

# Salado Village Voice

Vol. XXVI, Number 16

Wednesday, August 6, 2003

Hometown newspaper read by Doc &amp; Carol Stricker

## Vet, wife persevere in battle for health care coverage

By CHRIS MCGREGOR  
STAFF WRITER

Harlan "Rip" Van Winkle did his part.

His 20 years in the United States Army included, when all was said and done, two tours in steamy, unpopular Vietnam and a retirement in 1980 with the rank of Major.

A retirement that, he was told, carried with it lifetime health benefits for he and his wife, Sharon. It was, in fact, that tidy incentive alone that sent him back into the jungle a second time, in 1969.

Rip Van Winkle did his part, and did it willingly. But when the coin turned, the VanWinkles found they needed to dip into those hard-earned benefits. In response, their provider, TriCare insurance, a subsidiary of the Department of Defense and the arm that dispenses health benefits to military retirees and dependents, went AWOL.

The Van Winkle's roller coaster ride began in 1995. "We were sitting at a very nice restaurant in Las Vegas, having dinner," Rip stated. "One minute we were talking, eating and enjoying ourselves, the next minute she is screaming in pain, crying, and holding the right side of her face. That was her first attack."

It was the first, but not the last. Sharon's affliction was diagnosed as a rare, painful nerve malfunction called Trigeminal Neuralgia.

Technically, it is described in the Trigeminal Neuralgia Guidebook as a "disorder of the fifth cranial (trigeminal) nerve that causes episodes of intense, stabbing, electric-shock like pain in the areas of the face where the branches of the nerve are distributed--lips, eyes, nose, scalp, forehead, upper jaw and lower jaw."

So, in simple terms, what does all that mean? The Guidebook then goes on to a more precise description: "Something as simple and routine as brushing the teeth, putting on makeup or even a slight breeze can trigger an attack,

resulting in sheer agony for the individual."

Trigeminal Neuralgia also goes by another name. The suicide disease.

"Though non-fatal," the Guidebook explains, "it is considered to be the most painful affliction known to medical practice."

Because it's not really known what causes it, treatment is a trial-and-error proposition. Further, due to this unpredictability, many sufferers, rather than resigning themselves to a life of misery, opt for suicide instead.

For several years after her diagnosis, Sharon was treated with a variety of oral medicines, drugs such as Tegretol and Neurontin, which are no safe bet in and of themselves, and are also known to have nasty side effects on the kidneys and liver.

"The pain would go away for a few months, and then come back as intense as ever. None of the medications were completely effective," Rip said.

So the story went until 2001, when Rip retired from a job with Chemical Lime, moved to Salado and had to rely on TriCare Prime as his primary insurance provider.

TriCare Prime is the best insurance package in the TriCare family. That being said, it's still far from good. Citing no-pay or slow-pay, doctors and hospitals have stopped accepting TriCare to the point of it being endemic.

This was known in 2000, when then Chairman of the Joint Chiefs Gen. Henry Shelton called TriCare "not user friendly," and that it "must be fixed," saying the government had broken its commitment to the nation's fighting men and women.

That overhaul has yet to happen, though. There are entire rings of websites, run mostly by veterans, devoted to nothing but warehousing TriCare complaints.

Because Sharon had a pre-existing condition, it wasn't financially feasible for the Van Winkles to take on another insurance pro-

SEE VAN WINKLES, 13A



## Salado Art Fair

The 37th Annual Salado Art Fair was this weekend, as the largest fundraiser for the Salado Chamber of Commerce. Above, Cindy Dale mans the Children's Art Tent, sponsored by Salado Pottery. At right, Margaret Fulton Grimmer is one of the more than 120 artists showing their work at the Fair.



## Trustees propose \$1.58 rate

Salado ISD trustees set a proposed tax rate of \$1.58 per \$100 evaluation after two other motions failed during a special called meeting July 29. The board also called a public hearing on the proposed budget and tax rate for 6 p.m. Aug. 25 at the Salado Civic Center.

With a member absent July 29, the board of trustees split evenly on a proposed tax rate of \$1.57 per \$100 evaluation. The motion by Frank Carlson received a second by Jackie

Burson. Jeff Kelley also voted for the motion with Debbie Aldridge, Miriam Ervi and John Konzen voting against the motion.

The board then defeated a second motion to maintain the \$1.57 tax rate with Kelley voting against, joining Aldridge, Ervi and Konzen.

Following a motion by Konzen and second by Aldridge, trustees approved the proposed tax rate of \$1.58 per \$100 evaluation, which is a cent more than the current rate.

The public hearing on the proposed budget and tax rate will be published prior to the meeting. The board cannot adopt a tax rate higher than the proposed rate without going through the process of publishing notice properly.

Trustees can adopt a tax rate lower than the proposed rate without publishing notice.

The proposed budget is based on maintaining the \$1.57 tax rate and having student growth of more than two percent.

## Aldermen to discuss zoning, noise

Salado aldermen will continue to discuss zoning and noise during their 6:30 p.m. Aug. 7 meeting at the municipal building on Stagecoach Rd.

The Steering Committee has continued work on the zoning ordinance and map of the Village and may make a recommendation to the board of aldermen later this month.

Aldermen will hear pros and cons on the proposed eight-page noise ordinance, which regulates "certain unreasonably loud noises."

The board will discuss and take input from citizens on whether the proposed draft noise ordinance is sufficient.

Aldermen will also continue discussion of the proposed 2003-04 budget, including consideration of paying off the loan on the municipal building and the purchase of \$24,000 warning sirens.

The proposed budget calls for more than \$500,000 in expenditures with estimates revenues of \$475,000.

In new business, aldermen will discuss:

- Inter-jurisdictional mutual aid agreement with the county
- Letter/complaints on overgrown lots.
- Appointment to attend Texas Municipal League annexation workshop and TML Annual Conference.
- Golf cart usage during festivals.

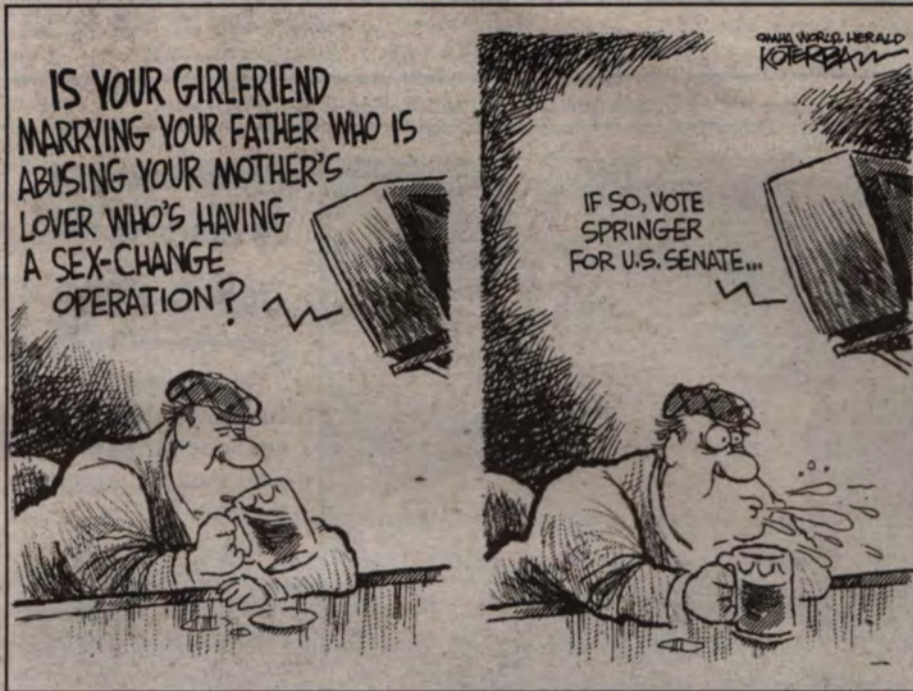
Trustees expressed concern over the possible impact on funding if the growth rate estimates fall short of the proposed budget.

The Aug. 25 hearing will fall after the first days of school, so administrators will be able to warn trustees if the estimates in student population growth will be short.

The \$1.58 tax rate is recommended by Supt. Robin Battershell, who says it will maximize state funding for the next biennium.

# FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas



## The Colonialist Consensus

No one wants to say it out loud, but we are all colonialists now. Conservatives want to provide security and decent government to far-flung parts of the world for our own good -- to protect America's interests; liberals want to provide security and decent government to far-flung parts of the world for other people's good -- to protect humanitarian principles.

The unspoken assumption on both sides is that swaths of the world have proven incapable of self-government, and they're both right. So conservative Republican President George W. Bush sends American troops to take over from the nasty dictator of Iraq, Saddam Hussein, and liberal Democrat Howard Dean wants to send American troops to take over from the nasty dictator of Liberia, Charles Taylor. Beneath all the vitriolic partisan disagreements about American foreign policy, then, there is a sort of colonialist consensus, which is why American troops are in Afghanistan and Iraq (a Republican president's colonialism), Bosnia and Kosovo (a Democratic president's colonialism), and perhaps soon Liberia, too (a Republican president's colonialism that is pleasing to Democrats).

The covert return to colonialism implicitly admits that old-fashioned colonialism -- at least of the civilizing British Empire sort -- never deserved its bad name. As British historian Niall Ferguson writes in his new book, "Empire": "No organization in history has done more to promote the free movement of goods, capital and labor than the British Empire in the 19th and early 20th centuries. And no organization has done more to impose Western norms of law, order and governance around the world."

Sept. 11 was a blunt reminder that the piratical regimes that have flourished in

## The Rich Lowry Column

Central Asia, the Middle East and Africa in the absence of Western assertion are not just a disaster for people living under them, but are dangerous to us.

America's covert colonialist consensus should come out into the open. Then we can stop being surprised when we end up running countries, from Bosnia to Iraq, and concentrate on developing the difficult skills appropriate to the task. As we are learning in Iraq, breaking things is relatively easy, making them anew is very hard.

We can also openly study the British example and learn its lessons, especially how to create a -- in Ferguson's phrase -- "self-liquidating" empire, one that builds the institutions necessary to decent government, then leaves.

Winston Churchill once asked, "What enterprise that an enlightened community may attempt is more noble and more profitable than the reclamation from barbarism of fertile regions and large populations? To give peace to warring tribes, to administer justice where all was violence, to strike the chains off the slave, to draw the richness from the soil, to plant the earliest seeds of commerce and learning?"

It is a sign of the depth of America's covert colonialist consensus that part of even Howard Dean -- eager to intervene in Liberia -- agrees.

## Who'll blink first in high stakes political battle in Austin and Albuquerque?

Unless there is a last minute change in direction by the forces at play between the 11 Democratic State Senators who are holed up in a resort motel in Albuquerque and the entire panoply of Republican office holders in Austin, from the Governor on down - what is unfolding is a losing battle that the insurgents can't win - and they know it!

Governor Perry is too far out on a limb to remove congressional redistricting from the second special session and he must - to save political face - keep calling lawmakers back until Democrats toss in their towels and take a political licking that a minority party must face from time to time.

Democrats are also noting a "bored" public reaction from across the State and that's something politicians must counteract quickly or take early retirement.

Perry isn't getting many voter "brownie" points either for his "puppet-like" attitude each time Tom DeLay jerks his strings. Many conservatives think he is vulnerable for a real "plow cleaning" next election.

Senator Hutchison and Comptroller Strayhorn are the most frequently mentioned candidates to send Perry packing.

### END IN SIGHT

This column has been wrong in the second-guessing department many times - especially when forecasting what legislators are going to do (or not do) - but as things now stand, in the high stakes political poker game between the GOPers and Demos in both Austin and New Mexico - the conservatives are holding the "killer" cards. So it's time for the Democrats to fold, come home, mend fences, vote against redistricting and accept defeat without rancor. It's been an interesting battle but one that can't be won without votes and Texas Democrats don't have that necessary ingredient at this time.

This hide-and-seek game may well be over by the time this column is printed or continue for a few more weeks, but it will eventually end and at this point in time - the sooner the better!

### AMENDMENT REVIEW CONTINUED

This week's review of the Constitutional Amendments to be decided September 13 continues as we examine Amendments Three, Four, Five, Six and Sixteen. Proposal 16 has been pulled out of order and inserted in this report since it is the companion proposition to Six - both dealing with Home Equity and Reverse Mortgages.

### AMENDMENT THREE

Amendment Three, if passed, would permit state taxing authorities to remove from ad valorem tax rolls all property owned by a recognized church, temple, or mosque that is purchased and held (with no time limit) for eventual construction of a new place of worship or expansion.

Today, religious groups have only three years to complete such construction or the property reverts to taxable status, which is arguably not sufficient time for long range planning.

This amendment would also allow a church to lease its property to an individual or group that puts the land to use as a learning center that meets the statutory definition of a tax exempt school. This part is a little murky but if a legally constituted private school is put in place - then there is no reason for not allowing the tax exemption to be given.

Taking property off the tax rolls is always a tough call - but states have traditionally allowed religious groups to be

## Off the Record

by Ken Clapp



ANALYSIS OF AMENDMENTS: THIS WEEK'S REVIEW INCLUDES 3,4,5, 6 AND ITS COMPANION 16.

granted this privilege - with full knowledge that end result is higher taxes for non-exempt property owners.

All things considered - it is recommended that Amendment Three be approved.

### AMENDMENT FOUR

Amendment Four is designed for only 11 counties and if passed would allow these jurisdictions, that currently have a conservation and reclamation district in place - the right to raise taxes, (with voter approval), to create parks and recreational facilities within their district.

Counties involved: Bastrop, Bexar, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Montgomery, Tarrant County Regional Water District, Travis, Waller and Williamson.

If the voters in these counties wish to tax themselves to provide a park or recreational area within their conservation district - then we should allow them to do so without complaint.

Highly recommend Amendment Four be passed.

### AMENDMENT FIVE

Amendment Five could be termed a "no brainer" in that it gives full legal status to what most school districts are already doing - i.e. exempting from ad valorem taxation travel trailers not used commercially.

Only Texas school districts are required to tax travel trailers under the ad valorem tax statutes. In Bell County - not a single school system actually taxes these trailers and if this amendment passes they can continue this practice without feeling guilty.

Actually guilty is too harsh a word. Fact is it costs more to appraise and tax travel trailers than is received in tax dollars. So why mess with them in the first place - which is exactly the reason this amendment is being placed before voters.

Highly recommend Amendment Five be approved.

### AMENDMENTS SIX & SIXTEEN

As noted in the intro, these companion amendments deal with changes in the home equity and reverse mortgage lending laws that were initially approved in 1997 and refined in 1999 through voter referendums.

Amendment six would permit a bank to refinance a home equity loan with a reverse mortgage - something not permitted at this time. Sixteen would clarify the convoluted rules and regulations associated with reverse mortgages and further expand home equity loans from a single lump sum to a line of credit if requested by the borrower.

These are complicated amendments and those groups that traditionally oppose borrowing against home equities will be out in full strength urging defeat since they claim that older homeowners are more easily swindled and could lose the only valuable possession they own.

The changes within these amendments should give both the lender and the borrower additional security in that the rules would be clarified for lenders and be more protective of the homeowner.

Recommend both these amendments - Six and Sixteen be approved; so as to strengthen the home equity and reverse mortgage lending laws that are currently on the books.

That's -30-

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# Can you hear me now, reader asks Sprint

## Your Voice

### Letters to the Editor

To the editor:

I'm Taylor Willingham and I am a Sprint customer.

My next statement could follow one of three, if not more, lines of reasoning. I could be prefacing a declaration of loyalty that would make marketing executives drool, exclaiming a simple statement of fact, or issuing a cry for help much as one might hear in a 12-step confessional. I find myself torn, because while this is a desperate confessional, it is not the plea of one who has found the hope and promise that a 12-step program might offer. I am crying out and there are no "sponsors" who can help me out of this dilemma. No steps I can take will lead to salvation or amends. I am simply stuck being a Sprint customer locked in a dysfunctional relationship that I can't control or escape.

Three years ago, I left the hectic lifestyle of California to return to my native home of Texas and the promise of Salado -- a peaceful village close to family and close-knit community-members. This Village is a place where I can build a future, a business and be a part of a community. My needs are simple -- an accessible airport and a reliable telephone/internet service. I've gotta love the convenience of the Killeen airport just a short hop to DFW, a portal to the world, but the latter requirement is enough to drive me back to the harried life that I left behind in California.

