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Bassin’ With Bubba

By Don Bubba Hampton

Now is the deep water fisherman’s spring time. The deep bite is at its best starting November and will stay hot until water temperature goes below fifty-two degrees, usually some time in mid-December. Now is the time to break out chrome jigging spoons, casting spoons, plus tailkicker type lures. They will be top producers on or near creek channels when bass are close to bottom structure. When bass start chasing shad on top, lipless cranks, and shallow cranks that touch the top of grass will catch you some heavy weights in the coldest conditions. For colors, robust reds and oranges are top choices. During warming trends after fronts the shallow bite can be better than the deep bite.

Most folks think the night bite is only good during the summer months, but there are a few die hard fanatics who know better. They catch more than their fair share of heavy weights during the fall months. November’s night bite can be awesome, especially during warming trends and moon phase. Lighted marinas, boat ramps, launch areas, boathouses, and anywhere there is a light on the water with good ten foot plus water depth are top fall night time areas. White lipless cranks or shallow cranks with a slow wobble are some top lure choices and it doesn’t take long to find out if the fish are there.

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 903-360-6994 (cell) or 903-383-7748 (land line) or you can email me at fishnews@lakefork.net
Game Warden Field Notes

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

---Out (of it) for a Swim--- A Tarrant County game warden received a call from the sheriff’s department reporting an overturned kayak in the middle of Benbrook Lake and the displaced paddler in distress. It was determined the individual was delusional and told the Benbrook Fire Department he didn’t need any help. Responders tossed the man a life jacket and convinced him to put it on, but as the warden attempted to grab the individual and place him in the patrol boat for his safety, the subject took the life jacket off and swam away from the boat. After refusing another life jacket, the individual swam to the shore. The warden and the firemen attempted to restrain the individual but he ran back into the lake and swam back out. The warden boarded his boat and used it to push the subject back to the shore where numerous Benbrook police officers and Tarrant County sheriff’s deputies restrained him. He was transported to a local hospital for evaluation.

---True Confessions of a Gator Poacher--- A Freestone County game warden recently received information on some alligators allegedly killed on the Trinity River. After conducting several interviews of potential suspects, the warden got confessions from all parties involved in the killing of one alligator and the live-capture of another from the Trinity River. One of the subjects gave the location where the alligator that had been shot and the warden was able to find the alligator remains. Also, during his investigation, the warden was able to obtain information on an alligator that was killed in August of 2015. He was able to gather information on this alligator and obtained confessions from those parties as well. (Cases and civil restitution pending)

---Smile, You’re on Candid Game Camera--- A Tyler County game warden received a call from a hunting lease representative that a lease member, who was hog hunting, observed two male subjects riding an ATV down a shooting lane. The complainant also stated that he had approached the subjects, escorted them off the lease and was concerned that they had taken a game camera, but that he did not see them in possession of the game camera when he made contact. The warden returned to the hunting stand area and was able to follow the violators ATV tracks down a county road to a house about a mile away. Contact was made, and initially, the subject denied taking the camera, but finally came clean during the interview. The subject advised they were concerned their picture was taken and decided to take the camera. The subject then took the warden to the location where they had dumped the camera. The warden received statements from both subjects and recovered the stolen game camera. (Charges for theft of property and trespass charges are pending)

---No Self Control--- Sabine County game wardens received information about an individual who allegedly shot a whitetailed buck deer in July, well out of season. An investigation led to a search warrant, which resulted in the seizure of a velvet set of antlers scoring close to 115 inches on the Boone & Crockett scoring system, knives used to process the deer, an ice cooler of meat and another set of antlers off an illegal buck, having an inside spread of less than 13 inches, that was harvested during last year’s deer season. The subject admitted to shooting the deer while hog hunting and said he couldn’t pass on a buck with velvet antlers. The suspect was arrested and several citations issued. (Cases pending)

---Netting an Off Duty Arrest--- A Bexar County game warden was fishing with his family at Braunig Lake when he noticed four men from a distance working a gill net in a cove. He contacted a fellow warden on duty to inform him of what was going on. After arriving at Braunig, both wardens watched the men continue to work the net. The warden on duty made contact with the subjects and quickly recovered the illegal equipment, while the other warden went back to fishing. (Multiple cases pending)

---Back to the Grind--- During a routine water safety

(See Game Warden ......Continued on Page 5-B)
Make the Family ‘Game’ for a Thanksgiving Feast

Wild game offers many dining possibilities for the family looking to liven up menu options. In place of the traditional Thanksgiving roast, why not serve wild turkey? This meat is not as adventurous as other types of wild game and it is something the entire family conceivably would eat.

