

## KNCT QUARTERLY ISSUES REPORT (April, May, June 2022)

This report was compiled by KNCT-FM Program Director Gary Emmert. Below is an example of what KNCT and the news department broadcasts in response to community needs, issues and challenges.

All Along the Bell Tower – Every Weekday at 8am on NestFM, host Gary Emmert discusses local and national news and welcomes guests on this 10 to 15-minute program.

Centex Sustains - Every Monday at 6:15pm, host Christine Luciano discusses different topics of sustainable living for the purpose of educating our listeners on recycling, reusing, and other planet friendly steps everyone can do while also saving money. Each program is approximately five minutes in length.

Hobby Memorial Library Update – Every Tuesday at 6:15pm, host Cindy Oser discusses upcoming events put together by Central Texas College's library. Each program discusses topics vital to the community and school. Each episode is normally 5 minutes in length.

Local Spotlight – Every weekday at 11:30am, our host Gary Emmert discusses interesting and “feel good” stories and events happening in the Central Texas area. Each show is two minutes in length and aired twice a day.

On the Dock - Every Wednesday and Friday at 6:15pm, our host Rick Smith covers information about fishing, game, wildlife, and other outdoor recreation news in the area. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department works hand in hand with Mr. Smith to create and produce these episodes, which normally last 5 minutes in length.

Public Service Announcements - News and information on prevention and safety warnings for listeners as well as community events for non-profit organizations in Killeen, Fort Hood, Copperas Cove, Harker Heights, Georgetown, Round Rock, and Austin areas. These messages are performed hourly and last about 30-60 seconds each.

The Senior Report - Recorded and produced every week and aired on Saturday mornings at 9:20am, host Joyce Mayer informs local senior citizens and their family members with pertinent news and information about health, education, and recreation in the KNCT-FM listening area. Each program is 30 minutes in length.

The USO Report - Each Sunday at 1:30pm, the Center Director of Fort Hood's USO informs our listeners of events and programs designed to assist Soldiers, Veterans, and their family members in the KNCT-FM listening area. Each episode is approximately five minutes in length.

Voice of Texas Veterans - Every Sunday at 3:30pm, host Julia Conner features services offered by the Texas Veterans Commission, a state agency that offers free services to Veterans in the state of Texas. Each episode is approximately 10 minutes in length.

Weather - Bill Hecke has been KNCT's meteorologist for over 36 years, providing multiple weather reports and hourly updates each day for our listeners. In addition to his expert weather coverage, Bill addresses hot and cold weather safety concerns. He also promotes wellness clinics that offer free healthcare for children in the area and animal shelters that need help finding homes for our four-legged friends. Altogether, Mr. Hecke gives about 40 minutes of weather and public service coverage per day.

Quarterly Issues/Program List Below is a list of some of the significant issues responded to by 91.3 KNCT-FM in Killeen, Texas, along with the most significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022. This list is by no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Time	Duration	Narration of Type and Description of Program/Segment
ShareLunker Updates	On the Dock	4/1/2022	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>The list of ShareLunker's grew by two over the weekend, running the season total at the time to 22, including seven during the first three weeks of March in the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) 2022 Toyota ShareLunker collection season.</p> <p>Lake Daniel returned to the spotlight Friday evening for the second time this season thanks to Mike Ybarra from Odessa who reeled in a new pending lake record. ShareLunker 629 topped the scales at 15.66-pounds to become the 39th biggest largemouth bass in Texas. Ybarra's Legacy Lunker is also the fourth fish this season to crack the top 50 all-time list.</p> <p>O.H. Ivie Lake continued its incredible two year run Saturday courtesy of angler Tim Manley from Brownwood. Manley's ShareLunker 630 registered at 14.46 pounds on the scale while measuring 23 inches in girth and 23 ¼ inches in length. The fish is also the 11th from the waterbody this season and remains one away from equaling its 2010 and 2021 totals of 12.</p>
Honor Flight Austin	Senior Report	4/2/2022	9:20am	25 minutes	<p>For three Vietnam veterans from Killeen, a recent Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., was the chance of a lifetime.</p> <p>Retired Army Lt. Col. Bob Gordon, retired Maj. Ray Arrington and retired Maj. Jasper "Gene" Hunter, all elders at Central Christian Church in Killeen, each said the trip made them feel as if they were finally truly home from Vietnam.</p> <p>Honor Flight is a program that takes veterans to Washington, D.C., to visit memorials dedicated to their service and the many that have lost their lives defending the country.</p>
The Many Faces of Transition	USO Report	4/3/2022	1:30pm	5 minutes	<p>The USO Fort Hood held a special event for service members and family members in the area. Special Delivery Baby Shower with special guest Heidi Murkoff, author of the best-selling series "What to Expect When You're Expecting," helped these ladies celebrate their new bundle of joy!</p> <p>In other news, the Fort Hood USO held another Pathfinder Program seminar. Through the creation of an individualized action plan, USO Transition Specialists collaborate with individuals to identify their personal and professional goals and build a roadmap to achieving them, while also identifying services and resources that are the best fit for their needs. Additionally, this program offers support to plan for life after the military, connecting participants to valuable resources for a smooth transition to civilian life.</p>
Military Veteran Peer Network	Voice of Texas Veterans	4/3/2022	3:30pm	10 minutes	<p>The Texas Veterans Commission Military Veteran Peer Network is composed of Peer Service Coordinators across the state. These coordinators are always looking for new ways to connect veterans and their families with the resources they need. In Abilene, Peer Service Coordinator Ann McKee came up with a way to support younger veterans diagnosed with PTSD. It's called MPVN Gaming.</p> <p>In this episode, Ann explained how her idea became reality.</p>
Stage 1 Drought Watch	CenTex Sustains	4/4/2022	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Recently, on March 18th, the Brazos River Authority announced the implementation of a Stage 1 – Drought Watch for several reservoirs and reservoir systems within the BRA water supply system.</p> <p>The declaration comes after multiple areas throughout the basin met triggers set within the BRA Drought Contingency Plan associated with the Palmer Hydrological Drought Index also known as PHDI, a suite of indicators developed within the U.S. Weather Bureau.</p> <p>According to a press release from BRA, as of March 17th, 95% of the Brazos River basin – which crosses most of the physiographic regions of Texas - was experiencing a certain level of drought. Parts of the upper and central basin were experiencing exceptional drought status, the highest level on</p>

