

# LAKE FORK "The Big Bass Capital of Texas"



## "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" "Lines To Get Hooked On"

2 Sections

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**Vol. 14**

**July, 2013**

**No. 167**

### Wish to Fish Foundation on Lake Fork



By Sue Hampton

A day on the water here at Lake Fork is always special but when you have a day on the water with the Gatica family from Ft. Worth...now that is a really special day!

Our "Wish to Fish" family consisted of Jonathan and Kristy Gatica, proud parents of two wonderful young boys, Dakota and Hayden. The boys were excited because they were accompanied by their favorite cousin Xavier who was able to come along. They arrived on Thursday June 13th late

in the evening and were greeted by the founder of our foundation, Don (Bubba) Hampton. Bubba presented them with their very own rod & reel and "Wish to Fish" t-shirts. They checked into their lodge provided by one of our great sponsors "Scenic 515 Cabins" owned by Danny and Joyce Azlin. It was a big room with bunk beds that was absolutely perfect for the Gatica family. The room made it more accessible for everyone to have a really comfortable stay. Danny also gave the boys their very own fishing cap compliments of "Scenic 515 Cabins."

Dakota and Hayden both suffer from Duch-

(See Wish to Fish....

Continued on Page 4-A)



Phil Johnson from Heath, Texas won the 2013 Yantis Catfish Classic when he brought this 37.4-lb. flathead catfish to the scales on the second day of the tournament during the 7 to 8 o'clock hour. He was fishing deep water docks with live bait when he caught this \$6,000 plus fish. (See Story on Page 7-A)



2013 Kidfish on Lake Fork was held on June 1st and over 300 children accompanied by parents or guardians showed up at SRA Headquarters to participate in the festivities. (See Story on Page 5-A)



# Bubba and I just don't understand! Who wants to?

We guess some people just really need to get a life!

Bubba thought he had heard it all when an organization said fish have feelings.

Bubba didn't believe this for a moment. If fish had feelings, they wouldn't treat him so bad in the tournaments and on some of his guide trips. All the times Bubba has sat in the rain and not even gotten a nibble or anything that resembled a strike, well that would be really inconsiderate of anything that had feelings. It really hurt Bubba's feelings and his pride.

Now Bubba found out a long time ago that "Rats Have Rights." He really didn't agree with that one. For one reason, James Cagney is one of his heros.

He even sounds like Cagney when he says "You dirty rat."

Remember a few years back when there was such an uproar of a television show depicting stranded individuals on an island cooking rats to survive. Well, Bubba thinks they should have gone fishing.

Bubba doesn't know how a rat would taste but he does know fish make him feel real good with hush puppies, cole slaw, and fried tators. The only feelings Bubba is considering after a good meal like that is Bubette's and how she is going to feel about him taking a nap.

Bubba and I have decided on one thing though.

Rats do have rights. If we catch one in our

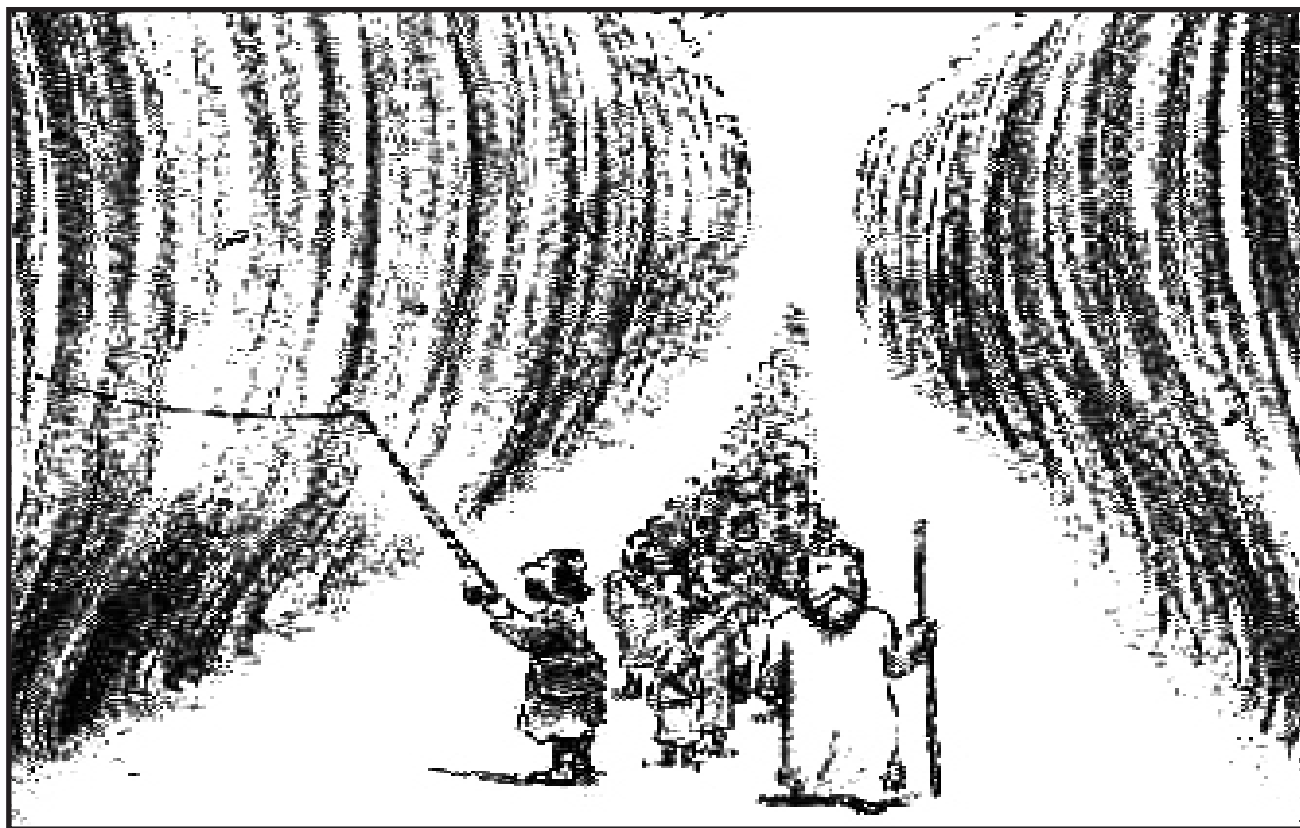
house, barn, or storage shed, they will have the right to remain silent from here on out to eternity.

We just wonder if these people who believe fish have feelings and rats have rights, how did they come to this conclusion? Can they talk with them? If so, I wish they would ask the fish why they don't bite Bubba's hook in a tournament. Bubba would really like to know the answer.

Do they have a pet rat? If rats have rights, they should have the right to be cared for by those so caring individuals.

Bubba says, "When you start caring more about the feelings of a rodent then the survival and well being of individuals, your priorities are really mixed up!"

Get a life!



