

# Salado Village Voice

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254/947-5321 fax 254/947-9479

www.saladovillagevoice.com

50¢

## Supt. reviews bond issue with trustees

By TIM FLEISCHER  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Salado I.S.D. voters will likely revisit the issue of building a new high school on the 50 acres at FM 2484 and Williams Dr. on Sept. 10, which is the earliest possible date that school trustees can call for an election.

School trustees and administrators -- after canvassing the results of the April 2 failed \$17 million bond election to build a new high school complex -- discussed at an April 11 workshop meeting the concerns of voters who may not have been opposed to building a new school, but voted against the proposal nonetheless.

Superintendent Robin Battershell outlined those concerns as the following: 1. the fear that additional classrooms might be sacrificed for the sake of athletics; 2. fear that the pro-

posed high school may not be enough for the future growth of the district; 3. a misunderstanding about the costs of renovating the current athletic facilities; 4. voters wanting a choice in the election; 5. no renovations or expansions at the elementary or current high school campus.

Dr. Battershell said that during the election, she broke voters down into seven blocs and rated on a scale of 0-5 how the bond likely fared with those voters.

She identified those blocs and their rating of support for the bond (five being highest) as the following:

1. Staff, with a two, because a third of the teachers live outside the district and lack of support from elementary staff because that campus received nothing from the bond.

2. No new taxes voters, a zero, and a bloc that Dr.

Battershell said no proposal would win over.

3. Homeowners over 65, rated at a two, which she said could be improved by including an arts facility in the bond.

4. Arts supporters, at a one, even though the high school campus gained a great deal for the arts in the proposition, including a band hall, choir hall, drama department and two art classrooms.

5. Athletic advocates, a five, who would vote in favor of the bond regardless of whether it had a new football stadium as part of it.

6. Young parents, a two, because of lack of voter registration and participation of parents with young children in school who may not have understood how the new high school would benefit their children directly by relieving overcrowding on all campuses.

7. The board itself, at a three, because "you did not come out in total agreement" for the bond proposal.

Dr. Battershell recommended that trustees consider calling for a multi-proposition bond election.

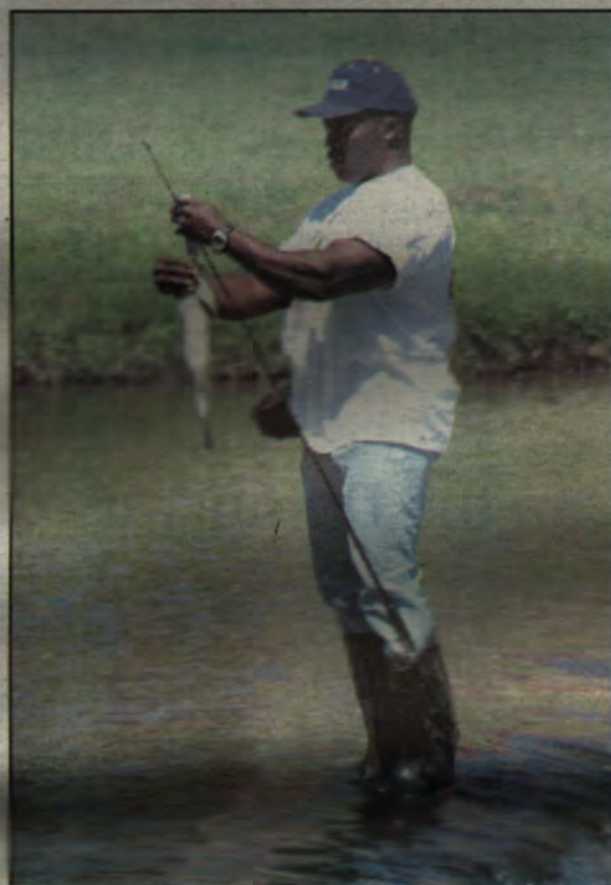
Proposition A: high school academic facility with renovations at the current elementary and high school.

Proposition B: New athletic facilities.

Proposition C: Performing arts center.

"If proposition B does not pass, we will need to look at making the current stadium ADA compliant," she said.

The board discussed their individual preferences for a new bond. The board will continue to work until calling for a new referendum to put together a package or choice of packages that voters can approve.



(PHOTO BY MARILYN FLEISCHER)

A clear sign that it is spring is when the water of Salado Creek warms enough for fishermen to return to catch bass and catfish from the creek.

## Village to buy Funeral Home

The Village of Salado entered into a contract to purchase the Salado Funeral Home building on Stagecoach Rd. with a closing date of June 30 or earlier. Aldermen, at their April 7 meeting, approved the \$150,000 purchase of the building, which will be funded by a loan.

The Village purchased its current municipal building through a five-year loan that was paid off in two years.

The new building will house the Municipal offices and court, as well as other village facilities, while the current build-

ing will house the police and emergency responders from Scott & White.

In other business, aldermen approved 104 petitions for inclusion in the Salado extra-territorial jurisdiction coming chiefly from the Hidden Springs subdivision off FM 2843. So far, 593 petitions have been accepted.

Aldermen hired Grant Bassett to fill the vacancy in the police department left by Cliff Brown, who retired. Bassett was a reserve officer. Brown was the first officer hired by Chief Alan Rogers.

## Summers resigns from SIS

Salado Intermediate School teacher Terry Summers resigned his position in the school district April 11 to be effective at the end of the current school year.

Salado school trustees were set to consider his contract at a special called meeting April 11, but no action was necessary after Superintendent Robin Battershell informed the

board of Summers' resignation from the district.

Intermediate school teacher Terry Summers was charged March 23 with official oppression, which is a Class A Misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in jail and a \$4,000 fine.

The charge against Summers involves an intermediate school student. Summers is accused of

hitting and grabbing the student's buttocks.

The incident is alleged to have happened at Salado Intermediate School in the summer of 2004.

Summers, who was hired by Salado ISD in December 1993, remains on paid administrative leave through the end of the school year.

## Long heads for Rockwall after historic season

Head Salado boys basketball coach Tom Long tendered his resignation to the district April 11, ending a four-year stint as skipper of the Eagles.

Long has accepted a position with Rockwall ISD, where in the fall he will assume head coaching duties at Rockwall Heath High School - a new campus that will compete at the Class AAAA level when it is classified in 2006. Rockwall is located

just east of Dallas.

The Salado boys basketball program under Long experienced more success than any that had come before it. After recording an even .500 coaching record over his first two seasons at the helm, Long and his team went on to post an historic two-season run.

Over that span, Salado posted 58 victories against just 12 losses - an 83 percent winning percentage.

Their 30 wins in 2003-04 established a new Salado record, and they made history again in 2004-05, assembling a 28-8 mark, carrying a number two ranking for much of the season, and qualifying for a spot in the Class AA state tournament, where they were bounced in the semifinals by the eventual state champion Kountze Lions. They did all that while playing the best competition the state

had to offer; Salado was defeated by just three Class AA schools over the course of two years - all of whom were state-ranked.

Even more important than those gaudy numbers was how Salado played the game. Emphasizing sportsmanship and respectfulness, Long's teams never failed to represent the school and the town with class - the type that carries more weight than any number of trophies, medals or win-loss totals.

As a rising star in the coaching ranks (he was recently named Coach of the Year by the *Austin American-Statesman* and the *Waco Tribune-Herald*), Long leaves behind a high standard for his successor to carry on.

That's compounded even more so by the fact the Eagles will graduate eight seniors, including All-State selections Trav-

is Clark and Matt Caskey. The entire starting five, as well as the team's sixth man, will not return.



Tom Long



Rooted in Salado Since 1979

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## Voting starts April 20

The Salado I.S.D. Board of Trustees and Village of Salado Board of Aldermen elections will be held concurrently 7 a.m.-7 p.m. May 7 at the Salado Civic Center. Early voting will be weekdays 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. April 20-May 3 at the Salado Civic Center.

Candidates in both the school and aldermen race have been invited to participate in the Candidates' Forum 7 p.m. April 19 at the Salado Civic Center. Candidate profiles begin on page 8B of this issue.

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# FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas

## Bond supporters encouraged to try again

To the Editor:

The long Letter to the Editor April 7 seemingly supporting the community bond issues intents nevertheless reveals that the writer used his capable leadership ideas in a manner that resulted in failing the entire proud community of Salado. We would like to encourage the many who were shocked and saddened to try again. Those who failed to realize the importance of a large turnout can achieve an outcome worthy of the intelligent citizens and promising children of the treasured

## supporters encouraged to try again

### Your Voice

Letters to the Editor

Village of Salado.

Doris Kemp, President  
Village of Salado  
Daughters of the  
Republic of Texas,  
sponsors of  
Log Cabin Chapter  
Children of the

## Can the Democrats do religion?

Howard Dean rolled into red-state Tennessee during Holy Week and promptly quoted Scripture twice. While Billy Graham shouldn't yet worry about being eclipsed by the Democratic National Committee chairman, Dean is an aggressive participant in a partywide attempt in the wake of the 2004 elections to, as they say in the revival meetings, "get right with God."

There is much good in this: The Democrats need to demonstrate greater openness to religion, and in the past, faith has informed great liberal causes, including the civil-rights movement. But there has been a fumbling quality to the Democrats' recent grappling with religion, bringing to mind the old Casey Stengel complaint about his hapless New York Mets: "Can't anyone here play this game?"

Dean, who used to be famously uncomfortable talking about religion, is trying his best. But the effort behind his trying shows, which gives his religious references an off-key feel. A few weeks ago Dean compared Republicans to the rules-obsessed Pharisees and the Sadducees, pretty deep biblical allusions for someone who not too long ago thought the Book of Job was in the New Testament. You can imagine the briefing for Dean prior to this statement: "Mr. Chairman, it's pronounced -- now repeat after me --- 'sad'-ue-seez, sad'-ue-seez.' Got it?"

Democrats oddly tend to go too far, overadjusting, when they do God talk. In his desperation to invoke religion toward the end of the 2004 campaign, John Kerry compared George Bush to a "false prophet" from the Bible, a harsh charge given that false prophets could be stoned or crucified.

The theorist of the new Democratic religious offensive is liberal evangelist Jim Wallis, author of the book "God's Politics." Wallis is an over-reacher himself, arguing that biblical verses directly

## Rich Lowry



mandate certain public policies. He suggests that a few lines in Isaiah, for instance, mean that we should only cut international trade deals that include the labor and environmental strictures demanded by trade unions. Who knew that four out of five biblical prophets oppose NAFTA?

