

Salado Village Voice

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50¢

Judge favors plaintiff in annexation dispute

Village appeals recent ruling

By TIM FLEISCHER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Village of Salado will appeal a recent county court-at-law ruling in favor of plaintiff Lone Star Storage concerning the Sept. 18, 2004 voluntary annexation request of property owners in the Village extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ).

Visiting Judge Clawson ruled in favor of Lone Star Storage, which sued the Village of Salado for improperly annexing the undeveloped 14 acres between Mill Creek and Mill Creek Springs subdivision two years ago.

Judge Clawson, in the ruling, stated that the residential property owners who voted to request annexation into the Village of Salado would not be de-annexed by his ruling.

However, this conflicts with state law concerning annexation of properties that states the properties to be annexed must be contiguous and adjacent to the city limits.

If the 14 acres in question is finally de-annexed, then the property owners in Mill Creek Springs who voted to be annexed into the Village of Salado would not be contiguous

to the city limits.

However, the properties would remain as part of the ETJ of the Village of Salado.

The board voted unanimously to appeal Judge Clawson's ruling following an executive session discussion during its regular Aug. 18 meeting.

In other business on Aug. 18, the board approved the Planning and Zoning Commission recommendation for a conditional use permit to First Salado Bank at 815 N. Stagecoach Rd. Following the conditional use permit, construction can begin on a bank facility at that location.

Aldermen also approved a contract with Bureau Veritas to conduct plan review and inspections on single family residential construction, plan review on commercial and multi-family construction and inspections on commercial and multi-family construction on behalf of the Village of Salado.

Bureau Veritas provided a fee schedule for their services, which was approved by aldermen in the contract.

The Village will assess its fee schedule to builders accordingly.

Bureau Veritas Fee Schedule to Village of Salado

COMMERCIAL AND MULTI-FAMILY CONSTRUCTION PLAN REVIEW ONLY. INSPECTION FEE BELOW. ADD BOTH TOGETHER FOR TOTAL BUILDING PERMIT FEE

Valuation	Fee
\$1-10,000	\$50.00
\$10,001-25,000	\$64.80 for first \$10,000 plus \$5.01 for each additional \$1,000
\$25,001-50,000	\$139.95 for first \$25,000 plus \$3.61 for each additional \$1,000
\$50,001-100,000	\$230.20 for first \$50,000 plus \$2.50 for each additional \$1,000
\$100,001-500,000	\$355.20 for first \$100,000 plus \$2.00 for each additional \$1,000
\$500,001-1,000,000	\$1,155.20 for first \$500,000 plus \$1.70 for each additional \$1,000
\$1,000,001 + up	\$2,005.20 for 1st \$1,000,000 plus \$1.13 for each additional \$1,000

SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL

CONSTRUCTION PLAN REVIEW AND INSPECTION.

COMMERCIAL & MULTI-FAMILY

CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION.

Valuation	Fee
\$1-10,000	\$76.92
\$10,001-25,000	\$99.69 for first \$10,000 plus \$7.70 for each additional \$1,000
\$25,001-50,000	\$215.19 for first \$25,000 plus \$5.56 for each additional \$1,000
\$50,001-100,000	\$354.19 for first \$50,000 plus \$3.85 for each additional \$1,000
\$100,001-500,000	\$546.19 for first \$100,000 plus \$3.08 for each additional \$1,000
\$500,001-1,000,000	\$1,778.69 for first \$500,000 plus \$2.62 for each additional \$1,000
\$1,000,001 + up	\$3,088.69 for 1st \$1,000,000 plus \$1.74 for each additional \$1,000



(PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)

Jack Hardin and Troy Kelley unveil the bronze statue "The Good Shepherd" at Salado United Methodist Church during a special service Aug. 20.

Council recommends \$212,176 for tourism

By TIM FLEISCHER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Salado Tourism Council voted at its Aug. 21 meeting to recommend a \$212,176 budget to the Village Board of Aldermen for their consideration following public hearings on Sept. 7 and Sept. 21.

The \$212,176 will include \$166,000 in hotel/motel occupancy tax (HOT) funds during the year, coupled with interest and other income and \$40,000 from the HOT fund balance.

The budget calls for \$54,185 in advertising expenses and \$22,607 in grants to local organizations, as well as \$10,000 for contingency and \$20,000 in reserve.

Other operating expenses in the proposed budget include approximately \$54,000 in payroll costs, \$7,250 in travel and training, \$6,000 in postage, \$6,250 in rent, approximately \$10,000 in public relations, \$10,000 in research, \$7,000 in visitor services and \$12,000 in design materials.

In considering the annual budget, the council considered \$27,448.91 in requests for grant money from six local organizations. The council awarded \$22,607 in grants to the six organizations.

The organizations and total grant awards include the following:

- Salado Chamber of Commerce, \$9,607 of \$10,873 requested.
- Salado Chamber of Commerce Auxiliary, \$2,000 of \$2,000 requested.

- Institute for Humanities, \$1,500 of \$4,325.91 requested.

- Public Arts League of Salado, \$4,000 of \$4,000 requested.

- Tablerock Festival, \$4,500 of \$5,000 requested.

- Salado Community Chorus, \$1,000 of \$1,250 requested.

Tourism Council members also discussed at an Aug. 21 meeting making changes to the Tourism Council Rules and Regulations concerning membership and other issues.

SISD to adopt budget, tax rate Aug. 28 after learning of enrollment shortfall

By TIM FLEISCHER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With enrollment lower than anticipated, Salado school trustees may consider changes in the proposed 2006-07 budget during deliberation on the matter 6 p.m. Aug. 28 at the Salado Civic Center.

The district learned that first-day enrollment was 1,211 students, while the district built its pro-

posed 2006-07 budget on an anticipated enrollment of 1,270 students (a five percent increase in student enrollment over last year's). First day enrollment in 2005 was 1,206.

Finance director Lyncal Cabaniss said that she has not yet figured into the proposed budget the impact of the lower-than-expected enrollment on state funding. State fund-

ing is based on average daily attendance figures which are reported every day to the state. The total state revenues in the proposed budget is \$2.6 million, based on 1,222 total ADA.

At 96 percent ADA compared to total enrollment, Salado ISD could see a total ADA of 1,163 if no more students enroll during the year. This

could potentially impact the district state funding by more than \$120,000.

The district was anticipated adding \$303,674 to the fund balance in 2006-07 and trustees could simply reduce the impact on fund balance when they formally adopt the budget and its \$1.60 tax rate.

Salado I.S.D. will conduct a public hearing at 6

SEE SCHOOL, PAGE 8A



Rooted in Salado Since 1979

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Who are these Monkeys? Turn to page 6A to find out.



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FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas



The strange romance of Fidel Castro

Sometime in the 1950s, Fidel Castro earned a free pass from moral responsibility that endures to this day. Decades ago, he cut a romantic figure as an embattled revolutionary in the Cuban mountains, and that has been enough to keep him forever in the esteem of a slice of Hollywood celebrities, Democratic congressmen and the American left.

As Castro's health fails -- creating hopes that it is at least the beginning of the end of his rule -- the world contemplates the exit of a man who has proven that it is possible to run a country like a military camp and still be beloved by self-styled liberals and progressives. The same people who decry a budding tyranny in the U.S. because the government now enjoys enhanced surveillance powers against terrorism suspects, celebrate and yuk it up with a ruler who jails anyone who disagrees with him.

Castro is the last revolutionary still standing. And his was a real revolution. Venezuela's left-wing strongman Hugo Chavez pales in comparison. He offers only populist economics and an obnoxious travel itinerary. Castro delivered the real thing: the expropriation of all foreign property, an assault on private real estate, the exiling of the Cuban middle class, the militarization of society.

His revolution had the advantage of not being quite as embarrassing as the others. Stalin, Mao and Pol Pot all became indefensible even for the most credulous. At least the transgressions of Castro's rule can almost be papered over with lies and wishful thinking.

It only adds to his prestige that he has managed it while defying the United States. Part of the American left is in love with the idea of American weakness, that we are a clumsy colossus whose actions always fail. And there is Castro -- survivor of the Bay of Pigs and

Rich Lowry



countless assassination attempts -- a living exemplar of American ineffectualness. With a whiff of admiration, news accounts say that he has outlasted eight American presidents -- who had the inconvenience, of course, of dealing with free elections.

The common defenses of Castro's regime, that he has dramatically improved health care and literacy, are propaganda. Cuba already excelled in these areas prior to the revolution in 1959, and since then, all Latin American countries have been gaining, thanks to the diffusion of technology. Cuba's economy has been limping ever since Castro took power, and now the country is a 1950s relic that can't feed itself.

Ultimately, what probably attracts leftists to Castro is sheer power. Why else wouldn't they instead celebrate all the former communists who have become Cuban dissidents? Or a jailed dissenter like Oscar Biscet who takes Martin Luther King Jr. as a model? Or all those men and women who risked so much to flee Cuba and live on the hope of a new birth of freedom in their native land?

They are the ones who deserved to be romanticized, who are the truly revolutionary idealists. But the Jack Nicholsons and Rep. Charlie Rangel and the trade unions pay no attention to them. One can only hope that one day the pro-Castro fever breaks and the memory of this egomaniacal thug shames his supporters from the grave.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2006 by King Features Synd., Inc.

Polarized lawmakers nix compromise; Congressional extremists prevail; Citizens lose; Governor's race hot-testy!

Every political observer, commentator, savant (idiot or otherwise) and pundit worth his-her salt, has taken a shot at what the defeat of Senator Joe Lieberman (D-Connecticut) means to the future of the nation, the two party system, the war in Iraq, religion, apple pie, and motherhood.

A few print and electronic naysayers ventured into the kiddies-ponder-pool and conjured up the notion that we've lost our way and all that's left is to sit around contemplating ourselves (the "me" folks do a lot of this) in preparation for what they perceive will be the "big bang" theory in reverse.

POLITICAL DIVIDE

We need to get beyond the minor Lieberman blip and concentrate on a far greater problem that's developing in Congress and endangering our cherished two party system. It's a doctrinal wedge being driven between Republicans and Democrats, and has brought legislation at the Federal level to a near standstill!

Questions: What has notched up the internecine clawing and scratching between Democratic and GOP leaders? And why do these ideologues feel a need to warn members not to stray from their official (and far-out) articles of faith?

The root cause of this incredibly stupid divisiveness can be traced directly to our Legislative Branch that has, over the years, steadily retreated to polarized extremes. And sadly, away from the only workable area wherein objective and necessary laws can be crafted effectively - **namely the moderate center where compromise, political "give and take," sprinkled with common sense, prevails.**

Today's Congress epitomizes partisan witlessness, easily proven after reviewing their pathetically few accomplishments this year. **A record that "de-mothballed" the 1948 "Do Nothing" tag for today's lawmakers, who have put party self-centeredness ahead of the nation's welfare.**

COMPROMISE MISSING

The term "compromise" has fallen on hard times. Current politicians with only reelection and campaign dollars on their minds, are catering to the hard core (monied) members of their parties, and to those intractable zealots the word "compromise" summons up "shilly-shalling," "mug-wumping," and "selling out."

We're talking here about both Republican and Democratic extremists, whose actions have caused great damage in both Houses of Congress. Watch these intolerant fanatics connive and you'll see how party dogma has polarized feelings, thereby leaving little time (or desire) for bi-partisanship, cooperation or comradery in the House or Senate.

The current crop of lawmakers in Washington has evidently forgotten that "compromise" is, in fact, the glue that brought the 55 founding fathers together, during the 1787 Constitutional Convention, to "form a more perfect union."

Men who were as different (philosophically) as night from day, but **will-ing to compromise in order to create the most democratic document the world has ever witnessed.**

"OUT OF STEP" LAWMAKERS

Leaders of our deeply divided Congress (grouped at the extreme edges) have warned their members not to moderate "Party- beliefs" or "be punished."

That stance proves Congressional lawmakers have missed a critically important political fact, namely that

Off the Record by Ken Clapp



their one-sided extremist viewpoints fail to represent our population at large.

Poll after poll has shown that a majority of Americans are moderates, independents, and **prefer the center of the political arena, rather than the lunatic fringes.**

The all important question then becomes: "Will our stubborn "lockstepped" Congressional lawmakers awaken this nation's sleeping giant (voters) and find themselves replaced (over time) by citizens willing to represent the will of the majority?"

Answer: Let us hope this will be the case - and soon!

GUV RACE TEMP SOARS

The current five person race for Governor could draw its label from either the heat wave engulfing Texas or the nickname of its most colorful candidate, i.e.: "Hotter'n Hell" or "Kinky." You can (of course) create-assign your own waggish campaign epithets such as: **"Uninspired, Incogitant, Talentless, Giddy or Zany."**

The current political rhetoric by four of the five candidates is as feverish as the thermometer. Sampling the campaign verbiage we found a blast from incumbent "Crazy Hair" Perry: **"Comptroller Carole Strayhorn's unethical behavior is why the state auditor recommended she be banned from taking contributions from companies doing business with her office."**

"Kinky" Friedman overturned his campaign's request to have Travis County's DA investigate Strayhorn's use of State aides. An apologetic "Kinky" told his workers and the other candidates: **"Don't pick on grandma!"**

Democrat Chris Bell "tsk-tsked" Strayhorn's use of her staff for political purposes. **And, James Warner (Libertarian) hasn't been heard from since the primary season ended.**

"GRANDMA'S" TURN AT BAT

"Grandma" Strayhorn, always on the offensive, will no doubt point out recent reports that Perry had lined his campaign pockets with loot from highway contractors involved in the Governor's Trans Texas Corridor, including big bucks from H. B. Zachry, who is in partnership with Cintra - the Spanish roadbuilding giant. That team "won" the TTC-35 planning contract (a document that remains a secret).

Other "benefactors" of the Guv's reelection fund are appointees to important agency boards; bank officials receiving state deposits; and the largest "donor" of all - Houston homebuilder Bob Perry (no relation except money) who gave his pal Rick \$700,000. His reward? Appointment of Bob's corporate lawyer to a State agency that "arbitrates" construction disputes between builders and consumers!

SOLUTIONS AND A GREAT QUOTE

Enacting statutes that forbid the acceptance of political contributions from any person or company doing business (of any type) with the State, would stop even the appearance of unethical or illegal activities by state officials seeking campaign dollars.

Severely limiting the amount of money that can be given to anyone seeking public office should also be made mandatory. When millions are individually donated to a candidate, the question arises: **"What are these unsavory amounts buying?"**

Perfect quote on this subject from Craig McDonald with Texans for Public Justice - a watchdog group monitoring campaign financing: **"Politicians point an accusatory finger at their opponent with one hand - even as their other hand gropes for another fistful of dollars!"**

That's -30-

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Our Voice

Editorial Opinion

Even a casual political observer must be scratching his head wondering what U.S. Rep. John Carter has to fear from Mary Beth Harrell, the Democrat lawyer from Killeen seeking to unseat him in the U.S. House.

After all, he sits in a gerry-mandered district that is overwhelmingly Republican and in which he swatted Democrat challenger John Porter by 160,247 votes to Porter's 80,292 in the 2004 election cycle.

In response to Harrell's continued challenge for a debate to be broadcast on the Central Texas College PBS station, Rep. Carter's office said that his earlier statement this summer about who and when and where and how a debate would happen was still accurate.

His statement this summer to the *Austin American Statesman*: "People earn the right to debate me. I will determine how and not them."

