



#### Lake Fork Mid-Winter Eagle Count **By Don Hampton**

Mid-Winter Eagle Count was held on Lake Fork on January 11th and 12th.

The weather was not the best with freezing temperatures but 22 courageous souls showed up to brave



the elements to get a count on these majestic birds that live on our lake. (See their expansive wing span and the size of their talons. Photos Fishermans's Guide News by Don *Hampton.*) Although the weather was not favorable, there were 14 bald eagles counted.

The good news is that there were several nesting areas spotted. The locations of these are not disclosed to protect their environment. This projects

great news for the future of eagles on Lake Fork. I have been informed by Sanford Valentine **MWEDS** Coordinator that the Mid-Winter Eagle Count will be funded for the next eight years. So everyone enjoy the sight of Eagles on Lake Fork and join us next year for the annual eagle count. The eagle count on Lake Fork is the second weekend of January each year. Mark that date on your calendars for this event.

fishing tackle innovator and owner of Ann's Tackle Shop which she opened in 1986. Clunn is a member of the Bass Fishing Hall of Fame, Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame and International Game Fish Association Fishing Hall of Fame. He was B.A.S.S. angler of the year in 1988 and is remarkably a four-time Bassmaster Classic Champion.

water Fishing Hall

of Fame announces

class of 2025 — Ann

Jasper, Texas and Rick

Clunn of Ava, Mis-

a two-time bass fish-

ing World Champion,

souri.

"Ann and Rick are two of the greats when it comes to Texas freshwater fishing, but their achievements also resound on national and worldwide

The Texas Fresh- scales," said Kelly Jordon, Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame two inductees to its selection committee chairman. "Ann is a Thomasson-Wilson of two-time world champion, but the impacts she has made on the lives of children and Thomasson-Wilson is those who come into her tackle shop are innumerable. Rick's professional career spans an incredible 50 years with multiple championships and victories. His work with high school bass programs and the inspiration he has given to many anglers and non-anglers alike are immeasur-

**Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame** 

able. Ann and Rick were resoundingly selected to be the 2025 inductees and the Hall of Fame is proud to have them."

Thomasson-Wilson began her career as a professional angler in 1970 and competed in both Lady Bass and Bass'N Gal's events until 1996. She secured world championships in back-to-back years, claiming victory at the 1988 Lady Bass Classic Showcase on the Ouachita River in Louisiana followed by a title at the 1989 (See Pair of Fishing ... Continued on Page 2)



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

February

#### Pair of Fishing Legends to be Inducted into Hall of Fame (Continued from Page 1)

on the Hudson River in New York.

Ann's Tackle Shop in Jasper near Lake Sam Rayburn is a destination stop for anglers to pick up their gear before heading to the water. Thomasson-Wilson was hands on running the daily operations of her tackle shop. She shared her knowledge with her customers and always served as a mentor to those who came through the doors. At the end of 2024, following 39 years in business, she turned the daily running of the shop to her daughter, Debra Pryor, and long- time staff member Laren Bush. They continue to visit and share their knowledge of what's happening on the lake with customers.

Some of the gear and baits in Thomasson-Wilson's shop were in fact also designed by her. She created a brand-new hook design called the G-Lock worm hook #2044, manufactured by Gamakatsu. It comes in seven different sizes: 2, 1, 1/0, 2/0, 3/0, 4/0 and 5/0. She invented the "Plum Apple" color which is available in multiple styles of plastic baits. The color was

available in several brands. In addition, the "Chrome Red" version of the Rat-L-Trap was also created by Thomasson-Wilson and is still available today.

"I was proud and shocked when I learned that I was being inducted into the Hall of Fame," said Thomasson-Wilson. "I'm so excited and never dreamed about being in the Hall of Fame, but it is such an honor to represent my community, my state and all of those who I've had a contact with. Especially all the young folks that are grown now, because I learned from them just like they learned from me."

Her biggest commitment throughout her life and career is to mentor and introduce people to fishing. She was a volunteer for Get Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs fishing tournaments for several years and believes that giving children things to do, like fishing, can make a life changing impact.

"I went fishing ever since I was a young girl and it's so important to introduce young people

Bass'N Gal's Hummingbird Classic Star XIII first manufactured by Gene Larew and is now to fishing," said Thomasson-Wilson. "It was a blessing to get to work with the Get Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs Fishing campaign that we had on Toledo Bend back in the 80's and early 90's. We introduced so many young folks to fishing and gave them an alternative to the things that could lead them astray.

> "I have some of them that come to my tackle shop, and they are grown and have their own kids now," added Thomasson-Wilson. "They say 'Miss Ann, you taught me how to fish and to put bait on a hook and I want to thank you for teaching me.' That has been the biggest blessing to me. Being in the business I was in, that was my livelihood, but it was also being able to teach young people there was a better way, another way to have fun."

> Clunn is one of the greatest professional bass anglers of all time and currently resides in Ava, Mo, but called Texas home for 50 years. Clunn graduated from La Porte High School and attended the University of Texas. He was a com-

> > (See Pair of Fishing...Continued on Page 4)



#### "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" February "Bubba's Valentine Poem For Bubbette"

#### What I did to deserve More than a fresh load Like a skunk goes By Bubba B. Tuff But for this man, okra, Such a purdy, young of Jist a-fry'n in the pan with stank. Collards is green, Yo're fragrant as doe. dirt. My dogs name is Blue, snuff, Some men, they buy And I'm so Lucky Right out of the can. Like a good roll of When you hold me chocalate, To have a sweet thang duct real For Valentines day, They git it at Wallike you. You have some'a tape, tight, Yore teeth, Yo're there fer yore Like a padded gun-Mart, For which I am proud, Yore hair is like rack. It's romantic that way. man, I hold my head high, To patch up lifes trou-My life is complete, Cornsilk, When we're in a Ain't nuttin' I lack. A-Flapping in the bles Some men git roses, On that special day, breeze, crowd. And fix what you can. IT'S Yo're as cute as a TROLL'N Yore complexiton is From the cooler at Softer than Blue's, On special occasions, perfection, And without all them Brookeshires, junebug, fleas. When you shave un-A-buzzing overhead. Like new vinyl sidin'. That's impressive, I Despite all the years, You ain't mean like der say. Yore age, it keeps hi-You move like the yore arms, those bass. Well, I'm in hog heavfar ants, din'. Some men buy fine I found in my bed. Which excite me in en, diamonds, And awed by yore Me' n' you's like a From a flea market May. You ain't got scales, charms. Cut from the best cloth booth moon But I luv you anyway. Still them fellars at Like a plaid flannel Diamonds are forever, pie, With a RC cold drank, They explain, suave work, shirt,

Yo're as satisfy'n as They all want to know, You build up my life,

#### Great Ways To Go "Out of Business"

Think Your Location is Your Best Advertisement; Don't Advertise! Think Everyone Knows the Services You Provide; Don't Advertise! Think Everyone Knows the Merchandise You Carry; Don't Advertise! Think Everyone Knows the Specials You Have Listed; Don't Advertise! Think Everyone Knows When You Have A Sale; Don't Advertise! Think Time at The Same Location Is Your Best Advertisement; Don't Advertise! Think Everyone Knows You Have Trained Staff; Don't Advertise!

#### Don't Advertise When...

You Have So Much Business You Can't Stand Another Paying Customer! You Can't Stand Money or Success! Or: WHEN YOU ARE OUT OF BUSINESS!

#### If You Are Thinking ....

You Would Like To Stay In Business And Need More Customers, Clients, Income, & Exposure; Think About Advertising In

The Fisherman's Guide News~903-383-7748

#### Afterall...

This Got Your Attention & Business Advertising & Promotion Is Tax Deductible! "Where's Your Money Best Spent?"

and Couth.

honey, These won't do. Cause yo're too special, You sweet thang you.

I got you a gift, Without taste nor odor, More useful than diamonds..... А NEW MOTOR!!!!

Valentine's Day !



We go together,

#### "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" Don Hampton, Publisher/Owner

Member Texas Community Newspaper Association

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

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

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

> For news, articles, or advertising rates contact: "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use"

538 Private Road 5861 • Yantis, Tx. 75497 Lake Fork call Don: (903) 383-7748 or Mobile: (903) 360-6994 Fax: (903) 383-7747

e-mail: fishnews@lakefork.net

Website: www.fishguidenews.com

Page 3

#### Page 4

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

February

#### Pair of Fishing Legends to be Inducted into Hall of Fame (Continued from Page 2)

Conroe where he raised his family and built a guide business. The guide business helped launch his career as a professional angler.

the Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame," said Clunn. "I lived in Texas for almost 50 years of my career, and I knew about the Ed Parten's, Jackie Hewlett's, Leonard Ranne's and others that are in the Hall of Fame. These people are amazing to me and to be mentioned with them in the Hall of Fame is incredibly humbling. It takes a tremendous amount of time and effort to be successful, and I have a great family to support me. They are the ones who really have to make sacrifices to allow me the time, energy and resources to go out and achieve something like this. I can't thank them enough for the sacrifices they made."

Clunn has competed in an incredible 500

puter programmer at Exxon in Houston but B.A.S.S events during his 50-year career, and motivate everyone to achieve their ultimately settled in Montgomery on Lake a feat that may never be duplicated. Clunn is a four-time (1976, 1977, 1984 and 1990) Bassmaster Classic Tournament Champion, tied for the most titles with Kevin VanDam. "It's an incredible honor to be inducted into However, Clunn was the first to achieve the fishing programs through seminars and infour-win milestone. Clunn has recorded 16 Bassmaster titles (1974-2019) and competed in 32 Bassmaster Classics. He fished in 28 consecutive classics, a Bassmaster record.

> Clunn was named the 1988 Bassmaster Angler of the Year, won U.S. Open Championships in 1983 and 1986, the 1985 Red Man All-American Championship and a threetime FLW Tour winner. In addition to his 2001 induction into the Bass Fishing Hall of Fame, Clunn was selected to the International Game Fish Association Hall of Fame, Missouri Sports Hall of Fame, National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame and WON Bass Hall of Fame.

Clunn aimed to use his success to inspire

dreams. He sought out ways to teach other anglers the intangible fishing skills that he used during his 50 years as a tournament angler. He worked with high school bass dividual teaching. Some of his students have gone on to compete on the Bassmaster Elite Series.