Wallis reminds us that Jesus wasn't "pro-rich," and extrapolates from that that Christians must support higher taxes. Now, the New Testament obviously enjoins us to care for the poor. But what mix of policies is best suited to do that is a practical question. Conservatives happen to think everyone is best served by a low-tax, high-growth economy and by social policies -- e.g., welfare reform -- that encourage the inner-city poor to work and marry.

To pretend that this mix of policies is forbidden by Christ is a frank abuse of religion. We can draw from the New Testament broad principles -- value human life, care for the poor, create a free and just society -- but we don't receive guidance about how to handle capital business expenses in the tax code. Jesus didn't work at the Brookings Institution.

Besides, teasing strict rules for public policy from the Good Book bears at least a little resemblance to the rules-bound errors of the Pharisees and Sadducees. And we know how much Chairman Dean abhors them.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2005 by King Features Synd., Inc.

## Lawmaker's "fuzzy math" budget; DeLay's decline; "Claytie The Mouth" are today's headliners

The Texas House and Senate appear to be having "fuzzy math" problems these days, as they tie up loose ends of their separate biennial budget proposals - neither one of which has a chance of passing intact, and will be unrecognizable when the conference committee gets through cutting and splicing the \$137.5 billion spending bill. **A plan that lacks sufficient revenue to balance income and expenses - which is required by the state constitution.**

One of the systemic problems associated with any budgetary proposal created by the Legislature, is the feeling on the part of those contriving the numbers, that no one will uncover the faulty logic behind their calculations - including those who blindly vote (as directed) at third and final reading.

Two examples should help prove the point. The first is found in the education reform package that plowed through the Senate last week titled "CS-HB2" (the upper house substitute for House Bill 2). The item in question, destined to create boisterous debate by lawmakers and unhappy voters, resurrects the Statewide Property Tax (killed in 1968). This hated tax plays a critical role in the Senate's attempt to "replace" (dollar-wise) the cut in school property taxes for Maintenance and Operation.

CS-HB2 calls for the reduction of M&O from \$1.50 to \$1.00 and offsetting it with a one dollar statewide tax on each \$100 in property values.

Now, unless this writer's grade school arithmetic rules have changed - giving taxpayers a fifty cent break in one tax, while creating a new \$1.00 tax - should leave us with a fifty cent loss. Even the "mathematically challenged" can spot this "shifty" increase in taxation (statewide we're talking billions).

### HOUSE ALSO HAS MATH PROBLEMS

Over on the House side of the rotunda, it's apparent Speaker Tom Craddick and his budgeteers, are aiding and abetting Governor Rick (Crazy Hair) Perry in a fiscal "flim-flam" that will continue the employment of two private lobbying firms.

Texas actually has a State "lobby" staff - all state employees. It's the Office of State-Federal Relations (based in Washington) and reports to Perry, Craddick and Lt. Governor Dewhurst.

This started last session with Perry - whose abacus must have broken a bead or two, as he forced his "personal" notion of "revenue neutral" items into the 2003-5 budget. What the Guv demanded (in 2003) was \$360,000 to pay Washington lobbyists to represent Texas before Congress (an amount which has reappeared in the 2005-7 budget plan).

Perry's pretext (his "revenue neutral" smoke-screen) to justify hiring the lobbyists - as told to a somewhat reluctant Craddick, was to cut ten workers from the D.C. office at a savings of \$200,000, which would then "offset" the lobbyist's contract.

Did you catch that outlandish "shell game" maneuver? If your budget adds \$360 thousand, while cutting \$200 thousand - are you not going to end up short? By \$160,000? Or, is this just another Persian Bazaar "special," coupled to a "sweetheart deal" for special friends?

### BYE, BYE DELAY - WE HOPE

Tom DeLay, Texas' contribution to Congress - who also serves as House Majority Leader to that "sometimes" venerated institution, is about to become an embarrassment to the Grand Old Party in general, and his Congressional District 22 in particular.

Rumor has it that DeLay, a former

## Off the Record

by Ken Clapp



bug exterminator, is doing a splendid job of "bugging" House Speaker Dennis Hastert; various and sundry lower chamber "leaders"; President Bush, Veep Cheney, and their generally inept West Wing gang.

Polls in DeLay's district show hazardous declines in the bully's popularity that once ranged in the 90 percentiles (before he began climbing over the bodies of both Democrats and fellow GOPers). Regardless, part of the warm fuzzy feeling constituents have had for him is the "Bacon he brought home to District 22" (this column prefers the more endearing term "reelection insurance").

DeLay's stock finally dropped (back home) to an all time low last week when only 39 percent said they would continue supporting their "pork provider."

This downward trend hit bottom after DeLay entered the Terri Schiavo case, and with typical self promotion and arrogance, sought federal judicial intervention to continue the life-support system for Mrs. Schiavo. When that failed, the vindictive DeLay immediately wanted to punish the federal judges who refused to change their decisions.

DeLay said his district agreed with him, however a poll indicated half his supporters felt he interfered not for "moral" reasons (as he claimed), but for political gain!

### ON TARGET QUOTE

We were handed a "perfect" DeLay quote last week, that wraps up the general feeling his political colleagues (both GOP & Demo) have towards this giant-ego on the prowl. He was once told he couldn't smoke his cigar in a no-smoking area. "It's federal law," someone said. He quickly retorted: "I am the federal law!"

### BIG MOUTH "CLAYTIE" BACK IN NEWS - WHY?

Remember Clayton Williams? Wealthy Dallas and West Texas oil entrepreneur? Ran for Governor against Ann Richards in 1990 and defeated himself with an uncontrollably big mouth!

Fact is Richards was trailing badly going into the closing days of that campaign, when "Claytie" shot himself in both feet (alternating between having them in his mouth). He was joking with reporters and for some unknown reason, compared bad weather with rape. His comment: "As long as it's inevitable, you might as well lie back and enjoy it." That finished him and Richards won handily.

### WILLIAMS TO BANKROLL PERRY

Reason for bringing this GOP calamity back to life, was word from conservative columnist Robert Novak, that Clayton Williams has "vowed to stop Senator Kay Hutchison if she runs (as expected) against Governor Rick Perry next year."

Williams reportedly said that if Kay Hutchison opposes Perry for the Governor's job, he will contribute whatever money is necessary to help "Reluctant Rick" win the Republican primary!

Question immediately arises - "What does Claytie owe Perry?" Or better yet - "What does Perry owe Claytie?" And where are the pictures?

What we do know is that if Clayton Williams is backing Perry - bet on Hutchison!

That's -30- (Contact Ken Clapp at kclapp@saladovillagevoice.com)

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# Texas budgets more money for education and other top priorities

## Capitol Update

by State Representative Dianne White Delisi



The Texas House of Representatives recently passed its version of the biennial state budget, which will now go to a conference committee to work out differences between what my chamber passed and what the Senate adopted. The House version of the budget provides some pretty clear insights into the improving financial picture between the current legislative session and the one we faced two years ago.

Last session the Texas Legislature endured some very tough budgeting challenges in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorists attacks. Our economic engine was slowed, which dampened available revenues. The challenge was to fund just the essentials without creating a host of new taxes that could depress the economic recovery. It

The good news in 2005 is that a steadily reviving economy has made things a little easier for the Capitol's budget writers. However, while the available revenue is larger, it still doesn't mean there are lots of extra dollars just laying around to spend on anything that sounds good. We established clear funding priorities and I am very pleased with where our budget targets the additional revenues.

It is proposed that Texas spend a total of \$137.5 billion over the next two years from all sources of funding. Roughly half of this amount (\$65.9 billion) is from general revenue, or the money from Texas taxpayers that is spent on general government programs.

It is notable that the new budget directs 94 cents of every dollar of state general revenue to just three main priorities: education, health care, and public safety.

At the very top of my personal list for more funding was public education. I am pleased to report that under the House budget plan there is a total of \$5.2 billion more available for educating Texans. This represents better than a 15 percent increase over the last biennium. This new money

will fund everything from educator salary increases to better textbooks.

Next up was improving access to health care for the needy. Some of the highlights here included the restoration of dental, vision, and hospice services for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). The budget also funds an increase in the scope of our vaccination programs and enhances the state's newborn disease screening system.

Another major health and safety improvement is that the new budget reserves an additional \$300 million for improving child and adult protective services. This will clearly help our most vulnerable Texans.

This budget also contains a 5.4 percent increase in general revenue funding for public safety and criminal justice.

Another big concern for me was more money for transportation and this also sees improvement. The state will see an additional \$1.2 billion in federal transportation funding under this proposed budget.

Another item of special note is that this new budget contains roughly \$1.7 billion in savings in our general revenue fund due to performance improvements and efficiency gains. Simply put, the taxpayers of Texas will get more for their dollars under this new budget because we are stretching these resources further.

I was pleased to help out here, as one of my bills (HB 417) will save the state \$4.5 million regarding state employee health care benefits - while actually improving their benefit options.

In conclusion, I think we are well on the way to a budget that really focuses our dollars on the things that matter in District 55. My constituents want their tax dollars to go to educating our children, helping out those who need access to health care the most, and protecting us all against crime - and this budget is built upon the foundation of these three items.

YOU CONVINCED ME TO KEEP MY MOTHER ALIVE WHILE YOU CUT HER MEDICARE, FORCING ME TO TAKE ON THAT EXTRA FINANCIAL BURDEN... NOW THE CREDITORS ARE AFTER ME AND I HAVE NO WAY OF GETTING OUT FROM UNDER THIS DEBT...



## Lady Bears' NCAA championship win demonstrates the value of women's sports

During the NCAA women's basketball championship, I was cheering for Baylor University's Lady Bears. They defeated the tough Michigan State University Spartan team 84-62 to win their first NCAA national basketball title with the second-highest margin of victory in a woman's NCAA title game ever.

In five years, Coach Kim Mulkey-Robertson took a team from a 7-20 record to the pinnacle of women's collegiate competition. Both she and her team have made Baylor, Waco and all of Texas very proud.

Baylor's success was built on hard work, commitment and sacrifice. They were able to take setbacks, such as last year's loss to Tennessee in the Sweet 16 round of the NCAA tournament, to galvanize their play. Coach Mulkey-Robertson and her players rebounded from that disappointment to win this year's national championship.

The Lady Bears are part of a trend toward more female participation in organized sports.

