpack or jacket to appear larger and yell at the bear to scare it off."

Hunters are encouraged to study their game carefully to avoid mistaking a bear for a feral hog or other legal game animal. It is against the law to kill a black bear in Texas, with penalties of up to \$10,000, added civil restitution fines, jail time and loss of all hunting privileges. The black bear, *Ursus americanus*, is listed as threatened by the State of Texas.

To minimize encounters with bears, hunters should keep camps clean to prevent odors that will attract bears and discard gut piles far from campsites. Placing deer corn in piles or in open feeders will attract more bears, while using an automated feeder hung out of reach of bears will decrease bear visits. Also, switching bait from corn to soybeans will reduce bear activity. And, plant-

ing food plots is the best way to attract deer and avoid bear visits.

More information about black bears in Texas, including safety tips, is available online at tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/hunt/resources/bear_safety/. Anyone observing black bears in East Texas is urged to contact Holdermann at 903-566-1626 ext. 209 so wildlife experts can track trends in black bear populations and distributions.

**"Bassin' With Bubba
Guide Services"**






Lake Fork
"The Big Bass
Capital of Texas"

Individual * Group
Corporate
Instructional
& Beginner Trips
Welcome

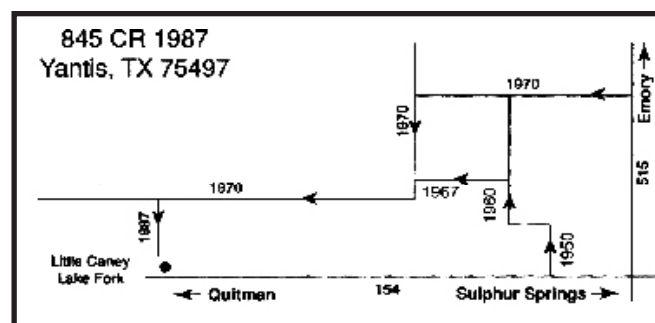
NOW BOOKING!!!
LAKE FORK, Welch
Monticello (After Oct. 23)

903-383-7748 or 903-360-6994
email: fishnews@lakefork.net

COME TO LAKE FORK & LET US BE YOUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME



HIDEAWAY HARBOR
LAKE FORK
845 CR 1987
YANTIS, TX.
75497



NEW!! DEEP WATER ACCESS BOAT RAMP

Make Your Reservations Today
Bait & Tackle Shop • Live Bait • Fishing Pier
Motel, Cottage, Bunk House, Lodge * Grocery
Annual RV Leases Available *3 Boat Ramps
Boat Storage * Camping

E-mail: stay@hideawayharbor.com or visit our website

www.hideawayharbor.com

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

Texas Quail Hunters Ready for the "Boom"

Quail live on the edge. In lean years when weather and habitat conditions conspire against them, the birds hunker down and then when things are right their numbers explode. Experts refer to this in simple terms, "boom or bust." This is the year of the boom. Hunting season

opened October 29th statewide and continues through Feb. 26, with prospects in most of Texas quail country the brightest in many years. "If you took a ride

across the core quail hunting regions today, it would be hard to imagine the terrible conditions brought on by the extreme droughts of 2010 - 2013 that hit Texas, Mexico and the Southeastern U.S. so hard," said Robert Perez, upland game bird program leader for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). "Consecutive years of dry summer and winter conditions are especially problematic for short-lived birds like quail because they rely on each year's crop of young to replenish the population. By the same token, consecutive years of above average rainfall and lower than average summer temperatures can produce quail 'boom' years."

That's exactly what has happened in the Rolling Plains, South Texas and Trans Pecos regions of Texas where both bobwhite and scaled quail (a.k.a. blue quail) have made a remarkable comeback. Much of the latest rebound can be attributed to the habitat as there are millions of acres of rangelands in these regions where the most common land use (livestock production) is generally compatible

with quail. Good land stewardship and proper grazing are important to the persistence of these highly prized game birds, according to Perez, but even the best conservation efforts cannot overcome long-term exceptional drought.

"It's important to recognize that bobwhite quail have all but disappeared from other regions of our state due to extensive changes in the quantity and quality of available habitat," he explained. "TPWD is diligently working with conservation partners and land stewards within key quail focus areas to demonstrate that bobwhites can make a comeback. If we provide the habitat needs at a large enough scale to support viable populations, restoration is possible."