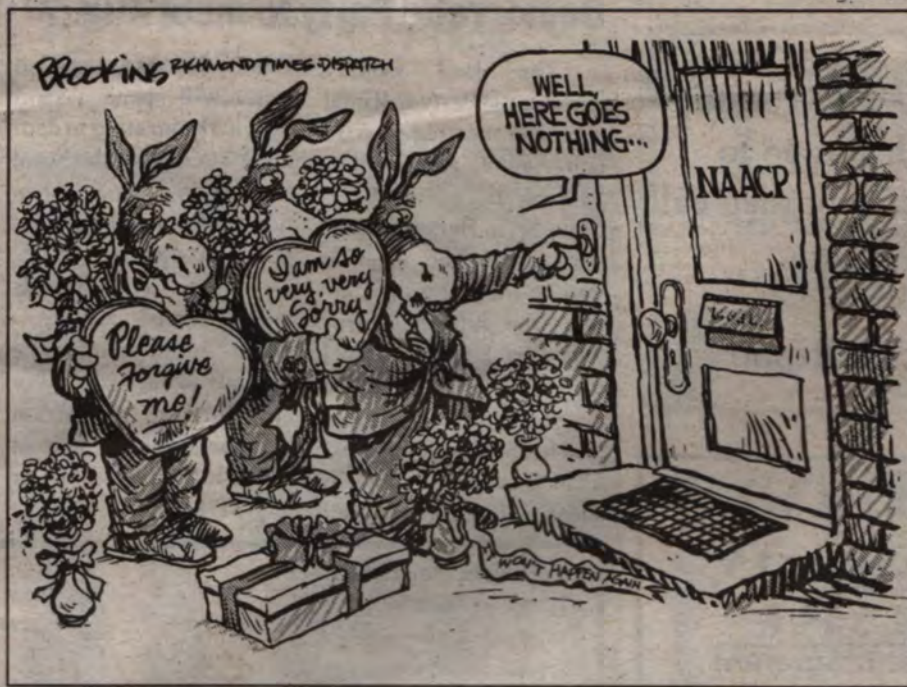
Instead of the hopes and dreams I sought, I find that my days are filled with long periods on hold (using my AT&T cell phone, of course) waiting for someone at Sprint who might "record my conversation for quality purposes." I diligently enter the computerized prompts, including my telephone number, only to be greeted eventually with a caring "customer representative," who will predictably inform me that I have reached the wrong number and forward me to the same prompts until I finally demand a person qualified to address my concerns. (A side note worth mentioning: I subscribe to the Sunday *New York Times*, and if I have a problem with my delivery, the first voice I hear is a real person, who knows my names and

addresses me with "Good morning, Ms. Willingham, how can I help you down there in Salado?" I am still baffled why the *NY Times*, a \$23 per month charge, knows me the instant I call and my own phone company that gets over \$90 per month repeatedly asks me to enter a number and then STILL sends me to a "customer care representative" who asks me to verbally repeat the number I've entered a dozen times.)

Over the past three years, I have accumulated a rather large tome of complaints. I now measure my days by the length of uninterrupted service I get from Sprint. When my phone went out yesterday, I was celebrating one week with service. Before that, Sprint actually managed to keep my phone running for an entire month. The technicians responding to my complaints (Jackie and Claude) have been heroic and I owe any satisfaction that I have enjoyed to them. But why should they have to resort to heroic efforts? Shouldn't I have the simple indulgence of a telephone and internet service that will enable me to be an entrepreneur in this community built on entrepreneurial spirit or am I expected to shrug when I lose thousands of dollars in income due to "down time," because "that's the price you pay" to live in this Village?

Yes, I am crying out. I am an ISDN user -- an archaic technology in the high speed internet world, but one I'm forced to endure and pay a premium for until Sprint decides to upgrade. Sprint customer services representatives "hear my concern" but offer no permanent solution. There is no incentive for them to ever invest in upgrading their technology when they can continue to charge me exorbitant rates for second-rate technology. It is not in their budget for the next year and I have no hope of it ever happening in my lifetime. They have a monopoly and I am their captive.

My phone is my lifeline. It is my business, connecting me to the graduate library students I teach via distance education and my clients who are scattered throughout the country. More importantly, it is my (hopefully never used) lifeline to emergency service. SEE LETTER, PAGE 5A



## Update given on special session

It has been said that out of adversity comes opportunity. I believe this statement has proven itself particularly true in the days following the final gavel of regular session on June 2, 2003. Though much of the media attention has been focused on redistricting, there are a number of important issues that are being addressed during the special session and into the following interim. Despite the headlines, the legislature continues to press forward on issues such as healthcare, education, transportation and government reform.

One benefit to the special session has been the opportunity to work on "clean-up bills" and make minor adjustments to legislation that was recently passed during the regular session as a response to the on-going budget shortfall. It also affords us the chance to tackle important bills that did not survive in the final days of session, much in part to the lack of quorum caused by a partisan walk-out.

One of the bills we have been able to readdress is the "government reorganization" bill. During the regular session, SB 1952 was an immense bill that tackled the daunting task of streamlining government spending while maintaining necessary services for Texas citizens. The sheer size of this bill caused it to collapse under its own weight, but through this special session, we have reintroduced the contents of this bill in smaller, more manageable pieces. The outcome of this legislation will benefit all Texans by funding essential services in a more efficient manner.

Another critical piece of legislation the legislature has been able to readdress is the transportation bill. Upon the passage of this bill, there were concerns that the language created confusion surrounding effective dates and methods of funding. We have now

## Capital Update

by State Representative Dianne WhiteDelisi



been able to produce a clean-up bill ensuring the funding is correctly appropriated for the biennial budget.

In addition to the progress being made on the House floor, several committees have had the opportunity to meet and discuss possible solutions to the problems brought forward during the regular session. Often times, as we study and consider legislation in the regular session, new questions and complications arise that need to be addressed; however, the brief 140 days of session simply does not allow for such a review. Committees are now able to go back and look at these issues and more closely examine, question and problem-solve the issues.

As I mentioned last month, one of those issues to be studied is the looming school finance crisis. The Subcommittee on Compensation and Benefits, of which I am the Chair, recently held its first organizational meeting. Our agenda touched on a number of items including possible groups and individuals to testify before the subcommittee. We also discussed our goals and desires for the subcommittee: developing a pay scale that not only rewards experience but also performance and creating a health insurance program that is both fair and sustainable. This group is eager to look at educator compensation as a whole, rather than in the piecemeal and patchwork quilt style that has been utilized in the past. We hope to garner new and innovative ideas and to create a system with longevity. The mission and desire before us is clear:

Texas must be able to offer compensation that recruits, retains, and rewards the best teachers in America. What an exciting opportunity to be a part of this team!

The Select Committee on Health Care Expenditures has also continued to hold hearings on referred legislation. HB 70, which would give the attorney general oversight in contract negotiations for health care contracts over \$50 million, was recently addressed by the committee. This bill would affect contracts for the Health and Human Services Commission, the Teacher Retirement System, as well as the Employee Retirement System. HB 70 will provide the attorney general the opportunity to participate in the contract process allowing him to identify contract problems early in the negotiation phase. This will ensure fair dealings and discourage unnecessary litigation, thereby saving the state money in the long term. My select committee will continue to meet as needed throughout the special session and will soon take up the issues of uncompensated care, charity care and graduate medical education; giving us the opportunity to study in-depth these and other issues that came to light during the regular session.

I think it is important for the citizens of Texas to be able to see beyond the glaring spotlight on redistricting. Behind the spotlight and ugly headlines are legislators and committees pouring over ideas, solving problems, and working together to improve upon what already makes Texas great.

## Dishonoring

### American troops



## Jim Hightower

There's the Medal of Honor, the Purple Heart, and other badges and decorations to honor America's fighting men and women -- but there should be one more medal for some of our top officials who also are so richly deserving of public recognition in times of war: The Dishonorable Badge of High-Ranking Hypocrisy.

Among the deserving are George W. Bush and all the other hyper-hawks of both parties who talk so loudly about duty and bravery as they send our troops into their hyped-up wars -- yet fail to provide the necessary gear that these very troops need to do battle. I'm not talking about the super-sophisticated, high-dollar, laser-guided missiles, and other video-game technology that dazzles both the hawks and the fawning media (while enriching the profiteering corporations that sell such sexy hardware to the government). Rather, I'm talking about the mundane, low-dollar basics needed to equip the grunts on the ground -- stuff like good socks and boots, rucksacks, field radios, pistols, and rifle sights.

But these ground troops don't have Gucci-clad lobbyists or make fat campaign donations, so -- as incredible as it sounds -- they've literally been getting shortchanged while the White House and Congress hurl billions of our tax dollars at the likes of Boeing, Lockheed, and Raytheon. An investigative report by the Army tells of our troops in Iraq having to shell out from their own thin paychecks to buy equipment from places like L.L. Bean, because the stuff they've been issued is inadequate, including boots with soles that can't handle the Iraqi terrain, pistol magazines that fail to push the bullets into the chamber for firing, and field radios too weak to reach support units just a few blocks away. One Army official complained that a typical mountain climbing expedition is better outfitted than the troops fighting Bush's war.

Anytime these hawkish politicians use America's troops for a photo-op backdrop, they should have to be wearing their Badge of High-Ranking Hypocrisy.

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**Democratic Party to meet Aug. 7**

The Bell County Democratic Party will hold a general meeting on 6:30 p.m. Aug. 7, at the USDA Service Bldg., 1605 N. Main St. in Belton. Guest speaker for the meeting will be Judge Jimmy Carroll who will be introduced by Jamie Clements of Temple.

A Representative from the Howard Dean for President Campaign, will also speak. Sharon Long, Bell

County Tax Assessor-Collector will spend a short time at the meeting to deputize attendees who want to work in voter registration for the upcoming elections, through next year.

Light refreshments will be served. All Democrats in the county are invited to attend. For any further information call the County Chair at 634-6461, or 698-1880, or 939-8178.

**Band Boosters sell bookcovers**

Members of the Salado Band Boosters will sell book covers during high school and middle school registration, 5-8 p.m. Aug. 7. These stretchy, washable book covers slip quickly and easily over any sized textbook to protect them from stains and damage. A variety of 25 different prints and colors are offered so students may color code their textbooks for easy identification.

Book covers are available for \$3 each or four for \$10.

They will be sold in the Salado High School lobby during registration. The book covers will also be sold 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Aug. 11-12 in the Salado Intermediate School commons area. After those dates, the book covers will be available from Janet Kemp, Band Boosters member and teacher at Salado Intermediate School.

Ordinance No. 2003.10  
Village of Salado  
County of Bell  
State of Texas  
July 24, 2003

**SOLICITATION ORDINANCE**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF SALADO DECLARING CERTAIN UNLICENSED SOLICITATIONS BY ITINERANT VENDORS TO BE A NUISANCE AND ENACTING SOLICITATION REGULATIONS, PROVIDING FOR THE FOLLOWING: FINDINGS OF FACT; A POPULAR NAME; PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS; GENERAL PROHIBITIONS; LICINSING REQUIREMENTS; A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; EFFECTIVE DATE; ENFORCEMENT INCLUDING CRIMINAL FINES NOT TO EXCEED \$500 AND CIVIL PENALTIES NOT TO EXCEED \$100 PER OFFENSE AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF; AND PROPER NOTICE AND OPEN MEETING

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen of the Village of Salado is committed to protecting Village citizens from the harassment, annoyance, shabby merchandise and questionable services commonly associated with certain itinerant vendors and vagrant merchants; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen seeks to keep the public rights-of-way free of clutter and the visual distractions that often accompany certain merchants soliciting customers along streets and roadways; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen finds that certain itinerant vendors constitute a public nuisance worthy of government regulation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen has the general statutory authority, pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Chapter 54, to adopt an ordinance, rule or police regulation that is for the good government, peace, and order of the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen has the specific statutory authority, pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Chapter 217, to prevent and punish a person engaging in a breach of the peace and to suppress and prevent any noise or disturbance in any public or private place in the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Salado has the authority to license, tax, suppress, prevent, or otherwise regulate hawkers, and peddlers pursuant to its general police powers and Section 215.031 of the Texas Local Government Code; and

Passed and adopted at a scheduled Board of Aldermen meeting, July 24, 2003.<sup>4</sup> For a copy of the entire ordinance, please contact the Village office at 947-5060.

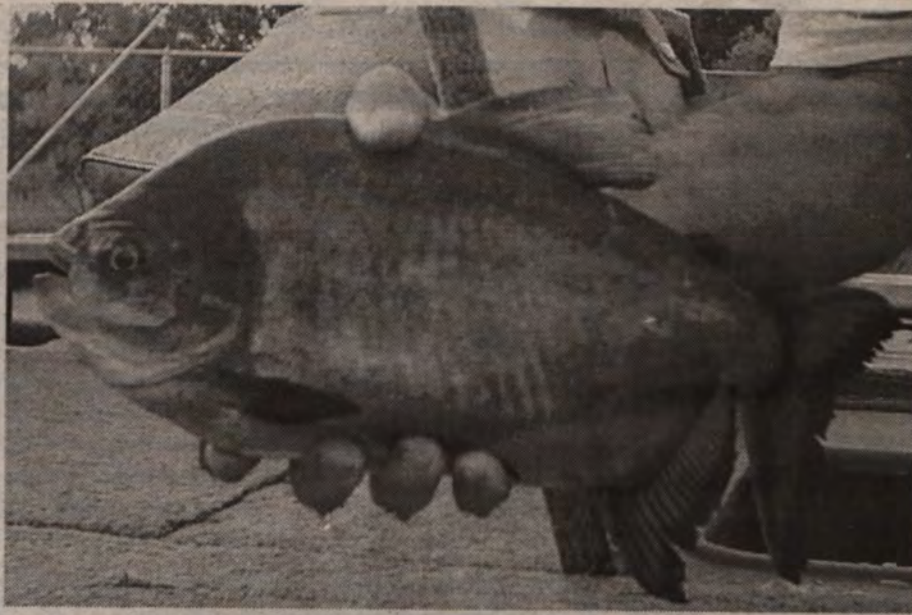
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Strange haul out of Stillhouse Hollow Lake. Allen Geis of Georgetown, in his first trip to Stillhouse July 30, hooked a South American Pacu fish, a cousin to the piranha. The nearly two pound, 13 1/2" toothy fish, being the first ever caught in the lake, stands as a record. It is believed the fish was purchased as a pet, then released when it became too large. The fish was brought to Tubby's bait shop to be weighed and photographed.



## Letters

...vices. Given the unreliability -- it's down as I write this -- I have no other option but to purchase an analog line for another \$20 per month hoping that it will provide me with back-up phone service when it rains and I lose ISDN service. The cost of my basic phone service now rivals my health care plan and my mortgage. Somehow that doesn't fit the image I had when I moved to Salado. I once delighted in comparing home prices with my friends in California, but they have a valid report when we compare phone costs and service. Their DSL high speed connec-

tions are a fraction of my current cost and never cease to function.

This isn't a confession which implies the possibility of redemption. Sprint apparently has not interest in redemption much less customer service and those of us who are captive have no possibility of redemption -- no choice. I want to work and live in this community. I didn't move to Salado just to replicate my hectic lifestyle and I don't want to move to Austin. But, I'm tired of sleeping with my AT&T cell phone under my pillow because I can't use the \$90+ per month Sprint phone by

my bed. My customers are tired of hearing endless rings while the phone on my desk sits silent, and I'm tired of trying to piece together a business without the basic requirement. (Any businesses in Salado that have found a way to make money without a phone, please share your secret.) I don't want to move, but I'm on the verge of collecting the names of good Austin realtors and moving companies.

Before I use those references, however, I'm also collecting the names of unsatisfied Sprint customers who think it's time we had other alternative. Must I really uproot from this

community I have come to love and the proximity to family that I have enjoyed simply because I cannot be assured of the simplest of all American dreams -- the ability to reach out to loved ones, students, clients and (God forbid this should happen) emergency services? Do we really want a Village that loses talented, educated entrepreneurs because we can't offer even the minimal amount of minimal infrastructure required of any successful business?

Sprint, CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW??!!  
Taylor Willingham  
Salado

FROM PAGE 3A

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served with choice of potato & salad

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All you can eat Pork Ribs... \$6<sup>95</sup>

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# CHURCH NEWS

## SALADO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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**Sunday Morning Worship** 8:00  
(8am service is 30 minutes) 9:00  
11:00  
**Sunday School** 10:00  
**Sunday Night Youth Group** 6:00



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## Grace Baptist Church

John Warden Pastor

2 mi. West of I-35 on 1670/2484

### Worship Schedule

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

## Tough Week?

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Presbyterian Church of Salado

THIS SUNDAY:  
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Matthew 4:18-22

Greg Davidson  
Pastor

10 a.m. Sunday Worship  
www.presbsalado.org

105 Salado Plaza Drive • 254-947-8106



The Salado Church of Christ  
welcomes you to our services this week

Sunday Morning Service • August 10, 2003



Joe Keyes  
Minister

We  
welcome  
you to  
worship at  
the Salado  
Church of  
Christ!