In 1971, there were only 325,000 women in high school varsity sports throughout the United States. Today there are 2.5 million. Before 1971, 32,000 women participated in college sports; today that number exceeds 150,000. Women's high school, college and professional sports are drawing increasing numbers of fans. Women professional athletes are celebrities whose achievements are enjoyed by all Americans.

Texas has long been fertile ground for talented female athletes. Beaumont's Babe Didrikson Zaharias was the premier female athlete of her era, dominating the Olympics in track and field and later in professional golf. She stunned the athletic world on July 16, 1932,

## Capitol Comment

Kay Bailey Hutchison U.S. Senator



with her performance at the national amateur track meet for women in Evanston, Illinois. Mrs. Zaharias entered the meet as the sole member of her team and by herself won the national women's team championship by scoring 30 points.

Recent Texas female athletes include gymnast Carly Patterson of Allen, who won the coveted gold medal for the all-around competition at the 2004 Olympics. She is only the second female gymnast from the USA to do this; Mary Lou Retton, of Houston, was the first, 20 years ago.

Texas women compete in professional sports ranging from golf and tennis to the bruising world of professional rodeo. Three Texas women are at the top of the National Cutting Horse Association's pyramid in terms of titles and earnings.

The new athletic opportunities for young women are welcomed by many leaders including Lynne Cheney, chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities from 1986 to 1993, and wife of Vice President Dick Cheney. "Sports are good for women because it teaches you how to play hurt," she said. "Women sometimes think if you get knocked down, either literally or figuratively, you go into your room and cry. But what you learn in sports is that if you get knocked down, you get back up and try to get that ball in the net the next time."

When I was writing my book, *American Heroines: The Spirited Women Who Shaped Our Country*, Mrs. Cheney confided that her teen sports options were limited, so she took

up baton twirling. The competition and drill required for baton twirling provided many of the same lessons you learn in sports, she said.

The importance of organized sports was proven in a study which found:

- Girls who participate in sports have higher levels of confidence, stronger self-images and lower levels of depression;
- Girls who participate

are more likely to graduate from high school and get better grades;

- Sports prepare girls to be successful in the workplace by giving them the opportunity to learn about teamwork, goal-setting and the pursuit of excellence in performance. It is no accident that 80 percent of the female executives at Fortune 500 companies identified themselves as having played sports;
- Women who continue to exercise lower their risk of breast cancer and osteoporosis.

While all of us may not be natural athletes, and have other talents and abilities we should cultivate, we can benefit from increasing our level of physical activity. Research shows we benefit at all ages from even moderate exercise such as walking.

We can also benefit from the lessons taught by Coach Mulkey-Robertson and the Lady Bears when they won the NCAA basketball championship. They demonstrated that we can all bounce back from defeat and achieve our goals through perseverance, tenacity and determination.

Hats off to Baylor's Lady Bears!

## Amazing -hands-on CEO's now know nothing



Jim Hightower

Oh, cruel fate! Have pity on the poor CEOs of CorporateWorld. One day they're strutting peacocks...the next day, they're feather dusters.

Several CEOs who've recently had their plumage plucked are in the news again - this time facing trial for various levels of fraud. Kenneth Lay of Enron, Dennis Kozlowski of Tyco, Bernie Ebbers of WorldCom, Richard Scrushy of HealthSouth, and Walter Forbes of CUC International are among the former CEOs who once were heralded in business magazines, management books, and the popular media as giants, geniuses, and gurus - the gods of corporate success.

Only a couple of years ago, these gentlemen of the executive suite were giving lectures on how to run a modern corporation. Now they're in the dock. Not only have these "gods" tumbled from the heights - but their legal defense is that they were misled by their corporations and knew nothing about the multibillion-dollar heists taking place on their watch.

It's the dummy defense. Lay, for example, now says that, golly, while he once took credit for Enron's success, he really can't be responsible for its collapse, since he wasn't involved in the details of corporate management. Likewise, Walter Forbes says he was uninvolved in CUC's day-to-day operations, because as CEO he had his head in the clouds, focusing on "the strategy vision part." The same with Ebbers - WorldCom's hot-shot chief asserts that he knew nothing about the \$11 billion insider fraud that devoured his company, for he left all the arithmetic to his financial people - even though he has previously claimed credit for being a hands-on financial detail man who made WorldCom a success.

Odd that these guys who raked in the big bucks for being in charge, now claim to have been management dummies and victims of conniving underlings. Odder yet, not one of them offers to give back the loot they took while claiming to be corporate geniuses.

# CHURCH NEWS

**First Baptist Church • Main St. at the Creek**

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

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<b>Sunday School</b>	10:00
<b>Sunday Night Youth Group</b>	6:00

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John Warden Pastor  
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**Worship Schedule**

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

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Rev. Carl Thompson, Pastor

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

**Sunday Morning Service • April 17, 2005**



**Joe Keyes**  
Minister

Jesus spoke on today's issue almost more than any other, yet today we are more hesitant to get into it. He is the one who is quoted later by the apostle Paul: "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). How can we have such a "hands off" view of stewardship, when Jesus modeled is to sacrificially? What the church needs now is self-giving stewardship.

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Bible Class • 9 a.m.    Worship • 10 a.m.  
Evening Worship • 6 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
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SHERRY JACKSON  
JAMES AND MONA JACKSON  
JOHN, AMY, AND BRADLEY NIETO

## Tenth annual Gospel Fest held at Tablerock Amphitheater April 23-24

The 10th Annual Tablerock Gospel Festival will be held April 23-24 at Tablerock Amphitheater, located on Royal Street. Grounds will be open 10 a.m.-9 p.m. April 23 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. April 24. In addition, a Sunday church service, led by

Rev. J. Floyd Franks, will be held 11 a.m. April 24. Admission is set for \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under, and \$7 for a weekend pass. Among the more than two dozen groups and soloists performing include The Messenger Quartet,

The Cedar Valley Singers, Herring, Bluegrass and Snow, The New Direction Quartet and Circle of Faith, and many others. In the event of inclement weather, the Gospel Fest will be held in the commons at Salado Intermediate School.

## St. Stephen Women's Society installs new officers May 15

At their April 11 meeting, the St. Stephen Women's Society elected new officers for the June 2005 to May 2006 pro-

gram year. Mark Klym discussed "Attracting Hummingbirds to Your Yard" during the final meeting of the program year for the Women's Society.

Father Charles Davis will install new officers 11 a.m. May 15 at St. Stephen's Church. A Mass and Communion Breakfast will celebrate the Society's goals of service. The Breakfast will be planned and served by the Senior Youth Group with sponsors, Cathy and Wayne Cleveland.

New Officers will be President: Joyce Dobias of Holland, Vice-President: Dorothy Dentry,

Treasurer: Nancy Bell and Secretary: Erica Cloud, all of Salado.

The Annual Fellowship Pot Luck Luncheon will be at the home of Emmy Alvarez at noon May 21.

All women of the Parish are invited to attend this luncheon and enjoy the get-together.

The St. Stephen Senior Youth Group is also sponsoring and decorating for the April 24. Hospitality Sunday Dinner with the KC's providing the entree and the Women's Society the side dishes. This is a combined effort to invite all parish members to spend time in fellowship sharing a meal prepared especially for them.

## Teacup Tuesday held at First Baptist

The Women's Ministry Opportunities at the First Baptist Church will hold Teacup Tuesday 9:30 a.m. April 18 at the fellowship hall.

Owner of Ambrosia Team Room, Jane Voigt will give a presentation on how to brew a cup of tea and make scones.

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### Speaker shares history of Ronald McDonald House

The Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary will meet April 14 at the Salado Civic Center. The social will be held at 9:30 a.m. and the meeting will begin at 10 a.m. Guests are welcome to attend.

Featured speaker will be Susan Bolton, executive director of the Temple Ronald McDonald House. Bolton, a native of Temple, graduated from Southwestern University in 1977. She will speak on the history of the Temple Ronald McDonald House, current programs, and how individuals can be involved.

The Ronald McDonald House provides a home-away-from-home for families of seriously ill children who are receiving treatment at nearby hospitals. Some children must travel great distances to get the medical attention they need. In-hospital treatment may last one day, one year, or even longer. Accommodations are often limited to costly hotels or unforgiving hospital chairs and benches.

The Ronald McDonald House provides a comfortable and supportive alternative for these families. In return, families are asked to make a donation ranging from \$5 to \$20 per day. If that isn't possible, their stay is free.

### Military officers meet April 15 at CTC cafeteria

The Central Texas Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) will meet 11:30 a.m. April 15 in the Central Texas College Cafeteria, Bldg. 106. The Officer's Club - the normal meeting spot for the MOAA - will not be available April 15.

A chapter MOAA board meeting will be held at 11 a.m., and the program will begin at noon.

The 30-minute program is entitled "Shangri-La Revisited - Our Visits to the Catoctin Mountain Hideaway," given by JoAnne and Col. Gene Wentworth. It is a synopsis of the visits the couple made to the Presidential Retreat at Camp David while their daughter and son-in-law were stationed there. The son-in-law was Navy Lt. Sam Werschky, who was assigned as the Camp Facilities Engineer on the President's Staff.

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Josh Jacobson completes a vault on his way to a first place finish at the Salado Relays. (PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)

## Robinson blocks Lady Eagles' path to Salado Relays win

If it weren't for Robinson, the Lady Eagles tracksters would have even more top finishes to their credit than they already boast.

As it stands, though, recent meets have featured Salado and Class 3A Robinson in the same field, with the Lady Eagles coming up short each time.

That trend continued in the April 7 Salado Relays, as the Lady Eagles put together 144 total points, but still couldn't catch Robinson. No one else in the meet had more than 78 points.

The Varsity boys, for

their part, finished third, behind Robinson and another Class 3A school - Lorena.

### Varsity Girls

Pole vault: Denise Jasso, first, 9'6"; Leigh Martin, second, 9'; Tamra Stanish, third, 7'6";

High jump: Molly Rooney, second, 5'2";

Long jump: Valerie Clark, fourth, 16'; Martin, sixth, 15'3.75";

Triple jump: Rooney, third, 33'; Martin, sixth, 31'6.5";

Shot put: Mary Runyon, third, 31'5.5";

Discus: Lauren Haire, fourth, 86'10.5";

3200m: Chelsea Ervi, first, 12:34.99;

400m relay: Salado (Clark, Brittani Goodnight, Shae Janda, Kelsey Smith), second, 52.35;

800m run: Martin, third, 2:32.96;

100m dash: Shae Janda, fourth, 13.56;

800m relay: Salado (Janda, Smith, Gilcrest, Jasso), third, 1:53.47;

300m hurdles: Rooney, second, 49.52; Kacee Ashcraft, sixth, 53.00;

200m dash: Clark, third, 27.45;

1600m run: Ervi, second, 5:26.11;

1600m relay: Salado, second, 4:13.03.

