Emma Osbourn and Skylar Brown await the judge’s instructions as they show off their well-cared-for lambs at the Llano County Junior Livestock Show, held last weekend at the John L. Kuykemade Event Center in Llano. For more livestock show photos, see pages 7-8 and the “Highland Lakes Weekly” Facebook page. For a fairly complete list of planned events this winter, see “Upcoming Events,” beginning on page 2.)
We're having a party!
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The 10th annual Kingsland Quilt Show will be held at Kingsland Community Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, January 20 & 21 (see ad on page 11).

By JOHN HALLLOWELL
The 10th annual Kingsland Quilt Show will be held at Kingsland Community Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, January 20 & 21 (see ad on page 11).

The Lone Star BBQ Society will hold its annual Cook-off of the Year event and the State Championship BBQ Cook-Off, also this Friday and Saturday (January 20 & 21), at the Burnett County Fairgrounds behind the airport in Burnet.

The Highland Lakes chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas will meet at the Marble Falls Library at 1 p.m. on Saturday, January 21. The speaker will be Mr. Steve Nolle, who will address “The Great Canebrake Myth of the Texas Hill Country.” He will explain what the true vegetation of the Hill Country looked like, with numerous eyewitness accounts of early explorers.

The Former Texas Rangers Association will host the dedication of a memorial to Texas Ranger Stanley Caffey, who was killed while assisting in the rescue of a young kidnapping victim in Horseshoe Bay, at the front of the Horseshoe Bay Police Department (1 Community Drive) in Horseshoe Bay from 2 to 4 p.m. this Saturday, January 21.

Bubba Clark and The Boys will entertain diners at The Trailblazer Grille in Burnet from 5 to 8 p.m. this Saturday, January 21.

Rick Trevino will be on stage at the Upson Sound Studio in Marble Falls beginning at 8 p.m. this Saturday, January 21.

Valerie Smudal will hold an Art Journaling Workshop at her Caledon & Grace shop on the west side of the Lone star square, from 2 to 4 p.m. this Sunday (January 22). Call 325-412-2250 to pre-register (or to get more details) by Saturday afternoon.

The Friends of Kingsland Library will welcome the public on Tuesday, January 24 at 2 P.M. to hear the latest news about The Eagles of Lone County.

The Ute Fine Art Guild, in conjunction with instructor Tori Basso, will hold this year’s first The Art Party on January 24. Register at 503 Bessemer Ave., Ute, TX 76874 or online at www.UTEartshow.com.

The Marble Falls Library will host first “Library for Lunch” event of 2017 beginning at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, January 27. The guest speaker will be author (and Master Naturalist) Elaine Davenport, who will discuss the history of the Water Preserve, an award-winning natural reserve in western Travis County.

Gary F. Nunn (and also Cadillac Gypsies) will be on stage at Overstreet’s Ramblin’ Rose (400 W Young) in Ute on Friday, January 27. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show begins at 8.

The Highland Lake Pregnancy Resource Center invites area churches or civic groups to organize a group to participate in a Rally for Life at the same capped in Austin on Saturday, January 28. Call 325-388-0554 for details.

The R-Bar & Grill, behind the Uptown Theater in Marble Falls, will host a Meet-n-Greet from 3 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, January 28, for ravers planning to enter this summer’s Soap Box Classic.

The Kingsland Lake LBJ Chamber of Commerce held its annual meeting and luncheon January 25.

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As I drove from Llano to Burnet last Thursday night, the clouds glowing pink from the full moon and blocking an attempt at a good picture or Indigo like a bad driver on a mission to take pictures while I'm driving (I'm not that good a driver even when I'm paying attention), but by the time I found a place to pull over the best photo op would be gone. So this picture isn’t as good as it could have been, but it was the best I got.

John Hallowell

This past week has been the closest thing to hibernation that I've ever experienced, and I'm feeling a whole lot healthier for it after a really hectic Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday last week. I slept eight hours or more for five straight nights. I don't know if I've ever done that before! I covered the stock show, the Opal and a couple of other events on Sunday, but it didn't hurt my uneventfulness on Monday and Tuesday was a holiday.

