

Salado Village Voice

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50¢

Christmas Stroll is here!

Salado's historic downtown will be frosted in the white lights of the holiday as strolling carolers and traditional musicians will complement the 24th Annual Christmas Stroll Dec. 2-4 and 9-11.

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.

Along with after-hours shopping, there will be two other attractions this year: "Christmas in the Park" display, and the "Do You Hear What I Hear" performed at the new Salado Silver Spur Theatre on Royal St.

"Christmas In The Park" tells the famous story of "Twas The Night Before Christmas," with a distinctly Salado flare, in lighted vignettes around the circle drive in Pace Park. The display may be driven or walked through.

"Do You Hear What I Hear?" is a riotous new production for the whole



The First Baptist Church will again have a Live Nativity display 7-9 p.m. Dec. 2-3.

family. There will be live music, skits and a classic Christmas movie shown nightly at the new Silver Spur Theatre. For exact times and ticket information call 254-947-3456.

Tablerock Amphitheater will present its unique version of "A Christmas Carol" on both weekends of the Stroll. See story in Section B.

The annual Historical Society Tour will feature many beautiful homes and historic sites Dec. 2-4. See Story in Section B.

There will be live seasonal music at various spots around town with strolling carolers, choirs and other musical acts.

The First Baptist Church will feature a "live nativity" the first weekend of The Stroll. The live nativity will be 7-9 p.m. Dec. 2-3 in front of the Church on Main St.

SFRF Christmas drive underway

The Salado Family Relief Fund is in as much need of community support as ever before.

Once again, the Relief Fund is working to provide Christmas to more than 30 families and 100 children in Salado, according to President Leigh Drake, who has overseen the Christmas project for four years now.

Drake says about 30 families still need to be adopted out to groups, clubs, churches or individuals in the commu-

nity. "We need people to outright adopt families as well as agreeing to do the purchasing for families who have applied for the Christmas help," she added.

Many organizations in Salado make an annual tradition of adopting some of the larger families that have applied for the Christmas project.

Drake said she is working with school personnel and Cathy Coe at the Salado Food Pantry to screen the more than 150

applicants for relief.

The screening process is done, Drake said, "so that people who volunteer to help with their time or money know that it is going to help local families in need."

"We -- as a community -- need to rally around the Family Relief Fund," Salado ISD Superintendent Dr. Battershell said. "We have always rallied together as a community whenever there is a need. These children continue to

SEE RELIEF, PAGE 9A

Salado Stroll activities

Thurs., Dec. 1

- 5 p.m. Village of Salado Parade
- 6 p.m. Village of Salado Christmas Tree lighting at Salado Civic Center
- 6 p.m. Pictures with Santa at the Gazebo (proceeds go to SVFD)
- 7 p.m. Salado Community Chorus (Civic Center)

Fri., Dec. 2

- 7 p.m. Texas A&M Century Singers (First Baptist Church Sanctuary)
- Evening Live Nativity Scene (First Baptist Church of Salado)
- 7 p.m. Jubilation Ringers (Miller Fine Art Gallery)

Sat. Dec. 3

- 11:30 a.m. Jubilation Ringers (Stanford Court)
- 2 p.m. Georgetown Homeschool Strings (Accents of Salado)
- 5 p.m. Harker Heights High School Choir (strolling)
- 5 p.m. Episcopal Worship Service (St. Joseph's Chapel)
- 6 p.m. Shoemaker HS Singers (strolling)
- 7 p.m. Fred Fuller, the Singing Cowboy (Heirlooms)
- Evening - Live Nativity Scene (First Baptist Church of Salado)
- Other caroling groups and activities throughout the weekend. Shops and restaurants will be open late Dec. 2-3.

Hulda Horton is Grand Marshal of Christmas Parade

If you don't know, ask Hulda.

What began as an inside joke, is now a mantra in Salado.

The three-decade resident of Salado knows a lot about our Village because she has been deeply involved in many and varied aspects of it since she and husband M.D. Horton moved to Mill Creek in 1977, which is where Hulda lives today. The couple actually purchased the lot from Mac Sherrill in 1964, when Sherrill was just starting the Mill

Creek development.

Because of her knowledge and love for Salado, Hulda was chosen as the Grand Marshal of the Salado Christmas Parade, which will make its way from Royal Street up Main Street to the Salado Civic Center, where Hulda can be seen almost every day of the year.

She has been involved in many groups in Salado, including golf at Mill Creek, the Salado Chamber of Commerce, where she was an administrative assistant (and later a

director) and the Salado Civic Center.

On January 1, 1996, Hulda began her present job as Building Manager of the Salado Civic Center. She works for the Board of Directors of the Salado Civic Center. Community activity is Hulda's middle name, or so it would appear, since she has served as an officer, member of the board of directors, and active worker in a wide-ranging list of community organizations, including her election to two important posts, one local and

one district-wide.

In 2000, she was elected in a district-wide vote, to the Salado Library Board and re-elected this year for a second term. She currently serves as secretary to the Library Board.

She also serves as Secretary to the Public Arts League of Salado (PALS) and is active in the Salado Lions Club, Salado Community Chorus, The Living Room Theatre of Salado, Mill Creek Homeowners' Association and the Salado Historical



Hulda Horton

Society.

Hulda is a devoted and active member of the

Salado Church of Christ.

Hulda's many friends are invited to see her during the Christmas Parade, which will begin about 5 p.m., followed by the annual lighting of the Village Christmas Tree at the Salado Civic Center at dark and a Christmas Concert by the Salado Community Chorus at 7 p.m. in the Meadows Auditorium of the Civic Center.

All of the events are free of charge and open to the public.

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Toys for Tots

First Community Title, Salado branch, at 40 N. Main St. is the local drop-off point for the Toys for Tots program. Toys for Tots is sponsored by the Temple-Belton Board of Realtors and the Bell County Marines Chapter. You can drop off new toys at the First Community Title office during weekday business hours through Dec. 14.

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FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas



The Gullible Party

Getting suckered usually is not a sign of good judgment. On the contrary, it's something to be embarrassed by. But Democrats are making the contention that they were told lies prior to the Iraq War, and believed them, central to their party's identity.

They are caught between their base's conviction that President Bush lied about Iraq and the fact that the cream of the party voted to authorize the war. Nearly every Democratic senator who has higher ambitions voted "yes" - Hillary Clinton, Evan Bayh, Joe Biden, John Kerry and John Edwards. If Bush lied, it stands to reason that they are all naifs, foolishly drawn to the seductions of a charlatan. They aren't statesmen; they're victims.

Some of the "aye" votes make this argument themselves. "He misled every one of us," Sen. Kerry charges. Sen. Fritz Hollings of South Carolina, since retired, agrees: "We were misled." Talented New York Rep. Anthony Weiner, who voted for the war in the House, explains, "If you believe that people like me and [Sens.] Chuck Schumer and Hillary Clinton drew the wrong conclusion at the time, well, that's true of a lot of Americans who were deceived by this president."

Surely, however, these Democrats don't rely on Bush exclusively for their information. In a demolition of the Bush-lied argument in the current issue of Commentary magazine, Norman Podhoretz recalls the other players who warned of Saddam Hussein's WMD. Democrats could have consulted Bill Clinton, who had talked of the "threat posed by Iraq's weapons-of-mass-destruction program." They could have asked the State Department, which believed Saddam had chemical and biological weapons. They could have listened to former U.N. weapons inspectors, a group of whom said in the presence of Iraq expert Kenneth Pollack in 2002 that they all believed Iraq had

Rich Lowry



WMD.

When Democrats claim they were duped, they are sidestepping an inconvenient truth: Many of them supported the war for the same reasons as the president. We now know Saddam didn't have WMD stockpiles, but the only reason we know it with any certainty is that we crushed his regime. To pretend that, absent Bush's deceptions, everyone would have known with exactitude the reduced state of Saddam's weapons programs is juvenile and contemptible, especially from Democrats who want to shimmy their way out of their pro-war votes.

This is where the Howard Dean Democrats deserve a glimmer of admiration. They were against the war, period. Even when things seem to go well in Iraq, they hold firm. Dean was unswayed by the capture of Saddam two years ago. They don't sully themselves with after-the-fact rationalizations and evasions, and have the courage of their paranoid and wrong-headed convictions.

But their drumbeat of "Bush lied" puts their party's leaders in a bind. If Bush was a misleader, many top Democrats were misleadees. Dick Polman, a political reporter for Knight-Ridder News, reminds us that Republican George Romney damaged his presidential bid in 1968 by claiming he had been deceived by the military into supporting the Vietnam War. Voters weren't looking for a president who could, by his own account, be easily misled. Gullibility is not a leadership trait.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Supreme Court to lawmakers: "Fix education funding system or we'll close the schools on June 1, 2006"

The Texas Supreme Court, on November 23 notified Governor Perry, and the 181 members of the State Legislature, that our school funding system, based primarily on property taxes, is not only broken but unconstitutional, and unless lawmakers correct it by June 1, 2006, the 1,041 Texas school districts, currently serving 4.2 million students, will be closed and all funding halted!

The high court thus set the political stage for a struggle of humongous proportions between the disparate players who will be strutting and fretting (reference Shakespeare's "Macbeth") before millions of Texas citizens - many of whom may not realize that the future of the State could very well be hanging in the balance. That is, if we "actually" believe that education is the key to our economic, social, political and family futures.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Here are the "players" starting with the Governor who "claims" he supports property tax relief, but has no plan to replace the lost revenue. Fact is - he's in the back-pocket of the state's business interests, so don't look to the Guv for much help. At least not an equalized franchise tax; payroll tax; or (perish the thought) a dedicated income tax.

Speaker Tom Craddick, who kept anything tangible from passing during the special sessions (count 'em - three), has been waiting for the courts to force lawmakers' hands. We'll see what his excuse will be now that the courts have, in fact, spoken.

MORE PLAYERS

As noted, we have 181 members of the legislature and these "performers" will provide the background "stage" noises, and probably end up voting as they are told. Lt. Governor David Dewhurst is the one "player" who has shown a little intestinal fortitude in recent years. He supported a dedicated income tax at one time, and when that fizzled, pushed for expanding the franchise tax to include all companies (not just 1 in 16); or as an alternative - slap on a payroll tax. Problem is - he's no Bob Bullock!

The folks noted above are "key participants," but there are others, who some would say are even "more important," including nearly 300,000 teachers; over a thousand superintendents; and seven thousand school board members. And lest we forget - the 4.2 million kids - all having a lifetime "vested interest" in how well schools are financed.

If we could ever get our "entire" adult population to take an on-going interest in "their" schools; and then persuade business to put aside "special interests" for a moment; both groups might discover that an educated citizenry is in everyone's best interest and worth the additional money needed to secure a brighter future for our children and our State.

STAGE IS SET

As we began this column - **the stage is set and the myriad of players are ready to play their parts (some more than others).** We have ill-spent two regular and three special sessions botching this matter of adequately funding public education in Texas.

The Supreme Court has now entered the fray and directed our elected representatives to act, and do it correctly or the schools will be closed.

Off the Record by Ken Clapp



It's also high time we stop our State officials from hiding behind political rhetoric about "no new taxes;" or the disastrous proposition that many lawmakers follow, namely not approving additional dollars for schools until positive results are achieved - i.e. better test scores; fewer drop-outs; retain below average students in grade; and (despite low pay) "hire better prepared teachers." **This all comes from the ancient (and unworkable) "Cart Before The Horse" theorem!**

PUZZLER

One other puzzler. If other States can achieve success in their public schools - why can't we in Texas do as well or better? Fact is - someone in authority, with just a **smattering of smarts** needs to answer the question: "What's behind the "political-commercial-social" leadership in our State that keeps us comparatively low on the education and assistance for the aged, infirm, indigent, and needy children, totem poles?"

Timing for the special session is next on the Guv's agenda. Best guess is it will be after the March 5, primaries. Politicians naturally fear mixing "no new tax" reelection promises, with a session that will require both new and/or increased taxes.

TOM DELAY SAGA - CHAPTER TWO

It's hardly surprising that a number of heavy duty problems continue to beset Tom DeLay, the defrocked House majority leader, who is marking time until later this month when retired San Antonio District Judge Pat Priest, (appointed to handle the DeLay case), decides on a "motion to dismiss" felony indictments against the Sugar Land Republican.

If that fails - DeLay's legal team will seek a change of venue from Austin to Fort Bend, the former bug exterminator's home county. Claim is that Austin is too liberal, consequently "good old Tom" wouldn't stand a chance. DeLay's part in taking over the special redistricting session (2003), might also play a part since it favored Repubs in Travis County.

