A JEWEL IN THE GROWN OF TEXAS



Second Quarter 2021
Published by Salado Village Voice



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Tim and Marilyn Fleischer, publishers of Salado Village Voice newspaper and Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas magazine, at the annual Cattlemen's Ball for the Salado Education Foundation.

Salado Village Voice: always independent, family-owned

While the *Salado Village Voice* is not the first newspaper in Salado, it has had the longest life-span since being founded in 1979. The Fleischer family bought the newspaper in 1988, marking 33 years in Salado in Spring 2021.

When historian Dayton Kelley published the first edition of the *Salado Village Voice* on February 17, 1979, it was the first time in more than 100 years that the village had a newspaper.

The first newspaper known to be published in the village was the *Salado Newsletter*. Published by E.W. Billings, the first edition came out on August 25, 1874. Only one copy of the newspaper exists at the newspaper collection of the University of Texas at Austin.

The Grange published another newspaper, *The Texas Farmer* in Salado, but it was later moved to Dallas.

Reference to a third Salado newspaper has been found on a letterhead in the Rose Papers at the University of Texas at Austin. The *Salado Sentinel* was published by A.S. Hornbeck. No copies of the Salado Sentinel are known to exist today.

Salado Village Voice founder Dayton Kelley was a native of Bell County, a journalist and a historian. He taught journalism at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor for 12 years before accepting a position as Director of the Texas Collection at Baylor University in Waco. After Dayton passed away, his sons Dennis and Bill ran the Salado Village Voice, selling it to the Fleischer family in 1988.

Since the Fleischer family purchased the newspaper, a week has not passed that the newspaper has not published. *Salado Village Voice* has published the quarterly magazine Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas for more than 25 years.

Cisit saladovillagevoice.com for breaking news, the latest Calendar of Events and information on many of the events in Salado.

Salado Village Voice was named the first Business of the Year by the Salado Chamber of Commerce in 2002. Marilyn Fleischer was named to the Hall of Fame by the Chamber for 2019.

See You in Salado

Advertise in the next edition of Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas advertising@saladovillagevoice.com

(254) 947-5321

Third Quarter 2021 deadline is May 6 Fourth Quarter 2021 deadline is Aug. 7

SaladoVillageVoice.com

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Cover photo by Christopher Winston

Calendar of Events

April 2-3

Blow Your Own Easter eggs. Reservations at saladoglassworks. com.

April 3

MerDash and Splash, kickoff on the North Shore of Salado Creek at 7 a.m. Races start at 8 a.m. Three awesome trails that will begin and end on the north banks of Salado Creek. Trophies by Salado Saw Mill for Top two times and one for Best Dressed. Benefits all abilities playground in Pace Park. https://www. eventbrite.com/e/merdash-tickets-146029063861

April 3

Tour of Gault site, leaving from Bell County Museum on Main St. Belton. Tickets are \$10/person; kids 10 years and under are free. All proceeds go to the Gault School of Archaeological Research. Registration is available on the museum website and payment can be made over the phone with the museum using a credit card.

April 3

Easter Egg Hunt at Heritage Country Church, 9929 Lark Trail at 1 p.m.

April 3

Five-year Anniversary at Barrow Brewing Co., 108 Royal St. Live music, food trucks, family events and more. Farmers Market opening day

April 4

Easter (open regular hours) at Barrow Brewing Co., 108 Royal St. **April 4**

Special Easter at fine dining restaurants in Salado. Book early!

- Alexander's Distillery. Reservations:(254) 947-5554.
- The Barton House, reservations, (254) 947-0441.
 - Stagecoach Inn, reservations

April 8

Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Craft Cocktails + Kitchen, 6:30-9:30 p.m., featuring the flavors of South Africa. Four courses and pairings include courgette, feta and butter bean salad, Peri Peri Chicken, Potjiekos and Malva pudding. Tickets at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/destination-south-africa-around-the-world-dinner-series-tickets-142915059791.

April 8-11

Texas Packard gathering in Salado. CANCELED for 2021

April 10-11

Salado Market Days 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Salado Antique Mall 721 Stagecoach Road. Salado's original Market Days event.

April 10-17

Keep Salado Beautiful annual Trash Off. Pick up your kits 8:30 a.m.-noon April 10 at the Salado Civic Center. Drop off your old electronics on April 10 for the Salado High School Robotics program. Pick up trash any time April 10-17. Post your photos to Facebook. Prizes will be given for the most unusual trash and the most trash picked up and turned in. Turn in trash and recyclables to the dumpsters located at the Salado Civic Center. Turn in vests and pickers to Village office or Salado Museum by April 19.

