The Amazing Walter's sand castle was just one of the amazing "earth art" masterpieces at Llano’s Earth Art Festival (L.E.A.F.) last weekend. In addition to the world championship rock-stacking competition at Grenwelge Park, the unique event featured an eclectic mix of music, dancing, art, and exhibits, including a Vintage Volkswagen Show, a "Birds of Prey" demonstration and Michael Shaffer’s amazing "Walking Tree of Life." You can see a few more L.E.A.F. pictures on pages 7-10 in this paper, and a whole lot more in a "Llano Earth Art Fest" album on Facebook.
Archaeology Fair
Saturday, March 23
10 AM to 3 PM
LCRA’s Nightengale Archaeological Center
at Kingsland

Hosted by the Llano Uplift Archeological Society.

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Upcoming Events

The Buchanan/Inks Chamber of Commerce will hold its Las Vegas Night fundraiser from 5 to 9 this Saturday (March 23) at Hill Country Hall in Buchanan Dam.

By JOHN HALLOWELL.

The First United Methodist Church in Burnet (301 E. Graves) will host its annual Souper Supper from 5 to 7 p.m. this Friday (March 22). Proceeds will benefit Vet Rides and Mission Support.

The new Wakepoint complex in Kingsland will host a belated Grand Opening (originally planned for last fall, but delayed by the flood) on Saturday, March 23. A ribbon-cutting is scheduled for 10 a.m.

The LCRA’s Nightengale Archaeological Center (201 Circle Drive, off RR 1431 between Kingsland and Granite Shoals) will host its annual Archaeological Fair from 10 to 3 this Saturday (March 23).

The Kingsland Beautification Golf Tournament, to benefit the community park, will be held on Saturday, March 23 ( shotgun start at noon), at the Legends Golf Course. Call Blake at 512-922-6341 or Teresa at 325-388-9382 for details.

The VFW and Auxiliary in Burnet (Post 66074) will host their 2nd annual Spring Fling fundraiser from 4 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, March 23.

The Lake Buchanan/Inks Lake Chamber will hold its annual Las Vegas Night from 5 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, March 23, at Hill Country Hall in Buchanan Dam.

The Hill Country Community Theatre in Cottonwood Shores will feature the big band music of the Skylarks and the singing of the HECT Players in an event, “Sentimental Journey – A Big Band Fundraiser,” for two performances only: Saturday, March 23, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 24, at 2:15 p.m.

Painting With Friends will host a Saucy Cow event at Imm’s BBQ in Llano at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 27.

The Texas Hills Quilters will sponsor a Wildflowers in Bloom Quilt Show on March 29 and 30 at the JJK Event Center in Llano.

The 21st Annual Hill Country Lawn & Garden Show is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 30, at the Community Center in Burnet. In addition to succulents, houseplants, native plants, vegetables, gardening supplies, etc., there will be a children’s booth, silent auction, and quilt raffle! Admission is free; food will be available to purchase.

The Llano Art Studio Tour (LAST) will be held on Saturday, March 30 (always the last Saturday in March). Contact Cheryl Quallenberg at 512-417-9274 for more information or to participate.

The Hill Country Children’s Advocacy Center will host its annual Designer Purse Bingo fundraiser from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 30, at Horsehoe Bay Resort.

The popular “Already Gone” Eagles tribute band (from the Houston area) will perform at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 30, at the Uptown Theatre in Marble Falls.

The Llano Community Theatre group will present five showings of the comedic murder mystery, “As Long as We Both Shall Live,” on the weekends of March 30, 31, and April 5-7.

Marble Falls will host its annual Paint the Town event, featuring a plein air competition and a giant show & sale, from March 31 to April 6. The big day for the public will be Saturday, April 6, when there will be all kinds of art-related activities for all ages from 10 to 5 at the Lakeside Pavilion.

Mike and the Moonpies, a promising young “country-rock” band, will be playing at the Spicewood Vineyards Event Center on the evening of Friday, April 5.

Llano’s wonderful Fiddle Fest Weekend will be held this year from April 5 to 7.

CX2 Construction will sponsor the Burcom County Great Strides Walk to help fight cystic fibrosis at 10 a.m.

(Continued on page 13)

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I was just going quietly about my business, trying to get a picture of the crowd at Wakepoint’s “The Spot,” when I heard someone calling my name! I had been “spotted” by my friends, the Riewes (Josh, John, Kris, James and Rachel); that very pleasant interruption (and a good visit with them a little later) was one of many highlights in a wonderful weekend.

