

# LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS



June 13, 2008

Texas' Premier Outdoor Newspaper

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## Shark on the Fly



The ultimate challenge  
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### INSIDE HUNTING



Katherine Nichols of Houston arrowed the top buck of last season taken by a woman in several contests. It was a 12-point, 171+ B&C beauty.

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### FISHING



Some saltwater guides are being creative to combat high fuel prices, with some even sleeping in their truck to avoid commuting to the coast on the weekend.

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The former keeper of the Aransas Pass (Lydia Ann) Lighthouse has opened an art gallery in Port Aransas after an eye injury took most of his sight.

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### CONSERVATION

Charlie Pack of Waco has been inducted into the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Hall of Fame.

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### NATIONAL



Travis Jackson, 13, reeled in a 4-pound, 15-ounce redear sunfish, setting a North Carolina state record.

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## Staying afloat

### Boaters look to downsize or upgrade to counter gas prices

By KYLE CARTER

In early February, Chuck Naiser, who guides the saltwater flats of the Coastal Bend, knew something needed to be done.

He was running two boats: a large one with a 90-hp engine and a smaller Hell's Bay with a 25-hp engine. With gas prices pushing well over \$3 a gallon at that time and no relief on the horizon, Naiser's 25 years of

experience as a guide told him, in his words, "If you don't adjust, you won't stay around."

It was a three-month process, but Naiser eventually downsized his fleet to a Gordon skiff with a 70-hp motor and a Gordon with 25-hp.

"The day of having a big boat with a 200 on it for the working man, I think that day is gone. He can afford to go fishing once every two weeks, but if he's running a 25, he can afford



**MAKING THE SWITCH:** Some anglers are turning to smaller equipment to deal with fuel costs. Manufacturers like Yamaha are creating smaller, fuel-efficient motors to keep them on the water. Photo by Scott Sommerlatte.

to go fishing every day. It doesn't burn but two or three gallons of gas."

In May, *Lone Star Outdoor News* tested Yamaha's new 40-hp four-

stroke electronic multi-point fuel injection engine. The motor's command link gauges showed the engine

See GAS, Page 12

## Economy-proof fly rods selling

### High-end rods flying off the shelves

By CRAIG NYHUS

Purchasers of top-end, expensive fly rods aren't paying attention to the economic forecasts of TV "experts." In fact, sales across the state are better than ever.

"The high-end fly rod market is still hot," said Kevin Hutchison, manager of the fly shop at Sportsman's Finest in Austin. "Scott Rods discontinued their \$200 fly rods because they couldn't keep up with production on the higher-end rods."

"The Helios is one of the hottest," Hutchison said. "Orvis has scooped everyone with this rod. It weighs less and you can still throw a dishrag with it. I think it's going to take the other manufacturers two to three years to catch up with it."

Hutchison doesn't just sell the rod. "I took a 5-weight to Montana and couldn't break it," he said. "And I did everything I could to try."

At IFly, The Anglers Edge in Houston, the more expensive rods are moving better than ever. "It's pretty incredible," said Assistant Manager Frank Miranda. "We're having the best year yet."

IFly carries several different lines, and while rods at the lower end of the scale are moving, "the Sage rods are selling the best for us," Hutchison said. "Especially



**HOT ROD:** Dave Hayward, Orvis regional business manager, caught this red drum using his new Helios rod. Anglers aren't shying away from buying the top-end fly rods and sales are better than ever. Photo by Scott Sommerlatte.

the Axis rod that starts at \$660."

The new Helios rods are topping all expectations for Orvis, even though they sell for \$75.

"Our business is not suffering at all," said Ian Harrison, manager of the Dallas Orvis store. "I'm not really sure why the high-end rods are selling so well. Part of it is the new rod. We don't really have to sell it — the rod sells itself. We

have Sage, Scott and Winston di-hards that want to come and cast the rod — that has never happened in the past."

While Harrison touted his company's new rods, he said all of the top brands have super-high quality graphite and components, and when anglers cast them, they can tell the difference.

Harrison's store is the third lead-

ing store in the country for the sale of the Helios rods. "We're in a pretty good location," he said. "And I believe that fishing, hunting and outdoor pursuits help take people's minds off of the economy."

Miranda wasn't sure why the top rods were selling so well, but he was happy the buyers weren't holding off. "It's not phasing us here," he said.

## The pig pill

### Contraceptive developed to help control feral hog populations

By MARK ENGLAND

Texas officials have tried hunting and trapping. Now they plan to try to put wild hogs on the pill — a phosphodiesterase 3 inhibitor, to be specific.

Texas A&M University research-

ers have encapsulated the contraceptive and tested it on domestic swine. Within the year, testing could be done in the wild, said Duane Kraemer, professor of veterinary physiology and pharmacology.

See PILL, Page 18

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12 city/17 hwy 4WD)
- HORSEPOWER: UP TO 320
- TOW CAPACITY: 7,100 LBS<sup>1</sup>
- AVAILABLE SEATING CAPACITY: UP TO 9



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\*EPA-est. mpg (2WD) Yukon Hybrid 21 city; Camry V6 19 city. \*\*MSRP. Tax, title, license, dealer fees and optional equipment extra. <sup>1</sup>Maximum trailer ratings and calculated assuming a properly equipped base vehicle plus driver. See dealer for details. <sup>†</sup>Cargo and load capacity limited by weight and distribution.

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## CONSERVATION

# Shrimp license buyback goals met



CHARLIE PACK

## Waco man joins Freshwater Hall of Fame

Charlie Pack of Waco was inducted into the Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame at a banquet at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center June 7.

Pack was nominated in the angler category in recognition of his fishing accomplishments, fishing inventions and work with introducing young people to fishing.

In 1996, Pack founded the Tadpole Charitable Foundation, a nonprofit organization that has given more than 40,000 children the chance to fish. All equipment is furnished, and the annual free day of fishing attracts several thousand attendees. The foundation also maintains a fishing equipment lending library. Its motto is "Off the streets and on the creeks."

Pack's "Fishing Country" television show has aired on several Texas stations for 18 consecutive years. He makes frequent public appearances at schools, civic organizations and other venues, giving fishing demonstrations.

Pack has won several bass fishing and crappie fishing championships and is the inventor of the "Pack Pole," an 11-foot telescoping crappie rod.

The Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame honors legendary anglers, fisheries professionals and organizations that have made a contribution to freshwater fishing in Texas.

— Texas Parks and Wildlife report.

An effort to purchase and retire commercial shrimp licenses has achieved its goals after raising nearly \$12 million over the past decade.

Bay shrimpers have voluntarily sold more than 1,800 licenses to Texas Parks and Wildlife since the buyback program began in the 1990s. As a result, peak bay shrimping effort has decreased by 91 percent since 1994.

During the same period, shrimper bycatch, or accidental catch of other marine life besides shrimp, has decreased by 84 percent. Abundance of bycatch species such as croaker, sand trout and anchovies has increased by 61 percent. Croaker abundance in Texas bays has almost doubled since 1994.

"Our goal was to return bay shrimping effort to the levels of the 1970s, and we've achieved that," said Larry McKinney, TPW Coastal Fisheries Division director. "Our red drum and trout fisheries are in their best conditions in 30 years, with populations increasing. And reducing the impact of near-shore shrimping has been significant in getting us to where we are today."

Private donors played a key role in the buyback effort. On May 22, a check for \$1.2 million was presented to the TPW

'Our goal was to return bay shrimping effort to the levels of the 1970s, and we've achieved that.'

— Larry McKinney

Commission by Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation Executive Director Dick Davis.

"This success story involves a diverse group of conservation philanthropists who all deserve recognition," Davis said.

The campaign to put the buyback program over the top began 18 months ago when former TPW Commission Chairman Joseph Fitzsimons recommended establishing a fund in honor of the late William Negley, a long-time advocate of Texas coastal conservation. Charter contributors to the campaign via the Bill Negley Fund include Fitzsimons, Ed Harte, Will Harte, the

Harte Charitable Foundation, Commission Chairman Peter Holt and Commissioner Dan Friedkin, who together provided \$400,000.

"We've finally reached the goal Bill Negley set decades ago," Fitzsimons said. "I was sitting at Negley's breakfast table 20 years ago, when he told me this had to happen. His vision was that anglers and other conservationists would bear the cost of this, not through regulation but through purchase of licenses to help fund efforts to reduce bycatch. Later, the Harte family asked me what single effort would make the most difference for coastal conservation, and they made a \$250,000 challenge grant to get things rolling."

The Foundation, led by board members Mimi Zoch, Karen Hixon and Pat Murray, raised the remaining \$800,000. Contributing partners included the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Robert J. and Helen C. Kleberg Foundation, the Meadows Foundation, the Amon Carter Foundation and the Texas Coastal Conservation Association. Several other foundations and individuals also contributed.

— Texas Parks and Wildlife report.



**TIMELY GIFT:** A prescribed burn trailer created by Garrett and Cole Rinn of New Ulm has been donated to the Texas Organization of Wildlife Management Association.

## Students create Prescribed Burn Trailer

Garrett and Cole Rinn of the Austin County 4-H created a Prescribed Burn Trailer to compete in the San Antonio Livestock Expo and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Junior Agricultural Mechanics competition.

The trailer contains all of the equipment needed to run a prescribed burn, including a pump unit for UTVs, 25-gallon 12-volt electric spray unit for ATVs, backpack sprayer, swatters, fire rakes, safety gas and diesel cans, eight hand-held radios for

ground communication, a hand-held weather station, four drip torches, prescribed burn road signs and other hand tools and equipment. The trailer contains custom built drawers and storage shelves and custom-built travel ready tool racks.