### Varsity Boys

Pole vault: Josh Jacobson, first, 13'6"; Josh Shaw, fourth, 11'6"; Bryan Fetterman, sixth, 10'6";


High jump: Fetterman, sixth, 5'6";

Long jump: Chance Coe, fifth, 19'3.75"; Tucker Wilhite, sixth, 18'2";

CONTINUED ON 8A

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# Lady Eagles ousted from contention

Coach Doug Harrigan's Salado softballers will be playing the role of spoilers for the remainder of the season. An 8-2 loss to Lexington April 11 mathematically eliminated the Lady Eagles from playoff contention. At 5-6 in the district standings, the girls can only hope now to make life difficult for some other team.

Fielding miscues tell the story of this one. Salado committed six errors, including three charged to the infield in a three-run Lexington third.

Lexington was the first to strike in the game, pushing across two runs in the top of the second - aided by a pair of Salado errors.

The Lady Eagles responded in the bottom of the second with a single run. Hitting out of the cleanup spot, Lauren Culver reached on an error and later scored on a Rachel Stemmer single, but the Salado rally ended with an infield pop-out.

The girls would not have many more opportunities after the second, as nine Lady Eagles were punched out on strikes in the next five innings.

Salado scored its final run of the game in the bottom of the seventh when Stemmer led off with a single, then stole second and third. She was brought home on a single off the bat of Larissa Ingalsbe.

Shae Janda was pegged with the loss, giving up eight hits and walking one over seven innings of work. The loss dropped the junior's season mark to 7-10 - a deceptive number. Janda has pitched well this season, but has been let down by the defense in critical situations.

Stemmer's 2-3 effort led the offense.

Before falling to Lexington, Salado had kept its playoff hopes alive by putting together a complete effort to upset Academy 6-5.

The game was scoreless until the top of the third, when a Larissa Ingalsbe single ignited a three-run inning for the Lady Eagles.

Ingalsbe's base hit was followed by an Academy error and a Rachel Blodgett sac bunt. Shae Janda then doubled, as did Lauren Culver, accounting for the trio of Salado runs.

Academy took the lead in the bottom of the fourth, with an infield boot again playing into the rally. Academy also rapped three singles and a triple in a four-run inning.

Both teams were effectively held off the bases until the seventh inning, which had Salado come-from-behind to retake the lead 6-4.

Ingalsbe was again the spark, connecting on her second single of the

game to lead off the inning. With the top of the order now coming to the plate, Heather Winters delivered a single, and Blodgett again laid down a sacrifice, while Janda and Culver clubbed back-to-back doubles for the second time in the game. Culver would reach third with only one out, but two Salado strikeouts ended the inning.

Academy staged a comeback of their own in the bottom of the seventh, plating a run thanks to a Salado error. Janda knuckled down after that, getting Jennifer Mraz to ground out with two on base, sealing the Salado win.

Janda, Culver and Ingalsbe all had two hits in the victory.

Taking on Lago Vista April 5, Salado had Mother Nature to blame just as much as the Lady Vikings, as the girls dropped a crucial district contest 4-0 in Salado.

Lago Vista had all of their runs come in the third inning, aided in large part by three Salado errors.

In the bottom of the sixth, the Lady Eagles seemed to be putting together a rally. Blodgett, Janda and Culver put together consecutive singles to start the inning, and by the time Lauren Culver drew a walk as the fourth batter of the inning, Salado had already scored once.

That's when the lightning came. With the appearance of storms in the distance, umpires called the game in the bottom of the sixth. Rules require only five innings to be completed for a game to count on the books, thus Salado was on the receiving end of some bad luck. Not even the Blodgett run in the sixth made it to the record books - as the score reverted to where it was at the end of the fifth.

Janda was the losing pitcher, although she struck out eight and gave up just two hits.

Salado is now 12-10 on the season.

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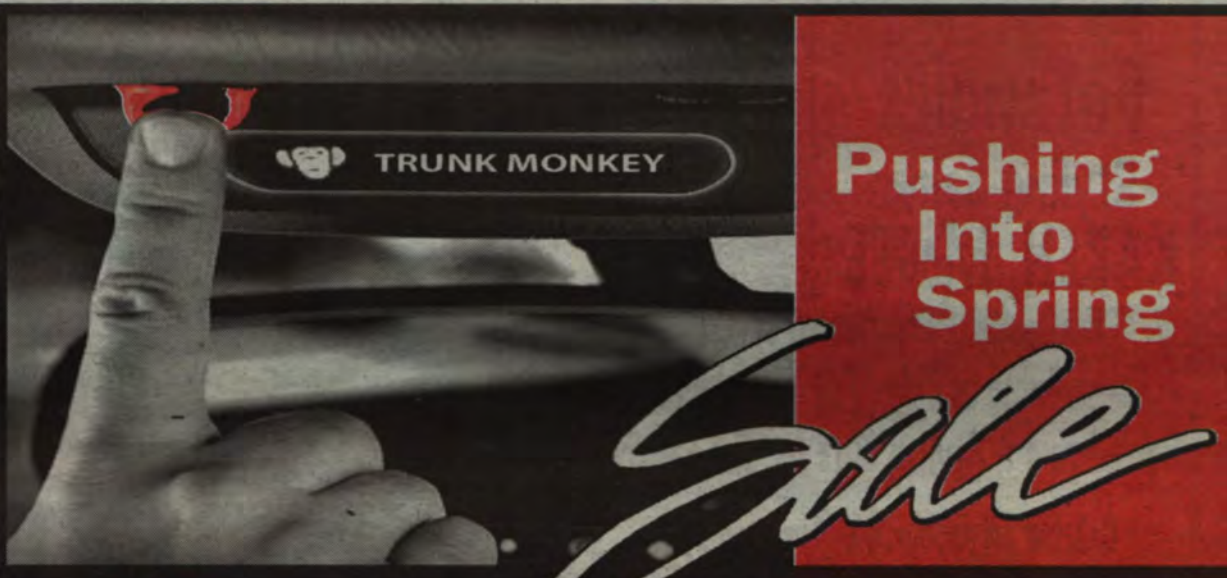
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# Eagles get big win over Academy

Wrapping up their first leg of district play a day later than scheduled due to a rainout, the Eagle hardballers hosted Lago Vista April 6.

The layoff seemed to help the Vikings, as Lago Vista used the long ball to down Salado 6-2.

Trailing 1-0 in the bottom of the first, the Eagles tied the game on a Johnny Nix homerun - his second of the year.

The Vikings added a run in the top of the fourth, but the Eagles answered with a run of their own in the bottom half. Josh Shaw got things started with an infield single, then stole second and third base. A Wes Ruth single drove in Shaw

and tied the score. Lago Vista broke the tie in the fifth with a three-run homer, then followed that with solo shot in the sixth to bring the scoring to a close.

Freshman Matt Fritsch pitched the first four innings, turning in a strong performance in allowing four hits and striking out seven.

Nix was Salado's leading hitter, going 2-3.

On April 8, the Eagles traveled to Academy knowing they might have to win out their second round of district in order to make the playoffs.

With this in mind, the Eagles turned in one of their best performances of the year.

Salado jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the fourth inning. Tanner Myers and Johnny Nix walked and were hit by a pitch, respectively, to start the inning. Myers scored on Matt Fritsch's single to left. Nix eventually scored on a passed ball.

The Eagles added another run in the fifth inning.

With Wesley Ruth aboard, Jesse Rodriguez and Myers both reached base and eventually scored on passed balls.

Academy made a comeback bid in the bottom of the seventh, using two walks, a hit batsman and two doubles to score four runs.

With the Bees rallying,

Fritsch took the mound in relief. He picked a runner off third and struck out two in the inning to seal the Salado victory.

Kevin Jackson was credited with the win, pitching four innings of scoreless ball. Jesse Rodriguez was 2-4 to lead the offense.

Salado's record now sits at 12-8 overall and 3-5 in district.

--REPORTED BY MELVIN BATES

## TRACK - FROM PAGE 6A

Triple jump: Coe, sixth, 39';

400m relay: Salado (Jacobson, Wes Ruth, Adam Patton, Coe), third, 44.83.

800m run: Nick Everett, first, 1:59.4;

100m dash: Jacobson, first, 11.22;

800m relay: Salado (Jacobson, Wilhite, Patton, Coe), second, 1:34.25;

400m dash: Justin Konzen, fifth, 54.19;

300m hurdles: Ruth, fifth, 43.99;

200m dash: Coe, second, 22.9;

1600m run: Everett, first, 4:33.03;

Shot put: Jacob Williams, fourth, 44'8";

Discus: Williams, second, 131'9";

1600m relay: Salado (Patton, Devon Dunn, Konzen, Everett), first, 3:33.08.

JV Boys

Pole vault: Collin Smith, first, 10'6"; Sterling Martin, fourth, 7'6";

High jump: Josh Marquez, first, 5'10"; Patrick Williams, second, 5'8";

Long jump: Marquez, fourth, 17'7.75"; Robbie Costancio, fifth, 17'2.75";

Triple jump: David Rosenau, sixth, 34'7.5";

Shot put: Leo Galvan, third, 37'10.25";

3200m run: Martin, fourth, 12:42.98; Clayton Sharum, sixth, 13:09.08;

400m relay: Salado (Corbitt, Leo Galvan, Misa Jaimes, Blake Hancock), third, 47.82.

800m run: Casey Cockrell, fourth, 2:22.64;

110m hurdles: Patrick Williams, second, 16.75; Blake Newman, fourth, 17.31; David Rosenau, fifth, 17.53;

100m dash: Hancock, second, 11.91;

800m relay: Salado (Corbitt, Marquez, Jaimes, Hancock), fifth, 1:44.54;

400m dash: Austin Smith, third, 56.69;

300m hurdles: Williams, first, 43.71; Newman, second, 44.97; Rosenau, fourth, 45.10;

1600m relay: Salado (Brandon Peters, Williams, Newman, Smith), third, 3:47.80.



