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Game Warden Field Notes

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

--Creative Rescue Tests Warden’s Sharpshooting Skills-- A Llano County game warden had to resort to extreme measures in order to rescue an injured great blue heron stuck in a tree in the Kingsland area. Upon arrival, the warden quickly realized he faced a significant challenge as the heron was hanging from a limb by his right wing approximately 40 feet up in the air. Climbing up to the tree was ruled out after the warden determined the tree could not support his weight. Plan B was scratched after the Kingsland Fire Department explained they didn’t have a 40-foot ladder available. The warden then tried to dislodge the bird using several lengths of PVC pipe fashioned together, but that, too, was ineffective. That’s when he employed a last resort option. Using a .22 rifle and his sharpshooting skills, the warden shot the limb the heron was hanging from enough times that the limb broke, allowing the heron to fall through the tree where it was safely caught and transported to an awaiting wildlife rehabilitator.

--Inability to Resist a Redhead Proves Costly-- Responding to a call from a Williamson County landowner about excessive shooting taking place on a neighboring property the last day of duck season, wardens located three hunters and set up surveillance. The wardens observed one of the hunters carry two hands full of ducks to a parked vehicle and then drive to a house on the property. Upon gaining access to the property, wardens made contact with the individual and found he was over the daily bag limit on redheads by 13. He told wardens he knew he was wrong but they were flying and kept coming. The other two hunters showed up shortly thereafter and upon seeing the game wardens, one immediately confessed, “We are over the limit on redheads.” A total of 39 redheads were confiscated, 12 citations for daily bag limit and 39 cases of civil enforcement.

(See Game Warden... Continued on Page 3-B)
restoration were filed.

--Game Wardens “Like” Sharing-- Game wardens routinely check social media sites for game law violations and a series of suspicious photographs on Facebook recently caught their attention. The images were of several proud hunters posing with whitetail bucks killed during the last two hunting seasons. A short investigation uncovered the identities of the individuals, and also revealed that many of them did not have a hunting license. Wardens questioned all individuals involved and concluded that many of the deer posted were taken illegally. In total, the racks of five whitetailed bucks and two rifles were seized, seven citations were issued and many warnings were given. Cases and restitution are pending.

--Dig This-- Kerr County game wardens apprehended two individuals who were trespassing and digging up artifacts from a well-known Indian midden on private property. Wardens had been monitoring the midden for an extended period of time and with fresh activity at the site, it was just a matter of time before someone was caught. After several stakeouts surveilling the mound, the wardens’ patience finally paid off when they observed a flashlight shining around the site and two individuals heard talking and laughing. The wardens closed in and watched as both individuals climbed into the hole and began sifting for arrowheads. Under the cover of darkness, both wardens were able to make their way up to the two individuals digging in the hole without being seen and caught them red handed. Charges are pending.

--Who’s on First?-- Game wardens responded to a landowner call regarding hunters trespassing on his property in Hockley County. The two hunters had made an agreement with a hunting guide at a nearby town to an extended period of time and with fresh activity at the site, it was just a matter of time before someone was caught. After several stakeouts surveilling the mound, the wardens’ patience finally paid off when they observed a flashlight shining around the site and two individuals heard talking and laughing. The wardens closed in and watched as both individuals climbed into the hole and began sifting for arrowheads. Under the cover of darkness, both wardens were able to make their way up to the two individuals digging in the hole without being seen and caught them red handed. Charges are pending.

--Share and Share a Like-- Game wardens coordinat ed recently with the Terry County Sheriff’s Office and DPS troopers in an “intervention” of a teenage party. The teens had advertised the party and location on social media, promising in the public post “party will be out in the country, guaranteed not to get busted!” Later that night, all the officers responded to the party invitation and found dozens of minors in attendance. Numerous citations were issued for minor in possession of alcohol, many parents were called, and all the teens received a valuable life lesson in responsibility.

--A Drag net-- A game warden received a complaint of individuals cast netting game fish and trespassing on the Leon River. The warden responded to the area, made contact with the suspects, and identified the people involved. He issued citations to the suspects for no fishing license and confirmed one had a felony warrant out of Bell County. The warden placed that suspect under arrest and contacted the sheriff’s office to transport him to the Bell County jail.

--Repeat Offenders-- The United States Coast Guard recently requested game warden assistance with Mexican fishing vessels caught in Texas waters in the Gulf of Mexico. The Coast Guard has pursued five boats operating in both U.S. federal and Texas waters. They caught one Mexican fishing vessel in federal waters and one in Texas waters. The first boat, which was caught in federal waters, contained one large cobia, numerous sharks, and a large amount of red snapper weighing more than 900 pounds combined. The second boat, which was caught in state waters, contained over 300 pounds of shark and 1,100 pounds of red snapper. The Coast Guard took custody of the first boat with the three undocumented aliens. Wardens took custody of the second boat, arrested the four undocumented aliens onboard and filed state charges. Unfortunately, over 2,300 pounds of fish were not able to be salvaged due to an increased health risk from the vessel. Wardens took the four subjects before a magistrate and received a guilty plea on all charges. The same four subjects admitted that the Coast Guard had caught and arrested them for the same charges just three months prior.
Add a Tangy, Mediterranean Flavor to Your Fall Celebrations

Autumn is full of celebrations. Some people may celebrate back-to-school; others may just simply welcome cooler weather. Then again, there needn’t be a special occasion to enjoy delicious Italian fare. Try your hand at this mouthwatering, Italian recipe for roast chicken with orange, lemon and ginger. No matter what you’re celebrating, this recipe is sure to give family and friends a tour of the Mediterranean without leaving the dinner table, and leave them hungry for more.