Statewide surveys were initiated in 1978 to monitor quail populations. This index uses randomly selected, 20-mile roadside survey lines to determine annual quail population trends by ecological region. This trend information helps determine relative quail populations among the regions of Texas.

Comparisons can be made between the

mean (average) number of quail observed per route this year and the long term mean (LTM) for quail seen within an ecological region. The quail survey was not designed to predict relative abundance for any area smaller than the ecological region.

This year's 'boom' is reflected in the survey, which showed record high bobwhite counts in the Rolling Plains region and healthy populations in South Texas, as well as near record highs for scaled quail in the Trans Pecos. The only region seeing a downward trend this year, the Coastal Prairies, suffered untimely flooding conditions that hurt nesting success.

A regional breakdown of this year's TPWD quail index survey, including highlights and prospects, is available online at http://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/hunt/planning/quail_forecast/forecast/.

The daily bag limit for quail is 15, with 45 in possession. Legal shooting hours for all non-migratory game birds are 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset. The bag limit is the maximum number that may be killed during the legal shooting hours in one day.

J & M Guide Service Lake Fork, TX

Licensed Professional Guide

John Morris

Phone: (903) 413-6919

Email:

bassmr@geusnet.com

web:

www.jmguideservice.com



**We are innovators.
We are Kubota.**



RTV-X900 Utility Vehicle
• 21.6 HP Kubota Diesel Engine
• Exclusive Variable Hydro Transmission
• Front and Rear Independent Suspension



Standard L Series Compact Tractors
• 24.8 to 47.3 HP Kubota Diesel Engines
• Powerful Transmission Options
• High Quality, Versatile and Affordable



M6 Series Mid-Size Ag Tractors
• 104.5 to 141.4 HP Kubota Diesel Engines
• Exclusive Bevel-Gear Front Axle for Easy Handling and Maneuverability
• Climate-Controlled, Grand X Cab with Ample Head and Legroom



Z122R Zero-Turn Mower
• 22 HP Air-Cooled Kawasaki ER Engine
• 4.5'-Deep, Fully-Welded Durable, 42" Mower Deck
• Patented Steering System Design for Superior Handling and Ease of Operation



**ALBA
TRACTOR, LLC.**

903-765-2726

US Hwy. 69N.

Alba, Texas



**Pittsburg
TRACTOR, INC.**

903-856-6548

1893 US 271

Pittsburg, Texas



www.kubota.com
*For complete warranty, safety and product information, consult your local Kubota dealer and the product operator's manual. Power (hp/kW) and other specifications are based on various standards or recommended practices. Optional equipment may be shown.
© Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2014



**Free Pick Up & Delivery On Scheduled
Service In The Lake Fork Area**

If you have news or photos on Lake Fork

Contact Us! "The Fisherman's Guide News"

Lake Fork's Lines To Get Hooked On!

903-383-7747 or 903-360-6994

email: fishnews@lakefork.net



Late Whooping Crane Migration Expected in Texas

The iconic, endangered whooping crane has embarked on its annual fall migration and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is reminding Texans to expect these impressive birds to be moving through the state in the weeks ahead as they travel to wintering grounds along the Texas coast.

Standing at nearly five feet tall, whooping cranes are North America's tallest bird and each year the flock follows a migratory path from nesting grounds in Woods Buffalo National Park in Alberta, Canada, to primary wintering range on and around the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge near Austwell, Texas. This trek takes the birds through North and Central Texas and traverses cities such as Wichita Falls, Fort Worth, Dallas, Waco, Austin and Victoria.

During their migration, whoopers often pause overnight in wetlands for roosting and agricultural fields for feeding, though it is rare for them to remain in the same place for more than one night. As a federally-protected species, it is illegal to harass or disturb whooping cranes and TPWD encourages the public to be mindful of these brief layovers and to use caution around

these birds in order to decrease disturbance to the areas surrounding them.

"It appears it will be another late migration, so we are estimating the peak of migration in Texas likely won't be until early to mid-November," stated Wade Harrell, United States Fish and Wildlife Service's whooping crane recovery coordinator.

The late migration could mean that whooping cranes will be showing up in Texas as waterfowl and sandhill crane hunting seasons get under way across the state. It is vitally important for sportsmen to review the crane and waterfowl identification guide in the Texas Waterfowl Digest and familiarize themselves with the identifying characteristics between both hunted and protected migratory bird species.