"One of the most rewarding things now is to see all of these young anglers not only getting into fishing, but getting acquainted with nature," said Clunn. "All of a sudden, the high school kids started competing in high school fishing tournaments and then college fishing tournaments. It was so rewarding to watch because fishing in my mind is one of the last remaining vehicles to keep humanity connected in this country, to the outdoors and to nature. It's encouraging to see more young people fishing now than I have ever

(Continued on Next Page)



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

Page 5

#### seen before."

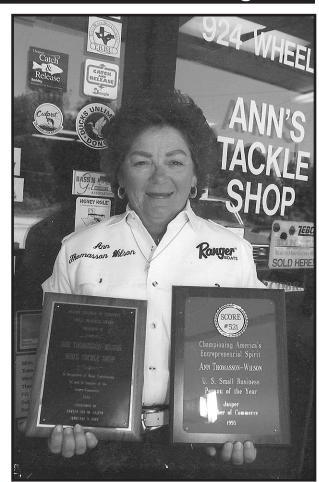
Shortly after his Bassmaster Classic victory in 1976, Clunn began to refine and expand the concept of seasonal pattern fishing that Roland Martin first began to explore. The concept recognizes that bass relate to specific areas of a waterbody depending on the season. The movements are driven by the presence of food and ideal prevailing environmental conditions. The patterns Clunn refined revolved around dividing a lake into specific areas where the bass would be during a given season, thus eliminating the other areas of a fishery that were unproductive.

"The induction into this Hall of Fame means probably more to me than the others, which will surprise some people," said Clunn. "The reason is because I worked with a lot of those people and from day one observed the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the work they were doing. I was in the Texas Association of Bass Clubs, and we were constantly partnering with TPWD on different things. Over time I came to realize how special TPWD really was because of their creativity and willingness to really try to make things better for those who enjoy the outdoors."

The Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame is located at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens. Its mission is to "recognize and honor those who have made a lasting contribution to freshwater fishing in Texas, and to foster a sense of appreciation, awareness and participation in the sport of fishing."

Since 1997, the Hall of Fame has inducted 39 individuals and organizations, including "Pond Boss" Bob Lusk in 2024. Thomasson-Wilson and Clunn will be inducted as the 40th and 41st members during a ceremony at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in October.

Nomination are accepted year round, forms and instructions are available online or by calling (903) 676-2277.



# PATRIOT RV PARK ON LAKE FORK

## MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY!

\* Easy In & Out Deep Water Access Boat Ramp \* 3 Boat Ramps \* Fishing Pier \* Boat Storage \*Tent Camping \*Wi-Fi & Internet TV for Motel, Cottage & Bunkhouse

\*Daily, Weekly & Monthly Long-Term RV Sites Available

## Section 365.3334 Section 36.3334

⊠ lakefork@patriotrvparks.com

patriotrvparks.com

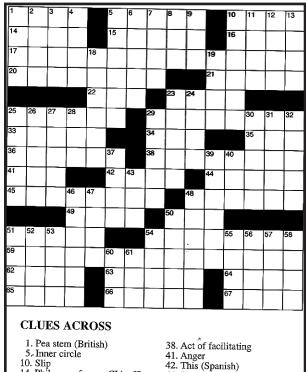
845 CR 1987 Yantis TX 75497

#### "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" Page 6 "February is Pre-Spawn on Lake Fork!"

#### **By Whitt Smith**

February on Lake Fork brings on the Pre-Spawn! This is a good time to target big, egg laden female bass. These bass will be at their largest weight and best looks of the year.

Largemouth bass will be working their way toward and to staging areas and cover, closer to their eventual spawning coves and flats. Pre-Spawn bass will stage on main lake



- 10. Slip 14. Phil
- , former CIA officer
- 14. Finit \_\_\_\_, former CIA off
  15. Winged
  16. Knitting stitch
  17. College-football favorites
  20. Most bloodless

- 21. Heron genus
- 22. Predict
- 23. Concern 25. Blare
- 29. Being airborne
- 33. Nocturnal lemur
- 34. Cause to end
- New location (abbr.) 36. Bobs up

#### CLUES DOWN

<ol> <li>Door catch</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Ancient Celtic tribe</li> </ol>		
2. Water (Spanish)	31. Present occasion		
3. Limbs	32. Barriers		
4. Core	37. Dried-up		
5. Business	39. Triumphal		
6. " Lady," Cather novel	40. Take to the limit		
(two words)			
7. Vascular tissue	43. Body of water		
8. Consumed	<ul> <li>46. Insistence on traditional</li> </ul>		
	rectness		
9. Fifth sign of the zodiac	47. Asian nation		
10. Scanter	48. " & Hooch," 1989		
<ol> <li>Scandinavian city</li> </ol>	50. Appendage, pincer		
12. Strong impulse	51. Despot		
13. Ancient Greek city	52. French river		
18. Carbohydrate	53. South American Indian		
19. Raw	54. Blemish		
<ol><li>Hip joints</li></ol>	55. Prosperity		
24. Bird class	56 500, car race		
25voyant	57. Interpret		
26. Peter, actor	58. Wading bird		
27. Ram	60. Runs PCs		
28. Wrong			
29. Small amounts (Scottish)	61. Indicates near		
Answers on Page 21			
THIS WEIS U	n 1 uge 41		

44. Pierce 45. Takes a breath 48. Cabs 49. Fertilizer 50. Gash 51. Samurai clan 54. Continually nagging 59. Bowl games 62. Basics 63. Polish city

- 64. Hebrew calendar month

- 65. Enlarge a hole 66. Indian instrument
- Redgrave, actress
- 43. Body of water46. Insistence on traditional cor-48. "\_\_\_\_ & Hooch," 1989 film 50. Appendage, pincer

My,

Oh My,

The

Pie!!

points, secondary points, suspend in or next to standing timber back in spawning coves and creeks, drains and ditches leading to the spawning flats.

For the month of February, moving lures are the main ones I employ. These Pre-Spawn bass will be feeding up and often will be in schools of 2-3 bass. So, if you catch one, thoroughly fish the spot/ area.

To target suspended bass in and around timber, glide baits, jerk baits and crank baits are good at getting bites from these bass. Some days the larger bass react more to the glide baits and some days the jerkbait and crank bait. I use 20-25 lb. Seaguar InvizX fluorocarbon on glide baits, 12-15 lb. InvizX on jerkbaits and 15-20 InvizX on crankbaits.

Around shallow timber 2-8 feet, a single or double Colorado blade spinnerbait slow rolled can elicit strikes from big Pre-Spawners. An orange blade on the spinnerbait is all the better. Add a bulky soft plastic trailer and hold on. I use 17-20 lb. InvizX line on spin-



nerbaits.

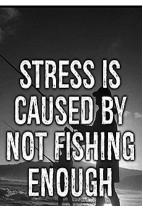
Around vegetation, a bladed jig and/ or a red lipless crank bait are hard to beat and are great ways to cover water quickly. I use the same line as on spinnerbaits. I like a heavy action fiberglass or fiberglass composite rod for bladed jigs to give the bass a chance to get the lure and keep me from taking it away from them upon strike. Let the rod load on bladed jig bite, keep reeling and then sweep hard to the side. Our landing ratio is almost

<u>amie's Restaurant</u> (Formerly Moser's Restaurant) 271 CR 1558 \* Alba, TX., 903-765-2087 Located at Lake Fork Marina New Owner \* New Attitude **Great Service \* Great Food Breakfast Served Until** 11A.M. Daily Salad Bar **Daily Lunch Specials** Large Menu Selection Sandwiches \* Burgers Fish \* Steaks & Much More!! Open Mon. ~ Sat. 5 A.M. ~ 9 P.M. Sunday 5 A.M. ~ 2 P.M.

100%, if this is executed correctly on bladed jig.

For deeper staging bass on secondary points, shell beds and drop-offs, a Carolina Rig and Football jig will catch some big Pre-Spawn Bass.

My Simms Pro-Dry Insulated Jacket and bibs keep me warm and dry while fishing for these Pre-Spawn Giants. Good luck and stay safe out there.



February

#### "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" February Page 7 Toyota ShareLunker Partners with AFTCO on New 'Guide of the Year' Award

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) and the Toyota ShareLunker Program are partnering with AFTCO on a new promotion to recognize a fishing guide who contributes to conservation and enhancement of largemouth the Year Award, the guide's clients that catch bass in Texas.

The AFTCO Guide of the Year award is open during the entire ShareLunker season. The winning guide will be announced on Toyota ShareLunker social media channels by the following April. The winner of the AFTCO Guide of the Year award will receive \$500 worth of AFTCO gear of their choice, a \$500 cash prize and be recognized at the Toyota ShareLunker VIP banquet in the fall.

"With a chance to win \$500 worth of AFTCO gear of their choosing and \$500 cash prize, this promotion underscores the importance of conservation, and the invaluable role that guides can play in preserving Texas's bass populations," said Natalie Goldstrohm, Toyota ShareLunker program coordinator. "Fishing guides can play a pivotal role in the Toyota ShareLunker Program's

mission to engage the public in the promotion better understand bass populations and evaluate and enhancement of Lunker bass fishing in Texas public waters."

a ShareLunker-sized bass (a largemouth bass weighing eight pounds or measuring more or 24 inches or longer) on a guided trip must enter their catch into the ShareLunker database or website in accordance with program rules. The client must indicate their fish was caught during a guided trip and include their guide's name. The client must submit their ShareLunker data and are encouraged to submit a DNA sample to the Toyota ShareLunker Program for their guide to be A review committee will use a scoring rubric to considered.

"The number of ShareLunker sized bass that guides encounter is considerable," added Goldstrohm. "By having clients reporting these catches and providing the much-needed DNA samples, TPWD biologists can better manage Lunker populations,

Lone Star bass stockings."

The guide must have held at the time of catch To be considered for the AFTCO Guide of a valid fishing license (unless exempt), a valid fishing guide license in Texas and not have any current or pending fish and wildlife violations. All guides mentioned during ShareLunker catch submissions will be considered for the AFTCO Texas Bass Guide of the year. All eligible guides will be contacted in January 2026 to fill out the application form that highlights their accomplishments and contributions to bass conservation. Application forms should be completed by guides by Feb. 28, 2026.

evaluate guides based on the established criteria.