Words like those above belittle democracy. They cause even the most zealous ideologue to wonder why we are working so hard to export democracy to other parts of the world when we don't believe in it here in our homeland.

Those words reflect both the fear and the arrogance in the Carter camp: fear that in the marketplace of ideas Harrell may be gaining ground, arrogance that in a Republican-dominated district, ignoring the opposition party can be done with no repercussions.

Democrats should call Congressman Carter's office and demand a debate. So should Republicans and Independents. In fact, there should be more than one debate. We suggest at least two: one on PBS and one on the radio, possibly 1400 KTEM-AM.

Our 230-year history as an American nation is founded on the principles of free speech and open political debate.

John Carter's actions -- or rather his lack thereof -- are an affront to that rich history.

Tablerock thanks Salado

To the Editor:

"Whoever the friendly donors be, to the men thereof a genuine handshake, hand kisses to the ladies." That line in the outdoor musical drama, *Salado Legends*, was taken from a one 142 year-old letter from a member of Jackie Mills' family who served in the Confederate Army. The years and the circumstances have changed the reasons for the thank you, but the words still ring true. Tablerock Festival of Salado, Inc. sends handshakes to the men and hand kisses to the ladies of the cast, crew, sponsors, organizations, individuals and attendees for their support in helping to make *Salado Legends* a success in its 14th annual season.

This year there were 110 in the cast and crew and 44 Sponsors/Scholarship donors. Organizations included nine volunteers from The Sheriffs Posse, Salado Tourism Council, Texas Commission on the Arts, Wilsonart, Wal-Mart, Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary, Rotary Club of Salado, Salado Historical Society, Salado Chamber of Commerce, 25 individuals who paid for ads in the *Salado Legends* program to help provide scholarships, and countless individuals who volunteered as the

Your Voice

Letters to the Editor

need arose, but were not pictured in the program. The 1,117 attendees at the three performances were the icing on the cake.

The economic impact that *Salado Legends* had upon the Village of Salado and Bell County was \$303,916. The economic impact formula is furnished by the Institute of Outdoor Drama at the University of North Carolina and used by all of the 129 outdoor dramas in the U.S. The return on the \$1,500 grant from the Tourism Council to *Salado Legends* put 67 rooms to use. Forty-eight percent of attendees returned their information sheet. Figuring a conservative \$100.00 a night for a room, and the six percent of the attendees who marked their information sheet as staying in a Salado B&B or motel, provides a figure of \$6,700, minus the \$1,500 grant. That leaves \$5,200 return on the \$1,500 grant, or 347 percent return. Try and get that at a bank!

After taking all this into account, Tablerock is not just about making money. The value of the arts and cultural ventures in any community are inestimable. How do you figure the monetary value

of fun? What price do we put on the preservation and celebration of our proud heritage? Can you put a price on friendships made during rehearsals? Can we monetarily count the value to the teenagers who used *Salado Legends* as a healthy summer activity? How does one value Tablerock Amphitheater as an asset to the Village of Salado? How can you count the blessings heaped upon a family who use the play as "family togetherness" time? How can we possibly place a value on the first-timers to *Salado Legends* who come back to shop...and bring a friend? How can we even guess the good that the college students in "Legends" will do because they received \$8,800 in scholarships this season alone? If we didn't have a Tablerock Amphitheater in Salado, we would have to invent one!

Thank you, one and all, for your overwhelming support.

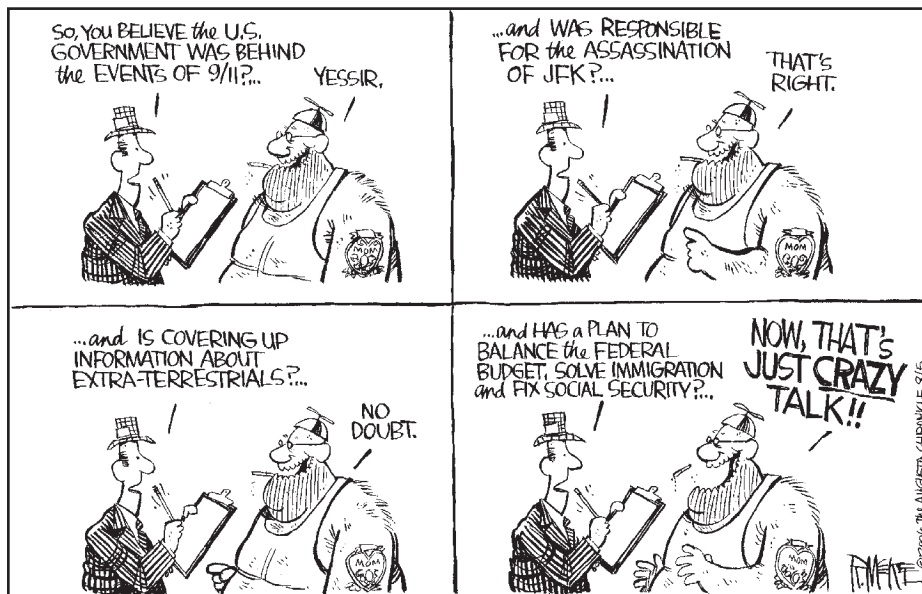
Jackie Mills,
Playwright/Producer

Donnie Williams,
Salado Legends
Director

Tablerock Festival
Board of Directors

FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas



Welfare reform proves work works

Many states are upset with Uncle Sam these days. Seems they don't like being pushed to achieve reasonable goals.

Starting Oct. 1, the federal government will demand that states meet new standards for helping people get off welfare. In order to keep receiving federal money, states will need to make sure at least half of their welfare

Heritage Forum

by Edwin Feulner

recipients find jobs or at least search for work rigorously.

Predictably, many bureaucrats are unhappy. "States are kind of in a low-grade panic," Ron Haskins of the Brookings Institution told *The Washington Post*. "We expected the [rules] to be bad," added Robin Arnold-Williams, an official with Washington state's department of social and health services. "They are worse than that."

But we can expect the new rules to be successful precisely because they require positive behavior from welfare recipients. History proves that.

This month marks the 10th anniversary of the 1996 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act. The law's convoluted title hid a simple purpose: Move people from welfare to work.

In that summer, a decade ago, there was plenty of hot rhetoric about why the law's work requirements wouldn't work. The late Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan called the measure "the most brutal act of social policy since Reconstruction." Peter Edelman, an assistant secretary at the department of Health and Human Services resigned, predicting, "There will be more malnutrition and more crime, increased infant mortality, and increased drug and alcohol abuse."

Of course, the exact opposite happened. Child poverty has plunged, with 1.6 million fewer children living in poverty today than there were in 1995. No surprise,

really: The surest way out of poverty is work, and under the 1996 law, welfare caseloads fell by 60 percent as millions of parents took jobs.

At the same time, more poor people started taking responsibility for their lives. In 1995 just about one of every three children was born out of wedlock, up from roughly one of 15 in 1965. That explosive growth in out-of-wedlock births stopped with the 1996 reform. Today's rate of illegitimate births is virtually the same as it was a decade ago. It's still way too high, but at least the explosive growth has stopped.

Unfortunately, most of the gains from welfare reform happened in the first five years. Having been pushed by the federal government to move people off the dole, states responded quickly. But by 2001, most had met Washington's initial requirements. Without ongoing federal standards, most state reform efforts lost steam. Too many state bureaucracies drifted back into the habit of mailing welfare checks without pressing recipients to find work.

The new rules are designed to jump-start the reform process. In fact, the "new" work rules aren't new at all; they simply restore the work rules of the 1996 welfare reform to their original form. So states will again have to scramble to reduce dependence and place recipients in jobs. State welfare agencies, never the most energized of institutions, don't like this. But, as the saying goes, "he who pays the piper calls the tune,"

SEE WELFARE, PAGE 5A

Government censorship east & west



Jim Hightower

Two governments are cracking down on freedom of the press, condemning unauthorized disclosures of information that officials prefer to keep secret from the public -- and calling for the prosecution of journalists.

The first government is China, which is proposing to fine any news medium for reporting on strikes, riots, natural disasters, outbreaks of disease, or other "sudden events" without prior authorization from the government. This censorship is not unexpected in China, which is ruled by a repressive regime that actually owns the country's media outlets, has an agency for the "Protection of State Secrets," and has a long history of news blackouts. The other government, however, is the BushCheney Regime here in the good ol' USofA - a nation that proudly puts "freedom of the press" right up front in our sacred First Amendment. The White House is on a tirade against "The New York Times" for its reporting on Mr. Bush's classified program of snooping into millions of private banking transactions by U.S. citizens and others.

Even though this spy program had previously been reported and even had been touted by George himself shortly after 9/11, Bush & Company apparently saw the "Times" as an ideal whipping boy in this election year. So they've launched a major political campaign against the paper, hoping to rally their right-wing base and to chill other journalists who might dare think of reporting on such insidious spying.

George led the charge, calling this exercise of press freedom "disgraceful." His toadies in Congress then rose on their hind legs to call for the criminal prosecution of the "Times" for violating the antiquated and sinister Espionage Act.

Ironically, while lawmakers here in our "Land of the Free" are howling for media repression, lawmakers in repressive China are rebelling against the latest censorship there, calling for greater media freedom -- and more democracy.

Teach kids early about investing

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Bad habits are hard to break. But good habits also tend to stick around for a long time. And that's why you will want to teach young children about the importance of saving and investing. It's almost never too early to start - and your efforts can provide a lifetime of benefits.

By the time most children reach age five, they have more than enough cognitive skills to understand the basics of saving money. Of course, the older they get, the better equipped they will be to handle more sophisticated concepts of investing.

Financial Focus

by Allen Mantanona



In any case, when your children are young, start them off on the right financial path by taking these steps:

- Set attainable goals - Kids will be more motivated to save money if they can see themselves achieving goals. And that's why you don't want to burden them too soon by trying to get them to save for a long-term objective such as college. Such a goal may well be

appropriate - and even desirable - when children are a bit older, but when they are quite young, have them put money in a simple savings account for things like toys, video games, CDs, etc. By putting away money regularly and seeing how their efforts are rewarded, children will learn something about financial discipline and delayed gratification - and they're likely to be more appreciative of their possessions.

- **Reward** children's efforts - To help children learn to save and invest, you may want to offer a helping hand. Specifically, consider partially "matching" children's deposits into their savings accounts. If you were to put in a quarter or fifty cents for every dollar they deposit, their savings will have an opportunity to grow faster and they will feel they are getting "bonus" payments.

- **Make investing fun** - Try to get your children or grandchildren involved in picking and following a stock for

fun. So, if your children are interested in athletic shoes, for example, take a "research trip" to the nearest sporting goods store and study which shoes seem to be most popular. Also, ask your children what types of shoes their friends are wearing. If your children are old enough, you may also want to go over annual reports and other financial information about the stock, but don't get too bogged down with numbers, especially if you see your child's eyes glaze over. Do, however, follow the stock's price and discuss the factors that may or may not be causing this price to rise or fall.

- **Stress long-term nature of investing** Stress that a stock is not the same as a bank account, and educate them to let them know this type of investment is not for impulse purchases or to meet short-term goals. Instead, tell your children that stocks are for the long term. You might want to share with them some of your brokerage statements that show how many years you've owned some of your investments. By following these suggestions, you can help your kids develop good savings and investment habits. Talk to them soon.

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Save time, money

Buying and Selling

By Ryan Hodge

The Internet offers a wealth of information to homebuyers, but it can take quite an investment in time to find it, especially for first-time buyers who aren't familiar with the ropes. One particular problem with research on the web is that you must be extremely

careful about sources, because there's a lot of misinformation out there.

Luckily, the government has taken all of the work out of searching, and put everything in one place at the Federal Citizen Information Center. Here are some particularly helpful publications that you can find online at pueblo.gsa.gov or by calling (888) 8PUEBLO.

Check out "100 Questions and Answers about Buying a New Home," a HUD publication that addresses issues facing first-time buyers, and it's free! Another freebie from HUD is the "HUD Home Buying Guide," which helps you determine how much home you can afford and illustrates a variety of FHA financing options.

Rising fuel and utility costs are of interest to all homeowners. The US Department of Energy's free publication "Energy Savers: Tips on Saving Energy & Money at Home" offers practical advice on insulation, weatherization, effective heating, and more.

This is just a tiny sampling of the topics available. Keep in mind this service is partly financed with your tax dollars, so you'd be wise to take advantage of the research that you've already paid for!

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Welfare

FROM PAGE 3A

and the since the federal government pays for most welfare costs, it can and should set the standards.

The fact is, the tough-love formula of the original welfare reform works. Dr. Rebecca Blank, once an economic advisor to President Clinton, examined the link between welfare reform and child poverty. Her studies

show that states with welfare-reform programs that offer "strong work incentives" see greater increases in the income of single parents with children than states with weak work incentives do. She also found that states with strict time limits and strong penalties were more successful in raising the incomes of poor children

than states with lenient policies.

There's some grumbling in state capitals now (just like a decade ago). But in 10 years we can expect celebrations, such as the ones we're now enjoying for the once-controversial 1996 welfare-reform law.

Ed Feulner is president of The Heritage Foundation (heritage.org).

Bell County quilts on exhibit

The Bell County Museum will open a new exhibit of historic quilts from the museum collection on Aug. 26.

A *Bell County Quilt Treasury* will showcase the unique artistry and

variety of eleven quilts from the collection of the museum, and one is a quilt from the SPIST Museum in Temple. The quilts were made in all parts of Bell County, including Rogers, Buck-

horn, and Nolanville. Of special interest to many museum visitors is the Friendship quilt made in Austin by First Lady Miriam Ferguson, wife of Texas Gov. Jim Ferguson, later elected governor

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Funky Monkeys will wash cars on Aug. 26

The Funky Monkeys, a Salado girls select softball team, will have a car wash 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Aug. 26 in the Brookshire Brothers parking lot.

Proceeds from the car wash will be used to purchase uniforms for the team. Monetary donations of any amount will be accepted during the car wash.

If you would like to donate, but cannot attend the car wash, please call 947-0363 for information.



Salado Funky Monkeys

Athletic Boosters offer last chance raffle tickets

The Salado Athletic Booster Club still has a limited number of tickets available for the GRAND PRIZE of a \$10,000 shopping spree at Home Depot during its annual Reverse Raffle Aug. 26 at Salado Intermediate school. Only 200 tickets will be sold. The Reverse Raffle will begin at 5 p.m.

The cost of a Reverse Raffle ticket is \$150 and includes: four meal tickets for fajita dinners catered by The Salado Mansion, served 5-6 p.m., Admission to the Silent Auction,

Entry to the Grand Prize Drawing, Admission to the Live Auction, and the Opportunity to Purchase a \$50 Second Chance Mulligan (Limit One Per Ticket Sold).

Proceeds from this event will go to the Salado Athletic Booster Club and will be used for both boys and girls athletic programs.

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Volleyballers open season with win

The Salado Lady Eagles volleyball team opened its 2006 season with a 25-19, 25-19, 23-25, 25-21 victory over Bruceville-Eddy Aug. 15.

The middle blocking tandem of Lauren Haire and Kamyille Palomino came up big for the Lady Eagles, notching eight kills and two blocks and eight kills and five digs, respectively. Senior setter Larissa Ingalsbe had 23 assists, while senior defensive specialist Denise Jasso came up with nine digs.

"This was definitely the way we wanted to start our season," said

head coach Bree Holz. "Lauren and Kamyille both moved from outside hitters last year to middle blockers this year and have handled the change with a lot of poise and confidence. Bruceville-Eddy's defense was very frustrating as they dug many of our attack attempts, but I was proud of how the girls kept swinging aggressively and looking for the holes.