					<p>the U.S. Drought Monitor's scale. The basin starts about 50 miles west of the Texas-New Mexico state line and stretches to the Gulf of Mexico.</p> <p>The declaration comes after portions of the state reported a historic winter dry spell. Dr. John Nielsen-Gammon, state climatologist in the College of Geosciences Department of Atmospheric Sciences at Texas A&amp;M University, said that most of the state is very dry, and the rain outlook is not promising.</p>
Great North American Eclipse	Hobby Memorial Library Update	4/5/2022	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>A total solar eclipse will take place at the Moon's ascending node on Monday, April 8, 2024, visible across North America and dubbed the Great North American Eclipse.</p> <p>The path of this eclipse includes our area and Central Texas College astronomer Warren Hart sat down with Cindy Oser as we prepare for this once in a lifetime event.</p>
April is Texas State Park Month	On the Dock	4/6/2022	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>For the eighth year in a row, Whole Earth Provision Co. is supporting Texas State Parks throughout the month of April during its "April is Texas State Parks Month" fund drive at all seven stores across the state, including the location at Preston Forest.</p> <p>Customers will have the option to donate to Texas State Parks at check-out counters in the stores. For every \$20 or more donated, Whole Earth will give customers a \$5 state parks gift card, redeemable for park entrance fees, park passes, and merchandise at state park stores. If the customer donates \$50 or more, they will receive a Whole Earth branded Nalgene bottle and a \$5 state parks gift card; and for a \$100 donation, a Ft. Lonesome custom Texas Patch, a Whole Earth Nalgene Water Bottle and a \$5 state parks gift card.</p> <p>"Texas is rich in natural resources. Not just oil and gas, timber and wind (and abundant hot air!), but in resources enjoyed daily by families and friends across the state," said Jack Jones, Whole Earth Provision Co. founder, and owner. "Some of the most beautiful and historic places in our state – beaches, mountains, rivers, forests, canyons and plains, are available for all of us to enjoy. Whole Earth Provision Co. is proud to partner with our Texas State Parks and looks forward to visiting the new parks that will be opening in the coming years."</p>
All Kids Bike	Local Spotlight	4/8/2022	11:30am	2 minutes	<p>Brookhaven Elementary School received a complete Learn-To-Ride Program, including Strider Learn-To-Ride Bikes, helmets, and curriculum from All Kids Bike.</p> <p>This program will help approximately 430 kindergarten students learn to ride over the next five years. The Strider Bikes were delivered to the kindergarten physical education class at Brookhaven Elementary School and will be incorporated into their curriculum during the 2022-2023 school year.</p> <p>All Kids Bike is a national movement on a mission to teach every child in America how to ride a bike in kindergarten PE class. Launched in 2018, ---555 schools in 50 states are running the All Kids Bike Kindergarten PE Program.</p>
Celebrate and Share About Earth Date	All Along the Bell Tower	4/8/2022	8am	15 minutes	<p>April 22nd is Earth Day, and while it's a holiday that started in the 1970s, it's more important now than ever before. Our planet is experiencing drastic negative changes due to our actions, and Earth Day is an important reminder of the changes we need to make now. We should make caring for the planet a high priority, and we need to share the enthusiasm about doing so with others, especially the younger generation. This year, make a point to pick at least one fun way to celebrate the planet and learn how we can help protect it going forward.</p> <p>"Most people will let Earth Day pass without giving it much thought," explains Stephon Stewart, theorist and author. "But we can change that. We can use the day to help raise awareness about the issues facing our environment and show people how to make positive changes."</p> <p>Often, people don't think about environmental changes until someone introduces them to them. Everyone interested in protecting the planet can play an essential role in helping to spread the message and recruit others to the cause.</p>
ShareLunker Update	On the Dock	4/8/2022	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Sam Rayburn Reservoir and O.H. Ivie Lake closed out another incredible Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) 2022 Toyota ShareLunker collection season with two more additions in the final week of March. These latest Legacy Lunkers bring the season total to 24, the most during a January through March timeframe since 1995 (27).</p>

