The beautiful bluebonnets, which are popping up all around the Highland Lakes (the photo above was taken on Tuesday morning at the side of RR 2545 in Kingsland), are not the only sign that spring is here. Another evidence is the multitude of activities planned for the very near future! Liano’s Earth Art Festival is the big event this week, but that town will host an Art Studio Tour at the end of March and a Fiddle Fest weekend at the beginning of April. Burnet’s huge Bluebonnet Festival is planned for April 13-15. For more great activities in coming weeks, see “Upcoming Events” on page 2.
“The Amazing Walter” was just one of the impressive artists at the Llano Earth Art Festival (L.E.A.F.) last year. The annual event, scheduled for this weekend, features the World Rock-Stacking Championship and many other entertaining activities.

By JOHN HALLOWELL

Joel Salcido will be the featured author at the Marble Falls Public Library’s Booked for Lunch Program at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, March 9. He will discuss his book, The Spirit of Tequila; the program is free, but donations are welcome. Reservations are required and seating is limited. A light lunch will be provided. Please make your reservation in person at the library, or by calling (830) 693-3023.

Llano’s Earth Art Festival (L.E.A.F.), home of the World Rock-Stacking Championship, will be held on the weekend of March 9-12. All sorts of other activities will keep festival-goers entertained for the entire weekend. The Kingsland House of Arts and Crafts will host a “Sheets to Rugs” workshop from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 10. Call 512-217-7492 for details and reservations.

The Llano Country Opry will feature Ronnie McDowell in two shows (5:30 and 7:30 p.m.) on Saturday, March 10.

The Sunrise Beach CCAA will host a Concert in the Park, featuring the Dirty River Dixie Band from San Antonio, from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 11. In case of bad weather, the concert will be held at the SBR Civic Center.

The City of Marble Falls and Elevate Church will host a Spring Break Skatepark Contest at noon on Tuesday, March 13. The skatepark is located at Mabel and Yert Streets.

The Llano Library will host a Cowpoke Party featuring trick roper Kevin Fitzpatrick at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 13. There will be crafts, games, and chuck wagon grub.

The Kingsland Genealogical Society will take a look at “TexShare” — a valuable collection of research database materials — at their next meeting (2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 13) at the Kingsland Branch Library. Visitors are always welcome.

The Herman Brown Free Library (on the square in Burnet) will be celebrating the Sound of Science during Spring Break with a free program from 2:30 to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14. They will also be introducing their 2018 Summer Reading Program, “Libraries Rock.”

The Llano Library will host its 5th Annual Fancy Nancy Tea Party at 2:30 on Friday, March 16. Dress FANCY and join them for read-alouds, crafts, elegant refreshments, and finish with a dazzling style show. Pre-registration is required as space is limited. Please call the Llano Library at 325-247-5248 or email lancoountylibrary@yahoo.com to sign up.

The Friends of the Kingsland Library will host a Game Day at Highland Lakes United Methodist Church on Thursday, March 15 (see ad on page 11).

The Hill Country Community Theatre will hold a fundraising event, “Broadway Revue — Let’s Duet!” for two performances only: Friday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:30) and Sunday, March 18 at 2:15 p.m. (doors open at 1:15).

Texas Crossing will be opening for Bart Crow at Brass Hall on Saturday evening, March 17.

Kelly Ashton will be presenting the program “Layer Cakes, Turnovers and Jelly Rolls! Oh my!” at a meeting of the Highland Lakes Quilt Guild (9:30 a.m. on Wednesday March 21) at First United Methodist Church in Marble Falls. Guests are welcome. The following day, there will be an “Opposing Viewpoints” workshop. Call 830-637-7197 for details.

The Lambda Nu sorority will host a Tea Under the Sea party from 2 to 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 22, at the Kingsland Community Center. A hat contest and other activities will be included. Call 830-928-2344 for reservations or details.

