

Village Voice

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Sales taxes up considerably

Santa Claus was very good to Salado this Christmas. Instead of lumps of coal, he left bags of cash.

The Village of Salado and Salado Public Library both outpaced the rate of increase for the state and the county in the February sales tax rebates. Those sales tax rebates were for the month of December, which includes fourth quarter filers and annual filers.

The Village received \$45,995.54 in February, which was 15.78 percent more than last year's payment of \$39,723.68. So far in 2006, The Village has been paid \$74,120.09, which is 12.77 percent more than the \$65,721.50 paid through February 2005.

The Village of Salado collects a one-cent levy within its boundaries that are approximately two-square miles.

Municipalities in Bell County received \$4.2 million in sales tax rebates,

up 12.42 percent from last year's \$3.8 million. For the year, Bell County cities have received \$7 million, 14.62 percent more than the \$6.1 million paid through February 2005.

The Salado Public Library District showed an even greater increase in sales tax rebates this month than the Village did. The Library District's check of \$29,003.88 is 22.01 percent more than last February's \$23,770.41 payment. For the year, the Library District has been paid \$47,246.59 in sales tax rebates, which is 18.18 percent higher than the \$39,977.28 paid through February 2005.

The Salado Public Library District levies a half-cent sales tax within its boundaries, which are the same as the Salado Independent School District.

Bell County also levies a half-cent sales tax and

SEE SALES TAX, PAGE 5A



(PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)

Justin Pruitt puts up a shot during the Salado Eagles' 52-42 loss to Jarrell last week. With one game at home against Lago Vista left on Feb. 14, the Eagles were still in the playoff hunt with one game left. The Lady Eagles lost their chance at making the play-offs when Rogers lost to Somerville in the last game of the regular season. Click on www.saladovillagevoice.com for results of the Salado-Lago Vista game and playoff implications from the game. Turn to page 6A for coverage of the Eagles and Lady Eagles last week.

Early voting starts Feb. 21 in primaries

No sooner than they finish voting in a local bond election, Salado voters will turn around and vote in statewide, county and precinct primary elections with early voting beginning Feb. 21 and primary day March 7.

Primary Election voting will be 7 a.m.-7 p.m. March 7 at the Church of Christ Activities Center, at the corner of Blacksmith Rd. and Church Street, off of Main Street in Salado. Voters will be casting their ballots using the Helping Americans Vote Act (HAVA) Compliant Auto Marker Machines and the votes will be counted with the M100 Precinct Counter.

The Precinct Conventions will start at 7:30 p.m. March 7 at the Church of Christ Activities Center, after the polls have closed.

Early voting dates

Early voting in Bell County will be conducted in person 8 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays at Feb. 21-24 at the locations below.

Extended early voting will be conducted in person at those locations 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Feb. 25 and 12 noon-5 p.m. Feb. 26.

Early voting will be conducted in person at the locations 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Feb. 27-March 3.

Early voting locations

- Belton - Bell County Courthouse Annex, Building C, 550 East 2nd Ave.
- Harker Heights - Parks and Recreation Center, 307 Millers Crossing.
- Killeen - Bell County Annex, 301 Priest Drive.
- Killeen - Killeen Community Center, 2201 E. Veterans Memorial Dr.
- Temple - Bell County Annex, 205 East Central Ave.

American Dream: Author, researcher to lead discussion Feb. 19

The Institute for the Humanities is poised to launch its new spring programming series entitled "Deepening the American Dream."

"In this time of natural disasters, war and deep divisions in our nation," Institute Director Sara Mackie said, "we are taking the opportunity to examine who we are as a nation, how we are living out the hopes and dreams of our founders and what we can do to make our country better."

Writer and social commentator, Paul Loeb, will lead off the series with a lecture entitled

"Living With Conviction in a Cynical Time." His talk will be 4-6 p.m. Feb. 19, at the Celebration Center in Salado.

Loeb has spent 30 years researching and writing about citizen responsibility and empowerment—asking what makes some people choose lives of social commitment while other abstain. He has written five widely praised books including **Hope in Hard Times**, **Soul of a Citizen: Living With Conviction in a Cynical Time** and **The Impossible Will Take a Little While: A Citizen's**

Guide to Hope in a Time of Fear. The latter was named the Number Three political book of 2004 by the History Channel and the American Book Association, and won the Nautilus Award for best social change book of the year.

He has written on social involvement for a wide range of publications including *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *USA Today* and numerous other newspaper and magazines and is a frequent guest and commentator on numerous national radio and television programs.

Author, researcher to lead discussion Feb. 19

He attended Stanford University and New York New School for Social Research, then edited *Liberation Magazine*. He is currently an associate scholar at Seattle's Center for Ethical Leadership.

Other presentations in the Deepening the American Dream Series include:

Adm. Bobby Inman who will speak on "Sustaining the American Dream," March 26; and Dr. Patricia Limerick, Director of the Center of the American West, who will speak on "Pride Without Vanity: Patriotism in the 21st

Century."

There will also be a writing workshop to expand the "Writing Central Texan's Lives" project that was begun last fall. This project is patterned after Austin's Writing Austin's Lives project and is designed to produce and collect personal stories about central Texan's lives and experiences. This writing seminar will be open to the public.

More than 200 of the nation's leading scholars have come to Salado to speak, including Nobel Laureate Linus Pauling, playwright Edward Albee,



Paul Loeb will discuss "Living with Conviction in a Time of Cynicism"

philosopher Huston Smith, poet Maya Angelou, psychiatrist M. Scott Peck, actor Lee Marvin, psychiatrist Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, university president Donna Shalala, economist John Kenneth Galbraith, and politician Barbara Jordan, among many others.



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Correction

In last week's page 1 article on the Village of Salado sewage study committee report to the Board of Aldermen, we incorrectly reported that bonds do not require a property tax. A municipality must have a property tax before it can sell bonds to fund construction projects. Bonds also require a vote by the public before they can be sold. However, a municipality may issue certificates of obligation to fund construction projects without a property tax. Yet, an entity's taxing ability is often considered in financing certificates of obligation.

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FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas



The Tribal-Casino scandal

Political contributions from Indian tribes soaked in gambling revenues have increased exponentially in recent years, from a mere \$2,000 in 1999 to more than \$7 million in 2004. But the trend has suddenly reversed. Now it's the politicians giving money to tribes, as dozens of pols who happily took dollars from Jack Abramoff-associated tribes hurriedly return the cash or hand it over to charity. Giving back money is nice. But one wonders: What did these members of Congress think these contributions were for, if not advancing the cause of an Indian gambling industry that has always had a strong whiff of the scam about it? Congress is going to rush to nominally clean itself up in exercises of symbolic self-flagellation, like reducing the lobbyist gift ban from \$50 to \$20, but it won't address the root of the scandal unless it reforms the absurd, inherently corruptible law and practices surrounding the creation of new money-minting Indian casinos.

Congress passed the Indian Gambling Regulatory Act in 1988 basically with the intention of letting tribes run bingo games. Armed with the opening presented by the act and with the fiction of tribal sovereignty, tribes opened casinos that allowed them to undertake the old-fashioned business of buying politicians. The growth of tribal casinos exploded. There are now 400 of them in more than half the states in the country.

"What state governments and Congress don't think about is that if you open the door a crack, because of the tremendous amount of money that legal gambling brings in, there will be entrepreneurs who will push it wide open," I. Nelson Rose of Whittier Law School in Southern California told Congressional Quarterly Weekly. The word "entrepreneurs" is overly generous, since

Rich Lowry



gambling doesn't always attract the most high-minded businessmen.

The Indian casino business is flagrantly detached from its original justification of letting supposedly sovereign nations govern themselves on their own land. Since reservations tend to be in low population areas, there has been a push, called "reservation shopping," to open casinos closer to urban areas. In an extreme example, Wisconsin-based tribes want to build casinos in the Catskills in New York. There are at least 30 proposals for off-reservation casinos around the country, and roughly 200 petitions for new "tribes" to be recognized by the federal government so they can go into the casino business too.

With every new tribe and casino, there is more loot to be poured into politics, if not through Jack Abramoff, through more discreet lobbyists. Rep. Frank Wolf, R-Va., sent a letter last month to President Bush urging him to order a moratorium on the opening of more tribal casinos. In the meantime, Congress can take up legislation reforming the much-abused 1988 Indian gambling law. This effort, obviously called for on public-policy grounds, has the disadvantage of not having any obscenely moneyed interests behind it.

Members of Congress will probably cluck over the Abramoff scandal, wait for things to cool off and enjoy it when the contribution stream keeps running the way it usually does: from Indian casinos to them.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Bush and Congress off to shaky start: "Ho-Hum" speech, followed by a budget that hurts poor; Only DNGers hit gold!

Off the Record by Ken Clapp



The day after his "ho-hum" State of the Union speech, President Bush traveled to Tennessee and told partisans there he was looking forward to signing the "2005 Carry-over Budget" that (among other things) raises co-payments for the poverty stricken who desperately need (and qualify for) medicaid assistance. The spending edict also allows hospitals, for the first time ever, to deny health care for those without insurance or who cannot afford their co-pays. Also included are \$12 billion cuts in student loans, partially offset by raising interest rates on those fortunate enough to receive this assistance. **How's that for a self confessed "Compassionate Conservative" President?**

Bush was pleased with this spending measure that would, he claimed, cut the deficit by over \$39 billion. And in the same breath, noted that this very same budget also includes an **extra billion dollars in subsidies** for the milk producers of America.

The Prez has the uncanny ability to move in opposite directions at the same time.

GOP'S NEW MATH?

Bush was right when he touted the need for an immediate effort to upgrade the teaching of math and science (Re: State of Union speech). **Inadvertently (we presume) his own personal math defects showed up when he bragged on what he labeled a "deficit cutting budget" (noted above).** Bush's fuzzy math skills came to light when he bragged on \$39 billion cuts in medicaid and student loans, while at the same time promoting next month's drive to perpetuate the temporary personal tax cuts. **That will add \$70 billion to our deficit.**

Plain old fashioned arithmetic indicates that cutting \$39 billion (from the poor), while giving away \$70 billion (to the wealthy), **results in a net loss of \$31 billion!**

That's hardly "deficit reduction" - unless the President is using some sort of "secret math," that's taught only to Republicans who endlessly promote "fiscal responsibility," while at the same time are carelessly (and purposely) creating a national debt that's out of control.

We have to assume the Prez failed to take the introductory Math 101 course while at Yale University. No doubt he also skipped the Remedial course in Government as well. On the other hand - to be fair, there really wasn't much time for book learning with so much partying required on the frat circuit.

BUSH AND OIL

Another of Tuesday's Union-Speech initiatives that's hard to square, was the Bush 20-year, all-out effort to cut middle east oil imports by 75 percent. Next day the energy secretary reported that's not what the President really meant to say. Two days later, other data emerged including the fact that mid east oil represents 19.3 percent of what America imports. Balance comes mostly from Canada, Nigeria, Indonesia, Venezuela and Mexico.

Another (Union Speech) throw-away line that failed to resonate, took a sly swipe at this country's oil companies, when Bush complained about our "addiction to oil that we must break."

While en route to Nashville, Bush reversed his field and went to bat for Exxon-Mobile, defending their current \$36 billion annualized price gouging

profits. Called it simply "The result of how the marketplace works." He also urged us not to be upset at gasoline prices, nor ask the oil profiteers to return any of their extraordinary gains via a reduction at the pump.

NOT A GREAT WEEK

All in all it wasn't a great week for the President whose "Union" speech was given poor ratings even by his own congregation. Nor for Congress, who couldn't find anything better to do than resurrect last year's miserable budget reduction bill, that did nothing but hurt the most vulnerable of our citizens.

Add to this litany of woes is the President's low approval ratings that remain around the 40 percentile level. Worse yet, are the pitiful numbers assigned to our grumbling, stumbling congressional lawmakers.

We need to be thankful we aren't running for reelection to Congress this year. Trying to put a happy face on the Washington mess is akin to turning base metal into gold. It just ain't gonja work.

BOND ISSUE RESULTS - COMMENTARY

The results of last Saturday's school bond issue are front page news items and that's exactly where you'll find details in today's *Salado Village Voice*.

Our comment in this morning's *Off The Record* deals only with a word of commendation to the many citizens who worked tirelessly to turn the previous bond defeat into victory.

A victory for our young people - and the Village - in the years ahead.

MIRACLE ON THE DNGer FRONT

Hold on to your hats folks - a mind-boggling happenstance may have occurred last week here in Salado. If not miraculous, certainly noteworthy. The Salado Chapter of the International Society of Do-No-Gooders (who still meet with alarming regularity at the Stagecoach Coffee Shop) are the notables in this news-flash and for the first time in memory - are united behind one idea - **Term Limits**. Starting with Congress and eventually roping in our esteemed Legislature.

And we're talking here about DNGers at both ends of the political spectrum. Unanimity that veers even close to this bunch, is a preternatural event. Preternatural was explained to the DNGers as another word for "Wow!"

REASONS FOR DNG UNANIMITY

All this like-mindedness resulted from the recently uncovered shenanigans of folks like Jack Abramoff and Tom DeLay, plus the many "for sale" members of Congress. Other items disgusting our local malcontents: "Midnight Earmarking"; Open marketeering of congressional votes; Out of control federal spending (mostly by Republicans); And free wheeling-dealing lobbyists and lawmakers.

TIME FOR TERM LIMITS

Whatever the reasons - our DNGers are onto something we should all embrace - Term Limits. **If for no other reason than to keep elected officials from mishandling tax-dollars and lawmaking with the hubris of "Divine Right Monarchs."**

Be sure to commend our local curmudgeons, who are like the blind hog that eventually finds an acorn. Because these grouchers have finally discovered a winner.

That's -30-

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Democarats should thank their lucky stars that Sheehan was stopped

By DAVID E. JOHNSON

Democrats in Congress should be thanking God for the Capitol Police (but of course they can't acknowledge Him for fear of alienating their liberal base) for removing Cindy Sheehan from the State of the Union speech.

More than anything that any President Bush could say or do, the sight of Cindy Sheehan disrupting the State of the Union would have convinced voters that they can not trust Democrats with the war on terror and national security.

A disruption of the State of the Union would have overshadowed the Democratic response which was meant to show a Democratic Party that can appeal to red states.

Indeed, Cindy Sheehan at the State of the Union would have been a public relations disaster of the first degree for Democrats.

Of course, Ms. Sheehan says she had no intent to disrupt the State of the Union address (one believes that as much as one believes that the President of Iran may recognize Israel and acknowledge that the Holocaust occurred).

The episode over Cindy Sheehan is not an issue of free speech despite what she and a few others want to argue.

It is rather an issue of how the far left has come to dominate the Party of Franklin Delano Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy and the image that they present to Americans. Harry Truman, Lyndon Johnson, Sam Rayburn, and Tip O'Neil were as partisan as Democrats as one could find but they had a respect for the presidency regardless of which Party held it.

One could never imagine, Tip O'Neil allowing a Cindy Sheehan admittance to the State of the Union to embarrass Ronald Reagan.

Yet, that is what

today's Democrats did by giving Sheehan a ticket to the State of the Union. Despite the denials of the Democratic Congresswomen involved in inviting Sheehan, it is reasonable to believe that they expected her to be a distraction at the least and a disturbance at most. It is as if an isolationist Congressman had invited a pro-Nazi sympathizer to Franklin Roosevelt's 1940 State of the Union.

