This historic boat, custom-built for President Lyndon Johnson by the Glastron Boat Company in 1965, is back on “Lyndon’s Lake” after a nearly-half-century sabbatical! It was purchased last year (via Craigslist) and restored to better-than-new condition by Lee and Gay Gaddis, of Austin and Burnet (the restoration work was done by LBJ Marineland, in Kingsland). The boat made its first post-restoration voyage last weekend; you can see more photos on page 7 (and many more on our Facebook page).
Hill Country Space Expo
Thursday September 13th and Friday 14th, for school groups *
Saturday 10am, for the Public
The Boys & Girls Club of the Highland Lakes Marble Falls Unit
1701 Broadway Street, Marble Falls, TX

Hours: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am to 3:30 pm
Free Admission & Parking!

Activities for all ages: including hands on model building and flight simulators!
Exhibitors include: The Space Station Museum Navojo, CA, Hill Country Science Mill, HobbyTown USA and many more!
* To set up a time slot for your school group call:
www.weyfordfamilyfoundation.org 713-419-7062 or 512-755-3250

Upcoming Events
This North American B-25 Mitchell, the Yellow Rose, was one of the attractions at last year’s Bluebonnet Air Show. This year’s air show is scheduled for Saturday (September 8).

By JOHN HALLLOWELL
Austin American-Statesman writer Michael Barnes will be the featured speaker at the Marble Falls Library’s free Booked for Lunch program, beginning at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, September 7. Reserve your spot online or at the library, or by calling 830-693-3023.
The Bluebonnet Air Show, sponsored by the Highland Lakes Squadron of the Commemorative Air Force, will be held at the Burnet airport from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 8. Many vintage planes will be on display at the museum and throughout the grounds. A variety of food and merchandise vendors will be there as well. Air Show performances will also start around noon and will finish around 4:00 p.m.
The Highland Lakes Family Crisis Center will host its 35th Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, September 8.
The Torr Na Lochs winery will celebrate its 3rd Anniversary from 1 to 6 p.m. this Saturday (September 8). Food vendors include Hecho en Queso, Tommy’s Mesquite Flamed PIZZA, and Sugar Mamas Cookies. John Arthur Martinez will provide live music at the event.
The Llano Country Opry will feature a “Hank & Patsy” Tribute Show, with Jake Penrod & Bridgette Huffman, in two shows (2:30 & 7:30 p.m.) at the Llano Classic Theater in Llano on Saturday, September 8.
Llano will host its annual Wild Game Dinner, to benefit Llano County’s 4-H and FFA, from 6 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, September 8, at the JLG Event Center on RR 152. In addition to exotic fare, there will be live music, auction and raffles.
The Spicewood VFD-EMS annual Destruction Derby will be held at 6 p.m. on Saturday, September 8.
The Holy Trinity Catholic Church will host its annual “Chicken Dinner” fundraiser from 11:30 to 1 on Sunday, September 9.
The Llano Fine Art Guild will hold its monthly demo (Egg Tempera Painting, by Janet Pedersen) at 10 a.m. on Monday, September 10. The demo cost is $5 and includes a potluck lunch at noon.
Barry Selman will hold a Watercolor Workshop at the Llano Fine Art Gallery from 9 to 3 on Tuesday, September 11. No Experience Necessary; the cost is $65.
The five-story-high ReMax hot air balloon will be at the Kingsland Community Center for a free educational program (geared mainly toward elementary school children) on the morning of Wednesday, September 12 (weather permitting). Call 325-388-3905 for details.
The Master Gardener Green Thumb program offers a FREE gardening talk (“Art and Architecture Inspired by Plants”) by Allison Bennett at noon on Wednesday, September 12, at the Kingsland Library.
The Weyford Foundation’s annual Hill Country Space Expo will be held from Thursday to Saturday, September 13-15, at the Boys & Girls Club in Marble Falls. Exhibits will be open to schoolchildren on Thursday and Friday, then to the public from 9 to 3:30 on Saturday. See authentic artifacts, experience interactive displays and meet an actual astronaut.
The YMCA will host the annual Burnet’s Kids Day Out from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 15. It will be a FREE day of fun for the kids; all you have to do is bring a canned food item. Hot dogs, fishing, face painting, archery and canoeing are just a few of the attractions.
The Lake Buchanan Sailing Club will host the 2018 Lake Buchanan Regatta, beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 15, at Catamaran Beach and the Llano County Park. Call 512-663-6568 for more details.
The Herman Brown Free Library, on (Continued on page 10)
Scatterthought

Without any disrespect at all for Bertram’s wonderful Oatmeal Festival (see pages 8 & 9), I have to say that this week’s (and possibly this year’s) biggest adventure was a ride in the boat you have already seen on the front page of this week’s paper. It’s a great story, and I hope to tell it in much more detail in the near future (this week’s coverage will more likely be in pictures, and I want to mention here that there are quite a few more pictures on the “Highland Lakes Weekly” Facebook page).