Standout Salado point guard Matt Caskey inked his commitment to play basketball at Temple College April 8. He is pictured with Salado basketball coach Tom Long at left, and TC head coach Kirby Johnson, at right. Caskey will join one of the premier junior college programs in the nation. TC recently completed a perfect 30-0 regular season, and earned its eighth national scoring title. Matt is the son of Johnnie and Ruth Caskey.

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## Kemp takes third place in county spelling bee

Salado seventh-grade student Haley Kemp captured the third place slot in the 74th Annual Bell County Spelling Bee held April 9 at Bonham Middle School in Temple.

Other members of the Salado spelling team include eighth-grade student Jonathan Spinks and sixth-grade student Courtney Lavadia. All three students attend Salado Intermediate School and were coached for the spelling bee by Charla Kelley.

Salado Intermediate School students have

participated in the spelling bee for the past three years, but this is the first year anyone from the team has placed in the top three.

Members of the Salado spelling team successfully spelled words such as "authentic, opinion, bivouac, and euphonium" in order to remain in the competition.

The first- and second-place awards went to Rebecca Dias from St. Mary's School in Temple, and Ian Wardlow from Belton Christian Academy, respectively.



Spelling coach Charla Kelley with Haley Kemp

## Writers retreat held as part of annual Literary Festival

A retreat with Dr. Ramon Carver for writers of novels, screenplays, stage plays, short stories, and discursive texts will be held as part of the annual Judy and A.C. Greene Literary Festival.

Participants can spend a weekend in Salado, writing and revising scripts to be performed during the Judy and A. C. Greene Literary Festival by local talent. Ramon Carver is director and manager of the Greene Festival.

He is a graduate of Paul Baker's Baylor Theatre and the Yale School of Drama, where his play, *Take Care Y'self* was produced, winning the Samuel French National Playwriting Award. His plays have been produced Off-Broadway, *Ain't Nobody Loves You Like a Mama but Your Mama Till She Dies*, and in Los Angeles, *Catch As Catch Can*, San Francisco, *A Little Love & Affection*, Salado, *How to Write Your Own Obit*, and elsewhere. He's also a performer.

Carver has directed events produced at Washington's Kennedy Center,

and he staged six student-original full-length plays which were presented at regional festivals for the American College Theatre Festival. He taught at Angelo State University for over 30 years as resident playwright and director of the University Theatre, winning the first annual "Best in the State" award from the Texas Arts Alliance.

At present and for the past 10 years, he has resided with Barbara Pemberton in Salado where he directs for the Living Room Theatre, producing original scripts exclusively.

To register for the retreat call 512-499-8914. The price is \$199 for members of Writers League of Texas and \$244 for non-members.

For all retreats food, travel and lodging are not included. Retreat participants should book their own accommodations in advance.

Salado and Bell County residents may contact Carver at 13carver@earthlink.net for additional information.

## Tennis camps offered by Coach Hyer

Melissa Hyer, Salado tennis coach, will conduct a tennis camp for first graders through seniors April 18-20 at the Stagecoach Inn tennis courts.

The camp will be divided into two sessions, with first through fifth graders meeting 3:45-4:30 p.m. daily, while sixth graders and higher will have camp 4:30-5:30 p.m. Cost for the first session is \$20, while the cost for the second session is set at \$35.

In addition, from June 6-9, Hyer will lead a Summer Tennis Clinic, also at the Stagecoach courts. In this clinic, grades one through five will meet 8-9 a.m. and grades sixth through 12 will meet 9-10:30

a.m. Cost for the younger campers is \$35, while \$45 will cover costs for older campers.

For more information about the camp or the clinic, contact Hyer at 947-6900, ext. 2075.



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**Salado School Menus**

**Mon.- Fri., April 18-April 22**

**Lunch Thomas Arnold Elementary**

April 18: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes w/gravy, garlic bread, peas and carrots, chef salad, hoagie, pineapple, milk.

April 19: Chopped BBQ on bun, chef salad, hoagie, ranch style beans, fresh fruit, milk.

April 20: Pizza, yogurt and fruit plate, hoagie, corn, breadstick, peaches, milk.

April 21: Spaghetti and meat sauce, hoagie, chef salad, green beans, hot rolls, fresh fruit, milk.

April 22: Cheeseburger, chef salad, hoagie, burger salad, oven fries, fruity freeze, milk.

**Lunch Salado Intermediate & High Schools**

April 18: Soft tacos, corn dogs, pizza, chef salad, tater tots, milk, fresh fruit, corn, pears, green beans, burger salad.

April 19: Fish strips, hamburger, pizza, chef salad, baked potato, rolls, mashed potatoes w/gravy, frito lay, fresh fruit, corn, green beans, pineapple tidbits, milk.

April 20: Pizza, chicken fried steak sandwich, chef salad, roasted red potatoes, baked potato, burger salad, corn, fresh fruit, breadstick, peaches, milk.

April 21: Spaghetti and meat sauce, nachos, pizza, chef salad, peas and carrots, Texas toast, corn, fresh fruit, mixed fruit, milk, oven fries.

April 22: Hamburger, chopped BBQ on bun, pizza, chef salad, pinto beans, fresh fruit, apple slices, burger salad, oven fries, milk.

**Breakfast Menu Both Campuses:**

April 18: Breakfast on a stick

April 19: French toast

April 20: Biscuit, sausage patty

April 21: Sausage rolls

April 22: Bagel and cream cheese

Every day: Assorted dry cereals, white toast, fresh fruitjuice, choice of milk, jelly pc

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# Tax-smart moves for 2005 and beyond



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Now that tax season is coming to an end, you may want to review your returns for opportunities to brighten your tax picture for next year. Specifically, are you paying too heavy a load on your investment income?

If so, you may want to explore some "tax-smart" moves for 2005 and future years. Consider these techniques: Tax-deferred investing, tax-free investing and tax-efficient investing. Let's take a look at all three.

#### Tax-deferred investing

When you invest in a tax-deferred vehicle, you pay no taxes on your earnings until you start taking withdrawals (withdrawals prior to 59 1/2 may be subject to a 10 percent penalty), so your money can grow faster than it would if placed in an investment on which you paid taxes every year. You have several tax-deferred options available, including the following:

\* 401(k) - It's almost always a good idea to

## Financial Focus

by Allen Mantanona



contribute as much as you can afford to your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. (In 2005, you can put in up to \$14,000 to your 401(k), or \$18,000 if you're 50 or older.) Your contributions are made with "pre-tax" dollars, so, the more you put in, the more you'll be able to reduce your adjusted gross income. And, of course, you get the benefit of tax-deferred earnings growth. Plus, your employer may match part of your contributions.

\* Traditional IRA - In 2005, you can put in up to \$4,000 to a traditional IRA, or \$4,500 if you're 50 or older. Depending on your income level, your contributions may be tax deductible, but your earnings will always grow on a tax-deferred basis. Plus,

you can fund your IRA with virtually any investment you choose: stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, government securities, etc.

#### Tax-free investing

One way to help reduce your investment taxes is to avoid paying taxes through municipal bonds and the Roth IRA.

\* Municipal bonds - When you invest in municipal bonds, your interest payments are exempt from federal taxes - and possibly state and local taxes, as well. (However, municipal bonds may be subject to the alternative minimum tax.)

\* Roth IRAs - Your Roth IRA earnings grow tax-free as long as you've had your account for at least five years and you don't begin making with-

drawals until you're 59 1/2. Roth IRA contribution limits are the same as those for the traditional IRA, but certain income limits apply.

#### Tax-efficient investing

\* "Buy-and-hold" - Income taxes aren't the only types of taxes associated with investing; you may also have to pay capital gains taxes. That's why it makes sense to be a "buy and hold" investor. If you hold your stocks for more than one year before selling them, then your gains will only be subject to a maximum capital gains rate of 15 percent (effective through Dec. 31, 2008). But if you sell your stocks within a year of buying them, then your gains will be taxed at your ordinary income tax rate. Start thinking "tax smart"

To see if the ideas mentioned above are suitable for your individual needs, consult with your investment and tax advisers. The quicker you start making tax-smart investments, the better your results will be.



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## Pop test time Buying and Selling

by Ryan Hodge

There are always plenty of questions to ask before selling your home, but if you're planning to try to sell on your own, here are the most important questions to start with.

How will you price your home? It takes detailed research and knowledge of market trends to arrive at a fair price. You don't want to cheat yourself out of receiving the full value of your home, but you don't want to overprice

and drive away serious buyers who will compare your home's value against similar ones on the market. A Comparative Market Analysis conducted by a professional agent is your best bet for formulating the perfect asking price.

Once you've priced your home, how will you attract those buyers? It takes more than ads, "For Sale By Owner" signs, and open houses to promote your home to the right prospects. The best exposure will come from the Multiple Listing Service, where all realty professionals will find it, and alert their ready-and-waiting throng of buyers. But without representation, you won't have access to it.

Once you've got an offer, will you be able to handle all the paperwork to insure legally binding contracts and a smooth closing? Consider legal documentation, inspection reports, appraisals, bank financing and so much more.

One last question: Doesn't it make sense to let a professional handle your real estate transaction?

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## Diabetes and weight management topic presented by Dr. Giebel to GOP women

Dr. Shelly Giebel, of Scott and White's Women's Program, will be presenting a program on diabetes and weight management 11:30 a.m. April 28 at a luncheon meeting of the Salado Area Republican Women.

Dr. Giebel has published

many articles and is board certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology, having been featured on the Fox News network and the A&E television network. She is an advocate of the doctor/patient relationship and is involved in restoring consumer driven health

care.

She was featured in *The Best Medicine* book as one of 25 outstanding medical doctors in America in 2000. Also noteworthy is the fact that Giebel was a torch bearer for the 2002 Salt Lake Olympics.

Giebel completed her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine after receiving her medical degree from

Texas A&M University College of Medicine. She is married to a physician, Dr. Dan Giebel, and they have two children.

The Republican Women's meeting will be held at Mill Creek Inn. A salad lunch will be provided for \$10, but reservations must be in by noon, April 22, to Barclay McCort, 947-3617 or bam002@earthlink.net.

## Village Artists work on quilts for troops

A sewing session, led by Helen Alexander, will be held 1 p.m. April 18 at the Salado Village Artists building, just behind the Salado Civic Center.

Sewers are needed to help construct small, 18-inch machine sewn quilts to send as "Autograph

Quilts" to American troops serving in Iraq. This project requires only simple sewing. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information call Bobbie Reihsen at 947-3901.

