A massive flood on the Llano River, second only to the 1935 flood which washed away bridges in Llano and Marble Falls, inundated Llano and swelled Lake LBJ to unprecedented heights, flooding large swaths of Kingsland and downstream communities. This photo was taken minutes before the center section of the RR 2900 bridge gave way, cutting Kingsland off from the south side of the lake for the first time since its completion in 1968. See more photos on pages 2 and 3, and many more on the “Highland Lakes Weekly” Facebook page.
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Another field from the Colorado River arm of Lake LBJ, ruins overflowed into downtown Kingsland. This 1950s-era fishing lodge was one of the most dramatic casualties.

Flooding in Kingsland

The bridge highway 19A dives from downtown Kingsland's Flood was the 71 and the communities on the south side of Lake LBJ with highway 19A.
The intersection of RR 1431 and Euel Moore Drive was totally inundated with water from the Colorado River arm of Lake LBJ.

This search-and-rescue team was deployed from RR 1431 at the height of the flooding on Tuesday morning.

Kingsland Community Center served as a temporary evacuation shelter on Tuesday. In the photo above, Deb Pritchard posed with volunteers Cristale Richins, Cindy Miller and Linda Raschke after bringing pizza from Buddies One-Stop for volunteers and evacuees on Tuesday afternoon. At left: Tony, Amber and Elijah Flores were at the shelter during the day on Tuesday. They stayed with friends that night, then returned to their home on Wednesday.

MLS #145284 $650,000
Lake Buchanan East - Lake front home on Buchanan East with a beautiful view of Morgan Creek. This gated property has a beautiful 3/2 home, 2 metal garage/shops, storage building, guest house & a covered boat dock. Great outdoor living in the large backyard with a patio overlooking the water, a fire pit area, and an awesome deck on the back of the house. Come see this Hill Country retreat!

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(Continued on page 10)
Two very creative and highly-acclaimed Llano County residents teamed up recently for a unique project: singer/songwriter Alex Harvey chose 14 works by artist Daniel Adams and wrote a song for each one. They put the art and music together in a book called “The Heart of the Art in Songs,” then released the book and an accompanying CD at the Sadu 1891 restaurant in Llano last Thursday evening. In case you missed the party, you can get your copy at Daniel Adams Fine Art in Buchanan Dam.

**Scatterthought**

They say that “rules are made to be broken,” and I’m breaking several of my own rules this week. Regular readers know that I have a policy of “no bad news” in my paper, but even though I had at least two newspapers’ worth of good news this week, the devastating floods just overwhelmed everything else this week.

And the fact that the aftermath of the flooding came so close to my deadline forced me to change my schedule. That, in turn, persuaded me to change the regular format of the paper. It wasn’t enough to get me caught up, but at least it gave me some variety.

I can barely remember last weekend, but looking at my pictures, I am reminded how good I felt about the events on Saturday (and the fact that it didn’t rain all day like the weatherman said it would). I needed some rest on Sunday, but I felt invigorated by the cooler weather on Monday and was laughing at how much I LIKE “rainy days and Mondays,” never thinking that the rain would lead to a monumental flood that night.

The LCRA report on Tuesday morning didn’t look too scary, so I was shocked when I drove over to Bois D’Arc to see the water pouring over the 2900 bridge. Even though it seemed inevitable that the bridge would give way, I was still horrified to see that it had happened. Then I realized that most of the downtown area was flooded, as well. I just felt numb for most of the rest of the day.

Of course I took pictures everywhere I went, and the amazing response to my Facebook posts kept me occupied until late that night and then again the next morning.

I was just getting started on the paper at lunchtime on Wednesday, when I got an email from a Burnet friend telling me that a group (including Senator Ted Cruz) would be holding a press conference at the 2900 bridge at 3:30. Normally, my response would be to hurry down there; instead it was afternoon and get a picture from the back of the crowd. BUT...

About four months ago, my niece was named “Service Member of the Year” by the Marine Times magazine, and had to go to Washington to get her award; her daughter went to the ceremony. It just so happened that Senator Cruz was there, and posed for a picture with her. I decided to get him to autograph a copy of that picture, then offered to sign him an autographed copy of my book, “Lake LBJ and the Re-Birth of Kingsland.” I arrived at the press conference early with the book and the picture.

It was no easy task, though. I had to wait an hour before they got underway, then another hour; it seemed like it wasn’t going to happen, but Representative Terry Wilson got me through the police line at the last minute, and it ended well. By then, I was hours behind schedule!

All that is just to say that this week’s paper is a “busy-up” job, and that I expect there will be mistakes and omissions. On the other hand, it should be one of my more interesting papers (certainly not just “normal”).

