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Game Warden Field Notes

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

--Right Suspects, Wrong Vehicle-- Game wardens are trained observers and possess an uncanny ability to recollect detail. Those skills helped a Houston County game warden solve a recent road hunting case. While investigating a complaint about some late night illegal deer hunting near Ratcliff, the warden overheard radio traffic about occupants in a Jeep discharging firearms from the road near Austonio. The warden responded and encountered a truck in the area with a couple of guys “just riding” around. They had no weapons in the truck and were sent on their way. The warden and a deputy sheriff were searching the area for evidence of illegal road hunting activity when the warden remembered that one of the guys in the truck, who he had recognized from previous contacts, owned a Jeep. He made a phone call to the guy’s wife who confirmed that he still owned the Jeep and also told him where his buddy in the truck lived. The warden and the deputy arrived at the buddy’s house and located the two guys as well as the Jeep in question. The guys admitted to hunting hogs and shooting at beer cans in the road. Cases are pending.

--Another Timely Rescue-- During a flash flood event on Sept. 27, Webb County game wardens responded to a water rescue call for an elderly couple off Las Tiendas Road near Laredo. The wardens were able to launch an airboat in the ditch and run seven miles up the creek and across pastures in order to reach the stranded people. By the time the wardens reached the home, the water was waist deep inside and moving swiftly around the home. Three people were evacuated, and four U.S. Border Patrol

(Continued on Next Page)
agents who had attempted to walk to the house were also picked up.

--A Big Splash-- Webb County game wardens responded to a call for assistance from the U.S. Border Patrol and Laredo Police Department on a vehicle splashdown in the Rio Grande River. The Laredo PD had attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a vehicle possibly loaded with narcotics and a short pursuit ensued. While fleeing from police, the driver intentionally drove into the river in an attempt to flee to Mexico. The driver was apprehended and taken into custody. The wardens were able to assist in retrieving the vehicle from the river and subsequently discovered 415 pounds of marijuana located in the back seat and rear compartments.

--Can't Bear to See This--Early in the month game wardens with the New Mexico Department of Fish and Game requested assistance with an investigation of a subject from the Waco area who may have illegally killed a black bear in New Mexico and now possessed it in Texas. Texas game wardens made contact with the subject at his residence and during questioning, the suspect admitted to illegally killing the black bear in New Mexico without a license or permit and transporting the skull back to Texas. The meat and carcass of the bear were left in the field and the pelt and paws were allowed to rot. Cases are pending in New Mexico and the suspect was issued citations in Texas for illegally importing and possessing a protected state threatened species.

--Rapid Recovery-- Johnson County game wardens were patrolling when a call came over the radio of an inmate escaping. He responded to the area and quickly spotted the escapee. As soon as the convict spotted the game warden truck, he turned and ran into the bushes. The warden advised dispatch of his position and gave chase. After about 10 minutes searching the field, the warden discovered the escaped inmate lying in brush under a tree and was able to take him into custody.

--Struggles with Math--A game warden was on patrol opening day of dove season in Bee County and, while checking a group of hunters, found numerous violations. When the warden contacted one individual with a pile of 14 dove on his truck who was still actively hunting, the hunter stated he needed one more bird to finish out his 15-bird daily bag limit. “What’s in the bag?” the warden asked, pointing to the man’s game bird bag. He then reluctantly produced one dove from his game bag. When the warden asked him if he had any more birds, the math-challenged hunter sheepishly withdrew three more from his bag. Cases were filed for exceeding the daily limit on dove.

--Hogging the Squirrels-- Game wardens were working the Cooper Wildlife Management Area on the Delta/Hopkins County line, checking teal hunters, when they heard several shots and people hollering in the river bottom. The wardens located a small vehicle and decided to wait for the hunters to return. As they waited, more shots and hollering were heard. A subject eventually returned to the car and retrieved several water bottles. Contact was made and the wardens determined the hunter was attempting to conceal the location of his hunting buddies. A search of the vicinity uncovered three subjects hiding in the woods in possession of five dead hogs. A search of their bags revealed several squirrels wrapped in plastic bags and a subsequent search of the vehicle’s trunk revealed several more squirrels concealed in plastic bags. One of the hunters had a warrant out of Dallas County for driving while intoxicated. Charges are pending for hunting/possessing squirrels during closed season.

--Brought to Bay--A Hunt County game warden was on patrol when he heard over the radio that a Greenville police unit was in pursuit of a fleeing vehicle. The suspect driving the vehicle was a wanted fugitive in Oklahoma. The fleeing vehicle eventually wrecked on a gravel road in southern Hunt County. The suspect evaded officers and disappeared into nearby woods. A perimeter was set up by numerous officers in the area. The warden responded along with a prison search dog team. Mounted on horseback, the warden and officers from the prison followed the search dogs into the woods where the suspect was quickly located hiding in a tree. The suspect was taken into custody and the warden escorted him to a waiting Greenville PD squad car.