**Sunday**  
Bible Class • 9 a.m. Worship • 10 a.m.  
Evening Worship • 6 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
Bible Classes • 7 p.m.

III-35 at Blacksmith Rd.  
947-5241

<http://www.vvm.com/~snip2saladoch.htm>

## Yarbrough passes away August 1

Elva O. "Bobbie" Fellers Yarbrough, 87, of Salado, died at her residence Aug. 1, 2003.

Funeral services were held Aug. 5 at Heartfield Funeral Home in Belton with Rev. Roy Smith and Rev. Paul Smith officiating. Burial was in Resthaven Cemetery, south of Belton.

Yarbrough was born to T.A. and Lillie Myrtle Vaden Adams in Bland on Jan. 11, 1916. She was a resident of Bell County most of her life. She married J.B. Fellers on Dec. 8, 1932. He preceded her in death on Aug. 21, 1980. She married Clyde Yarbrough on Feb. 6, 1991. He preceded her in death

on Aug. 26, 2002. She had been a church song leader for more than 50 years. She was a member of Lawler Baptist Church.

Survivors include one brother, A.M. "Johnny" Adams of Salado; one sister, Alma Rene Hamrick of Salado; three stepchildren; and several nieces, nephews, great nieces and great

nephews. Memorials are requested to Lawler Baptist Church, 590 CR 229, Florence, TX 76527 or Scott & White Hospice, 2321 South 57th St., Temple, 76504.

Heartfield Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## First Baptist Church

Main St. at the Creek



### SUNDAY

Worship 8:15 a.m.  
Bible Study 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:45 a.m.  
Adult Choir 5:00 p.m.  
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

### Wednesday

Jr. High Halftime 5:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Meal 5:30 p.m.  
TeamKID (Preschool - 6th) 6:00 p.m.  
Youth Choir 6:00 p.m.  
Prayer Service 6:15 p.m.  
Bible Drill (3rd - 6th) 7:00 p.m.  
High School Halftime 7:00 p.m.

www.fbsalado.org  
(254) 947-5465



## FBC Youth Choir tours D.C.

First Baptist Church Salado Xtreme4Christ Youth Choir partners with Bell Baptist Association, FBC Gaithersburg, MD., and the DC Baptist Convention to take the gospel to the nation's Capitol.

The youth choir from the First Baptist Church in Salado traveled to Washington, DC and Gaithersburg, Maryland-June 28-July 6 to share the gospel to residents and visitors to the nation's capitol. The 41-member youth choir and 11 adult sponsors partnered with the First Baptist Church in Gaithersburg, MD to conduct a Backyard Bible Club for the children of the Londonderry Apartment Complex in Gaithersburg. This 4,000-resident complex is across the street from FBC

Gaithersburg.

Pastor Charlie Updike of FBC Gaithersburg, MD said, "The work done by the youth choir from FBC in Salado has opened the door for us to begin to minister to the many residents of the Londonderry Apartment Complex. We are indebted to them for their excellent work and are committed to continue the work they started."

In addition, the choir partnered with the DC Baptist Convention to pass out gospel tracks and bottles of water to visitors on the National Mall during the week of the July 4th holiday. According to the DC Baptist Convention, the choir distributed over 1,000 gospel tracks to visitors to the convention's tent at the Korean War Memorial

on the National Mall on July 2-3. The choir performed concerts at the Jefferson Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial and at the U.S. Capitol Building during the week of July 4th.

While in DC, the choir not only performed concerts but was able to tour the Holocaust Museum, Arlington National Cemetery, several of the Smithsonian Museums, and the White House. Funding for this mission trip was supplied by the members of Xtreme4Christ Youth Choir, the members of First Baptist Church of Salado, Bell Baptist Association, and the DC Baptist Convention.


## St. Joseph's Episcopal Chapel

Holy Eucharist  
Sat. • 5 p.m.  
Sun. • 9:30 a.m.  
Tues. • 9:30 a.m.



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# WALKER Honey COMPANY

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Inspired by the bestselling book, "The Secret Life of Bees," a Salado reading club toured the family-owned Walker Honey Company in Rogers. The 70-year-old honey manufacturer, owned by Clint Walker, was featured in the August edition of Texas Highways. While touring the facility, the group encountered Walker's observation hive of 30,000 bees. Clint and his sons also supplied the queen bees in the observation hive at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. Pictured from l-r are reading club members Madie Barnard, Kathleen Letourneau, Emmy Alvarez, Helen Alexander, Alice Cooper, Jimmy Vernon and B.J. McConnell.

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**Free Concert at Episcopal Chapel**

A free concert will be held 6:30 p.m. Aug. 16 at the St. Joseph's Episcopal Chapel (behind Fletcher's Books and Antiques). Featured musicians are the duo of Todd Cope and Denise Thomssen on clarinet and flute. Cope was recently featured on the nationally broadcasted radio program "From the Top." Music will include Beethoven, Bach and Robert Dickow. For more information call 254-947-5414.

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**Salado Church of Christ**  
 invites you to our 2003 VBS to learn about

**"What God Created for Us"**



**Saturday. August 9, 2003**  
**9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

For all children ages 4 yrs. - 5th grade.  
 Our program will include activities to help understand God's Creation.  
 Lunch will be provided.

**Pre-register by phone, at 947-5241**  
**Salado Church of Christ**  
**Blacksmith & Stagecoach Roads**

# Harvest yields vary widely with sporadic rainfall

By JAMES M. DAVIS  
Co. EXTENSION AGENT - AG.

Grain sorghum harvest has begun and corn harvest will be in full swing across Central Texas in the next week to 10 days.

We are already getting yield reports on sorghum which are all up and down the scale. Not enough corn has been cut to get a handle on what kind of yields to expect this year. But, just like the sorghum, corn yields are going to be up and down the scale also. When the rain varies from one place to another, as it has this year, yields are going to vary as well from one farm to the next.

We have had a lot of calls this past week on web worms in Pecan and other trees. The best and easiest thing for most people to do is simply cut the branch containing the web out of the tree. Cut six to eight inches below the web and remove web from the tree and put in the garbage in a sealed plastic bag. Trying to spray for Web Worms is not practical for most people because they do not have enough spray pressure to penetrate the web with the insecticide. Spraying the outside of the web does little or no good in controlling the worms. It does not hurt to prune the web cover areas out of the tree because that part of the limb usually dies anyway.

The following are some Beef cattle tips from Dr. Steve Hammack, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist at Stephenville.

A bill introduced in the U.S. Senate would phase out non-therapeutic use of antibiotics that are used to treat humans. In some countries where this has been done, more animals have gotten sick and therapeutic use of antibiotics has actually increased.

But, since some of larger restaurant chains also are

supporting such action, it may be inevitable: The majority of cow/calf producers sell calves at weaning. When do weaned calves bring the highest price?

According to Harlan Hughes, North Dakota State economist, this has changed a little over time, moving from June to April. Still, calves that are weaned and sold then are born in the fall. And cost of production for fall-born calves is generally higher than for spring-born, because you're wintering a cow that is lactating instead of dry. Beyond April, prices have tended to decline into the fall. But Hughes says in recent years there has been a "mini-peak" in calf prices in September, before dropping considerably in October and November.

Arkansas researchers wanted to know how well ranking of adjusted 205-day calf weight in one year would compare to the next year. Cows were divided into top, middle, and bottom thirds based on the 205-day weight of their calves.

The next year, the probability was 51 percent that a top cow stayed in the top third, and 18 percent that she moved to the bottom.

For bottom cows, the probability was 50 percent that she stayed in the bottom third, and 20 percent that she moved to the top.

So, weaning weight was a fair predictor, but no guarantee by far. Elanco has received FDA approval to market Optaflexx for use in feeding cattle. The active ingredient is ractopamine, the same as in Elanco's swine product Paylean.

Indications are that the product will increase weight gain, improve feed efficiency, and increase red-meat yield, with no effect on beef tenderness, taste, or juiciness.

The product is a beta agonist, not an antibiotic or steroid. As with the swine product, the European Union will not allow its use. The product is expected to be available to feed producers in the next few months.

## "By the Tree" in Concert Sept. 4

Two-time Dove award winners "By the Tree" will be in concert at the W.W. Walton Chapel on the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor campus on 7 p.m. Sept. 4.

Tickets will be \$10 at the door and \$8 in advance, group rates are \$8 per person. Groups purchasing 15 tickets or more will receive a complementary ticket per group.

"By the Tree's" latest album Root, continues the band's pop/rock style of encouraging the message of faith through music. Root features stand out songs "Root of It All," "Far Away" and "Your Arms" and old favorites such as "Shoot Me Down."

For further information please contact the University Information Station at 295-5150.

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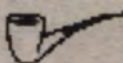
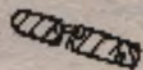


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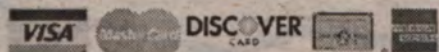
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# Protect water through education

This article is the fourth in a series on a drinking water and protection program to assure a safe, potable supply of drinking water from Lake Stillhouse Hollow for the Central Texas area customers. The information is provided by Central Texas Water Supply Corporation in Harker Heights.

Central Texas residents have a major role to play in protecting their drinking water. By becoming familiar with the ways ground and surface water can become polluted and the management practices that can prevent pollution, we can all be assured of a continued safe supply of drinking water.

Pesticides play an important role in agriculture. They have increased farm production and enabled farmers to manage more acres. Voluntary action to prevent pesticide contamination of drinking water will help ensure that pesticides remain available for responsible use.

Pesticides work by interfering with the life processes of plants and insects. If a pesticide enters a water supply in large quantities, which could happen with spills, dumping, run-off or back-siphoning accidents, acute health effects could occur,

depending on the toxicity of the pesticide. Contaminated water used for drinking water supplies may cause chronic exposure (prolonged or repeated exposure to low doses of a toxic substance). Chronic exposure may be hazardous to humans and livestock.

Properly managing pesticides on your property is an important step toward preventing drinking water contamination. If stored in a secure, properly constructed location, pesticides pose little danger to drinking water. Common sense suggests storing pesticides out of the way of activities that might knock over a jug or rip open a bag. Short-term storage poses a lower risk than year-round storage, but storage for any length of time can be a risk to drinking water.

Drinking water contamination can result even from small spills in the mixing and loading area. Small quantities spilled regularly in the same place can go unnoticed, but the chemicals can build up in the soil and eventually reach drinking water. By mixing and loading on an impermeable concrete surface, most spilled pesticides can be recovered and reused.

Unwashed and improperly stored containers can

lead to drinking water contamination if chemical residues leak onto the ground. Use returnable containers and mini bulks, and take them back to the dealer as often as possible. Pressure-rinse or triple-rinse containers immediately after use, since residue can be difficult to remove after it dries. Pour the rinse water into the spray tank. Puncture containers and store them in a covered area until you take them to a regional collection event or permitted landfill. Do not bury or burn pesticide containers or bags.

Reducing pesticide waste makes financial as well as environmental sense, but it means more than just reducing spills. It also means not buying more than you need to apply, keeping records of what is on hand, and using older products first.

For more information, contact the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and request Pamphlet No. B-6025, Publication No. TWC/C91-09 2/93 entitled "Rinse and recycle: it makes good sense." It is published by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and is available at no charge by dialing 512/239-0028 weekdays during normal working hours.

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\* 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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## Two 4-H members took part in Texas Sheep and Goat Leadership Workshop

BY T. RANDALL RAKOWITZ  
 COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT - NR

Two Bell County 4-H members recently took part in the Texas Sheep and Goat Leadership Workshop held in San Angelo and College Station. Joshua Burr of Belton 4-H and Matt Kirkscey of Troy 4-H were selected from applicants across Texas to partici-

pate in the 5-day event. Throughout the workshop, Burr and Kirkscey learned about the sheep and goat industry through tours of sheep and goat producer's ranches, vet clinics, a wool and mohair warehouse, a lamb feedlot, a lamb and goat slaughter facility, and the meats lab at Texas A&M University. Key leaders in the Texas Sheep and Goat industry were on hand to present material and serve as speakers for the event. In addition to their 4-H club roles, Burr is also a member of Belton FFA and Kirkscey is a member of Troy FFA. Congratulations on being

selected for the workshop! All lamb and goat exhibitors must order tags for the Major Livestock Shows for 2004. Tags will cost \$7 each and must be ordered by Aug. 20. 4-H exhibitors need to contact Randall or Pam at 254-933-5309 and FFA exhibitors need to contact your Ag Science Teacher before Aug. 20. The Bell County 4-H Leadership Kickoff will be held 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Aug. 9 at the First United Methodist Church of Belton. All club officers should plan to attend this fun and exciting day! We will have team building activities, officer training, and task force

meetings. Club managers are reminded to encourage members to participate in this event. The Bell County 4-H Program Development Council will meet 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Aug. 9 at the First United Methodist Church in Belton. The 4-H Handbook will be reviewed, new opportunities for 4-H members presented, idea sharing, task forces will be explained, as well as a fun day of fellowship among adult leaders from throughout Bell County. Mark your calendars for Aug. 9 and come learn more about the 4-H program in Bell County.

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## Nichols, J.A.I.L. (Jesus Acts in Inmates Lives) spoke to Rotary Club July 29

SCHUYLER KUYKENDALL  
 STAFF WRITER

Lou Nichols, Executive Director and Ministry Coordinator of the J.A.I.L. (Jesus Acts in Inmates Lives) Ministries, told the Rotary Club of Salado July 29 that they are currently serving over 700 inmates in the Bell County jail.

"We also minister at the Juvenile Detention Center in Killeen," said Nichols. "We go in, listen, minister and try to meet their needs. We work with the inmate's families on the outside. Families fall apart when a loved one is in jail. Those families have to put food on the table and

maintain a place to live." There are non-demonstrational, rosary, Spanish, English, mens and womens Bible studies that are part of the ministry. J.A.I.L. holds a Cell Block Evangelism on Thursday evenings where the inmates can come with prayer and any special requests.

Last year Project Angel Tree along with J.A.I.L. Ministries served over 1,300 children whose parents are incarcerated in Bell County. Project Angel Tree sends Christmas gifts to the children of inmates, addressed from their parents.

J.A.I.L. offers counseling sessions, anger management, recovery, and

budgeting classes to the inmates. They also provide transportation when the inmate gets out. "It doesn't matter if they are going somewhere here or if they are going to another state," stated Nichols.

Johner Martin, Director of Men's Ministry for J.A.I.L. told the Rotarians what it was like to be on both sides of the fences. "I was 13 the first time I went to jail," he said. "Then went to prison at the age of 21. In 1980 there were only 14 prison systems in the state of Texas, and now there are approximately 125."

Martin accepted Christ on June 6, 1993. According to Martin it was time he got off his "rusty dusty" and started making changes

"I am part of the solution and no longer part of the problem. I now have my drivers license, insurance and a set of new mattresses," Martin said.

The goal of J.A.I.L. is to have these men and women back in PTO meetings, working and back into society.

J.A.I.L. Ministries is located at 211 E. Central Ave, Belton and may be contacted by calling (254) 933-8506.

## Republicans roast Dan Smith

The Central Texas Republican women will be ROASTIN Sheriff Smith at Mungia's Bar-B-Q in Heidenheimer 6:30 p.m. Aug. 15.

Cost is \$25 per person. For further information call Wanda Slye at 254-939-7938. Send check payable to CTRW to Wanda Slye 1701 Jamie Drive Belton, TX 76513

Reservations are due by Aug. 10. Come join the fun and help roast the Sheriff.

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## Athletic boosters begin membership drive

The Salado Athletic Booster Club is now accepting membership applications for the 2003-04 school year. This is the club's first membership drive of the year.

"Thanks to the vision of last year's president, Jerry Smith, much was accomplished through the Salado Athletic Booster Club (SABC) for our high school athletes, more than what probably anyone thought possible," said Reggie Hargrove, chairman of the SABC membership committee. "But the list of needs is never ending, and now is the time to start planning for the upcoming school year."

The Booster Club, which supplements the funding provided by the SISD for the special needs of all high school athletic teams, will again be emphasizing fund-raising efforts through its membership drive, plus a couple of community-wide special events.