AFTCO, a partner with the Toyota ShareLunker program, is committed to conservation and the preservation of fishing resources. Freshwater conservation efforts at the local level are focused

(See Toyota ShareLunker..... Continued on Page 9)



#### Page 8

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

## Lake Fork's Largest & Finest

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



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

## 5 miles N of Alba on Hwy.17



## *Ce, News You Can Use" February Transition Time*

By Terri Moon

Wow! It's February!

That means it won't be long till those crappie start moving up the creeks starting their transition to springtime patterns. I can hardly wait!!

In the meantime, water temperatures are running from the mid 40's to low 50's. The majority of the baitfish are still hanging in those 35 to 50 ft. depths. Keep checking those main lake points, deep water humps, and creek channel timber. But as the water temperatures start to rise to the mid to upper 50's, it's time to start checking secondary points. Be sure and keep an eye on the graph - especially around the new and full moon because that's when the crappie tend to be shallower.

Our lake level took a huge jump with crazy rains this past week with more rain in the future, so we're almost to full pool. As fast as the lake rose, be careful out there and watch for floating debris, and for stumps that are now "PROP-HIGH."

Thinking back on past February's I've realized some of our largest crappie have been caught during this month. Generally I've found the biggest crappie are the first to transition shallower – so mid February can be quite exciting! (weather permitting)

The water tempera-ture will be the key factor to when these transitions take place. Meanwhile keep checking those deeper spots



till the water temperatures start to rise between 55 and 60 degrees, and work your way shallower. The crappie are suspending in those 25 to 35 ft. depths in 30 to 50 ft. of water, (but this is subject to change daily!) Just keep looking for the baitfish, and warmer water.

Remember that the colors of baits producing can change daily, so have a good assortment of colors available to try out. Also be sure and have different weights of jig heads on hand.

So, if it's too cold to fish, stop by Lake Fork Marina and stock up. They've got all your fishing needs and more! They have a great assortment of Skipper Jigs, Bonehead baits and jig heads, and Limits Tackle, along with a great assortment of the latest crappie rods.

Just a quick reminder – the 10 inch minimum goes back in effect March 1st! I know we are all hoping for some consistent stable weather for a change! – No more snow and ice please! I'm sure looking forward to the upcoming year and for those of you wanting to book a trip, my number is 903-335-0941. Leave a message and I'll get back to you as soon as I can. My best to you all and stay safe out there!

If you would like THE FISTERMAN'S CUIDE MEWS Delivered to you, a friend, or relative's home for 1 year (12 Issues) For Only \$35, Send check or Money Order Name & Address to:

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

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

#### Page 9

#### Toyota ShareLunker Partners with AFTCO on New 'Guide of the Year' Award (Continued from Page 7)

on the support of state agencies and regional projects through their bass fishing conservation grant programs. At the national level, AFTCO supports the placement of artificial and natural fish habitats, lake cleanups, the **Bass Bus Live Release** Boat and their Fish Care 101 education content. Additional information on AFTCO's conservation initiatives can be found on their conservation website.

"We have had a great relationship with TPWD to this point and look forward to expanding our relationship with them in 2025 and beyond," said Casey Shedd, President AFTCO. "Conservation is a core principle of AFTCO and it's great to build on that with a great partner like TPWD."

During the first three months of the season (Jan. 1 — March 31), anglers who reel in a 13-plus pound bass can loan it to TPWD for the ShareLunker selective breeding and stocking program. These anglers can call the ShareLunker hotline at (903) 681-0550 to report their catch 24/7 through March 31, 2025.

Anglers that catch and loan a 13-plus pound lunker earn Legacy Class status, receive a catch kit filled with merchandise, a 13lb+ Legacy

decal for their vehicle or boat, VIP access to the Shops Lunker Class (8 lb.+), Strike King Elite Toyota ShareLunker Annual Awards event, a high-quality replica mount of their fish from Lake Fork Taxidermy, ShareLunker branded apparel enter the catch data on the Toyota ShareLunker provided by AFTCO, and Bass University will provide a swag pack and annual subscription. These anglers also receive entries into two separate drawings – a Legacy Class Drawing and the year-end Grand Prize Drawing. Both drawings will award the winner a \$5,000 Bass Pro Shops shopping spree.

The year-round Toyota ShareLunker program offers anglers three additional levels of participation for catching bass over eight pounds or 24 inches in Texas public waters. Each of these levels provide vital data to TPWD fisheries biologists, helping them to continue to create bigger, better bass in Texas.

Anglers who enter data for any lunker they catch greater than eight pounds or 24 inches also receive a catch kit, a decal for their vehicle or boat, a one-month subscription to Bass University and an entry into the year-end Grand Prize Drawing to win a \$5,000 Bass Pro Shops shopping spree. ShareLunker entry classes include the Bass Pro

Class (10 lb.+) and Lew's Legend Class (13 lb.+). Once a lunker is reeled in, anglers need to mobile app – available for free from the Apple App Store and Google Play – or on the Toyota ShareLunker online app at TexasSharelunker. com.

In addition to providing basic catch information, anglers have the option to send a DNA scale sample from their lunker bass to TPWD researchers for genetic analysis. Anglers who contribute a sample to the program will receive a Lew's baitcast reel valued at up to \$200 while supplies last, with a limit of one reel per angler. Anglers who send in a genetic sample will also get a three-month subscription to Bass University. Instructions for submitting DNA samples are located on the Toyota ShareLunker website.

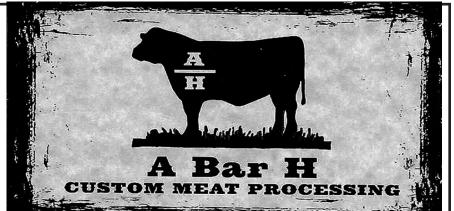
The Toyota ShareLunker Program is made possible in part by the generous sponsorship of Toyota. Toyota is a longtime supporter of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation and TPWD, providing major funding for a wide variety of fisheries, state parks and wildlife projects.



At Our Location Between Brookshires & McDonald's

Custom Smoking For The Holidays Deer Processing (Seasonal) Now Making Summer Sausage, Beef Sticks, and Smoked Sausage • E.E. Wilson Syrup • Honey • Ribbon Cane • Sorgham • Moonshine Syrup

A Fresh Selection Just For You!



**Dispatch \* Skin \* Quarter On Your Property.** Hang, Process, & Package At Alexander Meat Market. **For Pricing Information** Call: Donnie 903-975-5849 or Caden 903-975-5890 903-342-0300

#### Page 10 "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" February Their First Bird City **Texas Certifies Five** New **High-Flyer** Cities &

Galveston has become its first High-flyer. life and people thrive in their communities.

Certified cities have displayed leadership as bird-friendly communities by excelling year and the involvement of the University in three key categories: community engage-

Audubon Texas and Texas Parks and Wild- ment, habitat enhancement and creating saflife Department (TPWD) are excited to er spaces for birds. Local governments and announce College Station, Denton, Ker- nonprofit partners in these cities have implerville, San Marcos and Wimberley have mented innovative strategies to enhance their joined the Bird City Texas flock, while natural spaces and support bird populations: \* College Station: Excelled at removing This three-year certification program, a part- invasive species and planting native flonership between Audubon Texas and TPWD, ra and fauna across communities with the recognizes cities' efforts to ensure birds, wild- most need for trees and natural resources. \* Denton: Commended for its outreach programs reaching thousands of people each of North Texas Bird Campus Committee.

\* Kerrville: With its

location in the Texas

Hill Country, local

leaders have educated

the public about natu-

ral resource protection

and expanded bird

amenities to the public.

tion of riparian habitats, avian expertise in the area, expansive partnerships to protect green spaces in this ever-growing community. \* Wimberley: A champion of communitydriven conservation, Wimberley has prioritized dark-sky initiatives and native plant restoration to support local and migratory birds. Bird City Texas is also proud to announce Galveston as the first community to achieve the program's High-Flyer status, a distinguished designation that recognizes a community's deep continued commitment to bird and habitat conservation efforts by achieving over 27 actions related to habitat, threats, and education. Galveston first achieved Bird City Texas status in January 2021, making 2025 their fifth year in the program. "Our Galveston team is so proud of the work our community is doing," said the Galveston (See Bird City Texas Certifies.....

\* San Marcos: Recognized for its conserva-

Continued on Page 12)



**Free Estimates** Tim Lambert @ 214-395-1100 email: tim.lambert63@verizon.net

**TK ROOFING REPAIR & COATING SYSTEMS** 

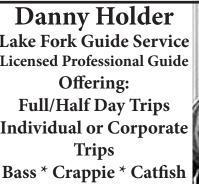
22 Years in Business

Located in Yantis, Texas

All Commercial Roofing Systems

**All Roof Coatings** 

**Residential Repair Services** 



903-638-3913



Guys & Dolls A Salon For The Whole Family!

Hair Salon Downtown Alba \* WIFI available 129 S. Broadway \* 903-765-2420 ~Stylist ~ \* Rebecca \* Amber \* Samantha

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

Page 11



Issac from Dallas, TX., was fishing Lake Fork Roger Belk Mr. GoFish himself was fishwith guide Whitt Smith when he caught his personal best. Weight not provided. C.P.R.



ing Lake Fork when he caught this nice bass. Weight not provided. C.P.R.



Theron Ayala from Pearland, TX., was fishing Lake Fork with guide Whitt Smith and caught this nice bass.Weight not provided. C.P.R.



PLEASE FEEL FREE TO STAND IN FRONT OF THEM!!

discounted price, in the unlikely event that a product fails or needs repair.



# Page 12"The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use"FebruaryBird City Texas Certifies Five New Cities & Their First High-Flyer (Continued from Page 10)

Collaborative Team. "From one end of the island to the other, organizations, individuals and businesses are contributing to this ongoing effort to make Galveston more bird friendly. We look forward to continuing this collaborative work and are grateful for the Bird City Texas program as it provides the framework to make good things happen for birds!"