April 16-17

Salado Volunteer Fire Department 1st Annual Up in Smoke Bar-B-Que Cookoff on the grounds of Fire Station #2, 3520 FM 2484, Salado. Guaranteed \$3,500 payout with cash prizes and trophies for the first through fifth places in each meat category, as well as Grand and Reserve Champion. \$150 per team for chicken, rib and brisket entries. Jackpots pay 50% cash for first, second and third place for Beans and Margaritas categories. All Jackpots must be made and cooked on-site. Cornhole and Washer tournament, live and silent auction, live music and other Family fun events. For more information and to register your BBQ team, visit https://www. saladofire.org/events.

April 16-17

Blow Your Own flowers, bowls for Mother's Day. Reservations at saladoglassworks.com.

April 17

The Children's Advocacy Center of Central Texas will be hosting Divine Desserts at Tenroc Ranch at 7 p.m. April 17. Tickets to Divine Desserts are \$175 for a couple or \$100 per person. For more information or reservations, call 254-939-2946.

April 22

Salado Chamber of Commerce Banquet, details to be announced.

April 23

Royal Street Art Walk (RAW) 6-9 p.m. along Royal Street.

April 23

Fourth Friday Gospel Singing 7 p.m. at First Cedar Valley Baptist Church, FM 2843.

April 23-24

Blow Your Own flowers, bowls for Mother's Day. Reservations at saladoglassworks.com.

April 24

Cross the Creek 0K for Salado Education Fundraiser, 2-5 p.m. A fun run for the rest of us. It starts at the First Baptist Church parking lot and makes its way across the creek to the grounds of Barrow Brewing (a couple hundred steps at most). There will be live music from the Salado High School Varsity Band, kids' activities and multiple food trucks. The Salado Starlets will also perform at Barrow during the event. Silent auction on-site and online. Cross the Creek fun run is \$25 per person and include a t-shirt and free beverage donated by Barrow. Sign up online at https://runsignup.com/ Race/TX/Salado/SEFCRC

April 27

Salado Community Chorus spring concert, 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Salado. Out of an abundance of caution, entry will be limited to the first 200 attendees in order to support social distancing.

April 30-May 1

Blow Your Own flowers, bowls for Mother's Day. Reservations at saladoglassworks.com.

May 5

Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Craft Cocktails + Kitchen, 6:30-9:30 p.m., featuring the flavors of Mexico's interior. Tickets at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/destination-mexico-around-the-world-dinner-series-tickets-144772978877.

May 8-9

Salado Market Days 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Salado Antique Mall 721 Stagecoach Road. Salado's original Market Days event.

May 21-22

Blow Your Own mugs, tumbler or sippers for Father's Day. Ages 12+. Reservations at saladoglassworks.com.

May 28-29

Blow Your Own mugs, tumbler or sippers for Father's Day. Ages 12+. Reservations at saladoglass-works.com.

May 28

Royal Street Art Walk (RAW) 6-9 p.m. along Royal Street.

Mav 28

Fourth Friday Gospel Singing 7 p.m. at First Cedar Valley Baptist Church, FM 2843.

May 3

Memorial Day ceremony at Salado Cemetery, 9:30 a.m.

June 4-5

Blow Your Own mugs, tumbler or sippers for Father's Day. Ages 12+. Reservations at saladoglass-works.com.

June 11-12

Blow Your Own mugs, tumbler or sippers for Father's Day. Ages 12+. Reservations at saladoglass-works.com.

June 12

Tour of Gault site, leaving from Bell County Museum on Main St. Belton. Tickets are \$10/person; kids 10 years and under are free. All proceeds go to the Gault School of Archaeological Research. Registration is available on the museum website and payment can be made over the phone with the museum using a credit card.

June 12-13

Salado Market Days 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Salado Antique Mall 721 Stagecoach Road. Salado's original Market Days event.

June 18-19

Blow Your Own mugs, tumbler or sippers for Father's Day. Ages 12+. Reservations at saladoglass-

lune 25

Royal Street Art Walk (RAW) 6-9 p.m. along Royal Street.

June 25

Fourth Friday Gospel Singing 7 p.m. at First Cedar Valley Baptist Church, FM 2843.

July 3

Fourth of July Picnic, sponsored by Salado Historical Society. Details to come.

Even with the lifting of restrictions due to COVID-19 some events that happen every year in Salado have been canceled for 2021, including these:

April: Packard gathering is canceled for 2021, but will return to Salado in 2022.

April: The Lincoln and Continental Car gathering is canceled for 2021, but will return to Salado in 2022.

June: Shakespeare on the Rock at Tablerock Amphitheater is canceled for 2021, but is returning in

June: Salado Reunion the second Saturday of the June is canceled for 2021, but returning in 2022.

The Village of Color of Color

stay a while

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Texas Stagecoach Wine Passports

Embark on a memorable journey to nine of the finest wineries in central Texas! With this ticket you visit all the participating central Texas wineries for a tasting in 2021. Passports are valid Feb. 1-Dec. 31 2021.