**"Bubbas have been around longer than rats! Here is one at the parting of the Red Sea!"**

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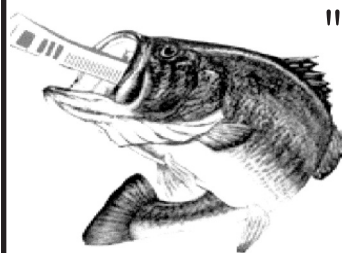
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## Wish to Fish Foundation on Lake Fork (Continued from Page 1-A)

enne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD). DMD is a genetic disorder characterized by progressive muscle degeneration and weakness. DMD is caused by an absence of dystrophin, a protein that helps keep muscle cells intact.

Dakota, who is 15 years old, is a typical teenager. He is laid back and loves to spend time with his family, friends and especially grandparents. He loves music, video games and the outdoors. He



Dakota had a big smile for a good reason. He caught the largest crappie of the trip and won the bragging rights!

will be in the 10th grade at L.D. Bell high school this year. Dakota was diagnosed with DMD on November 1, 2001 when he was 3 years old. He stopped walking at the age of 8, and has had 2 power wheelchairs since then.

Hayden, who is 9 years old, loves to be with his family and grandparents. He has a spunky personality and always wants to make you laugh. He loves to swim, play video games and enjoys going to the movies. Hayden was diagnosed with DMD while in his mother's womb. He is still ambulatory, but needs to use his manual wheelchair for long distances. He will be in the 4th grade. He is homeschooled by his parents Jonathan and Kristy.

Dakota and Hayden invited their cousin Xavier on the "Wish to Fish" trip. Xavier is like a brother to both Dakota and Hayden. He spends a lot of time with them on the weekends. Xavier will also be in the 4th grade this year. He loves to play video games, going to the movies, and hanging with his cousins. He lives with his mom, Michelle, and his grandmother, Rose. When Xavier was only 5 years old he lost his father to cancer.

Dakota and Hayden have a dog and a cat named Max and Spyro. Max and Spyro bring a lot of joy to the Gatica household. They play and sleep together.

About mom and dad....Kristy is a team lead, and

works for Federation of State Medical Boards in Euless, TX. Jonathan is a Senior Analyst and works for Verizon Business. Kristy and Jonathan have a strong, loving marriage. They do everything they need to do to take care of their boys, Dakota and Hayden. They are exceptional parents!

The family was up bright and early Friday morning preparing for their day on the water. We started out with a great breakfast at another one of our special sponsors, Oak Ridge Marina owned by Barry and Tracy Hatton. We almost had to take a nap after that one. It was a great way to start a great day!

There is an anonymous donor or donors out there that we would like to extend a very special thanks to (and you know who you are)! The floating ramp on Hwy. 154 at the public ramp was a life saver for us. We were able to load the boys with their wheel chairs on to our 26' Pontoon boat with ease. That was a blessing.

Our boat had a great captain, Albert Jordan, owner of Coffee Creek Marina. Directors of our "Wish to Fish Foundation" which consists of members of Bubba's Texas Trails Bassmasters Bass Club here on Lake Fork are always eager to lend a hand to make our trips successful. Haden Sickles of Sulphur Springs was on board with Albert to

*( See Wish to Fish....Continued on Page 11-A)*

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## Wood County Kid Fish 2013 on Lake Fork

By Don Hampton

There is no sweeter sound than that of a child's laughter. You will find warmth and sincerity in the smile of a child catching their first fish and showing it off to their parents and friends.

At the Wood County Kid Fish held at Lake Fork on June 1st there were more than 300 such smiles. For some of the children this would be considered their first tournament of many more to come in their lifetime. The love of fishing for these children could be accredited to Kid Fish.

Wood County Kid Fish celebrated its 18th Anniversary of introducing children to the sport of fishing. The first Saturday of June is the designated time for this event celebrating the first week of June being National Kid Fish Week. During this event no one participating in the event is required to have a fishing license. This gives parents that do not usually fish an open opportunity to spend this

time with their children and perhaps introduce the love of fishing to the whole family.

Each year this event is hosted by the Wood County Sheriff's Department, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Sabine River Authority, and Game Warden Peace Officer's Association and is held at Sabine River Authority Headquarters on Lake Fork. All are to be commended for their diligent hard work and the many hours they put in to make this event such a success for our children.

The event is free to all children and their parents. If the children do not have their own fishing equipment, rod n' reels are furnished along with all bait and tackle. Cold drinks, refreshments, hot dogs and chips are provided for the parents and children. This year serving the children, parents, and guests were the Mineola and Holly Lake Kiwanis Clubs.

The format of this event is a mock tournament,  
(See Wood County Kid...Continued on Page 10-A)



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## July Bassin on the Fork

By John Tanner

Happy 4th of July everyone! Wow the month of June flew by and here we are in the good ole hot summer time. Some call it the dog days of summer. We like to call it the HAWG days of summer! That's right. Now is the time to catch those big fish schooled up out on the main lake deep water structure. I have to say this is one of my favorite times of year, because you can find schools of big bass in one spot. They will load up on a deep point or hump and you can really go to town on 'em. In other words, you can just flat out smoke 'em.

The key to the whole deal is your electronics. You can locate the drops-offs on your GPS mapping system if you are not familiar with the lake and

then search the area for schools of fish with your sonar or side or down imaging. I use Humminbird electronics on my Ranger boat. These units are quick and are very clear. They make life easy while fishing the deep water. Go to their website and check out all of the models.

Once you find a big school of Lake Fork monster bass on your unit then the battle is only half over. Then, you have to get your boat in the right position to be able to present the bait in the right way. In other words, proper boat position is very key. You should use a marker buoy if you need one. You need to be able to cast your bait past the school of fish and bring it back through them. If you are too short or off to the side of the school a little, then you won't have much success. They have to be able to see the bait.

Good setups for this time of year and one that I have had a lot of success with in the last month is the 10 inch Berkley Power Worm rigged Texas style. Also, Carolina rigs, Stanley Football Jigs and Berkley Havoc Sub Woofers rigged on a jig head are standard fish catching setups for this time of year on Lake Fork. I like to use a little longer and heavier action while fishing deep water. It allows for better hook sets and handles the bigger fish better. I love the new Fenwick Aetos Rods.



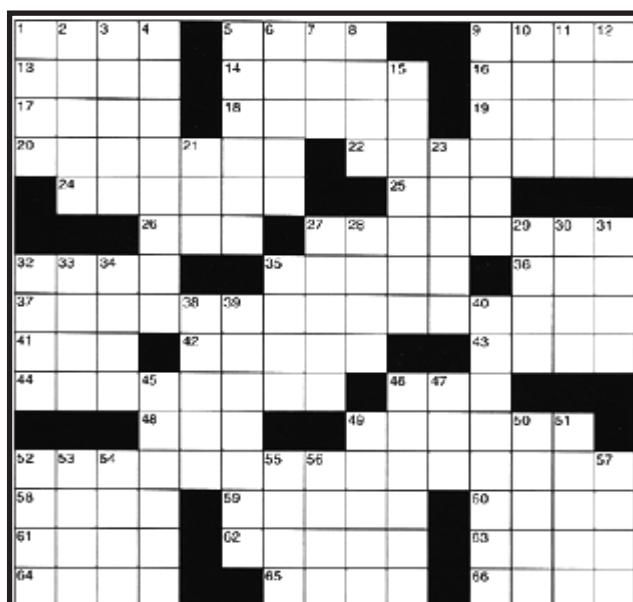
They are amazing and you should give one a try.

