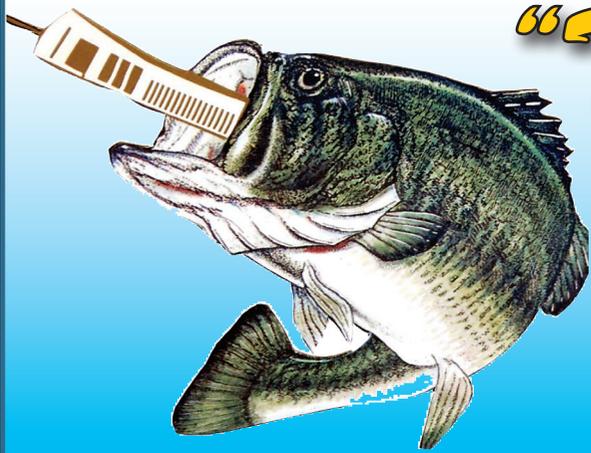


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1 Section

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Vol. 20

March, 2019

No. 235



Lake Fork guide David Ozio caught this nice Lake Fork bass in February. This shows the hawks are there to be caught. C.P.R.



Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork Open March 9th

By Don Hampton

The Texas Trails Bassmaster of Lake Fork will be having their 38th Semi-Annual Open Tournament on March 9th. The tournament will be hosted out of Oak Ridge Marina. This is an individual tournament. More than one person can fish in a boat but each must be a paid contestant and be responsible for keeping their fish separated.

This tournament is a 5 bass stringer competition. Bass must be at least 12" to 16" in length or 24" or more. Fishing hours will be from 6 am
(See Texas Trails....Continued on Page 5)



11th Annual Mega Bass Tournament March 16th

By Don Hampton

The 11th Annual Mega Bass Tournament presented by BassChamps will be held on Lake Fork on March 16th. This is the highest paying amateur single day tournament in the nation. The tournament will be hosted out of Lake Fork Marina on Highway 17.

(See 11th Annual....Continued on Page 4)



Steve Story from Paris, TX., caught this Lake Fork hawg weighing 13.10-lbs. on 2/24/19, 24.5" in length with a 20.75" girth. Weighed in at Pope's Landing. Released back into Lake Fork. C.P.R.



Lake Fork guide Randy Oldfield caught this nice February Lake Fork hawg on one of the warmer days we had. C.P.R.

6th Annual "Crappie Fest" Tournament March 30th

Crappie Anglers of Texas (CAT) has announced its 6th Annual "Crappie Fest" Tournament, to be held on Saturday, March 30, 2019 at Lake Fork, Texas. Tournament hours will be from 7am until 1pm, and the weigh-in will be held at Lake Fork Trophy Lures in Emory, Texas. The entry fee for the tournament is \$75 per person for adult anglers, and there is no entry fee for kids. The adult division will compete for a record guaranteed payout of \$34,000, while the kids will compete in two divisions for some great prizes.

"This is our 6th year for "Crappie Fest" and this tournament has just exploded!" said Jay Reeve, tournament director. "We had 363 anglers last

(See 6th Annual....Continued on Page 13)

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"Bubba is going to be using old age to his advantage"

By Don Hampton

Well Bubba has made it another year. He turned 68 this past month. A lot of people would complain about getting old. But not our Bubba. I do believe Bubba is definitely using it to his advantage. After all, one of his favorite sayings is, "It's good to get old, you just don't want to act old."

He started out by telling me now that he is 68 and gets all the insurance advantages like Medicare and his new Humana plan provided to senior citizens, he doesn't have to pay for that high dollar insurance he used to have to pay for before he got old. This saves him about \$400 a month and we all know what that means for Bubba...that's right, more fishing stuff!!

Bubba just loved being a senior in high school those many years ago. Now I think he enjoys being a Senior Citizen just as much. One thing is for sure, he is going to take full advantage of it. Anything he can get a discount on or anything he has coming he is going to take full advantage of.

I do remember when Bubba turned 65 he talked Bubbette (or should I say conned her into it), buying him a 2016 V-21 fully out-

fitted with more equipment and electronics than a naval submarine. It wasn't so much him getting this for his birthday, it was the poor old me stories he laid down with Bubbette in getting it.

He started out with, "Sugdumplin, my knees just ain't what they used to be. I need the smoothest riding boat on the market. Also, just in case I happen to fall like I did on the Honey Hole Show, I need the widest boat I can possibly get! You know I can't swim like we used to down at the watering hole! I need the widest boat on the market and that V-21 is it, so I won't fall in the water...I'll just fall on the deck!"

Well, this seemed to go just fine with Bubbette so Bubba pressed his luck as far as it would go. His next step was the electronics. He said Baby Doll, "My eyesight seems to be fading somewhat in these 'Golden Years'. With my old electronics the screen was so small I had a hard time seeing the fish and structure. I need the largest, clearest screens so that I can see without squinting my eyes or bending over with my poor old back the way it is to see the screen." So since Bubba couldn't put a 60" color television on his boat he opted for two Lowrance

HDS-12 Gen 3's. He also just had to have structure and down scan on front and back of the boat, with a .1 antenna. You know, so he can see the underwater stumps around him. He wouldn't want to accidentally hit one and fall down on that big deck. He would also need to mark his way points exactly so he can find them again because in his old age his memory might be fading. When he got to his favorite fishing holes, he had to have two Power Poles to hold him in place because he just didn't have the energy of days gone by to troll around much.

That wasn't quite the end of Bubba's poor old pitiful me quips though. He was really on a roll. He just had to have a 36 volt MinnKota 112 thrust trolling motor just in case weather got bad he could get out of the stumps quickly. He also had to have a Mercury 250 ProXS to get him back to the ramp in case he fell on the big deck and hurt his old back.

Well once again, 'Happy Birthday Bubba'...you seem to continue to get everything you ask for. I think Bubbette just loves to see you get what you want and she definitely knows "her man has got to have stuff!!"

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11th Annual Mega Bass Tournament *(Continued from Page 1)*

Twelve places are guaranteed to be paid per hour regardless of the number of entries. First place heaviest bass of each hour will win \$15,000, 2nd \$1,000; 3rd \$900; 4th \$800; 5th \$700; 6th \$600; 7th \$500; 8th \$400; 9th \$300; and 10th \$250. Eleventh and Twelfth places in each hour are T-shirt bonus hours. If an angler has purchased a T-shirt for \$10 and ends up in the hour in either position, they will receive a \$250 check.

There will also be Even Weight Bonus dollars available to be won during the course. For the first angler that brings an even weight bass of 2.5-pounds,

3-pounds, 9-pounds, or 10-pounds to the scales they will receive \$500 in bonus money.

The angler that has the heaviest bass of the day will be taking home a 2019 Skeeter ZX 200 fully equipped.

Anglers can qualify for early entry at basschamps.com on or before March 10th. Early entries are eligible to win prizes from Techron, Berkley, Abu Garcia, Amphibia and more. If unable to get in on the early entry, anglers can enter on sight at Lake Fork Marina on Friday March 15th from 12 to 7 pm, or Saturday March 16th at 5 am. Entry fee for the tournament is \$200 per person, this price in-

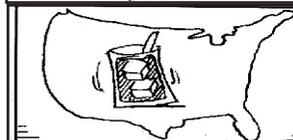
cludes \$10 cash/check discount. No checks will be accepted on site.

For additional information see the advertisement on Page 32 or go to www.basschamps.com or you can call 817-439-3274.

I hope to see all of you at the tournament and remember to fish friendly and help keep our lake clean.



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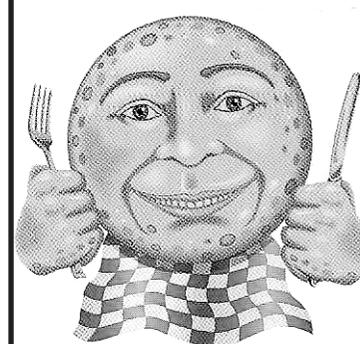
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Texas Trails Bassmasters *(Continued from Page 1)*

to 3:30 pm on the day of the tournament. Pay-outs are based on 100 entries paying back 80% of all entries, with 1st place paying \$1,040; 2nd place \$780; 3rd place \$520; 4th place \$260; and 5th thru 10th paying \$100. There will also be a 'Big Bass Pot' that pays back 100% of entries into it. There will be three places paid in this pot. Based on 100 entries, 1st heaviest \$500; 2nd \$300; 3rd \$200.

Entry fee for the tournament is \$45 and Big Bass Pot (optional) \$10.

We will be taking entries at Oak Ridge Marina on Friday March 8th from 4 pm until 9 pm and on Saturday from 5 am until 6 am.

There will also be raffle tickets sold at the tournament for some great prizes from our many sponsors. If you can't fish the tournament, come out and enjoy the weigh-in and buy some tickets. You just might walk away a big winner.

For you anglers coming to pre-fish for the Mega Bass tournament, this would be perfect for you and you might even win some extra expense money.

