The third time was the charm! The Spicewood VFD and EMS was finally able to hold its huge Destruction Derby last Saturday after rain had forced postponement the previous two weekends. Hundreds of enthusiastic fans crowded into the muddy fields behind the fire station on Hwy 71 to watch the action. More photos can be seen on page 9, and many more have been posted in the Highland Lakes Weekly’s “Saturday” album on Facebook.
Upcoming Events

Thomas the Tank Engine will be in Burnet this weekend for another big “Day Out With Thomas.” All kinds of related activities will be held around the depot and community center.

By JOHN HALLOWELL

The Hill Country Community Theatre will present the hilarious musical comedy, “Don’t Hug Me, I’m Pregnant,” for two more weekends through October 7 (see ad on page 12). Thursday, Friday and Saturday shows are at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday matinees are at 2:15.

The Kingsland Community Church will hold its huge annual Rummage & Bake Sale on Friday and Saturday, September 28 & 29.

The Lace, Grace & Gears women’s motorcycle club will hold a huge rally at the JLK Event Center in Llano this weekend (September 28-30).

The Place Downtown will host another Painting with Friends for a Cause event from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday, September 28, to benefit Operation Exfil.

Another Day Out with Thomas event will be held from Friday through Sunday, September 28-30, at the Burnet Community Center on Jackson Street. Kids can get a train ride, meet Thomas the Tank Engine and Sir Topham Hatt, or enjoy storytelling, live music, building with Lego Duplo Bricks and much more!

Marble Falls will host its Market Day on Main from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, September 29.

Elevate Church will host a Sunday Sk8 Day at the skate park in Marble Falls from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, September 30. There will be lots of giveaways, BBQ, live music, barrel train for the kids — free to all.

The Open Door Recovery House golf tournament will be held beginning at 1 p.m. on Sunday, September 30, at the Shick Rock golf course in Honesby Bay. The Highland Lakes Social Club will meet at 11 a.m. on Monday, October 1, at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center in Kingsland. Randy Hurst will speak on Pumpkin Carving, and a catered lunch will follow. For details, call 325-423-2581.

Joe Holley, author of “Hometown Texas,” will be the featured speaker at the Marble Falls Library, beginning at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, October 5.

Michael Martin Murphy will perform at the Uptown Art Center in Marble Falls from 7 to 9 on Friday, October 5.

The Marble Falls Kiwanis Club will host its 75th Annual Main Street Car Show from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 6.

The Llano Art Guild will host its Artisterfest fundraiser at 6 p.m. on Saturday, October 6, at the Dabbs Hotel. The event will feature food, music, silent auction and art sale (see ad on page 13).

The First Lutheran Church in Burnet will host its annual Sausage Fest (eat in or take out) from 11 to 2 on Monday, October 8.

Master Gardner Alice Liles will speak on “A Cactus Primer: Care and Handling of Six Species of Texas Cacti,” at noon on Wednesday, October 10, at the Kingsland Library. Cuttings and potted specimens will be available.

Author David Mosley will be the featured speaker at the Hermann Brown Free Library’s “Coffee Talks,” beginning at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 11 (on the square in Burnet).

Singer/Songwriter Alex Harvey will perform at “The Heart of the Art in Song” at The Buda 1891 restaurant in Llano from 7 to 10 p.m. on Thursday, October 11. He will perform songs he was inspired to compose after seeing art pieces by local artist Daniel Adams, and the two will unveil a book with the art pieces and the songs on facing pages.

St. John Parish’s Alexander Center in Marble Falls will host a dinner and dance (with Austin band Buzz & the Blue Cats) beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday, October 12. Teens age 15 or older are welcome. For more information contact

(Continued on page 10)
This is my hometown of Kingsland, as seen on a misty morning last week from the overlook on Park Road 4 near Longhorn Caverns. I’ve been invited to give a talk about Kingsland history (and my book, “Lake LBJ and the Re-Birth of Kingsland”) at the Kingsland Library from 2 to 3 next Tuesday (October 2). I’ll try not to talk too long (and they will be serving refreshments). I’ll hope to see some of you there!

Scatterthought
By JOHN HALLOWELL

I don’t often get to Spicewood any more; I found myself quite over-extended in the early days of this paper, and it didn’t seem that many in Spicewood were reading the Highland Lakes Weekly. I would go to Spicewood Vineyards for the excellent music at the Spicewood Arts Society events, but not much else.

