

Village Voice

Salado

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254/947-5321 fax 254/947-9479 email:

Jail bond to go to voters May 15

 BY TIM FLEISCHER
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Bell County voters will decide May 15 a \$46 million bond issue for construction of a new jail and district courts facility on property on Loop 121, after county commissioners receive the final report from the Jail Task Force committee.

The Task Force met Dec. 11 to finalize its report, including its recommendation to bring the issue to voters once again. Bell county voters in September turned down a similar bond proposal of \$61 million.

The Task Force will formally make its recommendation to Bell County Commissioners at their 9 a.m. Dec. 22 meeting on the second floor of the county courthouse.

At that time, County Judge Jon Burrows said that the court would likely conduct a public hearing on the matter to take input on the issue.

Commissioners dis-

cussed calling a bond referendum for May 15 during a workshop session Dec. 15. Judge Burrows said that commissioners might want to declare their intention to set a May 15 election on the matter.

"We can't officially call an election until we know the amount of the proposed bond," Judge Burrows said. "But we can show our intention to call for an election."

The Task Force recommendation scales back the county commissioners' original proposal by \$15 million. The original bond proposal called for construction of a new district courts complex, 460 bed jail facility and county offices that are presently housed at the county annex at 550 East Second Street.

The county clerk's office, as well as county courts at law, will not be moved to the Loop 121 site under the new proposal.

However, by keeping county offices at the Second Street location, the

SEE JAIL, PAGE 5A



Devon Dunn gets above the rim to lay in a shot during the Salado Eagles 59-49 win over Rosebud-Lott in the first round of the Coach Smith Tournament Dec. 11-13 in Salado. The boys won the tournament and the girls took second place in their division. Sports coverage begins on page 9A. (PHOTO BY CHRIS MCGREGOR)

School district seeking property

 BY TIM FLEISCHER
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Salado ISD has had two responses to its recent request for donation of 35-50 acres of property within the school district or proposals for purchase of property at a fair market value.

The district will continue to take responses from the community concerning the purchase or acceptance of land while the facilities committee examines existing school facilities in the coming months.

Following a second community meeting on future school facilities planning, the facilities committee will have campus walk-throughs in January and February to consider needs of the high school, intermediate school and elementary school. The committee will also consider the athletic facilities, as well as other special program facilities, such as vocational education.

If you have property

that might meet the needs of the district, contact the school administration at 947-7000.

School trustees learned of the two responses during their monthly meeting Dec. 15, during which the board breezed through a short agenda.

High School Principal Kay Matthews discussed programs, curriculum and other issues in her annual campus update to board members.

The board also approved Matthews' recommendation to hire Nubia Medina for the remainder of the school year as high school Spanish teacher. Medina will be placed on probation (as are all new employees) and an emergency certificate until she is certified to teach secondary Spanish.

The board learned of a software program for class rankings at the high school and the donation of playground equipment at the elementary school.

Trustees approved expending the last of bond interest for storage units.

Sales taxes up for Village

"State sales tax revenue is up for the third month in a row," Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn said Dec. 11 as she issued sales tax rebates to Texas entities. "The last time state sales tax revenue increased three months in a row was July-September 2001, before 9-11."

"This is great news," Strayhorn said of the upward trend in sales tax payments, "considering the state had an historic, unfortunate first of two years of declining sales tax revenue in fiscal years 2002 and 2003," Strayhorn said.

Sales tax rebates to Salado, however, are up for only the second month in a row in comparison to prior year rebates.

Salado's check of \$21,002.62 is 1.42 percent more than last December's payment of \$20,706.81. For the year, however, sales tax revenues are down by one percent. In 2003, the

Village of Salado received \$290,408.08 in sales tax revenues, compared to \$293,692.61 last year.

Other Bell County cities are showing markedly higher increases over last December's rebates. Killeen's sales tax rebate of \$992,498.16 was the highest county-wide and was 8.18 percent more than last year. For the year, Killeen is 5.27 percent higher with \$13.4 million received.

Temple received \$882,481.92, compared to \$819,078.52 last December, an increase of 7.74 percent. In 2003, Temple has received \$12.3 million, an increase of 3.46 percent over 2002's payments of \$11.8 million.

Payments to Bell County are also higher for the year and for the month. Bell County received \$702,925.65, more than five percent over last December's \$664,627.18. For the year, the county has received \$9.2 million,

up from \$9.1 million in 2002.

Salado Library District is apparently bucking the upward trend as its December check of \$12,937.73 is almost three percent less than last year's \$13,366.56 payment.

"This is great news," Strayhorn said of the upward trend in sales tax payments, "considering the state had an historic, unfortunate first of two years of declining sales tax revenue in fiscal years 2002 and 2003," Strayhorn said.

"Last December, the Grinch stole Christmas," Strayhorn said. "This year, the Grinch isn't going to steal Christmas. State sales tax revenue is up and overall, local taxing entities will receive more sales tax this year."

December sales tax allocations to local governments represent sales made in October and reported to the Comptroller in November.

Sales Tax Rebates to Village of Salado

	2003	2002	2001
JAN	22,625.52	21,762.56	
FEB	46,753.32	40,396.09	
MAR	13,706.38	17,424.27	0.00
APR	14,247.07	17,564.89	0.00
MAY	28,661.78	26,984.29	0.00
JUN	21,666.50	23,101.73	0.00
JUL	22,648.55	22,439.64	0.00
AUG	29,534.76	29,423.14	0.00
SEP	21,624.42	25,994.56	18,552.23
OCT	18,143.92	19,983.87	18,018.47
NOV	29,793.24	27,910.76	28,437.22
DEC	21,002.62	20,706.81	22,077.10
TOTAL	290,408.08	293,692.61	87,085.02

Village of Salado collects a one percent sales tax within its two-square mile boundaries.

Salado Library District collects a half-percent sales tax within its boundaries, which are the same as Salado ISD boundaries and approximately 100 square miles.

Sales Tax Rebates to Salado Library District

	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
JAN	14,021.96	14,697.20	13,379.93	15,031.40	9,936.19
FEB	24,793.93	23,721.62	22,934.81	20,967.02	19,797.61
MAR	10,660.96	11,165.32	9,049.21	12,304.34	7,954.28
APR	10,331.42	11,743.32	10,116.49	10,640.72	9,268.16
MAY	16,927.75	15,567.87	17,081.45	16,175.86	14,508.53
JUN	14,106.32	13,569.85	13,825.38	11,600.99	9,873.49
JUL	14,341.43	14,549.14	15,110.64	13,230.32	11,930.19
AUG	18,549.14	16,967.71	18,320.32	16,884.37	16,011.51
SEP	13,334.11	15,281.73	13,435.59	12,103.61	13,571.98
OCT	12,374.56	12,231.98	12,802.18	11,889.95	14,724.76
NOV	18,159.79	17,257.64	17,011.81	15,864.98	9,722.46
DEC	12,937.73	13,316.86	15,209.34	12,470.15	10,427.75
TOTAL	180,539.10	180,070.24	178,277.15	169,163.71	147,726.91

FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas



Dumbing down of candidates

"If the Jews want to get it on, tell them to pin their yarmulkes back and come over to my house."

Those were the immortal words of the Rev. Al Sharpton during the Crown Heights crisis in New York City in 1991. A car driven by a Hasidic Jew had run over a black child in the Brooklyn neighborhood, prompting black-Jewish tensions that eventually spilled over into anti-Semitic riots.

Oh, the statesmanship. This is the man who stands with eight other presidential candidates every two weeks or so to opine to a national audience about the future of the republic. With Sharpton, the dumbing-down of presidential candidates is complete. In 1992, Pat Buchanan ran for president after having a cable TV show. In 2000, Alan Keyes did Buchanan one better -- he ran for president to get a cable TV show (it appeared briefly on MSNBC). Sharpton is running on the Keyes model, with his scheduled "Saturday Night Live" guest-hosting gig this weekend showing some results.

Fringe candidates can have their place. Ralph Nader added something to the 2000 election. But Sharpton has no memorable policy proposals, no distinctive ideological position, nothing but himself and his resume.

He wants to be remembered as the guy with the funny lines rather than a racial provocateur who smeared an innocent man during the Tawana Brawley hoax and built his New York notoriety on race hatred. "We will not stand by and allow them to move this brother so that some white interloper can expand his business," Sharpton said in a 1995 Harlem controversy over a Jewish store owner who had a conflict with a black rival neighbor. A protester

Rich Lowry

in that case eventually shot his way through the store and burned the place down, killing eight people.

The other Sharpton priority is supplanting Jesse Jackson. Sharpton threw his sharpest elbow of the campaign after it was reported that Jesse Jackson's son, Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr., planned to endorse Howard Dean. Sharpton promptly, and ridiculously, denounced Dean for his "anti-black agenda." Why does Sharpton hate Jackson? The same reason Ford hates Chrysler. He's the competition.

Sharpton and Jackson are dueling over who will be the nation's best-paid race hustler, a lucrative occupation.

The cynicism of the Sharpton campaign is an open book. Typically, presidential candidates stay in cheap accommodations. Sharpton's campaign, in contrast, is an excuse to live high. According to the New York Post, Sharpton has stayed at the nation's swankest hotels, including a visit at the Four Seasons in Los Angeles, which soaked up 5 percent of the cash Sharpton had raised in the third-quarter fund-raising period.

Sharpton will no doubt win his own private presidential race. He will emerge from this campaign as the nation's foremost "civil rights leader." Owned by Sharpton, however, that title is not worth having.

Rich Lowry is the author of the recently released book "Legacy: Paying the Price for the Clinton Years."

No "Ho-Ho-Ho" this year!

"T'ain't The Season To Be Jolly" thanks to some very bad ideas and legislation

Sadly, our elected officials both in Washington and Austin, haven't yet discovered a way to work together as non-partisan leaders and lawmakers, even when the best interests of the State and Nation are at stake. Proof of this is the ever widening chasm between Republicans and Democrats, highlighted in the polarizing legislation passed this year, starting with the State's redistricting fiasco on the one hand and the disastrous cutbacks in service and education on the other.

And, looking back over just the past few months, we find examples of Federal legislation that will also mark 2003 as being dismally unsuccessful, from the standpoint of producing laws that should benefit all (not just some) of our citizens.

Prime cases on point, are the Medicare Reform Law and the tax-squandering Omnibus spending bill - both noted below. We will save the massive Energy bill until a later column, but it too paints a perfect picture of lousy partisan lawmaking that brooks no interference from the opposition.

What should truly break our hearts is having the majority party create harmful legislation and then proceed to pontificate nationwide about how those in power are compassionate; helps everyone; and leaves no one behind (especially the lobby-gang).

BIG BAD SPENDING BILL

The 2004-5 Federal Omnibus Bill (beware the word "Omnibus" which translated always refers to wild spending for reelection purposes) that passed the House and awaits approval by the Senate whenever those folks decide to return from their extended holiday vacations (who else takes off before Thanksgiving and stays away until after New Year's Day?).

Actually, many would prefer these worthies work only one week a year based on the premise that the fewer days on the job, the fewer problems created for the rest of us!

Anyway - the spending bill has a total of 9000 pet projects otherwise known as "pork," with at least one such giveaway for every congressional district in the entire USA! Total for this "largess" is \$23 billion from the \$328 billion "Omnibus" section of the overall \$786 billion spending plan (a measly 2.9 percent, scoff our guardians of the nation's tax dollars).

Some of these projects are unbelievable. Take the one we like best - a half million to study the DNA of the trout. That's right - trout as in fish!!

Our very own District 11 received \$6.9 million in funds for roadways, water projects and education plus \$31 million in impact aid dollars for the Killeen and Copperas Cove schools.

MEDICARE REFORM NEEDS CORRECTING

We have had much to say about the Medicare Reform measure that was proudly signed into law last week by President Bush - despite its immediate need for corrective surgery.

Two glaring inadequacies have already surfaced: First - the very poorest of the poor in our country, who receive health-help through Medicaid, will be knocked out of the prescription drug plan if they have as much as a \$6000 burial policy or own anything (cumulatively) worth more than the six grand hurdle.

Secondly: The disgraceful prohibition, authored by the pharmaceutical houses, that forbids Medicare from bargaining with the drug moguls to get the price of their products down to a decent level for the nation's elderly.

Off the Record

by Ken Clapp



Holiday gifts from our lawmakers: Higher drug prices in 2006; A spending bill that checks DNA of trout; and the Perry-Gramm version of the "Dead Peasant" plan.

Congressman Chet Edwards (D-Waco) introduced HB 3672 on December 9 which would undo this inexplicable "bargaining" exclusion. We'll have to wait and see just how far this needed amendment will go - considering the clout drug barons have with most Republican lawmakers, and a few shabby Demos as well.

ANOTHER REALLY BAD IDEA FROM AUSTIN

Some legislative ideas are so bad that even when they are killed - they rise from the dead and haunt us with contrivances that are hair raising and in this case ghoulish, which is the proper designation for yet another "Dead Peasant" plan, similar to the one that caused a public uproar back in early May of this year.

You may recall Kenny Marchant (R-Carrollton) who dreamed up HB 3613 (with the help of an insurance pal) which would have given the State authority to purchase life insurance policies on a large number of retired teachers and state employees - without the retirees knowledge or permission and with minuscule benefits going to the State. Angry reaction forced Marchant to "pull down" his dopey plan.

However, like the all-but-impossible task of killing Dracula, the "stake" used to put Marchant's cockamamie idea to rest just didn't have enough public disgust or anger attached, to properly do the job.

Enter Phil Gramm who, like Dr. Frankenstein, has created another "Dead Peasant" monster and sold it to our hapless Governor Rick Perry. Good old Phil, now vice chairman of the UBS Investment Bank in New York (and still the darling of the insurance industry), came up with a plan to help replenish the fund deficit in the Teacher Retirement System.

Gramm's pitch would presumably have him (and his cronies) arrange loans to the State to purchase life insurance policies on retired teachers and when they die, apply whatever modest death benefits remain (after principal-interest is repaid plus handling fees, etc.) to the Retirement System's immediate \$700 million dollar shortfall and the \$5.2 billion overall gap that must be closed to meet the required payments to current and future annuitants.

Gramm and Perry hastened to avoid use of the "Dead Peasant" title and noted that teachers would be asked to volunteer to take part in this insurance scheme.

Best comment on this new "Dead Peasant" intrigue came from an Association of Texas Professional Educators' spokesman who remarked: "This is a joke, right?"

Only joke here is Perry, who in his usual perplexing manner is lending the Governor's Office prestige to this contrived money making idiocy suggested by Gramm.

That's -30-

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Ten Commandments will continue to stand on Texas Capitol grounds

By Greg Abbott
Texas Attorney General

The question of whether the Ten Commandments should be allowed on public property has for years been the subject of debate and litigation. At least six of the nation's 13 federal courts of appeal have now ruled on the issue and more than a dozen states have either dealt with the topic or are facing it now.

Last year, the debate came to Texas when a red granite Ten Commandments monument on the Capitol grounds was challenged as an unconstitutional establishment of religion. The plaintiff in this case, Thomas Van Orden, argued that the monument's continued display would cause him "irreparable injury" because of its placement along his regular walking path through the northwest quadrant of the grounds. He lost his case at the federal district court and he lost again at the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in November, when the judges agreed with the State of Texas that the decalogue should stay where it is.

"History matters here," wrote Judge Patrick Higginbotham in the 5th Circuit's ruling, noting that the Ten commandments monument stood for more than 40 years before anyone filed a legal complaint. But the fact that someone finally did indicates that time has faded the public's memory of why those stone tablets were first memorialized.

In 1961, the Fraternal Order of eagles donated the six-foot monument to the state as a way to combat juvenile delinquency and promote a personal code of conduct for youths, resulting in "liberty, peace and justice." The group gave similar monuments for the same reason to other states during the 1950s and 60s. In Texas, donation of monuments must be accepted by the Legislature before being placed on the Capitol grounds. Van Orden argued that by accepting such a gift, the state directly endorsed a religion favoring the Jewish and Christian faiths and thumbed its nose at all others. Though the legislative record is brief, it suggests that the lawmak-

ers accepted the Ten Commandments monument to commend the Eagles for their efforts in fighting juvenile delinquency -- a constitutionally secular reason in the court's eyes.

The Ten Commandments are undoubtedly a sacred religious text, but they are also a foundational document in the development of Western legal codes and culture. As such, they deserve a place on the Capital grounds among the other 16 statues and memorials to the people, ideals and events that have shaped Texas' history. The monument certainly isn't hidden from visitors to the Capitol, but neither is it a requisite stop along the way. The main entrance to the Capitol is on the south side; the Ten Commandments sit on the northwest side of the building.

The Establishment Clause of the First Amendment was never intended to remove religious expression from the public realm. As the court noted, "Such hostility toward religion is not only not required; it is proscribed."

Interestingly, the monument isn't the only one with a religious depiction or theme. For example, the seal of the Republic of Mexico, which hangs over both north and south entrances to the Capitol and is in the floor of the Rotunda, contains an eagle holding a serpent in its mouth, perched on a cactus which grows from a rock surrounding by water. A representation of Aztec mythology, this religious display is neither Jewish nor Christian, but is an acknowledgment of the historical and cultural contributions made by people of differing faiths.

Given the conflicting court rulings across the county on the question of the Ten Commandments, I would not be surprised if the U.S. Supreme Court eventually takes up the issue. It would be an appropriate setting for the debate, for the court's own chambers contain a frieze of Moses holding the Ten Commandments.

It remains to be seen whether the Texas ruling will be appealed to that level, but if it is, I will be there to again defend the monument's display.

Troops needed in Bell Co. to protect democracy

To the editor:

It looks like it is time to bring home our Troops. It is great that they are helping to establish a Democracy in Iraq, but we need them here at home to protect the Democracy here in bell county. We the People voted down the new

Your Voice

Readers Opinion

Jail. But the tribal chieftains also known as the Bell county commissioner, have decided that the voice of the people should be ignored. They are going

FORUM



Getting our money's worth

It's federal budget season. Do you know where your tax dollars are going?

Tracking them all down would be virtually impossible. But I can tell you where some \$1.5 billion go every year, according to economics professor Adam Lerrick of Carnegie Mellon University: The International Monetary Fund.

That may come as a surprise, since officials classify that spending as an "off-budget" expense. Plus, we're frequently told, as Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin said in 1998, that the IMF doesn't cost taxpayers "one dime." If only.

Even worse, we're not getting our money's worth from the international financial organizations we're funding so lavishly.

Consider this: More than 17,000 people work for the World Bank and its affiliated development banks. They've collected \$500 billion from member governments (much of that from the United States), and they loan \$50 per year to developing nations.

But the bulk of the money is wasted. By the Bank's own admission, only about 25 percent of its programs achieve satisfactory, sustainable results. (Even that number is probably inflated.)

Steve Kirkham

Heritage Forum

Edwin Feulner

Its sister organization the IMF does little better. It's become a financial paramedic, launching economic rescue missions for struggling countries. However, too often these bailouts bring no reform, and end up serving as large long-term loans to developing countries at low short-term interest rates.

The need for change has been apparent for years. In 1998, I served with a number of world-renowned economists on the congressionally-mandated Meltzer commission. We studied international financial institutions, then recommended a series of reforms. Among them, we called for:

- The IMF to become the lender of last resort. It should charge higher-than-market interest rates, which would force countries to try private financial markets before turning, hat in hand, to the IMF. We should also require countries that get IMF loans to put up collateral.

- The World Bank to direct its loans to the poorest countries. Many nations can't afford to borrow money on the open market, but right now 70 percent of World Bank loans go to 11 countries that enjoy easy access to the capital markets.