Yet a disturbance by Sheehan would have been the worse thing that could have occurred for Democrats. The Democratic response that aired Virginia Governor Kaine and was designed to paint a less liberal party would have been overshadowed by constant replaying of the Sheehan outburst. Democratic leaders from Harry Reid on, would have been called on to say if they supported Sheehan's outburst. If they said no, they would have alienated the extreme liberals from Howard Dean on, who have captured their party. If they said yes, they would have alienated millions of Americans who would have been appalled at such conduct. So luckily for Democrats, they were able to duck the issue due to the Capitol Police.

They ducked the issue but they fail to realize at some point they must address it. Democrats will have to decide if the far left who would actually consider a truce with Osama bin Laden, truly does speak for their party or not. If they are the new face of the Democratic Party, no amount of public relations or spin will be able to help them.

David E. Johnson is the CEO and Co-Founder of Strategic Vision, LLC, an Atlanta-based public relations and public affairs agency. He may be reached at djohnson@strategicvision.biz

FORUM



Now even Christmas is made in China



Jim Hightower

From Wal-Mart on up, America's big retail chains are once again tallying up disappointing Christmas profits, for the season's buying spree was not nearly as gleeful as they had hoped. If they wonder why, one clue can be found in the millions of Christmas lights, sparkling ornaments, artificial trees, and other glittering decorations that adorned their stores and our homes.

Practically none of these were made in America.

We don't make much in America anymore - not even Christmas - and as our middle-class manufacturing jobs have been moved offshore, the workaday majority has seen its income knocked down, leaving folks less able to spend in the holiday season.

Indeed, the very retailers now bemoaning the lack of consumer spending are the very ones who no longer "Buy American," instead running to low-wage hell holes to get the merchandise that fills their stores.

Seventy percent of the world's Christmas decorations, for example, now come from one country: China. In fact, more than two-thirds of the world's artificial Christmas trees are made in just one Chinese city, Shenzhen. Even George Bush has been a customer - in 2003, seven of the Christmas trees adorning the White House bore the "Made in China" label.

American retailers can get a six-foot-high artificial tree from a Chinese factory for less than four dollars - then sell it to you for \$140. Workers there who make the trees are paid only about \$83 a month, and Christmas joy is not a part of their laborious lives. As a marketing executive with a Chinese exporter of Christmas paraphernalia put it, "Our workers are mostly middle-aged women who don't need to know anything about Christmas."

Chinese factories are so buoyed by their Christmas success that they're branching out to dominate the market for Halloween, Easter, and our other holidays too.

Meanwhile, the wages of American workers no longer even keep up with inflation - and retailers wonder why no one's buying their stuff.

School finance fix must restore meaningful discretion in tax rate

Now that the Texas Supreme Court has provided guidance on the school finance system, a fix must be crafted that addresses the constitutional problem identified. The specific deficiency flagged by the court is that the current system contains what is tantamount to an unconstitutional statewide property tax. The key to this finding was a lack of "meaningful discretion" available to many local school boards to approve tax rates below the \$1.50 property tax cap and still meet the educational mandates required of them.

To fix the problem, school districts must be provided a realistic ability to set tax rates below a statutory cap. The Court set a deadline of June 1 of this year to have a plan adopted that allows meaningful discretion in setting these tax rates.

The working assumption is that about 15 to 20 cents of tax rate discretion would be meaningful. Providing 15 cents of local discretion works out to about \$1.6 billion on a statewide basis.

I stress that the legislation to address meaningful discretion should also include substantial reductions in local school property taxes. While the property tax rate itself was not an issue in the Court's opinion, it is clear to me that these taxes are too high. I believe their reduction needs to be part of the school finance reform package.

According to expert testimony given to the Texas Tax Reform Commission by Ted Cruz, Texas' Solicitor

Capitol Update

by State Representative Dianne White Delisi



General, there are five options available that could be used to address the meaningful discretion question.

Just because these are available options doesn't mean I support them. As I describe the five options for providing meaningful discretion, I will offer my thoughts on which have potential and which ones I cannot support.

Option One: Pass a constitutional amendment to allow a statewide property tax.

This would admittedly negate all future tax equity court challenges relating to the inability of property-poor school districts to raise comparable amounts on each penny of school property taxes as districts with higher property values. However, this option would also require the support of a two-thirds majority of the Texas Legislature to be placed upon the ballot and would have to be approved by the voters.

John Sharp, chairman of the Texas Tax Reform Commission, has stated that he will not recommend any plan that requires voter approval because this realistically couldn't be completed before the June 1 deadline. The two-thirds approval margin and election requirement combine to make this particular option one not likely to be given much consideration.

Option 2: Pass fundamental reform of the system by moving away from reliance upon property taxes altogether.

While I favor significant property tax reductions, my concern is that an income tax is being touted by various advocacy groups as the best option for a total replacement. I do not support an income tax, period.

Option 3: Raise the ceiling by increasing the property tax cap.

I will not support this as an option. School property taxes are too high already and raising the cap means they would go even higher. Lowering the cap is what I support.

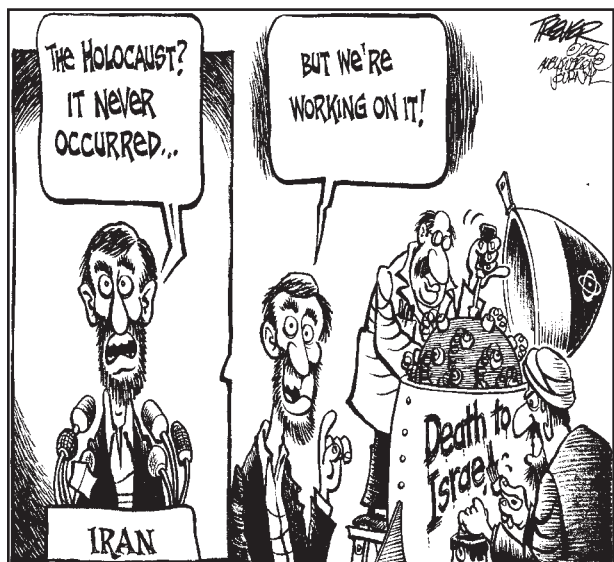
Option four: Lower the floor by reducing mandates on school districts.

This is a policy that I can support. I voted for school district paperwork reduction legislation in the last regular session and believe we can do more to streamline our requirements.

Option 5: Buy down the floor by giving school districts additional money.

I support this one as well. The root cause of our current school funding problem is that the ratio of state to local funding has dropped too low. The State of Texas has to be willing to put more money into public education, and not just because it addresses the Court ruling.

We need to do it because it is in the best interest of our public schools, local property tax payers, and kids needing a quality education. Children are 25 percent of our population - but they are 100 percent of our future.



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Put your tax refund to work for you

Financial Focus

by Allen Mantanona



Now that we're in the midst of tax season, you may be anticipating a tax refund, if you haven't already received one. Of course, not everyone receives a refund, but, among those who do, the amount can be sizable. In fact, in 2005, the average tax refund was about \$2,125. If you're going to get a refund, start planning now on how to use it. By making the right moves, you can help speed up your progress toward your financial goals.

So, what should you do with your refund? Here are a few ideas:

- **Put the money in your IRA.** To achieve a comfortable retirement lifestyle, you will need to draw on a variety of financial resources, one of which may be an IRA. In 2006, you can contribute up to \$4,000 - or \$5,000 if you are 50 or older - to a traditional or Roth IRA. So, if you received a \$2,125 refund - last year's average - you'd be well on your way toward

"maxing out" on your IRA contribution. If you think that this amount can't really make that much of a difference to your long-term savings, consider this hypothetical situation: If you put that \$2,125 in an IRA that earned 7 percent a year, and you never invested another dime in your account, your money will still grow to more than \$16,000 in 30 years. Not a fortune, to be sure, but nothing to scoff at. And in all likelihood, you would not just make a one-time contribution to an IRA. (At the end of 30 years, you'd have to pay taxes on your earnings, but by then, you may be in a lower tax bracket; even if you're not, you might be able to spread the tax burden over several years.

And if you had invested in a Roth IRA, your earnings will grow tax-free, provided you've had your account for at least five years and you don't begin withdrawals until you are age 59-1/2.) Keep in mind that these rates are hypothetical only and do not reflect the rates of any investment currently available.

- **Contribute to a Section 529 plan.** Many people contribute to Section 529 plans to save money for their children's (and grandchildren's) college education. You can put in large amounts each year to a Section 529 plan, and your earnings will grow tax-free, provided withdrawals are used for qualified higher education expenses.

- **Pay down high-rate debt.** Short-term interest rates have been rising over the past few months. This could mean that you'll be paying a higher rate on your credit cards - which probably carried a fairly high rate to begin with. If you use some of your tax refund to whittle down this debt, you'll be making a wise move, as this debt is typically not tax deductible, and, therefore, of no benefit to you.

- **Build up your "rainy day" fund.** You might want to use your tax refund to build your emergency fund. Generally speaking, you should set aside six to 12 months' worth of living expenses to pay for expenses such as car repairs, new appliances and unexpected medical bills.

You can't always count on a tax refund - but when you get one, make the most out of it. You'll be glad you did.



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Relationship advice

Buying and Selling

by Ryan Hodge

Why are realty professionals called "agents?" What is the meaning of the term "agent" in the context of real estate?

Real estate is practiced under the "Law of Agency," in which one party - the agent - represents the interests of another - the principal. The association is termed an "agency relationship."

As the sellers' agent, the representative acts on the sellers' behalf, with their best interests in mind, to locate a buyer. The buyers must be treated honestly and fairly, but they are not "represented" by that agent. The sellers' agent is always faithful to the sellers' best interests (but not necessarily those of the buyer).

In the past, most buyers were not represented by an agent - they made their buying decisions using factual information presented to them by the sellers or their agent. Because of the increasingly complicated nature of real estate transactions, however, "buyer agency" has become more common. To gain representation in their purchase, buyers may employ an agent to represent their interests and fulfill the obligation to faithfully serve them.

What's the real message about agency? Both buyers and sellers should know whether they are represented and by whom. To find out, ask the agent(s), "Who are you representing in this transaction?" Inform yourself and make confident decisions by learning the facts about agency relationships before you buy or sell.

Filing period begins for 3 local elections

The first day to file as a candidate for office in any of the three local elections is Feb. 11. Elections for Salado Independent School District, Salado Public Library and The Village of Salado will be held concurrently on May 13.

The filing period for those three elective boards is Feb. 11-March 13.

Since Feb. 11 falls on a Saturday, the school district and Village will begin to accept applications on Feb. 13. The Library will be open Feb. 11 to accept applications.

Two positions on the Salado I.S.D. Board of Trustees will be elected on May 13. Those positions are currently filled by Miriam Ervi and Jeff Kelley. Ervi will complete her second term in May, while Kelley will complete his first term.

Terms on the Salado I.S.D. Board of Trustees are three years.

Three two-year terms on the Salado Public Library District Board of Directors will be elected in May. Those seats are currently filled by Ben Willingham, Connie Cryar and Hulda Horton. Willingham and Cryar are completing their first terms on the board, while Horton will complete her second term on the board.

The Village of Salado Mayor's seat will be elected this spring, as well as two aldermen on the Board. Rick Ashe is the current Mayor and Michael Cooper and Suzi Epps are the current aldermen whose seats will come up for election. Ashe was one of the first aldermen of Salado, elected in 2000; he completes his first two-year term as Mayor of Salado this spring.

Cooper will complete his third term on the Board of Aldermen, while Epps will complete her first term on the board.

School Board Workshop

Area school board candidates and interested citizens can learn more about the demands and rewards of school board service at a candidate workshop 7-9 p.m. Feb. 16 at the Region 12 Education Service Center (2101 W. Loop 340, Independence Room, Waco).

The workshop will provide interested community members and individuals thinking about running for the board with a better understanding of what is involved in being elected and serving as a local trustee. Experienced school board members will explain board members' key responsibilities and outline the qualities

necessary for effective service.

Topics to be covered include what it's like to be a trustee, key responsibilities of the board, division of authority with staff, how to campaign constructively, and where to find more information. Participants will also view A Call to Service, a Texas Association of School Boards' video highlighting many aspects of board service and featuring several experienced school trustees.

The workshop is open to anyone. Admission is free.

For more information about the workshop, call Tanya Barnett at TASB, 512-467-0222 or 800-580-8272, extension 6248, or check the TASB Web Site at www.lts.tasb.org/ candidates for other dates and locations.

Bonds — FROM PAGE 1A

fail by an 811-573 margin. The \$28 million Lago Vista bond was for new school construction and improvements to existing facilities. Of the \$28 million, \$20 million would have been for construction of a new high school campus and \$5.7 million for new athletic facilities, including a new stadium with the remaining funds being used for improvements. The \$28 million bond called for an anticipated 7.8 percent increase in property taxes.

Wimberly I.S.D. voters also rejected a bond proposal of \$42 million, for a new high school, a new elementary school and repairs at existing campuses. The bond, if approved by Wimberly voters, would have required a 10-cent increase in the tax rate, bringing the rate there to \$1.77.

Salado ISD voters rejected a \$17 million bond proposal on April 2, 2005 by a 214-vote margin, 844 against to 630 for. Early voting was extremely heavy with 901 casting ballots. During that period, 484 voted against the proposal and 417 voted in favor of the proposal. Of those voting April 2, 360 voted against the proposal and 213 voted in favor of the proposal.

Similarly, voters in Liberty Hill I.S.D. rejected a large bond last year that totaled more than \$50 million and included construction of a new stadium

and additional athletic facilities. Voters in Liberty Hill I.S.D. then turned around and approved a much smaller package by an overwhelming majority. In the first Liberty Hill election, an organized effort worked to oppose the bond. There was no organized effort to oppose the second bond election.


Nor was there an organized effort to oppose the second bond election here in Salado.

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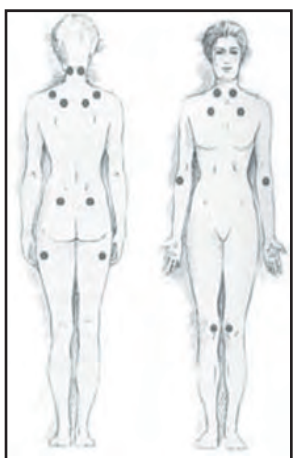


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Gobin commits to Tarleton State



Salado High School senior Cody Gobin Feb. 1 signed a letter of intent to play football at Tarleton State University. Gobin is joined by his parents Joe and Sharon Kerby, of Salado, and his coaches, Athletic Director and Head Football Coach Jeff Cheatham and offensive line coach Geoffrey Huff. Gobin was named to the Academic All-State Team this year, as well as All-State Honorable Mention as an offensive lineman. He was also named to the First Team All-District squad as a lineman. Gobin was a team captain for the Eagles this year and was picked as the Eagles' Offensive Most Valuable Player. As a junior, Gobin was named to the First Team All-District offense as a lineman and received Honorable Mention to the All-District defensive squad. Gobin will attend Tarleton State University on a combination of academic and athletic scholarships. (PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)

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Pictured are the Salado seventh grade girls basketball "A" team, which went 13-0 on the season, including tournament championships in Rogers and the district tournament. They are, front row, l-r: Connor Smith, Brennan Boydston, Tyndal Schreiner and Billi Pipes. Second row, l-r: Kelsey Ortiz, Shauna Miller and Brittney Fraizer. Third row, l-r: Kandace Little, Taylor O'Rear, Jenna Sebek, Kalyn Dunks, Camryn Bintz, Coach Beth Lisenbe and Hadley Joiner.

Salado to remain in 2A

Salado dodged the 3A bullet when University Interscholastic League (UIL) announced its biennial realignment last week.

The influx of students from Louisiana into Texas last fall due to Hurricane Katrina resulted in the increase in the ceiling of the 2A division. In 2004, the ceiling was 389 students, but in 2006 the ceiling was increased to 415 students.