Several birds may appear similar to whooping cranes, but if you look closely you can tell the difference. The sandhill crane, the whooping crane's closest relative, is gray in color, not white. Also, sandhill cranes are somewhat smaller, with a wingspan of about five feet. Sandhill cranes occur in flocks of two to hundreds, whereas whooping cranes are most often seen in flocks of two to as many as 10 to 15, although they

sometimes migrate with sandhill cranes.

Snow geese and white pelicans have black wing tips like the whooping crane but their profile is much more compact and their wing beats are faster. Here's a video that details the difference between snow geese and whooping cranes www.youtube.com/watch?v=VvkAYGZnJ4Q&feature=youtu.be.

Last year, the whooping crane population was a record 329 birds, compared to the all-time low of just 15 birds that existed in 1941.

The public can help track whooping cranes by reporting sightings to TPWD's Whooper Watch, a citizen-science based reporting system to track whooping crane migration and wintering locations throughout Texas. More information about Whooper Watch, including instructions for reporting sightings, can be found online at www.inaturalist.org/projects/texas-whooper-watch and by downloading the iNaturalist mobile app. These observations help biologists identify new migration and wintering locations and their associated habitats.

RV LOTS FOR LEASE



**Beautiful Lake Views
Large Lots With Concrete
Pads**



**Abundant Wildlife For Scenic
Pleasure**

Caney Point RV Resort

Call Joe Cell # 903-474-1946

Call About Our Special Priced Lots

NEW SHADE TREE LAKEFRONT LOTS

**Located on the North End of the 154 Bridge that
crosses Lake Fork**

**Good Deep Open Water and a Good Year Round
Usable Concrete Boat Ramp**

**The Largest Lots on Lake Fork and You Can HAVE
YOUR OWN PIER on Waterfront Lots**

BEAUTIFUL VIEWS, 12' x 54' Level Concrete Pads,

Full Hook-ups, 50 Amp Electricity,

Security Gate, Paved Roads and Street Lights.

Large Covered Pavilion for Get Togethers

Scenic Deer and Other Wildlife

(Sorry No Hunting)

RV's Cannot be Over 10 Years Old Coming Into Park

Owned By Christian American

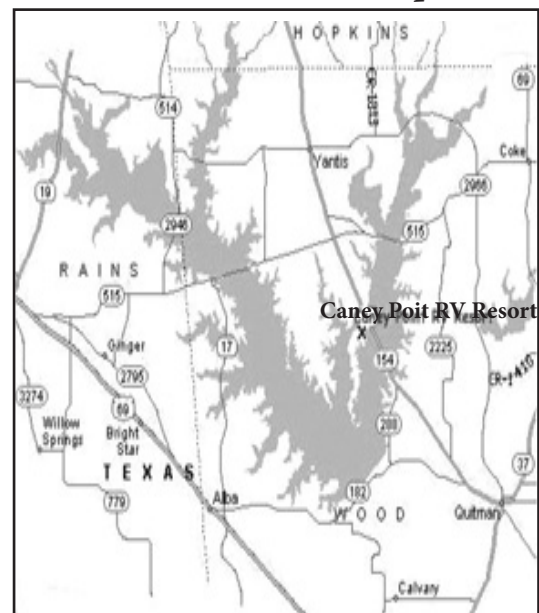
Owner on Property

Call For A Tour Today!!

WE ARE THE BEST!!!



Concrete Boat Ramp



"Pack of Knowledge" "Football Jigs Revisited"

By Andrew Grills

I love cool weather! I always get excited this time of year because I know my favorite season has begun. Jig season. While other techniques might put more fish in the boat, its hard to beat a jig for quality fish.

A football jig is my big bass go to lure for November. I'll be targeting fish in 20-30' of water with it on main lake, offshore structure. Flipping and pitching jigs definitely have their place. However, I'll be doing more of that as we approach winter and fish migrate into the creek channels.



*Andrew Grills
Lake Fork Guide*

903-638-1170

www.LakeForkGuideAndrewGrills.com

Football jigs are popular across the country. Most of the various brands of football jigs are designed for lakes with less cover and smaller fish than what we're used to here in east Texas. Many come with a light weedguard and a light wire hook. While these characteristics are great for the hookup ratio in deeper water, they're not ideal for the size fish and cover here. That is why I choose to fish football jigs made with our bodies of water in mind.

The first thing I look at when choosing a football jig is the hook. I like a big, sharp, beefy hook because we're dealing with big fish here on Lake Fork. The last thing you want is to lose a giant bass because the gap wasn't big enough or the hook straightened out.