- Both institutions to eliminate overlap in their services, and conduct audits to make sure they were funding only programs that actually work. That would help us phase

out ineffective programs and trim waste.

Five years on, these reforms haven't happened, largely because U.S. policy-makers haven't insisted on them. It's high time we did.

Rep. James Saxton (R-N.J.) has another good idea. He's introduced legislation that would include our hidden subsidies to the IMF in the budget process, so lawmakers could debate whether they want to continue these subsidies. This is also a sensible step because Congress shouldn't be spending our money without at least telling us what it's being spent on. Greater transparency in the budget process is always a good thing.

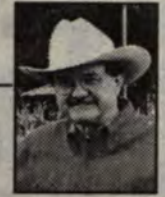
Bureaucracy won't change itself. Neither will corporate culture. However, if the people paying the bills insist on reform, it will happen.

We need to shine some sunlight on the World Bank and IMF. They should implement all the recommendations of the Meltzer Commission, or else explain to Congress why they haven't.

The World bank's motto says, "Our dream is a world without poverty." But it won't happen unless we reform the way the international financial organizations operate. We can wipe out poverty. Let's get started.

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

Our corrupt corporate system



Jim Hightower

I hate to distract you from the media's 24/7 saturation coverage of the latest Michael Jackson saga, but have you noticed that the corporate crime spree - bilking us of billions of dollars - continues to roar like an out-of-control wildfire, devouring industry after industry?

It seems like only yesterday that Wall Street, Washington, and the media were insisting that the flaming collapse of Enron, Arthur Anderson, WorldCom and those other high-profile "bad boys" was nothing but an extraordinary exception to "the norm" of corporate America's high ethical standards. But, as Ralph Waldo Emerson said of a dinner guest, "The louder he talked of his honor, the faster we counted our spoons."

Today, the media barons bury the stories of corporate finagling, but hardly a week goes by without another major corporation or entire industry being caught in a widespread flare-up of corruption, self-dealing, fraud, or other thievery - ripping-off small investors, looting pension funds, scamming taxpayers, and generally taking care of Number One.

Take a recent two-day period, for example, in which three wildfires of corruption burst out. Lord Conrad Black, a right-wing British press baron who controls the *Chicago Sun-Times* and other media holdings, was found to be illegally siphoning millions of corporate dollars into his own pockets.

Coincidentally, Lord Black's accounting firm, KPMG, also was squirming at this same time in front of a U. S. Senate committee, for it has been caught reaping millions in fees for sleazy tax shelters it designed to help its rich clients escape paying their taxes. Then, on the same day, an undercover FBI sting found that some of Wall Street's biggest banks, including J. P. Morgan, have been rigging currency trades and pocketing kickbacks while bilking small investors.

It's time to admit that the corrupt "exceptions" have become the corporate norm, and that nothing will change without fundamental reforms in the entire corporate system.

Texans talk foreign affairs

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Capitol Comment



**Kay Bailey Hutchison
U.S. Senator**



Each year I ask Texans to gather around my "listening post" and give me their opinions. Hearing from you enables me to learn firsthand what's affecting you and your families throughout our great state. Not surprisingly, I hear from a great number of you on issues ranging from homeland security to tax relief. This year, our survey hit the information superhighway and was for the first time available online. An overwhelming number of you responded to the survey via e-mail, and this is the first of several Capitol Comments devoted to your answers.

The topic of foreign affairs garnered a host of strong opinions. Many of you feel very passionately about our place in the world, and I received a huge response to the following question: "Civil unrest is plaguing many regions of our world. Often, the United States is called upon to help restore peace and meet the humanitarian needs of civilian populations. But our involvement in regional conflicts comes at a high price, both in dollars and by putting our uniformed men and women in harm's way. As our troops are stretched thinner and thinner, how do you think we should respond?"

A whopping 90 percent of you felt we should eliminate any involvement where no clear U.S. security interest is at stake. On the question of work-

ing through NATO or the United Nations to deal with regional conflicts, Texans had a variety of opinions. Below is a sampling of your thoughtful contributions:

· We are spreading ourselves too thin. It is important to protect ourselves from terrorists, but not get involved in areas where the U.N. and NATO can manage. Jane, Boerne

· Stop sending troops and giving money to countries that do not support free and open democracy. Stop giving money to countries that take our money and vilify us for being Americans. Anna, Fort Worth

· I definitely do not want our troops under the direction of NATO or the U.N. Shannon, Friendswood

· Get the U.N. out of the U.S. and the U.S. out of the U.N. James, San Antonio

· We need to increase the size of the U.S. military. Natalie, Whitehouse

· The U.N. has been successful. It is wrong to downgrade their accomplishments. Don, Sugarland

· We can't do anything right in the eyes of the world so we must do what we feel is right for America. If that is helping to secure another nation's peace and freedom from tyrannical dictators or

seeing that human rights violations do not occur in any nation then we must ... Chelsea, Austin

· I feel the rest of the world needs to step up to the plate and take more responsibility. Johnny, Odessa

· Every nation needs to fulfill their responsibilities to the extent of their resources. We have been mightily blessed. To whom much is given much is required. Gladys, Conroe

· For Heaven's sake let's get out of the nation-building business. Richard, Pennington

I share the opinion that our involvement with NATO and the United Nations must be continually reviewed. Fifty-four years ago, the United States pledged to protect Europe from the Warsaw Pact. Clearly, our commitment played a vital role in NATO's victory in the Cold War. Now is the time to ask: What is the mission of NATO today? Is NATO going to protect the future or defend the past? For NATO to remain relevant, we must agree on the fundamental mission that common threats to our security outside of NATO member countries must be addressed together. Our alliance should recognize that terrorism and the proliferation of weapons

of mass destruction have replaced the threat of Soviet imperialism. NATO has always been unified around a common purpose, but if it becomes nothing more than a patchwork quilt, we will be wasting our money and endangering our own national security by continuing to pay its bills and diverting our attention.

I also agree we must not stretch our troops too thin, but unfortunately, that is what's currently happening. They are doing a magnificent job in Iraq and around the world, but we simply don't have enough of them. It takes boots on the ground to win. Unfortunately, we are pushing them to a breaking point, taxing their readiness and putting undue strain on service members (both active duty and reserves), their families and their communities. I continue to make that point to officials at the Department of Defense and will keep asking the tough questions about military readiness and the size of our Armed Forces.

With nearly 22 million people in our great state, our ideas are as bold and diverse as our heritage. Thank you for taking the time to send in your thoughts on these pressing issues and providing me with a snapshot of Texan's opinions. Look for future columns devoted to your comments on homeland security, tax relief, education and much more.

Ordinance No. 2003.17
Village of Salado - December 11, 2003

WEAPONS ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF SALADO, TEXAS, PROHIBITING AND/OR RESTRICTING THE DISCHARGE OF CERTAIN WEAPONS, INCLUDING FIREARMS, EXPLOSIVE WEAPONS, ZIP GUNS, WITHIN THE VILLAGE LIMITS

- WHEREAS,** the Board of Aldermen finds that the discharge of air guns, guns, firearms, explosive weapons, zip guns, and similar devices within the Village can result in bodily injury, death, and property damage; and
- WHEREAS,** the Board of Aldermen finds that the discharge of air guns, guns, firearms, explosive weapons, zip guns, and similar devices constitutes a public nuisance that poses a significant and immediate threat to the health, safety, and welfare of Village citizens and their property; and
- WHEREAS,** the Board of Aldermen's authority to restrict the possession of weapons in municipal buildings housing municipal court is expressly recognized by Texas Penal Code section 46.03.

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Board of Aldermen of the Village of Salado, County of Bell, State of Texas:

2. PURPOSE

This Ordinance is adopted so that the Board of Aldermen may promote the public health, safety, morals and general welfare within the Village through the regulation of the discharge of air guns, guns, firearms, explosive weapons, and similar devices. By prohibiting the discharge of guns, firearms, explosive weapons, zip guns, and by restricting the discharge of air guns, the Board of Aldermen seeks to prevent bodily injury, death, and property damage within the Village limits.

4. DISCHARGE OF CERTAIN WEAPONS

- A** It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge, fire, or shoot any firearm, explosive weapon or zip gun of any description within the Village limits.
- B** It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge, fire, or shoot any firearm, explosive weapon or zip gun, of any description in any public place, on or across any public right-of-way, or across any property line within the Village limits.

5. EXCEPTIONS

Section 4 of this Ordinance shall not apply to:

- A** licensed peace officers, as that term is defined by Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, article 2.12(3), provided that such discharges are made in the course and scope of the peace officers' official duties;
- B** the use of blank cartridges for a theatrical production, military ceremony, or sporting event that is either sponsored by an educational institution or issued a permit by the Village;
- C** self defense or the defense of a third person, as provided by Texas Penal Code sections 9.31, 9.32, and 9.33;
- D** duly designated animal control officers destroying sick, injured, or predatory animals on public or private property when the injuries are deemed by the officer to be fatal or near fatal.

Passed and adopted at a regularly scheduled Board of Aldermen meeting, December 11, 2003. Copies of the entire Weapons/Firearms Ordinance are available at the Village office or you may view the ordinance on the website, www.villageofsalado.org.



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The human touch: We can all do something to have impact on lives of children around us

My husband and I attended a Christmas party the other evening and he was meditative throughout the evening. He finally told me that he had filled a tooth on a 15 year old child that day. This 15 year old came to his office with her own mother, an older brother, and two infants. One infant was her step-sister and the other infant was her own.

As the 15 year old was leaving the appointment, my husband heard the two infants plaintively wailing in the waiting car outside of his office. He said it

Supt's Corner

By Dr. Robin Battershell

was the cry that infants make when they want to be picked up and held. As the crying continued, the mother/grandmother yelled, "Shut up" at the infants as the car squealed out of the parking lot. He sadly noted that it made him feel sick to think of what these two infants' lives were going to be like.

Research has shown that

an infant, be it a chimpanzee or human, will choose touch over food, even if starved. What a simple thing to provide a child, the comfort and nourishment of the human touch.

As I look at nativity seasons during this Christmas season, I look anew at the look on Mary's face as she holds her sleeping child. As we celebrate this Christmas season, may we

all take the time to touch the life of a child. Please volunteer in your churches and schools.

This is a reminder that Salado I.S.D. is asking anyone who is interested in either donating 35-50 acres or in negotiating for fair market value with the School Board to please call me at (254) 947-5479, Ext. 7000.

Questions may be addressed to Dr. Battershell at P.O. B ox 98, Salado, TX 76571 or rbattershell@saladoisd.org, or 947-5479, ext. 7000.

FROM PAGE 1A

Jail

county will lose much of its \$1 million lease with the Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG).

Commissioner Tim Brown told *Salado Village Voice* that CTCOG may find another site for its offices since it will not be able to expand at the Second Street facility.

According to Brown, CTCOG paid Bell county \$1 million to eventually

take over the facility at Second Street. The facility would be leased at 50 cents per square foot coming from the \$1 million, depending upon the amount of space CTCOG takes.

"The more they expand, the more the lease payment would be," Brown said.

Judge Burrows said that the new proposal would have a lesser impact on

local tax rates than the initial \$61 million bond. He said that the impact would be approximately 1 cent per \$100 evaluation. By extending the period of the bonds and rescheduling pay-offs of existing bonds, the county will be able to pay off the \$46 million with a 1 cent increase of the tax rate. When the court proposed the \$61 million bond, the impact

on the tax rate was estimated at 2.5 cents.

This impact does not include increases in maintenance and operations costs.

If approved for May 15, the bond election will coincide with several other local races, including local school board elections, city council elections and a wet-dry referendum in Killeen.

Judge Burrows said that in Killeen concurrent elections could be held in the same polling places for the bond proposal and the white-dry referendum, but Temple and Belton elections for school board and city council could not be held concurrently because of differences in precinct lines.

Charging announces for Constable

Lloyd Charging announced his candidacy for Bell County Constable, Precinct 1, running in the Republican primary.

Charging is a TCLEOSE-certified Peace Officer with special investigation skills and a Department of Public Safety handgun instructor. Charging received his certificate of completion in law enforcement training from Rio/Salado College. He has Justice Court training from Southwest Texas State University, constable and civil process training promulgated by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals

and was commissioned as a Constable, Precinct 1 by Gov. George W. Bush.

Charging ran the Constable's office after being elected in 1996 through 2000.

He is a former associate member of the DPS, Chief of Police, Constable and Justice of the Peace Association, as well as the Association of Sheriffs.

Charging says that he offers "the qualifications, management skills, wisdom and ability to run the office as I did in the past."

Some of the duties of the Constable's offices

include: serving and executing civil process papers, arrest warrants, constable seizures and sales, writ of possessions, forcible entry detainers, protection orders, child custody orders and papers from the Attorney General's Office on Child Support.

If elected, Charging says he will be "a full-time constable with an open door policy, a Neighborhood Watch and a 24-hour-a-day phone number. I will treat everyone with dignity and respect and ask for your vote on March 9."

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Royal Street Provision Salado Mansion
Sherry (Bonnett) Sewell • Uncommon Grounds
Cafe • Steve & Mary Catherine Ervin
Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary
Cindy Dale & Art Club 4-H Club and all those who made and purchased bowls.

Empty Bowl Project



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CHURCH NEWS

First Baptist Church • Main St. at the Creek

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

www.fbcsalado.org
(254) 947-5465

Grace Baptist Church

John Warden Pastor

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

Worship Schedule

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



Presbyterian Church of Salado

THIS SUNDAY:
"Jesus as God"
Colossians 1:15-23

Greg Davidson
Pastor

10 a.m. Sunday Worship
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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

Thomas Arnold Road and Church St.

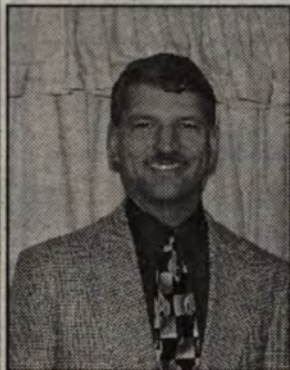
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The Salado Church of Christ

welcomes you to our services this week

Sunday Morning Service • Dec. 21, 2003



Joe Keyes
Minister

In Galatians 4, the apostle Paul talks about how God has always acted in the "fullness of time." God has always demonstrated his perfect timing of sending us exactly what we need at exactly the right time. It was no different in the timing of bringing his Son Jesus to earth. Join us as we talk about God's greatest gift which was "On Time and On Target."

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

IH-35 at Blacksmith Rd.
947-5241

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

Christmas concert to be held at the First Baptist Church of Salado

The Music Ministry of the First Baptist Church in Salado, under the direction of Minister of Music Randy Carder has announced their annual Worship Choir and Orchestra Christmas Concert on 7 p.m. Dec. 19 in the Worship Center of the church at 210 S. Main Street in Salado.

Selections for this years Christmas concert are: *It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year* arr. Clydesdale, *I'll Be Home for Christmas* arr. Lojeski, *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* arr. Mauldin, *Christmas-*

time arr. Rhodes, *Christmas Lullaby* arr. Greer, *Do You Hear What I Hear* arr. Simeone, *The Night That Christ Was Born* arr. Kingsmore, *Mary Did You Know* arr. Greer, *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day* Waltham, and *How Great Our Joy* Jungst. Along with these special numbers will be congregational singing of familiar Christmas carols.

The Worship Choir members are Cheryl Kyle, Ruth Burleson, Barbara Hill, Jean Brunson, Nell Anderson, Mary Priest,

Carol Strong, Ferral Quiroz, Melinda Dunna-hoo, Carolyn Townsend, June Willingham, Virginia Guess, Pam Carder, Kathleen Deal, Cathy Sands, Becky Conner, Linda Cawthon, Margie Hower-ton, Ruth Bartlett, Charlene Carson, Belia Rodriguez, Bonnie Kulp, Hugh Delle Broadway, Susan Mohon, Jacque Ekhoft, Suzanne Burton, Edd Burleson, Jim Ashworth, Bill Graves, Hillary Goodrum, Ben Willingham, Curt Strong, Larry Sands, Dean Ekhoft, Jim Mohon, Curt Smith,

Ralph Morris, Bob Price, Bill Bartlett, Maurice Carson and Dean Cockrell.

The Worship Orchestra members are: Piano: Judy Bruton; Keyboards: David Kaulfus; Tuba: Clayton Capps; Clarinet: Jessica Roberts and Stephanie Kinsey; Flute: Barbara Dvoracek and Melody Richardson; Alto Saxophone: Tim Roberts; Cello: Ben Carder; Violin: Dominique Duprez; Tenor Saxophone: Tim Hazzard.

"Featured at our annual concert this year will be our vocal ensembles. Crossed Timbers is our mixed quartet, Joyful Hearts is our ladies ensemble and Ceaseless Praise is our ladies trio. The climax of the Christmas Concert will be the congregational singing of Handel's Hallelujah Chorus," says Minister of Music Randy Carder.

"This is a free concert and everyone in the Central Texas area is invited to come and experience our annual Christmas celebration."

For information, call the church at 947-5465.

*Wishing you and your family a
Happy Holiday Season*

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Sunday

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& 11 a.m.

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Services for Ray passes away at age 74 in Salado held Dec. 13

Funeral services for Jacquelyne Hammond Goodnight, 76, of Salado were held Dec. 13 at the Lifeway Fellowship Church of Killeen. The Rev. Jimmy Towers officiated. A private family burial was held at the Goodnight Family Cemetery, Goodnight Ranch.

She died Dec. 10, 2003 following a short illness.

She was born in Dallas in December 1926. She was the daughter of the late W.T. (Jack) Hammond and Myra Herndon Hammond. She attended primary and middle school in Belton and graduated from Austin High School. She had attended the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton. She was married to Werner Schlueter of Stone-wall in 1944. The had lived in Austin until his death in 1947. She then moved to Bell County to be near her family and met and married W. Gene Goodnight in 1949. He preceded her in death in December of 2000.

She was Co-Founder of Goodnight Homes, Inc. of Killeen, established in 1964 and was a rancher and homemaker. She and her husband were breeders of purebred Charolais cattle since 1954 on their ranch on Stillhouse Lake in Salado.

She had served as secretary and treasurer for more than 30 years of the Cedar Knob Cemetery Association, served as Director of Bell County MHMR Board from 1977-1988. She was a founding member of the Central Christian Church of Killeen. She was active in the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Sam Houston Chapter and had served as an officer.

She was a descendant of pioneer families of Dallas. Her grandfather, Herndon was the developer of the first resident subdivision in Dallas proper. The granite used to build the State Capitol in Austin came off of her great-grandmother's Ligion's farm in Llano County.

She is survived by two sons, Ronald Gene Goodnight and wife, Nancy of Salado, and Stanley David Schlueter and wife, Randy of Austin. She is also survived by seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to the Lifeway Fellowship Church of Killeen, Cedar Knob Baptist Church, or to Cal Farley's Boys Ranch of Amarillo.

The Heritage Funeral Home of Harker Heights was in charge of arrangements.

Nettie Faye Ray, 74, of Salado died Dec. 11, 2003 in Salado.

Funeral services were held Dec. 13 with burial in Killeen City Cemetery. Rev. Jimmy Towers officiated.

She was born on Sept. 19, 1929 in Killeen to W.H. Bacon Sr. and Eula (Stafford) Bacon. She married Jack Barton Ray on April 14, 1949 in Killeen. She owned and operated of The Strawberry Patch in Killeen until she relocated the store to Salado in 1991. After 24 years in business, she retired.

