

LAKE FORK "The Big Bass Capital Of Texas"



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

"Lines To Get Hooked On"

1 Section

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Free

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No. 311



Chance Lopez won the JC Outdoors Tournament on June 28 with the help of this 12.04-lb. Lake Fork hawg. With just 15 minutes left before weigh-in he hooked this prize measuring 25" in 17' of water on a 5/8 oz. shakey head with a mag trick worm for a total stringer weight of 16.52-lbs. and still made weigh-in with 2 minutes to spare.

2025 Shows Lake Fork on the Rebound

By Don Hampton

Lake Fork has never been in the sleeper mode for big bass, but in the recent past those big girls haven't been showing up in frequency as they have recent-

ly. This is the reason BASSMASTER proclaimed this great reservoir as Number 3 in the nation of the 2025 Top 100 Best Bass Lakes. And I quote, "Lake Fork, Texas (27,690 acres) How is it that

this lake continues to impress so greatly given the natural wax and wane of fisheries and the significant number of boats that crisscross Lake Fork (See 2025 Shows Lake... Continued on Page 4)



On June 5th, 10 completed fish attractors were loaded up and sunk in Lake Fork. Lake Fork Sportsman's Association, an all-volunteer non-profit organization, had secured a grant from Friends of Reservoirs that LFSA matched in money and labor.

(See Full Story and Photos on Page 5)

Let's Keep Praying
For Texas





Andy Spence was fishing Lake Fork up in Glade in July when he caught this nice hawg on a Magnum curly tail Texas Rigged. C.P.R.



Mike McWhorter caught this Lake Fork Hawk while fishing on Lake Fork in July weighing 9.10-pounds. C.P.R.

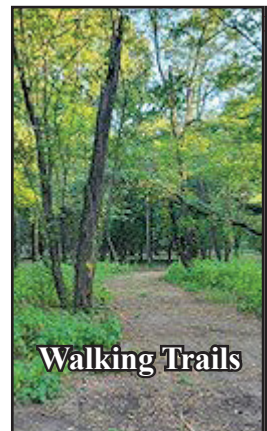


Cody Mays caught this Lake Fork Hawk while fishing Lake Fork in July weighing 9.78-pounds. C.P.R.

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Characteristic Differences Between Bubbas and Bubbettes

By Don Hampton

Besides the most obvious of differences between a Bubba and a Bubbette (male & female) the characteristics of each differ immensely.

One for instance is nicknames bestowed upon each other.

When the Bubbettes go out for lunch, if it is Laura, Suzanne, Debra and Rose, they will call each other Laura, Suzanne, Debra, and Rose. If Joe Bob, Leroy, Billy Bob and Beaudreaux go out for the night, they will affectionately refer to each other as Fat Boy, Godzilla, Peanut Head and Fish Brains.

When eating out and the waitress brings the bill, Bubbas will each throw in \$20, even though it's only for \$22.50. None of them will have anything smaller, and none will actually admit they want change back. When the Bubbettes get their bill, out come the pocket calculators.

When money is an issue, Bubba will pay \$2 for a \$1 item he wants. Bubbette will pay \$1 for a \$2 item she doesn't want.

In Bubba's bathroom he will have six items. A toothbrush, shaving cream, razor, a bar of soap, a comb and

a towel from the Holiday Inn. The average number of items in Bubbette's bathroom is 337. Bubba would not be able to identify most of these items.

In an argument, Bubbettes always have the last word. Anything Bubba says after that is the beginning of a new argument. The best thing for a Bubba to do in an argument is keep his mouth shut and just nod at what ever Bubbette says.

As far as thinking about the future, Bubbettes worry about the future until they find a husband. Bubba never worries about the future until he gets a wife.

When it comes to holy state of matrimony, Bubbette marries a man expecting he will change, but he doesn't. Bubba marries a woman thinking she will never change, but she does and keeps trying to change him.

A successful Bubba is one that makes more money than his Bubbette can spend. A successful Bubbette is one who can find such a Bubba.

Bubba will dress up for two occasions, funerals and weddings. Bubbette will dress up to go shopping, water the plants, empty the garbage, answer the phone, read a book, or get the mail.

As far as Bubba and Bubbette's offspring, Bubbette knows all about her children. She knows about dentist

appointments and romances, best friends and favorite foods and secret fears, hopes and dreams. Bubba is vaguely aware of some short people living in the same house.

So now you know the characteristic differences between Bubba and Bubbette.

In closing, if you are a Bubba married to Bubbette, forget your mistakes. There's no sense in two people remembering and harping on the same thing.



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2025 Shows Lake Fork on the Rebound (Continued from Page 1)

pretty much daily in search of big bass? Call it fate. Call it nature smiling on this water. Call it great management by Texas Parks and Wildlife. But whatever you do, call on Lake Fork early and often. The powerhouse fishery east of Dallas produced 36 Toyota ShareLunker bass (fish weighing 8 pounds or more) between Jan. 1 and April 30. That's more than any other fishery in Texas, which is saying a lot in a state known for liking everything large. The biggest of the catches was a 12.56-pound, 26-inch long toad boated by Sterling Pfeifer of Commerce City, Colo., on March 27. At the Tackle Warehouse Bassmaster Elite at Lake Fork held May 8-11, each angler in the final-day cut caught more than 100 pounds over four days – the second year in a row the Progressive Bassmaster Elite Series has seen the entire Top 10 earn Century Club status."

Also, I'll give credit where credit is due. The Lake Fork Sportsman's Association continually cares for the prosperity on this great reservoir.

For the past 26 years they have done an excellent job in securing the longevity of Lake Fork. From the Live Release Boat making sure all bass in the tournaments are released back in the lake at all tournaments, to grass rejuvenation, placing manmade structure, to placing fish attractors and habitat and much more. This organization is made up of members that volunteer their time and energy to the preservation of our great reservoir. If you are not a member and love fishing Lake Fork, have a home here, a business, or a guide on the lake, go look in the mirror and ask yourself why you are not a member. They have their monthly meeting at Jamie's Restaurant the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 6:30. I'd like to see you care and be there.

As mentioned previously, Lake Fork is definitely on the rebound from previous years. Reports show an increase in the catches and sizes. With 36 Toyota ShareLunker bass weighing 8-pounds or more between January 1 and

April 30, 2025. These numbers increase daily.