I did get a few shots built and a couple of stories written (one of them is the feature article that's in this paper; you'll have to wait for the other, but for the first time in several years I never even started my car all day.

Of course, I'm behind schedule again on deadlines night (Wednesday), and I may be totally exhausted again very soon, but right now I feel good.

Unfortunately, I was right last week when I said I'd probably forgotten some things I meant to mention in my Scatterthought column. One was some memories of Pastor Rodney McCord, who was a real friend to my family when we first moved to Burnet (he's still around, but he's no longer the pastor at Hill Country Fellowship - it was the gathering two weeks ago in his home that got me thinking about him; his last day preaching at HCF was the next morning). Another item was the memorial dedication for Texas Ranger Stanley Keith Cuffley, who was killed during the rescue of a kidnap victim in Horseshoe Bay back in 1987. The City of Horseshoe Bay and the Former Texas Rangers Association will honor Ranger Cuffley's heroism by dedicating a memorial in front of the police station at 1 Community Drive (just off Hwy 2147, near Ferguson Road). The public is invited from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday (January 21) for the dedication (and I should have mentioned that last week).

A little earlier this Saturday, the Keep Kingsland Beautiful organization will be meeting at 10 a.m. in the Prosperity Bank parking lot to conduct a clean-up along their adopted stretch of Hwy 1431. If you'd like to help, please call Shelly Carpenter at 830-683-6833. Lunch will be provided by Mr. Grant's for the cleanup.

Valerie Sneed asked me to mention that the Art Journaling Workshop at her Calmity & Grace shop on the west side of the Llano square, from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday (January 21) Call 325-413-2162 to pre-register (or to get more details) by Saturday afternoon.

Now that the stock shows are over (both counties had great shows again this year), we're gearing up to "Chamber Banquet" season. Kingsland, Llano, Burnet and Marble Falls will hold banquets in quick succession between January 24 and February 25. Fortunately, they're on separate dates, unfortunately, Kingsland and Llano will have to be squeezed into the same week's paper. I won't get much else into the paper this week.

After the banquet season, the schedule starts looking more like spring, and I expect to be here every day overwhelmed again soon. I'm going to be putting the Kingsland chamber magazine together again this year, and I really hope to resume work (sometime soon) on my books about local history. But for now, I'm really enjoying this hibernation thing. I hope you are all having as good a week as I am!
Before and after: This picture of the Splash Boat Rentals addition was taken on January 9; the picture below was taken just ten days later. The addition, at the former site of Cuppin Surveying, will provide more office space as well as a showroom for new boat sales.

The photo above was taken last Thursday morning, as Marty Ousted and his crew at Marty's Concrete were waiting for a second truckload of concrete to finish the boat ramp at Kingsland Community Park. The photo below was taken on Wednesday morning; the much-needed new boat ramp will be open for business as soon as the lake is re-filled in February.

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Llano County Commissioner Mike Sandoval (Pct. #3) held a well-attended Open House and Town Hall meeting on Tuesday evening at his new office in the East Llano County Annex in Buchanan Dam (between the Highland Lakes United Methodist Church and Sam’s Nursery on Hwy 1431).

The lowered lake allowed for this picture of an upscale new home in Paradise Point, on Lake LBJ at the end of Camp Pajama Lane on the Burnet County side of Kingsland. Just a few courses down, four new lakeside homes are being constructed at the site of Larry and Susan Nyo’s former La J L Campground.

This construction site just west of Lookout Mountain in Kingsland is the future home of KT Waterfront Construction. It is being built by Schweiger Construction, of Kingsland.

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January 20, 2017 Highland Lakes Weekly Page 5
Royal Inks was one of the greatest leaders in Llano history. He served several terms as mayor, during which he made many improvements in the city's infrastructure and initiated many programs for the betterment and prosperity of the town. At the time of his sudden death in August of 1935, he was the owner of Llano’s Ford dealership and a member of the LCRA board. The high regard in which he was held led to the naming of a bridge, a dam, a lake and a state park in his honor within the next five years.