I will appreciate your patience this week, and I’ll try to get caught up sometime. In the meantime, try to stay warm and dry!
Senator Ted Cruz, Congressman Roger Williams and State Senator Dawn Buckingham toured flood-ravaged lake communities with local officials on Wednesday afternoon. In the photo above, Senator Cruz addressed reporters from around Texas from the now-Closed RR 2900, just north of the washed-out bridge. He and the others pledged a prompt and diligent effort to replace the much-used bridge.

Some of the volunteers from the Fire Department and Auxiliary took a break from cooking during last Saturday’s Oktoberfest fundraiser at the Kingsland Community Center. Many of the same volunteers were active in rescue and relief operations just three days later.

Four Boys State and Girls State attendees posed with representatives of the American Legion after they were recognized in a special ceremony at the American Legion Hall in Kingsland last Saturday afternoon. From left: Clarence Draper, Carson Parr, James Hoover, Regan Licciardello, Heath Buttery and Doyle Odom.
Burnet Octoberfest

Artist Marla Ripperda painted the historic Burnet County Jail last Friday afternoon as one of her entries in the Plein Air competition at Burnet’s Art Festival. Art joined with music, shopping, food and entertainment as part of Burnet’s big Octoberfest last weekend.

Artists Brenda Terry and Ronda Hostetter show off their entries in the Gallery Show in the Burnet Community Center on Saturday.

Artistic athletes shower themselves with powdered paint after completing the 5K Color Fun Run at last Saturday’s Octoberfest in downtown Burnet.

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Fort Croghan Day
Burnet’s long-time tradition continued last Saturday with a living history presentation at the grounds of old Fort Croghan. All kinds of old-fashioned activities and skills (including blacksmithing, at left) were demonstrated by costumed volunteers.

The “Buffalo Soldiers” from Camp Mabry delighted Fort Croghan visitors with stories and artifacts from the exploits of the all-black 9th and 10th Cavalry regiments which helped tame the “wild, wild west” (including central and west Texas) after the Civil War.

Crowds of visitors walked the path between the historic cabins on the grounds of old Fort Croghan during last Saturday’s “living history” event.
Our Prayers, Love and Hugs to All Those Who Have Suffered Through The Llano River Flood

Chapel of the Hills will be working to help coordinate resources with those in need from this huge event. We sponsor food and clothing assistance all year long, and many of our members volunteer for Fire/Rescue Departments and Disaster Relief. If you have experienced a loss from the Llano River Flood, please contact us. We will pray for you and seek to put you in touch with a group that can help you.

Contact us at:

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Brought to you in part by:
Green Lake Weekend will be held this year on the evening of Thursday, November 1.

(EVENTS: Continued from page 2)

Skies lodge at Log Country Cove. The Llano Library will hold a hands-on Back-to-Basics program at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 25, exploring the concepts from the book “The Hands-On Home: A Seasonal Guide to Cooking, Preserving & Natural Homekeeping” by Erika Strauss. Call the library at 325-247-5248 to reserve a seat.

There will be a Branco Night for Llano County Young Life at the Church at Horseshoe Bay, with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 25. Everyone is invited for a fun night of Branco food, and great prizes.

Author/illustrator W. C. Jameson will be the featured speaker at the Lakeshore Library’s free Author Talk at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, October 26. Call 325-379-1174 to reserve your seat.

The Marble Falls Library will host a Magic at the Library show at 4 p.m. on Friday, October 26. Costumes are encouraged.

The Blue Lake Golf Club will host a Halloween two-person scramble at 4 p.m. on Friday, October 26, followed by a Chill Cook-Off and Dinner at 6 p.m.

Llano merchants will host their Fourth Friday Artwalk from 5 to 7 p.m. on October 26.

Kingdall’s annual Halloween Carnival, featuring the always-popular costume contest, will be held at the Community Center on Saturday, October 27.

The Castell General Store will host a Giant Cook-Off on Saturday, October 27.

Lollipops the Clown will lead a Costume Parade at Old Oak Square in Marble Falls from 2 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 27, for participants in her costume contest (see Ms.LOLLIPOPparties.com for details).

The Llano River Pumpkin Float will be held from 4 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, October 27, at Badu Park in Llano.

The Hill Country Children’s Advocacy Center’s annual Raffles, Rack and

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The annual Holiday event in “downtown” Horseshoe Bay will be held this year on the evening of Thursday, November 1.

Deer Tracks fundraiser banquet will be held at the YMCA in Burnet on Saturday, October 27.

Weekday Ministries will host a “Beo Bash” at the FSB Burnet parking lot, beginning at 6 p.m. on Saturday, October 27 (see ad on page 11).

The Llano County Community Center will host its annual Haunted House from 8 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, October 27.

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

The Chapel of the Hills, on Hwy. 29 in Buchanan Dam, invites the public to a Trunk or Treat event from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 31.

The Llano County Community Center will host its annual Haunted House from 8 to 10 p.m. on Wednesday, October 31.

The Horseshoe Bay Business Alliance is planning its annual Holiday Celebration in “downtown” Horseshoe Bay from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 1.