Von Gonten Sallee accepts membership in Honor Society

Deanna Von Gonten Sallee of College, a 2000 Salado High School graduate, has accepted membership in Golden Key International Honor Society and was individually honored during a recent campus ceremony.

This Society was founded more than 25 years ago in Atlanta, GA and provides academic recognition to college juniors and seniors in the top 15 percent of their class. The mission of the

death by her parents.

She is survived by her husband, Jack B. Ray of Killeen; son, Jim Bill Ray and wife, Michelle of Waxahachie; daughter, Missy Berry and husband, Brent of Round Rock; brothers, W.H. Bacon, Jr. and wife, Barbara of Killeen, and Gerald Knight and wife, Catherine of Austin; and four grandchildren.

Memorials can be made to the American Cancer Society Memorials (Breast Cancer Research), Corbell Unit, P.O. Box 11475, Killeen, TX 76547-1475 or calling 800-2ACS (2345).

Monday Club to meet Jan. 5

The Monday Club will meet 2 p.m. Jan. 5 at the Salado United Methodist Church. This will be the first meeting of the new year.

Janet Crews and Kay

Coulter of Lovebound Ministries of Temple will present the program, "The Gift of Encouragement."

All ladies of the community are invited to attend.

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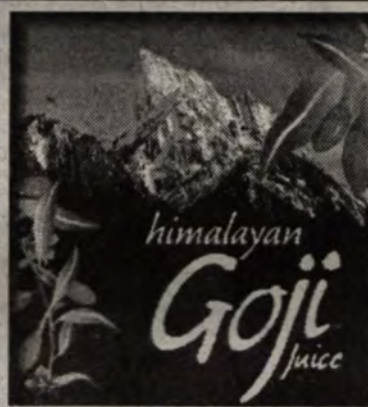


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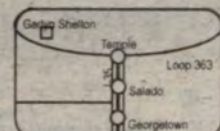


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Wayne and Rome Smith, of White Oak, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Elizabeth Smith, of White Oak, to James Weston Deaton, of Salado. He is the son of John and Becky Connor, of Belton, and Ken and Linda Deaton, of Salado. The couple plans a May 29, 2004 wedding at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Longview.

Bush to graduate Temple College

A total of 79 students have completed requirements for December graduation from Temple College and will receive either the associate of arts or associate of applied science degree or a certificate of completion. No formal graduation ceremony was held, but the graduates will be invited to participate in the May commencement program. Mary Bush, of Salado, is among the students to complete graduation requirements.

Santa Claus comes to Salado Public Library Dec. 22

Santa Claus is coming to the Salado Public Library, 11 am. Dec. 22. You are invited to the regular storytime plus a photo opportunity with Santa. Also check out new holiday videos such as "Frosty the Snowman," "The Snowy Day" or Tim Allen's "Santa Clause," or the ever-favorite "A Christmas Story." New Christmas books that have arrived recently include **Welcome Comfort** and **One Enchanted Christmas**. The Library is located at 1151 N. Main St.

In the rush of events, we tend to overlook the important friendships that are the true basis of business relationships. One of the great pleasures of the Holiday Season is the opportunity to exchange greetings with those whose friendship and goodwill are valued so highly. In this spirit it is a pleasure to say "Thank You" and extend sincere appreciation for the very pleasant association enjoyed with you. May a bright and prosperous New Year bring happiness to you and to yours.

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SPORTS

Like butta': Varsity boys on roll after title in hometown tourney

The Varsity Eagles kicked off a successful week of basketball, culminating with their winning the hometown Coach Smith Tournament. Prior to the tourney, the boys defeated the Class AAA Troy Trojans 64-45 Dec. 9.

Playing on the road, Salado led by only six points after two periods, but Travis Clark's 13 second half points helped Salado to pull away with the 19 point win. Clark finished with a game-high 18 points.

Devon Dunn closed out the game with 15 points, while Matt Caskey dropped in 11. Josh Wright drained a pair of three pointers in the first, finishing with six points. Also scoring were Matt Jennings, five; Joseph Shumate, four; Ben Marsh, three; and Kris Stineman two.

For the game, Salado shot nine of 12 from the free throw line.

Coach Smith Tournament
Salado 59
Rosebud-Lott 49

In the opening round of the Coach Smith Tournament, Coach Tom Long's team tipped-off against a talented Cougar squad, but, talent aside, Rosebud had no answer for Salado's swarming defense or the hot hand of point guard Matt Caskey, who poured in 25 points in the game, including 11 of 16 from the charity stripe.

The win wasn't sewn up until the fourth period, when Salado took a 39-31 lead and expanded that to the contest's 59-49 final.

In addition to Caskey, Dunn contributed 10 points, while Wright had six and played aggressive defense all game. Marsh and Jennings also had six points each, while Clark had four and Nick Everett had two.



Salado post Ben Marsh takes it to the hole in Salado's win over Rosebud-Lott. (PHOTO BY CHRIS MCGREGOR)

Salado 45
Troy 43

Playing Troy for the second time in four days, the Eagles came back from nine points down with four minutes to play to steal a win from the hard-luck Trojans.

Salado was held in check offensively the majority of the game, scoring only six points in the first and 19 for the half.

A four-point third period

put Salado down 27-23 entering the fourth, but two three pointers from Clark, one from Caskey, and a team total of nine for 10 free throw shooting in the fourth allowed Salado to secure the win and stay clear of the losers bracket.

Caskey was the high man again for Salado, finishing with a game high 13 points. Dunn and Clark had 10 points each, while Wright had seven. Marsh

and Jennings each scored two points, and Everett had one.

Salado 58
Liberty Hill 43

Tradition rich in basketball, Class AAA Liberty Hill saw the Eagles open the game with an in-bounds alley-oop, two-fisted dunk from Clark to Dunn, which set the stage for an upset of the Panthers in the title game of the Coach Smith Tournament.

"This championship game was the best defense we have ever played as a team," said Long, whose team now boasts an 11-2 record, only six wins shy of last year's season win total.

As evidence of that, the Eagle defense held Liberty Hill's star player to only four baskets.

Caskey closed out the tournament with another big game offensively. The diminutive guard pumped in 18 points, while Clark contributed 15 points.

Jennings totalled nine, Dunn had eight and Wright had three points.

Caskey was named tournament MVP, and Clark and Dunn were placed on the all-tournament team.

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Eagles named to first team 25 AA all-district football squad

Thirteen Salado Eagles were named to the 25AA All-District Team, released this week following Rogers' ouster from the State play-offs.

Salado Eagles, which went 5-5 and 2-4 in football, put six players on the First Team and seven players on the Second team.

Named to the First Team Offense were Chase Simpson, wide receiver, and Ben Marsh, offensive line.

Named to the First Team Defense were Simpson, cornerback; Matt Brown, safety; Cale Cox, defensive end, and Tyler Rooney, defensive tackle.

Simpson was also named First Team Punter on the All-District Squad.

Second Team players from Salado were these:

Wes Ruth, wide receiver; Cal Cox, offensive line; Shane Pipes, linebacker; Robert Lott, linebacker, Bill Tubbs, defensive end; Evan Smith, defensive tackle; Simpson, kicker.

Receiving Honorable Mention were Scott Bates, quarterback; Jacob Williams, offensive line and Kris Stineman, tight end.

Jordan Peterson, of Lexington, was named District MVP. Chris Williams, Rogers, was named Off-

sive MVP and Aaron Fuller, Jarrell, was Defensive MVP. Newcomers of the Year were Kyle Loyd, Jarrell, and Tyler Cook, Lexington. John Stillwell of Rogers, was named Coach of the Year. Michael Gutierrez, Florence, was named Special Teams Player of the Year.

The following were named to the First Team Offense:

Julius Watts, Rogers, quarterback; Shane Wigginton, Jarrell, Kordero Harris, Somerville, tailbacks; Stephen Crane, Jarrell, fullback; Aaron Fuller, tight end, Billy Rhea, center.

First team wide receivers were John Frank, Jarrell, E.J. Hawkins, Lexington; Chase Simpson, Salado; Jason Idlebird, Somerville, Brett Menifee, Academy.

First team offensive line: Matt mertink, Jarrell, Peter Olvera, Lexington, John Robbins, Florence, Ben Marsh, Saldao, Dustin Slye, Rogers, Brent Bennent, Academy.

First Team Defense were these: Eric Clemens, Florence, Matt Brown, Salado, Jeremy Idlebird, Somerville and Julius Watts, Rogers, safeties;

John Frank, Jarrell, Chase Simpson, Salado, and Chris Williams, Rogers, cornerbacks.

First Team Linebackers: Josh Hullum, Jarrell; Brandon, Herner, Florence; Jared Lanig, Academy; Jacob Bane, Rogers; Andrew Brenek, Rogers and Colt Kubica, Lexington.

First Team Defensive Ends: Zach Nemece, Jarrell; A.C. Wolridge, Lexington; Rodney Martin, Florence; Cale Cox, Salado; Ramon Piedra, Rogers.

First Team Defensive Tackles: Matt Mertink, Jarrell; Peter Olvera, Lexington; Tyler Rooney, Salado; Kelly Stewart, Academy and Justin Kacir, Rogers.

First Team Punter Chase Simpson and First Team Kicker Josh Pur-sche.

Second Team Offense Quarterback C.J. Evans, Academy; John Robbins, Jarrell, Phillip Brown, Lexington; Tailbacks; David Davis, Somerville, Fullback; Colt Kubica, Lexington, Tight End.

Wide receivers were Derelle Mullin, Lexington; Brandon Briner, Florence; Wesley Ruth, Salado, Jeremy Idlebird, Som-

ville. Offensive linemen were Josh Aduddell, Lexington and Brent Harper, Rogers, center; joined by Mando franco, Jarrell; Jerome Reynon, Academy; Malcolm Marshall, Rogers; Joe Howe, Florence; Cale Cox, Salado; Abel Lara, Lexington and Tyler Eblen, Somerville.

Second Team Defense Safety: Alex Vences, Jarrell; Jesse Brown, Lexington; chris Marek, Academy and Stephen Skala, Rogers.

Cornerback: Ryan Hoel-scher, Jarrell; E.J. Hawkins, Lexington; Vincent Kasa, Academy; Jason Idlebird, Somerville; Keith stone, Rogers.

Linebacker: Travis Malone, Florence; Shane Pipes, Slaado; Blake Discher, Somerville; Stephen Crane, Jarrell; Roebt Lott, Salado; Val Fischer, Rogers.

Defensive End: Chris Mitchell, Lexington; Der-tran Gentry, Somerville; Malcolm Marshall, roegrs; Jeff mertink, Jarrell; Bill Tubbs, Salado.

Defensive Tackles: Charles Rumsey, Lexington; Brent Bennett, acad-emy; Chris Tucker, Rogers; Evan Smith, Salado and John Robbins, Florence.

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JV, freshmen boys win in Troy

In what was a good week for Salado boys basketball, last week's basketball action resulted in not only a tourney title for the Varsity in the Coach Smith Tournament, but for the JV and Freshmen teams as well, as they won tournaments in Troy.

Salado JV 36
Hutto JV 39

Salado led by 10 entering the fourth, but scored only three points in the closing frame, while allowing 16 points to the Hippos.

Garrett Askins was the highlight for the Eagles, scoring 15 points. Also scoring were Brandon Peters, eight points; Justin Konzen, four points; Ryan Clark, three points; and Lucas Martin, two.

Salado JV 31

Troy JV 22

Spreading the offense around, nine separate Eagles got on the board against the Trojans, led by Barrett Brashier and Askins, who each had six points. A 16-2 lead after one period set the tone for the game, as strong defense propelled Salado to the win.

Clark and Slayt Ebling both had four points, while Justin Konzen dropped in three. Curtis Converse, Justin Whitfield, James Gregurek and Brandon Peters all scored two points.

The JV Eagles have a record of seven wins, four losses.

Salado Freshmen 71
Troy Freshmen 19

In a game that can understatedly be called one-sided, the freshmen boys obliterated their Troy counterparts by 52 points Dec. 9.

Every Salado player on the roster, all 11, scored points on the game.

Blake Newman scored a game-high 13 points for the Eagles, closely followed by Ryan Clark's dozen points.

Justin Pruitt scored 10, Tanner Myers had eight, Clayton Sharum finished with seven and Stephen Quick had five points. Also scoring were Chad Tumey, four; John Cornelius, four; Josh Caldwell, four; Tanner Johnson, two; and Justin Konzen, two.

Salado Freshmen 50
Troy Freshmen 21

The Trojans played the Eagles a little closer the second time around, but still came up 29 points short when the final buzzer sounded.

Tumey scored 11 points in the first period on his way to a game-high 15. Pruitt scored 10, the only other Eagle in double-digits.

Quick scored seven points, while Myers dropped in six. Caldwell finished the game with five points.

Salado Freshmen 43
Franklin 19

Another victim of the Eagles' smoldering defense; the Lions from Franklin held Salado to 43, but scored only 19 themselves in the Dec. 13 contest.

Pacing the offense again was Tumey, with his 13 points. Newman finished the game with 12, while Myers and Quick each had

SEE BOYS BASKETBALL...

PAGE 12A

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So far this season, the Lady Eagles have had episodes of success, tempered with periods of struggle. Their game in Clifton Dec. 9 featured more of the latter, as Salado dropped the game by a score of 40-45, despite 16 points from Laramie Jackson.

Salado couldn't quite muster the consistency needed to pull ahead, as they scored only five points in the first period and eight points in the fourth. The Lady Eagles trailed by only two points entering the fourth but failed to find an offensive spark.

Ashley Peschel and Jenny Goode both had five points each. Amanda Tumey and Elizabeth Dunlap each scored four

points, while Lauren Hogwood and Brittany Boydston had three points apiece.

Salado 61
Cameron 34

Salado rebounded from the disappointing loss in Clifton with a convincing 26 point win over Class AAA Cameron in the first round of the Coach Smith tournament.

The Lady Eagles led out of the gates, taking a 15-11 first period lead and expanding that into a 37-15 halftime lead. Boydston's 11 first half points triggered the offense.

Salado dropped another 20 points on Cameron in the third, including nine from sophomore Elizabeth Dunlap. Coach Salisbury eased up in the fourth, with Peschel and Hilary Haynes scoring Salado's only points.

Goode scored eight points in the third period on her way to a game-high 14. Jo Washburn was the other Lady Eagle with double-digit points, finishing with 10 on the game.

Salado 65
Manor 44

With 20 points from Goode and 16 from Boydston, the Lady Eagles carried the momentum from their first round win into a 21 point victory over Manor.

Salado enjoyed a 21-12 lead after the first period, thanks in large part to Goode's 10 points in the early stages of the game.

Leading by 12, 46-34, entering the fourth, Salado spread the offense out to cruise to the game's 65-44 final.

In addition to the strong



Lauren Hogwood beats a Cameron defender off the dribble. (PHOTO BY CHRIS MCGREGOR)

efforts of Goode and Boydston, Dunlap and Jackson chipped in eight points apiece.

Also scoring were Peschel, four; Washburn, three; and Hogwood, Tumey and Brittani Goodnight, two points each.

Salado hit five three pointers as a team and shot 10-14 from the line.

Salado 46
Clifton 32

Round three of the Coach Smith tournament gave the Lady Eagles a chance to avenge the earlier loss to Clifton, an opportunity which Salado took advantage of.

Much like their first encounter, Clifton had trouble matching up with Laramie Jackson all game. Jackson led all scorers with 22 points from her post position.

With success on the inside, the Lady Eagles had little reason to go to the perimeter. Goode was held to four points, while Boyd-

ston had seven and Dunlap had eight. Rounding out the scoring was Jo Washburn, who finished with five.

Salado 34
Hamilton 53

Facing no real challenges in the tournament's first three contests, the Lady Eagles came up against a wall in the form of Hamilton and their star player Jennifer Christensen, losing the championship game by 19 points.

Salado trailed 15-6 after the first period, 32-15 at the half, and were unable to bridge the gap in the game's latter stages, as Christensen dropped in a game high 19 on Salado.

Jackson was the offensive highlight for the Lady Eagles, finishing with 10 points.

Goode and Washburn both scored seven points, Peschel had six and Boydston scored four points.

With the second place finish in the tournament, Salado's record improved to 8-5 for the season.

BOYS BASKETBALL...

FROM PAGE 11A

five points.
Salado Eighth A 22
Somerville 16

Blake Heller scored nine points and David Rosenau had eight to lead Salado to a win over the Yeguas.

Also scoring were Jonas Goode, two; Kevin Jackson, one; and Matt Fritsch, two.

Salado Seventh A 38
Somerville A 36

Salado survived a late rally by Somerville to win the game by two points. Bryce Dunks led the Eagles with 12 points. Garrett Ward scored 10, Thomas Baine had six, Barton Grigsby scored four, C.J. Little also had four and Matthew Ming score two points.

Salado Seventh B 10
Somerville B 12

In a game that only saw one half of play, Juan Magadan, Joseph Flores, Steven Reagan and Colby Christian each had two points in the loss.

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JV girls win tourney, sweep 4 games last week

The JV girls won all four of their games last week, including a first place title in the junior varsity portion of the Salado tournament.

Salado JV 31
Clifton JV 15

Preceding the tournament games, JV Lady Eagles dispatched Clifton by 16 points Dec. 9.

With 10 points for the game, Kate Marshall was the offensive sparkplug for Salado. Lacey Bartlett had nine and Nicole Weatherly scored eight.

Salado JV 37
Cameron JV 22

Like the Varsity, JV girls easily handled the bigger Cameron squad. In this contest, Kelsey Smith scored a game high 13 points, while Weatherly again came through with eight. Also scoring were Marshall, six; Bartlett, three; Chelsea Ervi, three; Kelsey Gobin, two; and Brandi Boydston, two.

Salado JV 39
Florence JV 15

Salado led by only three at the half, but held the Lady Buffaloes to three second half points while scoring 24 themselves.

Smith had 11 in this game, and for the third straight game Weatherly scored eight points. Marshall had seven and Bartlett finished with six.

Salado JV 39
Academy JV 18

For the third time in four games, the Lady Eagles held their opponent to under 20 points, this time dishing out the defense to Academy.

Marshall paced the offense with 13 points, followed by Weatherly's 12 and Smith's nine.

Salado Eighth A 45
Somerville Eighth 7

Eight different girls scored points in the rout over Somerville, led by Lauren Haire who scored

14. Tamra Stanish scored Culver and Karleigh Good-10, Brandi Lott had five, night each had four. Kam- Kristen Smith, Lauren ylle Palomino and Amanda Hoffman each had two points.

Hoffman each had two points.

"As scoring shows, everyone on this team plays a vital role and does their part to help the team," said Coach Erica Meyer.

Seventh grade girls basketball results were unavailable from coaches at press time.