Along the way, you'll drive routes that were operated by western stagecoaches for over sixty years. While the stagecoach was rendered obsolete in the 1880s, it survives as a rugged symbol of the West. This trail is more than just a group of wineries, it is a nod to the history of our region and the spirit of adventure we all share.

As a holder of a Texas Stagecoach Wine Trail passport you will have the opportunity to taste complimentary wines at each of the wineries. These tastings must be done before the end of 2021. This package deal has over a \$135 value!

Business hours vary among wineries so please verify their business hours as you plan your route.

Start at whichever winery you choose. At your initial stop, you will receive a passport. You must use this passport to check in at each winery. The passport expires December 31, 2021.



You can enjoy tastings from nine central Texas wineries, including two located in Salado: Salado Winery and Axis Winery.

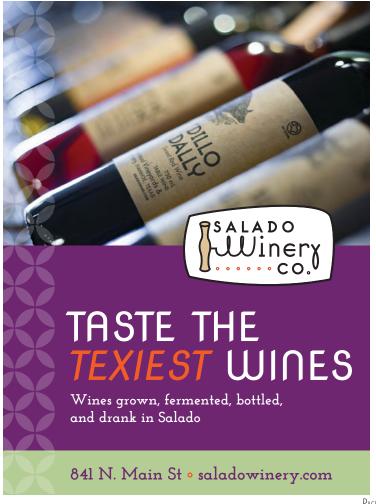
If you have a group larger than 6, you must contact the wineries before your visit to let them know you are coming and when you will be arriving at least 24 hours in advance.

Tickets are not refundable. Wineries are not responsible for lost or stolen passports. Passports cannot be exchanged for another event. Passports are not transferable.

Please consult each wineries' website or call ahead to ensure that they are open when you would like to visit.

Participating wineries include Salado Winery, Axis Winery in Salado, 3 Texans Vineyard, Country Spring Vineyard, Dancing Bee Winery, Kissing Tree Vineyards, Moose and Goose Winery, Red Caboose Winery Clifton and Valley Mills Vineyards.

Passports can be purchased https://www.eventbrite.com/e/stagecoach-wine-trail-passport-for-2021-tickets-90177161317





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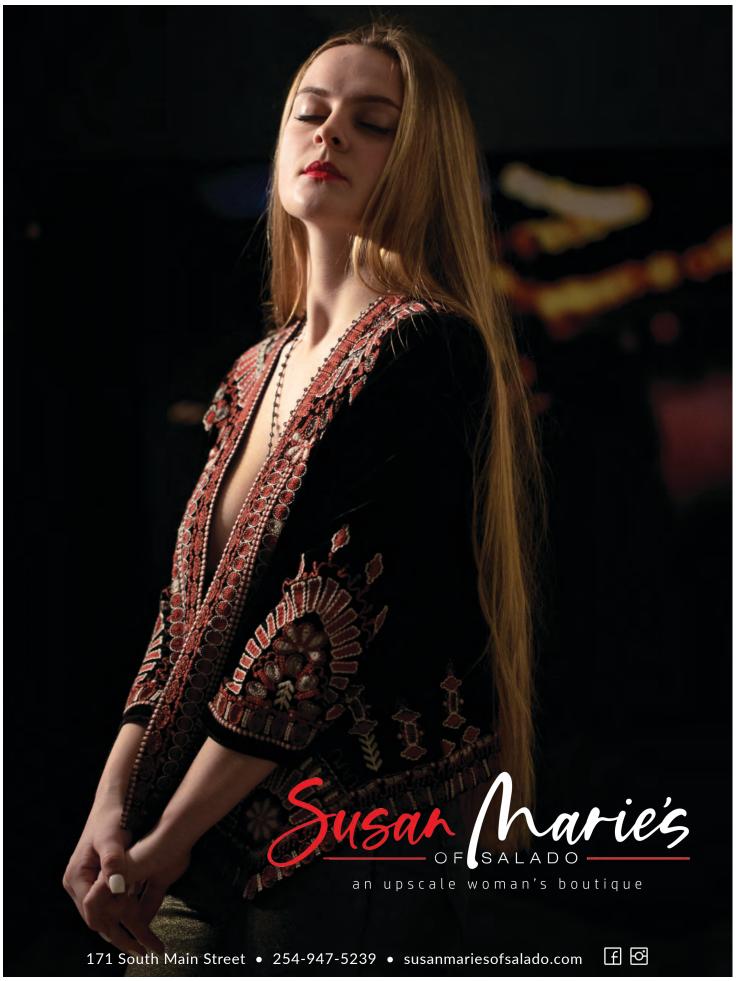


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(Photo by Mary Hodge)
The Dodd's Creek Bridge was moved to Salado in 1997 where it spans Campbell Branch and is now a beautiful walking bridge.