This week, however, I’ve been to Spicewood three times, and I’m already making plans to go again. First of all, the SAS chose Jennifer B and the Groove as their featured music this past Friday. I had been to a couple of their concerts before, and was impressed by the music (Jennifer sounds quite a bit like Janis Joplin to me). I had a short conversation with her once at “On the Rocks” in Cottonwood Shores, and got an autographed CD from her. I really appreciated her friendliness and the respect that she showed for my little paper.

I’m going to interrupt myself right here and emphasize that I know the Highland Lakes Weekly is not a “real” newspaper. I don’t cover crime, politics, accidents, tragedies, etc., partly because I know that all the “real” papers do that, and partly because I like good news. I tell everyone who will listen that I don’t have enough space for all the good news in the Highland Lakes area, and I surely don’t want to waste it on bad news! That, combined with the fact that I can’t really do as much as a fully-staffed operation, causes some people to undervalue what I do (in my not-so-humble opinion, that is). I appreciate it when people appreciate my paper.

Anyway, I knew I had to go to that concert, even though there was going to be a very successful event (see pages 1 and 9). Then, on Monday, I got a call from Tom Serina, who wanted to place a classified ad.

Well, we started talking, and I knew right away that I had to go back to Spicewood. I had a very good visit with Tom and his wife, Carrie (see page 10) on Tuesday, and made my trip even more productive by taking pictures at Greble Recreation Area and Krause Springs on the way home (you can see them in my “Spicewood” album on Facebook).

When I got home, there was an email waiting for me from Susie Fowler. Susie is an amazingly gifted pottier who lives in Spicewood and has just completed a large-scale project (and a lot of priceless art) was destroyed by the big fire there in 2012. I had done an interview with her back in my Texas Hill Country magazine days, and I guess I’m still on her email list. Well, she is going to be having a show for the property where she used to live (on the south side of Hwy 71 just before the Pedernales River bridge). It will be from 10-5 on Saturday and Sunday, October 13 & 14. I think I can make it on Sunday afternoon.

Before I forget, I have a few “business” items to mention. First, well-known DJ Wayne Gaffit, formerly of Pardners, will be providing his quality selection of music (classic country, waltzes, polkas, rock & roll, etc.) at the VFW Hall in Burnet beginning at 5 p.m. every Friday (beginning this Friday, September 28). A $5 cover charge gets you an evening of dancing entertainment, beer and wine are available and you can’t be disappointed.

The Burnet Farmers and Crafts Market will be holding a Master Gardener Plant Sale every Saturday until all the plants are sold. The Market is open from 9 to 1 every Saturday until November 17. Llano County’s Bulk Collection will be held from 8 to noon NEXT Saturday (October 6) at the East Llano County Annex. Burnet County’s 50th Anniversary Celebration will be held from 9 to 1 the following Saturday (October 13) at the County Fairgrounds in Burnet.

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Above: Six of the Stonehill 4-H's already-exceptional shooters got some advanced training during a special session at the Kingsland Community Center last Sunday.

At left: Coaches Hannah Muegge (formerly of the University of Texas at El Paso) and Guy Taylor (Burnet County 4-H) posed for this photo during he Sunday session at the Kingsland Community Center.

Young shooters came from all around Texas to compete in the TSRA 3p Outdoor State Championship, held at Copperhead Creek in Marble Falls. The young man in blue is Braden Peiser of San Angelo, a shooting superstar who recently represented the U.S. at an international competition in South Korea.

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Recent rains, especially to our west, swelled the Llano River and flooded the Kingsland Slab last weekend. This photo was taken on Sunday afternoon; the water went down slowly but steadily for the next three days, and the Slab was open for traffic again on Wednesday morning.

Author/musician/TV historian W.C. Jameson was the featured speaker at Tuesday afternoon’s meeting of the Friends of the Kingsland Library.

Employees from Marty’s Concrete, Boce Concrete Construction, Mobile Majic, Charlie’s Concrete and DNJ Septic donated their time to help repair and upgrade the boat ramp at Kingsland Community Park last week. (Courtesy Photo)
This old home, built near Honey Creek by Methodist preacher Jonas Dancer in the early 1850s, became one of the most historic structures in Llano County. After Reverend Dancer was killed by Comanches in 1859, the home was abandoned until after the Civil War. It was purchased and refurbished by General Adam Rankin Johnson (Burnet County’s greatest hero, and the founder of Marble Falls) in 1867. General Johnson moved there with his wife, Josephine, and lived there for five years before returning to Burnet. The photo above, taken around 1910, reportedly shows the family of tenants Jerry and Nannie Walker. By 1971, the roof had caved in, but the hand-cut rock walls were still standing. According to a Highlander article in 1972, owner Mayme Slaughter Gray sold the historic structure to Dr. Mason Brock; Dr. Brock dismantled the walls and brought the rock to Kingsland, where he used it to construct a massive fireplace in his new home.