Scatterthought

It’s been really exciting to me to see how much more I can fit into my “new & improved” 24-page paper, and I am delighted to report that new ad sales are catching up to my added expenses. But I haven’t really come up with any kind of comfortable routine yet to plan my newly-enlarged paper, and I made quite a few mistakes last week.

The mistake that bothered me the most was a simple typographical lapse. I had arrived late the previous Thursday at Highland Lakes United Methodist Church to take some pictures of the Lambda Nu Tea Party, and was very relieved to be greeted at the door by my friend Sarah Ditworth (of Sarah Marie Photography). Not only had she been there the whole time and captured all the action, but she takes better pictures than I do anyway (and she wouldn’t even charge me for them) – I was very grateful.

You’d never know from last week’s paper that I appreciated her kindness at all. As I hurried to get the paper done by my Thursday morning deadline, I forgot to credit her for the pictures I used. I was mortified when I looked through the new paper on Thursday afternoon and saw my mistake.

It’s partly just the added workload. I get behind schedule last week, and had to work the whole night last Wednesday to (just barely) get the paper done by my Thursday morning deadline. But it isn’t like this was something new and different; I always try to acknowledge those who have allowed me to use their pictures (or at least try not to seem like I’m trying to take the credit myself!)

It was partly because of that mistake (and partly because I was so impressed with the quilt that Lambda Na is raffling this spring) that I put another of Sarah’s pictures in this week’s paper (see page 3). Unless the gremlins have struck again, you will see a photo credit under the picture of Emily Smith and her Aqua Bloom quilt.

Most of my mistakes would only be noticed by a very careful reader (or by the people affected), but anyone who looked for the conclusion of the “Upcoming Events” at page 12 (as directed on page 2) might have been puzzled. The sad truth is that I edited pages 2 and 3 to fix some mistakes last week, but then neglected to replace the unedited pages and sent them anyway. Fortunately most of the changes were very minor, but the continuation of the article was actually on page 23 last week. Sorry!

But the not-so-good side effects of my eight-page expansion have been overwhelmed by the benefits. Instead of lamenting the pictures I haven’t been able to fit, I’ve been celebrating the much-larger number (and in some cases, even larger sizes) of pictures that I have been able to fit in. This week, I feel good about the space I’ve been able to give to all the LeaF event without neglecting the Wakepoint benefit concert, the brunch at Smythe-Wick Castle (a fascinating place) and the professor of wildflowers that is sweeping the Highland Lakes landscape these days.

I mentioned Burnet’s huge Bluebonnet Festival last week, and I want to remind you again; I think it is one of the best festivals anywhere in the Hill Country, and I hope most of you will be able to attend on the second weekend of April. But in the meantime, there are a multitude of great spring events listed in this paper. If you want to give a special mention to the Llano Fiddle Fest Weekend in this column, it’s not that Llano (or the Highland Lakes area) has a monopoly on fiddles.

(Continued on page 21)
Volunteers at Windwood Apartments put together some of the 7,000 eggs to be “hidden” for the Kingsland VFD & Auxiliary Easter Egg Hunt next month. From left: Carol Smith, Virginia Clinansmith, Margo Hicks, Rhonda Bishop, and Wanda Isbell.

A good crowd attended last Saturday’s “St. Pat Park Party” at Boat Town Burger Bar. The party raised funds for needed restoration at the flood-damaged Kingsland Community Park.

The Ringleaders: Owner Karen Raven, of Boat Town, posed for this picture with Susan Patter and Pat Muller, of Valentine Lakeside. The St. Pat Park Party was also a celebration of Pat Muller’s birthday; she was born on St. Patrick’s Day, and was named for the Irish saint.

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Rapid progress continues on the new RR 2900 bridge in Kingsland, but the latest reports indicate that it will not be completed by the April 30 goal set last November. May is now the projected completion date.

Owners Jennifer and Aaron Richardson, of the new Lazy Heron Coffee House, were joined by a crowd of Kingsland Chamber of Commerce members for a combination ribbon-cutting and Breakfast Club networking meeting on Wednesday morning.

County Judges Ron Cunningham (of Llano, at left) and James Oakley (of Burnet, at right) joined Highland Lakes Crisis Network representatives Jackie English (board president), Tammy Manning (executive director) and Reagan Lambert (board member; also a city council member in Horseshoe Bay) to celebrate the acceptance of a $150,000 grant from the Capital Area Housing Finance Corp., of Austin, at Kingsland’s First Baptist Church on Tuesday. The funds will be used to restore two badly-damaged homes; one in Burnet County and one in Llano County.