Dodd's Creek bridge was moved to Salado in 1997

By Charlene Carson Local Historian

Did you know that one of the most historic bridges in Texas is located right here in Salado and that it is over 130 years old?

This historic bridge, commonly referred to as the green bridge on Main Street, was built by the Berlin Iron Bridge Company of East Berlin, Connecticut. It was placed over Cowhouse Creek in Coryell County, Texas in 1889, and then later moved to Dodd's Creek on CR-133 west of Gatesville. In 1955, the bridge was declared functionally obsolete for vehicular traffic. The bridge was replaced but the historic lenticular pony truss bridge was not demolished. Instead, the Texas Department of Transportation decided to renovate and utilize the structure as a pedestrian bridge to be placed over Campbell's Branch in Salado. It was moved

to this location on July 29, 1997, as a part of las of Connecticut in 1878, was the only the Salado Walking Path project. las of Connecticut in 1878, was the only one given for a lenticular truss bridge in the

In 1990 the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas Department of Transportation identified eight lenticular truss bridges surviving in Texas. Four of those bridges were located in San Antonio; the other four were on out-of-service roads. These bridges are recognized as historically significant engineering structures, and are the only remaining examples of this rare bridge type west of the Mississippi.

This 87-foot truss bridge represents an unusual truss type in the United States. The lenticular design features a curved top and bottom chord which forms a lens shape. This type of bridge combines an arch type bridge and suspension type bridge into a single design requiring less steel than more conventional bridges.

The patent, issued to William O. Doug-

las of Connecticut in 1878, was the only one given for a lenticular truss bridge in the United States. Most were constructed in the New England area and in New York state. Through the efforts of William Payson, a salesman for the Berlin Iron Bridge Company, Texas acquired at least a dozen truss bridges in the late 19th century.

It was an exciting day in Salado when this big green structure was brought down Main Street on an "oversize load" truck. A huge heavy-duty crane followed the truck. Those who had an interest in historic bridges and those who were just curious stood along the street to watch the unfolding of this historic event.

Cameras clicked as the crane lifted the bridge gently off the truck and carefully swung the structure toward its destination. Onlookers stood quietly as workers pushed *See Walking Bridge, Page 14*



A walking bridge at Chalk Ridge Falls Park near Stillhouse Hollow Lake. (Photo by Maria Larskaya)

Chalk Ridge Falls Park trail features walking bridge

Chalk Ridge Falls Park is a two-and-a-half mile hiking trail that winds along the Lampasas River as it exits Stillhouse Hollow Lake

The trail starts out as a graveled path to make for easy strolling along the River. About a quarter mile into the walk is a walking suspension bridge over the Lampasas.

Early in the trail a boardwalk crosses a wide creek bed.

Venturing off the main trail, hikers have found caves cropping off of the limestone canyon. The falls are cool and clear and are the highlight of the hiking trail.

Chalk Ridge Falls Park is northwest of Salado at 5600 FM 1670, Belton, TX 76513

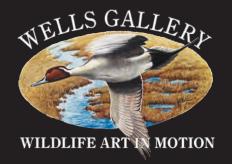


"Dancing in Golden Slippers"

By

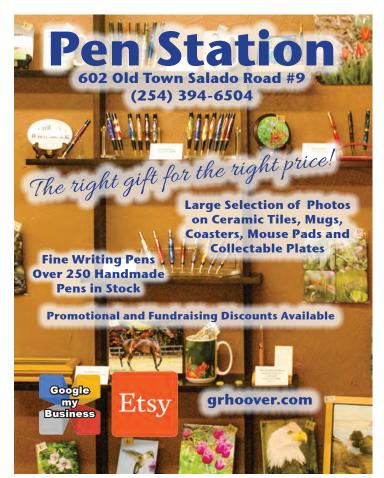
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Salado Community Chorus returns to singing April 27!

Salado Community Chorus wants you to mark your calendars for their return to performing this spring.

"The Salado Community Chorus has been allowed to have a portion of their members provide a Spring Concert for the residents of Salado and surrounding community. It is our way of helping everyone to return to normalcy after this terrible pandemic period," said publicity chair Marjorie Hairston.

