

DOCK LINE

Huntsville/Lake Livingston



MAY 2020

MAGAZINE



AS PEOPLE GO BACK TO THE BASICS. (WE NEVER STOPPED!)



RINKERS
BOAT WORLD
AT LAKESHORE

LOCATED RIGHT ON LAKE CONROE

See page 8

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Traditionally, when we think of May it has been a month of celebrations, accomplishments and the beginning of a new season. Unfortunately, this year with the recent turn of events we have entered a new normal. Our vocabulary has changed with phrases such as zoom meetings, social distancing and wearing masks, followed by the elimination of words like hugs, gatherings and togetherness. Throughout all this change, devastation and uncertainty some things remain the same, we are a community of resilience, compassion and love. It has become apparent now more than ever what a great community we live in. We encourage everyone to take a look around, celebrate the little things and support your local businesses. They need your support now more than ever through this difficult time. If we all stick together we will be stronger than ever. Until next month...

GT2 

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Huntsville/Lake Livingston

MAGAZINE



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Rinker's Boat World is a world-class dealership. Offering top-of-the-line boats and dedicated customer service and has two locations to serve the Houston metropolitan area. Rinker's Boat World at Lakeshore is located at 15225 Walden Rd., Montgomery, TX 77356 Rinker's Boat World is located at 2500 W. MT Houston Rd., Houston, TX 77038. You can contact Rinker's Boat World at Lakeshore at (936) 448-2628 or on their website at www.rinkerslakeshore.com.

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Check our Dock Line Magazine page online for any upcoming events that might happen in May 2020

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Huntsville/Lake Livingston

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Verle "Ozzy" Osborne
PUBLISHER

Linda Sharver
EDITOR

GT2 /Coconut
MANAGING EDITORS

Kelly L. O'Quinn
ART DIRECTOR

Susan Osborne
OFFICE MANAGER

David Donahoo, Colton Rucker
SEO SPECIALISTS

Walt Thompson
DIRECTOR OF SALES

Angela Glezman
Stephanie Davis
SALES ASSOCIATES

Brian Sherman
Matthew Calhoun
WRITERS

Jessie Smith
PHOTOGRAPHER

CONTRIBUTORS:

Bronwyn Clear
David Scott Cox
Lisa Wolling
Tony W. DeRamus, DC, CCSP
Marilyn Meshell

DOCK LINE MAGAZINE is published by:
Dock Line Magazine, Inc.
P.O. Box 1203, Willis, TX 77378
Telephone: 936-890-7234
E-mail:
ozzy@docklinemagazine.com

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your name and address to:
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Willis, TX 77378

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National Forests and Grasslands in Texas temporarily shuts down overnight camping in Wildlife Management Areas

In alignment with current federal, state and local guidance for social distancing and to ensure health safety of its employees, visitors and volunteers, National Forests and Grasslands in Texas will temporarily shut down overnight camping in Wildlife Management Areas effective April 11.

Wildlife Management Areas impacted by this announcement include:

- Caddo National Grasslands WMA (Caddo National Grasslands)
- Alabama Creek WMA (Davy Crockett National Forest)
- Bannister WMA (Angelina National Forest)
- Moore Plantation WMA (Sabine National Forest)
- Sam Houston National Forest WMA (Sam Houston National Forest)

Other recreation opportunities, such as hunting/fishing/hiking on the National Forests and Grasslands in Texas remain available to the public.

To protect public health and safety all visitors to the forest are encouraged to:

- Avoid visiting the forest if you are sick and/or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Follow CDC guidance on personal hygiene and social distancing before and during your visit to the forest.
- Take your trash with you when you leave. Trash overflowing the receptacles becomes litter and can be harmful to wildlife and attract predators.
- Please make arrangements to use the restroom before or after your visit to the forest. Unmanaged waste creates a health hazard for our employees and for other visitors.
- If an area is crowded, please search for a less occupied location. Also consider avoiding the forest during high-use periods.

The USDA Forest Service continues to assess and temporarily suspend access to recreation areas that attract large crowds and cannot meet social distancing guidelines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Visitors to national forests are urged to take the precautions recommended by the CDC. For tips from the CDC on preventing illnesses like the coronavirus, go to: www.coronavirus.gov

Information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture is available at: www.usda.gov/coronavirus.

For up-to-date information on the National Forests and Grasslands in Texas visit www.fs.usda.gov/texas. ♦

**We are still open and taking precautions to keep you safe during your visit.
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How Families Can Stay Connected & Become Closer with Rinker's Boat World at Lakeshore



Families stay connected, enjoy the water and practice social distancing together by boating, now more than ever.

Reset Back-to-the-Basics ... Rinker's Never Stopped.

BY: MATTHEW CALHOUN

As we drift further into uncharted waters with the Covid-19, it can be challenging to find activities that are both therapeutic and fun for everyone, as well as, respecting the current social distancing mandates. Many people and families by default are finding themselves getting "back-to-the-basics". What does that mean? "Back-to-the-basics" was borne out of the great need to strengthen and support the family unit.

For generations families have stayed connected by boating, it's that one place they all come together and make memories that last a lifetime. Boating is a great get-away for some water therapy that can be relaxing and calming and/or an excuse to embark on a new adventure. Whether you are cruising, fishing, water skiing or catching a wave; you are enjoying quality family time together.

As many people are getting "back-to-the-basics" with boating, Rinker's Boat World at Lakeshore never stopped! Let Rinker's show you the ropes and help get and keep you connected.

Boating Strengthens The Family Unit

As Chris Rinker, owner of Rinker's Boat World puts it, "Boating allows all families to come together in one place, have a captive audience, as you are spending time together on the water and in turn making memories that last forever. Boating is one of the BEST 'family tools' that there is!" Once you start your family out in boating, it goes on forever, it becomes an inherited behavior that gets passed down for generations. People want to share that experience and lifestyle with their families and loved ones. There are not many activities out there that can continuously draw back in your kids and family together. Boating is never getting old either. Even as kids mature and grow, they still want to be out on the water.

Many families today also purchase a boat (take up boating) to be able to not only make memories on the water with their children but also be able to provide an activity where the parents have some control of their children's

safety, whereabouts and friend selection. "We enjoy having a boat for the quality family time it provides us," states Rinker's customer Kacie. "Boating also allows us to know that our son is surrounded by good people. After all, you learn a lot about someone when they are out on your boat all day!" Allow Rinker's to help you pass the boating lifestyle down to your families and generations to come!

Why the Rinker's Family Legacy is Important to You and Your Family

Rinker's Boat World is a family-owned and operated, '5-Star' rated boat dealership that opened their doors in Houston in 1978. Boating and the Rinker Family date back several decades, from grandfather to current grandson owner Chris Rinker. Chris Rinker comes from a family that lives and breathes boating. Boating is in the Rinker's family blood—Chris's Grandfather, Lossie "LE" Rinker, built fishing and racing boats in the 1930's and his Uncle John, founded



Chris Rinker & The Rinker Family enjoy a sunset cruise on Lake Conroe together.



Check out the NEW Sylvan Pontoon boats/brand at Rinker's.

the very respectable/successful Rinker Boat Co. in 1945. The Rinker family prides itself on treating customers like family. Rinker's company culture has developed over many years and is strong. Rinker's has built their reputation for quality service and going above and beyond what is expected from a boat dealership. Word of mouth is Rinker's best advertising agent and they have many families that have bought 5 or more boats from them and now their children are coming to Rinker's with their boating needs, and in turn have become Rinker's extended family on the water. *"A true first-class experience. Thank you for making us feel like part of the family and for providing an exceptional product."*

~Mark W., a Rinker's Boat World Customer.

Rinker's Boat World strategy is engraved from the top as they will do everything in their power to ensure every customer is completely and extremely satisfied with their experience

Continued on page 10 ➡



Providing a FUN activity & making memories on the water with your kids.

at Rinker's Boat World. Rinker's has their model displayed on their walls in the showroom as a constant reminder, "We Have an Unfair Advantage, We Care More."

Buying a Boat Should Be Fun, Exciting & Rewarding

There comes a time in many lives when a family decides that it is 'now or never' in buying a boat. One of the biggest reasons people never become boat owners is due to the fear of the unknown. The fear that they will make a mistake, buy the wrong boat, pay too much, be 'taken' by a boat salesman, etc. Purchasing and owning a boat should never be intimidating or scary—it should be fun, exciting and rewarding. Rinker's Boat World's #1 mission is to get a family into a proper boat that meets all of their needs and lifestyle! Their goal at Rinker's Boat World is to make the entire process of buying a boat fun and easy for our customers. Their job is to sell and deliver as many fantastic ownership experiences to the customer as possible.

When you come to buy a boat, they aren't going to rush you through the process. Rinker's wants to find the right boat for your family.

With a staff, with years of experience, whether a part of the team behind the counter or the General Managers who are there day in and day out, Chris Rinker believes, "If you take the time to find the perfect boat for a family, you have a customer for life. Building the right relationship with a family is everything in the boating business," states Chris Rinker.