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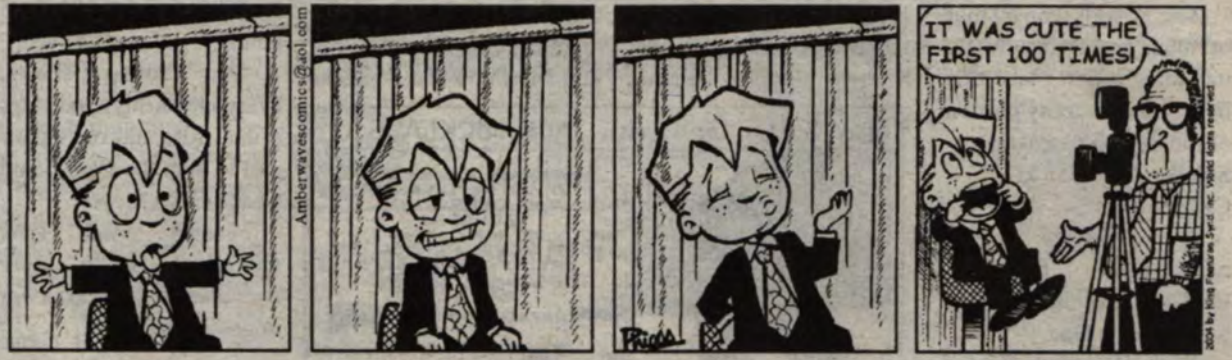
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 Dec. 19: Breakfast on a Stick, Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk
Lunch Menu
 Dec. 16: Chicken Fillet Sandwich, Peas, Mixed Fruit, Chocolate Chip Cookie, Chef Salad, Hoagie, Milk
 Dec. 17: Pizza, Corn, Breadstick, Peaches, Chef Salad, Hoagie, Milk
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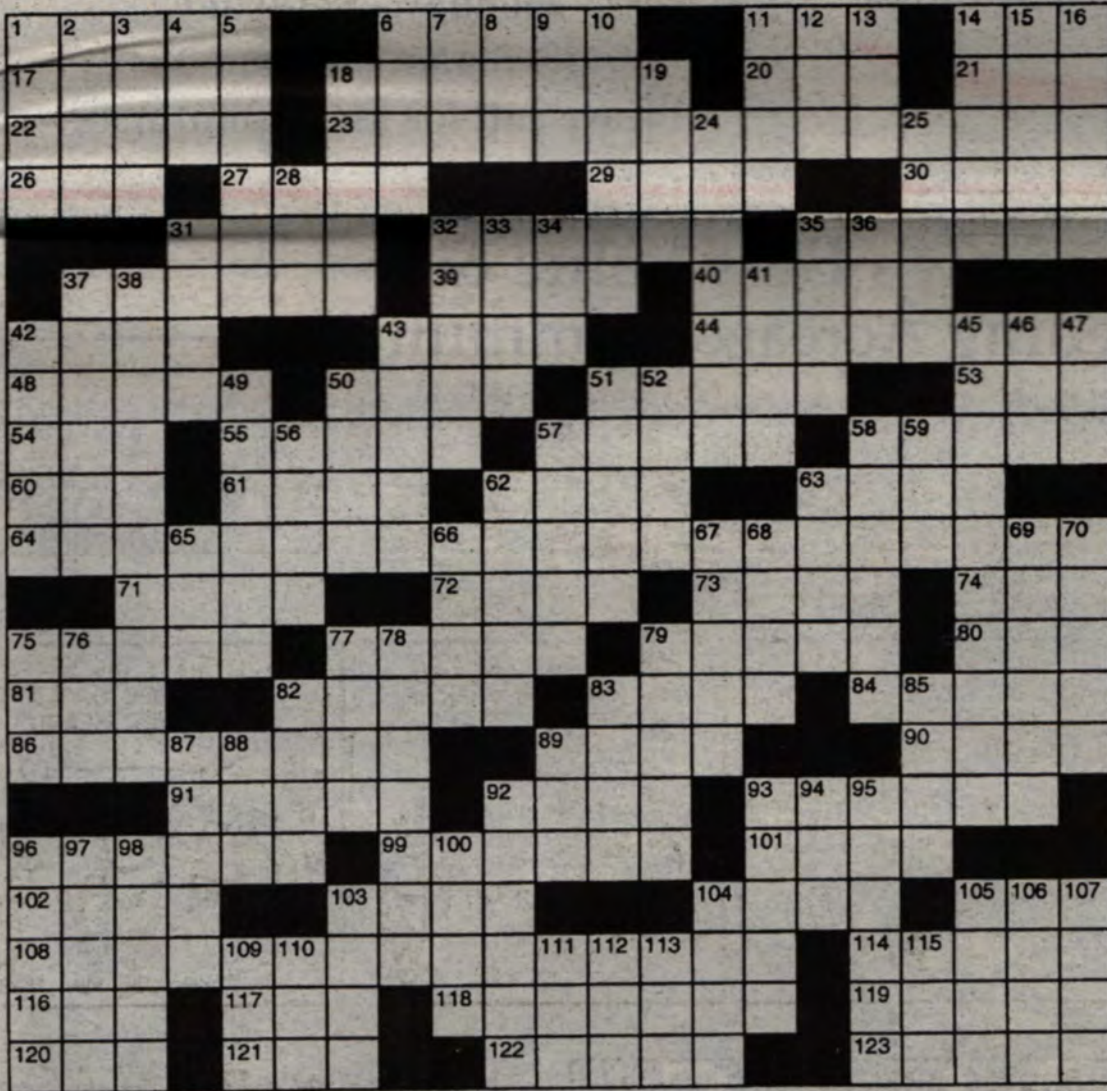
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 - 29 Spiral
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 - 32 Show off
 - 35 Move around
 - 37 Meager
 - 39 Clark's co-worker
 - 40 Stick one's neck out
 - 42 Sailor's shout
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 - 44 Unpre-tentious
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 - 50 Hint
 - 51 Heartbeat sound
 - 53 Presidential nickname
 - 54 Dadaism founder
 - 55 Leading man?
 - 57 Okefenokee, for one
 - 58 Ford's predecessor
 - 60 Casino cube
 - 61 Big bird
 - 62 Tart
 - 63 "Lucky Jim" author
 - 64 Middle of remark
 - 71 News bit
 - 72 Car scar
 - 73 Trudge
 - 74 Smith or Stout
 - 75 Behind
 - 77 Watchful
 - 79 Camera settings
 - 80 High dudgeon
 - 81 Arafat's grp.
 - 82 Explosive sound
 - 83 Crowdburst?
 - 84 Come to a point
 - 86 Curry ingredient
 - 89 Sew a toe
 - 90 Heron's home
 - 91 A Muse
 - 92 Jupiter's alias
 - 93 Norwood of "Moesha"
 - 96 It's charming
 - 99 B vitamin
 - 101 Isolated
 - 102 Better place?
 - 103 Dietary need
 - 104 Carnival creep
 - 105 In error
 - 108 End of remark
 - 114 Opera's Giacomo — Volpi
 - 116 Legendary Giant
 - 117 — Grande
 - 118 Rubbed the wrong way
 - 119 Car bomb?
 - 120 Carrie or Louis
 - 121 TV chef
 - 122 Astronomer
 - 123 Symbol
- DOWN**
- 1 Floored it
 - 2 Wharf
 - 3 Press
 - 4 Make cheddar better
 - 5 "Cabaret" setting
 - 6 Pare down a paycheck
 - 7 — blond
 - 8 Pitch
 - 9 Ivy Leaguer
 - 10 Olympic event
 - 11 Spoken
 - 12 Director Craven
 - 13 Dwindle
 - 14 Poet Sanchez
 - 15 Sty sound
 - 16 Discernment
 - 18 New man or Quaid
 - 19 Short jacket
 - 24 "Cape Fear" actor
 - 25 "Bellefleur" author
 - 28 Pantry pest
 - 31 Actress Ballard
 - 32 Roux ingredient
 - 33 Folk tail?
 - 34 Assist
 - 35 Highway exit
 - 36 Waugh's "The Loved —"
 - 37 Zhivago's
 - 38 Rival
 - 41 Frolic
 - 42 Novelist Jorge
 - 43 Weather word
 - 45 Like some suits
 - 46 Godfrey's instrument
 - 47 Contemporary
 - 49 Janine of "Northern Exposure"
 - 50 Chastity's mom
 - 51 Checker move?
 - 52 Muslim pilgrimage
 - 56 Mock
 - 57 Whiff
 - 58 Surrounded by
 - 59 Bar supply
 - 62 Ward off
 - 63 Perched on
 - 65 Soissons season
 - 66 Fateful 15th
 - 67 Novelist Sinclair
 - 68 Job opening
 - 69 Dissent
 - 70 Wield
 - 75 Address abbr.
 - 76 Winter woe
 - 77 Landed
 - 78 Pithy
 - 79 Warning
 - 82 Wild child
 - 83 Sitarist Shankar
 - 85 One of the Brontes
 - 87 Cantaloupe or casaba
 - 88 Literary reposition
 - 89 "What's up, —?"
 - 92 — ladder
 - 93 Run in the wash
 - 94 Caviar
 - 95 Sock for sis
 - 96 Fiery felony
 - 97 Substantial
 - 98 Marry
 - 100 "— Dinka Doo" ('33 song)
 - 103 Utah National Park
 - 104 Feds
 - 105 Boot out
 - 106 Pro bono
 - 107 Thin layer
 - 109 Attempt
 - 110 Peebles or Long
 - 111 Monk's title
 - 112 Playground game
 - 113 Journalist Tarbell
 - 115 Bustle



ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD

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Eighth grade class officers are organizing Toys for Teens Drive

The Salado Intermediate School eighth grade class officers are currently organizing a "Toys for Teens" drive.

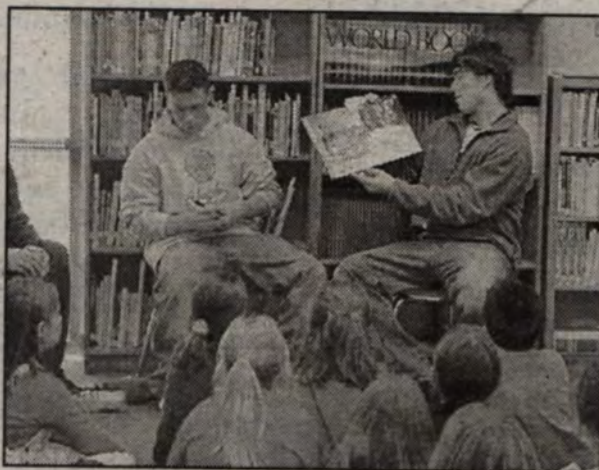
"We are asking every student at SIS to give up one of their gifts this year and use the money for a student that may not get a gift," says Joe Palmer, SIS principal.

"Please bring a new toy that you would like to receive this holiday season

to school and place it under the tree in the main hall. Your officers will collect the gifts and deliver them to Compass Bank that is co-sponsoring Toys for Tots with the Marine Corp."

The toys will be distributed to families in Salado through the Salado Family Relief Fund.

Toys must be donated before school lets out for the holidays Dec. 19.



The third and fourth grade students at Thomas Arnold Elementary were entertained by two players on the Blackhawk Hockey team. Greg Petersen, from Minnesota, and Eric Tetzlaff, from Cleveland, Ohio have been members of the Bell County hockey team for about three and one half months. They read Texas stories to the fourth graders and Christmas stories to all of the third graders. They were joined by Josh Pruce and Alexa Reed from the Blackhawk organization. Each student was given an autographed book mark.

Bell County Jamboree held at Texas Rose

Freddie Fuller's Slough Creek Productions of Salado will present another Bell County Jamboree, a traditional country and gospel musical show presented in a smoke-free, alcohol-free, family environment, 7 p.m. Dec. 20 at the Texas Rose, located at 893 East FM93. The Texas Rose is located immediately adjacent to Opperman's Gifts.

Plenty of cushioned chairs are available, but guests can also bring lawn chairs for personalized comfort. Concessions will be offered and door prizes raffled at intermission.

"The Texas Rose provides a warm, living room sense of coming back home for this month's Jamboree which features talented singers and bands performing country and seasonal Christmas songs for all to enjoy.

Salado sponsors for the event are Garlyn Shelton Autos and Charlotte's of Salado.

The December Bell

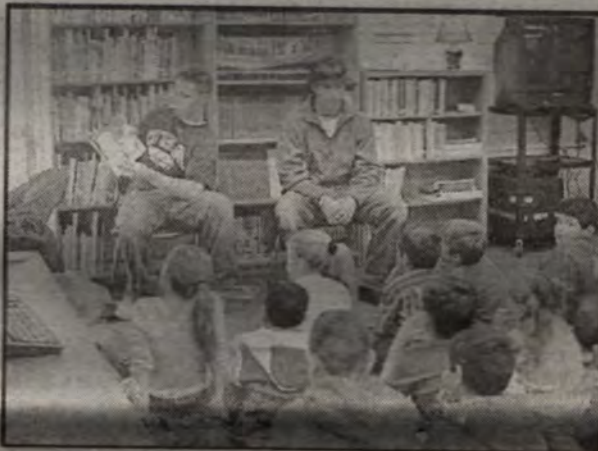
County Jamboree will feature the following performers:

Madlyon Oppermann, of Temple; Brian Gowan, of Temple; Crystal York, of Granbury; and Greg Whitfield, of Round Rock.

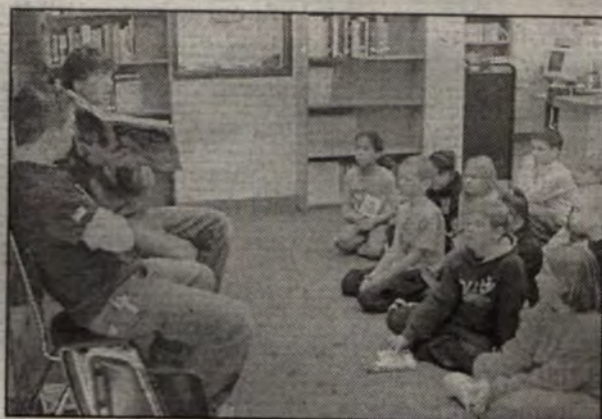
The vocal performers will be backed by The Bell Jam Band, with Terry-Lynn Schrimsher on guitar and vocals, Roy Robbins on lead guitar and vocals, LaRon Tubb on keyboards, Don George on fiddle, Richard Schrimsher on drums and vocals, Don Sowersby on steel guitar, Shorty Grisham on bass and Freddie Fuller on guitar and vocals.

Doors for the Jamboree open at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults, with senior, student and group discounts available. Children under 12 are admitted free.

To sponsor, perform or bring a group, contact Slough Creek Productions at (254) 939-8560, or visit www.allcentex.com/jamboree.



Greg Peterson reads to fourth graders at TAE



Eric and Greg share books with Thomas Arnold students



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Regular Meetings

Mondays

Salado Community Chorus: 5:30 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

Boy Scouts: Each Monday, 6:30-8 p.m. at the Methodist Church.

Monday Club: 1st Mon., 2 p.m., Salado United Methodist Church.

Salado Chamber of Commerce Board: 2nd Mon., 6 p.m., at Civic Center.

Salado FFA Meeting: First Monday of the month, 7 p.m. in the elementary school cafeteria.

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

Salado Library District Board: 4th Mon. at 5:30 p.m., at Salado Public Library Building.

Salado Masonic Lodge #296: 8 p.m. on the Mon. on or before the full moon.

Salado Village Artist Quilters: 1-4 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mon. in the Salado Village Artist Building.

Storytime: 11-11:30 a.m. every Monday at the Salado Public Library (ages 3-5).

Salado 4-H Club: 1st Mon. of every month, 7 p.m. at the Intermediate School.

Exercise Class: Aug. 18-end of school year, 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. except first Monday of the month, which will begin at 10:30 a.m. Class includes stretching, strengthening and Pilates. Held at Salado Civic Center. Class is FREE to public.

Salado Democrats: 6:45 p.m., first Monday of each

month at the Village Steakhouse.

Salado Youth Fair Boosters: Third Monday of each month, 7 p.m. at the elementary school library.

Tuesdays

Salado Rotary Club: 11:30 a.m., Stagecoach Inn.

Salado Band Boosters: Second Tuesday at 3:45 p.m. in the Band Hall.

Yoga Classes: 6:45 p.m., at the Halley House.

Salado Village Artists: 10 a.m. at Salado Art Center.

Salado Family Relief Fund: 2nd Tues. 1 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

Chisholm Trail Chapter ABWA: 2nd Tues. 6:30 p.m. at Stagecoach Inn.

Salado High School Band Boosters: 2nd Tues. of every month 7 p.m. in the Band Hall.

Salado Area Republican Women: 3rd Thursday of month. Times vary. Call 947-8422 or 947-3617 for information.

Wednesdays

Yoga classes: 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Salado Chiropractic and Massage. 947-2225.

Salado Creekside Cloggers: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Salado Youth Baseball Association: meetings 7 p.m. at Civic Center.

Lions Club: 2nd & 4th Wed. at 11:30 a.m., Creekside. Board meets 2nd Wed. 8 a.m.

Mill Creek Community Association Board: 3rd Wed., 5 p.m., at Civic Center.

Scottish Country Dance Lessons: 8-9:30

p.m. at the Scots Hall of the Clans. 947-0325 for info.

Thursdays

Salado Area Republican Women: 3rd Thursday of month. Times vary. Call 947-8422 or 947-3617 for information.

Village of Salado Board of Aldermen: Regular meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of month, 6:30 p.m. at Salado Municipal Building unless otherwise posted.

Salado Ladies Auxiliary: 2nd Thurs., 10 a.m., Salado Civic Center

Salado Water Corporation Board of Directors: 3rd Thurs., 4 p.m. Corporation office.

Salado Historical Society: board of directors, 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m. Salado Civic Center.

PTC: (SIS Parent Teacher Co-op) meets the 2nd Thursday 3:45 p.m. in Room 101 at SIS.

Salado Education Foundation: Regular Board meetings, 9 a.m. 2nd Thurs. at Salado Civic Center.

Salado Business Association: General meetings, 3rd Thursday 8:45 a.m. upstairs at the Civic Center.

Salado Neighborhood Group of the American Sewing Guild: 3rd Thurs. of each month 5:30 p.m. at The Sewing Basket.

Salado Moms: playgroup, contact Amanda at 947-5507.

Saturdays

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

DECEMBER 18

Salado Area Republican Women Annual Meeting, installation of officers at Mill Creek. Info: 947-8422.

DECEMBER 19

FBC of Salado Worship Choir and Orchestra Christmas Concert, 7 p.m. in the church's Worship Center. Admission is free. Info: 947-5465 or www.fbcshalado.org.

DECEMBER 23

3 p.m. Advertising deadline for Dec. 31 Salado Village Voice

DECEMBER 24-26

Salado Village Voice office closes noon Dec. 24. Will remain closed through Dec. 26. Advertising deadline for Dec. 31 issue: **3 p.m. Dec. 23.**

2004

JANUARY 2-4,

Lariat Bowl at Wildfire Ranch. Info: 947-9988.

JANUARY 5

Monday Club meeting, 2 p.m. at the Methodist Church. Program: The Gift of Encouragement. All ladies invited to attend.

JANUARY 5

Salado Democrats meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the Civic Center.

JANUARY 15

Community Meeting about School facilities needs 6:30 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center

JANUARY 22

Candidates Forum sponsored by Salado Area Republican Women, 6 p.m. buffet dinner at Mill Creek Country Club. Info: 947-3617

JANUARY 27

Salado Chamber of Commerce Banquet (Details to be announced)

FEBRUARY 14

Valentine's Day

FEBRUARY 23

7 p.m. **Taste of Salado** (details to be announced)

FEBRUARY 24-28

9 a.m.- 4 p.m. **Salado Artist Workshops Studio Tour -** Various locations for more information Call 937-8300 scc@vvm.com.

APRIL 3

9-5 p.m. **Salado Wildflower Art Show** at the Salado Civic Center grounds for more information call 947-5040

APRIL 3

11 a.m.-9 p.m. **Tablerock's 9th Annual Gospel Festival** at Tablerock Amphitheater. for more information call 254-947-5100

APRIL 24

Salado Yard & Garden Tour Tickets \$10 each available at the Salado Civic Center. for more information call 254-947-8300 Sponsored by the Public Arts League of Salado (PALS) for the beautification of Salado.