Since the Bird City Texas program began in 2018, ten other cities have been certified. By achieving Bird City and High-Flyer status, these 15 certified cities participate in the community-focused program to protect birds and their habitats where people live, work and recreate. To do this, cities employ sciencebased bird initiatives and community-centric action. Bird City Texas communities are able to leverage this designation to attract 2.2 million bird watchers in Texas, a major component of the \$1.8 billion economic impact from Texas wildlife viewing across the state.

"Where birds thrive, people prosper," said Chloe Crumley, Audubon Texas engagement manager. "Human-dominated landscapes can support functioning ecosystems. Bird City Texas is an opportunity for communities to commit to standards that elevate urban areas to be ecologically richer and in turn offer us more beautiful, resilient and healthful places to live. We are excited to see more cities across Texas commit to this program."

"As development continues across the state, reducing viable habitat for our resident and migratory birds, cities that engage their community to maintain or create habitat are crucial for our dwindling bird populations," said Judit Green, TPWD urban wildlife biologist. "We need everyone's help! We all have the ability to make a difference in our homes, schools, businesses and public city spaces by adding native plants and following environmentally friendly practices that support safe, healthy areas for birds and us."

As spring approaches, certified communities will host a variety of events across the state in support of breeding birds migrating back to northern nesting territories as well as World Migratory Bird Day on May 10. Interested participants are encouraged to visit

support functioning ecosystems. Bird City the websites of certified cities, Audubon Tex-Texas is an opportunity for communities to as and TPWD for opportunities to celebrate commit to standards that elevate urban arand learn more about how to support birds.

Communities across the state are encouraged to apply to the Bird City Texas program in service of building a network of birdfriendly cities that protect birds and enrich the lives of all Texans. Applications will open soon and must be completed by June 1st. For more information about the Bird City Texas program, visit https://birdcity.org/texas. About Texas Parks and Wildlife Department TPWD manages and conserves the natural and cultural resources of Texas and provides hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. Connect with us: tpwd.texas.gov/socialmedia About Audubon Texas Audubon Texas is the state office of the National Audubon Society. The National Audubon Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit conservation orga-

(See Bird City Texas Certifies.....



"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 <u>NO COST1</u> 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

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

Page 13



#### Page 14 "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" February Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission Awards \$30.9 Million in Local Park Grants

sion approved more than \$30.9 million in local park grants, a new record, to help create and enhance outdoor recreational opportunities. The competitive grants are allocated to local government entities on a 50/50 reimbursement match basis. Once funded, the sites must remain parkland in perpetuity, properly maintained and open to the public. Fifty community parks statewide will gain nature trails, native landscaping, playgrounds, splash pads, sports fields, kayak launches, piers and other park amenities. The commission, which administers the local park grants program for Texas, awarded grants to projects in various categories based on community population and scope. \* Urban Outdoor Recreation Grants are reserved for local units of government with populations of more than 500,000. Three communities received this grant. \* Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grants fund park projects in municipalities under 500,000. The commission approved awards to projects in 21 communities. \* Small Community Recreation Grants serve towns of less than 20.000 and were awarded to 16 communities.

program, visit the TPWD local park grants page. The grant awards are listed alphabetically below by region: Central Texas

The City of Boerne Parks and Recreation Department received a \$750,000 non-urban outdoor grant for development at Northside Community Park. The project elements include a splash pad, inclusive playground, rainwater harvesting tank, native landscaping and interpretive signage.

The City of Brownwood in Brown County received a \$1.5 million non-urban indoor grant for renovations at the Bennie Houston Recreation Center.

The City of Buda in Hays County received a \$750,000 non-urban outdoor grant for phase one development at Garison Park. The project includes water access points, installation of a swimming hole, a kayak/canoe launch with a washing station, bird blind and canopy walk, an overlook with elevated views, a nature play area and site amenities.

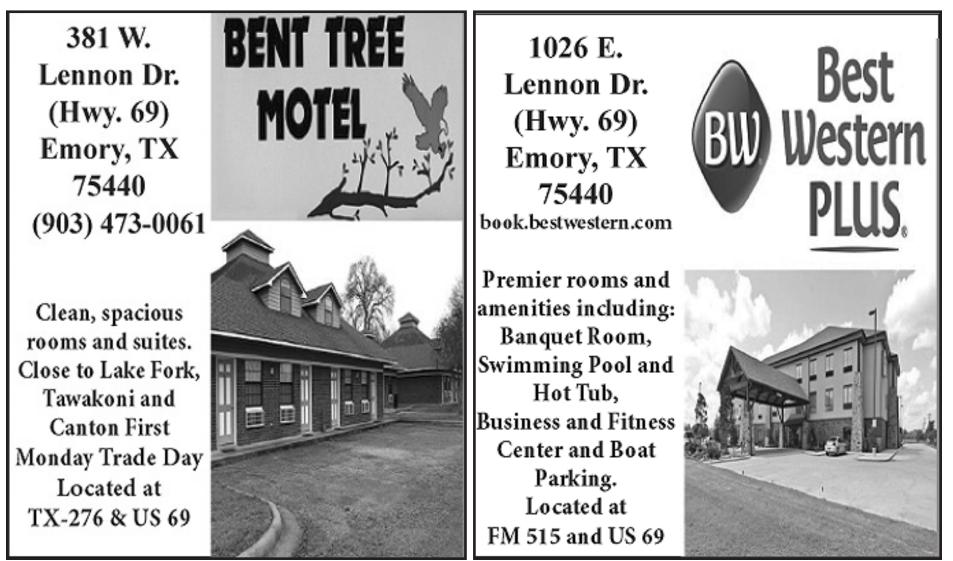
The City of Jonestown in Travis County received a \$140,000 small community grant for

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commis- For more information about the local park grants renovations at Jones Brothers Park. The project includes the replacement of an existing playground and fencing along with the addition of shade. The City of Killeen in Bell County received a \$12,500 non-urban outdoor grant for the development of pickleball courts and an accessible path at Long Branch Park.

The City of Lockhart in Caldwell County received a \$750,000 non-urban outdoor grant for the Lockhart Aquatics Facility. The project elements include a leisure pool with a water table, zero depth entry, small bucket dump, program space, volleyball net and basketball goals. The City of Rogers in Bell County received a \$150,000 small community grant for improvements at Jonathan Allison Park. The project includes a trail, inclusive playground equipment and shade. East Texas

The City of Angleton in Brazoria County received a \$881,415 non-urban indoor grant for renovations at the Angleton Recreation Center. Angleton also received a \$750,00 non-urban outdoor grant for development at Abigail Arias Park.

(See Texas Parks and Wildlife...Continued on Page 17)



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

Page 15

#### Drought, Warm **Temperatures** Severe **Affect Rainbow Trout Stocking in South Texas**

Unusually high water trout in more suitable 14 while Palmetto temperatures in Texas waterbodies located State Park's Artesian have prompted Texas within Flour Bluff Pond will receive 750 Parks and Wildlife and north. Department (TPWD) to redirect rainbow drought conditions ernmost water bodies of the area's longestthis year.

temperatures rendered these water-

In addition, ongoing Feb. 4. trout stockings away have rendered Lake and locations are from Texas's south- Corpus Christi, one subject to change due standing trout stock- or other unforeseen The warmer water ing sites, unsuitable circumstances. have for stocking this year. The trout originally bodies lass suitable destined for Lake ing Schedule online for rainbow trout Corpus Christi will be before going fishing survival, so TPWD's redistributed to oth-Inland Fisheries Di- er nearby locations. ing date, check fishvision Corpus Christi Lakeview Park Pond District, which man- in Corpus Christi and ages fisheries from Waldron Park Pond Guadalupe County to in Flour Bluff will the Rio Grande Val- each received 1,000 ley, is stocking the Rainbow Trout Jan.

Rainbow Trout on

Trout stocking dates to inclement weather Be sure to check the 2024-25 Trout Stockto confirm the stocking regulations and to find other winter trout stocking program angling tips.

Practice C.P.R.





2949 W. HIGHWAY 154 - QUITMAN TX 75783 - (903) 878-2529 - www.oakridgemarina.com



#### "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" Page 17 February

### Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission Awards \$30.9 Million (Continued from Page 14)

The project elements include a splash pad, trails, inclusive playground, native landscaping and irrigation. Brazoria County received a \$208,218 non-urban outdoor grant for renovations and rehabilitation of Buffalo Camp County Park in Lake Jackson. The project elements include the new development of a pavilion with electric utilities and native landscaping. Renovations include the parking lot expansion, trail improvements, concrete pads for existing site amenities, gazebo improvements, repairing foot bridges, observation deck improvements, pond excavation, replacement of basketball goals and inclusive playground equipment. The City of Carthage in Panola County received a nonurbanoutdoorgrantfordevelopmentatTurnerPark.The project elements include playground equipment, lighted pavilion, native landscaping, site amenities and trails.

The City of Center in Shelby County received a \$250,000 non-urban outdoor grant for American Legion Park. The project elements include a lighted plaza, pickleball courts, yard games, trails, native landscaping, shade installation, site amenities and program and interpretive signage. The City of Coldspring in San Jacinto County received a \$150,000 small community grant Park in Humble. Project elements include playfor City Park. The project includes trails, playground, native landscaping and lighting. The City of College Station in Brazos County received a \$750,000 non-urban outdoor grant for Independence Park. The project elements include a bike trail, asphalt pump track, bike stills area, dual elevated hub, wall rides and surface flow trails. The City of Columbus in Colorado County received a \$150,000 small community grant for a development project at Midtown Park. The project includes a new splash pad, accessible paths and site amenities.

The City of Galveston in Galveston County received a \$375,000 non-urban outdoor grant renovations and development at Jones Park. The project includes demolition, trails, site amenities, shade installation, bioswales, permeable basketball court, signage, native landscaping and irrigation. Harris County received a \$468,724 urban outdoor grant for enhancements to the John Paul Landing Environmental Education Center located in Cypress. Harris County Precinct #3 received a \$763,406 urban outdoor grant for enhancements at Edgewater

ground equipment, native landscaping, site amenities, a restroom, parking, access drive and trails.