Being voted and receiving the prestigious award as one of the 'Top 100' Boat Dealerships in all of North America by Boating Industry is proof to all of Rinker's hard work and excellent customer service. Rinker's are not only a '5-star rated Boat Dealership' serving Lake Conroe, the Greater Houston Metroplex, Lake Livingston and the Gulf Coast area, but also have the most positive online reviews. For more than 3 decades Rinker's has earned the reputation of being one of the sought-out boat dealers in Houston and on Lake Conroe due to the attention they provide their customers. *"The Rinker Team listened to exactly what we wanted and helped us figure out what we needed. They were not pushy and only helpful for our family. They even stayed late to help us find the perfect boat fit. Rinker's took us out for the day on the lake to*

help us learn how to best operate the boat, especially since we are first time boat buyers. Rinker's was able to share exactly the best ways to operate the boat and made sure we all took turns to drive it. Great experience all around."

~ Landon P, Rinker's Boat World Customer.

Why Rinker's Boat World ... The Right Boat & Dealership Makes All the Difference

Rinker's Boat World at Lakeshore is dedicated to helping customers have the best experience they can have. From experts to novices, they want to give you the tools to succeed on the water. They accomplish this in a number of ways. Firstly, the goal of each interaction with a client is to empower them with information on the best boat for their situation. A very knowledgeable salesman from their team is going to be comprehensive in the details of the types of boats Rinker's offers and how their needs can be met. The goal is to make boating easy and accessible for anyone to enjoy. Rinker's doesn't want you leaving the dealership wondering whether you can handle a boat or not.

Secondly, Rinker's starts by offering a great product, the brand of boats they carry are some of the best in their class. They are 1 of only 3 in the state of Texas to sell Cobalt boats, but that's not all. Rinker's Boat World also sells leading brands like Supra, Sylvan Pontoon, Sea Hunt, Moomba and South Bay Pontoon, both new and pre-owned (or pre-enjoyed as they say) inventory. If you are looking for the Mercedes-Benz of boats, they have it. If you are looking for the Ford-Mustang of boats they have it. However, new buyers shouldn't be intimidated. The Rinker's Boat World Team is going to walk you through each boat and how to operate it. They are not going to push something you are not ready for, and they will give you guidance on how best to join the boating community.

Thirdly, many customers of Rinker's Boat World are repeat customers. The trust, relationship and customer service are so strong their customers wouldn't look anywhere else. Some families are on their 5th boat from Rinker's Boat World. Some have been handed down through each generation, and they keep coming back for service, parts and often just to visit. As new generations come of age and/or are learning how to deal with the current circumstances in the world, more and more are finding that Rinker's is the most reliable boating dealership around. As Chris Rinker points out, "We shoot straight with our customers, we are honest ... always! Rinker's Boat World builds relationships with our customers and even vendors, that last a lifetime, for generations." When you visit Rinker's Boat World at Lakeshore you are working with a retailer who has proven themselves for over three decades. *"Rinker's Boat World has my highest recommendation for customer satisfaction. The people are fantastic from top to bottom and go beyond to ensure a great boating experience. We just purchased our second boat from them in the last 3 years and could not be happier. So excited for all the memories our family is making on the water together."*

~Jason H., Rinker's Boat World Customer



The entire Rinker's Boat World Team.



Rinker's Boat World is a family-owned & operated boat dealership that dates back several generations. Jerry & Chris Rinker (left), Rinker Family (right).



NEW Cobalt A29.



Making memories on Lake Conroe.

With many families being forced to re-configure their daily lives to accommodate the constant changes, let boating keep you connected and be your escape. If you would like to jump in on all this fun, you can contact Rinker's Boat World at Lakeshore today! Get ready for a whole new experience and to become one of the family!

Rinker's Boat World---a Full-Service Boat Dealership has two Locations to Choose From:

Rinker's Boat World at Lakeshore is on the shores of Lake Conroe and located at 15225 Walden Rd., Montgomery, TX 77356. Call us at (936) 448-2628 or visit us online at www.RinkersLakeshore.com.

One of our best assets is our location right on the water ... having waterfront at our dealership enables 'Demo Days/Test Drives' right on the water and/or our customers to be able come by boat if they need something.

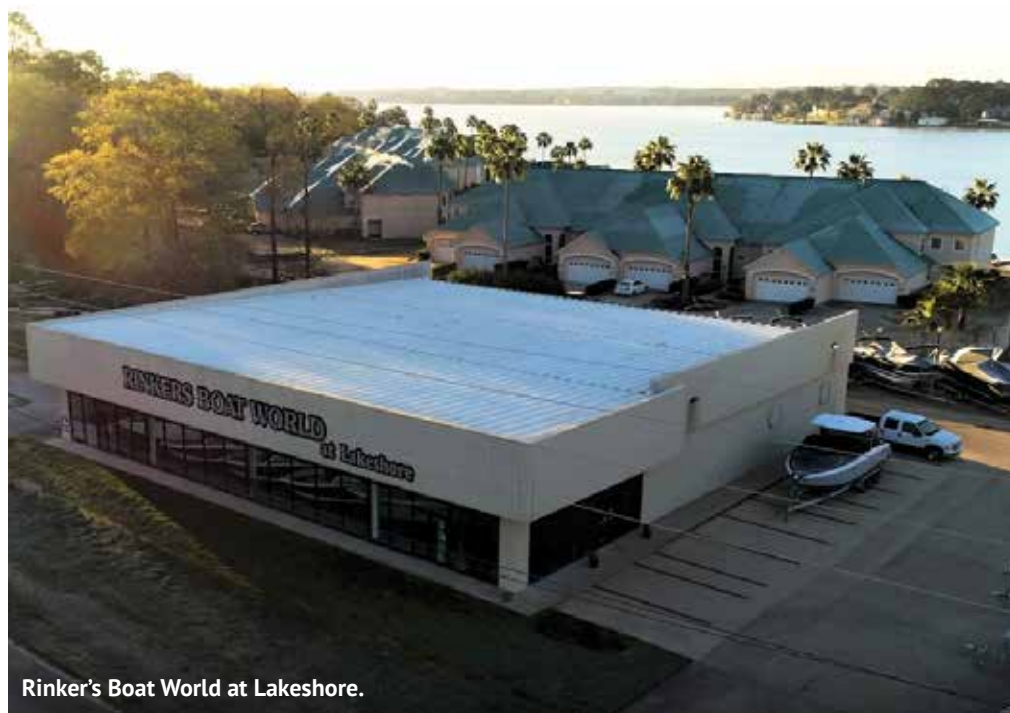
Rinker's Boat World is located at 2500 W. MT Houston Rd., Houston, TX 77038 Call (281) 847-0064 or visit www.RinkersBoatWorld.com. ♦



Enjoying some fishing and family time together on a NEW Sylvan Fish Series Pontoon.



Rinker's Boat World at Lakeshore, right on the shores of Lake Conroe, come by land or boat.

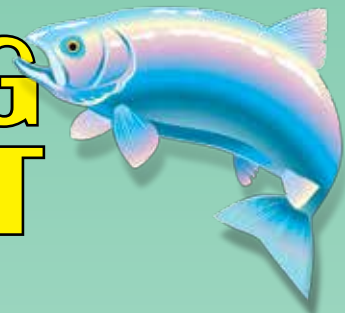


Rinker's Boat World at Lakeshore.



FISHING REPORT

By: David Scott Cox



FISHING FORECAST: May is "hump month" on Lake Livingston. White Bass will be stacking up on mid lake and lower lake humps in 11 to 17 ft. depths. This is where Whites can be caught in big numbers by vertical jigging slab baits. 190 roadbed, the "hump" by Pine Island,



Dove Island and humps in Penwaugh Bay are just a few spots. Position your boat right over the hump drop the slab straight down to the bottom, pick your rod tip up and let the slab fall again. The fish will often hit a falling slab. White and chartreuse are some of the best colors.

Lake Livingston consists of over 90,000 acres of water and 450 miles of shoreline.



Normal Lake Level

131.0'

Current Lake Level

131.8'

Water Temperature

72°-75°

Release - 15,000 cfs

Water Clarity - River channel clearing, mid lake clearing, lower lake clear, upper creeks tea color

David Scott Cox
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SPECIES REPORT:

Black Bass - {largemouth} Fish Black and Blue Lizards and June Bug Baby Brush hogs around the logjams now. Throw white spinner baits around shallow wood and rocky points. Some good fish still being caught on Charlie's jigs fished around docks in Newton, Upper Carolina and Bethy Creeks.

Catfish - Fish the old 190 roadbed now for Blue Cats and Channels. Drop chicken liver and fresh shad down to the old bridge rails. Windless days are best. Use 20 lb. test to prevent break offs here.

Crappie - Look for Crappie to move in to the deeper boathouse mid lake and lower lake now. Fish minnows about 6 ft. down under a slip cork.

White Bass - Whites will be stacking up on mid and lower lake humps and can be caught here in good numbers on Tsunami Zombie eye jigs. ♦



Back to Health

By: Tony W. DeRamus, DC, CCSP



Is My Child Too Young to Visit the Chiropractor?

When I tell people that I specialize in pediatrics or they see me adjusting children and babies in my practice, their initial reaction is often one of surprise. I often get the question "Why do they need to be adjusted? They cannot possibly have anything wrong." Parents need to know that their child is never too young to be adjusted. The earliest challenge or stress a growing spine faces is the position it adopts in the womb.

