

Salado Village Voice

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50¢

Sunrise Service April 16

Salado's Annual Easter Sunrise Service will begin 7 a.m. April 16 at the Pace Park Pavilion.

The Cedar Valley Singers, under the direction of Donny Jackson, will provide the music.

Rev. Joe Bentley, of Salado, will bring the message. He ministered at the Salado United Methodist Church for more than 20 years. He was Fire Chief in Salado before he was selected to serve as Bell County Fire Marshal. He is currently a Field Deputy with the Bell County Sheriff's Department.

Welcome, invocation and benediction will be given by Rev. Grady Brittain, of Salado United Methodist Church.

Those attending should bring their lawn chairs and dress for cool weather in the morning.

Carter's office here April 19

U.S. Congressman John Carter (TX-31) announced that a representative from his office will hold office hours in Salado April 19.

The representative will be able to meet with residents to listen to their concerns and provide assistance with regard to federal issues and federal agencies, such as Social Security, Veterans Affairs, Citizenship and Immigration.

Congressman Carter's staff will be available at the Salado Civic Center at 610 North Main Street 10 a.m.-noon April 19.

Constituents do not need an appointment to meet with the congressional staff members who will be in Salado that morning.



(PHOTO BY PETE STEBBINS)

The Salado Historical Society recently completed a new driving tour of the village.

New driving tour highlights Salado's 150-year history

By CHARLIE TURNBO

A newly released driving tour of the historic Village of Salado, focusing on the time period from 1850 to 1880, is now available on CD. The one-hour narrated tour and driving map are offered by the Salado Historical Society at the cost of \$5. Featured on the guided tour are stops at 26 sites in the Village with a narration about each one. The tour package can be purchased at the Civic Center and is also offered at many local businesses.

The tour details the founding of Salado dating back to the early 1850's. Salado College, stop number one, begins the 58-minute narrated tour, describing its beginning in 1859 and followed by the Village's growth. The tour also features 15 historic homes, three local cemeteries, and has additional stops at the Methodist Church, Hendrickson-Caskey House, and Silver Spur theatre.

This tour program is an updated version of the 1985 driving tape tour of the Village produced by the Bell County Historical Commission. Pat Barton

recalls that the original idea for the driving tour came from Richard Dale who proposed individually narrated driving tours of Temple, Belton and Salado under the sponsorship of the Bell County Historical Commission. The first Salado tour was released in 1985, updated in 1992 and recorded on cassette tapes. It could be rented from several locations in the area along with a tape player if needed.

The latest tour package was produced by Historical Society members Pete Stebbins, narrated by Dale Gore with script assistance from Pat Barton. Stebbins designed the CD and map graphics which include an 1871 drawing of historic Salado College. "You don't appreciate Salado unless you know its history," says Stebbins, "and this tour is a tremendous way to get to know and appreciate us. This tour really brings early Texas history to life!"

Robert Denman is President of the Salado Historical Society, a local organization dedicated to preserving the history of the Village. "The driving tour gives local

residents and visitors a factual, fascinating overview of our community," says Denman. It has been produced by people who have extensively researched the beginnings of our community. The tour narrator, Dale Gore, is former President of the Salado Historical Society and script consultant, Pat Barton, is considered one of our most knowledgeable local historians. The work also included replacing the driving tour poles and signs at the 26 stops.

Salado is a highly unique community: a rich blend of historic and contemporary attractions. Today, the Village of Salado includes the famous Stagecoach Inn, as well as 23 bed and breakfast inns mostly housed in historic homes. The tour also describes the development of Mill Creek and the highly-popular golf courses designed by Robert Trent Jones.

For more information or to purchase the tour package contact the Tourism Department, Salado Civic Center at saladotourism@vvm.com or 254-947-8634.



A scene from First Baptist Church's "I Stand in Awe."

'I Stand in Awe' plays April 14-16

With more than 100 cast and crewmembers, the Music Ministry of the First Baptist Church in Salado will present its Ninth Annual Easter Pageant, "I Stand in Awe," 8:15 p.m. nightly, April 14-16, at Salado's Tablerock Amphitheater. Admission is free.

This musical, written by David T. Clydesdale and directed by Minister of Music, Randy Carder, is a presentation of the last earthly days of Jesus Christ. This dramatic musical presentation, with the cast in biblical period costumes in the setting of Tablerock Amphitheater, traces Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to the Last Supper with the 12 disciples, His crucifixion, resurrection and heavenly ascension.

The story is told by the Apostle John, portrayed by Frank Wallace, the Minister of Education and Administration at First Baptist. The role of Jesus is played by Pastor Brian Dunks.

The opening medley combines two songs of worship and adoration, "I Stand in Awe," with soloist Ferral Quiroz and "Thou Art Worthy." The show will then move into an arrangement of "Hosanna" with soloist Larry Sands and a song for the Lord's Supper, "At the King's Table," with soloist Maurice Carson. The scene in the Garden of

Gethsemane with Christ and a few of his disciples is portrayed with the background music of "As the Deer."

Next is the crucifixion, with a Graham Kendrick classic, "Amazing Love." Soloist Melinda Dunnahoo sings to the crucified Christ, the stirring song, "Lamb of God." A brand new arrangement of the classic hymn, "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" with soloist Kathleen Deal brings the impact of the crucifixion to focus.

The final section begins with a song of the resurrection, "Arise My Love," with soloist Joey Agee, then moving to the timeless classic, "Christ the Lord is Risen Today." The show will close with "He is Lord," "Alleluia! Alleluia!" and "I Stand in Awe." It will end with the ascension of Jesus Christ.

For more information, contact the church office at 947-5465, or visit www.fbcsalado.org.

Those attending the pageant should bring a blanket or lawn chairs and arrive early. Some permanent seating is available. A barbeque sandwich supper is available at the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall beginning at 5 p.m. each evening of the pageant. The cost is \$6 per person. Dine in or take-out plates will be available.



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Local garden to be featured on KLRU

For details and photos of the garden of Les McCollum and Richard Teeler, turn to page 6C.

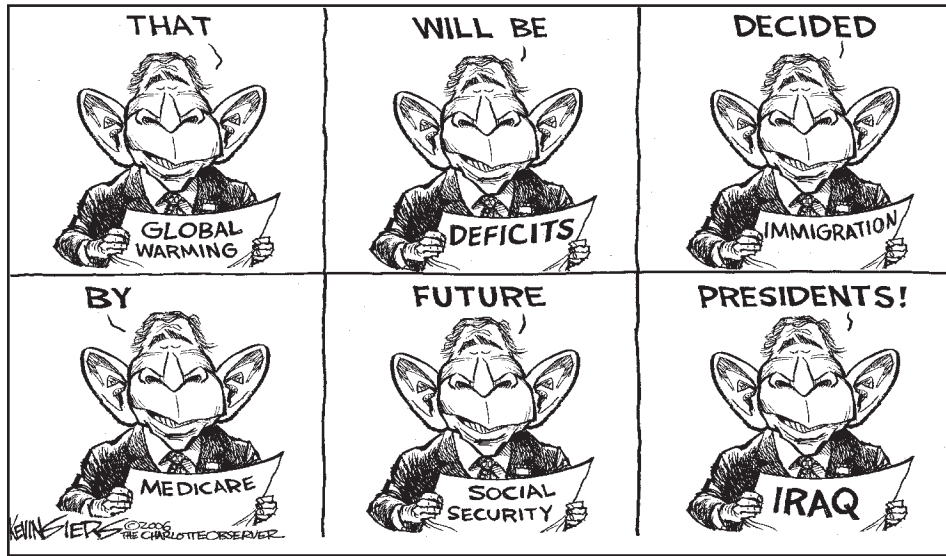


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FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas



The Gospel and the immigration debate

When it comes to illegal immigration, suddenly liberal Democrats have only one guide to public policy: "What Would Jesus Do?" The target of their Bible-based ire is a border-enforcement bill that recently passed the House and is allegedly the greatest challenge Christianity has faced since the lions in the Colosseum. Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., said "this bill would literally criminalize the good Samaritan and probably even Jesus himself." (Note: not figuratively, but literally.)

Stoking all the Bible-thumping is Cardinal Roger Mahony of Los Angeles, who alleges that the legislation would outlaw acts of charity for illegal immigrants. In making this charge, Cardinal Mahony apparently has no compunction about deceiving his flock.

Even opponents of the bill are careful to stipulate their opposition to illegal immigration. In a *New York Times* op-ed, Cardinal Mahony laments "the baleful consequences of illegal immigration. Families are separated, workers are exploited and migrants are left by smugglers to die in the desert. Illegal immigration serves neither the migrant nor the common good."

Hillary Clinton herself has said that she wants to strengthen the border and crack down on employers who hire illegal immigrants. She presumably thinks Jesus -- whose views on the nuances of immigration policy are evidently more easily extrapolated than anyone realized heretofore -- would wholeheartedly support all of this.

Cardinal Mahony and Sen. Clinton favor amnesty as part of immigration reform. But amnesty will encourage even more illegal entries, thus exacerbating the problems that Cardinal Mahony deplors. In alleging that the House bill would criminalize the acts of good Samaritans, Cardinal Mahony is engaging in typical

Rich Lowry



hardball political tactics -- smearing his opponents in an attempt to give his side the better part of an argument.

The provision in question makes it illegal to "assist" an illegal immigrant to "remain in the United States." This merely tightens language already on the books. If the new language puts nuns at risk of prosecution for providing services to needy immigrants (it doesn't), they were already in such legal jeopardy. The bill is not aimed at social workers, but at the vicious "coyote" smuggling rings that exploit illegals in the course of bringing them here for exorbitant fees.

There is much to offend the moral sensibilities of everyone about our current immigration system. The first step to putting it on a more rational and humane basis is to get a better handle on who comes here. The Catholic bishops have affirmed that "sovereign nations have a right to control their borders." The forces who want to exploit illegal immigrants aren't those who favor exercising that sovereign right, but the U.S. employers who desperately want Mexicans to keep coming.

In the debate over the House bill, these employers are in a de facto alliance with Cardinal Mahony to try to preserve their access to cheap, low-skill labor without the full rights of U.S. citizens. Selfish capitalists surely have never been so grateful for the political activism of a socially conscious (and ill-informed) Catholic bishop.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Commissioners set aside \$250,000 to rent prison cells in Cameron; Court expected to begin new jail planning

Bell County officials were right, and the naysayers were wrong concerning the need for a new jail, and last week we all started down the long road of paying for the mistake voters made when they turned down two jail-court-house bond issues in successive years 2003, 2004. Bonds that would not only have provided a prison large enough to house our own convicts today, but also rent cell-space to other counties with over-populated jails.

On Monday, April 3, Bell County Commissioners amended their current budget by shifting \$250,000.00 from reserves, to cover the cost of transferring Bell prisoners to Milam County, due to overcrowding that will soon exceed required State maximum levels.

County Judge Jon Burrows later signed an agreement with Milam officials to rent cells in that county's new \$7.8 million Law Enforcement Center. Bell County will pay \$45 per day, per inmate, plus the cost of transporting them back and forth to Cameron.

The \$250,000 approved by Commissioners was the first of what is expected to be a constant drain of county dollars to house the growing number of County convicts.

COUNTY TO LOOK AT NEW JAIL

Judge Jon Burrows told this column last Friday that Commissioners will meet with their financial advisors this week to discuss the comparative costs of rent-leasing additional jail space versus building a new jail addition, using Limited Tax Notes.

Commissioners are also expected to approve a change in their architect's contract to begin immediate work on plans for a 670-bed county lockup, to be constructed near the new District Court building.

JAIL BONDS FAILED IN '03-'04

County voters were led to believe a number of false notions concerning the proposed jail-bond issue, starting back in 2003. Those opposing the new jail decried the claim that overcrowding would become a problem; predicted the tax needed for such a new facility would be exorbitant; and charged that the prisoner overcrowding numbers were inconclusive and/or false.

Saladoans didn't believe the noisy rhetoric from those fighting the jail bonds, and in both '03 and '04 Village voters favoring the proposed lockup, outnumbered opponents. But it was a losing battle since both times the bond package failed in low voter-turnout elections throughout the rest of the County.

TAX HIKE - 2.5 CENTS THEN

Let's talk taxes for a minute. Had the Commissioner's Court gone ahead and issued either Certificates of Obligation or Limited Tax Notes back in 2003, they could have built a Criminal Justice Complex that would have housed both County and District Courts and most of the county offices; plus renovating current facilities; and constructed a brand new jail!

Cost? Exactly 2.5 cents per hundred dollars in property value for the entire package! Reason is that in 2003 interest rates for major building projects were at a 44 year low. And, per square-foot construction costs were 20 to 25 percent lower than today's prices.

And what will it cost now to fund a new jail? A penny jump - to 3.5 cents per hundred dollars in property value.

COMMISSIONERS READY TO BUILD JAIL!

Most Bell Countians wish the Court had just gone ahead with a "damn the

Off the Record by Ken Clapp



torpedoes" attitude and built the court-jail facilities in 2003 - despite having to plow through the daily slings and arrows of the rackets aginners.

With that experience behind them, and the immediate need for jail space before them - Commissioners are carefully preparing the way to build a new jail facility that will allow us to let other counties help pay for our prison (renting our excess cells) rather than having us help pay for theirs - as we will be doing in Milam County!

We wholeheartedly commend our Commissioners Court for taking these important first steps towards building a new jail facility. The time has come to actively (and personally) support the Court in this necessary project, even in the face of unreasonable opposition when it comes. As it will!

NEWSMAKERS - LARGE AND SMALL

With time and space running out in this week's *Off the Record*, we'll only briefly mention several newsmakers who made headlines recently. If further commentary is warranted, it'll be presented in the weeks ahead.

First was Tom DeLay's surprising (actually shocking) announcement that he plans to resign his congressional position this summer and try his hand at something else in Washington - no doubt high-priced lobbying - which is one of his honed (and hammered) skills.

Tom's enemies (who are legion and not all liberal) predict more trouble for the unlikable DeLay when Abramoff tells-all to the Feds. Friends continue to believe his legal problems have been contrived, first by a partisan Austin DA, and later abetted by enemies in and around (D.C.) government.

Governor Rick Perry has recalled lawmakers, for the fourth time, to reform how we finance our public schools. The session begins Monday, April 17.

How this latest "special" attempt to tackle school funding will turn out is debatable, but if history is any guide - the session will flop at first, and then be forced to do what the State Supreme Court ordered. Or else!

The "or else" would have the Courts shut down the public schools until lawmakers finally get around to doing what we hired them to do.

And finally President Bush and his prompter Dick Cheney made headlines that brought to mind our all-time favorite character from the funnies - Pogo.

You may remember Pogo's satirical comic strip adventures, and his oft-quoted line when life in his woodsy-swamp grew testy: "We have met the enemy and he is us!"

Well, some months ago Bush announced he was after the "leakers" of classified information in his administration, and that he would "track them down!"

Come to find out, our top dynamic-duo - Bush and Cheney, are the guys who themselves "leaked" secret-stuff in the current Lewis "Scooter" Libby obstruction case!

So we've reworked Pogo's line to fit these two paragons of patriotism and virtue: "We have met the leakers and they are us!"

That's -30-

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War profiteer knows how to throw party

BY SARAH ANDERSON

Over the past few months, I've gotten all kinds of flak from CEOs who were the subject of a report I co-authored about executive pay among defense contractors. Jack London of CACI International, whose employees interrogated prisoners at Abu Ghraib, denounced what I wrote as "shameful" and "ignorant." A United Technologies official accused me (falsely) of slander.