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Senior Center Staffing Problems	Senior Report	4/9/2022	9:20am	25 minutes	<p>The Copperas Cove City Council has reopened the senior center, following staffing shortage problems. In the episode, Joyce reflects on the work the community has done to get the doors back open, and focuses on the work ahead that still needs to be done.</p>
Month of the Military Child	USO Report	4/10/22	1:30pm	5 minutes	<p>The Fort Hood USO went out to the base's stadium along with Fort Hood family housing to bring awareness to Earth Fest and the Month of the Military Child.</p> <p>April is designated as the Month of the Military Child, underscoring the important role military children play in the armed forces community. Sponsored by the Department of Defense Military Community and Family Policy, the Month of the Military Child is a time to applaud military families and their children for the daily sacrifices and the challenges they overcome.</p>
Sexual Assault Awareness Month	Voice of Texas Veterans	4/10/22	3:30pm	10 minutes	<p>April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Our Women Veterans Program talks with a panel of Military Sexual Trauma Survivors about their ongoing journey to healing. We also talked with Providers who offer support, and counseling. We have compiled a list of the featured providers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Samaritan Center: Contact Mental Health and Wellness Counseling Services   Texas (<a href="https://www.samaritan-center.org">samaritan-center.org</a>)</li> <li>- The Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Endeavors, San Antonio: <a href="https://www.endeavors.org">www.endeavors.org</a></li> <li>- The Circle of Arms; <a href="https://www.circleofarms.org">https://www.circleofarms.org</a></li> <li>- The Pink Berets <a href="https://thepinkberets.org/">https://thepinkberets.org/</a></li> <li>- Divas in Dog Tags: <a href="https://divasindogtags.org">https://divasindogtags.org</a></li> <li>- VA Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255 and press 1, 24/7</li> <li>- If you are a civilian, call: 1-800-656-HOPE/4673.</li> </ul>
State of the Air	All Along the Bell Tower	4/11/22	8am	15 minutes	<p>The American Lung Association's 2022 "State of the Air" report – to be released Thursday, April 21, 2022 - reveals that millions of Americans live in counties that had unhealthy levels of ozone or particulate pollution. The "State of the Air" report analyzes data and shares county-level rankings and grades regarding the quality of the local air to provide insight on protecting communities and ways to reduce air pollution.</p> <p>The report also shows how communities of color are disproportionately exposed to unhealthy air and describes how people of color are also more likely to be living with one or more chronic conditions that make them more vulnerable to the health impact of air pollution, including asthma, diabetes, and heart disease.</p>
Nature Loves to Hide	All Along the Bell Tower	4/11/22	4pm	15 minutes	<p>In this interview, Gary sat down with acclaimed National Geographic photographer David Littschwager to discuss his fascination with the octopus, seahorse, and jellyfish.</p> <p>While researchers continue to explore to find new sea life, they are in a battle with time as the planet loses species to human activity such as oil spills, global warming, plastic waste, and more.</p>
Central Texas Area Chiefs of Police and Sheriff's Association	On the Dock	4/13/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>The Central Texas Area Chiefs of Police and Sheriff's Association's goal is to create an association representative of all Central Texas Law Enforcement agencies. They encourage action in promoting and advancing the interest in the general welfare of the communities they serve and facilitate an exchange of ideas, experiences and resources with its own members and members of law enforcement agencies in other areas. Becoming more effective in areas of internal and external communication with the business community, criminal justice policy makers, and the general public is achieved by providing Central Texas area law enforcement leaders with a sense of unity and identity.</p>