(Continued on page 10)
I can’t say any more that I never win anything! Shift manager Steve Ortiz presented me with a new Kindle after my name was drawn during the 2nd Annual celebration at the new McDonald’s restaurant in Burnet. Thanks, McDonald’s! (I’m sure my kids can tell me how to use it.)

Scatterthought

Before I get sidetracked, I want to make a correction. The Marble Falls Senior Center holds dances on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month (not Fridays as I incorrectly stated a couple of weeks ago), and they invite any area seniors who would like to attend.

Now for the subject that has occupied my mind for most of the last few months: my book, “Lake LBJ and the Rebirth of Kingsland.” It turned out better than I had dared to expect, and so far reviews have been very positive. You can buy a copy for $12 at several places in Kingsland (the Chamber office, The Place Downtown, Buddies, Pinetree Salon, Kingsland Health & Fitness, the Antlers Hotel, Kingsland House of Arts and Crafts, Texas Building Center, and Lake Fun Designs), and I have one outlet each in Llano (Citizens & Grace), Burnet (The Napping Mouse) and Marble Falls (It’s All Goode). If you’d just like to “borrow” it, I have donated copies to the libraries in Kingsland, Buchanan Dam, Llano, Burnet and Marble Falls. I hope to get one to the libraries in Cottonwood Shores and Bertram this week.

My first book signing will be at The Place Downtown in Kingsland, from 11:30 to 1:30 next Monday (March 12). I’ll see how that goes before I schedule the next one, but Danny and Berenice Daggs have invited me to hold one at their “Napping Mouse” shop in Burnet during the Bluebonnet Festival. You all know how I hate to sit still when I could be getting some good pictures, but maybe that will work out. We’ll see.

Spring is a great time to be in Highland Lakes area, and there are a lot of activities planned for the next month or two. Many of them are listed in the “Upcoming Events” article (beginning on page 2), but there are quite a few I want to mention here.

Along with the amazing Llano Earth Art Festival (L.E.A.F.) this weekend, the Llano Country Opry will offer two shows (c.30 and 7:30) featuring country music entertainers Ronnie McDowell this Saturday. Tickets are on sale at www.heartofthebeas-county.com, or by calling (325) 247-5354.

The Kingsland Library is hosting award-winning author Steven W. Horn (from Cheyenne, Wyoming) for a free reading and discussion from 1 to 2 p.m. on Monday, March 12.

The Llano Library is offering several children’s programs during Spring Break. Trick Repair Kevin Fitzpatrick, an old friend of mine from Bandera, will star in a Cowpokes Party at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 13; there will be crafts, games, and chuck wagon grub, so all young cowpoke wannabes should put on their cowboy duds and come on down! The City of Marble Falls and Elevate Church will host a Spring Break Skatepark Contest at noon that same day. The skatepark is located at Main and Yet Streets.

Highland Lakes United Methodist Church will host the next Mobile Food Pantry distribution on Wednesday, March 14, from 10 to 11 a.m. Volunteers are invited to be available from 9:30 to 11:30; any who would like to help are welcome. The church is located on RR 1431 in Buchanan Dam. Back at the Llano Library, the 30th Annual Fancy Tea Party will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, March 16. Dress FANCY and join the crowd for read-a-longs, crafts, elegant refreshments, and a dazzling style show. Pre-registration is required as space is limited. Please call the Llano Library at 325-247-5248 or email llanoourcommunitylibrary@yahoo.com to sign up.

The Llano Fine Arts Guild will host an Art Party, featuring Pamela Hunter’s Bluebonnet Acrylic Painting, from 6 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, March 20. $30 admission covers supplies; bring wine, beer or your beverage of choice.

The Kingsland Chamber’s next Breakfast meeting will be held at Highland Lakes Tiny Homes (1100 Ranch Road 254) at 7:45 a.m. on Wednesday, March 21. The Event Sponsor is Sandra Gayton, of Operation Edify.

Burnet Middle School students will be holding another plant sale at the school’s

(Continued on page 12)
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A good crowd turned out for Lighthouse Country Club’s Blue/Grey golf tournament on Wednesday afternoon.