In underclassmen action, the Salado JV defeated Bruceville-Eddy 25-18 and 25-20, while the freshmen were also victorious, taking out Bruceville-Eddy in two

25-17 and 25-23.

The Varsity girls followed their season-opening victory by participating in the Cameron Tournament, held Aug. 17-19, coming away with two victories and one loss.

Opening tournament play against Granger, Salado established early dominance and cruised to a relatively easy 25-6 and 25-13 win. Senior Molly Rooney had eight kills, while Larissa Ingalsbe had 10 aces and Palomino had five.

Moving on to face Milano, Salado tallied yet another victory, this time by a final of 25-9,

21-25 and 25-13. Sophomore Danielle Hazzard put together nine kills, Jasso had six digs and Cortney Dunnahoo had three aces.

In the consolation final, Salado's win streak was brought to a halt by Florence, which dispatched the Lady Eagles in two, 25-17 and 25-21. Ingalsbe put together nine assists, Rooney had six digs and Haire had five kills. Haire was also named to the All-Tournament Team.

"Against Granger and Milano, we played well at times, but tended to drop to their level of play," Holz commented. "We'd

come out and dominate the first games of the match, then get a little too comfortable. It was completely opposite for Florence. We came out slow, but in the second game, got an early lead, but let it slip away due

to mental errors. We've really got to pick up the mental part of our game if we want to compete with the best."

The Lady Eagles will travel to Gatesville for tournament play Aug. 24-26.

Sponsorships available for Mill Creek Military Mixer golf tournaments

The free Military Mixer Golf Tournaments at Mill Creek, which have run for the past four weekends, will continue Aug. 26 and conclude with the final tournament for military personnel Sept. 2.

"I would like to thank McLane Company for their support in this event. They have been a major tournament sponsor for every week of the tournaments," PEFEEO owner Cathy Permenter stated. PEFEEO is a local company specializing in event planning. This is the company organizing the Military Mixer at Mill Creek.

"The tournaments have been a lot of fun and extremely rewarding," Permenter went on to say. "Because the troops enjoy themselves so much and love the course, they have come back between tournament days to play at Mill Creek. It is nice to see some of our participants coming back to the community when they are not in the tournaments."

Winners of this week's tournament were: SGT Brent Greear/HHT, 1-7 CAV, 1LT Garry Flanders/1-7 CAV 1st BDE 1stCAV, CPT Robin Montgomery TRP, 1-7 CAV, and CPT Alex

Restrepo/1-7 CAV 1st BDE 1st CAV. Closest To The Pin went to SFC William Benning of the 303rd MI BN. The Longest Drive went to one of the local members, Kurt Barrett.

Sponsorships for the remaining two tournaments are available.

Sponsorships for a soldier are available by paying their tournament fees for one day of play, or for the next three tournament dates. One day of sponsorship is \$50, while sponsoring a soldier for two days is \$90.

For more information concerning the Military

Member Mixer Golf Tournament, contact PEFEEO at 254-718-8685 or by email at PEFEEO@aol.com.

4th Annual Salado Athletic Booster Club Reverse Raffle To Be Held Saturday, August 26th

The Salado Athletic Booster Club would like to invite you to an excitement filled evening of food and fun at their fourth annual Reverse Raffle. Take your chances to see if you have the last ticket drawn to win the GRAND PRIZE of a \$10,000 shopping spree at Home Depot. Only 200 tickets will be sold. Last year was a complete sell out so don't wait too long to purchase your ticket.

The Reverse Raffle will be held on Saturday August 26th at the Salado Intermediate School with the event kicking off at 5:00 pm. The cost of a Reverse Raffle ticket is \$150.00 and includes: four meal tickets for fajita dinners catered by The Mansion, served from 5:00 until 6:00 pm., Admission to the Silent Auction, Entry to the Grand Prize Drawing, Admission to the Live Auction, and the Opportunity to Purchase a \$50 Second Chance Mulligan (Limit One Per Ticket Sold).

Proceeds from this event will go to the Salado Athletic Booster Club and will be used for both boys and girls athletic programs. In addition

these funds are used to provide scholarships for our Salado athletes. For the 2005 - 2006 school year 21 scholarships in the amount of \$350 each were presented to our graduates.

Efforts are currently under way to collect a myriad of items to peak your interest for our Silent Auction. Some of the items that we had available last year were: autographed sports memorabilia (professional and high school); gift certificates to a broad range of stores including: food, entertainment, auto maintenance, and beauty salons; gift baskets, jewelry, candles, golf packages, hunting trips, toys, and electronics. If you have an item that you wish to donate to this fund raising event, please contact Ronnie or Sandy Heller 947-9090 or email sheller@hellerlandscapes.com.

Tickets are now available to purchase. For more information or to purchase your ticket, please call Ronnie Heller 947-9090 or Mike Collins 947-0272.

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Schools

FROM PAGE 1A

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p.m. Aug. 28 at the Salado Civic Center on both the proposed 2006-07 budget and the proposed \$1.60 per \$100 valuation tax rate. After the public hearing, the board will adopt the budget and tax rate.

Trustees met in regular

session Aug. 21, during which they approved several items:

- Waiver for school wide title one program
- Additional paraprofessional for special education student
- Bell County extension

as adjunct faculty

- Pizza Hut contract
- A \$4,505.84 bid for painting of football field concession stand and restrooms by Greenway after further investigation into the bid by trustees Lynn Renfro. The decision followed a half-hour discussion on the matter

- A \$500 expenditure for construction of a concrete ramp into the school kitchen

- Selling obsolete agriculture department items in auction

- 2006-07 Salado ISD goals.

The goals adopted by the board are these:

Goal 1: Parents will be full partners.

Goal 2: Students will be encouraged and challenged to meet their potential.

Goal 3: All students will remain in school until they obtain a high school diploma.

Goal 4: An appropriate curriculum will be provided for all students.

Goal 5: Qualified and effective personnel will be recruited, developed and retained.

Goal 6: SISD students

will demonstrate exemplary performance in comparison to national and international standards.

Goal 7: Schools will be safe and disciplined.

Goal 8: SISD will be creative and innovative.

Goal 9: Technology will enhance the curriculum and workplace.

The board tabled action on legal counsel for 2006-07. The district is currently contracted with Schwartz & Eichelbaum, P.C. for legal services. The trustees will consider the contract for legal services at a later date.

Superintendent Robin Battershell discussed long range planning within the district and told trustees that the district would also conduct a public hearing on (FIRST) at the Aug. 28 meeting.

Finally, Dr. Battershell recognized the *Salado Village Voice* as a member of the Texas Association of School Board (TASB) Media Honor Roll for "fair and balanced reporting, providing valuable information to the community about public schools, their students and patrons."

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Date	Offense	Location	Result
07/07	Possession of Marijuana under 2 oz.	Main & Royal	Arrest
07/12	Minor Consuming alcohol	Chisholm Trail	Arrest
07/13	Theft over \$50 under \$500	W. Village Rd.	Working
07/22	Theft over \$50 under \$500	Main Street	Working
07/24	Burglary of a Habitation	Salado Oaks Dr.	Working
07/24	Assist Other Agency (CPS)	W. Village Rd.	Info
07/25	Dog at Large (Dog Bite)	Vanessa St.	Arrest
07/27	Recovered Property Lost or Stolen	Thomas Arnold Rd.	Info
07/28	Driving While License Suspended	Thomas Arnold Rd.	Arrest
07/28	Driving While License Suspended	Royal Street	Arrest
07/31	Possession of Marijuana Under 2 oz.	N. Church St.	Arrest

JP Report for July given

Judge Don Engleking, Justice of the Peace Pct. 2 Bell County reports the following activity for July 2006. Monthly revenue for the month is reported to be \$59,167.07. Revenue collected is comprised

of funds from criminal cases and civil cases filed in the precinct. A total of 384 cases were filed for the month. This includes moving and non moving traffic citations, criminal cases, and civil cases

filed during the month. Over 404 cases were disposed of by the court. In addition 19 arraignments were conducted at the county jail and the judge conducted 12 inquests.

ABWA councils to gather here

The Executive Board and several ABWA chapter members of the Central Texas American Business Women's Association held its regular board meeting Aug. 10 at the home of Shirley Carey, council vice president.

Vivian Lewis, president of the council, asked for reports from attendees

regarding the results of the July 15 leadership conference, "Connect - Your Passport to Effective Communication." Karin Oaks, council treasurer, reported on the financial success and Nora Garcia, council secretary, reported that the number of members and guests exceeded the prior year.

The three speakers, Marcus Carr, Tina Ady and Judy Brady, presented the topics. Shirley Carr was the sponsor/general chair of the event.

In other business, Wanona Stallings, Ex-Officio, reported that changes will be made in the manner of meeting times and functions of the

council, to agree with the rules from National Headquarters of ABWA.

The next council meeting, celebrating ABW Day and inductions into the Central Texas Women's Hall of Fame, will be Sept. 14 at the Stagecoach Inn, hosted by Red Poppy of Texas Chapter, Georgetown.

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MCCA Fall family picnic slated Sept. 16

Plans are underway for the Mill Creek Community Association's Fall Family Picnic Sept. 16 starting at 6:30 p.m. at Sherrill Park.

Johnny's Steakhouse will be providing Barbeque that will include chicken, brisket, potato salad, cole slaw, beans, homemade buns, ice tea, pickles and onions for only \$10 per

plate for adults; children's plates will be \$5.

The Social Committee of Bobbie Riehsen, Jackie Gipson, Carol Wall, Michelle Lenis, Judy Fulfer and Pat Freeman have agreed to provide brownies and ice cream for dessert.

This will be a family fun night. The pool will be open; tennis rackets

and balls, frisbees and ball game equipment will be available. Also a lively game of bingo with white elephant prizes will be offered for the less athletic group.

You will need to bring your own lawn chairs and send your check for reservations before Sept. 6th to MCCA, P.O. Box 562, Salado, TX 76571.

Dewhurst graduates War College

Army Lt. Col. Mark A. Dewhurst has graduated from the U.S. Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Carlisle, PA. The college is the Army's senior educational institution.

The 12-month curriculum of the Army's senior officer school prepares officers of all the services, as well as civilian officials of the federal government, to serve in top-level command and staff positions with the U.S. armed forces

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Dewhurst completed the Army's highest level of formal education with the mission of preparing selected leaders to assume strategic leadership responsibilities in military and national security organizations.

He is the son of Robert and Arlene Dewhurst of Salado.

Dewhurst graduated in 1978 from Papillion-La Vista High School, Papillion, and received a bachelor's degree in 1983



LTC Mark Dewhurst

from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. He earned a master's degree in 1997 from Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant.



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Worship Schedule

Sunday School • 9:45 a.m. • Worship • 11 a.m.
Worship/Bible Study and Praise Kids Music • 6 p.m.
Wednesday
Pot Luck Meal 6:45 pm
Praise & Prayer • Missions for children • Satisfy for youth 7:15 p.m.

First Baptist Church • Main St. at the Creek

SUNDAY		WEDNESDAY	
Contemporary Worship/Bible Study	9:00 a.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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Branded to perform at First Baptist Church

Branded will perform in concert 6 p.m. Aug. 27 at First Baptist Church, 210 S. Main Street, Salado. FBC invites the public to this free concert.

Branded blends together

St. Stephen Catholic Church

Religious Education Classes

Pre-K thru 12th
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Branded singer songwriters Paul Staggs and Robert Welch the talents of award winning singers/songwriters, Paul Staggs and Robert Wm Welch. After many

in revivals, youth rallies and camps and just wherever God opened up the doors. In early 2001, God was putting it on his heart as well as Robert Welch to begin a Country Christian Duo that would be a breath of fresh air and minister to people in a powerful way. Since that time, numerous opportunities to minister in a variety of venues that sometimes takes them outside the doors of the church, without compromising the message of the gospel that God has put on their hearts. Paul has been married to his lovely wife Becky for 16 years. They have 2 lovely daughters, Emily and Lydia. They live in Spring, Texas and attend Believers Fellowship.

Robert Wm Welch has a very unique Christian music style that ranges from down-home Country to the upbeat Bluegrass sound. A native Houstonian, Robert now lives in Conroe, Texas with his wife, Jeannie and two children, Nicole and Nathan. They attend The Ark Family Church. He learned to play the guitar at fourteen and throughout his years, Robert experienced many different styles of music, but his desire has always been in country music. And it was only natural to use the new young sound of country, with a Christian message to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through music. After serving in the Marine Corps, he returned home to his roots in Houston to sing and play for many years with quartets, bands and Praise Teams. God opened the door for Robert to pursue full-time music ministry in 1996 with three solo projects to date. Now he and Paul can be found at many of the PRCA Rodeos around Texas and just about anywhere people enjoy country music, spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Christian country music. They now perform at churches, concerts, rodeos, fairs, retreats and many other engagements.

This is a free concert! A love offering will be taken to support the ministry of Branded. CD's will be available for purchase after the concert.

Attention Church secretaries and club reporters: News items can be emailed directly to the editor at news@saladovillagevoice.com

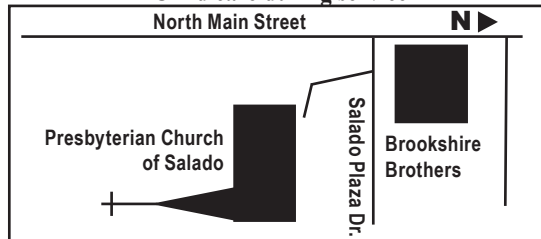


Presbyterian Church of Salado

Rev. Carl Thompson, Pastor

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Border topic for GOP

“Buck” Brandemuehl, the former Assistant Commissioner of the U.S. Border Patrol will speak on “The Texas Border – Today & Tomorrow.” at the 6 p.m. Aug. 24 dinner meeting of the Salado Area Republican Women. The potluck supper will be at Jeffrey McClure’s Building on Main St.

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Mr. and Mrs. Brandon Lee Benton

Fuller weds Benton

Emily Mary Pauline Fuller, of Belton, became the bride of Brandon Lee Benton, of Killeen in a double ring ceremony at the historic Bell County courthouse on Aug. 18. The Honorable Ted Duffield, Justice of the Peace, and U.S. Army Chaplain Bob Wichman officiated the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Fred and Michele Fuller, of Belton, and granddaughter of Billye Fuller and the late Ray and Polly Fuller, all of Salado. She graduated Belton High School in 2005 and attends Central Texas College, majoring in psychology.

The groom is the son of Gemma Benton,

Revelation class scheduled this fall

The Temple/Belton Community Bible Study (CBS) adult co-ed class will study the book of *Revelation* in the fall. CBS is an interdenominational study for men and women of all backgrounds who are interested in an in-depth weekly study of God’s Word. There are over 539 adult CBS classes around the country.

Registration is now in progress for the 30-week

of Lebanon, Oregon, and Bruce Benton, of Sacramento, California. He graduated Lebanon High School in Oregon in 2002. He is a Sergeant with First Cavalry, U. S. Army, stationed at Fort Hood.

Father of the bride Fred Fuller provided the music, along with soloist Melissa McGee, of Temple.

A wedding reception followed the ceremony at Cheeves Bros Steak House in Temple

Sgt. Benton deploys to Iraq in October, so the honeymoon is postponed until his return. The bride will reside in Belton with her family until his return to the states.

study which will begin September 11. The class will meet 7:30-9 p.m. every Monday night in the old sanctuary of the First Baptist Church of Belton, located at 6th and Main.