Parents of all high school athletes are encouraged to join the Booster Club, along with any community member or business interested in supporting high school athletics.

Five membership categories are available. Individual memberships will be \$35 and family memberships are priced at \$50. Along with bronze mem-

berships (\$250) silver memberships (\$500) and gold memberships (\$1,000) come sports caps, car decals and advertising space in sports programs.

Silver and gold memberships also include additional perks, such as names listed on sports banners and season passes.

"Last year's SABC was able to help provide for such items as a gator to haul equipment around through the school year; new score-

boards in both the high school and intermediate school gyms for basketball and volleyball, and air conditioned transportation for state-bound tracksters," Hargrove said. "In addition, scholarships for 21 graduating seniors were awarded this past spring.

Persons interested in joining the SABC may mail a check to: Salado Athletic Booster Club, P.O. Box 813, Salado, TX 76571.



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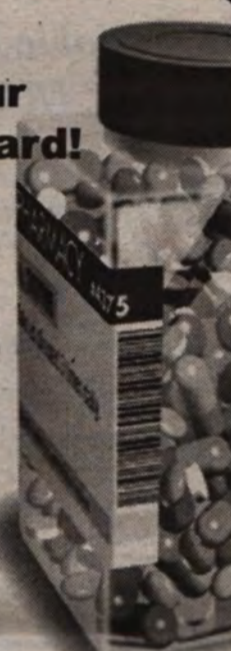
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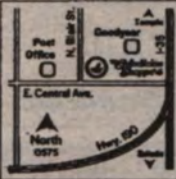
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  - 2 Bx. Fat Classic Colors Crayola washable markers
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  - 1 School box
  - 1 Pair children's blunt scissors with plastic handle and metal cuters (Fiskar or Crayola brand)
  - 1 Bx. Tissues
  - 1 Back pack - large enough for 9"x12" papers

- Kindergarten**
- 1 Pkg. (10 count) #2 plain yellow pencils
  - 1 Fiskar steel blade scissors
  - 2 Bottles Elmer's school glue (8 oz.)
  - 2 Bx. 200 count tissues
  - 1 Pkg. 12"x18" colored construction paper
  - 2 Bx. Crayola crayons (8 count)
  - 2 Bx. Crayola crayons (16 count)
  - 2 Bx. Crayola Chubby Basic 8 colored markers
  - 1 School box (cigar box size only)
  - 1 Back pack
  - 1 70-pg wide-ruled spiral notebook
  - 1 Bx. Ziploc bags - quart size
  - 1 Bottle hand sanitizer 8 fl. oz.
  - 1 Plastic quad-fold mat (no larger than 18"x45") (no pillows, blankets or sleeping bags)
- PLEASE LABEL ALL ITEMS WITH YOUR CHILD'S FIRST AND LAST NAME

- First Grade**
- 1 Bx. Ziploc bags (boys - quart size, girls - gallon size)
  - 1 Bx. Colored pencils
  - 2 Bx. Crayons (24 count)
  - 2 Bx. Tissues
  - 3 Bottles white glue (4 oz.)
  - 3 Pkg. #2 yellow, wood pencils
  - \*1 Pkg. Markers
  - \*3 Spiral notebook (70 pg.)
  - \*1 Plastic supply box
  - \*1 Pair scissors
  - \*1 Watercolor set
  - \*2 Plastic folder
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- Second Grade**
- 1 Pkg. Loose Leaf paper - wide-ruled (200 count)
  - 3 Spiral notebooks - 70 count wide-ruled
  - 1 School box - no larger than 9"x6" (cigar box size)
  - 2 Pkg. #2 Pencils (yellow, 12 count)
  - 1 Pkg. Crayons (24 count ONLY)
  - 1 Elmer's glue 8 oz. (white only)
  - 4 Folders w/pockets (green, blue, red, yellow)
  - 1 Fiskar scissors - round point


- 4 Large pink erasers
- 1 Highlighter
- 1 Binder - 1-inch
- 1 Bx. Kleenex
- 1 Pkg. Construction paper (18"x12")
- 1 Pkg. Manila paper (18"x12")
- 1 Pkg. Dividers
- 2 Glue stick

- Third Grade**
- 1 Pkg. Manila paper 11"x18"
  - 1 Pkg. Colored construction paper
  - 1 Pkg. White drawing paper
  - 1 Pkg. Colored pencils (long)
  - 1 Pkg. Dividers
  - 1 Pkg. Pink pearl eraser
  - 1 Pkg. Markers
  - 1 Pencil box
  - 1 Plain ruler
  - 1 Red pen
  - 1 3-ring binder (1", red)
  - 1 Pair of Fiskar scissors
  - 1 Bx. Crayons (24 count)
  - 1 Bx. Kleenex
  - 1 Bx. Ziploc bags (gallon)
  - 1 Roll paper towels
  - 2 Pkg. wood pencils (no eagle brand)
  - 2 Bottles glue
  - 2 Pkg. glue stix
  - 2 Pkg. Notebook paper
  - 2 Spiral notebooks
  - 3 Colored folders with brads and pockets (red, yellow, green)

- Fourth Grade**
- 4 Pkg. #2 yellow pencils (1 doz. per pkg.)
  - 2 Folders - pockets only (no brads)
  - 10 Folders with pockets and brads
  - 10 Yellow highlighters
  - 1 Bx. Crayons (24 count)
  - 2 Pkg. Map colors (24 count)
  - 2 Pkg. Markers (water base - no permanent ink)
  - 1 Bx. Kleenex (200 count)
  - 1 Ruler
  - 8 Wide-ruled spiral notebooks (3-ring, no college-ruled)
  - 2 Pkg. Wide-ruled loose-leaf paper (200 count)
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# Van Winkles

vider. The cost was simply too high. So they stuck with TriCare, and up until February of this year, the Van Winkles had no major problem with their insurance.

It was in February that the Van Winkles visited, after several cancellations due to TriCare no-pay, Dr. Bruce Hamilton, a Waco neurosurgeon. Hamilton recommended a treatment option known as Gamma Knife Radiation surgery. The Gamma Knife, primarily used as a treatment for brain tumors, has very few side effects, is a quick outpatient surgery, and when used to treat Trigeminal Neuralgia, has a success rate approaching 90 percent, far more than other, destructive and invasive surgical options.

The Van Winkles believed, after eight years, that they had finally found a viable treatment for Sharon's illness. They even got their hopes up a little. A surgeon in Dallas who performs the Gamma Knife was contacted, but wouldn't see the Van Winkles as he doesn't accept TriCare.

Another was found in San Antonio, who informed the Van Winkles that surgery and equipment costs had to be paid in advance, totaling some \$42,000 in all.

A surgery date was set, but had to be cancelled when TriCare determined they would not pay.

In a May 16 denial letter, TriCare stated the surgery, despite being in common use since the 1960s, was considered an "experimental surgery," and therefore could not be covered. They specifically cited the lack of published evidence as a reason for denial.

In a phone conversation, an employee of the TriCare Ft. Hood office told Rip that the high cost was one of the major factors in the surgery not being covered.

The Van Winkles appealed these decisions, sent letters to elected officials, and generally sought help wherever they could.

A military surgeon, at the behest of a colleague, took an interest in the Van Winkle's situation. Dr. Jeffrey Poffenbarger is stationed at Brook Army Medical Center. He wrote two appeal letters to TriCare on behalf of the Van Winkles.

As a military doctor who receives no extra compensation for his service, and has no personal stake in the advancement of Gamma Knife surgery, his opinion can be taken as unbiased.

On June 9 he wrote, "Gamma Knife Radiosurgery is now the common procedure in the United States to treat Trigeminal Neuralgia, and has a 10-year follow-up with established outcomes...I perform Gamma Knife Radiosurgery...as a practitioner for DoD patients...I have performed Gamma Knife Radiosurgery for Trigeminal Neuralgia on active duty patients with good results."

This, however, was not enough to persuade TriCare. They still insisted the surgery was experimental. They seem to be the only one, as insurance industry peers support the Van Winkle's position.

Blue Cross/Blue Shield and Medicare, among others, are two providers that cover the surgery.

The Scott & White health plan stated they review issues on a case-by-case basis, but if the surgery was necessary for the patient's well-being, then it would be covered.

As for the lack of published evidence to support the surgery, that too, seems to leak water rather porously.

A Harvard educated neurosurgeon wrote in 2003 that "the Gamma Knife is the only radiosurgical machine for which positive results for trigeminal neuralgia treatment have been published in peer-reviewed journals."

Similarly, Rip was able to uncover a slew of bona fide, peer-reviewed case studies attesting to the efficacy of the treatment.

In short, it appears the Van Winkles were on the receiving end of the classic runaround.

Rip contacted his lawyer, who assured him they definitely had a case against TriCare. He also got in touch with Kimberly Stanish, with National Association of Uniform Services, and in her he found a fierce, unrelenting lobbyist.

"She was the only one who I thought really cared," he said.

At this point, Sharon was constantly dizzy, in pain, and had difficulty eating and sleeping. Their situation did not



Rip and Sharon Van Winkle

look promising.

The couple had basically written off any help from elected officials. Rip was still tightening the screws, and Kimberly was doing all she could from her end.

Then something unexpected happened.

On July 29, the Van Winkles received a surprising letter from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense. In it, Mark Jacobs, an attorney in the appeals division somewhat jollily penned, "we are pleased to inform you that during our review we found that program requirements were met. Therefore, the requested gamma knife surgery is approved."

That's quite a turnaround from the stance they had taken previous. A complete 180, actually. Interestingly, TriCare then decided to designate Trigeminal Neuralgia as a rare disease, meaning it "does not require the same level of evidence."

With the approval in hand, the Van Winkles promptly set a surgery date, August 8, after which Sharon can look forward to a pain free life no more than three weeks after the surgery, when the nerve is completely incapacitated.

For all of this, Rip gave 20 years of his life to the Army. He says he wanted to ensure a good life for his family when he got out. He did his part. It's a shame the government was so reluctant to do theirs.

But he fought hard and he won. It would satisfy him if his case set a precedent for other vets. "We're very relieved," he said. "I just hope what we went through makes it easier for someone else."

FROM PAGE 1A

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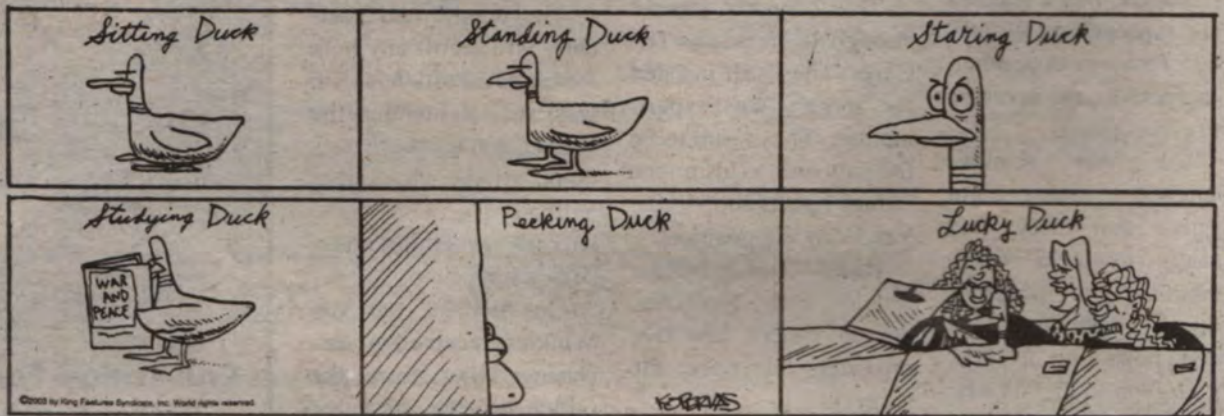
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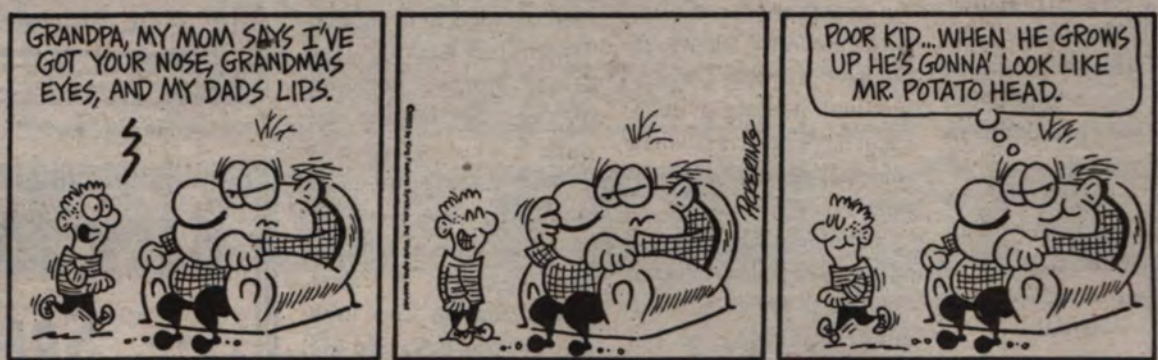


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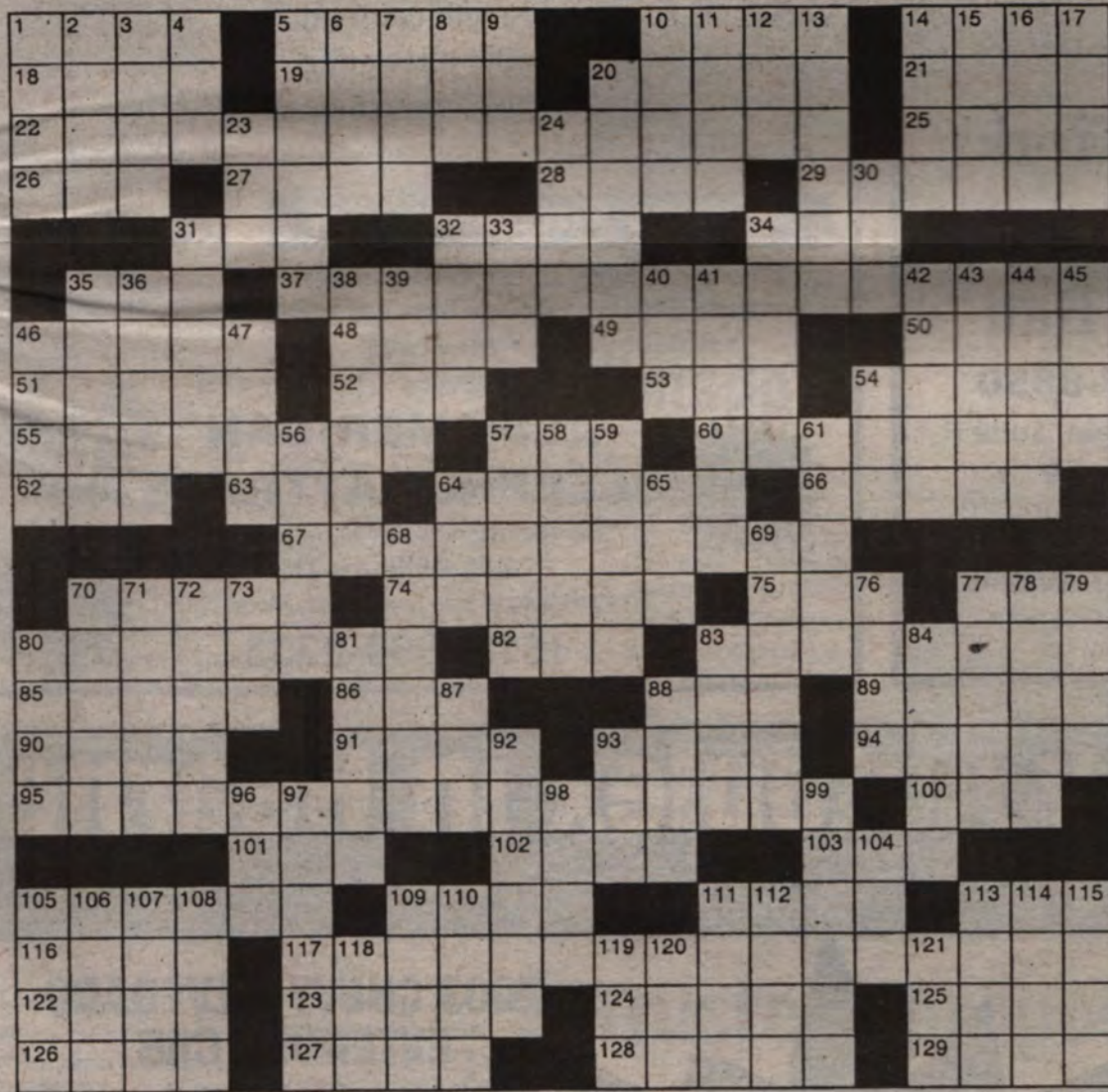
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- 94 "Die Fiedermaus" maid
- 95 Part 4 of remark
- 100 Prospector's prize
- 101 Time to evolve?
- 102 Travel with Tonto
- 103 "Tell — About It" ('83 hit)
- 105 Mideastern mall?
- 109 Singer Lesley
- 111 Iowa city
- 113 Task
- 116 Prayer finale
- 117 End of remark
- 122 Tilt
- 123 Hood's handle
- 124 "Wait — Dark" ('67 film)
- 125 Similar
- 126 Punta del —
- 127 Neighbor of Ark.
- 128 Mars has two
- 129 Gnat or brat
- 4 Singer Sayer
- 5 They're kept in a quiver
- 6 Rind
- 7 Fury
- 8 Robert of "Quincy, M.E."
- 9 Chou En—
- 10 "Beetle Bailey" dog
- 11 Like — of bricks
- 12 Rib
- 13 Diva Renata
- 14 Base stuff?
- 15 Final
- 16 Actor Burns
- 17 "Oh, woe!"
- 20 With — of salt
- 23 Employ
- 24 Imminent
- 30 Female fowl
- 31 Reside
- 32 Artist Magritte
- 33 Call — day
- 34 Play ground?
- 35 Silent star?
- 36 Wed in haste
- 38 Torrent
- 39 Speck
- 40 Right away
- 41 Concrete component
- 42 Fuming
- 43 Bottled spirit?
- 44 Cartoon Viking
- 45 '82 Jeff Bridges film
- 46 TV's "— Search"
- 47 Coasted
- 54 Prq — (for now)
- 56 Doha's country
- 57 Holmes' creator
- 58 Teapot part
- 59 Coal conveyance
- 61 Must-haves
- 64 Police hdqrs.
- 65 — de France
- 68 More pallid
- 69 Jacket
- 70 Bernardo's boss
- 71 Romance
- 72 Puzzling problem
- 73 Affix meaning "before"
- 76 Delany or Wynter
- 77 Duck down
- 78 Bald bird
- 79 Patella's place
- 80 Gangsters' guns
- 81 Composer Copland
- 83 Fruit-tree spray
- 84 English dynasty
- 87 Welcome item?
- 88 Lot size
- 92 Udall or West
- 93 Lay down the lawn
- 96 Nay opponent
- 97 Setup
- 98 Appearance
- 99 Automobile, informally
- 104 Kreskin's letters
- 105 Bound bundle
- 106 Author Kingsley
- 107 Gusto
- 108 Relative of type
- 109 Prepare to bear it
- 110 — even keel
- 111 Choir member
- 112 Chow —
- 113 Boxer LaMotta
- 114 Model Carre
- 115 Crooked
- 118 Seville shout
- 119 Chew it!
- 120 — -Cat
- 121 Peke's perch

