

*Visitors, continued from page 16*

jackets (I was getting so hot). We put the turkey on the deck and put breakfast, an egg, cheese and sausage casserole, into the small oven. My brother wanted to look at Steven's military gun so we gathered around the bed where he took it out of its case and showed us how to use the scopes. Then he asked us if we wanted to shoot them at the targets, and of course we said yes. So we went outside and strapped the gun to the shooting table. I hit the target first try. We moved it to the farthest target and shot a few. At last he asked us if we wanted to shoot clay pigeons. We went around the back and hooked up the thrower and let Steven shoot the first pair and he hit them on the first shot, then let me try. I missed completely, surprised by the kick, I gave the gun back to Steven to let him do it again. My dad released two neon clay discs at once and Steven shot them both before they hit the water (don't worry, they're biodegradable!). Then he let my brother try. He was scared in the first place but mastered his fear and shot. The next second he was on the ground clutching his shoulder and laughing at the same time. He got up again and was fine but had to sit down. By that time breakfast was ready and we went inside to eat.

I want to thank Steven and Debra Bridges for letting us sleep in their house, for feeding us and for letting us use their ranch and to Flint for always giving me passionate hugs. To Amber for taking my fish off the hooks even if they were all bloody. Thank you also to my parents and grandparents for taking us to Texas for spring break and showing us around Austin.

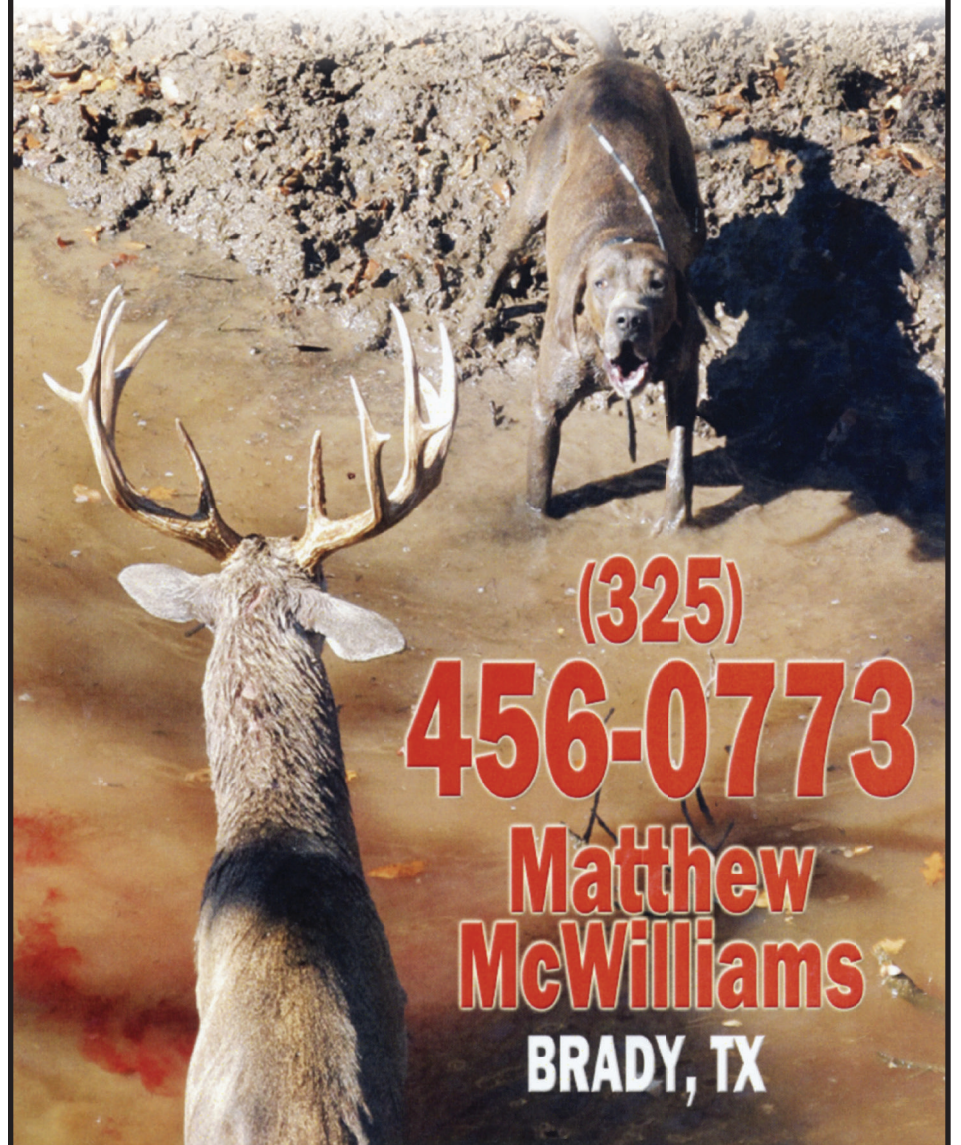
## Wake Up Bode!

by Bode Dossey

It all starts like this, zzzzzzz, wake up Bode. I look at the clock and it's 6 am. Oh yeah we're going hunting, so I get dressed and head down the stairs to find Steven getting out the camo gear - pants, mask, jackets, ghillie suit. Once we're outfitted, we load the truck and head to the ranch. Once we're there, we grab a shot gun, jump into the Ranger and drive for 15 minutes, then stop near a tree and hop out. It was still dawn and the sun was just peeking over the hills as we walked through the grass, stopping every once in a while to call. Then we hear something from the east as we walk through the grass. We see a turkey that saw us and realized that we were not turkeys and ran away. Then Steven said let's sit down and wait a little after we call some more. We hear gobble, gobble, gobble and three turkeys come walking up the hill. By this time it's 7:30 and I'm ready for breakfast. The turkeys were showing off their tail feathers. On the other side, we were waiting to shoot the bigger turkey who was right behind a fence post. When it moves, Bang! goes the gun only two fly away. One danced a little and then fell down and became still. So Steven hopped the fence, grabbed the still half alive animal and jumped back. Then we take a bunch of photos in the middle of one of the photos, the turkey started flapping its wings. I jumped back and everybody laughed. Then we started walking back. We passed a place where a bull had got struck by lightning and died. Now there is a big super healthy piece of grass because of the fertilizer from the bull. About five minutes later we get back to the ranger and I get to ride in the back with the Turkey. It was around 8:00 so we headed back and turned on the stove and put the egg dish on. Then Steven grabbed another gun and put it on the gun stand and we shot the 50 meter target and the 150 meter target. Breakfast is ready, finally!

# TRACKING DOGS

## Wounded Game Recovery



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