Golf course superintendent Jarrett Eledge, who was recently named Superintendent of the Year by the Central Texas Golf Course Superintendent’s Association, posed by one of “his” greens at Lighthouse Country Club with his plaque on Tuesday morning. He earned a degree in golf course landscape technology at Western Texas College in Snyder; he has worked at Lighthouse for six years.

Above: New signs at a Kingsland landmark! The familiar (formerly) Busby Marine buildings now house Kingsland Storage and Marshall Marine.

At left: well-known local musician Eric Thacker will provide live entertainment at the Winter Texan Dinner next Tuesday, to begin at 5 p.m. at the Kingsland Community Center.

Courtesy Photo
A good crowd attended the Open House and ribbon-cutting at The Place Downtown in Kingsland last Friday evening. The popular new restaurant/event venue is now open until 8 p.m. on weekdays.

The famous Beaches lawn-chair drill team, from Sunrise Beach, helped students and teachers at Packsaddle Elementary School with their Texas Independence Day celebration last Friday.

Ed Mampel and Marsha Stark (seated) were crowned Valentine King and Queen during the Friday luncheon at Windwood Apartments on February 23. Wanda Isbell (standing) and Ed Mampel won the wine-glass door prizes at the cheerful event.
The soon-to-be Boat Town complex, at the former Longhorn Resort site on the north end of the 2900 bridge in Kingsland, continues to take shape as construction workers make steady progress.

Another big construction site in Kingsland is the former El Rio location, at the east end of the 1431 bridge. It will soon house an upscale store, office and bar, accessible from land or water.

This new home, on River Oaks Drive near Lighthouse Country Club, is one of many currently under construction in Kingsland.
The Lake Buchanan/Inks Lake Chamber of Commerce hosted a well-attended and very-entertaining Las Vegas Night last Saturday at Hill Country Hall in Buchanan Dam. Local VIPs served as dealers at gaming tables, and the evening included BBQ (from Spyke's), live and silent auctions, and a drawing for a 55" Samsung TV.

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Wednesday: Bible Study (7 p.m.)

OTHER ACTIVITIES
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Wednesday: Ladies Bible Class (10 a.m.)
Men's Prayer Fellowship - Second Saturday each Month (9 a.m.)
FREE World-Wide Bible Correspondence Program
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The Heart of Texas Country Music Association's
29th Annual
HEART OF TEXAS COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL
MARCH 16TH-24TH, 2018
BRADY, TX

Johnny Rush
T. Graham Brown
David Frizzell
Dong Supernaw
Darrell McCall
Tony Booth
Arthur Digby
Justin Truono

Neville, Jan. John, Mike, John Hoke, Bobby Ferson, Randy Dodd, Mon McColl
Mary Lou Turner, Dottie, Rance Norton, Dallas Wayne, Vic Murray, Frankie Miller
Tommy Houten, Ashley Rose, Chuck Hancock, Tommy Hoke, Kaye Talsen

For Tickets and Info Call
325-597-1895
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Members of the Lake Area Rods and Classics brought their cars to the “Friday Night Fever” event at Hwy 281 Food Court in Marble Falls last Friday.

Master Gardeners waited on customers at the Burnet Middle School Plant Sale on Tuesday. There will be another Plant Sale at the middle school greenhouse (across from the baseball fields) on March 22. The Kingsland Garden Club will have a Plant Sale of its own at the Kingsland Community Center, in conjunction with the Kingsland Lions Club’s Pancake Breakfast on March 31.

Robert Linder taught a class of prospective Turkey Callers at Rods, Barrels and Strings in Marble Falls last Saturday. The Wild Turkey Federation will be holding its annual banquet at the Lakeside Pavilion this Friday evening.

Co-owner Kathy Payson posed with Master Naturalists Holli Beckwith, Billy Hutson and Ray Buchanan at Numinous Coffee Roasters in Marble Falls after a “Taste of Nature” program there by the Upper Highland Lakes Nature Center last Saturday.