JULY 24

Salado Legends 12th Annual Performance dinner 7:15 p.m., Theater 8:15 p.m. at Tablerock Amphitheater For more information call 254-947-9205 or www.allcentex.com/tablerock

JULY 31

Salado Legends 12th Annual Performance dinner 7:15 p.m., Theater 8:15 p.m. at Tablerock Amphitheater For more information call 254-947-9205 or www.allcentex.com/tablerock

JULY 31

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AUGUST 7-8

38th Annual Salado Art Fair in Pace Park For more information call the Salado Chamber of Commerce 947-5040

SEPTEMBER 4-5-6

Salado Businesses Salute Educators More information TBA

SEPTEMBER 18-19

10 a.m.- 6 p.m. **Tablerock's Fantasy Faire & Shakespeare Play** 8: 15 p.m. at

Tablerock Amphitheater for more Faire information call 254-947-1339 Faire Tickets adults \$5, children \$3 Shakespeare tickets \$10 adult, \$5 child. For more information on play call 254-947-8933

SEPTEMBER 25-26

8:15 p.m. **Shakespeare Play** at Tablerock Amphitheater For more information call 254-947-8933

OCTOBER 23

6 p.m.- 11:30 p.m. **3rd Annual Chisholm Trail Cattleman's Ball** at Tenroc Ranch For more information call 254-947-0827

OCTOBER 8-9

Christmas In October at the Salado Civic Center Free. Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary.

OCTOBER 30-31

7 p.m.- 11 p.m. **Fright Nights Family Halloween Fun** at Tablerock's Trail. Adults \$5 Children \$3.

NOVEMBER 5-6-7

10 a.m.- 10 p.m. **Chisholm Trail Days** Shops, Shoot Outs, eat at a campfire, cowboy poets and songs. Admission adults \$10 children \$5 For more information call 254-913-0366

NOVEMBER 12-14

Gathering of the Clans at Robertson Plantation & College Hill.

DECEMBER 3-4

A Christmas Carol 7 p.m. at Tablerock Amphitheater Tickets Adults \$5 children \$3 6:30 p.m. Sandwiches and drinks available For more information call 254-947-9205

DECEMBER 3-4-5

Salado Christmas Stroll

DECEMBER 10-11-12

Salado Christmas Stroll

DECEMBER 10-11

A Christmas Carol 7 p.m. at Tablerock Amphitheater Tickets Adults \$5 children \$3 6:30 p.m. Sandwiches and drinks available For more information call 254-947-9205

We invite you to have your organizations activities listed each week on this calendar of events. Fax information to 947-9479, email to saladovillagevoice@earthlink.net. Mail fliers to Salado Village Voice P O Box 587, Salado, TX 76571.

UMHB Writer's Festival to be held Jan. 8 - 10

The 2004 University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Texas Writers' Festival is set for January 8-10, in the Mabee Student Center on campus.

Keynote speakers are Marie Chapian Jordan, award winning poet, playwright and novelist; and fiction writer Debra Monroe. Poet Scott Cairns will conduct a master poetry workshop for a select group of writers which applied for acceptance in November. Many open enrollment workshops will also be conducted, including one by acclaimed poet Barbara Crooker and another by novelist Greg Garrett.

Marie Chapian Jordan will present the George F. Nixon Memorial Lecture at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 8, in Brindley Auditorium. Marie Jordan is one of several renowned writers who will hold workshops throughout the event. This year she has released a successful novel, *I Love You Like a Tomato*, and her poems are printed in the current issue of *Windhover*. She is a performance poet, actor and playwright and has written and produced plays for stage and television in New York and Hollywood. She has received the Gold Medalion Award, the Chicago News Book of the Year Award, two Angel Awards

for outstanding contribution to the media, a Cornerstone Book of the Year Award, The Gold Book Award and two Campus Life awards for poetry.

Debra Monroe will provide the Keynote Address at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 9, in Brindley Auditorium. Monroe is a novelist from the Texas Hill Country, and she is making a big splash with a couple of short story collections and a novel, titled *Newfangled*. It sold out in less than three weeks and is reported to be "one of those 'breakthrough' literary feats." Monroe will also be featured in a dialogue with Scott Cairns on Saturday morning. They will discuss Monroe's views of her work.

Scott Cairns will conduct a master poetry workshop for 12 writers this year. The writers submitted two works in progress and were hand-selected to participate in this special opportunity. Cairns has been called a poet's poet, and Annie Dillard calls Scott Cairns "one of the best poets alive" according to A&E co-editor, Tim Thompson. He is the author of five collections of poetry, *The Theology of Doubt*, *The Translation*

of Babel, *Figures for the Ghost*, *Recovered Body*, and most recently, *Philokalia: New & Selected Poems*.

In addition to the authors already named, the Writers' Festival expects more than three dozen writers to read and share their work with more than a hundred registered participants. Workshops and readings will be conducted by Greg Garrett, Barbara Crooker, Paul Holcomb, Larry Thomas, Lynn Hoggard, Michael Lythgoe, Alan Berecka, and many others. A new feature of this year's festival will be several art workshops, led by Helen Kwiatkowski and Margie Crisp. These workshops will give partici-

pants and opportunity to work with visual narratives and other media.

Since its inception in 1997, the Writers' Festival has been sponsored by *Windhover: A Journal of Christian Literature* and *New Texas 2004: A Journal of Literature and Art*, literary journals published at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. The new editions of these journals are unveiled each year at the festival. Audell Shelburne, chair of the Department of English, is director of the festival and editor of the journals.

Registration cost is \$80 for the full festival; or \$35 per day. Contact Dr. Audell Shelburne (254) 295-4561, ashelburne@umhb.edu.

Salado students named to Who's Who in junior college

The 2004 edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Junior College* will include three students from Temple College who live in Salado.

Salado students named to *Who's Who* were Amy Carlson, Frank Carlson and Melinda Dunnahoo, all of Salado.

The Salado students are

among 52 students from Temple College who have been selected as national outstanding campus leaders.

Selection was based on academic achievement, service to community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success.

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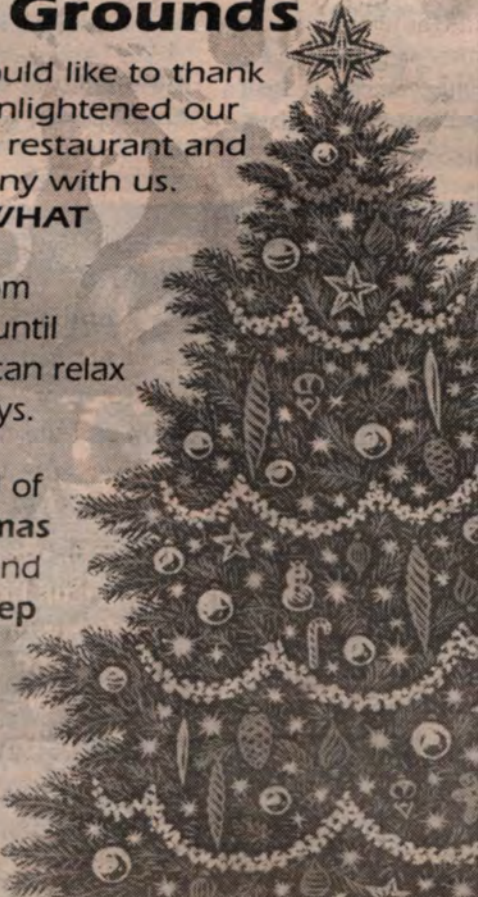
Cynthia (Mama) and I would like to thank all of those who have enlightened our day by coming into our restaurant and sharing your company with us.

BUT GUESS WHAT

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

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

Happy Holidays
David & Cynthia
Apichino



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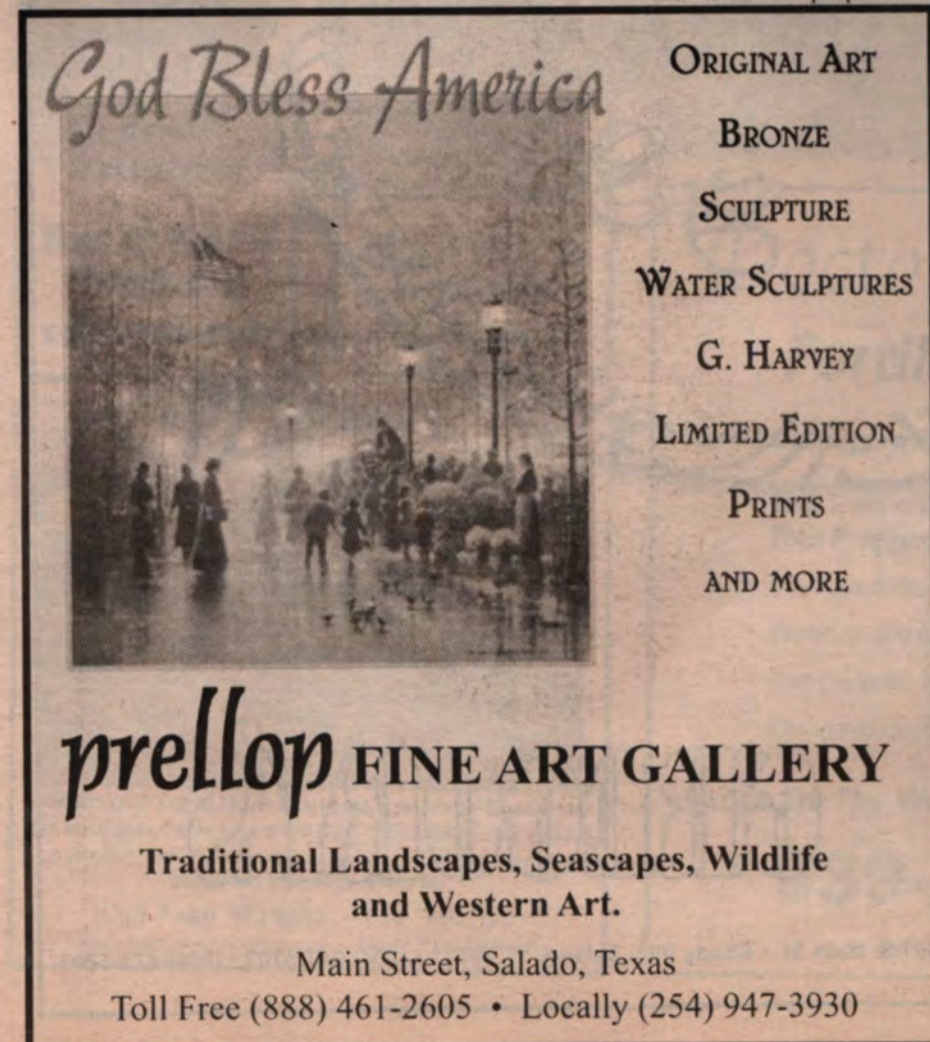


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Holiday Cooking Tips for the Hurried and Harried

BY LINDA FUCHS,
COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT - FCS

Gathering around the table for a special meal with family and friends can be a source of joy, and can feed both the body and soul. Cooking late into the night before your meal, however, can greatly diminish the pleasures of the table. Cooking too far ahead can decrease the quality and safety of your food. Here are some tips to put the focus back on family and friends rather than frenzied and possibly unsafe food preparation.

First of all begin by limiting the number of foods you serve to a few favorites, so you have less to prepare. For example, do you need two or more desserts? Remember, desserts spelled backward is S-T-R-E-S-S-E-D. Unless food will be frozen, it's safest to start preparing most perishable foods no more than the day before a meal. For example: Assemble a vegetable casserole a day in advance, refrigerate and then bake the day of your dinner. Plan 15 to 20 minutes additional heating time for the refrigerated cold casserole. Heat until it's hot and steamy throughout.

Cut washed fruits and vegetables within a day of your meal for salads and relish trays. Store all cut fruits and vegetables covered, such as in storage containers or one-time use plastic bags in the refrigerator. Store fresh-cut produce above raw meat, poultry and fish and below cooked items. Avoid leaving cut and/or peeled fruit and vegetables at room temperature for more than two hours. This includes the total of preparation

time and serving time. Keep cut fruits, such as apples, pears, bananas and peaches, from turning brown by coating them with an acidic juice such as lemon, orange or pineapple juice. Or use a commercial anti-darkening preparation with fruits, such as Ever-Fresh or Fruit Fresh. Follow the manufacturer's directions for timing and method of application. Cover and refrigerate cut fruit until ready to serve. Bananas don't keep as long as the other fruits so cut them closer to serving time.

Non-perishable foods such as cakes and cookies can be prepared a few days in advance and still will taste good. Or, they can be frozen for longer storage.

As a general rule of thumb, purchase fresh raw meat poultry or seafood no more than one to two days before your holiday meal. Freeze for longer storage. These foods taste freshest if cooked the day of your meal. If you have frozen your meat, poultry or seafood, plan time for safe thawing in your refrigerator. Allow approximately 24 hours for each five pounds of weight. For turkey, make sure that you remove the neck and giblets from the body cavities.

To prevent cross contamination, thaw or store a package of raw meat, poultry or seafood on a plate on a lower shelf of your refrigerator to prevent its juices from dripping on the other foods.

If you prepare meat, poultry, or seafood the day

before your meal, divide it into small portions. Then refrigerate in loosely covered shallow containers within two hours of cooking - limit depth of meat, etc. to about two inches. You can place loosely covered foods in the refrigerator while still warm, cover tightly when food is completely cooled. On the day of your meal, reheat thoroughly to a temperature of 165 degrees F until hot and steaming throughout.

Pumpkin pie is especially popular around the holidays. A pumpkin pie is a form of custard and must be kept in the refrigerator at 40 degrees F or cooler. Foods which contain eggs, milk, and a high moisture content must be kept refrigerated, as bacteria love to grow in these foods.

Avoid letting a pumpkin pie set at room temperature for more than two hours. That means it should not sit out more than two hours total including after it is baked and while waiting to be served. If you would like to get a head start on preparing your pumpkin pie, it is easiest and safest to freeze just your shaped and unbaked pie crust in a freezer or oven safe pie pan.

Or, purchase an unbaked frozen pie crust already in a pie pan. Then, add the pumpkin filling, mixed according to directions, to the frozen crust just before baking. It takes just a few minutes to mix together the ingredients. Unless the directions with your frozen pie crust recommend otherwise, place a baking sheet in your oven and pre-heat

your oven to the baking temperature given in your pie recipe. Then place your pie on the hot baking sheet and bake your pie as usual the day of your meal. To save additional time, buy a pie filling with the spices already added, especially if you must buy extra spices just for your pie. Instead of making a baked pumpkin pie you might like to try making a form of pumpkin pie that can be frozen, such as this Pumpkin Ice Cream Pie which makes 8 servings.

Pumpkin Ice Cream Pie

1 can (15 to 16 oz.) Pure pumpkin puree
1/4 cup sugar
1-1/2 to 2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice, depending on how "spicy" a flavor you enjoy

1 quart (4 Cups) vanilla ice cream or frozen yogurt, softened

1 package (9 oz.) 9-inch prepared graham cracker pie crust

Whipped topping, if desired

Directions:

1. Mix the pumpkin, sugar and spice until well blended.

2. Quickly mix pumpkin mixture with the softened ice cream.

3. Pour into crumb crust and freeze, uncovered, until firm - a couple of hours.

4. When pie is frozen, cover with plastic wrap and then cover with freezer-quality foil or place in a freezer bag and squeeze out the air.

5. Thaw pie slightly before serving. Top with whipped topping, if desired.

Register for Salado Artists' Workshops, Feb. 23-28

Now is the time to register for the Salado Artists' Workshops, Feb. 23-28.

Eight of Salado's best artists and craftsmen are joining forces to present a weeklong learning experience for those interested.

Class sizes are limited.

The workshops will begin with "A Taste of Salado" and finish with an art show and studio tour.

The workshops are a new division of the Public Arts League of Salado (PALS).

Classes in pottery, stone carving, watercolor, bronze casting, caning and basketry, glass art, and oil painting will be offered.

For more information, call (254) 947-8300 or visit www.salado.com or www.texasartist.org.



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Gifts of Stock Can Brighten Anyone's Holiday

Don't look now, but the holidays are upon us. If you're having trouble thinking of the perfect gift, consider something you can't find at the crowded mall: stocks.

Financial Focus

by: Allen Mantanona



Stocks can be excellent gifts for children and adults. When you give shares of stock to kids, you're helping to teach them the importance of long-term investing and the way our financial system works. And when you give stocks to adults, you'll help them make progress toward their important financial goals.

Giving stocks isn't much more difficult than giving cash, but you do need to do a little number crunching. For starters, you'll need to know what you originally paid for the stock (its "tax basis"), how long you've held the stock and the fair market value of the stock at the date of the gift. Recipients will need this information to determine gains or losses if and when they decide to sell the stock you've given them.

When you give stocks, you're doing so out of

thoughtfulness - but you may also be helping yourself. If you're giving away stocks that have appreciated in value, you won't be liable for the capital gains taxes, which can be considerable, even though the maximum long-term capital gains rate has now been cut to 15 percent (for asset sales after May 6, 2003 - currently effective through 2009). And, while you're thinking of taxes related to your gifts of stock, keep in mind that you can give up to \$11,000 per year to as many people as you want without incurring gift tax implications.

You can also get tax advantages when you give gifts of appreciated stock to a charity in honor of a loved one. You'll get an immediate tax deduction

for the fair market value of your gift, and you won't have to pay capital gains on the stock.

Gifts for retirement

If you have loved ones that are saving for retirement, consider giving them money to add more shares of stock (or bonds or other investments) to their IRAs. For 2003 and 2004, investors may be able to put up to \$3,000 in a Roth or Traditional IRA (or \$3,500 if they are 50 or older). If your intended recipients have fully funded their IRAs for 2003, they can earmark your gift for their 2004 IRAs.

Stocks and kids

At first, when you tell your children you're giving them a gift of stock, they may give you a funny look. But it really won't take much to get them inter-

ested. Try to find stocks issued by high-quality companies with which your children are familiar. Your kids may be excited to be part owners of companies that produce the clothes they wear, the food they like and the movies they watch.

When you do give stocks to your kids, you'll have to be aware of the "kiddie tax." Actually, the kiddie tax is not really a specific tax at all - the term refers to the limitations that the IRS puts on the ability of children under 14 to have unearned income taxed at their lower tax rate. According to the kiddie tax rules for 2003, the first \$750 in unearned income - interest, dividends and capital gains - is tax free, and the next \$750 is taxed at the child's tax rate, which is typically 10 percent. If your child has unearned income of more than \$1,500, he or she will be taxed at the rate that would apply to you if this money were added to your taxable income.

Gifts that last

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Central Texas state Congressional Representative Diane White Delisi paid a visit to Thomas Arnold Elementary School the morning of December 15. Delisi read to TAE third graders from her favorite Christmas-time tales.

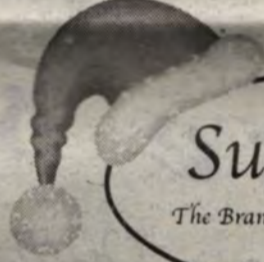
Representative Delisi was the first of several guest readers that graced TAE's library throughout the day. Superintendent of schools Dr. Robin Battershell also read to children, as did TAE principal Lisa Nix and Village of Salado Mayor Charlotte Douglass. Coach Larry Moorhead, from the high school, stopped by, as did Joe Palmer, principal of Salado Intermediate School. (PHOTO BY CHRIS MCGREGOR)

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County may close Rogers crossing

By **TIM FLEISCHER**
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Bell County commissioners will conduct a public hearing 9 a.m. Jan. 12 to close Neroc Road at the BNSF Railroad Crossing. The court voted during its Dec. 15 meeting to hold the public hearing on the matter.