For anglers wishing to learn or improve their bass fishing methods and those who do not own a boat, here is some good news you may want to hear. Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork has decided to open membership

to non-boaters. This means if you join as a non-boater you will be fishing in a different member's boat each tournament. This will give you experience in different techniques and learn the different lakes the club fishes. This club is a highly motivated progressive bass fishing club with ties to the Wish to Fish Foundation and weight masters for the Wood County Annual Kid Fish. If you are thinking of joining a bass club, you can't go wrong with Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork.

Dues to join the club are regularly \$30 per year. Now is the time to

(See Texas Trails... Continued on Page 21)



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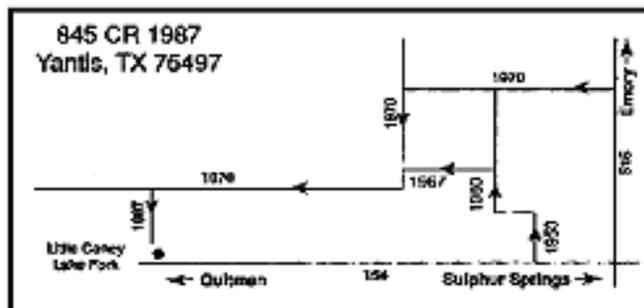
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Mother Nature Needs To Be Nice!

By David Ozio

"Will someone please unplug this freezer!!!! Is this cold ever going to end!! The big green fish seem to think so as we are starting to see signs that the big girls are wanting to move shallow. A couple of weeks ago we had a solid warming trend for a few days and it was like "game on". Big bass were everywhere until Mother Nature slapped us up side the head and said "it's not time". Back to the drawing board as super cold temps are still hanging round with snow on the horizon in ten days, Go figure! Their biological clock is ticking and it won't take much for

the courtship to start.

The best areas to target these pre-spawn bass are on main lake and secondary points at the entrance of major creeks, creek channel edges and bends, drains and ditches that are in close proximity to spawning flats. These staging fish will feed heavily through late February and early March while waiting for water temps to reach a consistent 58-62 degrees before advancing to the bedding areas. Water temp is the single most important factor during this time of year and a huge cold front can spell trouble for the advancing bass especially if it's near the March full moon.

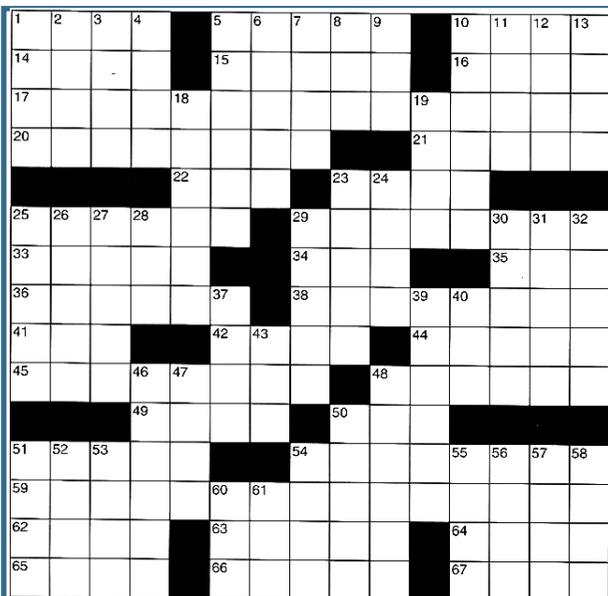
Provided all conditions are stable, start your search on the northwest side of the largest creeks and key on the current water temps in that area. The higher the thermometer reading, the better chance you have of seeing those giants cruising the shallows. Once the bass feel comfortable in an area, the ritual begins. Your job will be to target these big fish as they are setting up house. The all time best bait to capture your trophy of a lifetime will be on a big swimbait. There are several types on the market and you will need to find one that is weed-



less. Color choices can range from a bone color to light hitch or dark hitch. All will work under varied conditions. Throw these baits into very shallow water in the aforementioned areas of the lake and get ready for some heart stopping action. Don't be afraid to chunk these baits into the thickest cover. They are designed to slide right out and keep on truckin.

During this time of the year, there are other patterns that will work equally as well. The Strike King 8.0 squarebill will deliver it's share of the pre-spawn giants. Shad colors work well and direct your efforts to the main lake and

(See Mother Nature....
Continued on Page 20)



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Musical instrument
- 5. Baboon genus
- 10. In bed
- 14. Medicinal plant
- 15. Central Florida city
- 16. Knockout (slang)
- 17. NBA teams
- 20. Skeletal muscles
- 21. Circuit
- 22. Foot (Latin)
- 23. Mend
- 25. Digressions
- 29. Capital of Chile
- 33. Country in northwest Africa (French)
- 34. _____ E. Winslow, 1941 Pulitzer Prize winner
- 35. Engineering company
- 36. Nome state
- 38. Type of delivery
- 41. Protects from weather
- 42. School groups
- 44. "The Divine Comedy" poet
- 45. Railway cars
- 48. Diviner
- 49. Gulls
- 50. Gentle wind
- 51. Language of Sulu Archipelago
- 54. Type of chord
- 59. NBA teams
- 62. Changes, in a way
- 63. Crystal
- 64. Brews
- 65. Affliction
- 66. Way to deal a blow to
- 67. Hindu deity

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Physical assistance
- 2. Away from wind
- 3. Weight unit
- 4. Persistently annoying person
- 5. Shetland and Welsh
- 6. Sours
- 7. Political action committees
- 8. Type or kind
- 9. United States, Latin America and Canada belong to this group (abbr.)
- 10. Graduates
- 11. Stem
- 12. Norse goddess of old age
- 13. Type of remains
- 18. Russian monetary unit
- 19. Homer's son
- 23. Valleys
- 24. Belonging to the American Newspaper Association
- 25. Maidservants
- 26. Bush
- 27. Extremely angry
- 28. Runs PCs
- 29. Soul and calypso songs
- 30. Belongs to sun god
- 31. Annoy
- 32. Capitalist
- 37. Copycat
- 39. Admirer
- 40. Informal, in a way
- 43. Denotes three
- 46. Way to go on
- 47. Insect feeler
- 48. Antenna
- 50. Saint
- 51. Strikebreaker
- 52. Seaweed, for example
- 53. Manner or carriage
- 54. _____ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 55. Growl
- 56. Sicilian city
- 57. Isolated fact
- 58. Mythological mountain
- 60. Type of RAM
- 61. Radioactivity unit

Answers on Page 21



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Lake Fork Trophy Lures "Always thinking of the fisherman!"

By Don Hampton

Lake Fork Trophy Lures is truly an innovative company that has the angler in mind. With new baits coming out all the time, they are designing baits to catch fish and not the eye of the angler.

I must admit honestly some have really caught my eye then they caught me fish! One great example is the new hand-painted crankbaits by Keith Gott. These baits are not only beautiful but come in unique colors and designs not to be found anywhere else. The best part is they catch fish.

If you are not familiar with the LFT Flutter Spoon you might want to educate yourself. These spoons come in 3", 4" and 5" sizes. These spoons are big bass magnets in deep water all



Magic Wacky



Finesse Ring Fry

seasons of the year.

Three of the newest baits I'm most impressed with is the 'Magic Wacky', the 'Finesse Ring Fry' and for heavy topwater action the 'Magic Plopper'.

In today's economy we anglers are always looking for a good deal.

As we all know you can never have enough fishing stuff! Just ask Bubba.

Lake Fork Trophy Lures has now come out with a great deal for anglers. It is "Hooked Up Fishing" which is a premium monthly subscription program. For subscribers to this program each month for \$26.99 you have a premium package delivered to your home with a value of \$35 to \$40.

Unlike some programs such as this, your monthly package looks like sample packs. Not so with "Hooked Up Fishing"! In their monthly package they have three full packs of baits, appropriate hooks, and an LFT hard bait that has at least a value of \$15.95.

As a subscriber each month you will receive a different package that relates to the time of the

season and what the fish are reacting on during that time. Some months you may even have a big surprise in your package. Payments can be made monthly, quarterly, or annually with appropriate discounts allotted.

For more information go to LFTlures.com or to subscribe go to hookeduplft.lemonstand.com or go by their store in Emory and check out the great line of baits while you are there.

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4. READING FISHING REPORTS.
5. BACON



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"The Moon Report"

"March Pre-Spawn Crappie!"

By Terri Moon

WOW! – I thought when I left Missouri I'd leave the cold and wind behind – but it showed up in Texas the day I arrived! The water temps had reached the low 60's a week prior and the male crappie were moving up the creeks starting their transition, seeking warmer water and following baitfish. I thought I was going to come home to ideal conditions – but, 'Mother Nature' had other plans hitting us hard with rain, dangerous winds, and very cold temperatures. Water temps dropped to the upper 40's – then to top it off, they had to release water because of all the rain. So, needless to say it was a tough February on everyone!