The trailer was returned to TOWMA and housed at the Texas Forestry Service in LaGrange. The trailer is available to anyone who wishes to use it within the Post Oak Prairie District.

— Staff reports.

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## Advisory board recognizes QU support

Texas Parks and Wildlife's Upland Game Bird Advisory Board is recognizing the conservation efforts and contributions of two Texas-based chapters of Quail Unlimited.

The Alamo Area Chapter provided about \$12,000 in funds that

have been utilized in habitat enhancement activities and in the acquisition of equipment including a no-till drill to be used in providing enhanced habitats for upland birds.

The South Texas chapter, since 2001, has contributed about

\$95,000 towards habitat enhancement activities and equipment, including \$15,000 which was used toward the purchase of a 4x4 tractor for use on the Daughtrey WMA.

— Texas Parks and Wildlife report.

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## HUNTING

## After two seasons, patience pays off



**BEST WITH BOW:** The top archery buck taken by a woman in several contests last season, scored at more than 171 B&C, was arrowed by Katherine Nichols of Houston at the King Ranch. Photo by Wallace Nichols.

## Houston woman arrows best buck

By BILL MILLER

What seems longer — patterning a trophy buck for two seasons or the few moments it takes to hold a bow at full draw, waiting for the right kill shot?

Katherine Nichols of Houston assured that it's the latter.

But for her patience, the mother of two small children (there's another one on the way) arrowed the best 2007 archery buck by a woman in the Los Cazadores Deer Contest and the Texas Gulf Coast Deer Competition.

TGDC scored it at 171 7/8, and Los Cazadores had it at 171 2/8. Either way, it's a memorable buck.

It first got Katherine's attention before the 2006 season when her husband, Wallace, photographed it on the family's Kleberg County lease — on the legendary King Ranch.

"He watches these deer for years," Katherine said. "I remember him showing me this deer and I thought that was the coolest deer I had ever seen."

Katherine is quick to credit Wallace and father-in-law, Robert Nichols, for preparing her for the challenge.

"I did grow up going hunting with my family in South Texas," she recalled. "But then I met Wallace in college (at the University of Texas).

"He was a huge deer hunter, and he started taking me and educating me on things like, 'How do you know that's the deer from last year?' Or 'How old is that deer?'"

Robert gifted his daughter-in-law with her bow.

"The idea that you have to get really close and get everything just right is really exciting," she said. "Picking a deer and then pat-

'The idea that you have to get really close and get everything just right is really exciting.'

— Katherine Nichols

ternning him — it's a commitment."

Katherine's first encounter with her trophy was during the 2006 season.

"He stared, forehead to forehead, with me at about 15-20 yards," she said.

But he slipped away without offering a broadside shot.

"I was just shaking," Katherine said. "So I came out swinging in 2007."

The buck reappeared the Friday morning after Thanksgiving, but a broadside shot was elusive again.

"The third time I drew on him was the shot," she said. "I think he ran maybe 50 yards.

"My husband and my father-in-law were so proud."

Katherine's new baby is due in December, but she'll be back on the lease during deer season, and not just to bag another trophy.

"Our kids love to see the animals and they get to be around their grandparents," she said. "That's where we spend a lot of family time."

## Hunting license stamps used to support research, habitat

### Complex formula used to determine revenue from each

By MARY HELEN AGUIRRE

When you purchase your hunting license beginning Aug. 15, you might grumble at having to pay that extra \$7 stamp endorsement to hunt your bird of choice or to hunt by bow.

Texas assesses this "user" fee for those 17 and older hunting Texas migratory birds, upland birds or deer or turkey by bow during the archery-only season.

Think of it this way: That \$7 stamp is helping to ensure that the species you enjoy hunting survives at a higher rate. "Everything goes back to the betterment of wildlife and their habitats," said Tom Newton, the license revenue manager for Texas Parks and Wildlife.

From August of 2007 through May 31, the three hunting stamp endorsements have generated about \$6 million in net revenue. Newton projects that \$3.2 million

of that total is from the Texas migratory bird stamp, \$2 million from the upland game bird stamp, and \$960,000 from the archery stamp.

Those monies are channeled into Fund 9, with slightly more than \$3 million going into a subset fund earmarked for research that benefits migratory birds and their habitats; and close to \$2 million being routed to another subset fund earmarked for research

benefiting upland birds. The archery stamp revenue generally is used to fund archery education and surveys.

Matt Wagner, TPW Wildlife Diversity Program director, said studies funded by the migratory bird and upland bird stamp revenue include a study by Texas A&M University that is investigating the decline of the Rio Grande wild turkey in the southern region of the Edwards Plateau and

research into the lethality of lead shot in white-winged doves, conducted in collaboration with the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks.

"Every year, we know what we sold and we do a financial projection and we budget accordingly," Newton said. "Some of it is allocated, some is not."

The budgeted net revenue is the gross revenue minus the about 4

See STAMPS, Page 22

## Calling all waterfowl

### Championships host 69 callers in 23 events

Duck and goose callers from across the country met in Spring for the Gander Mountain World Calling Championships May 31 and June 1.

Billed as the world's largest waterfowl calling contest, the 23 events included the World Championship Specklebelly and Texas State Goose Calling contests.

Organized by PWP Promotions, the competition saw 69 total callers competing over the two days, with numerous callers competing in several events.

Cody Mahon of Paradise hunts all over the country with his four children, and he captured three titles in the duck-calling competitions. "It was well-organized for such a big event," he said. "They did a

great job with the setup."

"Big" Sean Hammock of Pittsfield, Ill., was in Texas on business for Foiles Migrators calls, and won the Open Canada Goose contest.

David Pruett of Columbus was one of the organizers and competed in several contests, winning the World Championship Snow Goose-Mouth Calling and Overall Open and State Goose contests. Pruett said the large numbers of callers made the competition unique, and the meat duck contests were popular with the contestants. "We also threw out the high and low score from the judges for each caller," he said. "I don't think that's ever been done."

Ben Sampognaro of West Monroe, La., and Austin Hebert of Milton, La., dominated the junior division, with Sampognaro taking the Open Meat Duck, Open Arkansas Duck and Open Specklebelly junior divisions, and Hebert winning the Open Snow and Open Canada junior divisions. Chris Wallen of Cleburne took the Jr. State Meat Duck title.

Other winners:

**Open Arkansas Duck**

Jeremy Romain of Memphis, TN

**Open Meat Duck**

Jay Foster of Mont Belvieu

**World Championship Snow**

Chris Swift of Hockley



**TRAVELING CALLER:** John Chiasson of Lake Charles, La., competed in several goose-calling divisions. Photo by Erik Guggenheim.

See CALLING, Page 23

# AR rifles for hunting coming on strong

By **BILL MILLER**

That gun that looks like a military M-16 isn't just for patrolling Baghdad anymore.

Sales of AR-15s are a brisk in Texas and manufacturers say the allure of these guns has spilled into the hunting market.

The National Shooting Sports Foundation reports that sales figures for "tactical" rifles "are impossible to report because so many manufacturers are privately held and government statistics do not distinguish between rifle types."

But anecdotal evidence is plentiful.

Just ask Texas retailers. "We can't keep them on the shelves," said Gary Hicks of the

Outdoorsman in San Angelo. A lot of AR sales, he added, are on back-order.

Ron Rutledge, owner of McClelland's Gun Shop in Dallas, also reported strong AR volume.

"They're coming on, big time," he said. "They've really grown in hunting arena when they started offering a wider array of calibers."

Up until recent years, the AR-15, the civilian version of the M-16, was mostly available in the same caliber of its military counterpart, the .223. It was widely considered an excellent round for coyotes and other varmints, although a tad small for deer.

But now there's a plethora of high-caliber options for the AR platform, including .308, some

**'We can't keep them on the shelves.'**

— **GARY HICKS**

wildcat rounds and even a few magnum calibers.

To grasp what's available, just "Google" these manufacturers: DPMS, Rock River, Colt Manufacturing, Bushmaster, Smith and Wesson and Stag Arms, to name a few.

Add to that list Remington, which this year began offering the R-15, a camo-coated AR in traditional varmint calibers, and the just-announced R-25, available in

short-action big game rounds, including .308.

Founded in 1816, Remington is renowned for its legendary bolt-action rifles. But now it's owned by Cerberus Capital Management, which also owns Bushmaster and DPMS.

"They're the tops when it comes to the AR world," said Eddie Stevenson, Remington spokesman. "But Remington is hunter driven."

"We know that market, and ARs are the fastest growing market in our industry, by far, so it just made sense."

Your search will also show that these guns are "high-end," with basic platforms ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,500.

But there is also a wide world of after-market AR accessories — including special grips, rails for scopes, and the optics themselves.

"The guns leave here with more stuff hanging off of them," Rutledge said. "Whatever the guys want."

Kirk Ingels of Austin has a pair of Armalite AR-10s in .308, one with a night-vision scope for hog hunting after sundown, and the other with a red-dot scope for deer.

"It's a great gun, easy to shoot, very accurate and I love it," Ingels said. "The recoil is significantly less because the gun is taking a lot of that up in its recycling process."

"These guns are a lot more expensive, but you'll never be unhappy with the best."

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## FISHING

## Coastal guides adapt to high fuel costs

Some bookings slow as prices rise



**CREATIVE SOLUTIONS:** While some guides have raised prices to deal with gas prices, others are running shorter distances and trailing their boats closer to their favorite spots. Photo by David J. Sams.

By CRAIG NYHUS

Higher gas prices are hitting coastal guides where it hurts — in the pocketbook. While some are passing the increased costs on to customers, others are getting creative and adapting.

Mike O'Dell, longtime guide and president of the Coastal Bend Guides Association, usually fishes out of Aransas Pass.

"Some guys have gone up on their charges," he said. "I've stayed the same as last year."

