

Salado Village Voice

Vol. XXVI, Number 38

Wednesday, January 7, 2004

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Speaker gives locals chance to laugh out loud

If you've ever had the giggles in church -- or wanted to -- then an evening with Robert Flynn is tailor-made for you. Flynn will entertain the audience at the Salado Chamber of Commerce Banquet 6:30 p.m. Jan. 27 at the banquet facilities of Tenroc Ranch.

If you ever wanted a chance at having your own high quality diamond, for \$10 a chance, then the banquet is just what you have been waiting for.

The Range is catering the banquet at the new banquet hall on Tenroc Ranch, graciously donated by Mike and Shirley Cornett. There will also be opportunities to salute Salado's Citizen of the Year and Salado's Business of the Year.

Flynn, a member of the Texas Institute of Letters and the National Cowboy Hall of Fame, will put a smile on your face and give you something to smile about later, as well.

He is a humorist, television documentary author, an award-winning writer, and professor emeritus at Trinity University in San Antonio. He is also an essayist for *The Door: The World's Pretty Much Only Magazine of Religious Satire*, and has delighted

audiences throughout Texas with his gentle but wry commentaries.

Two years ago, at Salado's Judy and A.C. Greene Literary Festival, Flynn had the audiences in stitches reading excerpts from his "Growing Up a Sullen Baptist."

Participants in the "Drawing for a Diamond" will draw from a fishbowl containing 199 beautiful laboratory created cubic zircons, (manmade diamonds) and one beautiful natural, faceted 1/2 carat round, brilliant-cut diamond. Ten dollars entitles a person to a chance at one draw for a single stone from the fishbowl. People will draw at the banquet and the diamond and its winner will be identified before the end of the evening by jeweler Jim Sim Benton. Those purchasing two chances and winning two cubic zircons may have them mounted in 14-carat gold stud earrings for \$27.50 per pair.

For a sparkling evening, drop by the Salado Chamber of Commerce Office and pick up your tickets (\$25 per person). Also, purchase your chances for the diamond while they last. Any unsold chances will be available at the banquet.



Salado Eagles basketball team is having its best start in memory with 17 wins and just three losses. The squad is shown above with the Championship Trophy from the Sinton Tournament over the Christmas holidays. See results, Page 8A.

Burn ban may go into effect

By TIM FLEISCHER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

County commissioners may consider enacting a county-wide burn ban at their Jan. 12 meeting after discussing the dry conditions county-wide with Fire Marshal Steve Casey. Casey informed the commissioners court that Bell County has reached the second highest level of the Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) during their Jan. 5 meeting.

The KBDI level of 400-600 is "typical of late summer, early fall. Lower litter and duff layers contribute to fire intensity and will burn actively." Other area counties such as McLennan, Williamson and Hill have already

issued burn bans as they are also in the 400-600 KBDI level.

Casey told commissioners that there were at least three grassfires in the county last week. "The high winds have evaporated what little rain we have gotten in other parts of the county," Casey said.

Commissioners also discussed purchasing roadside flip-signs to better inform the public when a burn ban has gone into effect. Casey asked commissioners during a workshop session to consider purchasing 25 signs that would be placed in the rural parts of the county. The court may consider the roadside signs, which may cost as much as \$50

each, at a later meeting.

In other business, commissioners discussed voting machines. In particular, Williamson County efforts to come into compliance with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA). Williamson County appointed a Task Force to address the compliance issues of the HAVA. The Task Force recommends that the County purchase one touch-screen machine for each precinct in the county that will be used for handicapped voters. The county will use paper ballots and Opti-scan machines to serve other voters.

Bell County officials are researching options to

SEE COMMISSIONERS, PAGE 5A

Local Youth Fair Boosters host final fundraiser before Ag Show

The Salado Youth Fair Booster Club will have its last fundraiser for the 2004 Fair and Livestock Show, 7 p.m. Jan. 17. This will be a Casino Night at the Wildfire Roping Arena in the upstairs special events room.

Tickets are \$50 each and admits two adults and a chance to win a Flat Screen TV, 300 Weatherby Gun, ladies jewelry, and a variety of donated items from Salado and area businesses.

The Booster Club has raised \$28,000 so far with fundraisers such as the sausage wrap sale at the Salado Art Fair and the Reverse Raffle/Silent Auction held at the Expo Center.

The Booster Club is a non-profit organization that supports all Salado youths who participate in the Bell County Youth Fair and Livestock Show held each year in February at the Expo Center in Belton.

Tickets can be obtained at the door or by contacting Charlie and Deanna Christian at (254) 947-1564 or Mitchell and Keyla Sebek at (254) 947-9975.

Group seeks volunteers to work on facility

Unlike many other century-old Texas towns, Salado doesn't have an opera house. Not even a movie theatre.

At a public meeting in the Salado Civic Center attended by more than 50 people, this issue was discussed and recommendations were proposed by Performing and Visual Arts Center (PVAC) committee members SISD Superintendent Robin Battershell, Chamber President Darwin Britt, Dr. Raymond Carver, Mayor Charlotte Douglas and Dr. John Van Cura.

Britt reported that last spring a PVAC committee was formed by the Salado Chamber of Commerce to study the feasibility of building a 300- to 500-seat theatre and visual arts facility for Salado. Individuals who volunteered

to serve on the committee met more than a dozen times and visited three arts buildings in Bell County: a public school auditorium, an arts facility with many user groups including performing and visual arts and educational groups, and a building that is owned and managed by a performing arts group that occasionally rents out the theatre.

After assessing facilities currently available in Salado, the unanimous conclusion of the group was that existing buildings would not suit all performing and visual arts needs that exist in Salado.

The middle school auditorium is heavily scheduled during the school year, serving most school functions adequately.

Tablerock outdoor amphitheatre is a unique facility that is available for

large and small performing arts audiences.

Neither of the two accommodate visual arts events and activities.

The committee also concluded that it will be very difficult for a village the size of Salado to raise the money without the support of the community sharing the cost of the project.

The committee decided in December to reach out to the community to find volunteers for a steering committee to raise funds as well as work with other groups to explore and clearly define needs.

Various committees are these:

- Scale (how large should it be?)
- Aegis (Who will manage it?)
- Location (Where will it be located?)



Members of the Performing and Visual Arts Committee are Darwin Britt, Mayor Charlotte Douglass and Superintendent Robin Battershell.

- Design (What will it look like?)
- Functions (What functions will it serve?)

Funding (What sources of funding?)

To volunteer or inquire about the PVAC com-

mittee, call the Chamber of Commerce office at 947-5040.

FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas

LEGAL SCHOLARS DEBATE IF BRING CREEPY IS A CRIME...



A blow for flower power

For those worried that tests around the country are systematically being watered down in a backlash against standards and accountability, there is good news and bad news out of Louisiana. The good news is that the Bayou State is maintaining the strictest possible standards and routinely handing out failing marks. The bad news is that it is doing so on a state-mandated floral exam that is so absurd it's like something out of "Monty Python's Flying Circus."

You can't become a florist in Louisiana without passing a ridiculously difficult and subjective state-licensing exam, which is a blatant way for existing florists to lock newcomers out of the market. During the past three years, the pass rate for the floral exam has been less than 50 percent. Louisiana is freewheeling when it comes to drunkenness, public nudity and political corruption, but boy, try to arrange flowers without proper accreditation, and the authorities will attempt to keep you from touching baby's breath in Louisiana ever again.

The Washington, D.C.-based public-interest law firm Institute for Justice has brought suit against the Louisiana law as part of its national campaign against such anti-competitive regulations, the sole purpose of which is to lock newcomers out of a given market. These regs are classic cases of the politically powerful, in the form of current business owners, twisting government to their ends.

The rules are usually profoundly silly, since they serve no public purpose. The Louisiana regulations, for instance, say that "cut-flower dealers" can sell flowers singly or in bunches without a license -- so

Rich Lowry Column

long as they don't mix together different kinds of flowers or put the flowers in a vase, because that would constitute dangerous "floral arranging."

To become a licensed florist in Louisiana requires passing an exam that costs \$150 to take and has a one-hour written test and a four-hour practical portion. For the practical section, an applicant makes arrangements that are judged on, among other things, whether the flowers have been "picked properly" and "spaced effectively." Current florists judge the tests and have an interest in having people fail so that they won't provide future competition (especially, of course, with ineffectively spaced flowers).

IJ has the records of one applicant who passed the exam only on her fifth try. On one of her failing tests, one judge gave her a perfect 10 for a wedding design, while three other judges gave her a zero. This makes the judging of Olympic figure skating look scientific by comparison.

Florists don't go into their line of work to get rich, but because they find it rewarding. They should be able to pursue it without state harassment. A band of warriors for liberty, IJ has recently helped open markets for cab drivers, hair-braiders, book vendors, casket sellers and vintners. May the florists of Louisiana be next, in a blow for common sense and Flower Power.

Federal panel delays redistricting decision; Democrat's reversal hopes dwindle; Bell power to shift south?

The three judge federal panel sitting in Austin disappointed a lot of folks last Friday when they failed to render, as promised, their decision as to the validity of the Republican congressional redistricting map that has been before them for months.

Democrats are particularly nervous since they are hoping against odds that the jurists will keep the old congressional districts in place by simply overturning the recently created map that produced the worst jumble of House districts ever seen in Texas.

Chances that the judicial panel will dump the new redistricting scheme are slim-to-none. They might make a few cosmetic changes but overall - things will remain as is and Bell County Democrats will have to get used to living in their new District 31, under incumbent congressman John Carter (R-Georgetown) or try and round up a local Demo candidate who has a chance to win - which could only happen if a sizeable number of local Republicans decide to switch parties - a feat not likely to happen anytime soon.

CONGRESSIONAL LINEUP

Once the redistricting decision is finalized by the court - local congressional candidates will either remain in place (provided the new map is scuttled) or if the court upholds the revised district layout, refile by Jan 16 in either of the two new districts (17 or 31). Currently, incumbent Chet Edwards (D-Waco); Wes Riddle (R-Belton); Dot Snyder (R-Waco) and Mike Conaway (R-Midland) have all filed in their respective primaries to represent District 11 as it is now constituted.

THANKS FOR THE MEMORY

At the end of each year, the media lists the "famous or infamous" people who died during the preceding 12 months and the rest of us take a moment to remember those who have a special place in our hearts and minds.

For this writer - one such person was Bob Hope, who died at age 100 last year and whose passing brought back a flood of memories - especially to those who served in the military during the Second World War, Korea and Viet Nam - because no matter where you were or how bad things might get, you could count on looking up and there was Bob and his group of pretty girls, a band and that wonderful theme song: "Thanks For The Memories."

Bob always took an irreverent poke at the local brass, as well as the politicians back home, and brought hearty laughs to men and women who really had nothing much to be happy about - so far from home and facing such grim realities as wartime combat.

Bob Hope was born in 1903 in England. Soon thereafter, his family migrated to America - landing in Cleveland, Ohio where he grew up. After trying his hand at professional boxing, Bob decided it was less dangerous on the stage and made an immediate hit as a song and dance performer on the Keith Vaudeville Circuit and the rest - as they say - is entertainment history.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

One enterprising collector of data took a look at 1903, the year this world famous entertainer was born. So, just for fun - we lifted some of these amazing statistics from 1903 - and are willing to bet many of them will amaze and perhaps

Off the Record

by Ken Clapp



Also, a look back at Bob Hope and FDR's impact during dark days of WWII and Depression.

even shock you, if you're not beyond those feelings after a year such as the one we've just come through.

America had only 45 States back in 1903 - Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii and Alaska had not been admitted; average life expectancy was 47 and the leading cause of death was pneumonia and influenza. Only 14 percent of our homes had a bathtub and a scant eight percent had telephones - a three minute call from Denver to New York City was \$11.00.

Average pay was 22 cents an hour which figured out to between two and four hundred bucks a year. The highest annual wages were paid to engineers (\$5,000 year); dentists (\$2,500); accountants (\$2,000) and veterinarians, between \$1,500 to \$4,000.

Only six percent of Americans had graduated from high school; 95 percent of the population was born at home; California was the 21st most populous state (Las Vegas had a grand total of 30 people) and throughout the entire country, there were just 8,000 cars, driving on some 144 miles of paved roadways at the reckless speed of some 10 miles per hour - maximum set by law.

And you probably know where folks went to the bathroom when absolutely necessary. Hardly the good old days to be revered and longed for - despite our older and more conservative generation that tends to become rapturous about the past - which only lends fuel to the debate about which were (or are) the "Best Years of Our Lives" - yesterday, today or tomorrow?

"ONLY THING TO FEAR"

We would opt for the future - even if it is filled with the terror and unknowns of this new century - while at the same time never forgetting the lessons of the past (in order to avoid repeating them).

So in retrospect - we again thank Bob Hope - "For The Memories" and for his life that brought light and laughter during the dark days of WWII when the future of the world hung in the balance.

We would also urge readers to recall President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's first inaugural address (March 4, 1933) when America was in deep despair and this great man calmed us with reassuring words: "The only thing we have to fear, is fear itself."

Those stirring thoughts could easily be restated and offered today as we daily face terror, war and unrest throughout the country and world - since there is the same resonance of truth attached to them as there was some 70 years ago.

Only difference is that the Rooseveltian prose came from a leader people trusted even in the darkest days of the 1930's, whereas altogether too many of today's "leaders" lack that certain "quality" that separates forever those who inspire with words and those who just talk!

That's 30-

Salado Village Voice is published every Wednesday, 213 Mill Creek Dr, Suite #125, PO Box 587, Salado, Texas 76571. **Subscription Rates:** \$26 per year in Bell County, \$28 per year outside of Bell County; \$35 per year outside of Texas.
 Phone: 254/947-5321 Fax: (254) 947-9479 Office Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays
 News releases: saladovillagevoice@earthlink.net
 Display advertising: saladovillagevoice@earthlink.net
Deadlines: Display ads • noon Fridays Classified ads • 12 noon Mondays
Editorial policies: Opinions on the editorial pages are those of the writer, not necessarily the owners or employees of the Salado Village Voice. All letters to the editor should be signed and have a phone number and address for verification. The editor reserves the right to reject and/or edit any letter. Letters should address issues, not personalities and should be concise and constructive in approach. Letters should be limited to 300 words.
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Internet taxation proves "no permanent victory"

Heritage Forum

Edwin Feulner

One of Feulner's Laws of Public Policy reads: "There are no permanent victories in Washington." These days, we're seeing that law borne out over Internet taxation.

This looked settled years ago. Congress has voted twice - in 1998 and 2001 - to ban any taxes on internet access. Those acts also prevented states from slapping any additional sales taxes on internet purchases.

Online commerce has skyrocketed during the last five years, and it's been helped along by these tax bans. Shoppers enjoy the convenience and comfort of shopping at home. Plus, they boosted the economy with all the high-tech computer equipment they bought to make online purchases.

But there's one piece of bad news. The moratoriums were only temporary. The latest expired on Nov. 1. If Congress doesn't act quickly, states will step in and start passing their own internet taxation laws, which could harm businesses and disrupt the entire high-tech industry.

Sen. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., has proposed renewing the moratorium, but with one key change. He wants to "level the playing field" between internet providers and telephone companies. "The internet is not a baby in a crib anymore, it's a grown-up business," he announced recently. "It can at least afford to hire some of the most expensive lobbyists."

In the interest of "fairness," he's introduced a measure that would allow states to begin taxing internet services just as they already do phone services.

That's a big mistake, one that could cause long-term harm. After all, the internet drives the new economy and is also a big part of the current economic recovery.

Virtually every day, new technologies come online.

One example is called "Voice Over Internet Protocol." VOIP enables us to make telephone calls over the internet. That's significant, especially when you consider how many more people own computers today than in 1998 and how many of us conduct more business via e-mail

than we do by phone. Five years from now, we could be conducting all our business through the computer - if VOIP technology is allowed to mature tax-free.

But states are eager to impose taxation - and lots of it - on this emerging technology. They collect plenty of revenue from phone taxes. In fact, about 25 percent of the average residential phone bill is taxes. States want to slap the same taxes on VOIP.

But it makes no sense to simply apply yesterday's taxes to tomorrow's technology. The government doesn't need to tax everything, and it should attempt to avoid imposing new taxes that will then be in place for years and decades to come. Plus, unless people think they're going to get savings and convenience, they're not going to bother investing in and learning to use VOIP. A promising new technology could be strangled in the crib by high taxes.

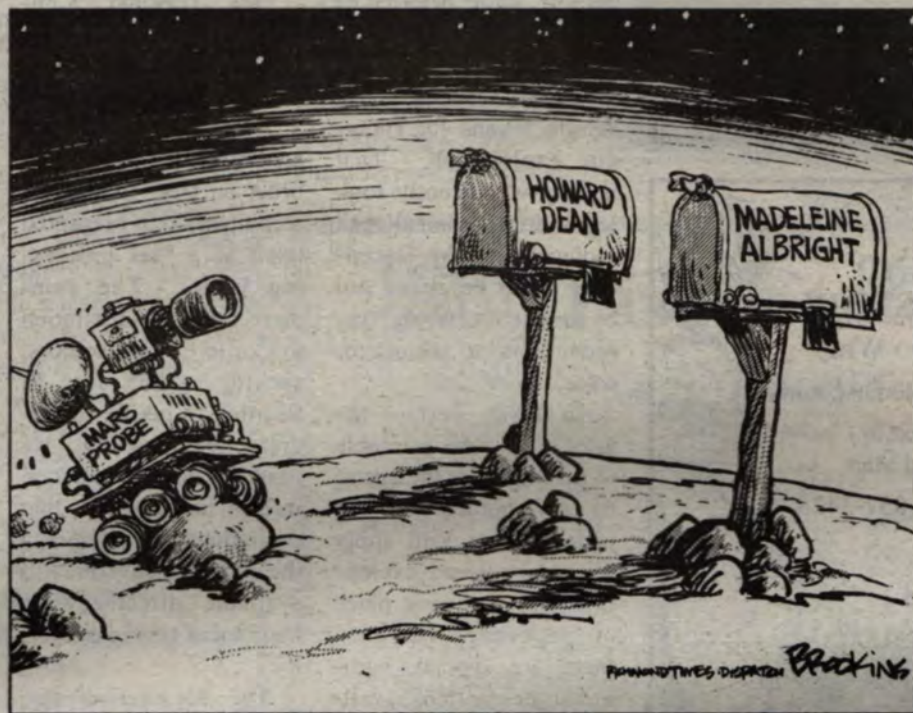
If lawmakers really want to promote fairness, they should permanently end all taxes on internet services. Right now, 10 states have some form of internet taxation. They've been allowed to maintain those taxes because they had imposed them before Congress passed its moratorium in 1998.