Only problem with moving the trial to DeLay's district is support there is dwindling, and he might not get the hoped for "home town" free ride.

Another major problem brewing among many GOPers in the House is fear that DeLay might become a serious political "impediment" to incumbent Republican members who are worried about reelection-2006. As associates of DeLay they'll have to explain their leader's indictment for money laundering, as well as his close association with one of D.C.'s most powerful lobbyists - Jack Abramoff, who is dead center in a federal bribery investigation.

They also miss the money DeLay raises for them through his lobby-pals. So helpful at reelection time - don't you know!

DeLay's future remains in the realm of pure guesstimation, by anyone brave enough to predict how the Texas money laundering charge will hold up, and if it does, how a jury will respond. And perhaps even worse (for him) - will the federal bribery case broaden to include DeLay?

Enough to make voters wish term limitations were in place, or more importantly - made retroactive.

That's -30-

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School funding decision leaves many questions

Retired state district judge Scott McCown, who presided over all of the Texas' public school finance cases in the early 1990's, issued the following statement concerning the 7-1 Court decision on the West Orange-Cove school finance case: "Today's ruling is mostly a victory for public education. The Supreme Court has provided important guidance to the Governor and the Legislature as they work to adequately and fairly fund public education."

The Court specifically ruled that the \$1.50 property tax for maintenance and operations is in effect a state property tax and is therefore unconstitutional. The Court gave the Texas Legislature a June 1, 2006 deadline to fix the system.

Some very important points are:

- The Court impli-

Superintendent's Corner

By Robin Battershell

cated that merely reducing property taxes will not satisfy the law. School districts must be able to set a property tax rate that allows them to provide an adequate education. "The Legislature can't simply reduce and cap property taxes." (Judge McCown)

• While the system was ruled as adequate, the Court was obviously concerned about the future of the current finance system using the terms "increased funding, improved efficiencies, or better methods of education." (Opinion at 69) The Court discussed the importance of strengthening our education system to meet the demands of the Information Age.

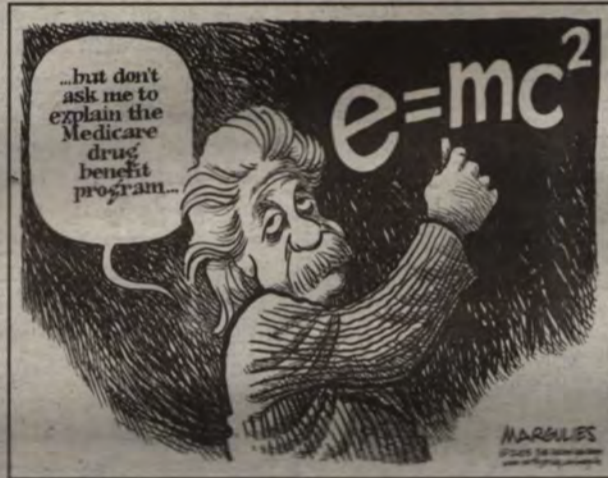
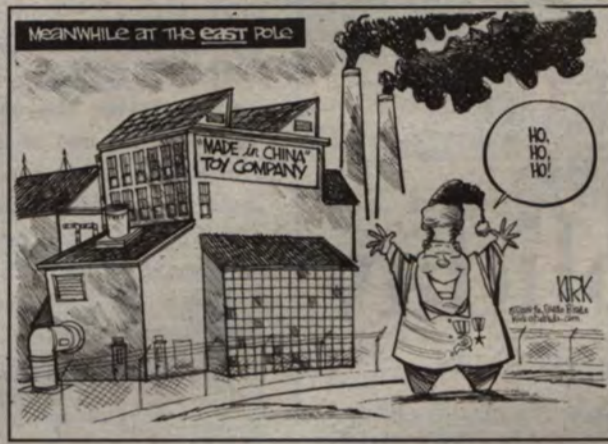
Probably most importantly, the Court left

the door open for further litigation by ruling that necessary evidence was not presented rather than facilities funding was equitable. (Opinion at 73) If equity continues to erode, there will be further litigation.

The Court did maintain that children, regardless of their economic status, should be afforded an equal education; however it did not go so far as to say that the current system does not provide this.

The Court decision while clarifying the role of the local property tax has also left two critical questions unanswered, how do we maintain equity and how do we find adequate funding to prepare our children for the proverbial Information Age?

FORUM



Martial law for bird flu?



Jim Hightower

William O. Douglas wrote: "Just as nightfall does not come at once, neither does oppression. In both instances, there is a twilight that we all must be aware of change in the air - however slight - lest we become unwilling victims of the darkness."

He could have been describing the oppressive tendencies of the Bush administration. It never misses a chance to try slipping America's thin rug of democracy out from under us by enhancing executive power at the expense of our nation's historic democratic principles. The latest tug at the rug comes in the guise of responding to - of all things - the possibility of an outbreak of bird flu.

George W himself is asserting that this possibility is reason enough for Congress to bestow upon him the power to use America's military to enforce domestic order - in essence, to impose martial law on our own people! "I think the president ought to have all options on the table, all assets on the table - to be able to deal with something this significant," says George.

Excuse us, Mr. President, we know what a thinker you are, but the Big Thinkers who founded our democratic republic knew that using soldiers for civilian law enforcement is an inherent danger to liberty. That's why a fundamental tenet of American law is to ban the military from a police role on U.S. soil.

But, says the White House with a wink, we're talking about a "catastrophe" in which the Pentagon would be the only agency with the money and personnel to respond. They wink because they know that they've been enthusiastic anti-government ideologues defunding and degrading our public health service, which is the proper channel for coping with a national health emergency.

Mr. President, instead of asserting autocratic executive power and trying to militarize America, do your job by revitalizing our country's public health system ...while also protecting our democratic principles.

Toll roads & other spectator sports

By Peter Stern

You say you haven't heard much about the plan of toll roads throughout the state, a.k.a., The Trans-Texas Toll Corridor? Well, you're not alone. Sure, there's been a few articles, comments and letters about them, but there's a reason why most Texans are unaware about the plan and status of toll roads. Special interests want you to know as little as possible about them.

Fortunately, there are grassroots individuals and groups "watching the backs" of Texas families, e.g., AustinTollParty.com, CorridorWatch, and several others. Probably most Texans haven't heard of them, but without such knowledgeable groups and individuals some of us already would be paying tolls on roads already paid for via our tax dollars.

Case in point: Last year the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) started to build the long awaited crossover bridge in Austin on MOPAC (Hwy 1) that now crosses over William Cannon Drive. The project had already been approved and paid for by taxpayers, but it was placed on hold for a long time. However, once the project was given the "green light" TxDOT, Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) with approval from the governor attempted to

push through the project as the first toll road that would have double-taxed Texans. To say that knowledgeable people went berserk is a gross understatement. With tremendous public resistance and outrage, the bridge is now free to all Texas drivers --- as it should be.

Point of fact: You have to watch the governor, agencies, and other pro-toll interests "like a hawk."

Sure, TxDOT, CAMPO, the governor, legislators and others will publicly tell you that your opinions and comments are important to them; however, the truth is that they are counting all those future dollar signs they see in their toll road "crystal ball."

Furthermore, it's important to know that one year ago TxDOT and CAMPO requested Texans to contact them by voting on whether they wanted toll roads or not. The responses were unanimously against toll roads (more than 90-percent of the responses). Despite that fact, the CAMPO Board voted to accept the Texas Toll Plan anyway! So what does that tell you? It tells me that special interests want toll roads whether or not they're truly in the best interests of the community.

It is common-knowledge that toll roads

are NOT a cost-effective method of building and maintaining roadways. What they ARE effective in doing is to generate income immediately by double-taxing Texas families with toll taxes paid every time you use the roads you already paid for. Even if a brand new toll road is built with state-borrowed money, Texas families will pay toll taxes even if they don't use the toll road! How? Because those businesses who use the toll roads will pass along their toll charges directly to their consumers, which will be included in the costs of goods and services! It is estimated that every Texas family at the cash register will pay an average yearly toll charge of \$5,000!!!

In addition, once toll roads are built and tolls are charged, future generations of Texas families will continue to pay the tolls even after the roads are paid for! Toll taxes are forever!

The most prominent corporation in the building, management and maintenance of toll roads world-wide is CINTRA. Gov. Perry and TxDOT have authorized a contract that will allow CINTRA to spearhead and maintain the Texas toll effort for at least the next 70 YEARS!!! In addition, CINTRA has provided the state with "upfront" money totaling in the millions to ensure the contract. Furthermore,

the governor and TxDOT will NOT let the public view ALL the details of the contract because they are hiding behind the ruse of protecting their client under the Privacy Act, citing that the knowledge could be a detriment to CINTRA because competitors could use the information against the toll giant.

So, judge for yourselves --- Does it sound like the Trans-Texas Toll Corridor plan is an honest attempt by the state to build and maintain roadways in the best interest of the community and Texas families? Not in my opinion and those who know the behind-the-scenes special interest pro-toll activities.

Texans seriously need to "bang" on some legislative doors and do away with this toll road "bad boy" once and for all. Better yet, in the next several elections let's get rid of all those

special interest pro-toll officials "screwing Texas families into the ground!"

Peter Stern of Driftwood, TX is a political writer well-known and published frequently throughout the Texas community and nationwide. He is a Vietnam-era Disabled Veteran and holds three post-graduate degrees. During the past seven years Mr. Stern voraciously has studied and followed legislative politics in Texas and writes prolifically about various urgent issues and proposed legislation to inform the community without political bias or affiliation. While a lifetime member of the Republican Party, he does NOT support the party's current platforms, philosophies and actions. He maintains he is an "intelligent" Republican with a conscience --- a minority branch of the ruling party.



Think about year-end tax tips

Now that it's December, you're probably busy with family gatherings and holiday celebrations. Still, try to find some time to think about a non-holiday topic: taxes. You may have until April 17, 2006, to file your taxes, but you only have until the end of the year to make some moves that could benefit your tax situation - so you'll need to take action soon.

Here are some suggestions to consider:

- Maximize your retirement account contributions. If you haven't "maxed out" on your 401(k), see if your employer will allow you to make additional contributions before year-end. For 2005, you can contribute up to \$14,000 (or \$18,000 if you're over 50 years old). You typically fund your 401(k) with pre-tax dollars, so the more you contribute, the lower your taxable income.
- Donate appreciated securities to charities - If you have stocks that have

Financial Focus

by Allen Mantanona



appreciated greatly over the years, you might want to donate some shares to charitable organizations. Suppose, for instance, that you bought shares of XYZ stock for \$250, and that they are now worth \$1,000. If you were to give these shares to a charitable group, and you are in the 28 percent tax bracket, you would get a \$280 tax deduction, based on the shares' current market value. Furthermore, because you are not selling the shares, you will avoid having to pay any capital gains taxes on your \$750 profit.

- Sell your "losers" - Did any of your stocks lose value in 2005? If so, you may want to sell some of them to take the tax losses. If these losses exceeded your


capital gains from selling appreciated stocks, you can deduct up to \$3,000 (or \$1,500 for married couples filing separately) against your other income, reducing the amount on which you must pay taxes. And if you lost more than \$3,000, you can carry over the excess into subsequent years. • Consider buying "big-ticket" items now - If you are planning on buying a car, boat or other "big-ticket" item, you may want to do so before the end of the year. If the total sales tax is more than your state or local income taxes, you can choose to deduct any of these taxes on your 2005 federal tax return - but this is the last year in which this benefit will be offered.

- Defer income when possible - If you're self-

employed, defer billing until late December. If you work for a company, and you're scheduled to get a year-end bonus, see if you can put it off until January.


• Delay exercising non-qualified stock options - You will be taxed on any non-qualified stock options you exercise, so you may want to delay exercising them until next year. (Before you make this decision, though, you'll want to evaluate the price and prospects of the stock on which you hold an option. If you hold an option too long, you will eventually be forced to exercise it; if the stock price is down at that point, you might not make much of a profit - and, in a "worst-case" scenario, your option could become worthless.)

If you are unsure about which of these suggestions may be appropriate for your individual situation, see your tax adviser. But don't wait too long - 2006 will be here before you know it.



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Feeling rejected?

Buying and Selling

by Ryan Hodge

Would you be stunned if you offered full-price for a home, and then the sellers rejected your offer in favor of another, also at full-price? Then you'd also be surprised to learn that sellers are not obligated to accept any offer - even one higher than full price.

Not selling at the advertised price wouldn't

work well for retailers, but when sellers set an "asking price," it's just that - they're "asking" for an offer to match that. Asking and accepting are two different things.