O'Dell has changed the way he gets to his fishing locations. "If we're fishing Corpus or Nueces Bay, I drive over there," he said. "I get 3-4 miles per gallon in the boat, and I can get

11 pulling it. If the customers want to run to Baffin, I have to charge more."

O'Dell said he is seeing a change on the water, too, in the form of fewer boats. "We're not seeing nearly as many boats this year — even on the weekends. We are seeing more kayaks, though."

His bookings are down as well. "Usually, I'm booked every weekend by mid-April," he said. "This year, half of my weekends starting in July are open."

Offshore, where long runs are the norm, has seen most charters and party boats increase fees by \$100, O'Dell said. "But many of them haven't raised their fees in three years or more," he said.

See **COST**, Page 22

## Shark on the fly

Ultimate challenge and fun in the wake of a shrimp boat

By BRANDON SHULER

The fantail of the shrimp boat rose from the water and settled back in with a small wake of whitewater. Chris climbed to the bow of the 28-foot center console and peered over the side into the crystalline, blue water.

"Nothing down there," he said.

The Lowrance said differently. The display showed half-inch long orange and blue LCD images that betrayed the school of fish under the boat.

"Throw some chum over; let's see if we can see if someone is home," the captain said.

Out in front, a deckhand wearing a navy cap with a Yankees' emblem waddled along the gunwale of the anchored shrimp boat. He threw the morning trash overboard. A few particles of scrambled eggs weaved their way through the water before getting gobbled up by a couple of remora. As he disappeared, the deckhand tossed a red Coke can overboard.

From behind, a five-foot bull shark materialized. He swam lazily towards the boat like a dog with his nose in the air looking for a handout. He swam a few lethargic circles searching for a few morsels; then he saw the red can, and his entire personality changed. The shark's body went rigid and he swam solely with his powerful tail. He nudged the can with his nose.

Grab the double-handled rod, the captain said.

The pre-rigged shark rod was rigged with a Terry Hayden IV anti-reverse reel that can pack on 800 yards of backing, a Scientific Angler Tarpon Mastery 12-weight fly-line, down to a 20-pound leader section with a 60-pound Cortland Toothy Critter bite guard. The fly, tried and true, was a six-inch red and yellow deceiver tied on a gold flash underbody.

The fly was tied on a circle hook to the consternation of some fly guides. But facing a long battle, the fish can help set the hook. And with the aggressive, slashing attack, the circle hooks have higher hook-up rates over traditional hooks.

Chris grabbed the rod and stripped out 40 feet of line. He took one false cast and laid out a hooking, tailing loop that landed behind the shark.

"Let it sit; wait for him to turn around," the captain said.

See **SHARK**, Page 23

**TACKLING A BRUTE:** Fly anglers can take advantage of an anchored Gulf shrimp boat and tackle a shark for a long and exciting battle. The Gulf shrimp season is expected to open July 15, pending TPW approval. Photo by Scott Sommerlatte.

## Outdoors, art lover boosting Port Aransas' image

After eye injury, former lighthouse keeper buys gallery

By DIANA KUNDE

Rick Pratt is an outdoorsman and an art lover. Add biologist, shooting sportsman, historic preservationist, writer and retired lighthouse keeper to the mix and you get an idea of this complex art gallery owner in Port Aransas.

"The two interests have always been side by side — art and the outdoors," said Pratt. Two years ago, he and his wife, Cameron, also a biologist, sportswoman and art lover, bought the Port A Gallery in Old Town, Port Aransas.

"I wanted to start a business that held my interest, and this was it," he said. "Port Aransas needed a fine arts gallery."

Check the gallery's Web site at [www.portgallery.net](http://www.portgallery.net) and you'll see a mix of art with a coastal theme, including sporting art by well-known figures like Herb Booth and Sam Caldwell. Most is original, Pratt said, with some giclee, or digitally done, prints.

You'll also see the civic spirit that seems to occupy a large part of Pratt's life. For instance, the gallery will host a preview party in November for Turtle Trail 2008, a fund-raiser to benefit the rehabilitation of sea turtles, seabirds and other coastal animals.

Pratt, 63, is also a Port Aransas councilman and board member of the local historic preservation society.

"We're saving the Sears House.

It was about to be knocked down by a developer," Pratt said. The house — built from a kit sold from a Sears, Roebuck & Co. catalog in 1910, now sits right across from the gallery in Old Town. Plans are to restore it as an interactive museum.

Pratt and his wife were well-known keepers of the Aransas Pass (Lydia Ann) Lighthouse, which Pratt restored in partnership with Charles Butt, chairman and CEO of H.E. Butt Grocery Co. "He owned it; I restored and managed it," Pratt said.

"It was a wonderful and unique address."

Many waterfowlers recall Pratt's uncanny ability to identify duck

See **PRATT**, Page 23

**CHANGING TIMES:** Rick Pratt, the former keeper of the Aransas Pass (Lydia Ann) Lighthouse, exhibits some of the coastal art shown at his Port A Gallery in Port Aransas. Photo by Paul Brown.





**FAMILY TRADITION:** The traditions and home-spun baits of a late trotliner continue with family members in East Texas. At right, Inzes Neal "Peep" Gentry with a 46-pound catfish caught when he was 90.



## Trotlining with Peep

### Longtime angler favored homemade rigs, baits

By BECKY GENTRY

Inzes Neal Gentry lived to run his trotline. Known by family and friends simply as Peep, his garage on Lake Bob Sandlin was loaded with old unmarked trotlines, hooks and line.

Each weekend, family and friends arriving at the lake knew the first item on the agenda was to "bait out." And at first light, Peep was ready to run the lines.

The bait of choice was live bream, but his next favorite was homemade lye soap, made by mixing fireplace ashes with bacon grease or lard, pouring the mixture into a pan and then cutting it into cubes. "It lasts forever," he would say.

Another bait was "Benji" dog food, sold only at Brookshire's. The trip to the lake might involve several stops to find the dog food before it went off the market. "I guess we were

the only ones using it," Peep said. The next phase involved cutting hot dogs and mixing them with anise oil and diced garlic. Bull, Peep's old lab, waited on the dock for the smelly leftovers.

Peep never bought a prepared bait. One of his fellow trotlining buddies swore by Catfish Charlie as the best bait around. After running the lines, the group would meet for coffee. "Why spend all that time trotlining when you can just go to Catfish King and get all you want," a group member asked him.

"It's not as good as catching it yourself," he replied.

One morning the friend was checking his trotline. The first hook held a Catfish King cole slaw container. The next held a container of hush puppies, and the next held pinto beans. The friend didn't come to coffee that morning.

Peep never owned up to the prank

— but asked his friend, "What, no hush puppies?"

Peep made his own trotlines out of coated line from Lafitte, La. Three window weights anchored the line at the ends and in the middle.

"Don't bait out too early," he would say. "The turtles will eat all the bait. And run the line as early as possible in the morning."

The ultimate recycler, Peep would only freeze his fish in paper milk cartons. "Always use quarts, pints don't hold enough fish to stink up the grease," he said.

Peep ran trotlines into his 90s, and when he could no longer go out, he would wait on the dock, ready to help "prepare them for eating." He died two months short of his 92nd birthday, but the trotline traditions handed down remain, and stories of Peep are still told in the jon boat each weekend.

## East Texas bluegill

### Late spawners bring big bite in small package

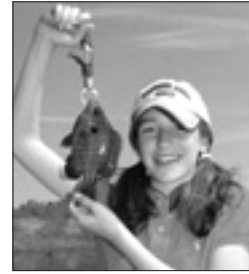
The bluegill spawn is still on at several East Texas lakes, providing fast action for families and serious anglers alike.

Dennis North, who guides at Caddo Lake, said Lake O' the Pines was hot on a recent trip. "We caught good numbers of big ones along the back sides of the island grass beds," he said.

As for Caddo, North said the lake is ready. "The water temperature is right and we're hitting some on the beds," he said. "But it's more like 50-60 fish in a morning — the water's real high and there is lots of current. When it settles, I expect it will be 100-plus fish in a morning."

At Toledo Bend Reservoir, the first

See BLUEGILL, Page 22



**FEISTY FISH:** Bluegill are in the shallows in many Texas lakes, providing fun for fishers of all ages. Photo by David J. Sams.

## HOT SPOT



### Port Mansfield

Trout and redfish are good while drifting West Bay on live shrimp and bone topwaters and soft plastics. Trout and flounder are good on live bait in the Intracoastal. Whiting, flounder and sheepshead are good on fresh dead bait at the jetty. Some tarpon are beginning to show. Guides at Getaway Adventures Lodge (956) 944-4000 report that schools of redfish in the 30-inch range are in skinny water, as water levels in the bay are very high. See full fishing report on Page 19.

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## GAME WARDEN BLOTTER

### CITATIONS ISSUED FOR NOT WEARING LIFEJACKETS

•Wichita County Game Warden Pat Canan and Clay County Game Warden Eddie Hood, while working water safety on Lake Arrowhead, issued a citation to the operator of a boat for having no life jackets for two people aboard. The next day, the boat was again checked by Hood. This time there were three people on the boat, the two from the day before who proudly displayed their life jackets and the third person who was without. Cases pending.

### LARGE WAKE FROM CRUISER TOSSES BOATER IN THE AIR

•A Crown Line boat was entering Hell's Gate at Possum Kingdom Lake and a large cruiser was exiting Hell's Gate making a very large wake. When the Crown Line hit the wake, a 50-year-old man riding in the front of the boat was tossed into the air and knocked unconscious. He also received broken ribs when he came down on the boat. The accident is under investigation.