Choosing the right equipment is very important as well. I use 20lb test fluorocarbon line and a long, heavy action rod. The fluorocarbon line is a bit more sensitive than monofilament line. You'll need all the added sensitivity you can get when you get a light bite in deep water. I prefer Seaguar Invizx fluorocarbon.

As for the rod, I use a 7'3" length so I can quickly take up slack on the hookset. When fishing the bottom in 25-30' of water, there's going to be a significant bow in the line. A longer rod will help make up for this. You'll need a heavy action with

an extra fast tip. The Kistler Helium 3 XH is a perfect jig rod for Lake Fork.

My color selection is pretty simple. I feel like many of us put too much emphasis on subtle color variations. During the fall, I like to stay with natural colors. Shades of green pumpkin, watermelon, and brown are great choices.

I use two types of retrieves with a football jig. If the fish are on or near the bottom I simply drag the jig back slowly. I feel like the rocks and roots along the bottom impart plenty of action, so I rarely do much with my rod other than a slow, steady crawl. The other retrieve I use is a "stroking" retrieve. Stroking a jig is ideal when fish are suspended a few feet off the bottom, or when its necessary to trigger a reaction bite. When stroking a jig, I snap the rod upwards on semi-slack line. I repeat this all the way back to the boat. I've caught a lot of big bass each way. I'll usually try both retrieves when fishing an area.

There are some days when you can load the boat with good numbers of quality fish on a football jig. However, to me its a tool for bigger fish. There's always at least one rigged up on my deck during the fall and winter months. Hopefully this will give you some ideas that will help you put a few more big bass in the boat this November.

Pecans Are Here!



Premium Quality SW Texas Pecans

Custom Pecan Cracking and Shelling

*Cracked *Shelled * Whole
Fresh Peanuts, Sweet Potatoes
Candy, Gift Tins, &
Much More!

THE PECAN HOUSE
FM 564 * MINEOLA
903-569-3437

www.mineolapecanhouse.com



972-288-6954 ★ 1-800-373-9896

Production Screen Printing & Embroidery

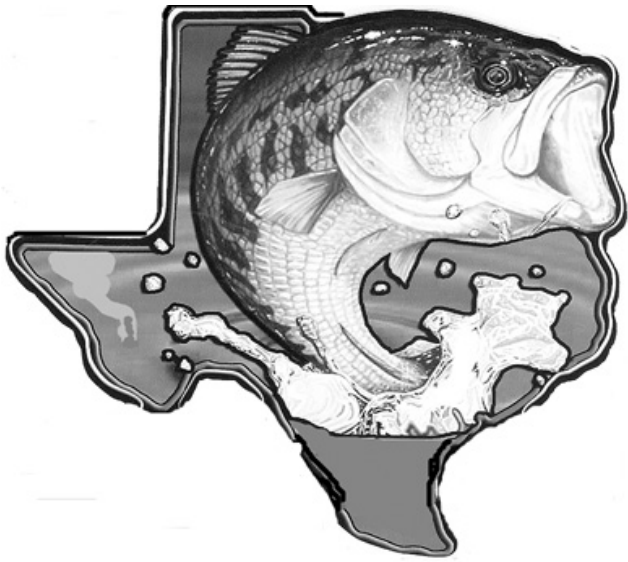
For

**Tournaments, Bass Clubs, Guide
Service, Special Functions, Family
Reunions, & More**

**TX Numbers, Banners, Stickers,
Sublimation Fishing Shirts**

sales@clownco.com

Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork Open Tournament October 22nd



By Don Hampton

Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork held their 33rd Semi Annual Open Bass Tournament on October 22nd hosted out of Oak Ridge Marina.

Fishing hours for the tournament were from 6 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. It was a five fish limit individual tournament. Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork paid back 80% of all entries. There was also a Big Bass Pot option to anglers. To get into the Big Bass pot it cost an additional \$10 with 100% payback to the top three biggest bass.

Fortyfive anglers showed up to test their skills in an effort to win some of the monies TTB was paying back. Big Bass of the tournament winning \$200 was a 2.23-pounds caught by Diane Vineyard; 2nd Big bass weighed 2.21-pounds worth \$120 caught by John Goergen; 3rd Big bass was caught by Steven Wood worth \$80 and weighed

2.16-pounds.