As far as productive water depths for this time of year, I would concentrate your efforts in 20 to 35 feet of water. Look off of the end of deep points, submerged pond dams, road beds, submerged bridges or humps. They can relate to these places differently day to day so be thorough when you are scanning the area.

The weather is heating up and the big ones are headed out to the deep waters so come on out and join in on the fun. If you would like to book a deep water trip this summer and see what we are talking about, give us a call at 903-569-7451 or shoot me an email at [jtanner811@gmail.com](mailto:jtanner811@gmail.com). For more booking info check us out on the world wide web at [www.lakeforkbassguide.com](http://www.lakeforkbassguide.com) or [www.tanneroutdoors.com](http://www.tanneroutdoors.com). From the beginner to the expert we want to make your trip to Lake Fork one to remember. If you are in the area be sure and go by and visit our local Ranger Boat dealer Diamond Sports Marine. Tell 'em Tanner sent ya!

Please pray for our country and our armed  
(See July Bassin'  
Continued on Page 20-A)

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### CLUES ACROSS

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Commoner                                   | 41. Retirement fund (abbr.)           |
| 5. Beverage made of fermented honey and water | 42. _____, U.S. gangster              |
| 9. Weapon                                     | 43. Poverty                           |
| 13. Jeer                                      | 44. Auroras                           |
| 14. Give out                                  | 46. London radio station (abbr.)      |
| 16. Impressive in size or scope               | 48. Sunup in New York (abbr.)         |
| 17. Blue dye obtained from plants             | 49. Abnormal absorption with the self |
| 18. Withdraw from drugs                       | 52. "The Howdy Doody Show" character  |
| 19. Sans serif                                | 58. Swiss river                       |
| 20. Loosen grip                               | 59. Renaissance card game             |
| 22. Mended shoes                              | 60. Private school in New York        |
| 24. Vogues                                    | 61. Scum                              |
| 25. _____ de cologne                          | 62. Hedge                             |
| 26. Craze                                     | 63. Potential unit                    |
| 27. Immigrants                                | 64. Sound unit                        |
| 32. City in southern Japan                    | 65. Copied                            |
| 35. French region                             | 66. Epic                              |
| 36. Bravo                                     |                                       |
| 37. De Saint-Exupery story                    |                                       |

### CLUES DOWN

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Small sailboat                         | 32. Elevator man                      |
| 2. Scottish waterfalls                    | 33. Beginning to end (informal)       |
| 3. Command                                | 34. _____ Connery, 007                |
| 4. Overabundance                          | 35. Infection of the eyelid           |
| 5. Brought together into a group or crowd | 38. Compound derived from ammonia     |
| 6. Fish genus                             | 39. With a good will                  |
| 7. Vestment worn by priests               | 40. Penetrating and sharp             |
| 8. Actor                                  | 45. Change mind, in a way             |
| 9. Way to dishonor                        | 46. Swollen, in a way                 |
| 10. Opaque gem                            | 47. British thermal unit (abbr.)      |
| 11. Parasites                             | 49. Person's legal place of residence |
| 12. Breezed through                       | 50. Crouch                            |
| 15. Upper vegetation                      | 51. _____ Park, California city       |
| 21. Flower petal                          | 52. Skip                              |
| 23. Sylvan deity                          | 53. Saint's aura                      |
| 27. Tent events                           | 54. Oil-producing nation              |
| 28. At all times                          | 55. Yugoslavian river                 |
| 29. Sea eagle                             | 56. Catch                             |
| 30. Contest of speed                      | 57. Scabs                             |
| 31. Cast off skin                         |                                       |

Answers on Page 21-A



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## 5th Annual Yantis Catfish Classic on Lake Fork

By Sam Scroggins

(June 27 - Quitman, TX)... Lake Fork's Fifth Annual Yantis Catfish Classic concluded on Sunday with Phil Johnson of Heath, Texas taking the \$6000 bonus prize for the largest fish weighed in the two-day tournament. Johnson landed his 37.4 pound flathead catfish early on Sunday morning while fishing deep water boat docks with live bait.

Johnson and all the other tournament anglers competed individually for big catfish with cash prizes awarded for the five largest fish weighed each hour and bonuses paid to those catching the largest eight fish overall. Including the hourly payout, Johnson collected a total of \$6400 for his fish. This year's payout for all hourly and tournament top finishers was \$27,700.

Fifteen year-old John Hill of Denison took second place and pocketed \$3400 in hourly and bonus money for a 10.55 pound channel cat weighed during the final fishing hour on Saturday. Cody Beaver of Emory captured third place and a \$1900 reward for a 10.45 pound flathead cat that he caught early on Saturday. Charles Smith of Quitman and James Nugent of Weatherford tied for fourth with 8.4 pound channels. Each pocketed checks of \$850 for their efforts. There was also a tie for 6th

place between Bobby Driskell of Grapeland and Troy Amason of Irving. Each collected \$650 for an 8.3 pound channel. Eighth place and \$500 in total was awarded to Donnie Fountain of Jasper, Georgia for his 8.2 pounder.

The most active hourly winner was Phillip Lasswell of Lufkin with 5 fish weighed during the course of the two-day tournament. Roger Stroman of Emory had 4 fish in the money and both Paul Miles of Lake Dallas and Charles Driskell of Grapeland had 3. The top youth anglers were Dustin Worley with a 3.85 pound channel cat. He was followed closely by his sister, Amber Worley, with a 3.45 pounder. The youngsters are both from Huffman. April Oney from Longview took top ladies honors with 6.35 pounds. Roy Oney, also of Longview, topped all other seniors with a 6.65 pound channel.

The Yantis Catfish Classic was organized by the Lake Fork Sportsman's Association and Ken Freeman Outdoor Promotions. Oak Ridge Marina served as its host. The Classic was closely linked with the ninth annual Yantis Catfish Day Festival. Activities in Yantis included a well-attended Catfish Day parade on Saturday afternoon. The Parade Marshal, young cancer victim Dominic Ayala, led the procession through downtown



John Hill from Denison, Texas won 2nd Place overall when he weighed this 10.55-lb. channel catfish in on the first day of the tournament.

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Crappie  
Trips



(See 5th Annual....

Continued on Page 15-A)



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## "The Moon Report" Post Spawn Crappie ~ On The Move

By Terri Moon

Finally we've made it past the last of the late spawn. So get ready for these fish to start bunching up.

You'll probably find some days when you will catch five small fish to every keeper fish. When this happens to you, please take extra special care of these small fish. They are our future keepers.