**DOWN**

- 1 Place to pontificate
- 2 — Romeo
- 3 Songwriter Axton



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This new series of Clay Classes, taught by Visual Arts Director Marilyn Ritchie, will begin Monday evenings, 6-9 p.m. Aug. 11 through Sept. 15. Additional classes will be offered Tuesday mornings,

9 a.m.-noon Aug. 12-Sept. 16.


"Each student will have the opportunity to develop their skills and techniques on an individual level," explains Mrs. Ritchie. Cost is \$70/person and \$63/person for CAC members and covers the cost

of glaze materials and kiln firing. Students should anticipate additional fees for clay and materials.

To register or for more information, contact the Cultural Activities Center at (254)773-9926.

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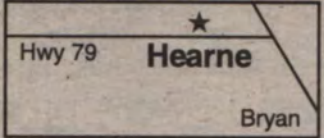
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## Film Series finale August 8

The Silver Spur Film Series, hosted by Saladoans Grainger and Penny Esch, will conclude with its final summer installment 8 p.m. Aug. 8 in the Longhorn Conference Room at the Stagecoach Inn.

Charlie Chaplin's "The Kid" will be the evening's feature. Additionally, a short film will be shown, door prizes will be given and live entertainment will be provided.

Neither Penny nor Grainger are strangers to performing. Penny is a trained actress, vocalist and musician, while Grainger is a professional circus performer.

"Bring the whole family for some fun from a forgotten era and some door prizes from the present one," said Penny. "It will be more than a night out at the movie, it will be an experience that will make being old look good."

Price of admission is



Grainger and Penny Esch host the Silver Spur Film Series.

only \$5, which includes Stagecoach Inn front desk call 947-7153. soft drink and snack. Tickets or at the door. may be purchased at the For more information,

## Salado Salutes Texas Educators almost here

Merchants, restaurants and innkeepers in Salado are readying themselves for "Salado Salutes Our Texas Educators," scheduled for Aug. 30, to kick off the 2003 school year.

The event is a way for the Salado business community to show its appreciation to all Texas educators, whether they work in public schools, private schools, colleges or universities.

Currently, there are over

\$6,000 in prizes slated to be given in door prizes.

Salado businesses participating include: Rosanky's, Willowby's, Jan's, RMK Stagecoach Gallery, Heartstrings of Salado, Serenity Spa, The Gazebo Suite Bed and Breakfast, Essengee's, Strawberry Patch, The Salado Mansion, Wells Gallery, Accents of Salado, Heirlooms, CIO, Horsefeathers, M.J.'s Country

Store, Susan Marie's, Ings, The Range, Scarlett's, The Vermilion Chameleon, Prelop Fine Art Gallery, Sweet Dreams, Mud Pies Pottery, The Store at Old Town, Charlotte's of Salado,

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Breakfast, Village Steakhouse, Bit O'Kountry Bed and Breakfast, Salado Wedding Wishes, Main Street Place, Wildfire Saddlery and Western Wear, Bundle of Joy, Stanford Court, Water Lily, A Lasting Look by Belinda and The Dusty Rose.

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# Regular Meetings

## Mondays

**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 I.S.D. Board of Trustees:** 3rd Mon. at 6 p.m., at Salado Civic Center.

**Salado Library District Board:** 4th Mon. at 5 p.m., at Salado Public Library Building.

**Salado Public Library:** Summer reading program for Pre-K through fifth grade, 11 a.m.-noon during July. Call 947-9191.

**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:** June 9-Aug. 11, 8:30-9:30 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 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.

**Salado FFA Meeting:** First Tuesday at 7 p.m. at SHS ag shop.

**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 Community Chorus:** 5 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

**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., 6 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.

**Moms Club** walking at the High School track, 8:45 a.m. Every fourth Wednesday, monthly meeting 10:30 a.m. at SUMC. Call 947-5507.

## Thursdays

**Village of Salado Board of Aldermen:** Regular meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of month, 6:30 p.m. at Salado Civic Center 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.

## Saturdays

**Food Pantry:** 2nd and 4th Sat. at First Baptist Church. 9 a.m.-10 a.m.

# What's happening here?

**AUGUST 8**  
**Silver Spur Film Series finale**, 8 p.m. at Stagecoach Inn Longhorn Room. Feature: Charlie Chaplin's "The Kid." Cost is \$5, payable at the door. Info: 947-7153.

**AUGUST 11-12**  
**Salado Intermediate School registration**, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at SIS. Aug. 11 for incoming 5th-6th graders. Aug. 12 for incoming 7th-8th graders. Aug. 8, all students new to SIS.

**AUGUST 13**  
**First day of school for teachers.**

**AUGUST 16**  
**Bell County Jamboree event**, for specifics call 254-939-8560, or visit [www.allcentex.com/jamboree](http://www.allcentex.com/jamboree).

**AUGUST 18**  
**First day of school for students.**

**AUGUST 30**  
**Salado Salutes Texas Educators**, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. at various Salado businesses. For info, visit [www.SaladoTex.com](http://www.SaladoTex.com).

**SEPTEMBER 1**  
**Salado Village Voice office closed.** Advertising deadline for Sept. 3 issue: 12 noon Aug. 28.

**SEPTEMBER 5**  
**Salado Lions Club Lasagna Supper**, preceding first home football game, 5:15-game-time at SIS.

**SEPTEMBER 11**  
**Central Texas Poetry Prose Reading** 7 p.m. - Readings, 9 p.m. - Open mic.

**SEPTEMBER 13-14**  
**Fright Trail Auditions** 3 p.m. at Tablerock's backstage room.

**SEPTEMBER 15**  
**Eleventh Annual Thomas Arnold Elem. PTO Golf Tournament**, 1 p.m. at Mill Creek. Deadline for entry is Sept. 8. For info, call Kathlyn Smith at 947-8239.

**SEPTEMBER 20**  
**Bell County Jamboree event**, for specifics call 254-939-8560, or visit [www.allcentex.com/jamboree](http://www.allcentex.com/jamboree).

**SEPTEMBER 20-21**  
**Fantasy Faire & Shakespeare Festival** \$5 adults, \$3 children

**SEPT. 20, 21, 27, 28**  
**A Midsummer Night's Dream** 8:15 p.m., \$10 adults, \$5 children.

**SEPTEMBER 22**  
**PALS presents First Annual Salado Wine Tasting Festival** 6 p.m. at Tenroc Ranch. For info call Fran Harris, 947-3429.

**SEPTEMBER 27**  
**Chisholm Trail ABWA Style Show**, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Celebration Center. 947-9000 for info.

**OCTOBER 2**  
**6th Annual Storytelling Festival** 1st

through 4th grade, \$1 per person. 10 a.m.

**OCTOBER 4-5**  
**Christmas Carol Auditions** 2 p.m.

**OCTOBER 10-11**  
**Christmas in October.** Free admission, Salado Civic Center. Call 947-5040 for information.

**OCTOBER 11**  
**Salado Education Foundation's Chisholm Trail Cattleman's Ball** at Tenroc Ranch. Call 947-5479.

**OCTOBER 17-19**  
**Second annual Titanic Texas Weekend:** Gathering for anyone interested in the Titanic. For info: [willingham@vwm.com](mailto:willingham@vwm.com), or [www.encyclopedia-titanica.org](http://www.encyclopedia-titanica.org).

**OCT. 25, 31, Nov. 1**  
**Fright Trail Nights at Tablerock** 7-11 p.m., \$5 adults, \$3 children under 12.

**NOVEMBER 22**  
**Empty Bowl Project** benefiting Salado Family Relief Fund, 1-6 p.m. at SIS auditorium. Call 947-5321 for info.

**DECEMBER 2**  
**Mill Creek Community Association annual Christmas Party** at Creekside Restaurant. Happy hour, 6-7 p.m., dinner 7 p.m. Call 947-3901 for info.

**DECEMBER 4**  
**Christmas Parade**

**DEC. 5-7 & 12-14**  
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# Salado attorney takes break from practice to win gold at Sedona Open

By CHRIS MCGREGOR  
STAFF WRITER

It was Meatloaf, the oversized 70s rocker, who belted out the line "two out of three ain't bad." And though the pop icon probably didn't have golf in mind, Saladoan Bill Harris discovered that he was right on target, anyway.

Harris parlayed strong rounds of -1 and -4, and one shaky round of +4 on the par 72 Oakcreek Country Club course, good enough to take the senior professional division title by four strokes at the 2003 Sedona Open. The tournament was held July 17-20 in Sedona, Arizona, a mountain town situated on the rim of Grand Canyon.

"It was a difficult proposition," says Harris, a civil attorney who was born and raised in Bell County, living in Salado for the past 16 years. His family has been practicing law in Central Texas since 1950.

"The field was full of professionals, guys that really knew their way around a golf course. I was tied for first after round one, but I had a bad nine

on the second. It took a good final round for me to win."

But this title wasn't just plucked from a hat. Harris has been a golfer for well over three decades; he lives just a stone's throw from Mill Creek and tries to hit the links once or twice a week to keep his game sharp.

Since turning 45 a few years back, he's been to the grueling qualifying school for the senior tour twice, but eventually decided that he "didn't want to live life out of a suitcase," opting instead for the domestic life at home with his wife and youngest daughter.

In 2000, he took the gold at the South Texas Amateur Open. He took first again in the 2001 Sedona Amateur Open, and it was that title that had him thinking seriously about playing golf as more than a past-time.

"I really started looking forward to it after I turned 45, though," he says.

When he made the decision to forego the senior tour, he settled in to playing the Cadillac Classics Series, a new eight tourna-



Bill Harris (right) is all smiles after his victory at the Sedona Open.

ment circuit with events, posting a minimum purse of \$60,000, held mainly in the South.

This series, too, is no walk in the park. He's 96th in scoring average, which basically puts him in the middle of the pack. That's really quite respectable, considering he hasn't played in all the tournaments, and the Cadillac Series boasts names such as former PGA pro Rex Caldwell, and a former winner of the PGA Tournament Players Championship.

"I'm sure not getting rich doing this," he said. "But my wife and I are getting to see some beautiful places."

Places like Bermuda, where he plans to play again in their senior open this year, against some exceptional golfers from all over the world.

He says if his game keeps improving, and his name appears atop the leaderboard more often than not, he'll give serious consideration to giving the senior tour another go. But for the time being, he has one daughter to get through college, and another to get through high school.

And after that? "Once my daughter gets out of college, we'll think about it. Right now, I'm just having fun."

As far as life goes, that ain't half bad, either.

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Spend an afternoon with the artists and join us as the Cultural Activities Center in Temple celebrates local artist Edith Cocek's 102nd birthday at the CAC gallery opening and artist's reception 2:30-4:30 p.m. Aug. 10.

"Everyone in the community is invited to attend this event. It's a wonderful opportunity to meet the talented artists who will be displaying their work in the CAC Galleries Aug. 10-Sept. 19," says CAC Visual Arts Director, Marilyn Ritchie. "This is also a special occasion because we are celebrating the 102nd birthday of Ms. Edith Cocek, a local artist who has maintained her passion for painting for 86 years."

Her paintings will be displayed alongside her fellow artists and friends Evelyn Foster, Jean Black, Alice Mitchell, Betty Gorog, Gloria Harris and Francis Olson who meet every Wednesday at Bell Fine Arts to paint together. Their exhibit entitled "Edith Cocek and Friends" can be viewed in the Carabasi Gallery.

Cocek began her career

as an artist in 1917 when she finished her first painting of a girl and two geese. Eighty-six years later, her house is decorated from floor to ceiling with her favorite pieces of work that have accumulated over her lifetime. At 102 years of age, Cocek is focusing on creating hand-painted greeting cards that she personalizes and sends to members of the community.

"Edith is one of the friendliest people I know," says Foster. "She's caring and everyone loves her. She can strike up conversation in a grocery store with a total stranger and then send them a greeting card to let them know how wonderful it was to meet them."

Cocek has lived a fascinating life full of history. She taught elementary art for 18 years prior to her position as postmaster in Penelope where she worked for 10 years. Her next adventure led her to the American Red Cross' Services to Military Families at Fort Hood where she served for 10 years, receiving several commendations for out-



"Friends" by Betty Gorog

standing service.

Fellow exhibitor, Evelyn Foster has been painting for 35 years in oils, acrylics and watercolors and has studied with many nationally renowned artists. Her paintings have won numerous awards including two "Best of Shows" and hang in many private homes throughout the United States.

Jean Black usually works with watercolor specializing in portraits, floral and houses, but has recently returned to pastels depending upon the subject.

Artist Alice Mitchell began seriously studying watercolor in 1948 when she took her first class.

Watercolor, combined with her love of drawing, has been and still is a great source of joy to her.

Betty Gorog received her first set of paints on her 16th birthday marking the beginning of a lifelong passion. As an artist, her day is not complete if at least part of it and very often all of it is spent with a paintbrush in hand.

Gloria Harris was awarded a scholarship to study at the Chicago Institute of Art after painting a picture of three ships coming to America while attending grammar school. Her talents have transcended to her three sons who are all artistic in various forms.

Francis Olson was inspired by her grandmother who had taken up oils late in life, but it wasn't until 1982 that she decided to try watercolors. Painting has been a great hobby that has brought her wonderful friends and solace through loss and tragedy.