As the water temps begin to rise back to the mid 50's, then check on up the creeks targeting 12 to 20 ft. (the crappie will generally suspend 6 to 12 ft.) – then move in shallower as the water temps continue to rise. When the temps get in the 60's – HANG ON – it's gonna be fun!

Also remember this is just the first wave of crappie trying to move up. So if you're not having any luck shallow, try structure around the nearest deep water in that area. My Lowrance Carbon Units are my number one tool especially this time of year. Keep following the baitfish!



Until they get shallow it's going to be a light bite – a slow motion to no motion has worked best for us and always watch for your line to just go slack.

The baits working for us have been Lake Fork Tackle's live baby shad in Cajun cricket, black and chartreuse, or chartreuse and pearl, depending on the brightness of the day and the clarity of the water. Also, the shallower I fish, the smaller the jig head. Another way to locate the migrating crappie is to fan cast small crankbaits around structure or across flats. It's all fun!

I look for this to be an exciting year on Fork. Everyone is loving getting to fish out of my new Skeeter Solera 205. They say the comfort level is off the chart! I sure appreciate it most when Lake Fork gets rough! Let's all hope our weather conditions will finally stabilize making it fun for everyone! But, it is March so we know we still have some crazy

weather yet to come. So, be safe out there and use good judgment! Don't forget March 1st the 10" minimum goes back in effect.

Now for you "Buddy" fans – (the Lake Fork Marina Camp dog) – he has been so excited to be back to Texas after his road trip to Missouri. He was so happy to see all of his friends at the marina store but most of all he loved getting to go for a swim in the Lake Fork Marina pond! He is getting back in to the routine of coming home with me at night and he waits at the boat ramp for me to come in from my fishing trips. It's been a "labor of love" looking out for this "gentle giant" and I appreciate everyone else looking after him when I can't be around – THANK YOU! And you can see Buddy updates on my facebook page.

Sending love and prayers to my family in Missouri and wishing you all many blessings!

TPWD Releases Freshwater Fishing Regulation Proposals for 2019-2020

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is now accepting public comment on proposed changes to freshwater fishing regulations for 2019-2020. The proposed changes include modifications to the length limits and harvest regulations for largemouth bass, Alabama bass and alligator gar in certain areas. The proposed changes to alligator gar regulations also include a statewide nighttime prohibition on bow fishing, mandatory harvest reporting statewide except for Falcon Lake, and the creation of a drawing for harvest opportunity on the Trinity River.

TPWD will be taking public comment on the following proposed changes to the 2019-2020 Statewide Recreational Fishing Proclamation, with input to be considered before any action by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission at its March 20 public hearing:

--**Lake Conroe:** Change current regulations for largemouth bass from a 16-inch minimum length limit and 5-fish daily bag limit to a 14-inch minimum length limit and 5-fish daily

bag limit.

--**Lake Lakewood:** Implement an 18-inch minimum length limit and three-fish daily bag for largemouth bass.

--**Mill Creek Lake:** Change from a 14- to 21-inch slot length limit and five fish daily bag limit for largemouth bass to a 16-inch maximum length limit and five-fish daily bag with an exception allowing for possession and weighing for bass 24 inches or greater for possible submission to ShareLunker program.

--**Southeast Texas:** Expand the area in Southeast Texas currently covered by the 12-inch minimum length limit for largemouth bass to include Hardin County, Newton County (excluding Toledo Bend Reservoir), and Liberty County south of U.S. Highway 90.

--**Alan Henry Reservoir:** Modify the harvest regulations for largemouth and Alabama bass by removing Alabama bass from the current regulation (five-fish daily bag of which only two bass less than 18 inches may be harvested). Alabama bass would revert to the state-

wide limits (no length limit and five-fish daily bag in combination with largemouth bass).

--**Trinity River:** Enact a 48-inch maximum length limit for alligator gar on the Trinity River from the I-30 bridge in Dallas downstream to the I-10 bridge in Chambers County, including the East Fork of the Trinity River upstream to the dam at Lake Ray Hubbard.

--**Trinity River:** A drawing will be implemented to allow selected anglers to harvest one alligator gar over 48 inches in length per year from the Trinity River. The limited entry system would allow non-transferable harvest authorization for a set number of alligator gar. Authorizations would be selected and distributed through a random draw of interested applicants.

--**Statewide:** Between one half-hour after sunset and one half-hour before sunrise, no person may take or possess an alligator gar by means of lawful archery equipment or cross-bow.

(See TPWD Releases....Continued on Page 22)



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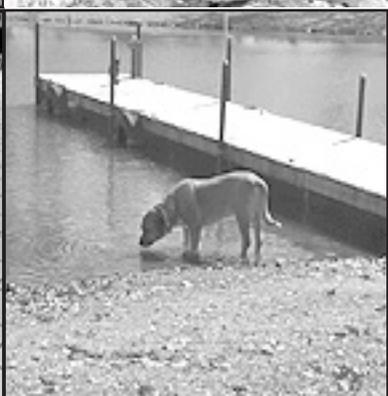










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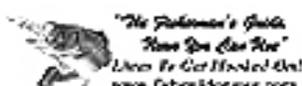
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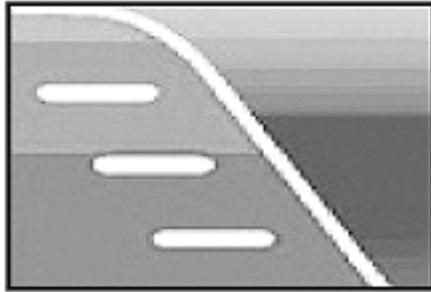
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6th Annual "Crappie Fest" Tournament March 30th (Continued from Page 1)

year, and if the weather holds, we are expecting a crowd of more than 400 anglers this year." This is a one-of-a-kind "big fish" tournament where anglers weigh in only one crappie.

There are cash prizes for the 20 largest crappie, with 1st place taking home \$5,000. And back by popular demand, the "\$7,500 Monster Crappie Bonus" will be available to be shared by any anglers that weigh in a crappie weighing 3 pounds or more. At last year's event, David Harley from Warrensburg, Missouri weighed in a crappie that weighed 3.07 pounds, netting him a check for \$12,500!

As with last year's events, one-third of all en-

try fees will be donated to the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition.

Much of the excitement generated by this tournament is the ever-popular "Exact Weight Bonuses" and the "Bass Printing Mystery Weight

Awards". The first angler to weigh in a crappie weighing exactly 1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 1.75 and 2.00 pounds receives \$500, and there is \$1,000 given away for anglers that weigh in a crappie weighing the closest to 4 randomly selected weights.



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6th Annual CRAPPIEFEST

Saturday, March 30, 2019

Lake Fork

Tournament Hours—7:00 AM—1:00 PM
 Must be in Weigh-In line by 2:00 PM @ Lake Fork Trophy Lures, Emory, Texas

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\$500 for First Crappie Weighing
 1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 1.75 and 2.00 lbs.

4 Random Drawings for "Mystery Weights" worth \$250 each
 Must be present to WIN—ONE FISH Weigh In

Jr. Anglers (2 Divisions—ages 10 and under; 11-17)
 Are encouraged to participate (NO entry fee, Prizes only)

There are five ways to register:

- At a C.A.T. monthly meeting prior to the date of the tournament
- Mail in completed Entry Form
- At LAKE FORK TROPHY LURES on March 29, 2019 between 5pm and 6pm
- At LAKE FORK TROPHY LURES on the day of the tournament between 6am—7am
- ONLINE: Forms and complete Tournament Rules can be found @www.crappiefest.com
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Please visit CAT's Website
www.crappieanglersof.texas.com
 For Membership And Meeting Information

Lake Fork Sportsman's Association "Preserving the Legend That is Lake Fork"

By Carolyn West

At Lake Fork Sportsman's Association's membership meeting on February 12, 2019, members heard from three students from Yantis High School. These FFA members gave a presentation of their experiences in FFA and the lessons they have learned from partnering with LFSA and Texas Parks and Wildlife with the Button Bush and Aquatic Grass projects. Carlee Vavra, Jenna Haney and Brooke Barrett, accompanied by their Yantis High School Advisor, Tonya Rabenaldt, noted the learning processes they

have experienced in FFA. Each student told the LFSA members that potting the bushes and grasses, nurturing them in the green house until ready to plant in Lake Fork and then actually being taken out on the lake for the planting were all processes that were unique to their education. Growing the plants has been a five-year project worked jointly with TPWD and LFSA. TPWD granted funding for a greenhouse and LFSA procured and built the greenhouse on the Yantis High School campus. LFSA members Sue Parrish, Carol Boykin, Peggy York and Carolyn West presented the students a

and Wildlife has supplied barrels and the students have established an assembly line for drilling holes, weaving tubing in and out of them to make "hiding" areas for fish to escape predators. Similar structures have been placed in Lake Fork and have shown success with attracting fish. LFSA member Ed Swenson and Texas Parks and Wildlife employees, Evan Cartabiano and Travis Tidwell have worked with the design of the hides and will be responsible for deciding on actual placement areas in the lake.