But the man who got the worst skewering was silent. David H. Brooks, CEO of bulletproof vest maker DHB Industries, earned \$70 million in 2004, 13,349 percent more than his pre-9/11 compensation, according to "Executive Excess," co-published by the Institute for Policy Studies and United for a Fair Economy. Brooks sold company stock worth about \$186 million last year, spooking investors who drove DHB's share price from more than \$22 to as low as \$6.50.

Shareholders were mighty ticked, but what makes Brooks' war windfalls particularly obscene is that the equipment which boosted his fortunes appears not to work very well. In May 2005, the U.S. Marines recalled more than 5,000 DHB armored vests after questions were raised about their effectiveness in stopping 9 mm bullets. In November, the Marines and Army announced a recall of an additional 18,000 DHB vests.

Hearing nothing from DHB's PR team in response to media coverage of the report, I thought Mr. Brooks might be cowering in shame. Instead, I now find out that he was busy planning a party. And not just any party.

The "New York Daily News" estimates that the bat mitzvah Brooks threw for his daughter cost an estimated \$10 million. Virtually every musician that you might guess would appeal to a 50-something Long Island CEO was flown in by private jet: Aerosmith, Tom Petty, the Eagles' Don Henley and Joe Walsh, who performed with Fleetwood Mac's Stevie Nicks, and Kenny G. As a likely concession to his daughter's tastes, Brooks also booked 50 Cent, DJ AM (Nicole Richie's fiancée) and rap diva Ciara.

Gallivanting with celebrities no doubt does wonders to relieve the mind of unpleasant matters. And Brooks has plenty to ponder. Under investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission for financial wrongdoing, he also faces a number of investor class

action lawsuits for fraud and insider trading. On top of the Marine recall, DHB had to settle a lawsuit in April with the New York Police Department and the Southern States Police Benevolent Association by replacing an estimated 2,609 potentially defective pieces of body armor. DHB stock, already in the tank, has slumped even further, to about \$4.

Grotesque as it may be, Brooks' blowout is merely one of the more visible symbols of rampant war profiteering in the post-9/11 era. Our study showed that defense contractor CEOs received raises on average of 200 percent between 2001 and 2004, compared to only 7 percent for average large company CEOs.

Compared to the pay of those on the front lines of the war, the gap has grown even faster. The ratio between defense CEO pay and that of a military general has doubled during this period, from 12 to 1 to 23 to 1. The defense CEOs make 160 times the pay of an army private in combat.

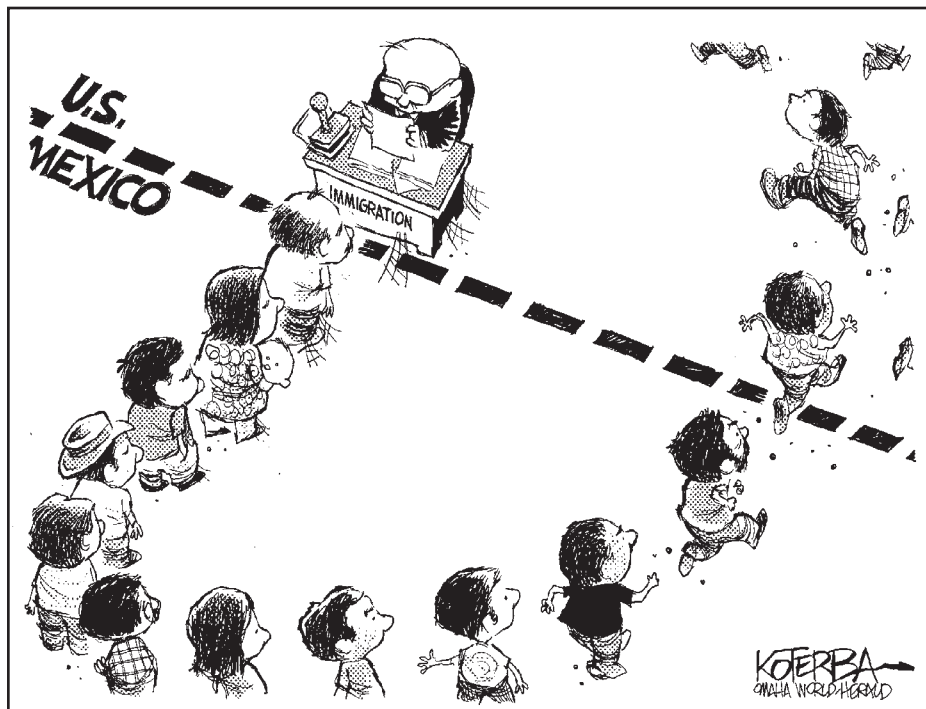
Americans haven't always been so blasé about war profiteering. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt famously said: "I don't want to see a single war millionaire created in the United States as a result of this world disaster."

FDR's strong feelings about war profiteering were shared by his successor, Harry Truman. As a Senator, Truman had traveled around the country going from one defense industry factory to another to investigate charges that executives were reaping unfair rewards. He later formed an investigative committee that saved billions in military costs. Imagine if Truman and FDR were alive today what they might have to say about Brooks' extravaganza.

Three years into this war, the costs are painfully clear. The U.S. death toll alone is more than 2,300 and rising fast. The bill for taxpayers is more than \$200 billion and growing. The damage to Americans' image in the world is immeasurable. But one man has had a helluva party.

Sarah Anderson is a Fellow of the Institute for Policy Studies and the co-author of "Field Guide to the Global Economy" (New Press, 2005) and "Executive Excess." She wrote this for United for a Fair economy -- a Boston-based national, independent, nonpartisan organization that puts a spotlight on the dangers of growing income, wage and wealth inequality in the United States and coordinates action to reduce the gap. stw@stw.org.

FORUM



Avoid last-minute chaos

By GRACE-MARIE TURNER

The final days leading up to May 15 will almost certainly be chaotic at Medicare offices. That's the deadline for seniors to enroll in the new prescription drug benefit without paying a penalty of higher premiums. Phone lines will be jammed and websites will be clogged. The organizations now helping seniors sign up will be overwhelmed by the last-minute rush to enroll.

That's why seniors shouldn't wait until May to pick a plan. The final month of the penalty-free sign-up period is almost here. But while more than 27 million seniors are now participating in the new drug benefit, millions more eligible seniors have yet to enroll.

Why are so many ignoring a program specifically designed to save them money? Perhaps it's because the newspapers and airwaves are filled with criticisms that the drug benefit is just not good enough. A recent poll found that an astounding 41 percent of drug benefit enrollees thought that political attacks on the program made other seniors less likely to sign up.

That's a real shame.

Because it doesn't matter whether the program could benefit from some tinkering in the future. What does matter is that the drug benefit is a valuable insurance policy right now. Those with medium and small drug bills are able to buy peace of mind against future medicine costs for a reasonable price. Those with large drug bills get substantial help with their expenses right away.

And seniors who don't sign up by the May 15 deadline simply won't get as good a deal as those who do. They'll have to wait until the next enrollment period in November for their next chance to sign up. And their premiums will increase by at least 1 percent every month they delay, adding at least 6 percent to the cost.

Seniors who are feeling skeptical or confused should listen to those who already are enrolled. New enrollees in the Medicare drug benefit are overwhelmingly satisfied.

A survey by America's Health Insurance Plans found that 84 percent of those who have enrolled had no trouble signing up or using their benefit. Only 3 percent of seniors polled had trouble enrolling. Most seniors - 85 percent - have experienced no problems using their new benefits, and 59 percent already are saving money.

The drug benefit is offering more and better choices than anyone anticipated when Congress crafted the program. The government estimated that seniors would pay \$37 a month in premiums for their Medicare drug coverage. But the average premium has turned out to be much lower - \$25 a month.

Competition among the private insurers offering plans has resulted in some great deals. Some prescription drug plans, for example, cost as little as \$5 a month. Others eliminate the \$250 deductible before coverage kicks in - so seniors can enjoy covered from the very first dollar they spend.

Some plans are even providing drug coverage in the infamous

"doughnut hole" - the gap in the standard plan where insurance coverage is interrupted between moderate and high drug expenses.

Even The New York Times, the venue of choice for many of Medicare's critics, is finally coming around, recognizing that seniors are benefiting enormously under the program. The paper recently reported, "Those who have signed up say the total cost of all their drugs under Medicare is often less than the amount they were paying for just one prescription in the past."

The Times gave the example of a couple that together takes 24 medications. With the new benefit, their drug bills "will plunge to \$4,900 or less a year, from more than \$25,000." That's an incredible savings.

It would be a real travesty if political attacks kept some seniors from seeing real savings on their prescription drug bills. With premiums starting at less than \$5 a month, they have next to nothing to lose by signing up. By law every plan must offer access to drugs in every medical category. And once you enroll, you can switch plans.

Seniors shouldn't wait until May 16 to realize what millions of others already have - perfect or not, the new Medicare drug benefit is a good deal.

Grace-Marie Turner is president of the Galen Institute, a non-profit research organization that focuses on free-market ideas for health reform. She can be reached at turner@galen.org.

Andrew Young sells out to Wal-Mart



Jim Hightower

Good grief! Someone take up a collection, go to Wal-Mart, and buy a clue for Andy Young.

This former civil rights worker, union organizer, mayor, congress critter, and U.N. ambassador has now cashed in his political influence to become a front man for - grab your socks - Wal-Mart! Yes, the retailing behemoth renowned and reviled for its poverty-level wages, miserly benefits, discrimination against women, Third-World sweatshop goods, and predatory tactics to crush small business.

How mingy is Wal-Mart? So mingy that a jury has found it guilty of cheating thousands of its workers out of their 30-minute, unpaid lunch breaks. This is the greed-headed outfit that Andy Young now works for, serving as chairman of "Working Families for Wal-Mart," a new PR front to polish the thoroughly tarnished image of this abusive giant. Why? Well... money, for one thing.

Young is the paid head of a corporate-funded group called Goodworks, which is getting money from the new Wal-Mart PR front. Who is the largest funder of the PR front? Wal-Mart, of course.

Young insists that the global corporation is not getting credit for helping local economies. "Wal-Mart is generating new wealth when it comes [in to a town]," he asserts. Hogwash. Wal-Mart merely diverts sales from local businesses and then extracts that wealth from our communities, hauling it back to corporate headquarters in Arkansas.

Nor does Wal-Mart create jobs for local economies. Its stores employ fewer workers per dollar of sales than do the local retailers they replace. Also, retail pay levels fall, for Wal-Mart lowers the local wage scale.

Maybe Andy Young can fool himself, but he can't fool us. Check out an independent study called, "The Effects of Wal-Mart on Local Labor Markets." Contact the Public Policy Institute of California: (415) 291-4400.

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Don't throw yourself into reverse mortgage

If you're like many homeowners in this country, you probably saw your house appreciate in value quite a bit over the past few years. That's the good news. The not-so-good news is that, during this same time period, your savings and net worth might have stagnated or fallen. What does this mean for you? It could mean that when you retire, you do what a lot of current retirees are doing: using the equity in their homes to fund a large portion of their retirement. And that is not a good thing.

Before looking at how retirees are tapping into their home equity, let's review a few statistics from a recent survey by the Federal Reserve. (The survey, released in early 2006, covers the years from 2001-2004.)

- The typical American household's net worth (assets minus debts) increased only slightly,

Financial Focus

by Allen Mantanona



from \$91,700 to \$93,100.

- The typical family's savings (including retirement accounts) fell from almost \$30,000 to just \$23,000.

- The median value of homes rose from \$131,000 to \$161,000, a 22 percent jump.

By looking at these numbers, you can easily see the problem that many retirees are facing: too few liquid resources available to comfortably support themselves during their retirement years. Consequently, an increasing number of retirees are taking out "reverse mortgages." This is a special kind of loan that enables borrowers to convert their home equity into cash, either through a line of credit or

installment payments.

But if you ever decide to sell your home, you will have to pay back what you borrowed on your reverse mortgage. And if you were to die and leave the house to your children, they would have to pay back the loan.

Clearly, these are potentially big drawbacks to taking out a reverse mortgage. And that's why, if you have many years to go until you retire, you'll want to give yourself more options for boosting your retirement cash flow. Here are two to consider:

- "Max out" on your IRA each year. Put in the maximum allowable contribution to your Roth or traditional IRA each year. And fund your IRA as early as possible every year; the more time you have on your side, the greater your growth potential.

- Increase your

401(k) contributions with every raise. Each time you get an increase in salary, defer more money in your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. As you enter retirement, you may be able to boost your income by these:

- Delay taking Social Security. You can begin collecting Social Security at age 62, but your monthly checks will be larger if you can wait until your full retirement age, which can be anywhere from 65 to 67.

- Purchase an immediate annuity. An immediate annuity works pretty much as its name suggests: You make a lump-sum payment to an insurance company, and you immediately start receiving an income stream, which can last the rest of your life. Make sure you purchase an annuity from a company that receives high ratings from one of the independent rating agencies.

You work hard for much of your life to own your home - so do whatever you can to keep it once you've retired.

Learning & earning Buying and Selling

by Ryan Hodge

Are you the parent of a student preparing for or already in college? Then you've probably encountered the high cost of student housing. Even on-campus dormitories can be expensive, but most students don't stay in the dorms for their entire college career. At some point, they move out into an apartment, a condominium, or a house

that they share with other students. None of these options, even when splitting the rent, are cheap.

The National Association of REALTORS® discovered an interesting trend from 2004 statistics: nearly 200,000 properties that sold were purchased for post-secondary student living quarters. This means more parents are beginning to eye the investment potential of properties in their students' school towns.

Think about it: you build equity, save on housing costs, and receive income during school (if there are roommates) and after your son or daughter graduates. You should also be able to deduct the mortgage interest and property taxes. Your biggest concern would be maintenance, and you'd probably want to hire someone to keep the property in good shape (but it's a student rental, not a model home!).

Ask a local real estate agent to put you in touch with an agent in your student's new city, because they'll have the greatest knowledge to help you select the ideal property for your student's housing needs. It's an educated solution!

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SHS band has slurry of spring activityt

The Salado Band program successfully concluded a month of various competitions when they hosted a Solo and Ensemble Contest April 18.

The first annual Salado Solo and Ensemble Contest kicked off on April 8. "I am excited to finally bring a contest to Salado. Student volunteers are what made this contest run so smoothly, especially Jamie Burson. We look forward to making this an annual event and expanding the schools that attend," said band director Tom Bremmer. Holland was the only other school to bring students. Area high school band directors judged.

The following students received a first Division:

Sixth Grade: Armstrong, A., Austin, M., Barker, C., Benoit, C., Bradley, K., Castillo N., Daniel, D., Daniels, M., Flippo, K., Garner, A., Goodrum, C., Hazzard, M., Hendrick, T., Inglestom, M., Langford, C., Lastovica, S., Liller, K., Marburger, T., McByde, S., Meiman, C., Mendoza, M., Nguyen, A., Patterson, D., Payne, L., Perez, F., Piatt, R., Pinkerton, T., Quesinberry, D., Rex, J., Shilling, C., Silkett, R., Simpson, E., Smith, M., Spears, K., Spicer, H., Terrell, L., Young, H.

Seventh Grade: Barbosa, D., Bintz, C., Boniface, S., Bryant, J., Cahoon, J., Cecil, S., Cleveland, W., Eagan, A., George, A., Hill, C., Hojnacki, R., Huckerby, K., Laurenson, D., Lavadia, C., Liller, J., Little, K., McGuffey, D., Miles, A., Miller, S., Pedersen, Z., Pinkerton, R., Ponder, S., Ramos, K., Reed, B., Smith, D., Suresh, R., VanWinkle, M., Warren, P.

Eighth Grade: Arnold, A., Buchele, G., Cute, R., Fraire, C., Garcia, I., Heller, B., Hendrick, C., Jaimes, D., Kemp, H., Montoya, J., Noonan,

E., Pedigo, S., Petro, R., Rodriquez, D., Stevenson, C.