Salado High School

reported 406 students enrolled in October 2005 to the UIL for classification.

Since then, the student enrollment at SHS has jumped to almost 415, making Salado again one of the larger schools in the AA classification.

It's better to be a big school in a small classification than a small school in a larger classification. The AAA rankings will include schools ranging from 415 students to 949 students.

The Eagles will remain in district 25AA. Remaining in district 25AA will be Rogers, Academy, Jarrell, Florence and Lago Vista. Troy will move into 25AA, as well as Rosebud-Lott.

Lexington and Somerville move into District 26AA, where they will compete with Franklin, Hearne, Hempstead, New Waverly, Onalaska and Trinity.

Had Salado moved to 3A, it could likely have been placed in District 18 in Region 3. Competitors there will include Cameron Yoe, Hutto, Liberty Hill, Rockdale and Taylor.

Liberty Hill is a perennial opponent in non-district competition. Hutto was at one time a Salado opponent in district, but moved up to 3A four years

ago.

The potential play-off opponents for the next two years look to be much the same, especially in basketball, where Hitchcock, San Antonio Cole, and Kountze remain in 2A.

Brookshire-Royal, which knocked Salado out of the football playoffs this year in a last-second heartbreaker, will play in 3A for the next two years. Brookshire will be in District 24AAA, along with Columbus, Needville, Sealy, Stafford Sweeny, West Columbia and Wharton.

Except for the exit of Lexington and Somerville and the addition of Troy and Rosebud-Lott, District 25AA looks much the same as it has for years.

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Eagles look to lock-up playoff spot

With just a handful of games remaining in the regular season, the Salado Varsity Eagles are poised to cement a postseason berth for the third consecutive season.

What remains undecided is whether the Eagles - and first year head coach Josh White - will represent District 25AA as the first, second, or third place club.

As of press time, Salado was in sole control of second place, behind Jarrell (ranked third in Class AA by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches), but ahead of Somerville, which has three district losses against Salado's two.

The Eagles moved to 9-2 in district play thanks to a 64-30 rout of Florence Jan. 31, which was followed by nailbiting 39-38 victory over a surprisingly-game Rogers squad Feb. 3.

Against Florence, Salado raced out to an early 10-point lead in the first quarter, which would set the tone for the rest of the night, as the Eagles dominated the hapless Buffs on their way to a 34-point win.

Leading 17-7 at the close of the first period, the Eagles expanded on their advantage, pouring in 23 points in the second to gain an insurmountable 40-15 halftime lead.

In the third period the Eagle defense continued to frustrate Florence, holding the Buffaloes to only eight points while the Salado offense increased

the lead to 55-23 entering the fourth.

With the game well in hand, Salado coasted for the game's final quarter to wrap up a relatively easy victory.

Noah Harbison put together his strongest offensive effort of the season, dropping in 18 points. That total was equalled by Ryan Clark, as the two Salado guards led all scorers in the game. Blake Newman accounted for eight points on the night, while David Rosenau recorded six and Slayt Ebeling and Justin Konzen both contributed four.

The Eagles followed their comfortable win over Florence by hosting Rogers, and got all they could handle from the visiting Eagles. Rogers fought hard the entire game, limiting Salado's top scorer Ryan Clark to only eight points - all of those in the first half - but were eventually edged out by the hometown Eagles in a one-point, 39-38 thriller.

Rogers was basically a one-man show in this one, as the Eagles' Taylor Jungmann scored all but 12 of his team's points on his way to 26 on the game, easily making him the high man. In fact, only one other player for either team cracked double-figures in points, that being Salado post Justin Pruitt, who finished with 10.

Salado was able to build an early lead on the strength of three first quarter three pointers, but lost it in the second when

Rogers charged back to take a 22-18 halftime lead.

In the second half, Salado's Tanner Myers converted all eight of his attempts from the charity stripe, including four crucial conversions down the stretch, to help Salado avoid the upset and escape with a one point win.

Behind Pruitt's 10-point effort was Myers, whose nine points all came from the line. Clark totalled eight points, and Harbison closed out the night with five.

The Eagles will wrap up the regular season Feb. 14 at home, versus Lago Vista. Prior to that they will face a tough road game against Somerville Feb. 10, which go a long way in determining just where the Eagles will end up in the postseason mix.

Junior Varsity

The Salado JV Eagles found some consistency last week, putting together consecutive wins, 31-21 over Florence and 63-28 over Rogers.

Against Florence, Salado was led by the trio of Stephen Quick (10 points), Tyler Burden (nine points) and Nick Seawood (seven points) in the Eagles' 10-point

road win Jan. 31. Quick's six fourth quarter points helped seal the deal for Salado in what was a game largely controlled by defense.

Versus Rogers, the

Eagles exploded for 18 first quarter points to establish the rout early on. Tanner Johnson would score 12 points in the game to the Salado offense, in a game that

featured nine different Eagles players contributing points. Blake Heller and David Faber each had nine in the win, while Tommy Schatte scored eight points.

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Season finale to decide playoff fate

Despite the fact that the Lady Eagles' district season began with something of a whimper - as Salado dropped its first four games - the girls still have a chance to close out the season with a bang.

Since that slow start the girls have won seven of their last nine, and have put themselves in the thick of the playoff race.

And it will all come down to the final game of the regular season, as the Lady Eagles faced Jarrell in a must win Feb. 7 (in a game that took place after presstime) and look to put the finishing touches on an impressive district comeback. But Salado, at fourth place in District 25AA, will need some help from Rogers, which must defeat Somerville for the Lady Eagles to have a shot at the postseason.

Salado put themselves in good position by taking care of business last week, first dispatching Florence 62-46 Jan. 31, and following that with a potentially season-defining, 36-35 win over Rogers Feb. 3.

The Lady Eagles jumped out to a 34-16 lead at halftime, but Florence charged back to make the game competitive in the third, scoring 23 points to trim the Salado lead to seven with one period to play.

In the fourth, however, the Lady Eagle defense rose to the occasion, holding to Florence to nine points which was more than enough to seal the Salado win. Five Lady Eagles reached double figures on the game, led by Kelsey Gobin's 15 points. Tamra Stanish had 14, Kristen Smith scored 12 (on four three-pointers), Lauren Haire had 11 and Kate Marshall scored 10.

Whereas Salado's tilt against Florence was marked by offense, the matchup with Rogers was one of defense.

Both teams started slow, with Rogers gaining a 10-8 lead at the close of one. In the second period, though, Salado found a way to get to the free throw line and made the opportunities count, converting eight-of-10 chances from the stripe. Those points helped Salado gain a 24-20 halftime lead, but a sluggish third quarter from the Lady Eagles let Rogers stick around. The beginning of the fourth had Salado nursing a slim 30-25 lead.

With the season on the line, the Lady Eagles could muster only six points, but fortunately that was enough, as Salado came away with a one-point victory to keep the Lady Eagles' playoff hopes alive.

The girls were again led by Stanish and Haire, who scored eight points apiece. Marshall and Gobin both had six.

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Try these four corners to losing weight, keeping fit

Last week I discussed the dangers of the Law of Thermodynamics. You will remember that the Law of Thermodynamics states "burn more calories than you consume and you will lose weight." A drastic reduction in calories and stressful exercise can cause premature aging, illness, injury and in extreme cases, death.

So how can we lose weight safely and permanently? Over the next few weeks I will address a number of elements to a safe and effective program for weight loss. Today I am going to address basic nutrition.

Most of us, with honest evaluation, can stand to consume fewer calories, but in doing so we must be mindful of what I call "optimal nutrition." Our bodies need food for fuel, for energy, and so each calorie that we consume should contain "optimal nutrition" to provide us with "optimal energy" to get us through the day, to keep us alert at our jobs or in school, and to help build and sustain a healthy immune system to fight off disease.

I would like to refer you to K.D. Craichy's, The Four Corners of Optimal Nutrition. Craichy discusses the merits of Calorie Restriction, but only, with Optimal Nutrition (CRON); the value of High Antioxidant Levels; foods that are Low-Glycemic; and Healthy Fats, these being the "Four Corners". Below I have briefly defined each of the four corners so that you might begin to apply them to your life today.

CRON: It is all about quality, not quantity. Consuming less calories but

LIFESTYLE AND WELLNESS

BY KEVIN MCCAULEY



with increasing your nutrient density is one of the fastest ways to increase your lifespan. Also, the chance of having issues with insulin is decreased significantly which will improve your chances of a disease-free life. My favorites, though there are

others, are dark green vegetables, berries, eggs from free range hens, organic and grass-fed meat products, and barley grass.

High Antioxidants: If you have more free-radicals than antioxidants run-

SEE WELLNESS, PAGE 11A



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Marguerite Gandy, 92
 Nov. 23, 1913-
 Jan. 25, 2006

Marguerite C. Gandy, 92, of Salado passed away Jan. 25. She was born to the late Adolphus and Minnie Childress on November 23, 1913 in Ft. Worth, Texas.

She is preceded in death by her loving husband of 54 years, Dr. Woodrow W. Gandy. She is survived by her children, Patricia L. Rice, and husband Mark, Karen A. Kearns, and husband, Skipper, David H. Gandy, and wife Mary Jo; five grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Marguerite was an artist and teacher. She attended the New York Art Academy, was involved in a garden club, the Salado Village Artists, and the ladies auxiliary. She wrote poetry, fished, and sewed.

Services were held Jan. 28 at the Harper-Talasek Funeral Home Chapel of Temple with Pastor Terry Tipps officiating. Interment followed at the Salado Cemetery.

If desired, memorials may be made to a charity of one's choice in Marguerite's honor.

Harper-Talasek Funeral Home of Temple handled arrangements.

Paid obituary

SHStalent show set Feb. 27

The Salado High School student council will present a Talent Show 7 p.m. Feb. 27 in the Salado Intermediate School cafeteria.

Both SISD students and faculty are expected to participate, and Gary Askins will serve as master of Ceremonies. Special guest judges for the evening will be Penny and Grainger Esch of the Salado Silver Spur Theater.

A trophy and \$100 prize will be awarded for first place, and door prizes will also be issued.

Tickets, which are available at the Salado High School office and at Century 21 - Bill Bartlett Real Estate, are priced at \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. All proceeds will benefit scholarships for Salado students.

Poetry & Prose Fest Feb. 9

Central Texas poets and writers of prose will grace Tablerock's inside stage to read their works 7-9 p.m. Feb. 9. An open microphone at 9 p.m. encourages new poets and writers to read five minutes of their compositions.

All participants in Central Texas writers of Poetry and Prose must read from their original works or have a designated reader. The writer's works may be published or unpublished.

A table will be provided for writers to display published works, sell books or tapes. No admission fee. Refreshments available.

Tablerock Amphitheater is located in Salado, Texas at 409 Royal Street. The indoor stage is located behind the amphitheater stage. Call 947-9205 for more information.

Attention churches, clubs and civic organizations: To have your special events listed on the calendar of events or news releases placed in the Salado Village Voice send information to: news@saladovillagevoice.com

ning through your body you can expect to age more quickly and be diseased as well. Over-eating causes all sorts of havoc on the body and leaves you with a free radical surplus. Any stress put upon our body will create an oxidization process that is going to need to be dealt with. Look into whole-food, organic, and pharmaceutical grade supplements to add to your new CRON program. If you need some help, please let me know, and I will give you some options. (Test: Does your one a day dissolve in thirty minutes while sitting in white vinegar?)

Low-Glycemic: The vegetables you consume should be grown predominately above the ground. When consuming your CRON meals, realize that the fat, protein and fiber will slow down the breakdown of your carbohydrate intake into glucose. Following this principle will also keep your insulin responses balanced with your glucagons response which will breed good health.

Healthy Fats: This is the most complicated of the topics, so here is a small recommendation: Do not cook with Vegetable Oils and do not consume Trans Fats (anything with the words; partially hydrogenated or hydrogenated). Keep an organic, but salt-free, butter on hand, with an extra virgin olive oil and cook and supplement your diet with a virgin coconut oil, and watch your health improve. Butter and VCO do not go rancid like the vegetable oils and EVOO is the top mono-unsaturated fat (Canola is the cheaper and lower quality option which I don't

recommend). Something else to look into for your heart health is an omega-3 fatty acid supplement if you do not consume a wild

fatty fish a couple times a week.

Try adding these "four corners" to your program while spacing out your

meals to four or five throughout the day and see the improvement in how you feel, and begin to look.

Kevin McCauley, MA, is a Lifestyle and Wellness Coach in Salado. He has years of professional experience as a personal trainer and clinical nutritionist, and can be reached at 254-947-8304, or youbewell@earthlink.net.

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Bill Hall, emcee for the evening, is shown above with Mike Adamson and Ryon Dunlap, who represented First State Bank of Central Texas in the Sponsor's Roping, winning first place. The saddle shoesn below, as well as Resistol hats were awarded to the winners. David Stanford, a partner in Bloomer Trailers, is shown above. (PHOTOS BY TIM FLEISCHER)

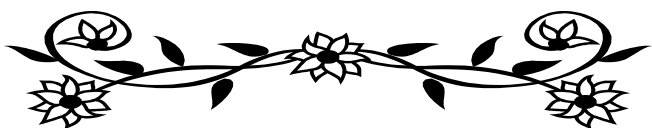
Above left, Jett Hillman and Matt Sherwood rode off from the Wildfire Ranch Open to the World with a suitcase full of money. As the winning team, the pair split the grand prize of \$75,000 cash. Sherwood was also part of the second place team and earned \$53,500 for the day. Above are Macklee Austin and Annette Hinckley, winners of the Ladies' Open Roping. They took home the largest purse in the world for ladies' ropings: \$31,500.



Above are the prizes given away to the winners of the Wildfire Ranch Open to the World Feb. 4. More than \$200,000 was given away in ropings during the weekend at Wildfire Ranch Arena here in Salado.



It takes a village to make a difference.
Thank you for turning out to support our children and the future of our village!
Your vote counted!



Keep Judge Don Engleking Justice of the Peace Bell County Precinct 2



The election campaign season has begun. I believe that you, the voters of Precinct 2, should have the opportunity to know their local Justice of the Peace is and how he is performing. With that in mind I want to tell you about myself and what my staff and I have accomplished since I took office. I'll do this through a series of short articles in this paper.

My wife Trenaise and I have been married for 34 years and have lived in the Salado area since 1987. Trenaise is the love of my life. She is a nurse at S&W, and my biggest supporter. We have two children Ricky and Donnelle; they have grown married and moved to other parts of Texas. The school systems and churches here gave both of our children a valued education and opportunities that will guide their lives forever. We moved to the southern part of Bell County for many of the same reasons that each of you did. We love this area, its wonderful small towns, and the feeling of being at home.

We treasure the friendships we have developed since moving here. Those friendships have evolved into a family of supporters that we cherish greatly. I wonder if any other part of the state can boast that they take care of each other as we do here.

My desire is to visit each of you individually asking for your support and your vote, and will be traveling the Precinct to accomplish this. If you see me out and about, please stop me to discuss your interests and needs. Short of that; always feel free to contact me at P. O. Box 888, Salado, Texas 76571.

Republican Primary
Early voting begins Feb. 21
Primary date: March 7, 2006

Salado Village Guide

Shopping Map
Pages 6-7B

Section B Salado Village Voice

February 9, 2006

12 Pages

Shopping, Dining, Overnight, Events

Chamber awards annual honors

Gregory's dubbed Business of Year

When Greg and Carolyn Dachs opened the doors of what was then called the Burlwood Gallery as the first tenant of Salado Square on Main St. in 1977, they started out like many young couples in business, with a little help from family and a whole lot of hard work.