Although we're catching a lot of smaller fish, the keepers we're getting have been really big. I mean 14-18 inch. This gets really exciting... especially on my Shimano 5' 0" Compre Rod. To add to the excitement of these rods, we've also brought in some 4 to 8 lb. bass and several catfish up to 9 lbs. plus! My customers are in total disbelief that we're getting these fish in on ultralights! It's pretty impressive!

One key factor I've been noticing this month is the amount of fish people are missing waiting to feel a bite. These fish are really biting light. What I mean by this is the fish are coming up with the



bait and your line will just go slack or just stop falling. When this happens you'd better "jerk" immediately or you are going to miss the fish. You've got to keep constant eye contact with your line. You'll be surprised how many more fish you'll get!

As far as the depths we're fishing, it seems to change daily. Early in the mornings they've been as shallow as 10 to 12 ft. But as the sun rises, they're going deeper...as deep as 24 ft. So just keep playing with different depths till you get a pattern.

The jig colors we're using have been cinnamon w/chartreuse tail and blue w/chartreuse

tail. Also, Lonnie Stanley's Wedgetail Minnows in pearl white w/chartreuse have been catching some nice fish.

Now for the bream fishing...we're finding them at an average of 6 to 12 ft. Around the new and full moon this month, look shallower. Crickets or small Mister Twister grubs are producing some nice fish around the trees or on the underwater ledges at the bridge piers.

It might be getting hot out there, but so is the fishing! So don't miss it! Take plenty of water and sunscreen and get out there and have some fun. Hope you have a safe and great 4th of July.

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Jason Jordan of Rising Star,  
Texas with nephew Cannon



Jimmy Marshall with his "fishing  
buddy" Ed from Allen, Texas



Susan Diehl, Sangor, Texas  
Becky Davenport, Topeka, KS



Dan Ingram, St. Louis on a  
Shimano Ultralite 5' rod



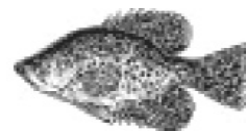
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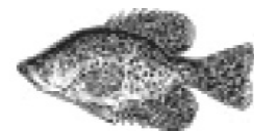
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Loretta King with grandson Tyler  
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Wood County Kid Fish 2013 on Lake Fork (Continued from Page 5-A)

and divided into age group divisions. These divisions included 4 years old and under, 5 to 8 year old, 9 to 12 year old, and 13 to 16 year old. Each child weighing in the heaviest fish of the tournament in the category wins a trophy and a year’s worth of bragging rights. Wood County Sheriff, Jim Brown was present to congratulate the winners in each age category and present them with their trophy. Weight Masters for Kid Fish are members of the Lake Fork Texas Trails Bassmasters.

This year’s winner of the traveling trophy was Hunter Reneau. This trophy is awarded to the child that catches the heaviest fish in the tournament. This trophy will be kept at Hunter’s school in the trophy case for one year. He won this year with his catch of a largemouth bass weighing 6.69-pounds.

No child leaves the event without a prize furnished by the many sponsors. This year’s prizes ranged from bicycles, fishing equipment, toys, and many other items for each child’s enjoyment. All of the children and parents seemed to have an excellent time at the event and what made it even better was the weather cooperating with a cool breeze.

This year’s event was made possible by the following sponsors: Wood County Sheriff’s Office; SRA; TPWD; Game Warden Peace

Officer Association; Delta Waterfowl; Wave Worms, Inc.; Lake Fork Sportsman’s Association; Oak Ridge Marina, Lake Fork Marina, Wood County Farm Bureau; Quitman Fire Department; WalMart; Coca Cola; ETMC; D&J Tire & Lube, Yantis; Rushing Construction; Pizza Inn, Winnsboro; Sam White; Monte Coleman Bail Bonds; Brookshires, Quitman/Mineola; Quitman Animal Clinic; Outhousetickets.com; Action Printing of Mineola; Mineola Kiwanis; Holly Lake Kiwanis; Ozarka; KMOO; Home Town Trophies; Lee’s Tackle Supply, Mineola Lawn & Garden; Crossroads Country Store; Lake Fork Tackle; “The Fisherman’s Guide News”; Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork.



Tournament Winners In The 2013 Wood County Kidfish					
AGES	BASS	CATFISH	BREAM	CRAPPIE	OTHER
4 & UNDER	Carlee Hensley 3.59-lbs.	Rulan Singler 2.35-lbs.	Christain Henry .47-lbs.	Brandon Waters .81-lbs.	Landon Drew .53-lbs.
5-8 YR. OLD	Hunter Reneau 6.69-lbs.	Peyton Wallace 2.50-lbs.	Johnny Jones .49-lbs.	Leah Bashwiner 1.24-lbs.	Gracie Privette 3.38-lbs.
9-12 YR OLD	Devin Ruelas 1.38-lbs.	Dooley Anders 2.91-lbs.	Trey Honea .44-lbs.	Jackson Allen .68-lbs.	Brook Barrett 4.14-lbs.
13-16 YR OLD	Fredrick Barnes .21-lbs.	Ross Michaels 5.85-lbs.	Logan Cortez .43-lbs.	Ross Michaels .79-lbs.	Haley Ussery 1.29-lbs.



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## Wish to Fish Foundation (Continued from page 4-A)

help the boys with their rods & reels and to bait their hooks and to make sure that everything ran smoothly. Dakota caught the biggest crappie and boy did that ever put a smile on his face! (A special note to Dakota... see it really doesn't matter what color the rod & reel is...the most important thing is who catches the biggest fish and that was you...congrats on that one). We always operate with two 911 boats should there ever be a need for emergency and those were manned by Bubba and another one of our directors, Scott Fruge.

At noon I joined the trip for the rest of the afternoon. I brought sandwiches out and by that time the boys were hungry again so we just had a picnic right there on the water under the shade of the 154 bridge. We all enjoyed that.

We all know how hot it is right now so we decided to leave the water about 2 o'clock. That way the family could rest for a while before meeting for our evening meal and oh my goodness what a meal that was. Our very generous sponsor, "A. J.'s Fish House" owned by Andy and Carolyn Johnson have always donated meals for not only our "Wish to Fish" families but also the "Wish to Fish" directors and their wives. After this great meal, the Gatica's went back to their lodge. Danny and Joyce donated another night so the family could rest before returning home.

A very special thanks to all our sponsors because we couldn't do it without your generous support!

Most of all, thank you to the Gatica family. All of us from the "Wish to Fish Foundation" want to thank you because after having met each one of you, our world is a better place. Your boys even with all their struggles are the kindest, sweetest most cordial young men that we have ever had the pleasure to meet and they have left an impression on our hearts that will be remembered forever.

