

Salado Village Voice

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Salado Homes tour Dec. 1-3

Six beautiful homes, an historic church building and two log cabins will be open to the public Dec. 1-3 during Salado's annual Christmas Stroll.

The Tour of Homes is sponsored every year by the Salado Historical Society. This year, the tour will feature the homes of Jerry and Linda Hill, 101 Salado Creek Place; Jim and Ann Bienski, 803 Rose Way; Gene and Susan Terry, 2517 Winners' Circle; Terry and Jan Whitley, 1317 Jack Nicklaus Circle; Jack Husung, 609 Willow Creek; and Jakie and Dottie Shirley, 3000 W. Amity Rd.

The 19th Century sanctuary of Salado United Methodist Church, recent-



The home of Jim and Ann Bienski will be on tour in December.

ly relocated to the church's new site on Royal Street, will be part of the tour. Restored to its original appearance, it serves as a chapel on the large church campus.

Two historic log cabins, owned by the Salado

Historical Society and located near the Salado Civic Center at the corner of Main Street and Van Bibber Lane, will be open during the Christmas tour. The Boles-Aiken cabin, circa 1852, served as a stage stop, a post office

and a school house. The Denman Cabin, an early 19th century home of the great-great grandfather of Salado Robert Denman, stands on its third site after two previous moves.

Tours of the six homes and three historic structures will be conducted 5-8 p.m. Dec. 1; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 2; and 1-5 p.m. Dec. 3.

Tickets priced at \$15 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under are available at the Civic Center and will also be sold at the doors of the homes.

For more information about the Tour of Homes, turn to page 1B this edition, or click on www.saladovillagevoice.com



Bells will be ringing and voices will be singing during the 24th Annual Salado Christmas Stroll.

Village lights up for 24th Christmas Stroll

The historic Texas Village of Salado's downtown will be frosted in the white lights of the holiday as strolling carolers and traditional musicians will complement the 24th Annual Salado Christmas Stroll Dec. 1-3 and 8-10. The shops, galleries and restaurants throw open their doors to offer an alternative to the bland cookie cutter approach to Christmas found in the malls, big box retail outlets and Walmart.

In the sparkle of thousands of white lights, the lyrics of a Christmas carol drifting from a nearby courtyard, strollers will feel as if they have been let in on a great secret.

Tablerock Amphitheater will present its unique version of "A Christmas Carol" on both weekends of the Stroll.

The annual Historical Society Tour will feature many beautiful homes and historic sites Dec. 1-3.

There will be live seasonal music at various spots around town with strolling carolers, choirs and other musical acts. Turn to the page 2B for the most up-to-date schedule of music and other events.

The First Baptist Church will feature a "live nativity" both weekends of The Stroll.

Christmas Carol Dec. 1-2, 8-9

Tablerock Festival of Salado will present Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol at 7 p.m. on Dec. 1, 2, 8 and 9 at Tablerock's Goodnight Amphitheater on Royal Street in Salado.

The stage adaptation of A Christmas Carol was

written by Harry Sweet. Mr. Sweet will also direct this classic story of Christmas eve in the life of Ebenezer Scrooge, epitome of greed and self-interest, in 1843 London.

Through ghosts and supernatural interventions

Scrooge is given the opportunity to transform himself into a man of compassion.

The 60 cast and crew members include: Charlie Voelter-Scrooge; Donnie Williams-Bob Cratchit; Rush Leigh-Tiny Tim; Howard Horton-Marley;

Ciara Bamsch-Christmas Past; Keith McCormack-Christmas Present; Ashley Barshaw- Christmas Future; Jim Hunter-Nephew Fred; Chase Hall-Young Apprentice Scrooge/Jonathan; Shannon Ashe-Mrs.

SEE TABLEROCK, PAGE 6A

Denmans head parade Nov. 30

Long time Salado residents Robert and Doris Denman will serve as Grand Marshals for the annual Christmas Stroll Parade, which will begin 5 p.m. Nov. 30 on Royal Street and culminate with the lighting of the Village Christmas Tree outside the Civic Center.

The Parade will end at the Salado Civic Center on Main St. with the arrival of Santa Claus atop the Salado fire truck. Salado High School band will perform Christmas music on the grounds of the Civic Center at that time. There will be a community potluck supper in the Meadows Auditorium of the Salado Civic Center. The public is invited to

attend and to bring their favorite dish.

The Denmans have resided in Salado since 1977, when they moved from Austin.

Having been married for 57 years, the Denmans have also been active in the local business, civic and church communities. They operated the Royal Emporium in the Grace Jones Building for 12 years, and later moved their business to the Barton House, where they also made their home for almost 20 years.

Prior to retiring, the couple designed and built another building to house their business, the Royal Emporium. The building was later purchased by

the Salado Public Library District and now houses the town's library.

Both Robert and Doris were founding members of the Tablerock Festival of Salado and the Salado Merchants Association, which is now known as the Salado Business Association. Doris, along with seven other local women, was a founding member of the Salado Historical Society, and organization which Robert currently serves as president. It is a post he has also held in years past. Robert and Doris are also members of the Bell County Historical Commission. Doris is a past president of the Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary.

In addition, following Salado's incorporation Robert served for two years on the Village of Salado Comprehensive Plan Task Force, and the couple has been involved in every Christmas Stroll and Homes Tour since those events began.

Robert is retired from the Texas Highway Department (now TxDOT) after 25 years, and has been involved in real estate in Salado as a salesman, builder and owner.

The Denmans are members of the First Baptist Church of Salado, and Robert has served as a church deacon for approximately 50 years.

The Denmans have three children and six



Robert and Doris Denman

grandchildren. The grandchildren are seventh generation Texans. The Denmans also donated the Moses-Denman Cabin (on Van Bibber) to the Salado Historical Society. The

cabin is located next to the Boles-Aiken Cabin behind the Salado Civic Center, and is open for public tours during the annual Tour of Homes.



Rooted in Salado Since 1979

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Boles-Aiken

Cabin on tour

For more information about the Salado Historical Society Tour of Homes Dec. 1-3, turn to story and photos on Page 1B



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FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas



The culture of corruption loses

The "culture of corruption" was real. That phrase was a much-contested talking point during the past two years, with Democrats touting it as an accurate description of the degraded ethical state of the congressional GOP and Republicans dismissing it as a smear.

Democrats were much closer to the truth. Voters took a good whiff of the odor emanating from Washington and some of their Republican representatives, and recoiled. One-third of Republican losses in the House came in congressional districts where the party had been tainted, to varying degrees, by scandal.

Those seats were in Arizona's 5th, California's 11th, Florida's 16th, New York's 20th, North Carolina's 11th, Pennsylvania's 7th and 10th, Ohio's 18th and Texas' 22nd congressional districts. Drawing from these races, the GOP's message to its ranks should be (taking them in order): If you want to take questionable Native American-tribe money, get entangled with a shady lobbyist, do favors for a client of a shady lobbyist, hit on teenage pages, have domestic-disturbance calls at your house, take bribes, funnel contracts to your lobbyist daughter, allegedly choke your mistress or run a congressional office infested with self-enriching charlatans -- please, go find some other party.

The culture of corruption was really a culture of looking the other way, delaying action and hoping no one would notice. The first step on the slide toward oblivion was the decision of the House Republican conference right after the 2004 elections to reverse a rule that said members of its leadership had to step aside if indicted. It was meant to protect Majority Leader Tom DeLay from a bogus indictment in Texas, but played as a special favor for a powerful player and was unsustainable. Republicans changed the rule back. But the culture-of-corruption theme had been set, and Republicans would play into it

Rich Lowry



right up to Election Day.

As the scandal around Jack Abramoff developed, Republicans should have forced those members most directly implicated - Reps. Tom DeLay and Bob Ney, along with just-defeated Sen. Conrad Burns -- to step aside expeditiously. They didn't, partly for understandable reasons -- delivering bad news to friends and colleagues is always hard. That's why reformers must be zealous. Unfortunately, Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert was the opposite of zealous, refusing to force his members to purge themselves and adopt a wide-ranging, meaningful reform agenda.

Republicans just hoped they could hang on, without voters dwelling on the fact that all they seemed to care about was their own self-perpetuation. If there was ever any chance that strategy would work, it was eliminated by Florida Rep. Mark Foley's disgrace. The scandal again presented an image of a Republican Party resolutely unenergetic in policing itself and consumed with trying to shift the blame once misconduct came to light.

Exit polls show that more voters cited corruption as their top concern than even the Iraq War. Pundits are dismissing this number, but Republicans do so at their own peril. As for cleaning up their own ranks, it is no longer necessary. All elected Republicans in any way associated with scandal are now gone, courtesy of the American voter.

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

Governor's plan to tap teacher pension fund for "start-up" companies termed "hazardous"

No sooner had Governor Rick ("Landslide") Perry recovered from a victory celebration, following his rollicking 39 percent vote total, when he outlined one of the more far-fetched ideas (thus far) in his extraordinarily mediocre six years in office.

It came to light after Perry's staff met with several members of the Teacher Retirement System's Board of Trustees, to "encourage" these gubernatorial appointees to invest \$600 million in venturesome Texas "start-up" companies. Immediate reaction by retirees and investment professionals was unanimous. **Their verdict: "Speculating with public retirement funds in 'high risk' start-up ventures was 'hazardous' and not likely to produce even minimal financial returns."**

The Retired Teacher's Association politely dispraised Perry's attempt to siphon-off funds for "chancy" investments and urged the Governor, as an alternative, to shift some of the State's treasury surplus to TRS, thereby funding a cost-of-living increase for the first time in five years.

"START-UPS" RISKY

"Start-up" companies are normally small, with little or no history of success, profit, nor proven ability in what the Governor's Office termed would be state-funded "research projects" in the field (for example) of medical devices, robotics and "nano-technology."

Incidentally, anything with the prefix "nano" refers to something mighty small - in fact it's one-billionth in size. And that's exactly the time-frame recommended to TRS trustees concerning this "risky" fund request: **Namely that the (teacher pension-fund diversion) plan be turned down in "less than a nano-second!"**

Perry later enlarged his investment ideas by noting that if TRS goes along with his questionable scheme, he will ask other State Trust Funds to follow, presumably the Employees Retirement System, Permanent School Fund and Permanent University Fund.

LEGISLATURE AND "VENTURE CAPITAL"

If the Governor wants to invest in Texas companies with the hope they will grow, produce jobs and perhaps turn a profit for the State - fine. Let him go to the Legislature and secure tax funds, as he did two years ago, when Lawmakers appropriated \$200 million to "start-up" his Emerging Technology Fund.

Capitol observers have suggested (publicly and privately) that strong state business interests, who comprise the bulk of Perry's support team, are behind this investment undertaking.

If that's the case (and we suspect it is) then the immediate suggestion "should be" to let these "heavy-duty" commercial "movers and shakers" do the investing themselves.

State retirement and other trust funds must be considered "untouchable" by the Governor, legislature and most especially the private sector.

After all - if "start-up" investments were not adventurous, the private sector would have already been involved, using their own money. **But let's be frank - why would Texas business leaders want to risk their private capital, when there's so**

Off the Record by Ken Clapp



much money sitting around in the huge retirement funds?

That was exactly the "sly" question posed (most properly) in the most recent Teacher Retirement Association's legislative on-line update.

TRS FUND NOT FULLY SOLVENT

Another "fly in Perry's risky investment ointment" - TRS is \$13 billion dollars short of being fully funded. TRS is the state's largest retirement system with \$100 billion in assets and a funded ratio that'll eventually produce solvency, provided nothing untoward (economically) happens in the meantime.

One area legislator, when quizzed about Perry's "requested" shifting of teacher retirement funds into untested start-up ventures, voiced the "perfect" opinion: "Over my dead body!"

We hope other lawmakers will concur with that sentiment, and put a stop to all such "dicey" moves that place retirement trust funds in jeopardy.

PERRY'S NEW NICKNAME

Digressive side-bar: The Governor has an additional (somewhat flippant) nickname that recently came to this column's attention (local source): **"Governor Perry - The 39 percent solution"** (borrowed we presume from Sherlock Holmes' "7 percent solution"). In this instance **the sobriquet refers to the Guv's less than stellar showing in the recent gubernatorial galumph.**

COMMENTARY: CONCERNING OUR EDUCATORS

What follows is a "Commentary" related indirectly to the TRS-fund subject, and comes from "kindred-type observations" of the dismal record teachers have had for decades, when it comes to uniting over matters of mutual benefit: i.e. voting, politics, compensation, working conditions, legislative-local fiats, and retirement.

This diminution of power began years ago when teachers and administrators "split-up" and foolishly went their separate organizational ways. Teachers later (unfortunately) re-divided into "teaching-field" associations that rarely worked together (politically) for the good of the overall profession.

Some educators even joined the NEA (union) which didn't make sense since public employees cannot strike in Texas. A strike being a union's only "effective" weapon, when push comes to shove.

If the education community could ever align, "just-one-time" on "just-one-objective" (salary, election, whatever), they would quickly see how much leverage they have, when united.

They could easily decide their school board's membership; have strong political influence over gubernatorial and legislative decisions; and end up doing a better job in the critically important multi-disciplined work they perform. But that only comes through unified professional pride, something that's usually lost when one's job becomes powerless.