Freshmen: Barton, K., Buchele, W., Radebaugh, G., Reed, T., Robinson, I., Silkett, M.

Sophomores: Bush, J., Butts, D., Heller, B., Simon, A., Toledo, A.

Juniors: Burson, J., Cloud, R., Coe, C., Harris, K., Luman, D., Schoellmann, C.,

Seniors: Brown, J., Coe, C., Marsh, S., Saucedo, C., Stevens, H.

Ensembles: Spicer, Perez, Magee – trio, Reed, Silkett, Cute, Buchele – quartet; Young, Ray, Daniels- trio; Liller, Nguyen, Spicer- trio; Mendoza, Hendrick, Patton-Trio; Smith, Perez, Taylor-trio; Castillio, Simpson – duet; Lastovica, Rangel – duet; Simon, Toledo, Heuer- trio

Nick Mohammed was the only student that entered in the Region VII UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest March 25. He performed a class one solo memorized, which qualified him for state. He received a first division and will advance to the next level. Nick will be playing at the State Solo and Ensemble Contest at Texas State University on May 29.

The Salado High School Band with Eighth grade played in Groesbeck March 8 at the Region VIII Concert and Sight-reading Contest. The band received a first Division (superior) for the stage performance and a second division (excellent)

for the sight-reading. All three judges were unanimous on the first division for the stage and split in the sight-reading room with a one-two-two. "This was a great reward for the students' hard work. This is one of the finest, hard working, goofiest bands I have ever had! I am glad their hard work was validated by the judges," Bremer said. Their program included For The Glory of The Flag by Kopetz, Allegretto from Symphony #7 by Beethoven, arranged by Court, and La Rejouissance from the Royal Fireworks Music by Handel, arranged by Williams.

The Seventh grade competed in the Region VIII Middle School Concert and Sight-

Local GOP to chew

on Trans-Texas Corridor

The Trans Texas Corridor, a subject on everyone's mind, will be the subject of a forum presented by the Salado Area Republican Women at their April dinner meeting. Participants include Chris Hammel, Chairman of the Blackland Coalition and Kris Heckmann from the Governor's office.

The dinner meeting will begin 6 p.m. April 27 at the Mill Creek Country Club with a

reading competition in Belton, April 6. Although they were without the Eighth grade for the first time, the band did exceptionally well receiving a second division for both portions. "I am very proud of the hard work the students have put into this. I know they are definitely on the right track and I am excited to be part of their success," commented maestro Emilio Olivares.

Future contest include Lorena Jazz Festival, April 25, and the Temple College Beginning Band Festival May 11.

The spring concert will be at the Salado Intermediate School April 24. The sixth and seventh grade bands will perform at 2 p.m. The High School Band and Jazz Band will play at 6 p.m.

social time followed by a buffet dinner.

Cost for the meal will be \$20 for reservations and payment received prior to April 21. The meal cost will be \$25 for reservations made after that date. Make checks out to Salado Area Republican Women PAC; P.O. Box 373; Salado, TX 76571.

Meals will not be guaranteed for reservations received after this date.

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Ryan Clark
All-Region Squad



Chad Tumey
All-District Squad

Cagers named to

In a unanimous vote, basketball coaches from District 25AA named Salado junior guard Ryan Clark as the district's Offensive MVP, leading the list of postseason honorees for the Salado basketball squads.

Having played primarily in a backup role on Salado's history making team from a year ago, Clark established himself in 2005-06 as a major scoring threat when given his first chance as a full time player. On the season, he averaged just shy of 20 points per game (19.6) to go along with 2.7 steals, 2.3 assists and 1.8 boards. Clark was also named to the Class AA Region IV All-Region Team by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches.

Joining Clark on the

All-District squad were first team honorees Noah Harbison and Chad Tumey, both juniors. Harbison averaged 6.1 points and 4.3 rebounds while Tumey accounted for 5.9 points and 2.5 assists per outing. Rounding out Salado's All-District selections was junior Justin Pruitt, who was placed on the second team. Pruitt averaged 5.6 points and 6.2 boards per game from his post position.

In addition, Salado head basketball coach Josh White shared Coach of the Year honors with Jarrell's Drew Sumner and Somerville's Matt Sandoval.

District MVP honors were split between Jarrell's Andrew Sumner and Patrick Sherek.

Clark, Slayt Ebeling,

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Noah Harbison
All-District Squad



Kelsey Gobin
All-District Squad

district, region

Tanner Myers and Garrett Askins were all named to the district's All Academic Team.

For the girls, Kelsey Gobin represented Salado on the first team, while

Kristen Smith and Tamra Stanish were named to the second team and Lauren Haire and Kate Marshall to the honorable mention squad.

Lady Eagles' luck runs short vs. Lexington

The Lady Eagle softballers might be down, but the three-count has yet to be registered. After picking up a pair of crucial district victories last week, against Academy and Florence, Salado dropped a 2-1 gutwrencher on the road to Lexington April 7. With the combined action last week the Lady Eagles now hold down fifth place in district with a 6-5 record, putting them two games behind Academy for the third and final playoff spot.

But it was a win against those very same Lady Bees which Salado trails that kept the girls alive in the postseason hunt. It didn't come easy, however, as it took 10 long innings for the Lady Eagles to scratch across a single run and thus win the game by a 1-0 final.

Senior Shae Janda went the distance on the mound, moving her season tally to 6-6 while giving up just three hits over 10 shutout innings and striking out eight.


The Lady Bees best scoring chance of the night came early, as Academy put its first two batters of the game on base, with one drawing a walk and the other reaching on an infield error. Both would move into scoring position, but Janda responding by sitting down the next three batters on swinging strikes to end the threat. Academy would not seriously threaten again for the rest of the game.

Salado did not enjoy many scoring opportunities either. But in the home half of the 10th, Justine Ferrell-Raborn led off with a single to left. She would move into scoring position on Rachel Stemmer sacrifice, which brought the number eight hitter, Larissa Ingalsbe, to plate. Ingalsbe promptly lined a single past the Academy second bagger, bringing home Raborn for the dramatic win.

Heather Winters, Janda, Ferrell-Raborn and Ingalsbe collected Salado's four hits on the game.

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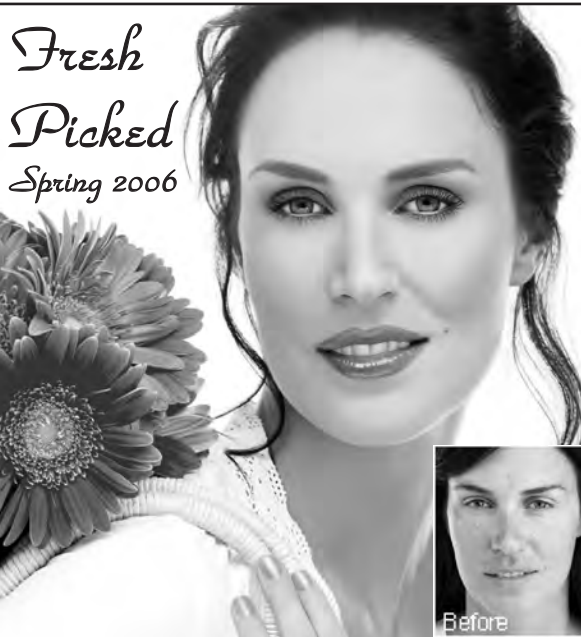
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Eagles hanging on to second

The Salado Eagle baseball team opened the second round of district April 4 in grand fashion, dismantling the visiting Academy Bees by a final of 9-1.

This was one of the most complete games the Eagles have put together all season. The offense pounded out 11 hits, with Matt Fritsch collecting three of those. Johnny Nix contributed two, while Nix, Justin Schiller and Josh Shaw all produced two RBI's.

The defense, though, was just as good. Salado committed only one error, that coming in the seventh inning. Jesse Rodriguez, Tanner Myers and Nix all had tremendous plays for the defense.

Brian Bates did his part and took advantage of the Eagles' play by pitching a stellar game. He allowed just four hits over seven innings and did not walk a batter.

Salado scored four runs in the bottom of the second to establish an early lead. Josh Shaw had a two-out triple in the inning, and Ruth and Fritsch both knocked RBI doubles.

The Eagles went on to add two more runs in the third. Kevin Jackson brought home the first by doubling home Schiller, who had reached base on a walk. Nix then came to the plate and drove Jackson home.

Salado finished its scoring in the fourth, when Schiller clubbed a two-run double and Nix followed with another RBI single.

Following the comfort-

able victory over the Bees, the Eagles took the field again April 7 against Lexington, and came from behind to blow their district rivals by a hefty margin, recording a 16-6 victory.

After falling behind 4-1, the Eagles used a big third inning and consistent scoring thereafter to post the win.

Seth Hale started the Salado rally in the third, showing great effort in legging out an infield hit. A double off the bat of Fritsch put runners on second and third, which brought Myers to the plate, who then poked a sac fly to advance both runners.

A single by Schiller and a double by Nix tied the score at four. Collins gave Salado a lead they would not relinquish, driving a pitch over the right field fence for a three-run homer and a 7-4 Eagle lead.

Salado also put up single runs in the fourth and seventh innings. They added three runs in the fifth and four in the sixth for the 16-6 final.

Salado pounded out 18 hits in the game. Ruth, Collins, Nix and Fritsch had three hits each. Collins, Fritsch and Myers all drove in three runs apiece.

Jackson picked up the win on the mound for Salado. He pitched the first five innings, allowing seven hits and striking out two. Justin Pruitt tossed the final two innings, giving up one hit and striking out two.

The Eagles currently boast a 16-4 overall record this season, and have assembled a 7-2 mark in District 25AA play. Rogers leads the district, two games up on Salado, which has a one-game advantage over third place Jarrell.

--REPORTED BY MELVIN BATES

Boosters tee off on April 20

The fourth annual Salado Athletic Booster Golf Classic tees off April 20 at Mill Creek Country Club.

Entry fee is \$105 per player, which includes green fee, cart fee, a catered meal and refreshments during the tournament. The tournament will start at 1 p.m., following 11:30 a.m. registration and chipping contest.

Hole sponsorships are available for \$100.

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For information, call 947-9090 or 947-0803.

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Softball

be every bit as exciting as the previous game, though the end result was not what Salado coach Doug Harrigan was hoping for, as the Lady Eagles fell 2-1 with Lexington plating the winning run in the bottom of the seventh on a Salado error. Four of Salado's five district defeats have been by one run.

The score was knotted at zero until the top of the sixth, when with one out Shawna McPherson reached base on an error. A stolen base would move her to second, and a sac fly to right field moved McPherson to third. With two outs, Janda came through with a double to left-center to bring McPherson home for the game's first run.

After going down in order in the bottom of the sixth, Lexington entered the seventh still trailing by one. But two walks and a single led to one run, tying the score. And with two out and two-on, a weak infield hit was mishandled by the Lady Eagle defense, allowing the winning run to score.

Salado struggled again at the plate, collecting just four hits for the second consecutive game. Lindsey Coffey led the way, going 2-3 out of the leadoff spot. McPherson and Janda had the only other hits.

If the Lady Eagles were upset over the loss to Lexington, they let it show against Florence April 10, exploding for 14 runs in three innings, dismantling the Lady Buffs by 11 in a four-inning run-rule.

Salado scored three in the first, five in the second and - while batting around in the third - added another seven for good measure.

A total of ten Lady Eagles recorded hits on the game, and some gaudy individual lines were reg-

istered. McPherson was 1-3 with two walks, two runs scored and five SB's, while Janda went 2-2 with two walks, three runs scored and three stolen bases. Coffey stole four bags in the game.

Still holding hopes for a playoff spot, the Lady Eagles will host first place Jarrell April 17 and will close out the regular season April 22 in Somerville.

From Page 7A

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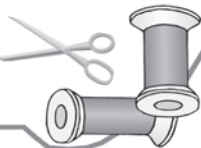
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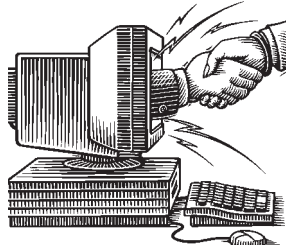
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Contemporary Worship/Bible Study	9:00a.m.	Fellowship Meal	5:30 p.m.
Traditional Worship/Bible Study	10:30 a.m.	Celebrate Recovery	6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.	Youth Choir	6:00 p.m.
Jr. High Huddles	6:00 p.m.	Team Kid (Age 3 - 6th grade)	6:15 p.m.
Sr High Huddles	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Meeting	6:15 p.m.
		Youth Half-Time	7:30 p.m.

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Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and He will lift you up.
 from James 4:10




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Sunday Morning Service • April 16, 2006



When "doubting" Thomas finally got a chance to physically see the risen Lord, he made what we know to be the greatest affirmation of faith that can ever be made: "My Lord and my God!" (Jn. 20:28). What evidence brought him to the point of confession, and what was its ultimate effect? Join us Easter Sunday for the message: "He saw and Believed"

Joe Keyes Minister

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 Evening Worship • 6 p.m.
Wednesday
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 Wednesday

Mass
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 Sunday
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 (English) 8 a.m. & 11 a.m.
 Tues. & Wednesday • 6 p.m.
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Cowboy Easter set for down-to-earth folk

3C Cowboy Fellowship starts public services April 16.
 Don't feel like you fit in church? Don't want to have to get "dressed up"? Want to be a part of something new and different?
 That is why the First Baptist Church of Salado is having its first weekend service at 3C Cowboy Fellowship.
 The group will be meeting 10 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 16 at Salado Business Park 150 West Amity Road.

Take exit 287 on I-35. Donuts, coffee and juice will be served.
 "We do things a little different. We are very relaxed," said Jason Bryant, one of the founders. "You can wear boots and jeans or shorts if you want."
 "We will sing a few country, blue grass or old gospel songs lead by a country band and have a short message that you can understand and use," he added.
 The whole ser-

vice lasts about 45 minutes. You do not have to be a cowboy to come.
 If you like being around plain, down to earth people you will love 3C Cowboy Fellowship.
 3C Cowboy Fellowship also meets on Thursday Nights at 6:30 p.m. at the Armstrong Community Center and Arena.
 For more information you can contact Jason Bryant at (254) 541-7908 or email at 3ccowboyleft@earthlink.net.

Presbyterian Church Maundy Thursday tonight

The Presbyterian Church of Salado will hold Maundy Thursday services at 6 p.m. on April 13 commencing with a light supper.
 All visitors are welcome to attend for that

service and for Easter services Sunday, 10 a.m. April 19.
 The Presbyterian Church is located behind Fletcher's Books at 105 Salado Plaza.

St. Stephen's offers Easter Mass in English and Spanish

Holy Thursday, April 13, St. Stephen's Catholic Church celebrates the Last Supper of Jesus. This service will be followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight.
 Good Friday, April 14, the death by crucifixion of Our Lord Jesus Christ with the Reading of the Passion of Jesus Christ will be celebrated.
 The Veneration of the Cross and the Reception of Holy Communion. services will begin at 7: p.m. in the Church.
 Holy Saturday, April

15, they celebrate the first Mass of Easter with the Lighting of the New Fire, Special Readings and Prayers followed by Mass.
 Easter Sunday, April 16 a Sunrise Mass will be held at 6:30 a.m., an English, Mass at 8 a.m., 9: 30 a.m. in Spanish and 11 a.m. in English.
 There will be an Easter Egg Hunt after the 11 a.m. Mass. The Salado community is invited and welcomed to attend these services.