Protect yourself by only offering to purchase a home that is listed with a real estate professional. This gives you some guarantee that the sellers have been encouraged to price the home fairly and to reasonably consider all offers.

It follows that you should be wary of abnormally low prices that might signify a seller who is trying to create a bidding frenzy with no intention of accepting the initial price. While this practice is perfectly legal, you should avoid getting into contractual obligations with such a party.

The best you can do is to make your offer simple and solid with no contingencies. You don't know what the sellers consider a "perfect" offer, or why they will or won't accept yours. To avoid disappointment, it's a good idea to be prepared to make an offer on more than one home.

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Episcopal Chapel to celebrate St. Nicholas

By DONALD J. VALZ

"Tis the season"... But what season is it? For some it is the season of gigantic shopping for gifts for children and adults alike; a time when most stores in the United States do about 80 percent of their annual business. For Christians it is the Advent season, when people prepare themselves for the annual celebration of the birth, some 2000 years ago, of a boy in Jerusalem who was the Son of God; a child in a manger to a humble young girl and a carpenter. This birth is the defining moment in history which distinguishes Christians from all other humans.

At the birth of this boy now called Jesus Christ, no gifts were exchanged. Days later however three traveling astronomers did visit the child and left gifts as they believed that this child was so special. But this seems not to be the origin of Christmas gift

giving. There is another story which we need to remember to find the source of this tradition and that of the person we Americans call Santa Claus.

Some 300 years after the life and death of Jesus Christ; a boy was born in Lycia, an ancient province which is not part of nation of Turkey. Christians know of Lycia from accounts of the missionary travels of the Apostle Paul, in the first century. Tradition has it that in about the year 320, a married couple of some wealth had long wished for a child without success. They prayed that if they were to have a child, he would be dedicated to service to their God. Finally they had a child and named him Nicholas. This boy was raised as a practicing Christian and was educated in a local monastery.

After the death of his parents, Nicholas spent the rest of his life doing good works with his

inheritance, most of the time without the recipients knowing who the benefactor was.

One story of his generosity in particular has been passed down through the ages. It seems that in the city of Myra, Lycia, where Nicholas lived, there was a family with three young girls. In those days in order for girl to be eligible for marriage, the parents had to provide a dowry. This family was too poor to afford a dowry for any of their daughters. The only option for them was to sell one of their daughters to a life as either a slave or a prostitute. Nicholas learned of the problem of this family and, without the family's knowledge, decided to do something about it. One night he placed a bag of gold inside the house of the girls. The amount given was enough to provide a dowry for the eldest girl with enough left over to increase the way of life of the rest of the fam-

ily. Sometime later, as the middle daughter came of age to marry, another bag of gold appeared in the family home so that she would have a dowry and be eligible for marriage, the father just knew that he would not be so lucky to have a gift of gold for her dowry. But again came to pass, this time the bag of gold was found in a stocking which had been hung from the mantle over the fireplace to dry.

Later Nicholas was elected as Bishop in Lycia and, throughout his life, he continued to do anonymous good works for his people. He was much loved and respected. Over the centuries, the life and efforts of Nicholas grew until he became the Patron Saint of Russia as well as the Patron Saint of children, virgins, scholars and merchants. Today he is a giver of gifts at Christmas time, called in various parts of the world

SEE ST. NICHOLAS, PAGE 12A

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Eagles

Thus far, four games into the high school basketball season, no team has managed to come up with an answer for junior guard Ryan Clark. Almost registering a 22 point, eight steal and six assist per game average in the first three games, Clark has helped lead the Eagles to victories over two Class 3A teams as well as Rosebud-Lott.

Starting slowly out of the gates, the Eagles didn't appear as though they would pull off the upset, falling behind 18-7 in the first quarter. In the second, however, the Salado offense ignited, with Clark draining a trio of three pointers and guard Chad Tumey adding one of his own to bring Salado within five, 30-25, at the half.

And then on Nov. 23, Clark and the Eagles scored their first big upset of the young season, downing 15th-ranked, Class 3A Liberty Hill by a score of 54-47 with Clark pouring in 25, including seven three pointers. The win moved Salado's record to 4-0.

The three point barrage continued in the third quarter, as 15 of Salado's 17 points in the frame came via the long ball, Clark accounting for nine and Tumey six. Salado's defense also tightened up, limiting the Panthers to just seven points in the third.

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still perfect

Leading 42-37 entering the fourth, the Eagles kept Liberty Hill at bay down the stretch to come away with the seven point victory.

Behind Clark's 25 and Tumey's 14, Noah Harbison chipped in eight and Blake Newman accounted for three. Tanner Myers

and Justin Konzen each had two.

All but two of Salado's points came from the guards, with Clark, Tumey and Harbison scoring 47 combined.

No Panther had over 10 points.

Junior Varsity

The Salado JV also

found success versus Liberty Hill, earning the first victory of the season 44-29.

Stephen Quick scored nine of his game-high 13 in the first quarter to pace the Eagles, while David Rosenau chipped in a dozen. Nick Seawood had eight and Blake Heller one.



(PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)

Salado's Blake Newman leaps toward the basket, taking down a Liberty Hill Panther in the process. The Eagles took down the Panthers 54-47 Nov. 23.

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Coach Smith Tourney pits some of best in state against each other

Some of the finest high school basketball teams in the state will once again pay visit to Salado for the 2005 Coach Smith Invitational Tournament, scheduled for Dec. 8-10.

The eight-team field on the boys side will feature Class 3A number two Bullard, as well as Class 3A Liberty Hill - a top 15 squad in most polls. Also, Brock, a top five Class 2A team, and perennial power Hitchcock will make the trip. Rounding out the field will be Class 3A

power Manor, Class 3A Cameron, and Rosebud-Lott, a team which Salado defeated by one point in overtime on Nov. 18.

Though Salado hasn't cracked into the state rankings, the boys are now 4-0 and have notched wins over three strong Class 3A clubs already.

Salado opens the tourney with a rematch against Rosebud-Lott, 9 a.m. Dec. 8. Other first round matches are Brock vs. Hitchcock, Liberty Hill vs. Cameron and Manor

vs. Bullard.

Little River-Academy and Navarro, both ranked in the top 15, along with Godley, a perennial force in Class 2A, and Clifton, Peaster, McGregor and Manor round out the girls division.

The Lady Eagles will tip off 10:30 a.m. Dec. 8 against Clifton. Other first round matches pit Peaster against Navarro, Godley vs. Manor and McGregor vs. Academy.

"This should be one of the top tournaments

in the state," said tournament director Jerry Smith. "There's a chance you could see one of this year's state champions in girls or boys basketball."

With play beginning 9 a.m. Dec. 8, the tournament will continue throughout the 8th and the 9th and the morning of the 10th. The final game of the tournament will be the boys championship, 2:30 p.m. Dec. 10.

For further information contact Salado High School at 947-5429.

FCA hosts clowns

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Salado High School will host the Christian clown ministry, "Klowns 4 Him" 7:30-8:30 p.m. Dec. 5 at the high school.

The stated mission of the ministry is "sharing His message through clowning."

In addition to giving programs for youth,

Christian clown ministries also appear in hospitals and nursing homes, as well as many other types of events.

All athletes are invited to attend.

For more information about the Dec. 5 FCA event contact John Rank at 947-3048 or Melvin Bates at Salado High School, 947-5429.



Lady Eagles earn first win

After dropping their first three games of the season against top-notch

competition, the Lady Eagle hoopsters broke into the win column with

a tight 49-43 road win over Franklin Nov. 22.

Salado got a consistent performance on both ends of the floor from Kelsey Gobin, who had 14 to lead Salado, and Nicole Weatherly came off the bench to add 11 points in the win.

The Lady Eagles were basically in control of this one throughout, leading 11-7 after one, 25-18 at the break and 40-28 going into the fourth. In

the final period, however, Franklin stormed back to cut the Salado lead in half, but Coach Scott Cope-land's squad managed to hang on for the victory.

Gobin and Weatherly were the lone Lady Eagles to crack double-digits in points, but Kristen Smith came close, dropping in eight. Tamra Stanish scored six, Mary Runyon four, and Cortney Dunna-hoo and Kate Marshall each scored two.

With the first victory of the year in the books, Salado hoped to move closer to .500, but instead found themselves dominated 57-32 by a powerful McGregor club.

Salado fell behind early in this one and never really had a chance to get back in the game, as McGregor controlled the perimeter and the paint the entire game.

Gobin was again the high scorer for Salado, recording a dozen. Weatherly accounted for seven points, Smith had five and Marshall came through with four. Also scoring were Runyon and Dunna-hoo, who each chipped in two points.

Junior Varsity

The Lady Eagle junior varsity also gained its first victory versus Franklin, winning by a final of 51-22.

Dunn led the Lady Eagles with 17 points.

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Local DAR group holds Christmas Tea Dec. 7

The Betty Martin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will hold a Christmas Tea 3 p.m. Dec. 7 at the Women's Federated Clubhouse, 201 King Circle in Temple.

The Brady Dennis family will present a program

entitled "A Family Christmas."

Reservations are required.

Membership in the DAR is open to women over the age of 18 who are descended from patriots who aided the colonial cause during the American Revolution.

Friends of Salado Library to meet Dec. 5

The recent creation of a Friends of the Salado Public Library organization brings new opportunities to obtain grant monies that can pay for additional programs and equipment to enrich the Library's current offerings. In addition, the Friends will be advocates in the community, encouraging greater use of the Library's resources and services.

The officers of the Friends are President Barbara Willis, Vice-President Sara Pettijohn, Secretary Connie Cryar, and Treasurer Pat Milford. Every citizen is welcome to join. There are no dues.

Call or visit the Library to learn more about what you can do.

Come to the next meeting of the Friends at 6 p.m. Dec. 5 at the Library on Main St.

Relief FROM PAGE 1A

be in need of our help." Unwrapped Christmas gifts can be dropped off at Village Pharmacy in the Salado Plaza Shopping Center or at Leigh's Necessities on Pace Park Dr. "We are serving children of all ages," Drake said. "Toys and games and stuffed animals will easily find homes this year."

"Because the gifts are unwrapped when we distribute them, we would very much appreciate donations of wrapping paper and supplies to give

to the families," Drake said.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, you can bring checks to the Village Pharmacy, Salado Village Voice or make deposits into the Family Relief Fund account at First State Bank and Compass Bank in Salado.

For information about how you can help the Salado Family Relief Fund, call Leigh Drake at 947-3185 or 947-0128.

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Nov. 25, 2005

Mass for Richard F. Pickett celebrated

Richard F. Pickett, 74, formerly of Georgetown and Bridgewater, MA, died Nov. 21 in Temple.

He was born May 26, 1931 in New Bedford, MA. He graduated from Coyle High School. He retired from the United States Marine Corps as a Master Gunnery Sergeant having served 32 years and eight days of active

service.

Pickett saw combat in the Korean War, the Dominican Republic crisis and three tours in Vietnam. His last employments were at St. Helen Catholic Church in Georgetown and The Gabriels Funeral Chapel in Georgetown.

Pickett is survived by his wife Juliette "Jib"



Richard F. Pickett

Beauregard Pickett, of Salado, a son James Pickett, of Las Vegas, and two grandchildren.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Nov. 25 at St. Helen Catholic Church in Georgetown. Rosary was said Nov. 24 at The Gabriels Funeral Chapel, which handled arrangements.

Texas A&M Choirs sing at First Baptist Church Dec. 2

The Texas A&M Century Singers, the Singing Cadets, Reveliers and the Women's Chorus will appear in concert at the First Baptist Church of Salado, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 2 at the Worship Center. This is a free concert.

The Texas A&M Century Singers, the Singing Cadets,

Reveliers and the Women's Chorus will present selections from the Texas A&M Choral Activities' "Holiday Spirit of Aggieland".

The choirs will present a variety of festive seasonal music and culminate with the combined choirs of 220 Aggies singing Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus."

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WEDNESDAY

Fellowship Meal 5:30 p.m.
Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m.
Youth Choir 6:00 p.m.
Team Kid (Age 3 - 6th grade) 6:15 p.m.
Prayer Meeting 6:15 p.m.
Youth Half-Time 7:30 p.m.



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Joe Keyes
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from Luke 1: 30-31



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Spring-fed Salado Creek weaves its course through this antebellum Texas village, making Salado a perfect and charming destination for memories to last a lifetime. Salado's many historic bed and breakfasts, romantic restaurants, charming cafes and quiet inns will open their doors for the Salado Weddings and Events Showcase Jan. 15, 2006.

Not only can you find the ideal location for your Wedding, Reception, Reunion, Anniversary, Honeymoon, Birthday or Retreat, you can meet with local services, such as wedding planners, caterers, photographers, videographers, floral designers, jewelers and others, to help plan your special events.