Our sincere hope is that one day "all" educators will unite professionally, through necessary and demonstrable activities, rather than remain diffused behind weak-meaningless phraseological dictums.

That's -30-

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Flawed No Child Left Behind law discourages teachers

By MARTIN FROST

Early in President Bush's first term, Congress rushed to pass landmark education legislation dubbed No Child Left Behind. It had strong bi-partisan support and was generally viewed as a necessary step to improve the quality of public education.

In the intervening years, a number of people who supported the legislation have started having serious second thoughts. First, there is the issue of adequate funding to implement the bill. President Bush never sought full funding for the legislation in any of his budgets submitted to Congress.

Equally important is the issue of whether or not the grade level performance standards (measured by standardized tests) are either realistic or fair to our nation's hard pressed public school system. Under the legislation, elementary school students are evaluated each year in math and reading. Performance targets are set by year, with the requirement that 100 percent of all students in each school meet performance standards by the year 2014.

While we clearly want elementary students to improve their math and reading skills, the legislation may be unrealistic in expecting that every single student achieve at grade level in every single school. Students have differing abilities and some may never reach grade level. Is an otherwise excellent school to be condemned as a failure if a few students cannot pass a standardized test?

It is equally unfair that many outstanding schools are faced with the inflexible requirement that each subgroup within a school must meet the specified standard each year between now and 2014. Subgroups (minimum numbers for which are determined on the state level and can in some instances be quite small) include the following: African-American, American Indian, Asian/Pacific Islander, English Language Learners (ELI), Socio-Economic Status, Hispanic, Special Education and White.

A school can be truly outstanding with the total number of students significantly exceeding the number required for a passing score on the tests in any given year leading up to 2014 and still be subject to newspaper mention that it didn't meet the standards of No Child

Left Behind because one or more subgroups did not have enough students passing the test in either math or reading. And, to make matters worse, the same low performing students can belong to multiple subgroups and make the school's performance appear even worse.

For example, in the state of Kansas, the target for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for the 2005-2006 school year was that 63.4 percent of students must pass the reading test 60.1 percent of students must pass the math test. A school as a whole could greatly exceed both benchmarks and yet have its name in the paper as not meeting No Child Left Behind standards because one or more subgroups did not qualify in either math or reading.

Finding and retaining quality public school teachers is not an easy task. Teachers and administrators face discipline and instructional problems that didn't exist when I went to elementary school. The breakdown of the family unit (high divorce rate, large number of single parent families) means that teachers and principals must be part social worker, part substitute parent. Their job is hard enough without the federal government crafting legislation that unfairly calls into question their performance.

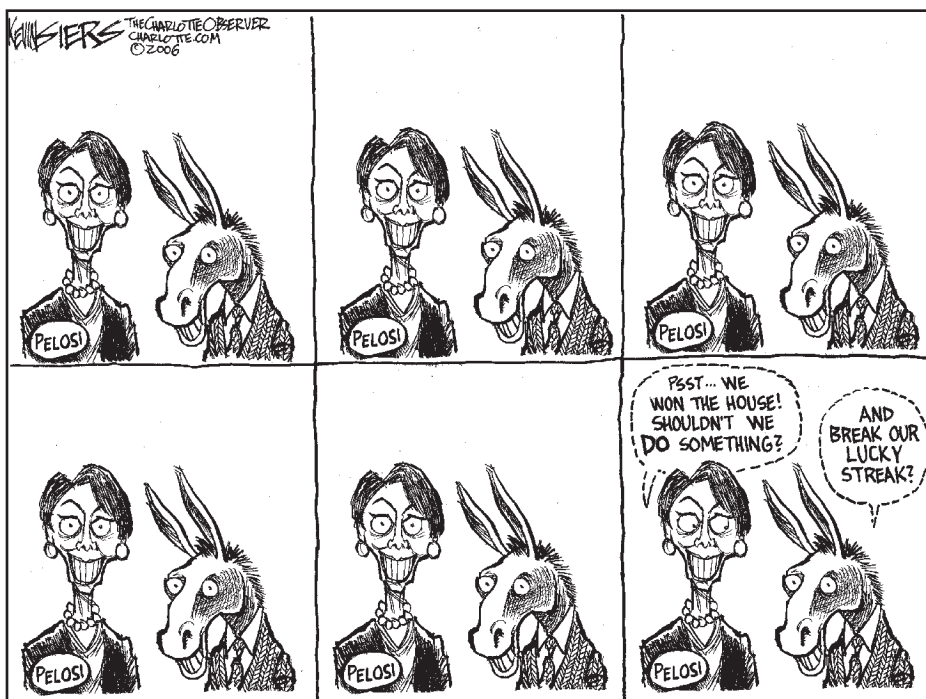
This is particularly true when the teaching and administrative staff of a school are doing a remarkable job in educating a large and diverse student body. They should be acclaimed rather than subject to question by the press simply because a small number of students can't pass a standardized test.

Congress soon will be reviewing No Child Left Behind. Hopefully, members of the House and Senate will take the time to ask

SEE NCLB, PAGE 5A

FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas



Electric market is working Price to beat causes problems

By BILL PEACOCK

Competition and retail choice are working in the Texas electric market.

Instead of celebrating this success, critics are blaming retail electric providers for problems caused by the increasingly dysfunctional, legislatively-mandated Price-to-Beat.

The Price-to-Beat was originally the regulatory price at which existing (default) providers had to sell their electricity. Meanwhile, it was hoped that new providers could earn a profit selling electricity at a lower price.

By the time 2006 rolled around, it was clear there was no longer any need for the Price-to-Beat. Competition, not regulations, now keeps prices low. Texas consumers are able to choose from up to 41 different plans offered by as many 18 providers, with over 60 percent of residential customers having exercised identifiable choice.

Fortunately, the Price-to-Beat is set to expire on Jan. 1, 2007. But it isn't go-

ing down without a fight.

For instance, the Price-to-Beat is serving as a psychological price floor, more than likely keeping prices higher than they would be otherwise.

Additionally, since changes in the Price-to-Beat are limited to two per year, it has distorted market prices and added uncertainty in the marketplace at a time when natural gas prices have been changing rapidly.

While natural gas prices rose by an average of 49 percent between April and November, 2005, political factors led to no increase in the Price-to-Beat during this time. So default providers were not able to recover their increased costs. In other words, for eight months many consumers avoided paying the costs incurred by the increase in natural gas prices.

However, if a default provider had pockets deep enough to ride this out, it could actually use the Price-to-Beat to gain a competitive advantage over a new, smaller provider which must raise its prices to cover costs—or go out of businesses.

So not only is the Price-to-Beat poorly designed for today's market, the political intervention in the market it accommodates further harms competition and consumers.

Despite these problems, the market is already beginning to look past the Price-to-Beat as industry participants anticipate its demise. Default providers are preparing for an increase of competition against each other as well as against the new providers which have sprung up under the Price-to-Beat. A

number of new rate plans have been announced designed to attract and retain customers after termination.

Some new plans facilitate risksharing, like one that closely tracks the market price of gas. Others offer greater certainty if customers pay for it, such as a plan that offers price protection from changes in the cost of natural gas.

Many critics, however, can't see past the Price-to-Beat. Despite the discounts and new offerings, the main question being asked of default providers is why they haven't lowered their Price-to-Beat—with the threat of stronger price controls looming if they don't do so soon.

Markets are always competitive except when the government interferes with them. Imposing price controls is guaranteed to harm the burgeoning competition in the electric market and dash the expectations of all market participants—retailers, producers, investors and consumers.

Texas is about to become the first state in the country to operate an electric market where the vast majority of prices are deregulated. We are also the national leader when it comes to telecom deregulation and tort reform. This is why Texas was recently rated the second best business climate in the nation.

If we want to stay on top, more deregulation—not price controls—is the only way to go.

BILL PEACOCK IS THE DIRECTOR FOR THE CENTER FOR ECONOMIC FREEDOM WITH THE TEXAS PUBLIC POLICY FOUNDATION, AN AUSTIN-BASED RESEARCH INSTITUTE. HE MAY BE REACHED AT BPEACOCK@TEXASPOLICY.COM.

The Air Force doesn't need a Maserati



Jim Hightower

Hey, how about indulging yourself with a hot new Maserati? Yeah, it's got a sticker price that'll make you go blind - but, wow, this baby will flat-out fly!

Even if you only drive your Maserati down to the hardware store, it'll give you an awesome thrill and make you feel like a real stud, so come on - splurge. And don't tell me you can't afford it. Just cut back on your kids' education, cancel your family's health care, and dip into your retirement fund. It's all about priorities, my friend.

If you think such extravagance is insane, you're obviously not a studly Congress critter. These free spenders have just voted to buy more F-22 Raptor fighter jets, a stealth plane that flies so high, so fast that it's called "the Maserati of the skies." Price tag: a third-of-a-billion dollars per plane.

The F-22 is grossly over budget and plagued with so many technical flaws that the 74 already produced cannot be used in combat. This year, for example, it was discovered that a pilot could not get the cockpit open and had to be rescued with chainsaws. Also, the F-22 was designed two decades ago to fight the Soviet air force - which no longer exists. In fact, the United States already has such unquestioned air superiority that there is zero need for this new Maserati, and even the Bush White House opposes lavishing more money on it!

Yet, spurred by a pack of Lockheed Martin lobbyists, Congress has thrown another \$38 billion of our money at this thrill machine. To add fiscal insanity to total irresponsibility, our lawmakers also eliminated the annual congressional review of whether the F-22 boondoggle should continue, so now it has a life of its own.

This is \$38 billion that's being taken from our country's education, health care, and pension needs. It's all about priorities. To help set them straight, contact Sensible Priorities: 212-243-3416.



Consider these year-end financial tips to save you money

If you're like most people, you're probably amazed at how fast the year went by. But while you've still got a few weeks left in 2006, take the time to consider some year-end financial moves. Here are

a few to think about:

Review your investment strategies. Your life can change significantly over the course of a year. You may have gotten married or remarried; you might have had a child

or grandchild; you might have decided to change jobs or open your own business - the list could go on and on. And for every single one of these changes in your life, you very well might need to change your

Financial Focus

by Allen Mantanona



investment strategies.

Add to your retirement plan. If you have a 401(k), 403(b) or 457(b), your employer may allow you to make extra contributions before the end of the year. Since you typically make these contributions with "pre-tax" dollars, the more you contribute, the lower your taxable income may be. And of course, your money grows on a tax-deferred basis.

Sell off some of your "winners." The stock market had a pretty good year in 2006, so you may well end up with some large net capital gains. If that's the case, you might want to consider selling some stock to generate a loss before year-end - a move that could reduce the amount of tax you pay this year. Keep in mind,

though, that if you do sell stock to generate a loss, the IRS' "wash sale" rules will prohibit you from purchasing substantially similar stock within 30 days before or after the sale that generated the loss.

Make a charitable gift. By making a gift to a charitable organization, you'll help a group whose work you support - and you'll also help yourself. You'll get an immediate tax break for your contribution, and, if you give an appreciated asset, such as stock, you'll avoid having to pay the eventual capital gains taxes when the stock is sold. Plus, you'll be removing an asset from your estate, thereby reducing the likelihood of incurring estate taxes. Before making any moves, though, check with your tax professional.

Put extra money to work. If you have a large amount of cash to invest, and it's "sitting around"

earning interest, you might want to shift some of the income to next year by investing in a short-term Certificate of Deposit or Treasury bill that matures in 2007.

"Grade" your investments' performance. It's a good idea to review your investment portfolio at least once a year - and the end of the year is as good a time as any. As you look over your year-end statements, ask yourself if your investments have performed as you had anticipated. While no one can predict the future, the best investors plan for, and often achieve, a certain rate of return - or at least a return that lies in a fairly narrow range - each year. How do they do it? By understanding their investments - and by choosing a mix that best reflects their individual risk tolerance and time horizon. So, if each year you find yourself "unpleasantly surprised" at your portfolio's performance, you probably need to make some changes.

By taking these steps before 2006 ends, you just might make 2007 a happy new year.

IT JUST MAKES SENSE TO SAY THANKS.

During this Thanksgiving season, we'd like to express to all our clients how grateful we are for your business. We look forward to continuing to work with you to create and implement investment strategies designed to help you achieve your long-term financial goals.



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Make it your own!

Buying and Selling

By Ryan Hodge

If you are willing to purchase a reasonably priced home in need of updates or renovation, you should also be willing to seriously consider exactly how much time and money those renovations will require. Save yourself emotional and financial distress by following some simple words of advice.

First, no matter how

much you budget for renovation, prepare to spend ten percent or more above that. Any time you remodel, you have to expect the unexpected. Allow your budget some wiggle room to cover those surprises that turn up under flooring, behind walls, or in the pipes.

Second, prepare for the upheaval that these projects often entail. If you have just one bathroom, full of workers pulling out pipes, you obviously need alternatives. Kitchen renovations can upset your home's very heart of operations, so budget in time and money for meals out, or plan to buy food that's really simple to prepare. Just make sure before your project starts that you and your contractor have clearly established just how long the work will take.

Last, just as you don't want to underestimate the cost of renovation, you certainly don't want to overestimate its payback. While not all projects recoup their value, kitchen and bathroom remodeling generally perform best in that area.

Proper planning and budgeting will turn your recent purchase into the home of your dreams!