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*(if 2nd rules on back)*

*Detach entry form below this line. Retain above portion for your records.*

Entry fee of \$160 (includes Big Bass) must accompany the entry form and be postmarked by **July 12th, 2013** made out to **Bassin For Babies**

Angler #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Angler #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

In consideration of the mutual duties and services provided, I, for myself, my heirs, executors, personal representatives, successors and assigns hereby waive and release any and all rights, claims, property damage and causes of action I have or may have against and all tournament sponsors, and participants that may arise as a result of my participation in this tournament. I have read and understand the tournament rules and I agree to these rules and to accept all decisions of the tournament judges as final. With my signature, I hereby release all members, officials, and sponsors of all liabilities to me and/or my equipment.

**Farmers Use Only**

Entry # \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Cash: \_\_\_\_\_

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

Angler #1 Signature and Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

Angler #2 Signature and Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_



**Entry fee of \$160 (includes Big Bass) must accompany the  
entry form and be postmarked by July 12th, 2013  
made out to BASSIN FOR BABIES**



## 5th Annual Yantis Catfish Classic on Lake Fork (Continued from Page 7-A)

Yantis. He was followed closely by Yantis Mayor Jerry Miller, Tournament Promoter Ken Freeman, and Tournament Mascot "Moby Cat" aboard the Lake Fork Sportsman's Association Live Release Boat. Several local businesses and civic groups participated along with anglers from the BPS Big Cat Quest Tour in their state-of-the-art cat-fishing craft and tow vehicles. At the conclusion of the parade, the tournament anglers were treated to the annual Yantis Volunteer Fire Department fish fry.

The Yantis Catfish Classic is open to all anglers, but it is also a part of the Bass Pro Shops Big Cat Quest Tournament Trail. The next stop on the Quest Trail is The World Championship of Cat-fishing on July 6 at Savannah, TN. After two additional tournaments in August at Clarksville, TN and Crystal City, MO, the Trail concludes with its national championship on the Mississippi River at Tunica, MS on September 14-15. The Big Cat Quest's major sponsors are Bass Pro Shops, Toyota Trucks, Berkley Lure Company, and Coca-Cola. More on the Big Cat Quest can be found at the Ken Freeman Promotions web site, [www.bigcatquest.com](http://www.bigcatquest.com).

The Lake Fork Sportsman's Association is a non-profit organization that was formed in 1999 to promote and help conserve Lake Fork as a world-class fishery. Its members are mainly lake-area homeowners, businesses, and guides. More

information on the association and its mission can be found on face book and its website, [www.lakeforksa.com](http://www.lakeforksa.com). The Yantis Catfish Classic's major underwriters were the Bass Pro Shops, the Wood County Industrial Commission, City National Bank, and the City of Yantis. Other major contributors included the All of Us & Texas Tea Room, BankTexas, Brookshires of Emory, Century 21 Lake Country, Diamond Sports Marine, Fisherman's Inn, G&S Sales of Quitman, The Greater Quitman Area Chamber of Commerce, Kearney Trailers, Lakeside Cove RV Park, Oak Ridge Marina, Parades Bar & Grill of Quitman, Peoples

Communications, Potts Feed Store of Quitman, S&A Sportswear, Sartin Marine, and Seth's Lake Fork Creek Steak & Seafood Restaurant. KMOO 99.9 FM served as the event's official radio station.

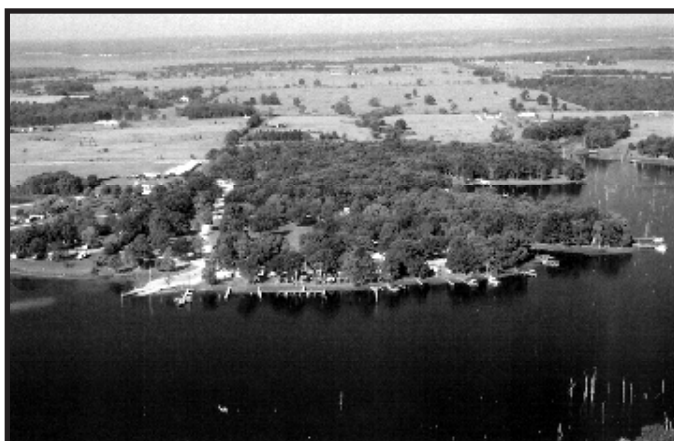
The 2014 event is tentatively scheduled for June 21 and 22. Details and other information will be posted on the Lake Fork Sportsman's Association website as they are developed.

More information on the tournament is available from Tournament Director Sam Scroggins at 903-763-2191 or [scroggins@peoplescom.net](mailto:scroggins@peoplescom.net).

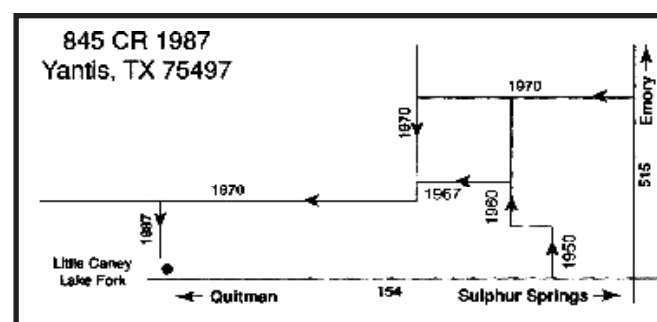


**Top 8 Winners from right to left; Phil Johnson, 37.4-lb. flathead; John Hill, 10.55-lb. channel; Cody Beaver, 10.45-lb. flathead; James Nugent & Charles Smith, 8.40-lb. channel (tie); Bobby Driskell & Troy Amason, 8.30-lb channel (tie); Donnie Fountain, 8.20-lb. channel.**

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Coach John from Kilgore was fishing with guide Tom Redington when he caught this nice bass. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo Tom Redington Guide Service)



Kenny Waters from Houston was Bassin' with Bubba on Lake Fork when he caught this nice bass. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo Bassin' With Bubba Guide Service)



Lake Fork guide Tom Redington caught this nice but ugly bass while fishing in June. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo Tom Redington Guide Service)

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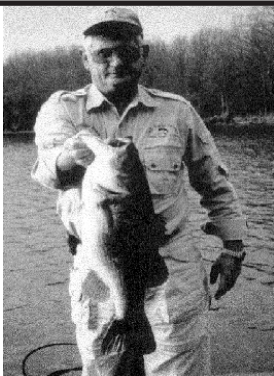
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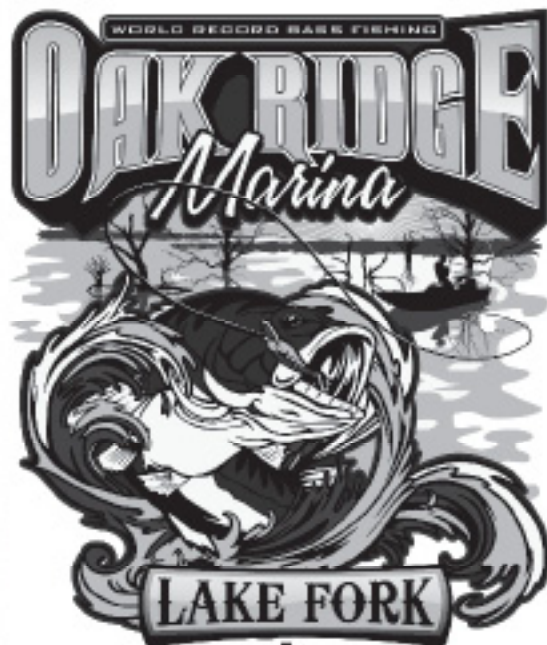
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## Zebra Mussels Documented in Lewisville Lake Boaters urged to clean, drain and dry

Less than a year following the discovery that zebra mussels had established a population in Lake Ray Roberts, the destructive invasive species has been confirmed in Lewisville Lake by the United States Geological Survey (USGS). This is the third lake in Texas, and the second within the Trinity River basin, where zebra mussels have been discovered.