Whether you are planning your daughter's wedding, your parent's 50th anniversary celebration, your family

reunion or your company's weekend retreat, you need ideas. You want to know what works and the Who's Who in making it happen.

For ideal wedding and event services, setting, romantic locations, facilities and amenities, the Village of Salado, Texas has it all.

Here, you will find facilities for small workshops, family meetings, large gatherings of up to 300 people and more. Further, each of the stops in the Salado Weddings and Events Showcase has its own flair and style to fit your tastes and desires.

A complete list of participating bed and breakfast inns, restaurants, event centers, meeting halls, hotels and other service providers can be found at salado.com.

Admission to the Salado Weddings and Events Showcase is \$15 per person and includes

admission to the after-party at the Stagecoach Inn, where many of the local restaurants and caterers will give a sample of their own unique offerings.

Each person attending the Showcase will be given a map and guide published by the Salado Village Voice newspaper, with descriptions of the participating businesses and their offerings.

For those who reserve a Sunday night stay in one of the participating facilities, the \$15 admission to the Wedding and Events Showcase will be free.

For info, call 254-947-5040 or visit salado.com.

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as part of Salado's Christmas Stroll introduces

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Wildfire Ranch

One special day - set apart from all the rest of the holiday shopping days - to offer you, our valued customers, 4 additional hours of shopping with extra savings and values. Come visit us and we'll help you find the perfect gifts for everyone on your list.

Saturday, Dec. 3
6 P.M. to 10 P.M. only!

Door prizes given away every half hour!

REGULAR STORE HOURS:
Monday-Saturday 9:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

HOLIDAY STORE HOURS:
Monday-Saturday 9:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M. Sunday Dec. 11 & 18 12:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.

Located just a half mile south of the center of historic Salado.

6:30 P.M. Wrangler 20X Men's Shirt & Jeans OR Wrangler 20X Ladies' Shirt & Jeans Value up to \$100

7:00 P.M. American West "Pretty in Pink" Purse, Wallet & Cell Phone Holder Value up to \$210

7:30 P.M. Resistol 20X Black Gold Hat Value up to \$350

8:00 P.M. Cinch Men's Shirt & Jeans OR Cruel Girl Ladies' Shirt & Jeans Value up to \$100

8:30 P.M. Tony Lama Boots #C2195 OR #R1221 Value up to \$200

9:00 P.M. Schaefer Original Drifter Value up to \$140

9:30 P.M. Vogt Sterling Rope Edge Cross Pendant, Earrings & Smooth Choker OR Vogt Rodeo Buckle Set Value up to \$340

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Then stick around for some Bar-B-Q and an auction in the Ben Franklin at 6 p.m.

All American Auction Co.
www.aaauction.net J. Bartosh #13414

St. Nicholas — FROM PAGE 5A

as St. Nicholas, Father Christmas, Sinter Klass and Santa Claus.

Throughout the Christian world, Dec. 6 has been designated as the date to commemorate the life of this wonderful gift giver. Here in Salado at St. Joseph's Chapel behind Fletcher's Book store, a church service will be held at 7 p.m. Dec. 6 to

honor St. Nicholas. During the service the story of Nicholas will be told and the old gentleman might indeed pay the Chapel a visit. Following the service, gifts of bags of "gold" and gingerbread likeness of this marvelous giver will be distributed. The public is encouraged and invited to attend.

Ladies Auxiliary to honor past presidents Dec. 8

The Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary will meet 9:30 a.m. Dec. 8 at the Halley House.

The Board of Directors will host and honor past presidents and newly elected officers for 2006. The 1974 founding presi-

dent, Ruth Howe, and 1978 president Pat Barton will share some of their experiences about how the Auxiliary has played a role in the growth of the village.

All past presidents are invited to attend and guests are welcome.

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Letourneau to discuss new book

Saladoan Paul Letourneau will give a trio of presentations of his newly published first book, *My Vietnam Conflicts*, next week in Salado.

Letourneau will address the Salado Village

Artists 7 p.m. Dec. 6, the Mill Creek Community Association 7 p.m. Dec. 7 and the general public 7 p.m. Dec. 8.

All three events will take place at the Salado Civic Center, and there is

no cost to attend. Letourneau's book is a first-hand chronicle of his experience as a soldier in Vietnam.

He will have copies of the book for sale at each engagement.

Monday Club to meet Dec. 5

The Monday Club will next meet 11 a.m. Dec. 5 at the Salado United Methodist Church for the group's annual Christmas luncheon meeting. Attendees are asked to bring

a covered dish, as well as a gift costing \$5 or less to be exchanged during the meeting.

In addition, anyone wishing to donate canned goods to the Salado Food

Pantry can do so at the meeting. New officers for 2006 will be voted on.

The program, "Christmas Stories," will be presented by Emmy Alvarez. All ladies are welcome.

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Salado Village Guide

Shopping Map
Pages 6-7B

Section B Salado Village Voice

December 1, 2005

12 Pages Shopping, Dining, Overnight, Events

Private homes, historic cabins and public buildings featured

Annual Homes Tour this weekend

The Salado Historical Society's annual Homes Tour will take place in conjunction with the first weekend of the Christmas Stroll, Dec. 2-4. A total of six private Salado homes, as well as two historic cabins operated by the society, the society's Museum Room at the Civic Center, the Salado Silver Spur Theater and Dr. Don Ellis' City Garage, will be featured in this year's tour.

The Tour of Homes will be open 5-8 p.m. Dec. 2; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 3; and 1-5 p.m. Dec. 4. With performances at the Silver Spur scheduled at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 3 and 2 p.m. Dec. 4, visitors may see the theater only on the morning of Dec. 3, from 10 a.m.-noon.

Tickets, priced at \$15, are available at Charlotte's of Salado, Salado Galleries, Rock Creek Treasures, Horsefeathers and the Salado Civic Center. Tickets may also be purchased from the homes during the tour.

The home of Dr. Robert and Linda Mastin, at 2518 Hester Way, in the Mill Creek subdivision, contains a nice mixture of formal and informal, and visitors will not want to miss the stately Christmas tree, adorned with heirloom ornaments collected over the Mastin's 45 years of marriage.

Jan Scurlock's home at 20 Rock Creek will bring to mind the idea of a true German "haus," complete with furnishings and decorative accesso-



The home of Bennie and Wylene Williams.

ries straight from the old country. The home was designed by well-known Salado builder Darwin Britt in 1981. Britt-built houses and commercial properties in Salado are all recognizable by his unconventional, almost exclusive use of old materials.

Atop an oak-studded rise overlooking Interstate 35, the historic home of Bennie and Wylene Williams - known as the White-Aiken House - stands as a fantastic example of a quaint, two-story, early 20th-century Texas farmhouse. The home was constructed in 1910, and was moved to its present location in 1918. Since being purchased by the Williams' in 1969, the home has undergone restoration, but the interior is still furnished with antiques and family heirlooms.

Located on College Hill Drive, the home of Johnny and Jill Shipman is a restored mid-19th cen-

tury farmhouse reflecting the tastes and artistic talents of its owners, who performed the restoration themselves. The Shipmans, who also constructed and own Stone-Creek Settlement Bed and Breakfast, completely renovated the home after it had fallen into disrepair from being unoccupied for many years.

Also located in the Mill Creek subdivision, the residence of Bob and Diane Pascoe, at 2001 Indian Trail, is reminiscent of stately Louisiana plantations, with heavily mortared brick, massive columns and inviting Palladian doors. Several aspects of the home's interior were constructed by Bob himself, a master craftsman who owns the Salado Sawmill.

The secluded, tree-shaded home of Bishop Claude and Barbara Payne at 617 Indian Trail is approached by a rustic bridge running over a dry creek, and features an

interior filled with heirlooms collected from the world-wide travels of the Paynes.

Proceeds from the Homes Tour help the Historical Society to maintain certain historical properties in town, as well as the group's museum, among other endeavors.

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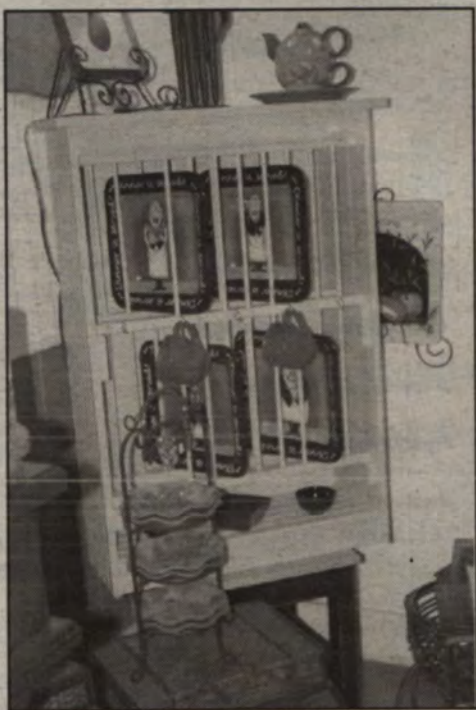
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What's happening around

DECEMBER 1
Christmas Parade
down Main Street, with
Salado Community

**Chorus concert follow-
ing.** Begins at 5 p.m.
DECEMBER 1
Cooking class at The
Range: Great Holiday

Appetizers. Info: www.therangerrestaurant.com.
DECEMBER 2-3 & 9-10
Tablerock's Annual
presentation of *A Christmas Carol*, 7 p.m. each
night. Tickets: adults \$5,
children 12 and under, \$3.
Sandwiches and drinks
available beginning 6:
30 p.m. Info: 947-9205
or www.allcentex.com/
tablerock. Email:
tablerock1@aol.com.
DECEMBER 2-4

Salado Silver Spur
Theater presents *Do You
Hear What I Hear*, with
lots of Christmas and holi-
day fun. Showtimes: 7:30
p.m. Dec. 2-3 and 2 p.m.
Dec. 3-4. Info: 254-947-
3456 or [www.saladosilver
spur.com](http://www.saladosilver
spur.com).

DECEMBER 2-4
La Caldera Quilt
Show, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
at Central Texas Area
Museum. The exhibit
is titled "Independence

Ahead!" Info: 254-947-
5232.
DECEMBER 2-4
Salado Historical
Society Annual Christ-
mas Tour of Homes and
Historical Log Cabins;
5-8 p.m. Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-5
p.m. Dec. 3 and 1-5 p.m.
Dec. 4. Info: 947-8300.
DECEMBER 2-4 & 9-11
Annual Christmas
Stroll celebration in the
Village Salado.
DECEMBER 4

Cooking class at The
Range: An Awesome
Dinner Party. Info: www.therangerrestaurant.com.
DECEMBER 5
Salado Monday Club
Christmas luncheon, 11
a.m. at the Salado United
Methodist Church. Attend-
ees should bring a covered
dish and a gift costing
\$5 or less for exchange.
2006 officers will be voted
on. Program: "Christmas
Memories" presented by
Emmy Alvarez. All ladies
are invited.

DECEMBER 7
Salado ISD campus
tour, 8 a.m. at the high
school. Tour should last
approximately two hours.
Public is invited.
DECEMBER 8
Salado Chamber
of Commerce Ladies
Auxiliary 2005 board
of directors host the
President's Coffe at the
Halley House, honoring
past presidents and newly

elected officers. All cur-
rent and past members,
and those interested in
joining, are invited to
attend. Info: Carolyn
Milliser, 947-0899.
DECEMBER 8-10
Annual Coach Smith
Memorial High School
Basketball Tournament
at the high school gym.
Details TBA.
DECEMBER 9-11
Salado Silver Spur
Theater presents *Do
You Hear What I Hear*,
with lots of Christmas
and holiday fun. Show-
times: 7:30 p.m. Dec.
9-10 and 2 p.m. Dec. 10-
11. Info: 254-947-3456 or
[www.saladosilverspur.co
m](http://www.saladosilverspur.co
m).

DECEMBER 13
Mill Creek Com-
munity Association
Christmas Party and
Annual Meeting, at Mill
Creek Inn Restaurant.
Cash happy hour: 6 p.m.,
dinner: 7 p.m.
DECEMBER 15
Salado Area Repub-
lican Women meeting,
11:30 a.m. at Mill Creek
Restaurant. A speaker
from Families in Crisis
will provide the pro-
gram. Info: 947-3617.
DECEMBER 15
Cooking class at The
Range: Great Winter
Desserts. Info: www.therangerrestaurant.com.