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Special Presentation at 10:00am:
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Last Saturday’s Walk-a-Dog-a-Thon attracted a crowd of dogs (and good-hearted owners) to Westside Park in Marble Falls to raise funds for the Highland Lakes SPCA.

One of the recent innovations at the Walk-a-Dog-a-Thon was a “Dog Fetching Contest.” In the photo above, an eager participant watches the frisbee with great anticipation.
EVENTS:
(Continued from page 2)

The 20th Annual Hill Country Lawn & Garden Show will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 24, at the Burnet Community Center.

The Llano County Lawn & Garden Show will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. the same Saturday, at Latie Watkins Memorial United Methodist Church in Llano.

The Kingsland Beautification Golf Tournament will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 24, at The Legends golf course. Proceeds will benefit the Kingsland Community Park.

The Llano Uplift Archeological Society will hold its annual Archaeology Fair from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 24, at the Nightingale Archaeological Center, off Hwy 1431, just east of Kingsland.

At the same time, the Hill Country Children’s Advocacy Center will host its always-popular Designer Purse Bingo event at Horsehoe Bay Resort.

The Highland Lakes VFW Post 6974, on Hwy 29 in Burnet, will host a Spring Fling Dance from 7 to 11 p.m. on Saturday, March 24. Tickets are $5 each; BYOB.

The Llano County Historical Museum will present a new exhibit called “In Your Easter Bonnet,” a vintage hat exhibit and fashion show, at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 25. Tickets to the opening exhibit and fashion show are $20 for adults, $10 for children under 12, and may be purchased at the museum or by calling 325-423-2581. The vintage hat show will be on display until the end of April.

The Young Life Banquet will be held at the Highland Lakes United Methodist Church in Buchanan Dam at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 26.

Burnet’s Main Street Bethlehem site will be the venue for an Easter Journey, from 6 to 9 p.m. on Good Friday, March 30. Visitors can witness a dramatization of Christ’s crucifixion in the “ancient” town.

The Kingsland Lions Charities will host a Pancake Breakfast at the Kingsland Community Center from 7 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 31. The Kingsland Garden Club will hold its annual Plant Sale fundraiser there at the same time.

The Llano Art Studio Tour (LAST), headquartered at the Llano Fine Arts Gallery, will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 31 (see ad on page 12).

Genesis Lutheran (on Hwy 29 in Buchanan Dam) will host a big Easter Egg Hunt at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 31 (see on page 10).

The Llano Fiddler Festival weekend will be held April 6-8.

The Highland Lakes Young Life Clay Shoot will be held at Copperhead Creek Shooting Club, on Hwy 1431 east of Marble Falls, from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 7.

Author Melissa Lenhardt will discuss her Sawbones female westerns and her Jack McBride small-town Texas mysteries in another Coffee Talks event at the Herman Brown Free Library at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 12.

The Friends of the NRA will hold their annual fundraiser beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 12, at the Lakeside Pavilion in Marble Falls.

Barnet will hold its 35th Annual Bluebonnet Festival on the 2nd weekend in April, beginning on Friday, April 13, and continuing until Sunday, April 15.

The Llano VFD will hold its annual fundraiser Fish Fry and BBQ on Saturday, April 14, from 4 p.m. until the food runs out.

The Highland Lakes Squadron of the Commemorative Air Force will host its Open Hangar Day from 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 28, at the Burnet Airport.

The Buchanan Dam Volunteer Fire Department will hold its Annual Fish Fry beginning at 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 28, at the Red Barn in Buchanan Dam. It will follow a Washer and Horse-shoe Tournament, starting at 2 p.m. For more information call: 830-226-1954 or 325-248-1781.
Above: Preparations are well underway at Grenwelge Park for this weekend’s amazing Llano Earth Art Festival (L.E.A.F.)

At right: Laurie and Jim Halfpenny, both veterans of the entertainment industry, are the new owners of the historic Uptown Theater in Marble Falls. They have re-named the old theater “Uptown Art Center,” and plan to offer a variety of activities there, including modern and classic movies, live music and local theatrical productions.