Commissioner Leroy Schiller told fellow commissioners that he strongly favored closing the road. "This is a very dangerous intersection," Schiller said. "Closing it should be above anything else we do. It is not something I want on my conscience."

The road in question crosses the BNSF Railroad tracks outside the city of Rogers. Neroc Road is one of three crossings within a three-mile stretch of the tracks.

As part of a federal program to close dangerous railroad crossings, Bell County could receive up to \$150,000 in funds from the Department of Transportation to make improvements to other roads and crossings necessary to close the Neroc Road crossing.

According to County Engineer Richard Maachi, the money could be used to improve Shaw Road, which connects Hunt Hill

Rd. and Highland School Rd., two other crossings over the railroad track.

Schiller said that about two miles of Shaw Road is only gravel and could be upgraded to hot asphalt with the federal funds.

"Even if there was no money," Schiller said of the federal funds, "we should do it. The money is an added incentive to do it."

BNSF Railroad will also pay \$35,000 if the county elects to close the road. That money could be used in the general fund, but the federal dollars would have to be earmarked for the closing.

Schiller told commissioners that the City of Rogers has used funds from the federal program to close a dangerous intersection with the Railroad inside its city limits.

"This is a good program," Schiller said.

In other business at the Dec. 15 meeting, commissioners approved a bid of \$20,829.03 for a 2004 Chevy 3500 pick up truck

for the road and bridge department.

The court also gave final approval for plats of three subdivisions in the county:

- Hoelscher Estates, Phase 1, a three-lot 13.918 acre subdivision off of North Elm Loop.

- Shaw Branch East, Phase 3, a two-lot, 1.0 acre subdivision in the ETJ of the City of Nolanville on Jackrabbit Rd.

- Beerwinkle Subdivision, a one-lot, 1.0 acre subdivision in the ETJ of the City of Temple on Moffat Rd.

WORKSHOP MEETING

In workshop session, commissioners discussed the jail bond issue (see related story), museum construction, county fines and fees and voting machines.

The museum construction advisory group has unanimously approved plans for the museum expansion, according to Commis-

sioner Tim Brown.

Brown told fellow commissioners that "the plans are on their way to completion," even though minor changes will be made to the drawings. Brown said that the documents may be ready to send out for bid within 45 days.

Sheila Norman and Vada Sutton reported to commissioners on local fees that can be adopted by the court to go into effect Jan. 1, including a \$15 fee on every divorce for Family Protection services and a District Clerk Records Preservation fee of \$5 for every family and civil case brought to county courts.

Commissioners said that they would like to review all of the state and local fees and fines charged in Bell County to better grasp the impact on local citizens.

"Some of them are ending up in the jail because they can't pay all the new fees," one commissioner said during the workshop.

Ad League offers cruise for recruits

The largest Central Texas Ad League Membership Drive is under way and features a contest with prizes including a cruise.

The Ad League member who recruits the most new members to the club by March 31, will be eligible to win a cruise voucher worth \$500.

To win the cruise:

- The winner must be a paid member of the Central Texas Ad League for the 2004 membership year.

- The winner must accrue a minimum of 10 points (Corporate memberships are worth five points each; individual memberships are worth two points each; and non-profit memberships are worth one point each).

- Membership dues of new recruits must be paid in full by March 31, 2004.

- New members must inform the club of their sponsor when they submit their dues.

In the event of a tie, the contest will be extended for one month.

At each monthly luncheon, Ad League members will also receive one chance at winning a monthly prize for each potential member they invite to lunch. Monthly prizes will consist of gift certificates to local malls.

Central Texas Ad League is an organization made up of members who manage, buy, sell, create, produce, teach or study advertising, marketing, public rela-

tions or related fields. The Ad League exists to bring together those interested in advertising and marketing for an active exchange of ideas through education, awareness and community outreach.

Ad League meets on the first Friday of every month at noon. Meeting sites vary from month to month and notices are sent via email prior to luncheons.

For more information about the membership drive or joining Central Texas Ad League, call Cary Nichols at 254-773-3169 or email cnichols@lamar.com or call Christi Myers at 254-519-8119 or email cmymers@dashlink.com.

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Blackland Income Growth Conference to be held Jan. 20-21

BY DIRK AARON,
 COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT & AG.

The Texas Cooperative Extension programs in Central Texas, in collaboration with the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce, will again host the Blackland Income Growth Conference for the 42nd year. The event will be

Jan. 20-21 in Waco at the Convention Center.

The cotton, cattle, corn, small grain, forage and sorghum producers across the Central Texas region traditionally choose this event to find in-depth information in target areas they feel are most important. They can choose from commodity sessions, special meetings and forums to discuss problems and issues affecting their day to day management decisions.

Jan. 20 with registration. Tuesday's event cost \$10.00 (includes lunch). The daily activities include sessions on Beef Cattle Production; Horticulture Production; Grain Production; Forage Production; Cotton Production and Horse Management.

Many of the sessions will be providing some continuing education hours for commercial and private applicators depending on the session and topics discussed in each of these. Producers can receive one to three hours total depending on the sessions they attend. The program brochures are available at the Bell County Extension Office (254-933-5305) or at the B.I.G. website: <http://stephenville.tamu.edu/BIG/>.

agri-business individuals and product lines which include seed companies, chemical companies, to equipment dealers from across Texas.

Producers in Bell County need to be aware that the following events will happen in January that provide great opportunities for commercial and licensed private applicators to receive continuing education units required by the Texas Department of Agriculture for renewal of applicator licenses.

The B.I.G. event is coordinated and conducted by a board of directors and members from across the Central Texas Blackland Region. These are men and women who understand the problems and concerns of production agriculture and have the desire to see these addresses annually in an event of this nature. The event starts 8 a.m.

Jan. 9: Central Texas Cow-Calf Clinic, Milano Livestock Exchange, Milano, Texas, 2 CEU's (1 Laws and Regs. and 1 IPM)

Jan. 16: Bell County Crops Clinic, Bell County Expo Center, Belton, 5 CEU's

Jan. 20: Professional Ground Conference, Bell County Expo Center, 5 CEU's

Extension will always seek to provide reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities for each of these meetings. We only require that you contact our office two weeks prior to each event to advise us of the special aid and/or service that you require.

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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.

Sheriff Smith speaks to Rotary Club Dec. 9

By SCHUYLER KUYKENDALL
STAFF WRITER

Dan Smith, Bell County Sheriff for the past 19 years, addressed the Rotary Club of Salado, Dec. 9 at their regular meeting.

"I have filed to seek a sixth term," stated Smith. "Sheriffs serve a four-year term with unlimited number of terms that can be served."

As Sheriff, his duties fall into three categories: law enforcement, court services, and jail administration.

Bell Counties resources are limited with only 31 uniformed patrol personnel. Willamson County, a county of comparable size, has 60 uniformed deputies. "It is good for taxpayers, but not for the deputies," said Smith.

Bell Counties investigation division is ranked

in the top three of state in large county offices with their clearance rate.

"Over the last decade, courtroom security is becoming an area of concern," Smith says. "There is as much violence in the courtrooms, as there is on the streets. That is one of the deficiencies we want to solve with the new complex."

The daily count of inmates fluctuates between 660 and 680, but has exceeded 700 on several occasions. Bell County leases out 40-45 to Fort Hood and about 10 to Temple.

At 90 percent of capacity, planning or building should already have begun on expanding or building a new facility.

Smith said that home burglaries are the hardest of the cases to solve.

Murder only accounts for less than a half dozen of



Bell Co. Sheriff Dan Smith

the crimes each year. "We usually have one or two a year," Smith told the group.

A 45-member Task Force has been set up to present a recommendation concerning expansion of the Bell County

jails. After reviewing the final recommendation, the commissioners court will make a decision if they will issue certificates of obligation or send it back to the people in the form of a bond election.

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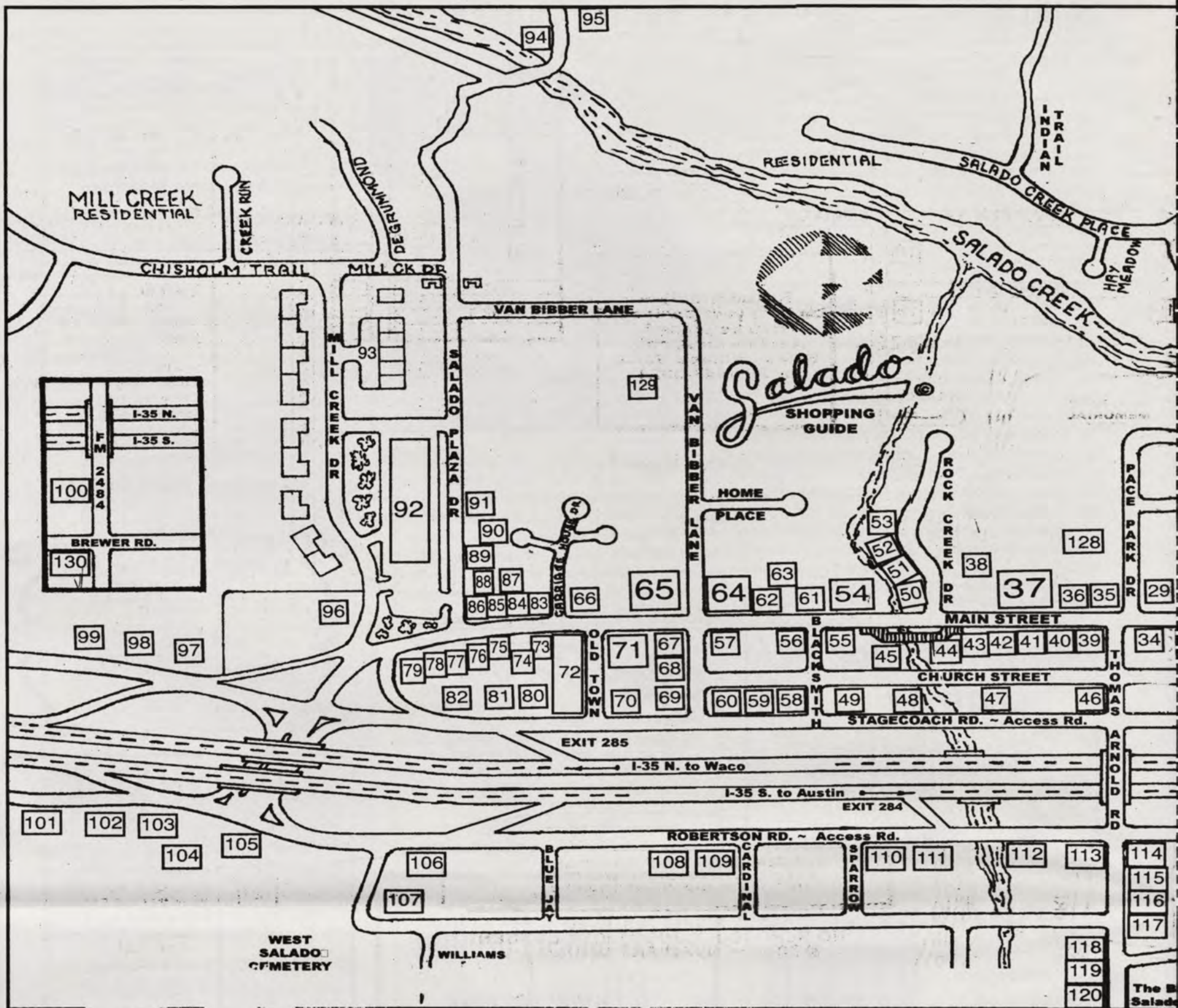
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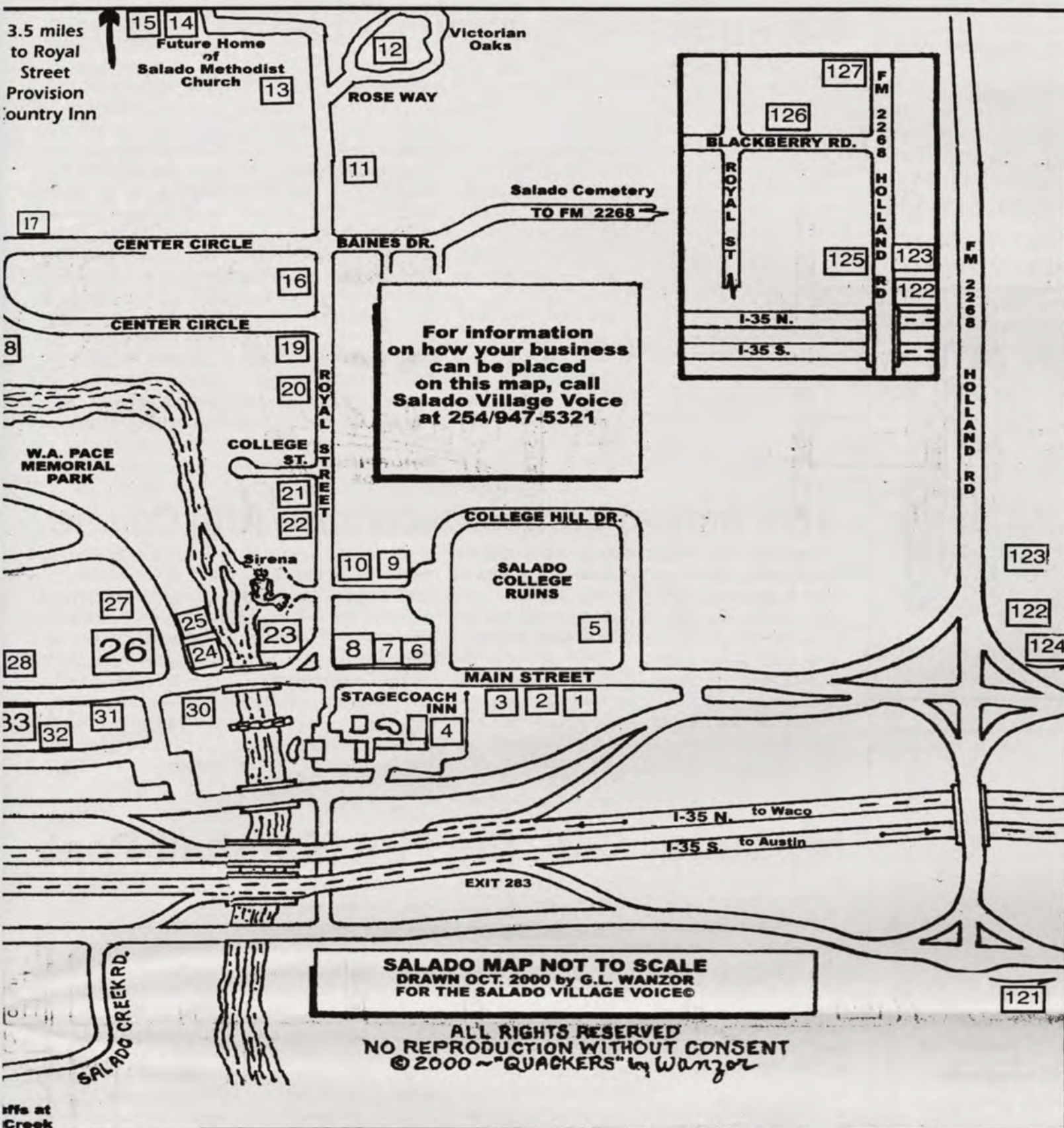
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| Sweet Dreams | 254/947-9200 | Scarlett's | 254/947-3600 | 49. Salado Church of Christ | 254/947-5241 |
| RMK Gallery | 254/947-4400 | Susan Marie's | 254/947-5239 | 50. The Glass House | 254/248-2279 |
| 4. Stagecoach Inn | 254/947-5111 | 30. First Baptist Church | 254/947-5465 | 51. Splendors of Salado | 254/947-3630 |
| 5. StoneCreek Settlement | 254/947-9683 | 31. Salado Mansion | 254/947-5157 | 52. Charlotte's of Salado | 254/947-0240 |
| 6. Central Texas Area Museum | | 32. Salado Masonic Lodge #296 | | 53. Uniquely Europe' | 254/947-3222 |
| | 254/947-5232 | 33. THE VERANDA | | 54. THE COLONY | |
| 7. Salado Galleries | 254/947-5110 | First Texas Brokerage | 254/947-5577 | The Amish Store | 254/947-8803 |
| 8. SHADY VILLA | | 34. First State Bank | 254/947-5852 | 55. Heirlooms | 254/947-0336 |
| Gregory's | 254/947-5703 | 35. Christy's of Salado | 254/947-0561 | 56. Village Steakhouse | 254/947-3663 |
| Sweet Nut Things | 254/947-8088 | 36. Inn at Salado | 254/947-0027 | 57. Seasons of Salado | 254/947-4769 |
| 9. Peddler's Alley | 254/947-9722 | 37. SALADO SQUARE | | 59. Salado Floors and Walls | 254/947-0048 |
| 10. The Dusty Rose | 254/947-9215 | Browning's Courtyard Cafe | | 60. The Village of Salado | 254/947-5060 |
| 11. Tablerock Amphitheatre | 254/947-9205 | | 254/947-8666 | 62. Thomas Kinkade at | |
| 12. The Rose Mansion B&B | 254/947-8200 | Carden's | 254/947-0300 | RMK Gallery | 254/947-4400 |
| 14. Serenity Spa Service | 254/947-8833 | Classics on Main | 254/947-3277 | 64. SALADO CIVIC SQUARE | |
| 15. Royal Street Provision | 254/947-3350 | Linda Pritchard, RMT | 254/947-HAND | Innkeeping with the Times | |
| Country Inn | | Main Street Place | 254/947-9908 | 800/439-3828 | 254/947-9683 |
| 16. The Baines House | 254/947-5260 | Magnolia's on the Square | | Properties of Larry Sands | |
| 17. Le Beffroy B&B | 254/947-7177 | | 254/947-0323 | Uncommon Grounds Cafe | |
| 18. Inn on the Creek B&B | 254/947-5554 | 38. The Range at the Barton House | | | 254/947-3354 |
| 19. ROYAL STREET COURTYARD | | | 254/947-3828 | 65. SALADO CIVIC CENTER | |
| Botangles Salon | 254/947-4747 | 39. Family Dentistry | 254/947-5242 | Salado Civic Center | 254/947-8300 |
| Salado Springs Celebration Center | | Dr. Douglas B. Willingham | | Chamber of Commerce | 254/947-5040 |
| | 254/947-0027 | 41. Mud Pies Pottery | 254/947-0281 | SISD Administration | 254/947-5479 |
| 20. The Lodgings | 254/947-0027 | 42. Southern Comforts | 254/947-0595 | 66. Halley House B&B | 254/947-1000 |
| 21. Springhouse Antiques | 254/947-0747 | 43. Salado Haus | 254/947-1868 | 68. Little Kountry Kabin | 254/947-3337 |
| 23. ONE ROYAL | | 44. Willowby's | 947-WILO | 70. The Sewing Basket | 254/947-5423 |
| FSG Fine Jewelry | 254/947-9447 | 45. Wigglesworth Place | | | 877/244-0450 |
| Jan's | 866/947-4303 | Lodging | | 72. OLD TOWN SALADO | |
| Institute for the Humanities at Salado | | 46. Salado United Methodist Church | | Alice's | 254/947-9000 |
| | 254/947-5729 | | 254/947-5482 | Angelic Herbs | 254/947-1909 |
| | | 47. Salado Printing | 254/947-3590 | | |