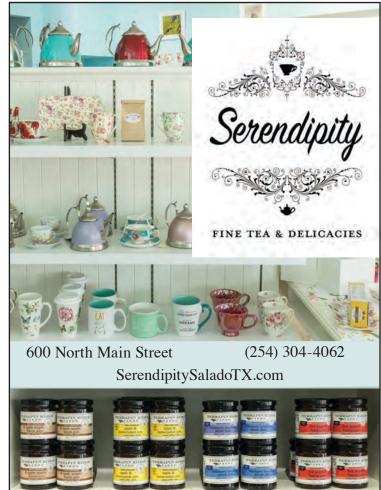
The spring concert is slated for 7 p.m. April 27 at the First Baptist Church of Salado



It's been more than a year since the Salado Community Chorus has performed. They look forward to singing for you on April 27. (Marilyn Fleischer photo)

"At this time, out of an abundance of caution, entry will be limited to the first 200 attendees in order to support social distancing," Hairston said. "If things change, we will get the word out!"

"Won't you come and support us as we have worked hard to bring this concert to you," Hairston said. "Guaranteed to make you feel like singing."





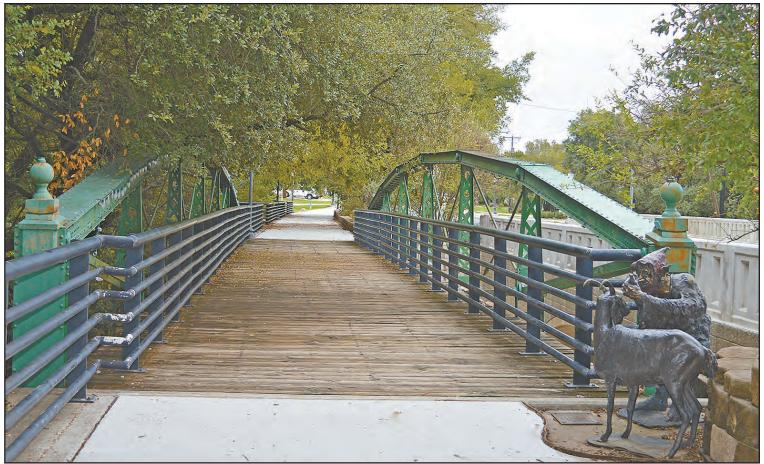
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Troy Kelley's troll and Billy Goat Gruff guard the south entrance to the walking bridge over Campbell's Branch. (Photo by Charlene Carson)



Dodd's Creek bridge now walking bridge in Salado

Continued from Page 10

and pulled and carefully guided the bridge to its final resting place over Campbell's Branch, giving walkers a functional and beautiful place to walk.

The Salado Walking Path project was a joint effort between the Salado Chamber of Commerce and the Texas Department of Transportation. In 1998 the Waco District of TX-DOT received the Environmental Achievement Award for the Dodd's Creek Bridge Preservation Project.

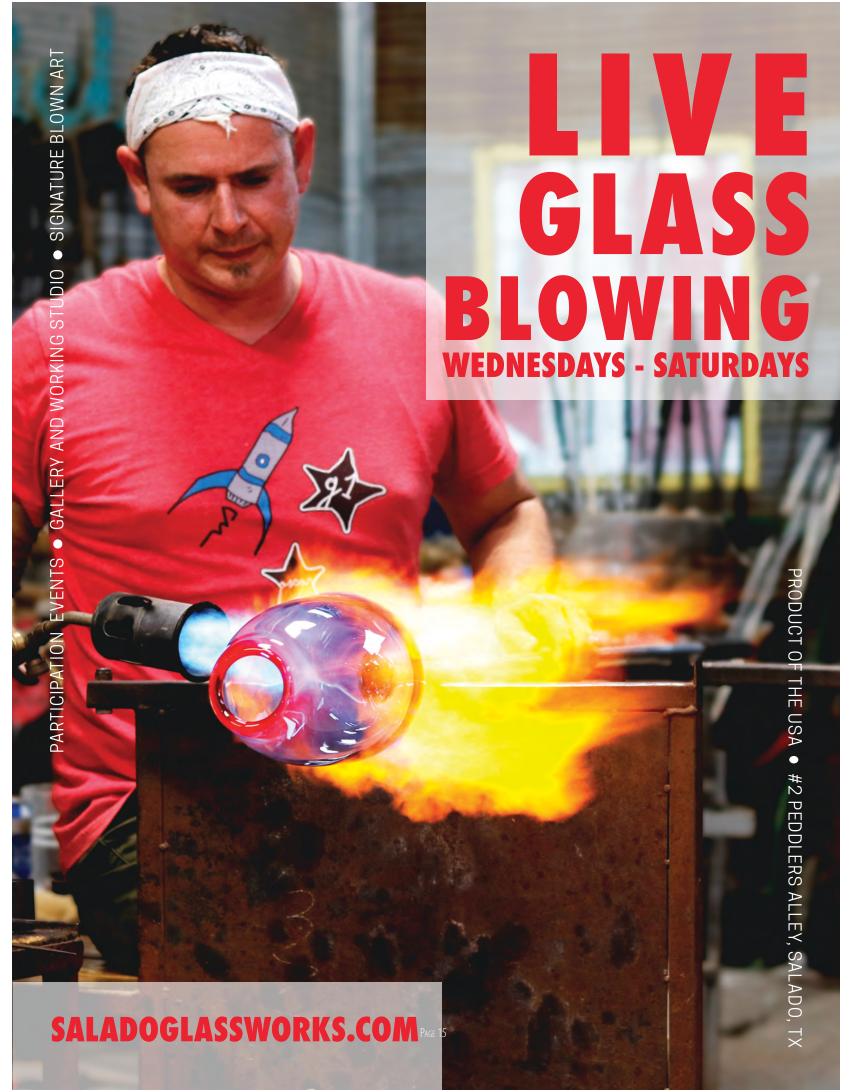
When approaching the bridge from the south, be aware of the troll who has made the green bridge his home. The "Troll and Billy Goat Gruff" sculpture, by local artist Troy Kelley, sits at the southernmost end of the bridge, placed there by the Public Arts League of Salado in