\$500 check for their future FFA projects as a thank you for their continued support of the association.

A second project was recently begun utilizing the talents of the Yantis High School shop students. Under the leadership of Shop Instructor Michael Moore, the students are creating structures for fish habitat. Texas Parks



As Lake Fork ages, replacing habitat through aquatic plants and artificial habitat has become a priority to maintain the legendary lake.



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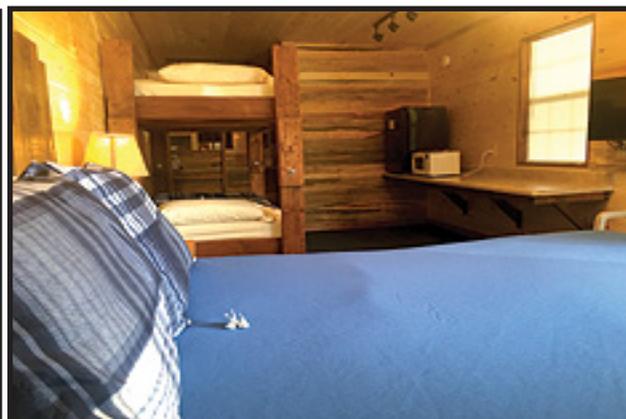
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"Knowing What To Look For!"

By Michael McFarland

March is one of my most favorite months to be here at the world famous Lake Fork. Wintery weather mixed with weekly spring like warming trends and the days growing longer really gets these big bass going. The bass are getting ready to spawn over the next couple of months so this is a pattern that will last for several weeks. Big bass will move into the most shallow water you can imagine, I'm talking less than 1 foot. In the right locations the shallow water warms up first and can be considerably different than the rest of the lake. Southern exposed super shallow large expanded flats with lots of vegetation & surface

debris is what I'm looking for. The matted debris can heat the water up even more and also offers cover for security. The very best flats are ones with a small creek, ditch or drain that is near, next to or running right through the flat itself. When the water is warm trending in these areas you will find the fish up on the top of the flat, in the vegetation and sometimes even right on the bank so don't be afraid to hit the shoreline. Seriously I mean hit the dirt!

Spinnerbaits, chatterbaits, squarebills, underspins and many other shallow running lures can all get the job done but a black and gold buzzbait is dangerous.

If its cool trended the fish will leave the flat and back out to the ditch, drain or creek itself. Here's a great

tip when your fishing the drains and creeks, look for the larger stumps, grass and or any swing or bend the creek might make. I love to toss a big nasty jig during this time. I know they are cold and most likely non-active so a slow thorough presentation combined with making the jig have contact with the wood is most important. I will still use a chatterbait or a squarebill in the creek as

well especially if there is grass or bait present. Again make sure you have some kind of contact with grass tops or any stumps or wood. Contact creates strikes! Last but not least a simple wacky worm or senko rig can be the ticket when the bite is super tough. Remember once the fish have moved in to these areas they don't want to leave they are there for a reason. For this reason they simply move up and back according with the daily warming trends.

Now all you have to do is pay attention to the daily warming or cooling trend and apply accordingly. I hope this helps you understand and catch more and bigger fish. Thanks for reading.



Michael McFarland
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Lake Fork Guide Michael McFarland caught this February Lake Fork Hawg. C.P.R.

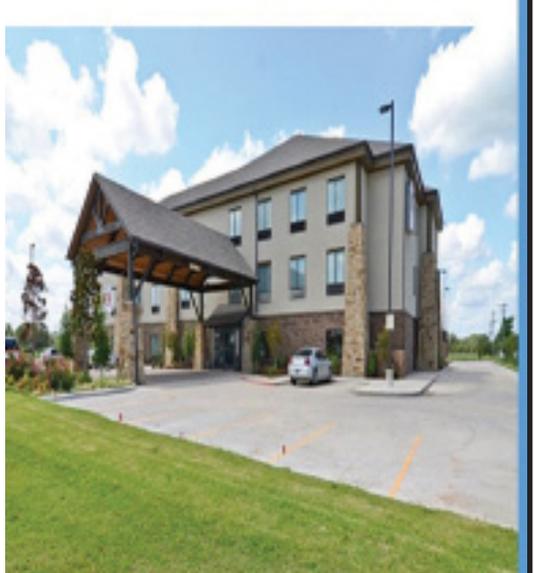
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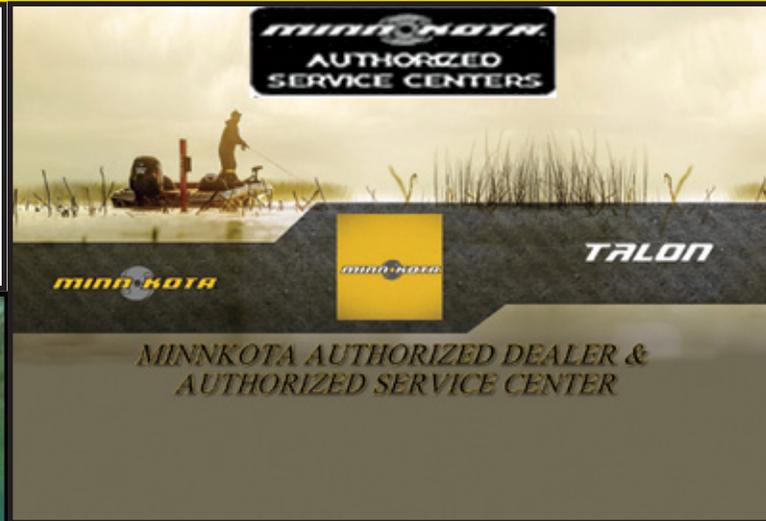
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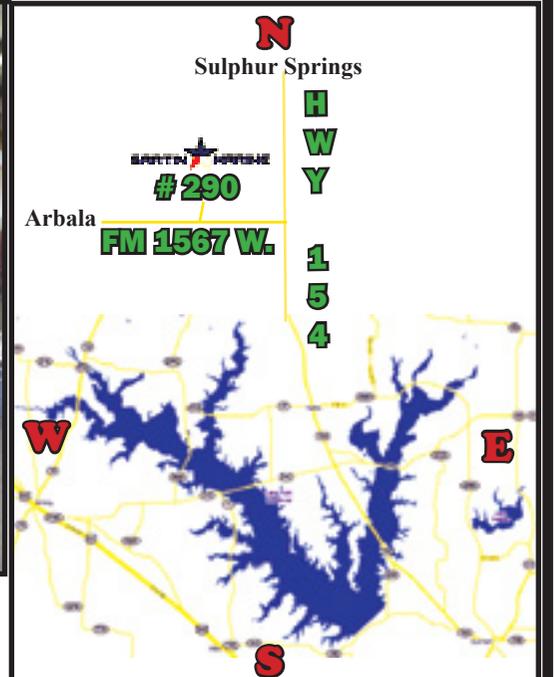
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Lipless Crankbait Basics

By Andrew Grills

In the fishing industry, there is always a hot new lure on the market that we as anglers are eager to try. The idea of giving the fish a presentation they haven't seen before somehow gives us confidence in its effectiveness. While some newer techniques can work extremely well, the old "tried and true" methods of catching bass have stood the test of time for good reason. One of the best of all time is the lipless crankbait. Even though the original



Andrew Grills
Lake Fork Guide

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lipless crankbaits hit the market over half a century ago, big sacks of fish are caught every year on them.

Cold weather is when the lipless crankbait truly shines. Something about the sound, vibration, or combination of the two, triggers big prespawn fish to inhale them. This month, I can guarantee that some form of lipless bait will be on hand in my boat at all times.

Because of its effectiveness, nearly every lure manufacturer offers some version of lipless crankbait. The most well known is the Bill Lewis Rat-L-Trap. This bait accounted for one of the best days I have ever experienced fishing on Lake Fork. It was a cold February day and our best five fish combined to weigh over 40lbs! There are many other brands and models out there however, and I like to have several on hand because the subtle variations can make a huge difference to the fish on a given day.

I like to keep a few brands handy in 1/2, 5/8, and 3/4oz. sizes. Each brand will also have a different "wobble." The Rat-L-Trap and the Cotton Cordell Super Spot have a relatively tight wobble. You can barely feel their movement through the water. Others, like the Strike King Red Eye Shad and the Excalibur rattle bait produce more vibration. Some have louder rattles while others produce a single "one-knocker" style sound. Even though we all eventually develop a favorite, I believe keeping several on hand is a good idea.

While red is the standard prespawn color for lipless

crankbaits here in east Texas, there are a few other colors that can be more productive at times. Red is popular because it flat out works. During the winter big bass feed heavily on crawfish because they are a great source of protein to nourish their developing egg sacks. Many species of crawfish have a red tint to them, especially during the winter. Therefore, red is an obvious color choice. But, sometimes the fish seem to get conditioned to red and changing colors can make all the difference. When this happens I use chrome on sunny days and gold on cloudy days or in stained water. White or bone colored baits can also be very effective.