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Dr. Diane Pascoe to offer seminar

The Family Life Ministries Committee and Families in Crisis, Inc. announce the co-sponsorship of a presentation entitled, "Domestic Violence and Its Effects on Children." Designed to raise community awareness, Friday evening seminar 7-

9 p.m. April 21, featuring an agency speaker, and authentic figure drawings by children from high conflict families. The seminar will be held at the Salado United Methodist Church.

Diane Pascoe will offer a brief projective interpretation of the

drawings from her research. This seminar is recommended for parents, child care workers, teachers and other caring professionals, as well as interested community members.

Light refreshments will be served. The public is invited.

Holy Week services announced for Salado United Methodist Church

Salado United Methodist Church invites the community to participate in Holy Week Services and other events during the week of April 9-16.

Palm Sunday Services will be at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. April 9. The Chancel Choir will present portions of "Written in Red," a Christian musical. The church will again sponsor the community Easter Egg Hunt at the Salado Civic Center beginning at 3 p.m. April 9.

The Chancel Choir will perform "Written in Red" during the communion service April 13.

Good Friday Services

will follow the Seven Last Words of Christ and offer spiritual reflections on "Seven Persons at the Foot of the Cross." Hymns and special music will also be a part of the services. Each of the seven worship services will be 20 minutes long and will begin on the hour 1-7 p.m. April 14. People may come to one or more of the services.

The Community Sunrise Service will be at Pace Park 7 a.m. April 16.

The Methodist Church will then have its first Easter Services in its new location at 650 Royal Street. The Chancel Choir will present special music


at those worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m.

Casino night April 22 benefits St. Stephen's church building fund

Plan to come to Casino Night 7-11 p.m. April 22 at Tenroc Ranch. The Knights of Columbus will run the Casino and the St. Stephen Women's Society will provide Heavy Hors d'oeuvres: Italian, Western, Hawaiian, and Mexican.

Tickets are \$30 and get you \$30,000 worth of chips for fun at the Casino. A cash silent auction will also be available with lots of good items. Special prizes for Casino winners.

Sponsored by St. Stephen KCs and SSWS, the casino night will raise money for the St. Stephen Building Fund.



Every night here in Texas parents have to send their children to bed with empty bellies, because there is just not enough money to go around. Many families face the challenging dilemma between buying groceries and paying bills.

But, did you know that The Salvation Army right here in Temple, Texas assists more than 70 families each month, helping to eliminate the difficult choice between buying food and paying rent. Our food pantry is open to anyone needing food assistance, Tuesday - Friday, 9a.m. - 12p.m. The Salvation Army of Bell County is committed to do the most good for as many people in need as possible.

For more information about The Salvation Army please contact us at (254)774-9996 or visit us on the web at www.uss.salvationarmy.org.

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Easter Sunrise Service

Non-Denominational

Easter Morning, 6:30am,
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(a residential farm) directly in front of the
new Mill Creek sign, at Grandview Dr.

ALL ARE INVITED!! COME AND
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For directions or questions, call 947-4503

Joe Read presents a check to Salado High School junior Jacob Meritt, who will represent Salado as a People to People Student Ambassador while he studies in London and Rome during June and July this summer. "Please join me in recognizing Jacob by supporting his family's financial efforts and making a donation towards his tuition," Read said. Jacob is the son of Sheila and Mike Meritt of Salado. To drop off your contribution please visit Joe Read State Farm Insurance at 417 N. Main Street near the Salado Civic Center.



(PHOTO BY MARILYN FLEISCHER)

SHS play heads to Regionals

The Salado High School One Act Play "Gint" written by Romulus Linney advanced out of Area competition and will compete in the UIL Regional Finals at San Antonio McArthur High School on April 21.

Garrett Askins won Best Actor for his commanding interpretation of Pete Gint, Dixie Darling was named to the Area All Star Cast for her dramatic turn as Oldie Mamma and Brandi Warren was also named to the All Star Cast for her truthful portrayal of Sallie

Vicks. Kirsten Singleton was named to the all honor crew for her work as the stage manager for this year's One Act Play Team.

"I know our team is ready to continue improving and telling this marvelous story," said Gary Askins, faculty director.

"SHS has a great history in the UIL Academic competition," said student director Cheli Urquiza. "We are always in the running to be State Champions and this year the One Act Play Team

would like to help out at that highest level. This is a great group of performers and crew and we still have some work to do."

Urquiza specifically acknowledged the alternates for this year's production, Danielle Danford, Evan Barbosa and Wesley Dowell. "They are a great example of what kind of effort it takes to continue to advance in this process," she said, "and the crew of Tyler Correa, Kirsten Smith and Kirsten Singleton have been fabulous. Our cast has worked cooperatively to create a really unique production. Gerry Flynn, Ariel Simpson, Jacob Meritt, Chelsea Ervi, Lauren Culver and Wesley Buchele have come together to help each other with ideas, suggestions and support. We're winners already."

There will be a public performance of this award winning play 7:30 p.m. April 29 at the Salado Silver Spur Theatre. Tickets are \$10 for Adults and \$5 for students call the theatre box office at 947-3456 for your reservation.

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Salado Village Guide

Shopping Map
Pages 6-7B

Section B Salado Village Voice

April 13, 2006

12 Pages Shopping, Dining, Overnight, Events



Salado Ambassadors are shown above (from row, from left) June Willingham, Ann Marie Harwell, Dorothy Dentry, Robert Denman, Doris Denman; (middle row, from left) Ben Willingham, Charlotte Douglass, Curt Strong, Debbie Charbonneau, Joan Ray, Trish Stebbins; (back row, from left) Pete Stebbins, Hulda Horton, Eldon Miller, Chine Ray, Cathy Sands, and Larry Sands. The group met at Johnny's Texas Hall to elect officers for the year. The Ambassadors were recently involved with greeting folks at the Wildflower Art Show on the grounds of the Salado Civic Center.

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Why are these folks known as Salado street walkers?

They've been called the Salado street walkers.

Or the Walkie-Talkies.

But really, the Salado Ambassadors don't care so much what you call them, just as long as you call them.

Call on them for ribbon-cuttings or grand openings, tours or events or to answer questions about the Village.

Salado Ambassadors began as the brainchild of Jack Schrock, who was at the time the President of the Salado Chamber of Commerce.

The Ambassador organization, a pool of volunteers, was organized in April 2005, with 39 members.

The organization acts as an autonomous program under the Chamber of Commerce.

Their major initiative is to enhance the visitor's experience to Salado, resulting in both multiple return visits and favorable referrals to others; to promote Salado as an excellent venue for business meetings and social gatherings through advertising and personal contact; and develop a volunteer cadre of Saladoans to the extent

that they become owners in the long term promotion and success of Salado.

You may have seen them, dressed in their bright red vests with "I Shine in Salado" lapel pins, strolling the shopping areas of Salado on weekends and during major events as they greet visitors with a handshake, and a smile, and hand out information about Salado.

They also act as Tour Guides to show off Salado to visiting groups. They attend Grand Openings/Ribbon Cuttings; staff the Welcome Center to hand out brochures and leaflets, and answer questions about Salado; and assist the Tourism Director with various promotional projects.

Most recently, members of the group greeted visitors to Salado during

the annual Wildflower Art Show. The group utilizes an e-mail list and phone tree to find volunteers to work during the weekends at events and the visitor's center.

The Salado Ambassadors met recently to appoint areas of leadership for 2006. Ben Willingham was selected as Chairman; Jim Walls, Administrative Manager; Carol Walls, Secretary; and Larry and Cathy Sands, Membership.

The Ambassador program seeks to recruit a cross section of citizens - individuals, business owners, and newcomers into its membership to help promote Salado. Anyone interested in joining may call Ben Willingham at 947-0878 or email ambassadors@salado.com.

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What's happening in the

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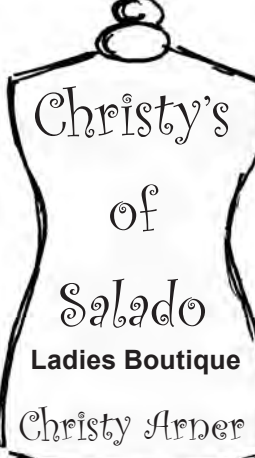
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APRIL 13
Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary meeting, 9:30 a.m. at the Civic Center. Program: Ronnie Wells, "The Wells Story."

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 14-16
Salado Silver Spur Theater 2006 season opener, "Off and Running!," featuring classic films starring Buster Keaton, Harold Loyd and Monte Banks, set to live musical accompaniment. Showtimes: 7:30 p.m. April 14 and 15 and 2 p.m. April 15 and 16. Info

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and tickets: 254-947-3456 or www.saladosilverspur.com.

APRIL 16
Easter Sunrise Service, 7 a.m. in Pace Park. Public is invited to attend. Bring lawn chair.

APRIL 18
Teacup Tuesday meeting, Program: "Cornbread, Calico and Culture: Pioneer Women of Early Salado" by author, historian and Salado-resident Charlie Turnbo, 9:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church.

APRIL 18
Village of Salado Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas meeting, 1 p.m. in the Salado Civic Center. Members will meet 11:45 a.m. at Stagecoach Inn for lunch. Program: "The Life and Times of Edmund T. Estes," presented by Margaret Neves. Estes was a veteran of the Battle of San Jacinto.

APRIL 19
A representative from the office of U.S. Congressman John Carter will hold office hours 10 a.m.-noon at the Salado Civic Center to answer questions and listen to concerns of Saladoans. Public encouraged to attend.

APRIL 20
Salado Emergency Response Team (CERT) monthly meeting, 7 p.m. at the Salado Police Office. Visitors welcome. Info: Bill Upton, 254-947-8999.

APRIL 20
Fourth Annual Salado Athletic Booster Club Golf Classic at Mill Creek. Registration and Chipping Contest, 11:30 a.m.; shotgun start at 1 p.m. Entry fee: \$105

per player. Prizes will be awarded, and sponsorships are available. Tournament benefits all Salado sports as well as scholarships for graduating seniors. Info: Ronnie or Sandy Heller, 254-947-9090 or email sheller@hellerlandscapes.com.

APRIL 21-23
Salado Silver Spur Theater 2006 season opener, "Off and Running!," featuring classic films starring Buster Keaton, Harold Loyd and Monte Banks, set to live musical accompaniment. Showtimes: 7:30 p.m. April 21 and 22 and 2 p.m. April 22 and 23. Info and tickets: 254-947-3456 or www.saladosilverspur.com.

APRIL 21
"Domestic Violence and Its Effects on Children," seminar, sponsored by the Family Life Ministries Committee of the Salado United Methodist Church and Families in Crisis, Inc., 7-9 p.m. at the church. Seminar recommended for parents, child care workers, teachers and other caring professionals, as well the public at large. Light refreshments will be served. Info: 254-947-5482.

APRIL 22
St. Stephen's Knights of Columbus Casino Night, 7-11 p.m. at Tenroc Ranch. Evening will feature dinner, casino activities and a silent auction. \$30 ticket buys \$30,000 in casino chips. Proceeds to benefit St. Stephen's Building Fund. Info: 254-947-3901 or 254-657-0097.

APRIL 22-23
Eleventh Annual Gospel Festival at Tablerock Amphithe-

ater, 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.

APRIL 27
Salado School Board Candidates Forum, 7 p.m. at Civic Center.

APRIL 29
Mill Creek Community Association Spring Cleanup. 8:30 a.m. coffee and rolls, 11:30 a.m. free hot dog lunch. More details TBA.

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

MAY 1
Early voting begins at Salado Civic Center.

MAY 6
Institute for the Humanities at Salado Spring Lecture Series, featuring Patricia Limerick, Ph.D on "Pride Without Vanity: Patriotism in the 21st Century." Lecture: 5-7 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center; lunch with the speaker, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Range. Tickets and info: 254-947-5729 or www.salado-institute.org.

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 13
Second Annual Salado Fine Art Trail. Salado's seven galleries invite visitors to join them for an after-hours special event. There will be door prizes, drawings, refreshments and an opportunity to meet the artists in a relaxed atmosphere. Galleries will be open until 9 p.m.

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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 16

Salado Community Chorus Spring Concert, 7 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

MAY 17

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

MAY 21

Salado High School Class of 2005-06 baccalaureate service, 7 p.m. at Salado United Methodist Church.

MAY 25

Salado High School Class of 2005-06 graduation ceremony, 7 p.m. at Bell County Expo Center. Info: Salado High School, 254-947-5429.

MAY 29

Annual Memorial Day Service, 9:30 a.m. at the Salado Cemetery. Public invited; bring lawn chair.

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: Storyteller Joe Pehoski.

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 Commu-

nity 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: Ruth Daw, "Women of Peru."

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. Program: 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@sbcglabal.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.

OCTOBER 18

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

dren 12 and under. Info: 254-947-9205 or email tablerock1@aol.com.

NOVEMBER 15

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

NOVEMBER 21

Salado Historical Society annual General Meeting and Chili Supper, 6:15 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

DECEMBER 1, 2, 8 AND 9

Tablerock Amphitheater's Annual presentation of Charles Dickens' Yuletide classic, A Christmas Carol, 7 p.m. each night. Tickets available at the gate beginning 6:30 p.m. Concessions open at 6:30 p.m.

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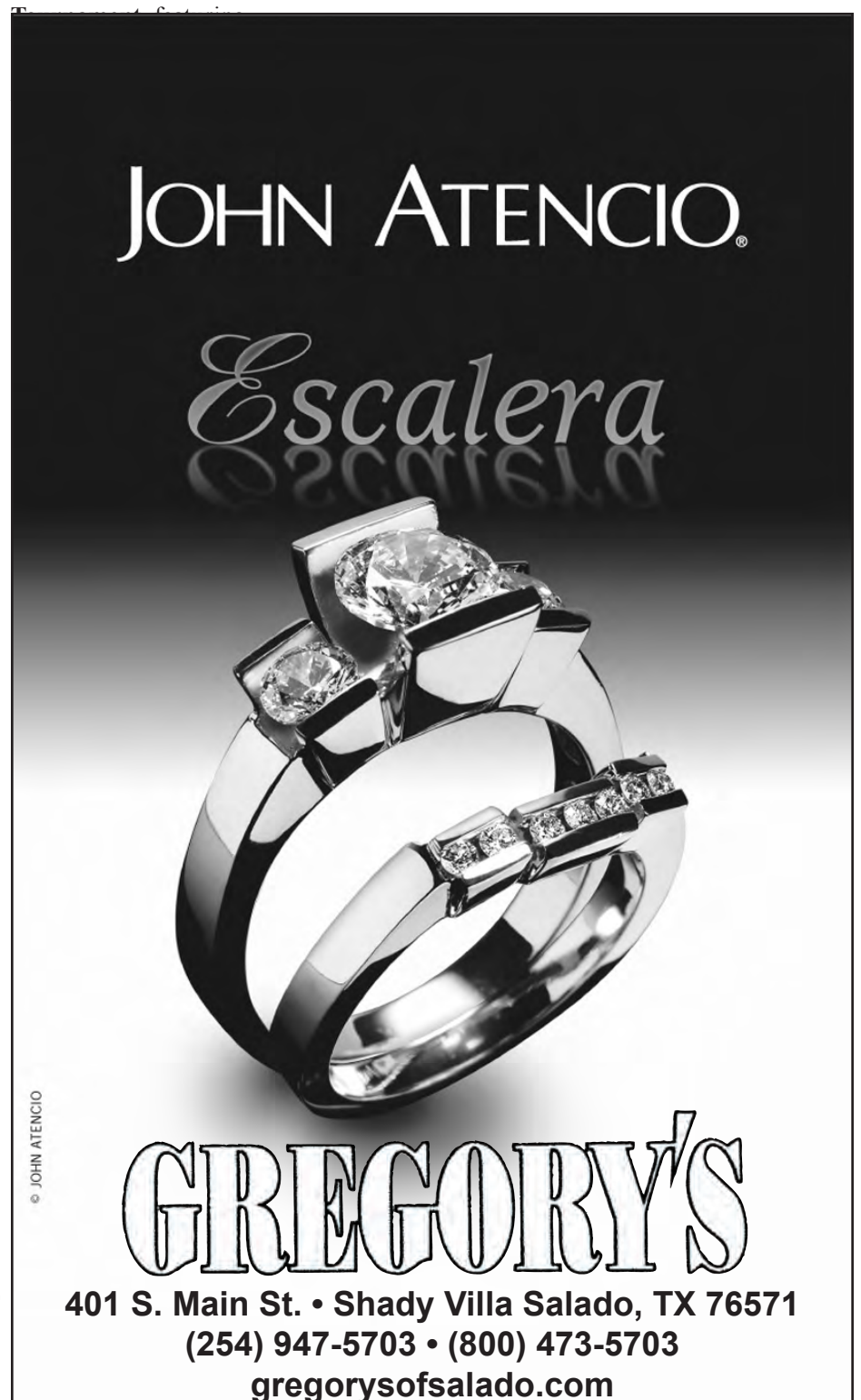
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Local quilter named Artist of the Month

In a new twist for Artist of the Month, the group's bi-monthly presentation for April and May will offer three quilts made by Carolyn Chavers. The displays can be seen at both Salado banks and at the public library.

