



Despite damage at each campus, schools reopen

While other area districts were not able to return to school this week, Salado ISD was able to open again on Feb. 22 despite damage from Winter Storm Uri at all three campuses.

A fire sprinkler pipe broke at Salado High School, creating some flooding in the building. Water penetrated the front offices, Mr. Cook's classroom, parts of the band hall, band office, concession stand, part of practice gym, and cafeteria.

The fire alarms, sprinkler system, pull station, and ceiling sensors are being repaired by Alliance. We have partnered with a company (Belfor) to extract the water. They are using machines to dehumidify the building and have run moisture checks and environmental tests to ensure it was safe for staff and students. The moisture checks test the moisture in the air and in the walls. "All areas are okay, with the exception of the library," Superintendent Michael Novotny told *Salado Village Voice*. "The library has been sealed off and will likely need new furniture."

He added that the high school lost water pressure on Feb. 22, but that it was restored after an hour.

A fire sprinkler pipe broke at Salado Middle School,

causing some flooding that was limited to the athletic hallway.

A pipe broke in the staff lounge of the fourth and fifth grade building of Thomas Arnold Elementary School, flooding rooms 607, 609, 611, the staff lounge, special education classroom, custodial closet, boys' and girls' restrooms, and gym foyer. The line was capped by school staff.

Belfor brought over the same machines used at the high school to extract the water. The baseboards were pulled, the building was sealed and large dehumidifiers were used to dry the area. Moisture checks and environmental tests will be completed prior to allowing students and employees in the building.

"It is likely that we will need to replace the cabinets," Dr. Novotny said.

Another pipe broke and flooded one of the portable classrooms. "We capped the pipe and we are draining the water," he said, adding "The furniture will likely need to be replaced."

Dr. Novotny said that the district does not have a cost estimate or completion date to repair and replace furniture. The repairs will be covered by the district's insurance.

Texans urged to fill out TDEM Damage Survey

AUSTIN - Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) are encouraging Texans to complete the Self Reporting Damage Survey to help the state identify damages across Texas and help emergency management officials gain an understanding of damages that occurred during the recent winter weather.

The voluntary survey, available in both English and Spanish, can be accessed by visiting: www.TDEM.texas.gov/warm. Reporting dam-

age to the Texas Division of Emergency Management is a voluntary activity, is not a substitute for reporting damage to an insurance agency, and does not guarantee disaster relief assistance.

"I urge Texans to fill out the Self Reporting Damage Survey and provide crucial information on the winter weather impacts to their home or property," said Governor Abbott. "The information gleaned from this survey will help our state identify the full impact of this winter weather.

BCESD Eaglebotsrobotics to meet Feb. 25

Bell County Emergency Services District #1 Board of Commissioners will meet 1 p.m. Feb. 25 at the Salado Volunteer Fire Department Station #2, FM 2268.

The board will discuss retaining attorney John Carlton of Carlton Law Firm as legal counsel.

The board will also discuss training for board members, a contract with the Bell County Appraisal District, determining services provided to the protected area of the ESD and providing notice of the ESD creation to other governing entities.

The meeting is open to the public.

Eaglebotsrobotics sets open house

By NETANEL ELDRIDGE
SALADO ROBOTICS

Tucked away behind Salado's old junior high school is the home of the Salado High robotics team, the Eaglebots.

They have been representing Salado High in a worldwide competition called FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) since their inception in 2009.

The team was started by Thomas Franks, a former science teacher in Salado ISD, when he noticed that there was a lack of technology-oriented options at the high school. He felt it was necessary to prepare the students for the future and the shift towards technology in



Throughout the state, grocery shelves, like those at Brookshire Brothers #69 in Salado, were left bare last week. Dairy supplies were not able to make it from the processing plants to the stores, in spite of steady milk production every day during the storm. Shelves should be restocked this week. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

Storm leaves empty grocery shelves – again!

By KAY LEDBETTER
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE

The shelves of Texas grocery stores are seriously picked over, if not empty, for the second time in less than a year, said a Texas A&M AgriLife expert. But winter storm-related supply chain shortages are different than those consumers experienced during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It's a matter of supply and demand, said David Anderson, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service economist, Bryan-College Station.

"This is not another COVID situation from last March," Anderson said. "This is a really harsh winter storm. Of course, the effects have been exacerbated by the electric grid and water problems."

He explained that snow and ice storms, as well as other weather events, can and do cause food production problems, some short- and some long-term.

Many AgriLife Extension agents and specialists as well as other government officials are assessing damages this week and turning those

reports in for a state assessment of expected losses and economic impacts. Some impacts can be seen immediately, while others, especially on crops subjected to freezing temperatures for extended periods, need some time to materialize once the snow and ice have melted away.

"If a cattle packing plant is shut down, then beef production will be lower one week but back up the next," he said. "Also, these weather events may destroy crops like vegetables or fruit. If they do, then we'll have tighter supplies and higher prices until the next production can occur either from another region of the world or part of the U.S. If the storm killed a lot of chickens, then we might have lower production for a few months and higher prices."

So, while this is a transportation and supply chain issue again, it is one that will be mostly short in nature. What occurred last week and through the weekend in the stores is the result of pretty understandable occurrences, Anderson said.

"We aren't used to seeing the shelves empty because

almost all the time the trucks run normally and restocking gets done," he said. "So, it's a surprise when it happens."

But, he said, with a little time to resupply shelves, things will be back to normal.

OVERALL FOOD PRODUCTION NOT THE PROBLEM

"It is not a food production problem. We produce plenty of food. But it's not stored at the grocery store," Anderson said.

"In extreme events like this people go to the store and buy a lot of stuff to get through the event," he said. "Then, during the event, the trucks to resupply the shelves can't get through, so there is nothing there. And all the folks working to refill the shelves were also affected by the storm — their homes faced the same problem, they have trouble getting to work, and the trucks can't move until the storm passes."

Anderson said, however, this situation was a consumer issue as well — one learned during the COVID-19 pandemic early stages. In addition to overcoming the urge to overbuy on some items, consumers had to learn to be

flexible in their choices until things returned to normal.

"I can't help but think there is some demand side to this too," he said. "All of us consumers rush out to buy stuff, overwhelming the system. That's fine. You need to get stocked up for not being able to go out. But I think also we could probably all use some flexibility. We expect the shelves to be full no matter what. We expect to be able to get whatever we want, whenever we want it, regardless of season. I think some flexibility, planning and patience would help us all."

Anderson said he knows that is often easier said than done for those who are in need. This terrible winter storm hit when there are still those in need due to the economic effects of COVID-19 — those who are out of work and this hardship has made it even worse.

"So, I am not saying that we, as consumers, need to stop buying," he said. "We need to get what we need to get, but some understanding of how our food system gets from the farm to your house helps a lot. I think it's another reminder of how this all



Segiv Eldridge and Netanel Eldridge work on the Eaglebots robot. (COURTESY PHOTO)

Historians seek nominees for Person of Year

The Salado Historical Society Person of the Year will be announced March 12 with a formal presentation to follow at a future Salado Historical Society meeting.

The Historical Society is taking nominations for the Person of the Year. Nancy Kelsey is the selection committee chairman and invites Historical Society members to submit nominess by no later than 5 p.m. March 5. Nominations can be sent via email to mnkelsey@sbcglobal.net or contact her by telephone at 254-933-0383.

Nominations must include the person's name, the reason(s) why the person should be recognized as Person of the Year, and your name and contact information.

FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas

Shipping may drive inflation as trains, trucks at capacity

The Markets

The S&P 500 Stock Index (SPX), our preferred if sometimes irrational indicator of the U.S. stock market, soared to new record highs on Tuesday, then started sagging as the big tech stocks started to fall and in the end lost 0.71% for the week, ending Friday at 3906.71. It remains up just over 4% year-to-date and nearly 10% for the trailing three months. In the near future the one-year returns are going to look unrealistically good because we are now one-year from when the market began to take the pandemic seriously, so we are going to leave that number out. We do feel comfortable telling you that three years ago the SPX stood at 2701, and as such, now has a three-year average annual return of about 13% per year. We also are happy to report that the foundations of the SPX, represented by the CRSP US Mid-Cap Value Index rose nearly 1% for the week and is now ahead 8.3% year-to-date, indicating that a healthy rotation from Large-Cap Growth into Mid-Cap Value appears to be continuing.

The yield on the 10-year US Treasury note soared nearly 11% for the week to 1.340% signaling a growing optimism that economic recovery is not far ahead. The Treasury yield curve echoed that sentiment as it steepened, with the 30-year US T-Bond finally crossing the 2% barrier to close at 2.134%, slightly above where it was a year ago just before the pandemic became apparent. West Texas Intermediate crude oil (WTI) contracts sagged just over 1% on news the Saudi's were going to open the oil taps, dropping to \$59.09 per barrel.

The Economy

In a strange bifurcation that now has persisted for several months, the IHS Markit purchasing managers index (PMI) for services rose to 58.9 for February on a scale where 50 marks the delineation between growth and contraction, its best number in nearly six years, while the manufacturing

Market & Economic Update

By Jeffrey W. McClure



PMI slipped to 57.7 from January's 60.5, but all are high numbers. At the same time as both business and service activity were surging, new unemployment insurance claims continue to rise, hitting a seasonally adjusted 861,000 for the week of February 13. When we throw in the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance claims for those not eligible for state programs, the total rises well above one million! New weekly unemployment claims typically ran in the 200,000 range before the pandemic.

The confusion comes from the fact that the HIS Markit survey tallies responses only from operating businesses while in many cases the new unemployment claims come from businesses that are throwing in the towel. The businesses that are surviving seem to generally be doing quite well while those that are not doing well are failing or have failed. Overall, more than 18 million workers are still collecting unemployment benefits and that number is staying stubbornly high. Note that to collect those benefits, workers have to be actively seeking employment and able to document it. The end result is that any industry that requires face to face interaction with customers is hurting as are its, commonly former, employees. This condition is likely to remain in place until we put this pandemic behind us.