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Trouble with nonstick cookware

FROM NATURAL HOME MAGAZINE,
By MINDY PENNYBACKER

A chemical compound used to make nonstick cookware, fast-food packaging and fabric treatments is a likely human carcinogen. Perfluorooctanoic acid, or PFOA, is one of a family of fluorine-containing compounds called perfluorochemicals (PFCs), which appear never to degrade in the environment.

Commonly known as "the Teflon chemical," this pernicious industrial pollutant, which sticks around in the environment and in our bodies, has been found in the blood of 95 percent of Ameri-

cans, as well as in marine mammals and polar bears. Most human exposure to PFOA happens when factories release the chemical into the air and groundwater, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has persuaded eight U.S. companies, including DuPont, owner of the Teflon patent, to phase PFOA out of consumer goods and manufacturing by 2015.

That deadline is several years away, so you might want to put products made with PFOA on a faster phase-out track in your own home. Be wary of all products that claim to repel sticky food, greasy stains and water. Products such as Calphalon, which are made with polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), also contain PFOA.

For more information on chemicals in the PFC family, visit the Environmental Working Group website: www.ewg.org

HOW TO AVOID PFOA
NONSTICK COOKWARE: All nonstick

cookware coatings-including the popular Teflon, T-fal, SilverStone and Calphalon-use PFOA as a component of their manufacturing. When overheated (to temperatures of about 680 degrees F), these coatings release toxic gases, which have been known to kill pet birds. According to EWG, a pan preheating on a high setting can attain more than 600 degrees in two to five minutes.

A class-action lawsuit filed in April 2006 alleges that DuPont, the maker of Teflon, failed to warn consumers that some toxins are released at temperatures as low as 464 degrees, which cooks can approach during overenthusiastic wok and deep-fat frying.

Instead of using nonstick pots and pans, replace them with stainless-steel or cast-iron interiors. Cast iron, when properly seasoned, forms its own nonstick coating. To season, coat the cast-iron pan with lard, bacon grease or pure vegetable oil and heat in a

300-degree oven for two hours. Let cool and rinse with hot water. Never wash with dish soap; scrub lightly with salt and water and dry promptly, re-seasoning as needed.

FABRICS: Before buying carpets, upholstered furniture or clothing, find out whether the fabric was treated with stain- or water-resistant chemicals. Most of these are made with perfluorooctanyl sulfonate, or PFOS, which can break down into PFOA, according to EWG. PFOS is in stain-resistant treatments such as Stainmaster, Gore-Tex and Teflon.

Scotchgard was reformulated because of safety concerns after a 2001 study, commissioned by its maker, 3M, found that PFOA was present in the blood of children at twice the levels of adults. The new chemical in Scotchgard is perfluorobutane sulfonate (PFBS), another PFC. Currently, there's little health information on it, but the Danish EPA suggests it's persistent in



Non-stick pans are convenient but the industrial chemicals used to make them could be deadly.

the environment.

To keep PFCs out of your home fabrics, ask for products made with untreated fibers. Wool is naturally water resistant; natural cotton throw rugs can be easily rinsed and washed if there's a spill.

FAST-FOOD CONTAINERS: According to a 2005 study by the Food and Drug Administration, some paper food wrappers, including french-fry holders, pizza boxes and microwave popcorn bags, contain grease-resistant chemicals known as fluorotelomers that migrate

into oils. From there, they can turn into PFOA in the body. Never heat up pizza in the delivery box; slide it onto a stainless steel cookie sheet instead.

Excerpted from Natural Home, a national magazine that provides practical ideas, inspiring examples and expert opinions about healthy, ecologically sound, beautiful homes. To read more articles from Natural Home magazine, please visit www.NaturalHomeMagazine.com or call 800-340-5846 to subscribe. Copyright 2006 by Ogden Publications Inc.

NCLB FROM PAGE 3A

some probing questions about the implementation of the law rather than just voting for a slogan that sounds good.

It is imperative that we get public education right in this country. It is estimated that 90 percent of all school age children attend public schools. The success of our nation depends on a well-educated populace. We will not be competitive with the rest of the world unless we have an educated workforce that can continue to increase productivity to compensate for the fact that most of our competitors around the world pay lower wages to their workers.

There are two parts to the education equation: improving the quality of instruction and encouraging talented young people to pursue education as a career. Undermining school morale by imposing unrealistic and unfairly implemented standards will make it difficult to achieve the latter.

Next time Congress passes legislation to leave no child behind, let's make sure that we don't run off the talented people we need to make it work. This is too important to not do it right.

MARTIN FROST SERVED IN CONGRESS FROM 1979 TO 2005, REPRESENTING A DIVERSE DISTRICT IN THE DALLAS-Ft. WORTH AREA. HE SERVED TWO TERMS AS CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS, THE THIRD-RANKING LEADERSHIP POSITION FOR HOUSE DEMOCRATS, AND TWO TERMS AS CHAIRMAN OF THE DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE. FROST SERVES AS A REGULAR CONTRIBUTOR TO FOX NEWS CHANNEL AND IS A PARTNER AT THE LAW FIRM OF POLSINELLI, SHALTON, WELTE AND SUELTHAUS. HE HOLDS A BACHELOR OF JOURNALISM DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI AND A LAW DEGREE FROM THE GEORGETOWN LAW CENTER.

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Tablerock

FROM RPAGE 1A

Cratchit; Taylor Stumberg-Caroline; Rebecca Redman-Associate/Belinda; Samantha Horton-Martha Cratchit; Addie Ashe-Fan; Bob Ritchie-Fezziwig; Stephanie Hood-Mrs. Dibler/Mrs. Fizziwig; Brenna Sirois-Lucy Cratchit; Marcene

Grimsley - Millie; Ashley Lummus -Belle; Jenna Fritsch-Mrs. Pratt; Geneva Bamsch-Older Belle; Tony Blisard-Old Joe/Merchant; C.J. Carpenter-Ignorance; Cassidy Carpenter-Want/Caroler; Janet Leigh -Ginger; Caba Temple-Boy Scrooge/Peter; Connor

Leigh - William; Dan Horton-Belle's Husband/Merchant, Lainey Sirois - Associate/Dancer, Colton Singleton and Anna Hamman-Fiddlers; Dancers-Trish Crowe, Sarakay Lamons and Kacey Robinson. Ensemble roles: Bar-

bara Anne Horton, Bridget Williams, Kira Hamman, Alaura Eagan, Chris Carpenter, Lynne Carpenter, Chandler Carpenter, Cory Carpenter, Colby Carpenter, Jacob Sellers, Julia Singleton, Allen Sirois, Landon Sellers, Jennifer Sellers and Becca Ham-



Charlie Voelter will portray Scrooge.

man.

The crew includes David Dunlap-Sound/Programs, Kassy Kotzian and John Redmon; Stage Managers; Brenda Grimsley -Spot Light; Dave Apinchino and Sharon VanWinkle-Concessions; Marilyn Ritchie- Make Up; Jackie Mills - Tickets/Costumes/Producer/Programs; Denver Mills-Sets/

Parking/Tickets.

In addition to the regular food sold beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Tablerock concessions, the Salado Rotary Club will sell homemade chili, cornbread and a drink for \$5.00.

Tickets sold only at the gate on performance nights, \$5 for adults, \$3 for students. Information 254-947-9205.

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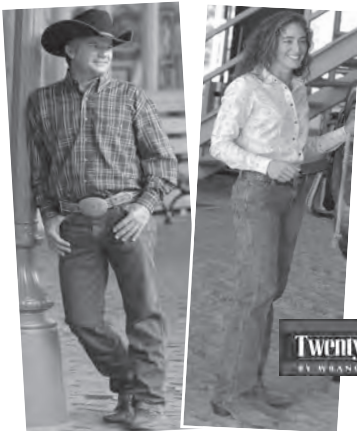
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8:00 P.M.
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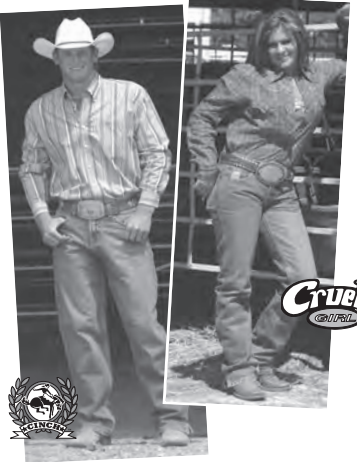
8:30 P.M.
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Quilts on Display for Christmas Stroll

A Sewing Basket in Salado is hosting a local quilt show for the Christmas Stroll, ending Dec. 10. Everyone is invited to enjoy looking at a variety of quilts made by local quilters. Several quilters are available at the store if you would like to meet the person who made the quilt, and you may also take pictures of the quilts. There are also quilts available for sale. A Sewing Basket is located in the Stageshop Shopping Center at 560 N. Main St. The show hours are from 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. thru Dec. 11 and 12 - 5 p.m. Dec. 12. If you have any questions, please call 947-5423.

MCCA Christmas party Dec. 12 caps good year

The Mill Creek Community Association's Annual Christmas Party will be Dec. 12 at the Longhorn Room at Stagecoach Inn. Social Time will begin at 6:00 p.m. and Dinner served at 6:45 p.m. Entertainment will follow. This is an occasion for festive attire and fellowship with the Mill Creek residents. The cost will be \$20.00 per person for members and \$25.00 for non-members. The membership fee is \$20.00 per household. Your check will be your reservation and mailed to Mill Creek Community Association, P.O. Box 562,

Salado, TX 76571. It is important to respond as early as possible so that the Social Committee can plan for the dinner. Membership dues for all members are due for the 2007 year by Jan. 1, 2007. This is important for the completion of the directory. So please don't forget... with our dues we can support our neighborhood and contribute to our community and you can get your name in the directory and hopefully become part of the committees needed to keep yhe sub-division one of the best anywhere. Everyone is needed.


Bell Democrat women to install officers at Stagecoach Dec. 9

The Bell County-Texas Democratic Women will hold a Christmas Luncheon and Officer Installation on Dec. 9 at the Stagecoach Inn- Garden Room. The luncheon begins at 11:00 a.m. Tickets are \$25 per person. Guest speaker is Democratic National Committee Member Betty Richie. Richie is also past Presi-

dent of Texas Democratic Women and wife of Boyd Richie, Chairman of the Texas Democratic Party. Silent auction proceeds benefit the Vada Sutton Scholarship Fund. BCT-DW members and Democratic guests are welcome. Please mail reservations to "Treasurer" 901 Hartrick Canyon Drive Temple, TX 76502 or call 982-4284.

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AIDS Memorial Quilt on display during vigil on World AIDS Day

A candlelight vigil and display of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt will be held on World AIDS Day Dec. 1. The event begins at 7 p.m. and will be held in the Mayborn Planetarium on the campus of Central Texas College (CTC). It is free and open to the public.

World AIDS Day was established to promote awareness and prevention messages about the disease that has claimed more than 25 million people worldwide. It also serves as a day of remembrance for those who have died from or are currently living with HIV/AIDS.

The candlelight vigil will feature musical tributes, a reading of names and a power point presentation of the 1996 quilt display from Washington, D.C. "1996 was the last time the AIDS Memorial Quilt was on display in its entirety," noted event coordinator Bruce Vasbinder. "Today, the Quilt contains nearly 46,000 individual memorial panels and contains more than 84,000 names. It is a little more than 52 miles in length

and weighs more than 54 tons. Our local event will feature a 12x12 section of the Quilt, which has recently been honored as an American Treasure."

Worldwide, more than 2.9 million people died from AIDS in 2006 which is the highest annual figure ever recorded. In the United States, which has 1.2 million infected people, greater access to retro-viral drugs has reduced the number of AIDS-related death rates by 80 percent from 1993 to 2003. But America ranks among the top 10 countries in the number of infected people.

"More than 39.5 million people across the globe are living with HIV/AIDS and here in central Texas the number is approximately 4,000 people," explained Vasbinder. "Many of them do not even know they are infected which is one reason it is so crucial to promote awareness and provide as much prevention information as possible to all segments of the population, especially our young people who are among the highest groups of new HIV infections."

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Eagles land 11 on all-district

Salado Eagles placed 11 players on the first team All District Football Team, which was recently released by District 25AA. Coach Jeff Cheatham

shared Coach of the Year with John Stillwell, of Rogers, and Randy Franklin, of Jarrell.

R.J. Ledford, of Rogers, was named the Most Valuable Player in District 25AA, leading the Eagles to an 8-3, 5-1 mark for the season.

Ethan Williams, a senior defensive end for Salado, earned the Defensive MVP honors. He registered 56 tackles during the year, including 10 quarterback sacks and 12 tackles-for-loss. He also had seven "big hits" during the season and hurried the quarterback eight times.

Six other Salado Eagles were named to the First Team defense. Linebacker Justin Konzen had 130 tackles, 15 tackles-for-loss, three sacks and two interceptions. Defensive end Blake Hancock had 72 tackles, three tackles-for-loss and a sack. Dal-

las Butts was named as a defensive lineman with 52 tackles, six tackles-for-loss and three knocked down passes. Safety Matt Fritsch had 119 tackles and an interception. Cornerback Adam Patton had 40 tackles and three interceptions. Noseguard Alonzo Galvan had 66 yackles, five tackles-for-loss and three sacks.