In the Mega Bass Tournament put on by Bass-Champs there were 8 over the slot bass brought to the weigh-in with a 9.88-pound being the heaviest. In the 20th Annual Legend of Lake Fork there were 9 over the slot bass brought to the scales. Four of these were in the 10-pound weight ranging from 10.27-pound to 10.98-pound and an 11.27-pound was the heaviest to win the tournament. In the Skeeter Owners Tournament there were 17 over the 24" slot brought to the scales with the heaviest weighing 10.04-pounds.

These are all documented facts of proof, Lake Fork may have been in a sleeper mode or I'd like to think of it as recuperation mode. This great reservoir has never been dead as the catches prove. One fact is definitely obvious to anglers fishing these waters, she is now awake and thriving.

Lake Fork is "The Big Bass Capital of Texas" and always will be. If you want to catch large bass, this is the water for you. Hope to see you on the lake.

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Joint Project Benefits Lake Fork Habitat

By Vivian Leopold

On June 5th, 10 completed fish attractors were loaded up and sunk in Lake Fork. Lake Fork Sportsman's Association, an all-volunteer non-profit organization, had secured a grant from Friends of Reservoirs that LFSA matched in money and labor.

The design was originally developed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Each fish attractor is approximately 3 1/2' x 7' with a PVC pipe frame and plastic corrugated drain-pipe looped through it. LFSA secured the materi-

als and the spring Ag class at Yantis High School, under teacher Mike Moore, constructed the 10 fish attractors as a class project. Project chairman Marty Jarrell oversaw the project and was the liaison with Yantis H.S. Five fish attractors were sunk in two different locations to provide cover for fish. More importantly, they serve as a hiding place for young fingerling bass to allow them to hide and grow. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department stocks hundreds of thousands of fingerling bass every year to replenish Lake Fork. Members of Lake Fork

Sportsman's Association and a team from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department loaded the fish attractors on LFSA's live-release boat and TPWD's boat and weighed down by 4 cinder blocks on each, sunk them on either side of the County Road 2946 bridge.

There are other structures that have been added at Lake Fork, many attributed to previous projects by Lake Fork Sportsman's Association. The GPS locations can be found on Texas Parks and Wildlife's website under Texas Fish Habitat Structures.



Yantis High School Ag students Tommy Mitchell, Amber Paige and Fisher Wallace with completed fish attractors.



TPWD crew load fish attractors on boat.



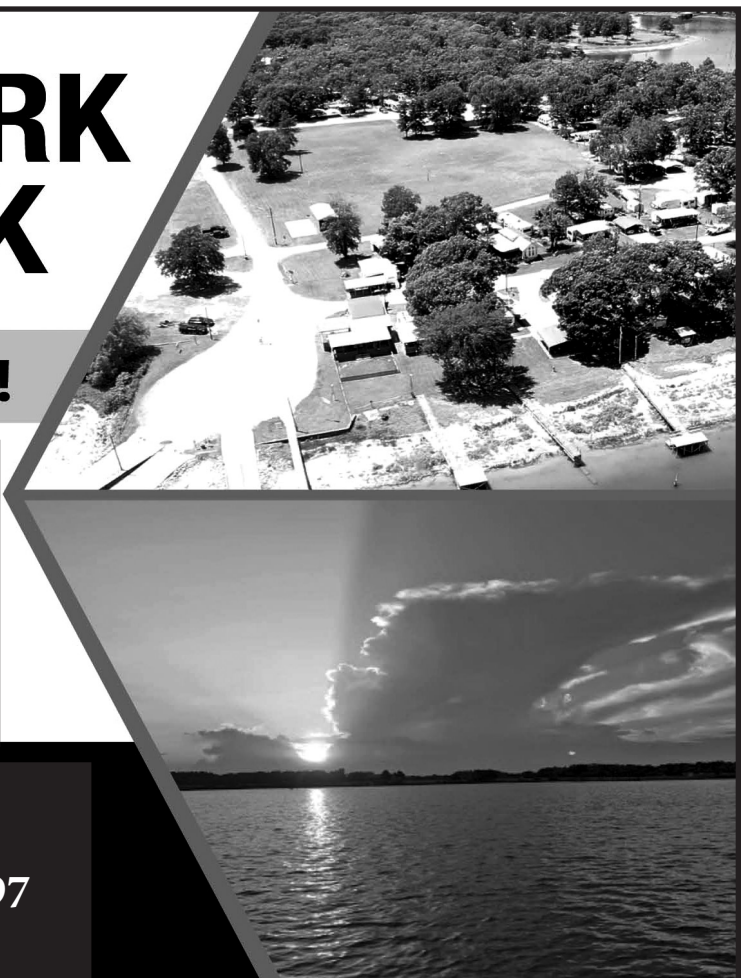
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"Dog Days of Summer Are Upon Us!"

By Whitt Smith

The Dog Days of Summer are upon us, but don't let that stop you from getting out and chasing bass.

This month, the thermocline will continue to be a factor in depth of bass. The thermocline

will appear on your electronics as interference or fuzzy return. The depth of it will vary in different areas of the lake. Bass will always be above the level of the thermocline, often time suspended just above it, over deeper water, or they seek out high spots (points, pond dams, ridges, roadbeds/underwater bridges) that are above it. The suspended bass will typically relate to a drop off of some sort.

As for lures to target the suspended bass, drop shot rigs, spoons and jig head minnows are some examples to consider. For worm rigs for bottom oriented bass, I find that straight tail worms typically work better than curly tail this time of year.

However, August usually is the beginning of some offshore bass beginning to migrate shallower. So, just because it's the Dog Days of Summer, don't think they're aren't some big bass on shallower cover.