This makes no sense. In effect, federal lawmakers are rewarding 10 states for quickly imposing taxes on an emerging technology. That isn't something we ought to encourage. In fact, just the opposite. If we want greater tax revenue, we shouldn't tax the internet, the unquestioned leading source of innovation in today's economy. We should give the internet time and space to grow. As it does, it will generate higher tax revenues through greater profits and higher wages.

It's time for federal lawmakers to settle this before states jump in and start imposing a variety of internet commerce and access taxes. Then maybe, on this issue at least, we can finally declare victory.

Ed Feulner is the president of The Heritage Foundation, www.heritage.org, a Washington-based public policy research institute.

FORUM



Texans talk education

Mother Goose tales, Big Chief writing tablets, Aesop's Fables, Dick and Jane books ... these classic schoolhouse mementos instantly conjure up images of childhoods long since past. For many of us, our first step toward success in life was through the doors of a public school where these classic tools helped us learn the three "R's" - reading, writing and 'rithmetic.

In 1980, the Department of Education was formed with the directive to "ensure that all have equal access to education and to promote excellence in our nation's schools." In my annual survey I posed the following question about the state of our nation's education system: "In January 2002, the president signed into law historic education reform, the 'No Child Left Behind Act.' The legislation encourages innovation, teaches students based on what works and makes schools accountable for achievement. As we implement the reforms, it is important to ensure they continue to enhance our system of public education and meet the needs of our nation's children. In your opinion, what should we be doing to improve our public schools?"

That question provoked strong opinions, as Texans far and wide are clearly concerned with the education of their children. When it comes to student testing, 63 percent of you felt we needed an increase, with the remainder thinking we needed a decrease. Equal numbers of you felt that, while we should pay teachers more, we should also require teacher testing in their field. And I

Capitol Comment



Kay Bailey Hutchison
U.S. Senator



received hearty support for the need to add creativity in curriculum, and teaching methods, as well as for the idea of giving performance bonuses to teachers and schools.

Below is a small sampling of the feedback I received on this important issue:

- Increase student and parent accountability. Harvey, Houston
- Offer vouchers for children in schools that don't perform. Delaney, Georgetown
- Increase the use of charter schools and allow schools to compete for students. Allow parents and students to choose from schools in their district. Sean, Houston
- More instructional teaching and less classroom worksheets. John, Allen
- There is a big difference between testing and teaching. Better pay encourages better teachers and more men to enter into and stay in the profession. Nancy, San Antonio
- Get the unions out of the classroom. Ray, Spring
- Many students are uninspired by their teachers and their ability to properly instruct. Larry, Azle
- Encourage smaller class sizes, especially in primary grades. Mary, Brownsville
- Creativity is so important to the development of our children. Kerry, Boerne
- Give each teacher

more flexibility in the classroom. Each student is an individual and requires different ways of teaching. Most teachers should be more creative. Testing should be done but it is not the most important thing. A great teacher once told me that most important thing you can give any child is a love of learning. Vickie, Fredericksburg

As we begin our third year under No Child Left Behind, the Department of Education will continue to tackle the challenges facing our nation's education system. As with all legislation, this received some criticism, which I think is best deflected in the words of Texan, and U.S. Secretary of Education, Rod Paige.

He said, "There is no doubt No Child Left Behind is a tough law. True reform is never easy. But with the unprecedented levels of federal funding for education, new options for parents, historic amounts of flexibility for state and local leaders to target resources where they are needed most, and an emphasis on teaching methods and programs that have been scientifically proven to work, we're already off to a great start."

In December, the Department of Education announced that 26 Texas schools had been designated as "Blue Ribbon Award" honorees. We'll continue to work until all of our schools are Blue Ribbon Schools.

Ted Koppel Primary



Jim Hightower

Who needs presidential primaries when we've got Ted Koppel?

America's media sparklies have gotten way too big for their britches. Take a gander at the puffed-up arrogance of Koppel and his network, ABC, toward our country's democratic electoral process. Ted recently moderated a debate in New Hampshire among the nine Democrats running for president.

But ABC's celebrity newsman, who in recent years has become almost- visibly bloated with this own sense of self-importance, decided that he was the star of the show - and what a show he put on!

At the start, he dismissed any talk of issues, instead pestering the candidates with questions about polls, endorsements, fundraising, and other inside-the-beltway jabberwocky about electioneering process. Then he turned kingmaker, assailing Dennis Kucinich, Al Sharpton, and Carol Mosely-Braun for only being in the race for "vanity" - totally ignoring the fact that these three have put forth many of the best policy ideas.

Oozing disdain, Koppel turned on Kucinich, saying, "You're not doing terribly well with money. You're doing even worse in the polls. When do you drop out?"

But Kucinich refused to be bullied by Boss Koppel. Here's his retort: "I want the American people to see where the media takes politics in this country. To start [by] talking about endorsements. Now we're talking about polls. And then we're talking about money. Well, you know, when you do that, you don't have to talk about what's important to the American people." The audience erupted in applause.

The very next day, ABC retaliated by pulling its journalists from the campaigns of Kucinich, Sharpton and Mosely-Braun. Not that ABC had been allowing much airtime for any of them - all three of these candidates combined had been mentioned only 10 times this entire year on ABC's nightly news show.

Even before the primaries begin and the people get to vote, ABC has unilaterally eliminated a third of the Democratic contenders. Call it the Koppel Primary.

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Seniors beware of tax scams

By GREG ABBOTT
TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL

Protecting senior citizens is a top priority of my administration. We do not tolerate individuals or businesses that target senior Texans for financial exploitation. That is why we recently took legal action to halt alleged violations of the Deceptive Trade Practices Act by an outfit offering "tax reductions" to seniors for a fee.

In Texas, certain tax advantages are available to persons over the age of 65. Any homeowner, not just a senior, can apply for a homestead exemption on a primary place of residence. However, there are special, additional exemptions available to seniors. You can contact your local tax assessor/collector for more information.

There is no fee for making the application for a homestead exemption. However, certain companies offer to "process" the application for a fee. Generally, the company is simply filling out the application and filing it for you. You could easily save the fee by filling out this simple application for yourself.

Some companies in the past have styled their advertising to make it appear that they are an official taxing authority, or that their fee must be paid in order for the homeowner to receive the exemption. In fact, the

law requires the company to make it quite clear that they are not a governmental agency.

Our regional Consumer Protection Office in Dallas, acting on consumer complaints, filed a lawsuit and obtained a temporary restraining order on Dec. 17, against a company that presented itself as a "tax processing center." The company mailed a solicitation to Collin County seniors, seeking a \$55 fee. In addition to taking immediate legal action, we issued a Senior Alert to inform homeowners that the reductions offered in the sales pitch were all available directly from their local taxing authority.

The solicitation also mentioned a tax "freeze" for the elderly. This is a reference to another option available to seniors. The option is better described as a ceiling, rather than a freeze, because it provides that their property taxes will not go up for that home so long as there are no new improvements, once they have registered as over-65 homeowners. If for some reason their property is reassessed at a lower value, their taxes may go down, but they may not go up. There is no fee for applying for this benefit.

Another tax provision that may benefit a senior homeowner is the property tax deferral. This is an arrangement that makes it so that seniors

may defer, or delay, the payment of taxes. The tax must still eventually be paid, but it is allowed to simply accrue during the homeowner's lifetime. The unpaid taxes do accrue interest, however. The deferred taxes and interest are then eventually paid out of the estate after the homeowner's death.

The tax deferral can be a great benefit for certain homeowners with limited income. If the homeowner has applied for deferral, there are no penalties for delaying the payment of the taxes. However, a tax lien is

placed on the property. Seniors may choose not to use the deferral option, because it can significantly reduce the value of their estate and the amount their heirs will inherit. But for some senior homeowners, it may provide much needed relief.

Beware of any solicitation that involves a fee to apply or register you for tax reductions, freezes, ceilings or deferrals. You can apply for any of those benefits yourself from your local taxing authority.

POINTS TO REMEMBER
Tax Breaks for Senior Texans

- No fee to apply for special homestead exemptions
- No fee to register for tax ceilings
- No fee to apply for deferrals
- Deferrals are recouped from the estate, with interest
- Tax deferral creates a tax lien on the property

Contact your local county tax assessor-collector for more information.

Sign up to receive our Senior Alerts in the Senior Texans section of our Web site at:
www.oag.state.tx.us

Contact your local Area Agency on Aging to inquire about programs and services for seniors at (800) 252-9240.

Legal Hotline for Older Texans
free legal advice to Texans age 60+
(800) 622-2520

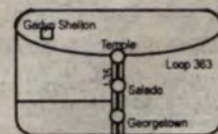
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Galligan takes umbrage with predictions

To the Editor:

Dear Mr. (Ken) Clapp,
I found it somewhat amusing to read your predictions for 2004, particularly as they related to the Jail/Courthouse issue. For unexplained reasons, your questionable predictions extended to the year 2006, when County Judge John Burrows is up for reelection, and you state that he would "win in a walk" if I were ever to challenge him.

What a hoot -- the past September Bond Election is a direct reflection of what Bell County voters think about Judge Burrows and the current batch of Commissioners. Have you forgotten the fact that, notwithstanding the expenditure of significant taxpayer dollars to advance their cause, the Commissioners' proposal went down in flames. Here is my prediction -- the same thing will

Your Voice Letters to the Editor

happen in May 2004.

Suffice it to say, I think that many of your predictions will turn out to be wrong because you obviously have done little homework or conducted necessary interviews.

For example, you have never spoken with nor interviewed me, so you have no meaningful basis of knowledge for making any predictions about me, my views or political intentions, if any. There are, of course, a number of other reasons why your predictions should be viewed by the reader as suspect. For example, you predict that Bell County voters will "vote in record and approve the \$46 million dollar bond issue" to pay for a new jail

and courthouse.

Obviously, you have forgotten that these same voters rejected virtually the same proposal this past September, notwithstanding the fact that the taxpayers funded their one-sided advertisement in support of the issue.

Moreover, you seem to have overlooked the most recent newspaper internet poll (see *Killeen Daily Herald*, 3 Jan 04) reflecting that its readership continues to oppose the so-called new proposal.

Mr. Clapp, you are a journalist -- therefore, I would like to think that you are in favor of the First Amendment and side on open speech when controversial issues are in dispute.

Surprisingly, you made no mention of the fact that the Task Force appointed by Judge Burrows did not allow -- indeed, they voted against any opportunity for me or the other dissenters to the Task Force recommendations -- any opposing voice or opinion to be presented as a formal report.

Please tell me -- does that jive with your impression of open-government and freedom of expression? And finally, before you make any further predictions about how I might fare in any tete-a-tete with Judge John Burrows, would you please at least extend me the courtesy of an interview beforehand?

I think that would be consistent journalistic ethics -- more importantly, I think most of your readers would expect the same. Thank you.

John P. Galligan

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Commissioners

FROM PAGE 1A

come into compliance with HAVA law. The current lever voting machines are not certified for elections after Jan. 2006.

Bell County leaders hope to have some influence in changing HAVA to allow for lever voting

machines, which have an accuracy rate higher than optiscan and touch screen systems.

In lieu of having lever machines declared as legal, Bell County will have to implement another system for voters before Jan. 2006.

Systems that have been approved under HAVA include the touch screen voting systems (direct record devices) and optiscan systems with paper ballots.

If Bell County opts to

use the optiscan system, it will require all votes within the county to be counted at a central location. "A central count is a total mess!" opined County Clerk Vada Sutton.

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CHURCH NEWS

First Baptist Church • Main St. at the Creek

SUNDAY		WEDNESDAY	
Contemporary Worship/Bible Study	9:00 a.m.	Children's Choir	4:45 p.m.
Traditional Worship/Bible Study	10:30 a.m.	Jr. High Halltime	5:15 p.m.
Orchestra Rehearsal	4:45 p.m.	Fellowship Meal	5:30 p.m.
Adult Choir Rehearsal	5:00 p.m.	Youth Choir	6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Service	6:15 p.m.
		Team Kid (Age 3 - 6th grade)	6:00 p.m.
		Bible Drill (4th - 6th)	7:00 p.m.
		High School Halltime	7:00 p.m.



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John Warden Pastor
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Worship Schedule

Sunday School • 9:45 a.m.
Worship • 11 a.m.
Bible Study • 6 p.m.
Wednesday Praise & Prayer • 7:00 p.m.



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Romans 3:21-26

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Sunday School	10:00
Sunday Night Youth Group	6:00

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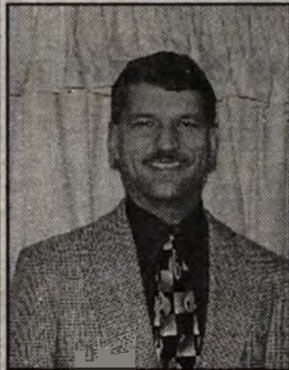
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Lowery-Nuse engaged



Adam Nuse and Sarah Lowery

Jim and Daisy Nuse, of Round Rock, formerly of Salado, have announced the engagement of their son, Adam Nuse to Sarah Lowery, of Oklahoma.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

Harry Lowery, of Tulsa, Oklahoma. She is a 2002 graduate of the University of Oklahoma and is owner/president of Tippi Toes Dance Company, with locations in Norman, Oklahoma City and Kansas City.

The bridegroom is a 1999 graduate of Salado High School, and a 2003 graduate of the University of Oklahoma. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in sports management at Wichita State University, in Kansas.

The couple plans a July 24, 2004 wedding at St. Mary's Church, in Tulsa.

Attention church secretaries: Friday is the deadline for news releases and calendar of event updates. Email information to saladovillagevoice@earthlink.net.

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Gravink memorial service Jan. 12

Ann Gordon Gravink, 67, died peacefully on Dec. 31, 2003 of cancer.

She was born in Houston on Dec 9, 1936 to DeWitt and Elizabeth Gordon. She is survived by her husband of 45 years Donald J. Gravink; daughter, Kathy Young; sons Jay Gravink and DeWitt "Dee" Gravink; and sister Jean Gordon.

As a child she attended St. Anne's, Kinkaid and St. John's in Houston, and graduated high school at St. Stephen's in Austin. She made her debut in Houston with the Allegro Assembly and HCC in 1957-1958.

She married Donald

Gravink in 1958 and throughout the years made homes in Houston, Corpus Christi, New Braunfels, Austin, Lago Vista, Georgetown and Salado. She was active in politics at the local, state and national levels. She was a Junior League member and volunteered for numerous charities.

A memorial service will be held at Salado United Methodist Church at 3:30pm. Jan. 12. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, St. Stephen's Episcopal School or The Salado Family Relief Fund P O Box 461, Salado, TX 76571.

Greene performs "Corrie Ten Boom" monologue at Catholic Church

Judy Greene will perform her original monologue profiling Corrie Ten Boom Jan. 12, in the St. Stephen Catholic Church Parish Hall, located on Holland Rd. east of Wildfire Ranch. This presentation is sponsored by the St. Stephen Women's Society and is open to everyone to come and enjoy with a 6:30 p.m. fellowship and 7 p.m. program.

Greene has researched, written, and performed the lives and times of six Historic Women of Faith. She considers herself very fortunate to have been given several unpublished audio tapes of Corrie Ten Boom herself, discussing her life experiences. Listening to Corrie speaking in her own words gives inspiration and realism to Judy's development of the persona of Corrie.

Greene writes and performs a narrative that incorporates all aspects of the lives of her chosen women. The audience becomes acquainted with

each woman, her thoughts, ideas and experiences as well as her faith and spiritual strength.

Her first monologue was developed from a request by a former Salado United Methodist Minister who was looking for a program for his church meeting. She had never researched, written and performed such a monologue before, but she promised she would do the work to accomplish it. Her husband, A.C. Greene, well known author as well as writer for the *Dallas Morning News* encouraged her. The first monologue was "Joan of Arc." Most of the "opening performances" of her monologues were presented at the Salado United Methodist Church.

With Judy's degree in history and love of acting, these monologues combine the best of both her major interests, and have become a mission to encourage an understanding and appreciation of both spirituality and history for her audiences.

She has performed throughout the state of Texas for church women's groups, colleges and universities.

Greene also has written several plays, two of which, "Tea at the Adolphus" and "Past Tense", have been performed for the Living Room Theater as well as United Methodist Church, Christian Farms Tree House and the Aztec Theatre in Albany.

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Bell County Youth Fair to hold drawing on Feb. 14

BY COURTNEY FELDER AND RANDALL RAKOWITZ COUNTY EXT. AGENTS

The Bell County Youth Fair FCS Division entry materials (foam plates, bags, etc.) are now available for pick-up at the County Extension Office. All 4-H club and FFA/FCCLA chapter leaders are asked to come pick up their club members' supplies as soon as possible. These supplies need to be distributed at your next club/chapter meeting.

Bell County 4-H has officially kicked off its fundraiser. Tickets are currently being sold for a drawing, which will take place on Feb. 14. The three prizes you could possibly win are: John Deere LT 150 Mower, Laptop Computer, and BBQ Grill. One ticket, for one chance to win is \$5. All proceeds will go to support the Bell County 4-H program, activities, events, and attendance at various leadership camps throughout the 4-H year.

All 4-H club managers are asked to pick up tickets for their club members and distribute them at your next 4-H meeting. Each 4-H member is asked to

sell 10 tickets. The top three ticket sellers will also receive cash prizes in the amounts of \$100, \$50, and \$25. For more information, contact the Bell County Extension Office.

The Bell County 4-H Consumer Decision Making participants will have their first practice 4 p.m. Jan. 8 at the County Extension Office. All interested 4-H'ers are encouraged to attend this very important first practice, where you will receive your study guides and an overview of the contest.

"Welcome to the Real World!" This real world program consists of four parts: career exploration, expenditure decision making, money management, and choice evaluation. It is an active, hands-on, real-life simulation that gives young people the opportunity to explore career opportunities and make lifestyle and budget choices similar to those adult face on a daily basis.

Participants assume that they have completed basic educational requirements for a job and are single, 25 years of age, and independent with no finan-

cial support from family or others. After investigating potential careers, participants receive a monthly salary for their chosen career. They then proceed through the Real World activity, deducting taxes, determining a savings amount, and spending their monthly "salary" on the necessary or luxury items that reflect the career and lifestyle they have chosen.

"Welcome to the Real World" will take place here in Bell County 9 a.m.-noon Jan. 9 at the Bell County Expo Center. RSVP Jan. 8, so that appropriate supplies can be acquired and arrangements made. Adults are also welcome to attend and help out.

The Texas/Michigan 4-H Exchange Group will meet 5:30 p.m. Jan. 12 in the conference room of the County Extension Office. It is very important for all participants, and those interested, to attend this fundraising planning meeting.