Spinal nerve stress in newborns is more common than previously realized. This stress can be caused by physical, chemical and/or emotional stress. Many women will have heard of fetal positions that can cause problems with labor. What is less well known is that these fetal positions can also place physical stress on the baby's spine. If this position is less than optimal, it can result in a longer and more difficult trip through the birth canal, which can introduce great stress to the infant's skull, spinal column and pelvis. Interventions such as induction, forceps, suction, or caesarean section can actually create additional traumas and compromises to the infant's future health and well-being.

It's important for all mother's to recognize that any stress, not just fetal positioning, en-

countered during her pregnancy will translate to her growing baby. While in the womb, baby's brains develop in direct response to the mom's experience of the world. If a mom is overwhelmed by anxiety or stress during her pregnancy, the "message" communicated to her baby through stress hormones is that they are in an unsafe environment, regardless of whether or not the information is true. The baby's brain will actually adapt to prepare for the arrival into this unsafe environment. Chronic stress in pregnancy tends to sculpt a brain that is quick to react, have reduced impulse control and a decreased capacity to remain calm and content. Chronic joy, on the other hand, allows for the optimal development of each organ, the brain in particular, predisposing the baby to greater health and serenity. Such traits constitute the foundations of lifelong personality.

Chemical stress to the baby is brought on by poor nutrition from the mother. I once heard an expecting mom make the comment that her baby was craving chocolate so she needed to eat chocolate. I'm not saying that you can't indulge every once in awhile but just like we need to put good, nutrient rich foods into our bodies to be healthy, growing babies need the

same. We now know there is a strong link between poor gestational nutrition and diabetes. Could it be possible that we create the sugar "addiction" that is seen in so many children even before they are born?

The cause of many newborn health complaints such as colic, reflux, breastfeeding difficulties, sleep disturbances, allergic reactions, and chronic infections can be traced to nervous system irritation caused by spinal and cranial misalignments.

Throughout childhood, experiences, like falling down and bumps to the head can also be a source of spinal and cranial trauma. Most of the time, the pain from the initial injury "goes away" however the damage suffered continues to affect the future function of the child's nervous system.

In addition, many developmental milestones such as learning to hold up the head, sitting upright, crawling, and walking are all activities that are affected by spinal alignment.

Unless a child has an obvious problem it can be difficult for a parent to recognize when a child's spine may be placing undue stress on the nervous system. There are some signs, which can be indicative of these problems. These include:

- disturbed sleeping patterns
- breastfeeding difficulties in the very young
- restricted head or neck movement to one side
- one shoulder higher than the other
- recurrent ear infections
- persistent sore throats and colds
- colic/reflux
- asthma
- scoliosis
- headaches
- bedwetting and/or constipation
- growing pains
- ADHD

Symptoms or not, parents should have their child's spine checked by a chiropractor.

The first thing a chiropractor will do is conduct a thorough history of your child's health and any complaints. This is followed by a complete physical examination of the child's spine.

Chiropractic care is 'tailored' to the individual and their particular spine, and children are no exception. At Sandstone Chiropractic, we offer specific, gentle adjustments appropriate to the infant's and child's spine.

Spinal adjustments for infants and young children involve very light fingertip pressure to correct spinal misalignments. This amount of force is often not more than a finger touch. This is usually sufficient to reduce stress and restore function to the areas of the spine causing interference to the nervous system. Other techniques involve the use of hand-held instruments, which offer specific and gentle correction.

As chiropractors, we don't ask ourselves how we are going to "fix" your kids because we don't think that they're broken. We ask ourselves what has gotten in the way of your child's natural ability to express his or her optimum health potential.

To make sure your child gets the best possible start in life, give them the gift of chiropractic!! ♦





COVID-19 is Wreaking Havoc at Wastewater Treatment Facilities Due to an Increase of “Flushable” Products



Wastewater Operators along with Patty Potty Urge Everyone to Only Flush the 3 P's

Wastewater treatment operators across the world have had the disgusting job of dealing with products that people toss down the drain and flush down the toilet for years. Obviously some of the items are to be expected, but often times it is full of objects that really shouldn't be there. The “flushable” marketing strategy adopted by numerous manufacturers magnified that issue significantly, and it continues to get worse and worse.

Since 2014, the San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA) with the help of the vivacious Patty Potty, has sounded the alarm with a #NoWipes in the Pipes message asking everyone to Trash Em...don't Flush Em.

“People are flushing all kinds of things down the toilet!” Patty points out. “It's not a trash can, you know! Some paper products

and wipes are advertised as ‘flushable’ but they aren't. Sure, they will flush down, but they won't flush OUT. Wipes don't decompose they get caught up in wastewater treatment plant screens and filters -- and that costs money to clear and repair!”

Patty speaks for the pipes. She is a 1950's housewife...somewhat prissy, often bossy, and completely in charge of her home and family. She is a likeable messenger who, armed with her pink plunger, is on a mission to put an end to stuff being flushed down toilets that ends up costing everyone money.

Patty's message -- NO WIPES IN THE PIPES -- might be staged in the 50's, but it continues to be vitally important in today's water-conscious world. Especially given the recent issues with COVID-19 and the shortages of paper prod-

ucts. In fact, wastewater treatment operators are having to work overtime to deal with the increase in “flushable” products that are making their way to the treatment facilities.

“With empty store shelves in the toilet paper aisle, Woodlands Water Agency (WWA) is worried that residents will resort to using alternatives like wipes or napkins and then flush those items down the toilet,” WWA's GM James M. Stinson, PE stated.

“SJRA wants to remind everyone to only flush toilet paper and toss wipes into the trash can,” Chris Meeks SJRA Utility Enterprise O&M Manager said. “Anxiety over the COVID-19 pandemic could end up causing major problems in our system and messy overflows to deal with.”

SJRA, WWA, and Patty urge residents to take the “Potty Potty Pledge” to help protect



Harris County. For additional information on SJRA visit our website at www.sjra.net, like SJRA on Facebook @SanJacintoRiverAuthority, fol-

low us on Twitter @SJRA_1937, or find us on Instagram @SanJacintoRiverAuthoritySJRA. ♦

TRASH 'EM DON'T FLUSH 'EM!

NO WIPES IN THE PIPES!



PattyPotty.com

SJRA IS A PROUD SPONSOR OF THE PATTY POTTY PROGRAM

water quality and the environment -- by taking actions that will help prevent costly plumber bills and water treatment plant repairs, as well!

For more information on Patty visit her website at www.pattypotty.com, like her on Facebook @nowipes, follow her on Twitter @nowipes, and find her on Instagram @nowipesinthepipes.

For information on WWA visit their website at <https://woodlandswater.org>, like them @WoodlandsWater and follow them on Twitter @WJPA_Water.

One of the major river authorities in Texas, SJRA's mission is to develop, conserve, and protect the water resources of the San Jacinto River basin. Covering all or part of seven counties, the organization's jurisdiction includes the entire San Jacinto River watershed, excluding

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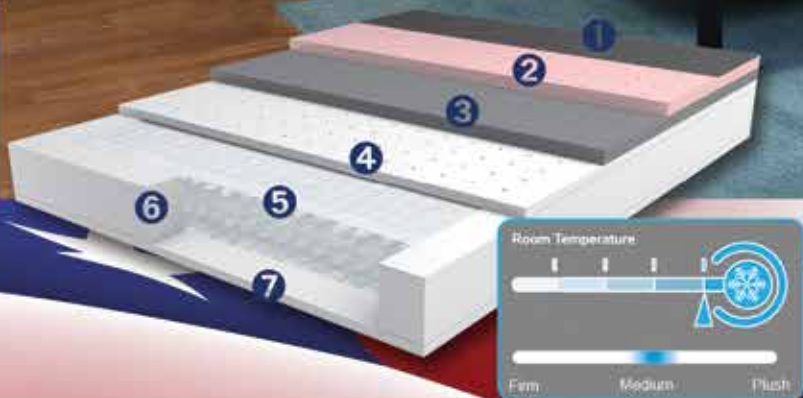


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Preventing Dog Bites

With everyone focused on the coronavirus situation these days, Dog Bite Prevention Week April 12-18 2020, was overlooked. The week is usually a time set aside to remind people about the seriousness of dog bites. It is also a time to educate the public on ways to prevent dog bites, both as a responsible dog owner and as an individual who potentially could become a bite recipient. Each year, more than 4.5 million people receive dog bites. The majority of the bites are minor in nature, such as scratches or small cuts, but annually 800,000 bites are serious enough to require medical attention. Therefore, it is essential for everyone to become aware of the situation and educate themselves and their children about how to lessen the possibility of being bitten.

The majority of bite victims fall into three groups: children, the elderly, and postal service carriers. According to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) study, 80% of those who received bites were children. Of that 80% of bites to children, 30% of the children were bitten by the family dog and the other 50% were bites were inflicted by a neighbor's dog. Children must be taught how to act calmly and kindly around all animals. Because of their size and strength, dogs carry the potential for serious bite injuries to youngsters. Another frequently bitten group includes United States Postal Service (USPS) employees. While the total number of dog bites have been going down for several years, USPS employees receive over 5,700 bites each year. The USPS is interested in educating their customers about the seriousness of dog bites and encouraging responsible dog ownership to further reduce bite incidents. In addition to the USPS, two other organizations who are active in preventing dog bites are the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the American Kennel Club (AKC).

