



Appreciation of volunteers

National Volunteer Week 2011, Celebrating People in Action, honors those who dedicate themselves to taking action and bettering their communities. It's also about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage in their communities — to put themselves at the center of social change. Each month volunteers in Calhoun County do just that. March was no exception. Please give a hardy “thanks” to any of these folks if you see them around:

Jasmine Gordon, Theresa Dent, Morris Sadleir, Allison Abraham, Mike Mitchell, Tim Dent, Jack Labarge, Sherrie Krause, Bert Ripke, Dale Biddy, Leslie Hartman, Karen Lyssy, Nathan Henderson, Brandi Alcantar, Justin Ramirez, Aramis Anderson, Juan Anguiano, Mark Aviles, Patrick Parker, Steven Reagan, Rosita, Roque, Derick Times, Jeremy Toni, Richard Chen, Chris Lozano, Luis Rodriguez, Allison Camacho, Jean Barefoot, Kaylyn King, and Jasmine Rendon.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 14: Calhoun County Lawn & Garden CPR (Coastal Plant Resources)
6:00 p.m. in the Bauer Exhibit Building at the Fairgrounds. Call 552-9747 for details.

April 16: Kitefest 2011 at the Bayfront Peninsula in Port Lavaca. Contact Jodi Lewis with the American Red Cross at 553-7322 for more information.

April 15 - 17, 2011 Texas SandFest in Port Aransas. The largest Master Sand Sculpting Contest in the US.
<http://www.texassandfest.com/>

April 22 - 23, 2011 Fiddlers' Frolic in Hallettsville. The Texas State Championship Fiddlers' Frolics, is the largest fiddlers' contest in the world.
<http://www.fiddlersfrolics.com/>

April 23: Go Fish! @ Goose Island State Park or @ Palmetto State Park. Fun, hands-on learning for ages 5 and up. All equipment provided. Visit texasstateparks.org/gofish for details



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Coastal & Marine Resource News

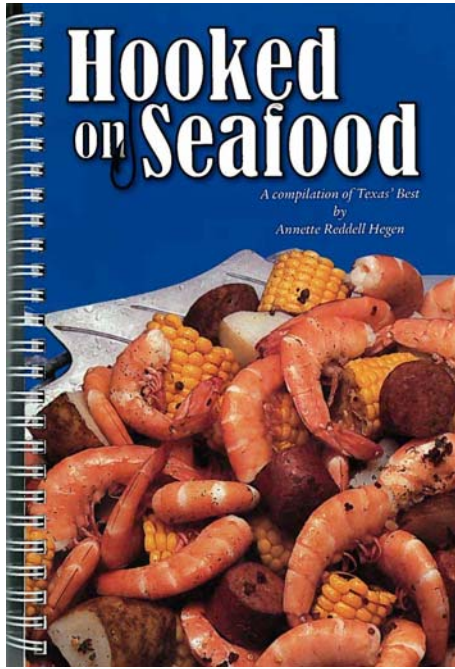
Calhoun County
April 2011

HAPPY EASTER!



Adopt-a-Beach Spring Clean up Save the date and come out to help clean our local beaches on **April 30, 2011**. We will have trash bags and gloves for your use at both Magnolia Beach and Kingfisher Beach in Port O'Connor. Keeping Texas beaches clean and safe is an economic as well as environmental priority. Coastal tourism, a \$7 billion industry, and commercial fishing, a \$1.9 billion business, demand clean beaches and a healthy gulf to thrive. To find more information and other sites across the coast visit <http://www.glo.state.tx.us/adopt-a-beach/>

NOW ON SALE in the Extension Office!
Only \$8.00 each, cash or check. Please see Katherine.



This book has most of the great recipes from the newsletter over the past months and many, many more. Get your copy while supplies last! They also make great gifts so think ahead about Mother's day, birthdays, etc.

Preparing spotted sea trout for cooking

The spotted sea trout is excellent table fare. Remember that care of the fish between catching and the kitchen is important. Clean and place your fish on ice as quickly as possible. The delicate meat of the trout loses quality rapidly if left out, especially during warm weather

Marine Debris: What Kids Are Saying

Fourth-graders in New York City conducted cleanups at a local beach and tallied every item they found on Ocean Conservancy's data card, an experience shared by hundreds of thousands of people around the world every year during [Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup](#). The young citizen scientists learned about the myriad ways marine debris threatens ocean health, and created graphs to show the sources of these man-made items. To see some of their findings visit <http://www.oceanconservancy.org/our-work/marine-debris/ten-things-kids-want-to-know.html>

People everywhere need to "step up and get tough" when it comes to marine debris. Cleaning up is not enough, and the children know it. They suggested solutions they hope we adults can put into practice, simple steps like making sure trash cans are available on beaches, or covering storm drains with screens to prevent litter from streets and parking lots from traveling to the ocean.

Ocean Conservancy is working hard to raise awareness about this pollution problem and inspire science-based solutions to prevent it at the source. But we can't do it alone. We need these fourth-graders -- and everyone else -- to support the worldwide movement to stop trashing our ocean.

Please don't feed the storm drain

When pet waste, motor oil, fertilizers and other chemicals wash down a storm drain, they flow into rivers, streams, bayous, and the bay and degrade the ecosystem of our fisheries. As the weather warms and you start to work in your yards, please don't overfertilize. Sweep up (do not wash off) any fertilizer that lands on driveways, walkways or the road.



Oiled fish or fishing gear

In response to requests for information on how to report contact with oiled fish or oiled fishing gear, the Gulf Council has made available the following information: To report oiled fish or fishing gear at the federal level, call 1-800-info-fda (1-800-463-6332).

To report oiled fish or fishing gear at the state level or for general oil spill information, visit http://www.gulfcouncil.org/news_resources/oil_spill_gulf_mexico.php#State%20Information and follow the links.

This newsletter is available online @ <http://calhoun-tx.tamu.edu>

Extension Programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.