DECEMBER 16
St. Stephen Catho-
lic Church Christmas
Dinner.
DECEMBER 16-18
Salado Silver Spur
Theater presents *Do
You Hear What I Hear*,
with lots of Christmas
and holiday fun. Show-
times: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 16-
17 and 2 p.m. Dec. 17-18.
Info: 254-947-3456 or
[www.saladosilverspur.co
m](http://www.saladosilverspur.co
m).

DECEMBER 19
Music in Salado,
Texas, Inc. members
only Annual Christmas
Party, at the home of
Barbara and John Rob-
ertson.
DECEMBER 31
Second Annual New
Year's Eve at the Salado
Silver Spur Theater.
More details TBA.
**2006
JANUARY 6**
St. Stephen Women's
Society meeting, with
Judy Greene presenting
her monologue, "Esther,
Woman of the Bible,"
followed by refresh-
ments. 6:30 p.m. in the
church Parish Hall.

JANUARY 15
Salado Wedding and
Event Showcase, 1-5
p.m. Exhibitor, Tasting
and Bed and Breakfast
Tour; 5-6 p.m. reception
at the Stagecoach Inn.
Admission: \$15. Further
details TBA.
JANUARY 17
Teacup Tuesday
meeting, Program:
A talk on new spring
fashions by Ron Leguin
of Susan Maries, 9:30
a.m. at the First Baptist
Church of Salado.

JANUARY 19
Thomas Arnold
Elementary/PTO Dads
and Donuts morning,
7-7:45 a.m. at the school.
Info: 947-5191.
JANUARY 26
Salado ISD STARS
Conference, 6:30 p.m. at
the Salado Intermediate
School. A curriculum
showcase, STARS Con-
ference allows students
to demonstrate curricu-
lum lessons for parents.
Details TBA.

JANUARY 26
Salado Area Repub-
lican Women's Candi-
dates Forum, 6 p.m. at
Mill Creek Restaurant.
Dinner included. Info:
254-947-3617.
FEBRUARY 4
Salado ISD School
Bond election. Polls
open 7 a.m.-7 p.m. at the
Salado Civic Center.
FEBRUARY 4
Wildfire Open to the
World team roping at
Wildfire Ranch. Details
TBA.

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the Village?



December 2-3 & 9-10

Tablerock will present Charles Dickens' holiday classic "A Christmas Carol" with showtimes at 7 p.m. Concessions will open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are: adults \$5, children 12 and under, \$3. For more info call 254-947-9205 or visit www.allcentex.com/tablerock.

APRIL 22

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

MAY 6-7

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

MAY 16

Teacup Tuesday meeting, "Tea, Talk and Togetherness" luncheon at Stagecoach Inn.

JULY 4

Salado Historical Society Annual Picnic, 6:15 p.m. in Pace Park.

FEBRUARY 11-12

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

FEBRUARY 13

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

FEBRUARY 21

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

MARCH 18

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

MARCH 21

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

MARCH 21

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

APRIL 1-2

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

APRIL 7

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

APRIL 8

Chisholm Trail

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

APRIL 18

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

Have a Salado event to list on this calendar? Email your information to: news@saladovillagevo.com, call 254-947-5321, or fax to 254-947-9479.



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Show at Museum Dec. 2-4 will be last one

Independence for Caldera quilters

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Local quilt enthusiasts will be happy to hear that the La Caldera Quilts are making a comeback appearance Dec. 2-4 at the Central Texas Area Museum in Salado. The exhibit, titled "Independence Ahead!" opens daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For over 15 years,

the quilts have been shown annually at this time in Salado, and backers planned for the 2004 Salado exhibit to be their last in the area. However, since a scheduled final showing in October fell through and supporters were left with a need to show the August Collection, they chose to bring the quilts back to Salado, where they have many long-time supporters.

These distinctive quilts are handmade by impoverished women, most of whom currently live in slum-like colonias in Acuna or Muzquiz in northern Mexico. Collectors value the quilts because each is the unique product of one artisan, and all have been made entirely by hand -- this at a time when the market abounds with mass-produced quilts from China and India. Furthermore, patrons appreciate the fact that every bit of income from the sale of each quilt returns to the needy family of the maker. Quilts flaunt a wide array of colors and traditional patterns, whatever the quiltmaker chooses. Each is made primarily of cotton fabrics and priced according to the size, labor entailed, and quality of the work.

The little quilt-making industry was founded and has been fostered by Christian friends from Central Texas who, for 22 years, have made periodic trips to Mexico, providing raw materials, instruction, tools and marketing, all as a free service, to the quilters. When the Texans first visited these women and their families, they subsisted in a remote, backcountry region of the state of Coahuila, most in



Eunice Palomares Avila, a young quilter who learned her craft from her mother, displays her quilt to Texas friends at the quilters' workshop in La Caldera.

the dusty little village of La Caldera, and they had little or no opportunity to earn income to purchase the basic necessities for their families.

In the 20 years the Texans worked in La Caldera, the quilters became very skilled in their craft. Children learned to quilt at their mother's knee, and many, now grown, have surpassed their mothers in the quality of their work.

Things are changing for the Christian workers. One big change is their plan to help the quilters become independent. Hence the theme of this year's exhibit: "Independence Ahead!" The Texans have announced that after this last collection of quilts is sold they no longer plan to sell quilts for the makers. But rather than abandon the women completely to their own resources, workers are training women to sell their quilts to the Acuna shopowners who cater to U.S. tourists.

Christian workers are teaching the women quicker methods for making quilts, using sewing machines, rotary cutters and a technique familiar to American quilters called strip-quilting. Using these new methods, the women can still turn out a one-of-a-kind product that is individually made and

not mass-produced but that takes less time. The Texans believe that, with less time invested, the quilters can afford to charge less for their quilts and still make a decent income.

They are also collecting appropriate tools to enable the women to use their newly learned quick-quilting skills.

Central Texas churches who, over the years, have been closely associated with the ministry are First Baptist, Moffat; First Baptist, Bellmead; Southwest Park Baptist, Abilene; New Hope Community, Temple; First Baptist, Troy; Fellowship Baptist, Morgan's Point, Trinity Baptist, San Antonio; and First Baptist, Lorena. Other churches and individuals have made significant contributions. Group members have worked under the guidance of the Rio Grande River Ministry, a state Baptist initiative, but have welcomed into their numbers "any Christian with a heart for the work." The quilt ministry is only part of the many kinds of work done by this group to better the lives of their Mexican friends.

Workers encourage viewers to come early to the exhibit in order to see the full array of quilts since many are typically sold in the first few hours.

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Jubilation Ringers Handbell Choir slates two performances in Salado Christmas Stroll

The Jubilation Ringers Handbell Choir will have two performances during the Salado Christmas Stroll this weekend. Both concerts will last approximately an hour. Please stay for the entire concert or come and go as you please. The Jubilation Ringers will be performing Christmas favorites such as Silver Bells, We Three Kings, Jingle Bells, and More!!!

The Jubilation Ringers will perform 7 p.m. Dec. 2 at Miller Fine Art Gallery, located behind Griffith Art Gallery, 227 North Main Street, Salado.

The second performance will be 11:30 a.m. Dec. 3 at Stanford Court located north of Salado Mansion), 80 South Main Street.

Both concerts are free to the public.

Jubilation Ringers order of concert songs: "Jingle Bells," Written By J. Pierpont; Arranged By Valerie W. Stephenson. "Come On, Ring Those Bells," Written By Andrew Culverwell, Arranged By: James Boersma. "We Three Kings," Written By: John H. Hopkins, Jr., Arranged By: Arnold B.

Sherman. "Silent Night," Written By: Joseph Mohr and Franz Gruber. "Silver Bells," Written By Jay Livingston and Ray Evans, Arranged By Ralph F. Stiles. "Christmas Has Its Cradle," Written By: Stan Pethel, Arranged By: David M. Bridges. "Angels, We Have Heard On High," Traditional French Melody, Arranged By: Lloyd Larson. "A Jingle, Jolly Christmas," Written and Arranged By: Mark Weston.

Jubilation Ringers History
This year is the 30th anniversary of the beginning of the handbell program at Birdville Baptist Church. Organized in 1975, the first handbell choir was small, playing only two to three octaves of bells. Over the years, new bells have been added and there are now five octaves. In 2004, three octaves of hand chimes were added. At the present, there are 14 members, and there have been 16 for that number of bells. The handbell program was reorganized in January of 2003 and a new name was selected: The Jubilation Ringers. The Ringers are



Jubilation Ringers Handbell Choir will perform two concerts in Salado during the Stroll.

now under the direction of Don Williams. They rehearse on Monday nights and perform about once a month and on special occasions.

Jubilation Ringers members are Dr. Don Williams: Director, David Voorhees, Bill Faglie:

Korby Kidwill, Melissa Williams, Brenda Davis, Dustin Hunter, Linda Traylor, Debbie Hillaker, Melody Jurasek, La Fay Kidwill, Peggy Rogers, Angie Pettit, Aaron Morvan and Laura Hunter.