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Smythwick Castle is a unique lodging and event venue on RR 1431 in southeast Burnet County. A sumptuous “Saint Patrick’s Long Table Brunch” was held there last Sunday.

As diners enjoyed the fine dining and the spring sunshine, the atmosphere was enhanced by beautiful violin music from Madeline Grindy (at left). Smythwick Castle & Lodge is located on ten-plus acres next to Hickory Creek (see photo below). It offers overnight lodging for up to ten guests, and provides a charming venue (with elegant stone fireplaces, turrets and a unique old-world brick courtyard with an elegant fountain) for weddings, retreats or other events.
Beautiful weather and enthusiastic participation made for a great “earth art festival” at the rocky riverside park on the south end of Llano’s iconic bridge last weekend, as artists from all over North America (and even from Europe) piled their trades at the amazing event.

A “Birds of Prey” demonstration by representatives from The Urban Interface in College Station was one of a wide variety of attractions at the Llano Earth Art Fest.

Another of the remarkable attractions at L.E.A.F. (not all closely related!) was the Vintage VW Show, in which a collection of Beetles, Things and Buses (with various levels of customization) parked behind Llano’s old Red Top Jail for the viewing pleasure of festival-goers.

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March 22, 2019 Highland Lakes Weekly Page 7
The Leonard Greewege Park was filled with cheerful festival-goers on Saturday afternoon (above). In the photos below, you can see three examples of the amazing "earth art" which was on display.
The photo above, taken from the middle of the Llano bridge on Saturday afternoon, gives an overview of the activity in Llano's Leonard Grenwege Park last weekend.

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This artistic stack of rocks was the handiwork of Michael Grab, who (appropriately enough) lives in Boulder, Colorado.

Zhenya Rock, pictured above with his wife Nataly, is a member of the Flying Balalaika Brothers band, which entertained festival-goers on Friday evening.

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The stage under the trees at Leonard Grenweige Park featured a variety of acts and demonstrations during the hugely successful Llano Earth Art Fest last weekend.

One of many groups to entertain the crowd at L.E.A.F. last weekend was the White Ghost Shivers band, pictured here during a Friday evening performance.

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Rockstacking artist Michael Grab, of “Gravity Glue” fame, takes a short break last Saturday among the amazing stone towers he constructed just below the dam on the Llano River.

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Page 10  Highland Lakes Weekly  March 22, 2019
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Above: Sunny weather and a good turnout helped make Elevate Church’s Spring Break Skate Party at the Marble Falls Skate Park a big success on Tuesday afternoon.

Tony Guidroz, Liano’s new Director of Community Development, posed for this picture during a Chamber mixer at Tommy’s Pizza on Tuesday. The event was also a celebration of Tommy Scott’s 5-year anniversary in the pizza business on Bessemer Avenue.

The latest phase of The Homestead at Mormon Mill, an apartment complex on Max Copeland Drive in Marble Falls, is rapidly taking shape. When completed, the complex will include nine buildings with a total of 133 residential units.
EVENTS: (Continued from page 2)

(registration starts at 9) on Saturday, April 6, at Haley Nelson Park. For more details, or to register a team, see www.cfl.org/greustrides.

A Youth Range Day will be held at the gravel pit just off CR 321 near Kingsland, from 10 to 5 on Saturday, April 6, to benefit the TNT Power Tumbling team in their quest to participate in this year’s Junior Olympics at Greensboro, NC. Parental supervision is required, and NRA certified instructors will be on site.

Dale Watson & his Lone Stars will be at the Globe Theatre in Bertram on the evening of Saturday, April 6.

Burnet County Extension Agent Kelly Tari will be speaking on “Native Plants for Landscaping” April 10th from 2 to 3PM at the Lakeshore Library, 7346 Hwy 261, Buchanan Dam. Presentation is free to the public.

Burnett’s huge Bluebonnet Festival will be held on the weekend of April 12 to 14.

The annual Sunrise Beach VFD golf tournament will be held at Lighthouse Country Club in Kingsland on Saturday, April 13.

The Rick’s Texan (on Hwy 29 at Main St. in Burnet) will host Burnett’s mayor Crista Bromley in its monthly “Meet the Artist” event on Saturday, April 13.

The Llano VFD will host its annual Fish Fry and BBQ fundraiser from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 13, at the fire hall.