I do want to explain a little of the background here. I chose a picture of President Johnson in that boat for the back cover of my book, “Lake LBJ and the Re-Birth of Kingsland.” To me, it represented the way things were in the 1960s and illustrated the major impact that President Johnson had on Kingsland’s history. I had no idea that I would ever get to ride in that very same boat.

It turns out that Lee and Gay Gaddis had been looking for a “classic” boat. Lee found an ad on Craigslist last fall that said “LBJ’s boat needs to go back on Lake LBJ.” Both their families had numerous ties to the Johnson family. Lee’s grandmother, Florence Mahlekerer (now a champion for the rights of Mexican Americans), helped shape LBJ’s attitudes on social issues while he was teaching school in Cotulla in 1928. Through the years, there were numerous and varied “connections” which made the idea of restoring LBJ’s boat a very exciting one to the couple, who run a business in Austin but spend quite a bit of time at their ranch in Burnet. After carefully verifying the boat’s history, they bought it; Rick Har- ley, of Lake LBJ Marina, agreed to restore the long-neglected boat.

By happy chance, Mrs. Gaddis was shopping at The Napping Mouse (just off the square on S. Main Street) when she noticed the book. She was delighted to see her boat on the back cover, and called to invite me to go for a ride in it!

This job has provided so many pleasant surprises that I can’t begin to keep track of them. This one, I think I’ll remember vividly for the rest of my life. As soon as I can put together a coherent, detailed story, I will definitely share it with you.

Having said all that, I want to reiterate that I had a wonderful weekend! The Oatmeal Festival was great, there were record crowds at the Lions Club Pancake Breakfast and the LBCC Fish Fry on Saturday, I had chances to visit with friends, talk to my kids on the phone, play ping-pong for an hour or two, and just marvel at the blessings in my life.

Unfortunately, my brain couldn’t handle all the excitement. By Tuesday, I was wandering around in a fog, and the fog seems to have lasted through Wednesday’s “deadline day.” I want to apologize in advance for any mistakes in this week’s paper AND for any stupid things I might say while making my deliveries on Thursday and Friday. Heat, sleep deprivation and a lot of activity just don’t seem to be a good mix for me.

Speaking of heat, I am very grateful for the rain we’ve had! Forecasts indicate that we’ll get some more over the next few days, and I’ll be grateful for that, too (especially if it doesn’t affect the outdoor activities that have been planned).

Some of those activities won’t be possible in the rain. The Air Show this Saturday, the Re:Max Balloon program next Wednesday and others may have to be postponed. The rain should clear by the time of the Hoover Valley VFD’s Golf Tournament (noon on Saturday, September 15), but the registration deadline is this Friday (September 7); call 325-388-4888 right away if you’d like to participate.

The Kingsland 4-H Club is holding a “by donation” fundraiser car wash from 9 to noon that Saturday at 2450 RR 1431 in Kingsland (near the RR 2545 intersection).

The Highland Lakes Bible and Wildflower Society has a new home at the Texas A&M Agri-Life Extension Offices in Burnet (607 N. Van deveer), HLBS meets the first Thursday of the month. There’s a bird walk at 8:15 a.m., behind the YMCA, social time at 9:30 a.m. and the meeting at 10.

http://keiser.c21.com

Kings Fellowship
We meet every Sunday morning (10:00) at Computer Help in Kingsland (2703 Hwy 1431) for Prayer, Worship and Sharing the Word. We pray for people's needs. Need help? Need support through this struggle? We welcome you!
The Kingsland Lions Club’s Pancake Breakfast attracted a record crowd to the Kingsland Community Center last Saturday morning. The event included live music and free eye screenings for children.

Above: The Hill Country Blenders gathered for a group picture after taking their turn on stage at Saturday morning’s Pancake Breakfast. They are always looking for men who enjoy singing to add to their group!

At left: Whynte West and her mother, Charlotte, were two of the many cheerful Lions Club volunteers who served breakfast to the crowd at the charity event.
Members of the well-known Lake Area Rods & Classics car club, whose unique vehicles can be seen at community events all around the Highland Lakes area, presented a check for $1,000 to the Kingsland Library on Wednesday morning, to help with children’s programs. Another presentation, to the Kingsland Boys & Girls Club, is planned for 4:30 p.m. on Friday.

The Kingsland House of Arts & Crafts held a Community Garage Sale on Saturday morning. Regular business hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday through Monday.