This Summer has been an anomaly in lower



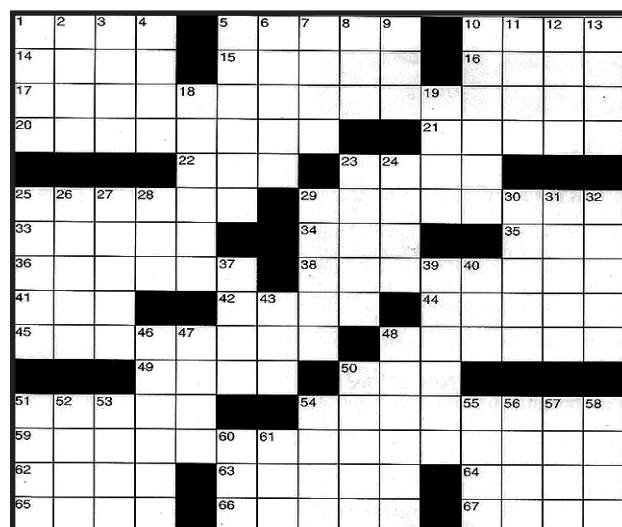
than average water temperatures, mass quantities of flooded cover and the high amount of bass that remained shallow. At the time I'm writing this, we're still experiencing a fun topwater bite on mornings we have a good South wind.

Wind is always your friend in bass fishing, but especially so in the month of August.

Good luck and I hope everyone has a great Labor Day weekend!

As always, if I can be of assistance, please reach out to me.

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CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Cape near Lisbon | 38. Milled wheat product used in pasta |
| 5. Cloth | 41. Salesperson (informal) |
| 10. Ring | 42. Used to have (Scottish) |
| 14. Meet, in a way | 44. Rajah's wife (var.) |
| 15. Louse | 45. Military installations |
| 16. _____ Blyton, children's author | 48. Features |
| 17. Leave _____ (make every effort) | 49. Fair |
| 20. Supporters, in a way | 50. Bodily cavity |
| 21. Fills up | 51. Legal right |
| 22. Belonging to a thing | 54. Endeavors |
| 23. Founder of Manichaeism | 59. Western vacation site |
| 25. Dining-room attendant | 62. Celery (Spanish) |
| 29. Underground passage | 63. Type genus of the Phocidae |
| 33. Purgatives | 64. Advise |
| 34. Word element meaning "nitrogen" | 65. Gorilla |
| 35. Golf score | 66. Valuable pelts |
| 36. Armored, in a way | 67. Deceive (slang) |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Monetary unit of South Africa | 30. State clearly |
| 2. Double-reed instrument | 31. Edouard _____, French painter |
| 3. Point | 32. Hillsides |
| 4. Tip of Aleutian Islands | 37. Tropical woody herb |
| 5. Mental health | 39. Prophet |
| 6. Fencing swords | 40. Sealing wax |
| 7. Sumac genus | 43. Brew |
| 8. John Barleycorn | 46. Concluding speech |
| 9. Sunup in New York (abbr.) | 47. European defense organization |
| 10. Courageous | 48. Creatures, in general |
| 11. "The King and I" heroine | 50. Protective garment |
| 12. Fibbed | 51. Borneo people |
| 13. _____ and ends | 52. Take back (informal) |
| 18. Serving no useful purpose | 53. City in Iowa |
| 19. Arm bone | 54. British school |
| 23. Stupefied | 55. Constellation |
| 24. Carbon or hydrogen | 56. Small lake |
| 25. Iraqi seaport | 57. Therefore |
| 26. Lesion | 58. Kitty-cornered |
| 27. Cleanses | 60. Words per minute |
| 28. Sound unit | 61. _____ite, Muslim |
| 29. Containers | |

Answers on Page 21

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Texas Drawn Hunt Program Opens Applications for 2025 – 26 Season

Hunters now have new opportunities and scenery to experience this fall through Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) drawn hunt permits program.

Through this program, hunters are issued permits for drawn hunts on both public and private lands throughout Texas. Applications are now being accepted for a shot

to South Texas, to the Trans-Pecos and the Pineywoods, you could be selected for a hunting spot at a state park, wildlife management area, national wildlife refuge or private property. Variety is the key and the opportunity is there." Hunts for white-tailed and mule deer, pronghorn, turkey, (See Texas Drawn Hunt... Continued on Page 9)



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"The Moon Report"

"Fork's Summertime Crappie and Bream"

By Terri Moon

It finally set in – those 100 degree days! The afternoons are way too hot for me – but, the mornings are very do-able! In fact, surprisingly pleasant!

The bite has been best around mid-morning. They are gradually moving deeper and this week they are biting 16-20 ft. in 20-30 ft. of water. I'm starting to see a thermo-cline set in at about 20 ft. It's been a very light bite.

You need to really watch your line or you're going to miss a lot of bites! It can be as subtle as a line twitch or if it goes slack, you need to instantly react. Stay in contact with your bait because loose line will lose fish! The crappie haven't been on a feeding frenzy so you really have to optimize every opportunity. The biggest mistake I see people make is once they set the hook, they will drop their rod tip leaving slack line and by the time they catch up to their bait, the fish is gone. So, keep that rod tip up and the line tight! A slow motion – no motion – presentation is working best for us right now so try real hard not to over-work your bait.

The colors working for us are Monkey Milk, Blue Ice – also, Threadfin Shad or Caddo Morning. It just depends on the water clarity in



the area we're fishing and the brightness of the time of day.

The crappie have been in and out of the bridges and showing up on main lake points, humps and creek channel bends. Look for areas with drop-offs with access to shallower water. Look for balls of baitfish with your graph. This will give you an indication on how deep to fish.

Now as far as the bream fishing, it's been fun! I have to admit I've been sneaking out there on my days off just to catch "me" some! These are hands down MY favorite fish to catch and eat! It's really been a "hoot" watching the kids this month reel in these hard fighting bream! It's so cute to watch them make memories they'll remember for a lifetime!

We're finding them in 1-5 ft. around grasslines and willows. Then after the new and full moon times, they will back off in 5-15

ft. in that same general area. Nightcrawlers or crickets on a slip bobber or tightlined will work. I also keep a jar of Berkley's Gulp 1" minnows in the boat in case I run across some nice bream in a brush pile!

Wish you all the best out there. Stay hydrated, plenty of sun block and a bigger hat and enjoy the summer.

Before I close, I have to send a "HUGE" thank you to Brian Sartin for always being there for me when my trolling motor quits me! He has saved the day for me so many times and just want him to know how much all of us guides appreciate him!

Also, sending thoughts and prayers to all who are going through tough events in their lives. Wishing you all many blessings!

To book a trip you can reach me at 903-335-0941. Also, you can follow our adventures on my Facebook page, Thanks to all-Terri Moon.