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Enjoy Classic Halloween Treats with a Trick

By Sue Hampton

Caramel apples have been a classic Halloween treat for more years than many can remember. You'd be hard pressed to find someone who doesn't have fond memories of sticky-sweet caramel and crunchy apples. Fun to eat, these treats are also pretty messy to prepare and enjoy.

This Halloween, you can enjoy a neater version of this classic snack. This easy recipe for Caramel Apple Cookies pairs smooth, rich caramel with apple-shaped spice cookies. The trick? You can enjoy these "apples" on sticks.

**CARAMEL APPLE COOKIES**

These spice cookies are dipped in caramel and nuts to resemble the classic Halloween treat!

3 cups all-purpose flour  
1 tablespoon apple-pie spice  
½ teaspoon baking soda  
½ teaspoon salt  
1 cup (two sticks) butter, softened  
½ cup firmly packed brown sugar  
½ cup granulated sugar  
2 eggs  
1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract  
Red and green food coloring pastes  
24 green wooden craft sticks  
1 package (14 ounces) caramels  
3 tablespoons water  
1/3 cup chopped cashews

1. Preheat oven to 375°F. In a medium bowl, combine flour, apple-pie spice, baking soda and salt. In a large bowl, using a mixer set on high, beat butter, brown sugar and granulated sugar until fluffy. With the mixer on low, beat in eggs and vanilla; beat in flour mixture.

2. Remove 1/3 cup of dough to a small mixing bowl; tint green. Tint remaining dough red; divide in half.

3. On a lightly floured surface, roll half of the red dough to a ¼-inch thickness. Using an apple-shaped template or cookie cutter, cut dough into shapes; place 3 inches apart on an ungreased baking sheet.

4. Place a craft stick under "stem" end of each cookie, pressing dough lightly.

5. Using your fingers, mold a small piece of green dough into a leaf shape and place on top of each apple cutout on baking sheet.

6. Repeat rolling and cutting process with remaining dough. Bake until crisp, but not browned, 8 to 10 minutes. Transfer cookies to wire racks; cool completely.

7. In a small saucepan, heat caramels and water over low heat, stirring often, until smooth. Set a wire rack over a waxed paper-lined baking sheet. Dip the cookies into melted caramel and then into chopped nuts. Let cookies stand until caramel is set, about an hour.

Try your hand at these easy Caramel Apple Cookies, a fun twist on an original Halloween treat!!
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Webb County game wardens

A game warden was on patrol when he heard over the radio that a convict spotted the game warden truck, he turned and quickly spotted the escapee. As soon as the warden contacted the convict, the convict reported that he had jumped from a Greenville police unit and was on foot. The convict had been at the prison for a year without incident until a few days earlier, when he escaped. He had managed to elude the officer on foot until the game warden arrived.

The suspect evaded officers and drove his vehicle onto a gravel road in southern Hunt County. The suspect evaded officers and dis appeared into nearby woods. A perimeter was set up by numerous officers in the area. The warden responded along with a prison search dog team. The dog team located the suspect who was still actively hunting, the hunter stated he needed one more bird to finish out his 15-bird daily bag limit. "What's in the bag?" the warden asked, pointing to the man's game bird bag. He then reluctantly produced one dove from his game bird bag. When the warden asked him if he had any notifications he was still actively hunting, the hunter stated he was storing evidence against the person who had notified the authorities of his location.

The officer began to pursue the suspect. The suspect intentionally drove into the river in an attempt to flee to Mexico. The driver was apprehended and taken into custody. The wardens were able to assist in retrieving the vehicle from the river and subsequently discovered 415 pounds of marijuana located in the back seat and rear compartment.

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**October**
- Oct. 6 & 7 ~ Bass Cat Owners Tourn.
- Lake Fork Marina
- Oct. 13 ~ Texas Trails Open
- Oak Ridge Marina
- Oct. 20-21 ~ Berkley Tournament
- Lake Fork Marina
- Oct. 27 ~ JC Outdoors Teams
  - Minnow Bucket

**November**
- Nov. 10 ~ Legend Owners Only Tournament
  - Oak Ridge Marina
- Nov. 17 ~ JC Outdoors Teams
  - Minnow Bucket

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**December**
- Dec. 8 ~ JC Outdoors Teams
  - Minnow Bucket

Having a tournament on Lake Fork Let Us Know...email; fishnews@lakefork.net

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LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Yantis $239,900

What a fantastic opportunity! Live on site in this 5 bedroom 2 bath home and let the 4 cabins and run house pay your bills! Granite countertops, engineered hardwood floors, fireplace, 2 car garage, and a 10,000 sq ft house surrounded by chain link fence, plenty of parking in front of cabins and a nice pond. Property is 1.88 acres with plenty of room to add more cabins. Located just 1 mile from Lake Fork boat ramp.