Dogs who bite come in all sizes, ages, genders, and breeds. Simply stated, biters are not limited to any specific breed. Any dog has the potential to bite if provoked. Most often, dogs bite because they are frightened, startled, or feel threatened. Once we know why dogs bite, there are things we can do to reduce the possibility of receiving a bite.

The next step is educating ourselves and children on how to safely interact with dogs. Children need to be taught which dogs to ap-

proach, how to safely approach them, and general conduct around dogs. Children should avoid dogs who are off leash, sleeping, eating, playing with toys or who are injured or sick. If a dog is running loose or appears to be hurt, the child should stay away from the dog and notify an adult who can take charge. A sleeping dog may be easily startled or feel threatened and might bite out of self-defense even if it is a person that they know well. The same is true for older dogs who may have vision or hearing deficits and may be easily startled. If a dog is eating or playing with toys, a child should not approach. Some dogs guard their food and toys. They may view an approaching child as a threat which could trigger a bite response.

Children should never tease animals. If a dog growls, back away and give the dog space. If a child encounters an unleashed or unfriendly dog outdoors, the AKC says do not run. Instead, make like a tree. That means stand very still, cross your arms over your chest like you are hugging yourself, and do not look directly at the dog. The idea is to become uninteresting and unchallenging so that the dog will safely move away.

In October 2019, Huntsville Pets Helping People (HPHP) participated in Safety Town, an event sponsored by Huntsville ISD. Safety Town presented safety information and experiences to about 450 first grade students. They met police officers, fire personnel, a forest ranger, and several HPHP therapy dogs. The children learned to ask permission to approach and pet a dog on a leash. If permission was given by the owner, children learned to approach the dog calmly and extend a closed hand for the dog to sniff. If the dog is comfortable with that, the child may pet the dog on the chest, shoulder or back, but not on the head because some dogs do not like their heads touched.

Dog owners need to do their part to pro-

tect themselves, their families, their dogs, and the general public from dog bites. Never let your dog run loose in the neighborhood. Teach your dog not to dash out an open door or gate. Yes, a dog can be taught to wait at the door or gate until given permission to exit. Socialize your dog to a variety of sights, sounds, people and experiences. Socialization is best started when the dog is very young but dogs of any age can become better socialized. Owners should consider neutering their dog if that has not been done because neutered dogs tend to be less territorial and aggressive. When individuals come to your residence to deliver mail or packages, put the dog in another room or in a fenced backyard so that the dog cannot approach the delivery person and potentially cause harm.

Finally, dogs who bite are costly to their owners. Each year several million dollars are paid out by insurance companies because of dog bites and resulting medical treatments. Those costs are passed on the insurance policy holder or their policy may be cancelled. In addition, landlords might evict renters who have dogs that they consider aggressive (biters). When a dog bite is severe, the dog may lose their home when the owner surrenders them to a shelter or their lives if they are euthanized.



Marko; Smooth Coated Collie
9 years old; therapy dog for 7 years
Visits nursing homes & elementary schools
Handler: Karen

Therefore, please protect your dog, your family, and the public by being a responsible dog owner and instructing your family on behaving safely around dogs. ♦

COVID19

What Businesses are Saying

COVID-19 is having a profound impact on all of our lives. Medical professionals and hospitals are being stretched to the limits and everyone is making huge adjustments to their lives to save others. Who knew we would live in a time when the wisest advice for everyone to follow is simply to do nothing? Stay home, stay away from others, and wait it all out.

While we're all doing our part to keep everyone safe and healthy, small businesses are seeing a profound shift in how they do business, if they even can. "Business as usual" is out. Innovation and outside of the box thinking is in. At Dock Line, we work with small businesses every day to help them be seen in their communities and to grow. We've been hearing from them about their struggles and their successes during this strange, uncertain time.

In this article, we wanted to invite you in on the conversation and let you hear straight from the business owners and managers how they're handling all of this. As you'll see, some are finding a way to thrive by making adjustments, while others are having a more difficult time. Both messages are important, and we want you to know what's going on out there and how we can help our local businesses make it through together.



How a Family-Owned Franchise has Adapted to Customers

Although Coronavirus has hampered the economy, that hasn't stopped this family-owned franchise. Bloomin' Blinds in Montgomery County is run by Dallas Schultz with his father Dave and they have found creative ways to still reach customers while practicing social distancing, "We use conferencing software to do virtual consulting on custom blinds, shades, and plantation shutters sales. Customers call us and we ask them a few questions about their windows, their lighting requirements, their privacy goals, and their budget," says Dave. From there, they set up a virtual consultation appointment in which they send an email that will help customers with correct measurements of their windows, and preparation for the virtual conference. During the consultation, they will use photos and videos to make their recommendation on what's best for your home, and the materials needed. Within 24 hours you will have a written quote for your new blinds.

Before ordering materials though they still need to have an in-home visit, however, much of the work is done beforehand. Most in-house appointments are fairly quick and extreme precaution is used, "We take the health of our customers and family seriously. Expect to see us wearing masks, gloves, using hand sanitizer, and wiping down what is being handled." The reason for an in-home visit is so the blinds can be tailor-made for your home. Even in this time of uncertainty, you don't have to settle for less with Bloomin' Blinds. In addition, if you choose Bloomin' Blinds for your business you're also helping out Texas manufacturers "We primarily use many of the Texas manufacturers of window coverings. They employ

Texans and buy much of what they need from other Texas businesses. All this money mostly stays in Texas, helping hundreds of Texas families all across the state."

As I talked with Bloomin' Blind's Dave Schultz he did have a word of caution for those buying custom products. When asking for a deposit most companies should charge you 50% of the total cost. This is a sign of a healthy business as most manufacturers require you to have a deposit put down by the dealer before they will accept the order. That 50% helps cover the costs of producing the materials and fill the order faster. As Dave puts it, "All parties have equal skin in the game, and that's why 50% is the norm. Experience shows me that businesses who are experiencing serious financial problems will start to require deposits of 60% and as even high as 75%. That is too much. There is little motivation for them to expedite the install." Before going with a custom blinds installer, make sure to do your due diligence and research your options. The owners of Bloomin' Blinds have learned that adapting to customer's needs, taking safety precautions, and being upfront about pricing has helped them move forward. Even though times are tough, they have found local their business and local community ready to take on this threat.

To get a quote for your windows, contact them at (936) 236-6800, or reach out to them at their website at <https://www.bloominblinds.com>.



Being Proactive

The Lawn Ranger Company has been deemed an essential business, but that hasn't made things easy during this crisis. Activities have slowed down for all businesses, but the local Lawn Ranger Company is making some headway during this

Continued on page 20 ➞

crisis “We are being proactive with customers, making phone calls and reaching out to clients,” says, president Walt Crowder. “Right now we are focused on providing extra services at good prices,” with offices still open for business Walt isn’t limiting any options on jobs, tackling both commercial and residential jobs. An important lesson in this crisis is the ability to change and help customers where they are. You need to engage the customer on how you can complete the task without risking any more lives. That means you have to change how customers interact with you.

Walt and his crew are still working on landscaping services such as preparing for summertime, treating shrubs and gardens for insects and pests, or putting in irrigation systems. “Our crews are out working trying to provide a service at a rapid pace so workers and customers stay out of harm’s way.” Although business is not the same as a normal year, Walt has calming advice that he gives to everyone, including his workers, “This is a rough time, what we are going through is unprecedented, and what other small businesses are going through is unprecedented, however, we must pull together and weather the storm.” Only by helping each other out, using social distancing at work, and buying local can Texans get through this.

Walt and his team are dedicated to reaching customers where they are. Whether that means you consult with The Lawn Ranger Company online, on a call, or on a video chat, Walt and his team want to help you achieve the lawn you have always wanted. They can do this while staying safe by following the CDC’s guidelines which will protect your family as well. Don’t hesitate to send pictures and use your phone to communicate without exposing yourself to the virus.

If you would like to reach out to The Lawn Ranger Company contact them by phone at 281-681-1025. You can also contact them at <https://lawnrangercompany.com/>.

STAGE RIGHT

The show must go on!

Live theatre is always better to see in person, and every night is different.

Due to the Coronavirus though, Stage Right of Texas, a resident theatre company at the Crichton Theater, has had to make some changes. Since gatherings of more than ten people have been banned they have had to postpone their production of *Mash* until June 2021. “People have understood and accepted our decision to postpone,” says Carolyn Corsano Wong.

However, that hasn’t stopped preparing them for the future. Stage Right still has a show coming this July, *Peter Pan*, which has required some thoughtful solutions on how to prepare for this upcoming production. With auditions coming in April, Stage Right has switched to having both auditions online and rehearsals online. Possible participants in the show will submit video auditions on their website “We have had to adapt and be flexible due to the uncertainty.” Carolyn still had a lot of positivity about adapting to this new normal though, “What’s the point of getting stressed out when you have no control over it?” It’s about adapting to the circumstances the best someone can. Years of experience in the acting arena have taught Carolyn and her team how to deal with the difficulties this virus brings, “It’s a lot like theater and Improv, whatever happens just go with it.” Even though there is a lot of uncertainty in the future this company is adapting to any problem just like they would with any other show. For the future, Carolyn said her team is exploring working online and giving classes online to customers.