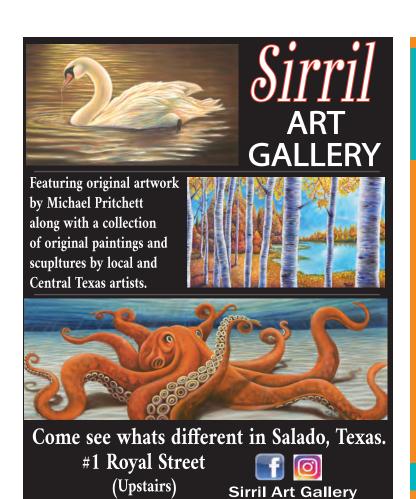


Keep your eyes peeled for this guy when you walk across the Walking Bridge. Troy Kelley sculpted the Tree Elf.

October 2005.

Kelley also placed the Tree Elf in the branches of a tree along with Walking Bridge path to be seen by those with sharp eyes.





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Cowboy Poetry, Music Gathering in downtown Salado May 6-8

The Salado Cowboy Poetry and Music Gathering May 6-8 brings together a group of poets and musicians who are doing their part to preserve the culture and heritage of the American West.

Performers are men and women who are now or have been in the past a part of the working cowboy environment.

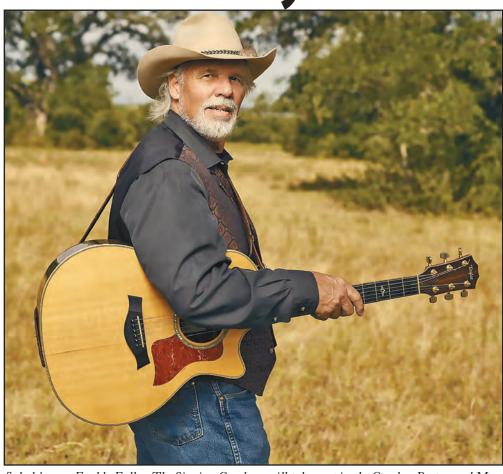
The Salado Cowboy Poetry and Music Gathering launches with a Local Artists' Reception 6 p.m. May 6 at the Salado Museum, 423 S. Main Street in Salado. The reception is sponsored by the Salado Cultural Arts District and is open to the public. Barrow Brewery and Stagecoach Inn are providing snacks. Saladoan Bill Lutz from Heritage Country Church will provide live entertainment. A donation of \$10 is requested to benefit the Salado Museum and College Hill Park.

Heritage Country Church will sponsor a Friday Night Concert with performances by a cadre of cowboys, including Don Cadden, Chris Isaacs, Gary Allegretto, Washtub Jerry, Freddy Fuller, Grady Lee, Christian Wigley, Jim Cathey, Gary J.C. Penny and the Heritage Country Church Band. Tickets are \$30.00 per person and can be purchased at https://centraltexastickets.com/ The gates will open at 5 p.m. for an opportunity to browse a store featuring art by the performing musicians/poets and an optional BBQ dinner prepared by Heritage Country Church Cook Team will be available for a donation of \$15.00 at the door. Heritage Country Church is located at 9929 Lark Trail in Salado.

Saturday events will dot downtown and Salado Creek. Maxdale Cowboy Church will have a Chuckwagon on the grounds of Barrow Brewing Co. beginning at 7:30 a.m. to offer cowboy coffee and Dutch oven biscuits. This event is free.

Barrow Brewing will also be the location of the MerTex Market, which will feature Mermaid, Texana and other crafts. The MerTex Market benefits Sirenafest's efforts to build an all abilities playground in Salado's Pace Park.