Yantis $249,900

CUSTOM BUILT IN 2014 ON TWO LOTS

This 3/2/2 brick home sits on 89 acre & is walking distance to Lake Holbrook. From insulation, hybrid water heater, granite kitchen counters & 6 years left on transferable warranty. 12X20 covered back patio, 500 ft of chain link & privacy fencing with dog pen, 24x30 metal building for your boat and room for workshop area with plenty of 110 & 220 electrical plugs. Appliances and 1987 Galaxy Boat conveys to buyer.

QUITMAN $99,900

Perfect first time buyer home. This 4 bedroom 2 bath, located just outside of Yantis City Limits and 5 minutes to World Famous Lake Fork. Home features a 29X29 concrete boat ramp, pier, storage building and plenty of security gate and has several usable areas. Waterfront was recently cleared and dredged when the lake was down and has an elevated boat house site. Lot #38 totals over 3 acres (1.4 acres deeded with 2 acres of leaseback) and 370 feet of shoreline.

Quitman $199,900

Located within one mile from Lake Fork boat ramp, plenty of covered parking for all your boats, stacks and toys. Located within one mile from Lake Fork boat ramp.

Yantis $239,900

Located on almost 33 acres, hidden in the woods! Property is under wildlife exemption. Home features 3/2/2 carpet spaces, office/game room or 4th bedroom, beamed ceilings, limestone gas fireplace, huge windows overlooking the cove and natural wildlife. 30x60 metal shop building, 34x60 metal shop building, 1 room guest cabin could use a little work, storage shed. 2 ponds with 7+ acres of leaseback on Lake Fork.

Quitman $199,900

Large vacant lot in downtown Winnsboro! This 1.117 acre lot is located in downtown Winnsboro right on Main St. Busy road frontage gives serious exposure to cost any business. $37,500. Call JR for full details!

Winnsboro $299,900

LAKE FORK WATERFRONT HOME Recently remodeled home is waterfront on Lake Lyda, a private lake community of 5 homes, a boat house and a half bath in the main house plus guest quarters with a half bath behind the 2 car garage that has a workshop area. Home features wood floors, office, sunroom, gas fireplace and a boat house. House sits high on a hill on a large lot with a great view of the lake and surrounding area.

Yantis $89,900

List your property with me and see it here!

Winnsboro $69,900

Looking for something unique? This home could be 2 or 3 bedroom on 45 acre lot. Recently remodeled with new carpet, paint, ceramic tile, counter tops new cabinet plus a brand new roof. No issues with FHA or USDA. Home features vinyl siding & property has plenty of treetops, and 30x40 metal building for your boat and room for workshop area with plenty of 110 & 220 electrical plugs.

Emory $232,000

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Emory $232,000

Located in Emory Industrial Park. Formerly a doctor’s office building, this custom built building features metal and stone construction. Interior has a nice lobby or reception area, multiple rooms for offices, full kitchen and 2 bathrooms with a stall shower AND living quarters, separate from the main building. Building is insulated and has two roll up doors. New custom iron gates recently installed. Located on FM 17, just South of Lake Fork Marina. This would be a great place to run your business, or maybe store your toys! No zoning or known restrictions.

Emory $232,000

Fenced commercial property. Located in Winnsboro on Highway 11/Broadway Street. A total of 4,285 acres is ready for your business! Property is fenced with security gate and has several usable metal buildings. Any business would get massive exposure here! Motivated seller is ready for your best offer! Call JR for full details and to schedule your showing today!

Alba $249,000

Lake Fork waterfront Business Opportunity! This 4,000+ sq ft building is set up as a restaurant and is waterfront on Lake Fork with its own private boat ramp, pier, storage building and plenty of parking. Located on the bay, high traffic side of Lake Fork. The seller states property is unrestricted. This would be perfect for boat rental, bait and tackle shop or your dream business. All Restaurant equipment is included! Call JR for full details.

Winnsboro $299,900

Lake Fork waterfront lots & off water lots from $25,000 to $69,900

LAKE FORK AREA ACREAGE FROM $79,900 TO $84,900

CALL JR FOR FULL DETAILS

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