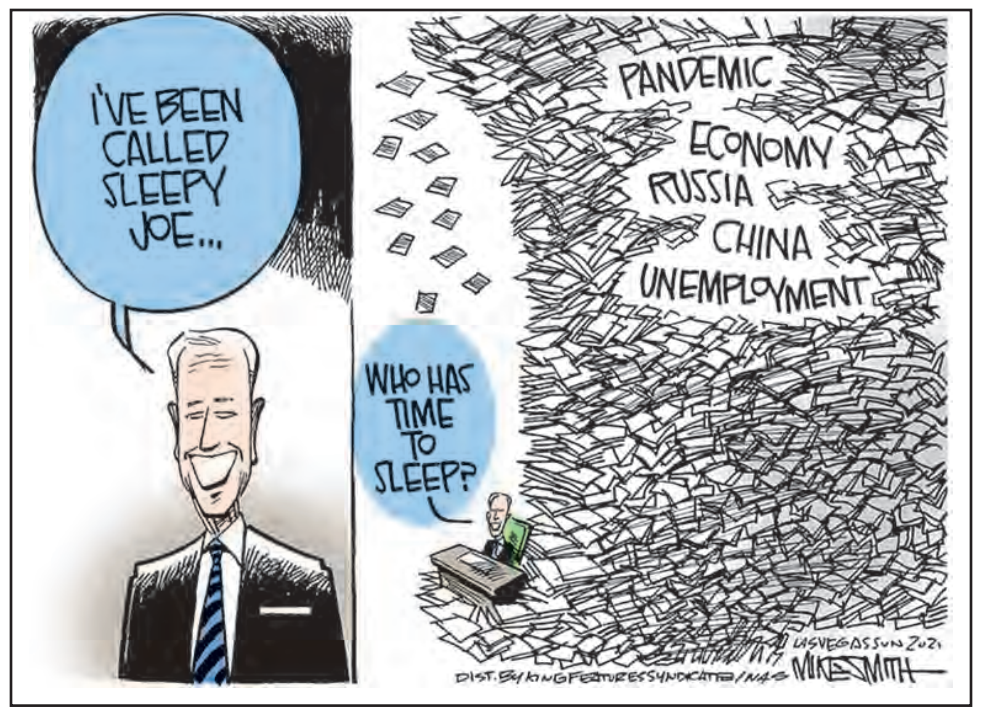
In another odd statistic, according to the Commerce Department, retail sales rose by a seasonally adjusted 5.3% in January from a month earlier. The rise was credited to the receipt of stimulus checks. That welcome rise in consumer spending followed three months of sales decline that was alarming to say the least. It also marks a real possibility of signifi-

cant GDP growth in the first quarter of 2021 as consumer spending makes up about two-thirds of the U.S. economic output. Those with the means to do so went on a spending splurge in furniture and electronics but surprisingly, they also substantially increased spending at bars and restaurants.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that prices for U.S. imports rose 1.4% in January, with the rise mainly in imported fuel prices, up 4.2% in one month after rising 8.2% in December. Still, if we take out the fuel price rise, prices were still up nearly 1% in a month. While year-over-year inflation is still only running at about a 1.4% rate, there are signs that we may be in for a short-term spike in the near future. The culprit appears to be shipping. Not only are container ships backed up at west coast ports, but the railroads appear to be running pretty much at capacity and trucks are largely the same. The issue is compounded by dock workers, train crews, and truck drivers sick or in quarantine from COVID. With the overload, shipping costs are soaring.

The silver lining is that new COVID cases diagnosed over the last week in the U.S. dropped to 68,488, a great improvement over the weekly 272,000 we saw at the beginning of the year. Finally, too, the reported deaths per day have declined from nearly 4,200 at the beginning of the year to this week's 2,463. We, hopefully, have turned the corner.

The bottom line remains the same. We are still in the rough patch economically, but the snow is melting, and the sun is out. Spring is coming. Be patient and be careful and we may see a better everything in a few months.



Texas failed in a storm, again. Will we be ready next time?

STATE LEADERS WILL START AN INVESTIGATION THIS WEEK TO FIGURE OUT WHY UTILITIES IN TEXAS WERE OUTMATCHED BY A WEEKLONG WINTER STORM. THEY DID THE SAME THING 10 YEARS AGO, AND WE STILL WEREN'T READY.

By Ross Ramsey
Texas Tribune

ERCOT, the state-controlled electric grid operator taking most of the initial blame for widespread blackouts and for all of the attendant misery over the last week, answers to the Public Utility Commission of Texas. The governor appoints the members of the PUC, and names which of the three of them will be chair. The state's utility regulators are operating according to laws written and approved by the Texas Legislature.

If Gov. Greg Abbott really wants to find out what's going on with the state's electric regulators, he could start in his own office, in his own executive branch of state government, by shouting down the hall: "Hey, y'all, come in here and tell me what the hell is going on."

Abbott himself might not have been paying close attention to electricity and water and gas a couple of weeks ago, but the people who are paid to pay attention report to him.

It might be that some of the people in his chain of command — staff, regulators or both — made mistakes and errors in judgment that contributed to the state's weather, electricity, water and gas fiasco last week.

But that's all detail. All roads here lead to the governor's office and to the Legislature. We elect them to appoint and hire everybody

who was responsible for trying to keep us safe when things go wrong and to keep things from going wrong whenever that's possible.

And as the inquiries into those failures of preparation and response begin this week, remember that the investigators themselves — the governor and the Legislature — are also among those responsible for what happened. You know, the subjects of the investigation.

They'll be grilling regulators and electric generators and utilities, as well they should, but the buck stops in the big, domed Pink Building where most of the elected officials work.

Heads will surely roll, and smaller heads farther down the organization charts always roll before the big heads do. People you've never heard of, or who you hadn't heard of two weeks ago, will lose their jobs. They should.

It'll be interesting to see whether lawmakers in the House and Senate who have promised to look into this will actually get to the reasons there wasn't enough electricity to power Texas through a big storm, why the generation they expected wasn't there, why the decisions to blackout this part of town and not that part of town were made — and who made them, how and why water utilities got pulled into this and why this kind of widespread breakdown doesn't happen in other states where the storms are harsher, colder and longer.

It will be interesting to see whether proposals that legislators ignored after winter blackouts in 2011 would have prevented what happened in the second month of 2021. And whether legislators are willing to do now what they were

unwilling to do then, either ordering the industry to pay for it or subsidizing the industry to make the necessary changes and preparations.

Earlier this week, former Gov. Rick Perry, a conservative Republican who encouraged, oversaw and promoted the state's nation-leading expansion of wind-generated electricity, said during the freeze that Texans were willing to go through something like that to keep federal regulators out of the state.

"Texans would be without electricity for longer than three days to keep the federal government out of their business," Perry said. "Try not to let whatever the crisis of the day is take your eye off of having a resilient grid that keeps America safe personally, economically, and strategically."

Some of the Texans who went days without power, and especially those who lost loved ones, will want to have a say about that proposition, to let the rest of us know whether they really hate federal regulation so much they'd rather flush their toilets with snow.

After the 2011 storm, some recommendations were adopted and some were ignored. Buttoning up the system to keep it operating in freezing winter weather obviously didn't get done, among other things. The state didn't have the reserve capacity, and from the right kinds of generation, to meet the needs.

Texans are steaming mad about the results, and they're mad at the people they elected. The state's high officials had a chance to prevent a lot of this trouble after the 2011 freeze.

And now they have another one.

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Letters to the editor can be emailed to news@saladovillagevoice.com or mailed to Salado Village Voice, PO Box 587, Salado, TX 76571.

They can be delivered to 213 Mill Creek Dr., Suite #125.

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Salado stands up to crisis

To the Editor:

Our little Village of Salado has stood up to a crisis. Many came out to help their neighbors. Some examples: warming stations where you could go and get warm and charge your phone. Firewood delivered to those who had no heat. Hot soups and other food that could be eaten without heating was delivered to those without

Your Voice

Letters to the Editor

power. Rides were given to those who had no way to get out. Neighbors opened up their homes to those who needed a warm place to stay. I had lost a lot of hope in

this world until I saw the kindness given to those in need.

Colleen W. Brooks

LETTERS CONTINUED PAGE 4A



MEMBER 2021

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Emergency actions protect Texans

PUC suspends Disconnects for Non-Payment; Continues COVID19 requirement for Deferred Payment Plans; Pauses ERCOT financial deadlines

Austin, TX – In an emergency open meeting, timed to prevent possible disconnections for non-payment on Feb. 22, the Public Utility Commission of Texas is-

sued a series of orders Feb. 21 intended to protect Texas electricity customers while leaders in the state consider solutions for the financial aftershocks of the winter storm grid event.

The orders addressed the following:

An immediate suspension of disconnections for non-payment until further notice, including ordering utilities not to process disconnection.

Continuation of the COVID-19 measure under which REPs are required to offer deferred payment plans to customers when requested.

The orders are applicable to customers of investor owned utilities (IOUs) across the state that fall

under the PUC's jurisdiction (namely Oncor, AEP, CenterPoint, and TNMP). (Note: these provisions do not apply to municipally owned utilities or electric cooperatives that are not within the PUC's jurisdiction in this area.)

In the meeting deliberations, the Commission strongly urged retail electric providers to delay invoicing for residential and small commercial electricity customers, including invoices with estimated meter reads

"Our absolute top priority as a commission and a state is protecting electricity customers from the devastating effects of a storm that already affected their delivery of power," said Chairman DeAnn Walker.

"The order and directives are intended to be temporary, likely through the end of this week, to address the potential financial impacts that are especially challenging during this extremely difficult time."

The meeting's second order was directed at the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, calling on it to exercise the discretion under ERCOT protocols to deviate from protocol deadlines and timing related to settlements, collateral obligations, and invoice payments (which could lead to further market instability) while leaders in the state consider solutions to the financial challenges caused by the grid event.

The Saint Stephen Lenten Fish Fry is ON!

The Saint Stephen Lenten Fish Fry is a drive-thru pick up, available Fridays, 5:30-7:30 Feb. 19-Mar. 26. The Church is located at 601 FM 2268, Salado. The cost is \$10 a plate. Each plate contains 2 pieces

of fish, fries, hush puppies, cole slaw, beans, dessert and bottled water.

Pre-order to prolife@saintstephenchurch.org or call the office (254)-947-8037. Orders more than four boxes MUST be pre-ordered.



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Obituaries



the main office of Texaco in New York City. In 1941, at the age of 19, Martha joined Lloyd in Maracaibo, Venezuela en-route to Caracas, Venezuela, where they lived for 18 years. While in Venezuela, they raised their two children, Barbara and Bob. Martha was active in the American Church and an avid bridge player.

The Harpers moved to Pelham, New York in 1960 and remained there for 18 years. In 1981 another transfer, this time to Dallas, which led to the discovery of the village of Salado.

In 1982, Martha and Lloyd made their final home in Salado.

Martha became active in the Salado Historical Society, the Ladies Auxiliary, and local bridge groups.

In lieu of flowers you may remember Martha with a donation to the Salado Presbyterian Church or to a charity of your choice.

Due to the Covid-19 virus there will be no funeral service.

Arrangements by Broecker Funeral Home Salado.

MARTHA WILLIAMS HARPER

Martha Williams Harper, age 99, of Salado passed away peacefully Sunday, February 21, 2021.

She was born in Lorena, Texas on June 27, 1921, to Katherine and Robert Williams.

Her family later moved to McGregor, Texas where she met her future husband, Lloyd Harper.

She attended the University of Texas and was a member of the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority.