Rabbit validation for the 2004 Bell County Youth Fair has been changed. The new date for rabbit validation is 5:30-7:30 p.m. Jan. 24 at the Bell County Extension Office. Anyone

wishing to show market fryers in February must validate them on this night. Also, anyone needing to have breeding rabbits tattooed may do so at this time. There is a \$1 validation fee.

Ride nights for the Bell County Youth Fair have been scheduled for the month of January. These ride nights are for youth who are entered in the 2004 BCYF only, and no adult riders are allowed. Monday nights will be dedicated to Judged Event riders and Tuesday nights will be offered to Timed Event competitors.

These practice sessions will be held at the Bell County Expo Center in Building C Arena from 6-8 p.m. for judged competitors and from 5-8:30 p.m. for timed event competitors. You must have negative Coggins papers in hand each time you come to the Expo Center. Contestants will be able to ride in the dome 3-10 p.m. Feb. 6.

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Kampgrounds of America, Inc. receives award

Kampgrounds of America, Inc. recently honored Belton/Temple/Killeen owner, Alice Oltmer, with the KOA President's Award for their outstanding facility and operation.

The President's Award is given to KOA Kampgrounds that received exceptional scores on their quality assurance facilities review, for being a positive part of the KOA system, and for receiving high scores on their annual camper satisfaction survey from their own camping guests. As part of this award, winners receive special signs, flags, and nametags for their campground and staff to denote

Mayor to address Ladies Auxiliary Jan. 8

Mayor Charlotte Douglas will address the Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary 10 a.m. Jan. 8 at the Civic Center.

She will speak on the "State of the Village."

The Ladies Auxiliary will be celebrating their 30th anniversary in the community and introducing officers for 2004. Dues may be paid at this time.

their status as a KOA President Award winner.

"Campers want great service and top-notch camping facilities, and we're delivering both," said Jim Rogers, KOA Inc. President and CEO. "Recognizing our campground owners and managers with the President's award shows that we value

the hard work that they put into operating a successful KOA."

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SPORTS

Happy holiday for Eagles; Salado wins tourney, beats Bees

All things considered, the Varsity Eagles are having a successful season thus far. The team recently wrapped up the holidays by posting four consecutive wins to take the title in the Sinton tournament, then followed that with a 30-point trouncing of district rival Academy Jan. 2. The run of five straight victories gave Salado 17 for the year, against only three losses.

Sinton Tournament Dec. 29-30

Salado 60
Woodsboro 47

Matt Caskey, who was torrid the entire tournament, paced a win for the Eagles that wasn't certain until the fourth period. The 5'9" point guard scored 15 of his game-high 23 points in the first half, but Salado led by only six, 28-22.

On the strength of four three pointers in the third, Woodsboro prevented Salado from extending their halftime lead, but nine free throws by four different

Eagles down the stretch iced the win.

Following behind Caskey's offensive performance was Josh Wright, who dropped in 10 points. Travis Clark finished with nine, Devon Dunn had seven and Matt Jennings scored five.

Salado 52
Rio Hondo 49

Class AAA Rio Hondo, coming up from the Valley, gave the Eagles all they could handle. Coach Tom Long's squad played, in his words, "three and a half bad quarters and half a good one," good enough to erase a fourth period deficit and keep Salado in the winner's bracket.

The Eagles trailed nearly the entire game, but strong shooting in the fourth put Salado up for good.

Dunn topped Salado's scorers, dropping in 14. Wright contributed a dozen and Caskey scored 10 points.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10A



Matt Jennings yanks down a board versus Academy. Salado won by 30 points, dominating in their first district game. (PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)

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Salado School Menus
Jan. 7 - 13

Breakfast Menu
Jan. 7: Glazed Donut, Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk
Jan. 8: Sausage Rolls, Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk
Jan. 9: Biscuit, Sausage Patty, Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk
Jan. 12: Breakfast on a Stick, Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk
Jan. 13: French Toast, Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk

Lunch Menu
Jan. 7: Pizza, Breadstick, Peaches, Chef Salad, Hoagie, Milk
Jan. 8: Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Apricots, Rolls, Chef Salad, Hoagie, Milk
Jan. 9: Cheeseburger, Fries, Burger Salad, Applesauce, Fruity Freeze, Chef Salad, Hoagie, Milk
Jan. 12: Chicken & Noodles, Broccoli w/Cheese, Pineapple, Texas Toast, Chef Salad, Hoagie, Milk
Jan. 13: Burrito, Mixed Vegetables, Carrot Sticks, Applesauce, Chef Salad, Hoagie, Milk

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Girls start district with loss, suffer defeats in Gatesville

Over the Christmas break, the Lady Eagles continued to struggle with consistency, dropping four-of-five games in a seven-day span.

Salado 46
Liberty Hill 68

Traveling to Liberty Hill Dec. 27, the Lady Eagles had difficulty containing the Lady Panther offense. Salado fell behind 20-3 after one period, and were unable to bridge the gap over the remainder of the game.

Laramie Jackson led Salado with 12 points. Amanda Tumey scored 10, Brittany Boydston and Kelsey Smith both had six, and Jo Washburn contributed five points.

Gatesville Tournament, Dec. 29-31

Salado 36
Lampasas 32

The Lady Eagles rebounded from their defeat at Liberty Hill to squeeze out a four point win over Lampasas in the first round of the Gatesville tournament.

Both teams had trouble scoring points throughout, however, staunch Lady Eagle defense down the stretch proved to be the deciding factor. A late rally by Lampasas, after they fell behind by seven points in the third, was insufficient in the end.

Jackson paced the offense again, scoring 13 points for the game. Boydston had eight points, and Elizabeth Dunlap scored six.

Salado 48
Waco University 61

Looking to carry over momentum from their first round win, Salado ran up against Waco University and came up 13 points short when the final buzzer sounded. Although eight



Lady Eagles and Lady Bees scrum for the ball in Salado's loss to Academy Jan. 2. (PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)

Lady Eagles got on the scoreboard, University's offense was too powerful to overcome. Both teams came out of the gate scoring, with University leading 24-16 after one. The scoreboard still favored University at the half, though by that time Salado had cut the lead to one point, 31-30.

That's when Salado went cold. A five point third period was the difference in the game. Afterwards, the gap in scoring was too big to fill.

Boydston scored all of her team high 13 points in

the first half, while Jenny Goode drained three three-pointers on her way to 11 for the game. Washburn also had a trio of three pointers. She finished with 10 points.

Salado 34
Orangefield 51

Trailing 25-24 at the half, the Lady Eagles offense proceeded to grind to a halt in the game's latter half. The offensive struggles included only three points total in the fourth period.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16A

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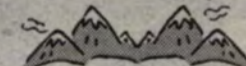
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BOYS BASKETBALL FROM PAGE 8A

Salado 56
Port Lavaca Calhoun 46

Giving up two classes in size, the Eagles put it to Class AAAA Port Lavaca Calhoun in the tournament's third round.

Calhoun had no answer for forward Travis Clark, who scored a game high 25 points, including two three pointers and 7-of-8 from the free throw line.

Salado led comfortably throughout, and the Eagles were again aided by timely free throw shooting in the fourth, accompanied by strong defense throughout.

Caskey finished with 11 points for the game, while Jennings and Dunn each scored nine points in the win.

Salado 53
Gregory Portland 34

Again taking on a Class AAAA opponent, the Eagles closed out their stay in Sinton with an impressive 19-point throttling of their Gulf Coast foe in the championship game.

The rout started early. Salado held Gregory Portland to three first period points, and took a 23-12 lead into halftime. Cruising through the third period with just nine points scored,

the Eagles, by virtue of continuous fouls from Gregory Portland, poured it on in the fourth, broadening the margin of victory.

In the fourth period alone, Salado converted 11-of-19 free throw shots. Caskey closed out his tournament in style, leading all scorers with 20 points.

Jennings, who connected on a trio of three pointers, finished the game with 13 points, and Dunn dropped in four buckets to finish with eight. A total of nine Salado players scored points in the championship game.

Caskey, who averaged 16 ppg in the tournament, was named the tourney MVP. Dunn (9.5 ppg) and Jennings (8.75 ppg) were both named to the all tournament team. Clark also had a strong tournament, averaging 11 ppg.

Salado 74
Academy 44

In the first district game of the year, the Eagles dispatched perennial rival Academy in convincing fashion Jan. 2, cruising to a 30-point victory.

The game started out close enough. Salado led the Bees 15-12 after one, but poured in 49 points in the next two periods to put the game out of reach. Academy's big blunder seemed to be putting Caskey on the line 14 times. The point guard drained 12 of those attempts on his way to a game-high 22 points.

The Eagles also received two 17 point efforts, one from the hot-handed Clark and the other from the consistent Josh Wright. Dunn chipped-in nine points, Jennings had five and Nick Everett contributed three points.

"Academy played very well in the first," said Coach Tom Long, "but we shot the ball extremely well in the second and the third. Devon Dunn did an excellent job on the boards and



Devon Dunn outmuscles an Academy defender. (PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)



Pictured above is Sinton tournament MVP Matt Caskey (center), and all-tournament players Matt Jennings (left) and Devon Dunn (right). (PHOTO BY DEBBIE WILLIAMS)

Josh Wright had a very solid all-around game with excellent defense." After a Jan. 6 game in Florence, the Eagles host Jarrell Jan. 9, with subvarsity games beginning at 5 p.m.

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No New Stuff!

Lifesavers for a new year

You've made the resolutions and perhaps violated a few of them by now. You know the vows: clean out the garage, keep in better touch with friends and family, save money.

But there are some health and fitness resolutions that could save your life, according to Texas Commissioner of Health Eduardo Sanchez, M.D.

"If people would remember to do just five things, they could live longer, healthier lives," Sanchez said.

The five things are: eat smart, get fit, get shots, get checkups, screens and don't smoke.

Each of these suggestions alone is good for anyone to consider, Sanchez said. But together they provide a solid plan to help a person get healthy and stay that way.

First, more than 60 percent of the people in Texas are overweight or obese. Preliminary analysis by the Texas Department of Health (TDH) suggests that overweight and obesity cost an estimated \$10.2 billion in 2001 in Texas.

Healthy benefits come, nutritionists say, if people eat five to nine servings of fruit and vegetables a day. Other good choices include eating whole grains; taking smaller portions; selecting lean meat, fish and poultry; and reducing or eliminating fat, fried foods, sugar and salt.

In addition to an improved immune system, people who eat smart may avoid or delay problems such as diabetes, high blood pressure, elevated cholesterol and triglycerides (fats in the blood) that can lead to heart disease and stroke.

Next, are you having trouble getting moving? You are not alone. Urban

sprawl means more time in the car for many and busy schedules make getting fit a challenge.

Think about ways you can start slowly and build your activity level. Just 30 minutes of moderate to brisk exercise daily can strengthen your heart.

"Make it a family activity," Sanchez said. "Try fun runs, walks and other activities that can include family members of all ages."

Third, getting shots is something many adults don't think about: but pneumonia, one of the most serious infections for seniors, is easily prevented with a vaccine. While an influenza vaccine can't always completely cover all strains circulating, it does provide protection, and is especially important for those at risk of serious complications or death.

"Check with your health care provider about what shots are recommended and when," Sanchez said. "Most adults should get vaccinated against pneumonia and flu, especially those over age 65."

Or when is the last time you had a tetanus shot? The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends adults get a booster every 10 years.

Fourth on the list is getting checkups and screens. Many people don't visit a doctor until a problem occurs. This procrastination can be deadly.

Pap smears, mammograms and colorectal exams can detect cancerous activity early when treatment is most effective. Tests for cholesterol, triglyceride levels and blood pressure, along with a family history, can indicate if you are at risk for heart disease. People at

risk of developing diabetes can prevent serious complications or death if the disease is diagnosed and managed.

And finally, it's been repeated often; but, again, smoking is bad for your health. Tobacco use can

lead to deadly diseases such as lung cancer, emphysema and stroke.

"Make 2004 a year for positive behavioral change," Sanchez said. "You just may save your life."

Tips for Eating Smart

- Reduce portion size. If you eat out, order smaller portions or divide your entree and take half home.
- Drink fewer sodas. Over a year's time, one can of regular cola a day at 150 calories equals more than 15 pounds' worth of calories.
- Write down what you eat. You may be surprised by the incidental calories -- a bag of chips here, some candy there, really add up.
- Add fruit and vegetables. Substitute dried fruit for candy, add vegetables to soups, pasta, stir-fry dishes or casseroles.
- Limit snack foods, foods high in fat or sugar and processed foods since they have more calories and fewer nutrients.

Tips for getting fit

- Take a step in the right direction. Walking 10,000 steps a day (about five miles) helps to maintain a healthy weight. A pedometer will help you determine your steps.
- Go it on foot. Take the stairs instead of elevators, park further from your destination and walk. Encourage your children to walk to school where feasible, walk or ride a bicycle for short trips instead of taking the car. It all adds up.
- Start small. Incorporate 10 minutes of exercise a day at first, then gradually build to half an hour a day to maintain weight or an hour a day to lose weight.
- The more television a child watches, the more likely he or she is to be obese. Consider activities as a family such as going to the zoo or park, playing catch or skating.

Tips for quitting smoking

- For some people drinking coffee, driving or watching TV triggers a desire to smoke. Identify triggers for smoking and avoid or modify behavior.
- Choose healthy alternatives such as drinking water, taking a walk, or going to the movies or a library where smoking is not allowed.
- Be patient, most people make several attempts before they are able to quit permanently.
- Seek out a supportive friend or family member or call the American Cancer Society's Quitline at 1-877-937-7848.



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New law may put docs as cops

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While physicians believe prenatal care is critical to a baby's health, some doctors are concerned that a new Texas law intended to protect the fetus will actually scare some pregnant women away from the doctor's office, *Texas Medicine* magazine reports.

Senate Bill 319 passed this legislative session makes killing or injuring an "unborn child" illegal, except in cases of physicians performing lawful medical procedures.

So here's the surprise in the new law: Physicians may be required to play police or face prosecution themselves, the official publication of the Texas Med-

ical Association (TMA) reports in its January issue. Some say the law requires physicians who treat pregnant women known to be using illegal drugs to report those patients to authorities. Doctors not doing so could face prosecution.

Using illegal narcotics during pregnancy can hurt fetal development, which the law might label as a form of child abuse. Patients who use such substances would have their secret revealed while undergoing prenatal tests.

Besides being under the gun to "narc" on patients, physicians' greater fear is that the twist in the law will potentially harm more unborn babies, because pregnant drug users will avoid the doctor out of distrust. "Our reaction has been one of dismay because it really is going to force all drug usage underground," Amarillo obstetrician-gynecologist Brian Eades, MD, tells *Texas Medicine*.

"Patients aren't going to be willing to discuss their problem with us anymore."

Dr. Eades may be the proverbial canary in the coal mine, because a local district attorney's letter

wafting through doctor's offices signals the danger.

Potter-Armstrong District Attorney Rebecca King's September letter to physicians informs them of the requirement to report the women's drug use.

Texas Medicine notes her interpretation of the bill hinges on the legislation's definition of "individual" as combined with provisions of another law, the Controlled Substances Act and the Family Code. "Please report any abuse of children by voluntary injection of harmful narcotics by expectant mothers. Together, we will try to help both generations and...it is the law," her letter to doctors states.

Amarillo physicians have already begun reporting such patients to authorities.

However one of the two authors of the bill, Rep. Ray Allen (R-Grand Prairie), tells the magazine that this was not the intent of the law. "It was my express intent, as stated in the bill, that no action taken by the mother could form the basis of a prosecution," Representative Allen says. He adds that his intent is to allow action against "any third party who takes away

from the pregnant mother her constitutionally protected choice to give birth to a child."

Not everyone in the legal profession agrees on the law's potential side effects. Some tell the magazine that taking a case to trial may be the only way to have the issue decided.

But word is spreading, and confusion along with it. Moss Hampton, MD, director of the obstetrics and gynecology resident program at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Amarillo, reports, "I can tell you the first couple of times we did it the police department's reaction was, 'Why are you calling us?' They haven't been real gung-ho about rushing right out and handcuffing people and taking them to jail." Even so, TMA has learned of awareness or consideration of this interpretation of the law by legal authorities in North Texas, and in Dallas and Harris Counties. However *Texas Medicine* does not report a "rush" across the state to prosecute.

Still, another physician leader fears the new law will frighten pregnant women from seeking prenatal care. "If you've got somebody who is using drugs then what's going to happen is we're going to keep them out of the system," John Jennings, MD, a TMA physician leader and president of the Texas Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, tells *Texas Medicine*.

"They're going to avoid being seen to avoid being reported. Then you have a worse situation than when you at least have them coming in and being managed."

Cancer support group to meet Jan. 8

The Central Texas Prostate Cancer Support Group will meet 5:30 p.m. Jan. 8 at The Ronald McDonald House in Temple.

The history and meaning of Medical Ribbons, such as the familiar pink Breast Cancer ribbon, will be presented during the January meeting. Laurie Herzer, BSN, RN, OCN and Nurse Educator from the Scott & White Center for Cancer Prevention and Care will present the program.

The group, which is affiliated with the American Cancer Society, meets the second Thursday of each month. Anyone who would like information about prostate cancer is welcome.

Call the Scott & White Center for Cancer Prevention and Care, 724-1053, for more information.



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Using margin accounts for "Hot" stocks? Don't get burned

FINANCIAL FOCUS
By ALLEN MANTANONA

Baseball Hall of Famer Yogi Berra is credited with saying: "It's déjà vu all over again." This particular saying may have particular relevance to today's investment scene - with some potentially unfortunate consequences.

Over the past several months, investors enjoyed the appreciation of many stock prices - just as they did in the months before the stock market "bubble" burst in 2000. And some of these investors are buying these risky, volatile "hot" stocks on the margin; that is, they are borrowing money from their brokers to pay for these stocks. Margin account balances grew rapidly this year - similar to the way they did back in 1999 and early 2000.

Why does this recent investment history seem to be repeating itself? Let's look back to the technology stock boom in the late 1990s. When prices soared, investors learned that they could make money over a relatively short period of time. As we now know, many of these investors got burned. Yet, some of these same people believe they learned from the experience, and they believe they can make money trading "hot" stocks. They are so confident that stock prices will rise that they are willing to buy these stocks on the margin.

Of course, margin trading is risky, because it frequently involves the trading of volatile stocks. For margin transactions to be profitable, stock prices have to rise high enough to cover the commissions charged on the purchase, the commissions charged at the sale and the interest the borrower is charged on

the loan. If not sold at its high, the profit is quickly eroded by these charges.

As an investor, can you pick the right "hot" stock?

Can you come up with the funds immediately to meet a "margin call?" You might face a margin call if the value of your collateral - the stock in your brokerage account - no longer meets the requirement for the amount of money that you borrowed. Typically, a brokerage firm will lend you 50 percent of the value of stock that your

purchase. If the price of the margined securities falls too far, and the equity in your brokerage account slips below a certain level - generally, 30 to 35 percent of the value of the account - then you may get a "margin call" from your brokerage firm.