### ANGLERS CITED FOR 64 WHITE BASS UNDERSIZED FISH

•Wise County Game Warden Penny Nixon cited two men on Lake Bridgeport for being over the limit of white bass. The two had a total of 64 fish. Cases and restitution are pending.

### TWO APPREHENDED FOR ZAPPING CATFISH

•Houston County Game Warden Eddie Lehr apprehended two local residents for shocking fish on the Neches River. The zapper, eight flathead catfish and one blue catfish were confiscated. The zapper was mounted inside

## MEN CAUGHT WRESTLING FAWN IN SUV

•At 2 a.m., the Plano Police Department contacted central dispatch for assistance from Collin County Game Warden LeRoy Thompson. Plano PD observed a white SUV traveling south on Hwy 75 weaving in and

out of lanes. The vehicle was occupied by seven men. The four men in the back seat were wrestling to hold down a white-tailed fawn jumping around in the back floorboard and seat. The vehicle operator said they

picked up the deer from the side of the road and were transporting it home to raise as a pet for his kids. Thompson and the four men removed the deer from the vehicle. The deer was captured and a citation issued.

of a small Nokia Speaker box/case. Charges pending.

### SEARCH LOCATES THREE LOST INDIVIDUALS

•Hardeman County Game Warden Matt Thompson received a call from dispatch advising of three lost individuals on the Red River. One of the three had called saying the game warden was the only one who could find them. The temperature had dropped 30 degrees, and the wind chill was in the 30s. Thompson called in Wilbarger County Warden Dyke McMahan, and after four hours of searching over nine properties, all three were found in an elevated deer blind overlooking the river.

### TWO FOUND WITH UNDERSIZED FISH

•Refugio County Game Warden Danny Kelso found two men in San Antonio Bay with 5 undersized redfish and 11 undersized black drum. Cases pending.

### VEHICLE SUBMERGED IN POND, TWO DROWN

•Tyler Police dispatch called Smith County Game Warden Chris Green about a vehicle submerged in a private pond. Witnesses in the neighborhood stated the vehicle came down a

small hill accelerating at a high rate of speed, crossing two front lawns and plunging into 8 feet of water. Both elderly occupants drowned. Green was called by the on-scene sergeant to assist with notifying the dive team and other logistics in the investigation.

### ANGLERS RESCUED FROM OVERTURNED JON BOAT

•Aransas County Game Warden Richard "Marty" Martin assisted two men after their 14-foot jon boat overturned in 30-mph winds. The men were fishing in Port Bay and Martin was able to safely pull their boat to shore.

### MAN ARRESTED FOR FAILURE TO IDENTIFY HIMSELF

•Rockwall County Game Warden Jenny M. Simpson received a call regarding fishermen keeping undersized fish in Robertson Park on Lake Ray Hubbard. When Simpson arrived in the park, there were numerous fishermen fishing the lake. Simpson approached a group of fishermen matching the description given by the caller. All four men were fishing with no fishing licenses. They had a five-gallon bucket full of fish, most of which were undersized sand bass and largemouth bass. One of the men

refused to identify himself. When told he could identify or go to jail, he turned around and put his hands behind his back. The warden arrested the man and took him before the judge.

### UNDERCOVER OPERATION CATCHES MAN SELLING FISH

•Williamson County Game Warden Scott Vaca and Travis County Game Warden Turk Jones completed an undercover operation where Jones posed as a buyer for fish from a local resident who was selling crappie he caught from Lake Granger. Jones bought some fish from the man and alluded to wanting more, and the man showed him several bags of fish in a freezer that he offered for sale. The transaction was taped and several cases were filed for the sale of protected finfish as well as having no retail fish dealer's license. Cases pending.

### ANGLERS CHARGED WITH TAKING FISH BY ILLEGAL MEANS

•Hays County Warden James Michael was on his way to patrol on Lake Travis when he saw a vehicle parked along a county road next to Onion Creek. The vehicle was parked between two no trespass signs. Michael went over the fence

and approached two men grappling for catfish under the edge of the bank and two women holding nets to assist them. They had two channel catfish and were working on the third one when Michael caught them. They were charged with taking fish by illegal means and trespassing.

### STOLEN ITEMS, NARCOTICS LEAD TO SEVEN ARRESTS

•Harrison County Game Warden Javier Fuentes attempted to serve two Class C misdemeanor warrants at a Marshall residence. The man was not home but his ex-girlfriend was at the location. Fuentes asked for consent to look for any stolen items. The girlfriend then began pointing out stolen items. Assisted by a Harrison County deputy, more than \$15,000 of stolen property was recovered, including power and lawn tools, lumber, jewelry, a utility trailer and other small items. The next morning, Fuentes went to a residence where the man was staying with his new girlfriend. Warrants were outstanding on both and they were placed under arrest. Fuentes and a Harrison County deputy were given consent to search for any stolen items. Once inside the home, a strong scent of chemicals was coming from a bathroom. A female had been flushing chemicals down the toilet and shower, trying to destroy evidence of a meth lab inside the home. DPS narcotics were called to assist and seven people were placed under arrest. Fuentes and deputies recovered more than \$10,000 of stolen property (lawn tools and an ATV). Cases pending.

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# OUTDOOR DATEBOOK

**June 14-15:** Cabela's in Buda will hold its Father's Day Celebration with prizes, photos and more. Call (512) 295-1100 for information.

**June 14-15:** The 2008 Great Elk Tour and Texas State Elk Calling Championship will be held at Bass Pro Shops in Kay. For information, call Robert Linder at (830) 693-9515 or visit basspro.com.

**June 14:** The Cabela's Kid's Day Celebration will be held at the Fort Worth store, with games, contests, giveaways, and more. Call (817) 337-2400 for information.

**June 14:** The University of Texas Marine Science Institute in Port Aransas will hold an open house with exhibitions and guided tours. Call (361) 749-6711 or visit utmsi.utexas.edu for information.

**June 17:** A Girls Night Out Basic Pistol Marksmanship class will be held at Bass Pro Shops in Grapevine. Call (972) 724-2018 for information.

information.

**June 19:** The Texas chapter of the Recreational Fishing Alliance will hold its annual banquet at the South Shore Harbour Hotel & Conference Center in League City. For information, call (713) 444-9086 or visit rfabanquet.com.

**June 19:** The Tarrant County NWF dinner will be held at Lockheed Recreation Center. Call Robert at (817) 731-3402 for information.

**June 19:** The Centex CCA banquet will be held at the Heart of Texas Coliseum. Call (713) 626-4222 for information.

**June 20-22:** The Texas DU State Convention will be held at the Embassy Suites and Convention Center in Frisco. Contact John White at (325) 236-6726 for information.

**June 21:** The Texas Lady Anglers Trickle'n' Trout tournament will be held at Carbine Park in LaMarque. Contact Patti at (832) 876-6622 or patti@texasladyanglers.com for information.

**June 21:** The Red Deer Rios NWF

banquet will be held at the Miami Community Center. Call Clint at (806) 868-4014 for information.

**June 21:** The Tarrant Christian Bass Club free kid's tournament will be held at Bowman Springs Park at Lake Arlington. Call (817) 975-2449 or visit tarrantchristianbassclub.com for information.

**June 24:** The Hays County DU dinner will be held at the Painted Horse Pavilion in Buda. Contact Travis at (512) 753-9448 or super\_red\_tx@yahoo.com for information.

**June 26-28:** The 4th Annual Houston Invitational Billfish Tournament will be held at Surfside Marina. For information, contact Sally Farley at (281) 291-8889 or info@hbfc.com.

**June 26-29:** The Port Aransas Masters Tournament will be held in memory of avid fishermen Fred Rhodes and Dean Hawn. Contact Fox Yacht Sales at (361) 749-4870 for information.

**June 26:** The Matagorda Bay CCA banquet will be held at the El Campo

Civic Center. Call (713) 626-4222 for information.

**June 27-28:** The Texas Wildlife Association State Convention and statewide Big Game Awards will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort. For information, call (210) 826-2904 or visit texas-wildlife.org.

**June 27-29:** The Greater Houston Christian Outdoor Fellowship Guided Saltwater Fishing Tournament will be held in Rockport. Contact Jimmy at (281) 788-8435 or jimmyhassell@ghcof.org for information.

**June 27:** The Sabine County DU dinner will be held at the Fin & Feather Resort on TX-87 South. Call Jon at (409) 787-3102 for information.

**June 27:** The Hood County NWF dinner will be held at the Hidden Oaks Golf Course in Granbury. Contact Lee at (817) 573-7700 or lee@overstreetrealty.com for information.

**June 27:** The Sam Houston NWF dinner will be held at the Walker County Fairgrounds in Huntsville. Contact

Robert at (936) 439-7050 or conniemariethatsme@yahoo.com for information.

**June 28:** The Austin DU Fun Shoot will be held at the Texas Disposal Systems Exotic Game Ranch and Pavilion in Buda. Contact Joaquin at (512) 968-7557 or walkinsaezn@hotmail.com for information.

**June 28:** The German Shorthaired Pointer Club of San Antonio will hold snake awareness training. To register, call Mark at (830) 606-9663.

**July 8:** The Dallas Safari Club DSC 100 meeting will be held at Bass Pro Shops in Garland. Contact Jaimey at (469) 484-6777 for information.

## HAVE AN EVENT?

E-mail it to editor@lonestaroutdoornews.com

## Gas

Continued from Page 1

was using 7.8 gallons of gas per hour at 6100 rpm and 32 mph. At a more comfortable cruising speed the engine was using 2.0 gph.

Billy Holmes, vice president of Gulf Coast Marine out of Corpus Christi, said he's seen some movement in the consumer's habits, but it hasn't been overwhelming. Holmes said they get a lot of boaters coming in to swap their old, inefficient two-stroke motor with a newer four-stroke.