Exhibiting in the Saulsbury gallery is artist Julia Hitchcock, who is currently an assistant professor at Baylor University in Waco. Her mixed media work uses both two-dimensional and three-dimensional images that are referenced by medical apparatus, the history of tools and their uses in medicine, as well as current scientific research on the human body.

"The images do not represent a positive or negative view of the medical community and its constituents, it's simply the practice of art making and investigations," says Hitchcock.

The Central Texas Camera Club will host its annual exhibit in the McCreary gallery featuring the works of its members with open subject matter. The organization is compiled of photographers who vary in experience in the photographic process and strive to further cultivate their particular interest in photography. For more information, visit [www.shopcentex.com/ctcc](http://www.shopcentex.com/ctcc).

MORE CAC ART ON PAGE 5B

# Horsefeathers

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# CAC art

from page 4B

Rosalind Iglehart, a University of Mary Hardin Baylor Senior Exhibitor, will display her artwork in the Upstairs Gallery. As an undergraduate student, she has been introduced to several different forms of media and techniques that have helped her develop an expressive style, which includes painting, print-making, ceramics, jewelry and design. By using vibrant, bold colors and rhythmic curves throughout her paintings, she intends to express herself as well as grasp the attention of her audience. Each piece escapes its frame and takes on a life of its own while, implementing at least one element from the prior painting. Iglehart hopes that her works will capture and inspire others to dream and imagine the possibilities, in art and in life.

The "Body Language" exhibit will be held in the Howard Gallery and will feature guest curator, Her-

shall Seals. Local artist Julie Lynch will showcase her "Dime Store Romance" exhibit.

"Although many images inspire me and I sculpt a variety of subject the most exciting and fulfilling is the human body," says Lynch. "My inspiration comes largely from life and the clay itself. My hands are merely tools as I strive to capture the fluidity and sensuality of the human body, all the while adding my own quirky sense of humor. My desire is to form figurative sculptures that express an energy and movement to show the beauty of all women."

The galleries are open to the public Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m.—5 p.m., on Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and by appointment on Saturdays. Contact Marilyn Ritchie at (254) 773-9926 for more information or to schedule an appointment.



painting by Evelyn Foster



"Ice Storm" by Sally Wisler

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## MHMRS holds forum on 2004 fiscal budget

Central Counties Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services (CCC-MHMRS) is conducting a public forum on the Fiscal Year 2004 budget 3:30-5 p.m. Aug. 13 at the Temple MHMR Main Center at 304 S. 22nd St. The public forum will be conducted via videoconference to the Lampasas, Gatesville, Hamilton, Killeen, Cameron offices and the MARC Center in Rockdale.

Due to the actions of the 78th Legislature, CCC-MHMRS operating budget will be reduced from \$14.4 million this year to approximately \$13.1 million in

fiscal year 2004 beginning Sept. 1. The purposes of the public forum is to present the Center Administration's recommended budget and modified service array and then gather input from the public in response to these recommendations. The budget must be developed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. Contact Dorothy Kearns, Clerk to the Board of Trustees, at (254) 298-7010 for further information.

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**Distinguished chefs cooking at Fredericksburg Food & Wine Fest**

Plans are well under way for the 13th Annual Fredericksburg Food and Wine Fest. Five exquisite chefs will add their gourmet touch and unique taste to the ever-expanding Grape Expectations Cooking and Wine School, returning to Fredericksburg on Oct. 25.

Chefs Steve Howard, who is organizing the Grape Expectations Cooking School, Rebecca Rather of Rather Sweet and Arriba, Johnny Nicholas and Patrick Elliott of Hill Top Cafe, all from Fredericksburg, and Terry Thompson-Anderson, of West Columbia, and Abigail Bird Donovan, of Austin, are scheduled to conduct exclusive classes for the Cooking School during the event-filled weekend.

Opening up the Cooking School is Johnny Nicholas, who will also play his guitar during this session, along with Chef Patrick Elliott of Hill Top Caf

The Fredericksburg Food and Wine Fest features the best of Texas wines, food, and entertainment. Over 70 exhibitors vie for attention from discriminating gourmets and oenophiles. Eighteen Texas wineries, offering samples of their finest

vintages, include Becker Vineyards, Bell Mountain Vineyards, Cap\*Rock Winery, Fredericksburg Winery, Grape Creek Vineyards, Haak Vineyards & Winery, Homestead Winery, Llano Estacado Winery, Lost Creek Vineyard, McReynolds Winery, Messina Hof Winery & Resort, Oberhof Wine Cellars, Pheasant Ridge Winery, Pleasant Hill, Poteet Country Winery, Spicewood Vineyards, Texas Hills Vineyard and Wimberley Valley Winery.

Texas Specialty booths have choices ranging from brittles, nuts, and baked goods, to Texas beef, oysters, spices, jams, cheeses, and salsas.

Johnny Nicholas and His All Star Band headlines an afternoon and evening filled with uniquely Texas music. Beginning at noon, guests can listen to the Dixieland sounds of the Band-Aid Jazz Band, followed by Stephanie Urbina Jones. Johnny Nicholas takes the stage 5:30-7 p.m. Plus toss balloons in the Gargantuan Great Grape Toss between bands.

Organizers have planned three Special Events to enhance the experience of this year's festival. A Celebration of

Texas Food & Wine features the finest Hill Country cuisine matched with the best of Texas wines.

Diners will gather at picturesque Wildseed Farms 7-10 p.m. Oct. 24. There will be a shuttle that evening. For \$75, participants will be lavished with gourmet hors d'oeuvres such as petite Venison Oso Bucco with a Becker Port Marchand Valant sauce and Sage Oil, Crawfish Hominy Pirogues with Fried Oysters and Tarragon Hollandaise, Natchitoches Meat Pies filled with Roasted Duck and Figs and Tomato and Orange Marmalade served up by chef Steve Howard of Buffalo River Cuisine. Rebecca Rather of Rather Sweet and Arriba will provide the dessert course.

The Patron Party will be 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Oct. 25 on Marktplatz. An exclusive gourmet luncheon will be served in an alfresco setting with food by Delicious Details Catering of Fredericksburg. Patrons will enjoy a wonderful gourmet meal, special badge with a lapel pin, free admission to the Fest, free Fest wine glass and wine tastings for \$75 per person.

Fest guests can con-

tinue the festival spirit on Oct. 26 with Brunch in the Vineyard from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. In a limited seating for \$60, guests will enjoy a gourmet lunch accompanied by relaxing music. This year's version is held at Becker Vineyards, east of Fredericksburg, and includes a Fest wine glass and wine samplings. CarteWheels Caterer will offer Smoked Salmon, Warm Crab and Artichoke dip, Napa Salad, Chicken and Wild Mushroom Crepes, Indian Summer Wild Rice, Spinach Soufflé and more scrumptious foods.

The Fredericksburg Food and Wine Fest begins accepts guests noon-7 p.m. General admission is \$20 for adults, \$5 for those under 21, and free for children under 12.

More information on the event, and advance ticket purchase is available by contacting the Fest Office at 830-997-8515.

Proceeds from the Fest go toward the continued beautification of Marktplatz and is sponsored by the City of Fredericksburg.

Go to [www.fbgfoodandwinefest.com](http://www.fbgfoodandwinefest.com)

**Wine tasting to be held at The Range at Barton House Aug. 8**

Spicewood Springs will visit The Range at the Barton House on Main Street Salado for a wine tasting 6-9 p.m. Aug. 8.

The owners of Spicewood Vineyards will meet with people attending the

wine tasting. There will be live classical guitar music and hors d'oeuvres.

The tasting will have four four ounce glasses of wine for those attending.

The cost to attend the wine tasting is \$25 per person, plus tax and gratuity.

For reservations, call 947-3828 or e-mail [therange@earthlink.net](mailto:therange@earthlink.net).

**Tickets on sale now for "Rockin' Roadhouse Tour"**

Tickets for the "Rockin' Roadhouse Tour" Concert and the Professional Bull Riding "Humps N' Horns" Tour went on sale Aug. 2.

Tickets are on sale at Bell County Expo Center Box Office in Belton, Lone Star Music in Waco, Box Office ticket outlets, ITR office in Ft. Hood, Renaissance Records in Killeen, or you can charge by phone at 512-477-6060.

Orders can be placed on-line at [www.texasboxoffice.com](http://www.texasboxoffice.com).

Ticket prices will vary. All tickets will be subject to a service fee.

The "Rockin' Roadhouse Tour," featuring the collective talents of country stars Mark Chesnutt, Joe Diffie, and Tracy Lawrence are bringing their road-tested brand of excitement and energy to the Central Texas State Fair Aug. 31.

Jerry Nelson's Salt River Rodeo Company will be providing the stock for this years Professional Bull Riding. The event will be held Aug. 29-30 in the air-conditioned dome at the Bell County Expo Center.

For more information log on to [www.centraltexasstatefair.com](http://www.centraltexasstatefair.com) or call 1-866-EXPO-FAIR or (254)-933-5353.

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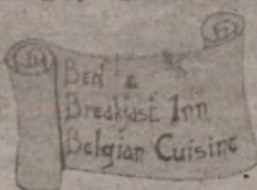
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## Variety abounds for Bell County gardeners

By DEBBIE LAUER  
MASTER GARDENER

Last week I talked about planting a fall vegetable garden. This week I would like to give you a list of the varieties known to do well in Bell County in either season. Not everything thrives in our clay soils, these varieties should.

**Bush Beans:** Contender, Topcrop, Blue Lake, Romano, Tendercrop, and Greencrop.

**Pinto Beans:** Pinto III, Luna, Taylor's Horticultural.

**Pole Beans:** Stingless Blue Lake, Kentucky Wonder, Dade, Romano.

**Lima:** (bush) Jackson Wonder, Fordhook 242, Henderson Bush, (pole) Florida Butter, Sieve.

**Beets:** Detroit Dark Red, Green Top, Bunching, Pacemaker.

**Broccoli:** Green Comet, Emperor, Premium Crop.

**Brussel Sprouts:** Jade Cross, Prince Valent.

**Cabbage:** Globe, Early Round Dutch, Greenback, Golden Acre

(red) Red Acre, (savory) Drumhead, Superette, Rio Verde, Gourmet.

**Carrot:** Imperator, Danvers 126, Nantes, Red Core Chantenay.

**Cauliflower:** Snow Crown, Snow King, Chard, Lucullus, Rhubarb.

**Collard:** Georgia.

**Sweet Corn:** Calumet, Bonanza, Merit, Golden Security, Florida Stay-sweet, Guardian, (white) Silver Queen, Country Gentlemen, Sweet G90.

**Cucumbers:** (pickling) National Pickling, Picadilly, Crispy. (slicing) Poinsett, Straight 8, Cherokee, Sweet Success.

**Garlic:** Texas White.

**Mustard:** Tendergreen, Florida Broadleaf.

**Lettuce:** Great Lakes Strains, Valverde, (leaf) Black Seeded Simpson, Salad Bowl, Rudy, Oakleaf, (butter) Summer Bibb, Tendercrisp, (romaine) Valmaine.

**Okra:** Clemson Spineless, Louisiana, Green Velvet, Dwarf Green, Emerald, Lee, (dwarf) Annie Oakley.

**Onion:** Granex (yellow and white), Red Graney, Grano 502, (green) Beltsville Bunching, Southport White, (bulb) Y1015.

**Parsley:** Moss Curled, Evergreen.

**Southern Peas:** Black-eye No. 5, Brown Sugar Chowder, Burgundy, Champion, Cream 40, Knuckle Purple Hull, Pinkeye Purple Hull.

**Sweet Pepper:** Yolo Wonder, Keystone, Bell Tower, Resistant Giant, Valley Giant, Shamrock.

**Hot Pepper:** Long Red or Thin Cayenne, Hungarian Wax, Jalapeno, Serrano, TAMU Wild Jalapeno.

**Irish Potato:** (white) Kennebec, Superior, (red) Red Lasoda, (russet) Nor-gold.

**Sweet Potato:** Centennial, Rose Centennial, Jewel.

**Radish:** Cherry Belle, Early Scarlet Globe; White Icicle, (winter) Black Spanish, White Chinese.

**Spinach:** Early Hybrid 7, Dixie Savory, Melody: (summer production) New Zealand, Malabar.

**Squash:** Multipik, Hyr-

ific, Dixie, White Bush Scallop, Zucco, Goldrush, Zucchini, (winter) Acorn, Butternut, Elite.

**Tomato:** Homestead, Spring Giant, Celebrity, TAMU Chico III, Improved Summertime, (nematode resistant) Nematex, Terrific, Better Boy, Jackpot, Big Set, (cherry) Small Fry.

**Turnip:** Purple Top White Globe, Royal, Globe II, Tokyo Cross, (greens) Seven Top, Crawford, Shogoin.

**Watermelon:** Charleston Gray, Improved Peacock, Seedless Tri-X 313, Crimson Sweet, Sweet Princess, Jubilee, Calhoun Gray.

Try planting different varieties to find the one that you like the best or will grow best for you. This list is a starting point to help you find your favorites. This list of vegetable varieties came from a Texas Agricultural Extension Service list. I could not find it on the internet.

## Stardust "dressy casual" dance Aug. 8

Summer signals a "dressy casual" code to the Central Texas Stardust Ballroom Dance Club for its Aug. 9 soiree in Strasburger Hall at the Cultural Activities Center.

The Echoes orchestra will be making its final appearance at the event, marking the retirement of veteran director Dr. Charles

Stewart of Sun City. The big band has been a major part of the Central Texas ballroom circuit for many years.

A non-profit organization, Stardust holds dances to live music on the second Saturday of each month. All are open to the public with \$10 per person admission fee. The enforced dress

code - except for the August dance - is coat and tie for men and after-five attire for women.

The downbeat is at 8 p.m., and the music continues until 11:30 p.m.

Stardust president Mike Hanrahan of Georgetown said the improved space and ambience of Strasburger has boosted public attendance

since the club's move to the CAC this summer. Each dance now draws attendance from a broader region of Central Texas.

Information on Stardust and other non-profit ballroom venues this area is available on line at the website pages.prodigy.net/lorenalep.

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# There is treasure in trash

*Tumbleweed Smith*

John Nickle of Rusk had a flea market between Skid and Alto and was always going to garage sales to buy leftover merchandise so he could replenish his inventory. One day he stopped at a garage sale way out in the country. A lady from Dallas was there.

"Her mother had died years ago and she was trying to get rid of all the things in the garage that had been there the whole time since her mother died," says John. "When she got there she told me she had only two customers all day. One bought nothing, the other bought 50 cents worth so she was ready to give the stuff away. I asked her what she would take for all of it. She said a hundred dollars. I saw several tools and things that would net me at least \$300 so I most broke my wrist getting the money out to pay for it."

There was one stipulation. John had to take ALL

the merchandise because the people who were renting the house wanted to use the garage. The lady got in her car and went back to Dallas. Two and a half pickup loads later, John found an old box full of musty-smelling, moldy red velvet curtains.

"I threw it on the tailgate of the truck and hoped it would blow off before I got back to my flea market. The first thing I did was to put that box under a table and forget about it."

Six months later John was talking to his wife about those curtains and she suggested he try to get rid of that musty smell because people were making stuffed animals out of that red velvet material and someone might want to buy it.

"I was hanging those curtains over some partitions I had in there and my hand rubbed across something and I found an old Bull Durham tobacco sack pinned to those curtains. It contained a gold coin from Iran worth 350 dollars, a gold pin with a diamond in

it worth about 400 dollars and a platinum ring with a big diamond."

John took the ring to a local jeweler who offered a couple of hundred dollars for it. John let his wife wear the ring.

"One day I was going to Tyler and decided to take the ring with me to get a good appraisal of it. The jeweler worked with it about twenty minutes and came out with a certificate. He told me the ring was worth ten thousand dollars. I was stunned. On the way home I saw that certificate lying on the seat and I stopped the car, got out and shouted expressions of joy at the top of my lungs. People seeing me do that must

have thought I was crazy."

John says nine or ten times he was ready to go to the dump with that box of curtains, but didn't have room for it on the pickup.

"Those curtains were worthless to me as far as I was concerned. I wonder how much stuff in the world happens like that. I could just imagine the old lady just before going to the hospital pinning those items to the curtains, thinking they would be safe until she returned. But she died in the hospital. Those things could easily have ended up in the dump just as easy as ending up in my hands."

Contact Tumbleweed at [www.tumbleweedsmith.com](http://www.tumbleweedsmith.com)

The following recipe was taken from the cookbook "Salado Country Cooking." It was sponsored by the members and friends of the Monday Club from the Salado United Methodist Church.