Women Veterans United for Change	Senior Report	4/16/22	9:20am	25 minutes	<p>Women Veterans United for Change (WVUFC) is hosting an anniversary celebration on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. They will have entertainment, food, and activities. Vendors and entertainers can still sign up to attend the event.</p> <p>WVUFC is a place where women veterans can come together and chat and share experience's endured during combat or during their military service.</p> <p>It is a safe place for women veterans to voice concerns, seek assistance in finding the help they need, and to help spread representation of female veterans within a world where their voices are over shadowed and ignored.</p>
Claims Benefits Advisors	Voice of Texas Veterans	4/17/22	3:30pm	10 minutes	<p>This episode features Claims Benefits Advisor Robert Macias who explains what vets need to know about filing successful claims. Texas Veterans Commission has certified advisors who will file disability claims for FREE!</p>
Cen-Tex Environmental Ambassador Awards	Cen-Tex Sustains	4/18/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Last week Thursday, Fort Hood Garrison Commander Col. Chad Foster along with mayors from the communities of Belton, Copperas Cove, Gatesville, Harker Heights, Killeen, Lampasas and Salado, and a council member from Nolanville gathered at Harker Heights Carl Levin Park to proclaim April as Sustainable Environment Month and also present the Cen-Tex Environmental Ambassador Awards.</p> <p>Foster said, "on behalf of the Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities... we encourage Central Texans to do their part to promote beautification, conservation, pollution prevention, and recycling within their communities, homes, schools, and workplaces. This will help us to achieve positive impacts from sustaining the mission that includes all of you, to enhancing the well-being of our youth, Soldiers, our military families and all residents of Central Texas both on Fort Hood and in the larger Central Texas community."</p> <p>Foster and Harker Heights Mayor Spencer H. Smith hosted the event to celebrate youth, organizations and individuals from each of the partner communities.</p>
Oceans	All Along the Bell Tower	4/19/22	8am	15 minutes	<p>About 71 percent of the Earth's surface is water-covered, and the oceans hold about 96.5 percent of all Earth's water.</p> <p>More than 80 percent of the ocean and never been mapped, explored, or even seen by humans. A far greater percentage of the surfaces of the moon and the planet Mars has been mapped and studied than of our own ocean floor. Despite its size and impact on the lives of every organism on Earth, the ocean remains a mystery.</p> <p>Affectionately dubbed "Her Deepness", by The New Yorker magazine, Dr. Sylvia Earle, one of the world's top experts on ocean science and conservation, shares her inspiring wisdom in NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC OCEAN: A GLOBAL ODYSSEY showcasing how the ocean--with its forces, habitats, creatures, and global influence--has a tremendous impact on our everyday lives.</p> <p>President &amp; Chairman of Mission Blue, Dr. Earl describes the evolution, beauty, and impact of our ocean, the challenges it faces, such as climate change, plastic, and overfishing, and the myriad ways we can help protect it. With a special focus on new discoveries in the deepest reaches of the ocean, Dr. Earle's book reveals wonders that few have witnessed before and broadens our understanding of this essential realm of life on Earth.</p> <p>In this interview, Gary was joined by Dr. Sylvia Earle as she discusses everything there is to know about the ocean.</p>
City Nature Challenge	On the Dock	4/20/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Started in 2016 as a competition between San Francisco and Los Angeles, the City Nature Challenge (CNC) has grown into an international event, motivating people around the world to find and document wildlife in their cities. Run by the Community Science teams at the California Academy of Sciences and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, the CNC is an annual four-day global bioblitz at the end of April, where cities are in a collaboration-meets-friendly-competition to see not only what can be accomplished when we all work toward a common goal, but also which city can gather the most observations of nature, find the most species, and engage the most people in the event.</p>
Free Children's Clinic	Senior Report	4/23/22	9:20am	25 minutes	<p>In Bell County, tens of thousands of people live every day below the poverty line. This means many of our neighbors aren't able to make ends meet or sustain basic amenities such as housing, groceries, healthcare, and more.</p>