To register or receive additional information, please contact Kathie Kimes at 254/773-1842 in Temple or the class associate teaching director Curtis Gibson in Killeen at 254-526-9128.



Brianda Ruiz, daughter of Graciela Urquiza and Ignacio Ruiz, of Salado, will celebrate her quinceañera with a Mass at St. Stephen Catholic Church of Salado, followed by a reception at Tenroc Ranch Event Center Blue Heron hall. The Mass will begin 2 p.m. Aug. 26, followed by the reception at 4 p.m. She is a sophomore at Salado High School. Her sponsors, Carlos and Rufina Urquiza, also of Salado, will present her in the Mass.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Fall Fest set Sept. 2-3

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church will be hosting their Annual Fall Fiesta 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sept. 2 and 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Sept. 3 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, 707 South 6th Street in Temple.

To obtain raffle tickets, purchase a souvenir t-shirt, or for more information regarding the 2006 Fall Fiesta, please contact the Parish Office at 254-773-6779.

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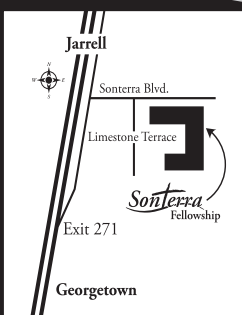
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Derrick Fitzpatrick and Lane Wolff, of Salado, stand next to Derrick's winning entry in the 2005 - 2006 Venado Grande Deer Contest. Venado Grande means big buck. Fitzpatrick, a fifth grader at Thomas Arnold Elementary, scored 134 6/5 B&C with his buck to win Best Youth Buck. Lane Wolff scored a 154 6/8 P&Y to win Best Archery Buck. Wolff, a graduate of Salado High School, also received recognition for bringing in the third largest deer in the contest. Both bucks were taken on opening weekend of Deer Season 2005 in the Salado area. The hardest part of the contest may have been waiting to see if someone else brought down a higher scoring animal, according to Wolff. J. L. Smith, also of Salado, was honored for bringing in the Best Bell County Buck with a score of 156 6/8 B&C. Any whitetail deer legally harvested in the state of Texas is eligible for the contest. Of the 17 categories, five of the top winners for the 2005 - 2006 season were taken here in Bell County, according to Adam Lucksinger, from Belton Feed and Supply, one of the event sponsors. The Venado Grande Deer Contest is sponsored by the Belton and Temple Feed and Supply stores. Registration is required prior to the start of the 2006 - 2007 Deer Season.



President of Mill Creek Community Association Larry Linder presents a donation of \$250 to Salado Volunteer Fire Dept Chief Charles Young. Standing in front of new fire truck are (from left) Teddy Morris, Capt., Linder, President of Mill Creek Community Association and Fire Chief Young.



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Salado Village Guide

Shopping Map
Pages 6-7B

Section B Salado Village Voice

August 24, 2006

12 Pages Shopping, Dining, Overnight, Events

THREE STRUCTURES MARKED FOR AWARDS

County Museum hosts reception

The Texas Historical Commission announced changes in the Historical Building Preservation Awards Program beginning in 2006. This made it possible to recognize and mark structures which do not qualify as historic under previous guidelines which referred to buildings which could be restored to their original depiction of form, features and character as they appeared at a particular period of time.

The new program makes it possible for a building which has been rehabilitated or restored and re-directed toward a new use other than its original use, while preserving its historical, cultural or architectural value. The new use would be a means by which the community could benefit.

The Board of Directors of Salado Historical Society wished to pursue research of several structures in the Village of Salado and explore the possibility of these being approved for Preservation Award Markers. MaryBelle Brown, chairman of the Research and Marker Committee for the Historical Society and a member of Bell County Historical Commission Research Marker Committee was asked to do the research and application process for three buildings in the village.

These were the Boles-Aiken, the Old



Boles-Aiken Cabin

Red School House, and the Old Scotts Hotel. The work was completed and approval has been granted by the Bell County Historical Commission. Preservation awards will be presented at a reception to be held Aug. 31 at the Bell County Museum.

Robert Denman, president of Salado Historical Society, will accept the award for the Boles-Aiken Cabin. Lloyd Parks will accept the award for the Old Red School, and Joe David Stanford will accept the award for the Old Scotts Hotel.

Brief histories of the three buildings will follow.

Call the Bell County Museum at 933-5243 for

more information about the reception.

Boles-Aiken Cabin By MARYBELLE BROWN

The Boles-Aiken Cabin is located on the grounds of the Old Red School on North Main Street. It was placed there after an intriguing chain of events developed involving members of Salado Historical Society, under the leadership of Robert Denman, a local businessman and active member of the Historical Society.

The cabin was discovered inside an old frame house located on Center Circle, which was being demolished to make way for a new residential development.

See Cabin, Page 8B

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AUGUST 24

Salado Area Republican Women meeting, 6 p.m. at the Jeffrey McClure building on Main Street. "Buck" Brandmuehl, former Assistant Commissioner of the U.S. Border Patrol, will speak. Brandmuehl's will discuss "The Texas Border - Today and Tomorrow." Dinner will be "Potluck." Attendees are asked to bring a favorite dish. Guests are welcome. Info: Marie Martch, 939-8240.

AUGUST 26

Mealtime Mastered at The Range at the Barton house, 9-11 a.m. Info and reservations: 254-947-3828 or www.mealtimeastered.com.

AUGUST 26

Fourth Annual Salado Athletic Booster Club Reverse Raffle, at Salado Intermediate School. Catered meal begins at 5 p.m. Grand Prize: \$10,000 Shop-

ping Spree at Home Depot. Tickets and info: Ronnie Heller, 254-947-9090.

AUGUST 27

90th birthday party for Thelma Alice Griffith, 2-5 p.m. at the Halley House, given by her children, David and Cheryl Griffith and Linda and Richard Thomas. No gifts, please. RSVP to 947-8786 or 512-819-0075.

AUGUST 29

Mealtime Mastered at The Range at the Barton house, 6-8 p.m. Info and reservations: 254-947-3828 or www.mealtimeastered.com.

AUGUST 31

Mealtime Mastered at The Range at the Barton house, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Info and reservations: 254-947-3828 or

www.mealtimeastered.com.

SEPTEMBER 1

Salado Eagle football, versus West Trojans, 7:30 p.m. in West. Season opener.

SEPTEMBER 1-3

Salado Silver Spur Theater presents "Don't Touch that Dial", with live music and Vaudeville-style entertainment. Show times: 7:30 p.m. Sept. 1 and 2 and 2 p.m. Sept. 2 and 3. Tickets and info: 254-947-3456 or www.saladosilverspur.com.

SEPTEMBER 8

Salado Eagle football, versus McGregor Bulldogs, 7:30 p.m. in Salado.

SEPTEMBER 8-10

Salado Silver Spur Theater presents "Don't Touch that Dial", with live music and Vaudeville-style entertainment. Show times: 7:30 p.m. Sept. 8 and 9 and 2 p.m. Sept. 9 and 10. Tickets and info: 254-947-3456 or www.saladosilverspur.com.

SEPTEMBER 9

Salado Volunteer Fire Department Fish Fry, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Salado Intermediate School. More details TBA.

SEPTEMBER 13

Salado Lions Club meeting, 11:30 a.m. at the Salado Civic Center. Speaker: Sam Lindsey, Lions Club District Director.

SEPTEMBER 14

Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary luncheon, at Stagecoach Inn. Program will be given by Salado Community Chorus.

SEPTEMBER 14

Public Arts League of Salado (PALS) hosts a juried showing of the work of the Salado Village Artists (a group of over 80 artists), at the home of Gwen and Joe Morrison, 1201 Rose Lane,

in Salado, 6-8 p.m. The community is invited.

SEPTEMBER 15

Salado Eagle football, versus Hamilton Bulldogs, 7:30 p.m. in Salado.

SEPTEMBER 15-17

Salado Silver Spur Theater presents "Don't Touch that Dial", with live music and Vaudeville-style entertainment. Show times: 7:30 p.m. Sept. 15 and 16 and 2 p.m. Sept. 16 and 17. Tickets and info: 254-947-3456 or www.saladosilverspur.com.

SEPTEMBER 16

Mill Creek Community Association Fall Picnic, 6:30 p.m. at Sherrill Park. Johnny's Steakhouse will cater.

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.

SEPTEMBER 20-22

Salado Village Artists Painting Workshop, with D.K. Nichols, of Rockdale. Workshop will focus on abstract color and design; student will have choice of medium. Price: \$155. Info: email phairal@vvm.com.

SEPTEMBER 22-24

Salado Silver Spur Theater presents "Don't Touch that Dial", with live music and Vaudeville-style entertainment. Show times: 7:30 p.m. Sept. 22 and 23 and 2 p.m. Sept. 23 and 24. Tickets and info: 254-947-3456 or www.saladosilverspur.com.

SEPTEMBER 27

Salado Lions Club meeting, 11:30 a.m. at the Salado Civic Center. Speaker: Ingrid Schunder, Director of the Lone Star Lions Eye Bank.

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August 24, 2006 SALADO Village Voice, Page 3B

SEPTEMBER 29-Oct. 1

Salado Silver Spur Theater hosts "Captured Rainbow," a one-man musical by **Richard Paul Thomas**. Admission: \$12 for adults (\$8 matinee), \$10 for seniors, students and military (\$8 matinee), \$5 for children under 12. Showtimes: 7:30 p.m. Sept. 29 and 30, 2 p.m. Oct. 1. Box office opens one hour before show time. Info: 254-947-3456.

SEPTEMBER 29

Salado Eagle football, district opener, versus Little River-Academy Bumblebees, 7:30 p.m. in Academy.

OCTOBER 6

Salado Eagle football, versus Jarrell Cougars, 7:30 p.m. in Salado.

OCTOBER 7-8

Auditions for Tablerock's annual A Christmas Carol production, 3 p.m. both days. Info: 254-947-9205 or email harrycsweet@sbcglobal.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 10

Salado Garden Club meeting, 10 a.m. at the Salado Civic Center. Guest speaker: John Drumgoole, TV Garden Show host. Free and open to the public. Info: 254-947-3617.

OCTOBER 11

Salado Lions Club meeting, 11:30 a.m. at the Salado Civic Center. Speaker: Skip Blancet.

OCTOBER 12-14

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

OCTOBER 13

Salado Eagle football, versus Rogers Eagles, 7:30 p.m. in Rogers.

OCTOBER 13-15

Stone Carving Exhibition, sponsored by Public Arts League of Salado (PALS), 9 a.m.-5 p.m. each day on Main Street. There will be at least five artists carving on Texas limestone blocks; finished pieces will be juried Oct. 15 and awards will be presented. Sculptures will be placed within the Village of Salado.

OCTOBER 14

Salado Youth Fair Boosters Annual Raffle and Dinner at the Bell County Expo Center. Grand prize: Rhino utility vehicle. Tickets: \$100, with mulligan tickets at

\$25. A dinner for two comes with the purchase of each ticket, and many silent auction items will be available. Funds support Salado FFA, FCCLA and 4-H. More details TBA.

OCTOBER 18

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

OCTOBER 20

Salado Eagle football, versus Lago Vista Vikings, 7:30 p.m. in Salado. Homecoming.

OCTOBER 21

Salado Area Republican Women Fine China Luncheon, noon at Stagecoach Inn Longhorn Room. Info: 254-947-3617.

OCTOBER 21

Annual Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament, 8 a.m. start at Mill Creek. Info: Salado Chamber, 254-947-5040.

OCTOBER 21

Salado Education Foundation Cattleman's Ball at Tenroc Ranch. Evening will include music from the Freddie Fuller band, barbecue, live and silent auctions and a casino. Tickets now on sale for \$75 per person, available at the Salado ISD Central Office or at Century 21-Bill Bartlett. For more information call 254-947-1958.

OCTOBER 25

Salado Lions Club meeting, 11:30 a.m. at the Salado Civic Center. Speaker: Pete Fredenburg, Head Football Coach at UMHB.

OCTOBER 27

Salado Eagle football, versus Troy Trojans, 7:30 p.m. in Troy.

OCTOBER 28-29

Tablerock's Fright Trail 7:30-10:30 p.m.

both nights. Two trails to choose from. Concessions available. Admission: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under. Info: 254-947-9205 or email tablerock1@aol.com.

NOVEMBER 3

Salado Eagle football, versus Florence Buffaloes, 7:30 p.m. in Florence.

NOVEMBER 4

Eleventh Annual Salado United Methodist Church Garden Gui Luncheon and Fashion Show, 12:30 p.m. at 6 Royal Street. Fashion Alice's of Salado. Tic \$12 each. Info: SUMC church office, 254-945-482.

NOVEMBER 8

Salado Lions Club meeting, 11:30 a.m. at the Salado Civic Center. Speaker: Wallace Davis, writer and lecturer, past president of Wayland Baptist University.

NOVEMBER 10

Salado Eagle football,

regular season finale, versus Rosebud-Lott Cougars, 7:30 p.m. in Salado.

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

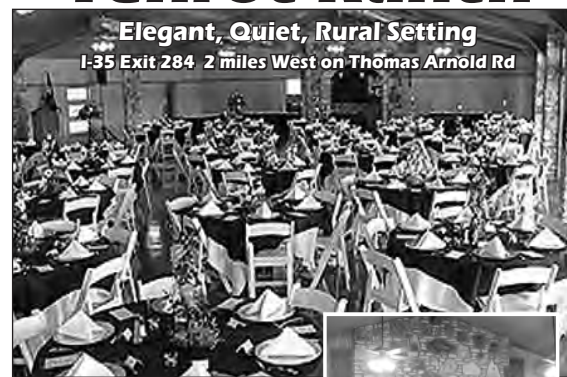
open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children. Info: 254-947-9205 or www.tablerock.org.

DECEMBER 1-3

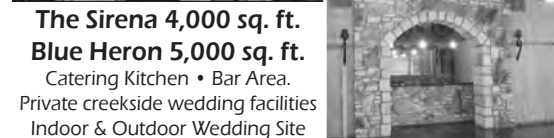
Salado Historical Society's Annual Christ-

mas Tour of Homes. More details TBA.
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FSB CEO details Texas banking



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Donald Grobowsky, Chairman and CEO First State Bank, was the guest speaker for the Salado Rotary Club's Aug. 15 luncheon meeting at Stagecoach Inn. Grobowsky, a graduate of the University of Texas with a degree in accounting, joined First State Bank in Temple in 1976.



Donald Grobowsky



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Grobowsky began by summarizing the Texas bank crisis of the 1980s, when a good number of the major Texas banks were forced into bankruptcy, and were then acquired by national bank chains, such as Chase, Capital One and J.P. Morgan.

In effect, Grobowsky said, the oil and real estate situation in Texas in the 1980s that led William Seidman, then Chairman of the FDIC, to decide that Texas banks were in more jeopardy than the more established eastern banks. Essentially, he continued, Seidman pressured Texas banks to sell their assets to the larger eastern banks. He cited the book, "The Great Texas Banking Crash," by Jody Grant,

former CEO of Texas American Bancshares, as one reference.

First State, Grobowsky noted, is therefore one of the relatively few remaining true Texas banks. The result of the 80s bank crisis in Texas is that branches of these major banks are visible "on every corner" in pursuit of deposits, according to Grobowsky. As an example, he cited the city of Hutto, where there are 20 banks within an eight-mile stretch of highway, with Chase controlling five of those banks and Wachovia four.