In 1939 she married Lloyd and moved to Houston where he was employed with Texaco. After a year, they were transferred to

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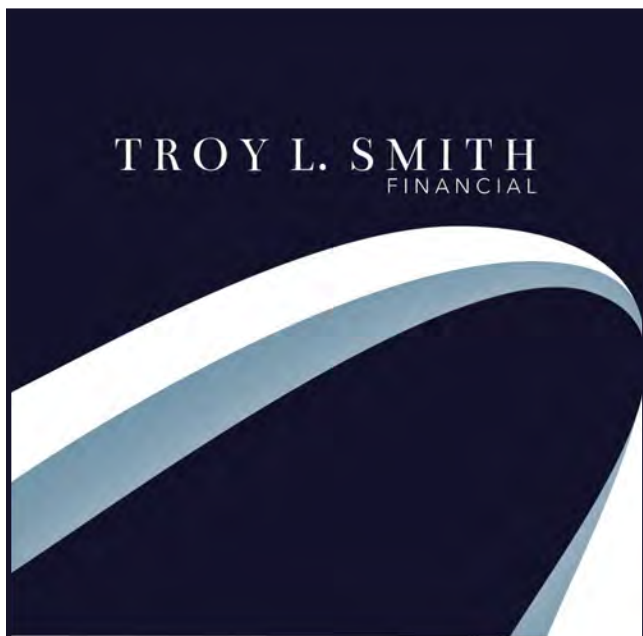
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Texas Prepaid Tuition Program enrollment deadline approaches

(AUSTIN) — Texas families can lock in today's cost of undergraduate resident tuition and schoolwide required fees at Texas public colleges and universities by enrolling their children in the tax-advantaged Texas Tuition Promise Fund® before the close of the current general enrollment period on Feb. 28.

"It's never too late to start planning for a child's college education, so I'm

encouraging Texas families and individuals to remember the upcoming deadline to prepay and lock in today's rates for all or some future tuition at two- and four-year Texas public colleges and universities," Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar said. "Families will find that when it comes to planning for their children's future education, every little bit adds up."

The Texas Tuition Prom-

ise Fund, the state's prepaid college tuition program, allows participants to prepay undergraduate resident tuition and schoolwide required fees by purchasing tuition units for a four-year degree, two years of community college or just a few semesters. For additional flexibility and portability, the plan also can be used at Texas medical and dental institutions; Texas private colleges or universities;

out-of-state colleges or universities; or career schools, where tuition and schoolwide required fees are not locked in and the benefits and payouts would be based on the transfer value.**

To enroll children younger than 1 in the program at 2020-21 prices, the deadline is July 31. The next general enrollment period begins on Sept. 1, with new contract prices based on Texas public college tuition and schoolwide required fee costs for the 2021-22 academic year.

Complete plan information — including residency and other requirements, current prices, enrollment forms and more — is available online at TuitionPromise.org, or by calling 800-445-GRAD (4723), Option 5.

The program's outreach team also offers free webinars to provide an overview of the plan and discuss the different tuition unit types and payment options, as well as provide information about Texas Match the Promise Foundation matching scholarship opportunities.

Go to the Texas Tuition Promise Fund website for information about how to register to attend upcoming webinars. Residency restrictions apply. Transfer value applies to tuition redemption at medical and dental schools, Texas private colleges and universities, out-of-state colleges and universities, and career schools. Transfer value is limited to the lesser of (1) the costs the Tuition Unit would cover at a public college or university or (2) the original purchase price of the Tuition Unit plus or minus the Plan's net investment earnings or losses on that amount.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2A

To the Editor:
A little boy and his mother brought hot soup to our houses when we were snowed in. We would like to thank him for this act of kindness.
Abel & Marisol Cadenas
OW Lowrey
Salado

wonderful and deserve our enthusiastic thanks and support for their work during the past week. Whether conducting welfare checks or aiding people in trouble they placed their own comfort and safety aside and set a standard of which they should be proud.

To the Editor:
Salado's police, constables, volunteer firefighters and first responders were

Similarly, citizens went out of their way to aid one another, opening their hearts and homes helping people without power and

water. Barrow Brewery opened as a warming center. Hearts and Hands held an extra open day to supply food to the hungry both in and beyond Salado.

It has been a pleasure to tell our out-of-state friends and relatives of the special people in this village.
Sincerely,
Douglas Nelson
Salado, TX

Newcomers Club announces March activity schedule

The Bell County Newcomers Club, Inc., is looking for new members and extends a warm welcome to ladies that are new (within the past three years) to Bell County and the surrounding areas.

The group also welcomes ladies who have just retired, are recent empty nesters, or have experienced another life change within the past

three years and would like to connect with other ladies.

Join the fun and check out the Bell County Newcomers Club at www.bell-countynewcomers.com

Some Newcomers Club activities have been suspended due to COVID-19.

Upcoming planned activities include these:

- Feb 24: Fun Lunch.
- March 1: Chat N' Canasta,
- March 3: Monthly Luncheon and Popcorn Bridge.
- March 8: Bookworms
- March 9: Tuesday Canasta.
- March 12: TGIF Lunch.
- March 13: Couples

Night Out.

March 16: Bunco and Snack Time Mah Jongg.

March 17: Popcorn Bridge.

March 18: Meet and Greet Coffee.

March 19 Trailblazers.

March 23: Virtual Get-Together.

March 24: Fun Lunch.

March 27: Exploring Wines.

For information on joining, please contact Cheryl Davis at cdavis44@yahoo.com.

For information about activities, please contact Carolyn Webster at 404-791-4849 or email bobcar28@gmail.com.

Governor Abbott, HHSC Announce Federal Approval Allowing SNAP Clients To Purchase Hot Foods

AUSTIN — Governor Greg Abbott last week announced the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) received federal approval to allow Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients to use their food benefits to purchase hot foods and ready-to-eat meals due to impacts from the severe winter storm.

"As we continue to recover from this winter storm, the state is ensuring that Texans in need have

access to hot food to feed their families," said Governor Abbott. "I thank our federal partners at the U.S. Department of Agriculture for approving this waiver."

"We're doing everything we can for Texans who were affected by this extreme winter storm," said Wayne Salter, HHS Access and Eligibility Services deputy executive commissioner. "These added federal flexibilities will go a long way in helping SNAP clients feed their families."

SNAP recipients can now use their benefits for hot foods and ready-to-eat foods, such as rotisserie chicken or grocery store deli foods, at retailers that accept SNAP anywhere in the state.

HHSC received federal approval today from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service. The waiver allows SNAP

recipients to purchase these ready-made foods with their Lone Star Cards through the end of March.

Additionally, Texas received federal approval Feb. 19 to allow SNAP recipients to apply for replacement benefits for food lost or destroyed due to the severe weather.

Administered by HHSC, SNAP is a federal program that provides food assistance to approximately 1.6 million eligible, low-income families and individuals in Texas. Texans in need can apply for benefits, including SNAP and Medicaid, at YourTexasBenefits.com or use the Your Texas Benefits mobile app to manage their benefits. To find local resources in your area, such as food or shelter, please call 2-1-1 and select option 1.

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Salado Village Guide

Section B • Marketplace, Dining, Overnight, Events • saladovillagevoice.com • February 25, 2021

Texas celebrates Independence on March 2

George Childress generally acknowledged as the author of Texas Declaration of Independence

FROM THE TEXAS STATE ARCHIVES AND LIBRARY

The Declaration of November 7, 1835, passed by the Consultation announced that the Texan war against Mexico principally intended to restore the Mexican Constitution of 1824, abrogated by the actions of President Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, and to achieve separate Mexican statehood for Texas. The members of the Consultation had hoped to attract popular support for the Texan cause from the other Mexican states.

By the time the Convention of 1836 met at Washington-on-the-Brazos on March 1, 1836, such temporizing was no longer acceptable. On the first day, Convention President Richard Ellis appointed George C. Childress, James Gaines,

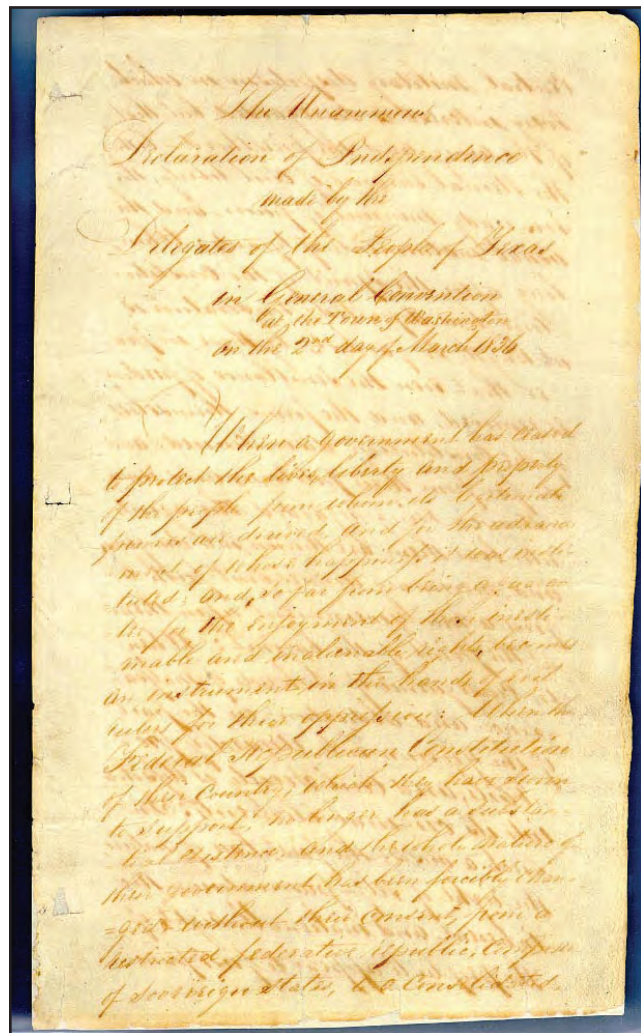
Edward Conrad, Collin McKinney, and Bailey Hardeman a committee to draft a Declaration of Independence.

George Childress, the committee chairman, is generally accepted as the author of the Texas Declaration of Independence, with little help from the other committee members. Since the six-page document was submitted for a vote of the whole convention on the following day, Childress probably already had a draft version of the document with him when he arrived. As the delegates worked, they received regular reports on the ongoing siege on the Alamo by the forces of Santa Anna's troops.

A free and independent Republic of Texas was officially declared March 2,

1836, when the 59 delegates -- each representing one of the settlements in Texas -- approved the Texas Declaration of Independence. After the delegates signed the original declaration, 5 copies were made and dispatched to the designated Texas towns of Bexar, Goliad, Nacogdoches, Brazoria, and San Felipe. 1,000 copies were ordered printed in handbill form.

According to the endorsement on the Declaration of Independence, this original copy was deposited by Commissioner to the United States William H. Wharton with the United States Department of State in Washington, D.C. It was not returned to Texas until some time after June 1896.



Page one of the original handwritten Declaration. FROM THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

known tongue, and this too, notwithstanding we have petitioned in the humblest terms for the establishment of a separate state government, and have, in accordance with the provisions of the national constitution, presented to the general Congress a republican constitution, which was, without just cause, contemptuously rejected.

It incarcerated in a dungeon, for a long time, one of our citizens, for no other cause but a zealous endeavor to procure the acceptance of our constitution, and the establishment of a state government.

It has failed and refused to secure, on a firm basis, the right of trial by jury, that palladium of civil liberty, and only safe guarantee for the life, liberty, and property of the citizen.

It has failed to establish any public system of education, although possessed of almost boundless resources, (the public domain,) and although it is an axiom in political science, that unless a people are educated and enlightened, it is idle to expect the continuance of civil liberty, or the capacity for self government.