"We're seeing a little bit of down-sizing on horsepower, but it really depends on what people want to use the boat for," Holmes said. "If they

are tournament anglers and need to get back and forth in a hurry, the larger motor might only cost them an extra \$20 in gas a day, which is worth it. But the casual angler is learning that he can slowly work his way to a spot and save money."

Holmes said the trend of powering down has been gradual over the past decade. Eight years ago, he said they were consistently putting 200-hp motors on their most popular Bluewave boats, of which they sell hundreds a year, but this year they might sell one with that size engine.

Still, there are plenty of people with plenty of money, and according to Holmes they are still going to go fishing and American's are still interested in having the biggest toys — it might just cost them a little more.

"We just got in 35 boats outfitted

with three separate 350-hp engines," Holmes said. "Would you consider that downsizing?"

One of those who won't be standing in line for 1,050 worth of horsepower is Shane Bachelor. A supervisor at a chemical plant by weekday and recreational fisherman by weekend, Bachelor, 39, said he's only able to get on the water three or four times a month.

A little over a year ago Bachelor was looking at upgrading from his 16-foot Flatlander with a 90-hp engine to something larger, but after adding up the numbers, he settled on an 18-foot boat with a 70-hp engine.

"Not only would I have had a more expensive boat, but I'd of had more expensive insurance and it would have needed more gas," Bachelor said. "Used to, I'd go burn 20 some-

thing gallons of fuel in a day. Now, I can get to where I want to fish, pole the boat and only burn about five gallons."

Naiser offered similar gas-saving numbers. He said the move from a 90 to a 70 has cut his gas consumption in half, and his 25 barely moves the needle, burning just over four gallons on the hardest days.

As for the difference in performance, Naiser said most of what he's lost in going with a smaller engine on a smaller boat is amenities like storage space, but he added that smaller boats are easier in terms of maintenance.

"The speeds aren't real different between my old 90 and my new 25," Naiser said. "But there's no way that fuel-saving alone is going to justify buying a couple new boats. You're

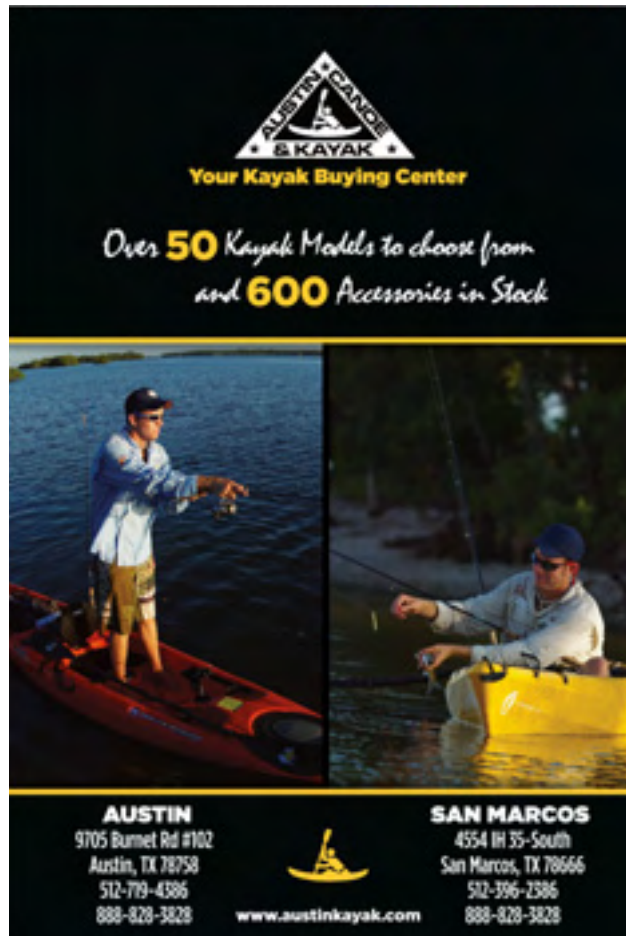
also going to reduce maintenance, and just about everything else.

"When you reduce gas, you reduce the amount of oil you have to buy to mix with everything and it's easier all the way around."

Naiser said his situation might be more unique because he is a guide, but in his eyes the decision for the casual boater, like Bachelor, is simple.

"He can take a 25 and do the same things as he could with a 200, in safety, and the wife can't fuss about that," Naiser said. "It's all about what the wife says. If you're spending \$75 a day on fuel and your wife needs some new clothes, you're going to hear about that."

"If you're smart, you'll sell your big boat, get a little boat and go fishing whenever you want, and fuel will not be part of the objection."



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# YAMAHA

## NATIONAL

# Young angler reels in state record redear sunfish

A last-minute decision to go fishing with his mother netted a 13-year-old from Rocky Mount a new North Carolina freshwater fish state record.

Travis Jackson reeled in a 4-pound, 15-ounce redear sunfish from a private pond in Edgecombe County on May 19, using a worm as bait. The fish measured 15 1/16 inches in length and 18 1/8 inches in girth.

According to Arlene Jackson, Travis' mother, Jackson was playing with his Sony PlayStation when she talked him into going fishing. Within an hour, he was reeling in "one really big bream" from a pond down the road from his house.

They had the fish weighed at the Piggly Wiggly in Rocky Mount. Bill Collart, a N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission fisheries biologist, verified it as a redear. However, after looking at its massive size, Collart second-guessed himself and thought it might be a bluegill



**MAKING HIS MARK:** Travis Jackson, 13, holds his 4-pound, 15-ounce redear sunfish, a North Carolina state record. Photo by N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission.

instead. He called Wayne Starnes, an ichthyologist with the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences, for a second opinion.

"On further digging, into the fish literally, Starnes determined that I was right to begin with and it was indeed a shellcracker," Collart said. "Neither one of us had seen

one quite so large and physical characteristics tend to change with age as well as size."

The Texas record redear sunfish is 2.99 pounds, set by John Runnels at Lady Bird Lake in 1997.

— North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission report.

## Conservation Reserve Program acres opened for grazing, cutting

Secretary of Agriculture Ed Schafer announced that Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres will be opened to live-stock grazing or a single cutting for feed.

Schafer said this designation is not an early opt-out window for farmers looking to throw acres back into crop production, neither is it a limited to a specific targeted area, like emergency grazing allowed after drought or other natural disasters.

An estimated 24 million CRP acres will be made available for grazing or cutting. The land won't be eligible for haying and grazing until after the "primary nesting season for grass-nesting birds has finished," Schafer said. "Most nesting seasons end in late July or early August, and the critical use for haying and grazing must end

by November 10 of this year.

Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever said that while the move holds some habitat benefits, it creates problems for hunters this fall and sends the wrong message about the value of CRP to America.

On the positive side, the groups said, haying and grazing can be an excellent tool for landowners to perform the contractually required management activities on CRP acres.

However, the groups pointed to significant negatives. The end date to haying and grazing of November 10 is too late for the growth of residual grass critical as nesting habitat next spring.

Hunter access in states where public walk-in programs for hunters are tied to CRP acres are a primary concern. "Core pheasant

hunting states like South Dakota, North Dakota, and Nebraska and quail states like Texas and Oklahoma stand to lose considerable fall cover for hunting opportunities, depending upon how widely haying and grazing is implemented," said Dave Nomsen, PF/QF's vice president of Government Affairs.

Nomsen said CRP acres should never be the rainy-day solution to every problem. "For two years, we've heard of the demand for early-outs to CRP contracts to solve issues of limited commodity supplies and corn-based ethanol production," he said. "Today, it's a different use. Tomorrow, some other special interest group will want CRP acres for something else."

— Staff reports.

## Pennsylvanian wins U.S. Open Turkey Calling Contest

Matthew Van Cise of Brookville, Pa., took first place honors at the 2008 U.S. Open Turkey Calling Contest finals and championship at the Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World store at the Opry Mills Mall in Nashville,

Tenn.

The victory netted him an automatic entry to the finals of the 2009 Grand Nationals, expenses paid to attend the finals and the National Wild Turkey Federation 2009 National Convention, a

\$500 Mossy Oak clothing package and \$5,000.

Sadler McGraw of Camden, Ala., finished second, and Billy Yargus of Ewing, Mo., took third.

— Bass Pro Shops report.

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WEATHER

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Moon Phases

Table showing moon phases: First (June 10), Full (June 15), Last (June 24), New (July 2)

Solar Table

Table with columns for Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, and Amarillo showing sunrise and sunset times.

Tides

Large table showing tide data for various locations including Galveston, Port Bolivar, Port Canales, and Port O'Connor.

Sun and Moon

Table showing sunrise and sunset times for Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, and Amarillo.

Port Bolivar

Table with tide data for Port Bolivar.

Port Canales

Table with tide data for Port Canales.

Port O'Connor

Table with tide data for Port O'Connor.

Sun Lake Pass

Table with tide data for Sun Lake Pass.

Port O'Connor

Table with tide data for Port O'Connor.

Port Isabel

Table with tide data for Port Isabel.