To meet this margin call, you may have to liquidate some investments - but if the market is declining, it's a bad time to be selling stocks. So, if you're going to be a margin trader, you need to have reserve funds available to ride out a drop in stock prices.

Margin trading has its rewards - but it certainly comes with some hazards. To trade on the margin, you need patience, discipline and the right disposition - and, as we've seen, you need to have enough liquidity to face the unpleasant margin calls.

"Are you an investor or just a trader?" There's a big difference between the two.



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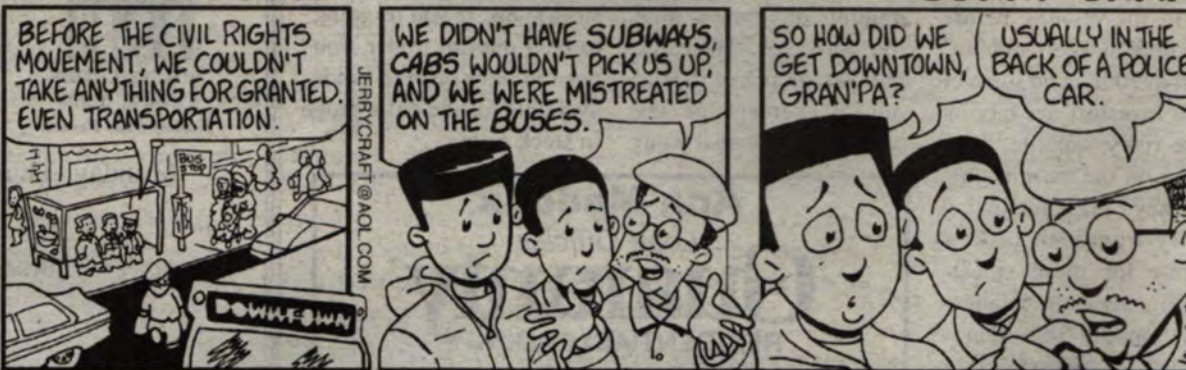
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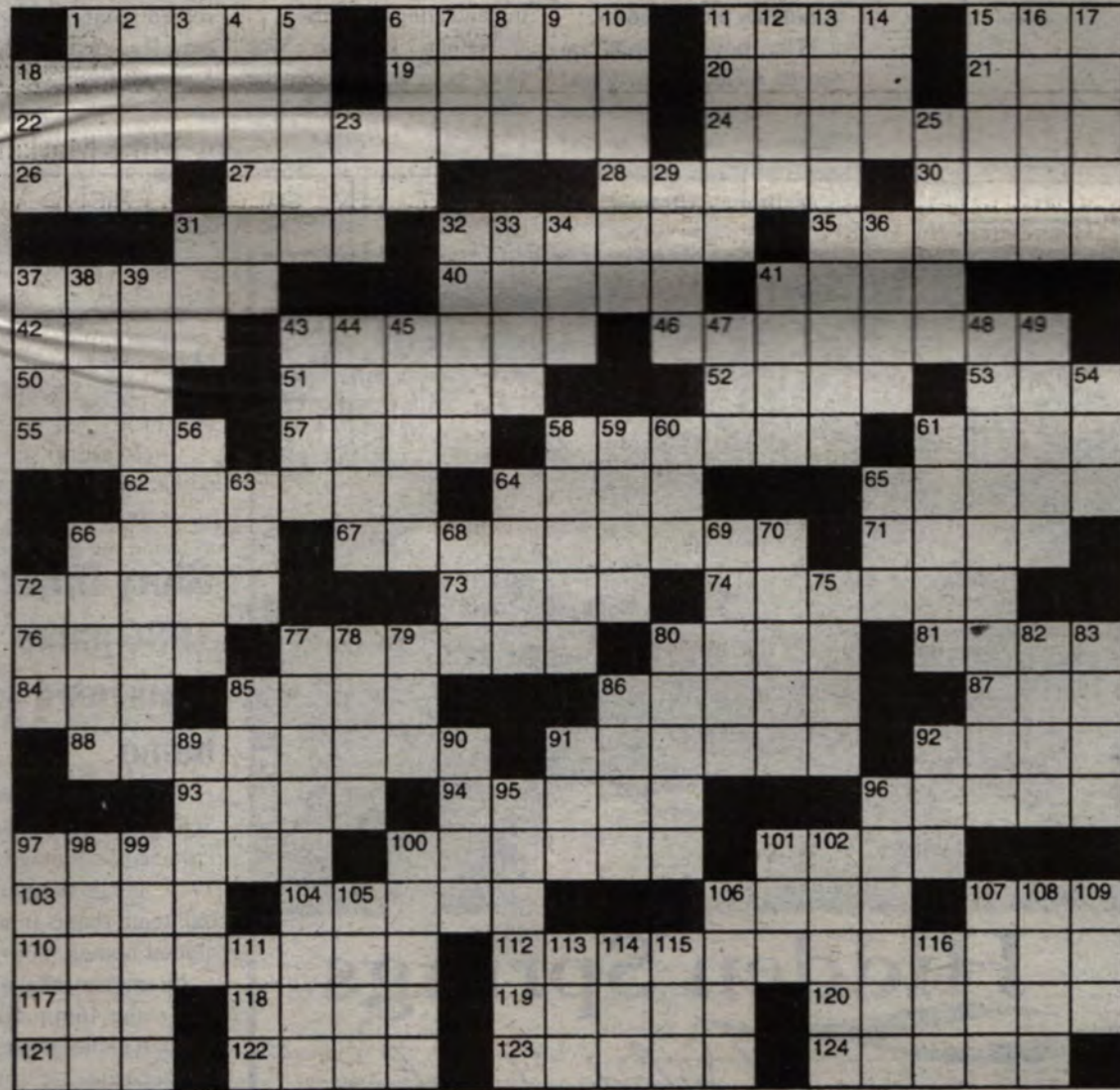
Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Lili" actress
 - 6 Decorous
 - 11 Jack of "Rio Lobo"
 - 15 With
 - 10 Down, "Cheers" star
 - 18 Entice
 - 19 It's tossed with sauce
 - 20 Waiter's offering
 - 21 Medical grp.
 - 22 Gene Barry role
 - 24 Gene Autry's horse
 - 26 Maestro de Waart
 - 27 Evened the score
 - 28 Prophets
 - 30 "So — You" ('77 song)
 - 31 Torrid or Frigid
 - 32 Bluesman James
 - 35 Le Carre title start
 - 37 Zeal
 - 40 Tea of "Deep Impact"
 - 41 Diplomacy
 - 42 Libertine
 - 43 "Macbeth" role
 - 46 Kind of sale
 - 50 Vex
 - 51 Linda of "Dynasty"
 - 52 Revise a manuscript
 - 53 Start to snooze
 - 55 Colors
 - 57 Gouda garbage
 - 58 Schedule
 - 61 Fluffy hairdo
 - 62 Annette of "48HRS."
 - 64 Privy to
 - 65 Refuse
 - 66 Out of range
 - 67 Gene Sarazen invention
 - 71 Architect Saarinen
 - 72 "Die Fledermaus" maid
 - 73 "Oh, woel!"
 - 74 Irrational
 - 76 Stocking stuffer?
 - 77 Somewhat
 - 80 Scenter of your face?
 - 81 — -de-camp
 - 84 Blunder
 - 85 Top-notch
 - 86 Fido's friend
 - 87 Fido's physician
 - 88 Silver-tongued
 - 91 Not long ago
 - 92 Kid
 - 93 Litter's littlest
 - 94 Mead's "Coming — in Samoa"
 - 96 Trier "Thanks!"
 - 97 "— Cafe" ('88 film)
 - 100 Popped one's pecs
 - 101 Actress Verdon
 - 103 Farm measure
 - 104 Swap
 - 106 Shopping center
 - 107 Zoo attraction
 - 110 Gene Roddenberry creation
 - 112 Gene Krupa's bandleader
 - 117 Sky light?
 - 118 Part of NB
 - 119 Stalin's predecessor
 - 120 Stereo components
 - 121 Choose, with "for"
 - 122 Bird food
 - 123 "Maria —" ('41 song)
 - 124 Clear the slate
 - 5 Varnish ingredient
 - 6 Tore
 - 7 Pine product
 - 8 Burro
 - 9 Robert of "Quincy, M.E."
 - 10 See 15 Across
 - 11 Roast host
 - 12 Annealing oven
 - 13 '56 Ingrid Bergman film
 - 14 Silent
 - 15 Use one's noodle
 - 16 Overact
 - 17 Patron
 - 18 Vigoda or Fortas
 - 23 Placekicker's prop
 - 25 It's spotted out West
 - 29 Lexicographer Partridge
 - 31 Actress Wanamaker
 - 32 African antelope
 - 33 "Why don't we?"
 - 34 Berg or Drabowsky
 - 36 "New Jack City" actor
 - 37 Saharan
 - 38 Actor Calhoun
 - 39 Gene Chandler hit
 - 41 Barber Sweeney
 - 43 Leander's love
 - 44 Iniquities
 - 45 Crete's capital
 - 47 Dawson of football
 - 48 Gene Hackman film
 - 49 Museum piece
 - 54 Computer acronym
 - 56 Play for time
 - 58 Statesman Sadat
 - 59 Departs
 - 60 Goal
 - 61 Amphitheater feature
 - 63 Nev. neighbor
 - 64 Unemployed
 - 65 "Agnus —"
 - 66 Cherish
 - 68 Uh-uh
 - 69 Florida feature
 - 70 Blackboard support
 - 72 "Stroker —" ('83 film)
 - 75 Quite
 - 77 "Shaft" star (daringly)
 - 78 Without —
 - 79 Decimal base
 - 80 Big-name Secretary, e.g.
 - 83 Diminutive suffix
 - 85 Blue hue
 - 86 Ire
 - 89 Court cry
 - 90 Spilled the beans
 - 91 Negligent
 - 92 Tenor
 - 95 Weak
 - 96 Circuitous course
 - 97 Lowdown crooner?
 - 98 Behave like a brat
 - 99 Endowment
 - 100 Pretended
 - 101 Berle bit
 - 102 Knocked out a novel
 - 105 Artist Magritte
 - 106 Sociable starling
 - 107 The — Brothers
 - 108 Reduce, with "down"
 - 109 USNA grad
 - 111 Recipe abbr.
 - 113 Conger or moray
 - 114 Compass pt.
 - 115 Palindromic diarist
 - 116 "Jurassic Park" stuff



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VARSITY GIRLS

FROM PAGE 9A

The bright spot for Salado was Laramie Jackson, who scored 15 points. Goode had nice touch from behind the arc once again, scoring nine points on three long range shots. Also scoring were

Boydston, four; Dunlap, three; and Washburn, three.
Salado 29
Academy 42

Coach Larry Salisbury mused before the season began that Academy would probably be the biggest threat to Salado's winning district. On Jan. 2, the Lady Bees proved him right.

Erratic play on the offensive end, especially in the second half, was yet again the Lady Eagles' undoing.

Salado led at halftime, 17-16, but were unable to capitalize on that early edge, as the offense sputtered in the third, scoring only three points. A nine-point performance in the fourth period was not good enough to catch the Bees,



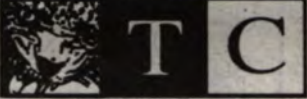
Amanda Turney dribbles past a defender.
 (PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)

who came out of the half hitting on all cylinders.

The loss dropped Salado to 9-11 overall, and 0-1 in district.

Upcoming action includes hosting Jarrell Jan. 9 and Fayetteville Jan. 13. The latter is a non-district game.

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JV boys blowout Bees, girls drop game by 11

In junior varsity basketball games Jan. 2, the boys defeated Academy 43-26, while the girls came up short, 25-36.

Salado boys 43
Academy JV 26

The boys jumped on top of Academy early and never let up. A 9-2 lead following the first period expanded into a 22-8 lead at halftime. Ryan Clark

dropped in 11 of his game-high 18 points in the first half.

Salado put the game away in the second half with solid free throw shooting and stingy defense.

Nathan Brashier was close behind Clark on the offensive end, contributing 14 points.

Justin Konzen scored three points, while Slayt

Ebling, James Gregurek, Cody Gobin and Garrett Askins all had two points.

Salado girls 25
Academy JV 36

Only four Lady Eagles scored points versus Academy, leading to an 11 point defeat in front of the home crowd.

Salado trailed by five points, 17-12, at halftime, and a three point third period allowed Academy to take an insurmountable lead.

Lacey Bartlett and Kelsey Gobin, who both had eight points, led Salado.

Chelsea Ervi scored six points and Nichole Weatherly scored a single bucket to round out the scoring.

Glory Days: 1980 game films need home

Salado Intermediate School Principal Joe Palmer has footage of the 1980 Salado Eagles football team that is in need of a good home.

"Somehow I have inherited some 16mm films of football games from 1980," Palmer said. "If someone wants them just e-mail me." Palmer can be reached at jpalm@saladoisd.org.

He has films from the following games:

Salado vs. Harper (Oct. 17, 1980).

Salado vs. Burton (Oct. 31, 1980).

Salado vs. Florence (Sept. 19, 1980).

Salado vs. Eddy (Sept. 12, 1980).

Salado JV vs. Thrall (Nov. 7, 1980).

Salado vs. Lorena scrimmage (1980).

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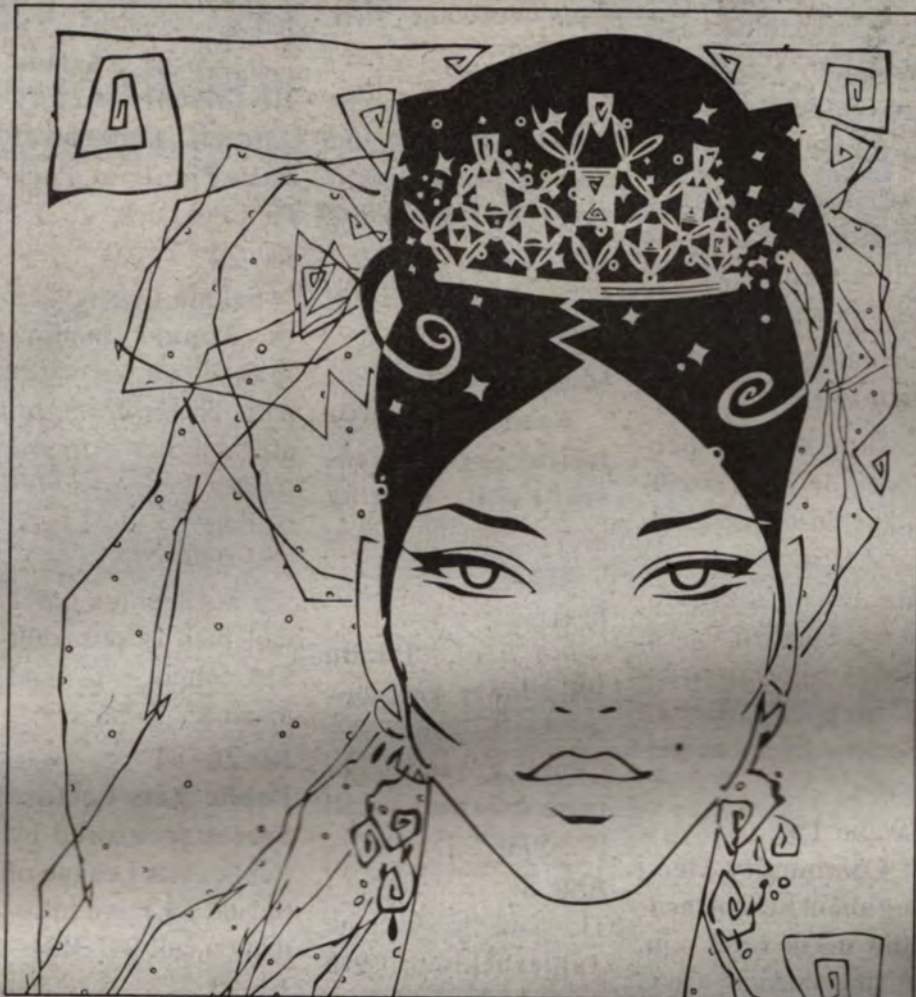
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Salado Bridal Guide announced

Salado Village Voice is pleased to announce a new marketing vehicle, the Salado Bridal Guide, which will be published as a special insert into the newspaper in both January and June. The Bridal Guide will have a total circulation of 10,000 copies, inserted into three editions of the newspaper (January 28, May 26 and June 16). Additional copies will be distributed through advertisers, as well as the Salado Chamber of Commerce information kiosk.

The Bridal Guide will offer two forms of advertising: a traditional display ad or a story ad that can include pictures. The Bridal Guide will have three sizes of ads available: 1/8 page (3 columns by 4 inches) for \$72; 1/4 page (3 columns by 8 inches) and 1/2 page (6 columns by 8 inches) for \$250. Advertisers reserving the 1/4 page or 1/2 page ads may choose to have those ads in the forms of "stories with pictures." The 1/4 page story ad can have one accompanying picture and the 1/2 page story ad can have two



photos in the copy. Staff writers will work with you to compose a story unique to your business.

The Bridal Guide is a terrific vehicle for B&Bs

and hotels, restaurants, florists, jewelers, dress shops, gift shops, bridal services, catering companies, travel agents, etc. The Guide will be a valuable tool for cou-

ples planning their weddings.

To find out more about how you can customize an ad for your business, please call 254-947-5321.

Salado Bridal Guide

Ad copy must be in by: **Deadline- January 19, 2004**

Business Name: _____ Phone: _____

Contact Name: _____ Fax: _____

Circle the ad size:

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|----|--------------------------|
| 1/8 page (3X4) \$75 | Display ad only | | |
| 1/4 page (3X8) \$145 | Display ad | OR | Story ad with picture |
| 1/2 page (6X8) \$250 | Display ad | OR | Story ad with 2 pictures |

Check One:

Return to the Salado Village Voice, PO Box 587, Salado, TX 76571
by January 19, 2004 Please attach any photos or promotional copy.

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I've chosen to re-visit a favorite artistic place in Blessings of Christmas, which takes a fresh look at the charming cottage of "Victorian Garden II" in its evergreen bower, but now in the snowy grip of winter. The warmth of family life lives in this cozy dwelling, accentuated by the shroud of snow that sits so gracefully wrapped in his red scarf, holding a straw broom, embodies the spirit of the season.