When asked how best to support Stage Right, she didn’t keep the discussion only focused on the theatre company but also the Crichton Theatre. Carolyn noted “For our organization, we are in good shape in the fact that when we are not at the Crichton Theatre so we don’t have to pay rent, so who this is actually hurting the most in our line of work is the theatre itself. They still have expenses to pay.” Carolyn also noted that if people wanted to support local theatre they should donate to the Crichton

Theatre. She also touched on some of the things this whole process has shown her “It can also be hard to see the beautiful things, but people are helping others, we are dependent on each other, and it is important that we take care of each other.”

Most importantly, Carolyn is looking forward to when we can all sit down to a great night of theatre. If you would like to learn more about Stage Right contact them at their website at <https://stage-right.org/> or on their Facebook page @stagerightoftexas. Don’t forget to check out Peter Pan this July!

Animal Shelter Volunteers of Texas A community that cares

The Animal Shelter Volunteers of Texas are busier than ever, “Unfortunately, many people are dumping dogs because of the pandemic” says Ruby Cross, marketing coordinator. The amount of animals that are now in their foster care system has nearly doubled to the impact of Coronavirus. “Our biggest goal during this time is to take in as many as we can to make sure these animals are safe,” and the team at ASVT has found unique ways to accomplish this. Taking more of their services online and processing more applications than ever before. ASVT is a network of volunteers that are committed to seeing animals taken care of even during a crisis. Although it takes a bit more time and effort, ASVT is still scheduling meetings and fostering using social distancing guidelines.

What is important right now, is that the community comes together, like they have been, with fostering and monetary donations. “As animals come in and need surgery, we make sure they get that operation,” says Ruby. “We are non-profit and monetary donations are going to save the lives of countless animals during this crisis.” You can also help in other ways, by emailing ASVT at their website and seeing how best to help with supplies and other items. “It’s business as usual for us during this time because we have to stay on top of this,” says Ruby. In addition, ASVT is still helping with the Montgomery Animal Shelter and placing animals from that facility into foster homes. Unlike during normal operations, they can’t ship dogs to facilities in Iowa to be adopted which is putting a strain on the shelter. Fostering and donations are a key step you can take to help mitigate some of the repercussions of this virus.

One of the good things about this situation is that Animal Shelter Volunteers of Texas is seeing a record number of adoption and fostering applications during this time. “We would like to thank the community for their patience during this time, as people have submitted applications we have been working on processing them nine hours a day.” Part of the reason is because of the background information required to adopt and to make sure the pet is going to a responsible owner. More importantly, fostering is the best way to help ASVT and animals. “Fostering saves lives,” says Ruby. It’s a better process for making sure these dogs are safe during this time because it is temporary.

ASVT does not have its own shelter and is not affiliated with any facility, although they will help shelters find foster homes when they can. If you would like to get in touch with ASVT contact them at <http://www.asvtexas.org/> or on Facebook @ASVTx. You can be part of this on-going rescue effort today!



Keep Moving Forward

Keep moving forward is the vision for Forest Crossing Animal Hospital. Deemed an essential business, this highly rated animal hospital in

Montgomery County is still facing the challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Brzozowski, the owner of Forest Crossing Animal Hospital is very aware of the effects on his industry, "In my profession, the challenge is simply staying open. A lot of veterinarians, even though we are considered essential, aren't able to stay open just because the business isn't there." He added, "Some of them just don't want to take the risk." Risk is something every business is dealing with head-on. Even essential businesses have to adjust how they do things in order to be available to their customers. Dr. Brzozowski understands this better than most. "I'm a high-risk person myself, being a diabetic, but I have a duty to be here for my patients as well."

As to how they are adapting, their approach is a familiar one. "We've gone to curbside, essentially. People aren't allowed in the building. We do everything as remotely as we can over the phone, collecting the patients from the vehicles, bringing them in, doing the exams and the treatments we need to do, then bringing them back out to them," said Dr. Brzozowski. And they are also taking innovative measures to reach their customers such as telemedicine and video conference via an app.

Dr. Brzozowski has some timely wisdom for pet owners during this uncertain time. "Don't put things off. Don't wait until your pets are really sick, then it adds to the cost," he also added, "Don't get behind on your rabies vaccines and parasite testing and prevention."

When asked what advice he would give to other business owners right now, his message is that of a seasoned medical professional - prevention and preparation are the keys. "For businesses, save as much as you can and be as cost-effective as possible. Also, stay up to date on and in the loop on programs available to small businesses." And perhaps most importantly, "Stay up to date on the most accurate news." Lastly, he wants to leave business owners with this: "Listen to your clients and keep them informed. At the end of the day, they are the ones who are actually paying that electric bill and insurance bill. If they aren't happy, then that doesn't happen."

If you would like to get in touch with the staff at Forest Crossing Animal Hospital you can reach them at 936-271-9300, or online at <https://forestcrossinganimalhospital.com/>.



Still here for patients

Thomas Stark, MD is an established and respected ENT doctor in our area. As a medical professional, he is taking the COVID-19 situation very seriously.

He and his team are also taking the necessary precautions to keep people safe, but most importantly, they are doing everything they can to be available to patients. "The main thing we have done is we kept our doors open." Said Dr. Stark, "And we are emphasizing hygiene in all our waiting areas and all our exam rooms."

Most importantly, they are limited contact with people and are utilizing advancements in medical care by expanding the proactive outside of the walls of the Doctor's office. "Of course, we are screening patients over the phone. We are offering a lot of advice and seeing patients over the telephone. Telemedicine is becoming more and more popular because you may be able to treat someone without them having to go to the hospital." With telemedicine, people can stay in touch with their doctor more often, which will help with preventative measures and keeping patients healthy. Insurance companies love this because it keeps people from having to visit a hospital in some cases, and keeps people from taking a hospital bed during this critical time.

As a medical professional, Dr. Stark is quick to put the focus on the people doing the heavy lifting right now in the medical professions. "My hats are off to the ICU, respiratory therapists, and frontline doctors."

If you want to know how you can support businesses like Dr. Starks, the advice is simple: "Continue to think of us, and realize that we are open and seeing patients." So many people are forced to shut their doors, but

it's important to know who is still open and available to help. With all the media surrounding the COVID-19 situation, Dr. Stark added a strong word of caution. "Don't take this lightly." He adds, "It doesn't make everyone have the same outcome, but it needs to be taken seriously."

Many people have now seen Dr. Fauci, the medical professional accompanying President Trump. Dr. Stark has first-hand experience with him. "I've worked personally with Dr. Fauci. He is a smart guy who is calm under fire. He's seen worse." Basically, he wants us to know that Dr. Fauci knows what he's talking about and should be trusted.

Finally, Dr. Stark has some helpful advice for businesses during this time. He says, "It looks to me that being able to get money from the SBA is helpful." And also, "Try to be there as much as possible over the phone. Keep your presence known to people."

If you would like to get into contact with Dr. Stark call (936) 582-7000 or find them online at <https://tomstarkmd.com/>.



Flexible Healthcare

Connect Hearing is staying open for essential workers and emergency services. "What we have been doing," says Lauren Chapman, marketing associate, "is making sure our appointments are by emergency only." That means they care for essential workers and emergency employees such as healthcare workers. "We also have a focused goal on increasing sanitation in our facilities for our customers." When you step into a Connect Hearing facility you will be treated to a clean and sterile environment. Customers can feel safe knowing that people are following CDC safety guidelines as appropriate and surfaces and counters are being cleaned.

For those essential employees who do not want to come into the facility, but still need to see a medical professional Connect Hearing is offering Telehealth services. "Options and appointments are available online to patients and they can take advantage of our online resources." Customers don't have to wait to get in contact with someone about their medical issues. "We want customers to feel and stay safe during this time, we are here for them during this time," says Lauren Chapman. Connect Hearing encourages customers to not hesitate to call their local Connect Hearing facility and to work through problems. The team at Connect Hearing is focused on providing services how you need it and meeting the needs of their patients.

As a last note, when asked about how they plan to change for the future and how other companies can as well they found it best to "Be flexible in the services you provide, always have an alternative to turn to if you can." As this pandemic has spread, Connect Hearing is finding new ways to correspond with patients to protect their health. You will still be able to find the same care you always have at Connect Hearing, the process may just be a little different to protect yourself.

If you would like to find out more about Connect Hearing or schedule an appointment you can find them online at <https://www.connecthearing.com/>. You can also contact them at 1-888-426-6632. Feel free to take advantage of their blog and advice resources to help you with your ear care needs.