## Hamburger Quiche

- 1 (9") pie shell, partially baked
- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1/3 c. minced onion
- 1 c. shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- 3 eggs
- 1 c. whipping cream
- 1 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/8 tsp. white pepper

Prepare pastry shell. Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Brown ground beef in a skillet and drain. Combine meat and onion. Reserve a small amount and place remaining meat mixture in pastry shell. Sprinkle cheese over meat mixture. Bake for 15 minutes. Reduce oven temperature to 300 degrees and bake 30 minutes longer. Sprinkle remaining meat on top and bake 5 minutes more. Let pie stand 10 minutes before serving. Yield: 4 to 6 servings. Note: Freezes well.

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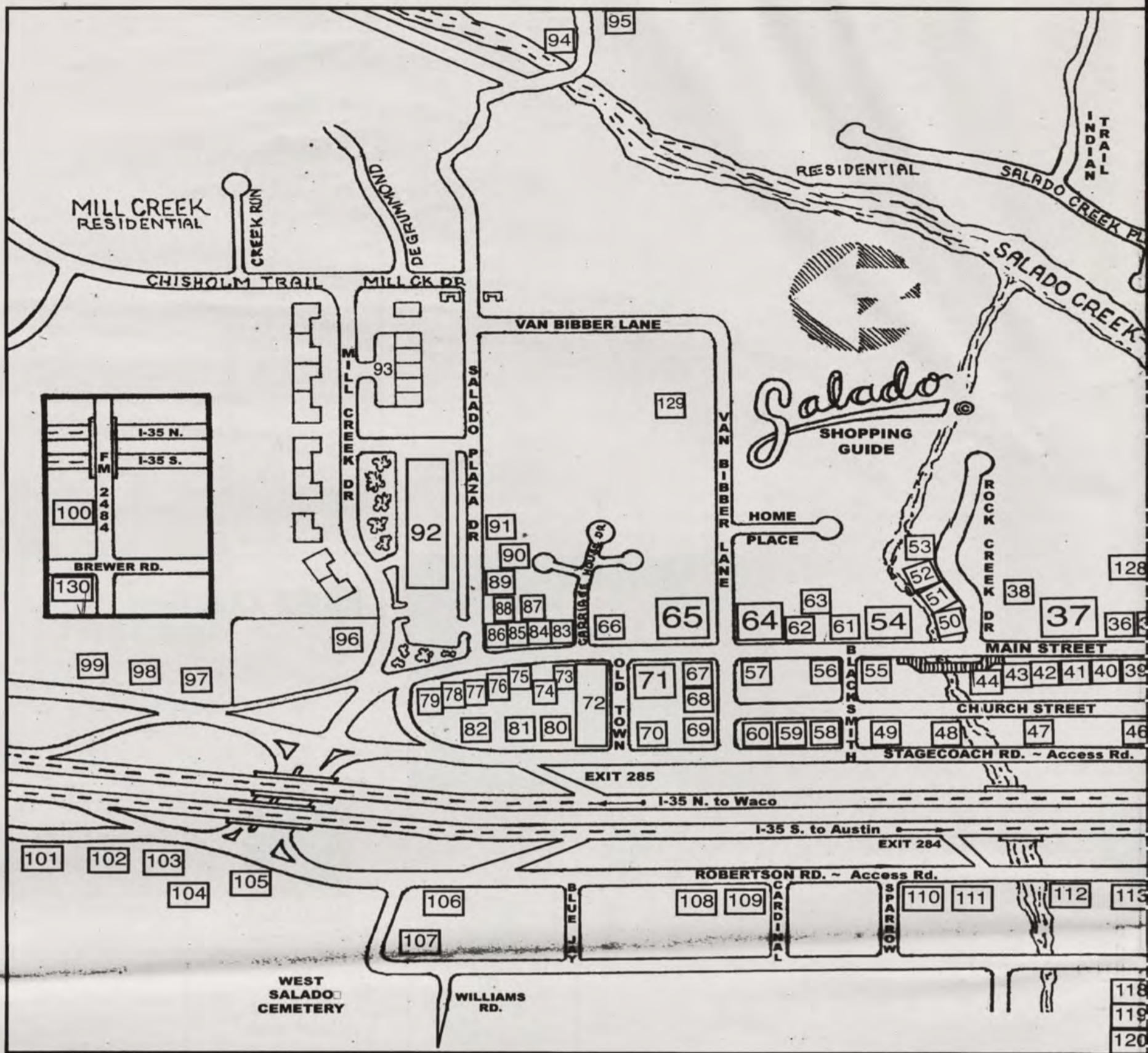
*The Store*  
in Old Town Salado



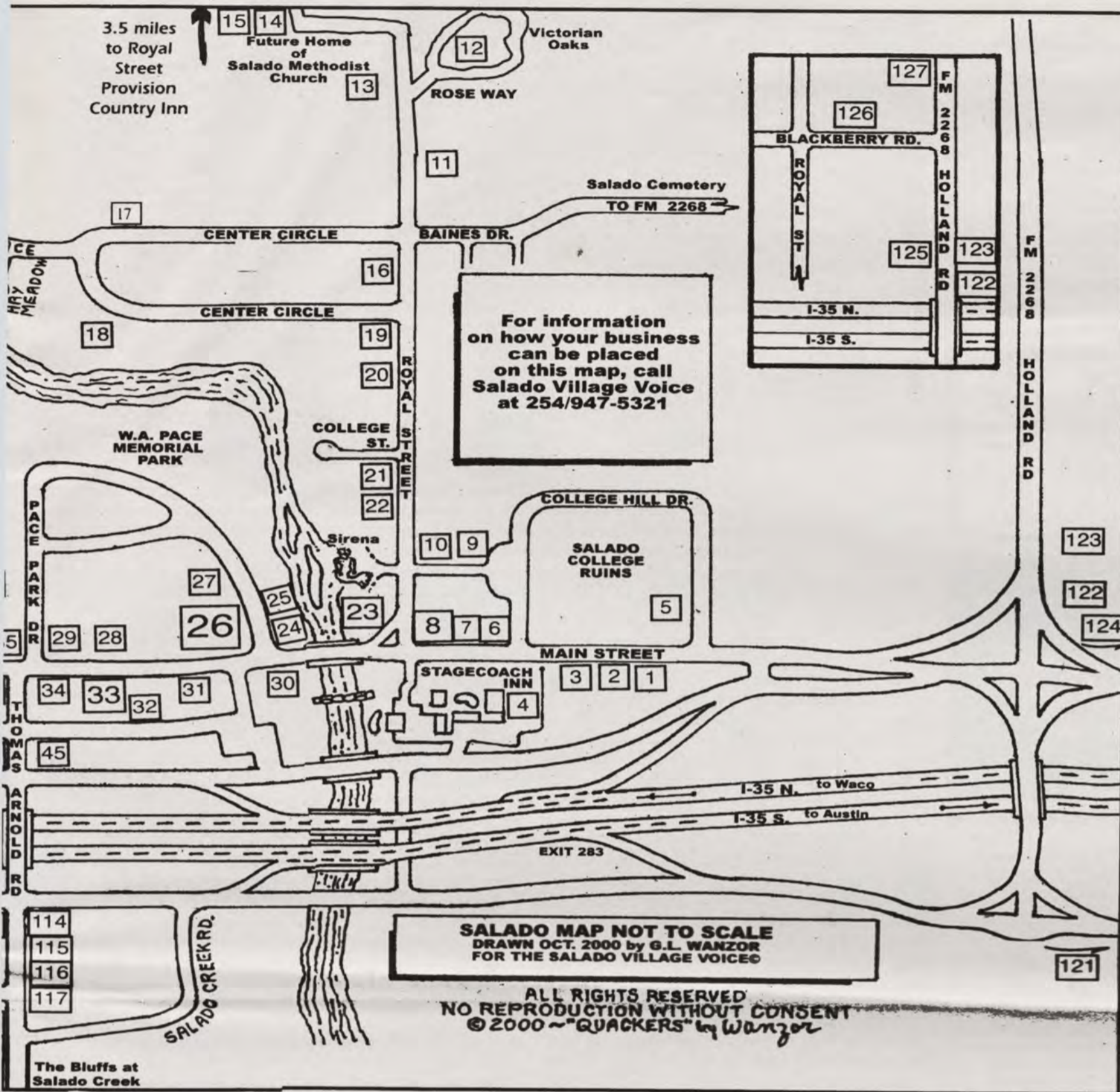
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| 6. Central Texas Area Museum           | 254/947-5232 | 33. <b>THE VERANDA</b>             |              | 54. <b>THE COLONY</b>                |                            |
|  | 254/947-5110 | First Texas Brokerage              | 254/947-5577 | LaFon's Antiques                     | 254/947-8040               |
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| 8. <b>SHADY VILLA</b>                  |              | 35. Christy's of Salado            | 254/947-0561 | 55. Heirlooms                        | 254/947-0336               |
| Gregory's                              | 254/947-5703 | 36. Inn at Salado                  | 254/947-0027 | 56. Village Steakhouse               | 254/947-3663               |
| Sweet Nut Things                       | 254/947-8088 | 37. <b>SALADO SQUARE</b>           |              | 57. Seasons of Salado                | 254/947-4769               |
| 9. Peddler's Alley                     | 254/947-9722 | Browning's Courtyard Cafe          | 254/947-8666 | 59. Salado Floors and Walls          | 254/947-0048               |
| 10. The Dusty Rose                     | 254/947-9215 | Carden's                           | 254/947-0300 | 60. The Village of Salado            | 254/947-5060               |
| 11. Tablerock Amphitheatre             | 254/947-9205 | CIO                                | 254/947-0322 | 62. Thomas Kinkade at                |                            |
| 12. The Rose Mansion B&B               | 254/947-8200 | Classics on Main                   | 254/947-3277 | RMK Gallery                          | 254/947-4400               |
| 14. Serenity Spa Service               | 254/947-8833 | Linda Pritchard, RMT               | 254/947-HAND | 64. <b>SALADO CIVIC SQUARE</b>       |                            |
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| Country Inn                            |              | Magnolia's on the Square           | 254/947-0323 | Properties of Larry Sands            | 254/947-5580               |
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| 18. Inn on the Creek B&B               | 254/947-5554 | Dr. Douglas B. Willingham          |              | 65. <b>SALADO CIVIC CENTER</b>       |                            |
| 19. <b>ROYAL STREET COURTYARD</b>      |              | 41. Mud Pies Pottery               | 254/947-0281 | Salado Civic Center                  | 254/947-8300               |
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| 20. The Lodgings                       | 254/947-0027 | 45. Wigglesworth Place             |              |                                      |                            |
| 21. Springhouse Antiques               | 254/947-0747 | Lodging                            | 254/947-8846 | 68. Truly Texan Metal Art            | 254/947-8986               |
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  - Cathy's Boardwalk Cafe 254/947-8162
  - MJ's Country Corner 254/947-8885
  - Texan by Design 254/947-4479
  - The Store 254/947-9000
- 73. Horsefeathers 254/947-3203
- 74. Remember This Antiques 254/947-0858
- 75. Salado Post Office 254/947-5322
- 76. Century 21 Bill Bartlett Real Estate 254/947-5050
- 78. Jeffrey W. McClure 254/947-1111
- The Personal Wealth Coach
- 81. jjs'TIQUES 254/947-1010
- 83. **CARRIAGE PLACE SQUARE**
  - Before & After Fitness & Tanning 254/947-5814
  - Pretty Nails 254/947-8850
  - Hemisphere's 254/947-0015
  - Horsewhispers 254/947-7105
- 87. Country Treasure's Gift Shop 254/947-7195
- 88. St. Luke's Episcopal
- 89. Presbyterian Church 254/947-8106
- 90. Three Dogs or a Quilt 254/947-9070
- 92. **SALADO PLAZA**
  - Salado Village Voice Newspaper 254/947-5321
  - Salado Chiropractic 254/947-BACK
  - Salado Eye Care 254/947-LENS
  - Village Pharmacy 254/947-3185 (drop off for Johnnie's Cleaners)
  - Old Mill Pizza Co. 254/947-0700
- 96. Public Library 254/947-9191

- 100. Grace Baptist Church of Salado 254/947-5917
- 102. Robertson's Hams 254/947-5562
- 103. Cowboys 254/947-5700
- 104. Fairway Golf Carts 254/947-4065
- 115. Johnny's Steaks & Bar-B-Q 254/947-4663
- 116. Coco Cabana 254/947-1999
- 118. Thomas Arnold 254/947-5191
- 119. Salado Intermediate 254/947-1700
- 120. Salado High 254/947-5429
- 121. Cedar Valley Baptist Church 254/947-0148
- 122. Wildfire Saddlery and Western Wear 254/947-8080
- 123. St. Stephen Catholic Church 254/947-8037
- 124. Eagle Rock Ranch 254/947-5369
- 127. Country Place B&B 254/947-5238
- 128. The Levi Tenney House 254/947-9638
- 129. The Texas House 254/947-9193
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Pictured, Ladies Auxiliary representatives Pat Wanzor (left) and Wylene Williams (right) present Christmas in October poster contest winner Jerry Goodman (center) with a gift certificate to the Inn on the Creek. Christmas in October is the Auxiliary's primary annual fundraiser. (PHOTO BY CHRIS MCGREGOR)

**Attorney General's Office protects children from internet predators**

By GREG ABBOTT  
 ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

The Internet has given child predators the anonymity to act on their perversions. That is why it is imperative for us to be vigilant in tracking down and locking up these predators. Today, law enforcement agencies across Texas and the nation are working together to bring justice to those who prey on our children.

The Texas Attorney General's Office formed the Internet Bureau to track online predators and train law enforcement officers. Our investigators are online every day looking for evidence of cyber-crimes against children.

In the last three months, the Internet Bureau has intensified its efforts, arresting nearly a dozen suspected child predators. In a four-day period alone, investigators arrested four men. Three of the men traveled to Hays County expecting to meet 13-year-old girls. Another traveled

to Kendall County to meet what he thought would be a 13-year-old boy.

Three men have been charged with attempted aggravated sexual assault of a child. Another has been charged with criminal solicitation of a minor. Both charges are felonies. The "children" the men stalked turned out to be Internet Bureau undercover investigators. The men allegedly initiated sex talk with the children in Internet chat rooms and allegedly planned to meet them to engage in sexual activity.

The true intentions of child predators are clear, and our Internet Bureau officers have no qualms whatsoever about taking these people off the street and putting them behind bars when they cross the line. I will not tolerate the victimization of children. While we are pleased that our efforts have been successful at taking predators out of chat rooms and putting them into jail cells, it

is important to remember that you as parents are still the most effective tool at protecting your children.

The fact is, when you strike up a conversation by e-mail, you have no idea who you are dealing with. Predators use this fact to take advantage of trusting, curious young people. We turn the tables and use it against the predators. But too often the predator's target really is a child.

You can protect your child by taking some simple precautions. You should be aware that in chat rooms, someone may very well pick up on your child's youth, gender, and vulnerability. You might be shocked to find out how quickly a dangerous contact can occur.

Our investigators posing as children have no problem attracting predators. Surf the Internet with your children. This will allow you to assess the types of Web sites and chat rooms your children

visit. You may wish to place your computer in a family room or the kitchen, which will make it easier for you to monitor your children's Internet activity.

Establish ground rules for Internet surfing. Set the hours when your children can access the Internet, for how long, and what Web sites they can visit. Most Internet service providers (ISP) provide technical safeguards that allow parents to restrict certain Web sites. Contact your ISP for more information.

The Internet is a wonderful way for children to learn and grow. As long as you provide a little guidance, they can safely enjoy the World Wide Web.

For more information: Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), Federal Trade Commission www.ftc.gov

Information is available on the Attorney General's Web site at www.oag.state.tx.us.

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## Texas Historical Commission to evaluate Central Texas Sites

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) will hit the trail in July, August and September to research and evaluate heritage tourism sites throughout Central Texas. The evaluation trips will focus on the Texas Brazos Trail Region, an 18-county area extending from Bastrop to Waco.

An interdisciplinary team with expertise in heritage education, marketing and tourism development will tour individual sites and collect information.

"The information gathered will be turned into a report that helps heritage and cultural sites become more tourism friendly and therefore attract more visitors," said Janie Headrick, director of the THC's Texas Heritage Trails Program. "The THC would like to see the Texas Brazos Trail Region capture more of the \$40 billion spent annually on travel in Texas."

The research collected will also be used for a regional tourism brochure, slated to be released in 2004, that focuses on heritage tourism in Central Texas.