OUTDOOR PUZZLER

For crossword puzzle solution, see Page 21

ACROSS

- 1. A flock of geese
4. A term of casting stroke, \_\_\_ haul
7. Code for a type bullet
10. This waterproofs wildfowl feathers
11. Hunter will rattle these to attract deer
12. Type fir tree used in arrow shafts
13. Varmint is a hunter's name for this
14. A unit of weight of a bullet
16. Signifies a type shotgun
17. Code for a type bullet
20. Bowhunter's ammo
21. Term applies to ice-fishing
22. A saucer-shaped clay target
24. A term of open sight
26. A species of large catfish
27. Describes the wild turkey's vision
28. To down a game or wildfowl
29. In grassy fields deer become this
31. A type stand for still hunting
33. Change to smaller caliber ammo
35. To hunt or fish illegally
36. Number of these on striper's tail reveals age
37. A sight nearest the eye
38. A saltwater fish catch
39. A young fox or seal
40. To point weapon at a target
44. Code for a type bullet
45. Term for a line with many hooks
46. Word meaning to be feathered



DOWN

- 1. A species of fish
2. A breed of retriever
3. A brand of deer bleat call
4. The clay pigeon
5. Model shotgun, over and \_\_\_
6. The roe from a fish
8. Homes of many wildfowl
9. A \_\_\_ trout
14. A nuisance fish to trotlines
15. Deer, bear, squirrel food source
16. The turkey's foot
18. A basket used to carry fish
19. An upland game bird
20. Estimating how old game tracks are
21. The point of an arrow
22. A turkey head appendage
23. A name for a saltwater boom
25. Color hunter wears for safety
28. A shotgun sight
30. A large sport fish
31. Area in front of the gun chamber
32. A missed shot
34. An excellent fire wood
35. A fly-fishing nymph, sparkle
38. A wingshooter's quarry
41. Handy to have in strange areas
42. A big game hideaway
43. Code for energy expelled by a muzzle

WILD IN THE KITCHEN

Speckled Trout Crab Cakes

Ingredients:

- 7-8 Speckled trout fillets
1 Onion, large, chopped
2 Celery stalks, finely chopped
1 Garlic clove, finely chopped
1 Small jar pimentos
1 Egg
Italian bread crumbs or cracker crumbs
1 Teaspoon liquid crab boil
1/4 Stick butter
Cajun seasoning



Instructions:

Melt butter in skillet. Add onion and celery and sauté until translucent (about 10 minutes). Add fillets to skillet and steam in their own juices until fillets are flaky and falling apart. Add liquid crab boil, Cajun seasoning, and salt and pepper to taste. Leave mixture in refrigerator overnight. The next

day, add pimentos, cracker or bread crumbs and egg. Combine to make crab cakes (about the size of a tennis ball) and flatten to about 1/2- to 3/4-inch thick. Roll in cracker crumbs or corn flakes before frying in skillet on medium heat (about 350 degrees) until brown on each side, about 5 minutes per side.

—Recipe from Becky Gentry.

Venison Fritters

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 Pounds ground venison
1/2 Cup dry bread crumbs
1 Onion, chopped fine
1/3 Cup milk
4 Teaspoons salad oil
1/2 Teaspoon baking soda
1 Egg
1 Teaspoon salt
1/4 Teaspoon pepper

Instructions:

Mix all ingredients except salad oil. Shape into 1/2-inch meatballs and refrigerate. Batter: Mix 2/3-cup milk, 1/2 teaspoon soda, 2 eggs, and the salad oil in a bowl. Stir in 1 1/3 cups flour, 1 teaspoon baking powder, 1 1/2 teaspoons salt, and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Coat meatballs and deep-fry.

—Recipe from the North Carolina Cooperative Extension.



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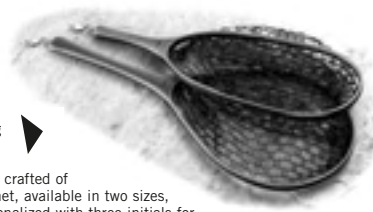
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## Pill

Continued from Page 1

"We think we have a compound that will work," Kraemer said. "The problem now is working on a delivery system."

Texas has a growing wild hog population estimated at between 1 1/2 million to 2 million.

Viewed as a pest by some ranchers and farmers, wild hogs cause about \$50 million annually in damage — everything from plowing up golf courses to destroying corn fields.

"They're probably the single most destructive animal out there," said Rick Taylor, a biologist for Texas Parks and Wildlife and the author of the booklet, "The Feral Hog in Texas."

"It's their rooting ability that causes the problem," added Taylor. "I've seen them dig down two to three feet for roots. There's no other animal that comes close to doing the damage that hogs can to a habitat."

There's no shortage of horror stories.

In Atascosa County, a farmer said wild hogs rooted up 30 acres of his peanut field in a night, the Texas AgriLife Extension Service reported. Sowing the acreage again cost the farmer almost \$1,000.

While another control for wild hogs would be helpful, Taylor said, he questions if researchers can stem their population.

"If you have a good, green spring, what is going to make them go for a pellet with the contraceptive versus eating an acorn?" he asked. "But,

also, say you've got eight hogs and six of them take it. The two that don't will probably reproduce twice, with an average litter size of six piglets. So in a year those original eight will have been replaced three times."

Kraemer knows the challenge of distributing a contraceptive to wild hogs is formidable.

No wild animal's population has yet been so controlled. Scientists have limited the population of horses and elephants in locations, but the animals had to be darted and then given a shot containing a contraceptive.

"We're going to have to be creative," Kraemer said. "We have groups working on pheromones to attract pigs to the bait. However, I do think in some ways pigs will be easier than most species. They get into

everything."

Wild hogs are primarily vegetarians. But they are an "opportunistic predator" when coming upon bird eggs or even fawns, Taylor said.

However, they are capable of coexisting with other species, according to Taylor.

"They co-exist with deer in some of the best deer country in South Texas," Taylor said. "The main problem as far as deer is that wild hogs will compete around the deer feeder."

Ranchers in Duval County solved that by fencing their feeders, said Samuel Gavito, an agent with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. That's about the only problem the area has with wild hogs, he said.

Wild hogs are "popular" in Atascosa County, too, said Joe Taylor, also a TAES agent. At least,

with those who hunt.

"Out here, people hunt them during the day and at night with dogs," Taylor said. "There's nothing more exciting than to get on a big hog with a pack of dogs when you can't see anything and you're just running to sound. It gets Western sometimes."

"There's a demand for them," he said. "Hogs are a double-edged sword hereabouts. Hunters like them. Farmers dislike them."

Hunters don't have anything to fear from his efforts, however, Kraemer said.

"I don't want hunters thinking this will eliminate all wild pigs," he said. "No one method is going to eliminate the problem of wild pigs. We just need alternatives. Adding one more to the mix seems appropriate to me."

# FISHING REPORT

## HOT BITES

### LARGEMOUTH BASS



**CHOCO CANYON:** Black bass are very good on crankbaits and large soft plastic lizards and worms.

**FALCON:** Black bass are good on large soft plastic worms and crankbaits.

**O.H. IVIE:** Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to white/blue spinnerbaits, shad-colored crankbaits and watermelon soft jerkbaits worked along points and tree lines.

### WHITE/HYBRID/STRIPER



**COOPER:** White bass are good on Rooster Tails and Little Georges. Hybrid stripers are good on Sassy Shad and live shad.

**TEXOMA:** Striped bass are good to excellent on topwaters and live shad.

**LIVINGSTON:** White bass are excellent on hellbenders, pet spoons, and Charlie slabs.

### CATFISH



**CALAVERAS:** Channel catfish are excellent on liver, bait shrimp, cheesebait, and shad. Blue catfish are good on liver and cut bait near 181 Cove.

**CANYON LAKE:** Yellow and blue catfish are very good on jugs and trotlines baited with live bait.

**SOMERVILLE:** Channel and blue catfish are excellent on nightcrawlers, minnows, and shad.

### CRAPIE



**BROWNWOOD:** Crappie are excellent on L/I Fishies and jigs along the shoreline in 1-5 feet and over brush piles in 12-15 feet.

**FORK:** Crappie are good on jigs and minnows around the bridges and over brush piles.

**RAY ROBERTS:** Crappie are excellent over brush piles and around isolated trees on jigs and minnows.

### BREAM



**SAM RAYBURN:** Bream are good on crickets and nightcrawlers.

**TOLEDO BEND:** Bream are good on crickets and nightcrawlers in 2-4 feet.

**WALTER E. LONG:** Redear are excellent on nightcrawlers in the weeds.

**ALAN HENRY:** Water lightly stained; 75 degrees; 1.2' low. Black bass are good on black/blue jigs, white spinnerbaits and green pumpkin soft plastics along timber lines. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs.

**AMISTAD:** Water clear; 79 degrees; 17.41' low. Black bass are very good on Senkos, topwaters, swimbaits, jerkbaits, and spinnerbaits.

**ARROWHEAD:** Water lightly stained; 72 degrees; 2.90' low. Black bass are good on swim-blade baits and spinnerbaits along rocky points and vegetation. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs in 4-6 feet. White bass are good schooling off rocky points in the lower part of lake.

**ATHENS:** Water stained; 79-86 degrees; 0.5' high. Black bass are good on Yellow Magics and buzzbaits early, midday switching to crankbaits, Texas rigs and split shot rigs. Catfish are good on prepared bait.

**BELTON:** Water clear; 80 degrees; 0.38' high. Black bass are good trolling Rat-L-Traps. Hybrid stripers and white bass are good on spinnerbaits. Crappie are good on minnows under lights at night.

**BOB SANDLIN:** Water off color; 80-86 degrees; 0.29' high. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs over brush piles and around bridge columns. Catfish are good on prepared bait.

**BRAUNIG:** Water stained; 76 degrees. Striped bass are excellent on liver and perch off points. Channel and blue catfish are excellent on liver, shrimp, cut bait, and cheesebait near the dam.

**BRIDGEPORT:** Water lightly stained; 78-75 degrees; 0.05' high. White bass are good on Humdingers and topwaters.

**BROWNWOOD:** Water stained; 77 degrees; 2.26' low. Black bass are very good on white spinnerbaits, craw jigs, crankbaits and plastics along the shoreline, among rocks, and near dead grass in 1-5 feet. White bass are excellent on L/I Fishies and crankbaits off lighted docks.