Adjustment is key

"Doing business is not the same as it was two months ago," says Doini at Everest Siding and Windows. "Our main concern is making sure our employees are safe and can support their families during this crisis." Everest Siding and Windows is still offering

Continued on page 22

in-home consultations. However, that means they are taking every precaution to protect both the customer and employee. "We can have that meeting at the customer's home, but we will be practicing social safety guidelines and conducting consultations over the phone as well." You can also email them pictures of your home, and they will send you an estimate by email. When you meet with their consultants, they are going to use social distancing guidelines and sanitization methods to keep you and your family safe. "We are still going to be able to give the customer the information they need to make the best decision for their home. We are going to do that from a safe distance though, whether over the phone, over email, or in-person." In addition, most employees that usually work in the office are working from home to protect themselves and others. You can still contact them at any time, and any of your questions can be answered by an employee over the phone. "Everyone has responsibilities," says Doini, "and all of our employees understand that."

For those interested in carrying out a remodel or special project during this time, Everest Siding and Windows are offering 3-month and 6-month no interest, no payment, finance options. When you consult with one of Everest's experts, you can plan accordingly to your budget and payment options. Everest is committed to working with customers through this crisis, bringing exceptional materials and experience when they come to work on your home.

"I can't think of one person in this country that hasn't been affected by this virus, but we will persevere" added Doini. "Be safe and stay strong!" If you are interested in a special project for your home, you can contact Everest Siding and Windows at 832-773-8221. You can also reach them at info@everestsidingandwindows.com or their website at www.everestsidingandwindows.com.



Preparation for risk is more important now than ever.

We live in an uncertain time, full of many unknowns and even more

risks. When it comes to handling risk, Wootton Financial Group, Inc. is no stranger. In fact, the financial management group thrives on managing risk for its clients. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many people are already experiencing the effects of the financial crisis it has caused. While most people panic when it comes to their investments like retirement, Wootton Financial is a voice of wisdom and hope.

When asked how they are handling these sudden uncertain times, Chris Wootton, owner, and Principal and Investment Adviser at Wootton Financial Group, gives a simple, yet powerful response:

"Executing the plan that we already had in place. We were already prepared for this." After all, the trusted financial group is a strong advocate for education and preparation. So, during this time, rather than shrinking back waiting out the storm, they are pushing forward. "We increased communication both to clients and the community. We increased our marketing rather than scaling back. We want to thrive, not just survive and we want that for others" Chris added.

When it comes to running their own business during the quarantine, Chris Wootton again speaks of preparation. "We already were prepared by having the technological ability to operate remotely. Every employee was set up so that we maintain our security protocols, but can work from anywhere. We had been doing video conferencing already for years." Chris admits that technology always presents several challenges, but they have been at the forefront of finding innovative ways to give their clients and employees the best possible experience.

Especially during economic uncertainty, it's important to understand that not all financial offices are the same. "We have a much more dynamic approach to managing risk for our clients compared to the static approach most companies are used to. We are not afraid to exit markets in a disci-

plined approach when necessary, instead of holding everything and riding it to the bottom. Seeking to avoid bear market losses in your investment can add long term value to what you're doing." By employing this strategy, Wootton invests actively and seeks to provide a better benefit for its clients in the long run.

"It is important for people to understand that the markets won't go up forever and it's easy to get complacent," Chris says. "A bull market cannot run forever. We have always had a mindset focused on preparation for times like these. It's only a matter of time for markets to level out and correct." More importantly, he adds, "The time to get prepared is not during a crisis. It's beforehand. But you're here now. So focus on what you can do now to make positive changes for next time. And there will be a next time."

So, what should you do right now to help mitigate your financial risk? Get a plan. Chris points out, "It doesn't cost you anything to have a conversation with us. You don't even have to go anywhere. We can meet over the phone or through online capability. We offer a complimentary consultation that includes a high-level review and an initial plan to show you what's possible and try to offer value on the front end of a relationship."

Lastly, Chris imparts some simple, yet timely wisdom, "Have faith. Be hopeful. Stay safe. Be smart. There is always opportunity in adversity."

To offer you encouragement during these uncertain times, Chris Wootton is inviting you to attend a Free Webinar featuring Olympian Ruben Gonzalez titled "From Surviving to Thriving: Addressing Mental Toughness and Risk in Tough Times." Watch it for free on the Wootton Financial Facebook Page or on woottonfinancial.com. You can also get a hold of Wootton Financial Group, Inc. at 866-416-1703 or 936-449-5952.



Evolve Your Business

Located in the fairly new Marcel Town Center in Conroe, Office Evolution is finding creative ways to deal with the changes

brought on by COVID-19. A popular co-working and private office rental company in Conroe, Office Evolution is stepping up to help other businesses during these tough times.

"We're reaching out to the community as much as we can," says Phil Anderson, one of the franchise owners at The Woodlands location. "We're supporting our restaurants right here in the Marcel Town Center by ordering from them and keeping them supported. We also formed a small support group with the tenants to work together in terms of marketing and things like that."

Office Evolution already has a focus on supporting small businesses with their approach to office space. Now, they're reaching beyond the walls of the office to help the local community where they can. And that starts with encouraging everyone to support their local businesses however possible.

"Order from your favorite local restaurant," says Phil. "If you're locked down, follow your businesses online." He adds. With many companies with retail locations unable to serve their customers in their buildings, they are innovating and finding new ways to reach their customers.

Delta Life Fitness, one of the fellow tenants of the Marcel Town Center, for instance, are offering workouts online. Phil is encouraging its customers to join in.

As far as Office Evolution, they're doing what they can to support their members, and even new tenant prospects. "We're still open from 10-2. We are also meeting with people by appointment only (one-at-a-time) so as to limit social interaction." They are also helping to accommodate their members while abiding by the social distancing protocols in place. They are even helping out their "virtual" members, who would normally only have access to a common work area. "Even if you're a virtual member,

we can accommodate you. We have enough rooms to allow you to use a private office right now. You can come in for a day only if needed. We're offering private offices for daily, weekly, or monthly right now," says Phil.

As far as advice to their customers, and everyone else dealing with the uncertainty we're in, Phil offers this advice: "We know that this it's a trying time. Lots of things are changing right now. Our members are part of our family. We are working with them 24/7 and reaching out to them to help how we can. Most importantly, make sure you know your fellow tenants. Get to know your neighbors. They can be a wealth of support during this time."

Learn more about Office Evolution at www.officeevolution.com/locations/woodlands.

Hello Beautiful Boutique

Being there for our neighbors

Although the doors of Hello Beautiful Boutique are closed that doesn't mean business has stopped. "Customers still have access to our online shopping and can have any of our store's items shipped right to their home" states Judy Burks, the owner. Judy and her crew are also not opposed to curbside pickup as she recounted in one story "as one of our crew members was a closing shop a lady pulled up asking for some laundry detergent, using social distancing and sanitization, our crew member was able to help her get the laundry detergent she searched all over to find." That type of customer service is expected and encouraged at the Hello Beautiful Boutique (HBB). In fact, during this time HBB is offering free shipping on all purchases made online.

When asked about her customers Judy said: "let them know that we are praying for all of them, and we do appreciate the loyalty from customers who are shopping online, and God will get us through this." Judy and her team are looking forward to when they can open their doors and want to make sure customers know they will be there for any needs they have. After 46 years in the business, Judy also has some advice for any that are experiencing a rough time "a business is only as successful as the people your surround yourself with, and because of their hard work we have been able to continue to keep paying our employees." This is the time to invest in families, to help each other out. Surround yourself and your business with people that want to have success by pulling others up rather than tearing them down. Judy wanted to stress to businesses to keep their employees because we will get through this only by treating each other with kindness.

If you would like to purchase an item you can order online at <https://www.hellobeautifulboutique.com/>. If you have an item that you need today or want help navigating the online store you can contact Michelle (a store worker) at 936-442-0025, Robin (store manager) at 936-718-8093, or Judy herself at 936-443-9614. Hello Beautiful Boutique wants you to know that they are still working to make sure you have the best customer service!



greater houston
PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY, PLLC

Do Your Part to Stay Safe

Like most small businesses right now, Greater Houston Pediatric Dentistry is facing its own set of challenges. Although they are considered an essential business, the local dental practice is making huge adjustments to the way they do business. Safety is their biggest concern. "We are struggling with simply being closed for business and not knowing when we can safely open." Says Dentist Linh Luu. She adds, "As dentists, we work in the airway on a daily basis. Currently, we can only see life-threatening emergency cases,

which is very minimal considering that our profession is at the highest risk."

It's not just the safety involved with dental procedures that makes it difficult for Greater Houston Pediatric Dentistry to practice. As we're seeing in many other places in our nation, safety supplies are not readily available. Dr. Luu explains, "In addition, with the incredible shortages in supplies, we do not have and cannot obtain the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) to allow us to safely see patients."

When asked how people could support their local business, Dr. Luu's focus is not on their specific business, but on the entire community. "Please stay home and do your part to flatten the curve," she says. "Please take this seriously and listen to medical advice and leadership. Your actions affect others. If we all do our part now, we can all get back to normalcy sooner and all businesses can open again."

"We are doing our part by seeing only emergencies to keep our team safe and to keep children out of the ER for dental issues." Says Dr. Luu. Others should take the same approach. Even if you are considered essential, safety is still more important than ever. The best thing you can do to prevent from getting sick is perhaps the most common, and often neglected advice out there: "Eat balanced meals, exercise, and remember to brush and floss!"

Lastly, Dr. Luu imparts some simple, profound wisdom to all of us. "Stay safe and be kind to each other. We will all get through this."