Quarterback David Rosenau was a unanimous selection to the First Team Offense. Sharing the first half of the season under center with Stephen Quick, Rosenau threw 54 completions on 107 tries for 650 yards. He had four touchdown passes and eight interceptions on the year.

Joining Rosenau on the first team offense were Guard Jimmy Ferrell

Raborn, fullback Michael Culin, wide receiver Blake Newman, (21 catches, 290 yards, two touchdowns) and offensive tackle Dallas Butts, the only two-way first teamer in district.

The Eagles also placed seven players on the second team all-district squad.

Second team offensive players from Salado were wide receiver Stephen Quick, running back Leo Galvan and Josh Fulfer. Second team defensive players were cornerback Tyler Wright, lineman Justin Powell and linebacker Josh Bush. Leo Galvan was named as the second team kicker.

Receiving honorable mention were wide receiver Tanner Myers, center Payton Smetana and running back Seth Collins.

Salado V'ball shows strong on All-District teams

Coming off a season in which they went 8-6 in district play, and 17-12 overall, the Lady Eagle volleyballers under Coach Bree Holz placed six players on the recently released District 16 AA all-district squad.

Topping the honorees - and the lone Lady Eagle represented on the first team - was senior middle blocker Molly Rooney. In her final year as a Lady Eagle, Rooney put together a strong stat line in district play, leading the team with 141 kills and 122 digs. She also had 20.5 blocks and eight aces. For the season, Rooney had 219 kills, 163 digs, 30.5 blocks and 18

aces. On the second team, district coaches placed sophomore outside hitter Danielle Hazzard and senior setter Larissa Ingalsbe. Hazzard notched 113 kills, 109 digs and 18 aces in district play, and had 161 kills, 149 digs and 33 aces for the season. Ingalsbe recorded 394 assists in district alone, to go along with 47 digs, 46 kills and 11 aces. On the year, the senior had 605 assists, 77 digs, 62 kills and 31 aces.

On the first team defensive squad, Salado placed sophomore libero Lindsey Coffey. Coffey had 110 digs in district play.

Rounding out Salado's all-district selections were honorable mention honorees Lauren Haire and Kamylle Palomino, both juniors. As a middle blocker, Haire had 91 kills and 22 blocks in district. On the season, she had 173 kills and a team-high 39 blocks. Palomino, an outside hitter, had 89 digs, 84 kills and 18 aces in district. For the year, she had 138 kills, 114 digs and 33 aces.

In addition, the Lady Eagles had 10 members land on the Academic All-District team. A student has to carry a 90-plus average to earn this distinction. Rooney, Palomino, Ingalsbe, Hazzard, Haire, Coffey, Cortney Dunnahoo, Justine Ferrell-Raborn, Karleigh Goodnight and Kaylan Hearne were all singled out for the distinction.

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Eagles team members are (front row, from left) Sean Moore, Magnum Burcham, Ryan Kelley, Bryce Martin, Billy Golding, Drew Manley, William Grace, Jody Hodges and Trey Mohler; (second row, from left) Cooper Cox, Sam Barrett, Zack Mills, Colby Priest, Coby Giniewicz, Brandon Womac, Michael Butts, John Pegues, Barton Cheatham, Stephen Sibbitt and Jarrett Hodges; (back row, from left) Coach Lance Cox, Head Coach Bobby Golding, Coach Wayne Womac, Coach Tommy Pruitt and Coach Mike Moore. Not pictured is Coach Matt Hodges.

Eagles win CTYL Championship

The Salado Eagles beat the Troy Trojans 6-0 Nov. 18 in a hard fought battle to win the Toy Boy and take the 2006 Central Texas Youth 2A Football League Championship Title.

The Eagles ended their season with a 9-2 record, beating both teams that handed them losses earlier in regular season play.

The Eagles offense racked up a total of 256 points during the season, while the defense issued an impressive five shut outs. The team gave up only 99 points during the 11 game season.

The team was sponsored by Mustang Creek Ranch, LLC and Womac Financial Services, LP.

Cheering on the Eagles were the Salado Eagles CTYFL Cheerleaders sponsored by Sam Teas, DDS and Carolyn Teas.



Cheering on the Eagles were the Salado Eagles CTYFL Cheerleaders: (front row, from left) Macy Resendis, Rachel Ray, Savannah Ortiz, Megan Mattson, and Kylie Robinson; (back row, from left) Bethany Cheatham, Taylor Cromwell, Morgan Mattson, Jaylee Sebek and Haley Williams. The cheerleaders were sponsored by Sam Teas, DDS and Carolyn Teas.

Best free throw shooter in Salado will be named at Dec. 2 contest

The Fifth Annual "Best Free Throw Shooter in Salado" Contest will be Dec. 2 at the Thomas Arnold Elementary gymnasium. It is sponsored by the Salado Athletic Booster Club.

Preliminary rounds start at 2 p.m. Finals start approximately 4 p.m.

Contestants will vie for the title of "Best Free Throw Shooter in Salado." An award will be given to the top shooter in each division.

There will be seven Divisions. The following age divisions have these approximate starting times:

Pee Wee (first and sec-

ond grades) 2 p.m.

Intermediate (third and fourth grades) 2:30 p.m.

Junior (fifth and sixth grades) 2 p.m.

Senior (seventh through 12th grades) 2:30 p.m.

Graduate (19 through 39 Year Old) 3 p.m.

Over the Hill (40 through 59 year old) 3 p.m.

Way Over the Hill (60+ year old) 3:30 p.m.

This event is free to the public but donations will be accepted to help defray the cost.

For more information, contact Tonya Kornegay at 947-1827.

Game films from 1980 available

Salado Intermediate School Principal Joe Palmer has located four game films of the 1980 Salado Eagles football team. He is offering them to any Eagle

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Contact Palmer at the Intermediate School at 947-1700 or via email at joe.palmer@saladoisd.org.

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Eagles cagers overcome Riesel

On the strength of 16 second half points from the hand of Clay Sharum, the Varsity Eagle cagers broke open a close game against Riesel Nov. 21 and eventually pulled away for 65-49 victory. The win pushed Salado above .500 for the first time in the young season, with the Eagles now at 2-1.

After managing a scant 10 points in the opening

period, the Eagles found themselves trailing the Indians by one, 11-10. In the second, though, Salado was able to take advantage of numerous free throw chances - 17 in the frame - converting nine of them and opening a 29-24 lead at the close of the first half.

After the break, Sharum came out with the hot hand, dropping in 10 of Salado's 16 third quarter points as

the Eagles expanded the advantage to 45-34 with one to play. Salado again used ample opportunities from the charity stripe to pile up easy points in the fourth, on this occasion sinking 12-21 on the way to the double-digit win.

Sharum's 19-point effort led all Salado scorers. Noah Harbison registered another solid game, with 13 points. Blake Newman

record eight points, all of them coming from the line, while Justin Pruitt also had eight. David Rosenau scored seven, Chad Tumey and Justin Konzen both had four, Nick Seawood had two and Tanner Myers had one point.

Following a Nov. 28 game in Rockdale, Salado will travel to Lorena to compete in tournament action Nov. 30-Dec. 2.

Lady Eagles lose to McGregor

Facing a talented McGregor squad Nov. 25, the Lady Eagle cagers suffered their third loss of the season by a final of 58-36 at Coach Smith Gym. Salado is now 2-3 on the year.

The Lady Eagles played McGregor close in the game's opening frame, carrying 13-10 deficit into

the second. In that period, however, McGregor began to pull away, outscoring Salado to the tune of 14-4 and opening a 14-point, 27-13 halftime lead.


McGregor kept up the pace in the second half, expanding on its lead both the third and fourth periods. Though the Lady

Eagles reached double-digits in points scored in the third and fourth, it was not nearly enough to bridge the gap, as McGregor coasted to the 22-point win.

Salado's offense was paced by Kristen Smith, who broke into double figures with 13 points. Kelsy Gobin provided nine points,

while Danielle Hazzard had eight. A trio of Lady Eagles, Cortney Dunna-hoo, Brittany Gilchrest and Kaylan Hearne, all had two points.

After taking on Bosqueville Nov. 28, the girls will compete in the Lorena Tournament Nov. 30-Dec. 2.




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One's Not Enough

Second chickenpox shot now recommended

The physicians of the Texas Medical Association (TMA) want parents to know that one chickenpox vaccination may not be enough to protect their child.

Physicians from TMA's "Be Wise - ImmunizeSM" advisory panel join other national health experts in recommending a second shot of vaccine to prevent the potentially

deadly disease.

"A two-dose series will be more effective than one and will reduce the number of breakthrough infections," said Ari Brown, MD, a leading member of TMA's Be Wise - Immunize program. Breakthrough infections occur when the patient is partially protected but not enough to prevent a mild case of the disease from occurring.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are now recommending a second chickenpox, or varicella, vaccination, primarily for children four to six years old. However,

they also suggest adolescents, adults, and HIV-infected children receive a second shot. For the past 11 years, one chickenpox vaccination was the recommendation.

Physicians suggest children between the ages of four and six receive the second shot at least three months after receiving the first. People over the age of six can catch up by receiving the second shot anytime.

"I have always viewed the vaccine as a win-win: Either you are completely protected or you get a milder case than you would if you were not vaccinated," says Dr. Brown, an Austin pediatrician. She urges every person over the age of four to get the second shot of chickenpox vaccine.

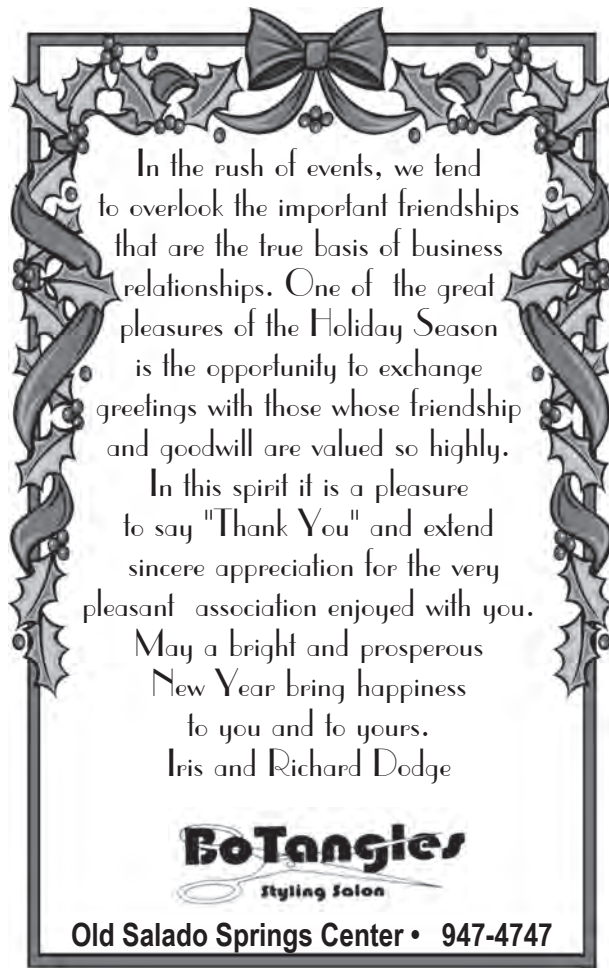
As recently as a decade ago, many children suffered from lesions, itchy skin, missed school days, and in some cases even death, from chickenpox. According to the CDC, more than 1,000 Texans endured serious cases each year prior to the introduction of the vaccine.

"People have the perception that chickenpox is not a serious disease because most adults remember having it as a kid," adds Dr. Brown. "But I had the unfortunate experience of caring for an unvaccinated child in the early 1990s, who died from it. It's a disease I don't want any of my own children or patients to ever get."

Patients should double check their child immunization record and talk to their physician if they have any questions.

In 2004, TMA launched the Be Wise - Immunize public health program in an effort to increase Texas' childhood immunization rates and to educate parents and guardians that immunizations are important, effective, and safe.

TMA is the largest state medical society in the nation, representing more than 41,000 physician and medical student members. It is located in Austin and has 120 component county medical societies around the state. TMA's key objective since 1853 is to improve the health of all Texans.