## Concert Gigs continue May 14 in Belton

The next Concert Gigs in Private Digs performance has been scheduled for 7:30 p.m. May 14, at the home of Bob and Deborah Shafer, in Belton.

The duo of Denise Thomssen and Esta Hansen will perform, along with Dawn Biega, cellist. The focus of music this

time is "Dance Type."

There will be a free will offering at the door, with all proceeds benefitting the Peaceable Kingdom Retreat. A reception will follow the hour concert.

For more information contact Thomssen at 254-760-1590, or email thomssen@vvm.com.

## Fiddler on the Roof presented by Holy Trinity

Temple's Holy Trinity Catholic High School will stage a production of *Fiddler on the Roof* for a three-night run, April 22-24 at the UMHB Chapel. The curtain will go up at 7:30 p.m. each night.

A simple story of one family's struggle between tradition and progress in a troubled era of anti-Semitic Tsarist rule, *Fiddler on the Roof* has stood the test of time because of its enduring relevance to current issues and events.

Most modern families can identify with many of the conflicts embodied by Tevye's family.

The upcoming production marks just the third undertaken by Holy Trinity's Musical Theatre department, and well over two-thirds of the school's student body is engaged in the show in some facet.

For ticket information or email fiddler@holytrinitychs.org. Prices range from \$10 to \$15.

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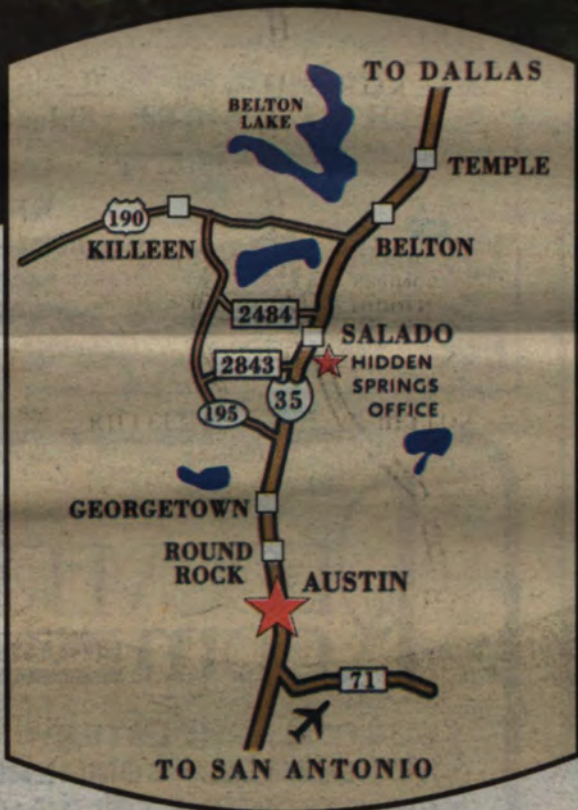
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Section C **Salado Village Voice Marketplace Classifieds**

April 14, 2005

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MORE CLASSIFIEDS ON PAGE 2C



Warmth and charm on a large treed lot w/sprinklers. Built-ins desk/china cabinet, entertainment centers, work bench and cabinets in garage. 4th BR can be study. Living room has large windows and fireplace. Large pantry. Romantic sitting room in master bedroom. Formal dining room and breakfast nook. 4BR/2 1/2 BA. \$212,500.



Yes, you can afford Mill Creek! Updated Austin stone home on large corner lot. Huge fenced backyard with two patios. Two living areas and two dining areas. Separate utility room. Attached two car garage. 3BR/2BA. \$146,000.

Pick a rose out of the Yellow Rose subdivision! Large 1/2-acre lot. Spacious living room with fireplace, neutral colors and wide open rooms. Great entry with dining room and breakfast nook. Outstanding master bedroom with large closet with built-in cabinet. 4 BR/2 BR. \$205,000.

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Mary Kite, TerryLynn Schrimsher, Peggy Bush & Lynette Walker



Affordable and recently remodeled. Minutes to the lake! This lovely Salado country home is nestled in live oak trees on a one-half acre lot. Metal roof, storage building, wood-burning stove, large utility room. Home has new tile, carpet, paint and kitchen appliances. 3 BR/2BA. \$110,000

On the golf course! Great room living area is open with fireplace and tile. Granite kitchen countertops; breakfast nook, formal dining room with hardwood floors. Fully landscaped; sprinkler system; decorator colors; and custom shutters are a plus! 4BR 2-1/2 BA \$264,900

Mill Creek WOW! Huge 5 BR/3BA, 15ft. ceiling in LR, formal DR and breakfast nook, stone fireplace, storage for 2 golf carts. \$189,900.

Large corner lot in Morgan's Point Country living in established subdivision. Feed the deer from your front porch. Fenced backyard with covered patio. 3 BR/2BA, \$89,900.

## Real Estate Consulting

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- Subdivision Developer
- Residential Home Builder
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**Peggy M. Bush**  
Realtor

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Salado, TX 76571  
Mobile: 254/624-4070  
Office: 254/947-0342

PeggyMBush@hotmail.com  
www.templesource/VillageRealty

3/10tfnb

**Homes For Sale**

Absolutely beautiful house on over 17 acres with small creek. Lots of Pecan Trees and Live Oak trees. It is a must-see! Reduced to \$349,900. House and 6 acres just \$269,900. Call First Texas Brokerage (254) 947-5577.

4 BR, 2 BA in Academy ISD, hike and bike trail, no city taxes. Partial privacy fence and native trees. All brick with covered patio. Great family home move right in! \$125,700 Call Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 tfnf

Victorian Style Home in a very prestigious neighborhood. Very private tree covered backyard. 2 BR- 2BA, additional 3rd Bedroom with bath above the garage. Just simply a must see! \$230,000 Call First Texas Brokerage, (254) 947-5577

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**Chas Schreiner IV**  
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Secluded country home with private entrance. Lots of trees surround this comfortable home on 9.5 acres. Large storage building with office, a barn for your horses. \$249,500 Call Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 tfnf

House on large tree-covered lot in Mill Creek. 4/2/2, 14 ft ceilings, formal living, crown mouldings and formal dining. Huge master suite with private porch \$196,000 Call First Texas Brokerage, (254) 947-5577

This home boasts of a spacious kitchen with granite counter tops, ceramic tile back splash and walk-in pantry. Breakfast nook, crown molding, two tone paint, ceiling fans, covered patio porch, generous master bath and bedroom. \$272,900 Call Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 tfnf

SEE PAGE 3C FOR MORE CLASSIFIEDS

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Nominations are being accepted  
for new officers  
for the 2005-06 school year.**

For nominations or questions,  
call Deanna Christian, 254-718-2419

**Sunburst Realty 254-791-5555 For Sale/Lease 3/2** on corner lot in Mill Creek. Lg formal living/dining, great size yard w/patio. Walking distance to golf course. \$199,900 Leases for 1450.00/mo includes lawn-care. Call Eric Petersen, Agent 925-383-0076 1/27tfnb

**Salado, Mill Creek, 3/2.5/3** Views, amenities. Large lot, financing, credit problems ok. \$302,000, 254-947-8859 4/7-4/28b

**Home, Home on the fairway..** Where the trees are beautiful on 1/2 acre lot on Creek 2, Hole #3, on Mill Creek Golf Course. 3 bedroom 2 1/2 baths, with dining, large flex room upstairs, and an extra small flex room extra stairs, large closets, Corian countertops and Corian kitchen sink, window seats in living area and master bath. Large master bath with garden tub with jets, marble throughout bathrooms. Detached garage. Porch on front, back and side of home. Balcony in back overlooking the fairway and Ladies T-box. Built in 2001. For Sale by Owners for \$11,000.00 below appraised value at \$239,000.00. Call Dennis or Connie at 512-554-4987 or 254-947-0693. 3/3tfnb

**For Sale or Lease, Salado** Townhouse, 3 BR, 2.5 BA, overlooking golf course, update. 1500 plus sq. ft. Nice! \$995 mo. lease. \$129,900 purchase. Available May 1. 947-4503. 4/14tfnb

**Land for Sale**

1,470,000.00. 947-5025 3/24-4/21p

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

**For Sale By Owner.** Many Wooded Lots, Woods of Salado on FM 2484 near Lake Stillhouse. Rita Seghers 254-760-9663. tfn

**Spectacular building site in** Woods of Salado, with large oak trees and a lake view \$65,000. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 254-947-5050 tfn

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

**30, 50 or 100 acres,** 6 mi. S. of Salado. Beautiful land, well located, owner finance. Some restrictions. Salado Schools. Call Bill at Century 21-Bill Bartlett, (254) 947-5050 or 800-352-1183. tfn

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

**140 acres Hill Rd. & I-35,** 5 miles south of Salado all or part. Call Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050

- Salado: 10 acres. Trees, great home site. \$75,000.
  - Royal View and Royal St, corner lot, .71 acres waiting for your dream home. \$42,000.
  - Prestigious site on 10 acres, Holland ISD, \$85,000.
  - 25 acres in Salado ISD. Hilltop view. \$4,500/acre.
  - Residential Belton lot on Beal St. \$9,000.
- Call Village Realty 947-0342 2/24tfnf



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**9770 Hodge Canyon**  
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**6515 FM 1123**  
**PARADISE FOUND!!** 26+ gorgeous acres surround 3,360 SF ranch in SE Belton. 6 stall horse barn, semi-trailer barn, office building with utilities, lighted arena and more! \$479,000.

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**1221 Baines Street**  
**NEW HOME WAITING FOR YOU!!** Large lot and plenty of extras. 3 Bed/2.25 Bath. 1,825 SF. \$176,800.

**115 Tallwood**  
**CHARMER!!** This 3-year-old home features a 0.8 privacy-fenced yard and island kitchen with granite counter-tops. \$221,000.

**Toni Hedstrom ERA Colonial Real Estate REALTOR, ePRO 254-702-4209**

*Other lots are ready for your floorplan!*

**Definitively Salado**



Currently the Home of Wigglesworth Place. Vintage Oak trees just beside Salado's historic "green bridge". Two darling cottages perfectly suited for guests. Approximately .69 acre with 130' on Main Street. A one-of-a-kind Main Street property. \$295,500

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**Home Sweet Home!** Austin stone home in North Temple! Large den with fireplace and country kitchen with island round out this 3bd/2bth, extremely well-maintained home. 3010 Van Pelt, \$104,900.