Chavers stitches with the Salado Village artists quilting group on Mondays at the art center and serves on the board of directors. She first heard

of the SVA when she entered the Salado Chamber of Commerce Quilt Show and won second place for her creation. Her method is hand applique, filled with hearts and flowers. Hand applique is a method of quilting that turns the fabric with the needle as you sew. Someone mentioned the SVA might interest her and she joined.

"I love this group,"

says Chavers. "It's a like-minded bunch of quilters who enjoy their craft."

To further her knowledge of quilting, Chavers took about 25 hours of instruction at the International Houston Quilt Show, an annual affair that draws visitors from all around the world. She has also taken instruction at the Sewing Basket in Salado.

Chavers is a native



Carolyn Chavers was named Artist of the Month for the Salado Village Artists for April and May. Three of her quilts are on public display at both Salado banks, as well as the Salado Public Library.

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Texan, and has been quilting for seven years. She resides in Salado with her husband James, a computer expert. She has won ribbons and prizes with her creations and teaches the craft at the Salado Church

of Christ on Thursdays, usually beginning at 10 a.m. Her group starts a new project about every third month and continues until it's finished. She also teaches individual quilting techniques about

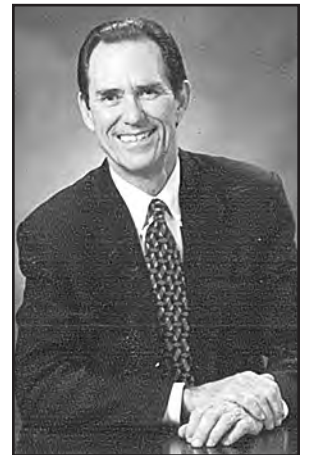
every month.

She started quilting at family retreats with her mom and sisters. She has been a professional seamstress for 30 years and specializes in wedding dresses, prom dresses, and baby clothes.

Pioneer women of early Salado topic of April 18 Ladies Aux. meeting

Local author Charlie Turnbo will present a program entitled "Cornbread, Calico and Culture: Pioneer Women of Early Salado" for the

April 18 meeting of the First Baptist Church of Salado's Teacup Tuesday group. The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m., and will be held at FBC Salado.



Charlie Turnbo

In the mid 1800s, pioneer families from the eastern and southern U.S. began moving to Salado and building their homes on the young Texas frontier. From 1850-1875 the western frontier of Texas was divided along the Waco-Austin corridor, of which Salado was a part of. Indians, lawlessness, disease and disorder from the Civil War created precarious conditions for these settlers.

The fledgling little village on the banks of Salado Creek was established, in part, to create a "cultured and refined society" for these transplants. Here they had the freedom to worship and carve out their own futures. Education and religion were priorities to the early Salado settlers.

The pioneers who

founded Salado included people with education and superior trade and husbandry skills. Farmers and ranchers were drawn to the area by the abundance of water and open, inexpensive land. Early settlers typically constructed large homes and generally had substantial families. The burden of raising children and managing the home fell on the women of this era.

For further information contact Cheryl Pany at 254-947-8346 or the church at 254-947-5465.

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Problems of displacement foods

Have you ever thought about how differently we eat today than when we used to "live off the land?" You know, when we used to kill our food by gun, bow and arrow, or catch it with a fishing pole? When we used to drink milk from "local" cows or goats in its raw state? And the fruits, vegetables and herbs we ate were picked that day?

Some may think, "Look at how far we have come." I would say, "Look how far we have gone." It wasn't that long ago that only a small percentage of people had cancer or heart disease. As a matter of fact, just 100 years ago, those terms were unheard of in many places all over the world (even numerous areas in this country).

In those places, where tribes ate traditional foods, people would live a quality life up to the age of 120, and that is while fighting off all sorts of infections. But, because we are so far from our traditional regimen of foods, including: free-range game and wild-fish, raw dairy from grass eating cows and goats, and organic grains, vegetables and fruits in their natural state, we are now infested with all sorts of diseases and have the inability to fight off even the most basic of infections. And unless we move away from the "modern" diet and move back to the "traditional" diet, we can only expect more of the same. Disease, disease, and more disease!

Drugs and procedures treat symptoms, so they are not cures; the only real cure is prevention. And, if you are diseased, get back to the basics of a "traditional" diet and avoid

LIFESTYLE AND WELLNESS

By **KEVIN McCaULEY**



the "displacement" foods that caused the disease in the first place. Our best chance of improving our quantity and quality of life is to get back to what works, traditional foods. Remember: "An ounce of prevention, is worth a pound of cure."

So, what has happened in America that we are in such poor health? Well, we began replacing foods loaded with essential nutrients with foods that are void of nutrients but full of calories. This small list below is what you could call "displacement foods." These "displacement" foods have taken the place of our "traditional" foods: sugar, white flour, pasteurized milk, canned foods and vegetable oils.

Each time you have a meal, and you eat something from the list above you are consuming calories at the expense of valuable nutrients. Our bodies have not evolved to the point of being able to properly digest and assimilate these supposed "foods." Because these foods are so void of nutrients, they wreak havoc on our bodies as the body searches for nutrients to function. This whole process accelerates aging and disease.

Now the list of displacement foods is bigger and our health concerns are greater because of it. If these foods have snuck into your everyday nutritional regimen, it is only a matter of time before your metabolism is destroyed

and you become diseased. Take a look at just a sampling of foods that are highly available today: boxed cereals, sports bars, fast foods, most canned foods, micro-waved foods, majority of packaged foods, pasteurized and homogenized milk and pasteurized juice, most processed sandwich meats, a high percentage of protein drinks and all packaged dessert foods.

The list above is what most of the children today are growing up on, and as the future of America that is a concern. Obesity has

passed smoking as the number one preventable killer in America today, and displacement foods are at the crux of the problem. We need to get back to what works, getting back to our traditional diet and eating as hunters and gatherers and remove displacement foods from our daily regimen.

Kevin McCauley, MA, is a Lifestyle and Wellness Coach serving the greater Salado area. He has over 15 years of professional experience as a clinical nutritionist and personal trainer.



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Benefits of resistance training

Proper nutrition should be, and is, the most integral component when creating a lifestyle of improved health and well-being. Though proper nutrition is considered first in my mind, I consider a proper resistance training program to be a close second; here is why.

The benefits of a proper resistance training program are numerous:

- Adds muscle increasing your basal metabolic rate
- Challenging your muscles safely improves bone density
- Develops functional strength Burns body-fat
- Changes the shape of your physique
- Strengthens the cardiovascular system Stimulates the release of Human Growth Hormone and Testosterone

LIFESTYLE AND WELLNESS

By KEVIN McCauley



The truth is, if your goal is to be healthy and fit, and you have time restraints, you should be spending your precious time on a resistance training program, not an aerobic program. Aerobic exercise not only does not add muscle, but can actually slow one's metabolism by catabolizing muscle mass and by causing chronic stress issues for your muscles and joints. Aerobic activity should only be added to a proper nutritional and resistance training program, not replace them. The results from a properly executed resistance training regimen far outweigh that

of an aerobic program.

It is important to understand that after the age of 30, because of hormonal changes, a sedentary person begins to lose five pounds of muscle mass a decade. This lost muscle mass decreases our metabolism noticeably, and causes a decline in our physical shape and contour. Resistance training can be a safe and quick answer to a slowing metabolism and bone density issues.

Resistance training is different than strength training as resistance training focuses on the "movement of the body" and strength training focuses on "movement of the bar." Resistance training "focuses on the fatigue of the muscle" and strength training "focuses on the number of repetitions." These small differences really make a big difference when it comes to the results you will achieve. Strength training can put unwanted stress on joints and tendons creating long-

term structural issues. Plus, for the majority of us, strength training is not practical as the modalities and ranges of motions don't really make sense in every day life.

Resistance training can be used with bands, dumbbells or just the human body. The idea is to move the body in the way it was intended, with proper ranges and planes of motion. Creating the ability to focus on the muscle versus the bar creates the opportunity for increased results and decreased risk, removing any chance of injury.

It is never too late to get involved in a resistance training program, as no matter your age you will reap the benefits. People of all ages are developing improved musculature, joint strength, and faster running metabolisms through proper resistance training. You can too.

Kevin McCauley, MA, is a Lifestyle and Wellness Coach serving the families of the Greater Salado Area. He has over 15 years of professional experience as a clinical nutritionist and personal trainer. He can be contacted at youbewell@earthlink.net or 254-947-8304.

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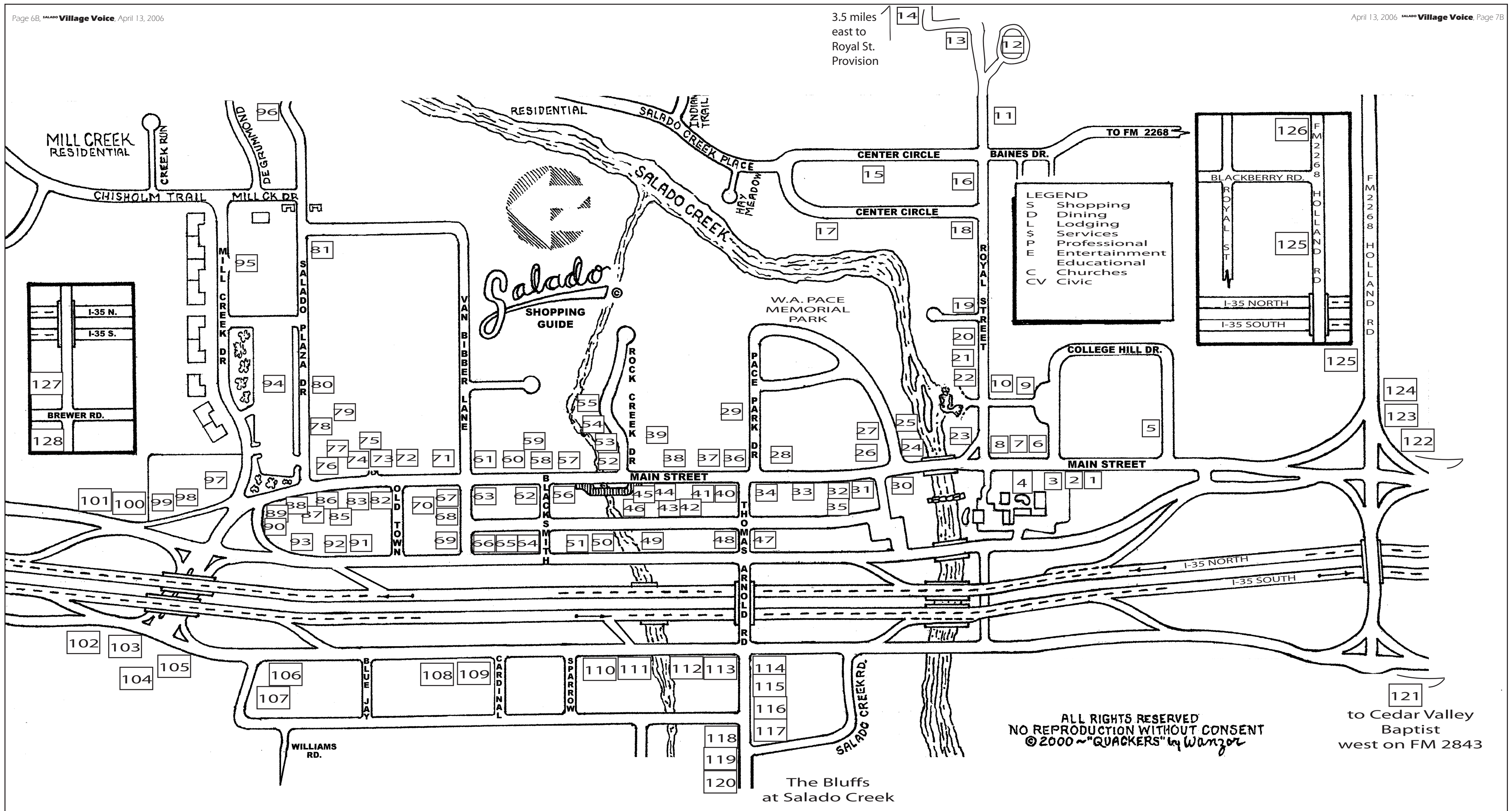
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5. Stone Creek Settlements	254/947-9099 888/777-8844	L	24. Accents of Salado	254/947-5908	S	40. Family Dentistry Dr. Douglas B. Willingham	254/947-5242	P	Joe Read State Farm Agency	254/947-3599	\$	108. Scissors Hair and Nails	254/947-9001	\$	111. Super 8 Motel	254/947-5000	L
6. Central Texas Area Museum	254/947-5232	E	25. Leigh's Necessities and Floral Creations	254/947-0128	S, \$	42. Mud Pies Pottery	254/947-0281	S	Properties by Larry Sands	254/947-5580	\$	115. Johnny's Steaks & Bar-Be-Que	254/947-4663	D	116. Johnny's Texas Banquet Hall	254/947-4663	D
7. Salado Galleries	254/947-5110	S	26. CREEKSIDE CENTER			43. Southern Comforts	254/947-0595	S	Uncommon Grounds Cafe	254/947-3354	D	117. The Barber Barn	254/421-5173	\$	118. Thomas Arnold	254/947-5191	E
8. SHADY VILLA			Prellop Fine Art Gallery	254/947-3930	S	Margrit's Shoe Chateau		S	62. Heirlooms	254/947-0336	S	119. Salado Intermediate	254/947-1700	E	120. Salado High	254/947-5429	E
Gregory's	254/947-5703	S	Susan Marie's	254/947-5239	S	44. Salado Haus	254/947-1868	S	65. The Village of Salado	254/947-5060	CV	121. Cedar Valley Baptist Church	254/947-0148	C	122. Eagle Rock Ranch	254/947-5369	\$
Sweet Nut Things	254/947-8088	S	Levi Tenney House B&B	254/947-1003	L	45. Sweet Dreams	254/947-9200	S	68. Serenity Spa	254/947-8833	\$	123. Wildfire Saddlery	254/947-8080	S	124. St. Stephen Catholic Church	254/947-8037	C
10. Shynne's of Salado	254/947-9215	S	30. First Baptist Church	254/947-5465	C	48. A Touch of Heaven	254/947-5543	\$				127. Grace Baptist Church of Salado	254/947-5917	C	128. Janelle's	254/947-3584	S
11. Tablerock Amphitheatre	254/947-9205	E	31. Salado Mansion	254/947-5157	D	Roy T's Old Salado Bakery		\$	70. STAGESTOP RETAIL CENTER			Not shown on map					
12. The Rose Mansion B&B	254/947-8200	L	32. THE VERANDA			Farmers Insurance	254/947-0995	\$	Angelic Herbs	254/947-1909	S	The Event Center at Tenroc Ranch					
13. Salado United Methodist Church	254/947-5482	C	First Texas Brokerage	254/947-5577	\$	Zbrane Agency		\$	The Sewing Basket	254/947-5423	S	2 miles west of I-35 on Thomas Arnold Rd.					
14. Tennille's Place	254/947-3811	S	33. First State Bank	254/947-5852	\$	50. Salado Fire Department	254/947-8961	CV	71. SALADO CIVIC CENTER			512/947-9218	\$				
(1 mile east on Royal)			34. FIRST CENTRE at 40 N. Main			51. Salado Church of Christ	254/947-5241	CV	Salado Civic Center	254/947-8300	CV						
14. Royal Street Provision	254/947-3350	L	Alice's	254/947-9000	S				Chamber of Commerce	254/947-5040	CV	94. SALADO PLAZA					
Country Inn			Chameleon Clothier	254/947-7104	S				Historical Society		CV	Salado Village Voice	254/947-5321	\$			
(3.5 miles east on Royal)			First Community Title	254/947-8480	\$				SISD Administration	254/947-5479	E	Edward D. Jones	254/947-5128	\$			
15. Friendship House B&B	254/947-3136	L	35. Salado Masonic Lodge #296		CV				Village Art Center			Monteith Abstract & Tittle Co.	254/947-3922	\$			
16. The Baines House B&B	254/947-5260	L	36. Christy's of Salado	254/947-0561	S				(on the grounds of Salado Civic Center)			Salado Chiropractic	254/947-BACK	P			
17. Inn on the Creek B&B	254/947-5554	D,L	37. Inn at Salado	254/947-0027	L				72. The Halley House	254/947-1000	L	Salado Eye Care	254/947-LENS	P			
CELEBRATION CENTER			38. SALADO SQUARE						73. CARRIAGE PLACE SQUARE			Village Pharmacy	254/947-3185	\$			
Botangles	254/947-4747	\$	Browning's Courtyard Cafe	254/947-8666	D	56. OLD CHURCH PLACE			Before & After	254/947-5814	\$	Mill Creek Golf & Country Club	254/947-5144	D,L			
Old Salado Springs Celebration Center and Retreat	254/947-5933	\$	Carden's	254/947-0300	S	The Front Row Emporium	254/947-5831	S				Salado Public Library	254/947-9191	E			
19. Old Salado Springs			Linda Rountree Pritchard	254/947-4263	P	57. THE COLONY			ARCHANGEL ON MAIN			98. Salado Cleaners	254/947-7299	\$			
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Marinade