Shopping	#
Alice's	72
Angelic Herbs	72
ArchAngel	87
Carden's	37
Charlotte's of Salado	52
Christy's	35
Classics on Main	37
Fairway Golf Carts	104
FSG Fine Jewelry	23
Gregory's	8
Heirlooms	55
Horsefeathers	73
Horsewhispers	83
jjs'TIQUES	81
Jan's	23
Janelle's	130
Little Kountry Kabin	68
Magnolia's	37
Main Street Place	37
Margrit's Shoe Chateau	37
MJ's Country Corner	72
Mud Pies Pottery	41
Peddler's Alley	9
Prellop Fine Art	26
Remember This	74
Robertson's Hams	102
Salado Antique Roses	85
Salado Galleries	7
Salado Haus	43
Scarlett's	26
Seasons of Salado	57
Southern Comforts	42
Splendors of Salado	51
Springhouse Antiques	21
Sweet Dreams	3
Sweet Nut Things	8
Texan By Design	72
The Amish Store	54
The Dusty Rose	10
The Glass House	50
The Sewing Basket	70
Thomas Kinkadee at RMK Gallery	62
Three Dogs or a Quilt	90
Truly Texan	1
Uniquely Europe	53
Wells Gallery	1
Wildfire Saddlery	122
Willowby's	44

Dining & Lodging	#
Browning's Cafe	37
Cathy's Cafe	72
Country Place B&B	127
Cowboys	103
Inn at Salado B&B	36
Inn on the Creek B&B	18

Johnny's Steak & Bar-B-Q	#
Bar-B-Q	115
Le Beffroy B&B	17
Old Mill Pizza Co.	
Royal Street Provision Country Inn	15
Salado Springs Celebration Center	19
Salado Mansion	31
Stagecoach Inn	4
StoneCreek Settlement	5
The Baines House	16
The Levi Tenney House	128
The Lodgings	20
The Halley House	66
The Range	38
The Rose Mansion B&B	12
The Texas House	129
Uncommon Grounds	64
Village Steakhouse	56
Wigglesworth Place	45

Services	#
A Lasting Look	98
Before & After Fitness	83
Bo Tangles	19
Century 21 Bill Bartlett Real Estate	76
Farmers Insurance	64
First State Bank	34
First Texas Brokerage	33
Innkeeping with Times	64
Johnnie's Cleaners	92
My Hiding Place	72
Pretty Nails	83
Properties of Larry Sand	64
Salado Cleaners	97
Salado Floors & Walls	59
Salado Printing	47
Salado Village Voice	92
Salado Volunteer Fire Department	48
Village Pharmacy	92

Professional	#
Family Dentistry	39
Jeffrey W. McClure	78
Linda Pritchard, RMT	37
Salado Chiropractic	92
Salado Eyecare	92

Entertainment Education & Civic	#
Central Texas Area Museum	6
Institute for the Humanities at Salado	23

Cathy's Boardwalk Cafe	254/947-8162
My Hiding Place	254/947-0430
MJ's Country Corner	254/947-8885
Texan by Design	254/947-4479
73. Horsefeathers	254/947-3203
74. Remember This Antiques	254/947-0858
75. Salado Post Office	254/947-5322
76. Century 21 Bill Bartlett	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
Horsewhispers	254/947-7105
85. Salado Antique Roses	254/947-3406
87. ArchAngel	254/947-5933
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
97. Salado Cleaners	254/947-7299
98. A Lasting Look	254/721-0905
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
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
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He knows when you've been drinking

Santa has a warning for Texas motorists: He knows when you've been drinking. He knows when you're .08.

So do thousands of law officers trained to identify drivers who've reached the state's legal limit for intoxication. And they'll be patrolling Texas streets and highways in December in an effort to reduce alcohol-related traffic deaths and injuries.

TxDOT's lively new campaign, which features several tongue-in-cheek holiday slogans based on

Christmas carols, has a deadly serious message. If you drink this holiday season and get behind the wheel, you'll find more than coal in your stocking come Christmas Day. Expect penalties ranging from stiff fines and drivers license suspension to spending time in jail.

DWI prevention messages are appearing on TV, radio, billboards, gas pumps and decals and coasters in bars and restaurants statewide. The public education campaign is part of a con-

certed effort Dec. 19-Jan. 4 to change Texas' standing as the national leader in alcohol-related traffic fatalities. Impaired drivers are to blame for more than 1,700 deaths and 25,000 injuries in Texas each year.

"If alcohol is involved in holiday celebrations, we're reminding drivers to designate a driver who hasn't been drinking, or take a cab," said Carlos Lopez, TxDOT's traffic operations director. "It may be the season to be jolly, but we want Texas motorists to know if you drink and you

drive, you go to jail." Texas Department of Public Safety and more than 600 local law enforcement agencies will be out in force during the holidays to keep Texas roads and highways as safe as possible. The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, Texas Restaurant Association, Texas Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association, Diamond Shamrock and Mothers Against Drunk Driving also are participating in the campaign.

37th Annual Barnes Decorative Arts Course

The Historic Waco Foundation will hold its 2004 Barnes Decorative Arts Course 10 a.m.-noon, Tuesdays, Jan. 6-Feb. 24 at the HWF office, Hoffmann House, 810 South Fourth Street in Waco.

Each year the Historic Waco Foundation presents the Lavonia Barnes Decorative Arts Course to pro-

mote an appreciation for decorative arts particularly as they were used in the historic houses that the Foundation maintains.

This year marks the 37th year of the series of lectures that was originally designed by Lavonia Jenkins Barnes, one of the founders of HWF.

The course emphasizes the history of the American Decorative Arts, topics including the history of architecture, ceramics, silver, and four lectures on various furniture styles of the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries.

These lectures culminate on March 9 for an

all-day trip to Houston's Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens, one of America's leading museums of decorative and fine arts. The course costs \$80 for an HWF member, \$115 for a non-member.

Contact HWF at (254) 753-5166 for more information.

My buddy Carl, the Fire Marshall Poet

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Carl Condray joined the Big Spring Fire Department when he was a teenager. Not yet forty, he worked his way up to Fire Marshall. He's got enough years in to retire, but he just can't quit because he's so young.

If he ever does decide to retire, he's got another career ahead of him: Cowboy Poetry. He has performed it at the State Fair and at some of the top Cowboy Poetry events in the country. I've had the privilege of being in audiences where Carl has recited both his own poetry and poems written by other

people. Folks laugh and laugh when they hear Carl spout words about cowboys. They also get real quiet when he does a serious poem.

The Heritage Museum in Big Spring was the scene of a release party for my latest CD, Natural Born Storytellers. Carl came by and bought four of them.

He also told me he had written a poem for the occasion and recited it from memory in front of me. I'm going to print the words of the poem here to let you know how much his gesture meant to me. I appreciate

Carl's friendship and hope that something this special happens to you sometime. Here's the poem written for the release of Natural Born Storytellers.

I guess it's a fact that all things change. Ideas, once common, may now seem strange and worldly treasures just fade so fast.

Yet there are lessons left to learn by those who have the desire and yearn, to gather that gold from the past.

Roads once traveled by those before are the greatest source of worthwhile lore but their tales must be gathered like a herd.

I know one who can wrangle with the best. His

talents shine far above the rest.

Each rope he throws gathers the spoken word. And though the winds may blow him 'cross the land I am grateful for this tireless hand and how he does his noble deed.

He talks to those who truly know then shares it with us on his show Thank you and God Bless you my dear friend, "Tumbleweed."

He signed it "Thanks for all the laughs. Carl Condray."

When Carl recited the poem to me at the release party, I got quiet.

Main Street - Opportunity to own retail space located on Main Street Salado. The retail space ranges from 1550 square feet to 2090 square feet. Price ranges from \$179,000 to \$224,500. Established business is creating space for a new business to flourish with Main Street exposure. Perfect for a new business to reduce cost of ownership and still have established business next door to promote pedestrian traffic.

416 Salado Creek Place - Sip coffee from the back porch and watch Salado Creek flow by. This home sits on 3/4 acre on a cul-de-sac in Salado Creek Place. Magnificent views from the living, kitchen and master bedroom. Open kitchen, living and breakfast area. Heavily wooded lot provides privacy while close to downtown. **\$297,000.**

107 Tall Wood Circle - A beautifully landscaped backyard creates an inviting atmosphere to welcome you into a pool with a waterfall. View the pool from the family room, breakfast/kitchen area, and formal living room. The kitchen and family room are all open for easy entertaining. Master bedroom/bath is down the hall from a fourth bedroom/study while the other two bedrooms are located across the living areas. **\$259,900.**



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UMHB Conservatory now enrolling for Spring classes

The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Conservatory is currently enrolling for spring classes. Enrollment will be 1-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

The following classes have limited openings: Kindermusik classes will be offered for children birth to age seven. Village classes for children birth to 18 months will be on Thursday morning from 10-10:45 a.m. at the Gardent Estates in Temple. Parents and children will be joined by senior adult residents for a multigenerational music experience. Instructor will be Stacie Winkler. Cost is \$150 for tuition and \$50 for materials.

Our Time classes are offered for children ages 18 months to three years. Jonathan Gary will teach

Tuesday morning 9:30-10:15 a.m. Deborah Jones will teach on Wednesday morning 10-10:45; and Mary Moreno will teach a class on Thursday 6-6:45 p.m. Cost is \$150 for tuition and \$45 for materials.

Imagine That classes are offered for children ages three to four. Jonathan Gary will teach a class on Wednesday morning 9-9:45 a.m. Cost is \$150 for tuition and \$55 for materials.

Young Child II class will meet on Monday 4:15 - 5:15 p.m. Children in kindergarten or first grade may enroll. Jonathan Gary is the instructor. Cost is \$165 for tuition and \$65 for materials.

Youth orchestra and Suzuki violin classes will continue to be offered on

Wednesdays through the Conservatory. Students in Suzuki classes must be currently studying with a Suzuki trained teacher. Orchestra directors/Suzuki teachers are Kiersten Hollar, Sharon Tullis, and Jeremy Cameron. Tuition for the semester is \$60 for Suzuki classes, Note Reading Orchestra, Con Brio Orchestra and Advanced Chamber Group.

An adult choir, Schola Cantorum, will meet on Tuesday evenings 7-8:30 p.m. It is a non-auditioned choir and will be based on the idea of a "choral club". The group will sing a variety of music, both old and new. Secular and sacred standard choral repertoire will be the basis of the program. Rehearsals will contain vocal training. Jane Debenport is the director. Tuition is \$50 for the semester.

Two additional instrumental ensembles will be offered. Percussion Ensemble will be offered to advanced high school, college musicians and adult performers of percussion instruments. Tuition is \$30 for the semester. Stephen Crawford is the director of the percussion ensemble. Jazz ensemble will be offered to advanced high school, college musicians, and adult performers of jazz music. Tuition is \$40 for the semester.

Colin Mason is the director of the jazz ensemble. Acceptance into both ensembles will be based on audition and the discretion of the directors.

Private instruction in voice, guitar, band instruments, strings, and piano will also be offered.

Contact Deborah Jones or Jonathan Gary at the UMHB Conservatory for additional information.

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DPS urges holiday caution

The Department of Public Safety has composed a wish list for the holiday season. DPS is asking travelers for the following gifts:

- Slow down - speed is the number one killer on Texas roads.
- Don't drink and drive; get a designated driver.
- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle.
- Keep cell phone chatter to a minimum.
- Drive with courtesy; it's contagious.
- Slow down in bad weather, construction areas and heavy traffic.

"Following these tips will keep your family and everyone on Texas roads safer, and that will mean a merrier Christmas for all of us," said DPS Director Thomas Davis Jr. "The sad

truth is that most fatal traffic crashes don't have to happen."

DPS will have all available troopers patrolling Texas roadways from Dec. 24-28. DPS is once again participating in Operation CARE (Combined Accident Reduction Effort) - a nationwide effort maximizing enforcement on major interstate highways to reduce fatalities commonly associated with holiday weekends.


"We would prefer voluntary compliance with traffic laws," said Davis. "However, if you choose to drive without regard for the safety of others, increased enforcement means you are three times more likely to get a traffic citation or be arrested for DWI during the Christmas weekend."



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- Graduate Real Estate Institute
- 30 years real estate brokerage

Salado **254/947-5050**



Home for the HOLIDAYS



1316 Morgan Dr. • Temple

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910 Lazy Oak

Reduced - Atmosphere of beauty and tranquility. A great blend of classical and contemporary elements. Wooded and landscaped. 3 bedroom, 3 baths, study, huge living area. **\$333,300.**



109 West Creek Dr.

Lovely split 4 BR home in an ideal location near schools. This home has vaulted ceilings, hardwood and tile floors, new carpet and paint, like new! Ready to move in. Oversized deck with winding pathway overlooking wet weather creek and huge live oaks.

Charming home in the country. Living/dining area, 3 BR/2 BA, 2 car garage. Wonderful covered front porch runs full length of home plus covered back porch. Situated on 4.59 acres. 7205 Elm Grove, Belton. **\$167,500.**

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

Lots

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

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



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Century 21
Bill Bartlett

The Salado Intermediate School sixth through eighth grade UIL team won the District Championship at the district meet in Somerville. This is the second year Salado has won the Championship.

Salado finished with a team total of 541. Academy trailed with 513 points.

Individual results were as follows:

Sixth Grade
 Ready Writing: Haley Kemp, 2nd; Caroline Payne, 6th
 Number Sense: Reed Farr, 1st; Jordan Svadlenak, 3rd
 Mathematics: Grace Buchele, 2nd
 Oral Reading: Haley Kemp, 1st; Audrey Roe, 4th
 Dictionary Skills: Chel-

sea Lamprey, 4th; Haley Kemp, 5th
 Calculator: Grace Buchele, 2nd; Zoe Simpson, 3rd; Ashlee Arnold, 5th

Spelling: Haley Kemp, 5th; Trent Wagnon, 6th

Listening: Grace Buchele, 2nd; Jordan Svadlenak, 4th

Music Memory team finished thrid.

Seventh Grade
 Ready Writing: Zanna Schafer, 2nd; Ashley Cantrell, 3rd; Abby Frazier, 4th
 Editorial Writing: Abby Frazier, 6th

Number Sense: Garret Ward, 1st; Zanna Shafer, 4th

Mathematics: Jordan Dunn, 1st

Oral Reading: Ashlee

Cantrell, 5th

Maps, Charts, Graphs: Jon Spinks, 4th

Dictionary Skills: Jonathon Spinks, 3rd

Calculators: Wesley Buchele, 1st; Matthew Walker, 2nd

Spelling: Jonathon Spinks, 4th

Science: Wesley Buchele, 2nd

Impromptu: Zanna Shafer, 6th

Modern Oratory: Dara Schiller, 2nd; Molly Heuer, 4th

Listening: Garet Ward, 2nd; Kelsey Williamson, 5th; Abby Frazier, 6th

Eighth Grade

Ready Writing: Tamara Stanish, 1st; Kristen Smith, 5th

Editorial Writing: Tamra Stanish, 1st

Number Sense: Jonas Goode, 3rd

Mathematics: Kirste Ralston, 1st; Gene Drake, 6th

Oral Reading: Kristen Smith, 5th; Tamra Stanish, 6th

Maps, Charts, Graphs: Amanda Hoffman, 4th

Dictionary Skills: Kamylle Palomino, 2nd; Lauren Haire, 5th

Calculators: Lauren Culver, 1st; Denny Jordan, 4th; Amanda Willey, 6th

Spelling: Tamra Stanish, 2nd; Kamylle Palomino, 4th

Science: Tamra Stanish, 3rd; Nick Mohammed, 6th

Impromptu: Paul Boston, 1st; Amanda Hoffman, 5th; Sara Dowell, 6th

Listening: Greg Fabre, 1st

Edwards introduces legislation to reduce costs of prescription drugs for Medicare recipients

Representative Chet Edwards has introduced H.R. 3672, the Medicare Prescription Drug Price Reduction Act of 2003, to improve the Medicare bill signed into law Dec. 8 by President Bush, saying the new law does not reduce the skyrocketing costs of prescription drugs. Edwards' bill would eliminate a controversial provision in the new law, which prohibits Medicare from using its immense bargaining clout to reduce prescription drug prices.

"It is outrageous that higher drug prices will be forced on many seniors because pharmaceutical lobbyists passed special interest language that prohibits Medicare from negotiating lower drug prices," said Rep. Edwards. "The Veterans Administration is allowed to bargain for cheaper drugs on behalf of

our veterans. Why is Medicare being prevented from bargaining to reduce prescription drug prices for America's seniors?"

The Medicare law will take effect in 2006 and cost estimates from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) have estimated that the overall cost to the federal government will rise at least to \$1 trillion in the next decade. Edwards contends that passage of H.R. 3672 will lower not only prescription drug prices but protect Medicare itself by lowering the overall cost of the program.

"If our fight is to lower drug costs, why tie our hands behind our backs by eliminating our capability to lower drug prices? Soaring drug prices put Medicare benefits at risk in the future by growing the cost of the program enormously."

According to a report by the Center for Economic and Policy Research, seniors will pay 60 percent more in 2006, when the prescription drug benefit goes into effect, than in 2000 even after adjusting for inflation. Seniors who paid, on average, six percent of their annual income for prescription drugs in 2000 will spend nine percent in 2006 and 13 percent in 2013.

"Even with help from the federal government, many seniors will be paying more out-of-pocket expenses in 2006 than they do now, because drug prices will continue to increase unless we act to slow them down," said Edwards.

A report released by the House Government Reform Committee comparing the prices seniors in America pay for the five most prescribed drugs to other

industrialized countries reveals that American seniors pay considerably more. The average cost for Prilosec, Plavix, Zocor, Prevacid, and Celebrex, the five most common prescribed drugs, show that U.S. drug prices are 174 percent higher than the United Kingdom, 152 percent higher than Canada, and 142 percent higher than France.

"Why should seniors and taxpayers pay the highest drug costs in the world for American made products? We must do all we can to rein in prescription drug prices to protect Medicare benefits and help seniors. Putting profits for HMOs and big drug companies over the needs of seniors and the disabled is not the solution our seniors deserve," said Edwards. "We must do better."

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Appropriations bring \$\$ to Bell

Congressman Chet Edwards (D-Waco) announced that the final Appropriations bill for 2004 Dec. 10 passed the House and includes \$6.9 million added by Edwards for Central Texas transportation, education, water and community development projects. These projects were not in the Administration budget request, but were added by Edwards, a member of the House Appropriations Committee. Also included in the bill was \$1.3 billion for veterans health care.

"Improving our roads and transportation system and protecting our quality of water are crucial infrastructure investments to ensure our economic growth and quality of life in Central Texas," said Edwards. "There is nothing more important for our future than investing in the education of our children. That is why I requested these funds and why I am thrilled the Appropriations Conference Committee agreed to fund these important Central Texas projects."

Edwards was also pleased that earlier efforts to more fully fund veterans' health care were successful. However, Edwards expressed the need to improve on current funding levels. "Veterans ought to be a top priority of this Congress. In a time of war, the least we can do to honor their service to this nation is ensure that they receive the quality health care and benefits they deserve," said Edwards.

The final funding level for Impact Aid included in the bill will bring approximately \$31 million to the Killeen and Coppers Cove School districts for 2004.

The budget for Impact Aid nationally in 2004 will be \$1.236 billion, a \$48 million increase over 2003 and \$221 million more than the Bush Administration's request. The Administration had requested a \$173 million cut in 2004 compared to 2003, but Edwards passed an amendment in

the House Budget Committee, on which he serves, that added \$223 million to the Impact Aid program.