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Texas Veterans Commission	Voice of Texas Veterans	4/24/22	3:30pm	10 minutes	<p>Texas Veterans Commission is the state agency tasked with helping veterans, family members, and survivors access all the state and federal benefits earned. Visit the Website, fill out the contact form and we'll talk. <a href="https://www.tvc.texas.gov/">https://www.tvc.texas.gov/</a> You may be surprised to find out what TVC can do for you! Just listen and then tell all your veteran friends about us, better yet share the podcast!</p>
Monarch Pledge	Cen-Tex Sustains	4/25/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Col. Chad R. Foster, commander of U.S. Army Garrison - Fort Hood, signed the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge, making Fort Hood the first Department of Defense installation across all military branches to reaffirm its commitment to creating habitat for the monarch butterfly and other pollinators.</p>
Recovering America's Wildlife Act	On the Dock	4/27/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Passage of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act would mean more than \$50 million in new dollars each year for Texas, transforming efforts to conserve and restore more than 1,300 species of concern here in the Lone Star State, the majority of which are at-risk, non-game fish and wildlife.</p> <p>It would do this by tapping existing federal revenue — there would be no new or additional taxes. By focusing on species of concern and their habitats, it would keep common species common and avoid the need for endangered species listings by getting ahead of wildlife declines while there's still time to act. That's good for jobs and the economy as well as wildlife, which is why this plan started with buy-in from industry and business. These creatures and their wild homes are the "goose that lays the golden egg" that sustains multi-billion-dollar nature tourism industries in our state, clean air and water, and healthy outdoor recreation. This bill would mean millions in new grants to nonprofits, universities, landowners, local communities and others. Besides natural resource benefits, this could also transform nature-based recreation and education opportunities for including children and families. It would be the greatest wildlife conservation breakthrough in decades.</p>
Poaching Awareness	On the Dock	4/29/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Texas Game Warden Trey Kram's dedication to educating his community, engaging local organizations and pursuing poaching investigations has set a high standard among his peers and throughout the state. This month the National Wild Turkey Federation recognized Warden Kram as the Texas Wildlife Officer of the Year.</p> <p>Over the course of his 11-year career, the DeWitt County Warden has emphasized hunting conservation among groups like the Lions Club, Rotary Club, Wildlife Management Association and local schools.</p> <p>"It's important to remember that as conservation law enforcement, we hold a lot of knowledge and experience when it comes to preserving our wildlife and wild spaces for future generations," said Warden Trey Kram. "It's critical we share that information with our communities to empower individuals to make better choices."</p>
National Prescription Drug Take Back Day	Senior Report	4/30/22	9:20am	25 minutes	<p>The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications.</p> <p>This episode provided information on locations in our listening area that were open and accepting old and/or expired prescription drugs.</p>
Military Spouses Fellowship Program	Voice of Texas Veterans	5/1/22	3:30pm	10 minutes	<p>As we celebrate military spouses on May 6-8, let's not forget the Hiring Our Heroes Military Spouse Fellowship Program, helping spouses find new careers after that military move. Listen to find out how it works and how to apply. We also talk with TVC Family Career Advisor Dee Stewart who works to connect employers with spouses and dependents.</p>

Bilge Pumps	On the Dock	5/4/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>When most boat owners work up the nerve to reach down into the questionable waters of their bilge, it's usually to determine why their pumps failed, rather than how to keep them from doing so in the first place. After hull integrity, bilge pumps are often the first and only line of defense against sinking, yet many boaters develop a frighteningly cavalier attitude toward their maintenance and operation.</p> <p>New boats often come with too few or poorly installed pumps, while owners of older boats need to make sure previous owners didn't skimp on capacity when forced to replace one. Knowing how different bilge pumps work, how many you should have, and how to spot installation problems are good places to begin understanding these vital pieces of safety equipment.</p>
Veteran Service Officers	Senior Report	5/7/22	9:20am	25 minutes	<p>Veteran Service Officers will help you write and submit your benefits claims to the VA. Their services are free. They will help you gather the information that supports your claim. Once the claim is filed they will help you track the claim through the system. They can also help you file appeals for denied claims.</p> <p>KNCT's listening audience area includes Fort Hood, the largest military installation in the United States of America, and our audience is made up largely of Veterans and their family members.</p> <p>Recognizing the need for Service Officers in our area, KNCT has teamed up with VFW groups in the area to host and inform the public of when and which post they will be at.</p>
Women Veterans Day	Voice of Texas Veterans	5/8/22	3:30pm	10 minutes	<p>Women Veterans Day is almost here! June 12 is the day. Women Veterans around the state have celebrations planned in their various communities. Everyone is invited to join the Texas Veterans Commission at Camp Mabry in Austin on Saturday, June 4th for a Women's Veterans Day 5K. Walk, Run, Jog, Skip or Stroll.</p>
Black-Capped Vireo	Cen-Tex Sustains	5/9/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Gil Eckrich records a burst of photos of a black-capped vireo in the instant before it disappears. Now enjoying photography in retirement, Eckrich spent over 20 years as a biologist at Fort Hood. From his perspective, "31 years ago, black-capped vireos were scarce and difficult to find on the installation; these days... the species can be found in practically every training area."</p> <p>In 1988, one year after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service listed the species as endangered, researchers scoured Fort Hood and found fewer than 200 of these migratory songbirds. In contrast, surveys in 2021 found over 8,500. Partly because of the dramatic increase of this population, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service delisted the species in 2018. Control of brown-headed cowbirds and habitat management were the keys to the vireo's recovery.</p>
Better Hearing & Speech Month	All Along the Bell Tower	5/11/22	6pm	15 minutes	<p>Gary welcomed ASHA-certified audiologist Lindsay S. Creed, Au.D., CCC-A, and ASHA Associate Director, Health Care Services in Speech-Language Pathology to discuss Better Hearing &amp; Speech Month, an opportunity to raise awareness about communication disorders and the role of ASHA members in providing life-altering treatment. This year the theme is "Connecting People."</p> <p>The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) recently released a new poll that found that more than 6 in 10 American adults (65%) have concern for themselves or for a child, spouse, or older relative, in the following areas: balance/risk of falls, hearing/ringing in the ears, cognition, swallowing, and/or speech and language.</p>
Avian Influenza Detected	On the Dock	5/11/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>The National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) confirmed this week the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in a great horned owl at a rehabilitation facility in Wichita County—the first such confirmed case in a wild bird in Texas. The facility quickly notified the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) after the owl began to show clinical signs consistent with HPAI. This case of HPAI follows an early April detection of the disease in a commercial pheasant flock located in Erath County.</p> <p>HPAI is a highly contagious virus that transmits easily among wild and domestic bird species. It has been detected in 38 states across the country. Symptoms include diarrhea, incoordination, lethargy, coughing and sneezing and sudden death, though birds infected with HPAI may not always have outward signs of infection. The virus may spread in a variety of ways, including through contact with infected wild and domestic birds as well as by contaminated equipment, clothing and shoes of caretakers.</p>