The City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department in Harris County received a \$2 million urban indoor grant for improvements to the Mason Park Community Center. TheCityofLaPorteinHarrisCountyreceiveda\$177,513 non-urban outdoor grant for the Little Cedar Bayou Bridges Project. The project elements include a bird observation pier and pedestrian bridge improvements. The City of Mount Vernon in Franklin County received a \$325,000 non-urban outdoor grant for renovations and development at Little Creek Park.

The project elements include a playground, resurfacing and restriping of sports courts, shade installation, site amenities, native landscaping and signage.

The City of Pineland in Sabine County received a \$50,000 small community grant for sustainable and accessible improvements at Pineland Park. The project includes playground equipment and surfacing, lighting and interpretive signage. Reno-(See Texas Parks and Wildlife...Continued on Page 20)



**"WE ARE THE BEST!!"** 

**Abundant Wildlife For Scenic Pleasure** 



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

"Each office independently owned and Operated"





Serving this Area over 25 Years" CENTURY21LAKECOUNTRYREALTY.COM Brokers ~ Roger Stroman 903-850-7215 Judy Stroman 903-850-5082 c21LCR@peoplescom.net



Your dream home in Spring Creek minutes to Lakes Fork and Tawakoni. Generous 1982 sq. ft. living. Inside is tall ceilings, open concept, modern designs, top kitchen appliances, stylish counters & cabinets. Private retreat Master with luxury ensuite bath and closets. Well-sized two bedrooms with Jack and Jill bath. Covered screened-in porch and hot tub for relaxing. The 2.1 acre lot is adorned with large, mature trees plus a wet-weather creek meanders along the back. Beautifully landscaped. Attached two-car garage and storage shed. Country living with convenience of town. \$499,000

RECUCED



WANT A SLICE OF EAST TEXAS HEAVEN? Spacious 2400 sq. ft. living area, 3 Bedroom, 3 Bath with views from every room overlooking 51.8 acres. Enjoy nature in this private, peaceful retreat. Be it horseback, hiking, or just soaking in the beauty, this property offers endless opportunities for outdoor recreation. Additionally there is an extra large 2-car garage and a triple garage and workshop with half bath. Call for an appointment today. \$697,000



One of the area's finest, 4 BR, 3 Bath home on 23 acres. Beautiful curb appeal through piped entry to luxurious 2682 sq. ft. metal home built in 2019. Spacious split Primary BR ensuite with walk in closets, separate walkin shower, tub, exterior doors to side porch, sitting area plus shower. Endless options upstairs for playroom, office, workout. Convenient full bath at formal entry. Opposite side had 3 BRs and 1 Bath. Outside is back porch, 2-carport, 70x80 shop, (30x60 enclosed). The shop has a Bathroom, washer/dryer and refrigerator/freezer hookup. On left is a covered RV spot, full hookup and septic system. \$929,000 EXPLORE THIS LAKE FORK WATERFRONT outdoor retreat down the driveway to a stunning rock home with 2795 sq. ft. on 1.284 wooded acres. Attributes include large living area, vaulted ceiling, hardwood throughout, floor to ceiling windows with great backyard wooded view. Kitchen is designed to entertain and to continue on to the outside with grilling area and large smoker. Edge of property is waterfront with view of legendary Lake Fork. Main floor has Primary bedroom and bath with enclosed porch. Second floor has two bedrooms, bath and large area for office or family room. Gorgeous 3 BR, 2 1/2 BATH, 4 car garage. \$865,000.



BEAUTIFUL, HARD TO FIND ACREAGE in Rains County! This 44 acre property is south of Emory. It features a nice mix of open pastures, woodlands with large, mature trees, 3 small ponds, and has road frontage across front and back. There is a 40x50 metal barndominium, built in 2018, plus an 800 sf 1 BR, 1 bath apartment and 1200 sf. garage workshop. Amazing hunting property. Reduced \$699,000



This is your chance to own that small acreage plot you have been wanting. Sitting on 3.4 acres in the woods, this 1330 sq. ft. home sits just off a County Road. Open concept: kitchen, island work station, living/dining area, eat-at bar. Main bedroom is roomy with its own bath and walkin closet. A sizable utility closet sits off main bedroom. Two split bedrooms are at other end along with second bath/shower. This is exactly what so many are looking for: wooded acreage, privacy and at a reasonable price. Home, listed as personal property, can easily be converted to real property. \$179,000 Quitman, 306 S. Main, 903-763-2216

Alba, 5200 FM 515 903-474-2031

Emory, 866 E. Lennon 903-473-1222



Country home on 1.55 acres. 1367 sq. ft. with 2 bedroom, 2 bath, carport, enclosed porch on the backwood burning stove, wood floors, newer central air and heat, metal roof. Also includes 1500 sq. ft. metal storagebuilding with 2 overheard doors. Small metal guest house 1 bedroom, 1 bath, carport. Also a 2-car carport and small storage building. Some furniture and tools available. Been well-maintained through the years. \$249,000



NATURE'S TREASURE, GORGEOUS WOODS. 7.65 acres with approx. 3 acre lake. Stunning home designed by owner/architect. 1440 sq. ft. barn/shop with 3 overhead doors, corral, small storage bldg. Must see this one of a kind 1 bedroom, 1 bath 1828 sq. ft. home, Exposed beams and rafters add to the unique rustic ambiance, towering ceilings, WB fireplace, natural plank floors. Updated kitchen, Corian counters, top of the line oven, range, push button rising downdraft. Dining, porch, deck, living and bedroom with views of woods and large lake. 448 sq. ft. guest quarters with kitchen, bedroom and bath. Plus first option on adjacent 3.58 acres. \$415,000



Brick home on 25.54 fenced acres, 3 ponds for livestock, solar panel powers carport-garage 19x20 carport, 14x24 storage shed, 9x14 shed, 24x44 pole barn and 37x44 metal carport for tractors and mowers. Home is 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths beautiful woodwork, tile flooring, built-in cabinets, wood burning fireplace, updated kitchen, dining area, center island. Downstairs is 2 bedrooms with baths, and 1 bedroom with built-in desk for possible office. Plenty of room upstairs with 18x24 bedroom and 10x24 extra room. Long hallway with storage closets, Wrap around porch \$599,000

#### Page 19

### Page 20

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

## Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission Awards \$30.9 Million (Continued from Page 17)

vations include resurfacing existing sports courts. The City of Troup in Smith County received a \$92,000 small community grant for Patriot Park. The project elements include playground equipment, accessible paths, site amenities, native landscaping and signage. North Texas

The City of Blue Ridge in Collin County received a \$150,000 small community grant for Mowery Park. The project includes the new construction of a parking lot, trail and lighting.

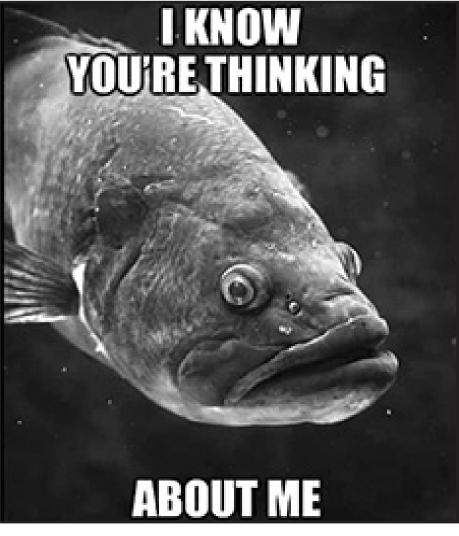


The City of Caddo Mills in Hunt County received a \$750,000 non-urban outdoor grant for phase two development at Hooten Park. The project includes a shaded inclusive playground with poured in place surfacing, pavilion, site amenities, trails, irrigated sports fields and signage. The City of Cleburne in Johnson County received a \$750,000 non-urban outdoor grant for Kirtley Park. The project elements include a nature playground and surfacing, trails, native landscaping, shade installation, fencing, site amenities and restrooms. TheCityofCooperinDeltaCountyreceiveda\$150,000 small community grant for Harmon Park. The project elements include the playground and surfacing, additional playground equipment, accessible parking and paths, native landscaping and interpretive signage.

The City of Dallas in Dallas County received a \$1 million urban outdoor grant for renovations to the Marcus Recreation Center. The City of Denton in Denton County received a \$750,000 non-urban outdoor grant for the Lily Cantú inclusive playground project. The project includes inclusive playground equipment and surfacing along with native landscaping.

The Town of Flower Mound Parks and Recreation received a \$750,000 non-urban outdoor grant for development at Trotter Park. The project elements include sports courts, inclusive playground, trails, native landscaping, picnic facilities, pavilion, shade and signage. The City of Fort Worth Parks and Recreation Department in Tarrant County received a \$2 million urban indoor grant for renovation of the Fort Worth Zoo Hall of Wonders building. The department also received a \$1.5 millionurban outdoor grant for improvements at Oak Grove Park. The project includes sports courts, shaded playground equipment, pavilions, native plantings, trails and site amenities. The City of Granbury in Hood County received a \$150,000 small community grant for Lambert Branch Park. The project elements include trails, access ramp to an existing boat dock and fishing pier, accessible parking, picnic facilities, solar lighting and site amenities. The City of Grapevine in Tarrant County received a \$750,000 non-urban outdoor grant for development of phase two at their Settlers Park project. The project includes a boardwalk/pier, kayak launch, outdoor education/primitive camping area, pavilion.



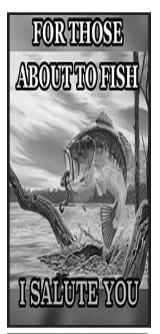


#### "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use"

Page 21

## Bird City Texas Certifies (Continues from Page 12)

birds and the places they need, today and throughtomorrow, out the Americas using science, advocacy, education and on-theground conservation. Audubon Texas's state programs, three nature centers in San Antonio and Dallas-Fort Worth, South Texas sanctuary, and a network of 21 local



Fish Friendly Practice Good Sportsmanship & Help Keep Our Lake Clean

С Ι

С

 $\mathbf{C}$ 

Ε Ρ

Т V Ι S Е Т

A

Т Ι R Ο Y

Ν L Ε

Ε Ο Μ

S R Ε

Ε

R

Ρ R Ε S

Ε Ρ S

R

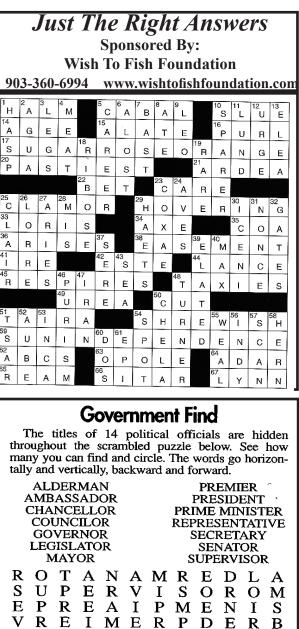
0 U Ν С

Η Α Ν

R

unparalleled wingspan that reaches millions of people each year to inform, inspire and unite diverse communities Audubon's vision is a ter,

nization that protects chapters and numer- world in which people ous partners have an and wildlife thrive. For more information and to find your local chapter visit https:// tx.audubon.org/. You can also find them in conservation action. on Facebook, Twitand Instagram.