- 1 small yellow onion

- 1/4 cup organic extra virgin olive oil
- 1/4 tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 TB fresh lemon juice
- 3/4 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp oregano
- 1 tsp garlic, minced
- 1 small bay leaf, minced
- 3/4 tsp ground cumin
- 3/4 tsp paprika
- 1 cup basmati rice
- 1/2 cups vegetable stock
- 1/8 tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 1/8 tsp salt
- 1/2 TB mint, minced

Grate one yellow onion, place in a fine mesh strainer, press out and save the juice. Set aside onion pulp for pilaf.

Combine onion juice, 1/4 cup olive oil, 1/4 tsp black pepper, lemon juice, cinnamon, oregano, 1 tsp garlic, bay leaf, cumin, paprika. Pour over the lamb and marinate 12 hours, stirring the meat occasionally.

Cut bell peppers into quarters length-wise, and remove the seeds. Cut each piece into three cubes. Peel onion, cut in four wedges, cut each wedge in half. Separate into pieces

two layers thick.

Alternate meat and vegetables on metal skewers.

Start charcoal.

Prepare pilaf: Heat 1 TB olive oil and sauté the grated onion and 3/4 tsp garlic over medium heat for three minutes. Add basmati rice and stir. Add vegetable stock and bring to a boil. Add 1/8 tsp salt, reduce heat to low, cover, and cook 16-18 minutes or until all liquid is absorbed.

While rice is cooking, place kebabs over medium hot fire. Cook 15-20 minutes, turning to cook evenly. When the rice is finished cooking season with 1/8 tsp fresh ground black pepper, and mint. Serve kebabs over pilaf.

Kebabs

- 1 lb lean leg of lamb, cut into 1-1/2" cubes
- 1 small yellow onion
- 1 yellow bell pepper
- 1 orange bell pepper
- 8 large firm cherry tomatoes

Rice

- 1 TB organic extra virgin olive oil
- 3/4 tsp garlic, minced

Nutrition Info

Per Serving: 537 calories, 25g fat (5g saturated), 29g protein, 51g carbohydrates, 73mg cholesterol, 136mg sodium

Exchanges: 2 bread, 3 high fat meat, 4 vegetable

Grilling tips

- If serving kabobs, be sure to soak your wooden (bamboo) skewers in water for at least 30 minutes before threading and placing on the grill. Even with soaking, it's a good idea to wrap the ends in some foil.

- If using metal skewers, leave a bit of space on the skewer so foods cook evenly.

- Impart a subtle flavor and the heady aroma of rosemary, thyme or other favorite summer herbs to grilled goodies by dampening fresh herb branches or sprigs and adding them to your coals during the last minutes of cooking.

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Capturing history in words Institute writing project continues with April 29 session

The Institute for the Humanities has launched a writing project that it hopes will entice hundreds of central Texans to write about their experiences that will eventually become an anecdotal history of Bell County. The Institute is encouraging anyone with a story to tell to come to the next public writing workshop to learn how to write their personal stories.

The second of the Writing Central Texans' Lives public writing workshops is being co-sponsored by the Cultural Activities Center in Temple. It will be held 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. April

29 at Temple's Cultural Activities Center.

Each of us has stories to tell—of our experiences, our history, our lives—memories that bridge the time between our grandparents and our grandchildren's generations. Collectively our stories shape the character of Central Texas. The Writing Central Texans' Lives Project has been created to help those stories come to life on paper by helping people learn how to write about their experiences and family stories.

The purpose of the workshop is to produce and collect stories about central Texan's lives by helping

people learn how to write about their experiences. If the workshops continue to grow and enough stories are collected, it is hoped that they can be collected into a book about the people and their experiences in this area. The Bell County Museum has expressed interest in helping collect and house the material.

The project began last fall with a writing workshop jointly sponsored by the Salado Institute and the University of Texas Humanities Institute, the group who sponsored the highly successful Writing Austin's Lives project.

The Writing Central Texans' Lives project is continuing this spring with another hands-on writing workshop, taught by the same workshop leader,

Abe Louise Young, who helped get the project started last year. She is an Austin writer, poet and the designer of the Writing Austin's Lives life writing workshops.

All ages are welcome and no writing background is needed. This workshop is open to the public. Space is limited, and reservations are required. For more information or to pre-register, call the CAC at 254-773-9926 or the Humanities Institute at 254-947-5729.

The cost of the workshop is \$35 and includes lunch. There is a \$5 discount for registration by April 21. Humanities Institute and CAC members get an additional discount.

Shawn Mitchell Tourney a success in 2nd year

The Second Annual Shawn Mitchell Memorial Golf Tournament took place March 31 at Mill Creek Golf and Country Club.

The Championship Team was manned by Rick Haney, Jeff Arnold, Ron Whitis and Daren Harmel.

Runners-up were Ricky Preston, Cody Hall, Danny Grimm and David Mooney.

Third place team was Terry Thompson, Jerry Roberts, Tim Brown and David Pany.

Longest Drive went to Scott Atwood on Creek 2, Hole 1. There were three Closest to the Pin winners: David Pany on Creek 1, Hole 6, Buster

Green on Creek 2, Hole 3 and Mark Thompson on Creek 2, Hole 7.

Gary and Bidy Mitchell said they were pleased with the outcome of the tournament, which was founded a year ago in memory of their son, Shawn Mitchell, a 1998 graduate of Salado High School. "We appreciate everyone helping make this tournament a success," they stated. "We hope to see everyone again next year."

Proceeds from the tournament are used to fund two scholarships for graduating Salado High School athletes, one for a female athlete and one for a male athlete. The scholarships will be awarded this spring.

Bell County Dem Women to meet April 15 in Belton

The Bell County Texas Democratic Women will hold their monthly meeting April 15 at the Bell County North Annex, 1605 North Main in Belton.

Refreshments will be served at 9:30 a.m. and the meeting will begin at 10 a.m. All Democratic women and guests are invited to attend. New members are welcome.

The program for the meeting will be Grant Connell, a junior

at Killeen Ellison High School, who will give a Power Point presentation of his recent internship as a Congressional Page in Washington D.C. Connell plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin after graduation.

Bree Buchanan, candidate for 3rd Court of Appeals Place 6, will also speak.

The 2006 Address and Yearbook will be distributed to members who did not get theirs last month.

Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas Summer 2006 edition Ad copy must be approved by April 28, 2006

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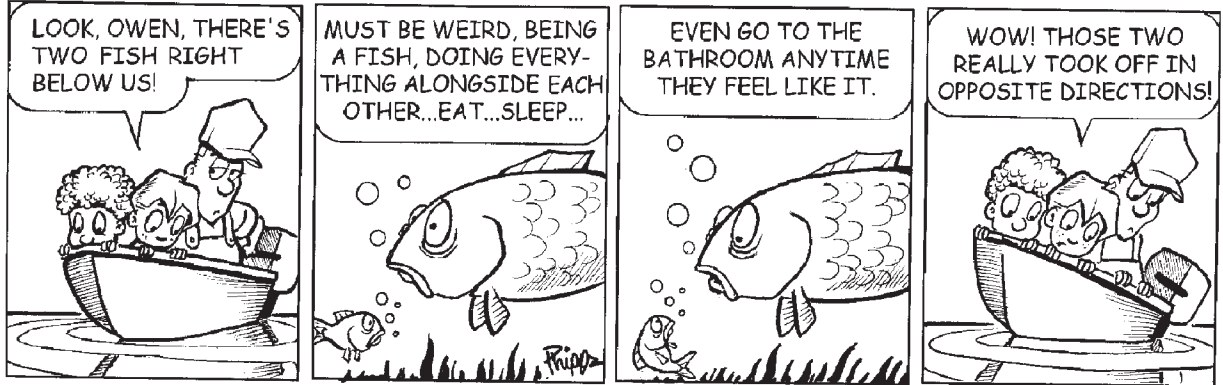


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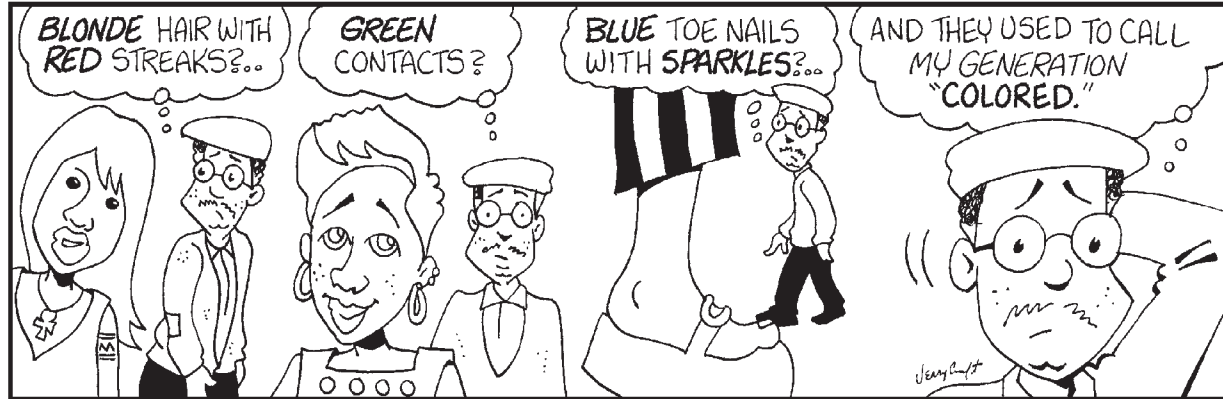
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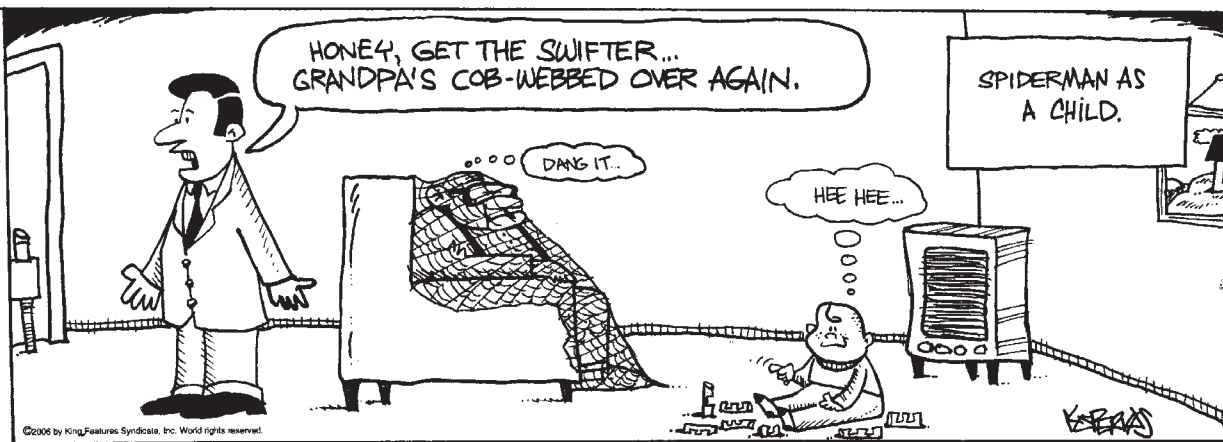
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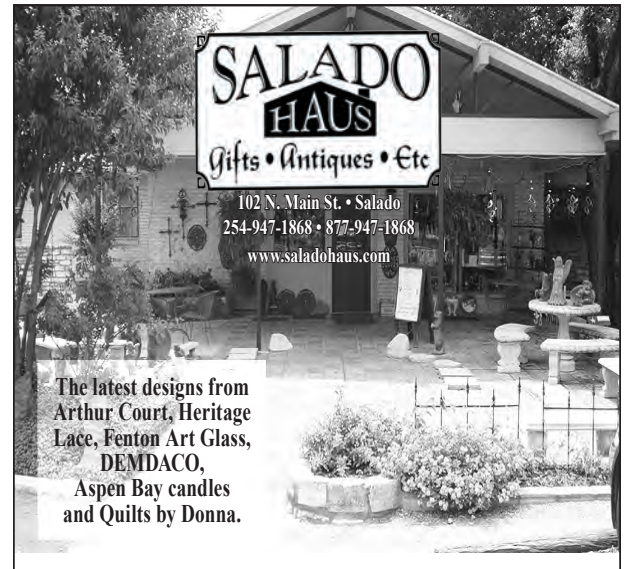


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Springtime in Texas

by
Tumbleweed
Smith



Life seems to begin in the springtime. The earth feels cleansed, blessed again, purged of winter's darkness. We witness the season of hope and renewal.

Spring is when you want to get a cane fishing pole and a can of worms and go to the creek, even if you've never done that before. It's when you want to sit and watch a bug for about an hour. Or just stretch out and stare at your shoes.