Another important thing to pay attention to are the stock hooks each lure comes rigged with. Rarely are the original hooks up to Lake Fork standards. On Fork we have big fish that can straighten cheap hooks, but we also have a lot of cover. Snagging in wood can dull those cheap hooks quickly. Therefore it is a good idea to replace the stock hooks with good quality treble hooks that are strong and sharp. Because wintertime bass often just swipe at lipless baits as they go by, many end up barely hooked or foul hooked. When this happens, you'll be glad you used good hooks.

Hopefully this information gives you some ideas that will help you this fishing season. If I can be of any assistance on your next trip to Lake Fork, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

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Mother Nature Needs To Be Nice! (Continued from Page 6)

secondary points which are located in the near vicinity of the spawning areas. Shell beds also play a key role in how these fish will set up and spending time with a local guide can be the big bass education you've always needed. They will show you what to look for and how to cover the right water to locate the "always elusive" slouch's. Like I said before, cold fronts can be a game changer when pursuing trophy bass so pay close attention to the areas that you are

fishing. Fish will pull back during these conditions and you will need to back out and target wood in the 6-14ft range to collect your trophy prize. A black/blue jig will gain the starring role and be sure to stay in contact with the jig to feel the bite. Big bass will often bite very softly so you will need to control the slack line to feel the jig as it scours the bottom.

If you are headed out to Lake Fork in March searching for the trophy of a lifetime, I would love to be a part of this trophy quest. 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 would also like to thank Okuma Fishing and Talon Custom Lures for making my job the blast that it is. 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."



Lake Fork Guide David Ozio



David Griffen with David Ozio

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Texas Trails Bassmasters *(Continued from Page 5)*

join. They are starting their new year off and offering half price of \$15 for annual membership fee. Cost for each tournament is \$25 with a \$5 Big Bass Option. There is also a progressive side pot that an optional \$5 for the first 7-pound or

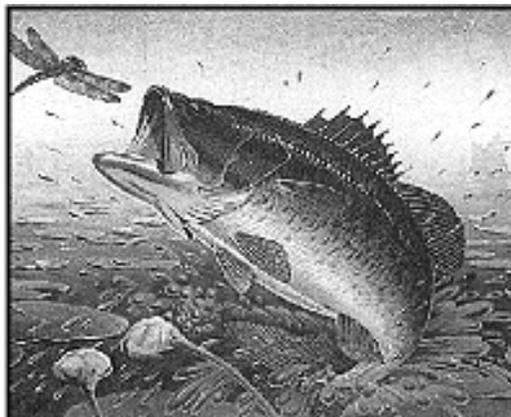
over bass. Non-boaters are required to pay the boater \$20 for boat expenses.

For more information on joining this great club give Rodney Ellis, president a call at 903-714-6473 or me, Don Hampton, VP/Tournament Director at 903-

360-6994.

Fishing is going to be great! Come out and fish with us! Who knows you could catch a ShareLunker for the season and finish in the tournament a big winner!

I hope to be fishing with you this year!



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51	52	53						54	A	R	P	E	55	56	57	58			
S	A	M	A	L									G	G	I	O			
59	C	L	I	P	P	60	61	E	R	S	H	O	R	N	E	T	S		
62	A	G	E	S		63	M	E	T	A	L		64	A	L	E	S		
65	B	A	N	E		66	S	M	I	T	E		67	R	A	M	A		

Garden Search

There are 14 plants commonly grown in gardens hidden throughout the scrambled puzzle below. See how many you can find and circle. The words go horizontally and vertically, backward and forward.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| BEET | LILY |
| BROCCOLI | MARIGOLD |
| CABBAGE | PANSY |
| CARROT | PEPPER |
| CORN | ROSE |
| DAFFODIL | TOMATO |
| GERANIUM | TULIP |

S E G R N I U M A T O E
N R O C A R R A T U L I
A E M U I N A R E G A C
P P E P R O C I L L O A
A P I L U T E G C O R B
S E Y N A P R O T E E B
P P I L U S D L O I R A
A N S Y E L R D M A R G
N R C O S I A U T M A E
S O G L O D G L A L Y G
Y S A B R O C C O L I B
L S L E O F P A S N R B
I E D E C F O R A M N A
L P A S C A G R T O O C
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TPWD Releases Regulation Proposals *(Continued from Page 9)*

--**Statewide:** All persons who take an alligator gar from the public fresh waters of the state other than Falcon International Reservoir would be required to report the harvest via the department's website or by mobile app within 24 hours of take.

The public is encouraged to provide comment on the proposed regulation changes. Opportunities to provide comments for or against these proposals include:

--**Public hearings:** TPWD staff will host several public hearings to receive input from stakeholders and constituents con-

cerning the proposed regulation changes.

--**Conroe:** Monday, March 4 at 7 p.m. at the San Jacinto River Authority Board Room, 1577 Dam Site Rd. Conroe Texas 77304.

--**Athens:** Tuesday, March 5 at 7 p.m. at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center Hart-Morris Conservation Center, 5601 Peninsula Point Rd., Athens 75752.

--**San Antonio:** Tuesday, March 5 at 7 p.m. at the Lions Field Adult and Senior Center, 2809 Broadway St, San Antonio, TX 78209.

-- **Livingston:** Wednesday, March 6 at 7 p.m. at the Polk

County Judicial Center, 101 W Mill St Livingston, TX 77351.

Online: Comments on the changes can be provided on the TPWD public comment page until March 19.

Phone or Email: Ken Kurzawski (512) 389-4591, email ken.kurzawski@tpwd.texas.gov.

In person: The TPW Commission will take public comment on the proposed changes at their meeting on Wednesday, March 20 in Austin. Public testimony will normally be limited to three minutes per person.



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Kreische House in La Grange Close to New Phase of Renovations

The historic Kreische House, located within Monument Hill and Kreische Brewery State Historic Site, will be entering the next project phase of preservation efforts as a comprehensive condition assessment nears completion. The assessment included studies with extensive testing and analysis to gauge the integrity of the structure and to identify public access concerns before major restoration work gets underway.

State Senator Lois Kolkhorst (R-Brenham) has worked closely with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in seeking the funding for the project.

"The Kreische House is part of a very significant historic site, and the state's objective is to protect it for future generations," said Senator Kolkhorst. "My office is confident that TPWD will make these re-

pairs soon and I am encouraged by the recent planning and progress. The deferred maintenance, such as what is needed at the Kreische House, is a challenge facing many of our parks and historic sites across the state. That's why this session I have filed a constitutional amendment, which if passed, will deliver a new and steady method to fund these Texas treasures."

The comprehensive condition assessment is expected to be completed by early summer with construction of the new roof beginning soon after. The roof replacement project for the Kreische house and a small smokehouse on the property is projected to be complete by the end of the year.

"Monument Hill and Kreische Brewery is indeed hallowed ground and an important chapter in Texas his-

tory," said Rodney Franklin, Director of Texas State Parks. "The comprehensive assessment is a critical step to help us understand and prioritize the next steps to preserve the site and continue to tell this important story. The roof project that we are about to begin will help protect the Kreische house for future generations to enjoy."

Elements of the roof replacement project include the installation of a new fire-retardant cedar shake roof, site drainage diversion, replacement of exterior wood rot throughout the structure and rebuilding of wooden dormers. These preservation efforts will help the buildings keep their historical context for future generations to experience.

For more information about Monument Hill and Kreische Brewery State Historic Site, visit the TPWD website.

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Texas State Parks Reservation System Unveils New Features Ahead of Spring Break

Planning a day or overnight trip to a Texas State Park just got easier with new online features available in the Texas State Parks reservation system. The new options allow visitors to reserve a specific campsite, buy day passes in advance and buy or renew a Texas State Parks Pass online.

"We are excited to introduce these helpful features to park visitors and provide a new way to efficiently schedule a trip, either for the day or overnight, to any Texas State Park," says Rodney Franklin, Director of Texas State Parks.

"These options give park goers the ability to plan their perfect state park vacation, no matter where and when they want travel."

The system includes online features that are mobile-friendly and easy to use.

Visitors now have the option to purchase day use passes up to one month in advance, guaranteeing access to parks even during busy times like weekends and holidays. The new "Save the Day" pass helps address the

growing issue of visitors not being able to get into a popular state parks due to overcrowding.

Day passes for some of the more popular parks have specific arrival time slots. Visitors to parks such as Balmorhea State Park, Brazos Bend State Park, Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, Garner and Government Canyon State Natural Area can select an arrival time and have the peace of mind knowing they can get in to the park.

Anyone planning overnight trips at a

Texas State Park can now choose a specific site when making reservations up to five months in advance. Photos and details of campsites, shelters and cabins are available online, so campers can pick their site before arriving at the park. Visitors can search for sites by specific parks and site types, see photos of the site before making their decision and see details for each site including utilities, parking pad length and width, and amount of shade.

Larger families and

groups can also select and reserve neighboring sites, so they can enjoy the outdoors together.