First place heavy stringer was caught by Steven Wood weighing 7.69-pounds winning him a check for \$468; 2nd place heavy stringer weighed 7.61-pounds and was caught by Diane Vineyard winning her a check for \$351; 3rd place was won with a stringer weight of 6.98-pounds for \$234 by Doug Watson; 4th place and \$117 with a stringer weight of 6.76-pounds by John Goergen. Fifth thru tenth places also received checks with tenth place stringer weighing 5.44-pounds.

Texas Trails Bassmasters is a highly motivated progressive bass fishing club with ties to the Wish to Fish Foundation and weight masters at the Wood County Kid Fish. If you are thinking of joining a bass club, you can't go wrong with



Winners of the 2016 fall open (lt to rt) Steven Wood 1st, Diane Vineyard 2nd, Doug Watson 3rd and John Goergen 4th. Don Hampton Tournament Director in the background.

Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork. They will be starting off their new year on November 20th at Lake of The Pines. For more information go to www.texas trails bassmasters.com. Or give Rodney Ellis, President, a call at 903-714-6473 or Don Hampton, Vice President/Tournament Director at 903-360-6994.

**13th Annual Legend
Of Lake Fork
Big Bass Tournament
May 19, 20, 21, 2017**

**\$320,000
Guaranteed In
Cash & Prizes
All Boats, Makes &
Models Welcome!!**

Entry Forms NOW
Available At All Local Businesses
or online:

www.legendoflakefork.com

www.fishguidenews.com

or call: 903-383-7748 to be put on
Mailing List!!

If you would like
**"THE
FISHERMAN'S
GUIDE, NEWS"**

Delivered to you, a
friend, or relative's
home for 1 year
(12 Issues)
For Only \$30,
Send check or
Money Order
Name & Address to:

The Fisherman's
Guide News
538 PR 5861
Yantis, TX.,
75497

Indoor Gun Range

4387 FM 515

Emory, Texas 75440

903.473.3780



shop.lakeforkfirearms.com



Gun Smithing

Firearms

Reloading Supplies

Ammunition

LTC Classes



November on Fork is a great fishing month (Continued from Page 6-A)

afternoon hours. Flutter spoons, jigging spoons, Carolina rigs, drop shots and football jigs will be the "go to" baits when you locate bass stacked up on any of these features. Pitch out a marker buoy and go to work. Gold is a great color for the spoons and a ten inch worm will get the job done on the C-rig. Blue fleck, redbug, green pumpkin and bamabug are all great colors to start with. The same colors apply to the football jig and I favor the Talon Carolina Worm in redbug for my drop shot. Barfish are the key to these deep spots. Find

those on your graph and the bass will be mixed in with them.

If you are headed out to Lake Fork in November searching for the trophy of a lifetime, I would love to be a part of this trophy quest. I still have a few dates open in November and some in December. I also have gift certificates available if you have friends or loved one's who have dreamt of landing a huge bass. You can contact me at 409 782-4269 or e-mail me at skeet21c@aol.com. You can follow me on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LakeForkGuideDavidOzio>. I post my daily trip results on this page. I run a Skeeter FX with a Yamaha 250SHO and would like to thank Skeeter for making my office on the lake the best in the country. I would also like to thank G-Loomis, Talon Lures and Shimano for making my job the blast that it is. A special shout out to Nautical Mile Marine in Tyler for all their help in keeping me on the water seven days a week, no issues. I hope to see a lot of you on the water. Romans 10:13. "Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved". I wish all of you a blessed day."

Help Us To Be The Best.... Plan Your Trips To Lake Fork With "The Fisherman's Guide News"



Mark Spaeth with David Ozio



Mark Spaeth with David Ozio



Tim Gonzalez with David Ozio



David Ozio



Practice C.P.R.

Fish Friendly

DAVID OZIO

**LAKE FORK
GUIDE
SERVICE**



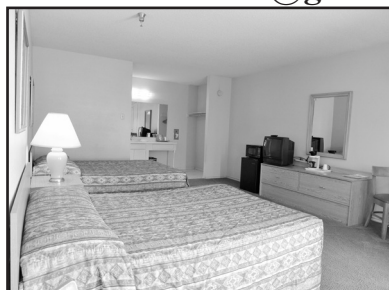
409-782-4269

BENT TREE MOTEL



381 W. Lennon Dr. (Hwy 69N) Emory, TX ~ 903-473-0061
(Next Door To The Dairy Queen ~ 9 Miles from Lake Fork Boat Ramp)
email: benttreemotel@gmail.com