It has suffered the military commandants, stationed among us, to exercise arbitrary acts of oppression and tyranny, thus trampling upon the most sacred rights of the citizens, and rendering the military superior to the civil power.

It has dissolved, by force of arms, the state Congress of Coahuila and Texas, and obliged our representatives to fly for their lives from the seat of government, thus depriving us of the fundamental political right of representation.

It has demanded the surrender of a number of our citizens, and ordered military detachments to seize and carry them into the Interior for trial, in contempt of the civil authorities, and in defiance of the laws and the constitution.

It has made piratical attacks upon our commerce, by commissioning foreign desperadoes, and authorizing them to seize our vessels, and convey the property of our citizens to far distant ports for confiscation.

It denies us the right of worshipping the Almighty according to the dictates of our own conscience, by the support of a national religion, calculated to promote the temporal interest of its human functionaries, rather than the glory of the true and living God.

It has demanded us to deliver up our arms, which are essential to our defence, the rightful property of freemen, and formidable only to tyrannical governments.

It has invaded our country both by sea and by land, with intent to lay waste our territory, and drive us from our homes; and has now a large mercenary army advancing, to carry on against us a war of extermination.

It has, through its emissaries, incited the merciless savage, with the tomahawk and scalping knife, to massacre the inhabitants of our defenseless frontiers.

SEE DECLARATION PG 2B

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THE UNANIMOUS DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE MADE BY THE DELEGATES OF THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS IN GENERAL CONVENTION AT THE TOWN OF WASHINGTON ON THE 2ND DAY OF MARCH 1836

When a government has ceased to protect the lives, liberty and property of the people, from whom its legitimate powers are derived, and for the advancement of whose happiness it was instituted, and so far from being a guarantee for the enjoyment of those inestimable and inalienable rights, becomes an instrument in the hands of evil rulers for their oppression. When the Federal Republican Constitution of their country, which they have sworn to support, no longer has a substantial existence, and the whole nature of their government has been forcibly changed, without their consent, from a restricted federative republic, composed of sovereign states, to a consolidated central military despotism, in which every interest is disregarded but that of the army and the priesthood, both the eternal enemies of civil liberty, the everready minions of power, and the usual instruments of tyrants. When, long after the spirit of the constitution has departed, moderation is at length so far lost by those in power, that even the semblance of freedom is removed, and the forms themselves of the constitution discontinued, and so far from their petitions and remonstrances being regarded, the agents who bear them are thrown into dungeons, and mercenary armies sent forth to force a new government upon them at the point of the bayonet. When, in consequence of such acts of malfeasance and abdication on the part of the government, anarchy prevails, and civil society is dissolved into its original elements. In such a crisis, the first law of nature, the right of self-preservation,

the inherent and inalienable rights of the people to appeal to first principles, and take their political affairs into their own hands in extreme cases, enjoins it as a right towards themselves, and a sacred obligation to their posterity, to abolish such government, and create another in its stead, calculated to rescue them from impending dangers, and to secure their future welfare and happiness.

Nations, as well as individuals, are amenable for their acts to the public opinion of mankind. A statement of a part of our grievances is therefore submitted to an impartial world, in justification of the hazardous but unavoidable step now taken, of severing our political connection with the Mexican people, and assuming an independent attitude among the nations of the earth.

The Mexican government, by its colonization laws, invited and induced the Anglo-American population of Texas to colonize its wilderness under the pledged faith of a written constitution, that they should continue to enjoy that constitutional liberty and republican government to which they had been habituated in the land of their birth, the United States of America. In this expectation they have been cruelly disappointed, inasmuch as the Mexican nation has acquiesced in the late changes made in the government by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, who having overturned the constitution of his country, now offers us the cruel alternative, either to abandon our homes, acquired by so many privations, or submit to the most intolerable of all tyranny, the combined despotism of the sword and the priesthood.

It has sacrificed our welfare to the state of Coahuila, by which our interests have been continually depressed through a jealous and partial course of legislation, carried on at a far distant seat of government, by a hostile majority, in an un-

Texas Declaration of Independence

It hath been, during the whole time of our connection with it, the contemptible sport and victim of successive military revolutions, and hath continually exhibited every characteristic of a weak, corrupt, and tyrannical government.

These, and other grievances, were patiently borne by the people of Texas, until they reached that point at which forbearance ceases to be a virtue. We then took up arms in defence of the national constitution. We appealed to our Mexican brethren for assistance. Our appeal has been made in vain. Though months have elapsed, no sympathetic re-

sponse has yet been heard from the Interior. We are, therefore, forced to the melancholy conclusion, that the Mexican people have acquiesced in the destruction of their liberty, and the substitution therfor of a military government; that they are unfit to be free, and incapable of self government.

The necessity of self-preservation, therefore, now decrees our eternal political separation.

We, therefore, the delegates with plenary powers of the people of Texas, in solemn convention assembled, appealing to a candid world for the necessities of our condition, do hereby

resolve and declare, that our political connection with the Mexican nation has forever ended, and that the people of Texas do now constitute a free, Sovereign, and independent republic, and are fully invested with all the rights and attributes which properly belong to independent nations; and, conscious of the rectitude of our intentions, we fearlessly and confidently commit the issue to the decision of the Supreme arbiter of the destinies of nations.

Richard Ellis, President of the Convention and Delegate from Red River
Charles B. Stewart

Thos. Barnett
James Collinworth
Edwin Waller
Asa Brigham
John S. D. Byrom
Francis Ruis
J. Antonio Navarro
Jesse B. Badgett
Wm D. Lacy
William Meniffee
Jn. Fisher
Matthew Caldwell
William Motley
Lorenzo de Zavala
Stephen H. Everett
George W. Smyth
Elijah Stapp
Claiborne West
Wm. B. Scates
M. B. Menard
A. B. Hardin
J. W. Bunton



George Childress, author of the Declaration.
FROM THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Thos. J. Gazley | Jno. Turner |
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| Sterling C. Robertson | G. W. Barnett |
| Geo. C. Childress | James G. Swisher |
| Bailey Hardeman | Jesse Grimes |
| Rob. Potter | S. Rhoads Fisher |
| Thomas Jefferson Rusk | John W. Moore |
| Chas. S. Taylor | John W. Bower |
| John S. Roberts | Saml. A. Maverick (from Bejar) |
| Robert Hamilton | Sam P. Carson |
| Collin McKinney | A. Briscoe |
| Albert H. Latimer | J. B. Woods |
| James Power | H. S. Kimble, Secretary |
| Sam Houston | |
| David Thomas | |
| Edwd. Conrad | |
| Martin Parmer | |
| Edwin O. Legrand | |
| Stephen W. Blount | |
| Jms. Gaines | |
| Wm. Clark, Jr. | |
| Sydney O. Pennington | |
| Wm. Carrol Crawford | |
- The Original was left at the Department of State May 28, 1836, by Mr. Wharton.
- FROM THE TEXAS STATE ARCHIVES AND LIBRARY

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Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



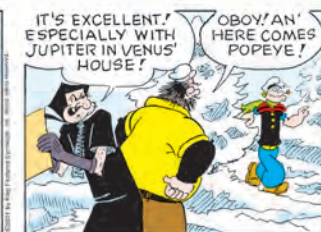
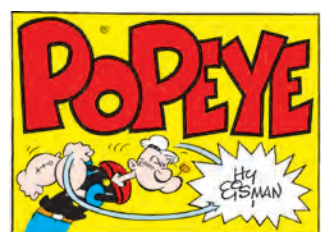
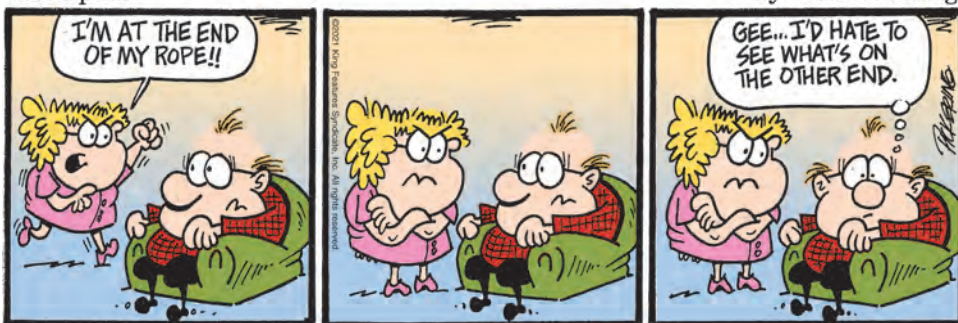
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Contract Bridge

HIDDEN BENEFIT

North dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

- A Q 9 7
Q 4
K 7 6 4 2
A J

WEST

- J
J 10 8 6 3
10 8 5
10 7 5 2

EAST

- 8 2
A 9 7 2
A Q 9
K 9 6 3

SOUTH

- K 10 6 5 4 3
K 5
J 3
Q 8 4

The bidding:

Table with 4 columns: North, East, South, West. North: 1 diamond, 3 spades. East: Pass. South: 1 spade, 4 clubs. West: Pass.

Opening lead — jack of hearts.

When declarer has a choice of two suits to play, he should favor the one from which he might eventually derive some additional benefit, even if his initial hope meets with disappointment.

Consider this deal where South failed to make four spades. East won the opening heart lead with the ace and returned a heart to South's king.

Declarer drew two rounds of trump ending in his hand and led a club

to the jack, losing to the king. East returned a club to the ace, whereupon South crossed to his hand with a trump, cashed the queen of clubs and led a diamond to the king. When East turned up with the ace, the contract was down one, declarer losing two diamonds, a heart and a club.

While South was unlucky to find both the king of clubs and ace of diamonds offside, he should have made his game. He simply played the wrong suit first.

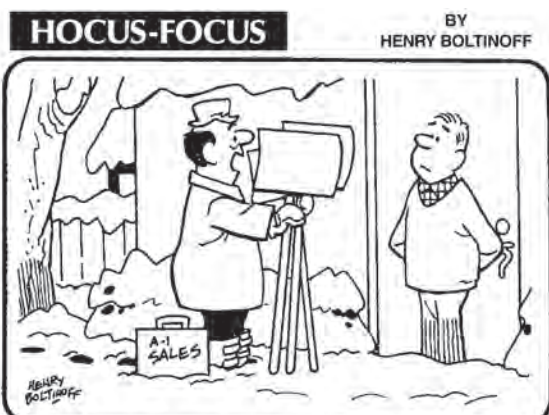
After drawing trump, declarer should ask himself whether there is any advantage to be derived from playing clubs before diamonds or vice versa. He should reason that if the club finesse loses, he has done nothing to help his cause, but that if the king of diamonds loses to the ace, it might still be possible to establish dummy's diamonds for club discards.

In the actual deal, if declarer leads a diamond to the king at trick five, the defense is helpless. East wins the trick and can do no better than cash the queen of diamonds and play another diamond, ruffed by South.

When West follows suit to the third diamond, declarer is home free. Dummy's two remaining diamonds provide a parking place for two of South's clubs, and the club finesse becomes unnecessary.

