Before you build it...they will come

Approaching fall season leads to spending more time outdoors

Yes, it's still August and feels like 100 degrees every day. However, with the end of the month approaching and September nearing, dove season is close. Depending on where you hunt, the regular season opens in the north and central zones Sept. 1. The special white-winged dove days for the south zone run Sept. 3-6 and Sept. 12-13. If you love spending time outdoors, I have always found dove season to be the opening of the best time of the year for me. Sure, it might still feel hot as a desert at times while roaming in the field, but the bacon-wrapped snack afterward will be well worth everything.

September also means bass fishing begins to pick up as water temperatures slightly decrease in many bodies of water. And with our upcoming outdoor life special section coming, next month, I’m lucky enough to go cover hunting and fishing stories for the publication: one for The Progress and one for the Countywide, which will delve into both spectrums of the vision of the section. I’ll learn about an outfitting operation near George West and see their preparation in offering turkey, quail and dove hunts with lodging. The ranch raises cattle and farms hay but also provides an outfitter service for bird hunters.

My story for the Countywide will focus on kayak fishing a stretch of the San Antonio River south of Falls City that will feature two sets of falls along the way. Since my time as editor for the Countywide, I have yet to find any kayak fishing stories in Karnes County. I will show you how to legally access the San Antonio River for a similar trip. Now those assignments are ones I’m going to look forward to since naturally I love spending time outdoors.

Whether you hunt, fish, camp, hike, geocache, or anything else, please take a child outdoors with you. With the age of technology and children immersed, it's so easy to immediately influence by cell phones, YouTube, or other technology driven distractions, let them play in the dirt. Let them safely look for game in the field if you hunt. Or tie a fisherman's knot for a jig in search of a largemouth bass.

Just take a child with you. My folks did and that is what I try to pass along to my children. I know they love fishing off my kayak or filling feeders with me. And that makes me feel pretty good.