30 Units
2 Double Queen
Size or Full Size
Beds
Boat Parking
Available With
Hook-Ups



3 Suites
2 ~ 1 Bedroom
With Jacuzzi &
Bathroom
1 ~ Family Suite
2 Bedroom
2 Bath

ROOM AMENITIES INCLUDE
FREE WIFI ~ CABLE TV ~ COFFEE POT ~
MICROWAVE OVEN
REFRIGERATOR ~ CONDIMENT PACKAGE ~
ALARM CLOCK ~ HAIR DRYER

A.J.'s Fish House

903-473-4198 * 5375 N. Hwy. 17
"Voted The Best Catfish In East Texas"



F.M. 17, 1 Block South of Hwy. 515

(For Your Dining Pleasure Feel Free to B.Y.O.B your favorite beer or wine)

ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET



Southern Fried Catfish
"With All The Fixin's"
Fried Shrimp • Boiled Shrimp



Chicken Tenders • Hush Duppies & Fries
Dessert Included • Menu Items Available

Hours: Thurs., Fri., Sat., 4 P.M - 9 P.M. Sun. 11 A.M.-2P.M.

Call In Orders Welcome • Senior Citizen Discounts

Private Banquet Room • Seating For 400 ~ No Wait •

Plenty of Parking • CALL TO SCHEDULE SPECIAL EVENTS

**"CATERING NOW
AVAILABLE!"**

Check out Our Website:
www.ajsfishhouse.com
For Banquet or Catering

11th Annual Berkley *(Continued from Page 5-A)*

rance Electronics, and MinnKota trolling motor.

Andrew Marks of Berkley addressed the crowd before the presentation of the checks and prizes, and thanked everyone for their continued support of this event and for choosing Berkley/Sebile products for their

fishing needs. Marks stated, "This event is always a learning experience for us. The feedback we receive helps us with product development, research and marketing. It also gives us a clearer idea of what our customers want from Berkley in the future. We look forward to seeing ev-

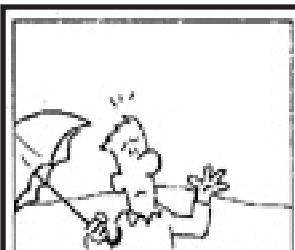
eryone next year."

Highlights of the tournament will be recapped on the WFN Network. For show times, follow the WFN link on www.BassChamps.com

For dates of other great tournaments BassChamps put on you can also find them on their website.



The first gas pump was made by Sylvanus F. Bowser of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and delivered to local storekeeper Jake Gumper on September 5, 1885.



The town of Tidikelt in the Sahara Desert once went ten years without a rainfall.

If you would like

"THE FISHERMAN'S GUIDE, NEWS"

Delivered to you, a friend, or relative's home for 1 year (12 Issues)

For Only \$30,
Send check or
Money Order

Name & Address to:

The Fisherman's
Guide News
538 PR 5861
Yantis, TX.,
75497

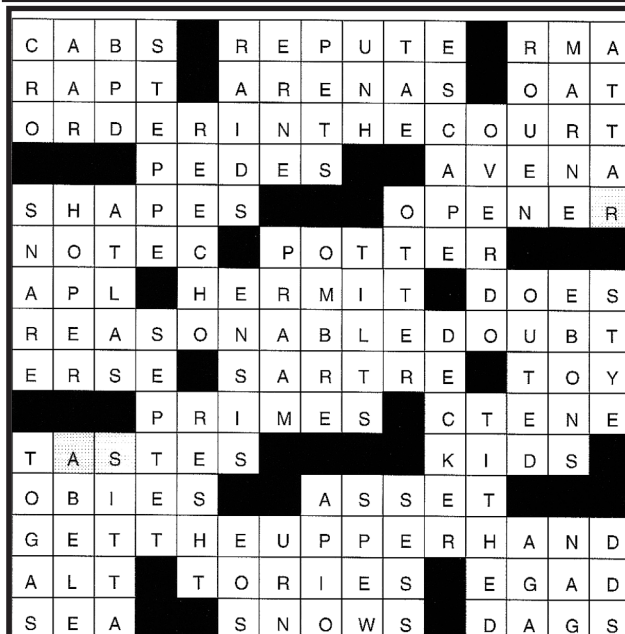
Fish Friendly

Just The Right Answers

Sponsored By:

Bassin' With Bubba Guide Services

903-360-6994 www.bassinwithbubba.com

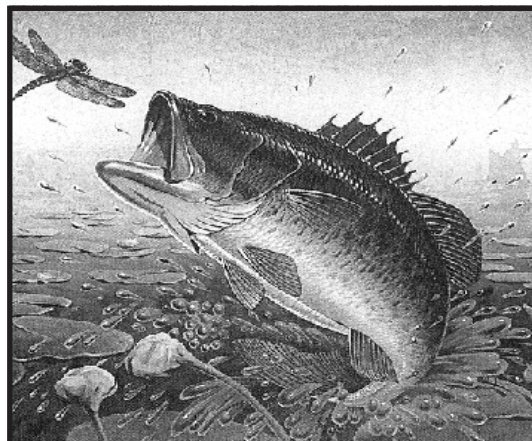


Famous Authors Word Find

See how many of the world's most famous authors you can find and circle throughout the puzzle below.

AUSTEN	LEWIS
ALCOTT	MILNE
BRONTE	ROWLING
COOPER	SENDAK
ELLISON	SHAKESPEARE
FAULKNER	SWIFT
HEMINGWAY	TOLKIEN
HOMER	TWAIN

M I L N E E N A R T B H
N L H F L R D O O R E
H E H O L E B E W L O M
X W S W I F T I L K N I
L I D O S S H N I I T N
Y S H H O M E R N E E G
T W A I N E D W G N E W
S H A K E S P E A R E A
A N A L C O T T A I F Y
T T D W C O O P E R E E
A U S T E N S E N D A K
E F A U L K N E R O P T



MUSTANG RESORT

Motel, Marina,
R.V. Park and
Professional
Guide Service

Located on Beautiful Lake Fork's Little Mustang Bay on Hwy. 17 ~ 5 miles north of Alba, Texas

Beautiful 10 Unit Motel * Ample Lighted Boat Parking * Comfortably Decorated in Rustic Cedar * 2 Full-Sized Beds * Cable TV * WIFI

* Refrigerator * Coffee Maker

* Individual Heating & Air Conditioning

* Electronic Security Gate

RV's Daily/Weekly/Monthly/Annually

Annual Boat Launch * Annual Dry Boat Storage Store * Tackle * Bait * Gas

507 County Road 1550 * Alba, TX., 75410

Call: (903) 765-2548 Fax: (903) 765-3089

Email: mustang@texascellnet.com

Visit on the web: www.mustangresort.com



This what happens when you give some of your sponsors baits, Larry the Lizard to a friend who is also Sales manager for a major Sporting goods store !

Using the 10 inch Pro-Tour Rattlin worm, color of Bloody Fork, in the first 15 minutes testing them out, he catches 5 bass the biggest weighing in over 8 pounds. Congratulations Chris Jordanhe www.larrythelizardcustombaits.com



8 lbs on the Pro-Tour Rattlin Worm (Bloody Fork-Color)



Diamond Sports Marine
 3910 W Hwy. 154 ~ Lake Fork
 9/10 Mile West of 154 Bridge
 903-383-7829



Now The Newest Skeeter Dealer In Texas!
Proud To Be A Part Of The Heritage!
Yamaha Technician In House



2017 Skeeter ZX225



2017 Skeeter FX21LE



www.diamondsportsmarine.com



Big Time Texas Hunts Winners Announced

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department announced the 14 lucky winners of this year's Big Time Texas Hunts selected at random from entries in the drawing.

All told, hunters bought over 79,000 Big Time Texas Hunt entries during this year's sales period, which ran May 15-Oct. 15. More than \$737,000 in gross sales were generated and proceeds from the drawing go to support wildlife research, habitat management and public hunting.

This year's winner of the Texas Grand Slam hunting package, Ed Bredemeyer of San Antonio, is making plans for four separate guided hunts for the state's top four premier big game species - desert bighorn sheep, white-tailed deer, pronghorn and mule deer.

"I told my wife this is the gift that keeps on giving, kind of like the jelly of the month club," said Bredemeyer, who noted he has

been entering the Big Time Texas Hunts for about 10 years. "I bought chances in other categories, too. I've been involved with hunting and conservation for years and the way I see it, if it's good for wildlife, it's good for me. I like supporting the people that support wildlife."

Following are the winners of this year's Big Time Texas Hunts.