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by Steve Becker



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Sweater has decoration. 2. Door knob is missing. 3. Boots are taller. 4. One shovel is gone. 5. Fence is higher. 6. House is missing.

Super Crossword

SUMMONING JEKYLL AND SEUSS

- ACROSS 1 Stallion, e.g. 6 Saudi, e.g. 10 Floats gently 15 Livens (up) 19 Optic layers 20 Female adult 21 Accustom 22 Roman 951 23 Sweet capscium variety 25 Bacon piece 26 Give kudos 27 Queen, in Spanish 28 Mickey & Sylvia hit of 1957 31 Don — 32 Suddenly become alert 35 Tetley pouch 36 Extremely scarce 41 President pro — 43 Brainy bunch 44 Bit of Vail gear 45 The "sum" of "Cogito, ergo sum" 46 Bona — 47 Christmas poem opener 49 Sinister powers 54 Wooded with tunes 58 Comic blows 59 Fragrant 60 Best Actress nominee for "Breaking the Waves" 63 Turn aside 64 Category 65 Hit, as a gnat 66 Place 67 Lure for fish 71 Deodorant target 74 Song from "Oklahoma!" 77 How fast a plane is flying 80 Govt. agent 81 Comic Gilda 82 Deep pessimism 84 Installed, as brick 86 Actor Ladd 87 Soft throw 88 Chum 89 Lhasa — (small dogs) 94 Visibly angry 95 Highly venomous cephalopod 101 Filled the fuel tank, with "up" 103 User of four-letter words 104 "Smile Be Your Umbrella" 105 "Guys and Dolls" guy 109 Rockers Clapton and Burdon 111 Fitzgerald of jazz 112 Cliffside nest 113 What you do when you look at the ends of nine long answers in this puzzle 117 Regal Norse name 118 Adorn fussily 119 Morales in movies 120 Haggard of country 121 Where AT&T is "T" 122 Squiggly letters 123 Breeding 1-Across 124 Carne — (Baja dish) DOWN 1 Central area 2 Make hackneyed 3 Brush up on 4 City near Monterey 5 Fox Sports alternative 6 High, rugged peak 7 Drake's music 8 University in Nassau County 9 Mechanical way to learn 10 Prudent 11 Part of ABM 12 Animal coats 13 French for "sad" 14 Days of the week, e.g. 15 Campus workstation locale 16 Tending to radiate something 17 Provided juice for? 18 Pro or con 24 Give relief to 29 Composer Carl Maria — Weber 30 Cheer shout 31 Printer clog 33 Org. in "The Martian" 34 With 53-Down, requests 37 Broken-down 38 Knights, e.g. 39 Tic-toe link 40 Retired professors 42 Defrost 46 Was achy or regretful 48 "Holy cow!" 49 Hoof or paw 50 See 34-Down 51 Good craps roll 52 Keats work 53 See 34-Down 54 Place 55 Novelist Tan 56 Small bite 57 Comedic actor Jackie 58 H.S. junior's exam 61 It has fluttery leaves 62 Twirl, as one's thumbs 63 Naturalist 66 Con game 68 "Anthem" writer Fland 69 Suffix with hero 70 The Raptors, on NBA schedules 72 Engine stat 73 "— culpa" 74 "I think," in texts 75 Half of hexa- 76 Anwar of Egypt 77 Culture base 78 In a criminal way 79 Book full of street maps 80 Desert in Mongolia 83 Palme — 84 Sonny boys 85 Balm plant 88 Most cheeky 90 Maintains order over 91 Prisms' color bands 92 Was a better peddler than 93 Org. issuing nine-digit IDs 95 Youth org. with troops 96 Delaware Valley tribe 97 Cows' milk deliverers 98 Pvt.'s superior 99 False appearances 100 Street — (urban acceptance) 102 Cut off stubble 105 An inert gas 106 Certain dwarf planet 107 Clock info 108 Gym lifter's units 110 Tomato variety 114 Water, in Nantes 115 Give relief to 116 Irish actor Stephen

18x18 crossword grid with numbers 1-124.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- 1. GAMES: Which chess piece can only move diagonally? 2. U.S. STATES: What is the capital of Nevada? 3. LANGUAGE: What is a lexicon? 4. HISTORY: What was the first sport played on the moon? 5. LITERATURE: In his will, what gift did Albus Dumbledore give to Ron Weasley in the Harry Potter book series? 6. MOVIES: What was the first Disney song to win an Academy Award for best original movie song? 7. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Bermuda? 8. INVENTIONS: Who first invented a successful vaccine for rabies? 9. ASTRONOMY: Which two planets in our solar system do not have moons? 10. MATH: What is the Arabic equivalent of the Roman numerals MDCCCXII?

Answers

- 1. The bishop 2. Carson City 3. A dictionary 4. Golf 5. A deluminator, which takes away or restores light sources 6. "When You Wish Upon a Star" 7. Hamilton 8. Louis Pasteur 9. Venus and Mercury 10. 1812

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Table with 9 columns and 9 rows of numbers for a 9x9 Sudoku puzzle.

ANSWER

Weekly SUDOKU

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 1-9.

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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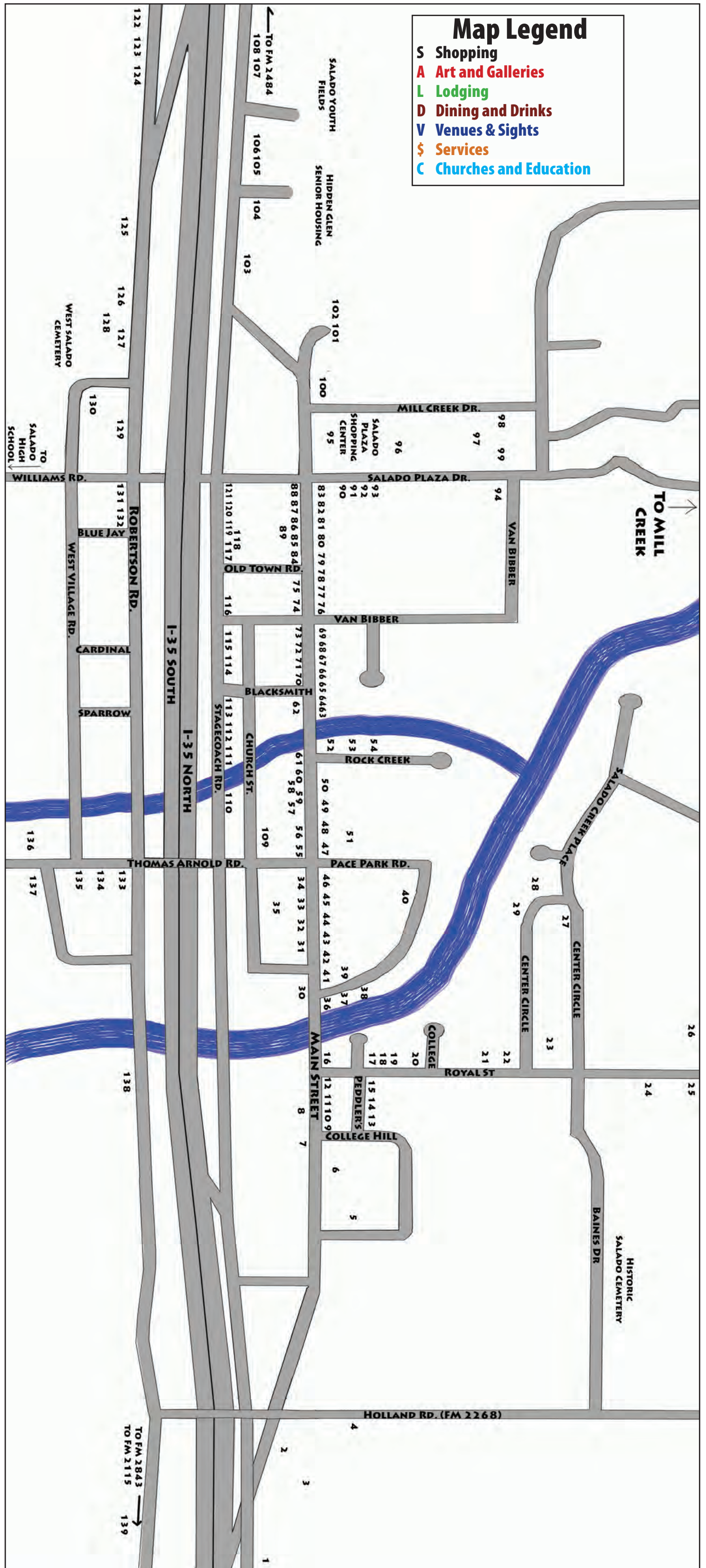
Answers for the 9x9 Sudoku puzzle.

Super Crossword

If you enjoy the Puzzle page, try our interactive crossword and sudoku puzzles online at: saladovillagevoice.com

Shopping Map of Salado

#	Business Name	Type
4	St. Stephen Catholic Church 254-947-8037	C
6	Salado College Park 254-947-5232	V
7	Raney & Associates 254-913-1215	\$
9	Salado Museum 254-947-5232	V
	Salado Visitors Center 254-947-8634	\$
	Salado Chamber of Commerce 254-947-5040	\$
	Village of Salado Tourism Office 254-947-8634	\$
10	Sofi's 254-947-4336	S
11	Chupacabra Craft Beer and Winery (512) 576-0123	D
	Chupacabra Kitchen (254) 308-2019	D
14	Salado Glassworks 254-947-0339	A
15	Rio Salado Cocina y Cantina 254-308-2044	D
16	The Sugar Shack 254-947-8840	S/D
17	Barrow Brewing Co. 254-947-3544	D
	Happy Pizza 254-226-1684	
21	The Venue 254-947-5554	V
	Village Spa 254-293-6600	S
22	The Shed 254-947-1960	D
24	Tablerock 254-947-9205	V
26	Salado United Methodist Church 254-947-5482	C
29	Inn on the Creek 254-947-5554	L
	Alexanders Craft Cocktails & Kitchen 254-947-3828	D
30	First Baptist Church 254-947-546	C
31	Fairway Mortgage 254-947-3454	\$
32	First Texas Brokerage 254-947-5577	\$
34	First Community Title 254-947-8480	\$
	Farmer's Insurance Zbraneck Agency 254-947-0995	\$
40	W.A. Pace Memorial Park 254-947-5060	V
53	Salado Creek Healing 254-308-0242	\$
55	Salado Family Dentistry 254-947-5242	\$
58	The Shoppes on Main The Marketplace Cafe 254-947-0888	S
60	Salado Creek Jewelry 254-855-5538	S
62	The Pizza Place 254-947-0222	D
75	Stage Stop Center Angelic Herbs 254-947-1909	\$
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	Vista Real Estat3 254-231-0209	\$
76	Salado Civic Center 254-947-5479	\$
81	Salado Wine Seller and Salado Winery Co. 254-947-8011	D
82	St. Joseph's Episcopal Church 254-947-3160	C
84	The Rose & Bee 512-975-8000	S
85	Salado Post Office 254-947-5322	\$
86	Bill Bartlett - Century 21 254-947-5050	\$
87	The Personal Wealth Coach 254-947-1111	\$
90	Presbyterian Church of Salado 254-308-2023	C
91	Troy Smith Financial Services 254-947-0376	\$
92	Salado Sculpture Garden	A
96	Salado Plaza Ace Pest Control 254-947-4222	\$
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	Salado's Hair Shop 254-421-5173	\$
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97	Brookshire Brothers 254-947-8922	S
100	Salado Public Library 254-947-9191	C
101	Salado Cleaners 254-947-7299	S
110	Mel's Gourmet Delights & Pastry 254-935-7080	D
113	Salado Church of Christ 254-947-5241	C
126	Cowboy's Barbecue 254-947-5700	D
130	Village Spirits 254-947-7117	S
132	Broecker Funeral Home 254-947-0066	\$
134	The Dog Spot 254-947-3647	\$
135	Carus Dental 254-947-8067	\$
136	Salado Schools & Stadium Village Church of Salado 972-978-2239	C
139	Cedar Valley Baptist Church 254-947-0148	C
Not Shown on the Shopping Map		
3C	Cowboy Fellowship 254-947-7211	C
	Grace Church 254-947-5917	C
	Mill Creek Country Club 254-947-5698	V
	JD's Truck Stop and Grill 254-947-5228	S/D