Unless you are a true pioneer, you may not be familiar with the proper ways to prepare game meat. A touch tougher than its domestic counterpart, wild turkey has the unfortunate tendency to dry out if not properly cooked. Wild Turkey with Leeks, Cabbage & Clementines calls for removing the legs about 20 minutes before the breast meat is done to prevent some drying. By pairing the meat with succulent fruits and vegetables your dish will stay moist.

Wild Turkey With Leeks, Cabbage & Clementines
(Serves 4 to 6)
1 large wild turkey cleaned and cut into 10 pieces (legs and thighs separated, breasts cut into thirds)
1 large leek, white parts only, thinly sliced
½ small cabbage, thinly sliced
4 to six clementines, sectioned
1 cup orange juice
¼ cup Triple Sec
½ cup brandy
Salt & Pepper
Preheat the oven to 375F.

Rinse the turkey well; pat dry, and set aside. Arrange three-fourths of the leeks, the cabbage and the clementines on the bottom of a large roasting pan. Add orange juice, Triple Sec and brandy. Place the turkey pieces in the pan, making sure each piece is nestled into the vegetables so they will stay moist while roasting. Sprinkle the remaining leek, cabbage and clementines over the turkey; add salt and pepper to taste. Cover and roast for about 1-1/2 hours or until the internal temperature reaches 165 to 170F in the center of the largest piece.

Now for a great “Thanks-giving Day dessert recipe! There is just something about homemade treats that can brighten even the grayest days. As the holiday season approaches, rich flavors and spicy aromas awaken the senses and warm the soul even as they conjure special memories of family and holidays past. Your family will love this delicious dessert!

‘Apple Brown Betty’
(Serves 6)
2 cups coarse, dry, homemade bread crumbs
6 tablespoons butter, melted
3 large Granny Smith or McIntosh apples, peeled, cored and sliced into thick wedges
¾ cup brown sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
¼ teaspoon nutmeg
Juice and grated zest of ½ lemon
1/3 cup apple cider
Vanilla ice cream or frozen yogurt

Preheat oven to 350F. Grease 8-inch square baking dish.

Spread about a third of the crumb mixture in the bottom of the prepared dish. Top with half of apple mixture and another layer of crumbs, then the remaining apples and a final layer of crumbs. Pour in apple cider.

Cover with foil and bake 20 minutes. Uncover and bake 20 minutes longer or until browned on top. Serve with ice cream or yogurt, if desired.

*(A ‘Betty’ Important Fact – Apple brown betty is a dessert that dates all the way back to colonial America. A “betty” is a baked pudding, made with layers of sweetened and spiced fruit and buttered bread crumbs. It is usually served with lemon sauce and/or whipped cream.)*

Happy Thanksgiving from our family to yours!
check of a boat on Canyon Lake, a Comal County game warden observed a large silver grinder in plain view on the seat. The passengers were asked who the grinder belonged to and when no one claimed it the warden radioed for another patrol boat to provide assistance during a search of the vessel for additional contraband. During the search, several other drug paraphernalia were located on the boat: numerous plastic bags of marijuana, several glass pipes, a wooden “dug-out,” one-half of what appeared to be an ecstasy pill, another unidentified pill, and two large grinders. Five citations were issued to five individuals for possession of drug paraphernalia and one was arrested on three outstanding warrants totaling $6,800 in bonds. Additional cases are pending while drug analysis is conducted on the two unidentified pills.

--No Sale, Just Jail-- Travis County game wardens received a tip that someone was selling gulf shrimp roadside in Dripping Springs. After corroboration of the information and making contact, it was determined that the subject didn’t have the required retail truck dealer’s license, was flagged for violent tendencies and was wanted in Aransas County on a second degree felony warrant. With the information provided, the wardens educated the subject on the requirements to sell aquatic product, placed the subject in custody and transported same to Hays County jail. (Case pending)