For more information about the Texas Heritage Trails Program visit

www.thc.state.tx.us/travel. For information on the Texas Brazos Trail Region contact Amber Durden at 254/803-3770 or texasbrazostrail@hotmail.com. Request free travel brochures about the people and places that shaped Texas history at 512/463-6254.

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### Village Artists sponsor workshop on clayboard

Salado Village Artists Inc. will be sponsoring a "Clayboard" workshop Aug. 20 presented by artist and teacher Sally Maxwell.

Maxwell has been working in clayboard for over 30 years. More details about her work are

www.sallymaxwellsart.com. Lunch will be provided, as well as the use of her special tools.

The charge is \$50 for non SVA members. For more information call Heidi at 939-9933, or Helen at 947-1089. Space is limited.



"Lunch" by Sally Maxwell

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# Sweaty A/C Units

**This is a Hammer**

by Samantha Mazzotta

**Q:** We have a 10-year-old ranch home with a crawl-space that slopes from about 2 feet to 4.5 feet with the tall end underground. We have a heat pump with the electric furnace and air handler mounted to the floor joists in the tall end. The main ducts are insulated metal with insulated flex ducts going to each room. The problem is, on humid days when the A/C is on, the air handler and all the ducts sweat so much that water puddles on the plastic covering the ground. I don't recall this condition in years past, and I was thinking of putting a fan down there to circulate the air. Is this condition normal? If not, do you have any suggestions?

**A:** I'd say that since the amount of condensation you're experiencing is new, it's not normal. After all, you've had humid days in the past without this problem. In this case, I'd say the age of your system has something to do with it. Few air conditioning units (or heat pumps) have warranties past 10 years, and for good reason -- the unit's age can mean more breakdowns or maintenance problems, and parts are harder to come by.

This doesn't mean that you need to replace your current heating/cooling system. The condensation problem may be a relatively easy fix.

You're on track regarding air circulation in the crawlspace. Better airflow will reduce humidity, and subsequently reduce the amount of condensation caused by warm, humid air meeting cool metal. Also, your main and flex ducts are insulated, which also reduces condensation and increases cooling (and heating) efficiency. By all means, try running a fan in the crawlspace and see what happens. (Make sure it's placed in a dry spot, of course.) Some do-it-yourselfers also recommend using a dehumidifier in enclosed spaces.

Two common problems (with just about any A/C unit) are leaking drain pans and clogged drain hoses. An air conditioner removes moisture from the house and condenses it on the refrigeration coils. From there, the water collects in a drain pan and then exits via a drain hose. Scott Meenen of G&S Mechanical Services in Maryland ([www.toad.net/~jsmeenen](http://www.toad.net/~jsmeenen)) recommends cleaning the drain hose

SEE A/C UNITS PAGE 16B

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# A/C Units From 15B

using a wet/dry vac to suck out debris. The drain pan should be cleaned as well. More serious causes are out there, however. When checking the drain pan, look for holes or damage caused by rust. A hole in the drain pan means that both the pan and the condenser coils must be replaced. Check the condenser coils themselves for oil or grease spots, which prevent water from condensing properly. To fix either of these situations, bring in a professional who deals specifically with heat pumps.

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## Services



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**Johnnie's Cleaners & Tailors** pickup and delivery at Village Pharmacy M-W-F. tfnb

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**J.R.'s Small Engine Repair and Minor Welding** next to the Salado Laundromat. 518 N. Robertson Rd. 254-947-8979 M-F-10-5 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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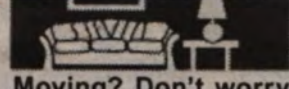
## Garage & Yard Sale



**Yard Sale Aug. 9 7:30-12 p.m.** 600 Harper, Holland, TX 8/6p

**Barn Sale Fri, Sat. Sun** Furniture, W/D, Boat, Car, Antique Dr's Buggy and much more. Burnett's Christmas Tree Farm, 2 miles west of Salado on FM 2484 @ Sam-Neil Lane. 947-4477 8/6p

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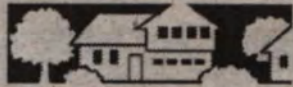
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# MARKETPLACE

## Homes For Sale

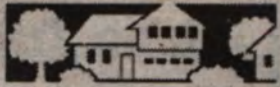


Enjoy the country in this 3 BR, 2 BA home on this 2 acre wooded lot! Take advantage of the 10 acre park on Salado Creek - yours to enjoy when you live in Hidden Springs. Elegant arched entry into the master BR. Relax in the large bath complete with a garden tub. Enjoy abundant wildlife and a peaceful setting \$199,500. Call Century 21 - Bill Bartlett 254-947-5050 tfn

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## Homes For Sale



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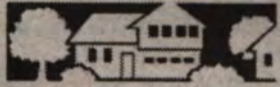
7/16p

**For Sale 1998 manufactured home on almost 2 acres.** 4 BR 2.5 BA recent roof. Excellent condition, detached garage workshop \$85,000 254-721-3605 tfn

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## Homes For Sale



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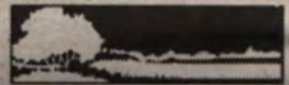
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Buy both for \$269,500. A real investment bargain - live in one and lease the other. Each home 3/2/2 one level, vaulted ceiling, WBFP, porch, deck, stunning views, trees. 3901 Chisholm Trail #5 & #6. May be bought separately.

**RANEY & ASSOCIATES**

Anna Lou Raney Broker/Realtor 913-1215  
Martha Price Broker/Realtor  
Aggie Budewig Realtor 947-8659

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**\$479,500** - Located on #9 Fairway in Mill Creek, this home overlooks the golf course & Salado Creek. Perfect for entertaining, with two living, two dining, large kitchen, wet bar, butler's pantry, raised ceilings, fireplace. Master suite, hot tub, all downstairs. Upstairs is a game room, two bedrooms and a bath. There is also an air conditioned office off the garage.



**\$349,500** - Newly constructed home with large windows across back of home provide an incredible view of Salado Creek and Mill Creek Golf Course. 2 BR and bath are located on main floor. Master bedroom and bath are located on third level. Master BR has view of Salado Creek & golf course from large windows all around. Bath is luxurious. Extra large closet. 3 car garage is on lower level.



**\$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.



**\$309,000** - Sip coffee from the back porch & watch Salado Creek flow by. This home sits on 3/4 acre on cul-de-sac in Salado Creek Place. Magnificent views from the living, kitchen & master BR. Open kitchen, living, and breakfast area. Heavily wooded lot provides privacy while close to downtown.



**Bill Bartlett**  
**860 N. Main St.**  
**Salado, TX 76571**

**(254) 947-5050**  
**(800) 352-1183**

**www.C21bb.com**



### Salado's Home Team

Rita Oden	718-7956
Sue Ellen Stigel	760-3226
Ann Carroll	760-0101
Melanie Kirchmeier	760-5855



**\$205,000** - 3 BR, 2 BA. Walk into a large open living area with a vaulted ceiling that is enhanced with a wood burning rock fireplace. The kitchen in this home has custom made cabinets and eat-in bar. A dining room opens into the kitchen and living area providing a wonderful place to entertain friends. A large master bedroom allows enough room for a sitting area or office. The other two bedrooms are separate from the master to allow for privacy.



**\$699,900** - Plate glass windows across the back of this home allow the view of the pool, valley & rolling countryside. Solar heated negative edge pool. 7 acre lot with three stall barn. Property is entirely fenced for horses. Your guests can stay in the separate apartment & enjoy their privacy. Large workshop for the handy man/woman. Propane fireplace in Master Bedroom.



**\$169,800** - Looking for homey, comfort & easy maintenance? The soothing colors, private location & amenities are just right. Separate 12x24 office building. An RV garage perfect for those who travel. Enjoy front porch swing & deck.



**\$459,000** - Walk into this elegant home located on 20.22 acres and feel instant comfort. Formal living area is accented with a floor to ceiling cave stone fireplace. The "catwalk" above leads to the private second floor study. This delightful home has 4 large bedrooms that include two private Master Suites. Fun gameroom/playroom downstairs leads to the covered patio overlooking an incredible in ground pool and cabana. Energy efficient home. Numerous items to convey with home.

### Residential

- \$49,500 - 3 BR, 1 BA with fenced back yard.
- \$59,999 - 3 BR, 1 BA updated home in Belton.
- \$83,500 - Nice manufactured home on 5 acres.
- \$109,800 - New Construction! 3BR/2 BA - UC.
- \$119,900 - 3 BR home. Front & back porches & metal shop.
- \$128,800 - New in Salado Prairies. Vaulted ceilings - UC.
- \$131,800 - New mid-size home on 1 acre.
- \$138,500 - 1.83 acres. 3 BR/2BA w/open living/dining - UC.
- \$139,900 - Austin stone with metal roof. 3 BR, 2 BA.
- \$148,500 - 3 BR, 2 BA home on 2.66 acres - UC.
- \$149,900 - 3 BR, 2 BA, island in kitchen. Mill Creek
- \$159,900 - Home on Live Oak Estates on cul-de-sac - UC.
- \$149,900 - "Orange Lady's Home" fronts golf course & creek.
- \$169,800 - Charming 2 BR/ 2 BA with separate office building.
- \$172,900 - Beautiful lot. pool. Split bedrooms - UC.
- \$174,900 - 4 BR in Mill Creek. Fenced back yard.
- \$191,000 - Custom home has 2 master suites w/ large baths.
- \$199,800 - 3 BR, 2 BA home on 2 acres in Hidden Springs.
- \$205,000 - 3 BR, 2 BA open living area with vaulted ceiling.
- \$238,000 - 4 BR/2-1/2 BA on 1 wooded acre in Mill Creek.
- \$289,000 - Stone 4 BR home w/open floor plan. 1.93 acres.
- \$295,000 - 4 BR home in Troy on 60 acres, barn & lake.
- \$309,000 - 3 BR, 2-1/2 BA on Salado Creek Place cul-de-sac.
- \$324,900 - 4 BR, 3-1/2 BA home overlooking golf course.

- \$349,500 - New home with view of Salado Creek & golf course.
- \$389,000 - 3 BR, 2 BA home on quiet street, close to town.
- \$469,500 - 4 BR 4-1/2 BA, game room, 3 car garage.
- \$479,500 - On #9 Fairway, overlooks golf course & creek.
- \$699,900 - Country living, pool, 7 acres, barn, workshop.
- \$1,450,000 - Executive 4 BR home on Salado Creek.

### Commercial Property

- \$246,500 - Retail space on Main St. 2090 SF w/office & BA.
- \$249,500 - 3 BR with showroom & workshop, on 1.23 acres.
- \$429,000 - 5.66 acres commercial property off Main Street.

### Acreage Available

- 140 acres located 10 miles northwest of Georgetown. Part coastal, cultivation, well fenced, 2 stock ponds, lots of paved road frontage, pecan orchard. Huge metal implement bldg. with living quarters.
- 140 acres on Hwy 36 at Temple Airport, all or part.
- 50 acres in deer country, wooded, good road frontage.
- 38.78 acres FM 2843, 8 mile west, beautiful trees. \$190,000.
- 15.796 acres fronting FM 2268 with young trees.
- 12 acres between Salado and Florence. All woods, spring, secluded, view. \$49,000.

- 8.77 acres on I-35 at crossover, Exit 286 at Salado.
- Last 5 acres in restricted subdivision - UC

### Lots

#### Mill Creek Lots

- 808 Mill Creek Dr. - \$30,000
- 700 Indian Trail - \$30,000
- Mill Creek Springs - \$30 - \$75,000
- Hester Way - \$55,000
- Jack Nicklaus Circle - \$90,000
- Fletcher Ct. - \$68,000
- 700 Willow Creek - \$36,000 - UC.
- Lot 1 Club Circle - \$35,000

#### Other Lots

- Royal Oaks - \$30,000 - Under Contract
- Rita Bend Drive - \$39,900 - Under Contract
- Windy Hill Ranch - 2 acre lots - \$55,000 to \$90,000
- Jeremiah's Well - 10 acre tracts \$55,000 to \$90,000

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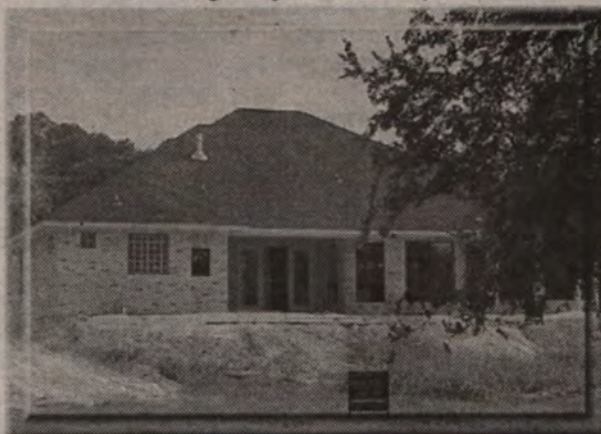
Charming country home west of Salado. 3 BR/2 BA with tile and hardwood flooring. Large fenced back yard. **\$89,500.**



Great four bedroom house with formal dining. Fenced yard with covered porch. Like new! Priced at **\$159,900.**



In Salado 3/2 split level home with loft and 2 living areas, plus formal dining. **\$139,900.**



New home under construction on the golf course overlooking Salado Creek. Absolutely beautiful view. Ten to fourteen foot ceilings thruout the home. Priced at **\$310,000.**



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



A beautiful hilltop 3/2 home, manicured lawn overlooking 3 acre lake on 13.42 acres. Numerous windows and a huge covered deck, outstanding views. Foliage and trees enhance the beauty of the home supplying shade from the hot summer sun. **\$399,000.**



Secluded country home with over 4,400 SF in main house 5+ BR, 4 BA, 3 car garage, workshop, gameroom, storage and more on 10-1/2 acres. **\$437,000.**



Manufactured home on approximately 5 acres. Beautiful live oak trees. Features include porch, water softener, gas fireplace and a sauna located off of FM 2484. **\$105,000.**



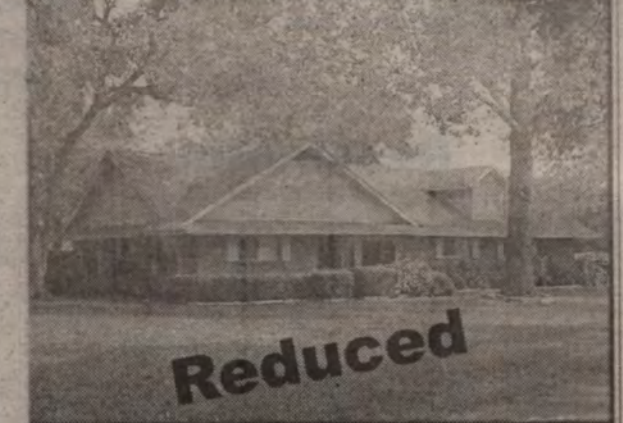
Excellent commercial location on corner of West Village Road & IH 35 at Exit 285. **\$239,900.**



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



245 acres priced at \$6,000 per acre. beautiful rolling hills with large live oak trees and a 3 acre lake. Outstanding development opportunity.



Gorgeous tree covered corner lot with 3BR/2BA home in a prime location of Mill Creek. **\$169,900.**

## 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.**
- 2.7 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. **\$50,000.**
- 3.5 acres with septic & water. **\$38,000.**
- 3.52 acres, mostly wooded. **\$49,900.**
- 4 acres SW of Salado. Beautiful trees. Excellent homesite. **\$56,800.**
- 5.13 acres sw of Salado. Beautiful trees. **Reduced to \$44,900.**
- 20 acres sw of Salado on Buttermilk Creek. Heavily wooded. **\$125,000.**
- 29 acres sw of Salado on Buttermilk Creek. Priced at \$7,000 per acre. Beautiful Trees and outstanding wildlife.
- 51 acres Buttermilk Creek, spectacular views, excellent tree coverage, sw

- of Salado.
- 53 acres south of Salado. **\$2,990/acre.**
- 130 acres Rolling hills with great views. **\$4,500/acre.**
- 928 acres sw of Salado. Beautiful rolling tree country w/ live creek & large lake on property. Excellent views. Outstanding wildlife.
- Three 250 acre tracts ssw of Salado. Beautiful rolling hills w/large trees, live creek and water tank. Excellent views & deer country. **\$2,500/acre.**

## Commercial

- 3 acres commercial property fronting I-35, Phase 3. **\$89,900.**
- Excellent Commercial: location on corner of West Village Rd. & IH-35 at exit 285. - **\$239,900.**

## 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.**