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

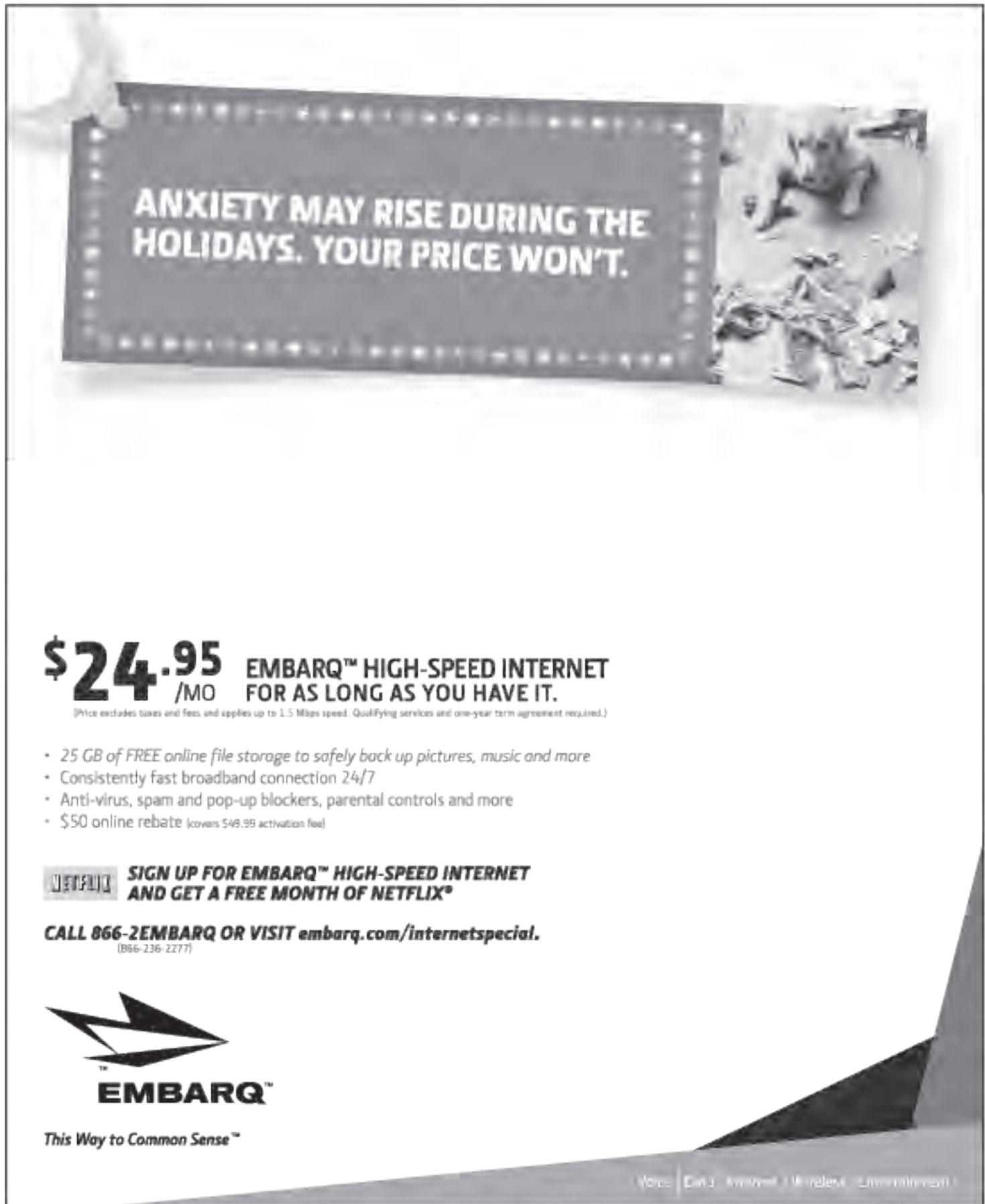
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Are you one of 54 million Americans who are pre-diabetic? Better find out

Fifty-four million Americans - that's one in six of us -- have pre-diabetes and most don't even realize it. Mark Schutta, MD, medical director of the Penn Rodebaugh Diabetes Center, is urging at-risk patients to be proactive and ask your doctor to give you a simple blood test for pre-diabetes - to arm yourself with information before the damage is done. It means you have blood glucose levels that are higher than normal and you could one day reach a high enough level that you would be diagnosed with having diabetes.

Diabetes is a disease that affects the body's ability to produce or respond properly to insulin and must be managed on a daily basis once diagnosed. If not, it can lead to several health complications including death. November is designated annually as American Diabetes Month.

"If you have pre-diabetes, there's a 75 percent probability that you will develop diabetes within 30 years," comments Schutta. "Our country is in the middle of a type 2 diabetes epidemic. Right now, if you're born in the U.S., your risk of developing diabetes is one in three."

Schutta says the reason for the high numbers is that diabetes is a "silent killer" and in the early stages of the disease, patients often have no symptoms. Schutta urges anyone at risk for diabetes to be screened. He adds, "If you knew you had pre-diabetes, you could still prevent getting

diabetes through changes in diet and exercise. There are many health benefits to knowing you have pre-diabetes and 'heading it off.' If you wait until you have diabetes, the vascular damage to your body may already be done."

You should be screened for pre-diabetes if:

- You have a known family history of diabetes.
- You are African American, Latino, Native American, Asian American or Pacific Islander.
- While pregnant, you developed gestational diabetes.
- You delivered a baby who weighed more than nine pounds.
- You have high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol, are overweight.

Schutta explains there are two kinds of blood tests you can request, "The first is a fasting plasma glucose test, in which your glucose levels measured when you have not been eating. The other is an oral glucose tolerance test which introduces glucose into your system, challenging your beta cells to make insulin by testing your body's acute insulin response to glucose."

Schutta says the numbers are clear. If your blood glucose level, two hours after receiving oral glucose, is over 200 milligrams per deciliter, you are considered to be diabetic. Anything between 141-199 is considered to be pre-diabetic. Again, Schutta stresses that if you have pre-diabetes, it

doesn't necessarily mean you're going to develop diabetes - if you take the proper steps now to avoid getting the fifth deadliest disease in America.

Diabetes is the fifth-deadliest disease in the United States, and it has no cure. For women who do not currently have diabetes, pregnancy brings the risk of gestational diabetes. Gestational diabetes develops in 2% to 5% of all pregnancies but disappears when a pregnancy is over. Women who have had gestational diabetes or have given birth to a baby weighing more than 9 pounds are at an increased risk for developing type 2 diabetes later in life.

The prevalence of diabetes is at least 2-4 times higher among African American, Hispanic/Latino, American Indian, and Asian/Pacific Islander women than among white women. The risk for diabetes also increases with age. Because of the increasing lifespan of women and the rapid growth of minority populations, the number of women in the United States at high risk for diabetes and its complications is increasing.

For more information on the Penn Rodebaugh Diabetes Center, go on-line to: <http://pennhealth.com>.

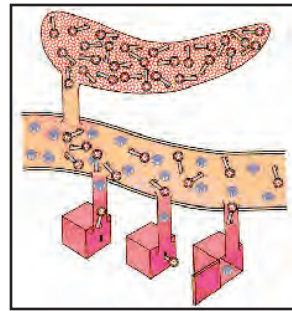
Diabetes is a chronic disease affecting more than six percent of the U.S. population or 21 million people. Diabetes is linked to heart and kidney disease, strokes and other serious health problems. Diabetes results when the

body either does not produce insulin or cannot use it properly. Insulin is a hormone that your body needs to convert sugar, starches, and other food into energy for living. Although there is no cure for diabetes, it can be controlled.

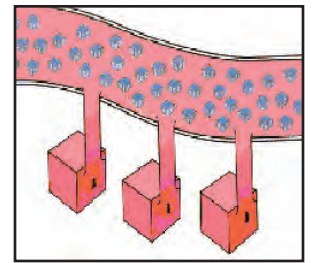
PENN Medicine is a \$2.9 billion enterprise dedicated to the related missions of medical education, biomedical research, and high-quality patient care. PENN Medicine consists of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine (founded in 1765 as the nation's first medical school) and the University of Pennsylvania Health System.

Penn's School of Medicine is ranked #2 in the nation for receipt of NIH research funds; and ranked #3 in the nation in U.S. News & World Report's most recent ranking of top research-oriented medical schools. Supporting 1,400 fulltime faculty and 700 students, the School of Medicine is recognized worldwide for its superior education and training of the next generation of physician-scientists and leaders of academic medicine.

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		Youth Half-Time	7:30 p.m.


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The Lord our God be with us, as He was with our fathers: let Him not leave us, nor forsake us; that He may incline our hearts unto Him, to walk in all His ways and to keep His commandments, and His statutes, and His judgments, which He commanded our fathers.


from 1 Kings 8: 57, 58



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Freddie Flowers

Services for Freddie Lee Flowers, 72, of Salado, were held Nov. 27 in the Heartfield Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Skip Blancett officiating. Burial followed in the Salado Cemetery.

He was born Sept. 1, 1934, in Kansas City, KS, to Murney Flowers and Zeta Clark Flowers. He married Gloria Menges on July 28, 1956 in Miami, OK. Flowers served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. He also owned Vianco, Inc. for many years.

Survivors include his wife, Gloria Flowers, of Salado; two sons, Philip Flowers, of Magnolia, Mark Flowers, of Gautier, MS; two daughters, Vicki Jones, of Montgomery,

Theresa Smith, of Magnolia; two sisters, Kate McCarty of Edwardsville, KS, Dorothy Johnson, of Missouri; and six grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one brother, Bob Flowers, in 2006.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Men's Prayer Group at First Baptist Church in Salado.

Heartfield Funeral in Belton handled arrangements.



C.E. Cameron

C. E. Cameron, 85, of Temple died Nov. 16 in a Temple hospital.

Funeral services were held Nov. 17 at the Scanio-Harper Funeral Home with Monsignor Edward Matocha and Deacon John Petter officiating. Burial followed at St. Monica's

Cemetery in Cameron, Texas.

Clarence E. Cameron was born March 12, 1921 in Oakalla, Texas to David and Lura Cantwell Cameron. He was a veteran of World War II serving in the U. S. Army.

He married Verda Lee Stecher February 3, 1948 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Temple. Cameron worked for the Temple Veterans Administration Hospital for 35 years, retiring in 1975. He then worked for the Mill Creek Pro Shop in Salado for 25 years.

He was a charter member of the Knights of Columbus Council #3444 and a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Survivors include his wife, Verda Lee Cameron, of Temple; two sons, Mike Cameron and wife Ruby, of Salado and Paul Cameron and wife Kathy, of Temple; two grandchildren, Blake Cameron and Paige Cameron.

Memorials may be made to St. Mary's Catholic Church, 1018 S. 7th Street, Temple, Texas 76504.

Scanio-Harper Funeral Home in Temple in charge of arrangements.

three brothers, Jack Ray, of Killeen, D.L. Ray, of Troy, Chine Ray, of Salado; one sister, Billie Jane Sprott, of Azle; 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, LaJuan Ray; one brother, Jim Ray.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Texas Rodeo Cowboy Hall of Fame, c/o Jana Richie at P.O. Box 9373, Huntsville, TX 77340.

Heartfield Funeral Home in Belton was in charge of arrangements.



Judith Ann Pastie

Judith Ann Pastie, of Salado, passed away on Nov. 23. She was born on April 8, 1940 to Harry and Rose Marriott, of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Her life and personality were marked by her love and devotion to her family, her compassion for others and her love of flower. She was loved and respected by friends and family and will be missed.

She is survived by her husband of 46 years Raymond Pastie, of Salado and three daughters, Melody Colasuonno and husband Bob, of Olathe, KS; Cherie Locke and husband Jeff, of Overland Park, KS; Pam Halbrooks and husband Michael of McKinney.

She is also survived by her sister Kathy Rowe and husband Ron, of Littleton, Colorado, four grandchildren, Lucas, Chelsea, Madelin and Trevor, nieces and nephews and many loving friends.

Private services will be in Colorado Springs, CO.

Obituary Policy

Obituaries are published at no-charge for local residents. We are more than happy to publish a photo with the obituary at no charge for local residents.

We also publish obituaries of former residents and those with family connections to Salado at no charge.

Obituaries can be submitted in person at 213 Mill Creek Dr., Suite #125, by mail at PO Box 587, Salado, TX 76571 or via email at news@saladovillagevoice.com.

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Durwood Ray

Services for Durwood "Mitz" Ray, 81, of Belton, were held Nov. 25 in the Heartfield Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed in Rest Haven Cemetery, south of Belton.

Ray died Nov. 22 at his residence.

He was born Dec. 14, 1924, in Youngsport, to Joel A. Ray and Ruby Dockray. He married Nan Pamplin on Aug. 25, 1949 in Killeen. Ray was a rancher in Belton for many years. He was also a member of the Cowboy Turtle Association, the Rodeo Cowboy Association; a Gold Card life member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association. He was inducted into the Bell County Cowboys and Cowgirls Ring of Honor and will be inducted into the Texas Rodeo Cowboy Hall of Fame in April 2007.

Survivors include his wife, Nan Ray, of Belton; two sons, Mitts Ray, of Round Rock, Robert Ray, of Salado; two daughters, Ruby Cameron, of Salado, Nancy Hale, of Lufkin;



Presbyterian Church of Salado
 Rev. Carl Thompson, Pastor
10 A.M. Sunday Worship
 Child care during service



105 Salado Plaza Drive • 254-947-8106
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Staff Sgt. James S. Prpich

Betty Martin DAR sets Tea Dec. 6

The Betty Martin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will hold its Christmas Tea and Chapter meeting at 3 p.m. Dec. 6.

The meeting will be held at the City Federation Women's Club House at 201 King Circle.

The DAR Good Citizen Award, from Area High Schools, will be presented by Kay Hall Snipes.

The Program: "George Washington and Benedict

Arnold, A Tale of Two Patriots" will be presented by Lt. General Dave R. Palmer, Ret., Author.

The Hostesses will be Betty Taylor, Dorothy Cox Aldrich, Ellen Jez, Ann Aldrich Barkemeyer, Virginia Lawson, Nancy Isaacs, and Laura Cloud.

Reservations are required by Nov 30. Send the request to Marge Croninger at 254 778-8578.

Blooddrive Nov. 30

Salado High School National Honor Society sponsors a blood drive, with the Scott & White Blood Mobile, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 30 at the High School parking lot.