Llano’s Crawfish Open and Marble Falls’ Soapbox Classic are both scheduled this year for the last weekend in April.

The city of Granite Shoals is planning a free “City Celebration,” with a BBQ Cook-Off, live music, family activities and a variety of vendor booths on Saturday, April 27.

Kingsland School will hold its annual Laker Fest from 10 to 2 on Saturday, April 27. There will be games, concessions, face painting, a photo booth, and more. The Girl Scouts, the fish hatchery, and other community groups will have booths. There will be gift baskets for sale, and the Burnet Gunfighters will put on a show at 10:30. The Highland Lakes Service League will hold its annual Charity Golf Tournament on Saturday, April 27. Call Deb Bennett at (363) 808-4982 for registration forms or other details.

The annual Style in Action Luncheon and Spring Style Show, to benefit Meals on Wheels, will be held from 11 to 2 on Wednesday, May 1, at the Lakeside Pavilion in Marble Falls.

The Highland Lakes Pregnancy Resource Center will hold its 2nd Annual Sporting Clay Fundraiser, beginning at 9 a.m. (Registration opens at 8:30) on Saturday, May 4, at the Copperhead Creek Shooting Club (inside Hidden Falls Adventure Park, off RR 1431 east of Marble Falls).

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Hands on Classes
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March 22, 2019 Highland Lakes Weekly Page 13
These pictures are from seven different locations in Kingsland, but wildflowers are proliferating all around the Highland Lakes and adding a splash of extra color (mostly blue so far) to the already-striking landscape. The wildflowers have probably not quite reached their peak, but the next two weeks should provide some spectacular viewing opportunities!

Photos by John Hallowell

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Grand Opening!

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The fabulous new Wakepoint complex (at the east end of the RR 1431 bridge in Kingsland) was completed last fall, but was forced to postpone its planned Grand Opening when the Llano River flood devastated Kingsland on October 16. Wakepoint hosted a music festival last weekend (see photos on page 18) to raise funds for ongoing restoration projects; the long-awaited Grand Opening will be held this Saturday.

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**You are Invited!**

From 2 to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9, at the Kingsland Library.

Have you considered becoming a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution or DAR but were afraid to ask? You are invited to a short presentation provided by HLGS member, Harriet Martin. She will discuss the meaning of DAR, the purpose of the DAR, who is eligible for membership in the DAR, whether your Patriot has already been proven and what constitutes documentation as proof of lineage. Q and A to follow.

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RSVP to Harriet at 830-637-0601

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Admission $6, for further info, call 325-423-5487

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A beatifully-landscaped courtyard provided the venue for a wonderful music festival at Wakepoint (at the east end of the RR 1431 bridge in Kingsland) last Saturday.

Above: The Mothership band, from San Antonio, headlined Wakepoint’s musical flood-relief benefit last Saturday with excellent covers of songs by classic rock bands Led Zeppelin and Queen.

At Right: Saxophonist Rodney Howell led off the all-day music event at Wakepoint last Saturday.

Below: The Landers/ Marshall duo from Austin (Justin Landers and Samantha Marshall) was one of the afternoon acts in the courtyard at Wakepoint in Kingsland last Saturday. Other performers included Llano’s own Allan Ray Reed. Wakepoint will hold its formal Grand Opening this Saturday.
Above: The Train Wreck Shipping Company band (Paul Finley, Eddie Cantu, Ken Fowler and David Spann) entertained diners at the Bear King Brewing Co. in Marble Falls last Saturday night.

At left: John Arthur Martinez and friends (Luiz Coutinho, Kurt Baumer and Chris Reeves) played at the Badu 1891 restaurant in Llano last Friday evening.

Below: The Kristen Gibbs Band provided live entertainment for a St. Pat’s Park Party, hosted by the Kingsland Chamber and Valentine’s Lakeside at Boat Town last Saturday.

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Thank you for reading the Highland Lakes Weekly!
but Llano (with a lot of help from John Caballero, Keenan Fletcher and others) has been able to revive a tradition that in some ways appeared to have been fading away, and to create fiddles and fiddling into an exciting event with enthusiastic participation from fiddlers of all ages. I am very proud of them, and I heartily recommend this wonderful event!

The 2019 Llano Fiddle Fest Weekend will be held Friday through Sunday, April 5 to 7, beginning with a fiddle lunch concert at the Texas Music Depot on Friday. The always-popular “Air Fiddle” and “Anything Goes—Tricks and Licks” contests will be held that evening at Tommy’s Pizza.