Park goers can also renew or purchase a Texas State Parks Pass online. With a Texas State Parks Pass, an entire vehicle of guests gets unlimited visits to more than 90 Texas State Parks with no entry fee for 12 months.

Texas State Parks are making every effort to make the reservation system upgrades as smooth as possible.

All existing park res-

ervations have been moved into the new system and are secure. Any customers experiencing issues may contact the Customer Service Center at (512) 389-8900. However, in the early days of the improved system, Customer Service Center wait times are expected to be longer than normal due to increased demand.

For more information about the system, or to make a reservation to a Texas State Park, visit www.texasstateparks.org/reservations.

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Game Warden Field Notes

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

--Bad Habits-- In January 2017, a Montgomery County game warden received a call about deer parts that had been dumped on private property. He made contact with a suspect and found that he had killed two deer, not tagged either and dumped their remains on the private property. The suspect pled not guilty, went to trial, and was convicted of possession of untagged white-tailed deer and littering. Recently, the warden got another call from the private property owner about deer parts dumped on the property again. The warden made contact with the same suspect and once again found him to be in possession of an untagged deer. The suspect admitted to catching the deer in a trap before killing and processing it. He further admitted to dumping the deer remains at the same location as last January. The suspect received four citations for littering, illegal means and methods, hunter education violation, and unrelated charges. The cases are pending.

--Facebook Fail-- On Nov. 6, a Karnes County game warden received a phone call about a local resident that had killed a white-tailed buck deer and was not planning on tagging the deer. The warden found posts on Facebook of the suspect with the deer, and verified the individual did not have a valid hunting license. During a brief interview, the suspect told the warden he had purchased a license and tagged the deer. The warden then informed the hunter that he had already verified that he did not have a license. Hunting without a valid hunting license was filed and the 10-point buck was seized.

--Busted Text-- A Wheeler County game warden noticed a vehicle shining a light from a county road coming from Oklahoma into Texas. Once the vehicle passed, he followed and he heard two shots fired. The warden stopped the vehicle and separated the two female occupants. They denied knowledge of any weapons in the vehicle or any shooting

from the road. The warden retrieved a rifle from the back seat with a spent cartridge still in the chamber as well as ammunition, two cans of beer, a head lamp with the red light still on, and a cell phone with a text displayed on the screen that read "Cop got us." Adamantly denying any involvement of shooting, the two stuck with their story of being the only two occupants of the vehicle. After further investigation, it was found that two other subjects had gotten out at some point and made it back into Oklahoma. Charges of Class A hunting from a vehicle were filed on both females and the passenger also received a public intoxication citation. The warden is currently working with Oklahoma game wardens for possible illegal hunting from the same

group near the state line.

--Crossing the Line-- On opening weekend of mule deer season, game wardens were patrolling an isolated stretch of back road near the Texas/New Mexico border in Cochran County when they observed suspicious activity in the distance; a red pickup truck had suddenly turned around on the two-lane highway to go southbound, and then came to a stop in the bar ditch. The wardens quickly turned into the nearest county road to observe. Using binoculars, the wardens detected a rifle sticking out the window of the truck. They quickly moved in and made contact with the occupants in the red truck, which was still in the ditch. The oc-

(See Game Warden....Continued on Page 26)

Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork

38th Semi-Annual Open Tournament

March 9, 2019 * Lake Fork, Texas

Oak Ridge Marina * Hwy 154 N.

Guaranteed Pay-Out Based on 100 Entries 903-878-2529
Drawings Held After Weigh-in for prizes



1st Place	\$1,040.00
2nd Place	\$780.00
3rd Place	\$520.00
4th Place	\$260.00
5th ~ 10th	\$100.00



There will be a big bass pot ~ \$10 per person entry
Big Bass will pay Three (3) places. (Based on 100 entries)

1st Place	\$500
2nd Place	\$300
3rd Place	\$200

1. Entry fee is \$40.00 - late entry is \$45.00
2. Early entries must be postmarked by Mar. 2, 2019.
3. All entry fees must be paid before 6 a.m. Sat., Mar. 9, 2019.
4. Check in times: Fri., Mar. 8, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Sat., Mar. 9, 5 a.m. to 6 a.m. at Oak Ridge Marina.
5. To qualify, contestants must check in at tournament headquarters before fishing.
6. Fishing hours will be 6:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (official clock at sign-in station). NO FISHING from midnight till start time.
7. Fishing will be done on Lake Fork only (trailer fishing allowed).
8. Contestants must fish from a boat. NO-bank fishing or leaving the boat to land a fish.
9. Life jackets must be worn any time their outboard motor is running.
10. All state, federal, and local laws must be obeyed or contestant and fish may be disqualified. No slot fish may be brought to weigh-in.
11. No one may have more than five (5) fish in their possession at any time. Only one (1) may be 24" or greater.
12. Largemouth bass 12" to 16" or 24" or greater in length may be weighed. No fish under 12" or between 16" and 24" will be weighed (or state law limits at the time of the tournament).
13. All fish must be caught on artificial bait by casting. (No trolling with gas engine). Pork trailer may be used.
14. Weigh-in starts at 3:00 p.m. (official clock at sign-in). You must be in the weigh-in line by 3:30 p.m.
15. All fish must be brought to the scales in weigh-in bags.
16. No iced or frozen fish will be weighed. Ice may be added ONLY to aid in survival of fish.
17. Each contestant will be responsible for weighing his or her own fish. (No pooling of fish).
18. Dead fish at weigh-in will be penalized 1/2 (.5) pound. All fish weighed in become the property of TTB and will be released (with the exception of trophy

19. In the event of a tie for any position, prize money for that position and the following positions will be combined and evenly divided between the tying contestants.
20. Contestants may not have served as a compensated guide on Lake Fork 30 days prior to the tournament.
21. Contestants may fish with a guide on Lake Fork prior to the day before fishing this TTB tournament.
22. Use of alcoholic beverages or controlled drugs are prohibited during tournament hours. Prescription drug use should be declared at sign-in.
23. Anyone who has ever been disqualified for cheating or misconduct from any tournament is ineligible to fish.
24. Any contestant who violates any rule may be disqualified. Any act of a competitor, verbal or physical, that reflects unfavorably upon TTB's effort to promote fishing, conservation, clean waters, courtesy or safety shall be reason for disqualification from this and all future TTB tournaments.
25. Parent or guardian must accompany contestants under 18 years of age.
26. All protests must be registered in writing with the tournament judges within 15 minutes after designated weigh-in time. All decisions of the tournament judges will be final in all matters. Anyone protesting the outcome of an open tournament will have to pay for any additional polygraph test given.
27. All boats must be 18 ft. in length or longer. An aerated livewell is recommended to aid in fish survival for live release. Anglers cannot leave boat to land a fish.
28. All contestants are responsible to have read these rules and must agree to abide by them (by signing the entry form) while competing in this TTB event.
29. Contestants will be subject to polygraph test. Failure to take and/or pass such a test will result in disqualification.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information or for information on joining Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork visit our website: www.texastrailsbassmasters.com

Entry Application

Entry fee of \$40 must accompany mailed entry and must be postmarked on or before Mar. 1, 2019 to Texas Trails Bassmasters, 538 PR 5861, Yantis, TX 75497, or you may pay \$45 at tournament headquarters before starting time of tournament. \$10 extra for Big Bass (Optional). Print clearly.

Name: _____
Email: _____
Address: _____

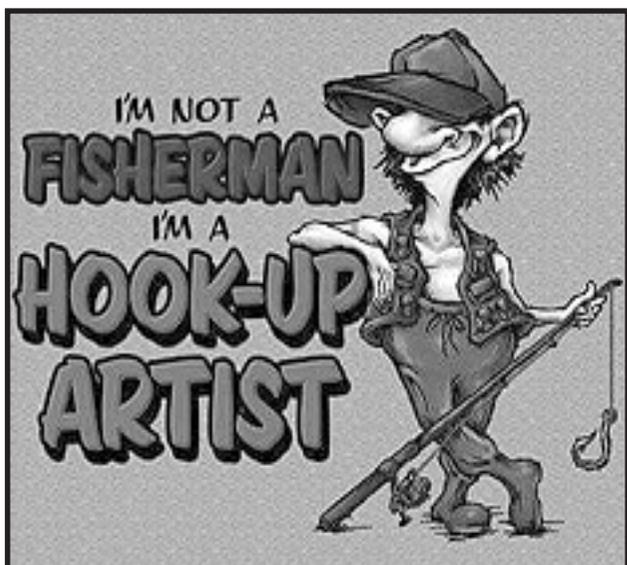
Having read and understood all the tournament rules, by my signature I agree to accept all decisions of the judges final, by my signature I waive, release and hold harmless all members, officials and sponsors of any and all alleged liabilities to me or my equipment.