Email Susan Shobe at susan.shobe@saladoisd.org to reserve a time.

There is a great need for blood both at Scott and White Hospital and throughout Bell County.

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Sgt. Prpich receives Commendation Medal in Iraq

Army Staff Sgt. James S. Prpich has been decorated with the Army Commendation Medal for supporting the mission of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The medal is awarded to individuals who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, have distinguished themselves by acts of heroism, meritorious achievement or meritorious service.

In Iraq, the soldier serves as a member of the Fires Brigade, 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized) headquartered at Camp Liberty. Upon completing the deployment to Iraq, the soldiers will return to their regular units at Fort Hood.

Operation Iraqi Freedom is the official name given to military operations involving members of the U.S. armed forces and coalition forces participating in efforts to free and secure Iraq. Mission objectives focus on force protection, peacekeeping, stabilization, security and counter-insurgency operations as the Iraqi transitional governing bodies assume full sovereign powers to govern the peoples of Iraq.

Members from all branches of the U.S. military and multinational forces are also assisting in rebuilding Iraq's economic and governmental infrastructure, and training and preparing Iraqi military and security forces to assume full authority and responsibility in defending and preserving Iraq's sovereignty and independence as a democracy.

Prpich is an ammunition section chief with 14 years of military service.

He is the son of John M. and Ruth E. Prpich of N. Valleyview Drive, Wildwood, Ill. His wife, Christina, is the daughter of Pedro (Pete) R. Coronado, of Salado.

The sergeant is a 1991 graduate of Gurnee Township High School, Ill.

A Study of World Religions by Tom Allen Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. Salado Church of Christ



Mr. Allen is a Professor in the Central Texas College Department of Social Sciences, where he has been teaching Philosophy, Comparative and World Religions full time for 19 years.

Tom Allen holds a B.S. in Education from the University of North Texas and a Masters in Theology from Harding University.

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Saturday December 9th

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7:30 am - 10:30 am

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Salado School Menus

December 4 - 8

Lunch Thomas Arnold Elementary

Mon. Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce (Hoagie, Chef Salad), Green Beans, Garlic Bread, Pears, Milk

Tues: Chicken Fried Steak (Hoagie, Chef Salad), Mashed Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, Rolls Fresh Fruit, Milk

Wed: Pizza-pepperoni (Hoagie, Yogurt & Fruit Plate), Corn, Breadstick, Peaches, Milk.

Nachos, (Hoagie, Chef Salad), Mixed Vegetables, Fresh Fruit, Milk.

Fri: Cheeseburger (Peanut Butter & Jelly, Chef Salad), Burger Salad, Fries, Fruity Freeze, Milk.

Lunch Salado Intermediate & High Schools

Every Day: Pizza Hut Pepperoni Pizza, Chef Salad, Fresh Fruit, Choice of Milk, Tea

Mon. Salisbury Steak, Chili Dog, Peas & Carrots, Garlic Bread, Fries, Mixed Fruit

Tues: Steak Fingers, Hamburger, Frito Lay, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Broccoli, Roll, Pineapple

Wed: Pizza, CF Steak Sandwich, Red Potatoes, Bkd Potato, Corn, Breadstick, Peaches

Chicken Pot Pie, Nachos, Carrots, Corn, Mixed Fruit, Toast, Oven Fries

Fri: Hamburger, Meatball Sub, R/S Beans, Apple-sauce, Mixed Veg, Fries, Frito Lay, Fruity Freeze

Breakfast Menu Both Campuses

Every day: Assorted Dry Cereals, White Toast, Fresh Fruit, Juice, choice of Milk, Jelly.

Mon: Breakfast Pocket Tues: French Toast
Wed: Biscuit Sausage Thurs: Breakfast Bagel Sausage
Fri: Breakfast on a Stick

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BPA comes to SHS

Salado High School recently organized a local chapter of BPA (Business Professionals of America). BPA is a student organization created to help high school students prepare for the world of business ahead. The program was started by the high school business education teacher Coach Rocky Boaz. There are 21 students currently involved in BPA. The mission of Business Professionals of America is to contribute to the preparation of a world class work force through the advancement of leadership, academic citizenship, and technological skills. BPA will be involved in activities throughout the year such as, weekly meetings, community service projects, and fundraising. Student will compete in a regional competition in the spring with the chance to advance to state and national levels. On Nov. 21, BPA members voted for officers for the local chapter and began making fundraising plans for the upcoming year. The Officers shown in the picture above are as follows: (from left to right) Preston Watkins, Vice President; Megan Chick, Reporter; Brian Corbitt, Sergeant-at-Arms; Samantha Smith, Treasurer; Zoe Simpson Secretary; Kaley Boaz, Historian; Travis Wellhoner, Parliamentarian, and Josh Coleman, President.

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MCCA Christmas Party set Dec. 12

The Mill Creek Community Association's Annual Christmas Party will be Dec. 12 at the Longhorn Room at Stagecoach Inn. Social Time will begin at 6 p.m. and Dinner served at 6:45. Entertainment will follow. This is an occasion for festive attire and fellowship with the Mill Creek residents.

The cost will be \$20 per person for members and \$25 for non-members. The non-members can avoid the extra fee by joining the association before the

RSVP date of Dec. 1. The membership fee is \$20 per household.

Your check will be your reservation and mailed to Mill Creek Community Association, P.O. Box 562, Salado, TX 76571.

It is important to respond by Dec. 1 so that the Social Committee can plan for the dinner.

Membership dues for all members are due for the 2007 year by Jan. 1, 2007. This is important for the completion of the directory.

Bell Co. JP holiday open house Dec. 1

Bell County Justice of the Peace Pct 2, Don Engleking and the office staff are inviting their friends, community members and supporters to their annual Holiday Open House.

The open house will be held 3-5 p.m. Dec. 1 at the Holland Office. The office is located at 102 W. Travis in Holland.

The event will be a come and go affair.

You are invited to join them for refreshments and celebrate the holiday season.

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721-8778



\$70,000: 2802 FM 3117, Temple. 6 Acres, Great Potential! House needing extensive repair, and out-buildings.



\$125,000: 2708 CR 423, Bartlett. 10 acres with 3 BR mobile home, barn and pens. Ready for horses.



\$159,900: 1501 Bishop Drive, Salado. Walk to the golf course. 3 BR, 2 BA home with solar screens, tiled floors, enclosed back porch.



\$211,900: 605 Spring Court, Belton. 4 BR, 2 BA with custom cabinets & granite countertops. Covered patio.



\$216,000: 1425 Bishop Dr., Salado. Mill Creek home with 2 master bedrooms & amazing view of the golf course.



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



\$239,000: 1635 Hidden Springs, Salado. Nice covered back porch. 3 BR, 2 BA on 2.29 acres in Hidden Springs.



\$244,500: 3416 Chisholm Trail, Salado. Great floor plan. Private wing with 4th BR & 3rd BA are handicap accessible.



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



\$289,900: 117 Salado Creek Place, Salado. 3 BR, 2.5 BA, game room, hardwood floors. Great location.



\$299,900: 6082 FM 2484, Salado. Rock home on almost 5 acres nestled among oak trees. 2 car carport with storage and office.



\$389,000: 21810 E. FM 487, Bartlett. Beautiful well-built home on over 18 acres with workshop & tractor shop.

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Vehicles

1998 Jaguar XK8 convertible blue sapphire/white leather 75K miles; 254-947-3478_ 11/3006tfn

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White gold engagement ring 1.5 carat Platinum diamond band; size 6 \$1800 254-947-3478 11/30/06

1948 Ford 8 N tractor w/ attachments. Good condition 254-947-3478 11/30/06

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King Pillowtop Mattress Set - \$175 Brand new w/warranty. 512-963-0796

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ON PAGE 3C



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2600 South First Street
Temple, TX 76504

Applications can be downloaded from the Temple College website at www.templejc.edu

Incomplete applications or applications submitted without the above listed attachments will be returned to applicant. Deadline – Screening of applications will begin immediately. Position will remain open until filled.

Any questions regarding the application process, please contact the Office of Human Resources at (254) 298-8583.

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homes. Carpenter work if needed. Call Now, for free estimates! 254-493-8285 or 947-0455 6/2/05tfnb

Mary Kay Products 947-3159. Visit MaryKay.com/AnneMarieHarwell. 5/11tfn

Yard Maintenance: Mow, weed eat, trim. 721-4699 Popeye or 913-4692 Herbie. tfnb

Ready for new home. Labrador puppies \$75 each. Black female and male and Blonde female. Call for appt. 947-8823 11/30tfn

Vehicles
1998 Jaguar XK8 convertible blue sapphire/white leather 75K miles; 254-947-3478_ 11/3006tfn

For Sale
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1948 Ford 8 N tractor w/ attachments. Good condition 254-947-3478 11/30/06

\$125 Queen Pillowtop Mattress set. Brand new w/warranty. 512-963-0796

King Pillowtop Mattress Set - \$175 Brand new w/warranty. 512-963-0796

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\$210,000 includes retail inventory, trade fixtures, desirable lease terms and training. Rita Oden, Re/Max Gold Team 718-7956 10/19tfnb

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Waitstaff needed. Apply in person at Johnny's Barbecue at 301 Thomas Arnold 947-4663 10/5tfnb

CLASSIFIED CONTINUE ON PAGE 5C

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5055 Elm Grove Rd.
Great buy, price reduced! 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, hay barn, equip shed, 6 traps and decks. Must see! \$595,000.



1910 Old Mill Rd. #4
Rare opportunity to own a townhouse with views of golf course and Salado Creek. Close to pro shop, this beautiful home has a formal dining room and large living area with gorgeous hardwood floors, a wood burning fireplace and lots of windows. There are three bedrooms and 2-1/2 BAs, kitchen with granite countertops, new appliances and tile floor, plus a two-car garage. You will love this one. Reduced \$245,000.



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 \$192,400.



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.

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.

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- 1901 Kevlin Trail
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Granny's House Cleaning. Free estimates/discounts. Move outs. References. Call 254-947-8533 Salado. tfn

Storage

Stow Away Storage Household -Commercial 10X10 - 10x20- 22x40 Clean, lighted, fenced, Key punch entry 24 hours. 947-5502 or 721-1807 Paul Sanford - Owner tfnb

Storage space in Salado 8X12, 16X24 and up. Some have drive-in doors. Salado Storage 947-5575 tfnb

Pets & Livestock

Salado Village Voice

Place a Classified ad

First 15 words \$5, .20 per word after

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone Number: _____

Attach this form to your classified ad and bring it with payment to our office at 213 Mill Creek Drive, Suite #125. A drop slot is available after hours for your convenience. Ads can also be mailed with payment to PO Box 587, Salado, TX 76571.

First 15 words	\$5	Start date
additional words _____ x .20 = _____		End date
weekly price = _____		Total ad price
number of weeks to run _____		<input type="text"/>

Classified ads are due by noon Monday for that weeks edition.

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

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

Homes For Sale

Gorgeous executive 3300+ sq ft custom home in Mill Creek. This stunner has it all: 4 BR, 3.5 Ba, 3+ Car garage. Central vac, intercom system, 2 heat/air systems, pool, deck, screened porch off MBR, completely sprinkled. Located on quiet cul-d-sac overlooking Mill Creek golf course. **Many** more extras. For info and showing call **George Dentry - Prudential Synergy Realtors @ 254-718-6447.**
11/23tfnb

1999 Solitaire Manufactured Home 18 X 80 for Sale by Original Owner Upgrades, very clean, new flooring, dishwasher and hot water heater 3bd/2ba Paid \$60,000.00 will take Payoff \$37,000.00 Move or leave in park, 20 minutes from Salado 512-656-3288
11/23tfnb

One acre golf lot with 2400 sq ft. custom home. Private, wooded, can be divided \$325,000 512-554-4987
11/2tfnb

New listing! Easy living in this townhome within walking distance to the Pro Shop and the swimming pool. 2,522 s.f. 3/3

with an office, a sun room and a flex room Outstanding value at \$149,800. Call Remax Gold Team /Rita Oden 718-4011

Wooded lot on the Mill Creek Golf Course. 3 BR and an office, formals, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, 2 car plus golf cart garage, workshop. On cul-de-sac \$385,800. Call Remax Gold Team /Rita Oden 718-4011

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

Separate office/studio. Old Chicago brick show-case home with extensive detailed woodwork. Granite countertops, SS appliances, large live oaks, decks, large game room. \$274,800. Call Remax Gold Team /Rita Oden 718-4011

A wonderful home with ample space! Great floor plan with 2 living areas and 2 dining areas. Private wing with 4th BR and 3 BA (with great shower) and totally handicapped accessible. Nice covered back patio. Large kitchen has island and lots of cabinets. \$244,500 Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050
0831tfnf

Great 3 BR,2 BA home in Jarrell, built in 1997. Custom cabinets with pull-out drawers in kitchen with island, ceiling fans in every room, new roof in 2005. Refrigerator and stove recently purchased will

convey, washer and dryer to convey. Mueller 24 by 24 workshop built-in 1998 with metal roof and concrete foundation. 9 foot ceilings in living room. Motor home hook up. Call office for showing instructions. All measurements are approx. \$155,000 .Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050

New home in Mill Creek Springs. Custom craftsmanship seen throughout this 3 BR/2 BA/2 car garage home. Spacious kitchen with Granite counters. Take the virtual tour at www.salado.net. **Priced at \$259,900.** Call First Texas Brokerage, (254) 947-5577

Golf Course Living in Mill Creek! 4/2.5/2 home has granite counter tops, hardwood floors and high ceilings. This is a must-see home. **\$269,900.** Call First Texas Brokerage at 254-947-5577
tfnf

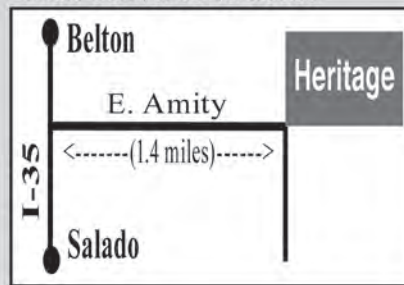
3/2.5/2 - Beautiful Traditional Home in Salado. Hardwood Floors, High Ceilings, Granite Counter tops, Large Kitchen, and much more! Priced at **\$344,900.** Call First Texas Brokerage at 254-947-5577
tfnf

Wonderful home in Salado ISD. 4 BR, 2 BA, white rock with metal roof and cedar trim/front porch. Rock fireplace, granite countertops. jetted tub in master, carpet and tile floors. Great access to I-35. \$226,900. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050



1-3 Acre Homesites

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- No City Taxes
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- Highly Restricted
- No Homeowners Association
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254-760-3335

www.heritagesubdivisionsaladotx.com



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



Large 3/2/2 townhome in Mill Creek with large beautifully landscaped back yard. Great location.