D Ε R В

Α

Μ Α Т Ε

S S Α R

Ε S L С

R Ε R

D 0

Α

TMG

A B

S Ε

Ι S

ΑΕΝ

Т

E

Ι L Ο R Ρ Y

Μ

 $\mathbf{E}$ L L Ο R Α

Μ S

Т Ε

GOVERNORILO

UPERVO

ΝΒ

ΙM

ΕN

С

Α

Ν Ι Α

С

Е

Ε S U Ν

M S

UΟ

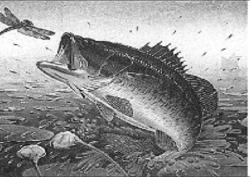
MR

ΕТ

REL

ΙD

Α Y



## MUSTANG RESORT

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

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

Beautiful 10 Unit Motel \* Ample Lighted Boat Parking \* Comfortably Decorated in Rustic Cedar \* 2 Full-Sized Beds \* Cable TV \* WIFI \* Refrigerator \* Coffee Maker \* Individual Heating & Air Conditioning \* Electronic Security Gate RV's Daily/Weekly/Monthly/Annually Annual Boat Launch \* Annual Dry Boat Storage Store \* Tackle \* Bait \* Gas 507 County Road 1550 \* Alba, TX., 75410 Call: (903) 765-2548 Fax: (903)765-3089 Email: mustang@texascellnet.com Visit on the web: www.mustangresort.com

## **First National Bank** of East Texas

of

Together, We're Better

Welcome All Vísítors & Anglers To Lake Fork And The Area

Bank

First National East Texas

**417 South Main** Quitman, Texas 903-763-4545

1947 FM 2946 **Emory**, Texas 903-474-8055

Member

100 NW Loop 564 Mineola, Texas 903-569-1082

www.fnbetx.com **"Branches of First National Bank** Of East Texas, Gilmer"

#### Page 22

#### "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" February Game Warden Field Notes

The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department law enforcement reports. --See You Later, Al- Two of the wardens ligator-- Three game wardens from Johnson. Ellis and Harris Counties and a State Park Police Officer concluded a three-month investigation into an alligator poaching case. In mid-September, game wardens received a tip about an individual living in the Dallas-Fort Worth area who had poached an alligator somewhere on

the Trinity River at night while bow fishing. After an extensive search, the subject was identified and found to live in Waxahachie. questioned the individual at his home and, after some time, he admitted to shooting the alligator. The man also told wardens that it happened on a stretch of the Trinity River near Centerville and his friend had been driving the boat and working the spotlight. Further investigation revealed that the friend shot the alligator with a pistol

after it had been shot with the bow twice. The head of the alligator, which was buried on his parent's property, was recovered from the suspect. With information about the additional suspect, a warden and park police officer questioned the friend who also confessed to poaching the alligator. Multiple charges and civil restitution pending.

--Fowl Play-- A Knox County game warden received a call about someone hunting without landowner consent, so they part-(Continued on Page 24)



**20th Annual Big Bass Tournament** May 16,17,18, 2025 Now Accepting Reservations For Commercial & Vendor Spaces For May 15, 16, 17, 18, 2025 Anglers from all over the nation will be converging on Lake Fork to fish this tournament! What better time to advertise & promote your products, merchandise, or company! Call Today: 903-383-7748 Email: fishnews@lakefork.net

#### "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" February Page 23 Valentine's Dinner For Romantic Day

**By Sue Hampton** 

Valentine's Day! While a night out on the town is on the wish list of many couples, some may prefer to spend a quiet evening at home.

This being Valentines' Day, the meal should be special. Reserve the hot dogs for another night and "wow" your loved one with delicious "Mahi Mahi Picchio Pacchio Pasta," a Sicilian treat that will top off the perfect Valentine's Day at home. And this meal serves six, so there will be plenty of leftovers for another night! Enjoy!



Treat a loved one to a delicious homecooked Valentine's Day dinner that leaves plenty of leftovers!

- Mahi Mahi Picchio Pacchio Pasta
- 2-28-ounce cans Italian-style whole peeled tomatoes drained, juice reserved
- 3 large fresh basil leaves, plus additional for garnish 2 teaspoons salt
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon finely minced garlic, plus two cloves, thickly sliced
- 2 pinches red pepper flakes
- 5 tablespoons olive oil
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup all-purpose flour
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> teaspoon paprika
- <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> pound Mahi Mahi, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- 1/2 cup finely chopped onion
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup white wine
- 1 pound spaghetti or linguine

With your hands or the back of a spoon, squeeze the tomatoes to release any remaining juice, and break them into medium pieces. Add the basil, 1 teaspoon of the salt, 1/4 teaspoon of the pepper, the sugar, oregano, minced garlic and 1 pinch red pepper flakes, and stir well. Cover and let the flavors marinate for one to two hours.

Toward the end of that time, bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Combine the flour, paprika and remaining salt and pepper in a bowl large enough to hold the fish. Toss the cubes of fish in the flour mixture, and shake off the excess flour. Heat 3 tablespoons of the oil in a medium saucepan over medium-high heat. Add the floured fish and saute for three to four minutes, until lightly browned. Remove with a slotted spoon and set aside.

Reduce the heat to medium and add the remaining 2 tablespoons oil. Add the onion, sliced garlic and remaining red pepper flakes. Cook until the onion is soft and browned, two to three minutes.

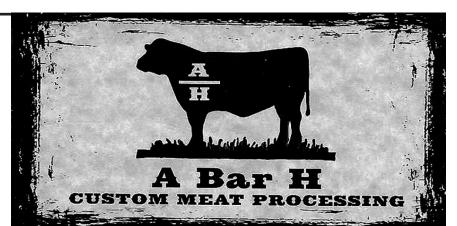
Increase the heat to medium-high and return the fish to pan. Add the wine, scraping up any browned bits from the bottom of the pan, and stir gently to coat the fish well. The liquid should form a glaze over the fishand-onion mixture. Turn off the heat and spoon the contents of the pan into the bowl with the marinade. Combine well.

Cook the pasta in the boiling water according to the package directions. Drain, and return to the cooking pot. Pour the sauce and stir so that the pasta is well coated. Garnish with sliced or chopped basil leaves and serve.



Custom Smoking For The Holidays Deer Processing (Seasonal) Now Making Summer Sausage, Beef Sticks, and Smoked Sausage • E.E. Wilson Syrup • Honey • Ribbon Cane • Sorgham • Moonshine Syrup

A Fresh Selection Just For You!



**Dispatch \* Skin \* Quarter On Your Property.** Hang, Process, & Package At Alexander Meat Market. **For Pricing Information** Call: Donnie 903-975-5849 or Caden 903-975-5890 903-342-0300

#### "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" Page 24 Game Warden Field Notes (Continued from Page 22)

nered with a Haskell County game warden and responded. After a quick investigation, the landowner requested that the deer hunter remove his belongings and leave the property. Soon after, the wardens stopped on a road that travels through a ranch and saw an unknown vehicle with two men driving towards them. When they made contact, the men told the wardens they had not hunted that morning. One of the wardens found three turkey feathers and blood stuck to the hitch rack at the rear of the vehicle. When asked about the feathers, they denied killing anything. The men were separated, and wardens were able to get a confession from one of them about killing two turkeys an hour earlier. The hunter that killed the turkeys failed to tag the birds and had hidden the breast under the back seat of the vehicle. The turkey meat was seized and donated to a family in need. Multiple charges and restitution pending.

--Repeat Offender-- A Uvalde County game warden was on patrol when she saw a subject shoot from a vehicle on a farm to market road.

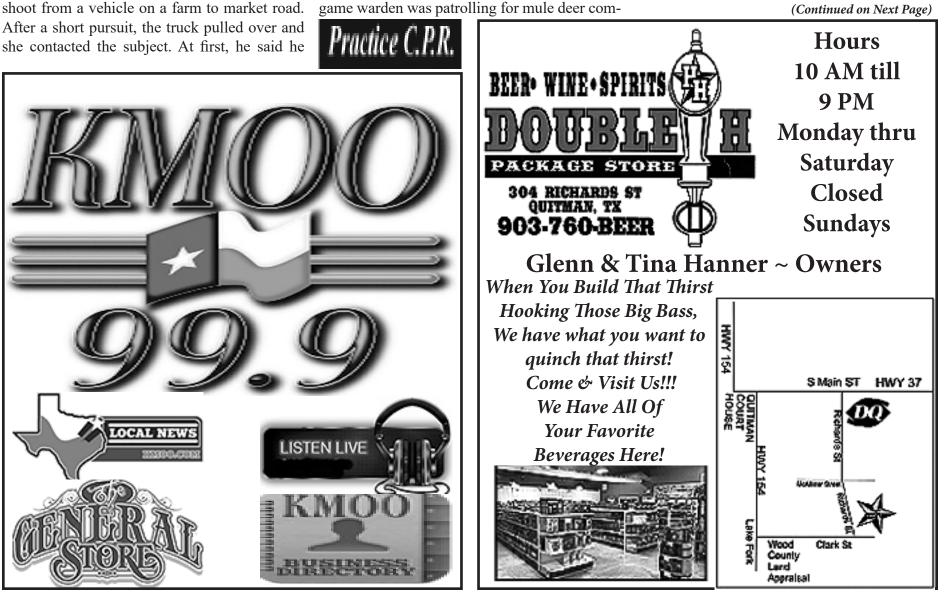
didn't shoot but finally admitted to shooting at a coyote. When the warden was retrieving the gun, she noticed a deer backstrap in a plastic bag in the back seat. The man said he got the meat from his uncle. The warden and the man went to the uncle's house to confirm the story, and after a short visit the man finally admitted to shooting the deer at night from another public road in the area. Multiple charges and restitution pending.