Historical Markers in Salado

6.	Salado Historic College Hill	25.	The A.J. Rose Mansion	35.	Salado Masonic Lodge #296	61.	Historic Lenticular Bridge
8.	Shady Villa Hotel (Stagecoach Inn)	26.	Old Methodist Chapel	45.	The Anderson House	49.	The Vickrey House
8.	Main Street Bridge	27.	Caskey-Hendricks House	46.	Old Saloon	76.	Boles-Aiken & Denman Cabins
16.	Barber-Brety Mercantile	28.	Dr. McKie Place (Twelve Oaks)	48.	The Norton-Orgain House	77.	The Robert B. Halley House
23.	The Baines House	29.	Alexander's Distillery	50.	The Barton House	79.	The Reed Cabin
24.	Historic Dipping Vats	30.	First Baptist Church	51.	The Levi Tenney House	100.	The Josiah Fowler House
		31.	The Tyler House	55.	The Armstrong Adams House		

Ladies fall to La Vega

By TIM FLEISCHER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Just as the buzzer sounded, Katie Law hit a desperation shot from three feet beyond the top of the arc, catching nothing but the bottom of the net to knot the score at 40 each and send the Salado Lady Eagles' area round contest against the La Vega Lady Pirates into overtime Feb. 22.

But the elation was short-lived as the Lady Pirates went to the free throw line six times over the next four minutes and sank nine of their 12 attempts to get past Salado 53-47.

Kiyleyah Parr caused the most damage in overtime for La Vega, hitting five of her eight free throws and dropping in a short shot with 30 seconds left to put the Lady Pirates up 52-45. Her final free throw with about 20 seconds left was the nail in the coffin for the Lady Eagles.

The two teams scrapped throughout the game, as La Vega used a relentless full court press to cause Salado to turn over the ball and commit fouls to stop break-away points.

Katie Law, who led Salado with 17 points, gave Salado a narrow 8-6 edge with her two-point shot at the end of the first quarter.

La Vega went on a seven-point run in the beginning of the second quarter to take a commanding lead of 13-8 over Salado. The Lady Eagles could not close the gap and trailed 19-12 at the half.

Adri'Nae West hit a three-pointer to open the second half for La Vega, the start of another seven-point run, before Lorena Perez, who spent much of the first half in foul trouble, grabbed an offensive board and put it back up for two points, to cut the Lady Pirate lead to 12 points.

Megan Manibusan grabbed an offensive board and put it up for two more points and Kenslee Konarik hit from beyond the arc to bring the score to 19-26 midway through the third.

Reese Preston followed with a three and Law grabbed an offensive rebound for a second-shot to bring Salado within three



(PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)
In her last game as a Salado Lady Eagle, Lorena Perez puts up a shot past La Vega's Sydney McKinney.

points with half a minute left in the third.

West would put La Vega up by five with time running out in the third for a 29-24 lead going into an explosive fourth quarter for both teams.

Salado went to the free throw line six times in the fourth quarter and converted eight of 11 shots there to keep within striking distance.

With under a minute left in the game, West made a two-pointer for La Vega to put the Lady Pirates up by five 40-35.

With 18.1 left on the clock, Perez nailed two free throws, while Parr missed two opportunities at the free throw line with 8.1 left to play.

Salado took the ball in-bounds and got it across midcourt, despite the swarming defense. With three seconds left, Law took the ball just past midcourt, dribbled past a defender and sank the buzzer-beating three-pointer to send the game into overtime.

SEE LADY EAGLES, PAGE 3C



Katie Law and Amanda Cantu converge on La Vega's Ja'Dyn Inglehart. (PHOTOS BY ROYCE WIGGIN)



Reese Preston Priscilla Torczynski Megan Manibusan

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Eagles cruise past Tigers

Salado Eagles blew out the Smithville Tigers 66-41 in the bi-district round of the UIL 4A boys basketball playoffs Feb. 20.

They faced Connally Cadets, a team they beat 55-45 Dec. 19, in Lorena Feb. 24 in the Area round (after presstime for this edition).

The bi-district game was never close. Salado led 17-6 after the first quarter and 32-13 at the half.

With the help of some threes, the Tigers made up some of the gap in the third quarter to trail 27-45. The Eagles extended the lead in the fourth, outscoring the Tigers 21-14.

Josh Goings led Salado with 25 points. He also had eight rebounds, four assists, a deflection and two steals.

Brady Ihler followed with 10 points. Ihler also had 8 rebounds, two assists, two deflections, three steals and blocked a shot.

Noah Mescher scored 7 points. He grabbed a rebound and two steals and had four assists and four deflections.

Luke Law scored 6 points. He had four rebounds and a block.

Peyton Miller scored 5 points. He had eight rebounds, eight assists and a deflection.

Owen Pitcock had 4 points, five rebounds and three deflections.

Noah Self had 4 points, two rebounds, two assists.

Aaron Gonzalez had 3 points and a rebound.

Ethan Lobergat had 2 points, two rebounds.



Brady Ihler rejects the shot of Smithville's Robersom during the Salado Eagles 66-41 win in the bi-district playoff game. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)



Noah Self gets past the Smithville defender to put up a shot in the paint (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)



Luke Law gets his shot in from the paint. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)



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2021 Salado Varsity Baseball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Feb. 6	Harker Heights Scrimmage	HHHS	11:00 a.m.
Feb. 9	Manor Scrimmage	Manor HS	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 12	Pflugerville/Hendrickson Scrimm.	PFHS	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 16	China Spring Scrimmage	Salado Athletic Complex	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 19	Ellison Scrimmage	Ellison HS	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 25-27	Salado Baseball Tournament	Salado Athletic Complex	TBA
March 2	Gatesville	Salado Athletic Complex	7:00 p.m.
March 4-6	Rogers Baseball Tournament	Rogers HS	TBA
March 9	*Taylor	Salado Athletic Complex	7:00 p.m.
March 11-13	Franklin Baseball Complex	Franklin Ranch Complex	TBA
March 16	*Lake Belton	Lake Belton HS	7:00 p.m.
March 19	*Burnet	Salado Athletic Complex	7:00 p.m.
March 23	*Gateway Prep	Triple Play Sports Complex	7:00 p.m.
March 26	*Jarrell	Salado Athletic Complex	7:00 p.m.
March 29	*Taylor	Taylor HS	7:00 p.m.
April 1	*Taylor	Salado Athletic Complex	7:00 p.m.
April 6	*Lake Belton	Salado Athletic Complex	7:00 p.m.
April 9	*Lake Belton	Lake Belton HS	7:00 p.m.
April 13	*Burnet	Burnet HS	7:00 p.m.
April 16	*Burnet	Salado Athletic Complex	7:00 p.m.
April 20	*Gateway Prep	Salado Athletic Complex	7:00 p.m.
April 23	*Gateway Prep	Triple Play Sports Complex	7:00 p.m.
April 27	*Jarrell	Jarrell HS	7:00 p.m.
April 30	*Jarrell	Salado Athletic Complex	7:00 p.m.
May 1	Troy (playoff warmup)	Salado Athletic Complex	11:00 a.m.

2021 Salado JV Red Baseball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Feb. 6	Harker Heights Scrimmage	HHHS	12 noon
Feb. 12	Pflugerville/Hendrickson Scrimm.	PFHS	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 16	China Spring Scrimmage	Salado Athletic Complex	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 19	Ellison Scrimmage	Ellison HS	5:00 p.m.
Feb. 25-27	Harker Heights/Killeen Tournament	KISD	TBA
March 2	Gatesville	Salado Athletic Complex	5:00 p.m.
March 4-6	Salado Baseball Tournament	Salado Athletic Complex	TBA
March 9	*Taylor	Salado Athletic Complex	4:30 p.m.
March 11-13	Bryan Baseball Tournament	Bryan ISD	TBA
March 16	*Lake Belton	Lake Belton HS	4:30 p.m.
March 19	*Burnet	Salado Athletic Complex	4:30 p.m.
March 23	*Gateway Prep	Triple Play Sports Complex	4:30 p.m.
March 26	*Jarrell	Salado Athletic Complex	4:30 p.m.
March 29	*Taylor	Taylor HS	4:30 p.m.
April 1	*Taylor	Salado Athletic Complex	4:30 p.m.
April 6	*Lake Belton	Salado Athletic Complex	4:30 p.m.
April 9	*Lake Belton	Lake Belton HS	4:30 p.m.
April 13	*Burnet	Burnet HS	4:30 p.m.
April 16	*Burnet	Salado Athletic Complex	4:30 p.m.
April 20	*Gateway Prep	Salado Athletic Complex	4:30 p.m.
April 23	*Gateway Prep	Triple Play Sports Complex	4:30 p.m.
April 27	*Jarrell	Jarrell HS	4:30 p.m.
April 30	*Jarrell	Salado Athletic Complex	4:30 p.m.

2021 Salado JV White Baseball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Feb. 6	Harker Heights Scrimmage	Salado Athletic Complex	10:00 a.m.
Feb. 9	Manor Scrimmage	Manor HS	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 12	Pflugerville/Hendrickson Scrim.	Salado Athletic Complex	5:00 p.m.
Feb. 19	Ellison Scrimmage	Salado Athletic Complex	5:00 p.m.
Feb. 25-27	Hutto Baseball Tournament	Hutto HS	TBA
March 2	Temple	Temple HS	6:00 p.m.
March 4-6	Salado Tournament	Salado Athletic Complex	TBA
March 11-13	Harker Heights/Killeen Tournament	Killeen ISD	TBA
March 15	Copperas Cove	CCISD	7:00 p.m.
March 18	*Burnet	Salado Athletic Complex	5:00 p.m.
March 27	*Jarrell	Jarrell ISD	11:00 a.m.
March 30	* Taylor Double Header	Salado Athletic Complex	5:00 p.m.
April 12	*Jarrell Double Header	Jarrell ISD	5:00 p.m.
April 15	*Burnet Double Header	Burnet HS	5:00 p.m.
April 19	Giddings Double Header	Giddings HS	4:30 p.m.
April 26	*Jarrell Double Header	Salado Athletic Complex	5:00 p.m.