Spring 1972 in Kingsland

By JOHN HALLOWELL

A spring and fall tradition in the resurgent community of Kingsland was the arts & crafts exhibit, held beginning in 1969 at the Nob Hill Recreation Center (now CASA of the Highland Lakes). An article in the Highlander on March 16, 1972, told the story of that event. The Fall 1969 committee, chaired by Dr. Mason Brock, included Raye Brock, Sue Douthit, Cleta Smith, Mary Dean and Maxine Diggs. They divided the recreation space into 6’ x 6’ spaces, and rented each space for $3. All the spaces were taken, and the event was a huge success.

Before that show was over, committee members planned the Spring show, in conjunction with the annual Bluebonnet Trail. The collected easels and peg boards to facilitate display of crafts, and pumped up the interest of traffic from nearby highways to Nob Hill. Lillian Hill and Dot Golightly were appointed to co-chair the committee when Dr. Brock and his team re-signed in 1971.

By the spring of 1972, the event had morphed into the “Bluebonnet Art Festival,” co-sponsored by Cleta Smith and Virginia Goodwin. As the headline at the beginning of April invited Highlander readers to attend on April 8 & 9, it was sponsored by Fuller’s Lodges, Ray’s Grocery, Stein Lumber, Highlander Center Laundromat, Martin’s Food Market, Western Auto, Betty’s Fashions & Bud’s Flowers, and the Kingsland Chambers of Commerce.

In the March 23 Highlander, a pho-to showed members of the Kingsland Community Church planning a tree in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Thurman, who had died in an airplane crash the previous December.

A memorial dedication of the new Recreation Hall at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church was planned for Saturday, March 25. It would be named Lee Hall in honor of Lee J. Smith, who had passed away at the end of February. About 200 and 300 gathered at the American Legion to ask commissioners from Burnet and Llano Counties to take legal steps to establish and fund the Quality Board “to obtain authority to control and inspect septic tanks via the proposed Burnet-Llano Health Unit.”

In May, the Highland Lakes National Bank announced its first cash dividend as well as a 10% stock dividend, following record deposit growth and profit in 1971. Earnings were reported to be $89.31 per share. W.F. McCasland was president of the bank; John B. Schuman was chairman of the board. Charles Stehler, Lamar Osburn, Randall Polk, and R.M. Burnett were vice-presidents; Carl Dodson was assistant vice-president.

More than 80 people gathered for the dedication of the new Recreation Hall at Kingsland’s Catholic Church. It was named in honor of retired building contractor Lee Smith, who had supervised the building project and done much of the actual work before he passed away suddenly less than a month before the dedication.

The “Kingsland Calendar” listed several upcoming events (in addition to “cooling” at Barrow Hall that Saturday). An Easter Sunrise Service was to be held at the Haywood Christian Camp. A “get acquainted coffeee” for women would be held at Barrow Hall. The American Legion and Auxiliary had meetings planned at the American Legion Hall; the Highland Lakes Social Club and the Kingsland Garden Club would be meeting at the Highland Lakes Recreational Center.

That week’s big news was a $40 million contract awarded to the H.D. Zachy Construction Co. in San Antonio to build the planned “Granite Shoals Thermal Power Plant,” which was expected to create 200 temporary construction jobs and provide permanent jobs along with the LCRA. Construction was expected to begin “immediately.” The LCRA’s supervisor would be Bob Kuebler, and the resident engineer would be Howard Yoss.

Thelma Miller, who had opened a real estate office in Beechman Dam 12 years earlier, opened a branch office in Kingsland in a former gas station on the Gullit Oil Company on Hwy 1431 in Kingsland. Mrs. Florence Hensley and Curtis Woodley would be the sales agents there.

Registration was beginning for four and five-year-old children whose parents wished to enroll them in the First Baptist Church Pre-K and Kindergarten classes planned for that fall. The registration fee was $5; tuition was $20 per month.