Heart Health, Release the Pressure	All Along the Bell Tower	5/12/22	6pm	15 minutes	<p>Nearly half of Black women over the age of 20 have heart disease, though many do not even realize it. The Release the Pressure (RTP) Coalition—which includes the American Medical Association (AMA), AMA Foundation, American Heart Association, Association of Black Cardiologists, National Medical Association and Minority Health Institute, was formed to reduce these disparities by joining Black women on their journey to improve heart health through preventative action.</p> <p>This World Hypertension Day, on Tuesday, May 17th, the RTP Coalition is bringing "We Derby with Heart" to Black women and their squads across the country. This free virtual event will celebrate Black women and their squads on their heart health journey through the iconic fashion and beauty of the Kentucky Derby like never before. Streaming on Ebony.com, "We Derby with Heart" will include self-care and wellness tips, a fashion show, and a Heart Table Talk to support and encourage Black women to put their heart health first.</p> <p>The RTP campaign celebrates self-care as a key priority when it comes to protecting women's hearts. To give Black women and their squads the tools and confidence to care for themselves unapologetically, "We Derby with Heart" will bring more than just awareness to the healthy blood pressure movement, it will spark a national movement to center self-care as a step towards heart health.</p>
ShareLunker Season	On the Dock	5/13/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>The 2022 Toyota ShareLunker collection season claimed its spot as one of the best in program history. Anglers contributed 24 ShareLunkers from nine different lakes across the state, surpassing 2021's impressive total of 23 Legacy fish. This season nearly matched 1995's program record of 27 during a January through March collection timespan.</p> <p>In addition, four new lake records were established, four fish cracked the top 50 all-time list, including the seventh largest in Texas history, and O.H. Ivie Lake continued its impressive ShareLunker run with 12 Legacy entries. O.H. Ivie boasts 24 combined Legacy Lunkers during the past two collection seasons. The Toyota ShareLunker website provides information on each Legacy fish from the 2022 collection season, archives of past seasons and details how anglers can participate in making bass fishing even better in Texas.</p> <p>"This Toyota ShareLunker collection season was simply historic in so many ways – we live for seasons like this," said Tom Lang, Director of the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center. "We're grateful that so many anglers caught their fish of a lifetime this season and then decided to share their lunker with us so we can make more of these bigger, better bass for future generations of anglers."</p>
Respite Care for Family Caregivers	Voice of Texas Veterans	5/15/22	3:30pm	10 minutes	<p>Family members who care for wounded warriors and ill veterans can really use the gift of time. Time for themselves. The Elizabeth Dole Foundation Hidden Heroes Program offers Free Help for Family Caregivers. Listen to learn more.</p>
Lake Cleanup Event & Depressurize Reef Fish	On the Dock	5/18/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>The Lake Belton Trash Getters will host a cleanup session at Cedar Ridge Park in Belton.</p> <p>New federal regulations require anyone fishing for reef fish in the Gulf must possess a venting tool or a rigged descending device on their boat.</p> <p>These tools are for depressurizing fish before release. Research shows that depressurizing and properly releasing reef fish, including red snapper,</p>
VA Adaptive Housing Grants	Voice of Texas Veterans	5/22/22	3:30pm	10 minutes	<p>The VA offers adaptive housing grants for veterans and service members with certain service-connected disabilities so they can buy or change a home to meet their needs. This program has info on how the grant program works and what vets need to do to apply. Click here for the VA link. Texas Veterans Commission Claims Benefits Advisors can also help.</p>
Arbor Day	Cen-Tex Sustains	5/23/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>A few weeks ago, Col. Chad R. Foster, commander of U.S. Army Garrison - Fort Hood, joined by a group of Girls Scouts from Heart of Central Texas Troop 6300 and 20301, signed a proclamation to celebrate the 150th year of Arbor Day at the Fort Hood Pollinator Sanctuary.</p> <p>Foster said, "These proclamations are symbolic and are an expression of our commitment as an installation to these causes. It's about taking care of the environment on which we</p>