Christopher Churchill, a biologist with the USGS who has been monitoring for zebra mussels in North Texas rivers and reservoirs, discovered the live juvenile on a settlement sampler near the dam.

Churchill indicated that this latest infestation is likely the result of contaminated boats being transported to Lewisville Lake, but it could be the result of downstream transport of zebra mussels from Lake Ray Roberts via Elm Fork of the Trinity River. Also, this latest infestation appears to be relatively new as no additional specimens have been documented.

The USGS, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, University of Texas-Arlington and others continue to closely monitor for the spread of zebra mussels in Texas.

Zebra mussels can have economic and recreational impacts in Texas reservoirs. They can clog public-water intake pipes, harm boats and motors left in infested waters by covering boat hulls and clogging water-cooling systems, annoy boat-dock owners by completely covering anything left under water and can make water recreation hazardous because of their razor-sharp edges.

With Lewisville Lake being such a popular boating destination there is a heightened risk of zebra mussels being transported to non-infested lakes by boaters. However, the spread can be slowed by making sure boats that operate in zebra mussel-infested waters are not used in any other body of water until they have been cleaned, drained and dried. In addition, TPWD adopted rules regarding the transfer of zebra mussel larvae in water from lakes Texoma, Lavon, Ray Roberts and Lewisville. To comply with these rules, boaters and anglers need to drain all water from their boats (including live wells) before leaving those lakes.

From the environmental perspective, zebra mussels are filter feeders, which mean they compete with baitfish such as shad for available forage. Any impact on baitfish in turn can affect their predators -- game fish such as bass, striped bass and catfish. Zebra mussels are also very harmful to native mussel populations because they will colonize on their shells and essentially suffocate them.

TPWD Executive Director Carter Smith emphasized that the discovery underscores the importance of boaters helping to prevent the spread of zebra mussels, which can be unknowingly spread when boats and trailers are moved from lake to lake.

TPWD and a coalition of partners have been reaching out to boaters in Texas with an advertising campaign to educate them not to transport the

tiny mussels or their microscopic larvae, which are invisible to the naked eye and can stay alive inside livewells, bait buckets and other parts of the boat for up to a week. These partners include: North Texas Municipal Water District, Tarrant Regional Water District, Trinity River Authority, City of Dallas Water Utilities Department, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, Sabine River Authority, Canadian River Municipal Water Authority, San Jacinto River Authority, Brazos River Authority, City of Grapevine, City of Houston, City of Waco and Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.

"With this somber news, I hope Texas boaters will always remember to "Clean, Drain, Dry" their

boats, trailers and gear because all it takes is one instance of not properly cleaning to introduce this highly invasive and unwelcome species to a water body in Texas; and once they are established there is no known way to get rid of them," Smith said.

Originally from the Balkans, Poland and the former Soviet Union, zebra mussels found their way to the Americas in the 1980s via ballast water of a ship. The small invaders were first found in 1988 in Lake St. Clair, Mich., and are currently known to have infested 29 states and more than 600 lakes or reservoirs in the United States.

## 2013 SATURDAY JULY 6<sup>th</sup> LAKE FORK INDEPENDENCE FIREWORKS



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*Parade Line-Up: All golf carts/atv's will line-up for the parade at Lake Fork Island RV park located just South of Oak Ridge Marina on Hwy 154. A shuttle will be running between the parade line-up and the activities. Carts can start arriving at 5 pm, drivers will be shuttled back to parade line-up starting at 7:30 pm.*

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## "Pack of Knowledge" Fork Flutter Spoons for Lunker Bass

By Tom Redington

For deep water bass on offshore structure, no bait has been hotter for the past few years than big spoons like the Fork Flutter Spoons. Bass key in on shad in the summer and fall and these lures look like an easy to eat baitfish. The quick rip of the flashy spoon, followed by its slow dying flutter, tempts bass that are active or dormant, suspended or on bottom. Spoons have become another key tool in the offshore arsenal, just like

the Carolina rig did a generation ago, joined more recently by the drop shot. If you haven't started fishing big spoons yet, here are a few of the basics on one of my new favorite techniques.

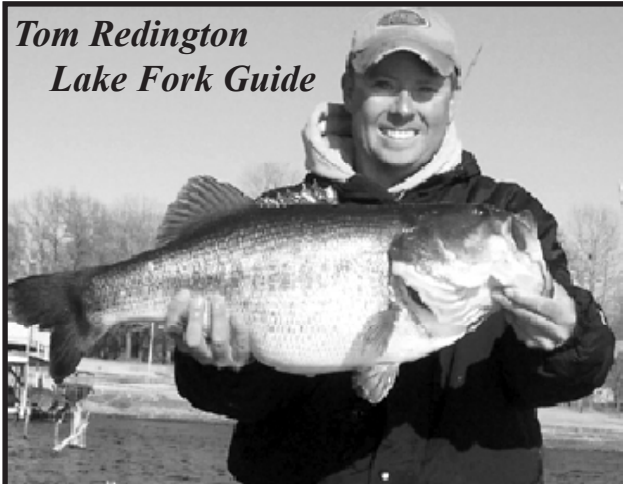
My choice of lure for this technique is the Fork Flutter Spoon made by Lake Fork Trophy Lures ([www.lftlures.com](http://www.lftlures.com)). It comes in 3 sizes (3", 4", and 5") and several productive colors. In addition to a traditional plain chrome finish, there is a bright "Bar Fish" pattern for stained water and a silvery "Magic Shad" color for clear water, both with highly reflective scale and sparkle finishes that are produced by adding several layers of coatings to the raw spoon. An ultra sharp Gamakatsu hook makes sure that fish get stuck when they hit it. These big heavy spoons will cast a mile, but the big cup in their sides makes them fall wildly like a light feather in a swirling wind.