Mill Creek: For Sale \$229,500 or Lease for 1250/mo. Short term lease o.k. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage. Immaculate, huge trees, upgraded kitchen, granite countertops, island, hot tub.
Call Peggy at 254-624-4070

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

For Rent: 3 bedroom house in great area. \$175/mo. Short-term lease O.K Call Suzanne @ 721-3605



Peggy Bush - Owner/Agent
254-624-4070
Suzanne Payne - Owner/Agent
254-721-3605
Cindy Humphries -Agent
254-760-2387



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Award-winning builder for Builder's Choice Best Kitchen Best Bath Best Interior Decor Best Craftsmanship



Rock fireplace, granite countertops. jetted tub in master, carpet and tile floors. Great access to I-35. \$226,900. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050

Land for Sale

10 acres near Hidden Spring entrance. \$125,000 254-493-7143 11/23p

.71 acre on Main Street, Salado. 100 ft. frontage existing septic and well. Excellent location. 713-857-7733 10/26-11/16

Three 10 plus acre tracts with large live oaks,

creeks, hilltop views, quality restrictions, private, gated community with a common area lake. Starting at \$129,800. Call Remax Gold Team /Rita Oden 718-4011

Salado Creek Front 3+Acres. Beautifully cleared parcel in the peaceful, upscale community of Hidden Springs: Paved streets, large parcels, lovely homes and a community park on Salado Creek with tennis!! Priced to sell-build your dream home! Easy commute to Austin: West on FM 2843 off I-35 about 4.5 miles. Must sell - Great land with Great neighbors! Lot 71 on Creekview Dr. Call owner for details: (936)597-5284,

(936)203-2766. **The Overlook - wooded estate sized lots** with hill top golf course views. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 254-947-5050

9.1 acres on I35 at Salado, long road frontage.

14 acres, all woods, deer, secluded, Milam-Bell county line.

25 acres on FM 2115, South of Salado, Seasonal creek, community water available

27 acres NW of Temple airport, on Hwy 317, nice home site, good location

40 acres on FM 487 east of Bartlett, some woods, good frontage, water available, will divide.

53 acres on I35 in Belton, all utilities, excellent location, good road frontage

64 acres, NE loop 363 Temple, woods, creek, owner finance, very scenic and well located, \$3,950

64 acres near Academy on hwy 95, very scenic, some woods, good road frontage, city water.

75 acres south of Salado, good road frontage, lovely views

105 acres, excellent location, ponds, water meter, beautiful terrain, near Salado

110 acres near Troy, good soil, community water, \$1,500 per acre, well located

151 acres, great view, some trees, south of Salado, two sides road frontage.

Call Bill @ 947-5050 or Paul @ 721-8778 Century 21 Bill

Bartlett Salado 947-5050 10/26 tfnb

Commercial Rental

For Rent Storage building in downtown Salado. Approx. 850 SF. ft. Call 254-947-5577 First Texas Brokerage 101206tfnb

Old Church Place (office Space) Two private offices with full bath and large reception/secretary area. Wonderful kitchenette area. 1000 sq.. ft. \$800 mo. Call Properties by Larry Sands at 254-913-5467 for showing and more information 6/29tfnb

For Rent or Lease

Brand new Duplex, Belton 219 W. Ave D. 2 BR, 2 BA Approx. 950 sq. ft. \$650 mo. Call 947-0999. 11/30-12/4/06p

Stillhouse Lake Rental 2 BR 1 BA fireplace. No pets. Salado school district \$475 includes water and trash 254-634-0491 11/30//06bill

Charming, spacious, 2/2/1, townhome for rent, \$850. 6 closets, vaulted ceiling, w/d closet inside, Walk to shopping center. Lawn care provided. 254-338-5083. 11/23tfnb

For Rent: Cute home on Prairie Lane, Salado ISD, 3BR 2BA, fenced backyard, \$1200/mo.; \$900/SD Village Realty 947-0342 11/30tfnf

Home located on 1/2 acre in rural Salado subdivision. Fenced backyard. 3BR/ 2BA \$1200/mo.; SD \$900 Call Village Realty 254-947-0342 11/23tfn

Two bedroom, one bath mobile home for rent. Seven miles west on FM 2848. Water and garbage pick up furnished. \$100. Deposit \$300 per month. 947-5212 11/16p

2400 SF on 1.14 acres in Salado Springs. Only \$1200 mo. Rita Oden, Re/Max gold Team 718-7956 10/19tfnb

Visit our website at www.saladovillagevoice.com

For advertising - click on advertising for a rate sheet and sample sizes with prices.

Then, give Marilyn a call at 254-947-5321 to get your advertising started.

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4/3.5/2 - Spectacular Ranch Style Home highlighted by its wood craftsmanship. Priced at \$489,900.

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4/3/2 - An Updated Spanish Hacienda offering the utmost in Texas Estate Living. Priced at \$539,900

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AT 254-541-2255

Properties By Larry Sands

1213 Indian Trail 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. Reduced \$219,900.

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 Properties By Larry Sands
(254) 947-5580

For more information on these or more of our STAR properties, please call us or visit our web site.
www.saladoproperties.com

M.J. Craig Homes

254/526-9646

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

2006 Palm Harbor 16X76. Ready to move to your land. Very nice, barely lived in home with ceiling fans and wood deck. \$38,000

Please call Marcie at 512-415-7786

Preparing for power outages

(ARA) - According to the Electric Power Research Institute, about 3.5 million people in the United States lose power each week. As power outages become a way of life in some areas of the country, more homeowners are switching from their portable generators to permanent, home generator systems. The systems receive continuous fuel supply from a home's propane or natural gas supply, and are permanently installed and wired directly to the electrical system to provide automatic standby power in the event of utility power loss.

How do you decide which type of generator is right for your home?

Portable Generators

Portable generators are more versatile than home generator systems, as they can be transported to provide power for home backup power, DIY projects and recreational activities. Portable generators connect to tools or to the home with an extension cord and may be moved to wherever the homeowner needs a power supply.

Homeowners may select from a variety of engine types, fuel tank sizes and

outlet types, depending on what type of appliance power is desired. Portable generators are available in manual or electric starting models, and range in price from \$500 to \$1,500.

One disadvantage to portable generators is that they are unable to power as many appliances at a time -- or high-wattage items such as air-condi-

tioners -- as home generator systems can.

Portable generators have roots in the construction industry, and although extremely versatile, they do have limitations, especially when being used for residential home backup power. Consumers must move the generator to a safe location outside the home, start the generator,

and run extension cords to key appliances inside the home. Having enough gasoline on hand for the duration of the power failure can also be a challenge. Run times are limited to the size of the gasoline tank, which is a critical consideration, especially if the outage lasts more than a day or two.

SEE GENERATORS, PAGE 8C



Mill Creek Springs

BEAUTIFUL LOTS IN THE VILLAGE OF SALADO



Several Golf Course Lots Still Available!



254-493-0787

Valerie Bourque, GRI
valerie@c21bb.com



Bill Bartlett

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FREE Initiation Fee with the purchase of a lot (toward a Mill Creek Golf & Country Club Membership).

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- Famous Robert Trent Jones Jr. Golf Course
- Gorgeous Views & Beautiful Sunsets
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New Entrance To Mill Creek Is Open @ Blackberry & Grandview



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Katrina Bissett
Agent
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2002 SULPHUR WELLS



17.87 acres with home and gardens on Salado Creek! Working fruit, flower, vegetable farm with commercial greenhouse. Magazine quality home. Solar powered. Two wells. \$1,150,000.

1316 OLD MILL RD.



Austin stone home with apartment and in-ground pool in Mill Creek. Hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen and family-friendly floorplan. \$335,800.

1010 BROOKHOLLOW



TAKE ADVANTAGE of the golf course view and wooded cul-de-sac lot, this home has outstanding quality and custom features. \$385,000.

10301 BLACKBERRY



3,152 SF HOME with 5 BRS, 3 BAs on 1.35 wooded acres. Excellent location near Sulphur Wells. Corner Jacuzzi tub, formals and family room. \$295,800.

1105 OLD MILL RD., #15



FRESH TEXTURE AND PAINT in this Mill Creek Townhome. 3 BR/3 BA, plus office and a sunroom. An excellent value at \$149,800.

GEORGIA CREEK ESTATES



YOU WILL LOVE COMING HOME TO 50 acres with 2,500 SF home. Porch overlooks stocked fishing lake. Woods, pasture, AND a golf practice area! \$539,800.

1059 SULPHUR WELLS



TEXAS-STYLE HOME on 2.05 heavily-wooded hilltop acres. Elegant entry-way, formals and a huge family room. Appraised at \$375,000. \$340,800.

1107 INDIAN TRAIL



FRESH PAINT INSIDE THIS Old Chicago Brick home with detailed woodwork, formals, gameroom. Separate office or studio in wooded backyard. \$272,800.

341 WINDMILL HILL



TWO HOMES IN ONE! On 5.14 wooded acres, this home is perfect for in-laws. Hardwood floors, formals, game room, custom pool. \$564,800.

LAND & INVESTMENTS

Old Mill Creek. 1418 Stagecoach Circle, only \$24,800.
Mill Creek Springs: 0.76 acre golf course lot with nice view. Hester Way. \$59,800.
Hidden Springs: 2 acres with trees and view near park and creek. \$26,800.
Stone Mound Subdivision: 10+ wooded acres near Stillhouse Lake. FM 2843 & Cedar Valley: 12 wooded acres with excellent home-site. Twenty 10X12 storage units, Salado area. \$216,800.

Nobody Sells More Real Estate Than RE/MAX.

Generators

FROM PAGE 7C



One of Salado's finest! Better-than-new executive home (approx. 4600 sq. ft) on 6 manicured acres. Steel structure, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bath, study, breathtaking great room with floor-to-ceiling fireplace, glazed porcelain tile floors. Gourmet kitchen with two islands, custom hickory cabinets with granite countertops. Master suite with his & hers walk-in closets plus mirrored exercise room. Workshop/garage (approx. 1800 sq. ft--room for an RV) with full bath. Three bay carport attached. If you are looking for the perfect place to entertain your family & friends, make an appointment to see this exquisite home.

Call Francine 254-423-0574 or Jane 512-635-9068.

THE LOFTS

of Carriage Place

The LOFTS of Carriage Place, can be your NEW address in the "heart of historic Salado." The Post Office, Civic Center, Public Library, restaurants, churches, grocery store and Salado's quaint shops are ONLY steps away from the LOFTS!!! Two bedrooms, two baths, spacious walk-in closets, skylights in kitchens and living areas, fully equipped kitchens and elevator entry to the LOFTS!!! Call Properties By Larry Sands, 947-5580 for LEASING information.

We count our friends, family and community among our many blessings this time of year!

From our family to yours, Have a Safe and Happy Holiday!



First Community Title

"...real people, real service."

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Salado, TX 76571

947-8480 947-9480 fax

Home Generator Systems There is a more efficient solution to power failure. Exclusively designed for residential use, Home Generator Systems supply fully automatic backup power whether you are home or away, receive a continuous fuel supply from a propane or natural gas supply, and are permanently wired to your home's electrical system for hassle-free, continuous backup power. Residential Home Generator Systems are also significantly quieter than most portable generators, and feature a durable, weatherized compartment for an attractive, subtle yard presence.

Recently, the trend has been for homeowners to seek out "Whole House" power solutions that often result in enormous and costly industrial liquid-cooled standby generators to meet with their ever increasing household power demand. "You don't really need a larger generator, just a smarter one," says Scott Alderton, director of marketing for Briggs & Stratton Power Products Group. "Briggs & Stratton has recently introduced the industry's first line of high effi-

ciency Home Generator Systems -- the IntelliGEN Series. Equipped with an advanced computer-controlled power management system and a premium commercial-grade Vanguard engine, IntelliGEN has both the brains and the brawn to efficiently manage the same essential and high wattage household power demands as a more expensive 25kW liquid cooled standby generator," Alderton said. "IntelliGEN is also nearly half the size of most liquid-cooled standbys, uses up to 50 percent less fuel, is up to 50 percent quieter, and costs half as much," Alderton added.