By JOHN HOLLOWELL

The shocking front-page headline in The Llano News on August 8, 1935, said “Deathstrikes Royal B. Inks.” The article elaborated, “Royal Baxter Inks, Llano’s outstanding public-spirited citizen whose invaluable services to the community will be missed greatly, passed away shortly after midnight last Sunday in a San Antonio hospital. At the time of his fatal illness, Mr. Inks had just completed another task in behalf of this section. As a member of the Llano River Authority and a long-time member of the board of directors, he was called to Washington for a meeting with government officials which resulted in authorization for the project. In that Washington trip, he arrived in Llano on Sunday night, July 28, an ill man. He would not, however, admit he was ill, but went about his business until Wednesday, when the pain was more than he could stand. Thursday evening he was carried to San Antonio where he underwent an operation for appendicitis. From this operation he never recovered, his strength having been further sapped by pneumonia, which he had before leaving Llano. He died August 4, five days shy of his 47th birthday.

According to the article, Royal Inks was born in Burnet County in 1888. He came to live with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Wilkinson, when he was very young, and attended Llano schools until he graduated from high school in 1909 (at age 14) and moved to Austin to take a job with a wholesale grocer Nelson Davis & Son. He traveled back and forth to Austin until the company opened an office in Llano. In 1915, he served in the military during World War I, then married Myrtle Moss in 1919. The couple had two children, Mildred and Thomas. Royal Inks served several terms as mayor of Llano, he took over management of the Watkins-Inks Motor Company in 1933.

Llano County was still recovering from the June 14 flood; a small news item reported that contractors had purchased 780 bags of cement and 5,000 feet of lumber from the Smart-Saver Lumber, according to manager A.R. Weiser. The driving of eight concrete pilings was expected to begin in a few days at the site of the new Pecan Creek Bridge.

County agent D.D. Starley reported that income from cotton in Llano County in 1934 was about $60,000, up from just $33,000 in 1933, but down from $70,000 in the banner year of 1933. Depression-era “relief” was winding down in 1935. Under the new Works Progress Administration (WPA) system, unskilled workers would have to work 130 hours per month to receive $21 in benefits; semi-skilled workers earning $30 per month, and skilled workers earning as much as $38. Distribution of surplus commodities would cease.

The City of Llano was in negotiation with a highway department engineer to serve as a sort of “grant-writer” to properly apply for WPA funds. Projects in Llano that could be eligible for funds were paving several city streets and installing curbs and gutters on Ford street to the city limits. Another project was a low-water bridge on the Llano River at Harvey’s Crossing, near Kingsland.

On August 15, the biggest headline announced that “People’s Company arrives to start work on dam — Buchanan Dam site draws some scene of activity early next week.” For the first three weeks, workers would concentrate on reinforcing the living quarters and on the completion of the “residence and preserva tion” bridge at the dam site. It was just in time for many unemployed workers in Llano, another headline said “Relief Office will close today.” But times were getting better in Llano; the price of hogs had risen to a new high at the San Antonio market, the chamber of commerce manager reported. The railroad was underway and “there is not an idle carpenter in town.”

The highway department was working on problems associated with building a higher bridge in Llano. Several property owners would be affected by the planned approaches, so at least two of them were cited for being a blockade. One would be “at the county jail,” and the other would be “in prisoner to the W.I. Hart residence.” An agent of the highway department was preparing a campaign to honor Royal Inks by renaming the new bridge after him. Will Collins was named as Inks’ replacement on the LCRA board.

The Haase Brothers were preparing to open a new dry goods store on the north side of Llano. They already owned “The Handy Store,” but had leased the adjoining building, rebuilding the facade and remodeling the interior to accommodate “a complete line of goods.”