Spring is when you think about going barefooted and wearing fewer clothes. You might even get out that bicycle and take a spin. Or climb a mountain. It makes you feel frisky, like you're three years old and you've just finished taking a bath.

You pull out the ice cream freezer and begin to imagine how the fruits of summer will taste. You

think about swimming and convertibles and warm, sensuous nights.

No season offers more promise than springtime. And no place shows off its spring wardrobe any better than Texas. When it's springtime in Texas, fields of blue and red and yellow appear and the air is scented with wildflower perfume.

The early leaves on

mesquite trees are a shade of light green artists find hard to duplicate. Lawns come back to life. The earth warms. The sky boils. The wind howls.

Seeing Texas in the spring is like seeing New England in the fall. We experience the colors and our lives are enriched. Texas is the birthplace of spring. Flowers are arranged among the cactus and rocks in natural bou-

quets.

The silence of the prairie is broken by the piercing sound of birds. Welcome to the spring, they seem to say. And they show off their colors, too. Mocking birds dart about, flashing their white tail feathers from the tops of juniper bushes. Cardinals and cedar waxwings provide a spectacular aerial display. A hawk catches a wind current and glides gracefully over the land.

The miracle of spring is amazing to observe. Even when the winters are mild we still anticipate spring. We want to hear the birds, to feel the sunshine, to experience life outside the house. Spring makes you appreciate the sense of freedom that exists in Texas. The skies open up and seem larger. Texas has more sky than most places, anyway.

The 24-hour celestial parade is an event not to be missed in the spring. We awaken to a dawn dressed up in sunrise pink. Later the golden sun illumines the clouds, which become active in mid afternoon and float around and bump each other. At sundown the sky is streaked with reds and oranges. And darkness brings its own special magic.

It's fun to go outside at night, lie on a pallet and look at the stars. If you're lucky you'll see one fall. You might even see a satellite streaking across the heavens. Spring makes you glad to be alive.

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There are other advantages to a custom-built piece. Pascoe can size a project to your specification and finish it to blend with your existing decor. "I have one customer who loved the style of a table from a well-known furniture store, but wanted it 8 inches wider and a darker color. With the store, it's what you see is what you get. I was able to match both the style and customer's requirements." In many cases, Pascoe is even able to beat store prices.

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\$209,900: This home is oozing with personality and creativity. Located near the back entrance to Mill Creek. The location couldn't be better access to I-35 or downtown Salado. Kitchen is open to the family room with granite bar that will seat 4 people.



\$187,000: Great location on Indian Trail in Salado. Beautiful trees, private backyard. Larry Lilly built home in the heart of Mill Creek.



\$269,900: 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. Guest bedroom is hidden behind fireplace. Also included are an irrigation system, landscaping and gutters.



\$274,900: Recently constructed home in Heritage Subdivision. 4 BR/2.5 BA. Stone/brick combination in breakfast/dining area. Beautiful view out the front door. Check out this home and subdivision. Salado schools.



\$429,000: Home on 2.5 acres in restricted subdivision in Salado I.S.D. Walk into elegance as you enter this home with high ceilings, gourmet kitchen, granite countertops and beautiful tiled fireplace. Inground pool with waterfall and hot tub. Backyard is privacy-fenced. 4 BR upstairs with 3 full baths.



\$218,000: Open living area consists of family room, den, dining and kitchen. Two fireplaces, large windows overlook beautiful backyard from family room. Two bedrooms and bath downstairs with bedroom, bath and loft upstairs. Master suite provides room for a sitting area or office. Treed lot in Mill Creek.



\$229,000: Just a few steps from Main Street. This home is located on 1.6 acres with beautiful large live oak trees. Charming 3 BR home with a beautiful small creek running through back yard. Over an acre behind the home provides privacy. A charming cottage property in the heart of Salado.



\$229,900: Hilltop view of Texas countryside, private and quiet. Pier and beam construction elevates home so you can see for miles. Custom tile countertops and backsplash in kitchen. Large great room with nice built-ins. Covered porch on two sides for relaxing with family.



\$229,900: Spacious master suite is the highlight of this 4 BR home. Wood, tile and carpet flooring, gas log fireplace, granite countertops in kitchen and dining areas, separate shower and jetted tub in master, large covered patio. Side entry garage. Complete in early Summer.



\$189,800: Bring your horses and enjoy your own 10 acres of outdoor living. Cool off on the large covered back patio or picnic under the clusters of live oaks. The family room has plenty of space and the kitchen has its own computer nook. Land is fenced and includes a barn.



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- Denman's Loop: Lot 8, B 19, Sec, 2, \$18,000.
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CLASSIFIEDS CONTINUE ON PAGE 4C



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227 N. Main St.

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1617 Chaparral

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



515 Indian Trail

Gorgeous stone home, landscaped with two-tiered pond in 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.



5055 Elm Grove Rd.

Beautiful 30.03 acre Belton property that borders the Lampasas River. Huge hybrid and native pecan trees. Well-maintained home with large living room, dining room with hardwoods, den, 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms. Amenities include greenhouse, haybarn, equip shed, 6 traps and decks. Must see! \$620,000



900 DeGrummond

Salado's hidden treasure. 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



3901 Chisholm Trail #5

Great location - close to everything. This townhome offers 3 BR/2 BA, large living, formal dining, 2 car garage. \$122,500.



716 Whispering Oaks

Located in Mill Creek on a beautiful treed street. One-story has 3 BRs/ 2.5 BAs, study, formal living and dining areas, large kitchen with breakfast room. Great room with wood-burning fireplace. Great floorplan, 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 with 3 bedrooms, two baths and a wonderful kitchen. Many updates and great drive-up appeal. Don't miss this one! \$297,577. Price Reduced to \$188,000.

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

Hidden Springs. 4 BR, 2 BA, 2 Car garage on 2 acres. Fireplace, laundry room, office. Beautiful home. \$219,000 254-760-4486 0209tfnb

Century old live oaks surround this 4/1.5 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. \$324,900 Call First Texas Brokerage 947-5577 0202F

Austin stone country estate on acreage is framed by large cascading oak trees. Wet weather creek runs on the back of this 8.72 acre homesite. Hardwood floors, windows from ceiling to floor in living room, great room effect, stone fireplace, gourmet kitchen, 3 BR/2-1/2 BA, library with built-ins, zoned AC. Two dining areas and spacious laun-

dry. Barn/garage is 40' x 60' with 800 SF 1BR apartment. \$565,000. Call Village Realty 947-0342. 0202F

Belton - Spacious master suite is the highlight of this 4 BR home. Wood, tile and carpet flooring, gas log fireplace, granite countertops in kitchen and dining areas, separate shower and jetted tub in master, large covered patio. Side entry garage. Complete in early Summer. \$229,900 Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 6/16/tfnf

Beautiful home on 16 plus acres. A restored historic train depot. This home features a large master suite, unbelievable kitchen with granite countertops. Great for entertaining. Large suite for guests/children and much more. garage with lots of storage. Horse stables. \$525,000 Call First Texas Brokerage, (254) 947-5577

Texas Brokerage, (254) 947-5577

Only 2 years old, this nicely landscaped brick/stone 4 BR home has 3 full bats and is walking distance to the new Mill Creek Springs golf course. Irrigated rose garden, flower garden and vegetable garden. Entertain in the large back yard with covered patio and an arbor. Extensive crown molding, stone fireplace in family room, skylight in kitchen. Large kitchen with granite countertops, island and garden window. Large walk-in pantry \$281,800 Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 tfnf

Beautiful Landscape home in the Prestigious Carriage House Estates. Two living areas, both with stone fireplace, spacious master suite, great room and sports court all for just \$369,900 Call First Texas Brokerage at 254-947-5577 tfnf



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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. Call First Texas Brokerage at 254-947-5577
tfnf

Custom home on 2.16 ac. with all the extras. Tile entryway takes you into a wonderful living area with built-in bookshelves and 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 20' X 13" office upstairs. Four car garage \$379,000. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050

Land for Sale

Salado land! Huge oak trees. Buy this 3.79 acres located on Brewer Rd. and build your dream house. City water & utilities available. Beverly Hamby Realty. **254-721-1784**
3/30b
30 acres for sale. Salado Creek runs through it! 100 plus large pecans and oaks. Spring. Wildlife tax exemption. Bordered on 3 sides by large ranch. 5 miles west of Jarrell. \$139,000 254-291-8888
3/9-3/30p

Prime location in Salado, Great investment! Located in the historic district, can be residential or retail, lots of space w/over 2800 sf on corner lot. Lots of potential! \$170's for more details/appt's call Lorraine Goode, Realtor, Covington Real Estate 254-780-3668
2/23-3/30

Heavily wooded 5.64 acre tract in a premiere Salado subdivision. Lots are flat and would be easy to build on. Perfect hideaway. \$70,000. Century 21 Bill

Bartlett 254-947-5050
tfnf

The Overlook - wooded estate sized lots with hill top golf course views. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 254-947-5050

For sale by owner: Hidden Springs 3.27 acres. Only \$41,500 Lot #326 254-541-5449 512-285-2563
3/3tfn

Commercial Rental

Retail space available on Main Street next to the Stagecoach Inn May 1. 947-3351
0406tfnb

Commercial Rental for lease: Early Texas home (Bell Co, 1850's) Beautifully restored. Ideally suited for professional, commercial or retail. Antique pine floors, two fireplaces, original wood walls. Spacious front porch. Call 254-947-5575 or 254-760-4346
2/16tfnb

Salado- Main St. retail outdoor space available plus Glass House nearly 100 sq. ft., Total space garden area over 3,500 sq. ft. Call 947-9200
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For Rent or Lease

For Rent - 1BR/1BA completely furnished cottage with water, cable, and yard work included. \$750/month plus \$400 deposit. Now available! No pets. (254) 947-7145.
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12/15tfnb

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Look out your windows and see this view of Salado Creek! This home is priced to sell! 4 BR/3.5 BA, large den with additional sitting area. Sit on the deck and watch the creek flow. Two additional wood creek-view lots available next to home. \$249,900.



Salado country home on 1.3 acres. Lots of sq. footage. 600 SF hobby/office building behind home. Two living areas. 3 BR/2 BA, \$164,900.



New Listing! Salado 2003 brick home on .94 acres, large open great room with roomy kitchen, breakfast bar and dining area. Vaulted ceilings and lots of windows make this home bright. 3 BR/2 BA, attached car garage, nicely landscaped with covered patio. \$146,000.

Executive home in Timber Ridge Subdivision, Temple. Two story home that has three living rooms, four bedrooms, and three-and-a-half baths. Master suite is downstairs. Informal and formal dining. Raised ceilings, Romeo balcony, wide open spacious kitchen with lots of storage. \$398,900.

Just like a model! Morgan's Point home with flexible floor plan. Fireplace with custom mantle. Wood-like blinds, high ceiling, fenced backyard. 3 BR/2 BA. \$117,900.

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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. Reduced to \$141,900.



Great country views! 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/2-1/2BA, \$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. Price reduced to \$139,900.



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. \$435,000.



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.



20 Acres in Salado! 5 BR/3.5 BA with two living and two dining rooms! Easy access to I-35 and Killeen area. Lots of windows with great views. Open bright kitchen with island. Fireplace in den and master suite. Small horse shed with enclosed feed room. Huge chainlink backyard. \$350,000.



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

Cottage

By MARGARET WILLIAMSON

KLRU-TV, the Austin PBS station and home of the *Central Texas Gardener* television show, visited with Richard Teeler and Les McCollum in their garden to help promote the Salado Yard and Garden Tour. Producer Linda Lehmusvirta and her camera crew were impressed to find this hidden gem of a garden.

Through the gates on a quiet country lane is an incredible garden brimming with interest. You need to take your time as the garden spills forth across the front of the property, in sun and shade, with Texas natives and non-natives; flowers, shrubs and cacti all growing in glorious profusion. The landscape is of many gardens flowing from one to another and each with their own intriguing view and mixture of plants.

Begin by going down a gravel path lined with towering pomegranates, a non native large shrub or tree that was cultivated and naturalized over the Mediterranean region before being brought to California by the Spanish settlers in the 1700's. Pomegranates have lovely flowers and a beautiful large rich red fruit with leathery and tough skin. The interior is filled with "juicy sacs" of seed and can be used in cooking or for their juice. There are many tales and lore about this beautiful plant. Continuing down the path, one enters the dry garden. This is a garden filled with sotals that send up a flowering stalk, agaves, yuccas, prickly pear, small daisies including Blackfoot, Mexican and four-nerve daisy, snake herb with its delicate lavender bloom, agarita, Jerusalem sage that has gray-green foliage and unusual yellow blooms and black dalea with its dainty leaves and flower. Trees planted in this dry garden include Mexican plum, Mexican buckeye, kidneywood (a small tree with very fragrant flowers that attract butterflies and foliage that is airy) and Mimosa borealis; also a small fragrant tree with airy leaves and showy pink flowers in a puff ball shape.

The next garden one enters is the flowering garden overflowing with perennials, many varieties of salvias, Indigo spires, yellow bells, Jerusalem sage, iris, lantana and re-seeding annuals such as cosmos and globe amaranth. Globe amaranth is a charmer in the garden that was

garden to be featured on KLRU

nearly always a part of old American gardens. Sometimes it is commonly called bachelor's buttons and it will bloom from summer until the first frost; thriving in hot weather and then in the fall can be dried and used in arrangements in the winter. Stop to enjoy all of these wonderful blooms and the butterflies that adorn them.

Continuing down the garden path, take in the cedar trellises covered with Lady Banksia rose and enter the new and evolving "white garden". This is a formally designed area with mulched paths lined with old bricks and attractive seating arrangements. Filled with white flowering plants or plants with silvery foliage including geraniums, petunias, roses, bridal wreath, agaves, santolina, dusty miller, verbena, iris and narcissus; this beautiful spot entices one to sit under the shade of a tree with the silvery white painted chairs and lovely table.

The greenhouse nearby beckons one to enter and this structure, once used solely as a greenhouse has now been transformed into an engaging garden room so one can linger and take pleasure in the sights, sounds, and smells of the gardens. And if one desires to be on the outside, through the greenhouse is a delightful open gravel courtyard with seating area overlooking a pond filled with white water lilies and a gazing ball.

As we circle to the



Richard Teeler and Les McCollum were interviewed for an upcoming Central Texas Gardener show on KLRU public television.

front of the property, one passes through a cedar arbor with Texas native coral honeysuckle. Along the path, a beautiful Asian inspired garden container is full of goldfish and lilies. On the front porch, an outdoor sofa with colorful pillows entices one to sit and enjoy the sound of the parakeets in the lovely aviary. This charming building is used for bridal consultations and was built with old and recycled building materials.

Visit this garden and you will enjoy the magic of gardening. It is a learning experience as one can see the many varieties of plants and interesting ideas demonstrated throughout the garden.

The garden will be featured on the *Central Texas Gardener* on SEE GARDENS, PAGE 11C

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- Manager/Producer, Christian Music Concerts, 1995-1998
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- Chairman, Salado Family Festival, 1994-1995
- Actress, Salado Legends, 1993-1996
- Actress, A Christmas Carol, 1994-1995
- Actress, Salado Living Room Theatre, 2005
- Mentor, Salado ISD Students, 1996-1998
- Member, PTA, 1992-1998
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Does your yard need a check-up?

A plant health care program may save you lots of money

When is the last time your yard had a check-up?

Just like people plants need periodic examinations and treatments to help prolong their health. Plant health care (PHC) is a vital part of landscape management.