Fishing the Fork Flutter Spoon is unlike fishing a regular jigging spoon; rather, it is more akin to retrieving a Texas rigged worm—only with more exaggerated motions. I start by making a long cast and letting the spoon fall on slack line. Slack line is the key to flutter spoons, as it gives the bait its distinctive dying shad fluttering action—the trigger mechanism for big bass. Once the bait hits bottom, reel up your slack, holding your rod at the 9 o'clock position. Raise your rod

to the 12 o'clock or even 1 o'clock position, pulling the spoon way up off the bottom. Some days you want to lift the spoon very briskly, while other days a slow steady rise works better. Once you've lifted the spoon, leave slack in the line and let it fall back to the bottom. Repeat this process all the way to the boat, making sure to leave slack in the line each time it drops for that key fluttering action. If the fish are suspended instead of on the bottom, follow this same process, except count the bait down to the desired depth instead of letting it fall all the way to the bottom on the initial cast. Finally, for less active fish (especially in cold water), I simply hold my rod tip high and give the lure a few cranks of the handle and then let the bait fall back down on semi-slack. Instead of a big rip off the bottom and a wild fluttering motion, a gentler rise followed by a subdued fall on a slightly tight line (less slack gives it less flutter) is more appealing to less aggressive fish.

Bites on the spoon will feel like a very sharp thump and your line will often jump. As soon as I feel a bite, I do a short snap set of the hook as quickly as I can. Bass often strike the spoon several times before hooking up, so if you miss a fish, continue your retrieve until you hook up. Bass almost always come to the surface and are notori-

(See Pack of Knowledge...Continued on Page 22-A)



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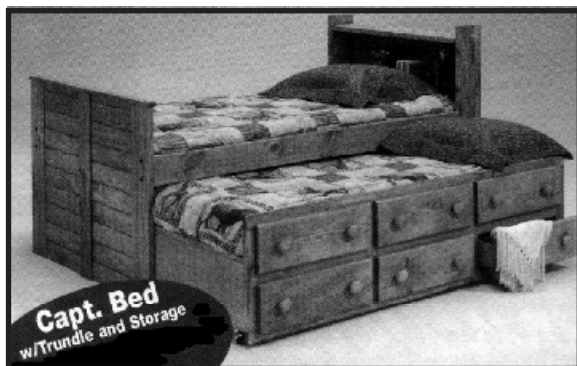
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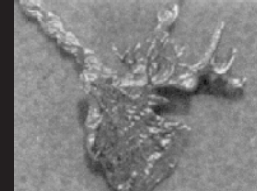
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## July Bassin on the Fork *(Continued from Page 6-A)*

forces as well as their families. Also pray for our schools and the children of this world that need a family. Many just need a solid role model in their life. If you are looking for a church home then come by and visit Lake Fork Baptist on Hwy 515. Sunday school starts at 9:30 and worship starts at 10:30. It is an amazing place. Good fishing and God Bless!

John Tanner is a professional resident fishing guide on Lake Fork. He has been fishing Lake Fork since 1982. John is professionally sponsored by Ranger Boats, Ranger Trail Trailers, Mercury, International Precious Metals, Minn Kota Trolling Motors, Lowrance Electronics, Navionics, Berkley, ABU Garcia, All Star Rods, Tru Tungsten, Hambys Beach Bumpers, Mustad Hooks, Talon Lures, BTS Line and Lure, Diamond Sports Marine and Oakley Sunglasses.



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Mrs. Cooper from Louisiana was so excited when she caught this Lake Fork hawg while fishing with guide John Tanner that she cried. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo John Tanner Guide Service)

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## New Texas Laws Protect Seagrass, Control Aquatic Invasives

Two of the dozens of bills that came out of the 83rd Texas Legislature affect boaters, anglers and other Texas Parks and Wildlife Department stakeholders.

One measure is a new law that will expand seagrass protection coast-wide. The other authorizes rules requiring boaters to drain and dry their vessels to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species like zebra mussels.

House Bill 3279 establishes a statewide law that makes it illegal to uproot seagrass in all coastal waters. This is similar to an existing TPWD regulation in the Redfish Bay State Scientific Area near Rockport, where it is Class C misdemeanor to uproot seagrass with a motorboat outboard propeller. In connection with the bill, TPWD plans to enhance its ongoing coast wide seagrass educational campaign to inform boaters. The bill takes effect Sept. 1.

House Bill 1241 enhances TPWD's ability to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic species, especially zebra mussels in fresh water.



According to the International Game Fish Association, the heaviest fish ever caught was a 2,664-pound great white shark, caught by Alfred Dean in 1959.



Four thousand people are injured by teapots every year.

Specifically, the bill gives the TPW Commission authority to enact rules to directly require boat operators leaving public lakes or other public waters to drain water from their vessels. This is intended to prevent the unintentional transportation of invasives to other fresh water bodies. It does not apply to salt

water.

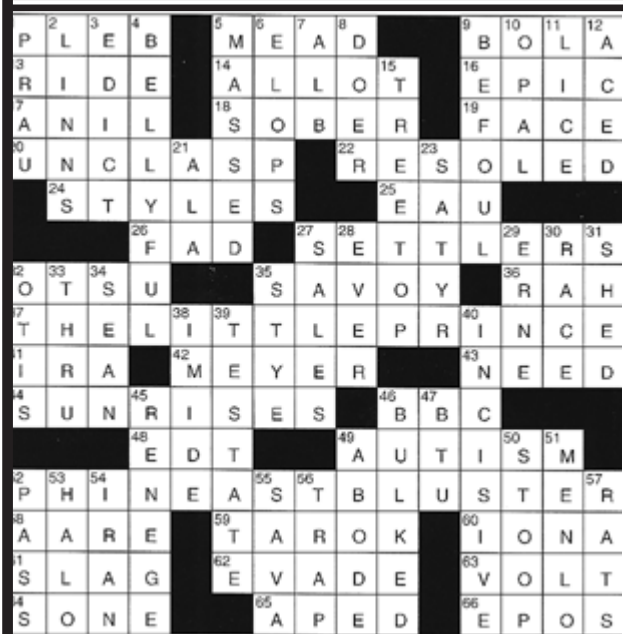
The new rules could be strategically applied to infested waters and nearby waters with a high risk of infestation. Enactment of new rules authorized by this law requires commission approval, which will occur later this year and will include opportunity for public comment.

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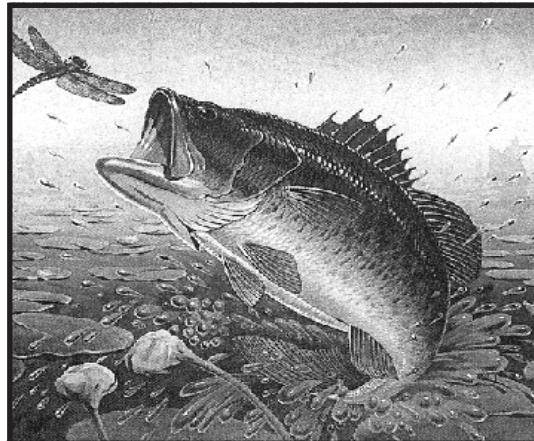
### Country Find

The names of 14 countries are hidden throughout the scrambled puzzle below. See how many you can find and circle. The words go horizontally and vertically, backward and forward.