Author Donna Marie Miller will be the featured speaker at “Booked for Lunch” scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on Friday, November 2, at the Marble Falls Library.

The Highland Arts Guild & Gallery will host a Preview Party from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday, November 2, for its upcoming Fall Show (November 10 & 11).

The Helping Hands Craft Guild will hold its annual Bayouza Bazaar from 10-4 on Saturday, November 3, at Quail Point Lodge in Horseshoe Bay. Proceeds will benefit the Helping Center of Marble Falls.

The Granite Shoals Police Officers Association and the Granite Shoals Fire Auxiliary will host you a BBQ fundraiser for Granite Shoals Christmas Outreach from 11 to 3 on Saturday November 3, at Grace United Methodist Church (4007 Valley View). Bring a new unwrapped toy for a free dessert. Baked goods are needed and can be brought to Grace the morning of the BBQ. Call 325-596-2585 for more details.

DJ WAYNE GATLUFF
formerly of Pardners in Buchanan Dam, will play classic country, waltzes, polkas, rock & roll, etc. at 5 p.m. every Friday at VFW Post 6974 in Burnet.

Beer and wine are available and b.y.o.b. is permitted. Setups will be available.

$5.00 cover.

Come for an evening of dancing entertainment.

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Thank you for reading the Highland Lakes Weekly!
Tournament chairman Nick Zackoff addresses golfers at Delaware Springs Golf Course for the Lake Buchanan Conservation Corp Golf Tournament last Saturday.

Above, right: Auctioneer Nick Hinze announced names of door prize winners before the auction at Llano’s Ducks Unlimited banquet last Wednesday.

Left: the Algerita Hill band (Paul, Lisa, Mark and Seth Becher) entertained visitors at Fort Crogan Day in Burnet last Saturday.

Above: Family members and friends gathered at the Marble Falls Senior Center last Saturday to help Lillian Foster celebrate her 100th birthday!

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Highland Lakes Weekly!

The Awakening
October 21 - 24
Special Guest: Ken Freeman

He had nine-stepfathers, an alcoholic mother, was abused and neglected, left without hope. Until...

On Monday thru Wednesday, a free dinner will be served at 5:45 pm in the Family Life Center.

Sunday: 5:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 6:00 PM
Monday thru Wednesday: 6:30 PM
Ben Watson and the Hired Guns were one of several bands to take a turn on stage at Burnet’s big Octoberfest celebration last Saturday.

Buzz and the Blue Cats provided quality dance music for a well-attended dinner & dance at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Marble Falls last Friday night.

The Goble Family singers (Mayor Crista Goble Bromley and her brothers: Perry, Jeff and Charlie Goble) played their old-fashioned music during the Fort Croghan Day living history event last Saturday on the grounds of the old fort in Burnet.
Music around the Lakes

Above: The “Flat Lonesome” band from Tennessee, delighted the crowd at Oktoberfest in Burnet last Saturday night.

At left: DJ William Hall, of Karaoke by William, had some help from his daughter, Sarah, last Saturday as he entertained the crowd at Kingsland’s Oktoberfest VFD fund raiser at the Kingsland Community Center. He can be found at The Place Downtown from 6 to 8 p.m. every Thursday.

Below: Ginelle Sabalino accompanied Alex Harvey at the Badu 1891 restaurant for “The Heart of the Art in Song” event with artist Daniel Adams.

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Mixing a pattern match, she caught the attention of a gold medal winner on the floor. The competition was fierce, but her creativity and skill were undeniable. The crowd erupted in applause as she gracefully executed each movement, leaving an impression that would last a lifetime.
An overflow crowd showed up at the Falls on the Colorado Museum last Saturday morning for the unveiling of “Rockie,” a 700-year-old bison skeleton found recently in the bank of Rocky Creek. Pictured at the front of the crowded room are: County Judge James Oakley, Ryan Murray (the discoverer of the skeleton) and Darlene Oostermeyer, chairman of the museum board.

Fossil preparator Ken Bader, from the University of Texas, shows off the skeleton which he painstakingly assembled from excavated bones and bone fragments. He was one of several speakers at the unveiling event on Saturday. The beautiful display case was built by local craftsman Ken McBride.

Pet of the Week

Ash is a cute 2 1/2-pound Domestic Shorthair kitten. At just 2 months old this little boy loves to play, explore, sleep and eat. He also enjoys being loved on and brushed. Ash is anxiously waiting for his forever home. To meet Ash or any of his friends please call the Hill Country Humane Society at 512-793-3463 or visit our web site at www.HillCountryHumaneSociety.org. We are open Thursday through Monday from 11am to 4pm. THIS MONTH ONLY, 30 FOR $30.00...ALL ANIMALS THAT HAVE BEEN WITH US LONGER THAN 30 DAYS, YOU CAN ADOPT FOR ONLY $30.
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