Learn more about Greater Houston Pediatric Dentistry at greaterhoustonpediatricdentistry.com/ or by phone at 936-703-2131.



Learning to come back stronger than ever

Unfortunately, Stone Creek Wellness & Medical Aesthetics has been mandated to close till April 30th due to Coronavirus. Even though Linda Teague and her crew want to help customers they have taken this step to protect themselves in their employees. That hasn't stopped them from planning and preparing "We are watching Webinars on new and current services and products. When we are able to open again we would love to have new or better techniques or products to offer our clients!" says Linda Teague. Health and wellness don't need to wait during this time, in fact, it should be one of your top priorities. During the stress of Coronavirus make sure you are taking moments to adjust to this new normal and take care of yourself.

During this time of uncertainty Stone Creek Wellness & Medical Aesthetics wants customers to know they value the relationships of their customers. Linda and her team want everyone to stay well and stay healthy. When asked about her customers Linda noted "Our clients are already being very supportive! Many have pre-purchased services, which we have offered at special pricing." If you are interested in any products, Stone Creek is offering 20% off on all online purchases and is including free shipping.

The most important detail Linda wanted to highlight is her thanks to the community "We miss all of you terribly and want to thank you for your continued support during these uncertain times! We know this time will pass and look forward to squeezing you all in soon!" Whether you are a first time customer or a long-standing user of their products Stone Creek does not disregard you or your family. It has, and will continue to be, an honor to serve you with quality care and service.

If you would like to check out any products Stone Creek Wellness & Medical Aesthetics can be found at <https://stonecreekwellness.com/>. You can also get in contact with Linda at linda@stonecreekwellness.com, or by text at 936-203-0429. ♦

FAWNS: SOCIAL DISTANCING IS THEIR THING!

By: Lisa Wolling, Executive Director

In light of the current Covid-19 precautions, many people are spending more time in and around their yards and gardens, as well as talking walks outside for some fresh air. Our wildlife center has been busier than ever since so many people are now happening upon wildlife. Some are truly injured or orphaned and do need help, but many of the animals being found are simply babies that are “doing their thing”. Just because a baby or young animal is observed “on its own” does not necessarily mean that it is abandoned or needs assistance. Sometimes they are simply learning and exploring a little on their own. Sometimes their wild mother is close by. Understanding what is normal and natural is vitally important to assure that wildlife babies are not needlessly “rescued” and taken away from their parent(s).

Every year, from late April through July, we get many calls regarding fawns that people discover, seemingly with no mother nearby, and callers are concerned that the fawns may have been abandoned. Unfortunately, many of these fawns wind up being “kidnapped” when rescuers unknowingly pick them up and take them home, meaning well but actually interfering with what is natural behavior for white-tailed deer. Very young fawns have no scent, and when they are under two weeks old they are too small and weak to run from predators, so the mother deer (doe) will leave her fawn in a safe, quiet spot to keep them safe from predators. In the case of twin or triplet fawns, the doe often beds them all down in separate locations and will move from one to the other checking on them. The doe comes back every few hours to check on her fawn and nurse it. Natural behavior for the fawn is to lie curled up on the ground, most often with their head down, and to be very still. A person can walk right up to a fawn and it will not run. This is normal behavior. Fawns and does have been practicing social distancing before it became “cool” for the humans to do so! As the fawn gets a little older, the doe may stay away for hours at a time, sometimes for up to eight hours, returning to her fawn(s) only after dark. Once a doe finds a spot she feels is safe, she may leave her fawn there for days at a time. The fawn may be found in the same general location, but it still appears healthy and exhibits no signs that it needs to be helped (such as pacing, crying, or appearing to be dehydrated). Fawns that are found resting and appear healthy should be left alone. Mom is nearby and will return every few hours to check on her baby and nurse them. Please do not intervene.

Fawns are sometimes found in locations that are not the safest; unfortunately the doe beds her baby or babies down very early in the morning, just before dawn, so a spot that was quiet and safe at that time of day may become less safe as the world wakes up. Fawns may even be found either on a roadway or on the side of a roadway. If a fawn in this situation appears otherwise healthy, and is lying curled up, the fawn should be gently picked up and moved to a safe distance off the road and then left for the mother. Sometimes people call us about fawns inside of their fenced yards. The doe has most likely placed her baby there intentionally (she may even have given birth there). The doe can easily jump the fence to get in and out, but she knows her fawn will be contained there. If your yard is safe from dogs, etc., just be patient and enjoy watching mom and her baby. If you have dogs and cannot keep them away from the fawn for

a few days, the fawn can be moved to the other side of the fence for mom to reunite with. It is a myth that the mother will abandon her baby if a human has touched it, so it is ok to move a fawn if it is in a dangerous location. Fawns are hard wired to follow anything bigger than they are when they are very young; for this reason, if you do have to move a fawn, it may attempt to follow you. Be persistent; put the fawn back and get away as quickly as you can, even if you need to make several attempts. If needed, lay the fawn down facing away from you, pat it several times between the shoulder blades (mom’s way of saying “stay put”), and then walk quickly away from the hind end of the fawn.



A fawn DOES need help if: it is found standing by a dead mother; it is obviously ill or injured; is lying on its side with legs straight out and/or thrashing; it is crying; it is wet and/or cold (especially if the inside of the mouth is cold); it is covered with ants; it has a lot of flies around it or has fly eggs or maggots visible; it is in imminent danger of attack by dogs or other predator animals (not just “there are dogs in the area”; mom will protect her baby from dogs if they get too close); it is well after dark and the mother has still not returned and fawn has not moved from where you found it. If any of these are observed, wrap the fawn in a blanket and place it in a

box or large carrier. The most important thing is to get the fawn warm and dry (if it is wet). Towels warmed in the dryer work well, as do hot water bottles, Ziploc bags filled with warm water, and/or a heating pad set on low. Please do not feed the fawn any type of milk or formula. Fawns that are cold and/or dehydrated cannot digest anything, so feeding can cause it to go into shock or actually kill it. Please call a wildlife rehabilitator or wildlife center ASAP. Until a rehabilitator can be reached, the fawn can be given warmed children’s Pedialyte or another type of rehydrating drink in a regular baby bottle. Keep the fawn warm, quiet, and away from domestic pets. Most often simply understanding what normal behavior is for wildlife babies is the best way to keep them safe and with their natural parent or parents.

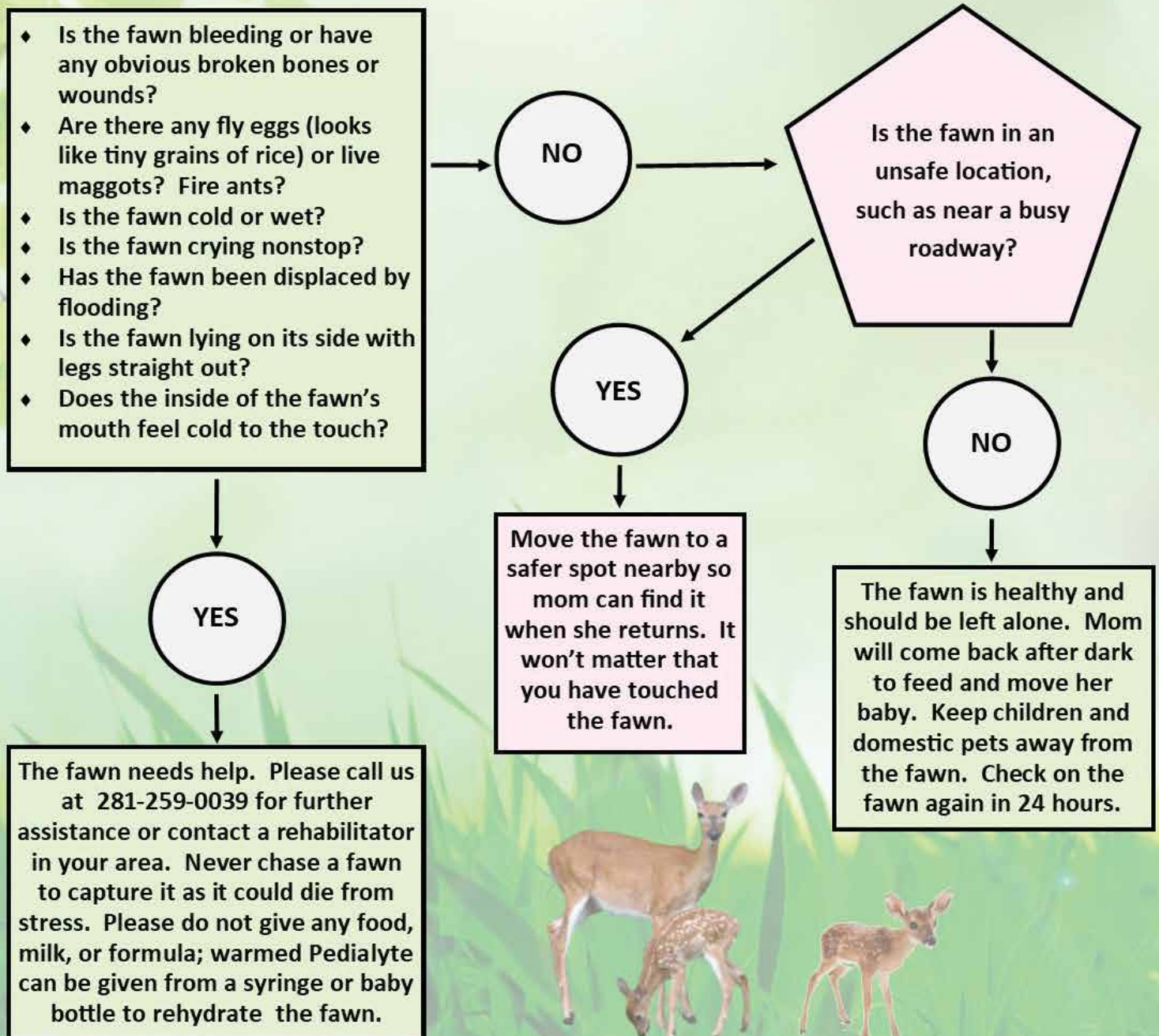
Until restrictions are lifted on the current stay-at-home and social distancing guidelines, our center remains open for only limited hours each day. An appointment is necessary prior to bringing any animals to our facility, and paperwork will be filled out over the phone to facilitate a quick intake process. We do monitor emails after hours, so if you find an animal or need assistance, you can email ftwl.help@gmail.com. Our education center will remain closed until things can return to normal, or at least a “new normal”. We remain committed to helping wildlife, but these restrictions have of course affected our finances and ability to fundraise. We realize many people are having a difficult time right now, but if you are able, please consider supporting us and our efforts through Kroger Community Rewards or AmazonSmile. We receive quarterly donations from both of those organizations. You shop, we benefit!