Grobowsky also noted that the "experts" at one time were predicting the demise of the "brick and mortar bank" and the takeover of internet banking. This has not happened because internet banks do not have the "network" to

develop deposits and do not provide the personal service customers expect from their bank, he says.

On the other hand, he continued, technology has allowed banks to streamline, and where formerly a bank had a ratio of \$1 million per employee, the number has dropped to one employee for \$4 million in assets.

First State Bank has 26 locations in 19 communities; with \$800 million in total assets, \$500 million in loans and \$650 million in deposits. The local branch has \$55 million in assets and six employees. The corporation also owns title companies in three Counties, as well as a "Factoring Company" which collects debts and markets insurance products.

--REPORTED BY GERRY REIHSEN

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Youth Soccer sign ups Aug. 26 at Brookshires

The Salado Youth Soccer Association will hold soccer sign ups for the Fall 2006 Season from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Aug. 26 in the parking lot of the Salado Brookshire Brothers grocery store.

through-12 are eligible to sign up and participate in the upcoming soccer season for boys and girls teams.

Cost to register for the season is \$55 per child.

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Does the FDA have your back?

If you have been following this column for any amount of time, you know I encourage people to eat foods in their natural state.

If you are interested in optimal health, consuming real whole foods is one of the best ways to slow aging and improve well-being. I realize that many people don't believe that this type of nutritional program is practical so they consume a number of foods that I would call modern or even processed. Now, if you are going to consume these types of foods, you must read labels and steer clear of ingredients that will cause ill health: trans-fats, high-fructose, MSG, etc.

Unfortunately, the truth is, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is *not* checking for inaccurate nutritional information on labels. The Center for Science in the Public Interest CSPI has found that the FDA is only checking to see if there was a Nutrition Facts panel on the product tested. Yes, the report claims that the FDA checked 28,000 food labels for inaccurate nutritional information, but all they checked over a fourteen month period was if the label was present, not its accuracy. The FDA never tested the contents of the packages. What ever happened to actually being able to trust what you read?

LIFESTYLE AND WELLNESS

By KEVIN McCAULEY



"The FDA's report to Congress demonstrates that the specific issues of concern to the Committee - the accuracy of Nutrition Facts labels and misleading health-related claims that make it difficult for Americans to comply with federal dietary advice - have been the casualty of not only budget cuts, but a lack of commitment on the part of the Agency to fulfill its mission," wrote CSPI legal director Bruce Silverglade to the Congressional committees responsible for FDA appropriations. "The FDA should be cracking down on claims for bogus 'whole wheat' products, deceptive '0 trans fat' claims, inaccurate 'Nutrition Facts' labels, and misleading statements like 'made with real fruit', not just eyeballing labels to make sure that information is printed in the required format."

If the FDA is having a difficult time being forthright with Congress, I imagine their interest with the public's concern is more than waning.

There is some hope though. The CSPI has urged the Congressional committees to direct the FDA to: (1) conduct supermarket sweeps to stop misleading health-

related claims; (2) systematically test the accuracy of Nutrition Facts labels; (3) give labeling enforcement higher priority during inspections of manufacturing facilities and distribution facilities; (4) put a stop to marketplace fads before they get out of hand; and (5) increase funding to the FDA division responsible for food labeling.

The FDA isn't going to be motivated to quickly take care of this issue because there isn't any money in it. The majority of the FDA's focus is on the drug industry, because that's where the money is. So, what can you do until

you are comfortable with what you are "really" eating?

If you combine the FDA's lack of effort in over-seeing the improvement of everyday food label claims, and the ability of the manufactured food industry to mislead the public with unknown and misunderstood ingredient names, we need to really make an effort to know what we are putting in our bodies.

Here are some tips to ensure that you know exactly what you are eating:

- Don't eat packaged or processed foods
- Eat whole foods
- Make your food at home

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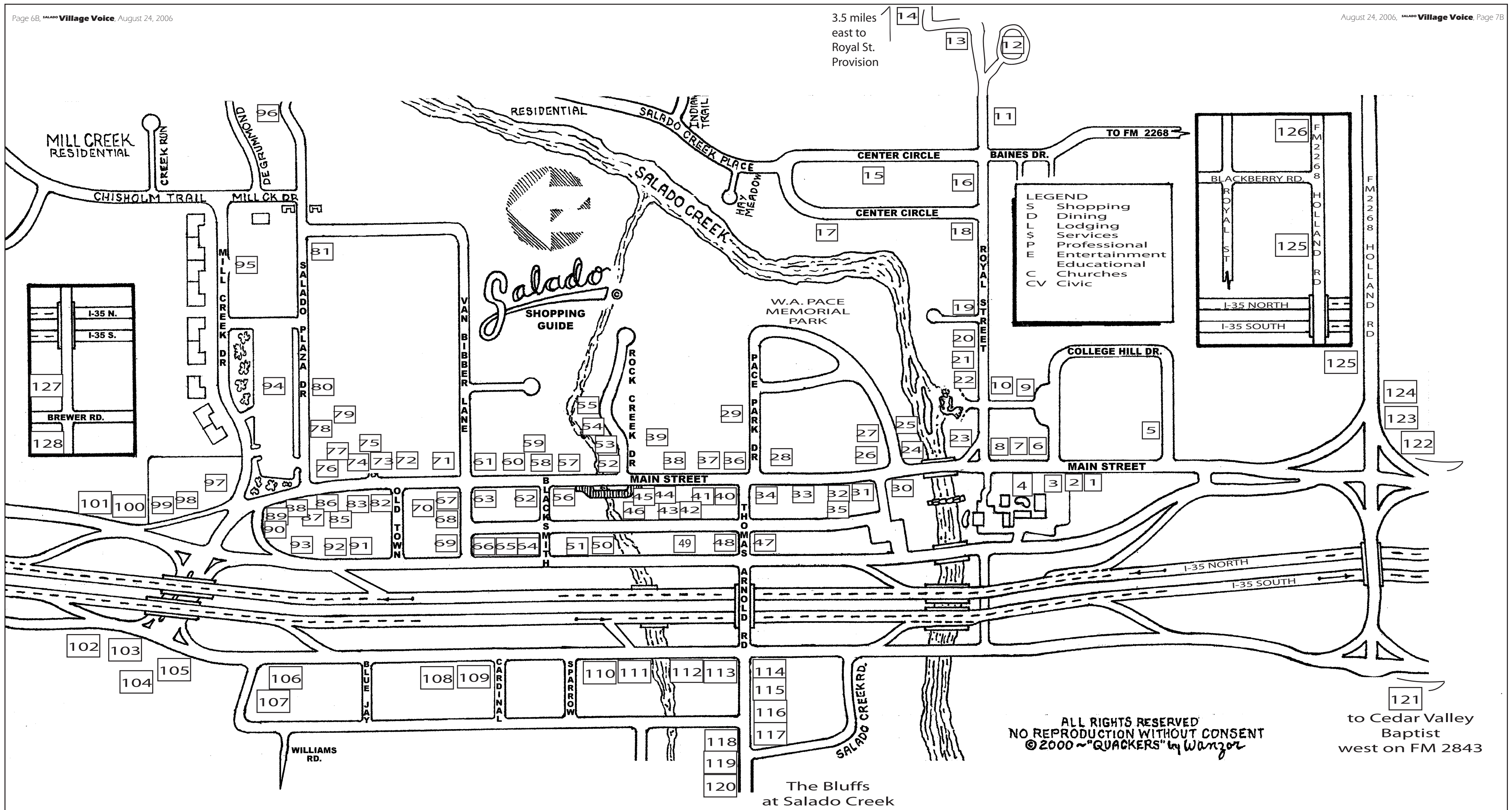
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4. Central Texas Area Museum 254/947-5232 E 8. SHADY VILLA Gregory's 254/947-5703 S Sweet Nut Things 254/947-8088 S Shyenne's of Salado 254/947-9215 S 11. Tablerock Amphitheatre 254/947-9205 E 13. Salado United Methodist Church 254/947-5482 C 14. Royal Street Provision 254/947-3350 L Country Inn (3.5 miles east on Royal)	30. First Baptist Church 254/947-5465 C 31. Salado Mansion 254/947-5157 D 32. THE VERANDA First Texas Brokerage 254/947-5577 \$ 33. First State Bank 254/947-5852 \$ 34. FIRST CENTRE at 40 N. Main Alice's 254/947-9000 S Chameleon Clothier 254/947-7104 S First Community Title 254/947-8480 \$ 35. Salado Masonic Lodge #296 CV 36. Christy's of Salado 254/947-0561 S 37. Inn at Salado 254/947-0027 L 38. SALADO SQUARE Browning's Courtyard Cafe 254/947-8666 D Carden's 254/947-0300 S Linda Rountree Pritchard 254/947-4263 P Main Street Place 254/947-9908 S 39. The Range at the Barton House 254/947-3828 D 40. Family Dentistry 254/947-5242 P Dr. Douglas B. Willingham Mud Pies Pottery 254/947-0281 S	44. Salado Haus 254/947-1868 S 45. Sweet Dreams 254/947-9200 S 48. A Touch of Heaven 254/947-5543 \$ 254/535-6676 49. Roy T's Old Salado Bakery \$ 50. Farmers Insurance 254/947-0995 \$ Zbrank Agency Salado Fire Department 254/947-8961 CV 51. Salado Church of Christ 254/947-5241 CV ROCK CREEK 53. Splendors of Salado 254/947-3630 S 54. Charlotte's of Salado 254/947-0240 S 56. OLD CHURCH PLACE The Front Row Emporium 254/947-5831 S 57. THE COLONY Griffith Fine Art 254/947-3177 S 59. The Iron Gardens 254/368-1928 S Watersong Massage 254/947-0042 P 61. SALADO CIVIC SQUARE Joe Read State Farm Agency 254/947-3599 \$ Properties by Larry Sands 254/947-5580 \$ Uncommon Grounds Cafe 254/947-3354 D	70. STAGESTOP RETAIL CENTER Angelic Herbs 254/947-1909 S A Sewing Basket 254/947-5423 S 71. SALADO CIVIC CENTER Salado Civic Center 254/947-8300 CV Chamber of Commerce 254/947-5040 CV Historical Society CV SISD Administration 254/947-5479 E Village Art Center 72. The Halley House 254/947-1000 L 73. CARRIAGE PLACE SQUARE Salado Tanning & Fitness 254/947-5814 \$ ARCHANGEL ON MAIN 74. Merle Norman Cosmetics 254/947-9993 S Etrulia's 254/947-0504 S Salado Wine Seller 254/947-8011 S 76. ArchAngel Antiques & Architectural Salvage 254/947-5933 S 79. Presbyterian Church of Salado 254/947-8106 C	82. OLD TOWN SALADO Cathy's Boardwalk Cafe 254/947-8162 D Texan by Design 254/947-4479 S 87. Century 21 Bill Bartlett Real Estate \$ 254/947-5050 88. The Personal Wealth Coach 254/947-1111 \$ 94. SALADO PLAZA Salado Village Voice 254/947-5321 \$ Edward D. Jones 254/947-5128 \$ Monteith Abstract & Title Co. 254/947-3922 \$ RE/MAX Gold Team 254/947-4011 \$ Salado Chiropractic 254/947-BACK P Salado Eye Care 254/947-LENS P Village Pharmacy 254/947-3185 \$ 96. Mill Creek Golf & Country Club 254/947-5144 D,L 97. Salado Public Library 254/947-9191 E 98. Salado Cleaners 254/947-7299 \$ 100. Village Realty 254/947-0342 \$ 102. Robertson's Hams and The Choppin' Block 254/947-5562 S 104. Fairway Golf Carts 254/947-4065 S 108. Scissors Hair and Nails 254/947-9001 \$ 111. Super 8 Motel 254/947-5000 L	

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Historical Buildings — FROM PAGE 1B

Real estate broker and builder, Bill Bartlett, who had purchased the frame house, contacted Denman and offered to donate the cabin to the Historical Society. Members of the society and other volunteers worked to dismantle the cabin, find a place to store its remains, and

begin plans for its restoration.

It was over four years later that plans were finalized to begin the restoration and find a permanent home for the cabin. The Salado Independent School District, which owned the Red School property, granted permission to have the cabin placed on the school campus.

The Society contacted archeologist Alton Briggs to inspect and study the cabin and surrounding area before the cabin was dismantled and then do further study of the grounds after the removal of the cabin.

Gerron Heit, a specialist in restoration for

the Texas Historical Commission, was also consulted. It was necessary for studies to be done which were related to previous owners, time periods involved, and local history during the life span of the cabin's history. This would provide reliable information which would answer questions about the age and usage of the cabin.

The cabin had two large rooms, each being 12 feet by 12 feet, two doors, two windows and two fireplaces. There was no dog trot. This suggested that the cabin was used for something other than a place to live. There were no household related artifacts.

Artifacts found indicated the presence of children, school-related articles, broken toys, buttons and beads, for an extended period of time. This led the workers to believe that the building had been used for a school for a period of time.

There was evidence of a nearby area which was probably a turnaround area for stages and wagons. A United States Post Office had been opened in 1852 and there was evidence of settlers having moved into the area prior to that time. A mail route between Austin and Waco was begun in 1850 and a weekly stage line was begun in 1852.

Taxes were paid by George Burney, the mail contractor, in 1850, but no taxes were paid from 1851-1860. This indicated in likelihood that there was a tenant, not an owner, occupying the building, which was likely built in 1851 and was used as a building catering to the public. All of this led the Society to believe that this Boles-Aiken Cabin housed the first Post Office in Salado, and was a stage stop and inn, and served as a school for a time.

The name "Boles-Aiken" was chosen because Benjamin Boles and Col. Hermon Aiken were the first two owners of the land where the cabin was built.

The plans for restoration were drawn up by architect Tim Brown, and work was completed by artist and builder Lonnie Edwards and a crew of volunteers.

The cabin was retored to its original state and was dedicated on July 4, 1991. It is used as a meeting place for members of the Log Cabin Chapter of Children of the Republic of Texas.

Students of Texas History classes in area schools visit the cabin and study the history, the furnishings, and a bit about how Texas pioneers lived. The cabin is visited by many tour groups each year. It is open to visitors during the Christmas Stroll, Christmas Parade, Antique Shows and the Art Fair. Care and maintenance is provided by the Salado Historical Society.

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Natural gardener Dromgoole to address Garden Club in October

The Salado Garden Club will meet 10 a.m. Aug. 29 at the Presbyterian Church of Salado for the express purpose of discussing the possibility of landscaping the municipal building. The club was successful in earning some funds from the recent spring Yard and Garden Tour and is considering ideas to help with the landscaping project for the city.

In addition, according to president Barclay McCort, in October the group will host well-known natural gardener, John Dromgoole. This program will be held 10-11 a.m. Oct. 10 at the Salado Civic Center, and is open to the public.

Dromgoole, owner of The Natural Gardener

Nursery and Lady Bug Natural Brand, has been involved in the advancement of organic gardening and environmental issues for over 30 years. His nursery has been voted "Best Nursery" eight times in the *Austin Chronicle's* Best of Austin poll, and is known for supplying organic products, native and well-adapted plants, as well as bulk compost, soils and mulches. The gardens at his store have been featured in *Texas Highways*, *Herb Companion* and *Fine Gardening* magazines.