--Texas Grand Slam - Ed Bredemeyer, San Antonio

--Ultimate Mule Deer Hunt - Stephen Howard, Houston

--Premium Buck Hunt - Dennis Koehler, Adkins

--Exotic Safari - Gary Clark, Childress

--Whitetail Bonanza - Timothy Ramsey, Spring; John Ham-shoop, white-tailed deer, pronghorn and mule deer.

--Big Time Bird Hunt - Patrick Haley, Por-

ter

--Gator Hunt - William Smith II, Midland

--Texas Waterfowl Hunt - John Nicholson, Rockwall

--Wild Hog Adventure - Tanner Davis, Austin

All winners have been notified. Entries for next year's Big Time Texas Hunts will go on sale May 15, 2017.

If you would like

"THE FISHMAN'S GUIDE, NEWS"

Delivered to you, a friend, or relative's home for 1 year (12 Issues)

For Only \$30, Send check or Money Order Name & Address to:

The Fisherman's Guide News
 538 PR 5861
 Yantis, TX., 75497

Fish Friendly



CARTS TO GO

Used - Refurbished - Custom

Golf Carts
 214-673-1313

Friday & Saturday
 10:00-12:00 and 3:00-5:00

OR
 CALL FOR APPOINTMENT ANYTIME

Lake Fork

One mile south of Hwy 154 bridge (across from Trophy Lodge)

Lake Fork Waterfront Property Starting At \$19,900

**ATTENTION: R.V. PADSITE RENTERS
Don't rent -- OWN!**

**For the cost of renting/leasing you can own your own
deeded (general warranty deed) lake property with
the following amenities:**



- * GUARANTEED FINANCING
- * Security gated
- * Clubhouse with restaurant
- * Central water & sewer systems
- * Swimming pool
- * Condos for your family & guests
- * Playground for the children
- * Playroom with pool table and foozeball
- * Miniature golf
- * Boat ramps on Lake Fork
- * Fishing piers on Lake Fork
- * Stocked interior fishing ponds
- * RV Campground with full hook-ups
- * His and Her showers
- * Laundromat

**YOU CAN HAVE IT ALL FOR LESS OR ONLY PENNIES MORE
THAN THE ANNUAL COST OF YOUR RENTED PAD.**

Holiday Villages of Lake Fork Call: 903-878-7263

MUST SELL!! LAKE FORK!! Owner Financed. Call 903-878-7265

Thirteenth Annual **LEGEND** OF LAKE FORK Big Bass Tournament

All Boats, Makes, Models Welcome
May 19, 20 & 21, 2017

\$320,000 Guaranteed in
Cash & Prizes

Benefiting "The Wish to Fish Foundation"

Tournament Host: Lake Fork Marina, Hwy. 17, 903-765-2764

GRAND PRIZES INCLUDE:

Four (4) Legend Bass Boats, Powered by Mercury, MotorGuide, Lowrance Electronics. To Be Awarded For: 2 for the 2 Heaviest Bass Over The Slot, 1 for Heaviest Bass Under The Slot, 1 for Draw Boat (Early Entries ONLY and must be present to win.)

**8 PLACES PAID HOURLY 1ST — \$500 • 2ND — \$400 • 3RD — \$300 • 4TH — \$200
• 5TH — \$175 • 6TH — \$150 • 7TH — \$125 • 1ST OUT OF 7TH \$100 GC**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: **903-360-6994** OR **903-383-7748** EMAIL: **FISHNEWS@LAKEFORK.NET**

**All Tournament Contestants can
Purchase Temple Fork Outfitters Rods \$178 Retail ~ \$60 Each (Assortment of Sizes)**

Early Entry Incentive: Only Early Entries Qualify for Drawing To Win a 2017 Legend Boat, Powered by Mercury, MotorGuide, & Lowrance Electronics. To Qualify for Drawing, Entries must be received on or before April 30, 2017. "Legend Advantage Members Win Double Hourly Cash Awards"

MotorGuide

EZ Loader Trailers

LOWRANCE

Emory

WOOD

GARY VANDAMOTO

"The Fisherman's Guide,
News You Can Use"
Lines To Get Hooked On!
www.fishguidenews.com

LAKE FORK

Teleflex

LUCK STRIKE

LACE

GARY LAREW

EASY STEP

FLUEGER

MERCURY
"I On The Water"

**Rains County Tourism
Distribution Board**

POWER-POLE

Sartia

**LEGEND
BOATS**