To learn more about what we do and view pictures of many of the animals we assist, please visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SavingTexasWildlife. Details can be found at www.ftlw.org, and then click on “How to Help”. We also have a great deal of helpful information on our website about other species of animals and how to assess if they need help or not. Stay healthy everyone! ♦



I Found a Baby Deer

In our part of Texas, baby deer (fawns) are typically born May-July. First-time moms (does) typically have one fawn, and thereafter twins or triplets are common. Until they are about two weeks old and strong enough to keep up, fawns are left alone while their mothers go off to feed. The doe will usually bed each fawn down in a separate location and return to nurse and move them at dusk and dawn. Does generally bed their fawns down in tall grass or bushes, but she will leave them any place she deems safe (including people's yards). Every year, many fawns are needlessly kidnapped by well-meaning people who find them and assume they are abandoned. Please never move or pick up a fawn unless it is in IMMEDIATE danger. If you do find a fawn, refer to this chart for guidance. Baby's best chance is with its natural mother.





Online with Dock Line

Why Now is the Perfect Time to Start an Online Business

And how anyone can start right away.

It's no secret to anyone now. We are headed into a recession. The effects of the coronavirus outbreak and the stay-at-home orders put in place have caused the economy to come to a grinding halt. Jobless claims are going through the roof and it seems that the idea of making extra money or growing wealth is out of the question.

But is it it, really? Did you know that during the Great Depression starting in the late 1920's there were more millionaires created than in any other time in American history? Yes, a recession means a dramatic shift in how business is done and a lack of financial security in many traditional markets. However, there is a financial truth you must understand, especially during a recession. It's simply this: money does not disappear. The flow of money just changes directions.

All you have to do is find where the flow of money is going and get in the current. Perhaps the best place to go is online. Right now, while people are stuck at home, online browsing, shopping, and video streaming are booming. People are spending more time on social media and consuming more online content than ever. If you have something to get their attention and you can provide value to them, they will gladly pay you for it. This is the basis for any online business.

Have you ever heard of Pat Flynn? He runs the website SmartPassiveIncome.com. He easily makes over \$2 million dollars a year from his online business. No, it's not any kind of scam or get-rich-quick gimmick. It's a realm business offering real value. He started his online business in 2008 after being let go from his entry-level architecture job - the career he went to school for and worked hard to get into.. When the recession hit in 2008, he was one of the millions of casualties of the financial crash. But he pivoted and started to build something of value online. Today, he is one of the most respected online business experts in the world.

I'm not telling you that you will start making millions of dollars this year if you start an online business. But I am telling you that if you're willing to do the work, continually learn and apply what you learn, and take the risk of actually starting an online business, you could easily replace your current income...eventually. The truth is that most people who start

an online business give up very early in the process. If you have a solid idea and you put hard work into building it consistently for a year or more, then it will pay off. Most people quit after even just a month.

So, what could you start today? You may be thinking that you aren't savvy enough to start an online business, but that's simply not true. The barriers to entry are so few now, that all it takes is some persistence and trial and error. Here are some easy online business ideas you could start pursuing today that could pay off huge if you stick with them.

Online Businesses You Could Start Today

1. Your own Blog

If you missed the "Online with Dock Line" article in the March 2020 issue of Dock Line Magazine, it's worth finding and reading. In the article, we discussed how to start your own blog. It's one of the easiest ways to start an online business and all you have to do once it's set up is to start sharing your knowledge about a specific subject. Over time, you'll get more and more visitors to your blog and you'll be able to package your knowledge into a product like a book or online course. You can also place ads on your website for additional passive income. If you stick with and publish consistently for 2 years, it will make money if done right. If you want a step-by-step guide on starting your own blog, just go to our "How to Start a Blog" article at docklinemagazine.com/how-to-start-a-blog. You can have your own blog website up and running for less than \$100 easily and you could start publishing content today.

2. Affiliate Marketing

If you don't have your products to sell, you can easily sell other people's products and earn a commission on each sale. For instance, Amazon has an affiliate program that is free to join. All you have to do is share a link to a product on Amazon and if someone clicks the link and buys the product, you'll get a commission off the sale. There are many people making a lot of money every month just from Amazon affiliate links. There



are many other companies that offer affiliate programs for their products. All you need is a simple website, like a blog, and a place to publish the affiliate links, like in helpful articles or resource pages.

3. Social Media Marketer

Do you spend a lot of time on social media? Do you know how to easily create attractive posts that other people love to engage with? Are you good at creating conversations online around social media posts? Do you know how to run simple ads on Facebook and other platforms? If you can do any of those, businesses will gladly pay you to do it for them. Most business owners don't have the time to spend creating social media posts or running ads on social media platforms. Many businesses will gladly pay \$500 - \$1,000 a month or more to have someone do it for them. You don't even need a website to market your services. Just create a Facebook page for your business and start running your own ads promoting your services. Create a few different options based on the amount of posts and ads you'll create and start reaching out to businesses offering to help them grow online.

If you'd like more info on how to start an online business, or if your business needs an online presence to keep growing even during a recession, just let me know! Send me an email at brian@docklinemagazine.com. ♦

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*Two mating Gulf
Fritillary Butterflies.
Cover your eyes!*

A Springtime Walk

Can you walk outside and see all the life thriving and prospering? Flowers blooming, birds singing, bees humming! Life and nature are oblivious to our scary world right now. If you can't go outside, please take a stroll through some pages of beautiful reaffirming springtime photos.

Everyone, please be safe and stay well.

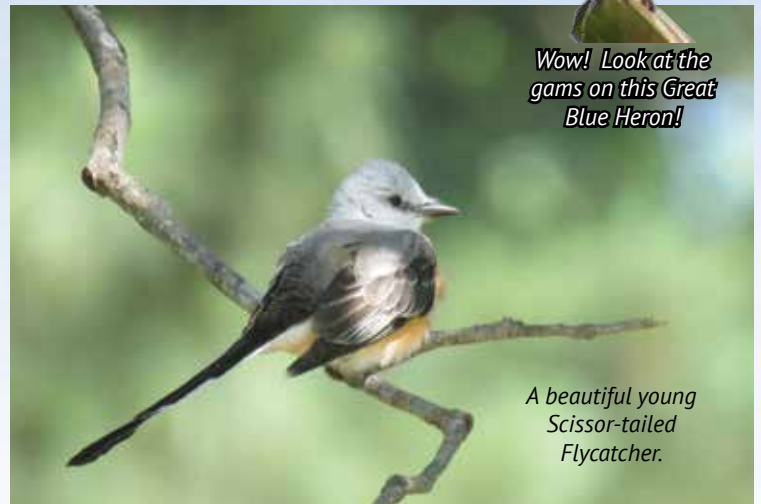
Learn more about the nature in your area by joining a chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist organization. To find a chapter close to you, or to read about the state program, go online to www.txmn.org. Volunteer and get involved! ♦



*Wow! Look at the
gams on this Great
Blue Heron!*



Can you spot the female Ruby-throated Hummingbird?



*A beautiful young
Scissor-tailed
Flycatcher.*



*Worms make a favorite
spaghetti pasta for juvenile
Yellow-crowned Night-
Hérons.*



*Momma Bluebird has a
batch to hatch!*



An itchy cormorant just has to scratch!



This male Anole lizard's red throat fan means he is looking for love!



Momma Red-shouldered Hawk says, "Did you get enough to eat, baby?"



In springtime the honeybees are swarming, and soon will be making honey.



Bright green insects are an easy catch for a Mockingbird.



Momma on the left, Papa on the right, and their new brood of baby Barn Swallows deep down in the middle.

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