**BUCHANAN:** Water clear; 76 degrees; 3.14' low. Black bass are good on topwaters, Whacky Sticks and white/chartreuse spinnerbaits along lake and creek points. Crappie are good on minnows and crappie jigs over brush piles in 12 feet. Yellow and blue catfish are very good on jugs and trotlines baited with goldfish and minnows.

**CADDO:** Water stained; 81-87 degrees; 1.72' high. White bass are good on chartreuse Road Runners.

**CALAVERAS:** Water stained; 76 degrees. Striped bass are good on spoons and stripers jigs between the dam and the crappie wall. Redfish are excellent down rigging silver and gold spoons in 10-20 feet, on live perch, tilapia, and crawfish.

**CANYON LAKE:** Water clear; 76 degrees; 1.36' low. Black bass are good on watermelon red Whacky Sticks on shakly head jigs and Texas-rigged watermelon red fessie worms along bluff ledges in 8-16 feet early.

**CEDAR CREEK:** Water lightly stained; 79-85 degrees; 0.02' high. Black bass are good on soft plastic frogs early, soft plastics fished shallow throughout the day and on minnow diving shad pattern crankbaits. White bass are good on Humdingers and topwaters.

**CHOCO CANYON:** Water lightly stained; 91 degrees; 1.93' low. Channel and blue catfish are very good on stinkbait in 4-10 feet.

**COLEMAN:** Water clear; 75 degrees; 2.30' low. Black bass are good on Rat-L-Traps, spinnerbaits, and soft plastic worms and lizards. Hybrid stripers are good on live shad near the park and the store. Crappie are good on minnows at night.

**CONROE:** Water clear; 0.09' low. Black bass are good on watermelon red and watermelon gold Carolina rigged soft plastics, crankbaits, and spinnerbaits. Catfish are good on stinkbait, cut bait frozen shrimp.

**COOPER:** Water lightly stained; 79-86 degrees; 0.18' high. Black bass are good on buzzbaits early and late, midday switching to Texas rigs and Senkos. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows over brush piles.

**FALCON:** Water stained; 80 degrees. Channel and blue catfish are good on cut bait and stinkbait in the river.

**FORK:** Water lightly stained; 80-86 degrees; 0.53' high. Black bass are fair to good on buzzbaits and frogs early, and throughout the day on crankbaits, Texas rigs and wacky rigs.

**GIBBONS CREEK:** Water clear. Catfish are very good on stinkbait and frozen shrimp.

**GRANBURY:** Water clear; 0.63' low. Catfish are good on stinkbait, night-crawlers, and frozen shrimp.

**GRANGER:** Water stained; 79 degrees; 0.29' high. White bass are good on main lake flats and roadbeds. Crappie are good on chartreuse jigs in 5 - 15 feet.

**GRAPEVINE:** Water off-color; 79-85 degrees; 0.36' high. Black bass are good to excellent on crankbaits, 4' Senkos and shakly heads. White bass are good on Rooster Tails, topwaters and Humdingers.

**GREENBELT:** Water lightly stained; 69 degrees; 24.76' low. Black bass are good on shad-colored crankbaits, white spinnerbaits or black/blue jigs worked along timber line. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. White bass are good along riprap.

**HOUSTON COUNTY:** Water clear; 82 degrees; 0.40' high. Black bass are

good on medium running shad crankbaits in 8-12 feet early. Crappie are good on live minnows around structure near the pump station 12 feet deep in 15-20 feet. White bass are good along the northeast shore. Bream are good on live worms near grass beds. Channel and blue catfish are good on trotlines baited with shad.

**HUBBARD CREEK:** Water lightly stained; 72 degrees; 0.25' low. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. White bass and hybrid stripers are good on live baits and baby bass crankbaits along humps and rocky points. Catfish are good on live baits.

**JOE POOL:** Water off-color; 80-85 degrees; 0.18' high. Black bass are good on Texas rigs, wacky rigs and crankbaits. White bass are good on Little Georges and Road Runners.

**LAVON:** Water stained; 79-86 degrees; 0.33' high. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs — moving to deeper water. Catfish are good on cut shad and prepared bait.

**LB1:** Water stained; 77 degrees; 0.30' low. Crappie are good on minnows and white crappie jigs over brush piles in 12 feet. Channel catfish are good on minnows and dipbait. Yellow and blue catfish are good on trotlines baited with live perch and carp.

**LEWISVILLE:** Water off-color; 80-87 degrees; 0.41' low. White bass are good on Humdingers and Rooster Tails. Catfish are good on prepared bait and cut shad.

**LIVINGSTON:** Water stained; 78 degrees; 0.18' high. Black bass are good on spinnerbaits and crankbaits. Crappie are good on minnows. Blue catfish are very good on shad.

**MEREDETH:** Water lightly stained; 66 degrees; 76.35' low. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. White bass are good on live bait and shad-colored crankbaits. Walleye are good on live baits along riprap and drop-offs.

**MONTICELLO:** Water fairly clear; 82-90 degrees; 0.24' high. Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to Texas rigs, spinnerbaits and chrome Rat-L-Traps. Crappie are good on minnows.

**NAVARO MILLS:** Water stained; 79 degrees; 0.49' high. Black bass are very good on motor oil, watermelon, and June bug soft plastic worms. Channel and blue catfish are good on shrimp and minnows.

**O.H. IVIE:** Water lightly stained; 73 degrees; 10.01' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on live baits and crankbaits. Channel catfish are good on live baits.

**POSSUM KINGDOM:** Water stained 73 degrees; 1.25' low. Crappie are good on small jigs worked on wood structures in the mid-lake area creeks.

**PROCTOR:** Water clear; 80 degrees; 0.11' low. White bass are good on small shad and jigs. Channel and blue catfish are good on live shad and cut shad in the Onion Valley area.

**RAY HUBBARD:** Water stained; 79-86 degrees; 0.14' high. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs around the bridges and in the marinas. White bass are excellent on slabs and topwaters.

**RAY ROBERTS:** Water clear to lightly stained; 78-83 degrees; 0.29' high. Black bass are very good on topwaters and Ring Frys. White bass are excellent on jigging spoons. Catfish are

good on jigging spoons around the white bass.

**RICHLAND CHAMBERS:** Water off-color; 79-86 degrees; 0.18' high. Black bass are fair to good on Senkos, Texas rigs and jigs. White bass are good on tail spinners and topwaters.

**SAM RAYBURN:** Water lightly stained; 77 degrees; 1.32' low. White bass are good on silver spoons. Crappie are good on minnows over brush piles and baited holes in 20-30 feet.

**SOMERVILLE:** Water murky; 78 degrees; 0.09' low. Crappie are good on minnows in creeks.

**STILLHOUSE:** Water lightly stained; 79 degrees; 0.12' high. Black bass are good on minnows, perch and plum flukes in 15-30 feet. White bass are very good on watermelon red flukes, crawfish, and minnows.

**TAWAKONI:** Water lightly stained; 80-87 degrees; 0.35' high. White bass are good on Humdingers and minnows.

**TEXOMA:** Water off color; 78-84 degrees; 0.48' high. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs.

**TOLEDO BEND:** Water clear; 78 degrees; 0.19' low. Crappie are good on minnows and chartreuse and blue jigs over brush in 20-25 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on trotlines baited with live bait.

**TRAVIS:** Water clear; 79 degrees; 5.07' low. Black bass are good on chrome chuggers, pumpkinseed worms, and tube jigs in 10-25 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on nightcrawlers in 20-30 feet.

**WALTER E. LONG:** Water clear; 77 degrees. Channel and blue catfish are good on minnows in the reeds.

**WEATHERFORD:** Water stained; 80-86 degrees; 0.17' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on Humdingers and minnows.

**WHITNEY:** Water clear; 1.74' low. Catfish are good on frozen shrimp and liver.

## SALTWATER SCENE



**NORTH SABINE:** Trout and redbfish are good while drifting slicks and on live shad and Sand Eels and Bass Assassins.

Flounder are good on live bait and pepper/chartreuse and red shad plastics tipped with shrimp on the Louisiana shoreline.

**SOUTH SABINE:** Trout are good while drifting the Reef on plum and red shad plastics. Redfish are good at the jetty and in the middle of the lake on live shad and shrimp.

**BOLIVAR:** Trout are good at Rollover Pass on live shrimp and plum plastics. Redfish are good in the surf on cut bait. Gafftop, sand trout and flounder are good at the Pass on live bait.

**TRINITY BAY:** Trout, sand trout, redbfish and croaker are good on live shrimp in front of the Spillway.

**EAST GALVESTON BAY:** Trout are good at Hannas and Deep Reefs on plum/white and red shad Sand Eels, Bass Assassins, live shrimp and croakers. Trout and gafftop are good off the spoil banks in the Ship Channel on live croaker.

**WEST GALVESTON BAY:** Trout and redbfish are good on plum Bass Assassins and gold spoons under the birds. Gafftop, sand trout, speckled trout and whiting are good from the beachfront piers on live bait.

**TEXAS CITY:** Trout are good on the Dollar Flats on croaker, glow/chartreuse, and red and plum plastics. Redfish are good in Moses Lake from the deep holes on live shrimp.

**FREEMONT:** Trout, sand trout and sheepshead are good at the Surfside and Quintana jetties on live shrimp. Whiting and gafftop are good on fresh dead shrimp on the beach.

**EAST MATAGORDA:** Trout are fair to good while drifting scattered shell on live shrimp and plastics.

**MATAGORDA:** Trout are good on the south shoreline on red shad, pumpkinseed/chartreuse, roacher and pepper/chartreuse plastics. Redfish are fair to good on limetreuse and pepper/chartreuse Bass Assassins and Sand Eel. Its over scattered shell on live bait.