Thomas Kinkade

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Regular Meetings

Mondays
Salado Community Chorus: 5:30 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.
Boy Scouts: Each Monday, 6:30-8 p.m. at the Methodist Church.
Monday Club: 1st Mon., 2 p.m., Salado United Methodist Church.
Salado Chamber of Commerce Board: 2nd Mon., 6 p.m., at Civic Center.
Salado FFA Meeting: First Monday of the month, 7 p.m. in the elementary school cafeteria.
Salado I.S.D. Board of Trustees: 3rd Mon. at 6 p.m., at Salado Civic Center.
Salado Library District Board: 4th Mon. at 5:30 p.m., at Salado Public Library Building.
Salado Masonic Lodge #296: 8 p.m. on the Mon. on or before the full moon.
Salado Village Artist Quilters: 1-4 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mon. in the Salado Village Artist Building.
Storytime: 11-11:30 a.m. every Monday at the Salado Public Library (ages 3-5).
Salado 4-H Club: 1st Mon. of every month, 7 p.m. at the Intermediate School.
Exercise Class: Aug. 18-end of school year, 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. except first Monday of the month, which will begin at 10:30 a.m. Class includes stretching, strengthening and Pilates. Held at Salado Civic Center. Class is FREE to public.
Salado Democrats: 6:45 p.m., first Monday of each month at the Village Steakhouse.
Salado Youth Fair Boosters: Third Monday of each month, 7 p.m. at the elementary school library.
Tuesdays
Salado Rotary Club: 11:30 a.m., Stagecoach Inn.
Salado Band Boosters: Second Tuesday at 3:45 p.m. in the Band Hall.
Yoga Classes: 6:45 p.m., at the Halley House.
Salado Village Artists: 10 a.m. at Salado Art Center.
Salado Family Relief Fund: 2nd Tues. 1 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.
Chisholm Trail Chapter ABWA: 2nd Tues. 6:30 p.m. at Stagecoach Inn.

Salado High School Band Boosters: 2nd Tues. of every month 7 p.m. in the Band Hall.
Salado Area Republican Women: 3rd Thursday of month. Times vary. Call 947-8422 or 947-3617 for information.
Wednesdays
Yoga classes: 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Salado Chiropractic and Massage. 947-2225.
Salado Creekside Cloggers: 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Salado Youth Baseball Association: meetings 7 p.m. at Civic Center.
Lions Club: 2nd & 4th Wed. at 11:30 a.m., Creekside. Board meets 2nd Wed. 8 a.m.
Mill Creek Community Association Board: 3rd Wed., 5 p.m., at Civic Center.
Scottish Country Dance Lessons: 8-9:30 p.m. at the Scots Hall of the Clans. 947-0325 for info.
Thursdays
Salado Area Republican Women: 3rd Thursday of month. Times vary. Call 947-8422 or 947-3617 for information.
Village of Salado Board of Aldermen: Regular meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of month, 6:30 p.m. at Salado Municipal Building unless otherwise posted.
Salado Ladies Auxiliary: 2nd Thurs., 10 a.m., Salado Civic Center
Salado Water Corporation Board of Directors: 3rd Thurs., 4 p.m. Corporation office.
Salado Historical Society: board of directors, 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m. Salado Civic Center.
PTC: (SIS Parent Teacher Co-op) meets the 2nd Thursday 3:45 p.m. in Room 101 at SIS.
Salado Education Foundation: Regular Board meetings, 9 a.m. 2nd Thurs. at Salado Civic Center.
Salado Business Association: General meetings, 3rd Thursday 8:45 a.m. upstairs at the Civic Center.
Salado Neighborhood Group of the American Sewing Guild: 3rd Thurs. of each month 5:30 p.m. at The Sewing Basket.
Salado Moms: play-group, contact Amanda at 947-5507.
Saturdays
Food Pantry: 2nd and 4th Sat. at First Baptist Church. 9 a.m.-10 a.m.

JANUARY 8
Salado Presbyterian Church seminar on People of New Testament: Virgin Mary. Noon-1 p.m. at the church. Seminars also held **Jan. 15 and 22.** Info: 947-8106.
JANUARY 8
Ladies Auxiliary meeting 10 a.m. at the Civic Center. Officers introduced, Mayor Douglass speaking.
JANUARY 12
Judy Greene performs original monologue on life of Holocaust survivor Corrie Ten Boom, 6:30 p.m. at St. Stephen Parish Hall. Sponsored by S. Stephen's Women Society. Everyone welcome.
JANUARY 15
Community Meeting about School facilities needs 6:30 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center
JANUARY 18
Salado Youth Fair Booster Club Casino Night fundraiser, 7 p.m. at Wildfire Ranch. Info: 947-1564 or 947-9975.
JANUARY 22
Candidates Forum sponsored by Salado Area Republican Women, 6 p.m. buffet dinner at Mill Creek Country Club. Info: 947-3617
JANUARY 27
Salado Chamber of Commerce Banquet, 6:30 p.m. at Tenroc Ranch. Humorist Robert Flynn speaking, The Range catering. Info: 947-5040.
FEBRUARY 5
Financial Aid Workshop for students and parents, 6:30 p.m. at Salado High School. Info: 947-6973 or e-mail kwhitis@saladoisd.org.
FEBRUARY 14
Valentine's Day
FEBRUARY 23
Taste of Salado sponsored by Public Arts League of Salado. For more information call 947-3771 or 947-5308
FEBRUARY 24-28

9 a.m.- 4 p.m.
Salado Artist Workshops Studio Tour - Various locations for more information Call 937-8300 scc@vvm.com.
MARCH 6
Mill Creek Community Association Spring Fling at Mill Creek Restaurant. 6-7 p.m. happy hour, 7 p.m. dinner. Info: 947-3901.
MARCH 18
Salado Historical Society General Public Meeting at the Salado Civic Center
APRIL 3
Salado Wildflower Art Show at the Salado Civic Center grounds. For more information call 947-5040
APRIL 3
Tablerock's 9th Annual Gospel Festival at Tablerock Amphitheater. call 254-947-5100
APRIL 24
Salado Yard & Garden Tour Tickets \$10 each available at the Salado Civic Center. for more information call 254-947-8300 Sponsored by the Public Arts League of Salado (PALS) for the beautification of Salado.
MAY 15
Mill Creek Community Association Neighborhood Cleanup Day, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Free donuts and coffee before, hot dogs and chips after. Info: 947-3901.
MAY 23
Salado High School baccalaureate service, at FBC of Salado.
MAY 25
Salado High School commencement ceremony at Bell County Expo Center. Info: 947-5429.
JUNE 3-5
Judy & A.C. Green Literary Festival for more information call 947-3104
JUNE 4-6

Writers League of Texas Retreat in conjunction with AC Greene Festival for more information call 947-3104
JULY 3
Salado Historical Society Annual Fourth of July Picnic at Pace Park Pot Luck
JULY 24
Salado Legends 12th Annual Performance dinner 7:15 p.m., Theater 8:15 p.m. at Tablerock Amphitheater For more information call 254-947-9205 or www.allcentex.com/tablerock Tickets adult \$15, child 12 and under \$5
JULY 26-31
Public Arts Lecture Series sponsored by Public Arts League of Salado for more information call 947-3104
JULY 31
Salado Legends 12th Annual Performance dinner 7:15 p.m., Theater 8:15 p.m. at Tablerock Amphitheater For more information call 254-947-9205 or www.allcentex.com/tablerock Tickets adult \$15, child 12 and under \$5
AUGUST 7-8
8th Annual Salado Art Fair in Pace Park For more information call the Salado Chamber of Commerce 947-5040
SEPTEMBER 4-5-6
Salado Businesses Salute Educators More information TBA
SEPTEMBER 10
Mill Creek Community Association Fall Social at Mill Creek Restaurant. 6-7 p.m. happy hour, 7 p.m. dinner. Info: 947-3901.
SEPTEMBER 18-19
Tablerock's Fantasy Faire & Shakespeare Play 8: 15 p.m. at Tablerock Amphitheater for more Faire information call 254-947-1339 Faire Tickets adults \$5, children \$3 Shakespeare

tickets \$10 adult, \$5 child. For more information on play call 254-947-8933
SEPTEMBER 20
Wine & Wildflower Festival sponsored by Pubic Arts League of Salado. For more information call 9473429
SEPTEMBER 25-26
Shakespeare Play at Tablerock Amphitheater For more information call 254-947-893
OCTOBER 8-9
Christmas In October at the Salado Civic Center Free. Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary.
OCTOBER 23
3rd Annual Chisholm Trail Cattleman's Ball at Tenroc Ranch For more information call 254-947-0827
OCTOBER 30-31
Fright Nights Family Halloween Fun at Tablerock's Trail Adults \$5 Children \$3
NOVEMBER 5-6-7
Chisholm Trail Days Shops, Shoot Outs, eat at a campfire, cowboy poets and songs. Admission adults \$10 children \$5 For more information call 254-913-0366
NOVEMBER 12-14
Gathering of the Clans at Robertson Plantation & College Hill.
NOVEMBER 18
Salado Historical Society Annual Chili Supper, Salado Civic Center
DECEMBER 3-4
A Christmas Carol 7 p.m at Tablerock Amphitheater Tickets Adults \$5 children \$3 6:30 p.m. Sandwiches and drinks available For more information call 254-947-9205
DECEMBER 3-4-5
Salado Christmas Stroll
Salado Historical Society Annual Christmas Homes Tour TBA

ATTENTION: Churches, Civic Organizations, Secretaries List your Salado activity each week in this calendar of events. Fax information to 947-9479, email to saladovillagevoice@earthlink.net. Mail info to Salado Village Voice P O Box 587, Salado, TX 76571.

Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas
Ad copy must be in by: Deadline-Feb. 2, 2004

Business Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Contact Name: _____ Fax: _____

Circle the ad size:

1/4 page \$85 1/2 page \$150
 Full Page No Color \$260 FullPage w/color \$440

Check One:

Same ad as last issue, no changes: _____ New ad copy: _____
 Return to the Salado Village Voice at the above address by Feb. 2, 2004
 Please attach any changes or new ad copy.



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Deadlines announced for Jewel

Salado Village Voice, Inc., publishers of the quarterly magazine **Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas**, announces the advertising deadlines for the 2004 calendar year.

The advertising deadline for the next publication of **Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas** is Feb. 2 for the Spring 2004 edition. The street date is the end of February. This edition will be distributed until the end of May.

The **Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas** is a magazine published four times a year by the *Salado Village Voice* newspaper. The next edition will have 20,000 copies printed on 50 # white offset paper. The heavier paper stock gives the magazine a longer shelf-life, as well as making it more attractive.

The Jewel is distributed in every store, shop and restaurant advertising in the magazine as well as stand distribution. Hotels, and bed and breakfast inns put the magazine in their rooms for visitors to read and take home. The Chamber

MARK YOUR 2004 CALENDARS

The schedule for printing of the "Jewel" in 2004 is:

Spring 2004
February 2

to be distributed the end of February

Summer 2004
May 3

to be distributed by the end of May

Fall 2004
August 2

to be distributed by the end of August

Winter 2004
November 1

to be distributed before Thanksgiving

of Commerce, real estate agents, bus tours, and groups planning to visit Salado are provided boxes of the magazine. Included in the Jewel magazine is a user friendly shopping map of the village. To be listed on the shopping map, a business must have an ad in the Jewel.

To reserve your next Jewel ad call 254/947-5321 or send in your order form. To ensure accuracy and efficiency, we ask that you contact us now. We'll be happy to create an ad for you. Give us a call to set up an appointment.

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Herb program set for Jan. 20

LINDA FUCHS
COUNTY EXT. AGENT - FCS

Madalene Hill, Past President of the National Herb Society of America, and her daughter, Gwen Barclay, will speak at the Herb Program, Jan. 20.

To many gardeners, growing herbs is a normal extension of their desire to know more about the world around them, or it might be an outgrowth of a fascination with good food and how to prepare it. Perhaps it began with a desire to decorate and scent the home with fragrant dried wreaths, pot-pourris and sachets.

Herbs are immediate links to our ancient past. Then as well as now, they have flavored our foods, healed our wounds, soothed our pains, and sweetly and often pungently scented our surroundings.

Whether you are a novice or an experienced "Herbie," the District 8 County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences invite you to, "With Love From the Garden - A Celebration of Herbs" program held in conjunction with the Blackland Income

Growth (B.I.G.) program at the Waco Convention Center in Waco on Jan. 20.

The registration and exhibits will open at 8:30 a.m. with the first presenter, Dr. Jenna Anding, Food and Nutrition Specialist, Texas Cooperative Extension, at 9 a.m. Her topic will be, "Health Aspects of Herbs - Fact or Fiction." The next presentation, "A Celebration of Herbs" will include a lecture, demonstration and tasting from Madalene Hill, Past President of the National Herb Society of America and her daughter, Gwen Barclay, Director of Food Services at the International Festival Institute in Round Top. Both of these ladies are well known across the nation as experts in the world of herbs.

The luncheon keynote speaker will be Dr. Robert Gates, President of Texas A&M University and former Director of the CIA. Following the luncheon there will be three 30-minute presentations.

"Dig This" at 1:30 p.m. Colin Melton, nursery owner from Hamilton County will teach us how to use herbs decoratively. At 2 p.m., you will be "Sitting Pretty With Herbs," as Master Gardener Arlene Hamilton from Ellis County shows you how. Last, but not least, retired county Extension agent, Mary Deaton, from Hood County, shares secrets of using herbs to beautify our skin and complexion.

The pre-registration deadline is Jan. 15. The registration fee, which includes a barbecue lunch

and handouts, is \$30 by Jan. 15 or \$35 at the door. Checks should be made payable to: District 8 FCS Association and mailed to: Pate Adams, P. O. Box 38, Marlin, TX, 76661.

For additional information and pre-registration forms contact Linda Fuchs, Bell County Extension Agent - FCS at (254) 933-5305.

Besides the basics, you will learn new cultivating techniques; discover tips for using herbs in many unique and unusual ways, and fascinating tidbits and beauty ideas. So, don't delay, register today.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

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Keeping an Eye on Texas


Bowling For Dollars

Three of the four NCAA Division I bowls held in Texas will pump at least \$55 million into their respective local economies, bowl representatives say. This direct spending includes expenses for tickets, lodging, local travel, food and entertainment.

Estimated direct spending for each bowl:

- Cotton Bowl, Dallas -- \$30 million,
- Sun Bowl, El Paso -- \$15 million,
- and
- Alamo Bowl, San Antonio -- \$10 million.

Organizers for the inaugural Fort Worth Bowl said they did not have any spending estimates available.



SOURCES: Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn and bowl representatives.

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Look at the facts of mad cow disease

DIRK AARON
COUNTY EXT. AGENT - Ag.

The coverage of mad cow disease across the entire nation demonstrates our tendency as a country, especially in the major media outlets, to play up the dramatic, frightening and controversial aspects of high risk stories. Yet in many instances the facts are played down and sometimes completely omitted. I want to encourage our beef cattle producers and consumers of beef to calmly look at the facts and realize that consumer confidence in beef has not been shattered at this time. Yet prices continue to fall for the cattleman nationwide.

The fall in price is only due to the basic laws of supply and demand because of the temporary ban of U.S. beef by seven nations, which include South Korea and Japan, two of our largest importers of U.S. beef. Thus, we now have excess product of high value, available to the American consumer.

The safety mechanism for the American public was properly in place on Dec. 9 when the infected cow was slaughtered in Washington State. The cow was processed and all of the high risk material (brain and the spinal column) that would cause infectivity in humans were removed and prevented from entering the food chain. Ultimately our government astutely recalled all of the meat from the infected cow upon confirmation of the diagnosis. Yet again, the officials went that extra step to ensure the public a safe food supply.

The general public needs to know how posi-

tive the original owner of the cow and the Washington slaughter plant have been in working with officials from our government.

I have also seen public statements from Dr. Bob Hillman, the Texas State Veterinarian and head of the Texas Animal Health Commission.

In recent information sent to our office by Dr. Hillman he reminds us that as difficult and unfortunate as this situation is, we do know the disease surveillance system is working. He said, in Texas, animals will continue to be monitored for BSE, and the USDA and TAHC will work with private veterinary practices and producers to investigate potential disease occurrences.

For BSE, that would include cattle that exhibit central nervous system

disorders, or those unable to walk. Remember, BSE is not the only condition in cattle that would exhibit these symptoms. Those of you witnessing cattle with these symptoms simply need to call your local veterinarian.

Secretary Ann Veneman has also announced additional safeguards to bolster the U.S. protection system against BSE as of Dec. 20. These new measures were already under consideration the last three months as a result of the previous BSE case in Canada last May.

These in-depth measures bolster the current system of surveillance already in place for more than a decade. For in-depth information on BSE citizens of Bell County have free access to the Bell County Extension website (bell-tx.tamu.edu). Ran-

dall Rakowitz, County Extension Agent - NR in Bell County has continued to keep the site updated with the very newest information, by maintaining hot links to current issues.

I want to commend the local media outlets for covering the story so objectively, yet I laugh when I see on national T.V. the very same stumbling Holstein heifer from reports five years ago. Tonight sit back, enjoy a ribeye steak and cold glass of milk and remember that the very best national and scientifically based system is in place to protect and ensure the American public we have a wholesome safe product.

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Republican women introduce candidates at Jan. 22 meeting

The Salado Area Republican Women and Central Texas Republican Women are hosting a dinner meeting and forum for the candidates running for office in Bell County 6:30 p.m. Jan. 22 at Mill Creek Country Club.

This "Meet The Candidates" forum is one of several programs offered during the coming year to assist individuals in understanding issues affecting them on the local, state, and national level.

"We hope our mem-

bers will take advantage of this opportunity to get to know the candidates running for local office," stated Mrs. McCort of Salado Area Republican Women.

The meeting will be preceded by a 6 p.m. social hour, with a buffet dinner at 6:30 p.m.

All the Republican County officials and their spouses have been invited; however, only the candidates running for office exclusively in Bell County will be allotted time to speak. Also in attendance will be can-

didates for the local congressional seat and several statewide judge-ships.

Reservations must be made by mailing a check for \$20 to be received by Jan. 16. The address is Salado Area Republican Women (S.A.R.W.), PO Box 373, Salado, TX 76571.

For more information contact Barclay McCort at 947-3617; bam002@earthlink.net, or Shirley Stephenson at 254-618-5251 or johnrs@vvm.com.



Melanie Kirchmeier gets GRI designation

Melanie Kirchmeier, Century 21 - Bill Bartlett, recently received the national recognized GRI designation after completing Texas Association of Realtor® education program.

The Realtor® Institute is a national continuing education program. Graduates have completed three 30-hour courses of instruction in specialized subjects which include legal issues, finance, marketing, real estate investments, professional standards and environmental law.

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Salado aldermen to discuss property maintenance, subdivision plat fees

Salado aldermen will discuss the International Property Maintenance Code during their 6:30 p.m. Jan. 8 meeting at the municipal building on Stagecoach Rd.