"But, it takes more than hard work for a business to succeed or prosper during good and bad times. It also takes vision, impeccable service, a great product and superb marketing skills," Tim Fleischer told the audience at the Salado Chamber of Commerce banquet during which Gregory's of Salado was named Business of the Year. "The folks at Gregory's have those character traits. In spades."

"Tonight's recipients have made an art of advertising in recent years. The best example of this is seen in their billboard and magazine advertising, which have one theme: a single, beautiful graphic feature and very few words," Fleischer added.

Most of the hands of the 200 people attending the banquet were raised when Fleischer asked the audience how many of us have seen a Gregory's advertisement?

"Now, multiply that times millions during a year and you begin to realize the impact that one business can have on Salado," he said. "With a remarkable image, Gregory's has drawn travelers off the highway and into our village who have never been here before. And, as all of us sitting here know, once

someone actually pulls off the interstate into our little village, they do what we all have been guilty of: they fall in love with the place."

While Gregory's has had great success locally, it has also achieved much success among its peer group in business. In fact, it was named the Top Retailer of the Year in the U.S. by *Niche* magazine, which is dedicated to the American craft and artisan industry. Gregory's has also been seen in several national magazines, among them: *Harper's Bazaar*, *In Style*, *Vogue*, *Modern Bride* and *Bride*.

"They not only use mass media to market their product, but reach out to customers one at a time and form loose networks with other businesses in Salado to build and improve their relationships with their customers. Their service to customers is impeccable," Fleischer said. "I have been witness to some of the reunions in their store when a customer who bought an engagement ring or anniversary ring returns sometime later to update 'the girls' on their family. The girls are the public face of Gregory's: Carolyn, Julie, Liz, Sara and Stacy."

Fleischer gave a personal example of how Gregory's puts the customer first: "My wife spotted a ring that had been marked down -- marked down a lot -- and mentioned to Carolyn that she really wanted it and would be back. Carolyn called me to tell me to get down there right now and buy it for her. I am



Carolyn and Greg Dachs, owners of Gregory's of Salado. (PHOTO BY MARILYN FLEISCHER)

not going to tell you how long she let me pay down on that ring, but I will tell you my wife went back for it and Carolyn told her someone else paid cash for it. I'll also tell you that for more than a year my wife was madder than a hornet at her for letting someone else buy it. It was quite a surprise when she got it for our 10th anniversary. The folks at Gregory's took a simple business transaction and turned it into a lifelong memory."

But it's not all about sales and marketing for the Dachs, as Gregory's donates to local charities every year, including the generous donation of a \$1,600 necklace designed by John Atencio, which was given away that evening.

Other groups that have had Gregory's donations as the centerpieces of their auctions or drawings include the Temple Free Clinic, and the Children's

Advocacy Center in Georgetown.

The Dachs have also given of their time to the community. "Some of us will remember

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What's happening in the

FEBRUARY 9
Salado Silver Spur Theater hosts cowboy performer **Pop Wagner**. Tickets: \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors 65 and up, \$10 for military and student ID, \$5 for children 12 and under. Info: 254-947-3456 or www.saladosilverspur.com.

FEBRUARY 9
Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary meeting, 9:30 a.m. at the Civic

Center. Program: "Easy Ways to Stay Fit While Sitting Down," by Alice Cooper.

FEBRUARY 9
Central Texas Poetry and Prose Readings, at Tablerock Amphitheater. Invited readings, 7 p.m.; Open mic, 9 p.m. Info: 254-947-9205.

FEBRUARY 11-12
St. Stephen's Women's Society Valentine Bake Sale. 6:30 p.m. Feb 11 and noon-1 p.m. Feb. 12 in the church's Marian Room. Everyone welcome.

FEBRUARY 13
St. Stephen's Women's Society meeting. Topic: Women's Health, "Prevention and Early Detection of Cancer," 6:30 p.m. St. Stephen Parish Hall.

FEBRUARY 14
Salado Silver Spur Theater Sweethearts Shindig, featuring live music by The Grandsons, playing R&B novelties, vintage blue grass and folk, and calypso. 8:30 p.m.-?. \$40 per couple. Reservations and info: 254-947-3456 or www.saladosilverspur.com.

FEBRUARY 15
Mill Creek Community Association meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

FEBRUARY 21
Teacup Tuesday meeting, Program: "Early Childhood Memories" by Patsy Sanford and friends, 9:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church.

FEBRUARY 22-24
Salado Village Artists-sponsored art class, taught by Paula

White, of Roswell, NM. Class will focus on landscape, color and design in any medium. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. each day in the Village Artists building, behind the Civic Center. Cost: \$200. Reservations and info: Sylvia Hodges, 254-947-7176.

FEBRUARY 23-25
Salado Soaring Eagle High School Softball Classic, at the Salado softball fields. More details TBA.

FEBRUARY 25
Salado Cemetery Association Annual Meeting, 10 a.m. at the Salado Civic Center. Public welcome.

FEBRUARY 25
Mill Creek Community Association Spring Fling, 6 p.m. Happy Hour, 7 p.m. Theme: "Viva Italia." Dinner. More details TBA.

FEBRUARY 27
Taste of Salado, sponsored by the Public Arts League of Salado (PALS), 6 p.m. at Blue Heron Event Center at Tenroc Ranch. More details TBA.

FEBRUARY 27
Salado High School Talent Show, sponsored by the student council, 7 p.m. in the Intermediate School commons. Tickets: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children. Tickets available at the high school or at Century 21 - Bill Bartlett real estate.

MARCH 2-5 & 9-12
First Annual Central Texas Shakespeare Invitational at Tablerock Amphitheater. March 2-5 will feature performances of Shakespeare by performers 18 and under; March 9-12 performances of

all ages. Info: David Dunlap, 254-247-0220 or ddunlap@tablerock.org.

MARCH 4
Salado Lions Club Pancake Breakfast fundraiser, 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Salado Church of Christ Activity Center. Tickets: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and younger.

MARCH 5
Sixth Annual Wild Bill Memorial Roping at Wildfire Ranch Arena. Cowboy Church led by Joe Bentley, 8:30 a.m.; Roping begins at 10 a.m.; \$2,000 in scholarships to be awarded. Info: 254-947-3350.

MARCH 6
Salado Historical Society general meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

MARCH 9
Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary meeting, 9:30 a.m. at the Civic Center. Program: Helen Alexander on "Stress Management."

MARCH 15
Mill Creek Community Association meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

MARCH 17
11th Annual Denver Mills Golf Tournament at Mill Creek, benefitting Tablerock Amphitheater, \$60 entry fee. Shotgun start at 1 p.m. Info: 254-947-3354 or email tablerock1@aol.com.

MARCH 18
Annual Salado Eagle Alumni Baseball game, at the high school field. Homerun contest 11 a.m., game to follow at noon. Open to any former SHS baseball players. Cost: \$10 for the game, \$5 for the homerun contest.

Email t-shirt sizes to mbates@saladoisd.org if you plan on playing.

MARCH 18
Salado Civic Center Auction and Dinner honoring Wilbur and Jessie Foster, 6 p.m. at Salado Intermediate School. Tickets: \$10 per person. Info: 947-8300.

MARCH 21
Teacup Tuesday meeting, Program: "New Wines and Old Wineskins (new identity) by Molly White, 9:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church.

MARCH 21
Salado Historical Society general meeting, 6:15 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

APRIL 1
Fourth Annual Smokin' Spokes Bike Ride, benefitting the Salado Volunteer Fire Department. Info: www.saladospokes.com.

APRIL 1-2
Annual Wildflower Art Show. More details TBA. Info: Salado Chamber of Commerce, 254-947-5040.

APRIL 2
Living Room Theatre presents "Murder on the Menu", a luncheon theatre production. Two performances, one at 12:30 p.m. and the other at 2 p.m., both at Salado Civic Center. Reservations available for non-subscribers beginning March 28. Wildflower Art Show public may attend.

APRIL 3
Salado Historical Society board meeting, 7 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

APRIL 7
Thomas Arnold Elementary/PTO Moms and Muffins morning, 7-7:45 a.m. at the school. Info: 947-5191.

APRIL 8
Chisholm Trail ABWA Style Show, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Mill Creek Restaurant. Info: 254-947-3617.

APRIL 13
Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary meeting, 9:30 a.m. at the Civic Center. Program TBA.

APRIL 14-16
Easter Pageant at Tablerock Amphitheater, presented by First Baptist Church of Salado, 8:15 p.m., bring a lawn chair. Free admission; church groups welcome. Info: 254-947-5465 or www.fbcsalado.org.


APRIL 18
Teacup Tuesday meeting, Program: "History Mysteries" by author, historian and Salado-resident Charlie Turnbo, 9:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church.

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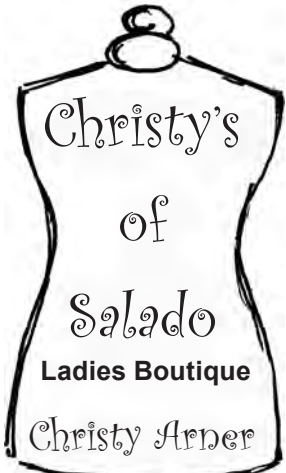
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Village of Salado?

APRIL 19
Mill Creek Community Association Spring Cleanup. 8:30 a.m. coffee and rolls, 11:30 a.m. free hot dog lunch. More details TBA.

APRIL 22
Third Annual Salado Dog Daze, in Pace Park. Details TBA.

APRIL 22-23
Eleventh Annual Gospel Festival at Tablerock Amphitheater, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. April 22 and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. April 23. Food, drink, and gift vendors on-site. Admission: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under. Tickets available at gate. Info: Donnie Jackson, 254-947-5100 or email cvmusicministry@aol.com.

MAY 1
Salado Historical Society board meeting, 7 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

MAY 6-7
Third Annual Salado Yard and Garden Tour, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. May 6 and 1-4 p.m. May 7. More details TBA.

MAY 11
Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary Spring Luncheon at the Salado Civic Center. Program: Gwen Morrison on "Mothers and Daughters."

MAY 11
Salado Community Chorus Spring Concert 7 pm at the Salado Civic Center

MAY 13
Eleventh Annual Thomas Arnold Elementary Fourth Grade Play at Tablerock Amphitheater, 7:30 p.m. Students, under the direction of Jackie Mills, write, produce, crew and act in their own melodrama. Admission: Adults, \$5; children, \$3.

MAY 16
Teacup Tuesday meeting, "Tea, Talk and Togetherness" luncheon at Stagecoach Inn. Details TBA.

MAY 17
Mill Creek Community Association meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

MAY 25
Salado High School Class of 2005-06 graduation ceremony at Bell County Expo Center. Info: Salado High School, 254-947-5429.

JUNE 5
Salado Historical Society board meeting, 7 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

JUNE 8
Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary meeting, 9:30

a.m. at the Civic Center. Program TBA.

JUNE 10
Annual Salado Reunion, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Salado Intermediate School. Info: 254-947-5783 or 254-939-3187.

JUNE 21
Mill Creek Community Association meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

JUNE 24-25
Auditions for Tablerock's production of Macbeth, 3 p.m. both days at Tablerock. Director: David Dunlap, 254-247-0220 or ddunlap@tablerock.org.

JULY 4
Salado Historical Society Annual Picnic, 6:30 p.m. in Pace Park.

JULY 13
Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary meeting, 9:30 a.m. at the Civic Center. Program TBA.

JULY 19
Mill Creek Community Association meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

JULY 22, 29 & AUG. 5
Tablerock's 14th Annual presentation of Salado Legends, 8:15 p.m. Dinner: 7:15 p.m., cost \$8, reservations required. Performance tickets: \$15 adults, \$5 for children 12 and under. Info: 254-947-3205 or www.tablerock.org.

AUGUST 5-6
40th Annual Salado Art Fair in Pace Park. Info: Salado Chamber of Commerce, 254-947-5040.

AUGUST 10
Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary meeting, 9:30 a.m. at the Civic Center. Pro-

gram: Paul Letourneau on his book "My Vietnam Experiences." Spouses invited.

AUGUST 12
Mill Creek Community Association Fall Social, 6 p.m. happy hour, 7 p.m. dinner. Details TBA.

AUGUST 16
Mill Creek Community Association meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

SEPTEMBER 16-17
Tablerock's Fantasy Faire 10 a.m.-6 p.m. both days, featuring characters from history, literature, mythology and imagination. Enjoy music, dance, swordplay and storytelling, and shop goods from over 50 vendors. Admission: \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under, seniors and military. Info: 254-624-1008 or email hhood@tablerock.org.

SEPTEMBER 20
Mill Creek Community Association meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

OCTOBER 7-8
Auditions for Tablerock's annual A Christmas Carol production, 3 p.m. both days. Info: 254-947-9205 or email harrycsweet@sbcgl-obal.net.

OCTOBER 7, 14 AND 21
Tablerock's Annual Shakespeare Play, Macbeth, under the stars, 7:30 p.m. each night. Tickets: \$10 for adults, \$5 for child, student or military. Info: 254-247-0220 or email ddunlap@tablerock.org.

OCTOBER 12-14
Annual Christmas in October event, sponsored by the Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary. Details TBA.

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Stockton inducted into HOF

The late Susan Stockton was inducted into the Salado Hall of Fame during the Salado Chamber of Commerce Banquet last month.

Carolyn Dachs made the presentation, which was accepted by long-time friends Gwen and Britt Dalton, of Salado.

"Your artistry and imagination over the past two decades have left an indelible mark on the character and identity of our Village," Dachs stated.

"For so many years, Sir Wigglesworth served as an anchor and a destination for shoppers and visitors. The absence of Sir Wigglesworth and his many friends has not gone unnoticed," she added. "Often imitated, your style, color and sense of whimsy have never been duplicated."

"Thank you for shar-



Two of the late Susan Stockton's long-time friends, Gwen and Britt Dalton accepted the award on her behalf.

ing your gift with us these many years," she said. "We will miss you, but the memory of Sir Wigglesworth will live on in our hearts."

Stockton passed away in October 2005. She was born July 9, 1941 in Santa Monica, California.

Her successful businesses, The Finishing Touch in Arlington and Sir Wigglesworth in Salado were examples of her extraordinary ability to bring beauty out of ordinary objects. Her works



Susan Stockton

have touched the lives of all those who have witnessed them, and was truly a gift she loved and shared.



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when big Greg and little Greg and other Salado band kids lined our streets with thousands of paper luminarias for the annual Christmas Stroll," Fleischer recalled. "Carolyn served when I did as a director of the Chamber of Commerce. She is also a Past Merchants Committee Chair and a Past Stroll Chairman. Most recently, she was involved in SBA advertising when the Salado billboards were redesigned."

FROM PAGE 1B

By giving back to the community, they have helped to improve the community in which they have chosen to raise their children Greg and Elizabeth. Both were born here in Salado and both are now in college. In fact, "little" Greg is earning a master's degree.

"Salado is better because of the Dachs,"

Fleischer said, "and I am sure, if you ask them, they will tell you the reverse -- that they are better because of Salado."

With those words, Fleischer presented the award for Business of the Year to Greg and Carolyn Dachs, owners of Gregory's of Salado.

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Don Mackie honored with HOF induction

It is hard to think of Salado without thinking of Mill Creek, both the community of homes and its remarkable golf course.

The late Donald Mackie has had a tremendous lasting impact on Mill Creek and the Village of Salado.

Mackie was honored by the Salado Chamber of Commerce when his name was added to its Hall of Fame.

Darrell Street presented the honor to Sara Mackie, who was in attendance at the Chamber of Commerce Banquet with her daughter Anna Kate.

Mackie was an entrepreneur at heart, Street said during the presentation. "In 1979, he, along with three other partners, bought Mill Creek Golf and Country Club," Street said.