Three area chapters of the Beta Sigma Phi planned a Founder’s Day Banquet for April 28 at “the Country Club in Kingsland,” with proceeds going to the West Church’s Pre-K and Kindergarten classes. The Ladies Aid Machine for 13-year-old Debbie Kolak.

Jerry Allred was the winner of the “treasure chest” raffle prize at the Arts & Crafts show, which was pronounced a success by the organizers. The treasure chest was “overflowing with contributions from the local merchants, as well as the exhibitors.” Mr. Allred had to bring his pickup truck to carry away all his treasures.

The Kingsland Equipment Co. Greenhouse and Nursery (“Located in the heart of the Highlands”) advertised pepper and tomato plants “started in our local soil” for 15 cents apiece. Bruce Dines advertised “Sports wear = 150 pant suits now in stock (and more on the way) at his Packsville Western Store.

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**October 27-28**

Then, every second weekend of the month
This Recreation Hall at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church was dedicated on March 25, 1972. It was named Lee Hall in honor of building supervisor Lee J. Smith, who had passed away at the end of February.

The Kingsland Community Church was an established landmark before 1972, but it made news in 1972 for many different things (including planting a tree in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Thurman, church members and prominent citizens who had died in an airplane crash the previous December).

Figures released by the “Business Review” of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas ranked the Austin area (including the Highland Lakes area) as the lowest-priced metropolitan center in the country, about 12 percent lower than the national average in 1970. The Highlander opined that lower costs for food, housing and taxes were “a big bonus” on top of lakes, scenery, wildlife and minerals in the area.

Aqua Boom chairman Gordon Johnson was expected to give a report on plans for Kingsland’s third Aqua Boom festival at a general meeting of the Kingsland Chamber of Commerce on April 27. The following day, the Chamber would present a rabies clinic with Dr. R.F. King, with shots for cats and dogs at $2 per animal. The article noted that “ample parking space is available at the new Chamber office, located in the El Rio complex just across the bridge in Highway 1431.” It closed by saying “the vaccination project was initiated several years ago by Dr. Mason Brock, and has become an annual service offered by the Chamber.”

The Kingsland Garden Club announced a meeting for May 5 at the Highland Lakes Recreation Clubroom. Plans for a May 12 flower show workshop on “The Mechanics of Arrangement” would be finalized at the May 5 meeting. The Round Table Reading Circle of the First Baptist Church held meetings in two locations (private homes in Nob Hill and Lakewood Forest III), and the Highland Lakes Shrine Club held its regular 2nd Wednesday Game Night at the American Legion Hall.

Kingsland was over-represented in the Highlander’s “Highland Lakes Area Real Estate” section. Local advertisers included Carson Real Estate, Hodges Realty, Highland Lakes Realty, Bob Jones (“On the curve in Kingsland”), Thelma Miller and Ainsworth Real Estate. One of the Bob Jones properties was a 2800/28A brick lakefront home, with a boathouse and lots of extras, for $28,600. That was the spring of 1972.
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The weather was threatening last Saturday morning, but the VFD Fun Day fundraiser went on as planned at the airport in Burnet. Some of the attractions were beautiful cars from Central Texas Hemis (based in Manor), motorcycles from the Hill Country Motorheads Motorcycle Museum (on Hwy 29W in Burnet), airplanes, helicopters, bounce houses, games, snow cones, music and more!
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Carrie and Tom Scrima posed for this picture on Tuesday with their three rescue-turned-champion horses (Sterling, Angelo and Peterbilt) in their beautiful back yard in Spicewood. They met at a summer camp in upstate New York more than 51 years ago, when both were hired as riding instructors. While Tom pursued a career in real estate, he continued riding at every opportunity. Carrie helped with the founding of the inter-collegiate riding association, which now gives girls collegiate Title 9 scholarships, and became one of its champions herself. Throughout the years she has gained nation-wide recognition and has had many appearances on TV equine shows. They retired to Spicewood to be closer to their daughter in Austin, and brought their love of horses and their years of experience with them; their dream now is to teach middle-aged-to-retired adults who had a lifelong dream of riding, but never had the opportunity to pursue it. Their three horses are very well-trained and gentle; their schedule is flexible, and their prices reasonable. They can meet you at a number of nearby public parks and arenas as well as venues they control. Their focus is on “fun and safety.” You’ll see their classified ad on page 14 for the next few weeks.

EVENTS:
Continued from page 2)

The Friends of the Llano Library will host their annual “Bringing the Past to Life” Historical Cemetery Tours on Tuesday, October 30. Tours will be held every 15 minutes, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The Highland Lakes Pregnancy Resource Center will hold its annual “Celebrate Life!” Banquet from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 30, at the First Baptist Church in Marble Falls.