--Nutty Timing-- Two Newton County game wardens received a call about two suspects hunting white-tailed deer on private property without landowner consent. The wardens responded to the area and were able to locate the suspects in possession of an untagged white-tailed deer and several squirrels. After further investigation, the wardens determined they had been hunting on multiple private tracts of land that morning without landowner consent and had illegally harvested the squirrels and a white-tailed doe. Multiple charges and restitution pending. --Mississippi or Bust-- A Lubbock District

pliance in Lamb County when he came across a group of hunters loading up a mule deer buck. After checking their hunting licenses, the warden noticed a mule deer tag missing from one of the hunters' license. The hunter said he hadn't taken a deer this season. When asked about the missing tag, the man told the warden that he had put the tag on a mule deer another hunter killed. The warden asked where the antlers were located, and the hunter wasn't certain. Further investigation revealed the antlers were probably in Mississippi with a local taxidermist. The warden called the taxidermist and the antlers were in fact there. A Mississippi warden was contacted and the antlers were seized. The hunter was cited for allowing another to hunt under their license. The warden later contacted the hunter who actually shot the mule deer and she was cited for hunting without a hunting license, hunting under someone else's license and no hunter education. Charges and restitution pending.

February

--Facebooked-- A Limestone County game (Continued on Next Page)



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

Page 25

warden obtained a social media picture involving a female hunter posing with a freshly harvested white-tailed doe in Kosse. The warden began their investigation and it was determined that the suspect did not have a valid Texas hunting license. Since the woman resided in College Station at Texas A&M University, the warden reached out to a Brazos County game warden for assistance. After a brief interview, the woman admitted to harvesting the white-tailed doe during opening weekend and using her father's hunting license tag to properly tag her deer. The meat was processed and taken to her father's residence in Montgomery County. A Montgomery County game warden contacted the father and inspected the deer meat. Multiple charges and warnings were issued, and civil restitution is pending.

--Small World-- A Polk County game warden was contacted by a woman on social media asking if he had any meat to donate for her family of six. The warden donated deer meat and after getting to know the family, learned the dad was a disabled veteran and hadn't been hunting in over 10 years since before the military. The war-

den then reached out to local landowners and to Scott and Toni Cochran-Hughes for the Texas got a hunt donated for him and one of his children at Rocky Creek Ranch. The veteran took his eldest daughter of 13 on her first hunt and during the hunt, the warden found out his kids were from the same town the warden grew up in. Small world, great memories.

--Giving Back-- Polk County game wardens reached out to local landowners to find ways to give back to their community through the outdoors. The decision was made to organize a disabled veteran and youth hunt. A drawing was held on social media to select qualifying participants for the hunt, which in turn created great support from local businesses and community members. A father (retired Navy veteran) and son (first time hunter) were selected to participate in the hunt. The father and son joined Game Wardens on the Simon Peter Bend Ranch for an amazing hunt. Both hunters and the landowner were thrilled about the experience, and now plan to keep in contact with one another. Moye's Processing donated full processing of the meat, and McQuilkin Taxidermy donated a full shoulder mount of the deer. A big thank you

hospitality and amazing meals, as well as fully supporting our nation's heroes.

--Brotherly Love-- A Cass County game warden was contacted by a landowner about a man he caught on his game camera carrying two rifles. The warden recognized the person and contacted the suspect's brothers to confirm the location of the suspect and to help set up an interview. Wardens interviewed the suspect, who admitted to hunting from the roadway and shooting a pig. The pig ran onto a hunting lease and the suspect admitted to searching for the pig on the lease with both guns. Charges Pending.

--Safe Harbor--Cass County game wardens received a call from a couple of duck hunters who were unable to get back to land from the Sulphur River. Wardens responded with a flat bottom boat, attempting to locate the hunters. Both hunters were located and transported to paramedics, who were waiting nearby. One hunter was hypothermic due to exposure to the cold water and the other was checked out and later released.





## February"The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use"Page 27Lake Fork Sportsman's Association "Preserving the Legend That is Lake Fork"

By Dianne Spradling, President

The year is starting off with a lot of cold weather.

Tournament season is starting on Feburary 15th with the Bass Champs Team Tournament. We will be there with our Spring Raffle prizes. Please come out and support our organization. We elected our new board members and they are :

Dianne Spradling, President Di61462@icloud. com

Jay Simons, Vice President lupr@aol.com

Peggy York, Secretary yorkp47@gmailcom Vivian Leopold, Treasurer vleopold@att.net

Terry Long, Member at Large lakeforklong@ gmail.com

Richard Nipp, Member at Large bn00262@ aol.com

Maury Thornton, Member at Large rmt1948@ gmail.com

Please let us know if you have any questions.. Don't forget to come out to our monthly general meetings at Jamie's Restaurant. The meetings

are the 2nd Tuesday of each month and starts at 6:30 pm. Quite a few of us show up about 5:30 and eat a great dinner.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at Lakeforksportsmansassociation @ gmail.com or feel free to email me at Di61462@ icloud. Com or call my cell number at 214-794-2340.

We hope to see you soon.



For the past 26 years Lake Fork Sportsman's Association has been Preserving the Legend that is Lake Fork with their Live Release Boat at tournaments releasing catches back healthy in the lake, planting new grasses, and establishing fish habitat.





TACKLE DONATIONS NEEDED Rods, reels, tackle, and fishing-related equipment are needed to support the High School Fishing Tackle Program sponsored by Lake Fork Sportsman's Association. LFSA requests donations of new and used fishing articles that will be cleaned, assembled, and refurbished. Items will be further donated to area high school fishing teams.

Call Terry Long, 214-206-7504 or Pat Kostial, 619-379-6920 for more information or to arrange a donation.



Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month beginning at 6:30 pm at Jamie's Restaurant off Hwy. 17N





"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 <u>NO COST1</u> 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