"It originally was a nine-hole development, which he quickly changed by hiring his friend, Robert Trent Jones Jr., to redesign and expand the golf course," Street added. "As the managing partner, he was in charge of its growth and development. Under his tenure the original nine-hole course was expanded into a Robert Trent Jones Jr. 27-hole golf course, along with the accompanying growth and development of the Mill Creek residential community and guest accommodations."

During this period he also managed several other properties in Round Rock, and developed some properties in Waco, Austin, and Gatesville.

In addition to his business activities he was also very involved in the community. Mackie was President and Director of the Salado Water Supply Corporation, a Founding Director of the Texas Chapter of the National Golf Course Owners Association,

President of the Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District of Bell County; as well as a member of the King's Daughter's Advisory Board, the Central Texas Museum Board of Directors, the Salado Lions Club, and the Salado Chamber of Commerce. In Gatesville, where he and Sara lived before moving to Salado, he served as President of the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce, was a member of the Coryell County Tax Appraisal Board and a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

He was also very active in his professional organization, The Urban Land Institute.

Don married Sara Nelle Lowrey of Gatesville in 1974. They have two children Anna Kate and Douglas. Before moving to Salado in 1983 they lived in Houston and Gatesville.

Don passed away Sept. 22, 2001 at a Houston hospital, after a long fight against cancer.

He was born in Ashland, Wisconsin July 29, 1944, to Mary Berglund Mackie and Donald J. Mackie, Sr. He spent his early years in northern Wisconsin before moving to Madison in 1956, where he graduated from West High School. Following high school he enlisted in the Wisconsin National Guard, then graduated from Army Officer's Candidate School. He was commissioned in 1964 and served until 1969, during which time he was called to active service several times, including during the Cuban Missile Crisis. During this time he also earned a BBA in Urban Land Economics from the University of Wisconsin.

After graduation, Don worked for several large development companies.



The Salado Chamber of Commerce added the late Don Mackie to its Hall of Fame.



Sara Mackie accepted the Hall of Fame award for the late Don Mackie at the Chamber Banquet.

He was a project manager with Bliss and Laughlin Industries in Oakbrook, Illinois where he developed industrial parks and marketed a golf course community in South Florida. He moved to Houston in 1971 to take a position

as project manager with Gerald D. Hines Interests. He subsequently became president of the residential subsidiary of Hines Interests, a position he held until he left the company in 1979 to pursue independent development projects



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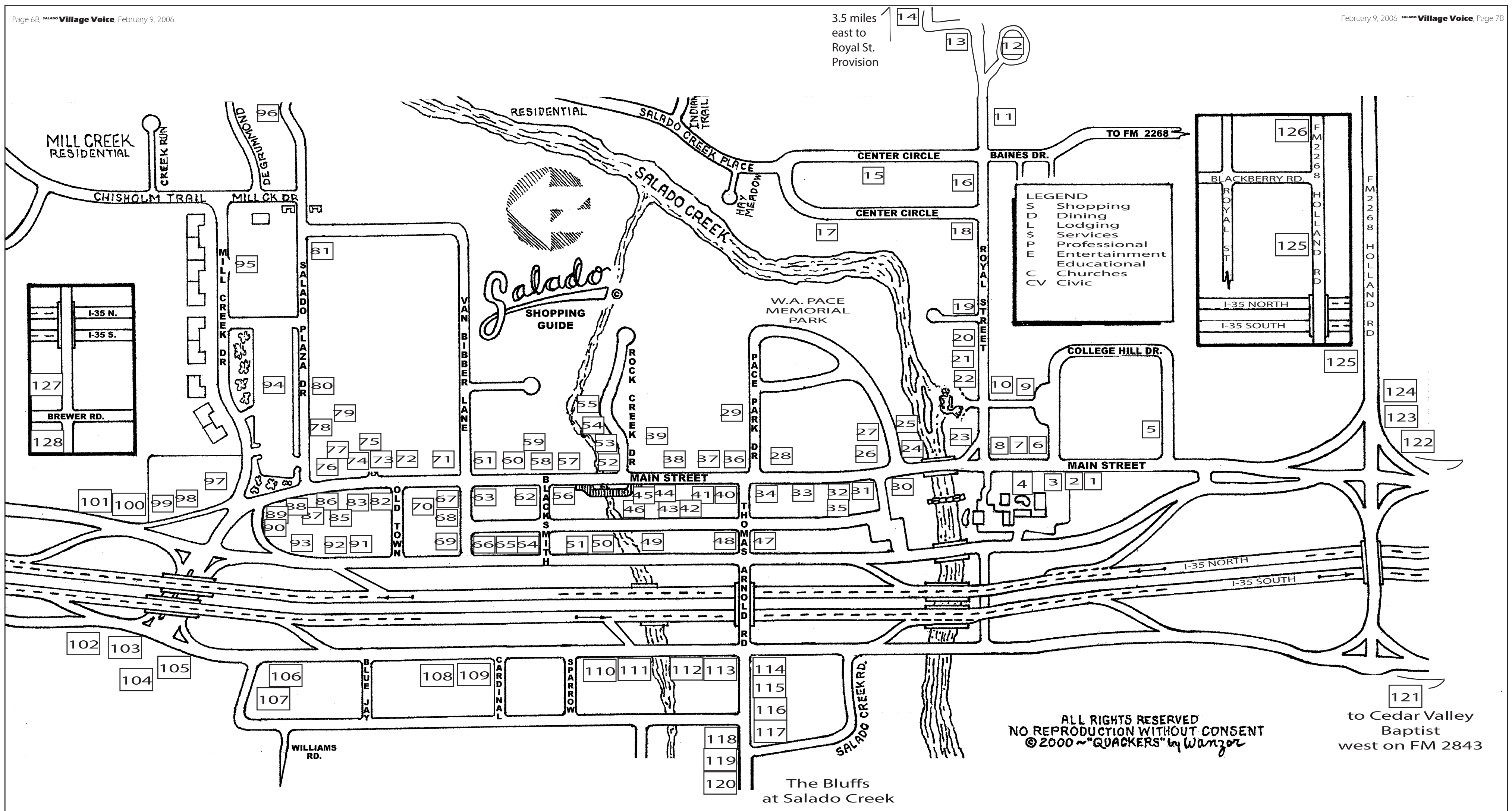
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6. Central Texas Area Museum 254/947-5232 E	25. Leigh's Necessities and Floral Creations 254/947-0128 S, \$	43. Southern Comforts Margrit's Shoe Chateau 254/947-1868 S	82. OLD TOWN SALADO Cathy's Boardwalk Cafe 254/947-8162 D	116. Johnny's Texas Banquet Hall 254/947-4663 D
7. Salado Galleries 254/947-5110 S	26. CREEKSIDE CENTER Prellop Fine Art Gallery 254/947-3930 S Susan Marie's 254/947-5239 S	44. Salado Haus 254/947-1868 S	87. Century 21 Bill Bartlett Real Estate 254/947-5050 S	117. The Barber Barn 254/421-5173 \$
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10. Shynne's of Salado 254/947-9215 S	30. First Baptist Church 254/947-5465 C	50. Salado Fire Department 254/947-8961 CV	94. SALADO PLAZA Salado Village Voice 254/947-5321 \$	119. Salado Intermediate 254/947-1700 E
11. Tablerock Amphitheatre 254/947-9205 E	31. Salado Mansion 254/947-5157 D	51. Salado Church of Christ 254/947-5241 CV	95. Willingham Agency 254/947-9003 \$	120. Salado High 254/947-5429 E
12. The Rose Mansion B&B 254/947-8200 L	32. THE VERANDA First Texas Brokerage 254/947-5577 \$	53. Splendors of Salado 254/947-3630 S	96. Mill Creek Golf & Country Club 254/947-5144 D,L	121. Cedar Valley Baptist Church 254/947-0148 C
13. Salado United Methodist Church 254/947-5482 C	33. First State Bank 254/947-5852 \$	54. Charlotte's of Salado 254/947-0240 S	97. Salado Public Library 254/947-9191 E	122. Eagle Rock Ranch 254/947-5369 \$
14. Tennille's Place 254/947-3811 S (1 mile east on Royal)	34. FIRST CENTRE at 40 N. Main Chameleon Clothier 254/947-7104 S First Community Title 254/947-8480 \$	56. OLD CHURCH PLACE The Front Row Emporium 254/947-5831 S	98. Edalado Cleaners 254/947-7299 \$	123. Wildfire Saddlery 254/947-8080 S
15. Royal Street Provision Country Inn 254/947-3350 L (3.5 miles east on Royal)	35. Salado Masonic Lodge #296 254/947-0561 CV	57. THE COLONY Griffith Fine Art 254/947-3177 S	99. Salado Chiropractic 254/947-BACK P	124. St. Stephen Catholic Church 254/947-8037 C
16. Friendship House B&B 254/947-3136 L	36. Christy's of Salado 254/947-0027 S	59. WATERSONG MASSAGE 254/947-0042 P	100. Village Realty 254/947-0342 \$	127. Grace Baptist Church of Salado 254/947-5917 C
17. The Baines House B&B 254/947-5260 L	37. Inn at Salado 254/947-0027 L	61. SALADO CIVIC SQUARE Joe Read State Farm Agency 254/947-3599 \$	102. Robertsons' Hams and The Choppin' Block 254/947-5562 S	128. Janelle's 254/947-3584 S
18. Inn on the Creek B&B 254/947-5554 D,L	38. SALADO SQUARE Browning's Courtyard Cafe 254/947-8666 D Carden's 254/947-0300 S Linda Rountree Pritchard 254/947-4263 P Main Street Place 254/947-9908 S	62. Heirlooms 254/947-0336 S	104. Fairway Golf Carts 254/947-4065 S	Not shown on map The Event Center at Tenroc Ranch 2 miles west of I-35 on Thomas Arnold Rd. 512/947-9218 \$
19. CELEBRATION CENTER Botangles 254/947-4747 \$ Old Salado Springs Celebration Center and Retreat 254/947-5933 \$ Old Salado Springs Guest Lodging 254/947-5933 L	39. The Range at the Barton House 254/947-3828 D	63. Seasons of Salado 254/947-4769 S	108. Scissors Hair and Nails 254/947-9001 \$	
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Mills named Citizen of the Year

"Her name is synonymous with 'Tablerock,'" Mike Cameron told the audience at the Salado Chamber of Commerce Banquet last month when

he presented Jackie Mills with the Citizen of the Year award.

For more than a decade, Mills has been deeply involved with Tablerock since writing and producing *Salado Legends*, an annual summer production at the outdoor amphitheater.

Out of 123 outdoor theaters in the United States, Tablerock, and the play *Salado Legends*, was selected in 2003 for inclusion in the Library of Congress, for its civic significance and the role it plays in historic preservation and promotion. Only four other theaters were included in the Library of Congress induction.

Following the final performance of *Salado Legends* each summer, Tablerock awards scholarships to participating performers in the outdoor musical. Last year, \$7,600 in scholarships were awarded, thanks in part to corporate sponsors.

Mills also wrote a children's book in 1992 based on the Legend of Sirena, the Mermaid that is in Salado Creek. Proceeds from the sale of *Sirena of Salado* are given to Salado students in the form of scholarships.

Mills has also written murder mysteries that have been produced as dinner theaters.

Every year, she works with fourth grade students at Thomas Arnold Elementary to produce a historical melodrama. The students research, write



Jackie Mills was named Citizen of the Year. (PHOTO BY MARILYN FLEISCHER)

and produce the melodrama. It serves as their first fundraiser with proceeds going towards their senior trip.

Mills has been a longtime supporter of Salado schools, working with students and classes on projects. She was also a charter member of the Salado Education Foundation, which was incorporated with the goal of providing scholarships to every graduating Salado senior. She and husband Denver can be seen at the annual Cattleman's Ball, which is the chief fundraiser for the Salado Education Foundation. Since it was founded, the Salado Education Foundation has awarded

more than \$50,000 in scholarships to Salado High School seniors.

She was named a Woman of Distinction in 2000 by the Bluebonnet Council of Girl Scouts of America.

That year, Mills was also elected for the first to the newly-incorporated Village of Salado Board of Aldermen. She is in the midst of her third term on the Board of Aldermen.

As an alderman, Mills was the driving force in establishing a hotel/motel occupancy tax that is used to promote tourism in Salado. She was on the first Tourism Council and continues to serve in that position today.

She continues in her role as alderman to oversee the street repairs and street resurfacing program for the Village of Salado.

"Because she has invested her time, talents and energy during her 18 years in Salado to benefit the community's youth, to enhance the Village's image, to attract visitors to Salado to make civic improvements to Salado," Cameron told the audience, "We recognize Jackie Mills as our Citizen of the Year."

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Civic Center auction tickets on sale

The 2006 Salado Civic Center Auction and Dinner will be held 6 p.m. March 18 in the Salado Intermediate School Cafeteria. Tickets are now on sale at the Civic Center Business Office and from members of the Board of Directors.

Cost of the ticket, which includes both meal and auction, is \$10. The meal includes a choice of beef barbecue, chicken or sausage complete with all the trimmings, including

potato salad, beans, pickles, cole slaw, bread, iced tea and homemade brownies for dessert. The meal will be served at 6 p.m. with the auction to begin promptly at 6:45 p.m.

The popular auction was held for eight consecutive years and it was felt at that time, by the Civic Center's directors, it was best to give the fund raiser a rest for three years. That time period is over and the auction is

back on track with a gala evening planned to kick off the new series of fund raisers.

In addition, Saladoans Jessie and Wilbur Foster will be honored at the 2006 Auction and a number of Wilbur's stagecoaches and other handcrafted wagons and buggies will be sold to the highest bidder. This will be an especially important sale of the Foster productions since according to Wilbur - these

are the last to be produced. Due to failing eyesight, Wilbur has decided to put away his tools and enjoy a less exacting hobby.

Members of the Board of Directors of the Civic Center Foundation who will be selling tickets include: Ken Clapp, Lloyd Parks, Patsy Sanford, Vernon Holt, David Matthews, Mike Cornett and Dennis Cabaniss.

For more information call 254-947-8300.

Why wait until summer for fresh fruit?

When summer crops are still weeks or months away and we long to bite into a tender, juicy fruit, we look to the Southern Hemisphere, where the warm sun is still nurturing acres of fruits and vegetables.

Chile has the ideal agricultural climate, ranging from hot in the northern regions and cold in the south. Right now its harvests are coming up to us. The "stone" fruits -- plums, peaches, nectarines -- may need a few days on the counter or in a brown paper bag to reach full ripeness. Test them with gentle hand pressure. You'll find Chilean berries, grapes, peaches, plums and nectarines at your local market. And speaking of nectarines, it is commonly believed that a nectarine is a cross between a peach and a plum.

It isn't. The nectarine is actually a peach, and there are references to it in literature dating before the 1500s.

But, back to the present. We have a couple of recipes that provide a luscious, eye-appealing way to get more fruit into the diet, and please the experts who tell us we need to change our eating habits and nourish our immune system.

The Double Fresh Fruit Tart gives you lots of latitude: choose your own combination or follow our recipe. You'll need a tart pan with removable bottom, and you may make your own pastry or go to the convenient freezer for the shells.

Next is an unusual salad with a mix of greens and grapes with a lively dressing spiked with a bit of red pepper flakes. Last, we give you a way to surprise friends or family with Frozen Grape Clusters.

Double Fresh Fruit Tart
2 frozen 9-inch pie shells (10-ounce package)
1/2 cup almond paste (5 ounces)
1 large egg
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 cup sugar

The Chopping Block

By Philomena Corradeno

5 cups mixed Chilean fresh fruit, including blueberries, raspberries and sliced peaches or plums
2 tablespoons peach preserves

Preheat oven to 375 F.