Texas Drawn Hunt Program Opens Applications for 2025 – 26 Season *(Continued from Page 7)*

alligator and dove, plus guided packages for exotic species and bighorn sheep are a few types of hunts available through the Texas public drawn hunt system. Last year, more than 300,000 applications were submitted to TPWD.

Application deadlines are the 1st and 15th of each month between Aug. 1 and Nov. 1. For example, applications for alligator hunt categories and private land dove hunts are due Aug. 1, while deadlines for archery deer, archery mule deer, pronghorn, private land pronghorn and javelina are Aug. 15.

Application fees range from free to \$3 to \$10, depending on the hunt category. If selected, adult hunters may need to pay a special permit fee of \$80 for regular hunts or \$130 for extended hunts. Categories such as youth-only hunts and specified others do not require application or permit fees. Permits are open to residents and non-resident hunters alike.

To apply for e-Postcard hunts and U.S. Forest Service antlerless deer permits, applicants must have a current Annual Public Hunt Permit (APH). APH permits go on sale annually on Aug. 15. Last year, 59,605 APH permits were sold, generating approximately \$2.8 million in revenue for wildlife conservation and public hunting opportunities.

The Drawn Hunts Catalog interactive map shows all drawn hunt opportunities by category or by area. All applications, fee payments and permit issuance are handled electronically. All applicants will need internet access, an email address and a credit or debit card to participate. The most effective way to access the system is through the customer ID number from the applicant's hunting or fishing license. Visit the drawn hunt website for a full list of category deadlines. Hunters can apply until 11:59 p.m. CST on the application deadline. Applicants can check their drawing status online at any time.

For more information or to start the application process, visit TPWD Drawn Hunts. For questions, contact hunt@tpwd.texas.gov or call (512) 389-4505 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.



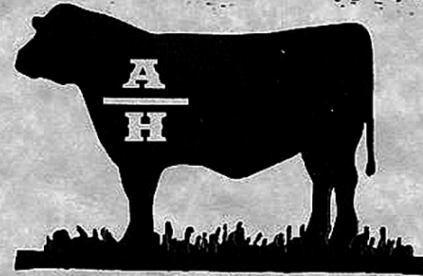

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More Than 150 Species of Greatest Conservation Need Documented in Texas During the 10th Annual City Nature Challenge

For the fourth year in a row, several Texas cities ranked in the top ten globally during the City Nature Challenge (CNC), one of the world's largest community science events.

This year, fourteen Texas metropolitan areas participated in the challenge and logged a whopping 342,913 observations. Participants recorded more than 9,800 different spe-

cies with more than 150 of those being species of greatest conservation need, including the Texas horned lizard, Cascade Caverns salamander, cave myotis and Texas tortoise.

Globally, the 102,945 participants of the 2025 CNC recorded more than 3,310,131 observations with 73,765 species documented, including 3,338 rare, endangered or threatened species. The CNC

had participants from 669 cities in 62 countries and six continents.

Four Texas urban areas ranked in the top 15 globally for number of observations, and Texas as a whole accounted for 10 percent of global observations.

The San Antonio Metro Area ranked second in both the number of observations and species observed and the Dallas/Fort Worth Area ranked fourth in number of observations and sixth in number of species observed.

CNC is a global community-based scientific effort, co-organized by San Francisco's California Academy of Sciences and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. It

invites current and aspiring citizen scientists of all ages and backgrounds to observe and submit pictures of wild plants, animals and fungi using the free iNaturalist mobile app.

TPWD's Texas Nature Trackers program supports the CNC in Texas.

Visit the City Nature Challenge online to find links to Texas projects and learn more about the global project on the website.

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Amid Increased Water Fatalities, Arrests, Texas Game Wardens Stress Safety

With a sharp rise in boating-related fatalities and a spike in arrests for boating while intoxicated (BWI), Texas Game Wardens remind boaters to follow the rules and safety precautions that can help them avoid preventable accidents as they head to the water to beat the summer heat. As of June 30, Texas has experienced 59 water-related fatalities this year, including 38 open-water drownings and 21 boating-related deaths. That's a 75 percent increase in boating-related fatalities from this time last year.

From Memorial Day weekend through the end of June, 12 people died in open-water drownings, six succumbed to boating-related incidents and 13 people were arrested for BWI. Game wardens issued 213 citations for life

jacket violations during the month of June. "These aren't just numbers. These are lives lost—friends, family, children—often due to something that could have been prevented," said Col. Ron VanderRoest, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) law enforcement director. Operation Dry Water: Enforcement with a Purpose Alcohol remains the leading known factor in recreational boating deaths. Of the 83 BWI arrests by Texas Game Wardens this year, 62 of those occurred in May alone with the majority issued during Memorial Day Weekend. That's a 25 percent increase from the same time last year.

"If you're drinking and operating a boat, you're not only breaking the law—you're putting lives at risk," said Cody Jones, assistant

commander for marine enforcement. "We want your celebrations to end with fireworks and family, not emergency calls and sirens."

"Texas Game Wardens will be out in full force for the Labor Day holiday, working day and night to protect everyone enjoying our lakes, rivers and coastal waters," said VanderRoest. "We have zero tolerance for boating while intoxicated—because one reckless decision on the water can have deadly consequences." Don't Be the Next Statistic: Know the Rules, Follow Them With more than 560,000 registered boats and an estimated 359,000 unregistered paddlecraft on Texas waterways, every safe decision matters.

(Continued on Next Page)

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Key Safety Reminders:

- * Wear a life jacket: required for children under 13, strongly encouraged for all.
- * Use your engine cut-off switch: It's the law and can help prevent serious injury.
- * Never operate a boat under the influence of drugs or alcohol: Penalties include fines and license suspension.
- * Take a boater safety course: Required for anyone born on or after Sept. 1, 1993 operating certain vessels.
- * Personal watercraft operators must

wear a life jacket, follow the 50-foot rule and stay off the water after sunset.

- * Be weather-aware, communicate your plans, and avoid overcrowding your boat.
- * Avoid saltwater if you have open wounds as *Vibrio* bacteria occur naturally in Texas coastal waters.