His radio show, "Gardening Naturally," has been on the air on KLBJ AM 590 for 25



John Dromgoole

years. Gardening Naturally is a bi-weekly (every Saturday and Sunday) question-and-answer program that focuses on the organic technique for homeowners and weekend gardeners. He is also the host of Backyard Basics on KLRU (PBS, Austin) TV's weekly show, Central Texas Gardener, and the Weekend Gardener on KXAN TV's Saturday First Cast.

In addition, Dromgoole was the originator of the City of Austin's "Chemical Clean-Up Day," which has become an annual event, and has now established a permanent drop-off site. He was also a co-author on the Texas Department of Agriculture's original task force to establish standards for the organic

certification of farms in Texas. In 2002, Dromgoole was awarded the Dennis Hobbs Individual Achievement Award by Keep Austin Beautiful for his contribution to many different Austin and surrounding area non-profit groups, schools and the general public.

His gardening segment on KXAN's FirstCast airs 7:20 a.m. on Saturdays, in Channel 36, and his Backyard Basics segment of Central Texas Gardener on Austin's public television stations airs on the following times: KLRU Channel 42, noon on Saturdays and 12:30 p.m. on Thursdays; KLRU2 (cable), 10 a.m. Wednesdays and 9 p.m. Saturdays.

ABWA discusses conference results

The Executive Board and several ABWA chapter members of the Central Texas American Business Women's Association held its regular board meeting Aug. 10 at the home of Shirley Carey, council vice president.

Vivian Lewis, president of the council, asked for reports from attendees regarding the results of the July 15 leadership conference, "Connect - Your Passport to Effective Communication." Karin Oaks, council treasurer, reported on the financial success and Nora Garcia, council secretary, gave a report on the attendance. The number of members and guests exceeded the prior year, as did the number of vendors.

The three speakers, Marcus Carr, Tina Ady and Judy Brady, presented the topics. Shirley Carr was the sponsor/general chair of the event.

In other business, Wanona Stallings, Ex-Officio, reported that changes will be made in the manner of meeting times and functions of the council, to agree with the rules from National Headquarters of ABWA.

The next council meeting, celebrating ABWA Day and inductions into the Central Texas Women's Hall of Fame, will be Sept. 14 at the Stagecoach Inn, hosted by Red Poppy of Texas Chapter, Georgetown.

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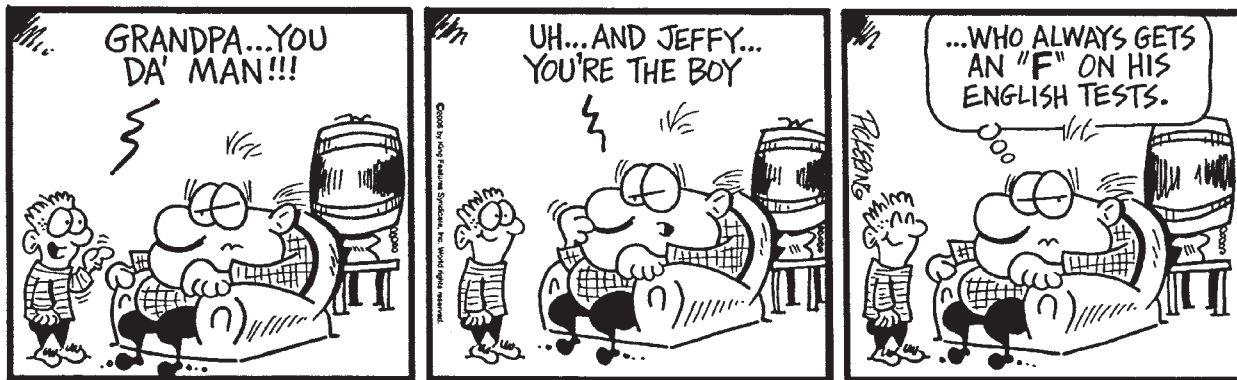
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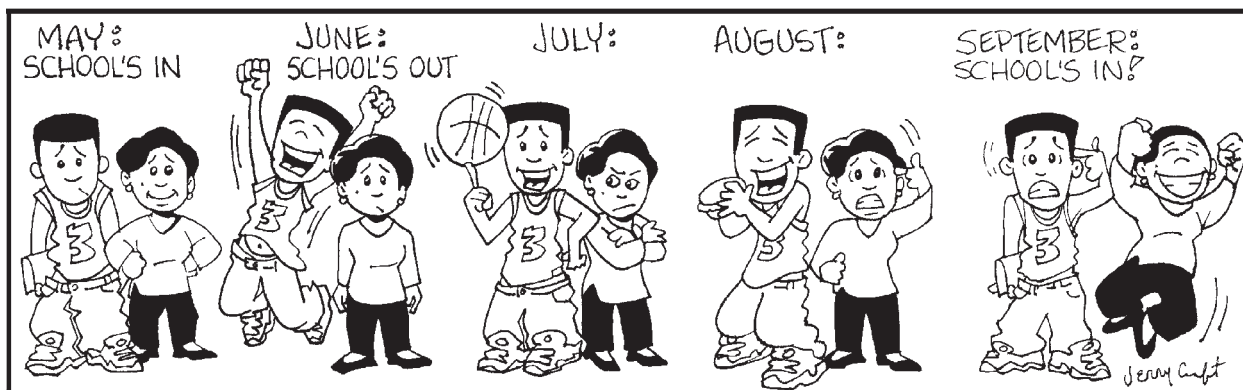
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- Black swallowtail caterpillar**
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- Painted Lady caterpillar**
- Monarch caterpillar**

Butterfly hatchlings are particular about the plants they can eat. If an egg is not placed on the correct plant, the caterpillar from that egg will not survive.

like to eat:

- Dill, parsley, fennel, carrot
- Alfalfa, clover
- Thistle, hollyhock, sunflower
- Milkweed

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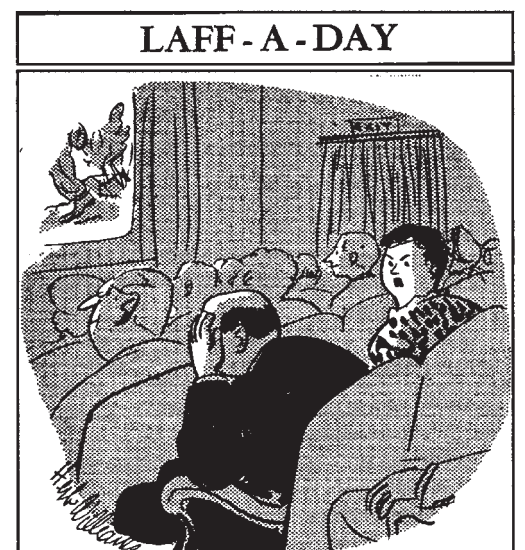
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"Oh, stop thinking about the stacked dishes!"

The similarities between travel and travail

by
Tumbleweed
Smith



You need to have all the levity you can when you travel. My two sons were spending some quality time in Las Vegas recently and when they went to a restaurant for dinner, the hostess approached their table and said, "Enjoy, your waiter will be right with you." Kevin, my oldest, looked at his brother BZ and said, "Hmmm, 'Enjoy' is a funny name for a waiter. BZ replied, "I thought 'Right With You' was a funny name. They laughed for 10 minutes. I do have clever sons.

A professor friend of mine used to joke about the word travel coming from the word travail. I laughed when he said it, but I've found out it makes sense.

There are so many

things that can go wrong. Perhaps the most anxiety comes on the way to the airport at the start of the journey. You hope the plane is on time. You hope you can make your connecting flights. You hope your carry on luggage will fit in the overhead bin. (I heard the other day there are two types of luggage: lost and carry-on.) We always carry-on. Once I had a bag lost coming back from South Africa. Instead of going to Midland, Texas it went to

London, England. That big store somewhere up north that sells items from lost luggage indicates a lot of people don't re-connect with their luggage.

Another worry is your reservation at a hotel. Once we had made reservations online for a room in San Francisco and when we got to the hotel, there was no record of our reservation. On the other hand, I phoned a motel in Crockett the other day and tried to reserve a room

for two nights. They told me they had no rooms. I contacted the same motel on the Internet and got a room for two nights.

On a trip, you hope you have the right clothes. You hope all the activities you've planned work out OK. Travelers have plenty to worry about.

I did some research on the word travel and discovered that Frommer's travel guide says travel comes from the French word travail, meaning hardship. I did some further research and found that Frommer (whose book, Europe on \$5 a Day got me all over Europe when I was a soldier) was pretty close. Random House says the modern French meaning of travail is 'work' and goes on to say that way back in the 13th century, when English borrowed the word from French, it could mean either 'work' or 'torture'.

Travel goes all the way back to Vulgar Latin tre-paliare meaning a three-pointed stake. By the end of the 12th century, the Old French word travailler also referred to childbirth. In the 13th century, English borrowed the word, giving us the Middle English form travaillen, meaning 'toil' or 'trouble'. Early in the 14th century the meaning shifted to the modern sense 'to travel'. The semantic connection was clear to medieval travelers who sometimes walked to their destination and slept on the ground. Travel for them was a lot of work, although different from being tormented with a three-staked torture device.

Temple Singles plan dance at Bo's Barn

The Temple Chapter of the Texas Association of Single Adults will hold a single's dance 6-10 p.m. Sept. 3, at Bo's Barn in Salado.

The country and western band Santa Fe will provide live music. Door donations are \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. All single adults over 21 years of age are welcome to attend all TASA chapter dances and activities. Memberships and newsletters are available at all functions.

In addition, the TASA will hold its monthly business meeting 7 p.m. Sept. 6 at Sharon Jean's Restaurant, located at I-35 and Exit 305 in Temple. Members are encouraged to attend. Non-members are welcome as guests. Anyone wishing to eat should arrive early.

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You can afford custom furniture

Think custom furniture is too expensive? "Not so," according to Bob Pascoe, owner of The Salado Sawmill, an artisan's workshop and gallery. "All things considered, custom furniture is very affordable." Pascoe notes that today's brand name manufacturers use cost-cutting techniques that reduce overall quality. He compares the solid wood and traditional joinery he uses to the chipboard, fake wood grain, and mechanical fasteners found in store-bought pieces. "With traditional building techniques, a custom piece will last for generations," Pascoe says.

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.

The Sawmill, a division of XtraWorX, LLC, is located at 409 Salado Plaza at the entrance to Mill Creek in Salado.

Call Bob at 254-947-0137 or visit www.saladosawmill.com.

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\$229,000: 499 Cottontail Trail, Temple. 4 BR/2 BA on 29 acres. Room for horses, houses, crops or cattle.



\$229,000: 380 Salado Creek Rd., Salado. 4 BR/3 BA, close to Salado schools. Fenced back yard.



\$229,000: 1104 South Ridge Rd., Salado. Close to Mill Creek Golf Course. 4 BR with master downstairs.



\$247,500: 1236 Crystal Springs, Salado. 3 BR/2 BA on 4.34 acres in Hidden Springs. Heavily wooded.



\$249,000: 1635 Hidden Springs, Salado. Nice covered back porch. 3 BR/2 BA on 2.29 in Hidden Springs.



\$249,700: 3416 Chisholm Trail, Salado. Great floor plan. Private wing with 4th bedroom and 3rd bath are handicap accessible.



\$475,000: 1194 Hidden Springs, Salado. 4 BR/3 BA with tri-colored limestone, cedar accents and metal roof. 2.99 acres.



\$995,000: 12261 Blackberry Rd., Belton. 4 BR/3 BA home on 45 acres. Separate guest quarters, barn and outdoor kitchen.

Residential Listings

2802 FM 3117, Temple	\$ 80,000
611 Harper St., Holland	\$ 115,000
11213 Oak Tree, Salado	\$ 139,700
8721 Oakbend Cove, Temple	\$ 147,500
124 Prairie Lane, Salado	\$ 152,700
11222 Salado Hts., Salado	\$ 154,900
337 Meadow Valley Loop, Jarrell	\$ 165,000
3901 Chisholm Tr. #12, Salado	\$ 169,900
825 Park Dr., Salado	\$ 177,000
335 College Hill, Salado	\$ 194,500
605 Spring Ct., Belton	\$ 211,900
1425 Bishop Dr., Salado	\$ 219,000
2408 Smith Bluff Rd., Salado	\$ 219,500
616 Spring Ct., Belton	\$ 224,900
499 Cottontail Tr., Temple - 29 acs.	\$ 229,000
380 Salado Creek Rd., Salado	\$ 229,000
1104 S. Ridge, Salado	\$ 229,000
1221 Yellow Rose, Salado	\$ 232,500
115 Tallwood Circle, Salado	\$ 238,700
4401 Solana Ranch Rd., Salado	\$ 239,700
1236 Crystal Springs, Salado	\$ 247,500
1635 Hidden Springs, Salado	\$ 249,000
3416 Chisholm Trail, Salado	\$ 249,700
2010 Old Mill Rd., Salado	\$ 259,000
1610 Chaparral, Salado	\$ 259,900
1003 Heritage Lane, Belton	\$ 272,000
513 Royal View, Salado	\$ 299,000
4601 FM 2843, Salado	\$ 300,000
2716 Winner's Circle, Salado	\$ 324,700

818 Hillcrest Dr., Salado	\$ 349,500
200 Carriage House, Salado	\$ 349,700
608 Whispering Oaks, Salado	\$ 385,700
2743 Hester Way, Salado	\$ 386,900
1194 Hidden Springs Dr., Salado	\$ 475,000
12261 Blackberry Rd., Belton	\$ 995,000

Lots & Homesites

5.24 acres Salado Creek	\$ 279,500
5 acres, Hidden Springs, Indian Pass	\$ 65,500
4 ac, Burgess Rd, Little River	\$ 50,000
Lot 15, Eagle Rock Ranch	\$ 59,500
Heritage Subdivision: 1-3 acre wooded lots, near Salado, Restricted.	
Mill Creek Lots: Only a FEW Golf Course lots left!!	
Mill Creek Springs I: .81 ac. Large trees	\$ 68,000
Mill Creek Springs III: Only two lots left	\$ 45,000 \$48,000
Mill Creek Springs IV	\$ 29,000 and up
Mill Creek Springs V: Just released	
Views, trees, park & more	\$ 38,000 and up
1014 Arrowhead, Mill Creek, Salado	\$ 55,000

Unimproved Properties

- 9.1 acres: I-35 at Salado, long road frontage.
- 27 acres: NW of Temple airport, Hwy 317, nice homesite, good location.
- 64 acres: Near Temple, live creek, woods, owner finance, will divide.
- 64 acres: Near Academy, Hwy 95, very scenic woods, good road & water.
- 75 acres: South of Salado, good road frontage, lovely views.
- 105 acres: Very scenic, ponds, well improved, near Salado.
- 151 acres: 5 miles S. of Salado, excellent location and view. All or part.



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support during our
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Rita Oden
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1010 BROOKHOLLOW



WOODED LOT ON THE MILL CREEK GOLF COURSE! Great curb appeal, 3 BR and an office, formals, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, 2 car + golf cart garage, workshop. Quiet cul-de-sac location. \$385,800.

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1107 INDIAN TRAIL



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1105 OLD MILL RD., #15



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VIEW OF LAKE BELTON! Secluded gated area in Tanglewood. 3/2 across the street from pool and club house. Great Buy! \$99,800.

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341 WINDMILL HILL



TWO HOMES IN ONE! 5+ acres, 4700 SF, 4/3/2, two kitchens, office, gameroom, formals, hardwood floors, outstanding pool with spa and waterfalls, large trees, view. \$599,800.