Teacher Mary Keelan, of KeelanMusik in Kingsland, led a light-hearted discussion of her students’ musical goals for the coming year at a “Fall Kickoff” session for students & guests on Tuesday afternoon.
VFW Post 6974, located on Hwy 29 West in Burnet, formed a new Auxiliary with 19 charter members in a special National VFW Auxiliary ceremony on Wednesday evening. District 14 President Delores Miller performed the “ceremony of Institution,” which was followed by a reception. Kat Carter is president of the new Auxiliary; Sandi Holt and Crystal Morgan are vice-presidents, and Brenda Goble is treasurer.
Old-timers around Lake LBJ might do a double-take the first time they see Lee and Gay Gaddis taking a ride on Lake LBJ. Lyndon and Lady Bird Johnson were often seen in this very same Glastron boat during the 1960s.

The families of both Gay and Lee Gaddis had ties with the Johnson family fifty years ago in Austin, a connection that made them even more eager to restore this historic Glastron boat when they saw it advertised for sale on Craigslist.

The historic boat, custom-built for President Johnson in 1965, was beautifully restored over the past several months at Lake LBJ Marina in Kingsland, under the direction of owner Rick Hartley.
The Oatmeal Festival

Above: A good crowd gathered at the Oatmeal Community Center last Friday evening for a delicious BBQ dinner, live music, a cake auction and the annual Oatmeal Pageant. Festivities moved to Bertram on Saturday morning, with a Trail Ride from Oatmeal and a 3.3 Mile “Run For Your Oats” race at 8:03 a.m.

More than 200 runners (a new festival record) participated in last Saturday’s “Run For Your Oats” in downtown Bertram.

“Champion Oatmeal Chef” Jolene, a familiar figure in Pet Parades around the Highland Lakes, overcame some stiff competition to win the title “Best Dressed Pet” in the Oatmeal Festival Pet Parade on Vaughan Street in Bertram on Saturday morning.

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Oatmeal Royalty: Winners in the Oatmeal Pageant on Saturday night gathered for a group photo at the end of the pageant. Brielle Luedecke, a senior at Burnet High School, was crowned queen.

Grand Marshall Lillie Fay Hopkins rode in this classic Pontiac Bonneville convertible in the Oatmeal Festival’s Grand Parade on Saturday.

Other colorful participants in the Grand Parade included the Bertram American Legion and Kingsland’s Aqua Boom Royalty.

The Genesis Project

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At right: The Bluebonnet Pickers provided quality live entertainment in the gazebo at Johnnie Mae Wheeler Park after the Oatmeal Festival’s Grand Parade on Saturday. The beautifully-landscaped little park is located under the water tower in the heart of downtown Bertram.

The Hill Country Community Band was one of three musical groups who entertained diners at the Kingsland Lions Club’s big Pancake Breakfast fundraiser, held last Saturday morning at the Kingsland Community Center.

Above: Well-known “Trop Rock” musician Jerry Diaz (accompanied by Howard McMichael on the drums) headlined the Labor Day Music Fest at Vineyard B&B last Saturday. At right: Popular local duo Courtney Reed and Charly Sardo opened for Jerry Diaz at Vineyard B&B (located on RR 2233 near Sunrise Beach) on Saturday afternoon.
Music around the Lakes

Above: The “Abba Re-Visited” band, from Canada, entertained a large crowd at the Horseshoe Bay Yacht Club on Sunday night with a selection of classic hits from the original Swedish band.

At left: Popular Texas singer Gary P. Nunn drew a good crowd for a concert at the Uptown Art Center in Marble Falls on Saturday night.

Below: Three excellent bands performed at the Globe Theatre during the afternoon of Bertram’s wonderful Oatmeal Festival on Saturday. Pictured here is Kevin Fox and Duco Coupe; they were followed by Big Anton and the Alley Cats, and Teasy Lou and the Shotgun Stars.

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Above: A record crowd attended the Lake Buchanan Conservation Corp’s Fish Fry last Saturday evening. At left: Residents prepared for a Luau at Granite Mesa Healthcare in Marble Falls last Thursday. The event is one of the regular activities scheduled there.

Extensive street construction is transforming two area towns. The photo at left is from Phillips Ranch Road, one of the major streets under construction in Granite Shoals; streets all over the city of Llano are also under construction.

Pet of the Week

Meet Spartan! Spartan is a 2-year-old Cattle Dog. He is a very sweet boy. He loves to go outside and play, and will be just as happy to come back inside and cuddle with you. He is an expert hug-giver and loves to have his belly scratched.

To meet Spartan, please call HCHS at 512-793-5463. To see all Spartan’s friends, please visit www.HillCountryHumaneSociety.com. We are open Thursday through Monday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Llano Country Opry
Saturday, September 8
HANK & PATSY
Two Hour Stage Show On
The Life And Music of Hank Williams & Patsy Cline

2:30 PM & 7:30 PM - $15
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