Preventative care, frequent check-ups, early detection, informed decision-making, and routine treatments that provide long term, stable solutions are regular duties of plant healthcare programs. A PHC plan is multi-faceted and customer-driven, focusing



A sudden infestation of tent caterpillars may soon defoliate the ornamental trees in your front yard. A plant health care program may detect these potential threats early.

involve natural processes that are least intrusive. Chemical treatments should be used as a last resort. Homeowners and professionals should work together to decide what is best for the yard.

Expensive remedies are often employed after a yard has already been badly damaged. These practices are often unsuccessful and cost homeowners significant amounts of money in planting and maintenance. Proactive PHC programs cost considerably less than reactive interventions because they help ensure the health and beauty of plants and landscapes, lowering maintenance costs and increasing property values.

"The long-term savings is virtually guaranteed," Skiera says. "Not only will a plant healthcare program enhance the well-being of plants, but it also will improve the mood and bank account of the homeowner."

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), headquartered in Champaign, Ill., is a nonprofit organization supporting tree care research and education around the world. As part of ISA's dedication to the care and preservation of shade and ornamental trees, it offers the only internationally-recognized certification program in the industry. For more information and to find a local ISA Certified Arborist, visit www.treesaregood.com.

Maintaining a Plant Health Care Program:

on the health, growth, and beauty of a homeowner's yard.

"It's like an HMO plan for your yard," says Jim Skiera, Executive Director for the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). "Adopting a plant healthcare program can prevent problems or keep them from getting serious. When homeowners and professionals work together, everyone benefits. Drastic, costly maintenance can be avoided while the value of the entire property increases."

The basic premise behind PHC is that if a plant is taken care of properly, natural defenses can be strengthened. Energy that would normally be used up fighting stressful factors can instead be utilized to build up defense systems. Regular check-ups and the removal of hazardous factors from the environment help to improve the health of a plant, the same as they would the health of a human.

Maintaining a Plant Health Care Program:

First, choose the right professional support. You would select a doctor carefully, so be sure to select the best professional to assist you in your PHC plan. Experts should ask questions, determine priorities, and discover the homeowner's expectations.

Look for ISA Certified Arborists or certified landscape professionals who are well-trained, educated, and experienced professionals familiar with landscape plants, their needs, and the pests and diseases most likely to attack.

Every yard is different so individual care is important. Frequent monitoring aids in early detection and is key to the long-term health of plants. Professionals will alert you to any existing or anticipated problems then suggest all possible treatment options and alternatives- just like a doctor would a patient. The best choices usually

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Teddy

Teddy is a cream colored rough coat Chow Chow dog. We are not certain of his age, but he looks to be a very young dog. He can be protective and would do best as an only pet. Teddy is neutered and up to date on all his shots. Please call 254-228-6606 if you would like to meet this handsome boy.

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This home with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths and oversized 3 car garage with almost 3300 sq. ft. of breathtaking enchantment sits on a quiet and secluded cul-de-sac in Mill Creek. Windows galore overlook beautiful irrigated landscaping, the 17th. tee, a deck and an in-ground pool. MBR suite on first level leads to screened/ windowed porch. Central vacuum, intercom system with speakers in all rooms including front and rear entry. Entertainment center with TV, VCR, Dual Cassettes and CD all convey. *This is truly a must see! \$399,900.*

Learn to put a plug in it!

Clearwater Under-ground Water Conserva-tion District (CUWCD) and the Texas Cooperative Extension are pleased to announced a well-plug-ging demonstration at 901 Duncan Ave. in Killeen at 2 p.m. April 19.

At a previous well-plugging demonstration in January 2005, 50 people gathered to learn the proper way to plug a large diameter hand-dug well. The April 19 demonstra-tion will show the steps to properly plug a small diameter drilled (bored) well. The site is a well with a depth of approxi-mately 100 feet. The well is considered abandoned because it is not prop-erly capped and has not been used in the last six months.

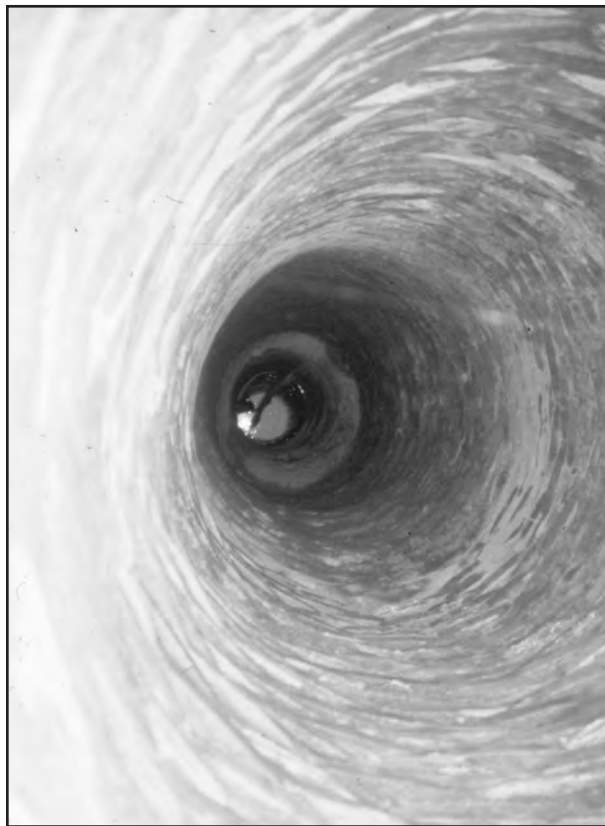
Farms, towns, and businesses have relied heavily on wells to supply their water. But as small farms merged into larger ones, communities expanded, and businesses depended more on public water systems, tens of

thousands of old wells have been abandoned throughout the state.

Though old windmills or pump houses make some abandoned wells easy to spot, many are hidden beneath grass, brush, or collapsed buildings. These hidden holes can lead to personal injury or equipment damage. Worse yet, many are large enough to trap an unsuspecting child or pet.

Abandoned wells also threaten the quality of our drinking water. Missing or defective well caps and leaky casings allow bacteria and chemical contaminants to enter abandoned wells. Once inside, these contaminants can seep into the aquifer below and move laterally into active wells nearby.

Abandoned wells provide a direct conduit for contaminants at the sur-face to enter a ground-wa-ter system. Inactive wells that are properly covered can still pose a hazard if



An estimated 150,000 abandoned water wells exist in Texas, and each one poses a threat to water safety, said Dr. Bruce Lesikar, Texas Cooperative Extension agricultural engineer here. (Texas Cooperative Extension photo)

the well casing is cracked and deteriorated.

These cracks and holes allow pollutants to seep into the well cavity and infiltrate the aquifer, con-taminating all water-bear-ing formations penetrated by the well borehole.

The landowner is re-sponsible for plugging an

abandoned well and may also be held responsible for injury or pollution related to the abandoned well.

For more information, refer to www.clearwaterdistrict.org.

The public is invited to attend the well plugging demonstration.

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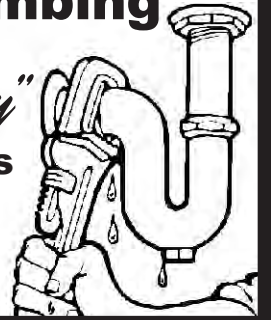
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Bella Charca - Nolanville's Gated Community



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.**

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. 2131 SF. Top Notch Landscaping. **\$255,780.**

HORSEMAN'S DELIGHT! Austin Stone ranch house in Salado on 29.5 acres. Home has 3 bedroom, 3 bath with approx. 1,851 living sq. ft. Master bedroom has walk-in closet for storm shelter. 3,016 sq. ft., 5-horse stall barn with pipe turnouts, office, tack, and feed room. Large 598 sq. ft. horse barn with horse trailer storage. Pasture has traps with water and shelter. Austin stone entrance with iron gate. Panoramic view of countryside. **\$399,000.**

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Are there alternatives to using Roundup?

Dear EarthTalk:
Are there any environmentally friendly alternatives to using chemical weed killers like Roundup? -- Wyatt Walley, Needham, MA

The active ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup, glyphosate, is a known toxin. This is, of course, why it is so successful in eradicating pesky weeds. In fact, glyphosate is the most commonly used pesticide in the United States, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that over five million pounds of it are used in American yards and gardens annually.

According to Caroline Cox, staff scientist at the Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides (NCAP), gardeners wouldn't use Roundup if they knew about all of the problems attributed to its use. For instance, ingesting about three-fourths of a cup can be lethal. And

EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers
About Our Environment

symptoms of just casual contact can include eye and skin irritation, lung congestion and erosion of the intestinal tract. Monsanto's Roundup has also been linked to cancer, miscarriages and genetic damage in humans, so it's no wonder that NCAP and other organizations are pushing for safer alternatives. Environmentally, the product is thought to be implicated in immune system damage in fish and reproductive disruption in amphibians.

Over a recent eight-year study period in California, glyphosate was the third most frequently reported cause of illness related to agricultural pesticide use. And scientists from the National Cancer Institute and three prominent medical centers have shown the use of glyphosate herbicides by midwestern farmers to be associated with many cases of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Roundup also contains other non-active ingredients, contact with which can cause nausea, diarrhea, chemical pneumonia, laryngitis and severe headaches.

Luckily, reports Cox, "There are effective pesticide-free solutions to the weed problems in our yards and gardens." For instance, mulches made from wood chips, straw, grass clippings or shredded bark can be used to keep weed seeds from germinating. Quite simply, by keeping light from reaching weeds, a thick mulch layer naturally inhibits the growth of the chlorophyll that is the lifeblood of fast-growing weeds.

Cox also says that maintaining healthy, well-aerated soil is essential to a program of chemical-free weed control, and suggests using organic fertilizer where needed. Longer grass, between two and three inches tall, also helps keep weeds in check without chemicals. When weeds do appear anyway, Cox recommends non-chemical weeding tools such as hoes, string trimmers, weed pullers, flame weeders or radiant heat weeders. Local organic nurseries can help you determine which techniques will work best in your area.

One added benefit of giving up the Roundup

habit might be the blossoming of beneficial plants, fungi and creepy crawlies in your yard. Since Roundup is toxic to a wide range of important ecological builders like ladybugs, beetles, earthworms and fungi, going without can help bring these species back to work aerating your soil and keeping virulent pests in check naturally.

CONTACT: Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides (NCAP) Healthier Homes and Gardens Program, www.pesticide.org/HHG.html.

Dear EarthTalk:
President Bush recently replaced Interior Secretary Gale Norton, who resigned, with Idaho governor Dirk Kempthorne. What was Norton's environmental legacy and what can we expect from her successor? -- Kiernan Romano, Ronkonkoma, NY

The U.S. Department of Interior is one of 20 individuals and departments, including the vice-president and the Departments of Defense, Justice, Education, Labor, the recently created Department of Homeland Security and others, that make up the president's Cabinet. The Interior Department is charged with protecting and conserving--in the interest of the American public--our land, water, energy and mineral resources, as well as the nation's fish and wildlife.

According to the White House, Gale Norton, the first woman to ever lead the Interior Department, was a rousing success in the influential position she held for six years. Upon accepting her resignation in March, President Bush praised her for an initiative to protect communities from catastrophic wildfires. He also told reporters that she helped lead efforts to restore offshore energy production after Hurricane Katrina, lauding her as "a strong advocate for the wise use and protection of our nation's natural resources."

But Norton's legacy does not look so rosy to most eco-advocates. For one, she spearheaded (as-yet unsuccessful) efforts to open up Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling, an action green leaders say would yield little oil in relation to the large profits that already bloated oil companies would gain. She also opened more federal land across the American West to oil drilling and mining

than any other Interior Secretary before her. Critics also say that her wildfire protection efforts, through the thinning of forested areas, were a veiled effort to hand over otherwise untouchable forestlands to the logging industry.

The New York Times called Norton "a key player in the Bush administration's efforts to exploit natural resources on federal lands." The League of Conservation Voters (LCV), in issuing a statement about her resignation, said, "Gale Norton's decision to leave the Interior Department provides the opportunity for President Bush to appoint an individual who believes that... America truly does have an addiction to oil and who will create policies to help wean America off that addiction. The new Secretary needs to understand our national treasures are to be protected, not exploited for profit...that America's public lands are not intended to be sold to the highest bidder."

But to those happy to see Norton go, Dirk Kempthorne is cold comfort. "As Idaho governor, Kempthorne led the charge to strip protection from 60 million acres of America's last wild forests and he's consistently fought against protection for wildlife like grizzly bears and salmon in his home state," said Todd True of the non-profit group Earthjustice. And Chuck Clusen, senior policy analyst at the Natural Resources Defense Council, called Kempthorne, "Gale Norton in pants," saying: "President Bush could not have made a more anti-environmental choice for his new secretary of the Interior. Dirk Kempthorne surely will continue this administration's 'drill first, ask questions later' approach to public land stewardship."

Kempthorne racked up a dismal environmental record during his six years in the Senate in the 1990s, scoring a "0" on LCV's legislative scorecards in every year except one in which he scored "6" out of 100.

CONTACTS: Earthjustice, www.earthjustice.org; U.S. Department of Interior, www.doi.gov;

GOT AN ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTION? Send it to: EarthTalk, c/o E/The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; or e-mail: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

Garden

FROM PAGE 7C

April 29. This episode of *Central Texas Gardener* will be broadcast on the PBS station in Killeen, KNCT, on April 29 at 1:30 p.m. and April 30 at 5:30 p.m. and the Waco station, KWBU, on April 29 at 3:30 p.m. and on May 4 at 2 pm. You can also view the clip as well as check out great gardening tips on the KLRU website during the week of May 1st at www.klr.org.

Other gardens on the tour are the public garden at the Green Bridge where one can enjoy the flowering perennials and the many native plants; the private yard and garden of Joe and Dottie Oliver that is an expansive woodland setting with a beautiful walled courtyard and pool; the private yard and garden of John and Barbara Robertson that borders Mill Creek Golf course and is filled with native plants and a charming Texas style potting shed and vegetable garden; the spacious garden of the historic Baines House owned by Rod and Sheryl Russell where the garden is filled with art and art objects and the architecturally significant private country estate of Barton and Jeanie Jones situated on a limestone cliff with stunning views of the natural wooded meadow and the Salado Creek.

The tour, sponsored by the Salado Garden Club and the Public Arts League of Salado will be 10 a.m.-4 p.m. May 6 and 1-4 p.m. May 7 from 1-4 pm.

Gardens will be self guided with volunteers helping when needed.

Tickets are \$10 and are good for both days. Maps will be available leading to each location with a short description of each garden.

Tours will be conducted rain or shine.

Strollers and pets



(PHOTO BY MARGARET WILLIAMSON)

This statuary is found in the garden of Les McCollum and Tichard Teeler.

are not permitted and wheelchair accessibility is limited.

Additional information can be found on the Salado Chamber website www.salado.com or by calling the Civic Center at 947-8300.



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Enjoy morning coffee in a private sunroom overlooking the golf course. This spacious 2810 sq. ft. Mill Creek town home is great for entertaining. The oversized living room has a wet bar and built-in bookcases. A gourmet kitchen includes a butcher block island and is open to another living area with a fireplace! The master bedroom is oversized and boasts of a dressing room with vanity, many closets and more. If you like to entertain then this is a great place for you to be in Mill Creek. **Price reduced to 169,900!**

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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.**



Beautifully Landscape Home in the Prestigious Carriage House Estates. Two living areas, both with stone fireplace, spacious master suite, great room, and sports court all for just **\$369,900.**



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. **\$324,900.**



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**



Beautiful home on 16+ acres. A restored historic train depot, this home features a large master suite, unbelievable kitchen with granite countertops, great for entertaining, large suite for guests/children and much more. Garage with lots of storage. Horse stables. **\$525,000.**



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

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