The big news on August 22 was an agreement between the highway department, the city, the dry goods store, and the affected property owners which cleared the way to build the new (higher and larger) bridge on the same site as the old one. Other stories reported that the new (relocated) Highway 29 would be built from Llano to just below Buchanan Dam on the Colorado River, and that the cost of the bridge, which would include $150,000 for a modern bridge. The route from Burnet to the river had been surveyed, but the bridge had not yet been constructed; the Llano County section had not yet been surveyed.

The Limex Thresher was closed for two days so that employees of the Western Electric Company could install “a complete set of new sound equipment.” The story said “Harvester, Limex secondhand equipment, and the new modern one, are well provided with all the fidelity to tone and clarity possible in modern moving picture palaces.”

The Pecan Creek bridge was apparently still sound after the flood, but the railings had been destroyed and alarming signs which said “Condemned” and “Great at your own risk” had been installed warning tourists. The paper reported that many strangers were turning around and seeking advice at the Boulder service station. Repairs to the bridge were expected soon.

An editorial lamented the deaths of Will Rogers and Wiley Post, whose plane had crashed and warned of the dangers of Benito Mussolini’s aggression in Ethiopia.

Front-page story on August 29 listed a number of projects nearing completion, and several new prospects for the near future in Llano County. They were: paving and leveling the courthouse square building low-water crossings along the Llano River near Limex, graveling on Sandy Creek near Click, and on the Colorado River below Kingsland; building a downtown science center at the Kingsland School and turning the old school grounds, building a new stadium at the high school and adding on to the existing school buildings, moving the old town’s Post Office building, and extending the Llano-Jourdanton-Georgetown toll road to the northeast of the Masonic building to the school,” which would require “fill in and earth work.” Approximately $75,000 of WPA money was available for the projects.
A large crowd attended the Saturday evening Premium Sale at the Llano County Junior Livestock Show. The entire show was held inside the comfortable new John L. Kuykendall Event Center on RR 152, about two miles west of the Llano square.

Representatives of last year’s “Top Ten Buyers” posed for a picture at the beginning of the sale.

Llano’s own McKenzie Jones (left) opened the Premium Sale with a rousing rendition of the national anthem, and showmanship winners gathered for a group picture (right) as auctioneers prepared to start the bidding.
Exhibitors bring lambs into the arena for judging last Friday afternoon at the Llano County Junior Livestock Show. Temporary pens filled most of the JUL Event Center on Thursday and Friday before the room was re-arranged for the Premium Sale. The center is a huge improvement over the previous arrangements in the older and smaller Llano County Community Center across the road.

Jaden Nadreau and Lauren Lee hold two of Lauren’s rabbits before the judging on Thursday afternoon. The rabbits won Reserve Grand Champion honors in the show. Jaden’s market hog (not pictured) won Breed Champion.

Exhibitors hold their turkeys for judging on Thursday afternoon at the Llano County Junior Livestock Show.
Buyers posed with Grand Champion winners after their successful (and generous) bidding. From left: Slade Smathers showed the Grand Champion Heifer, Glancy Osborn the Grand Champion Market Hog, and Kennedy Woolan the Grand Champion Market Steer.

Makaela Lively showed the Grand Champion Meat Goat, and Juna Glasscock showed the Grand Champion Market Lamb.

Briley Crow showed the Grand Champion Pen of Broilers, Blake Dillard the Grand Champion Pen of Rabbits, and Peyton Riley Smith the Grand Champion Turkeys.
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**Event continued from page 3**

The R-Bar & Grill, behind the Up-town Theater in Marble Falls, will host a Mardi-Gras night from 3 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, January 28, for receive planning to enter this summer’s Soup Box Classic.

The Kingsland Lake LBJ Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Awards Banquet at Lighthouse Country Club on the evening of Saturday, January 28. Social hour begins at 5; dinner is served at 6:30.

Friends of Burnet Police Officer Matt Inman, who was badly hurt in an accident last week, are planning a benefit for him at Haley Nelson Park, from 6 to 11 p.m. on Saturday, January 28.

Country music stars Ray Benson and Dale Watson will be on stage with Full Band in Downtown Marble Falls at Boys Hall on Sunday, January 29. VIP and Table Reservations are Available, call (512) 201-4380 for tickets or details.