Contestants Signature _____

Minor's Release: Signed by _____

Parent/Guardian _____

TTB USE ONLY	
Entry # _____	
Entry Fee _____	
Big Bass _____	
Cash _____ Chk# _____	



Game Warden Field Notes (Continued from Page 25)

cupants, from New Mexico, admitted to shooting at feral hogs, but claimed that because they were in New Mexico, the Texas wardens were out of their jurisdiction. Asked how they had determined their location, the individuals pointed to the yellow centerline in the highway, believing that was the state line separating Texas from New Mexico. Charges for hunting on a public roadway, in Texas, and discharging a firearm on a Texas public roadway are pending.

--OMG, LOL, SMH--Harris County game wardens monitoring a development property for illegal hunting activity encountered two individuals emerging from the woods riding a UTV. It was readily apparent to the wardens that the suspects had been hunting, as both carried rifles and blood was visible on their clothes and the utility vehicle. During initial questioning, wardens determined neither suspect had written consent to hunt on the property, and both claimed the blood stains were from a feral hog they had shot earlier. As is common during law enforcement interrogations, the duo was questioned separately to establish consistency in their story. While pressing one of the subjects to clarify the time of day the hog was killed, the individual opened his cell phone to display a

text message string with the other suspect. While thumbing through texts looking for the time of day his buddy had notified him about the kill, he unfortunately scrolled upon a photo of a large 8-point buck his friend had sent at the time he claimed the "hog" had been killed. At that point, both confessed to poaching the deer, and taking it home for processing without tagging or logging it on the shooter's license. The deer head and meat were seized at a nearby home. Multiple citations were issued and civil restitution is pending.

--Just Doin' My Job--A Webb County game warden was investigating a deer carcass that had been dumped on the side of an easement road. During his investigation, he came in contact with a landowner who said he had allowed some unidentified friends to come out onto his property some months prior. The landowner suspected these individuals could have returned to his ranch without his permission and might be responsible for the dumping of the deer carcass, as they had a history of poaching. The landowner refused to provide contact information on these so-called friends of his, and instead told the warden to "go do his job and figure it out." Because of the landowner's suspicious behavior and refusal to cooperate in the investigation, the war-

den now considered him to be a person of interest. While looking deeper into the landowner's hunting activities, the warden discovered that the landowner had illegally harvested a 10-point buck in 2016, as had his mother, as neither possessed a valid hunting license. The warden subsequently seized both deer and issued both the landowner and his mother separate citations for hunting white-tailed deer without a license. Civil restitution on the deer is pending. As the landowner was being issued the citation he exclaimed, "When I told you to do your job, I didn't mean for you to investigate us." The warden then took the time to educate and explain to the landowner that no one is exempt from any game law. The dumped deer carcass is still under investigation.

--CSI Don't Lie--A Red River County game warden received DNA results stemming from a road hunting case during the 2016 deer season. The warden was on a stakeout of a popular road hunting location when he heard a shot fired less than 100 yards from his position. The warden made contact with two subjects, who informed him they had shot a coyote. The warden discovered blood, but no animal was retrieved. He collected blood

(See Game Warden....Continued on Page 28)

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"Get Ready for Spring Cleaning"

By Sue Hampton

For most people, spring cleaning begins as soon as the warmer weather starts to shine through. As dreary winter days transform into clear, warm afternoons you may find you now possess extra energy to do some of the things you've been putting off, like cleaning out a closet or reorganizing the garage.

The kitchen is an area that should not be overlooked during spring cleaning. The refrigerator is a

likely candidate for a little sorting and removing of food items that may no longer be recognizable. Take the opportunity to salvage items that are still able to be transformed into meals, like meat you may have stocked up on for the long haul of winter.

Casseroles are the ideal way to cook up leftovers. A mixture of meats, vegetables or pasta, there is no limit to the kind of casserole you can create with ingredients lurking inside of the fridge.

BEEF STROGANOFF

When preparing this dish ahead of time and refrigerating, reduce cooking time by 15 minutes. The meat will be tender from softening in the stock and the noodles will be very soft. Always add sour cream near the end of baking this casserole to keep the proper consistency and avoid curdling. No-yolk noodles can always be substituted for regular egg noodles to reduce cholesterol.

- 1 – 12 ounce package wide egg noodles
- 1-1/2 to 2 pounds round or sirloin steak cut into 1-inch strips
- 1/2 cup flour, in zip-style bag
- 1 – 16 ounce package mushrooms, rinsed and coarsely chopped
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped onion

- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
 - 1/2 teaspoon dried parsley flakes
 - 1 tablespoon paprika
 - 1 – 13-3/4 ounce can low-sodium, fat-free beef broth
 - 1 – 8 ounce container fat-free sour cream
- Preheat oven to 325 degrees.

Place uncooked noodles in a 2-1/2 quart casserole. Coat strips of steak with flour by putting a few strips at a time in zip-style bag and shaking well. Arrange coated meat on top of noodles.

Arrange chopped mushrooms even over meat. Then sprinkle the onion, nutmeg, parsley and paprika on top of mushrooms.

Pour beef broth over entire dish.

Cover and bake for one hour; stir in sour cream and bake for an additional 15 minutes.



Try out this recipe as a reward after a hard day spent spring cleaning!



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Game Warden Field Notes (Continued from Page 26)

and tissue samples from the scene and submitted them to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's forensic lab for testing. The test results came back positive for white-tailed deer. The cases are pending for hunting deer at night, hunting from a vehicle, and hunting deer with artificial light.

--All in a Day's Work--
During the second weekend of deer season and the opening weekend for duck season, Trinity County game wardens had their hands full. Among nearly two dozen citations issued included game law violations on four illegal bucks, untagged/improperly tagged deer,

and illegal possession of lead shot, no migratory game bird stamp, no hunter education, and possession of drug paraphernalia. Trinity County wardens also located a heavily baited area, an abandoned ATV, and a substantial number of violations in the Davy Crockett National Forest.

--Impulse Purchase--
Whether from a guilty conscience or simply feeling he may have pushed his luck, an East Texas man recently tried to avoid getting busted for hunting deer without a license by purchasing a permit after the fact. When game wardens got wind of a big buck with an impressive 19-

inch antler spread possibly being harvested illegally near Gilmer, they started looking into it. It didn't take long to find the hunter responsible, and wardens learned he harvested the trophy at 7:40 a.m. on Nov. 12. Problem was, according to dispatch, the guy didn't purchase his license until three hours later. When wardens confronted the man later that evening, he confessed to hunting without a license. He was also found in possession of another deer he admitted to taking the previous week. Numerous charges and civil restitution are pending.

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HOUSE OR PET SITTER: Don't put that vacation or trip on hold because you have no one to stay with your pets or no one to watch your home. You can depend on me!! Excellent references upon request. Call 903-216-9901.

FOR SALE: 34' Trailer w/deck on waterfront at Popes Landing Lake Fork. Reduced to \$12,500 - see pictures at East-texas-craigslist.org/rvs/.6716082321.html

24 hour Service Credit Terms Available
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 Quitman, Texas * 407 Stephens
 Right Across From Wood County Jail
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Lake Fork's Lines To Get Hooked On!
"The Fisherman's Guide,
News You Can Use"

Don Hampton
 538 PR 5861 • Yantis, TX., 75497
fishnews@LakeFork.net
www.fishguidenews.com
 903-383-7748 Cell: 903-360-6994

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www.ToliverFord.com

"Wish To Fish

Foundation"

903-383-7748

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



Martins



FISHERMANS INN
2933 West SH 154
Quitman, TX 75783
903-878-2137

Family Owned & Operated
P.O. Box 653

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CABIN RENTALS • RV PARK

Lake Fork Tournament Schedule Mar. thru May



2019



Alexander's Meat Market

903-342-0300

308 E. Coke Rd. Winnsboro, TX

Bev's Fish Creations & Waterfowl Taxidermy

903-473-4529

Replicas ~ \$13 per inch

Ducks ~ \$260

www.fishandwaterfowltaxidermy.com

March

Mar. 9 ~ Texas Trails Bassmasters
Oak Ridge Marina

Mar. 9 ~ Media Teams
Minnow Bucket

Mar. 16 ~ BassChamps Mega Bass
Lake Fork Marina

Mar. 17 ~ JC Outdoors Solo
Minnow Bucket

Mar. 23 ~ JC Outdoors Teams
Minnow Bucket

Mar. 30 ~ Crappie Fest
Lake Fork Trophy Lures



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Buy One pair of eyeglasses
Get 2nd pair 1/2 OFF

Open: Mon. ~ Fri. 9 A.M. - 6 P.M.
Saturday ~ 9 A.M. - 1 P.M.