In other new business, aldermen will address the following items:

- Year-end investment report.
- Interlocal agreement with Bell County Sheriff's Department on patrolling county roads.
- Subdivision plat fee

schedule.

- Bell County Inter-jurisdictional emergency plan.

The board will also oversee the swearing-in of associate judge Ted Duffield and hear reports from Chief of Police Alan Rogers (introduction of new officer and monthly crime report) and Tourism Director April Allen (banner displays and visitor counts).

Darrell Voigt has requested to address the

board of aldermen on Code Enforcement.

Consent items, on the agenda are these:

- Public utility commission rate change.
- Appointment of planning and zoning commissioners to their terms of office.

The meeting is open to the public.

For information about speaking before the board of aldermen, call the Municipal Office at 947-5060.

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Bowls will be auctioned in November to aid the Salado Family Relief Fund, Inc.*



* The mission of the Salado Family Relief Inc., as a group of religious, school and civic organizations, is to provide assistance, of all sorts, to all families and individuals in Salado in need of assistance and occasional emergency help for people traveling through Salado.

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Salado Board members recognized

Supt's Corner

By Dr. Robin Battershell

School board members come from all walks of life. Although they wear many hats in the work-day world, school board members put on a collective hat when they get down to the business of leading their school districts.

You may be surprised at what Board members do and what they cannot do! Board members contribute hundreds of hours each year representing your District at local and State functions. They make policies which guide your District for

the short and long-term. They make decisions based upon the good of all children not just one or two. They have the ability to hire and fire the superintendent. They set the vision and direction of the District. They are your advocates and they make hard decisions.

Board members cannot act independently. They must act as a Board. Although they may indi-

vidually disagree on certain issues, their role as a board is to consistently strive toward the goal of student achievement.

Board members cannot make a decision outside of the Board meetings. They must have a quorum in order for a vote to be made.

They only hire and fire the superintendent. They do not have the power

to hire or fire other district personnel. They can listen to your complaints but cannot act on these outside of a Board meeting.

January is "School Board Recognition Month". I would like for this to be "School Board Appreciation Month" in Salado. You have members who take their jobs seriously and represent you well. Thank a board member today!

Your members are:
Miriam Ervi
Trey Little
Jackie Burson
John Konzen
Frank Carlson
Debbie Aldridge
Jeff Kelley

Brown Bag seminar begins this week

The Presbyterian Church of Salado will sponsor a Brown Bag seminar series beginning Jan. 8.

Dr. Robert L. Volle will speak on people of the New Testament including:

- Jan. 8 - The Virgin Mary
- Jan. 15 - Mary Magdalene
- Jan. 22 - John the Baptist

Each seminar will be held noon-1 p.m. at the Church. Those attending will need to bring their own lunch. Coffee will be provided.

For more information contact the church office at (254) 947-8106.

Salado Youth Association seeks donations for baseball and soccer fields

The Salado Youth Association has announced that it is in need of donations. Due to lack of revenue, the association has expressed that it is meeting with problems in making its loan payments and is requesting help from the community.

All donations to the organization are tax deductible. "Salado Youth Association is a non-profit organization that makes possible the baseball and soccer fields," stated Grady Brittain.

Donations may be made to David Matthews at First State Bank of Salado.

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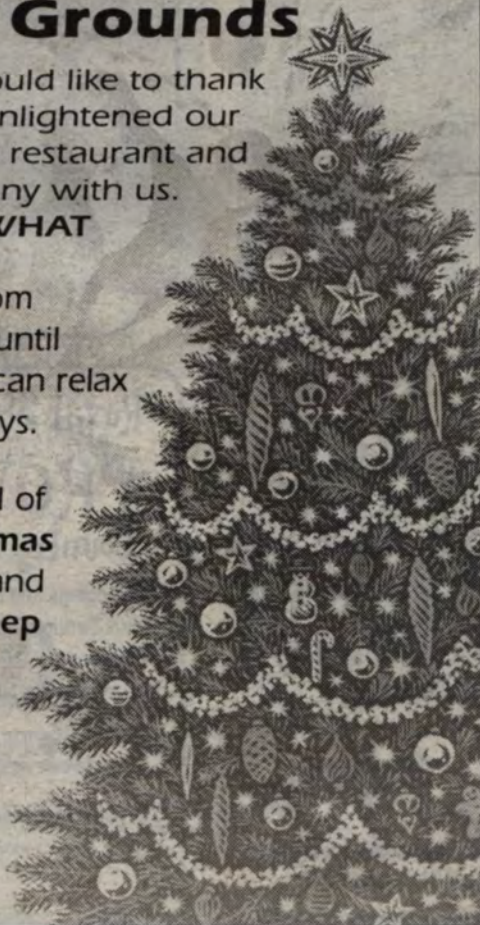
Uncommon Grounds

Cynthia (Mama) and I would like to thank all of those who have enlightened our day by coming into our restaurant and sharing your company with us.
BUT GUESS WHAT

We will be closed from **December 15, 2003** until **January 10, 2004** so we can relax and enjoy the holidays.

We would like to wish all of you a very **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year** and most of all may God Keep you and bless you through this holiday season.

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If you don't use it, you'll lose it

By SCHUYLER KUYKENDALL
STAFF WRITER

Nana is 94 years old and gets along better than half the people her age, Mike Dandridge told the Rotary Club of Salado, Dec. 30. He remembers that one Christmas he and wife had been in the kitchen helping Nana when she said she was going to the garage to get something. After a little while she hadn't returned, worried they went to check on her and found that she was dragging a large bag of potatoes into the house.

"If you don't use it, you'll lose it," Dandridge recalls Nana saying. "This was something her aerobics instructor once told her."

In 1920, the US birth rate at time of birth was 53.6 for males and 54.6 for females and in 1990 was 71.8 for males and 78.8 for females. "Today you could add 10 years to your birth rate," he says.

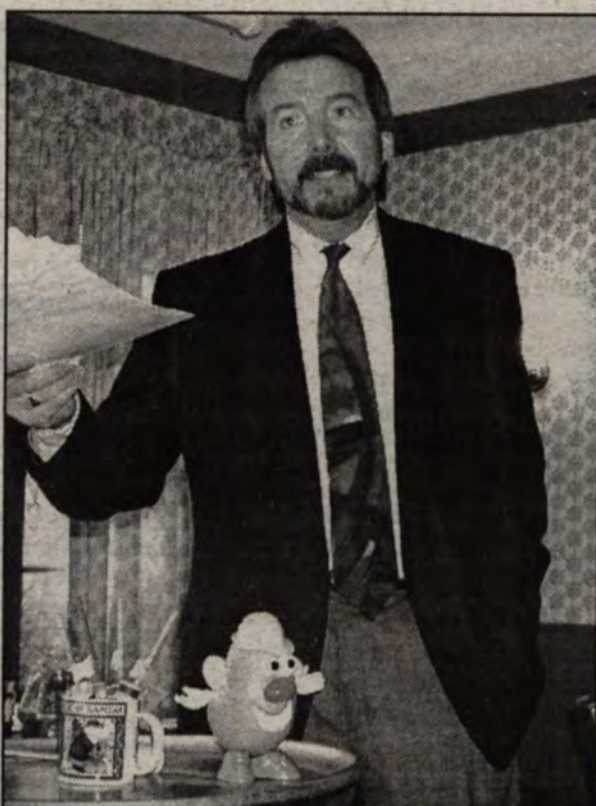
In 2002, IBM announced that they had to revise down their figures and that same day their stocks dropped. Pier

1 Imports also announced it was going to change figures but they were going to adjust up. Low and behold, their stocks jumped. "You can see how attitude can effect business," said Dandridge.

That same attitude effects life longevity. Dandridge manages an electrical supply store and says, inside of us is a five year old that wants to come out and play. To prove that point, he placed a Mr. Potato Head on the front counter of the store. As the men would come in to wait on their supplies, he found they would pick up Mr. Potato Head and give him a "complete makeover."

"What's so great about getting older," he asks. "At 80, George Burns won an Academy Award, at 81, Benjamin Franklin put together the compromise that gave us the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, and at 94, Nana is taking computer classes and preparing for dinner parties."

Dandridge is the father of five children and the author of, *The Divine Spark*.



Mike Dandridge (PHOTO BY SCHUYLER KUYKENDALL)

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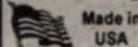
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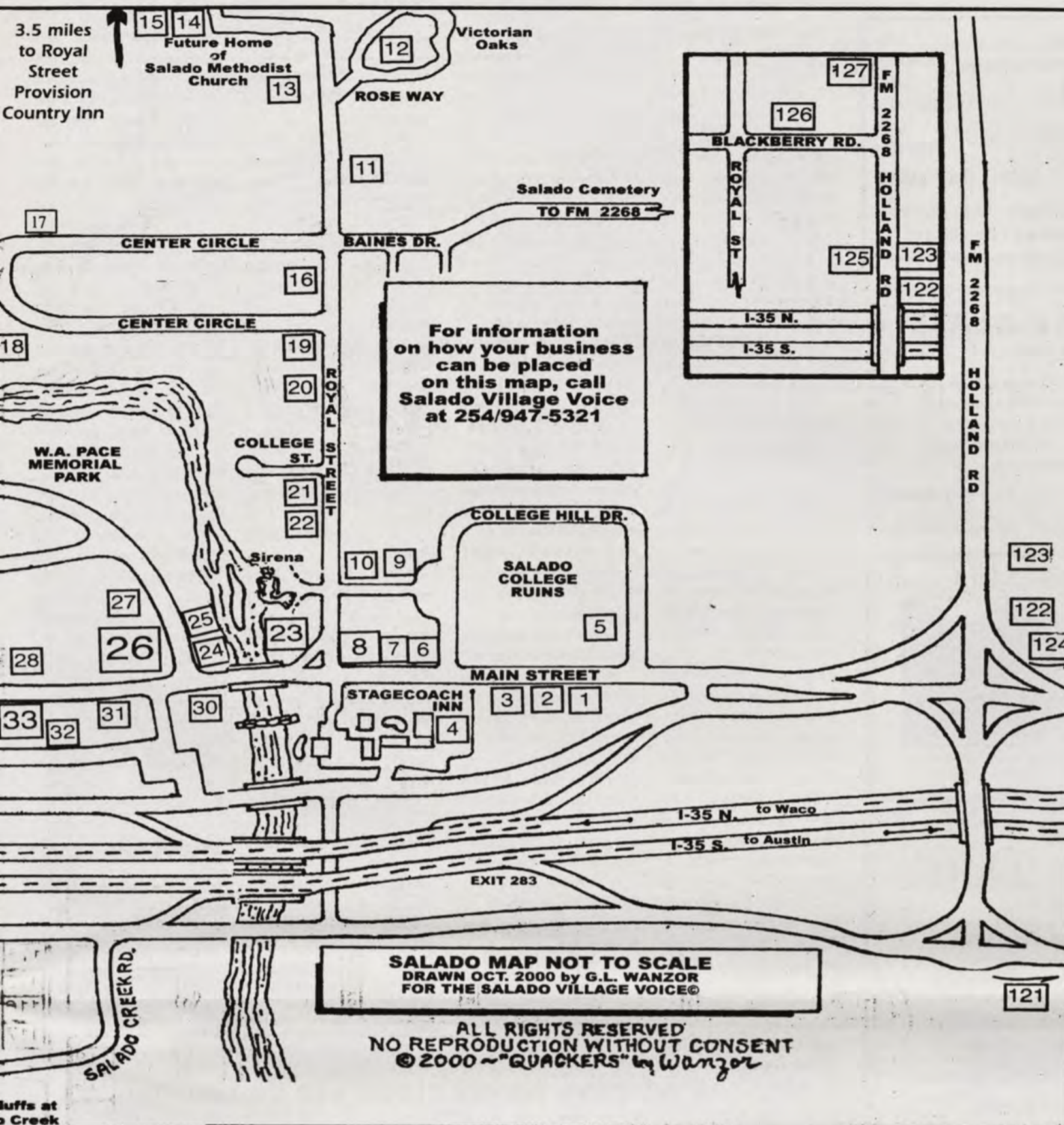
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102. Robertson's Hams	254/947-5562
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115. Johnny's Steaks & Bar-B-Q	254/947-4663
118. Thomas Arnold	254/947-5191
119. Salado Intermediate	254/947-1700
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121. Cedar Valley Baptist Church	254/947-0148
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Ring in the new year with a healthy heart

This year, it's going to be different. How many times have you said that to yourself at the beginning of a new year? This year, you'll lose 10 pounds. You'll eat right and exercise more. You'll start running again. You'll skip dessert. This year, it will be different.

Well, this year can be different. All you need is a personal goal, commitment to that goal, and encouragement along the way. Why not start with your cholesterol?

High cholesterol is one of the four major risk factors for developing heart disease. Around half of American adults have high cholesterol. Like high blood pressure, obesity and smoking, however, it is a risk that is largely preventable and can often be controlled. There are no visible warning signs or symptoms--the only way to find out if you have high cholesterol is by having a blood test. And by lowering your cholesterol levels, you can reduce your risk of cardiovascular disease.

The Cholesterol Low Down is the American Heart Association's free national educational initiative sponsored by Pfizer Inc. Since the program began in 1998, more than 83,000 people have enrolled and received support and guidance while trying to lower their cholesterol.

The online program provides basic information on high cholesterol, including a comprehensive guide and biannual newsletter, and free cholesterol-management tools and heart-healthy recipes. It also provides a plan of action and checklist for your physician. This year's goal for The Cholesterol Low Down is to teach families what they can do to prevent or manage heart disease.

What is cholesterol?
 Cholesterol is made by the liver but also supplied in the diet through animal products. Although cholesterol is needed to form nerves and certain hormones, our bodies make enough cholesterol to accomplish this--we don't need additional dietary cholesterol found in meats, poultry, fish and dairy products.

What's so dangerous about high cholesterol?
 When there is too much cholesterol in the blood, it builds up in the walls of the arteries and forms plaques. Over time, this build-up narrows the arteries, which can reduce blood flow to the heart. If blood clots form at these narrowings, they can completely cut off the blood supply to the heart, resulting in a heart attack.

What can you do?
 Cholesterol levels are impacted by different factors. A diet high in saturated (i.e. animal) fat can lead to high cholesterol. Being overweight and physically inactive can also affect cholesterol. So can smoking.

The American Heart Association recommends that everyone age 20 years and older should have their cholesterol levels measured at least once every five years. A lipoprotein profile is a comprehensive blood test that can give information on your total cholesterol level, your LDL ("bad") cholesterol level, your HDL ("good") cholesterol level and triglycerides.

To enroll in The Cholesterol Low Down, log onto www.americanheart.org/cld.

This year, make a difference.
What can lower high cholesterol? Start with what you eat. These quick tips are a good place to start. Less saturated fats. Cut back on foods high in saturated (i.e. animal) fats. Substitute non-fat milks and low-fat dairy products for whole milk and cheese.
More Healthy Oils. Use canola or olive oil. These oils help you to control your total cholesterol much better than butter, shortening and stick margarine. Avoid coconut or palm oils. Instead of mayonnaise, use non-fat yogurt (1/2 cup), fresh herbs (teaspoon) and a dash of soy sauce.
More Fiber. Eat

whole-grain breads and whole-grain cereals. Try to eat five servings of fruit and vegetables a day. Eat a variety of fruits. They are sources of important vitamins and minerals, like potassium, which may be good for you.

Eat a lot of vegetables, especially the brightly colored ones. Steam them, or eat them raw.
Less Meat. Select lean cuts of red meat. Cut or drain fat from ground meat and remove skin from chicken. Substitute dishes such as brown rice and beans for meat. Eat lean sources of protein, such as skinless turkey breast, egg whites and fish. Eat fish and skinless chicken instead of red meats like ground beef or steak.
More Exercise. Get in motion. Check with your doctor first. Find out what is right for you. Go for a walk. Take the stairs. Dance. Exercise a minimum of 30 minutes a day, most days of the week. Medication, if needed. Medication can help you control your cholesterol. Ask your doctor if you need to take medication to help lower your numbers.

The American Heart Association is the largest community-based voluntary health organization fighting heart disease, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases. These diseases devastate millions of people of all ages and claim nearly 950,000.

Additional information about fostering and adopting children through CPS is available on the web at www.adoptchildren.org. For more information about the meeting, call (254) 501-4258 or toll-free at 800-284-5315.

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Foster and adoptive parent classes to be held Jan. 13

Child Protective Services (CPS) is offering a free information meeting for prospective foster and adoptive parents 6:30 p.m. Jan. 13 at the TDPRS Office, 405 E. Elms Rd., Killeen.
 "We have a huge need

for foster and adoptive homes for children of all ages," said Zanell Dorsey, a regional recruiter for CPS foster and adoptive program. "We have children ranging in age from newborn to 17, children who are part of sibling

groups who would like to stay together and children with special medical and emotional needs. These children come from all ethnic backgrounds, but they all have one thing in common: a need for a safe and loving home."

Additional information about fostering and adopting children through CPS is available on the web at www.adoptchildren.org. For more information about the meeting, call (254) 501-4258 or toll-free at 800-284-5315.

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Salado Volunteer Fire Department Incident Report December 2003

Date	Time	Incident
12/01	12:04 a.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/01	10:57 p.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/03	8:17 a.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/03	10:58 a.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/03	5:29 p.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/05	6:05 p.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/06	2:57 a.m.	False alarm, false call, other
12/07	3:14 a.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/09	5:26 p.m.	Grass fire
12/10	11:41 a.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/10	1:02 p.m.	False alarm, false call, other
12/11	8:51 a.m.	Power line down
12/12	7:29 p.m.	False alarm, false call, other
12/13	2:31 a.m.	False alarm, false call, other
12/14	2:49 a.m.	Vehicle accident with injuries
12/16	1:27 p.m.	False alarm, false call, other
12/16	3:25 p.m.	Vehicle accident with injuries
12/17	7:06 p.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/18	1:00 a.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/18	2:11 p.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/18	10:53 p.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/20	7:42 a.m.	Vehicle accident with injuries
12/20	1:07 p.m.	Vehicle accident with injuries
12/21	3:27 p.m.	Vehicle accident with injuries
12/25	2:07 p.m.	Grass fire
12/28	7:29 a.m.	False alarm, false call, other
12/28	11:59 a.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/28	9:50 p.m.	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
12/29	6:07 p.m.	Authorized controlled burning

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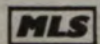
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Unique Home in Mill Creek. 2 BR/2 BA, formal dining room, 2 large living areas, lots of windows w/views of wooded lot. Approximately 2,694 square feet. 1303 Old Mill Road. **\$169,900.**

Lots

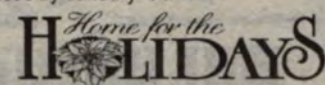
Near Historic District: One of the few lots left close in, trees, much desired location, 110 Royal View. **\$45,000.**

Premier lot in Rosematt Oaks over 1/2 acre in restricted Mill Creek Golf course subdivision. Underground utilities, ready for custom homes with only 2,000 sq. ft minimum. 1801 Kevlin Trail, 1901 Kevlin Trail, 1900 Kevlin Trail and 1808 Kevlin Trail.