"Considering the Administration's proposed budget would have cut KISD and CCISD's funding by over \$30 million, I believe this was one of the most important successes of this year's Appropriations process. I am still deeply disappointed that the White House Budget Office wanted to cut education funding for Ft. Hood military children while their parents are fighting in Iraq but am glad that Democrats and Republicans in Congress supported my budget amendment to stop those unfair cuts," said Edwards.

"Given the incredible sacrifices being made by our Ft. Hood soldiers and their families, I was especially gratified that I was able to add funding to provide education support for children in the Killeen and Coppers Cove School Districts. The Impact Aid and Communities in Schools programs will make a positive difference for the education of our soldiers' children, which is the least we can do for families doing so much for our country," said Edwards.

These projects were included in the 2004 Omnibus spending bill for Bell and Coryell counties, which consolidated seven different Appropriations bills into one measure, totaling \$328 billion.

Impact Aid Education Funding

\$1.236 billion Edwards secured for Impact Aid in FY04, up from FY03 total of \$1.188 Billion in earlier appropriations bills already passed. The Administration originally requested \$1.0165 billion and elimination of funding for B students (all students living off post, or children or civilians who work on post).

Edwards successfully added \$223 million in committee that made into the final bill reversing the Administration's cut of

\$173 Million, reversing the \$33 million cut proposed by House Republicans, and providing \$19 Million for inflation. If the Administration's cuts had been adopted, Killeen would have lost about \$12 million of Impact Aid per year. Copperas Cove would have lost about \$9.5 million of Impact Aid per year.

This means that \$21.5 million worth of Impact Aid funds going to the schools serving Fort Hood would have been eliminated, and the local districts would have to implement massive cuts in services to all children at a time when soldiers from Fort Hood are deploying leaving thousands of their children "left behind."

Tank Destroyer Blvd - \$1 Million

One million to construct at Boulevard at Fort Hood MLK Boulevard Revitalization Project - \$100,000

\$100,000 from the HUD facilities construction program for Temple's Martin Luther King Boulevard Revitalization Project. In 1997, the City of Temple launched an aggressive revitalization program for Downtown Temple. These funds will be used for lot consolidation, demolition and clearing to make way for new business opportunities for an underserved area of the community.

Killeen Loop - \$750,000

\$750,000 for Loop 201 construction in Killeen. This roadway will serve as an important connector to three cities (Belton, Harker Heights and Killeen) and provide commercial traffic to I-35 and the new Joint Use airport.

Communities in Schools Bell & Coryell - \$200,000

This program is a local, private, nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing dropout rates among at-risk students. This is a special need because of the deployments at Ft. Hood. CIS, Bell-Coryell Counties Inc. connects schools with the resources students need most and provides these at-risk students with the

opportunity to give back to their peers and the community.

Blackland Research Center - \$250,000

\$250,000 added to the Agriculture Research Service to study phosphorus loading capacities of soils in Central Texas, and to investigate methods of applying animal waste to cropland that don't cause phosphorus runoff or contamination of downstream waters. The study will also explore new conservation land tillage systems that limit the loss of topsoil, improve environmental quality and increase farm profitability.

Fort Hood Revegetation Project - \$500,000

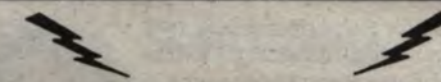
\$500,000 for a Range Vegetation Pilot Project at Fort Hood. This raises to \$1,000,000 the total funds Edwards has secured to re-vegetate land that has been stripped of vegetation by military exercises involving heavy artillery and armored vehicles on the Fort Hood reservation.

Road Study - \$1 million

\$1 million for a feasibility study on for a toll road in Copperas Cove to help relieve congestion traveling to and from Ft. Hood. Without transportation appropriation funding, it would be difficult to find local dollars to pay for the in-depth study.

Leon River restoration Project - \$196,000

\$196,000 to demonstrate restoration techniques in the Leon River Watershed. This project balances concerns for the environment with the property rights of Central Texas farmers and ranchers. Treating invasive, water-consumptive brush species like Ashe Juniper will help increase water flow in the Leon River above Belton Lake, conserve endangered species habitat and increase the amount of land available for grazing. These projects have also been innovative in using composted animal waste in re-vegetating these areas with the native grasses.



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Planting your trees

Master Gardener

by Deborah Martin

Successful planting of trees in your home landscape depends on several factors such as correct handling of nursery stock, condition of tree, site preparation, time of planting and after planting care.

The best time to plant landscape trees is during the fall months of September through December. Planting during this time has distinct advantages. Fall planting follows the heat of summer, and precedes a cool winter season. Trees and shrubs use this to good advantage. The roots grow anytime the soil temperature is 40 degrees or higher, which may occur all winter in Texas.

During the winter months, the root systems of the fall-planted specimens develop and become established. When spring arrives, this expanded root system can support and take advantage of the full surge of spring growth and better tolerate the heat and stresses of summer.

Fall is the optimum time to plant balled and burlapped trees and shrubs. Balled and burlapped plants have ample time to recover from transplanting and proliferate roots before spring growth begins. Bare root plants, however, including roses, pecan, and fruit trees

should be planted in late winter when they are completely dormant about 30 days prior to expected bud break or average bud break for the variety in this geographical area. Your Extension agent or a good nurseryman can advise you on these average dates.

When buying plants for your landscape, be sure to get healthy, well-grown plants. Always buy from a reputable dealer. Beware of plant bargains. They can easily turn out to be real headaches. A bargain is no good if it dies. The price tag, especially the cheapest one, is not the best guide to quality.

All plants including trees have growing requirements. Think about the plant's needs before you invest. Is it adapted to your area's soil? Will it grow in sun or shade? Does it need a wet or dry location? Is it cold hardy? Some nurseries have this type of information on tags beside the plant. If not, ask a nursery professional or the county Extension agent. Part three of this series will list some trees that are adapted to Central Texas.

"Plan before you plant" is always a good rule of thumb. Whether you are planting a single plant or an entire landscape, plan first, then plant. Good planning is a worthwhile investment of time that will pay off in greater enjoyment of attractive and useful home grounds, and in increasing the value of your home. It's much easier to move plants on paper than to dig them after planting in the wrong place. A plan saves many planting mistakes.

Every plant in the landscape should serve a purpose. Ask yourself if you want a plant for screening, for privacy, or for

shade. How large will it be five years from now? Plants, like people, grow up. Remember, that a small one-gallon size plant will look entirely different after a few years of growth in your landscape.

Plant properly for success. Here are a few guidelines on getting the job done right:

1. Dig a hole large enough in diameter so that the root system has at least six inches of clearance on all sides. The root ball should rest on a solid soil foundation, so don't dig the hole deeper than the ball. If the hole is twice as wide in diameter and no deeper than the root ball the size is adequate. Research has shown that the wider the hole is, the better the plant will grow. Make sure the sides of the hole are not glazed over as this will result in a root bound tree. Break out soil with a shovel to loosen.

2. Plant the tree or shrub slightly above the level of the surrounding soil, to allow for settling and increased soil drainage. Trees should be planted at least the same depth as they were grown in the nursery. Planting too deep will impair growth.

3. Carefully place the tree or shrub in the hole. Handle the plant by the root ball, not by the trunk. A broken ball of earth can mean a dead plant. Always remove any container before you plant. Burlap may be left on the ball but all plastic, metal, and strings should be removed to prevent girdling the plant.

4. Fill the planting hole with water. Add soil. This removes air from roots and ensures viability. Keep adding water and soil until the tree is planted. Backfill the hole, using only the native soil removed from

the hole; do not use soil amendments when planting large shrubs and trees. Fill the hole, and firm the soil around the plant. Construct a ring of backfill two to three inches high at the outer edge of the diameter of the hole to form a water basin. Water thoroughly to settle the soil around the roots and to eliminate any air pockets.

5. Do not fertilize your tree or shrub after planting. Wait until early in the spring to do this, and even then, go lightly. Heavy applications of fertilizer may burn and injure the root system, and could possibly kill the plant.

6. Watering has been and remains paramount in transplanting. At the time of transplanting, soak the root ball and surrounding soil. A thorough watering every seven to 10 days dramatically increases success. More frequent watering may encourage root rot. Remember more trees and shrubs fail from over watering than from under watering, but the roots must not be allowed to dry out while establishing itself in the landscape.

7. Before calling it a day, add four to six inches of mulch around the base of newly planted trees and shrubs. This helps to keep down weeds and conserve soil moisture. Use pine bark, compost, grass clippings, or leaves.


Container grown nursery stock can be transplanted any time of the year. Follow the above general directions on site preparation, fertilization and pruning. Always check the roots. They can become distorted or root bound growing in containers for a long period of time. It is suggested that some root pruning be done to ensure new root growth and subsequent strong top growth. Anytime roots are pruned top growth must be pruned to compensate for root loss.

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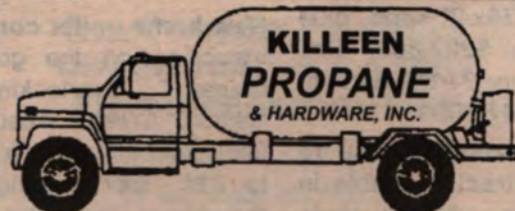
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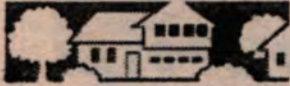
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MARKETPLACE

Homes For Sale



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

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

For Sale in Salado: double wide manufactured home approx. 1,800 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 living room areas on 1/2 acre. Payments on home and land approx. \$600 per month for buyer with good credit. Will require approx. \$1,000 up front 913-7437 7/16p
Exquisite 4/3/2 on .868 acre lot in one of

Homes For Sale



Salado's choice subdivisions. Formal and informals living and dining areas beautiful view, custom landscaping, green house, garden room hot tub, etc. \$337,000 Call First Texas Brokerage 254-947-5577

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

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

Early 1900's classic home totally renovated 2/1 living with fireplace, formal, dining, sunroom, 10 ft. ceilings, wood floors, metal roof W/D connections. 309 Josphine, Holland, \$95,000 254-541-8747 tfnf

New Listing - 502 Mill Creek 3/2/2 all birch, large living area with fireplace, fenced, backyard,

Homes For Sale



new carpet. Walk to shopping center. \$149,700 Ronnie Tynes at Tynes Realty, 947-0044. TFNB
2/2/1 Townhome in Salado. Washer/dryer connections inside, 6 closets, close to shopping. \$87,500. (254) 338-5083. TFNB

Mill Creek. 2001 Christmas Tour Home. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2 car + golf cart garage. Plantation shutters throughout, fully landscaped, sprinkler system. 3812 Chisholm Tr. \$259,900. (254) 947-8346. Call for Appt.

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

Like new - 4BD/2BA, 2,000 sq. ft. double wide on one acre next to large ranch. Salado schools. 254-947-5482.

Rent or Lease

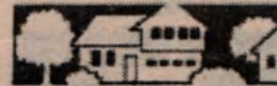


This beautiful home features a lg. family room w/ fireplace, covered porch, sprinkler system, fenced yard, and too many extras to mention The owner provides professional lawn maintenance and outside water It is located close to the golf course and shopping. No pets accepted. Call John Reider Properties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

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

Great location on #3 Fairway!! This 2BD, 2.5BA patio home is ready for occupancy! Big 2-car garage and room for golf cart. \$1,250/month. Call Properties by Larry Sands @ (254) 947-5580. Salado lease/purchase, doublewide, 1,800 sq. ft.,

Rent or Lease



excellent condition. \$650 per month, \$300 deposit. (254) 913-7102.

Land for Sale



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

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

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

Wonderful homesites! Reduced Price! 19.59 Acres with large oak trees, good water well and horse barn. \$180,000. Call Rodney at the Charter Group 254-778-6675 tfnb

End of Cul-De-Sac 3.2 ac \$43,900 Beautiful tract w large trees near historic

Land for Sale



Salado. Cul-de-sac backs up to large ranch. County rds, electric telephone, more. Only \$43,900! Call 1-254-947-5901 ext 849

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

Commercial Rental



Opportunity to own Main St. property in Salado. Established business is creating space for a new business to flourish with Main St. exposure. 2090 SF of retail space. Perfect for a new business to reduce cost of ownership & still have established business next door to promote pedestrian traffic. \$224,500 Call C-21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 tnf

Office or retail space on Main Street, Salado. (254) 947-5933 TFNB



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Lovely 2 story in Mill Creek. 3 BR/2-1/2 BA, 2 living areas, formal and informal dining. Huge oaks. \$176,000. Call Tina Smith with Ratliff Properties 254-718-0718.

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SANTA! STOP THE SLEIGH! Why freeze at the North Pole when you can warm up by the fireplace in this lovely 3 BR, 2 BA home in Salado. Large kitchen with island. Huge corner lot, covered patio, side entry garage and circle drive. \$149,900.

Call Joan Wright • 254-760-2746
Email: joanwright@msn.com - Joan Mikeska Realty



\$131,800 - Jimmy Wilson Homes presents this new home in Salado Prairies with split BR's, breakfast room & breakfast bar, formal dining room & large family room.



\$324,900 - Another custom home by Westerfield Homes. Walk into elegance with wood flooring throughout breakfast, kitchen, living room, dining room, entry & study. Double crown molding in main living areas and beautiful custom cabinets in kitchen. Granite kitchen countertops provide an inviting atmosphere for entertaining friends. Spacious front porch overlooks Mill Creek golf course. This home is positioned on a corner lot to enhance privacy.



\$349,800 - The most beautiful 15 acre tract available in Salado with all kinds of possibilities! A 2,336 SF home with 3 BR, 2 BA, gameroom and loft room. Exposed beams and Franklin stove give this home a lodge feel. Also, 960 SF barn with an additional 320 SF heated & cooled guest area, a 1950 SF RV garage, a tractor barn, sheds and more. City water plus a well. Private location.



\$106,800 - Clean, light & bright! Very well maintained home only 6 years old. The owners upgraded the home thinking they would be there forever. Security system, sprinkler system, water softener, fenced back yard, gutters all around, shed and more.

Century 21 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 Slagel	760-3226
Ann Carroll	760-0101
Melanie Kirchmeier	760-5855



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



\$241,800 - Synergy Builders has done a magnificent job with the landscaping of this new home. They added brightness to the spacious kitchen with a skylight. Room for your golf cart, granite counter tops, tons of crown molding, full sprinkler system.



\$194,500 - Work out of your home or need additional space for a relative? This home may be for you. Only a few minutes from downtown Salado. Three or four BR home with two living areas & two dining rooms. A separate building close to the main home could be used as an apartment, office or mother-in-law suite. Four car carport, two storage buildings make this home versatile for many uses. Master BR downstairs with two bedrooms, one bath and game room upstairs.



\$259,500 - This beautiful home sits on Salado Creek & Mill Creek Golf Course #13 Green. Features include wood floor entry, built-in entertainment center, study with built-in cabinets, bright kitchen with see-through white cabinets, oversized garage, speaker system wired, including deck area.



\$189,000 - Wonderful oak trees shade a fully landscaped yard in the heart of Mill Creek. This home has a magnificent sun room that overlooks a lush yard. Welcoming courtyard enhances the front walkway. Large living room accommodates two sitting areas for easy entertaining. Master BR has a view of a wooded back yard with access to a covered porch.

Residential

- \$83,500 - Nice manufactured home on 5 acres - UC.
- \$106,800 - Clean, light & bright! Well maintained 6 yrs old.
- \$117,900 - Large deck on 2 BR home in country.
- \$124,900 - New construction on W. Amity. 3 BR/2 BA.
- \$128,800 - Jimmy Wilson home on 1 acre, covered patio.
- \$131,800 - New mid-size home, great finishing touches.
- \$139,900 - Mobile home & barn on 10 acres. Beautiful trees.
- \$182,800 - 3 BR, 2 BA home on 2 acres in Hidden Springs.
- \$189,000 - Courtyard enhances the front walkway, lush yard.
- \$194,500 - 3 or 4 BR, apartment/office. 4 car carport.
- \$209,800 - 2 story country style home & shop. 3.5 acres.
- \$214,800 - 4 BR/2-1/2 BA on 1 wooded acre in Mill Creek.
- \$224,900 - Home overlooking Mill Creek Golf Course.
- \$241,800 - Synergy Builders 3BR home has kitchen skylight.
- \$256,800 - New home in Mill Creek. Granite table.
- \$259,500 - 3 BR overlooking Salado Creek & #13 Green.
- \$259,900 - 4 BR home w/ pool & waterfall, landscaped.
- \$267,900 - New 4 BR, 2-1/2 BA overlooking golf course.
- \$269,000 - 4 BR home w/open floor plan. 1.93 acres - UC.
- \$297,000 - 3 BR, 2-1/2 BA on Salado Creek Place cul-de-sac.
- \$309,900 - 1 year old home on #3 Fairway. Landscaped.

- \$324,900 - 4 BR, 3-1/2 BA home overlooking golf course.
- \$324,900 - New 4 BR home with hillside lake view.
- \$349,800 - 15 acres, 3 BR, 2 BA, gameroom and loft room.
- \$459,000 - Elegant home on 20.22 acres near Temple - UC.
- \$1,249,000 - Executive 4 BR home on Salado Creek.

Acreage Available

- 140 acres 7 miles SE of Belton. Secluded, mostly wooded, great view, river frontage, owner finance. \$2,500 per acre.
- 140 acres on Hwy 36 at Temple Airport, all or part (50 acres - UC).
- 38.78 acres FM 2843, 8 mile west, beautiful trees. \$174,500.
- 20 to 363 acres 6 mile S. Salado, Lovely view, owner finance.
- 15.796 acres fronting FM 2268 with young trees. \$99,500.
- 7 acres Elm Grove Road - \$59,000.

Lots

- Mill Creek Lots**
- 700 Indian Trail - \$30,000
 - Mill Creek Springs - \$30 - \$75,000

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

Woods of Salado Lots

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

Other Lots

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

Commercial Property

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

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



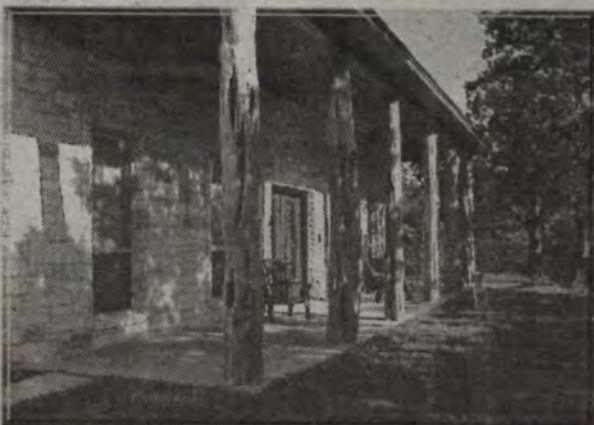
Easy access to golf course. This 3/2/2 is located on large professionally landscaped corner lot between the old and the new courses. Large kitchen with cabinets galore and oversized serving bar. **\$159,900.**



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



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



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



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



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



Under Contract

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



Completely remodeled home on approximately 1 acre. Lots of privacy! Priced at **\$159,900.**



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



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



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

Acreage

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

10+ acres in Bell Meadows off FM 1123. Unbelievable views. **\$89,000.**
 20 acres sw of Salado on Buttermilk Creek. Heavily wooded. **\$125,000.**
 51 acres Buttermilk Creek, great views, tree coverage, sw of Salado.
 51 acres with hill country view \$3,500 per acre.
 130 acres Rolling hills with great views. **\$4,500/acre.**
 245 acres Beautiful rolling hills with large live oak trees and a 3 acre lake. Outstanding development opportunity.

Commercial

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

Salado Lots

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

Belton

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