					depend for our lives, and without a good, healthy environment, we can't train and do what Fort Hood is supposed to do."
E15 Gasoline	On the Dock	5/25/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Heading out on the water this weekend? Be careful when filling up your boat's gas tank, warns the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Detroit.</p> <p>In a Facebook post Wednesday, the government agency cautioned boaters that new fuel standards allowing the sale of E15 gas could pose safety threats when used in watercraft.</p> <p>The fuel, which contains 15% ethanol, was authorized for the summer for use in cars. However, it's federally prohibited for vessel use because of its potential to cause marine engine damage, thus voiding any engine warranties, the U.S. Coast Guard says.</p> <p>Even more worrying, the Coast Guard says E15 fuel has been proven to make engines run hotter, which increases the likelihood of a boat fire.</p>
Memorial Day Safety	On the Dock	5/27/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Ahead of the Memorial Day weekend, Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) is urging boaters and paddlers who enjoy water recreation this summer to help fight against aquatic invasive species that threaten Texas lakes.</p> <p>"Memorial Day weekend is the unofficial kick-off to the boating season in Texas, and while we want everyone to have a great time, we also want them to avoid giving free rides to invasive species and helping them travel to new lakes," said Brian Van Zee, TPWD Inland Fisheries Regional Director. "The best way to prevent the spread of many destructive aquatic invasive species is to clean, drain and dry your boats and equipment – every time."</p>
PTSD Awareness Month	Voice of Texas Veterans	5/29/22	3:30pm	10 minutes	This month, our Veterans Mental Health Department is taking part in PTSD awareness month, helping veterans and their families understand the signs and symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and what treatments are available.
Free Fishing Day	On the Dock	6/1/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Anglers across Texas are marking their calendars and packing their tackle boxes for Free Fishing Day June 4. Each year on the first Saturday in June, Texans can fish on any public waterbody in the state without a fishing license.</p> <p>"Free Fishing Day is a wonderful opportunity for anglers to share their knowledge, skills, equipment, and love for fishing with a new participant, yet it's also more than that," said Craig Bonds, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Inland Fisheries Director. "We hope those trying fishing on this special day will also learn that purchasing a license is an act of conservation. A fishing license purchase is one of the simplest and most effective ways people can support fisheries science and management."</p>
Texas Women Veterans Day	Voice of Texas Veterans	6/5/22	3:30pm	10 minutes	Happy Women Veterans Day! TVC Chairwoman and Navy veteran, Laura Koerner has a few words to share, plus meet the veterans behind the Women Veterans Program here at Texas Veterans Commission. Visit the website to find out what TVC can do for you and make sure your veteran friends know all about us. Remember all our services are free!
Reduction in Citations	On the Dock	6/10/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Texas Game Wardens issued fewer boating-related citations over Memorial Day weekend than they did in 2021. They cited increased boating safety awareness and patrols by game wardens and other marine safety officers as contributors to a drop in incidents.</p> <p>Between Friday and Monday, 352 game wardens conducted 10,218 safety checks on vessels, issuing 62 fewer citations than they did the year before. Texas Game Warden Colonel Chad Jones attributed this decrease to factors including expansion of boating safety awareness outreach.</p> <p>"First off, I want to commend those who conducted themselves safely and responsibly over what is always a busy weekend," he said. "Our game wardens have really focused on increasing boating safety awareness over the past year, and I think we are starting to see the fruits of that effort. Combined with our patrols on Texas rivers, lakes and coastal bays, we saw a general reduction in cases over the weekend."</p>
Austin Veteran Arts Festival	Texas Veterans Commission	6/12/22	3:30pm	10 minutes	Calling all artists who happen to be veterans or family members. The Austin Veteran Arts Festival wants to showcase your talent! Have you been healing through art? Do you paint, sing, dance? Are you a comedian? Is music helping you heal? Whatever medium you choose, we want to see it. AVAFEST is happening in Austin, October 12 - November 12,