Press one pastry shell into a 9-inch round tart pan with removable bottom. (Reserve second shell for future use.) In food processor, combine almond paste, egg and sugar. Process until smooth. Fold in 2 cups fruit. Transfer the mixture to the pastry-lined tart pan. Bake tart until firm in the center, about 30 minutes. Cool to room temperature. Just before serving, melt peach preserves. Toss remaining 3

cups fruit with preserves; arrange on top of tart. Sprinkle edge with confectioners' sugar and garnish with mint leaves, if desired. Yield: 8 servings.

If desired, with small cookie cutter, cut leaf or heart shapes out of pastry. Place on cookie sheet, and bake five minutes. Place around rim of baked tart.

Sweet and Spicy Grape Salad

2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1 tablespoon rice vinegar or apple cider vinegar
1/2 teaspoon sugar
1/8 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon red pepper flakes
4 cups Chilean seedless grapes, halved (any combination of red, green and

black)
6 cups mixed salad greens, tough stems removed (about 6 cups, loosely packed)

In a large bowl, combine oil, vinegar, sugar, salt and pepper flakes. Add grapes; toss gently. Divide greens among four serving plates; top with grape mixture; serve immediately. Yield: 4 portions; about 5 cups fruit.

Frozen Grape Clusters


Choose grapes that are plump, fresh-looking and securely attached to their stems; cut into clusters. Wash grapes well and pat completely dry with paper towels. Place clusters in a baking pan; freeze for several hours or until just frozen. Transfer to bowl and serve.

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Dance the night away Valentine's Day Feb. 14 with The Grandsons at the Spur

Come dance the night away this Valentine's with your sweetheart at the Silver Spur Theater at the Silver Spur Theater to the tunes of The Grandsons. A crowd pleasing band out of the D.C. area, The grandson will be serving up rhythm and blues novelties, vintage bluegrass, rock and roll, and the occasional Calypso romp beginning at 8:30 p.m. Feb. 14. Admission is \$40 per couple.



The Grandsons

The Silver Spur Theater is located on Royal Street. For information about the Sweethearts Shindig, call the Silver Spur at 254-947-3456 or click on www.silverspurtheater.com. About The Grandsons

Things are going great for The Grandsons as they move and shake into their 20th year in the world of rock and roll. The roots rock quartet plans to release a live record in late spring of 2006. Also in the works, a Grandsons 20-year reunion, and a summer tour of Germany. The Grandsons spent 2004/2005 promoting their nationally acclaimed fifth recording, *Party With The Rich*. Their previous studio album, *Pan-American Shindig*, spent ten weeks in the Americana Radio top-forty and their musical reach has extended further than ever. The Grandsons spent a month in Taiwan after being chosen by the US government as ideal representatives of America's celebrated musical style.

A fan aptly described The Grandsons exuberant sound as "American music in a blender with the lid off." The more prominent elements in this eclectic whirlpool are

New Orleans rhythm and blues, rockabilly, swing and country two steps. After eight years of plying their pop sound around the country as Grandsons of the Pioneers, the group's increasing notoriety resulted in a high-noon showdown with singing cowboys Sons of the Pioneers, who balked at the idea of acknowledging paternity to a low down tuba-toting, sax-blowing rock and roll band. Counseled by their team of cut-throat lawyers to keep on playing rather than pause to litigate, the band shortened its name to The Grandsons and has been going full throttle ever since.

The Grandsons bring with them a pawn shop of instruments. Vocalist-guitarist-trumpeter Alan MacEwen charms audiences with his sly wit and winsome original songs; DC blues veteran Matthew Sedgley locks in the groove on drums and percussion. Saxophonist Chris Watling puts out a sound so meaty and memorable that he is in demand all over as a guest artist and session player.

Howdy from The Grandsons, the group's 1991 debut produced by ex-Slickee Boy Mark Noone was hailed by the Washington Post as "so free-spirited

and so subversively anti-sophisticate that it's practically new territory." After catching a set at Austin's SXSW conference, Rounder Records quickly added the album to its mail order catalog, the Record Roundup. The Grandsons follow up, *It's Hip to Flip with The Grandsons*, showcased their maturing style with 11 new hard-hitting songs. *It's Hip to Flip*, which won a Wammie from the Washington Area Music Association (WAMA), received raves from the Washington Post and DC's City Paper. The Grandsons' third CD, *Pan American Shindig*, was released on their own label, Whirling House Records, in 1999. The disc has garnered rave reviews from the Washington Post and Washington City paper, as it explores Americana Roots Rock with originals and adaptations of obscure R&B tunes.

The Grandsons fourth CD, *Live At The Barns-The Legendary Wolf Trap Recordings Volume I*, has just been released. Recorded live, in concert, at the Barns of Wolf Trap on May 5, 2001, the CD contains 15 songs never before released on Grandsons recordings. The songs were chosen

from the Grandsons vast roots rock repertoire and capture the energy of a typical live show.

The Grandsons' popularity with so many different audiences has landed them on bills with national acts such as Willie Nelson, Ray Charles, the Iguanas, Terrance Simien, The Dirty Dozen Brass Band, Marcia Ball, The Fabulous Thunderbirds, Paul Cebar & The Milwaukeeans, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Mighty Blue Kings, and Royal Crown Review. The group has been in the studio recently backing R&B legend Ruth Brown and Texas' Evan Johns for nationally distributed compilations. Based in Washington, DC, The Grandsons travel to perform in New York, Texas, and every state in between. In the Summer of 1999, the Grandsons made their first overseas performance; they were invited to play a three-week engagement in Taipei, Taiwan. The group has performed sold-out shows at the Barns of Wolf Trap, appeared at Austin's South by Southwest music Festival, The Rocky Gap Festival, The Bethlehem PA Musikfest, The Kennedy Center, and North Carolina's popular Black Mountain Festival and Bele Chere Festival, both in Asheville. The Washington Area Music Association has voted The Grandsons several Wammie Awards since the band started in 1986, in categories such as Best Roots Rock Group, Best Album Design, and Best Pop Group. No wonder the Washington Post called The Grandsons "the hardest working band in DC."

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Almost a football overdose

by
Tumbleweed
Smith



When I got out of the Army I made myself two promises: I would never be cold again and I would never take long walks. Since my discharge, I haven't taken any more 20-mile hikes (marches) like I did in the Army. I have been cold, but not for very long. When my son Kevin told me he had bought me a ticket to the Cowboys-Rams game, I prepared for cold weather. I went to Wal-Mart and bought hand warmers, body warmers, foot warmers, heavy socks and gloves. I ordered a fleece cap from a catalog. I checked my supply of hooded sweatshirts and heavy coats. I was not going to sit in the stands and freeze. It's December, right?

I really didn't pay much attention to the weather forecast, which called for temperatures the day of the game to be in the 70s. I just knew a surprise cold front was going to come through and I was going to be prepared for it. When

we left Kevin's house for the game, I was wearing a turtleneck shirt under my hooded sweatshirt and I carried an Eddie Bauer coat with me. My wife gave me a funny look.

Kevin's 15-year-old son Jackson came with us. We got to the stadium parking lot early enough to toss the football back and forth. We were not the only ones doing that. Footballs of all sizes were sailing all over that parking lot. When the parking lot got crowded and we lost our playing area, we had a tailgate snack. As darkness approached, we headed for the stadium. I left my coat in Kevin's vehicle and carried my sweatshirt with me. It made me feel a little better when I saw other fans car-

rying quilts and heavy coats. There were also people wearing shorts and t-shirts. I have put on my sweatshirt. The game was fun, even though the Cowboys lost to the Rams 20-10.

While visiting Kevin and his family, we watched the Cotton, Sugar, Orange and Rose Bowl games. Wow. I had not done that in years. I observed things I hadn't noticed before, like coaches taking solitary sideline strolls during the games. Some were wearing headsets, some weren't. Some set a blistering pace, some were slow and ponderous. I saw Parcells doing that at the Cowboys game and

he looked mighty lonely. Very seldom did a player ever approach him during the game. I thought the sideline walks might be just a Parcells thing, but all bowl game coaches did the same thing.

Another thing I noticed was some kind of cosmic problem with kickers. So many misses, both professional and college. All the bowl games we watched had final scores just three points apart. Alabama beat Tech 13-10 in the Cotton Bowl. West Virginia beat Georgia 38-35 in the Sugar Bowl. Penn State beat Florida State 26-23 in the Orange Bowl. Texas beat USC 41-38 in the Rose Bowl.

I hated to see Tech get beat. I'm glad West Virginia won because of the mine tragedy in that state. I was glad to see Penn State coach Joe Paterno win against Florida State. The Texas win over USC was the biggest thrill. Vince Young owned that field. I've never seen a quarterback so at home.

Families in Crisis aids violence victims

Linda Watkins, Outreach Case Manager for Families in Crisis, in Killeen, addressed the

Rotary Club of Salado at the group's Jan. 31 luncheon at Stagecoach Inn. Watkins, who has 12 years

of experience as a case manager, explained that Families in Crisis functions as a "safe shelter for families." The Killeen office serves the Central Texas area, dealing with instances of sexual assault and violence within families.

She said that the organization works in three core areas: that of outreach, counseling and support, and providing shelter. Currently, Families in Crisis has the capability of providing shelter for up to 56 victims of domestic violence.

Watkins explained that, typically, domestic violence is a means to power and control for the perpetrator. Most victims find it near impossible to escape or leave the situation, often because of the children, she continued.

Families in Crisis statistics show the average victim leaves the home seven times before actually breaking the relationship. One of the problems faced by victims, Watkins went on to say, is the cyclic nature of most cases; a series of gifts, and good behavior being followed by another round of violence.

In fact, domestic violence is the number one cause of injury for females between the ages of 14 and 44, and one of every three females is a victim of domestic violence, according to Watkins. Perpetrators are possessive, have a need for control, and are self centered. Watkins pointed out that oftentimes abusers come from families with the same characteristics.

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ARA) - America's housing inventory is aging. According to the Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University, the average age of houses in the United States is 32 years and rising. So it should come as no surprise that the remodeling industry is booming.

Home owners spend more than \$230 billion each year on remodeling, and when they shop for new fixtures, they want to add lasting style that unifies the look of their homes, not trendy products that will soon appear dated. This has prompted a return to classic architectural styles like Victorian, Craftsman, Old World and Colonial.

"Homeowners have their eyes fixed on future returns, so when it comes to selecting products for a renovation, they are behaving like smart investors," says Steve Brant, product marketing manager for JELD-WEN windows. "Homeowners demand well-established architectural styles and high-performance materi-



JELD-WEN Custom Wood doors create a beautiful Old World effect when paired with speakeasy grilles and custom hardware.

als that will look great, save money and last for years to come."

Before undertaking a renovation project, experts advise homeowners to consider these factors:

* What are the current architectural features of the home?

* What materials need to match, such as wood species on cabinetry, millwork, windows and doors?

* What weather condi-

tions or building code requirements must be met?

* What is the budget?

* What is the expected return on investment?

High-Tech Materials with Traditional Style

Today's building products benefit from high-tech improvements to time-honored materials. Wood is a must for the classic architectural styles that are popular today, but many homeowners have avoided wood due to concerns about rot, termites and high maintenance requirements.

Building product manufacturers have answered with a new generation of treated wood that avoids these risks. An example is JELD-WEN AuraLast wood, which is guaranteed to resist decay and termites for 20 years. At this level of protection, homeowners don't have to sacrifice the warmth that solid wood windows and doors bring to traditional architectural styles that favor rich, natural tones.

For homeowners who want the look of wood but live in regions with extreme climate conditions, fiberglass entry doors have mastered the look of genuine wood. For example, IWP Aurora Custom Fiberglass exterior doors are cast from solid wood doors and match the look and feel of wood so closely that even experts cannot tell the difference.

M.J. Craig Homes 254/526-9646

2850 Hester Way • Mill Creek • Salado

This stunning 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths with study is ready for your family!

Absolutely gorgeous with huge fireplace, granite tops in kitchen and ceramic tile throughout. Hardwood floors in study and private vanities in secondary bedrooms. This floor plan is very impressive and the décor is exceptional!

Please call Marcie to see this dream home! 512-415-7786



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2288 Chisholm Trail • Mill Creek • Salado

Beautiful custom home on 1.5 acre lot. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths with study and formal dining. All the extras including granite and marble counters. Oversized garage and appealing landscape set this home apart.



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return of classic architectural styles

Keys to Classic Architectural Styles

For homeowners who want to unite the classic looks of their homes, here are a few tips on what architectural details to highlight:

* Decorative glass is the key to carrying off Victorian architectural style at the front entryway. Beveled and textured glass brightens the entry and reinforces the strong geometric shapes of a Victorian home's facade. The same patterning can be carried throughout the home with custom divided lites for windows. Depending on window type, exterior colors and grille patterns, homeowners can find windows in wood, clad wood or vinyl to match this architectural style.

* The keys to the Craftsman look are symmetry and simple details that emphasize balanced proportions. While glass inserts are still important

in Craftsman doors, the fanciful radius and oval shapes of the Victorian style are replaced with symmetrical, squared-off forms and designs abstracted from nature. Wood windows in pine, made of reliable treated wood like AuraLast, complement this architectural style, which favors rich, natural wood finishes.

* To carry off an Old World look at the front entry, the key is decorative hardware. An otherwise ordinary paneled door takes on a whole new dimension of style with the addition of a speakeasy grille or decorative straps. Choosing options such as antiquing, hand-hewn finishes and hammered-look hardware can add to the Old World appearance. Shaped casement windows with arched or peaked tops and Gothic divided lite patterns can help carry this design theme throughout the



AuraLast wood by JELD-WEN, guaranteed to resist decay and termites for 20 years, lends warmth and beauty to windows.

home.

* A hallmark of the Colonial architectural style is a grand front entrance - often a projecting central pavilion or a portico with columns. For a Colonial entrance, a broad, paneled door with classical proportions and symmetrical sidelights fits the bill. Wood and fiberglass doors offer a

variety of custom options within the established set of Colonial-style doors. Double-hung windows in white or ivory with symmetrical divided lite patterns are the perfect match for Colonial style.

For more remodeling resources, visit www.jeld-wen.com or call (800) 877-9482.

COURTESY OF ARA CONTENT

Ordinance No. 2006.03
Village of Salado
County of Bell
State of Texas
February 2, 2006

NEW VOTING MACHINES

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE VILLAGE OF SALADO, TEXAS ESTABLISHING A VOTING SYSTEM AND EXTENDING EARLY VOTING HOURS; AND PROVIDING FOR PREAMBLE INCORPORATION; CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; GOVERNING LAW; SEVERABILITY; AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND AN AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE.

WHEREAS, section 61.012 of the Texas Election Code requires the Village of Salado Board of Aldermen (Board) must provide at least one accessible voting system in each polling place used in a Texas election on or after January 1, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the accessible voting system must comply with state and federal laws setting the requirements for voting systems that permit voters with physical disabilities to cast a secret ballot; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Texas Secretary of State has certified that the AutoMARK v.1.0. is an accessible voting system that may be legally used in Texas elections; and

WHEREAS, sections 123.032 and 123.035 of the Texas Election Code authorize the acquisition of voting systems by local political subdivisions and further mandate certain minimum requirements for contracts relating to the acquisition of such voting systems; and

WHEREAS, section 123.001 of the Texas Election Code requires the Board to adopt a voting system before it can be used in an election; and

WHEREAS, section 85.005(d) of the Texas Election Code requires early voting by personal appearance be conducted at the main early voting polling place for at least twelve hours for a certain number of weekdays; and

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE VILLAGE OF SALADO:

The Village will lease from Bell County and use one AutoMARK v.1.0. and one M100 voting machine during early voting and on election day, May 13, 2006.