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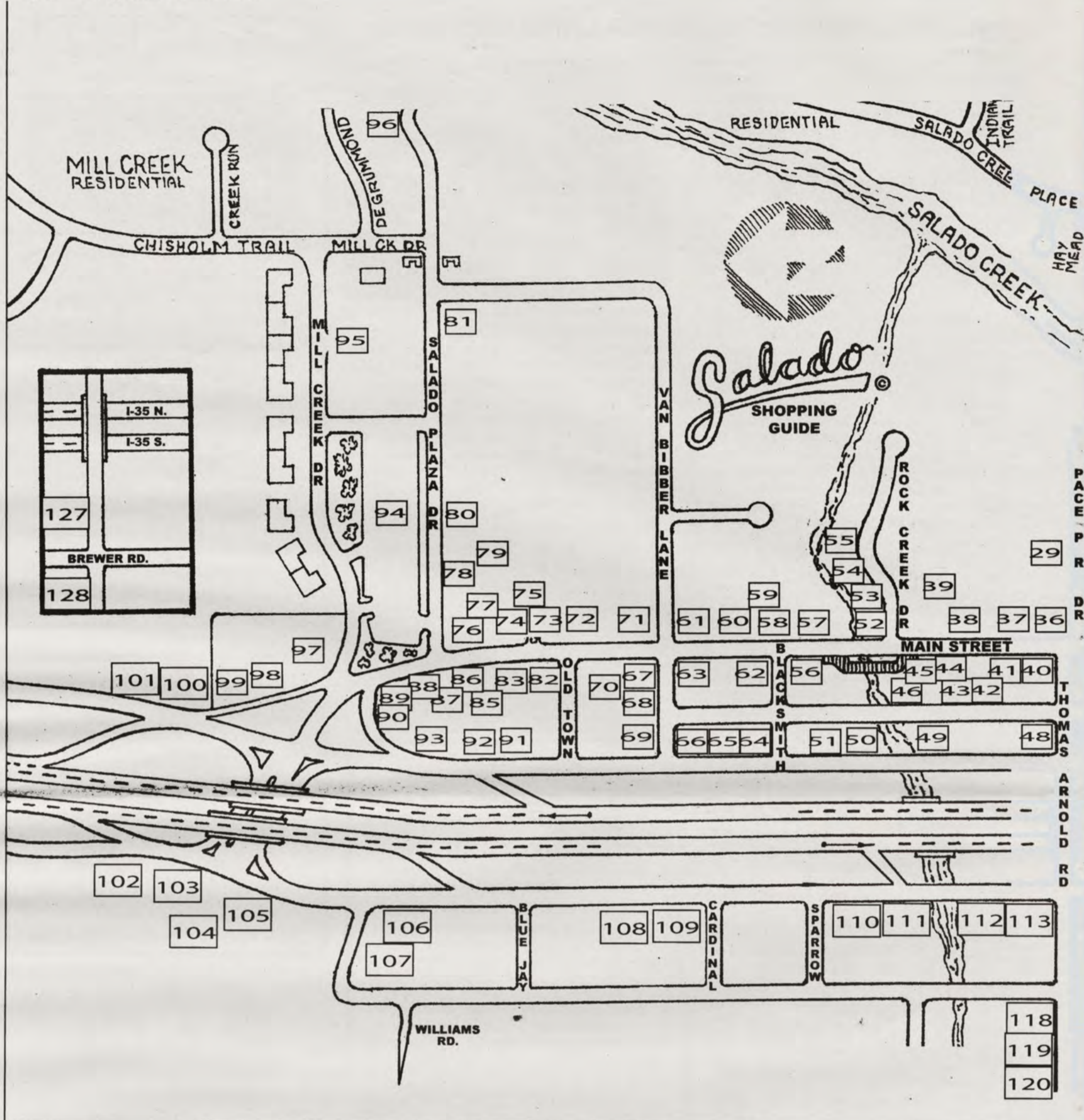
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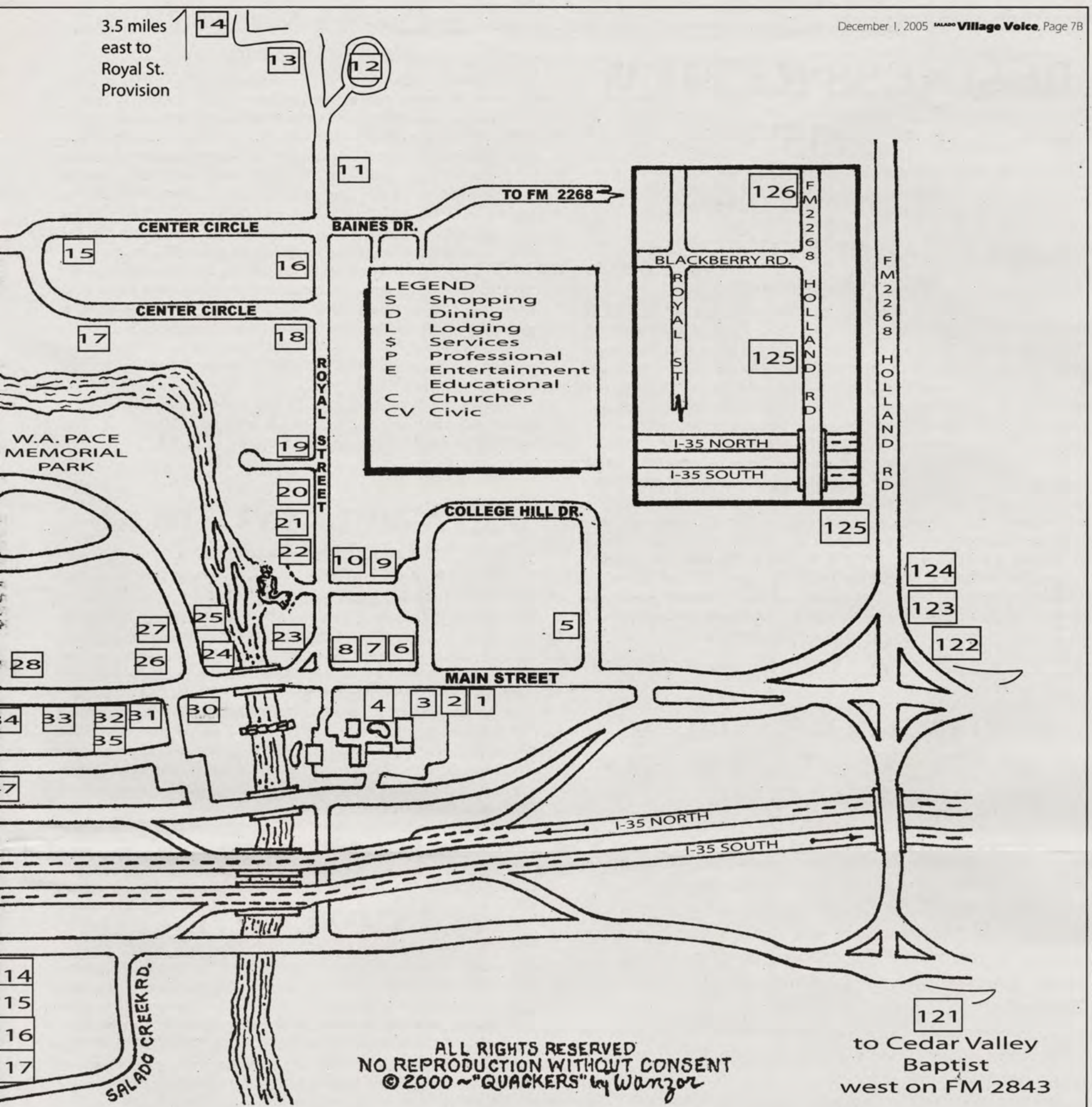
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4. Stagecoach Inn	254/947-5111	D,L	22. Salado Silver Spur Theatre	254/947-3456	E	42. Mud Pies Pottery	254/947-0281	S
5. Stone Creek Settlements	254/947-9099	L	24. Accents of Salado	254/947-5908	S	43. Southern Comforts	254/947-0595	S
6. Central Texas Area Museum	888/777-8844	E	26. CREEKSIDE CENTER			Margrit's Shoe Chateau		S
7. Salado Galleries	254/947-5232	S	Prellop Fine Art Gallery	254/947-3930	S	44. Salado Haus	254/947-1868	S
8. SHADY VILLA	254/947-5110	S	Susan Marie's	254/947-5239	S	45. Sweet Dreams	254/947-9200	S
Gregory's	254/947-5703	S	29. Levi Tenney House B&B	254/947-1003	L	50. Salado Fire Department	254/947-8961	CV
Sweet Nut Things	254/947-8088	S	30. First Baptist Church	254/947-5465	C	51. Salado Church of Christ	254/947-5241	CV
10. Shyenne's of Salado	254/947-9215	S	31. Salado Mansion	254/947-5157	D	ROCK CREEK		
11. Tablerock Amphitheatre	254/947-9205	E	32. THE VERANDA			53. Splendors of Salado	254/947-3630	S
12. The Rose Mansion B&B	254/947-8200	L	First Texas Brokerage	254/947-5577	\$	54. Charlotte's of Salado	254/947-0240	S
13. Salado United Methodist Church	254/947-5482	C	First State Bank	254/947-5852	\$	OLD CHURCH PLACE		
14. Tennille's Place	254/947-3811	S	34. FIRST CENTRE at 40 N. Main			The Front Row Emporium	254/947-5831	S
(1 mile east on Royal)			Chameleon Clothier	254/947-7104	S	THE COLONY		
14. Royal Street Provision	254/947-3350	L	First Community Title	254/947-8480	\$	Griffith Fine Art	254/947-3177	S
Country Inn			35. Salado Masonic Lodge #296		CV	59. Watersong Massage	254/947-0042	P
(3.5 miles east on Royal)			36. Christy's of Salado	254/947-0561	S	61. SALADO CIVIC SQUARE		
15. Friendship House B&B	254/947-3136	L	37. Inn at Salado	254/947-0027	L	Joe Read State Farm Agency	254/947-3599	\$
16. The Baines House B&B	254/947-5260	L	38. SALADO SQUARE			Properties by Larry Sands	254/947-5580	\$
17. Inn on the Creek B&B	254/947-5554	D,L	Browning's Courtyard Cafe	254/947-8666	D	Uncommon Grounds Cafe	254/947-3354	D
CELEBRATION CENTER			Carden's	254/947-0300	S	62. Heirlooms	254/947-0336	S
18. Botangles	254/947-4747	\$	Linda Rountree Pritchard	254/947-4263	P	63. Seasons of Salado	254/947-4769	S
Old Salado Springs Celebration			Main Street Place	254/947-9908	S	65. The Village of Salado	254/947-5060	CV
Center and Retreat	254/947-5933	\$	39. The Range at the Barton House	254/947-3828	D			
19. Old Salado Springs			40. Family Dentistry	254/947-5242	P			
Guest Lodging	254/947-5933	L	Dr. Douglas B. Willingham					
20. Springhouse Antiques	254-947-0747	S						

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**The Bluffs
at Salado Creek**

70. STAGESTOP RETAIL CENTER	Angelic Herbs 254/947-1909 S	81. Salado Sawmill 254/947-0137 S	115. Johnny's Steaks & Bar-Be-Que 254/947-4663 D
	Southern Image Gallery 254/947-9478 S	The Timbers at Salado Sawmill 254/947-0137 L	116. Johnny's Texas Banquet Hall 254/947-4663 D
	The Sewing Basket 254/947-5423 S	82. OLD TOWN SALADO	117. The Barber Barn 254/421-5173 \$
71. SALADO CIVIC CENTER	Salado Civic Center 254/947-8300 CV	Cathy's Boardwalk Cafe 254/947-8162 D	118. Thomas Arnold 254/947-5191 E
	Chamber of Commerce 254/947-5040 CV	Texan by Design 254/947-4479 S	119. Salado Intermediate 254/947-1700 E
	Historical Society CV	87. Century 21 Bill Bartlett Real Estate \$	120. Salado High 254/947-5429 E
	SISD Administration 254/947-5479 E	254/947-5050	121. Cedar Valley Baptist Church 254/947-0148 C
	Village Art Center (on the grounds of Salado Civic Center)	88. The Personal Wealth Coach 254/947-1111 \$	122. Eagle Rock Ranch 254/947-5369 \$
72. The Halley House 254/947-1000 L		94. SALADO PLAZA	123. Wildfire Saddlery 254/947-8080 S
73. CARRIAGE PLACE SQUARE	Before & After 254/947-5814 \$	Salado Village Voice 254/947-5321 \$	124. St. Stephen Catholic Church 254/947-8037 C
	Pretty Nails, Pretty Hair 254/947-7119 \$	Edward D. Jones 254/947-5128 \$	127. Grace Baptist Church of Salado 254/947-5917 C
		Monteith Abstract & Title Co. 254/947-3922 \$	128. Janelle's 254/947-3584 S
		Salado Chiropractic 254/947-BACK P	Not shown on map
74. ARCHANGEL ON MAIN	Etrulia's 254/947-0504 S	Salado Eye Care 254/947-LENS P	The Event Center at Tenroc Ranch
	Merle Norman Cosmetics 254/947-9993 S	Village Pharmacy 254/947-3185 \$	2 miles west of I-35 on Thomas Arnold Rd.
	Salado Wine Seller 254/947-8011 S	95. Willingham Agency	512/947-9218 \$
76. ArchAngel Antiques & Architectural Salvage 254/947-5933 S		Nationwide Insurance 254/947-9003 \$	
77. St. Joseph's Episcopal C		96. Mill Creek Golf & Country Club 254/947-5144 D,L	
79. Presbyterian Church of Salado 254/947-8106 C		97. Salado Public Library 254/947-9191 E	
80. Shabby Chic Designs & More 254/947-8350 S		98. Salado Cleaners 254/947-7299 \$	
		100. Village Realty 254/947-0342 \$	
		102. Robertson's Hams and The Choppin' Block 254/947-5562 S	
		104. Fairway Golf Carts 254/947-4065 S	
		108. Scissors Hair and Nails 254/947-9001 \$	
		111. Super 8 Motel 254/947-5000 D	

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BUSINESS REVIEW

“2005”

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ABBEY CARPET OF TEMPLE

Mike Vail – Manager

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GARLYN SHELTON CADILLAC

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– BMW – VOLVO

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The editors of this 2005 Holiday Business Review feel that it would be incomplete without mention of **GARLYN SHELTON!**

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Tad Elliott – Manager

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Contractors throughout the area rely on this established company for building stone, and beautiful examples of their products can be seen on many of the better homes in this section of the state. We, the editors of this 2005 Holiday Business Review, urge our readers to contact **J&J STONE CO., INC.** and find out about the many advantages offered by building with the best...stone! Or visit their website at www.jjstone.com

GILBERT AUTO REPAIR

Gilbert Mojica – Owner

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People from throughout the Bell County area speak highly of the quality workmanship which goes into every job that **GILBERT AUTO REPAIR** does, and, as we all know know, a job well done is the best possible recommendation. The editors of this 2005 Holiday Business Review urge all of our readers to trust their auto repair to this professional shop.

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Teresa Palousek * Donny Palousek – Owners

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STAR-TEX PROPANE INC.

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Whether you're a small or large user of L.P. gas, **STAR-TEX PROPANE INC.** will do their utmost to keep you satisfied. They value their customers above all else and their record of dependability shows it! *Please feel free to give them a call anytime you have a question regarding L.P. gas service in the local area. Think of this fine company whenever you think of gas...the dependable one!* The editors of this 2005 Holiday Review would like to congratulate this well run firm for their customer satisfaction and constant improvements.

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The ancient art of masonry is one of man's oldest most distinguished forms of construction. For masonry work of all types, one of the area's leading contractors is **LONE STAR MASONRY** located in Jarrell, phone 512-695-1553. They specialize in commercial, residential and industrial masonry work. This experienced masonry contractor can handle ANY job...whether it's large or small. *A fireplace, retaining walls, barbeque, patio, walk or step is handled with the same skill and dedication as a custom stone veneer job for your home or office.* Using only the finest of materials and the latest techniques, this is one contractor who can do the job for you with professional expertise!