					2022. You don't have to live in Austin to submit your work. Exhibits will be in person, and virtual. We talked with Glenn Towrey, founder of AVAFEST, he explained what it is and how artists and spectators can participate.
Bowhunter By Fall	On the Dock	6/15/22	6:15pm	5 min	<p>Texans desiring to harvest their own meals, improve on or learn a new skill and take part in outdoor adventures can do just that through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) Community Archery Program. "Bowhunter by Fall" is a series of monthly and bi-monthly e-newsletters filled with videos and clips, giving archers the skills to travel from behind the keyboard to behind the bow just in time for the fall hunting season.</p> <p>"Bowhunter by Fall" e-newsletters contain information on how to take and pass Hunter Education and help aspiring bowhunters understand the gear they'll need before hitting the field. Recipients can also expect tips on archery training, finding a mentor, locating public hunting lands, understanding license requirements and knowing what to look for in a good hunting spot.</p> <p>"Bowhunting may seem like a tough sport to get started with but really, it's easiest with a mentor or someone to help guide you in the beginning stages," said Rob Owen, TPWD's Outreach and Recruitment Manager. "'Bowhunter By Fall' is meant to help you, or a friend, be field ready via a timeline of steps, resources and tips. Hopefully it helps you shoot some arrows this fall and for many hunting seasons to come."</p> <p>Anyone interested in receiving "Bowhunter by Fall" e-newsletters can sign up on the Community Archery Program page of the TPWD website. Those signed up can anticipate seven e-newsletter editions over a period of five months.</p>
Trail Grants to Texas Communities	On the Dock	6/17/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>During Thursday's meeting, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved more than \$4.8 million dollars in grants funding 17 motorized and non-motorized recreational trail-related projects across the state.</p> <p>One million dollars of the amount allocated today came directly from state Sporting Good Sales Tax funds dedicated to the Recreational Trails Program through a rider passed by the 82nd Legislature. The rider increased the total amount of funded projects this year.</p> <p>The National Recreational Trails Fund (NRTF) supports recreational trail construction, renovation and acquisition. The grants are funded from a portion of the federal gas tax generated by gasoline purchases for off-highway vehicles. Thirty percent of the total NRTF grants must be earmarked for motorized recreational trails, while another 30 percent must be spent on non-motorized trail projects. The remaining 40 percent is discretionary.</p> <p>Several projects funded in previous years were completed under budget and four were canceled, creating an additional \$700,000 available for re-allocation this year. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) has utilized the re-allocated funding for trail improvements in state parks.</p>
Texas Hazlewood Act	Voice of Texas Veterans	6/19/22	3:30pm	10 minutes	On this show we discuss the Hazlewood Act, a unique Texas benefit for qualified Texas Veterans that can mean 150 hours of tuition exemption at a Public Texas College or University! Dependent children and a spouse could qualify too! This is too good to miss!
Bird City Texas	On the Dock	6/22/22	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Audubon Texas and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), partners in the Bird City Texas program (BCT), are now accepting applications from communities that wish to receive Bird City Texas certification. Now in its fourth year, the program recognizes the contributions that communities make to improve nature in and around where people live, work and play.</p> <p>"All communities, big and small, are eligible to participate" says Richard Heilbrun, TPWD Urban Wildlife Program Leader. "Bird City Texas is a great way to demonstrate that a community values nature, that they're willing to improve that nature, and that residents are encouraged to get outside and experience nature."</p> <p>Certification is based on work in three categories: education and engagement, habitat management and improvement and removal of threats to birds. Community residents are encouraged to be part of the process, says Heilbrun.</p> <p>"Bird City programs are led by either municipal staff or by community members in partnership with city or county staff."</p>

					said Heilbrun. "The strongest applications are those that have a team of people working together."
Galveston Island State Park	On the Dock	6/24/2022	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>Galveston Island State Park is reopening the beachside of the park on June 27 after completing a major redevelopment project which began in the summer of 2019. The Galveston Island State Park Beach Redevelopment project was brought to fruition thanks to \$10.6 million in Deepwater Horizon Natural Resources Damage Assessment (NRDA) Phase III Early Restoration funds from the Texas Trustees.</p> <p>"The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is very excited to be able to reopen such a popular park on the Texas coast," said Rodney Franklin, Director of Texas State Parks. "I am extremely thankful for the hard work of our state parks team, TPWD partner divisions, numerous volunteers, as well as our partnership with the NRDA Trustees Implementation Group. The commitment and dedication of countless individuals and stakeholders made this redevelopment project a reality. Thanks to our ability to leverage grant funds along with sporting goods sales tax, the people of Texas will benefit from this enhanced outdoor opportunity for years to come."</p> <p>Improvements to the park include a new park headquarters building, two new restrooms and renovations to an existing restroom, new roads, 95 new campsites, two new changing areas and rinse off showers, 20 new shade shelters in the day-use area, and a seasonal equestrian day-use area.</p> <p>Additionally, there will be more than five miles of hiking trails, a newly remodeled nature center on the bayside, two observation towers, two boardwalks, three kayak launch locations on the bayside, a new vendor area, and three new group-use pavilions on the beachside.</p>
4th of July Water Safety	On the Dock	6/29/2022	6:15pm	5 minutes	<p>With the July 4th holiday weekend on the horizon, Texans around the state are making plans to take advantage of the sunshine on the state's waterways. Compared to this time last year, drownings are up more than 30 percent, so the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is reminding everyone to be safe this holiday weekend by following basic boating safety precautions and public health guidelines while on the water.</p> <p>"Texas Game Wardens will be out in full force this weekend to ensure the public enjoys their time on the water responsibly, but we need everyone to make sure they are taking safety seriously, too," said Cody Jones, TPWD Assistant Commander for Marine Enforcement.</p>