ALGERIA  
AUSTRIA  
BELGIUM  
CANADA  
CHINA  
FRANCE  
GERMANY

IRELAND  
ITALY  
MEXICO  
POLAND  
PORTUGAL  
SPAIN  
UNITED STATES

B E L G I U M E Y L A T  
E U A L R N E X L G I U  
G S N G E I X I A T E O  
U T D E L A G U T R O P  
M E N I A P S T I T C O  
R F R A N O P A N A I L  
I R L N D L A C H I N A  
A L G E R M A N Y S E N  
I A N I C N N E A U X D  
R N E C N A R F S A I T  
T D G A L Y E O P L C A  
S U A N O A L C A G A N  
U T L A P N D I N E R I  
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**"Pack of Knowledge"** (Continued from Page 18-A)

ous for spitting spoons when they jump. To prevent lost fish, I stick my rod tip into the water and reel briskly to keep tension on bass as they come up.

To get the best action and feel from your bait requires the proper tackle. For the largest 2 sizes of the Fork Flutter Spoon, including my favorite—the massive 5" model—I use a 7'8" Dobyns Extreme DX784C rod with a fast tip and



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17-20 lb fluorocarbon line. An ultra-sensitive rod and fluoro line transmits your bites very well, allowing you to feel more bites and to react faster. Many bass snap at the bait and don't hold it, so you need to quickly set the hook as soon as a bite is felt. With big fish often rocketing towards the surface and then heading back down on power dives, the extra long rod helps keep them hooked up. For the smallest spoon (3" size), 12 to 14 lb fluorocarbon line rigged on a 7'3" Dobyns Champion 733C rod gives the bait better action than big line, while retaining enough strength to land big fish. To help reduce line twist, adding a quality ball bearing swivel to the top of the spool saves a lot of hassles.

The secret has been out for a while now, but apparently all of the bass don't know yet. Now's your chance to catch some bass on big flutter spoons before some else educates them! If I can be of assistance, drop me a line at tom@lakeforkguide-trips.com or check out my website www.LakeFork-GuideTrips.com for more info.

Tom Redington is a FLW Tour pro, host of TV's "Big Bass Battle" & a bass guide on Lake Fork. To make the most of your experience in the outdoors, he recommends the Boy Scouts of America, Lake Fork Trophy Lures, Dobyns Rods, Ranger Boats, Mercury Outboards, Diamond Sports Marine, Lucky Craft, Costa Sunglasses, Lowrance, Navionics, & Power Pole.

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**GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD.** Beautiful wood floors and uniquely textured walls, formal dining & large living area with bookcase library, wb fireplace, access to outside covered patio. Great kitchen, granite island & counters, tiled backsplash & floors, breakfast area with half bath, large utility room 2-car garage. Downstairs master bedroom, separate shower & tub, 4th bedroom/office. Upstairs is media room, 2 bedrooms separated by full bath. Property sits on 2 lots with RV carport, two shops/storage. \$249,000.



**WATERFRONT QUALITY CONSTRUCTION** THROUGHOUT by Lee Knight. Home is eclectic with gorgeous spectrums of grays and whites. Kitchen looks to be from a design kitchen magazine. Unique lighter-color granite counters & kitchen bar, top of line stainless appliances. Beautiful master bath with old-fashion foot tub, walk-in & sit-in masterfully designed, tiled shower. Open living/kitchen/breakfast, formal dining. Hand-hewn wood floors, rock fireplace. View of lake from living, master bedroom, kitchen, breakfast area & media/office/2nd living area. Oversized 2-car garage long enough for bass boat, cabinets, counters & work station. Located on good, deep water, the 2-stall boathouse with lifts has fishing deck & granite cleaning station. \$420,000.



**LAKE FORK WATERFRONT.** 2128 sf living area with granite counters, tile floors, open living/dining/kitchen. Beautiful wood fireplace, high ceilings. Master bedroom large open-type shower & huge closet. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, detached 2-car garage with work area plus covered area for boat. Great view from deck. Lot is irrigated from lake. Single boathouse, gazebo, storage building, concrete drive. Perfect lake home. \$270,000



**NEW HOME ON 5.1 ACRES.** Barely lived in for 6 months. Beautiful custom work, approximately 12 ft. ceilings in living & dining. Formal dining area has wood floors, living area has tile with stone fireplace. Open kitchen/living area with breakfast bar and breakfast room. Kitchen has granite counters, tile backsplash, beautiful cabinetry, stainless appliances. Large master bedroom with laminate wood floors, tray ceiling. Master bath has double lavatories, separate tub and shower, large walk-in closet. On opposite of home are 2 bedrooms with laminate floors, separated by bath. 2-car garage and sprinkler system. Sitting on 5.1 acres, there is room for a small man-made pond. Property is on a county-maintained road. A nice, new place in the country. \$224,000



**LIVING IN THE COUNTRY WITH ACCESS TO PRIVATE LAKE.** Sitting on top of a hill on 2.99 wooded acres, this beautiful home has stone FP with backdrop of Aspen wood, vaulted ceilings, open living, kitchen & dining. Custom Aspen kitchen cabinets, breakfast bar, separate dining area. Master suite has large Jacuzzi-type tub. Second bath has shower only. Aspen walls. Back covered patio and uncovered deck in back with a sense of no one around. 2 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2-carport. You'll be impressed with this like-new home. \$135,900.



**8.562 ACRES, LAKE FORK.** Interior acreage in Arrowhead subdivision, a Lake Fork waterfront subdivision. The property has a water view of Lake Fork and is the only interior acreage. There is a common boat ramp currently used by homeowners. There are two separate tracts of 4.28 and 4.286 acres, but owner wants to sell as a whole, not separate. \$55,000



**5 ACRES WITH SMALL HOME.** Some beautiful acreage on this property. Home is older and has original hardwood floors that are in good shape. Two bedrooms, one bath, good-sized living area, kitchen and small eating area. Utility room is in separate outside. There is a small 3-car carport. There is an easement road into the property and the 5 acres will have to be surveyed out of a larger tract. \$559,900



**RESTAURANT, SMOKEHOUSE ON LAKE FORK.** Seats approximately 84 with plenty of parking. The property sits on 2.7 acres with leaseback and old boat ramp to Lake Fork. This location has lots of potential. Nicely decorated in rustic décor. Fully equipped, clean kitchen, walk-in coolers, freezers, 2-smokers. Commercial septic, fully approved. Great location on Hwy 154, approximately 3500 cars per day travel this road. Located right on Lake Fork where there are many tournaments, weekend and holiday fishermen. Area has a large retirement community. This is a great opportunity. just walk-in and start serving. \$145,000



**LAKE FORK WATERFRONT** built for entertaining with an inside hot-tub, concrete patio, screened porch. This 3 bedroom, 2 bath log home is a perfect lake home getaway. Set back in the woods, nicely landscaped, small pond in front, 2-car attached garage, concrete parking area. Private boat dock and neighborhood boat ramp. There is a loft with inside circle stairway and an outside entry. \$265,000.

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