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UNION STATE BANK

Since 1928

When it comes to getting quality service with a personal touch, most people agree that dealing with local businesses is the way to go. In this area, we have a friend with a rich history of helping us with all our financial matters. This friend is **UNION STATE BANK!** With offices conveniently located at 1100 Williams Dr. in Georgetown (512-869-8181), 100 E. Main St. in Florence (254-793-2601), and 120 N. Gray St. in Killeen (254-634-8181), 13601 W. Hwy 29 in Liberty Hill (512-515-6300) and 902 Palm Valley Blvd in Round Rock (512-246-6800), this is one bank that has been helping the area grow from one generation to the next. Since 1928, **UNION STATE BANK** has been a major factor in the expansion and development of business and agriculture of the area. For decades, many have put their trust and faith in **UNION STATE BANK** in the efforts to build a strong and vibrant community.

Checking and savings accounts, personal and business loans, safety deposit boxes, ATMs, debit cards, IRA's and a host of other convenient services are offered with a smile by your friendly UNION STATE BANK. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender. Don't forget to sign up for "Boot Scootin' Banking" on USB's Internet Service. The editors of this 2005 Holiday Business Review suggest that you stop in at your nearest **UNION STATE BANK** and discover the bank **"Where People Make the Difference."** www.usbanktexas.com

L&W PAINT & BODY INC.

Owners: Larry Peaslee & Wayne Foley

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Scrooge and Tiny Tim are waiting for you at Tablerock.

A Christmas Carol begins winter performances

Tablerock Festival of Salado will present Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* at 7 p.m. on Dec. 2 and 3 and Dec. 9 and 10 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 70 cast and crew members include: Charlie Voelter-Scrooge; Donnie Williams-Bob Cratchit; Carl Bamsch-Tiny Tim; Howard Horton-Marley; Ciara Bamsch-Christmas Past; Keith McCormack-Christmas Present; Tim Stewart-Nephew Fred; Drew Woodruff-Young Apprentice Scrooge; Shannon Ashe-Mrs. Cratchit; Gordon Mobley-Charity Solicitor; Rebecca Redman-Associate; Amanda White-Caroline;

Samantha Horton-Martha Cratchit; Kaitlin Farver-Fan; Keith Rodriguez-Dick Wilkens; Wesley Buchele-Peter Cratchit; Bob Ritchie-Fezziwig; Stephanie Hood-Mrs. Fezziwig; Anna Buchele-Lucy Cratchit; Kayla McCormack-Millie; Jessica Keeney-Belle; Korinna Faver-Caroller; Brenna Sirois-Belinda Cratchit; Angel Melton-Mrs. Dibble; Suzanne Buchele-Mrs. Pratt; Geneva Bamsch-Older Belle; Tony Blisard-Old Joe & Merchant; C.J. Carpenter-Ignorance; Cassidy Carpenter-Want; Cindie Allen-Ginger; Chandler Carpenter-Child Scrooge; Tanner Carlson-William; Dan Horton-Belle's Husband/Merchant; Chris Coleman-Bert; Rebecca Hamman & Anna Hamman-Fiddlers

Ensemble roles are portrayed by: Addie Ashe, Marcene Grimsley, Katie Harris, Barbara Horton, Lainey Sirois, Bridget Williams, Brigitte Hamman, Ashley Barshaw, Cory Carpenter, Kira Hamman, Rachel Hamman, Jaelle Hamman, Robert Hamman, Nathaniel Hamman, David Hamman, George Mobley, Mattie Price.

The crew includes Harry Sweet-Director; David Dunlap, Steven L. Hamman, Steven Phillip Hamman, Shaina Sirois, J. R. Schwacke-Sound & Lights; Chris & Lynn Carpenter, Debra Faver & Yvonne Barshaw-Back Stage Managers; Brenda Grimsley-Spot Light; Dave Apinchino, Darlene Lummus & Sharon VanWinkle-Concessions/Tickets; Jackie Mills Costumes/ Producer/ Programs; Marilyn Ritchie-Make Up; Denver Mills-Sets/Parking; Amanda White-Programs.

The concession opens at 6:30 p.m. Bring warm wraps. Tickets may be purchased at the gate, \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. For information, call 254-947-9205.

Memories of the store

By TUMBLEWEED SMITH

My father had a corner grocery store in Fort Worth. Growing up, I worked there when I wasn't in school or sleeping. Our lives revolved around the store.

My dad was a fabulous meat man. He could make choice taste like prime just the way he sliced off a steak or roast. He was an artist with a butcher knife. It was fascinating to watch him stand at the meat block and work. He did lots of cutting up. He told me he had butchered about 10,000 head of cattle. He had the strongest right arm I've ever known about. It got that way by using a hand meat saw for decades.

Customers came from as far away as Austin to buy his meat. The store carried a complete line of groceries and produce, but about half the income came from the meat market. That's where the action was. When salesmen came in, my dad just kept right on working at the meat block, talking and answering questions just like he was giving the salesman his full attention.

My dad was a philosopher and a poet. He had the unique ability to make people feel good. State legislators came to the store and leaned over the meat counter for advice and counsel, to hear a story or joke and get their batteries charged. He was pre-med at Baylor, but left after two years to tend to business and raise a family. He quoted poetry that suited the occasion, no matter what the occasion was. He was a Kiwanian and served as Lt. Governor for the Texas-Oklahoma district. He also served on the school board and taught a Sunday school class. He always wore a dress shirt and tie while working in the store and seldom walked out the front door without a coat and hat.

He always enjoyed a certain status. He was valedictorian of his high school class at Athens. He was so popular that once

he exploded a firecracker in a classroom and nobody would tell the teacher who did it.

When he and my mother began to travel, I came home and managed the store and its dozen or so employees. I loved the constant parade of characters that came in, especially the ones from across the street that walked over just to visit. My dad discouraged that, but I thought they provided the most interesting part of the day.

My dad got up at 3 or 4 o'clock Saturday mornings to get the meat counter ready for the biggest day of the week. A few days after I got back from an Army tour in Europe, the two of us sat on meat blocks one Saturday morning and just talked. It meant a lot to me because I was 25 years old and wasn't sure just what I was going to do with the rest of my life. That was a very special time for me, especially knowing how valuable time was on Saturday mornings.

My dad passed away in 1975 at the age of 64. He always had a goal of doing \$5,000 worth of meat business in a single day. I was taking care of the store while he was in the hospital near the end of his life. One Saturday night I took the adding machine to his hospital bed and showed him the bottom number. It was \$5,000.

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Deadline looms for Dec. 13 MCCA Christmas Dinner

Mill Creek Community Assn. members are urged to quickly send in their reservations by Dec. 3 for the annual Christmas Dinner and Meeting Dec. 13 at the Mill Creek Golf Course. No reservations will be taken after that.

The beautiful Silver and Gold theme is to welcome both old and new folks who have come to live in Mill Creek.

Cindy Apichino has worked with Chef Walter to present a delicious menu of Baked Breast of Chicken with wine mushroom sauce on a bed of rice, California Blend Vegetables, House Salad, Peach Cobbler, Rolls, coffee, and tea.

The Christmas Party begins at 6 p.m. Dec. 13 with a cash bar available. The 7 p.m. Dinner will be followed by the exciting, live, music of "A Touch of Class."

Those who wish to join Mill Creek Community Assn. for 2006, can send their \$20 yearly membership dues now, and be eligible to make reservations for this 2005 Christmas Social event as well.

Please send all reservations and or memberships to Mill Creek Community Assn. Box 562, Salado, TX 76571.

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The General Store Collection

The Salado Sawmill, an artisan's workshop and gallery, carries a unique line of custom furniture, "The General Store Collection." This bold and chunky design contains many elements of the furnishings you would have found in stores and homes at the turn of the last century. The bead-board detailing and glass front door take you back to a simpler time. Bob Pascoe, owner of The Salado Sawmill, has created several pieces in this line.

Pascoe uses traditional construction techniques, using only solid woods. "There is no press board or fiber board in my work," Pascoe says. "I use mortise and tenon glue joints and a minimum of mechanical fasteners." The General Store design is very flexible, allowing for the creation of cabinet bases, tables, bookcases and the breakfront pictured here. The entire collection can be seen at saladosawmill.com/generalstore.html.

Pascoe says he can design to your specification. "Just bring in a picture or sketch of something you're interested in and your specific requirements, like dimensions and wood type. I'll provide you with a bid and we can go from there. Pascoe has several other lines, including Arts and Crafts and Country Pine.

The Sawmill, a division of XtraWorX, LLC, is located at 409 Salado Plaza at the entrance to Mill Creek in Salado.
Call Bob at 254-947-0137.

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Section C Salado Village Voice Marketplace Classifieds

December 1, 2005

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ON PAGE 2C

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Public Notice to Salado Water Supply Corporation Customers

The Salado Water Supply Corporation Board of Directors at its monthly meeting in November voted to recommend a rate increase to its members at its annual meeting to be held at 6:30 p.m. January 26, 2006 at the Salado Civic Center.

The rate increase would be structured as follows:

Old Usage Rate	Old Cost	Proposed Usage Rate	Proposed Cost	Increase
Minimum rate for 2,000 gallons	\$17.50	<2,000 gal. min.	\$19.50	+13.7%
2,001 to 10,000 gallons	\$2.15/1,000 g.	2,001-10,000 gal.	No Change	+7%
10,001 to 20,000 gallons	\$2.40/1,000 g.	10,001-10,000 gal.	No Change	+4%
20,001 to 30,000 gallons	\$2.65/1,000 g.	20,001-30,000 gal.	No Change	+4
30,001 to 50,000 gallons	\$2.70/1,000 g.	20,001-30,000 gal.	\$3.00/1,000 g.	+3%
50,001 to 100,000 gallons	\$3.15/1,000 g.	50,001-100,000 gal.	\$3.25/1,000 g.	+3%
100,001 gallons and over	\$3.40/1,000 g.	100,001+ gal.	\$3.65/1,000	+7%

The proposed increase is expected to generate an additional \$94,000 in revenues in 2006. The last rate increase for the SWSC came at the January 2003 meeting three years ago. At that time, the expense budget was \$636,000, compared to \$743,000 this year, a difference of 17 percent from three years ago.

The current rate increase is needed to offset the escalating expense costs and continue adding to the SWSC reserve funds. The reserve funds are used to maintain and upgrade the aging distribution system.



This Austin stone country estate on acreage is framed by large cascading oak trees. Wet weather creek runs on the back of this 8.72 acre homesite. Hardwood floors, windows from ceiling to floor in living room, great room effect, stone fireplace, gourmet kitchen, 3 BR/2-1/2 BA, library with built-ins, zoned AC. Two dining areas and spacious laundry. Barn/garage is 40' x 60' with 800 SF 1BR apartment. \$565,000.



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



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



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

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Oak trees surround this lovely Salado home! Large family room with fireplace and vaulted ceiling. Formal dining room with bay window. Enclosed sunporch opens to fenced backyard with large storage building. 3 BR/2BA. \$139,900.



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

Lots and Acreage

25 acres for sale with 2 BR/2 BA home. Salado I.S.D. \$149,000.

Temple: 50+ acres on Seaton Road, one-acre stock tank. Creek good for fishing. Large trees and some wooded acreage. Partially planted in coastal bermuda grass. Lots of wildlife. \$3,750/acre.

.71 acre lot in Royal View \$42,000

2 lots near Belton Lake \$6,500/lot.

25 acres Salado ISD \$4,500/ac.

5 acres, Hidden Springs, \$74,900.

Investment Properties

Near UMHB, Belton, 3 BR/1 BA home. \$69,500.

Belton home, great for rental or potential business. 3 BR/1 BA. \$59,500



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



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

A great price for a home with granite countertops and tile floors. This home shows beautifully. Entertain in the shade on the back deck with an arbor. Light and bright with formal dining room. \$152,800 Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050

Spectacular building site in Woods of Salado, with large oak trees and a possible lake view \$35,000. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 254-947-5050 tfn

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

Land for Sale

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

65 acres on Hill Rd. 5 miles south of Salado all or part. Call Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050

MORE LAND FOR SALE ON PAGE 7C



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for LEASING information.



\$389,900: This builder never builds the same house twice, so take advantage of this one of a kind, truly gorgeous home. Walk in and look through the abundant plate glass windows overlooking Mill Creek Golf Course.



\$468,000: Well maintained country estate on 4.435 acres. Spacious master suite with sitting area, fireplace, desk, jetted tub and separate shower, huge closet with built-ins. Country kitchen has brick hearth around stove, island, pantry.



\$389,000: Custom home with all the extras. Tile entryway takes you into a wonderful living area with built-in bookshelves and fireplace. Large open kitchen with island, granite countertops, breakfast bar, and under counter lighting.