Artistic artists are invited to Paintings With Friends open at the JKL Event Center in Llano, from 6 to 9 p.m. on Sunday, January 30. Register online at paintingswithfriends.com

The Llano Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Awards Banquet at the JKL Event Center, beginning at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, January 31.

The Sexier Activity Center, located at Avenue L and 6th Street in Marble Falls, will host its annual Chili Meal from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, February 1.

Llano Trade Days (formerly Llano City Wide Garage Sale), but referring back to the community-wide trade day first begun on March 6, 1991): will be held in the John L. Kaye/Kayuell Event Center from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, February 4. Please contact Llano Main Street for more information at 252-2474/418. Booth forms and payment at the Llano Chamber of Commerce.

Boyler Scott & Whitlee will host its 7th Annual Fan Fare at Double F Pic on Saturday, February 4. Check-in begins at 9 a.m. the Ran start at 10.

Circle Your Wagons BBQ (226 W RR 152 in Llano) will host its annual Wine Tasting Extravaganza, with sakes, live music, arts & crafts vendors (and wine) from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, February 4.

A BBQ Dinner fundraiser to help pay travel expenses for the gymnastics team from Llano in the National Team Trials beginning at 6 p.m. on Sunday, February 5.

The team will be going to nationals competition at Madison, Wisconsin, next summer.

The Hill County Community Theatre will host an evening of karoke starting at 7:30 on Saturday, February 4, starring Randy “River” Hilmer, who has a killer sound system and tens of thousands of songs to choose from! Tickets are $10.00 and can be purchased at the door.

The Highland Lakes United Methodist Church (on Hwy 1431 in Buchanan Dam), will host at AARP Defensive Driving Course February 2 and 5, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday, February 6. Twenty-five places are available; call 325-388-417 for details and/or reservations (must insurance will be required giving discounts for taking this course).

Sims’ Travel time will host a Preview Party for this summer’s Alaska Cruise tour on Sunday, February 7, at Quail Point Lodge in Horseshoe Bay. Doors open at 5 p.m., and the program begins at 5:30 p.m.

The Texas Ovarian Cancer Hosts an Art Trek to San Antonio on February 9. Please sign up at www.txovarsociety.org before January 24. SOS will also hold its annual fundraiser for school programs and scholarships at Spicewood Vineyards, beginning at 8 a.m. on Saturday, February 18.

Join the journey will host a Safe & Drug-Free Wellness Fair at the RJ. Richey Elementary School Gym in Burnet from 2 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, February 9. For more information call 512-756-0124

Lighthouse Country Club will be hosting a dance party, featuring the music of Jamie Hicks, beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday, February 10. Everyone is invited.

A memorial plaque for Santiago Vega, who died recently in an accident on Hwy 71, will be dedicated by the Marble Falls Parks & Recreation at the city’s skate park at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, February 10, during a skate party sponsored there by Elevated Church.

Wednesday Ministries will be hosting a Women’s Retreat (Beginning at 8 a.m.) at the Sports Medicine and Physical Therapy clinic in Marble Falls (1104 Marble Heights Drive) from 10 to 3 on Saturday, February 11. Email wedministris@gmail.com for details.

The Court Apointed Special Advocates CASA for the Highland Lakes will host their annual Bovine BBQ Dinner at Quail Point Resort in Loonshoe Bay, beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 11.

The City Council and Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Awards Banquet at the Community Center on Jackson Street at 6 p.m. on Saturday, February 11.

The Building Envy will host their Afternoon Soirée at the YMCA in Burnet from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 11. For more information, contact Darlene Odom at 512-646-2863.

The second Winter Texas Dinner will be held at the Kingsland Community Center on Tuesday, February 14. Doors will open for a social hour beginning at 5 p.m. Dinner will begin at 6.

The Lambda Nu sorority will hold its annual tea party at the Kingsland Community Center on the afternoon of Thursday, February 16.

The Hill Country Community Theatre will present the drama “Rabbit Hole” for three weekends from February 18 through March 10.