Varsity boys soccer 6-0

Salado Eagles varsity boys soccer remain in first place after beating Jarrell 4-1 Feb. 22 to improve to 6-0 in district play.

Cooper Sanders scored two goals for the Eagles. Sam Gist and Max Markham each had a goal in the road match.

Assists came from Jack-son Husung, who had two, and Alex Pierce and Andrew Gilmore, who each had one assist.

The boys will face Lake Belton High School Feb. 26 with the JV squad playing at 5 p.m., followed by varsity at 7 p.m.

Lady Eagles FROM PAGE 1C

The overtime period proved to be all La Vega at the free throw line as only four of their 13 points came from the field.

In addition to hitting the buzzer-beater, Law led the Lady Eagles with 17 points. She also grabbed nine rebounds and had a steal, a deflection and a block defensively.

Konarik also had double figures, getting six points from long range and two from the field for 10 points. She also had 14 rebounds and six steals. She blocked three shots and deflected a

pass.

Perez had 9 points for Salado. She led the girls with 16 rebounds and had an assist, two steals, five deflections and two blocked shots.

Also scoring for the girls were Amanda Cantu, 4 points, six rebounds, three assists, a steal and six deflections; Preston, 3 points, four rebounds, two steals, three deflections; Manibusan, 2 points, a steal and two deflections and Priscilla Torczynski, 2 points, two steals, a deflection and a blocked shot;

Salado Eagles Baseball Tourney Feb. 25-27

POOL A : SALADO, ACADEMY, LORENA, GATESVILLE
POOL B: GATEWAY, TROY, LAMPASAS, TEXANS HOMESCHOOL

Thursday Feb. 25

- 9 a.m.: Lorena vs. Salado
- 11 a.m.: Gatesville vs. Salado
- 1 p.m.: Gatesville vs. Academy
- 3 p.m.: Gateway vs Lampasas
- 5 p.m.: Troy vs Lampasas
- 7 p.m.: Troy vs Texans Homeschool

Friday Feb. 26

- 9 a.m.: Academy vs Salado
- 11 a.m.: Academy vs Lorena
- 1 p.m.: Gatesville vs Lorena
- 3 p.m.: Lampasas vs Texans Homeschool
- 5 p.m.: Gateway vs Texans Homeschool
- 7 p.m.: Gateway vs Troy

Saturday Feb. 27

- 10 a.m.: 4 Seeds
- 12 noon: 3 Seeds
- 2 p.m.: 2 Seeds
- 4 p.m.: 1 Seeds



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First to the ball, Nohemi Pena denies a Jarrell player an opportunity for possession. The Eagles winged to a 5-0 victory over the Cougars. (PHOTO BY LEE SCHWEGER)

Ladies shut out Jarrell 5-0, lead district at 6-0

Salado Lady Eagles lead district soccer with a 6-0 record after their decisive 5-0 shut out of Jarrell Feb. 22.

Holly Wright had the first goal with an assist from Anna Lesley.

Anna Lesley had the next two goals with assists from Allison Carnahan and Haley Piatak.

The fourth goal came

from Allison Carnahan who was assisted by Holly Wright.

The last goal of the night was made by Haley Piatak who was assisted by Lily Lougheed.

Goal keepers Avery Wright and Savannah Oyler recorded the shut out for the Lady Eagles.

Salado Lady Eagles Softball 2021

Date	Opponent	Location	JV	Varsity
1/30	SCRIMMAGE: Florence, Rogers, & China Spring	Salado	-	TBD
2/4	SCRIMMAGE: Harker Heights	Salado	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
2/8	SCRIMMAGE: Temple	Salado	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
2/13	SCRIMMAGE: Copperas Cove & Robinson	Salado	-	TBD
2/23	Georgetown East View	Salado	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
2/25-27	West Tournament	West	-	TBD
3/2	Little River Academy	Salado	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
3/4-6	Salado/East View Tournament	Salado/Eastview	-	TBD
3/9	Smithville	Smithville	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
3/11-13	Giddings Tournament	Giddings	TBD	-
3/11-13	San Marcos Tournament	San Marcos	-	TBD
3/16	Taylor*	Salado	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
3/18	Lampasas	Lampasas	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
3/23	Lake Belton*	Lake Belton	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
3/26	Burnet*	Salado	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
3/30	Georgetown Gateway*	Georgetown	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
4/1	Jarrell*	Salado	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
4/6	Taylor*	Taylor	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
4/9	Lake Belton*	Salado	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
4/13	Burnet*	Burnet	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
4/16	Georgetown Gateway*	Salado	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
4/20	Jarrell*	Jarrell	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
4/23	Fredericksburg	Salado	-	6:00 PM

*District Game

Superintendent: Michael Novotny
Principal: Beth Aycock
Athletic Director: Paul Baird
Head Coach: Scott Vasquez
Assistant Coaches: Jodee Preston, Clint Brown



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Thanks owed to these folks for getting schools open!

Last week was challenging for many of us due to the freezing temperatures, power outages, lack of water, and hazardous road conditions. All three of our schools experienced water leaks and damage resulting from those leaks. Thanks to the hard work and teamwork of a lot of our employees, we were able to open our schools on Monday, February 22.

Superintendent's Corner



by Dr. Michael Novotny

A lot of other school districts in our area and across the state were not able to open on Monday and some are not opening until next week.

Please thank the following employees for the incredible job they did getting our schools ready for our students and faculty:

Teachers – Tyler Tanguay, Laura Tomlin, Tami Medler, Meredith Bonnett, Ivy Desjardin, Anissa Dobbins, Lexie Dryden, Melissa Wilson, Didi Ramsey, Jennifer Williams, Carey Quick, Mindy Miller, Laura Bender, Stacey Alcozer, Peyton Womack, and Deanna Gonyea

Custodians – Gracie Ruiz, Izrael Mungia, Brynn Dubois, Hallie Cox, Maria Armas, Luisa Palacios, Vicky Pena, Gabby Villafranco, Brian Lester, Mingo Mungia, Soccoro Saucedo, Elvira Jasso Flores, Ana Castillo, and Vicky Rodriguez

Food Service Employees – Rachel Foutz, Diane McEndree, Roberta Whitley, Frieda Arnold, Desiree Smith, Patsy Lane, Judy Langston, and Debbie Edmonson

Maintenance workers – David Stanford, Leroy Brown, and Adam Mungia

Principals – Beth Aycock, Ted Smith, and Katie Mullins

Assistant Principals – Karen Ewton, Lacey Crudas, and Sarah Norman

Technology Staff – Michael Trela and Mike Haight
ARD Facilitator – Tara Scholwinski

Assistant Superintendent – Burt Smith

Athletic Director – Paul Baird

Bus Driver – Clayton Capps

Chief Operations Officer – Jeni Neatherlin

Chief Technology Officer – Earl Bragg

Counselor – Melissa Wells

Food Service Director – Brenda Hodges

Maintenance Director – Larry Moore

Mechanic – Gary Schiller

Secretary – Keyla Sebek

Speech Language Pathologist – Toni Davis

I would also like to thank Chief Financial Officer Brandy Stanford and Payroll/Benefits Specialists Belia Rodriguez and Sandra Jackson for completing payroll last week so all of our employees were paid on time this month.

Finally I would like to thank School Board Vice President Jeff Kelley for donating his time and his Salado Plumbing employees' time to help us with stopping leaks and restoring water.

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a card to P.O. Box 183, Salado TX 76571
or give him a call at (254) 947-5050

Classifieds

FROM, PG. 1D



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Carus Dental: General dentistry services. Dr. Ron Henderson, DDS, 254-947-8067

Email: Crownhci@gmail.com

Family Dentistry: Lumineers for straighter, whiter teeth. Douglas B. Willingham, DDS, 254-947-5242

Salado Creek Dental- Tom H Trinh, DDS General Dentist, 560 N. Main St., Suite 3., drtrinh@saladocreekdental.com, (254)308-2027

Integrity: Rehab & Home Health Physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, in-home skilled nursing. integrityrehab.net, 254-699-3933.

Salado Creek Healing - Therapeutic massage, sound therapy, reiki and other holistic modalities by appointment. McKenzie Reeve, LMT 254-308-0242

HEAT & AIR

Britt Heating & Air: Installation and repairs. 254-760-1004, 254-947-5263, TACL #B006640

HELP WANTED

Help Wanted- JD's Travel Center. 15881 South IH 35, Salado, (254)947-5228.

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Salado Creek Jewelers by Kiki Creations: 106 North Main St. 254-855-5538, private showings.

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Salado Landscaping - residential landscaping, masonry and concrete services. Locally owned and operated (254) 247-7339.

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Salado Homes available Entire Real Estate, Shane LaCanne. (254)654-4066.

RENTAL/LEASE

COMMERCIAL, RETAIL Salado office for rent with IH 35 frontage; 1176 sq. ft., 5 offices; kitchen; storage room and 1 BA. Located at 1313 N. Stagecoach Dr., Salado, TX \$1350/mo. Mary Kite, Realtor 254-718-2484. 7/16tfnb

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for lease on I-35, Salado. Up to 5,000 sqft of climate controlled space and up to 1.5 acres of parking available. 254-947-5577, www.efirsttexas.com 4/23fnt

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0/2tfnb

RESIDENTIAL SALES

9121 Bell Meadow Blvd- The home has approx 4,000 sq ft living area including 4 bedroom 3 and half bath. This home features two master suites, one upstairs master with expansive views and one downstairs master with a large master walk-in closet. First Texas Brokerage, 254-947-5577, \$999,648.

Spectacular four bedroom 2.5 bath home in Amity Estates that sparkles from floor to ceiling! Notice the grand living room as you walk through the front doors with no detail left untouched. 4102 Joe Bozon Drive, Salado. First Texas Brokerage 254-947-5577, \$389,900

1152 W FM 218 excellent hunting / weekend ranch or

permanent homestead with over 3,000 square foot home built in 1976. First Texas Brokerage, 254-947-5577, \$699,900.

PROPERTY FOR SALE

37.2 Acres 2821 Sulphur Wells Rd. Woods of Salado (Starts at \$99,900). First Texas Brokerage, 254-947-5577.

SERVICES

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Temple College offering project management spring course

The Temple College Business and Continuing Education Division is offering a two-part series of project management courses this spring. Project Management for Information Technology: Part 1 will be offered Mondays and Wednesdays from March 22 – May 12.

The course will meet virtually from 6-7:30 p.m. and will focus on the fundamentals of creating a strong project management plan.

Topics covered will include proper ways to gather requirements, identify stakeholders, create a project charter, and build out a plan based on the Project Management Institute's Project Management Body of Knowledge guidelines.