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



\$249,900: Beautiful wood floors throughout downstairs living area. Recently remodeled home with master bedroom downstairs & three additional rooms upstairs. Kitchen opens up into the living area with a dining area close by. Close to Mill Creek Golf Course.



\$209,800: When you walk into this home you will appreciate the volume ceilings with open floor plan & designer paint colors. Beautiful hardwood floors in the dining room & living room. Abundant storage everywhere.



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



\$89,800: Walk to Memorial Park with the kids from this well-maintained home in Jarrell. Pergo floors have just been put in in the living room. Split bedrooms, open family/dining room. Ceiling fans in all bedrooms. Nice flower beds.

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

Acreage Available

- 439 acs. on FM 487, Florence. Oaks, grasslands.
- 150 acres, near Rogers. Excellent soil, good road frontage.
- 65 acs. on Hill Rd. and I-35, all or part
- 33.18 acres at the edge of Bartlett. Easy access. Could be developed into subdivision or other use.
- 5 wooded acres on Blackberry Rd.
- 1.1 acre homesite on Lampasas River.

Lots & Home Sites

Mill Creek Lots

- Fletcher Ct. - \$64,000
- Mill Creek Springs I & III - \$30,000-75,000
- Mill Creek Springs IV
- Golf course & hilltop view lots start at \$40,000
- Interior lots start at \$25,000
- The Overlook, estate-sized lots start at \$94,000.

Winner's Circle Lots: Lot 5 Jack Nicklaus \$65,000.

Woods of Salado Lots

- Mountain Dr. - Lot 5B - \$35,000.
- Live Oak Rd. Lots 21A&B \$70,000

Other Lots

- Windy Hill Ranch: 2 acre lots - \$35,000-\$45,000.
- Heritage: 1 to 3 acre wooded, near Salado. Restricted.
- Hidden Springs: Lot 2, Lot 31, Lot 194.
- Denman's Loop: Lot 8, B 19, Sec. 2, \$18,000.
- Terra Bella: 12 estate lots in park-like setting off Armstrong Rd. \$45,000-\$110,000.

Commercial Property

- \$429,000: 5.66 acres commercial property off Main Street Salado.
- \$199,500: 1.51 acres currently used as golf club shop. Many possibilities.
- \$149,000: 1.6 acres with good potential for commercial near I-35 & FM 2484.
- \$92,500: Commercial building on Thomas Arnold Rd. close to Salado Schools & I-35.
- \$79,800: Great location for a Salado business, on 0.925 ac. on Center Circle.



\$329,900: Belton address, Salado area & schools. Custom 4 BR, 3.5 BA country home on 5.5 acres. Mother-in-law plan. Awesome wood flooring in entry, living & dining. Stately custom red oak cabinetry. Lots of crown molding. Oversized covered back patio with surround sound.



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



\$225,000: Open living area consists of family room, den, dining, and kitchen. Two fireplaces. Large windows overlook beautiful backyard from family room. Two bedrooms & bath downstairs with bedroom, bath & loft.



\$179,000: Home on 2.9 acres with long wrap-around porch. Beautiful live oak trees on property. 4 BR, 2 BA, 2 LR, one dining. Easy access to I-35. Short distance to Killeen or Salado.



\$113,400: Enjoy new whirlpool appliances, new carpet & fresh interior paint in this open floor plan in Academy. master suite has raised ceiling & garden tub. Wooden privacy fence & portable storage building in back yard.

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



1617 Chaparral
 Very special, beautifully-designed contemporary home with unrestricted views of golf course. Features include large great room, formal dining, open kitchen, breakfast room, study, 4 beds and 3 full baths. This home has 4 porches, 2 car plus golf cart



2105 Smith Bluff
 Immaculate native limestone home ready for new owners, 20x19 living room with stone WBFP, formal and informal dining, 3 bedrooms, two baths and a wonderful kitchen. Many updates and great drive-up appeal. Don't miss this one! \$207,577. Price Reduced to \$188,000.



701 Indian Trail
 Secluded contemporary on 1.3 acres in beautiful Salado Creek Place. Rooms with soaring ceilings and large irregular room sizes. 3 BR/3 full Baths. Large living room, formal dining room and a study. Heavily wooded ground with a fabulous stone patio. \$284,000.



Contract Pending

1311 Mill Creek Dr.
 Perfection! Beautifully updated. Backs up to golf course and creek. Two bedrooms and two baths, study, large living area and formal dining room. Great location! \$220,000.



Contract Pending

6787 N. Lakeview Dr.
 Tuscany in Woods of Salado, custom-built on 3.864 acres. Backs up to Corps of Engineers' treed property with panoramic view of Stillhouse Lake. 3 BR/3 BA, great room, dining, library plus large room upstairs to-be-finished. Tile roof, tile floors, and floating staircase with views of living and dining. \$298,000.



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



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

Mill Creek Homesites

Premier Half-Acre Lots in restricted Mill Creek Golf course subdivision. Underground utilities, ready for custom homes with only 2,000 sq. ft minimum.

1801 Kevlin Trail	1901 Kevlin Trail
1900 Kevlin Trail	1808 Kevlin Trail

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

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

Commercial Rental

Salado- 24 X 36 Free standing building, excellent central located. 512-587-3659 11/10-11/17p

1024 sq ft on South Main near Stagecoach Inn. Available Feb. 1st '06 254-947-3351 tfnb

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

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

Main St. Salado Retail Available \$2,950 square feet - Great visibility. Can divide. 254-773-0038 10/27 tfnb

For Rent or Lease

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

TFNB
 Charming One BR, Brick home Sits back from the road next to a pond \$750 All Bills Paid.No Yard Work. Village Realty 947-0342 8/18tfn

For Rent: 2 BR 1 Ba new carpet and paint. \$550 monthly \$400 deposit. 947-4663 10/27tfnb

DEC. 3 Temple Symphony Orchestra Concert rings in the season

The Temple Symphony Orchestra ushers in the season with a traditional Holiday Concert at 7:30 p.m. Dec 3 in the Mary Alice Marshall Performing Arts Center at Temple College.

Temple College and UMHB Chorales join the symphony performing Bach's cantata, Magnificat in D, BWV 243.

The second half of the concert will feature Grammy-nominated pops vocalist, Margaret Carlson putting a new twist on favorite holiday songs. The concert ends with a traditional sing-a-long.

Admission is \$20 for adults, \$5 for students. Active military and their immediate families will be admitted free with military I.D. Tickets are available at Holze Music, the Cultural Activities Center, the office of Fine Arts at Temple College and at the door.



Diane Morgan's third grade class are shown above celebrating that they won the Lions Club pizza party for bringing in 109 pairs of eyeglasses to be evaluated and given to people that need glasses and can't afford them by the Lions Club. The total eyeglasses brought in by all of the third grade classes amounted to approximately 200 pair.



Distinct Creation close to completion in Hidden Springs! 5+bedroom home on 5 acres features 3 levels of living area, soaring ceilings, 2 dining areas, private media room/office and stainless steel kitchen appliances including down-draft range; de-sulphuring well system; pre-wiring for surround sound/security, 2 fireplaces, \$10,000 landscaping allowance.
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Notice of Application for Drilling Permit from the Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District

John Kurzyniec has made application to the Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District (CUWCD) on November 22, 2005, for a drilling permit to authorize drilling a new well with a proposed 1 1/4 inch column pipe on property located approximately 5 1/2 miles southwest of Killeen on Oakalla Road, east of Clear Creek to produce water for domestic use in a proposed annual quantity of 0.67 acre feet or 219 thousand gallons.

This application will be set for hearing before the CUWCD Board upon notice posted at the Bell County Courthouse Annex and at the CUWCD Office. If you would like to support, protest, or provide comments on this application, you must appear at the hearing and comply with District Rule 8.10. For additional information about this application or the permitting process, please contact the CUWCD at 550 East 2nd Avenue, Building A, P.O. Box 729, Belton, TX, 76513, 254-933-0120. The applicant may be contacted at 143088 Oakalla Road, Killeen, TX, 254-702-6777.

Call Marilyn to advertise in the Salado Village Voice.
254-947-5321



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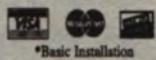
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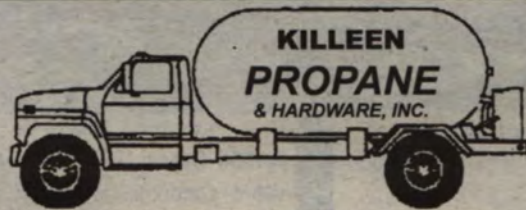


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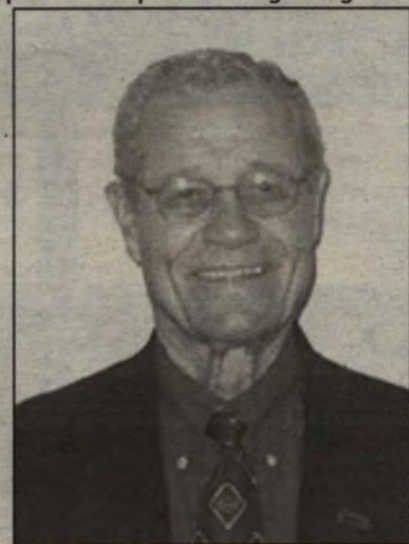
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254-760-2924



Private ranch estate! Austin stone home on over 11 tree-covered acres located southwest of Salado. Thermador appliances, hardwood floors, covered porches, 3 fireplaces. **\$725,000.**



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



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



New floorings, fresh paint and updated fixtures make this home move-in-ready. 3/2/2 in an excellent location on a tree-covered lot. **\$164,900.**



Texas Ranch style home with an incredible Hill Country view! Relax on your own hammock while enjoying your Willingham Creek. This home is a must-see **\$444,900.**



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



Enjoy the peaceful setting of this tree-covered lot. 3/2/2 that is close in Salado all for just **\$179,900.**



Great Location, close to Pro Shop in Mill Creek. This 2/2/1 newly renovated condominium has it all for just **\$159,900.**



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



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



Spacious Home on Quiet Street: 6/6/1, the possibilities are endless with over 3,500 sq. ft. on approximately 1.4 acres. Home or business. **\$234,900.**

Acreage/Lots

300 ac **UNDER CONTRACT**, \$2,500/acre.
 340 acres southeast of Salado.
 550 acres Hill Country with house west of Jarrell. Excellent commercial rock property.
 Lots w/ sewage & water on Shady Lane.
 145 acres northwest of Salado. Backs up to Corps of Engineers property. \$3,500 per acre.
 3-5 acre located north of Salado, excellent homesite. **\$58,900.**
 2.4 acres northwest of Salado. Excellent homesite, **\$52,900.**
 7 acres oak trees, electricity & well, **\$85,000.**
 2 acres great trees Hidden Springs. **\$33,900.**
 5 acres in Hidden Springs, lot #271, **\$49,900.**
 5 acres in Hidden Springs, lot #265, **\$49,900.**
 2.7 acres fronting FM 2843. **\$29,900.**
 3,018 acres on FM 2843. Large pecans & live water. **\$35,000.**
 44 acres off of Firefly Road between Salado and Florence. Great Trees Will divide.
 3+ acres with oak and elm Trees **\$39,900**
 10 Acre Home Sites starting from \$99,900. Live Oak Trees and Views!
 Great 2 acre lot in Hidden Springs! **\$33,900**
 Lot 290 Hidden Springs, \$49,000.
 Lot 71 Hiddens Springs creek front, \$74,950.
 Lot overlooking Salado Creek, **\$50,000.**
 Beautiful treed lot, 178' deep, 1219 Indian Trail, Mill Creek, **\$36,000.**
 Lot in The Bluffs at Salado Creek, \$45,000.
 One of the best lots in Mill Creek. Private with trees. \$59,900.
 Royal View lot priced at \$49,900.
 Indian Trail at Blaylock, lg corner lot, 90x188 - **\$40,000.**
 Indian Trail - 90x188 - **\$38,000.**

Commercial

1.32 acre fronting I-35 with home, **\$350,000**
 30 acres fronting I-35, 1 mile south of Stagecoach Inn. Additional 30 acres available
 .87 acres off N. Stagecoach Rd. \$147,408.
 3 acres fronting I-35, Phase 3. **\$120,000.**
 Approx 3.5 acres off College Hill with small home for **\$300,000.**
 B&B: Great chance to live in Salado.

Belton

Large lot with trees in gated Southlake Subdivision. **\$55,000.**
 5+ acres fronting SH 190 and Boxer Road. Great commercial location. City water available. **\$299,000.**
 2+ acres at corner of FM 1670 and HWY 190.
 Exit 305 North of Temple. .54 acres with existing station. Excellent business opportunity.

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