The Phoenix Center will celebrate its 10th anniversary with a gala at Quail Point Resort in Horseshoe Bay, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 18.

The Marble Falls Lake LBJ Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Awards Banquet on the evening of Saturday, February 21.

The annual Walk-A- Dog-O-Rama will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Johnson Park in Marble Falls on Saturday, March 4. This year’s event will include a “Dingers for Dogs” co-ed softball tournament. Proceeds help save local rescue dogs.

Sterry LaRue will perform at Beans Fine Food in Marble Falls at 9 p.m. on Saturday, March 9.

The Hill Lake Art Fair, with its rock-stacking, live music and many other outdoor activities, will be held along the Llano River from March 10 to 13.

The third Winter Texan Dinner will be held at the Kingsland Community Center on Tuesday, March 14. Doors will open for a social hour beginning at 5 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6.


Landmark Productions and the globe Theatre (in Bertram) will host a special program with Jane Penedo, titled “The History of Country Music from Jimmie Rodgers to George Strait,” beginning at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 31, at the theater.
Clockwise from above: the interior of the back addition in the new Smartie Pants location, at Second and Main in Marble Falls; artist Dina Gregory gives a pastel demo at Marta Stafford Fine Art (across Main Street from Smartie Pants) last Saturday; construction is proceeding rapidly on the new Chick Fil-A restaurant in Marble Falls, located on Hwy 281N at the former site of Edgar Funeral Home.

The center of the new entrance at the Falls on the Colorado Museum in Marble Falls is filling up with commemorative bricks as supporters chip in to help with the expense of the construction, designed to make the museum safer, and to provide handicap access.

Photos by John Halford

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Help save Burnet's VFW!

Commander Bill Pietowski of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6074, is issuing an urgent appeal to all the citizens of Burnet (but especially military veterans) to help prevent the closing of the Post, established in 1963.

"On February 7, 2017, a vote will decide the fate of Post 6074. This vote could be the final chapter of a story that is over 50 years old. But we still have a chance to right this wrong. If we can find veterans who have served their country honorably in an overseas conflict, we can change this outcome. If you are interested in retaining the Post in Burnet, quality for VFW membership, and are willing to assist for one year, we need you at the VFW Post (located at 1402 W. Buchanan Dr. in Burnet) at 7 p.m. on February 7. Please bring a copy of your DD 214. The volunteers who step up can and will become part of this Post's rich history."

The VFW is a wonderful part of Burnet history, and could become (once again) a valuable asset in the community, providing benefits and camaraderie for returning heroes and reminding everyone of the brave men and women who have willingly put their lives on the line for our well-being. VFW members also add their special part to many local events; the community will benefit from the post's continued existence. If you'd like to join (or to help in any way), please call Bill Pietowski at 512-795-1600 for more details. Thank you!

Workers continue to make rapid progress on the new McDonald's restaurant in Burnet (same Hwy 281 location as before).

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T.G. Sheppard, a world-famous entertainer with 21 #1 hits to his credit, was the headliner at last Saturday’s Llano Country Opry. He was accompanied by the Texas Country Hall of Fame Band.

Mary Lou Turner, who gained fame performing with Bill Anderson in the 1970s, was another of the stars at Llano’s Country Opry last Saturday. Pictured with her are Opry band members Greg Langshening and Shane Lively.

Llano’s own Lee Harman delighted the Opry crowd with his performance as he introduced a very personal song, “Their Child.” The song, inspired by his adoptive parents, is now available on iTunes.
At left: Deputy Refuge Manager David Maple, from the Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge, spoke at Tuesday night’s meeting of the Lake Buchanan Conservation Corp. He described the purpose of the refuge, the day-to-day operations, and the attributes which have made the refuge a magnet for bird-watchers from all around the world.

Below left: the LCRRA and the LBCC are cooperating in a program to place artificial fish attractors in sixteen locations around the lake. Each location is marked with a buoy labeled “FISH ATTRACTION”, Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates will be listed on the TPWD website and on the LBCC website which is lakesbuchanancc.org.

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