--Costly Joy Ride-- Williamson County wardens were patrol-ling on a county road when an ATV with two riders passed them at a high rate of speed heading the other direction. They turned around and caught up to the pair on the ATV, both minors, and got them stopped. They did not have any safety equipment and were told they could not operate the ATV on the road. Wardens located the VIN and verified that it was a stolen vehicle from 2014. The operator said it was his friend’s ATV so the wardens told him to get his friend to come get them. While waiting for the friend to show up, one of the wardens contacted the document-ed owner, who verified it was his ATV and arrived with paperwork to prove it. The friend finally showed up with his girlfriend, also both minors, and stated the ATV was his. He said he paid $1,000 to a friend in 2014 and has had it since. When asked for his friend’s name and information, he said he only knew his name but did not have any contact information. Wardens then detected the smell of alcohol on the breath of one of the individuals and asked how much he had to drink. He replied, “None, I don’t drink.” The wardens asked for a breathalyzer sample, which registered above the legal limit. At the conclusion of the roadside investigation, the operator of the ATV received two citations for operating the ATV on the roadway and without safety equipment, all four minors received minor consumption citations and the original owner got his stolen ATV back. The investigation continues concerning the actual theft of the ATV. (Cases and in vestigation pending)

--Caught in a Flash-- A Bowie County game warden stopped a vehicle for flashing its bright lights on and off at passing vehicles. The driver appeared to be impaired and claimed people were chasing him. When stopped and questioned, he lied about his identity to the warden and passed an object to the passenger. When back up arrived, the warden spoke to the passenger, who stated the driver had handed her a plastic bag containing drugs. The female removed the bag containing marijuana. Bowie County sheriff’s dispatch advised the warden of the driver’s true identity and that he had a felony warrant for aggravated kidnapping. The warden then placed the suspect in handcuffs. The suspect had numerous flags for escape and violent behavior toward officers and as an additional precaution, the decision was made to transport the suspect in a Bowie County sheriff’s vehicle with leg irons and chains to control him. While moving the suspect from the warden’s vehicle to the county car, the suspect broke and ran with his hands cuffed behind his back. After an all night search the suspect was located hiding in some woods off the interstate still cuffed behind his back. The driver and his passenger were both arrested on a long list of charges.
Lake Fork Tournament
Schedule Nov. thru Jan.

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Nov. 12 ~ THSBA
Lake Fork Marina
Nov. 19 ~ JC Outdoors Fall Teams
Minnow Bucket
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December
Dec. 10 ~ JC Outdoors Fall Teams
Minnow Bucket
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January
New Year Listings
Not Yet Sent
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"Wish To Fish Foundation"

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"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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Winnsboro $139,900
39+ ACRES IN WINNSBORO Located in a great area, this 39.3 acre tract is mostly level, heavily wooded, partially fenced and lots of the underbrush has already been cleared. There is a new road all the way to the back of the property and some partial clearing. This would be a great place to build a secluded home in the woods. No restrictions or zoning! Call JR for details!

Mineola $259,000
HOME NEAR LAKE HOLBROOK on a wooded corner lot, property is landscaped with beautiful ornamental trees & shrubs. This 4 bedroom, 2 bath home features an enclosed screened porch, covered deck, and attached garage plus a detached garage workshop, storage bldg & a fenced area for pets & kids. Plenty of room for your boat and RV! Property also has a water well for irrigation.

Alba $89,000
HOME IN ALBA ON 8.3 WOODED ACRES This home features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and an addition for an office or craft room. There is a wood burning stove in living room, 8x24 covered front porch, 6x8 utility room, two stall carport, 12x24 storage building. There is a running creek through the property with a bridge! Property is partially fenced & owner states there are tons of deer and wildlife.

Yantis $499,000
UPSCALE LAKE FORK HOME Located in a gated subdivision, this quality custom home features a concrete path to the lake, concrete sea wall, your own private boat house with 2 electric boat lifts, fishing pier & irrigation system from the lake. This 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath, 3 car garage home has been meticulously maintained by the original owner & is move in ready in every way! Call for more details.

Yantis $139,000
A RARE FIND ON LAKE FORK Home sits on 2.5 acres of deeded property, owner says there is 2-4acres of leaseback with an enclosed boat house. Home has been recently remodeled and updated. This 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath home features an open living & kitchen floor plan.

Yantis $209,000
HOME IN ALBA ON 8.3 WOODED ACRES This home features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and an addition for an office or craft room. There is a wood burning stove in living room, 8x24 covered front porch, 6x8 utility room, two stall carport, 12x24 storage building. There is a running creek through the property with a bridge! Property is partially fenced & owner states there are tons of deer and wildlife.

Alba $48,000
PARK MODEL RV ON LAKE FORK Located on Lake Fork waterfront at Pelican Point RV Park. This park model RV has deck on three sides and a covered porch overlooking Lake Fork. RV park has a community boat ramp and is very close to this well maintained RV. There is a loft for the kids or your grandkids. All furnishings are included. Call today with best offer!

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