12501 SALADO SPRINGS CIRCLE



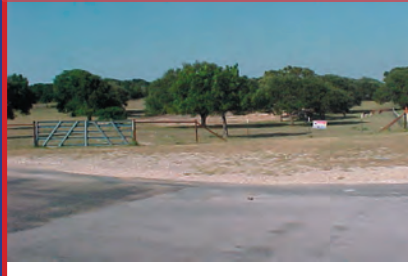
NICELY WOODED 1.14 ACRE LOT with a hilltop home. Updated floors, freshly painted inside and out, vaulted ceilings, Jacuzzi tub and workshop. Lot can also be used for commercial purposes. 2,405 s.f. Reduced to \$192,800 for quick sale.

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TWENTY 10X12 storage units, Salado area. Call for info. **MINI-STORAGE/WAREHOUSE** complex between Lorena and Bruceville. 72 units on 5.16 acres with a 3/2 mobile home and 40X60 fully insulated building with office. \$365,000.

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LAND & LOTS

Mill Creek: Wooded lot with seasonal creek. 900 Hillcrest Dr., \$37,800.
Mill Creek Springs: 0.76 acre golf course lot with nice view. Hester Way near Winner's Circle. \$59,800.
Hidden Springs: 2 acres with trees and view near park and creek. \$26,800.
FM 2843 & Cedar Valley: 12 wooded acres available, excellent homesite.
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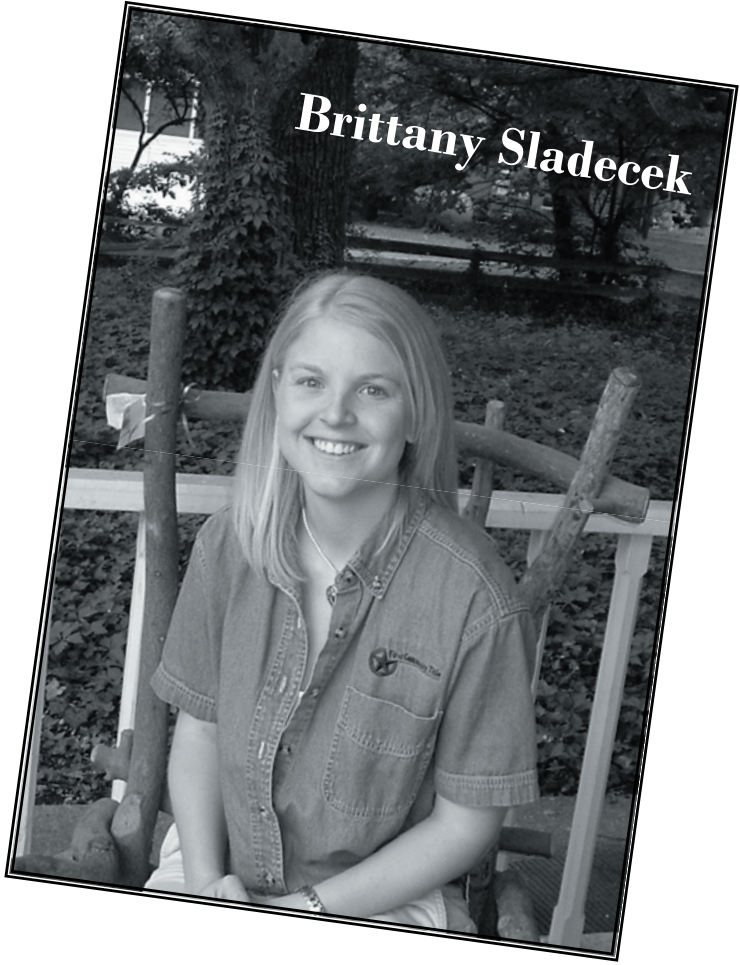
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Garage, Estate Sales
Garage Sale 602 Mill Creek Dr. Saturday and Sunday 9-3 p.m. Formerly Dick's Clubs
8/24p

Garage Sale: Sat. 7 a.m. - 12 noon Woods of Salado off FM 2484 Follow the signs. Tv's, dvd's stereo and surround sound speakers, air hockey, pool and ping-pong table, electronics and much more.
8/24p

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For Sale - Whirlpool washer/dryer set, 6 years old, great condition. \$350
OBO 254-947-0135
8/24b

Heirlooms, 302 N Main St. Salado, TX Moving. All sorts of displays, inventory, merchandise, too many to list 947-0336
8/17-8/24b

New Queen Pillow top Mattress Set Must sell - \$125 Warranty 512-963-0796

King Pillow top Mattress Set \$199 Brand new w/ warranty 512-963-0796

Brand new full size mattress set for sale \$89. New in plastic 512-963-0796

New Luxury mattress sets. King \$450 - Queen \$300 Memory foam \$350
512-963-0796
8/10-8/31b

\$250 Queen Cherry Sleigh bed. Brand new. Still boxed. Can del. 512-963-0796
8/3-8/31b

Black Iron Canopy Bed with Mattress set \$275. Brand new/still boxed. Can deliver. 512-963-0796
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5/25tfnb

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8/24-31b

Roy T's Bakery immediately hiring bakers, cashiers, baristas. Apply in person at 100 N. Church Salado or call 254-947-7181
8/24tfnb

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Broker/Realtor
254-913-1215

MIKE BOWLES
Realtor
254-913-0469



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



2100 Mill Creek
Beautiful home with decking overlooking Salado Creek. Two bedrooms, 2 baths, approx. 16X12 dining room, 18X16 living room, bright kitchen with room for breakfast table, utility room plus a 2 car garage. Priced with furnishings, \$250,000.



1209 Old Mill Road
Great location in Mill Creek. Custom-built, one owner home in need of updating. Nice floor plan with large great room, three bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths, large study with built-ins. Lots of storage. Pretty, private backyard. ~~\$245,000~~. Priced reduced to \$199,900.



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.



1 Jones Circle
Expansive views of Mill Creek 2 Golf Course #6. Large covered patio complete with fountain and grill. This beautiful home offers 4 bedrooms, 2 and a half baths, great room approx. 27'x20' with a WBFP, formal dining, and an oversized garage. Over 3,000 sq ft of luxury living. \$369,000.



4971 FM 2843
Beautiful, well designed home. Located on a curved drive lined with large native trees. Open, bright and airy with an abundance of windows, this home offers approx. 4569 sq. ft. of luxurious living space. There are 3 bedrooms, two and a half baths, two studies, exercise room, huge great room, gourmet kitchen with granite counters and a garage with a bath and lots of storage! \$660,000.



4606 Chestnut Road, Temple
Located on a corner lot with beautiful trees. This well maintained home has 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, a large family room with WBFP, Formal Living and Dining room plus a 2 car garage. Lush landscaping with a rose garden and fully sprinkled. \$172,500.

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
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939-6640
580 W. Loop 121 Belton, TX 76513



Beautiful custom home in Salado with 3 bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths, open living area with stone fireplace, formal and informal dining, kitchen has granite counter tops, double ovens and pantry, extra room for office with french doors, lots of crown molding, whirlpool tub and glassed in shower in master bath, sprinkler system, wired for security, big live oak trees shade back yard. Ready to occupy. \$285,000 Call Bob Howerton.

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Wanted...part-time teacher for preschool class. start immediately. Must be over 18. call Kids' Zone at 947-1153. 8/17-8/31b

Now Hiring. Tues-Friday 9:30-2:30 Old Mill Pizza 947-0700 tfnb

Homes For Sale

Just listed!! 2 BR, 2 BA, 1 car garage town home in Mill Creek!! Over 1,800 sq. ft. Huge SLA w/vaulted ceiling. \$137,500. Exclusive listing!! Call Properties by Larry Sands. 254-913-5467 mobile. 6/29tfnb

New Elegant Estate 4/3/3+ on 3 tree-covered acres. Inviting entrance, high ceilings, crown molding, beautiful kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite counter tops, large fireplace, 3+ car garage and much more. **\$399,000.** Call First Texas Brokerage 947-5577 0202F

Enjoy the front porch of this country home on one acre. Spacious bedrooms make this home a must see! Plenty of room for your horse. Separate well on property. Two car garage has been enclosed for 4th bedroom. This can easily be converted back to full garage. \$154,500. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 07/6tfnf
Two master bedrooms make this home extremely appealing and it has an amazing view

of the golf course. Second story was added in 2004 and encompasses the second master suite. Step out on the second story private deck and view Mill Creek Golf Course. Spectacular condition and tastefully decorated. \$219,000 Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050

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Recover your old, cracked concrete patio

A porch or patio can be one of the most useful exterior areas of your home if covered with an attractive surface material, cleared of all excess junk and with a little thought given to landscaping the area. Unfortunately these spaces are all too often covered with bland concrete which as well as looking rather dull and dreary, may have developed cracks or become stained with grease, oil etc over time. Restoring such areas to a place you would be proud to use for entertaining, outdoor dining or just relaxing may seem like a daunting task. And indeed if the concrete is badly cracked and the surface uneven, generally there is no satisfactory alternative but to rip the lot up and re-lay it.

However if the surface only has hairline cracks and you can be certain that reinforcing mesh was installed when the concrete was laid, it is probable that existing cracks will not open up further (unless your concrete pad is suffering from root damage due to nearby trees). In this case there are a number of alternatives that could be considered to enhance the appearance, including ceramic tiles, terracotta

tiles, clay pavers, slate, natural stone pavers etc.

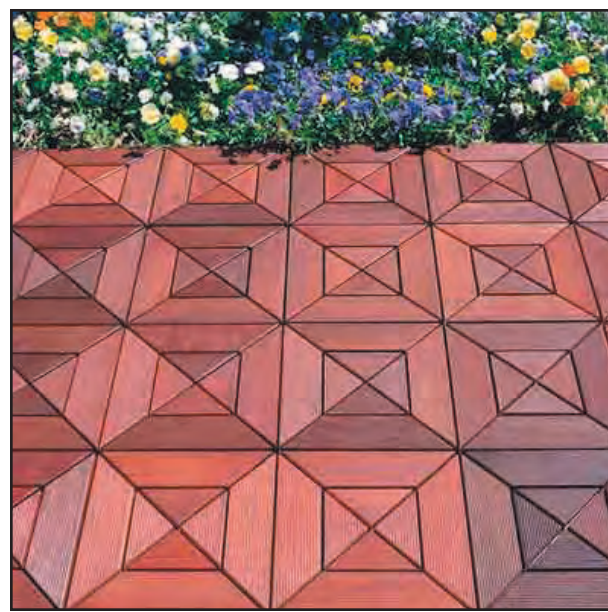
Perhaps one of the best and simplest options however is to use interlocking modular deck tiles. These are simply placed over the surface of the patio or porch and require no adhesives, nails, screws or special surface preparation. Not only are these tiles quite forgiving of small cracks and slight unevenness of the surface, but they can be laid both quickly and easily by anyone without any special skills or tools being required. And as they are not permanently fixed to the concrete base, they can be taken up, moved or added to at will. If you decide to move house you can simply take the tiles with you and lay them in your new location.

Wood tiles can be divided into two basic types. The earliest designs, which are still available today, are constructed of solid wood slats attached to wood bearers underneath. The top wood slats may be either screwed or nailed to the bearers or in some cases, metal staples have been used. Tiles with nailed or stapled slats should be used with caution as the fixings are likely to corrode and/or the slats can work

loose from the bearers. Screwed slats are the much preferred system, but check that screws are corrosion resistant or better still, of stainless steel. Most wood tiles are supplied as single modules with no integral interconnecting devices. Some designs provide limited interconnectivity by means of offset bearers which fit under the adjacent tile. However these tiles are generally not held together with fixed connectors but tend to rely on the outside retaining walls to keep them from moving.

An important consideration with the all wood tile design is that the wood bearers could be subject to prolonged contact with water. Whilst most such tiles are constructed of durable timber, prolonged exposure to water may result in some premature rotting of the bearers, or at the very least, it is possible that the bearers could twist or warp under certain conditions. With no means of interconnection of the tiles, there is a potential for adjacent tile surfaces to be uneven in height, leading to the possibility of tripping.

In the latest, more advanced generation of wood tiles, the wood slats



An easy deck wooden tile system can make recovering an old concrete patio much easier. Visit www.ezydeck.net for information or to find a dealer.

are attached to a plastic mesh base. This not only lifts the wood clear of the concrete which allows any water under the tiles to drain away quickly, but also provides a convenient means to interconnect the tiles. With some tile designs the wood slats have holes drilled in the underside which slot into pins moulded on the plastic base so the slats are a loose fit on the plastic base. In other designs the slats are "press fit" onto the base. The most secure design which is also the simplest to install has a multiple of pre-moulded screw holes in the plastic

base through which screws are inserted to keep the slats securely fixed to the base.

Another advantage of the mesh based tiles compared with the solid wood tiles is that they can be easily cut with a saw or jigsaw to fit around pipes etc. The mesh base has numerous moulded "feet" which ensures the tile remain stable even if a section is removed. In this respect, the tiles with screwed slats probably have an advantage over the loose or press fit slat design as it may be necessary to install an extra screw or two through the pre-moulded

holes in the base to fix any loose slats following any cutting of the tiles.

Whilst some designs use separate clips to connect the tiles, the majority of designs use inbuilt connectors which makes installation faster and easier. These tiles may have "pegs" on two sides and corresponding "loops" on the other two sides, so in certain cases a left hand and right hand version are required.

Probably the easiest and quickest tile to lay however is the type which has an identical set of connecting tabs on each side which mesh with corresponding tabs on adjacent tiles, irrespective of the orientation of the tile. (see for example Ezydeck at www.ezydeck.net) This has the added advantage of allowing more options for the tile maker to produce different tile designs and for the installer to be more creative in the overall patterns in which the tiles can be laid.

As tiles raise the surface level approx. 1 1/4" - 1 1/2" care should be taken at the outer edge of the tiled area to avoid any danger of tripping over the tiles. The major manufacturers

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Patio

FROM PAGE 7C

supply transition strips to overcome this potential problem which are generally designed to clip onto the outer row of tiles to provide a transition from the tile surface to floor level. These reducers will also successfully cover up the plastic tabs on the outer row of tiles.

The majority of the interlocking tiles are approx. 12" x 12" which makes estimating the number of tiles required for a given area an easy task. Many of the all wood tiles and some plastic framed tiles with softwood slats may however be up to 20" x 20" in size, or even larger in some cases. Whilst these can be suitable for large areas or laying as landscape accessories, they are generally not so versatile for smaller areas or areas where tiles must be cut to fit inside confined areas or installed in irregular shaped areas.

All wood tiles designed for installation in exposed exterior situations should be constructed of timber species that are rated as naturally durable under normal conditions and not prone to warping or twisting or significant

cracking. There are a number of alternative species with the above properties which are commonly used by wood tile manufacturers and indeed final selection may often be based on preferred colour of the tiles. Hardwood is normally the timber of choice although pressure treated softwood tiles are also available, particularly in larger 2' x 2' tiles. Hardwood species of the highest rated durability include Ipe, Jarrah, Bangkirai, Cumaru, Teak, Tallowood Other species such as Kempas, Jatoba etc. are rated as slightly lower durability but can also be used in exposed outdoors applications in most circumstances.

Most tiles use wood slats approx. 15mm (5/8") thick. With highly durable and stable lumber species such as Ipe, tiles may be 10 or 12mm thick (approx. 1/2") with no significant disadvantages or apparent longevity issues.

Information provided by www.homeandgardenmakeover.com. Visit their site for more tips and ideas on improving your home and garden.