"We need to public to be responsible, plan ahead and take safety seriously," said Jones. "Many of the deaths that have occurred in Texas waters so far this year were preventable." To learn more, visit the TPWD Boater Education Program. See Something Unsafe? Report it Anonymously If you witness dangerous or illegal behavior on the water—don't wait. Report it anonymously via Operation Game Thief (OGT), Texas' wildlife crime-stoppers program. OGT offers rewards of up to \$1,000 for tips that lead to conviction of those who violate wildlife, fishing or boating laws:

- * Text your tip: Text the keyword TX-OGT and your tip information to 847411
- * Use the Texas OGT App: Avail-

able on iOS and Android

- * Call anonymously: 800-792-GAME (4263)

Tipsters are encouraged to include any information, photos or videos that may be helpful. Tips will be reviewed by our agency personnel, who may respond to ask for more details and continue the anonymous conversation with you. Please do not use this form to report emergencies or requests that require immediate law enforcement response. In an emergency, always call 911. "Our duty is clear: ensure every Texan and visitor can enjoy the outdoors safely, and we will enforce the law to the fullest extent to make that happen," said VanderRoest. About Texas Game Wardens Texas Game Wardens, within the Law Enforcement Division of TPWD, are responsible for enforcing laws related to the conservation and management of natural resources and public safety through community-based law enforcement.

(See Amid Increased Water Fatalities.....

Continued on Page 21)

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Gage was fishing Lake Fork with guide Danny Holder when he caught this bass, which was only Georgia caught his personal best one of many this future pro landed fishing recently on Lake Fork. that day. C.P.R. C.P.R.

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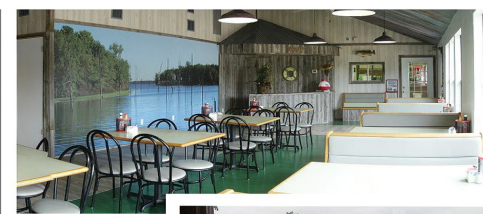
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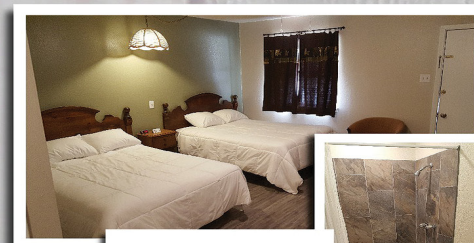
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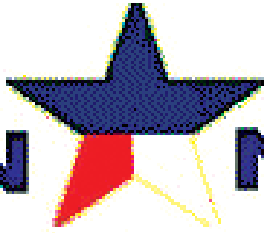
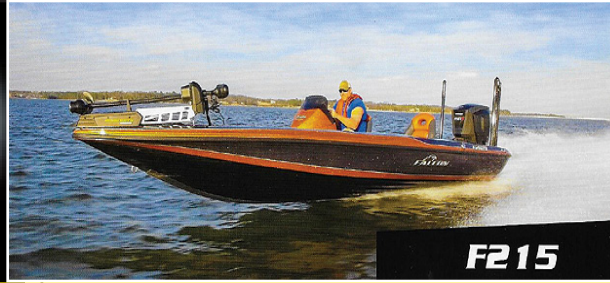
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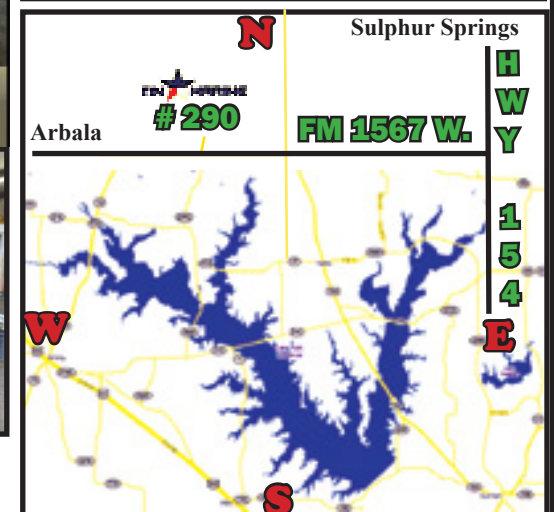
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Daniell Anderson was fishing Lake Fork in July with guide Randy Oldfield when she caught this nice bass. C.P.R.



Tony Gore from Alba, Texas was fishing Lake Fork with guide Whitt Smith when he caught this nice bass. C.P.R.



Lake Fork guide Whitt Smith knows how to catch those monster bass as seen what he landed in this photo. C.P.R.

82

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21ST ANNUAL BIG BASS TOURNAMENT**

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

By Dianne Spradling, LFSA President

Summer is in full swing. Our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to the people effected by the floods in Texas.

We will be getting together soon to put the tackle buckets together for the High School Tackle Program we sponsor. Please remember that if you have any gently used tackle, we will be happy to take it off your hands so that it can be repurposed for the High School kids that need help.

Richard Nipp, one of our board members, donated a commercial grade line spooler to the association to make it much quicker to put the line on the reels that we give to the kids.

We will also be getting everything together for the Fall Raffle that will kick off at the Sealy Big Bass Splash set for Sept, 19th, 20th and 21st here at Lake Fork. We look forward to seeing everyone.

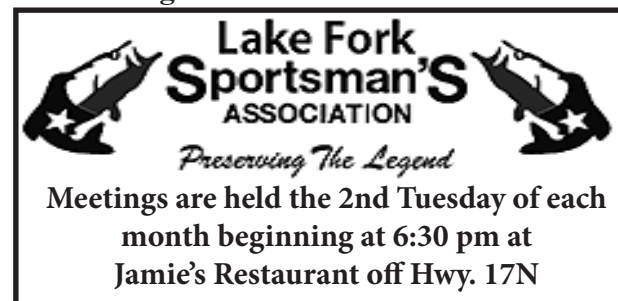
Please let us know if you have any questions..

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 27 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.



"Wish To Fish Foundation"

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Needs Your Help!!!

If you know a family that has a child that meets our criteria, just have them call us.

We'll take over from there!