Throughout the morning, there will be rotating mini-concerts slated to begin at 9:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. You will have 15 minutes between each perfor-



Salado's own Freddy Fuller, The Singing Cowboy, will take part in the Cowboy Poetry and Music Gathering May 6-8. (Photo by Bret Hartman)

mance to walk to the next venue. Barrow Brewing will host Freddy Fuller and Gary J.C. Penney. Salado Museum will host Gary Allegretto and Christian Wigley. Stagecoach Inn will host Grady Lee, Chris Issacs and Ol' Jim Cathey.

Enjoy lunch following the mini-concerts and then join Gary Allegretto at the Salado Museum at 1 p.m. May 8 where you will learn to play the harmonica and get to take one home with you. Tickets are \$20 for the event and are available at https://centraltexastickets.com/

Fred Fuller hosts a Writers' Rendezvous 2-30-3:30 p.m. at the Salado Museum. There will be a roundtable discussion about the cowboy life and songwriting with Don Cadden, Chris Isaacs, Teresa Burleson, Grady Lee and Devon Dawson. This event will also have an opportunity for audience participation. Admission is \$10 at the door or free with purchase of both nights' concert

tickets

Heritage Country Church will sponsor the Saturday night concert, beginning at 7 p.m. May 8. KCEN meteorologist Andy Anderson will be the master of ceremonies for this event. Performers for the Saturday Night concert are Teresa Burleson, Devon Dawson, Don Cadden, Chris Isaacs, Gary Allegretto, Washtub Jerry, Grady Lee, Christian Wigley and the Heritage Country Church Band. Tickets are \$30.00 per person and can be purchased at https://centraltexastickets.com/. The gates will open at 5:00 p.m. for an opportunity to browse a store featuring art by the performing musicians/ poets and an optional BBQ dinner prepared by Heritage Country Church Cook Team will be available for a donation of \$15.00 at

For more information and biographical sketches of the Cowboy performers, visit saladocowboypoetry.com.



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www.saladomuseum.org

Since 1961

SVFD goes up in smoke for first BBQ cook-off

Salado Volunteer Fire Department 1st Annual Up in Smoke Bar-B-Que Cookoff will be held on the grounds of Fire Station #2, 3520 FM 2484, Salado on April 16 and 17.

This is a CTBA Sanctioned event with a guaranted \$3,500 payout with cash prizes and trophies for the first through fifth places in each meat category, as well as Grand and Reserve Champion. Entry is \$150 per team for chicken, rib and brisket entries

Jackpots pay 50% cash for first, second and third place for Bloody Mary, Beans and Margaritas competitions. All Jackpots must be made and cooked on-site.

Margarita judging will be April 16 at 8 p.m.

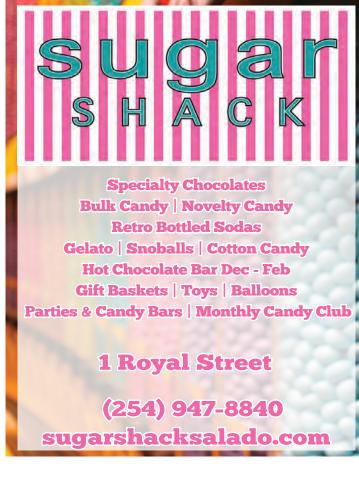
Bloody Mary judging will kick off early at 8 a.m. April 17.

Beans judging will be at 11 a.m. April 17.

There will be Cornhole and Washer tournaments on the grounds April 17 with \$25 entry. First place wins 50% of the cash.

There will be a live and silent auction, live music and other Family fun events.

For more information and to register your BBQ team, visit https://www.saladofire.org/events.





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Divine Desserts April 17 at Tenroc

The Children's Advocacy Center of Central Texas will be hosting Divine Desserts in the Blue Heron room of Tenroc Ranch at 7 p.m. April 17.

Guests will enjoy a wide array of scrumptious desserts provided by local bakeries, beverages, live music and dancing, and a diverse and fun silent and live auction. Dinner will be catered by Let Us Do the Cooking.

Tickets to Divine Desserts are \$175 for a couple or \$100 per person. The theme for this year's event is Masquerade. Attire is cocktail dress with masks of both kind encouraged!

All the proceeds will benefit the agency and ensure child abuse victims in Central Texas receive the quality services that reduce pain and promote healing.

The mission of the Children's Advocacy Center of Central Texas is to provide comprehensive services which protect, promote healing and enhance the quality of life for abused and neglected children in Central Texas through Children's Advocacy Center and Court Appointed Special Advocates programs. The agency serves 700 children and their families every year.

When children are abused and traumatized they are thrown into a legal and social system that, although well intended, is often not fully equipped to deal with these traumatized children. Children's Advocacy Center provides a safe, neutral place for children to come and tell their experiences to a trained forensic interviewer. This interviewer works with agency personnel through a multidisciplinary approach to child abuse. Child victims receive child focused services



Bakers and confectioners will participate in Divine Desserts on April 17.

during investigation and beyond with the assistance of advocacy center staff and team members.