Adopted at a regularly scheduled Board of Aldermen meeting, Thursday, February 2, 2006. Complete copies of this ordinance can be purchased at the Village office for .10 cents per page or it can be found on the Village's website, www.villageofsalado.org.

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A few of the Salado High School interp team members find a moment to "ham it up" between sessions at their workshop Feb. 4. Students were preparing for their UIL district meet. Left to right: Dixie Darling, Crystal Schoellmann, Kyle Floyd, Danielle Danford.



Sophomore Alex House placed first in Novice Extemporaneous Speaking at the Austin Akins Texas Forensic Association (TFA) speech tournament on Feb. 4. This was House's first time to compete in a speech competition. Other Salado High School debaters placing were: Novice Extemporaneous Speaking: Gavin Radebaugh, fourth; Taylor Reed, seventh; Varsity Extemporaneous: Travis Cook, second; Megan Bradshaw, sixth; Tyler Cook, eighth; Octofinalists in Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Travis Cook and Tyler Cook; Quarterfinalists in Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Megan Bradshaw. The Salado High School Debaters will be competing in UIL district competition in March.



Austin stone home with brick trim. Minutes from Stillhouse Hollow Lake on .6 acres. Stone fireplace and hearth. 4BR/2BA with spectacular entrance. Dining room, living room and kitchen are open with great room effect. Large utility room. Many upgrades. Two car attached garage. \$179,995



Magnificent country dream home on 2.14 acres in Salado. Many amenities with tile throughout home. Approx. 3,588 SF with attached garage. Custom built-in shelving in kitchen and study. 3 BR/2 BA. \$398,500.

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**Peggy Bush, Lynette McCain, Mary Kite,
TerryLynn Schrimsher, Marsha Kumm**



Shown above are the winners of the Salado Lions Club Youth Outreach Essay Contest. The three top winners in Salado were Jonathon Kendall (center), first place and winner of \$100, Erin Bracken (left), second place and winner of \$75 and Josh Shaw (right), third place winner of \$50. Kendall's first place essay was entered in the District 2-X3 contest, where he was again awarded first place and \$100. He is the son of Drs. Jon and Jeannie Kendall of Salado. He is a junior at Salado High School and is planning on attending Texas A&M College after graduation. Bracken is a senior at Salado High School and is the daughter of Leigh and Debra Bracken. Shaw is a senior at Salado High and is the son of David and Kim Shaw.



Your own private park! Lovely Salado home has a beautiful wooded yard. Lots of privacy with two decks in the backyard. Country kitchen with lots of cabinets, huge closets, breakfast bar and dining room. 2 BR/2 BA, \$144,500.



Great country views of Taylor's Valley! Wonderful home is on 3/4-acre lot, fenced and on a cul-de-sac. Separate formal dining and breakfast nook. Academy schools. 3 BR/2-1/2 BA, \$179,900



Ranch-style home with lots of room and trees! Metal roof, spa, playground, fenced backyard with pet pen, two storage buildings. Updates include limestone flooring, carpet, kitchen appliances, countertops, painting and many extras. 4 BR/2 BA for \$145,000.



Temple brick home on pecan tree-covered lot! 3 BR/2 BA, covered patio and storage shed in shaded backyard. Neighborhood near Midway Drive, so close to everything! \$97,000.



Mill Creek Golf Course just across the street. Open living and kitchen area with fireplace. Three bedroom, two bath with a great master layout. Kitchen has breakfast area with island/bar. Formal living room. Attached garage, separate laundry room. Privacy fenced. \$189,000.



Horse Property! Country living at its finest! Log siding home on 10+ acres. Seven stall horse barn with round pen and lighted arena. New non-climb horse fence with cross-fencing. Recent in-ground pool with waterfall, spa, metal roof and great landscaping. Salado schools, good roads, and easy IH-35 access. Huge attached garage. 3 BR/2 BA. ~~\$340,000~~. Reduced to \$325,000.

Classified ads cost \$5 for the first 15 words and 20 cents for each word that follows. Classifieds running 1 time are prepaid, but monthly billing can be arranged on long term runs. Mail to Salado Village Voice P O Box 587, Salado, TX 76571

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Zip: _____ Phone: _____
Ad: _____



\$369,900: Unique Mediterranean Style home on .72 acres. Backs up to Mill Creek Golf Course and Smith Branch Creek. Two master suites, wet bar, stainless steel kitchen appliances. Upgrades throughout this entire elegant home.



\$389,000: Custom home on 2.16 acres, with all the extras. Tile entryway takes you into a wonderful living area with built-in bookshelves & fireplace. Large open kitchen with island, granite countertops, breakfast bar, and under counter lighting. Master suite has a double vanity sink, garden tub, separate shower and walk-in closet. A 20x13 office upstairs. Four car garage.



\$379,900: Secluded 10 acres with beautiful stone ranch style hacienda. Extensive stone work & multiple courtyards provide privacy. Private study or mother-in-law suite with separate porch entrance. 4 BR, 4 BA, formal dining. Spacious walk-in pantry adjoins the salttilo tiled country kitchen. Fenced acreage.



\$282,900: Recently constructed home in Heritage Subdivision. 4 BR, 2.5 BA. Stone/brick combination in breakfast/dining areas. Beautiful view out front door. Check out this home and subdivision. Salado schools.



\$281,800: Only 2 yrs old, this nicely landscaped brick/stone 4 BR home has 3 full baths and is walking distance to the new Mill Creek Springs Golf Course. Entertain in the large back yard with covered patio and an arbor. Stone fireplace in the family room.



\$210,000: Bring your horses! 30 acres with home, south of Salado. Metal exterior, fully finished out interior! Stained concrete floors, 2nd BR has loft, closet space in hall. Nice kitchen, good storage, patio in back. Windmill, barn, nice water well.



\$209,900: This home is oozing with personality and creativity! Located near the back entrance to Mill Creek off Blackberry, the location couldn't be better access to IH-35 or downtown Salado. Kitchen is open to the family room with a granite bar that sit four people.



\$162,000: Lovely hardwood floors accent this home throughout. Master BR with French doors opening onto a covered back porch & deck. Kitchen opens into the breakfast area & living room.

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Rita, Valerie, Melanie, Bill, Sue Ellen, Debbie, Ann



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Rita Oden	718-7956	Melanie Kirchmeier	760-5855
Sue Ellen Stigel	760-3226	Valerie Bourque	493-0787
Ann Carroll	760-0101		

Acreage Available

- 780 acs. with nice home, several ponds, large metal building.
- 439 acs. on FM 487, Florence. Oaks, grasslands.
- 230 acres with over one mile of frontage on Little River. SOLD.
- 150 acres, near Rogers. Excellent soil, good road frontage.
- 145 acres near Eddy. Mostly coastal grass, well fenced.
- 65 acs. on Hill Rd. and I-35, all or part. SOLD.
- 5 wooded acres on Blackberry Rd.

Lots & Home Sites

Mill Creek Lots

- Mill Creek Springs I & III - \$30,000-75,000
- Mill Creek Springs IV *Just Released!*
Golf course & hilltop view lots start at \$40,000
Interior lots start at \$25,000
The Overlook, estate-sized lots start at \$94,000.

Woods of Salado Lots

- Live Oak Rd. Lots 21 A&B \$70,000

Other Lots

- Windy Hill Ranch: 2 acre lots - \$35,000-\$45,000.
- Heritage: 1 to 3 acre wooded, near Salado. Restricted.
- Hidden Springs: Lot 2, Lot 31.
- Denman's Loop: Lot 8, B 19, Sec, 2, \$18,000.
- Terra Bella: 12 estate lots in park-like setting off Armstrong Rd. \$45,000-\$110,000.
- Jeremiah's Well: 11.9 acres with pond and well.

Commercial Property

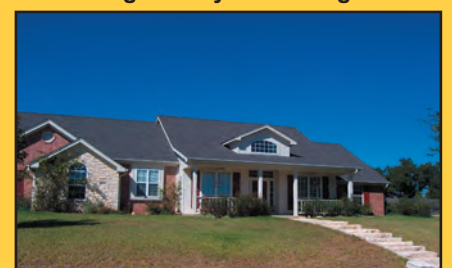
- \$429,000: 5.66 acres commercial property off Main Street Salado.
- \$149,000: 1.6 acres with good potential for commercial near I-35 & FM 2484.
- \$84,500: Commercial building on Thomas Arnold Rd. close to Salado Schools & I-35.
- \$79,800: Great location for a Salado business, on 0.925 ac. on Center Circle.



\$299,900: Need room for horse/cattle or space to yourself without neighbors? This home on 123 acres might just be the place. The view is magnificent. The home is neat & clean and the property is extremely well maintained. Additional acreage across the road also available.



\$274,500: Drive by and imagine yourself living in this Texas Limestone ranch home. This 4 BR, 3 BA is loaded with extras. All counter tops are granite. The wood floored entry opens to the large living area and formal dining room. Also included are an irrigation system and gutters.



\$219,900: This 3 or 4 BR home has a large, open feeling with grand entry. Ceramic tile, custom wood molding, and plant ledges are a few of the amenities with this home. The enclosed sun porch is an additional breakfast room or living area and adds and additional 400 SF to the house. Stone work in the front and a fully fenced back yard.



\$206,800: Escape to country living! 4/2/2 all brick home on a beautifully wooded 1.756 acres. Horses OK, fenced & cross fenced. Small barn storage shed. The large family room has a beautiful fireplace and built-ins.



\$195,000: Great location on Indian Trail in Salado. Beautiful trees, private back yard. Larry Lilly built home in the heart of Mill Creek.

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Democrats hold Valentine social

The Bell County Democratic Party will hold a Valentine Social Dinner and Dance on 6:30 p.m. Feb. 14 at the Central Texas Home Builders Association building, 445 E. Central Texas Expressway in Harker

Heights.

Tickets at \$20 per person are available from Democratic Precinct Chairs or by calling (254) 698-1880 or 933-1881. Tickets should be purchased by Feb. 10.

Candidates in the following primary races

have been invited to speak: Congressional District 31, Governor, 3rd Court of Appeals, State Representative Districts 54 and 55, County Commissioner Precinct 2, Justice of Peace Precincts 1 and 3-Place 2, and County Clerk.



Distinct Creation close to completion in Hidden Springs! 5+bedroom home on 5 acres features 3 levels of living area, soaring ceilings, 2 dining areas, private media room/office and stainless steel kitchen appliances including down-draft range; de-sulphuring well system; pre-wiring for surround sound/security, 2 fireplaces, \$10,000 landscaping allowance. **2206 Cheyenne Pass \$459,625**



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PLEASE NOTE THIS NEW PRICE!! The Historic Fowler House is now being offered at **\$295,500**. What a DEAL to own a piece of Salado's history at this GREAT price! 3 BD, 2.5 BA in the MAIN house. 1 BD-, 1 -BA in Guest house & a great BARN for parties or gift shop. Call Larry NOW!!!



DISTINCTIVE 100% LIMESTONE! Quiet tree-shaded cul-de-sac lot in Mill Creek. Atrium room, windows galore, golf-cart garage, private wood deck with hot tub! Landscaped yard and lots of ceramic tile floors!! Call Larry, Quick!!

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Ordinance No. 2006.01
Village of Salado
County of Bell
State of Texas
February 2, 2006

CALLING FOR GENERAL ELECTION, MAY 13, 2006

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE VILLAGE OF SALADO, TEXAS ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION AND MAKING PROVISION FOR THE CONDUCT OF SAID ELECTION AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATED TO SUCH ELECTION; AND PROVIDING FOR PREAMBLE INCORPORATION; CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; GOVERNING LAW; SEVERABILITY; AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND AN AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE.

WHEREAS, the statutes of the State of Texas provide that the Mayor and Aldermen of the Village of Salado (Village) when elected are to serve until the next regular municipal election; and

WHEREAS, such provision would require the Village of Salado to hold a municipal election at the next regular municipal election date, to wit, May 13, 2006 for the purpose of electing two (2) Aldermen and one (1) Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Salado Board of Aldermen (Board) wishes to proceed with the ordering of an election for Saturday, May 13, 2006, the next uniform election date, and appointing election officials required for the conduct of the election, and has deemed it advisable to call the election hereinafter ordered; and

WHEREAS, the Board has authority pursuant to Chapter 271, Texas Election Code, to enter into a joint election agreement with the Salado Independent School District (SISD) and the Salado Public Library District (Library District), which are political subdivisions holding elections on the same day in all or part of the same territory; and

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE VILLAGE OF SALADO:

1. That a general election be held by the Village of Salado between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm CDST on May 13, 2006 (the Election), which is sixty-two (62) or more days from the date of the adoption of this Ordinance, for the purpose of electing two (2) Aldermen and one (1) Mayor at the following designated polling place, to wit, the Salado Civic Center, 601 North Main, Salado, Texas 76571, which lies within the boundaries of the Village.

Adopted at a regularly scheduled Board of Aldermen meeting, Thursday, February 2, 2006. Complete copies of this ordinance can be purchased at the Village office for .10 cents per page or it can be found on the Village's website, www.villageofsalado.org.

Belton Kiwanis solicit information to help children

The Belton Kiwanis Club wishes to address the needs of the children of the local community, which includes the Salado area as well as Belton.

The local Belton Kiwanis Club requests your opinion regarding these needs by completing the following list of questions to pinpoint those needs:

1) *From your viewpoint, what is a current, urgent need for*

the children in the Salado community?

2) *What do you see as a future concern for children?*

3) *How can the Belton Kiwanis Club help?*

Please mail your answers to these questions to Belton Kiwanis, Attn: Gaye Cowell, 2421 North Main Street #102, Belton TX 76513, or email your answers to gmcowell@msn.com.

"If you would be interested in speaking to

our Kiwanis Club, please contact me and we will schedule a time," stated Kiwanis member Gaye Cowell. "We would very much like to hear what you

have to say."

Kiwanis International is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.

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Bella Charca - Nolanville's Gated Community

EXPERIENCE MAJESTIC LIVING in Nolanville's Bella Charca, gated community with security surveillance. New 4 bedroom, 2.25 bath is complete with floor-to-ceiling rock fireplace, 2 car garage, granite kitchen counter tops. Approx. 2131 SF, check out Top Notch Landscaping. **\$255,780.**

EVERYTHING IS "BIGGER" in this new Texas Style Rock Home with approximately 2,360 living sq. ft. 3 bedrooms, 2.75 baths, 2 living, 2 dining, master bath with his whirlpool tub. 3-car garage. Austin stone makes this a true Texas star. **\$283,500.**

WINDOW WONDERLAND Family-sized home outside Killeen City Limits on .953 wooded acre lot with panoramic view of Lampasas River Valley. Approx. 2,500 SF, 3 bedroom, 2.75 bath, one living, two dining, double oven/cook top, stud, fireplace and laundry room with sink. **\$225,000.**

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Beautiful New 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath near Salado on 5.5 acres. Custom throughout, wood, tile and carpet flooring, granite countertops and Jenn Aire appliances, double ovens. 2 living, 2 dining plus study. Horses welcome. Must see to believe! Landscaping allowance, ready for move-in!! **\$324,900**

Wonderfully manicured country estate on 4.34 acres. 3 bedroom, 2.5 baths, office, 2 living, 2 dining, and game room. Wonderful patio for entertaining with stainless gas grill, fireplace and fountain. Too many extras to list, **\$468,000**

What a wonderful homesite!! 11.71 acres in Hidden Springs, complete with water well and stock tank. Ready for your new home. Enjoy wildlife, beautiful views, and community park on Salado Creek, **\$115,000.**

Absolutely gorgeous!! Vaughn built, stucco on private 3.23 acres. 5 bedroom, 3 bath, slate fireplace, beautiful granite countertops, all stainless appliances convey, double ovens. Stained concrete floors, soaring ceilings and plate glass windows, 400 sq. ft. patio with surround sound and gas firepit. Lots of windows. Must see! **\$374,900.**

Call Valerie at 254 **493-0787**

Century 21

Bill Bartlett
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Valerie Bourque, G.R.I.
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- 30 years real estate brokerage

Salado **254/947-5050**

A big change in local real estate
is approaching!