**Salado's Mill Creek!** 4 bd/3bth, 2 living areas, formal dining plus country kitchen with island and breakfast. 1900 Club Circle, \$255,450.

**Wildflower!** Vaughn built 1999 Parade of Homes country club home, 3 bd/2-1/2bth, study and formal dining room. Must see!! 4210 Sunflower Lane, \$289,000.

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A BEAUTIFUL ANTIQUE CHANDELIER greets you at the entrance to this elegant, traditional New Orleans style home. Custom built on 5 acres near the historic village of Salado to stand the test of time for many years to come. Two-story, 3,400 SF, hardwood floors, 4 BR (2 up, 2 down)/3 BA, red brick with white columns. French doors lead from your master suite to romantic backyard pool surrounded by tropical palms. For more details or to tour this house, call 254.534.5716 or evenings 254.947.0750. Well-priced at \$389,700. Take Holland Rd. east 3 miles to Settlements Rd. Turn left.

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**1.1 acre homesite on Lampasas River** near Belton & Salado. Excellent location, woods, water meter. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 3/3tfn

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

**Golf Course Lot for sale** Beautiful wooded 1/2 acre lot on Creek 2, Hole 3 at Mill Creek. Private Drive. For Sale by Owner. A bargain at \$55,000.00. Call Dennis or Connie at 512-554-4987 or 254-947-0693. 3/3 tfn

**Commercial Rental**

**Studio Workspace.** Lots of storage and bath. 947-5575 or 760-4346 1/20 tfnb

**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 tfnb

**Retail space for lease** in new emporium on Main Street. Front Row. 947-5831 tfnb

**Small efficiency cottage on Main Street** for resident, office or commercial \$400 month deposit \$400. Call for details. 718-5924 2/3tfnb

**Retail Commercial space** on Main St. for lease 947-4080 4/21p

**Armstrong Community Center** is located 6 miles southeast of Belton and is available for meetings, family reunions, weddings, etc. Call E. R. King to schedule at 254-939-6012 4/14/p

**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. TFNB

**For lease...Newer home** in Mill Creek on cul-de-sac. Three bedrooms, office, two dining, large fenced backyard with over 2000 square feet. Beautiful trees. Two car garage.

Long covered porch. Available January 1st. \$1500 rent...\$1,000 security deposit. Call 291-9626 tfnb

**Salado, very nice 2 BR, 2 BA duplex** with garage, close to I-35 \$795 mo. plus \$20 mo. for water. Call Village Realty 947-0342, 718-2484 or 541-1898 tfnb

**For rent: 2 Bedroom cottage.** \$500 per mo. \$300 deposit. 254-913-7102 3/24-3/31b

**For Rent Large doublewide,** 3 BR 2 living, 2 bath, fireplace. \$750 per mo. \$400 deposit 254-913-7102 3/24/3/31b

**For Rent 3BR/ 2 BA** \$750. Call 760-4440 tfnb

**For Rent: 1 BR/1 BA duplex** \$350. Call 760-4440 tfnb

**3 BR. 2 BA.** fireplace, cul-de-sac, close - in, trees, creek, no pets, no smokers, available now. 1615 Guess. \$995/mo. \$900 deposit. 947-5933 4/14tfnb

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**Notice of Application for Operating Permit from the Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District**

TXDOT has made application to the Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District (CUWCD) on April 6, 2005, for an operating permit to authorize withdrawal from an existing well with a 1-1/4-inch column pip 3 miles south of Salado and 500 feet south of southbound rest area to produce water for road work in a proposed annual quantity of 44.8 acre-feet.

This application will be set for hearing before the CUWCD Board upon notice posted at the Bell County Courthouse Annex and at the CUWCD Office. If you would like to support, protest or provide comment on this application, you must appear at the hearing and comply with District Rule 8.10. For additional information about this application or the permitting process, please contact the CWUWCD at 550 East 2nd Avenue, Building A, PO Box 729, Belton, TX 76513, 254-933-0120. The applicant may be contacted at 1502 Holland Road, Belton, TX 254-939-3778.

**Lynette Martin joins Village Realty staff**



Lynette Martin

Village Realty announces that Lynette Martin has joined its staff as a real estate agent. Martin was born and raised on a ranch in southeast Oklahoma. She graduated Idabel High School in Idabel, OK and from SOSU, Durant, OK with a Bachelor's degree

During the past 25 years she owned, operated and managed several western retail and wholesale businesses in Kansas, Oklahoma Texas and most recently Salado. She also taught business computers in elementary and high school.

She has two children, Lucas and Katlyn, who attend Salado High School. They are all very active in the Salado United Methodist Church.

"In my lifetime, I have moved several times and lived in five states, but living here the past two years I've found Salado to be the most perfect place of all. I am excited about living here and look forward to helping others find their dream home in the Village of Salado," she said.


**Basketmakers to hold first meeting**

The Bell County Basketmakers' first meeting will be held 10 a.m. April 25 at The 1860 Shop, located on Main Street.

Anyone wishing to attend should bring a chair, basket tools, ideas and a few baskets for "show and tell."

For more information contact Karen Kinnison at 947-8195, or Jim at 933-3898.


**Live Where You Play**



Golfers find Mill Creek golf courses, designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr., to be one of the most beautiful and challenging in the state. Homeowners enjoy the mile-wide vistas, beautifully maintained fairways and greens, and Salado Creek.


Lots in the new Mill Creek Springs addition are selling quick. Call now to choose your perfect homesite or view fine homes ready to move-in. Are you ready for your new home? This is the perfect time to make a move.

**Call Rita Oden**



**Bill Bartlett**  
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Golf course lots	\$40-70,000
Interior lots	\$29-40,000
Estate-sized lots	\$94-129,000
Homes	\$169-715,000







\$279,500: Located on 1.74 acres in Heritage Subdivision. Excellent floorplan provides a nice, open feel in the living area, dining area and kitchen. 4 BR/3 BA, with wonderful master BR. Tile floors in kitchen, baths. Back porch overlooks large oak trees.



\$299,921: This 4 BR/3 BA home is in Royal Oaks and is loaded with personality. Wide, open foyer features high vaulted ceilings. Game room is just the right size for a pool table. Large, tree-covered deck is private and enjoyable. Near downtown Salado.



\$429,000: Incredible views await you from this home. Beautiful granite countertops throughout the kitchen with custom red oak cabinets. Built-in refrigerator & Jennair stainless steel appliance package is magnificent. 4 BR, one office, 2 living & 2 dining.



\$199,900: Located in Mill Creek, directly across from Salado Creek & golf course. The large kitchen opens into the formal dining and den. The formal living area overlooks the backyard, which is large enough for a garden. 3 BR, 2.5 BA, study.



\$99,500: Walk to downtown Salado. 4 BR/2 BA home welcomes you with large living area. Beautiful back yard with large live oak trees. Two car garage, circle drive, fenced backyard.



\$99,750: Cute, cute, cute! Great starter home in Holland. Bathrooms have marble countertops and ceramic tile floors. Floors in kitchen & Dining area are ceramic tile, kitchen countertops are ceramic tile.



\$121,500: Quality custom oak cabinets in this 3 BR/2 BA home. Split floor plan with oversized garden tub in Master. Lots of tile, covered patio. Academy ISD.

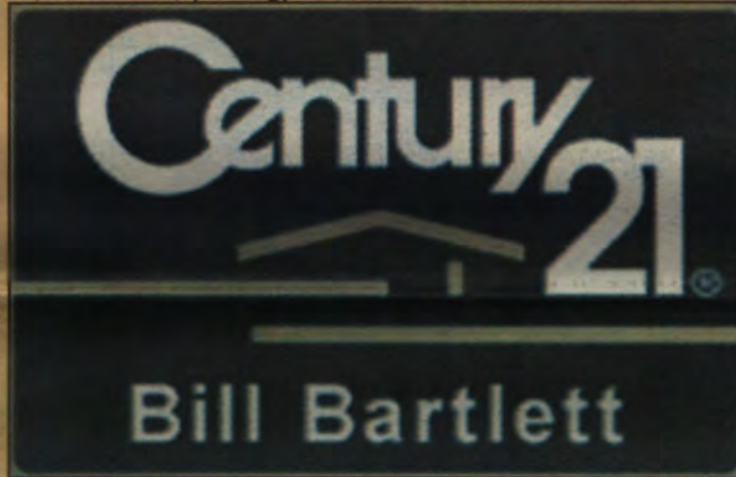


\$625,000: First Class home built with pride on Mill Creek Golf Course. A welcoming entry with view of the 20X40 pool, waterfalls and landscaping. Maple hardwood floors throughout 4 BR/3 full BA, 2 half BA, 4 car garage.

## REALTORS® with Results



Century 21 Bill Bartlett Team: (standing) Melanie, Bill, Debbie, Sue Ellen; (sitting) Rita, Maurice, Valerie, Ann.



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Rita Oden	718-7956	Melanie Kirchmeier	760-5855
Sue Ellen Slagel	760-3226	Maurice Carson	220-3196
Ann Carroll	760-0101	Valerie Bourque	493-0787

### Acreage Available

- 439 acs. on FM 487, Florence. Oaks, grasslands.
- 138 acs. on Hill Rd. and I-35, all or part
- 95 acs on I-35 between Salado and Georgetown, will divide. UC
- 33 acs. very near Salado, huge oaks, well priced. UC
- 30-300 acres, 5 miles south of Salado, Lovely view, owner finance.
- 1.1 acre homesite on Lampasas River.

### Lots & Home Sites

#### Mill Creek Lots

- Mill Creek Dr. - \$69,750 • 700 Indian Trail. - \$30,000
- Fletcher Ct. - \$64,000 • O.W. Lowery - \$70,000 • Jack Nicklaus - \$76,900
- Mill Creek Springs I & III - \$30,000-75,000
- Mill Creek Springs IV
- Golf course & hilltop view lots start at \$40,000
- Interior lots start at \$25,000
- The Overlook, estate-sized lots start at \$94,000.

#### Woods of Salado Lots

- Mountain Dr. - 5A & 5B - \$65,000.

#### Other Lots

- Windy Hill Ranch - 2 acre lots - \$55,000 to \$90,000. Lot 20: \$125,000
- Heritage - 1 to 3 acre wooded, near Salado. Restricted.
- Hidden Springs, Lot 110, Lot 116.
- Jeremiah's Well: 17.85 acre tract, \$120,000
- Denman's Loop: Lot 8, B 19, Sec. 2, \$18,000.