*"Every child deserves a chance to fish!" Children diagnosed or who have experienced a life-threatening illness or accident sometimes do not have that opportunity. Now through the "Wish to Fish Foundation" they can have that day in the sun with their family. Any family with a child between the ages 3 to 18 years of age that has been diagnosed or treated for a life-threatening illness or accident is invited to come fish Lake Fork for any species of fish at **NO COST!** Lodging, meals, and fishing are provided for. This allows the family to spend quality time together fishing without worries or expenses. The outing includes one night lodging, meals, refreshments, snacks, all on a 26' Tritoon Pontoon, (accompanied with a 9-1-1 chase boat for any emergency that may occur. All bait and fishing equipment provided. If you are, or know of a family that meets the above criteria, contact us! Help us spread the word, we are here for the children!*

*For Scheduling or More Info Contact: Don Hampton, Founder & Program Director
visit our website: www.wishtofishfoundation.com*





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LEGENDARY LAKE FORK, LEGENDARY LIFESTYLE! Breathtaking views from glass enclosed sunroom with wood burning FP, 2-stall boathouse. A detached garage has additional dwelling unit upstairs with kitchen, full bath and balcony. The main house is 2796 sf living, 3 BR, 2.5 Bath with 2-car attached garage. Open kitchen, living and breakfast area with great view. Living room has brick FP with pellet insert, high vaulted ceilings, hand hewn wood floors and water view. Kitchen with quartz counters, breakfast bar and eating area with unbelievable views. Dining room converted to office. Primary bedroom has vaulted ceiling, jetted tub, walk-in shower, walk-in closet and lake view. Buyer to verify info. \$774,500.



MOTIVATED SELLERS! Here is a well-kept 3 BR, 2 bath country style home sitting on 31.9 acres. Well equipped kitchen with an island breakfast bar and quartz countertops. Spacious living area, large office and pantry to the right of kitchen. Primary bedroom with large walk-in shower. Outside is a 14kw Generac generator, raised garden beds, concrete sitting area, well house, 12x18 she shed 30x49 barn with chick coop and feed room. Toward rear of barn is a 30x40 insulated shop with overhead doors to store tractors, tillers, mowers, and tools. there is also a 10 ft overhead. A perfect blend of pasture and woods, there is a creek on the west side and small pond on the east. Just 10 minutes from a Lake Fork boat ramp. Priced to sell. Buyer to verify info. \$674,000



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. \$799,000.



One of East Texas' best kept secrets, LAKE LYDIA is absolutely stunning. Dogwoods in the spring, colors in the fall. Many articles have been written about the beauty and tranquility of this approx. 90 acre no wake lake. Relax in the screened porch, enjoy the views. This log, stone and brick 2672 sf home has 2 living rooms, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. The gourmet kitchen has an island, extra sink, tiled counters plus knotty alder wood cabinets, gas cooktop, ss appliances, built-in oven, warming drawer, icemaker, walk-in pantry and small office. Open concept kitchen, dining and living with water view. Primary has walk-in tiled shower, dressing area, walk-in closet and office. 24x33 ft 2-car attached garage, workshop and a deck. Nice boat dock, sitting area and kayak storage. Buyer to verify info. \$670,000.



LAKE QUITMAN WATERFRONT HOME! Here is a great brick home with metal roofing on Lake Quitman with those gorgeous views you are looking for. Home features 2400 sf of living area with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, library/den and 400 sf detached guest house/studio for those guests to stay. Home has split bedroom floor plan, open kitchen and dining area, screened in porch overlooking Lake Quitman and a detached 24 x 27 sf garage that is big enough for you boat. Boat ramp to Lake Quitman is within walking distance from your home. Plus Lake Fork is less than 15 minutes away. Buyer to verify any and all information. \$544,000.



LAKE FORK WATERFRONT CUSTOM LOG HOME. Wrap around porch, vaulted ceilings, Colorado Ash wood and River Rock, wood burning FP, 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 2325 sf living area, large kitchen area with lots of cabinet space and beautiful wood attributes. Primary bedroom with ensuite bathroom and jacuzzi-type tub. Two upstairs bedrooms and baths separated by a catwalk. This home has lovely, abundant trees on 1.18 acres, a great view, plus fishing off your private dock. \$721,000



Nestled on a peaceful, dead end road, this inviting country home with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths and 1 car-garage on 4.42 acres offers the perfect escape. Surrounded by mature trees, it features a small fenced yard, a 20x20 ft. storage building that is great for tools, equipment and additional storage. Located just a short drive to Lake Fork. Yours for \$275,000.

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Acreage from 2.5 to 5 acres, \$59,900 to \$74,900

Acreage from 13 to 29.4 acres, \$119,900 to \$274,900

43 acres \$390,000

2 Lake Fork waterfront lots \$350,000

16.27 acres Lake Fork waterfront \$1,500,000

Texas Game Wardens, Grapevine Police Department Make Arrests for Fatal Hit and Run Over Memorial Day Weekend

Texas Game Wardens, Grapevine Police Department and Homeland Security Investigations arrested two individuals believed to be involved



in the fatal hit and run boat collision on the evening of May 25 at Grapevine Lake.

A personal watercraft (PWC), which had two females on board, was being driven at a high speed near the shoreline of Oak Grove Park when it collided with a kayak occupied by 18-year-old Ava Moore. The driver of the PWC, 21-year-old Daikerlyn Alejandra Gonzalez: Gonzalez from Venezuela, and the passenger fled the scene.

Later, Gonzalez and the passenger returned to Oak Grove Park. The passenger remained on scene with witnesses and was interviewed by Grapevine Police Department, while Gonzalez left in a vehicle with 21-year-old Maikel Coello Perozo. While fleeing the area, the pair collided with two other vehicles. Grapevine Police Department is leading the case into the automotive hit and run while Texas Game Wardens investigate the boating accident.

Gonzalez and Perozo were arrested in Dallas on May 27. Gonzalez has been charged with Manslaughter, which is a second-degree felony. Perozo has been charged with Collision Involving Damage to a Vehicle, a class b misdemeanor, and Hindering Apprehension, a class a misdemeanor. As we continue investigating this incident, more charges could be filed.