When comparison shopping for home generator systems, evaluate choices based on:

- * Essential appliances and high-wattage items -- what do you want to power?
- * Energy efficiency - how much fuel does the generator require and how much does it cost to power your appliances per kilowatt?
- * Overload protection -- does the system prevent generator overload due to unmanaged power demand?
- * Design and operation -- how much space does the generator take up and how loud is it when it is running?

COURTESY OF ARA CONTENT

All is calm all is bright

As winter approaches and the days grow shorter (and darker), it's natural to look for ways to make every corner of your home a little more bright and cozy. Yet with the price of electricity as high as it is, you probably don't want to keep your lights on any longer than you have to. So how do you add a warming glow of light to hallways, bedrooms and bathrooms? Simple: night lights.

Night lights are a great way to add convenience lighting to your home for just pennies a day. Available in a multitude of different styles, they're inexpensive to purchase and operate and can be used anywhere in your home. They radiate a comforting glow in bedrooms, bathrooms, and hallways or any other area of your home where convenience lighting is needed after dark.

Night lights are ideal for homes with toddlers, small children or seniors. Surveys show that one out of every three people over the age of sixty-five falls each year. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), 2/3 of them will unfortunately fall again within six months. Children, too, can wake up disoriented

or afraid in a dark room. A night light can be a reassuring beacon in the dark for young and old alike. That's why The Leviton Institute recommends adding night lights to your home lighting mix. There are a number of appealing options to consider when choosing night lights for your home.

Night lights make a great stocking stuffer and a thoughtful holiday gift

Some of the most popular night lights are: LED (night lights that use long-lasting, energy efficient Light Emitting Diodes); Incandescent (night lights that cast a soft, soothing glow with a small 4-5 watt bulb); Light Sensing (night lights that feature an automatic sensor that turns the light ON at dusk and OFF at dawn); Sonar-activated (night lights that respond to sound); Motion-sensor (night lights that detect when you are walking by them and switch on to brighten the way); Rotating (night lights that can be shined up, down, or anywhere you need to direct light within 360 degrees).

Night lights are a great stocking stuffer and a thoughtful gift for the holidays.



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COMMERCIAL

112 North Main, Belton. Two-story building with 1800+ square feet down and 1300+ square feet up for office and apartment or condo use. **\$79,000.**



LAND

Over 12 Acres on FM 93 west of Belton. Nice trees, level tract, great road frontage, community water available. Great multifamily/commercial potential. **\$225,000**



Gifts for the do-it-yourselfer

(ARA) - While you're making your list and checking it twice this holiday season, don't forget the do-it-yourselfers on your list. Cool weather seldom chills the DIYer's enthusiasm for home improvement projects. The work of creating one's castle simply moves inside.

The perfect holiday gift is always something that appeals to an individual's special interests. From basic tool kits to home improvement workshops, the number of holiday gifts available for do-it-yourselfers could overflow Santa's bag. Here are a few ideas:

* Digital cable or satellite dish service so they can tune into the many non-network home improvement programs on the air. Your local cable provider, or dish providers like DISH Network provide monthly packages that include do-it-yourself oriented channels like Home & Garden Television, The Learning Channel and Do It Yourself Network.

* One of the hottest interior decorating trends of the new century, easy-to-install wallpaper murals can be used as an accent or focal point in virtually any room of the house. Lowes carries a line of several murals by Minnesota-based mural manufacturer Environmental Graphics, created exclusively for the home improvement giant. The do-it-yourselfer on your list will feel like sipping a tropical drink while he or she installs a classic palm tree mural in a rec room, or may want to feast on some tiramisu while nestling a Tuscan villa scene in a niche above a bathtub. To find a Lowes location,



Design ideas are a great gift for the do-it-yourselfer in your life.

visit www.lowes.com.

* Power to the people, especially do-it-yourselfers at the holidays. The plethora of power tools on the market ensure you can find just the right one for your handy person. Need to stuff a stocking? Slip in a powerful, lightweight, hand-held drill or electric screw driver. Looking for a knock-their-socks-off, "this is your combined birthday and Christmas" gift? Consider a zero-turn radius lawnmower for the serious yard lover or a snow blower for anyone who lives in a colder climate.

* Looking for something for the do-it-yourselfer who has every tool you can imagine but nowhere to put them? An outdoor storage shed may be the solution. Home improvement stores carry a range of outdoor storage solutions - from classic wood or metal sheds, to portable plastic storage sheds by Rubbermaid. All are a great installation

project, and serve a practical purpose, for home improvement enthusiasts.

* Knowledge is a good thing, and many home improvement stores now offer classes on how to accomplish popular home improvement projects. Most are free, or a nominal cost, so if you give one as a gift, consider enhancing the value by throwing in babysitting services, paying for any needed supplies, or even a gift card so the DIYer can have a nice dinner before or after the class. Check with your local home improvement store for class schedules and pricing information.

* Finally, for the do-it-yourselfer who simply has everything he or she could possibly need, consider

creating your own "gift certificate" that pledges your personal assistance the next time he or she needs help with a major project. Does your spouse plan a kitchen makeover in the spring? Give her a gift certificate that entitles her to your services as a chef and/or nanny during the duration of the project. Does he plan to put new tile in the bathroom? Promise him backrubs as needed.

With a little creativity and knowledge of your do-it-yourselfer's favorite projects, you can give a gift that he or she will remember long after the project is done.

COURTESY OF ARA CONTENT

PRIVACY HAS AN ADDRESS:

6219 W. Amity Road, Salado

This Texas Style home sits on two wooded acres. This home has 4 bedrooms, 3 baths and two living areas. Also included with this property is a 24' x 12' workshop, storage building, security system and water softener system. Enjoy all the hummingbirds and butterflies from this large front porch. This property has been designated a Wildlife Habitat by the Texas Parks and Wildlife. With the right offer, Seller will assist with closing costs. Seller is a licensed Real Estate Agent. \$239,900

For more information, please call:

JOAN WRIGHT, REALTOR

254-760-2746

joancwright@msn.com

Joan Mikeska Realty

1915 W. Ave. M Temple, TX 76504



- 9.1 acres on I35 at Salado**, long road frontage.
- 14 acres, all woods, deer, secluded**, Milam-Bell county line.
- 25 acres on FM 2115**, South of Salado, Seasonal creek, community water available
- 40 acres on FM 487 east of Bartlett**, some woods, good frontage, water available, will divide.
- 53 acres on I35 in Belton**, all utilities, excellent location, good road frontage
- 64 acres, NE loop 363 Temple**, woods, creek, owner finance, very scenic and well located, \$3,950 per acre
- 64 acres near Academy** on Hwy 95, very scenic, some woods, good road frontage, city water.
- 75 acres south of Salado**, good road frontage, lovely views
- 105 acres, excellent location**, ponds, water meter, beautiful terrain, near Salado
- 110 acres near Troy**, good soil, community water, \$1,500 per acre, well located
- 151 acres, great view**, some trees, south of Salado, two sides road frontage.

Paul @ (254) 721-8778

Bill @ (254) 947-5050

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EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers
About Our Environment

What green-friendly gifts can I give this holiday?

Dear EarthTalk: Where can I find green-friendly gifts for friends and family this holiday season? -- A.L. Burger, via e-mail

Reconciling one's green values with the urge

to shop has never been easy. Most environmental groups today decry Western consumer habits as wasteful and a major cause of ecological degradation in a shrinking world. And many people, environmen-

tal issues aside, believe that the rampant commercialism we've all come to expect at holiday times cheapens what should be a reflective or sacred time of year.

Our buying habits are not easy on the wallet, either. According to the Center for a New American Dream (CNAD), 60 million American families carry an average credit card debt of over \$7,000 and pay more than \$1,000 a year in interest and fees. Further, says CNAD, "A record 1.6 million Americans declared personal bankruptcy last year."

For those who ply an ethic of moderation (for whatever reason) but still have to show up at a half-dozen holiday parties with something for under the tree, there are now more green-friendly (and affordable) options than ever before. Steer your web browser to any number of online merchants offering items from clothes, bed-and-bath and organic baby products to food, the latest books and "gifts that give back," such as tree-planting kits and "fair trade" crafts that support economically disadvantaged communities in developing countries. A few popular sites include the Green Home Environmental Store, Global Exchange's Fair Trade Online Store,

The Eco-Store, Abundant Earth, and Gaiam, among others. A visit to Co-Op America's National Green Pages Online is one quick path to a treasure trove of such options.

While these stores all specialize in decidedly "green" items, many environmentally concerned consumers simply want to buy from mainstream retailers but want to feel confident their money is going to companies that are "good corporate citizens." If you better fit that category of consumer, pay a visit to Alonovo.com, which provides information on companies' social and environmental records alongside thousands of products for sale in partnership with Amazon.com. The website can also simply be used as a research tool to get the lowdown on companies before heading out to downtown or the mall. Alonovo rates companies in five different areas: social responsibility, workplace fairness, environmental issues, customer relations and overall business ethics. If you do buy from the site, the company shares from 20 to 40 percent of its profits with environmental and other nonprofits that you as a customer can choose.

Some other options include Consumer Reports' Greenerchoices.org, which

rates mainstream products from cars to electronics based on environmental criteria, and Co-op America's Responsible Shopper, which features detailed reports on various companies that market "green" consumer products. Of course, you need not buy anything if you have a little more time (and items to re-use and recycle) on your hands than money. Sherri Osborn, the family crafts guide at About.com, offers up a healthy listing of "101 Great Gifts to Make" for any season, complete with links to instructions and materials needed.

CONTACTS: National Green Pages Online, coopamerica.org/pubs/greenpages; Alonovo, www.alonovo.com; Greenerchoices.org, www.greenerchoices.org; Responsible Shopper, www.coopamerica.org/programs/rs; About.com's 101 Great Gifts to Make, familycrafts.about.com/cs/giftgiving/a/120400a.htm.

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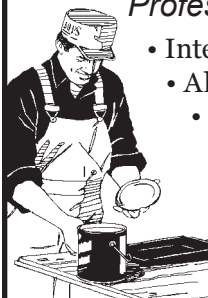
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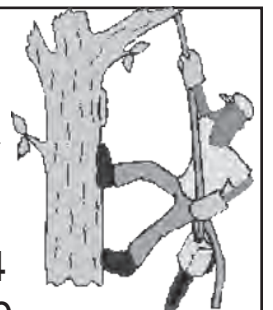
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Dear EarthTalk: Several of my neighbors have installed outdoor wood furnace boilers to heat their homes instead of relying on oil or natural gas. But is all the smoke these boilers create good for my health? Susan Mi-Halo, Michigan City, IN

As the price of fuel has risen in recent years, more and more homeowners across North America are turning to alternative ways of heating their homes. While some might opt for forward-thinking alternatives--like tapping solar, wind or geothermal sources of energy--others prefer to step back to perhaps the oldest source of heat, burning wood. For those with easy access to firewood and the need to heat a large house or multiple buildings, outdoor wood furnace boilers are an obvious, though potentially noxious, choice.

Outdoor wood furnace boilers, also known as outdoor water stoves and outdoor wood furnaces, usually consist of a wood-burning firebox surrounded by a water reservoir or "jacket." Ideally a tall chimney vents the unit of the sometimes-copious amounts of wood smoke generated. The combustion of wood in the firebox heats the water in the surrounding jacket, which is in turn pumped via insulated underground pipes into one or more nearby buildings.

Once inside a building, the heated water warms the home via radiators or a heat exchanger duct system. Outdoor wood fur-

nace boilers also typically provide hot water for the home. And, unlike with indoor wood burning stoves, no smoke gets into the house.

While this may all seem well and good, such boilers often become bones of contention between neighbors, as the wood smoke produced can cause hazy banks of smog over entire neighborhoods. According to environmental toxicologist Uni Blake, wood smoke is a complex mixture of chemicals and particulates. It contains carbon monoxide and other organic gases, particulate matter, chemicals, and some inorganic gases. Some of these compounds, such as aldehydes and phenols, are toxic, while others, like benzoprene and cresols, are known carcinogens, Blake reports.

The U.S. and Canadian governments have yet to issue any regulations regarding the manufacture or usage of outdoor wood furnace boilers, so perturbed neighbors don't have much of a legal leg to stand on. But several American states and a few Canadian provinces have called on their capitals to regulate the emissions of these boilers, so time will tell whether or not any formal rules are put into place.

Forward-thinking manufacturers are not waiting to find out, however, and have been busy retooling their units to help maintain optimal combustion conditions and better disperse waste smoke. Meanwhile, owners of outdoor wood

furnace boilers can use their units more responsibly by limiting operation to wintertime when neighbors are more likely to be indoors with their windows shut, choosing and burning dried wood so as to minimize the moisture that leads to the creation of smoke, and installing taller chimneys to help disperse the smoke away from nearby homes.

CONTACTS: Washington State Department

of Ecology's Fact Sheet on Outdoor Wood-Fired Boilers, www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/AOP_Permits/Boiler/Outdoor_Boilers_home.html.

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