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Lake Fork Electronics Training Guide
817-797-8762
Email: slade.dougharty.sd@gmail.com

forkfish on the Texas
Fishing Forum

HUMMINBIRD LOWRANCE

Peralta's

MEXICAN RESTAURANT
607 S. Main • Quitman, TX., 903-763-5020
Daily Lunch Specials • Call In Orders Welcome

Open: Mon.-Wed. 11 am - 8:30 pm
Thurs. - Sat. 11 am - 9 pm ~ Sun. 11 am - 8 pm

April

Apr. 13 ~ Media Teams
Minnow Bucket

Apr. 13 ~ Lake Fork Classic
Axton's Bass City

Apr. 14 ~ JC Outdoors Solo
Minnow Bucket

Apr. 24 ~ JC Outdoors Teams
Minnow Bucket

The Legend Of Lake Fork
15th Annual Big Bass Tournament
May 17,18, 19, 2019
Early Enties Before Apr. 30th



Paul Bacon
Physical Therapist

Lake Fork Physical Therapy

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Lake Fork's Lines To Get Hooked On!
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(903) 763-4844

See Your Business Promoted Here!!

Call Don

903-383-7748

May

May 4~ JC Outdoors Teams
Minnow Bucket

May 11 ~ Media Teams
Minnow Bucket

May 17,18,19,~Legend of Lake Fork
Lake Fork Marina

May 26~ JC Outdoors Solo
Minnow Bucket

Having a tournament on Lake Fork Let Us Know...
email; fishnews@lakefork.net
or call: 903-360-6994



Lake Fork Sportsman's ASSOCIATION

Preserving The Legend

Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month beginning at 6:30 pm at Tiffany's Restaurant, Lake Fork Marina

JR SIMPSON

903-850-3324



EMAIL: jr.simpson@century21.com
Office: 800-254-7541 - Fax: 903-763-4487



www.c21lakecountryrealty.com



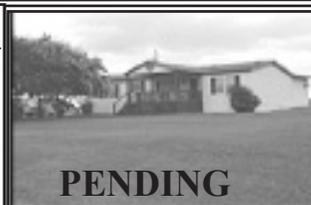
Yantis \$249,900

WHAT A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY! Live on site in this 3 bedroom 2 bath home and let the 4 cabins and rent house pay your bills! Granite counters, engineered hardwood floors, fireplace, 24X32 garage, 12X20 storage building and a 10X12 dog house surrounded by chain link fence, plenty of parking in front of cabins and a nice pond. Property is 2.51 acres with plenty of room to add more cabins. Located just 1 mile from Lake Fork boat ramp.



Quitman \$405,000

126 ACRES + 6 PONDS + MOBILE HOME This rare tract of land features 460 ft of frontage on SH 37 & 1000+ ft of frontage on CR 4165. Property is fenced and has a Livestock Exemption in place! Very good condition single wide mobile home included with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. There are 6 ponds and old oil field activity on property, seller states no oil field activity in recent years. Property has some rolling hills and is gently sloped with a very unique topography for the area.



PENDING

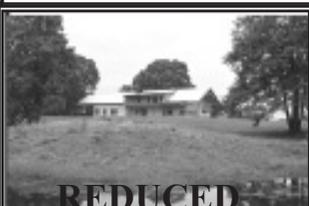
Yantis \$92,000

PERFECT FIRST TIME BUYERS 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 slab for parking or would be great place for a shop building, 8X8 storage shed, 12X16 covered front porch, 8X16 covered rear porch and great country views. New metal roof completed 8/27/2018. Appliances negotiable, bring your best offer as this one is priced to sell.



Quitman \$182,900

LAKE LYDIA WATERFRONT HOME! This recently remodeled home is waterfront on Lake Lydia, a private lake. Property features boat house, guest quarters, 2 car garage with workshop area, hardwood floors, gas fireplace, office & a sun-room. 3 bdms and 1 full bathroom with claw foot bathtub in the main house & an all wood interior guest room with a 3/4 bathroom behind garage. Home sits high on a hill on a large lot with great view of the lake and plenty of privacy! Furnishings Negotiable.



REDUCED
Quitman \$409,000

OPPORTUNITY IS KNOCKING! 51+ ACRES This is an unfinished 5 bedroom home, with 4 bathrooms, 2 living areas and mostly wired. Some Can Lighting is either installed or there ready to be installed. Several high end doors and windows in place too. 600 ft. well, property is mostly fenced with great rolling country views. There is a pond right out your back door with lots of deer and wildlife. This is one of those properties you must see! Make your appointment today!



Yantis \$84,900

LOT #38 AT ROYAL OAKS ESTATES Royal Oaks is a gated community and has its own private boat ramp for the property owners and their guests. All utilities are underground and the streets and gutters are concrete. Waterfront was recently cleared and dredged when the lake was down and has an elevated building site. Lot #38 totals over 3 acres (1.4 acres deeded with 2 acres of leaseback) and 370 feet of shoreline with a view of protected cove.



Quitman \$155,000

3 BEDROOM 3 BATH HOME - 1 OWNER Located walking distance from city services in Quitman. This home has a complete new PVC plumbing system, new carpet, fresh paint inside and out, granite counters, composition roof & new HVAC within last 10 years. Home features 2 living areas, tons of storage, fenced back yard, extra wide paved driveway with boat and RV parking. Home has been meticulously maintained, owned by the original family since day 1 and is move-in ready.



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 upstairs. Building has a garage with receiving area and roll-up door. Call JR for detailed information.

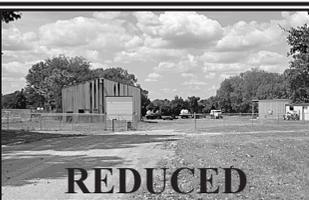
LARGE VACANT LOT IN DOWNTOWN WINNSBORO This 1.117 acres lot is located in downtown Winnsboro right on Main St. Busy road frontage gives serious exposure for most any business. **\$350,000** Call JR for full details!

VACANT LOT IN DOWNTOWN QUITMAN \$37,900 Located in downtown Quitman by the Wood County Court House and Peoples Telephone on Hwy 154. This .1857 acre lot will give great exposure for any business you choose.



Alba \$99,900

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION 1,900+ sqft metal building has recently had a complete new metal exterior, septic, AC and 3 phase electrical. 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 start your business, or maybe store your toys! No zoning or known restrictions.



REDUCED
Winnsboro \$250,000

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!



REDUCED
Alba \$229,000

LAKE FORK WATERFRONT BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY! This 4000+ sqft 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 busy, high traffic side of Lake Fork. The seller states property is unrestricted. This would be perfect place for a marina, bait and tackle shop or your dream business. All Restaurant equipment is included! Call JR for full details.



Yantis \$899,900

TOTAL SECLUSION AND PRIVACY Custom waterfront home sitting on almost 33 acres, hidden in the woods! Property is under wildlife exemption. Home features 3/2/2 carport 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.

LAKE FORK WATERFRONT LOTS & OFF WATER LOTS FROM \$25,000 TO \$84,900

LAKE FORK AREA ACREAGE FROM \$59,900 TO \$405,000

CALL JR FOR FULL DETAILS



\$2,400,000

7,000+ SQFT LIVING AREA, 11,000+ UNDER ROOF, 40+ ACRES, 10,000 SQFT IN SHOP BLDGS, knotty alder cabinets, hand scraped wood and tile floors, cathedral ceilings, full security & surveillance system, gas fireplaces everywhere, indoor endless pool w/treadmill & hot tub, in-home gym, indoor shooting range, cowboy & skeet shooting range, fireproof safe room, saloon room, outdoor kitchen, media room, guest suite over garage. Call JR for full details.

JR SIMPSON

903-850-3324



EMAIL: jr.simpson@century21.com
Office: 800-254-7541 - Fax: 903-763-4487





11th Annual MEGA BASS



2018 Winner -
Garett Hall - 11.38 lbs
Skeeter ZX 200 + \$15,000

\$20,000 CASH GUARANTEED - EVERY HOUR

12 Places per hour
GUARANTEED
regardless of entries
EVERY HOUR

Amateurs Only

Big Bass of the day WINS \$15,000 CASH and a SKEETER ZX 200

- 1st place.....\$15,000
- 2nd place.....\$1,000
- 3rd place.....\$900
- 4th place.....\$800
- 5th place.....\$700
- 6th place.....\$600
- 7th place.....\$500
- 8th place.....\$400
- 9th place.....\$300
- 10th place.....\$250



T-shirt bonus
\$10.00

11th\$200
12th\$200

Even Weight Bonus \$\$
2.50 lb - \$500 - 3.00 lb - \$500
9.00 lb - \$500 - 10.00 lb - \$500
first even weights weighed in



Lake Fork Saturday, March 16, 2019

Lake Fork Marina

Entry Fee: \$200 per person
(Includes \$10 cash/check discount)

Checks NOT accepted on site

On site registration times:

Fri. 3/15: 12-7 PM Sat. 3/16: 5 AM

EARLY REGISTRATION DRAW PRIZES

Entries received before March 10th are eligible to win prizes from: Techron, Berkley, Abu Garcia, Amphibia & More.

For additional info. and rules go to www.basschamps.com or call 817-439-3274

Winners are responsible for taxes, titles, and license fees. Boat pictured may differ from actual prize. Over \$140,000 Cash, Skeeter boat & 12 places every hour are guaranteed regardless of entries.

basschamps.com