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ANNA LOU RANEY
Broker/Realtor
254-913-1215

MIKE BOWLES
Realtor
254-913-0469

COMMERCIAL



227 N. Main St.

Prime location in the historical district on Main Street. Three buildings approximately 1200 square feet each with room to expand. Call Anna Lou or Mike for more information. \$485,000

Mill Creek Homesites

Premier Half-Acre Lots 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
- 1808 Kevlin Trail



515 Indian Trail

Gorgeous stone home, beautifully landscaped with two-tiered pond in fenced backyard. Large rooms throughout. Two great rooms, two fireplaces, plus separate formals, library. Four bedrooms and unbelievable storage. Approximately 5,000 sq. ft. \$499,000.



701 Indian Trail

Price reduced to \$274,000. Motivated seller will consider any reasonable offer. Secluded home on 1.3 acres in Beautiful Salado Creek Place. Rooms with soaring ceilings and large irregular room sizes. Three bedrooms and three full baths, large living area, formal dining room and a study.



1617 Chaparral

Great price for this custom home. Must see inside to appreciate all the features, including views, screened-in porch, master bedroom balcony, Terrazo floors, open kitchen and many more! 4 generous BRs, 3 full baths, large great room, formal dining room, breakfast room and great outdoor living. Reduced to 250,000



900 DeGrummond Way

Salado's hidden treasure. This is not a typical home! This totally updated 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home includes a new master suite with a private patio. There is a large great room plus a family room. Beautiful views of oak trees and a pond. A very warm and welcoming home! \$350,000



716 Whispering Oaks

Located in Mill Creek on a beautiful treed street. This one story has 3 BRs/ 2.5 BAs, study, formal living and dining areas, a large kitchen with breakfast room that opens into the great room with wood-burning fireplace. Great floorplan. Amenities include large deck, storage building, a greenhouse and a hot tub. \$249,900. Call Mike Bowles, 254-913-0469



2105 Smith Bluff

Immaculate native limestone home ready for new owners, 20x19 living room with stone WBFP, formal and informal dining, 3 bedrooms, two baths and a wonderful kitchen. Many updates and great drive-up appeal. Don't miss this one! ~~\$207,577~~. Price Reduced to \$188,000.

Pop Wagner performs at the Spur

Pop Wagner will perform at the Silver Spur Theater at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 9 with Back At the Ranch. For more information about the performance, call 254-947-3456 or visit www.saladosilverspur.com.

You don't have to love horses to appreciate the timeless songs, tunes, poems and tributes on Wagner's new CD, *Cinchin' Saddles and Pullin' Bridle Reins*. A regular at the annual Cowboy Poetry Gatherings around the country, Pop's also well known for his radio work. These days, he's fresh from the set of the Robert Altman/Garrison Keillor film (loosely based on A Prairie Home Companion) shot in St. Paul last fall.

On the set 15 of the 21 days of filming, Pop served as a long-standing extra who also taught actor John C. Reilly how to do rope tricks. Of course, PHC fans know Pop from way back; he's appeared on the popular radio program countless times, singing the stuff that makes folkies folk: country blues, old-timey material, fiddle tunes, railroad songs, bluegrass and just about anything



Pop Wagner

else from America's rich roots-music tradition. One Prairie Home program Pop appeared on even won a coveted George Peabody Award.

The new record also displays historical musical portraits about horses of all kinds, from "Stewball" and "Tarry Not" to the "Tennessee Stud," "Old Paint" and "Strawberry Roan." Tunes about riding the trails and herding the dogies are mixed in with original works written for this disc, including one Pop wrote while working in residence with kids in Michigan, plus "Manito," a poem about the beloved horse of his late friend and fellow folksinger, Sean Blackburn, who died in 2005. Sean gets his nod, too, in the liner notes,

with a lovely poem Pop wrote in his memory, a piece about the "Long Ride" the two often talked about taking but never got around to. That missed opportunity with a longtime buddy – on the back of a horse, crossing a mesa or singing around a campfire – has been turned into a timeless tribute for anyone who dreams of riding with people they love.

Pop's worked in 44 states and nine countries, performing at clubs, concerts and festivals. The crack fiddler-singer-songwriter-storyteller-dance caller-lariat trick artist even played for former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev during his historic visit to the Twin Cities and appeared in the Benjamin Britten opera, Paul Bunyan.

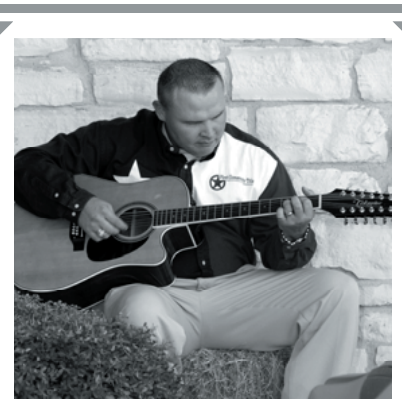
Born and raised in Roy Rogers country in Yellow Springs, Ohio, Pop got his nickname from a teenage friend impressed by Wagner's ability to lead his scout troop on a weekend trek without adult supervision. His musical yearning and learning came from the "folk music scare" of the '60s and his passion for horses, cowboying and rope tricks along the way.



First Community Title

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"...real people, real service."



TV series signs-up to protect flora and fauna

Dear EarthTalk: I really enjoy the various Survivor TV series, but what is the environmental impact of such productions on their remote locales? -- Rachel Maxwell, Port Washington, NY

profile series. And by the time the series was only a year old, it was garnering green praise from all over, including from Australian environmental officials, who played host during the show's second season.

When Survivor first aired in the summer of 2000, environmental groups cheered producers for choosing nature as the setting for such a high

Ian Sinclair of the Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Water, said in an interview at the time, "The impacts were pretty minimal. All rubbish was



removed. No vegetation was destroyed. The tracks and the bare area that were re-seeded are probably the only visible signs of impact..." But Survivor 2 was only granted use of the site on very strict terms, including protection of local flora and fauna as well as guarantees of waste cleanup. As Survivor competitor Colby Donaldson showed when he illegally picked up pieces of coral, such guarantees were sometimes dishonored, however unintentionally.

Beach, were charged with damaging one of the country's most pristine national parks in 2000. But they were pleasantly surprised after Survivor's producers displayed great environmental sensitivity when taping the show's fifth season there. More recently, the government of Palau, where the series was set in 2004, reported that it found "no significant environmental impact [or] damage" from hosting Survivor.

But bigger trouble began brewing for the show in 2001 in Kenya when a local land trust complained that vegetation and animals living in that country's Shaba National Reserve--where that season was being filmed--were being disrupted by all the production-related activities. "The presence of more than 200 workers and the heavy commercial trucks busy supplying provisions and other operations in the reserve has scared away all the animals," said a press release by Kenya's Waso Trust Land Project. The story was carried in newspapers around the world, bruising the show's otherwise spotless environmental reputation.

Despite the show's recent good track record during filming, some environmental groups are now concerned that Survivor's popularity may well cause some of the pristine and far-flung locales where it is filmed to become overrun with tourism. In fact, the Palau Conservation Society has had to re-double efforts to manage tourism growth which has spiked since the island nation began hosting Survivor.

Since then, though, perhaps because of the flap, Survivor has been a more responsible environmental actor with each successive season, often garnering accolades from local governments monitoring operations. Authorities in Thailand were skeptical about hosting American productions after crew from the film, The

put green topics front and center.

Much of the credit for increases in such "faith-based" environmentalism can go to the National Religious Partnership for the Environment (NRPE), which was founded in 1993 to "weave the mission of care for God's creation across all areas of organized religion." NRPE has forged relationships with a diverse group of religious organizations, including the U.S. Catholic Conference, the National Council of Churches of Christ, the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life, and the Evangelical Environmental Network.

These organizations work with NRPE to develop environmental programs that mesh with their own varied spiritual teachings. For instance, some 135,000 congregations--counting Catholic parishes, synagogues, Protestant and Eastern Orthodox churches and evangelic congregations--have been provided with resource kits on environmental issues, including sermons for clergy, lesson plans for Sunday school teachers, and even conservation tips for church and synagogue building managers.

Even Evangelical Christians, known for their conservative take on most issues, are going green. The Colorado-based National Association of Evangelicals is urging its 30 million members to pursue a "biblically balanced agenda" to protect the environment alongside fighting poverty. Indeed, it was Evangelical minister, Reverend Jim Ball, who started the influential "What Would Jesus Drive?" campaign promoting hybrid cars back in 2003. More recently Ball has worked with likeminded Evangelicals to craft a faith-based policy statement on global warming.

Another key organization is the Forum on Religion and Ecology, which holds conferences that bring religious leaders together from all over the world to discuss religion's role in ecological matters.

Earth Ministry, an association of 90 churches around Seattle, takes a more "hands-on" approach. It organizes hikes, book parties, and volunteer support for local agricultural projects, helping to educate thousands of people along the way. Some congregations also conduct church "greenings," like replacing church lightbulbs with energy-saving compact fluorescents and virgin copier paper with recycled paper.

Some more hard-hitting environmental actions have sprung up at the congregation level as well. In Mississippi, Jesus People Against Pollution brought together local churchgoers to pressure authorities to clean-up local toxic waste sites. And in Detroit, the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart turned a former crack house into a community vegetable garden. Meanwhile, New York's Hamburg Presbyterian Church "adopted" a nearby creek and won it designation as a protected habitat. And just like good environmentalists everywhere, Hamburg Presbyterian's parishioners continue to monitor the creek to ensure that it remains vibrant and healthy.

CONTACTS: National Religious Partnership for the Environment, www.nrpe.org; Earth Ministry, www.earthministry.org; National Assoc. of Evangelicals, www.nae.net.

Got an environmental question? Send it to: EarthTalk, c/o E/The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; e-mail earthtalk@emagazine.com.

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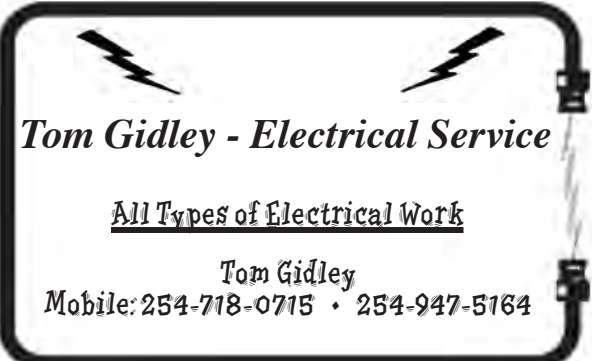
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East of Salado, this 3/2.5/2 custom home is fully landscaped. Granite countertops, large master bath, gutters and more. Study could be used as 4th bedroom. **\$247,500.**



Enjoy the peaceful setting of this tree-covered lot. 3/2/2 that is close in Salado all for just ~~\$479,900~~. **Price Reduced to \$169,900.**



Reduced!

Great Location, close to Pro Shop in Mill Creek. This 2/2/1 newly renovated condominium has it all for just ~~\$459,900~~. **Price Reduced to \$155,000.**

Acreage/Lots

300 ac ~~UNDER CONTRACT~~, \$2,500/acre.

340 acres southeast of Salado.

550 acres Hill Country with house west of Jarrell. Excellent commercial rock property.

Lots w/ sewage & water on Shady Lane.

145 acres northwest of Salado. Backs up to Corps of Engineers property. \$3,500 per acre.

3-5 acre located north of Salado, excellent homesite. **\$58,900.**

2.4 acres northwest of Salado. Excellent homesite, **\$52,900.**

7 acres oak trees, electricity & well, **\$85,000.**

2 acres great trees Hidden Springs. **\$33,900.**

5 acres in Hidden Springs, lot #271, **\$49,900.**

5 acres in Hidden Springs, lot #265, **\$49,900.**

2.7 acres fronting FM 2843. **\$29,900.**

3.018 acres on FM 2843. Large pecans & live water. **\$35,000.**

44 acres off of Firefly Road between Salado and Florence. Great Trees Will divide.

3+ acres with oak and elm Trees **\$39,900**

10 Acre Home Sites starting from \$99,900. Live Oak Trees and Views!

Great 2 acre lot in Hidden Springs! **\$33,900**

Lot 290 Hidden Springs, \$49,000.

Lot 71 Hiddens Springs creek front, \$74,950.

Lot overlooking Salado Creek, ~~\$50,000~~ reduced to \$29,900!

Beautiful treed lot, 178' deep, 1219

Indian Trail, Mill Creek, **\$36,000.**

Lot in The Bluffs at Salado Creek, \$45,000.

One of the best lots in Mill Creek. Private with trees. \$59,900.

Royal View lot priced at \$49,900.

Indian Trail at Blaylock, lg corner lot, 90x188 - **\$40,000.**

Indian Trail - 90x188 - **\$38,000.**

Commercial

1.32 acre fronting I-35 with home, **\$350,000**

30 acres fronting I-35, 1 mile south of Stagecoach Inn. Additional 30 acres available

.87 acres off N. Stagecoach Rd. \$147,408.

3 acres fronting I-35, Phase 3. **\$120,000.**

Approx 3.5 acres off College Hill with small home for **\$300,000.**

B&B: Great chance to live in Salado.

Belton

Large lot with trees in gated Southlake Subdivision. **\$55,000.**

5+ acres fronting SH 190 and Boxer Road. Great commercial location. City water available. **\$299,000.**

2+ acres at corner of FM 1670 and HWY 190.

Exit 305 North of Temple. .54 acres with existing station. Excellent business opportunity.



New Listing: 3/2 manufactured home with excellent location in Salado overlooking Salado Creek. Priced at **\$124,900.**



Clean and Neat on private street. 3/2/2 with open floor plan and fenced yard. **\$144,900.**



Spacious Home on Quiet Street: 6/6/1, the possibilities are endless with over 3,500 sq. ft. on approximately 1.4 acres. Home or business. Reduced **\$229,900.**



Private ranch estate! Austin stone home on over 11 tree-covered acres located southwest of Salado. Thermador appliances, hardwood floors, covered porches, 3 fireplaces. **\$699,900.**



550 Acres with ranch style house west of Jarrell. Call today for more details!



Century-old live oaks surround this 4/2.5 home on over 22 acres. Beautifully updated, 12 ft. ceilings, 2 living areas, over 800 ft. of patios, well and water meter. Northwest of Salado. ~~\$339,000~~. **Price Reduced to \$324,900.**



Beautifully restored railroad depot on 16+ acres. Master suite, country kitchen, large suite for guests/children. Garage with lots of storage areas that could be extra living. Horse stables, everything you could ask for in a convenient home on the range. **\$525,000.**



Excellent location in Salado! 3 BR/3 BA home on over 6 acres surrounded by large live oak and pecan trees. Tall ceilings, open floor plan, hardwood floors, etc. Simply a must-see! **Priced at \$400,000.**



4/2.5/2 - Escape to the Country in this Austin Stone home on 2 tree-covered acres! Open & spacious floor plan, large kitchen, stainless steel appliances, beautifully landscaped, & much more! **\$282,900**

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