



Writer Weekly

What's new in Dripping Springs, Texas.



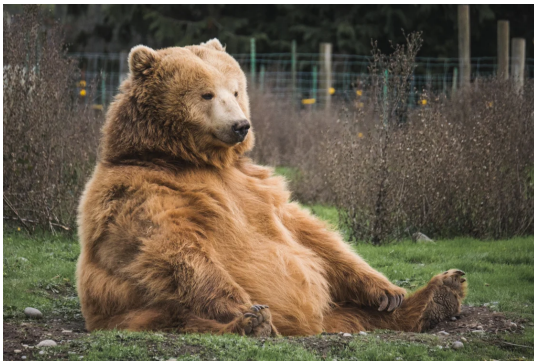
The sunrises seem to be especially striking this week. Yep, we're all ready for some cool weather- 85 degrees and humid doesn't feel at all like Autumn. But we never get any chill in the air until after Halloween, it seems. Except for the one year when it froze all the tomatoes on October 29th. That's Mother Nature for you. Full of surprises.

My Master Naturalist Class

I'm admittedly a displaced outdoors person.

Perhaps it was growing up on an Alaskan homestead or living in the desert of Arizona surrounded by thousands of acres of open space. Or maybe it's just because.

For whatever reason, I've always loved everything about nature, including the skulls and rubber scat. Yep, you heard that right. This week we got to match up jaws and skulls with 'who pooped what?' Cool right?



Speaking of nature

Have you heard of the Fat Bear Challenge?

Fat Bear Week to watch next year.

I should have mentioned this last month because it's a wonderful story to encourage interest in wildlife. The Challenge is set up like a Sweet 16 bracket and is quite funny.

The winner's already been announced, if you're curious.

From the NPR story: *If you're looking for some beary good news, look no further. [Fat Bear Week 2021](#) is finally here.*

Described as a "celebration of success and survival," Fat Bear Week spotlights the resilience, adaptability, and strength of the brown bears at [Katmai National Park & Preserve](#) in Alaska, the park's Amber Kraft told NPR via email.

[Read more](#)



A personal journey

Why what I say matters.

Nonviolent Communication: Learn the Powerful Language of Compassion

It's not easy to share personal struggles. When I do, it's with the hope it may shorten another person's journey.

Recently, [I wrote about](#) my 25-year journey to understand personal boundaries. In that story, I said,

I've been digging up these unwieldy rocks from the past to create something beautiful. Gradually, I'm building low walls of stone, gently curving through the years, with tenacious glorious wildflowers flourishing at edges, where you and I are stronger together in *mutual* support.

During my morning walk, I was thinking about walls, fortresses, and gates.

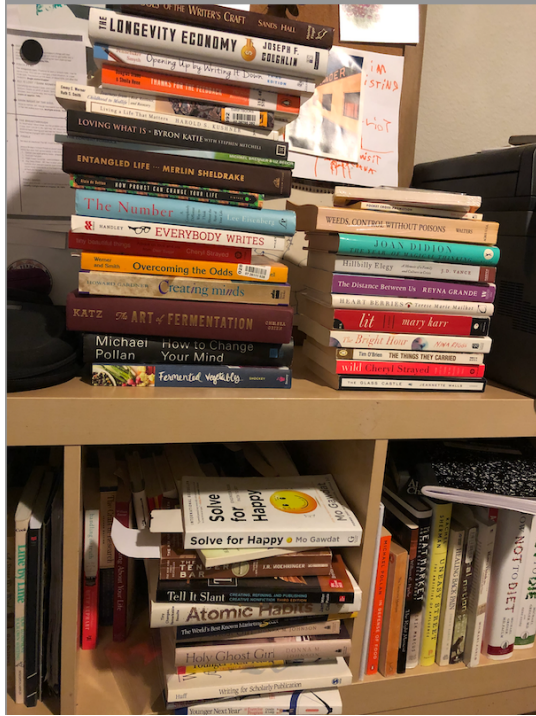
For the rest of the story

I'm excited about

Having longer nights to catch up on reading.

As much as I enjoy being outdoors, I also enjoy the longer nights of winter. Somehow during the summer, my *to be read* pile looms larger and larger. In fact, it's threatening to collapse if I don't get busy soon.

What have you been reading? Any suggestions?



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