**Italian Roast Chicken**

- 1 lemon
- 1 roasting chicken (about 5 pounds)
- Grated zest of 1 lemon, then lemon cut into quarters
- Grated zest of 1 orange, then orange cut into quarters
- 3 tablespoons peeled and grated fresh ginger root
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 5 tablespoons margarine, melted, or olive oil
- 4 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- ½ cup fresh orange juice
- 3 tablespoons honey
- Orange sections for garnish

Preheat oven to 350.

Cut the lemon into quarters. Rub the outside of the chicken with one of the lemon quarters, then discard. In a small bowl, stir together the lemon and orange zests and 1 tablespoon of the grated ginger. Rub this mixture evenly in the cavity. Put the lemon and orange quarters inside the bird. Place the lemon and orange quarters inside the bird. Place the chicken on a rack in a roasting pan. Sprinkle it with salt and pepper. In the now-empty small bowl, combine the melted margarine or olive oil, lemon and orange juices, honey and the remaining 2 tablespoons ginger. Mix well.

Place the chicken in the oven and roast, basting with the citrus juice mixture at least 4 times during cooking, until the juices run clear when the thigh is pierced with a knife, about 1 hour.

Transfer to a serving platter and let rest for 10 to 15 minutes. Carve the chicken. Garnish with orange sections.
Italian Roast Chicken with orange, lemon and gin adds a Mediterranean flavor to any celebration!

Autumn is full of celebrations. Some people may celebrate back-to-school; others may just simply welcome cooler weather. Then again, there needn’t be a special occasion to enjoy delicious Italian fare. Try your hand at this mouthwatering, Italian recipe for roast chicken with orange, lemon and ginger. No matter what you’re celebrating, this recipe is sure to give family and friends a tour of the Mediterranean without leaving the dinner table, and leave them hungry for more.

**Italian Roast Chicken with Orange, Lemon and Ginger**

- **Ingredients:**
  - 1 lemon
  - 1 roasting chicken (about 5 pounds)
  - Grated zest of 1 lemon, then lemon cut into quarters
  - Grated zest of 1 orange, then orange cut into quarters
  - 3 tablespoons peeled and grated fresh ginger root
  - Salt and freshly ground black pepper
  - 5 tablespoons margarine, melted, or olive oil
  - 4 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
  - ½ cup fresh orange juice
  - 3 tablespoons honey
  - Orange sections for garnish

- **Preparation:**
  1. Preheat oven to 350.
  2. Cut the lemon into quarters. Rub the outside of the chicken with one of the lemon quarters, then discard.
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Lake Fork Tournament Schedule Sept. thru Nov.

**September**

- Sept. 9 ~ Mad Dog Moore
  - Oak Ridge Marina
- Sept. 15, 16, 17 ~ Sealy Outdoors
  - Lake Fork Marina
- Sept. 23, 24 ~ LFSA Catfish Tourn. CANCELED
- Sept. 23 ~ JC Outdoors Fall Teams
  - Minnow Bucket

**October**

- Oct. 7 ~ Texas Trails Open
  - Oak Ridge Marina
- Oct. 7 ~ JC Outdoors Fall Teams
  - Minnow Bucket
- Oct. 21 & 22 ~ Berkley Big Bass
  - Lake Fork Marina

**November**

- Nov. 18 ~ JC Outdoors Fall Teams
  - Minnow Bucket

Lake Fork Tournaments are contingent upon federal and state closures. A minimum of 45 boats is required. Lake Fork tissue turbidity limits shall prevail. A minimum of 10 inches required for Big Bass Tournament. No Big Bass Tournament in October or November. For more info, contact fishnews@lakefork.net.

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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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1st Place.....$1000
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3rd Place..........$300
4th Place.........$250
5th Place..........$200
6th Place.........$190
7th Place.........$180
8th Place.........$170
9th Place.........$160
10th Place.......$150
11th-15th Place
Abu Garcia Reel

16th-20th
Abu Garcia Rod

First 1200 entries receive Free Berkley package with T-shirt included

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Exact Weight Bonus Cash
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> BERKLEY EMPTY BAG GIVE-AWAY
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When: October 21st-22nd, 2017
Entry Fee: $120 One day
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Registration: Lake Fork Marina
Registration Times:
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