### Commercial Property

- \$429,000: 5.66 acres commercial property off Main Street Salado.
- \$395,000 - 7.65 acres w/ office, bldgs. storage.



\$715,000: Entertain friends in the media room with large screen movie theatre & LCD projector. This 5 BR/4.5 BA features sunroom, LR, study, wet bar, DR and gourmet kitchen. View golf course while enjoying the built-in BBQ grill on back porch.



\$309,500: View Salado Creek & Mill Creek golf course from the family room & kitchen in this 4 BR/3 BA home. Recently renovated with beautiful tile floors throughout living & kitchen.



\$219,900: Enjoy convenient access to I-35 plus the gorgeous in-ground pool. Sit on the covered patio & take time for yourself. Large master bedroom has sitting area/office area. Well maintained. Window treatments do not convey.



\$132,500: 3 BR/2 BA with study off of spacious living room. Quality flooring & fixtures. Nice covered patio. Very attractive home in Academy, ready for move-in.



\$156,8000: Southern Living style home on 1.61 beautiful acres. Master BR and living areas are downstairs. 3 BR & landing upstairs. Wicker accessories in MBA convey. Updated carpet & paint. Greenhouse does not convey.

2005

## Use alternatives to pressure treated wood

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**Dear EarthTalk: Is the pressure-treated wood used for decks, picnic tables and backyard play structures harmful to human health?** --Christy Silver, Cleveland, OH

Pressure-treated wood contains the preservative chromated copper arsenate (CCA), an arsenic derivative that is

used to protect the wood and prolong its life. Also used commercially as a pesticide, CCA is regarded by many homeowners and construction professionals as a godsend for preserving outdoor wood structures against harsh weather and termites. But it is also on environmentalists' watch lists as a potential health hazard due to its arsenic content.

According to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), arsenic, although a naturally occurring element found in the Earth's crust, is poisonous. Prolonged exposure can cause vomiting, diarrhea and skin abnormalities. The EPA also considers arsenic to be a human carcinogen, with long-term exposure increasing the risk of skin cancer and tumors of the bladder, kidney, liver and lung.

Recent studies have shown that rainwater can release arsenic-laden CCA from the treated wood, potentially contaminating any soil or groundwater below.

## EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Also, especially after a heavy rain, a fine coating of CCA residue can build up directly on the wood's surface, which in turn can be picked up on hands and clothing, potentially exposing family members to small but persistent doses of arsenic.

But while the EPA may classify arsenic itself as a toxin, it does not believe that periodic contact with pressure-treated wood poses any "unreasonable" risk. The

agency has, however, issued new safeguards for protecting workers who come into contact with CCA on a daily basis. Even the nation's largest producer of pressure treated wood, Arch Wood Protection Inc., advises taking precautions when working with, using and cleaning up its products, acknowledging that "exposure to CCA may present certain hazards."

If you already have pressure treated wood around your home, applying an oil-based stain once every couple of years will help keep the CCA from seeping out. Additionally, you should

EARTH TALK CONTINUED ON PAGE 7C



## Properties By Larry Sands



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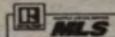
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88 secluded acres with 1700 feet of Lampasas River frontage and 2300 feet of Clear Creek frontage in west Bell County--deer, turkeys, ducks, fish, doves. **\$4,500 per acre.** No mobile homes, please.  
13 acres on FM 93 east of Belton. Water available. Good for home or commercial use. **\$6,500 per acre.**



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### 515 Indian Trail

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



### 1617 Chaparral - New Listing

Very special, beautifully-designed contemporary home with unrestricted views of golf course. Features include large great room, formal dining, open kitchen, breakfast room, study, 4 generous-sized bedrooms and 3 full baths. This home has 4 porches, 2 car plus golf cart garage. **\$287,500.**

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**\$435,500**

keep children and pets out of under-deck areas where arsenic may be present. Also, don't grow edible plants near any pressure treated wood structures, and always follow safe handling guidelines (including the use of gloves and dust masks) when using it in building projects.

For those who may be starting from scratch, there are several safer alternatives to pressure treated wood. According to the Berkeley, California-based Green Resource Center, yellow cypress, yew, tamarack, hemlock, white cedar and redwood are naturally rot-resistant, as are plastic and wood-plastic composite building materials. Meanwhile, wood boards that are treated with alternative techniques that don't use CCA are free of the arsenic problem. Alkaline Copper Quaternary, sold under the trade name NatureWood, is one safer option, as is Copper Azole, which is sold under the trade name Natural Select.

**CONTACTS:**  
EPA Arsenic Toxicity Assessment, [www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/hlthef/arsenic.html](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/hlthef/arsenic.html); Green Resource Center, (510) 845-0472, [www.greenresourcecenter.org](http://www.greenresourcecenter.org); NatureWood, (800) 241-0240, [www.osmose.com/wood/usa/preserved/naturewood/product/](http://www.osmose.com/wood/usa/preserved/naturewood/product/); Natural Select, (866) 789-4567, [www.naturalselect.com](http://www.naturalselect.com).

**Dear EarthTalk:** Why have shark attacks been on the rise in recent years? — *J. Tibbetts, Boston, MA*

Despite a slight downturn during the last few years as a result of hurricanes keeping people out of the water, the number of shark attacks on humans has indeed risen steadily over the last century. In fact, the nearly 500 shark attacks recorded around the world in the 1990s was double that which occurred in the previous decade, and that trend seems to be continuing apace into the new millennium.

The largest increase in shark attacks has been along the southeastern seaboard of the United States. The summer of 2001 witnessed sharks moving in to shallower waters and striking people near the shoreline. In just three weeks there were 20 attacks and two deaths—often in water no more than three feet deep.

Unproven theories abound regarding this

phenomenon. Some experts postulate that the human-caused decline in ocean fish is causing sharks to venture closer to shore in search of food. Others believe that sharks' territories are shifting due to changes in ocean temperatures resulting from global warming.

Whether or not these theories have merit, no one doubts that humans are venturing further and further out to sea to swim, surf, snorkel and dive, increasing the chances of run-ins with sharks. Surfers are especially at risk because their shiny black wetsuits look like tasty seals to sharks. Also, surfers spend lots of time waiting for waves in the "splash zone" just offshore, where sharks tend to congregate to look for prey.

"An ever-growing number of people spend their vacation at the oceanside, so that both the probability of encountering a shark and the respective danger of an accident also increases," says Dr. Alexander Godknecht, president of the Shark Foundation. Godknecht believes the 100 or so shark attacks last year to be a very small number

and that mainstream media hype makes them appear to happen more often than they really do.

George Burgess, director of the International Shark Attack File (ISAF) at the Florida Museum of Natural History, agrees, arguing that the average North American is about 15,000 times more likely to be killed in a car accident than in a shark attack. "Bees, wasps and

snakes cause far more fatalities a year," he adds. "And the annual risk of death from lightning is 30 times greater than that from a shark attack."

Burgess points out that, despite the increase in shark attacks, shark populations are actually in decline globally, mostly due to human overfishing which has depleted their sustenance. Along the

Atlantic coast of the U.S. some shark species have declined as much as 70 percent over the last 20 years. "The number of shark attacks is rising every year while the shark population is dwindling—it's not rocket science to see that something is provoking them. We're swamping the near-shore environment," Burgess concludes.

**CONTACTS:** Shark

Foundation, [www.shark.ch](http://www.shark.ch); International Shark Attack File, [www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/Sharks/ISAF/ISAF.htm](http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/Sharks/ISAF/ISAF.htm).

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

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**Texas Ranch style home with an incredible Hill Country view!** Relax on your own hammock while enjoying your Willingham Creek. This home is a must-see **\$450,000.**



**UNDER CONTRACT**

**Great for first time homebuyer or for investment.** This 2/2 is in good condition for just **\$74,900.**



**Absolutely beautiful house** on over 17 acres with small creek. Tons of Pecan Trees and Live Oak Trees. It is a must-see! ~~\$359,900.~~ Reduced to **\$349,900.** House and 6 acres, just **\$269,900**



**New Austin stone home on 3 tree-covered acres: 4/3/3.** Must see to appreciate this Builder's Detail! Granite Counter Tops, Raised Ceiling, Exposed Beams, etc **\$369,900.**



**UNDER CONTRACT**

**New Listing: 3/2/2 - Austin Stone Home** with open floor plan. Relax on you covered front porch all for just **\$129,900.**



**Within walking distance to park at Salado Creek** in Hidden Springs. This new Austin stone home has it all: engineered slab, security system, granite countertops, open floorplan, gas range, gas dryer, gas fireplace, custom cabinetry, covered patio. **\$255,000.**



**Great location near Salado.** This 3/2/2 has an open floor plan on 1/2 acre with yard. **\$134,900.**



**Take a step out of the city** and enjoy the peaceful 2 acre setting! Granite countertops. Huge family room and bonus room with great location. Convenient to Georgetown, Temple or Killeen. Under Construction to be completed in March 2005. **\$315,000.**



**Come Experience your very own Texas Estate** located just southwest of Salado. This 4/2/2 sits on over 6 Acres. Amenities included: Granite Countertops, Custom Wood Work, Barn, Master Suite, & Native Limestone. **\$344,900.**



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Lot in Hidden Springs. Excellent location. **\$32,000.**  
145 acres located northwest of Salado. Backs up to Corps of Engineers property. **\$3,500 per acre.**  
7 acres with oak trees, electricity & well at site, **\$85,000.**  
2 acres with great trees in Hidden Springs. **\$33,900.**

5 acres in Hidden Springs, lot #271, **\$49,900.**  
5 acres in Hidden Springs, lot #265, **\$49,900.**  
2.7 acres fronting FM 2843. **\$29,900.**  
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44 acres off of Firefly Road between Salado and Florence. Great Trees with typical hill country topography. Will divide.  
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One of the best lots in Mill Creek. Private

with trees. **\$59,900.**  
Lot overlooking Salado Creek, **\$50,000.**  
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Indian Trail - 90x188 - **\$38,000.**

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Bed & Breakfast Great chance to live in Salado.

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Large lot with trees in gated Southlake Subdivision. **\$55,000.**  
5+ acres fronting SH 190 and Boxer Road. Great commercial location. City water available. **\$299,000.**  
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Exit 305 North of Temple. .54 acres with existing station. Excellent business opportunity.