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Friends of the Kingsland Library

Game Day

Mahjong, Party Bridge, Dominoes, Pokeno, Canasta and more, plus Door Prizes, Raffles & Lunch

*** Tickets—$20.00 ***

Thursday, March 15, 2018
Highland Lakes United Methodist Church
(8303 RR 1431, Buchanan Dam, TX)

*Doors Open at 9:30 a.m./Games from 10:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.

Call 832-689-3340 to purchase tickets
SCATTERTHOUGHT:
(Continued from page 3)

greenhouse, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 22. The Kingsland Garden Club will be hosting its annual Plant Sale fundraiser in conjunction with the Lions Club Pancake Breakfast on March 31 at the Kingsland Community Center. (Funds raised by the plant sale benefit local causes: planting trees, supplying books for the library, etc.)

A Multi-County Wildlife Field Day will be held at the Doss Community Center, on RR 783 North, in Doss, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on April 5. This program is a joint effort between the Texas AgriLife Extension offices in five area counties (including Llano). RSVP deadline is Thursday, March 29; call 325-247-5159 for details or reservations.

An AARP “Smart Driver” course will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. on Monday, April 9, at the Tow Community Center. Registration is $15 for AARP members and $20 for non-members; you may obtain a discount on your automobile insurance upon completion of the course. To Register call 307-343-3454 (preferably in the evening).

The Burnet County Friends of NRA plans to hold a banquet on April 12, 2018. Tickets may be purchased at Rods, Barrels & Strings, at 1300 N. Hwy 281 in Marble Falls. The event will feature a steak dinner, live auctions (including a Big Game Hunt in Texas, lots of firearms, the Wall of Guns, etc.)

The Sunrise Beach Volunteer Fire Department will host its annual golf tournament on April 14, 2018 at the Lighthouse Country Club in Kingsland. Players and sponsors are needed; for information, contact Syb Henson (sybh@sbvlfx.org, 512-470-6179) or Bill Duly (bilda@sbvlfx.org, 512-956-8569).

Applications are now being taken for the next CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) class, sponsored by the Burnet County Office of Emergency Management. This training is free of charge, and covers Disaster Preparedness, Fire Suppression, Medical Operations, Light Search & Rescue, Psychology & Team Organization. It will be conducted over a 7-week period (usually from 7-10 p.m. on Thursdays, the location to be determined). Your only commitment is approximately 26 hours of your time.

Contact Jim Barho (Burnet County Emergency Management Coordinator) at jimbarho@gmail.com, or Jim Gallagher (CERT Training Officer) at jgalagher45@yahoo.com, or visit www.burnetcountycert.org for more details.
Music around the Lakes

Brian Pounds, an Austin musician who has appeared on NBC’s “The Voice,” and was recently named as a finalist at the Kerrville New Folk contest, performed last Saturday night at the Uptown Art Center in Marble Falls.

The Sam Williams Band attracted an enthusiastic crowd to Brass Hall in Marble Falls last Friday night.

Country music entertainer Ronnie McDowell, from Hendersonville, Tennessee, will headline the Llano Country Opry this Saturday.

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Kingsland Lions Charities, Inc. Semi Annual Pancake Breakfast Saturday, March 31, 2018 7AM – 11AM Kingsland Convention & Community Center 3451 Rose Hill Drive, Kingsland, TX 78639

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Thank you for reading the Highland Lakes Weekly!
Downtown Marble Falls was filled with cheerful vendors and shoppers for Main Street Market Day last Saturday. In the Custom Creations shop (at 513 Main, above), Dave and Teresa Carosella showed off a state-of-the-art computerized embroidery machine that they use for their "Art in Thread" division (see ad on page 6). In other photos, outdoor booths lined three blocks of Main Street, attracting a steady stream of customers to the historic downtown area of Marble Falls.

Photos by John Hallowell

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