The Kingston/Lake LBJ Chamber of Commerce will hold its Third Annual Fall Social from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, October 25, in the Cedar Skies lodge at Log Country Cove.

The Blue Lake Golf Club will host a Halloween two-person scramble at 5 p.m. on Friday, October 26, followed by a Chili Cook-Off and Dinner at 6 p.m.

The Hill Country Children’s Advocacy Center’s annual Riffles, Rocks and Deer Tracks fundraiser banquet will be held at the YMCA in Burnet on Saturday, October 27.

The public is invited to “Shades of Ireland” travel presentation by Susie’s Travel Time and Collette, at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 30, at the River City Grille in Marble Falls.

The Horseshoe Bay Business Alliance is planning its annual Holidaze celebration for 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 1.

The Highland Lakes Family Crisis Center has re-scheduled its golf tournament for Saturday, November 3 (1 p.m. shotgun start), at Delaware Springs in Burnet.

The Hill Country Livestock Raisers Association will hold its Fall Program, beginning at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, November 6, at the John L. Kuykendall Event Center in Llano. Please RSVP by noon on Thursday, November 1, at 325-247-5159.

Thank you for reading the Highland Lakes Weekly!
Above: A cheerful group of volunteers served BBQ to a line of hungry guests at the Buchanan VFD’s fundraiser dinner last Saturday.

At left: Marilyn Peebles and Teresa Ruddick were two of the best-dressed participants at a Sock Hop party at The Oaks Nursing Center in Burnet. The event was one of a variety of activities on the center’s busy schedule.

Framing began last Wednesday morning for the second of three “Habitat for Humanity” homes to be built on Avenue M in Marble Falls.

Author Chat
At the Kingsland Library

Enjoy an afternoon visit with local author John Hallowell as he discusses his book, Lake LBJ and the North of Del Rio, 1852-1970

Tuesday, October 2, 2:00 – 3:30 PM
Kingsland Library 425 W. Dolph St., 525-360-570
Light refreshments will be served.

Seventeenth Annual Marble Falls Main Street Car Show
Saturday, October 6, 2018, 9 am to 3 pm

Sponsored by the Marble Falls Kiwanis Club “Serving the Children of the World”

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At right: New 4-H Council officers were introduced during the Llano County 4-H Awards Banquet on Tuesday night at Schorlemmer Hall in Llano. Juno Glasscock will be president for 2018-2019; other officers are Ray Edwards, Kylee Brown, Case Kuykendall, Emma Morris, Makaela Lively, Cade Whitson, Steele Kenney and Dillon Prokop.

At right: Ken Bader, Fossil Preparator from UT Austin, works on the bison skeleton discovered at Rocky Creek last year by Ryan Murray. The skeleton (nicknamed “Rockie”) will be unveiled at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 13, at The Falls on the Colorado Museum in Marble Falls.

Below: A few of the many works of art to be on display at the Llano County Historical Museum for this year’s “Western Trappings on the Llano” exhibition, which will begin with a “Meet the Artists” reception and sale at the museum on the evening of Friday, October 19.

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The Stonehill 4-H Shooting Club would like to say a big “Thank You!” to the Kingsland Community Center for the use of their excellent facility last weekend. Local youth received advanced coaching from some of the best shooters in Texas!
The DAYEATERS, a surprisingly melodic band which bills itself as “Austin’s loudest psychedelic trio,” performed for an enthusiastic audience at The Place Downtown in Kingsland last Saturday night.

Above: Jennifer B and the Groove delighted the capacity crowd at Spicewood Vineyards last Friday evening.

At left: The Praise Team at Hill Country Fellowship in Burnet (Pictured, from left: Ben Gaertner, Mandi Mullen, Mackenzie Barnard, and Julie Perry) led a “Resonate” worship service last Sunday evening.

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Hill Country Community Theatre

The cast of the musical comedy "Don’t Hug Me, I'm Pregnant" was joined by Executive Director Mike Rademaekers (left) and Playwright Phil Olson (center) after the close of last Thursday night’s performance. The photos at left show two scenes from the hilarious (but happy) ending of the well-written and well-performed play, which will be showing again this weekend and next. Actors (from left) are: Seth Smith, Kay Baker, Cody Petty, Toni Souther and Kyle Hirning.

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