Page 28	"The Fisherman's G	uide, News You Can	Use" February	
ZOTH	Annual	Rules & Regulations Free set of the toward view of readow of a toward on the binary term of	<ol> <li>Contestants may leave from any launch sile on Lake Fork. No casting until 6am official clock. Official start-stop times will be determined by Official Radio Station.</li> <li>An 6shion within 50 wards of a marina case pump.</li> </ol>	
		In singled when control only an Violation of any class regarding the belowing dama will be serve for memory in deconfination. •• Yorker, Lacone •• Odd Responsion •• Rel Switch	TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT: 1. All bass must be caught on artificial bait by casting. No trolling with big motor. Contestants may	
		<ul> <li>Heradove Reing</li> <li>- Archolo Bewinger Dugs</li> <li>- Uit lacket, Prov. Darker</li> <li>The comment will be held représes character. Struct confilons finatementély places au content</li> </ul>	use only one rod at any one time. Other rods may be in the boat for substitute purposes. 2. All fishing must be done from a boat. No bank fishing is allowed. Angler cannot leave boat to land fish 3. No electronic tracking devices (implanted microchips) may be used to locate fish for tournament	
		CRECTENSINE: 1. Al decision of the Tournament Directory are PNAL. Contractants only eligible for one (1) panel or on	purposes. (Depth finders and graph charts are the only exceptions). WEIGH IN, SPORTSMANSHIP AND CONSERVATION:	
5		<ol> <li>All press must be represent in onling with a Transment Encode within 12 minutes of the discposed weighting.</li> <li>INFT: COMMATIGNE.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation are expected from every participant.</li> <li>All bass weighed in will become the property of the tournament and will be released back into the lake each tournament day alive if possible.</li> </ol>	
		Any and all answersheld concerning an approval and holdy holds will be boats at one the DIFFCAL rate mater (MOD SM PAL Bridge contribution or your cost ELIGABLETT):	<ol> <li>All contestants shall be required to bring their boat and respective partner(s) with them to the weigh-in site when weighing in bass.</li> <li>Trailering is permissible.</li> </ol>	
		<ol> <li>Al Statu 5 Fromitional sole laws that some at all status.</li> <li>Al Statu Count Court: Pedras Parks 5 Middle regulations that sopp at all stress.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>No bass on ice. Bass must be alive to be weighed in.</li> <li>All bass brought to weigh in station must be in an official weigh in bag with water.</li> </ol>	
Big Bass	Tournament	3. The summers a segred pressly to arrays therein, argues the base block 4 or mere tange- mere where the part 10 months of the potential with an engine tange to 500, or parts wherein potential parts are an engine to be used to part X any of the distributions are with their approximations and the part X any of the distributions are with their approximation.		
	s, Models Welcome 17, 18, 2025	ombes in the pursuant. 4. Consistent must take a valid family roated to turnament are protein ponet unware early.	forward from hour to hour. Your biggest bass is registered into the final overall standings. No ties, 1st heaviest fish weighed in wins that prize. One grand prize per angler.	
		5. Det partier in det must alle processions of View outcome must also by all terminent seasand representations and the depth while angle all in the study pyrod parties. It is not write the other of procession strategies and the must official burrantee rank.	<ol> <li>Bass must be weighed in by the contestant who originally caught the bass and it must be in said contestant's physical possession in the weigh-in line.</li> <li>Any artificially weighed or preserved bass will be disqualified and that contestant will be subject to</li> </ol>	
\$ <b>200,0</b>	in Cash & Prizes	<ol> <li>Any converting on the electron of any summaries that are regardles with the schedule disquelocory non-the purportion are summaries.</li> </ol>	prosecution under state and/or federal laws. 10. Any questionable entry will be subject to inspection by a marine biologist or similarly qualified expert from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.	
Benefiting "The V	Vish to Fish Foundation"	If A train study is considered integrapient with a disputed if any of the sector statements are bound of bit is established, but assessments and legations. If we prove that the sector of spatial feature is you taken any taken area, not	11. Minimum length of bass to be weighed is less than 16" (cannot touch the line) or 24" or more. If it touches the line on 24" it is a legal catch and can be weighed in. Official measuring board is	
11 Places	k Marina, Hwy. 17, 903-765-2764 GRAND PRIZES INCLUDE:	turianes 10 Iunates datas temperaturator Rel Re	the Chek-It-Stick. 12. Only largemouth bass will be weighed in. 13. No contestant may have more than three bass in their possession at any time during official	
Paid Hourly 1st – \$600	SRAND PRIZES INCLUDE: \$40,000	1 Received water to your or up-module accompanies by a point of call with other point of point account of the point of	tournament hours. One bass only is allowed to be weighed in during any tournament hour. 14. This is a mandatory catch and release program during Official Tournament Hours. When tourn	
2nd – \$400 3rd – \$300	<b>\$40,000</b> For the Heaviest Bass Over The Slot	<ol> <li>Fing turn with compute energies must be reacted below toping.</li> <li>MCREARING CREARING TO COMPUTE AND FINDER FIRE FOR EACH REACTED.</li> </ol>	ment is officially over each day all bass must be released back into Lake Fork. 15. Contestants are to be attentive to litter and should make every effort to maintain their trash in their boat and dispose of it properly.	
4th - \$200 5th - \$175	\$30,000	<ol> <li>Sa BODA DE ESAS PARASES</li> <li>Sa BODA Desige Art Chronaeth (constell orie-bit or batta) breaker, bland a constant tak ann of the transition from whether orie-bit strates bangle. Not be designed to be constant in the constant or</li> </ol>	POLYGRAPH: 1. Each contestant by signing the entry form, agrees to submit to polygraph. 2. Deturement test will be given as a standard basis and event be spaced	
6th - \$150 7th - \$135	For the Heaviest Under The Slot <b>\$20,000 Draw</b>	SAFETY 3 + F(); (2005 D MA()/ 28/)	<ol><li>There will be random polygraph tests given as soon as possible after the conclusion of each official Tournament hour as soon as that hour has elapsed. All contestants who have placed dur-</li></ol>	
8th – \$125 9th – \$115	(Early Entries ONLY and Must Be Present to win.)	5. All hairs must be appropriate spraw by an iterative grades which have \$10 ministers while an interpretation of the spraw by the spraw of the spraw spr	ing said hour, their respective partners and boats, if any, must remain at the official Tournament site until said hourly winners are declared official. If not present, contestants will be automatically discualified.	
10th - \$110 1st Out of 10th	Bonus! T-Shirt Hour Every Hour	Advected, Pic collocation and access much size symmetry immediates intervent. All performance and accessing with france control in process where sources with one where much strategic 2 size accession much intervent of substantiation.	<ol><li>Any contestant determined by the polygraph examination or other Tournament Officials to be intoxicated or any type of illegal drugs at the time said contestant is required to take the polygraph</li></ol>	
\$100 GC	of the Tournament	<ol> <li>VS Contributing and approximately and approximately contract of the provide monitor way and tokened while near angles a more</li> </ol>	examination, or in violation of Tournament rules, will be disqualified from this and all future Tournaments. 5. Any contestant found to be in possession of any illegal substance will be subject to disqualification	
4/30/25 will Qualify For J	Early Entries Received on or before Drawing To Win \$20,000 in cash. Entries Must be Received on or before	<ul> <li>A to be table and of the sector of the table of the sector of the first sector.</li> <li>PERMITTEE INSERTED AREAS AND AREAS IN DOMAS:</li> <li>A there such sums comment has not table and set table to be inserted to doma.</li> </ul>	and prosecution. BOAT INSPECTION: All contestants, by entering this Tournament, hereby agree to allow their boats to be boarded and	
Ap	ril 30, 2025	ofice) comment weigh in hours ("am Bon) that bay 2. Ofice) Fernament Laws Of Unit hours begins from Thandes and ends Asm Theles, Son Theles and ends	inspected by Tournament officials at any time during said Tournament, to include, but not limited to, their boat registration, Coast Guard horsepower rating plate, and boat contents to include livewell, rod boxes,	
For More Information Call: 903-360-69 Email: fishnews@lakefork.net	24 or 905-500-0995	Are Sinite, for Severy at an Are Site, Argen and September 2015 an Official and the interaction (300 fill 53).	closed storage compartments, tackle boxes, life jackets, PFD's and safety equipment. Refer to checklist. *The above mentioned rules are for your own safety.	
	OFFICIAL E	NTRY FORM		
<ul> <li>"Legend of Lake Fork Tournament", 538 P.R. 5861, Yantis, TX 75497 * (903) 360-6993</li> <li>Cell: (903) 360-6994 To qualify for early entry, application must be received no later than 4/30/25.</li> <li>Indicate number of days to fish □\$130 (1) Day Entry □\$215 (2) Day Entry □\$290 (3) Day Entry</li> <li>If only fishing one or two days please indicate which day you will participate: □ Friday □ Saturday □ Sunday</li> <li>(Take \$10 Off If Paying By Cash, Check, or Money Order)</li> <li>Entry Fee After 4/30/25 at Tournament Headquarters ~ Lake Fork Marina</li> <li>1 Day ~ \$145 2 Day ~ \$235 3 Day ~ \$310 * (No Checks Will Be Accepted At Late Registration)</li> <li>Entries and Check-In, Lake Fork Marina, Thurs. 5/15/25 ~ 2 P.M. to 9 P.M. Fri. 5/16/25 ~ 5 A.M. to 6 A.M.</li> <li>&amp; 4 P.M. to 9 P.M. Sat. 5/17/25 ~ 5 A.M. to 6 A.M. &amp; 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.</li> </ul>				
FIRST NAME:		LAST NAME:		
ADDRESS: CITY:		_ PHONE: () _ STATE:		
EMAIL:		BIRTHDATE (mm/dd/yy):		
I hereby enter the above "Legend of Lake Fork Tournament". I have read and understand the rules and waive and release all other Contestants, Tournament Directors, Tournament Sponsors, and their agents from all claims of personal injuries, accidents and/or damaged, lost or stolen property incurred in connection with the tournament. I understand that \$5 of my entry is a voluntary contribution to the "Wish To Fish Program". I hereby grant permission to the tournament and all tournament officials the right to publicize, video tape, photograph and/or broadcast my name, character likeness or voice and the fact that I was a participant and/or prize winner, and all other matters incidental thereto. If I place for any prize, I will submit to a polygraph examination or be disqualified and will abide with such results. Contestant Ratifies and approves entry in the above "Legend of Lake Fork Tournament" made on his/her behalf by another and agrees thereby to be bound by all rules of the tournament. SIGNATURE: 				
Entry Form Must Bo	e Signed To Be Valid	EARI	Y ENTRY INCENTIVE:	
	RTICIPANTS OF MINORITY AGE (UNDER . at I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibilit		entries received on or before	
do consent and agree to indemnify an	d hold harmless the Releasees from any and all	liabilities incident to 4/30/2	5 will qualify for drawing	
	icipation in these programs as provided above RELEASEES, to the fullest extent permitted by	y law. to win	\$20,000 in cash.	
	ARENT/GUARDIAN OF ABOVE N	Anglers can	purchase TFO Roads \$65	
$\Box$ CHECK $\Box$ CASH $\Box$ M	ONEY ORDER 🗖 Musicrant		S T-Shirt Hour every hour	
		-	of the tournament!	
EXPIRATION DATE:/_			Shirt with you when weighing in!	
SIGNATURE: Must have 1-Shirt with you when weighing in: TO EMAIL ENTRY: fishnews@lakefork.net				
	11 I.I. Home wowlawci01k			

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

Page 29



Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork 48th Semi-Annual Open Tournament Mar. 8, 2025 \* Lake Fork, Texas Oak Ridge Marina \* Hwy 154 N.

**Guaranteed Pay-Out Based on 100 Entries** Drawings Held After Weigh-in for prizes

fork
at the second
A Second
1 A & A
J. Ster
الإسلام ويويج المنافع المحافظ

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

1. Entry fee is \$40.00 - late entry is \$45.00

2. Early entries must be postmarked by Oct. 5, 2025.

3. All entry fees must be paid before 6 a.m. Sat., Mar. 1, 2025.

4. Check in times: Fri., Mar. 7, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Sat., Mar. 8, 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 FISH-ING from midnight till start time.

7. Fishing will be done on Lake Fork only (trailering 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

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

903-360-6994



1st Place	\$500
2nd Place	\$300
<b>3rd Place</b>	\$200

or dead fish). 19. In the event of a tie for any position, prize money for that position and the following positions will be combined and evenly devided between the tying contestants.

20. Contestants may not have served as a compensated guide on Lake Fork 30 days prior to the tournmanet.

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 are welcome to participate. 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 Bass-masters 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, 2025 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

tional). Print clea	riv.	
Name:	,	TTB USE ONLY
Email:		Entry #
Address:		
Having read and understood all the tournament rules, by my signature I agree to accept a signature I waive, release and hold harmless all members, officials and sponsors of any as		Entry Fee
equipment.		Big Bass
Contestants Signature		
		CashChk#
Minor's Palassa Signad by	Parent/Guardian	



Page 31

## **20th Annual Legend of Lake Fork**



**Big Bass Tournament** 

# All Boats, Makes, Models Welcome May 16, 17, 18, 2025 \$200,000 In Cash & Prizes

**Benefiting** "The Wish to Fish Foundation"

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

Grand Prizes Include:

\$40,000 For the Heaviest Bass Over The Slot \$30,000 For the Heaviest Under The Slot, \$20,000 Early Incentive Draw (Early Entries Only, Received Before April 30, 2025 and must be present to win)

**11 Places Paid Hourly:** 1st - \$600 \* 2nd - \$400 \* 3rd - \$300 \* 4th - \$200 \* 5th - \$175 6th - \$150 \* 7th - \$135 \* 8th - \$125 \* 9th - \$115 \* 10th - \$110 \* 1st Out of 10th \$100 GC

**BONUS T-SHIRT HOUR EVERY HOUR OF THE TOURNAMENT** 

For More Information Call: 903-360-6994 or 903-360-6993 Email: fishnews@lakefork.net





Rains County Tourism Distribution Board







