

Notes from...

AgriLIFE EXTENSION

Drive Sober This Independence Day, and Every Day

“We want our community to have a happy and safe Independence Day, one that they’ll remember for years to come, for all the right reasons,” said AgriLife Extension Family and Community Health Agent, Milissa Wright for Coke, Concho, Menard and Sterling Counties. “We’ve partnered with NHTSA to help remind drivers that even one drink before driving is when impairment begins. Under no circumstance is it ever OK to drink and drive. This behavior is illegal, it’s deadly, and it’s selfish. Do everyone in your community a favor: If you’ll be drinking at a Fourth of July party, or for any occasion, plan ahead for a sober ride.”

From 2015 to 2019, there were 1,339 people killed in drunk-driving crashes over the Fourth of July holiday. Of those people who died in alcohol-impaired motor vehicle traffic crashes, almost 4 out of 5 (79 percent) of them occurred in nighttime crashes (between 6:00 p.m. and 5:59 a.m.). Watch UR BAC’s goal is for everyone enjoy red, white, and blue in their flags, fireworks, and family gatherings - not in their rear-view mirror. The only way to prevent this is to never drink and drive.

Celebrate with a Plan

This Fourth of July, the Watch UR BAC program, NHTSA, and TXDOT urge drivers to designate a sober driver before heading out for the evening. If planning on drinking, plan how

to safely travel without driving. • Remember: It is never OK to drink and drive - even if after only one alcoholic beverage. Designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation or a ride service to get home safely. • Suspect a motorist on the road is driving drunk or intoxicated? Contact local law enforcement immediately. • Have a friend who is about to drink and drive? Take their keys away and make arrangements to get them home safely.

and you’ll have bragging rights at Thanksgiving for being great Texas adventurers.” In the Dallas-Fort Worth area, take selfies with wading pools and waterfalls at Airfield Falls Conservation Park and with vintage farm equipment or the Penn family home at Penn Farm at Cedar Hill State Park. Stop in

at Czech Stop Bakery and take a selfie at Blue Bonnet Café with a slice of any of their piled-high pies. Visit GOSH 2021 Central Texas Region for more information. In the Houston area, avoid being devoured by a carnivorous plant at Big Thicket Natural Preserve and take a selfie splashing in the water at Lake Livingston State Park. Grab a photo outside any of Moody Garden’s three glass pyramids and climb the tower observation deck at Sheldon Lake State Park. Find the geyser at Spindletop-Gladys City Boomtown Museum and take a top-notch self-portrait in front of La King’s Confectionary taffy pull. GOSH 2021 Houston Area has more details. In the Panhandle, snap a selfie in front of the iconic Alibates Visitors Center at Alibates Flint quarry and pose in front of a bison statue at Caprock Canyons



**Farmer’s Market!** There was quite a turnout at the Farmer’s Market on Saturday, June 26, 2021, at Coke County Feed & Ranch Supply in Robert Lee. The market is scheduled for each Saturday this summer. All vegetable growers in the county are welcome to sell their wares in the morning shade on the porch of the feed store from 9 am until 12 noon.

Join TPWD Magazine’s Scavenger Hunt

The Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine’s Great Outdoor Scavenger Hunt (GOSH) returns for another year of summer fun across Texas. Travel to various locations regionally or statewide, take a selfie and post it with the hashtag #GOSH2021. Discover history, wildlife, parks, waterways and quirky attractions — plus iconic Texas food stops as a “bonus” to enjoy along the way. The GOSH 2021 challenge ends at midnight on Labor Day, September 6.

Select from six regions, including Dallas, Central Texas, Houston, Panhandle, South Texas and West Texas. Register


on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Magazine website or the TPWD Facebook Page, then find the spot, take a smiling selfie and tag it on Twitter or Instagram. Participants can also post and tag it on the TPWD Facebook Page with #GOSH2021. Partakers can visit locations regionally or statewide and complete one or all GOSH activities.

“We are so ready to have fun outdoors again,” says Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine editor Louie Bond. “GOSH inspires those day trips that make lifelong memories. Pack the ice chest and your swimsuits and hit the road for a summer of fun. Share selfies everywhere you go,

at Lake Mineral Wells State Park & Trailway and match your grin to the fish in the 26,000-gallon Dive Theater aquarium at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens. Check out more locations for the Dallas area at GOSH 2021 Dallas Region. In Central Texas, take a refreshing break at the waterfalls at McKinney Falls State Park and find the dwarf palmettos at Palmetto State Park. Snap a selfie with Park Road IC signs and another in front of any of the four missions south of the Alamo on the San Antonio Missions Trail. Do some Texas time travel with ‘Henge or one of the Easter Island Heads at Stonehenge II. Snap a drooling

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**Drop boxes also available at Shirley’s in Bronte  
and Coke County Feed in Robert Lee.**