The Llano Open Fiddle Contest, which has become one of the top fiddle contests in the state of Texas, will be held on Saturday at the historic Llano Theatre. Some of Texas’ best fiddlers will be there to compete for the $1000 Grand Championship prize, while providing great entertainment with their Texas-style fiddling skills.

An evening concert following the Fiddle Contest on Saturday will showcase talented musicians Dick and Emily Gumble, with special fiddling guests including Karl Shore, Jason Roberts, and Wes Westmoreland and opening performances by Keenan Fletcher, Fiddlin’ Fools, and Leah Sawyer. Tickets are available at the Llano Visitor Center for $15.

An antique musical instrument/fiddle history exhibit at the Llano County Museum is scheduled throughout the weekend.

On Sunday morning there will be a Sunday service with music by the Sawyer Family and will include the Amazing Grace Fiddlers followed by a cowboy breakfast.

A photo gallery of videos and pictures from past fiddle contests is available at www.llanofiddlerfest.com. For more details, call the Llano Visitor Center at 325-247-5354.

As if that wasn’t enough, this year’s Fiddle Fest will be accompanied by the annual Llano River Chuck Wagon Cook-Off event (www.llanochuckwagoncookoff.com), postponed last October because of the flood.

All this time, the Llano Library will be offering some great events. There will be a Pre-K Fair from 3 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 4; a “Play Date Book Club” from 2 to 3 p.m. on Monday, April 8, for parents of toddlers (who don’t usually have any time to read); a How-Pinteresting workshop at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9 (pick up your supply list ahead of time); and a Humana Health program at 2 p.m. on Wednesday on “Protecting Yourself From Scams.” Call 325-247-5248 for details or to reserve your seat.

Just one more item: It’s Authentic TexMex (in Kingsland), which had a great-looking sign put up at the former Saigon South restaurant location a few weeks ago, will probably be open for business there by the time you read this. As of Wednesday, the opening was planned for Thursday morning.

Last year’s “Air Fiddle” and “Anything Goes—Tricks and Licks” contests (during the 2018 Llano Fiddle Fest Weekend) drew a good crowd to the outdoor area at Tommy’s Mosquito-Flamed Pizza, located by the depot visitors center at the north end of the Llano bridge.
With help from the Upper Highland Lakes Nature Center's excellent nature programs, Candlelight Ranch provided a wonderful Special Needs Spring Break Camp last week at the beautiful facility on the north shore of Lake Travis.

Artist Daniel Adams (at right in photo) is the Spotlight Sponsor for the Spring Fling '19 at the VFW Post and Auxiliary 6974 on March 23. He is offering his 20" x 30" glicee print of "Grace Upon Theo" for raffle. Also for raffle is a stained-glass mosaic of a flying eagle, donated by Lisa Greinert. You can buy tickets at the event, by calling 512-588-6070, or by emailing vfwauxh6974burnet@gmail.com. The event (see ad below) will include a classic car show, music, dancing, face-painting and crafts.

The Llano County Historical Museum is planning a Llano County Founders' Day Celebration, scheduled for June 15. Activities will include presentations on the early history of the communities of Llano, Tow, and Castell; family histories of some of the early settlers; photo displays from early Llano; children's activities, and an evening meal.

Highland Lakes Baptist Church

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6).

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Worship 10:45 AM 11:00 PM
Tuesday-Ladies Bible Study 10:00 AM
Tuesday-Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM
Wednesday-Prayer & Bible Study 7:00 PM
Thursday-Ladies Bible Study 7:00 PM
Second Friday-Community Gospel Sing 7:00 PM
Second & Fourth Saturday-Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM

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VFW & Auxiliary 6974
2nd Annual
Spring Fling
2019

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Saturday, March 23, 2019 4:00 pm until 9:00 pm

Bribe/Chicken Plates
Music & Dancing
Poppy Crafts
1402 Buchanan Drive
Burnet TX
512-588-6070
Silent Auction
Raffles/Door Prizes
Themed Basket

Page 22 Highland Lakes Weekly March 22, 2019
These dramatic photos show an eagle family (with two recently-hatched eaglets) living on the east side of Inks Lake near Buchanan Dam.

(Editor's note: I tried to get good pictures of these eagles, but my camera wasn't up to the task. Many thanks to Harry Keil Jr.)

Photos by Harry Keil Jr.

You Are Invited!

Glass Well Service and Water Treatment is pleased to announce that we are opening our new location at 904 Bessemer Ave in Llano!

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