"We would like to take an opportunity to thank not only our local, state and federal law enforcement officers but also the public for their support and vigilance in reporting information to the Grapevine Police Department's tip

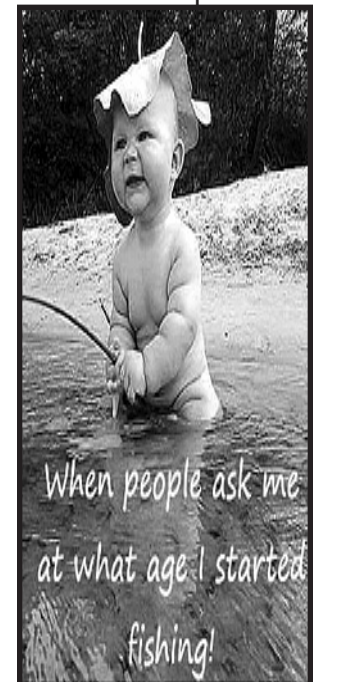
line," said Texas Game Warden Captain Joseph Quintero. "We received more than 900 tips from the public which helped us provide a quick resolution to the family."

Grapevine Police cannot thank the community enough for their contributions during the investigation. "These arrests will not undo the heartbreak of losing Ava Moore, but we will continue to provide support to her family throughout the criminal justice process," said Amanda McNew, Media Manager for the Grapevine Police Department.


Enforcement Removal Operations Dallas lodged immigration detainers with the Grapevine Police Department following the arrest of Gonzalez and Perozo. Both are in removal proceedings pursuant to the policies of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as aliens present without admission or parole. "Our partnerships with law enforcement across jurisdictions are key during these types of investigations," said Travis Pickard, Special Agent in Charge ICE Homeland Security Investigations Dallas.

Moving forward, a specialized team of Texas Game Wardens will use the latest technology to recreate the boating collision using 3D video reconstruction software. This team has helped numerous wardens across the state complete investigations and provide closure for victims' families.

Agencies involved in this incident include the Texas Game Wardens, Grapevine Police Department, Texas Attorney General's Office, Homeland Security Investigations, Enforcement Removal Operations, Texas Department of Public Safety, Dallas Police Department, Grapevine Fire Department and Irving Police Department.




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Boat Ramp
Playground For The Children

Amid Increased Water Fatalities (Continued from Page 12)

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School Find

There are 20 school words hidden throughout the scrambled puzzle below. See how many you can find and circle.

ACHIEVEMENT	DANCES	HONOR ROLL
BALL GAMES	DETENTION	LEARNING
BAND	ENGLISH	PRINCIPAL
BUDDIES	ESSAY	SCIENCE
BUSES	FIRE DRILL	TEST
CHALKBOARD	HOMEROOM	TUTOR
CLASSES	HOMEWORK	

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S O T R E C Y A E O D N
H E I I E N G L I S H G
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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 Oct. 5, 2025.
3. All entry fees must be paid before 6 a.m. Sat., Oct. 11, 2025.
4. Check-in times: Fri., Oct. 10, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Sat., Oct. 11, 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). Fork 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

- 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 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 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 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 Oct. 5, 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.

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

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

—Mistaken Identity— A DeWitt County Game Warden received a complaint about a hunter suspected of taking a deer out of season. When the suspect was contacted, her husband's tag was on the deer. The husband initially claimed to have shot the deer. After interviewing both individuals, it was determined that the initial subject had in fact shot the deer. It was not taken out of season, but it was taken without a license. When all was said

and done, violations included hunting without a license, hunting under the license of another, allowing another to hunt under one's license, no proof of sex, and no hunters education. The deer was seized and donated. Retitution is pending.

—Who Ya Gonna Call— A Jasper County game warden received a call about a deer killed out of season. Upon arriving at the residence, the warden and their partner noticed a bloody cooler with loppers lying next to it. The owner of the residence told the wardens that he picked up the deer from the side of the road. When

asked if he notified anyone, the man said, "Yes. I called 911, but no one answered." It was later determined the individual shot the deer on his property. Citations were issued.

—From the Mouths of Babes— Three Williamson County game wardens were checking night fishermen at Lake Granger and the San Gabriel River when one of the wardens spotted a man and child using a cast net along the bank of the Wilson Fox Fishing Pier. The wardens contacted the individuals and the child said they had several fish

(Continued on Page 24)



Catfish On A Roll – In Less Than 10 Minutes

By Sue Hampton

Sandwiches are a staple for most of us, but it's easy to get in a rut, making or ordering the same old thing. Why not break out of the boring routine with a

special style po'boy stuffed with crispy-coated Lake Fork catfish and all the trimmings? In less than 10 minutes, this sandwich is ready to enjoy!

Once you're hooked

on the mild, sweet flavor and convenience of catfish, you'll want to keep a good thing going. Also try this versatile fish grilled or broiled with Cajun-style seasoning in tacos and chowder. You are going to love this sandwich!!

Lake Fork Catfish Po'Boys

(Yield: 4 portions)

1 egg, beaten

1 cup Italian-seasoned breadcrumbs

4 Lake Fork fillets (about 6 ounces each)

¼ cup vegetable oil

4 – 4-inch long rolls,

split or 8 slices of bread

1/2 cup prepared pesto sauce

8 jarred roasted red pepper halves

8 lettuce leaves

8 thin slices provolone cheese

In separate shallow bowls, place egg and breadcrumbs. Dip each catfish fillet into egg, then coat in breadcrumbs, shaking off excess. In a large skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Cook the fillets, a few at a time, until golden brown and opaque in the center, 3 to 4 min-

utes on each side; red peppers, lettuce drain on paper towels. Spread cut sides of the rolls with pesto. On bottoms of roll tops on fish! Enroll, layer roasted provolone; top each with a catfish fillet. Place to. On bottoms of roll tops on fish! Enroll, layer roasted joy!



The Lure Of Catfish – Lake Fork catfish sandwiches sizzle!