Project Management for Information Technology: Part 2 will be offered Mondays and Wednesdays from May 17 – July

7. The course will meet virtually from 6-7:30 p.m. and will focus on the project management lifecycle.

Topics covered will include how to execute, monitor, control and close a project based on the Project Management Institute's Project Management Body of Knowledge guidelines.

The course also will focus on the leadership aspect of project management and interpersonal skills needed to engage with multiple stakeholders and lead a project to a successful closure.

The courses are \$589 each. Financial assistance for both courses may be available for residents who need to train for a new career because they have been impacted by COVID-19.

For additional information or to register, write bce@templej.c.edu or call 254-298-8625.



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How & why to build a raised garden bed this spring

(StatePoint) Fairly easy to construct and even easier to maintain, raised garden beds are a great way to raise plants and vegetables in the comfort and convenience of your backyard.

In a recent episode of the Exmark Original Series, "Done-in-A-Weekend-Extreme," landscape designer and show host, Doug Scott, spoke to organic gardener Joe Lamp'l of "Growing a Greener World" about the ins and outs of raised garden beds.

Here are some of the top insights and tips Lamp'l shared.

- Why use raised garden beds? A raised garden bed can help facilitate the ideal growing environment, as most people don't have that perfect soil naturally in their yard. Their accessibility makes them easier to work in and maintain. Plus, they're a nice architectural design element in any landscape.

- What's the ideal size? The main rule of the thumb applies to width. The bed should be wider than 4 feet, as you never want to compact the soil when working. Length however, is based on personal preference and needs. As far as height is



(STATEPOINT MEDIA PHOTO)

Raised garden beds create visual interest and an ideal growing environment.

concerned, you want the roots to be able to grow out and down as much as possible -- 6-inches at minimum. While 12-inches is common, anything higher is a bonus.

- What materials work best? Treated lumber is the most readily available and economical material and will likely last the longest, however, being an organic gardener Lamp'l prefers untreated hardwood, as it lasts almost as long and doesn't

contain chemicals. Other materials you have around the home and yard, such as rocks, old tubs, etc., can work too.

- Where's the best location? Build your raised garden bed on level ground, in full sun exposure near a water supply.

DIY Instructions:

To build a 10-foot x 4-foot x 18-inch raised bed, you'll need:

- Nine 6-inch x 6-inch x 12-foot cedar timbers

- Tape measure, t-square and marking pencil
- A saw and extension cord
- One box of 10-inch heavy-duty exterior wood screws
- Ten 24-inch x 1/2-inch rebar stakes
- Twenty 10-inch galvanized timber spikes
- Sledgehammer
- Impact drill and long drill bit
- Level
- Hammer

- Shovels
 - Hardware cloth, wire cutters and fence staples
 - Work gloves, safety glasses and ear plugs
 - Wheelbarrow (to transport soil)
1. Begin by cutting six, 6 x 6 timbers, each measuring 10-feet 6-inches in length. And six, 6 x 6 timbers, each measuring 4-feet 6-inches in length. Drill rebar holes in each timber.
 2. Once the first layer of bed has been placed, leveled

and squared in your desired location, fasten the corners using 10-inch wood screws. Secure the entire layer to the ground with 10 pieces of rebar.

3. Place the second layer of timbers, staggering the corners and fastening them with wood screws. Secure this layer to the first with ten 10-inch galvanized spikes.

4. Install galvanized cloth to prevent burrowing pests from eating earthworms and destroying plants.

5. Place the third layer of timbers (following above directions.)

6. Fill with soil and plants.

For more tips and complete build instructions, check out "How to Build Raised Garden Beds" by visiting Exmark.com/backyard. Exmark's Backyard Life is part of a unique multimedia destination with a focus on helping homeowners make the most of their backyard. There you can also access other series, including "Prime Cuts" and "Dream Yards."

For an amazing crop this season, take a cue from the professionals and build a raised garden bed for best results.

Salado Police Department Report Feb. 15-21

OFFENSE/ INCIDENT REPORTS:

Between Feb 15th and Feb 21st, 2021, Salado Police Officers responded to the following calls in which offense or incident reported were taken:

02/18/2021:

An assault complaint was investigated in the 1400 block of Guess Dr. The investigation revealed that there was no physical assault and that the matter was more of a civil matter and they were advised of the proper way to handle an eviction. No arrests were made.

A welfare concern report was taken in the 200 block of Royal where a white male was found walking in the roadway with minimal clothing on. The W/M appeared to be disoriented and was determined to be a danger to himself. He was subsequently taken into custody and turned over to the medical staff at Baylor Scott and White for evaluation.

Throughout the week officers from the Salado Police Department responded to numerous calls for assis-

tance due to weather and utility issues. The Officers from our department, along with members of the Salado Volunteer Fire Dept, Bell County Constables Office Pct #2, and members of the Texas Dept of Public Safety performed to the best of their abilities to assist where they could. These were very trying conditions as we are not used to dealing with such extreme weather. We

would like to thank everyone for their patience and perseverance and for working together to help their neighbors.

In addition to the above-mentioned calls, Salado Police Officers handled the many other calls for service in which a report was not required. Below is a breakdown of those calls:

Call Type Description	Number of Calls
Alarm Business	2
Alarm Residential	4
Assist Another Agency	5
Calls for Service	86
Citations	5
Citizen Contact	4
Civil Matter	2
Crash	5
Fire	2
House Watch/RU OK?	9
Medical	3
Public Service Call	7
Stranded Motorists	6
Traffic Hazard	2
Water line break	2
Welfare Concern	28

"Independence! A Lone Star Rises"

On March 31 in celebration of Texas History Month, the Washington on the Brazos Historical Foundation will premiere "Independence! A Lone Star Rises", a documentary film about the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence and the creation of a nation at Washington on the Brazos 185 years ago.

A short trailer will be released on March 2 in honor of Texas Independence Day, the day the Texas Declaration of Independence was passed unanimously in Independence Hall at Washington-on-the-Brazos. The movie is directed

by Gary Foreman of Native Sun Productions and features original music by Grammy-nominated composer David Arkenstone. The film is free to view and will premiere on Wednesday, March 31 starting at 10 a.m. CT, with encore presentations at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. on the Washington-on-the-Brazos Historical Foundation, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site, and Texas Historical Commission Facebook pages as well as the Texas Historical Commission YouTube channel.

Due to ongoing concerns with COVID-19, the annual Texas Independence

Day Celebration in-person event has been cancelled for 2021. Past Texas Independence Day Celebrations would welcome visitors to enjoy live music, reenactors, vendors, and most importantly, history. Despite the challenges, we look forward to bringing to life the dramatic events that took place on the banks of the Brazos River in March 1836 through a virtual experience for viewers around the world to enjoy.

For updates about the virtual program or more information about the site, visit www.wheretexasbecametexas.org.

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Spring Maintenance Checklist for Homeowners

(StatePoint) As the weather warms, there are a few maintenance tasks every homeowner should consider completing. Use this checklist as your guide:

- Wash window exteriors for a better view.
- Clean gutters and downspouts to ensure proper water flow. Neglecting this task for too long can cause rot, mold and damage to your foundation.
- Get your patio or deck in tip-top shape for outdoor living. Sweep and hose it down. Remove patio furnishings from storage. Wipe down surfaces and vacuum

cushions (or launder them if they're machine washable).

- Inspect lawn equipment and tools for needed maintenance, repair and fuel refills.
- Mow the lawn. Trim the edges.
- After the next rainfall, inspect your yard for standing water, which can damage your home and invite mosquitoes. Consider hiring a landscaper to level out an uneven lawn.

HVAC Maintenance

- Change HVAC filters at least once each season (ideally monthly). Dirty filters make equipment work harder and cause more wear

and tear on equipment. They also increase your energy bill and lessen indoor air quality.

- According to Energy Star, 20-30 percent of the air that moves through the duct system of a typical home is lost due to leaks, holes and poorly connected ducts. Consider professional duct sealing for improved energy efficiency and lower bills.
- Check to see whether your furnaces and air conditioners bear the ENERGY STAR logo. If not, consider a new unit. A properly-sized and installed ENERGY STAR air conditioner uses up to 20 percent less elec-

tricity than older models, and doing so may make you eligible for a Federal Tax Credit.

- Have a technician give your home's cooling system a pre-season tune-up so that everything is running efficiently by the time warmer weather arrives. You know the "personality" of your heating or cooling unit best, so be prepared to provide the technician with important information. No fact is insignificant, as it may help them diagnose and fix a problem.
- Be sure that all HVACR installation and maintenance is performed only

by a qualified professional. Read company reviews and ask the contractor if they have technicians certified by North American Technician Excellence (NATE). NATE-certified technicians have demonstrated knowledge of today's increasingly sophisticated heating and cooling systems. To find a NATE-certified technician in your area, visit Natex.org.

Safety

- Carbon monoxide, often referred to as the "silent killer," is odorless, colorless and tasteless. Protect your family by changing the batteries on your carbon

monoxide detectors and ensuring you have a detector on each level of your home. When changing a furnace filter, make sure the new filter is correctly positioned and the access panel is securely fastened. Have your home's furnace inspected and serviced annually by a NATE-certified technician.

- Likewise, test all the smoke alarms in your home and replace batteries as needed. The National Fire Protection Association recommends smoke alarms on every level of the home, including every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area.



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254-760-6576

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254-718-9442

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254-541-3319

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\$469,900



121 Eagle Rock
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2821 Sulphur Wells Rd
A very detailed custom home with approx 4,900 sq ft. The property is overlooking 37 beautifully wooded acres including a separate guest house.
\$1,649,900



4102 Joe Bozon Drive
Spectacular four bedroom 2.5 bath home in Amity Estates that sparkles from floor to ceiling! Notice the grand living room as you walk through the front doors with no detail left untouched.
\$389,900



8201 Collins Creek Drive
Come see this new Randy Taylor Home in Spring Creek. Randy brings a beautiful mix of modern flair with traditional warmth inside this home.
\$469,900



300 Royal St.
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53 W Creek Drive
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8425 Anna's Spring Drive
Randy Taylor brings a beautiful mix of modern flair with traditional warmth inside this modern farmhouse.
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903 Rose Way, Salado
Your chance to own this picturesque Bed and breakfast in the heart of downtown Salado
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605 Newberry Court
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Royal Ridge Subdivision
10+ Acre tracts of Hill Country acreage minutes from downtown Salado & Mill Creek Golf Course. An abundance of options: Live Oaks, small creek, beautiful bottom land, coastal pastures, hill top views



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\$699,900



9121 Bell Meadow Blvd
The home has approx 4,000 sq ft living area including 4 bedroom 3 and half bath. This home features two master suites, one upstairs master with expansive views and one downstairs master with a large master walk-in closet
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10002 Hartrick Bluff Road
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Mill Creek Meadows - Dream home on a golf course? Whether you are a golfer or just enjoy overlooking a well-maintained course from your home, Mill Creek Meadows is for you! Gated, community park within strolling distance of Mill Creek Golf Course and a golf cart ride away from Salado shopping and dining.
Mystic River - Lots overlooking the Leon River. Neighborhood shaded by a canopy of Live Oak and Pecan trees, walk from your back door to your personal dock at the river bank.

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