**PORT O'CONNOR:** Trout are good on croaker on the shell and in deep guts. Trout are good while wading grassy flats on roach and pumpkinseed/chartreuse Sand Eels and Trout Killers. Trout and redbfish are good at the jetty on topwaters and croakers.

**ROCKPORT:** Trout are good on the outside of Taylor Island and on the Estes Flats on live croaker, pumpkinseed/chartreuse and plum/chartreuse plastics. Redfish are good on cut-mullet around Mud Island and the Estes Flats.

**PORT ARANSAS:** Trout are good on the San Jose Island shoreline on croaker and pumpkinseed/chartreuse Bass Assassins and Sand Eels. Offshore is good for wahoo, red snapper, dorado, amberjack and kingfish.

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Trout and redbfish are good on live shrimp and croaker around the causeway. Redfish are good around the shell on live shrimp. Trout and redbfish are good on the shell of the Portland shoreline on live shrimp and croaker.

**BAFFIN BAY:** Trout are good around the rocks, at the Land Cut and around Rocky Slough on strawberry/white plastics. Redfish are good at the Land Cut while drifting the grass on live shrimp under a popping cork.

**SOUTH PADRE:** Trout and redbfish are good on pumpkinseed/chartreuse and red/white plastics at Three Island. Trout are good at the Gas-Well Flats on the Dogs and live shrimp under a popping cork.

**PORT ISABEL:** Trout are good on live shrimp and Gulpas at Airport Cove. Trout and redbfish are fair to good at Laguna Vista and the jetty on spoons, live shrimp and plastics.

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SUZUKI MARINE

**CCA State of Texas Angler's Rodeo (STAR)**  
LEADERS AS OF: 6-9-08

The CCA STAR summer-long tournament kicked off on May 24, with prizes and scholarships up for grabs. Four anglers have learned the hard way, catching tagged redfish, but losing the truck/boat package prize for failing to sign up for the event.

**STARKIDS DIVISION (AGES 6-10)**  
**Flounder**  
Tabitha Rowland, 6, of McAllen 2 lbs. 9 ozs.  
**Sheepshead**  
Callen Gawlik, 8, of San Antonio 6 lbs. 5 ozs.  
**Gafftop**  
Grant Davis, 8, of Beaumont 6 lbs. 2 ozs.

**STARTEENS TROUT & INSHORE DIVISIONS (AGES 11-17)**

**Middle Coast Speckled Trout**  
Wade Brown, 17, of Brazoria 6 lbs. 11 oz.  
**Lower Coast Speckled Trout**  
Patricia Van Pelt, 12, of Houston 6 lbs. 1 oz.  
**Sheepshead**  
Brett Green, 16, of Baytown 9 lbs. 5 ozs.  
**Gafftop**  
John Hafernick, 15, of Palacios 5 lbs. 8 ozs.  
**STAR LEADERBOARD**  
**Lower Coast Speckled Trout**  
Kristopher Anderson of Port Mansfield

8 lbs. 10 ozs.  
**Flounder**  
Ryan Presley of Sour Lake 6 lbs. 14 ozs.  
**Sheepshead**  
Minh Kotlurz of Baytown 9 lbs. 2 ozs.  
**Kingfish**  
Kelly Holland of Bay City 39 lbs. 13 ozs.  
**Dorado**  
Jacob Perez of Ingleside 42 lbs. 12 ozs.  
**Ling**  
Jason Andrews of Rosenberg

50 lbs. 2 ozs.  
**Gafftop**  
Tina Guernsey of Beaumont 6 lbs. 14 ozs.  
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# HEROES



**BRANDON BLOOD** caught this 26-inch redfish while fishing near Rockport.



**EMMA HOMS**, 11, on her first successful turkey hunt, harvested 2 Rio Grande gobblers with one shot from a 12-gauge at a family hunting lease near Dublin.



**CHRIS WILLIAMS**, 14, holds a redfish he caught while fishing from his kayak at the Port Bay Club in Rockport.



**RON McCALLUM**, of Dallas, shows a permit he caught while fishing the flats west of Key West Marina in Florida.

## SHARE AN ADVENTURE

Want to share your great hunting or fishing photos with the *Lone Star Outdoor News* family? E-mail your photo, phone and caption information to editor@lonestaroutdoornews.com, or mail to: Heroes, Lone Star Outdoor News, 9304 Forest Lane, Suite 114 South, Dallas, TX, 75243.



**ROB WILSON** with his son, **JACKSON**, 6, who got his first deer hunting near Childress.

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## Cost

Continued from Page 8

Tom Goodwyn of Blue Desert Adventures carries up to 6 people on his 30-foot Sport Fisher. "We had to raise prices \$100 across-the-board," he said.

Goodwin feels fuel prices have hurt business, along with the windy weather and snapper regulations. "It's had a pretty big effect," he said. "But our weather windows have been small, and we've had to cancel some trips due to high seas."

Shoal Grass Lodge in Aransas Pass serves mostly corporate clients, and the lodge hasn't made any pricing changes. "It's just a period of time you have to work through," said manager Terry Upton.

Upton said the numbers of customers is up at the lodge, although phone calls are down

somewhat.

Scott Asher of Spots and Dots Fishing prefers to take his clients to Nueces Bay and is reluctant to change his price structure. "I haven't increased prices yet," he said. "I'm afraid we'll start losing clients. It's already slowed down some."

Asher said some guides have started charging for bait. "That may be their way to make up for some of it," he said.

But Asher has changed his fuel consumption. "I hadn't really thought about it, but we're not running as far. We've been able to find fish usually within 5 to 6 miles."

Upton said some guides who travel to the coast each weekend have adapted in other ways. "They just sleep in their truck instead of driving home Saturday afternoon," he said.

O'Dell isn't singing the blues, though, being booked for 18 straight days in June, and feels worse for the customers. "They're getting hurt the worst," he said.

## Bluegill

Continued from Page 9

wave of spawning bluegills have left the bank, said guide Lee Wright. Wright takes family and corporate groups on his pontoon boat for a casual fishing day. "We've been catching big ones off the brush piles in 25 feet," he said. "But there are still some on the beds, too."

When targeting crappie, Wright has been running into big bluegill. "They keep stealing the minnows," he said.

The customers don't seem to care. "We kept 58 crappie and 51 bull bream," he said. "Jigs and worms have been the best bet for most bluegill chasers, although some favor small crickets."

"It's a perfect time to get the kids out there," Wright said.

—Staff reports.

## Stamps

Continued from Page 6

percent paid to the vendors that sell the hunting licenses.

The stamp endorsements are available individually at \$7, but also may be purchased as part of the SuperCombo license.

So how does TPW determine the actual revenue generated by each stamp?

The amount that is allotted to each, Newton explained, uses a formula based on a weighted average that takes into account actual usage. That is determined by written and phone surveys to ascertain which of the stamps were used. That number is added to the number of individual stamps sold.

### STAMP ENDORSEMENTS SOLD:

(Mid-August 2007 to May 2008)

Texas Migratory Bird (\$7): 140,531

Upland Bird (\$7): 82,176

Archery (\$7): 23,468

SuperCombo (\$64): 429,663

### NET REVENUE:

Texas Migratory Bird: \$950,000

Upland Bird: \$560,000

Archery: \$160,000

SuperCombo: \$25,050,000

TOTAL NET REVENUE (Using formula based on actual usage)

Texas Migratory Birds: \$3.2 million

Upland Game Bird: \$2 million

Archery: \$960,000



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## Pratt

Continued from Page 8

species when they were little more than a speck on the horizon.

That all changed after 18 years, when Pratt fell, damaged his retina, and lost the sight in one eye. "Unfortunately, it was my good eye that crapped out," he said. "I had to quit flying and driving." A recent operation restored good sight to Pratt's other eye.

The art lover and outdoorsman doesn't dwell on it. "I don't shoot anymore, but I had about gone through it anyway," Pratt said. "At some point, your interest becomes more academic."

Always, his twin interests seem to come together. For instance, Pratt recently commissioned a still life of a "an old hand-built tarpon rod in my collection."

Brought up in the Arlington Heights neigh-

borhood of Fort Worth, Pratt was director of the Fort Worth Nature Center and helped expand that site to its present 3,600 acres during his tenure from 1968-74. "I went from there to Houston to build Armand Bayou Nature Center. That was another good adventure."

Editor-at-large for *Shooting Sportsman* magazine, Pratt has written for a variety of outdoor publications over the years.

Now he's helping boost the restoration and image of this coastal town, long known as a sports fisher's haven.

Betty Bundy, who serves with Pratt on the Port Aransas Preservation and Historical Association, said he's played "a very prominent role" in the group's efforts.

The partial sight loss hasn't slowed him down, she said. "He is not only a man for all seasons," Bundy said. "He's a man of courage."

## Shark

Continued from Page 8

The shark continued swimming away from the fly.

"Strip really hard."

After two strips, the shark found his mark and eyed it suspiciously.

"Now strip in fast — make him mad."

Chris stripped the fly in and started his false cast.

"Put it about 12 feet in front of him and 10 feet past."

The line looped out and landed perfectly to the shark's two o'clock about 12 feet away.

Chris tucked the rod under his arm and stripped the line hand-over-hand as quickly

as he could. He pushed a pressure wake in front of the bull.

"I am on," he yelled.

There is no magic way to fight with a shark. The first hour or so is his battle. Hold on and keep pressure on the fish and the rod. Sharks build up lactic acid and at times will use their body weight to rest. This is where the angler must bend and reel to gain line.

Once the fish gave up the fight and came along side, the leader was cut. Sharks are vicious and unpredictable and an angry shark can leave permanent reminders. However, there is no fish more fun or challenging to land on a fly rod. Take one on this summer.

## Calling

Continued from Page 6

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— Staff reports.

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