Check It Out



News & Notes from
Salado Public Library

By Karen Kinnison

Well if you really need another reason to visit the fabulous Salado Public Library--- here it is---we have a front-porch book sale going on!! As you come up the walk, you will have an opportunity to peruse our paperback and hardback selections for sale. We have such generous donors to our library that we have tons of practically new books to sell to patrons at very good prices! Proceeds of course go right back to YOU!!—so we can buy more new books, videos, and audios!!

In addition to our ongoing book sales, now is an especially good time to mosey on up to the library ----the kids have gone back to school!! It's nice and quiet and cool in here and now is the time to pick up some of our new titles for this month like that new James Patterson-- Judge and Jury ---or for all you "murder and mayhem" fans the new Kathy Reich's' -- Break No Bones will be here soon as well as Daniel Silva's "DaVince Code-ish"- The Messenger plus another in that genre-- Resurrection by Tucker Malarkey. And there are also new titles by old standby's!-- Anne Perry, Ruth Rendell, Robin Cook, and Susan Wittig Albert!

If non-fiction is more to your liking, how about a great story in: The Toughest Show on Earth: My Rise and Reign at the Metropolitan by Joseph Volpe!! Or for some current controversy--try Misquoting Jesus: The Story Behind Who Changed The Bible and Why by Bart Ehrman. And in remembrance of the 5th anniversary of 9/11 we have a new book to offer about that day entitled: Between Heaven and Ground Zero: One Woman's Struggle for Survival and Faith in the Ashes of 9/11 by Leslie Hardin.

So come on in and cool off with lots of good reading material. Summer may be officially over and the kids back at school---but tell that to the weather man!!! Leave it to us to keep you going through our typically long hot Texas summer and until that first good, cool Texas "norther" comes through and signals and end to our suffering!!

Believe it or not, one day you will be looking for a good book to snuggle down in front of the fire with!!!! So don't forget your friendly village library where "there is something for everyone"!

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What is status of pollution at beaches in US?

Dear EarthTalk: A friend of mine refuses to swim at our beach near Los Angeles because the water is too polluted. What is the status of beach pollution, and is it safe for my kids and me to take a dip? -- Oscar Jeffries, Santa Monica, CA

Pollution levels are not the same at all beaches, so local conditions dictate whether or not it is safe to swim in the ocean near you. Local officials are required by federal law to monitor coastal pollution levels and post warnings as needed. But some local water quality officials are more diligent than others, so if you have any reason to doubt the cleanliness of the beach water, it is best to stay out.

Beach pollution originates with a variety of sources, including human, animal, agricultural and industrial waste, as well as leaked motor oil and gasoline, among other contaminants flushed out to coastal regions. Swimming in contaminated beach water can expose people to harmful chemicals bacteria and viruses.

According to the U.S.

EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the most common illness associated with exposure to contaminated beach water is gastroenteritis, which rears its ugly head in the form of nausea, vomiting, stomach ache, diarrhea,

headache and sometimes fever. Ear, eye, nose and throat infections can also ensue from swimming in polluted water. In rare cases--though not typically in the U.S. or Canada--swimmers are exposed to more serious diseases such as dysentery, hepatitis, cholera and typhoid fever.

Back in 2000, Congress called on the EPA to update its beach water health standards by 2005 to reflect increased pol-

lution over the past 20 years--when the agency last issued standards. They missed the deadline, so in 2006 the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) filed suit against the EPA for failing to honor its Congressional mandate. On the same day it filed suit, NRDC issued a report showing that beach closings due to hazardous bacterial contamination had jumped 50 percent in Los Angeles County last year alone. Further, across the U.S.

beaches were closed or posted with health advisories 20,000 times in 2005.

According to NRDC, New Hampshire and Delaware had the cleanest ocean beaches, with contamination exceeding federal safety levels in only one percent of the samples taken. But beaches in

California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Rhode Island and South Carolina were in violation of existing contamination standards at least half the time water samples were taken in 2005.

NRDC acknowledges
SEE EARTH TALK, PAGE 10C

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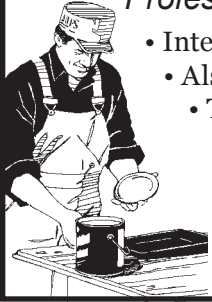
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Earth Talk

that better local monitoring may explain the increased number of closings in 2005, but warns that many beaches deemed safe according to 20-year-old standards may not actually be so. For its part, the EPA reports it will now not be able to issue updated standards until 2011.

North of the border, Canadians can worry less about contaminated ocean beaches due to less developed coastlines. But the Great Lakes that Canada shares with the U.S. are notoriously polluted and the Great Lakes Commission has been working since 2000 to reduce the amount of raw sewage and industrial pollution



PHOTO COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

Beach pollution is not healthy for children and other living things.

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This home with 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths and oversized 3 car garage with 3335 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.

jeopardizing water quality there. As with swimming at ocean beaches, freshwater swimmers should always check with local water authorities before diving in.

CONTACTS: EPA Beach Pollution Info, www.epa.gov/beaches/learn/pollution.html; NRDC Beach Pollution FAQ, www.nrdc.org/water/oceans/qttw.asp; Great Lakes Commission, www.glc.org.

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

Dear EarthTalk: How can I reduce the amount of paper bills that arrive at my home?-- Bill C., via e-mail

Fortunately for the world's dwindling forests, a growing number of financial institutions, utilities and universities are implementing paperless billing options that

not only save paper, but time and money, too.

Students at hundreds of educational institutions across North America are already receiving and paying their tuition bills online, avoiding the hassle of receiving paper bills and paying by mail, while also saving their schools hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in paper, postage and administrative costs.

Forward-thinking companies already offering their customers similar options include Bank of America, BellSouth, Citibank, Qwest, South Carolina Electric & Gas, Southern California Edison, T-Mobile, Verizon Wireless, Wells Fargo and Washington Mutual, among many others.

BellSouth offers "e-bills" that you can print out any time but don't have to. With the click of a mouse you can view your bill, access details and billing history, and make secure payments. You can

SEE PAPER BILLS, PAGE 11C

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Central Texas Regional Transit Advisory Group (CTRTAG) will hold public meetings for the purpose of receiving input on the Central Texas Regional Transportation Coordination Plan. This plan is being developed for the purpose of increasing efficiencies and coordination in transportation services to the public, especially the transportation disadvantaged. Through the public meeting process, the CTRTAG hopes to increase public awareness of mobility options in the region, and to help identify gaps in service and barriers to services that may currently exist.

Dates and Locations:

•August 28, 2006 6:00 pm

at Belton Police & Courts Building,
711 E. 2nd Avenue, Belton, TX

•August 30, 2006 4:00 pm

at Killeen Workforce Center,
300 Cheyenne, Killeen, TX

•August 31, 2006 6:00 pm

at Lampasas Council Chambers,
405 South Main St., Lampasas, TX

pre-schedule so that each monthly bill gets paid on time, or set it up so that funds are remitted only when you authorize it. Southern California Edison's Online Billing and Payment service involves the same routine, with no paper exchange needed between company and consumer, and no need to print out your bills. Both companies send e-mail notices to let you know each time a new bill has been tendered.

At least two companies, PayTrust and XPress Bill Pay, will coordinate the receipt of all of your bills and present them to you online so you can pay any and all routinely from your desktop, even with different bank accounts, and using credit or debit cards or electronic funds transfer. The company lauds this service as one step removed (and paper saved) from "bill pay" services that still require you to "watch your mailbox, collect your bills on the kitchen table and remember to make a payment."

"Electronic bill presentation and payment via the Internet is one of the fastest-growing areas in business," says Nick Rini, a columnist for Telephony,

a trade magazine for communications service providers. "With more than 63 billion checks written annually where 80 percent is some sort of bill payment--either business-to-business or consumer-to-business--substantial cash-management benefits and customer-service opportunities exist for those who use interactive billing and payment," he adds.

One advantage of paperless billing, says

Rini, is that companies can get paid faster than when they must print, fold, stuff, meter, sort and mail paper bills. Rini estimates that, in the U.S. alone, companies could save \$200 million collectively each day if they switched to paperless billing.

"The obvious cost savings come from decreasing, and eventually eliminating, printing and mailing expenses," says Rini, adding that companies usually pay

between 75 cents and \$2.00 for each document generated and mailed. Meanwhile, the same companies end up paying another \$1.25 for each paper check payment they must process, most if

not all of which could be eliminated through online bill payment.

CONTACTS: PayTrust, www.paytrust.com; XPress Bill Pay, www.xpressbillpay.com. GOT AN

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



Water Shut-Offs



You should know where the main water shut-off valve is on your property. You'll need to use that valve if you ever have a major water emergency like a water line break. In fact, every member of your household should know where the valve is. And everyone should know how to close it. It's also a good idea to mark the main shut-off with an easy to locate identification tag.

The plumbing fixtures in your home also have a shut-off valve to use for minor repairs and emergencies. Show family members how to operate them and where they are located on sinks, toilets, water heaters and the washing machine.

To learn more about the Texas Residential Construction Commission, call 877-651-TRCC or visit www.texasrcc.com.



Properties By Larry Sands



Just remodeled & Ready for Occupancy!! NEW wood floors, FRESH interior paint thru-out. STYLISH ceramic floors & appliances in kitchen!! Tremendous big TREES & privacy fenced yard. Priced below \$225,000. Call Larry, TODAY!!



This lovely Salado Landmark can be your new Business address!! The historic Vickrey House at 402 North Main Street, presently home of Seasons of Salado, with 150' frontage on Main and Church Street, is NOW available for your retail shop, tea room, or gallery. Call us for a professional after-hours viewing.

P B L S Properties By Larry Sands

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Mill Creek: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage. Immaculate, huge trees, upgraded kitchen, granite countertops, island, hot tub. \$235,000. Call Peggy at 254-624-4070 for appointment to see this home.



Salado 1.3 acres, gorgeous trees, three minutes from town, recently repainted, 2044 sq.ft. bonus 600 sq' studio or apartment. Owner says Price Reduced to \$159,500. Call Peggy 254-624-4070



2-story, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath in Belton ISD. Beautiful with decorator colors. \$164,900. Call Cindy at 254-760-2387.

Austin stone ranch style home. 10 acres, huge barn, riding arena, coastal. Good area. Spanish tile and gorgeous plank flooring. Immaculate in and out. \$340,000.

Come build your home in the country. Salado 25-40 acres planted in coastal, hardwood trees, wonderful homesite. \$3,800 per acre.

13.25 acres and 96 Doublewide Mobile, Unrestricted, Salado Schools, Water and Electric for 2nd Mobile and water, septic and electri for a third. or live in DW and build your own home. Nice homes in area. \$164,500. Call Peggy



Large lots with views available in Highland Estates near Belton schools and just 5 minutes from the lake. Call Cindy at 254-760-2387.



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Suzanne Payne - Owner/Agent
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2850 Hester Way • Mill Creek • Salado

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

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

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



2288 Chisholm Trail • Mill Creek • Salado

1.5 acre homestead located in Mill Creek. Exquisite 3 bedroom home with designer features. Formal dining and study. Large kitchen with granite countertops and bar with stone accent. Beautiful master suite with whirlpool garden tub and separate shower. Professionally landscaped lawn and huge fenced herb and vegetable garden. Call MJ for private showing. 681-6591



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Virtual Tour!

New home in Mill Creek Springs. Custom craftsmanship seen throughout this 3 BR/2 BA/2 car garage home. Spacious kitchen with Granite counters. Priced at **\$259,900.**



Austin Stone Home northwest of Salado on approximately 2 acres. Large Back Porch! **\$154,900.**



Grand Estate on 4 tree-covered acres. This 4 BR/4 BA/4 GA features spacious great room, granite throughout, large game room, media room. Additional acreage available. **\$549,500.**



Unbelievable Kitchen! Stainless steel propane cooktop, custom cabinets and granite countertops. All on over 2 tree-covered acres. **\$279,900.**



Virtual Tour!

Beautiful Austin stone home in Salado. High ceiling with wood finish, large kitchen and master suite with fireplace. See this 3 BR/3 BA at www.eFirstTexas.com. **\$355,000.**



Great location! 3/2 manufactured home with excellent location in Salado overlooking Salado Creek. Priced at **\$99,900.**



Virtual Tour!

SOLD

Exquisite ranch-style home located on 3 tree-covered acres. Travertine flooring, hardwood floors, granite counters, high ceiling, open floor plan. Priced at **\$299,000.**



Open and Spacious 3/2+ in Mill Creek. Large kitchen, open floorplan, fenced yard and covered porch all for just **\$194,900.**



Virtual Tour!

New Elegant Estate 4/3/3+ on 3 tree-covered acres. Inviting entrance, beautiful kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite countertops, large fireplace, 3+ car garage and much more. **\$389,900.**



Virtual Tour!

3/2.5/2 - Beautiful Traditional Home in Salado. Hardwood Floors, High Ceilings, Granite Countertops, Large Kitchen, and much more! Priced at **\$344,900.**



UNDER CONTRACT

Century old live oak trees invite you to this Austin stone 4 BR/2.5 BA/2 GA home on 2 acres. Wood flooring, high ceilings and beautiful backyard. **\$309,900.**



3/2 - Rare Find located just northwest of Salado. Log Home on over 10 acres with barns all for just **\$199,900.**

Acreage/Lots

240 acres southeast of Salado.
230 acres Hill Country, west of Jarrell. Excellent commercial rock property.
Lots w/ sewage & water on Shady Lane.
145 acres northwest of Salado. Backs up to Corps of Engineers property. **\$3,500 per acre.**
33.17 acres Trees Covered located just Northwest of Salado. **SOLD** 30x40 barn. **\$249,900.**
Approx 13 Acres with excellent homesite with live oaks. **\$125,000.**
10 acres with live oak trees, septic and well northwest of Salado. **\$130,000.**
10 acres oak trees, electricity & well, **\$130,000.**
5 acres in Hidden Springs, lot #271, **\$46,900.**
2.7 acres fronting FM 2843. **\$29,900.**
3.018 acres on FM 2843. Large pecans & live water. **\$35,000.**
44 acres off of Firefly Road between Salado and Florence. Great Trees Will divide.
10 Acre Home Sites starting from **\$99,900.**
Live Oak Trees and Views!
Lot 290 Hidden Springs, **\$49,000.**
Lot overlooking Salado Creek, ~~\$50,000~~ reduced to **\$29,900!**
Lot in The Bluffs of Salado Creek, **\$45,000.**
Royal View lot priced at **\$19,900.**
Indian Trail at Blaylock, lg corner lot, 90x188.
Indian Trail - 90x188.
Lot 231 & 232 Hidden Springs: Over 8 gorgeous tree-covered acres with Willingham Creek frontage. **\$200,000.**

Commercial

1.32 acre fronting I-35 with home, **\$350,000**
30 acres fronting I-35, 1 mile south of Stagecoach Inn.
.87 acres fronting I-35, **\$125,000.**
3 acres fronting I-35, Phase 3. **\$120,000.**
Approx 3.5 acres off College Hill with small home for **\$300,000.**
B&B: Great chance to live in Salado. **SOLD**

Bell County

5+ acres fronting SH 190 and Boxer Road. Great commercial location. Belton city water available. **\$299,000.**
Exit 305 North of Temple. .54 acres with existing station. Excellent business opportunity.

Glenn Hodge
254-718-2000

Ryan Hodge
254-541-2255

Jerry Roberts
254-760-6576

Alan Persky
254-760-2924