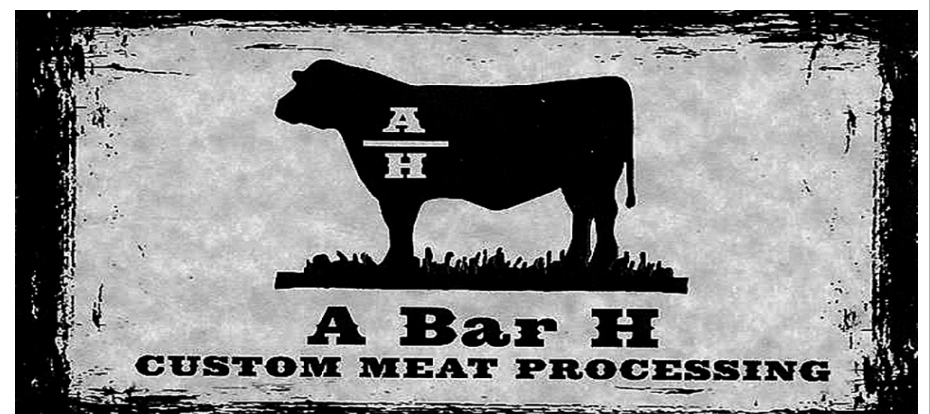

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Game Warden Field Notes (Continued from Page 22)

in a bucket and one was a really big fish. The warden inspected the fish and pulled out a largemouth bass measuring 14 inches and asked the child if he caught the big fish. The child replied, "No, my brother caught it with the cast net." When confronted, the adult admitted to catching one largemouth bass and a crappie. Citations and civil restitution were filed.

—Whoops—A Bexar County game warden was patrolling the southside of San Antonio when they saw vehicle tire tracks entering a water treatment facility. The warden entered the property to search for trespassers when he saw a man on a kayak along the banks of the private lake. The suspect caught a five-pound bass, weighed it, took a picture with his cell phone and then put the bass in to his kayak. When the man saw the game warden truck, he said "Hi." The man told the warden he drove his vehicle around the gate and fence to enter the property. Water treatment security arrived at the scene to sign a non-consent form. The suspect was arrested and booked. The case is pending.

—Adopt Don't Shop—A Mitchell/Howard County game warden received a call about a Howard County resident who admitted to being in possession of a juvenile American Alligator without a proper permit. The warden met with the resident and was able to take custody of the juvenile alligator. When interviewing the resident, the warden discovered that the resident was given the alligator by another individual who could not take care of it. Later that week, the warden met with the original owner who admitted having possession of the alligator. The juvenile alligator was relocated to a rehabilitation center and charges are pending.

—Game Wardens' Best Friend—An Orange County game warden responded to a call from a petroleum company to report someone hunting without landowner consent. Upon arrival on the property, the warden identified and made contact with an individual that was within the property and admitted to hunting hogs with dogs. Another subject was hiding in the woods, but the warden was able to get his name and phone

number from one of the dogs' collars. After more than an hour and a half, the subject came out of the woods. The warden identified and released both subjects to obtain non-consent affidavits from the landowner's agent. Cases pending on both subjects.

—Oh, Crap(pie)—Three Williamson County game wardens were checking night fishermen at Lake Granger and the San Gabriel River when they saw a man and woman loading up their fishing gear and getting ready to leave. The warden identified himself and asked if they had any luck, and the woman replied and said they had caught two fish. Both individuals showed the wardens their valid fishing licenses and let the warden see the two fish they had on the stringer. The warden saw a Styrofoam ice chest and asked them if they had any fish in there. The man said, "Yes, we do but one might be small." The warden opened the ice chest and found two undersized crappies measuring nine inches. Citations and civil restitution were filed.

(Continued on Next Page)



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Wood County Land Appraisal

—Caught Red Handed— A Matagorda County game warden received a call about a group of individuals keeping undersized redfish on Sargent Beach. The warden and their partner drove to the location and spotted the vehicle. While waiting for the initial vehicle to exit the beach, another call came in about another vehicle suspected of keeping too many redfish. The wardens had both vehicles in their sight, so when contact was made with the first vehicle, the second vehicle turned around and started heading away from the wardens. One of the wardens made contact with the fleeing vehicle before it got away. A total of 26 separate violations were found. Appropriate citations were issued and the seized fish were donated. Cases and restitution are pending.

—Fishin' for Trouble— An Orange County game warden and a Newton County game warden teamed up to conduct a Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) patrol out of Sabine Pass into the Gulf of Mexico. On their way back to the port, they spotted a boat doing some commercial fishing and conducted a

patrol stop. During their inspection, they found the boat did not display commercial fishing plates. The captain also did not have written authorization to use the license and a helper on the boat was not licensed as a general commercial fisherman. Cases pending on both commercial fishermen.

—Honesty Goes a Long Way— A Newton County game warden was patrolling southern Newton County when he saw an ATV being illegally operated on a public roadway while the occupants were holding rifles. When the warden contacted the suspects and noticed they had a spotlight with them. The warden asked them what they were doing, and the group said they were riding around looking for animals to shoot from the roadway, but they hadn't killed anything yet. Cases are pending.

—He's a Rescue— Texas Game Wardens and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Agents inspected some antique resale stores. These locations had alligator skulls, black bear mounts, waterfowl mounts, raptor mounts and migratory bird mounts for sale. During the inspection of one

store, an individual entered with a pet possum. In order to possess, sell, or purchase a fur-bearer, a person must have a valid Fur-bearing Propagation Permit. The possum was confiscated and relocated to a licensed rehabber. Citations were issued and cases are pending.

—And That's the Boat-tom Line— Three Bell County game wardens were patrolling Lake Belton checking crappie, white bass and tournament fishermen when they came across a vessel hull identification number that did not conform to the U.S. Coast Guard standards. The wardens ran the TX number and the vessel was flagged for a mandatory boat inspection. The man operating the vessel had purchased the boat several days ago from another person who didn't put the vessel in their name and failed to provide a title to the boat. The wardens contacted the current registered owner who said the boat had been stolen from Belton in 2009. A police report was never made. The vessel was seized and citations were issued to the subject who sold the vessel.

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**Lake Fork Tournament
Schedule Aug. thru Oct.
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August

NO TOURNAMENTS TO LIST

If you are having a Tournament on Lake Fork and wish to have it listed, contact us
fishnews@lakefork.net

September

Sept. 6 ~ JC Outdoors Teams
Minnow Bucket

Sept. 13 ~ Billy Dyson Foundation Teams
Lake Fork Marina

Sept. 19-21 ~ Sealy Big Bass Splash
Lake Fork Marina

October

Oct. 4 ~ JC Outdoors Teams
Minnow Bucket

Oct. 11 ~ Tex. Trails Open
Oak Ridge Marina

Oct. 18 & 19 ~ Berkley Big Bass Tourn.
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