



Texas Parks & Wildlife video producers Alan Fisher and Karen Loke interview Walt Thompson on winning the Chamber's Opening Day Big Buck Contest at the Legacy Plaza Pavilion in Goldthwaite. To see the video, go to <https://www.pbs.org> and search "Goldthwaite".



## TPWD airs 'Goldrush in Goldthwaite'

### By Tammarrah Pledger Goldthwaite Eagle

Last fall, the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department's PBS television show featuring Mills County and several of its residents — "Hunters Welcome, Goldrush in Goldthwaite" — put Mills County on the map.

Texas Parks & Wildlife Television Producer Abe Moore said Texas Parks & Wildlife Television has aired on the PBS network for more than 30 years in Texas. While the focus is always on outdoor activities, they decided in 2017 for the first time to "focus a whole show on one town

and how it relies on the economic stimulus of hunting season," Moore explained.

On reference from other producers, they decided to focus on Goldthwaite and Mills County, doing most of the filming on opening day of deer hunting season that year.

The locals featured in the show praised the program, as well as the sneak peek screening held at The Goldthwaite Pavilion on Oct. 16, 2018.

After filming on opening day of hunting season in 2017, Moore said he had traveled through the

area the following summer, and "it was amazing ... the difference during summer and hunting season (though) most of the same faces were there" and he recognized several locals.

In addition to the hunter they shadowed (Lindsey Head), Moore mentioned Wesley Head, deer processor; Rodney and Ginger Spies, former owners of the Mills County General Store; and Eagle owner Steven Bridges, as being specifically featured in the program.

The program, which is 26 minutes long, is now linked to The Eagle's

Web site at [GoldthwaiteEagle.com](http://GoldthwaiteEagle.com).

Warren Blesh of Mills County, event organizer for the screening, also serves on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Private Lands Committee. He said the event was hosted by the Mills County Chamber and sponsored by Mills County State Bank.

Blesh said he and other officials with the TPWD were "extremely impressed" with the turnout for the screening, especially given the cold and wet weather. "I was pleased and honored ... it was heartwarming to

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