3901 Chisholm Trail #5 & #6

Two lovely adjoining townhouses in Mill Creek. Close to the golf course with great view. Each has 3 BR, 2 BA, stone WBFP, two car garage. Live in one and lease the other. Chisholm Ridge Townhouse Association maintains the landscaping. Exterior painted this year. Price reduced to close by January '04.



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Hollywood Big Shots

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

When my sons were growing up, our dining room table was the favorite hang-out place for a group of young teen-age boys who played a game called Dungeons and Dragons. Their names were Charlie, Zane, Jantz and my son BZ. They all graduated from Big Spring High School in 1986.

They were very serious about the game and it influenced them to read J.R.R. Tolkien and similar authors.

At college, BZ majored in classical guitar and sound production, Zane

graduated with an engineering degree, Charlie got involved with nuclear physics and Jantz studied music. They took summer vacations together, sometimes traveling as far away as Europe.

After graduation, they moved en masse to Seattle, spent a few years there, then migrated to San Jose, California, then to Pacifica, just outside San Francisco and finally into San Francisco itself.

By now their careers were taking shape. Charlie became a rocket scientist working for GE. Jantz and Zane got involved with computer animation for movies and electronic

games and BZ opened a recording studio.

Zane wrote a novel in high school and later wrote a movie script. The four guys decided to make Zane's script into a movie. They all left their jobs in California and came home to Big Spring where they could get free food and lodging while they filmed their movie. Charlie was behind the camera, Zane directed and Jantz and BZ did the music and sound.

The enthusiasm of the young film makers was appreciated by the movie community in Dallas. A couple of actors and a special effects man with good credentials donated their time to the project. A cast of characters was assembled and locations were chosen. My grandson Jackson called the film-makers the Hollywood Big Shots.

It was shot on 16 millimeter film, then transferred to computer for editing and mixing. It took a few months to finish it, then it stayed on a shelf for a few years. Every once in awhile, the guys would think about doing something with it, get it out and work on it

some more. But mostly, they were involved with their jobs.

The movie is called HELL IS TEXAS and is now being sold in 7-11 stores on the east coast. The distributor plans to bring it west.

This is an amazing bunch of guys. A few years ago, Charlie decided to hitch-hike around the world. He took off a couple of years to do it.

Once Zane decided to take a year off to study some new computer programs.

Now that their careers are established, they're getting married. Zane married Ronda, who was in the movie and they have twin daughters. BZ married Margaret and they have my wonderful grandson Max. Charlie just got engaged and Jantz just works all the time and is not married.

I was out in San Francisco over the holidays and BZ, Charlie, Zane and I went to see the latest Lord of the Rings Movie. It was like being back in our dining room watching the guys play Dungeons and Dragons.

Crossroads to Texas Quilt Guild to meet Jan. 12

The first business meeting of the Crossroads To Texas Quilt Guild of the Greater Killeen Area will be held 7 p.m. Jan. 12 at the First United Methodist Church, downtown Killeen. The church is located at the corner of Gray and Avenue D.

The judging of the 20th anniversary quilt blocks will take place at this meeting. All member of the Guild are encouraged to

attend to take part in the voting. The winning block will be used to designate the Guild during 2004.

Everyone with an interest in the art and skill of quilting is invited to attend the meetings which are held on the second and fourth Mondays of the month. There are also various small quilt bees that are open for all members.

For additional information, call (254) 554-2674.

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Tax Filing Season Opens with Debut of 1040 Central

Taxpayers pondering a question, taxpayers searching for a form or taxpayers looking for their refund now can go to just one place: 1040 Central at IRS.gov.

The Internal Revenue Service today kicked off a new tax year by alerting taxpayers that 1040 Central and other enhanced electronic services should make the agency's Web site an even easier-to-use source of information. About 9 million Texans begin receiving their tax packages for the 2004 tax season this week.

At IRS.gov, taxpayers will find information on 1040 Central about lower tax rates, larger child tax credits and the elimination of the "marriage penalty." There are new income limits for Earned Income Tax Credit recipients. Investors will find new rates on capital gains and dividends and a revised Schedule D. Taxpayers also should review the Advance Child Tax Credit information to avoid an error on their return that could slow their refund.

This week, 28 million electronic tax filers nationally will receive postcards and 34 million paper filers will receive the Form 1040 booklets as the 2004 filing season gets underway. The IRS expects to process 9.3 million individual tax returns from Texas; 131 million nationwide. This year, more than 53 million taxpayers will opt for the easier and faster IRS e-file, which also is the quickest route to a refund.

IRS Commissioner Mark W. Everson unveiled the new 1040 Central feature on IRS.gov that is designed specifically for the individual taxpayers and for the tax professionals helping them. The new page pulls together much of the step-by-step information taxpayers need to prepare and file a return - and check on refunds.

"At 1040 Central, taxpayers will find virtually everything they need for their 2003 tax return. The 1040 Central page can be a one stop location for help," Everson said. "The 1040 Central section reflects our effort to make IRS.gov the easiest, fastest and best option for taxpayers. You don't have to come to us; we

are available to you electronically 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

At 1040 Central, individuals will find:

- * What's New This Year, which highlights the latest tax law changes, tax tips, news releases and frequently asked questions;
- * Get Ready to File, which provides links to information about the Earned Income Tax Credit, the 2003 Advance Child Tax Credit and commonly used forms and tax instructions;
- * File Your Return, which provides links to IRS e-file and Free File, the free service provided by IRS partners in the tax software preparation industry;
- * After You File, which includes the interactive Where's My Refund? that allows taxpayers to track the status of their refund;
- * More Assistance, which helps taxpayers locate additional information sources.

The 1040 Central page also can help taxpayers avoid errors when it comes to the Advance Child Tax Credit that 20 million families received last year. The child tax credit increased to \$1,000 from \$600. Taxpayers must reduce their 2003 claimed credit by the amount of the advance payment check they received last year. The amount of the advance payment was shown on Notice 1319 mailed to eligible taxpayers last year, and taxpayers also can check the amount of their Advance Child Tax Credit at 1040 Central.

At 1040 Central, tax-

payers also will find easy access to IRS e-file information, including lists of e-filing tax practitioners by zip code, and access to IRS Free File, the partnership with private-sector tax preparation software manufacturers. The IRS will provide additional information about Free File later this month. More than 2 million taxpayers used Free File's free services last year, its first year of operation.

Taxpayers who use IRS e-file have a higher satisfaction rating than those who still use paper returns, according to the American Customer Survey Index, which rates private and public sector service industries. Filing electronically remains the fastest, easiest route to a quick refund. When used with direct deposit, e-file means a refund in about two weeks or even less.

Millions of Americans have lower tax rates this year. For 2003, the tax law changes include:

- * Expanded 10 percent and 15 percent income tax brackets.
- * Lowered tax rates to 25 percent, 28 percent, 33 percent and 35 percent.
- * Increased standard deduction to \$4,750 for single taxpayers, \$7,000 for head of household and \$9,500 for couples filing as married filing jointly.
- * Increased Child Tax Credit to \$1,000 per qualified child from \$600.
- * Tax relief for military families.

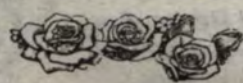
The increase in the standard deduction for couples whose filing status is married filing jointly eliminates the so-

called "marriage penalty." The changes in tax rates will automatically be reflected in the tax rate tables. The IRS also urges military families to review tax law changes. Some changes will require military families to file amended returns to fully claim some retroactive tax relief.

More taxpayers may qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit. The new limits for earned income or adjusted gross income are less than \$33,692 with more than one qualifying child, less than \$29,666 with one qualifying child and less than \$11,230 with no qualifying child. All EITC income limits are \$1,000 higher if taxpayers file as married filing jointly. However, taxpayers should carefully review EITC eligibility requirements to determine if they meet all the participation rules.

Taxpayers with investment income will have a new Schedule D to use as new rates take affect for capital gains. For gains after May 5, 2003, the 10 percent rate is reduced to 5 percent and the 20 percent rate is reduced to 15 percent. Dividends paid after December 31, 2002, will be taxed at the new capital gains rate.

And, the IRS reminds taxpayers that the tax filing season also brings out unscrupulous promoters touting various scams and schemes. Information on the latest scams and schemes is available at IRS.gov.



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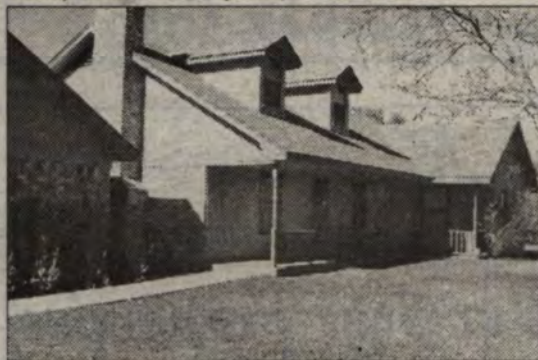


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UMHB hosts Dr. Maurice Hinson recital Jan. 27

The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor's Music Department will present Dr. Maurice Hinson in recital 7:30 p.m. January 27, in Hughes Recital Hall on campus. Also, 9-11 a.m. January 28, Dr. Hinson will be giving master classes to pre-college and college piano students. Following the master classes, he will be giving a lecture-recital entitled "Humor in Piano Music."

Dr. Maurice Hinson is one of America's most respected authorities on piano literature. His

outstanding achievements include the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Music Teachers National Association at its Washington, D.C. convention in the spring of 1994, the Outstanding Alumni Award from the University of Florida in 1990, and the Outstanding Alumni Award from the University of Michigan in the fall of 1995. Hailed as a specialist in American piano music, some of his most recent articles appear in the New Groves Dictionary of American Music in

the United States. Dr. Hinson received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Florida, and his Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Michigan. He also studied at The Julliard School and the Conservatoire National in Nancy, France.

As Senior Professor of Piano in the School of Church Music at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, Dr. Hinson teaches piano, piano liter-

ature, and piano chamber music.

Dr. Hinson has performed, lectured and given master classes worldwide. His books and editions have become classic standards in the studios of serious piano teachers and students. He was awarded the Franz Liszt Medal by the Hungarian Government in 1986.

All of Dr. Hinson's appearances at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor are free to the general public.

Garden To-Do List for January

Master Gardener

by Debbie Lauer

Now that the holidays are over, it is time to get busy in the garden. If you have been neglecting it due to your many higher priority chores, start now. Yes we have had a relatively mild winter, so far, but we still have January and February to get through!

I can't think of better therapy for unwinding after the stress of the holidays than working in the garden. It is also a great way to help work off some of those Christmas calories!

Be sure to keep your cool season annuals well mulched. The mulch helps retain moisture and retain soil warmth. An added plus is that mulch will reduce weeds and save you some work! January is usually the coldest month. Our most cold hardy annuals are pansies followed by dianthus, ornamental kale, violas, and snapdragons. These plants can survive temperatures in the 20s if kept well hydrated.

When you know that a cold snap is on the way be sure to give your beds a good drink. Also don't forget that our strong winds dehydrate plants.

Be especially attentive to plants in containers as they will dry out the quickest and need to be watered on a regular basis. For more tender plants such as

sweet peas, you may want to cover them before a hard freeze. If you do this be sure to take off the cover as soon as it warms up or you could end up baking your favorites.

Again don't forget your turf grass. Pay attention to our rainfall amounts. If we don't get at least an inch a month, your turf also needs to be watered about once a month. The wind also dehydrates your grass. It is important to keep the roots damp.

If the holiday rush made you forget those tulip and hyacinth bulbs in the refrigerator you can still plant them, but get them into the ground before the middle of the month. If you wish, you can also plant them in containers now. Be sure to keep beds where bulbs are planted mulched and watered.

Don't forget that your house plants also need attention during this time of the year. With the heat on they need extra humidity. Place them in groups to raise humidity or consider placing a tray of gravel filled half way with water under them. Make sure that the water does

not touch the bottom of the pot; you do not want the soil to get too wet.

Most house plants do not need fertilizer this time of the year; however those that are blooming such as African violets and orchids should be fertilized according to label instructions.

If you have a perennial that is not doing well in its current location, now is the time to move it to a new area. Be sure to have a good layer of mulch over the roots and crowns of tender perennials during the coldest time of the winter. Again if we do not receive rain perennial beds should receive periodic watering.

Now comes the part where you work off those Christmas calories. Prepare beds for spring planting. I have shrubs to dig up and beds to enlarge. This is the perfect time of the year for it. When it is really hot I lose motivation for things requiring lots of elbow grease and sweat. Get rid of the turf or weeds. Loosen and turn the top eight-to-10 inches of soil. I realize we don't all have that much soil;

loosen what is there.

Then be sure to work in three to four inches of organic matter. One source I checked recommended six inches of organic matter. You can also use all those leaves blowing around. Rake up the leaves and run over them with the lawn mower a few times and work them into your new bed. Add some finished compost to the mix and you will be set next spring. The better it is mixed the better your results.

You could use a tiller, but then you would lose all that calorie burning benefit! You might want to finish it off with a good layer of mulch to keep any weed seeds from settling in. The mulch will also keep the bed from compacting again when we get those torrential spring rains.

You can start seed flats of slow growing annuals such as petunias and begonias in early January. The last two weeks, start other plants such as tomatoes, peppers, and marigolds.

Finally check your junipers and other evergreens with narrow leaves for bagworm. Remove pouches by hand and burn them. This will reduce their potential for damage next spring.

Properties By Larry Sands
"Our Star Properties This Week"

A Lot full of trees!! Just listed this brick traditional 3 BR/2 BA with a huge SLA w/fireplace for those cool fall evenings!! Sit outside on the nice wood deck under the shade when springtime returns!! Great privacy fenced yard w/trees galore!! Under \$150,000.

A GREAT LOCATION, spacious 2 BR/2-1/2 BA with BRIGHT white kitchen!! LIGHT galore with 2 skylights & lots of windows that view #3 fairway on Mill Creek #1. Great closets & huge garage. Only \$149,950. Call Jan Hallmark. TODAY!
 Properties By Larry Sands
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Alterations: Buttons and Bows. Call Wanda Scaff at 254-493-9112. tfnb

J.R.'s Small Engine Repair
518 N. Robertson Rd. used push and riding lawn mowers for sale. 254-947-8979 tfnb

Gene's Tractor Service, Spread dirt, tills gardens, lots cuts grass on lots or acreage 947-5516 760-8949.tfnb

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12' x 36' covered RV parking spaces with electrical hookup. Security lighting and fenced. 24 hour access with personal gate code. On site manager during regular business hours. Conveniently located on Interstate Highway 35 just 5 miles north of Salado. Only four spaces remaining. Call 254-939-5355. 9/1/06

Perfect drywall patches & texture matching. Scott Mettenbrink Member BBB 254-947-5048 or 512-658-6006 tfnb

Kolls Construction - Quality work, reasonable price, build, add-ons, remodel, repairs, vinyl siding, and metal roofing. Call Maxie Kolls at 939-1538 tfnb

J&H Drywall Repair Interior and exterior painting. Drywall repair can match any texture. Acoustic Sprayed any size. Power washing Cabinets painted or restained. Family owned and operated established since 1989 Licensed and

Services

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Master Stone Mason, David Ward. Stone, brick, block, residential, light commercial. Fireplaces, patios, walkways, mail boxes, and retainer walls. Anywhere in Texas. (512) 446-0439 B9/25/04

Room Additions - Have your new room addition constructed by the experts. 21 yrs. experience. Sweezy Homes. Call for quote (254) 291-8888.

MARY KAY - Complimentary facial. Visit www.marykay.com/AnneMarieHarwell. (254) 947-3159.

Yard Maintenance: Mow, weed eat, trim. 947-1356, 721-4699 Popeye or 913-4692 Herbie. TFNB

Trees, Shrubs & Landscaping, Pruning, Removal and Hauling. Flower beds, yard work, top soil. Call Victor Marek toll free 1-888-945-3822 or residence 254-527-3822. tfnb

For Sale

Jewelry/Display counter for sale; white/glass, \$250. Greeting card racks, \$50. Southern Comforts. (254) 947-0595.

Full Orthopedic mattress set. New still packaged. Can deliver. Warranty. \$100 (254) 662-6769.

King - Brand new orthopedic mattress set, \$189. Can deliver. Warranty. (254) 662-6769.

Bed \$299. New king doubled sized pillowtop mattress set, with warranty in plastic. Can deliver.

For Sale

(254) 662-6769.

\$125 Queen orthopedic mattress set. Can deliver. New with warranty. (254) 662-6769.

Bed \$199. New queen pillowtop mattress set, with warranty in plastic. Can deliver. (254) 662-6769.

Estate sale items: upholstered couch, various crystal pieces, silverplate tableware, end tables and more. Call 947-1131 or 718-1585.

Firewood for sale at Salado Hardware. By the stack, bundle and halfcard delivered in Salado area. \$100. (254) 947-8979 or (254) 289-3669.

Hunter green leather sofa and recliner. 3 yrs old. \$750. (254) 947-5988.

Winter Cleaning Sale (All items are in good or excellent condition) Pool table, \$250. Iron gazebo, \$250. Tall (2) piece Cherry dresser, \$300. White and brass day bed with twin mattress set \$75. Antiques. Stove, \$50. Fridge, \$250. Lightly used Medala breast pump & new accessories, \$200. Dishes, baby & children's toys, and Much, Much More! Call for an appointment (254) 947-0403 or (254) 947-4197. Serious buyers only... P1/14

Estate Sale

Huge Estate Sale - Jan. 17 only!! Kuykendall Branch Rd., take Holland Rd. exit and follow the signs. Sale will begin at 8 a.m. Dining room set, bedroom furniture, microwave, sewing machine, two twin beds, tons of linens, two sets of dishes, pots and pans, vacuum cleaner, clothes iron, two TV's, VCR, and lots more. P1/14

Housekeeping

Moving? Don't worry call **Gidley's Cleaning** before you move in or after you move out. 947-5579. tfn

Granny's House Cleaning Free estimate/ discounts. References. call 254-947-8533 Salado tfnb

Basic Things house cleaning service. Let me clean the dirt gorilla out of your house. Bonded. Doug Tobin 254-541-1395 tfnb

Automobiles

1981 Winnebago Chief-tian. 29 Ft. 454 Eng., 85K miles. (254) 947-5933. TFNB

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Storage space in Salado 8X12, 16X24 and up. Some have drive-in doors. **Salado Storage** 947-5575 tfnb

Stow Away Storage Household - Commercial 10X10 - 10x20- 22x40 Clean, lighted, fenced, Key punch entry 24 hours. 947-5502 or 721-1807 Paul Sanford - Owner tfnb

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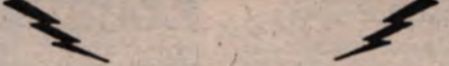
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Homes For Sale



If you enjoy country living...this home is for you! 2-story country style home with nice front porch, on 3.5 acres. Outstanding craftsmanship, utilizing 100-year old wood in interior stairs, walls and wainscot. Huge, comfortable den. 36x40 shop, plus more! \$209,800. Call Century 21-Bill Bartlett, 254-947-5050.

The most beautiful 15 acre tract available in Salado with all kinds of possibilities! A 2336 SF home with 3BR/2BA, loft and game room. Exposed beams and Franklin stove give this home a lodge feel. Also, 960 SF barn with an additional 320 SF heated and cooled guest area, a 1950 SF RV garage, a tractor barn, sheds and more. City water plus a well. Private location. \$349,800. Call Century 21-Bill Bartlett at (254) 947-5050.

For Sale in Salado: double wide manufactured home approx. 1,800 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 living room areas on 1/2 acre. Payments on home and land approx. \$600 per month for buyer with good credit. Will require approx. \$1,000 up front 913-7437 7/16p


Exquisite 4/3/2 on .868 acre lot in one of Salado's choice subdivisions. Formal and informals living and dining areas beautiful view, custom landscaping, green house, garden room hot tub, etc. \$337,000 Call First Texas Brokerage 254-947-5577

New home under construction on the golf course overlooking Salado Creek. Absolutely beautiful view. Ten to 14 foot ceilings throughout the home. Priced at \$310,000 Call First Texas Brokerage 947-5577 tfn

A beautiful hill top 3/2 home, manicured lawn overlooking 3 acre lake on 13.42 acres. Numerous windows and huge covered deck, outstanding views. Foliage and trees enhance the beauty of the home supplying shade from the hot summer sun \$399,000 Call First Texas Brokerage 254-947-5577 tfn

Early 1900's classic home totally renovated 2/1 living with fireplace,

Homes For Sale



formal, dining, sunroom, 10 ft. ceilings, wood floors, metal roof W/D connections. 309 Josphine, Holland, \$95,000 254-541-8747 tfnb

New Listing - 502 Mill Creek 3/2/2 all birch, large living area with fireplace, fenced, backyard, new carpet. Walk to shopping center. \$149,700 Ronnie Tynes at Tynes Realty, 947-0044. TFNB

2/2/1 Townhome in Salado. Washer/dryer connections inside, 6 closets, close to shopping. \$87,500. (254) 338-5083. TFNB

Convenient Mill Creek location. 3BD/2.5BA, 2 living, 2 dining. Fenced yard, spacious deck, great tree covered lot, golf cart garage. 1208 Old Mill Rd. (254) 947-0579.

Like new - 4BD/2BA, 2,000 sq. ft. double wide on one acre next to large ranch. Salado schools. 254-947-5697.

For Sale - pick up payments of \$308/mo. 1997 mobile home. 15x56 Sonoma by Clayton. (254) 634-2100 or (254) 289-2496. Credit check. Appliances included. Salado area.

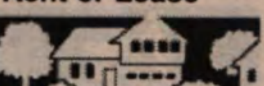
SUN CITY - Golf course view - over 2000 sq. ft. 3/2/2 - covered patios - wood blinds - sprinklers, fully landscaped, big oak tree, ceramic tile, non-smokers, A/C - 4 fans, available now. 405 Dawson Trail. \$185,000. (512) 868-5440.

Commercial Rental



Opportunity to own Main St. property in Salado. Established business is creating space for a new business to flourish with Main St. exposure. 2090 SF of retail space. Perfect for a new business to reduce cost of ownership & still have established business next door to promote pedestrian traffic. \$224,500 Call C-21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 tnf. **Office or retail space** on Main Street, Salado. (254) 947-5933 TFNB **Commercial Space Wanted to Lease:** 500-1,000 Sq. Ft. Retail Space on Main St. 800-670-3534.

Rent or Lease



This beautiful home features a lg. family room w/ fireplace, covered porch, sprinkler system, fenced yard, and too many extras to mention. The owner provides professional lawn maintenance and outside water. It is located close to the golf course and shopping. No pets accepted. Call John Reider Properties at 254-699-8300 or 254-681-6622 after hours tfnb

Charming, spacious 2/2/1 townhome for rent. \$825. 6 closets, vaulted ceilings, w/d closet inside. Walk to shopping center. Lawn care provided. (254) 338-5083. TFN

Great location on #3 Fairway!! This 2BD, 2.5BA patio home is ready for occupancy! Big 2-car garage and room for golf cart. \$1,250/month. Call Larry Sands (254) 947-5580.


Duplex for lease, 2BD/2BA, 1,100 sq. ft. \$700 per mo. plus deposit, yard maintained and watered. (254) 718-0411

Salado, Lease/Purchase, doublewide, 1,800 sq. ft., excellent condition. \$700 per month, \$300 deposit. (254) 913-7102.

Available Jan. 5! 1,000 sq. ft. 2BD/2BA duplex, privacy fence, 1 car garage, water paid. 152A Satch Dr. 12 Month Lease, \$795 per month. Call (254) 848-4181 or (254) 289-9536.

For Rent: 3BD/2BA, 2 living, 1.5 acres in Live Oak Estates, Salado, 30x50 shop with electricity. \$900/month, \$850 security deposit. Pet allowed with \$300 pet deposit. Call Century 21-Bill Bartlett at (254) 947-5050.

Land for Sale



Beautiful tree covered 12-44 acre tracts in the gated, restricted Spear's Ranch Development between Salado and Georgetown. Contact Ronnie Tynes, Broker, (512) 461-3370.

For Sale By Owner. Many WOODED LOTS, Woods of Salado on FM 2484 near Lake Stillhouse. Rita Seghers 254-760-9663. tfnb

Two acre restricted, wooded, lakeview home sites. Salado schools. Call C-21 Bill Bartlett 254-947-5050 tfn

Wonderful homesites! Reduced Price! 19.59 Acres with large oak trees, good water well and horse barn. \$180,000. Call Rodney at the Charter Group 778-6675 tfnb

End of Cul-De-Sac 3.2 ac \$43,900 Beautiful tract w large trees near historic Salado. Cul-de-sac backs up to large ranch. County rds, electric telephone, more. Only \$43,900! Call 1-254-947-5901 ext 849

30-360 acres, 15 mi. N. of Georgetown, 6 mi. S. of Salado. Beautiful land, well located, owner finance. Some restrictions. Call Bill at Century 21-Bill Bartlett, (254) 947-5050 or 800-352-1183. TFNB

Texas Veterans Land from \$162 per mo. Own beautiful 2 to 5 acre country properties in a prime location near historic Salado. Huge oak trees and great soil. Privacy galore! Price: \$26,900, 5% down, bal fin 30 yrs @ 6.5% fixed, WAC. Call now for details 888-973-5263, x. 954, hiddenspringstx.com. B1/14

Two adjacent lots 22.21 acres or 17.71 acres for sale, separately or combined. Beautiful rolling landscape, big oak trees. (254) 338-4933. P1/28

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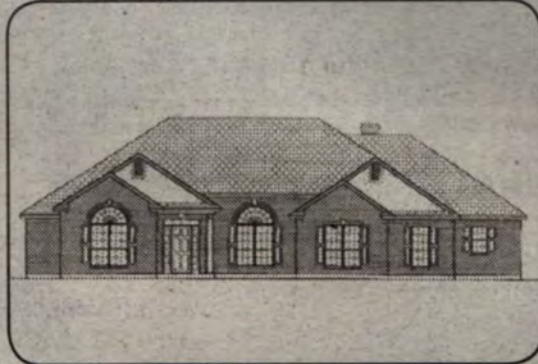
We're thankful for a great year in 2003



...and looking forward to serving you in 2004



\$324,900 - The awesome view will sell this gorgeous new home. Overlooking Stillhouse Hollow Lake, the view of the lake & surrounding area is breathtaking. Take a look & see for yourself.



\$267,900 - This lovely new 4 BR home overlooks the golf course. Two living areas are complemented with 10' and 12' ceilings. The family room has a fireplace. Formal dining room has 12' ceilings, wood floors and 4" crown molding. The spacious kitchen has granite cabinet tops, ceramic tile back splash & walk-in pantry. Breakfast nook, crown molding, two tone paint, ceiling fans, covered patio porch, generous master BA & BR.



\$117,900 - Large covered deck makes this home perfect for the backyard barbecue. Located in the country on 3/4 of an acre, this 2 BR, 2 BA, 2 living room home is ideally located for easy access to I-35 or Killeen. Open living, dining and kitchen gives the home a warm atmosphere for entertaining or spending time with the family. Built in 1996.



\$499,500 - 7.2 acres on I-35 between Salado-Belton, with road on 3 sides. 2,00 SF offices, 18,700 SF warehouses, 4,000 SF mini storage. Excellent price, location and condition.



\$251,800 - You are invited to view this outstanding new home with formal area, separate office, family room open to breakfast and kitchen. Come see the unique granite table. Master suite has a sitting area. Room for your golf cart!



\$309,900 - Gorgeous one-year old home overlooking Mill Creek Golf Course #3 Fairway and Green. Many custom features throughout this elegant home. Lovely granite kitchen counter tops with large island. Fully landscaped with sprinkler system.



\$259,900 - Beautifully landscaped backyard creates an inviting atmosphere to welcome you into a pool with waterfall. View the pool from the family room, breakfast/kitchen area, and formal living room. Kitchen and family room are open for easy entertaining. Master bedroom/bath is down the hall from a 4th BR/study, other two bedrooms are across from the living areas. Built in bookshelves and fireplace located in the formal living. Located on 1/2 acre lot.



\$139,900 - Beautiful trees on 10 acres with mobile home. Two wells, two septic systems, two storm cellars. Quiet homesite. Ready for occupancy. Tin-roofed barn, hen house, and storage shed. Property is fenced & cross-fenced, ready for cattle or horses. Garden is fenced separately.



\$1,249,000 - An executive home on Mill Creek Golf Course with a Salado Creek view. Two story Austin stone, brick & cast stone with traditional charm in pristine condition, offering 4 bedrooms, 4 full baths, 2 half baths, study, formal living, formal dining, home theatre, bonus/exercise room, with in-ground pool & hot tub.

Residential

- \$83,500 - Nice manufactured home on 5 acres - UC.
- \$106,800 - Clean, light & bright! Well maintained 6 yrs old.
- \$117,900 - Large deck on 2 BR home in country.
- \$124,900 - New construction on W. Amity. 3 BR/2 BA.
- \$128,800 - Jimmy Wilson home on 1 acre, covered patio.
- \$131,800 - New mid-size home, great finishing touches.
- \$139,900 - Mobile home & barn on 10 acres. Beautiful trees.
- \$189,000 - Courtyard enhances the front walkway, lush yard.
- \$194,500 - 3 or 4 BR, apartment/office. 4 car carport.
- \$209,800 - 2 story country style home & shop. 3.5 acres.
- \$214,800 - 4 BR/2-1/2 BA on 1 wooded acre in Mill Creek.
- \$224,900 - Home overlooking Mill Creek Golf Course.
- \$241,800 - Synergy Builders 3BR home has kitchen skylight.
- \$251,800 - New home in Mill Creek. Granite table.
- \$259,500 - 3 BR overlooking Salado Creek & #13 Green.
- \$259,900 - 4 BR home w/ pool & waterfall, landscaped.
- \$267,900 - New 4 BR, 2-1/2 BA overlooking golf course.
- \$269,000 - 4 BR home w/open floor plan. - SOLD.
- \$297,000 - 3 BR, 2-1/2 BA on Salado Creek Place cul-de-sac.
- \$309,900 - 1 year old home on #3 Fairway. Landscaped.

- \$324,900 - 4 BR, 3-1/2 BA home overlooking golf course.
- \$324,900 - New 4 BR home with hillside lake view.
- \$349,800 - 15 acres, 3 BR, 2 BA, gameroom and loft room.
- \$1,249,000 - Executive 4 BR home on Salado Creek.

Acres Available

- 140 acres 7 miles SE of Belton. Secluded, mostly wooded, great view, river frontage, owner finance. \$2,500 per acre.
- 140 acres on Hwy 36 at Temple Airport, all or part.
- 20 to 363 acres 6 mile S. Salado, Lovely view, owner finance.
- 15.796 acres fronting FM 2268 with young trees. \$99,500.

Lots

Mill Creek Lots

- Fletcher Ct. - \$68,000
- O.W. Lowrey - \$70,000

Woods of Salado Lots

- Mountain Dr. - Lot 6A - \$52,000
- Mountain Dr. - Lots 5A & 5B - \$98,000
- Hodge Canyon Dr. - \$52,000

Other Lots

- Salado Heights - 2 acre tracts - \$29,000 each.
- Windy Hill Ranch - 2 acre lots - \$55,000 to \$90,000
- Jeremiah's Well - 10 acre tracts \$60,000 to \$95,000
- Heritage - 1 to 3 acre wooded homesites, near Salado. Well restricted.
- The Overlook - 1+ acre prime lots \$125,000 - \$165,000.

Commercial Property

- \$224,500 - Retail space on Main St. 2090 SF.
- \$429,000 - 5.66 acres commercial property off Main Street.
- \$499,500 - 7.65 acres between Belton - Salado with offices, metal buildings & mini storage.

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Easy access to golf course. This 3/2/2 is located on large professionally landscaped corner lot between the old and the new courses. Large kitchen with cabinets galore and oversized serving bar. **\$159,900.**



New Listing: 3/2/2 on more than one acre in beautiful Salado Oaks. Nice open floorplan, split bedrooms. Pretty trees. **\$164,900.**



Many upgrades enhance this 3/2/2 with golf cart storage. Plantation shutters, butlers pantry, tile flooring, decorator colors, large master suite. **\$259,900.**



Beautiful Texas Ranch Home on appx. 5 acres. The huge covered front porch is a great place to rest and relax. Features include master suite, alarm system, stained concrete floors (echoed with one Texas Star), custom kitchen & intercom system. **\$350,000.**



Pamper yourself in this custom brick Contemporary. Built in china cabinet, high ceilings, hardwood flooring, designer upgrades. Fine master suite with jacuzzi and separate shower. Near golf course. **\$177,000.**



Lots of room to roam on this appx. four tree covered acres. Large 3/2/2 with many updated features. New carpets and flooring. Large fireplace enhances the family room and house also includes game room and office. 30x40 barn. **\$217,900.**



Great tree covered lot with house in Belton for only **\$77,000.**



Completely remodeled home on approximately 2 acre. Lots of privacy! Priced at **\$159,900.**



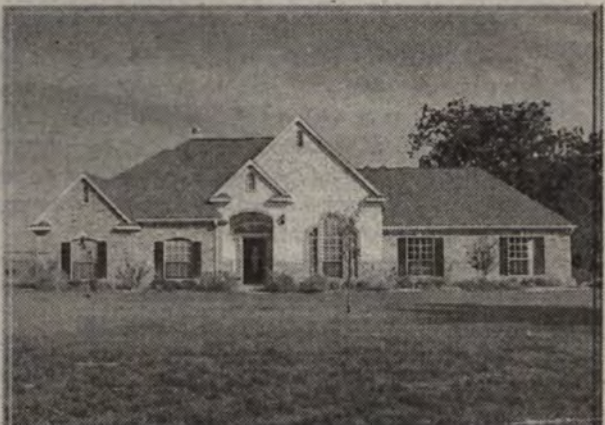
Beautiful lot in Southlake Harbor subdivision near Lake Belton. Gated community close to Belton schools **\$65,000.**



Country Home on one acre. The large front porch and screened back porch make country living a pleasure. Breeze way connects the two car carport to the house. 3/2/2 two story stone. **\$114,900.**



On golf course. This like new 3/2/2 hosts a beautiful stone patio facing Hole 5 Creek 2. Features include hardwood flooring and formal dining. **\$214,000.**



Picture perfect traditional-style near schools in quiet neighborhood. Great floorplan for entertaining. Built-ins in home office. High ceilings with crown molding, huge master suite and covered patio. 2+ acres. **\$279,000.**

Acreage

- Lots w/ sewage & water on Shady Lane. **\$10,000/lot.**
- Approx. 2 acres near golf course in Mill Creek. Beautiful trees. **\$38,995.**
- 2 acre lot sw of Salado. Beautiful trees. Excellent homesite. **\$28,900.**
- 2 acre lot sw of Salado. Beautiful trees. Excellent homesite. **\$27,900.**
- 2 acre wooded lot with a great view. Walking distance to tennis court & the park on Salado Creek. Excellent Homesite. **\$32,900.**
- 2.7 acres fronting FM 2843. **\$29,900** or 1.35 acres for **\$20,000.**
- 3.018 acres on FM 2843. Large Pecan trees & live water. **\$39,900.**
- 3 BR/2 BA mobile home on 3.5 acres w/view overlooking lake. - UC
- 3.5 acres with septic & water. Under Contract.
- 4 acres SW of Salado. Beautiful trees. Excellent homesite. **\$56,800.**
- 5.13 acres sw of Salado. Beautiful trees. Reduced to **\$44,900.** - U/C
- 10+ acres in Bell Meadows off FM 1123. Unbelievable views. **\$89,000.**

- 20 acres sw of Salado on Buttermilk Creek. Heavily wooded. **\$125,000.**
- 51 acres Buttermilk Creek, great views, tree coverage, sw of Salado.
- 51 acres with hill country view \$3,500 per acre.
- 130 acres Rolling hills with great views. **\$4,500/acre.**
- 245 acres Beautiful rolling hills with large live oak trees and a 3 acre lake. Outstanding development opportunity.

Commercial

- 3 acres commercial property fronting I-35, Phase 3. **\$89,900.**
- Excellent Commercial: Corner of West Village Rd. & IH-35 at exit 285. Charming B&B Inn. One of the oldest bldgs in the Village of Salado and is listed in the Nat'l Register of Historic Places. It is a Greek Revival.
- 1742 sq. ft. Close to Main St. Commercial Property. **\$700/mth.**

Salado Lots

- Indian Trail at Blaylock, lg corner lot, 90x188 - **\$36,000.**
- Indian Trail - 90x188 - **\$34,000.**
- Mill Creek Lot - **\$39,900.**

Belton

- Nice 2 BR/2BA doublewide with large living and formal dining. Fenced yard - **\$39,000.**
- Large lot in Belton near Lake. Gated community, many trees. **\$65,000.**