There are still sponsorships available: Event Sponsor is \$4,000; Premium Sponsors is \$2,500; Supporter Sponsor is \$1,000.

For more information or reservations, call 254-939-2946.





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Memorial Day service at Salado Cemetery

The Salado Cemetery Association will host the annual Memorial Day Service at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, May 31 at the Historic Salado Cemetery on Baines Street.

Everyone is invited to honor our veterans on this special day and pay tribute to their service to our country.

The purpose of the Memorial Day ceremony is to remember the veterans buried not just in Salado Cemetery but in all of the Salado-area cemeteries, including family and church cemeteries, by a roll call of their names. All Veteran's grave sites will have flags placed on them before the service. The Veterans are from the Texas Revolutionary War, Early Day Rangers, Home Guard, Indian Wars, Mexican War, Confederate and Union Armies, Spanish American War, WWI and II, Korean War, Vietnam War, and from peace time service.



Bell County Sheriff's Posse will post colors. (Photo by Tim Fleischer)

The Memorial Day ceremony will consist of: the Bell County Sherriff's Posse presenting the colors; honors to each of the armed services; and a brass ensemble, the roll call of veterans' names. Taps will be played at the conclusion of the ceremony.

Light refreshments will be served following the closing of the Memorial Day ceremony.

Locating Burial Plots in Salado Cemetery:

The Salado Public Library keeps a notebook for the Salado Cemetery Association. It is updated every year with the latest burials. The notebook also has a map of the burial plots. Using it will help individuals locate burial plots of specific individuals.

Bill Pinkston, Salado Cemetery Board (254) 947-3372, has the master list of grave sites.



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* Contact church office for children's and youth activities schedule





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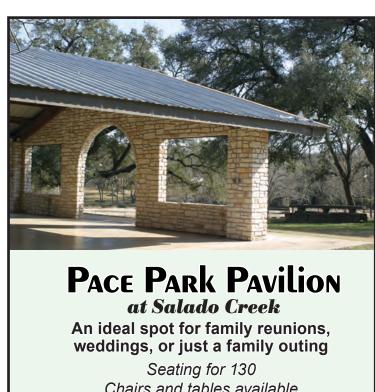
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Fine China Luncheon at Tenroc Ranch

Salado Area Republican Women are planning to celebrate the 15th anniversary Fine China Luncheon set for Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at the Blue Heron at Tenroc Ranch.

This event has grown since the initial luncheon in 2006, and boasts record ticket sales, attendance, and fund-raising yearly. The tables are elegantly decorated by local individuals and a few businesses. For entertainment two local boutiques, Susan Marie's and H and H Decor, will show off some of their fashions.

There are still openings for ladies wanting to host a table. The sponsors can be expected to decorate a table but are not obligated to sell tickets for the entire table, however many want to sell tickets to some of their friends. Classic Catering will serve the meal.

For more information contact Sherril Gardipee, at sherrilgar-dipee@gmail.com or at 254 760-5738

Proceeds from all SARW sponsored projects fund civic, educational, military support, and political campaigns. In addition, the club awards scholarships annually. One of the service projects this year is participating in the cleanup campaign with Keep Salado Beautiful.



The ladies of Salado bring out their best for the annual Fine China Luncheon, which will be June 8 at Tenroc Ranch. (Courtesy photo)





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Salado College founded by leaders who wanted best for their children

The need of a high class school in Bell County had been felt for some time. In the fall of 1859, a tent meeting attended by prominent men from all over the county was held at the Salado Springs to discuss the matter. They succeeded in organizing the Salado College Joint Stock Company. Colonel Robertson donated 100 acres of land, including the two fine springs, the hill on the south side of the creek suitable for the college building, part of the wooded valley and some land north of the creek.

Stock in the company at \$100 per share to the amount of \$5,000 was soon subscribed.

Seven trustees, Col. Herman Aiken, John I. Blair, Dr. Carrol Kendrick, A.J. Dallas, Col. E.S.C. Robertson, W.D. Eastland, and G.W. Shanklin, were chosen by the stockholders. Colonel Robertson was made President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Board and gave the school a deed to the land dated October 16, 1859.

The land was soon surveyed and laid out in blocks, lots and streets. Revenue from the sale of lots was a great help to the college as families soon began moving to Salado.

At a November meeting, Dr. Kendrick offered several resolutions concerning the college which were adopted. The resolutions asked that the trustees apply to the legislature for an act incorporating Salado College; that a clause be inserted prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors, the keeping of billiard saloons or ten-pin alleys on the college land; and that the college be open to pupils of all religious denominations, but never become sectarian in its character.

On February 8, 1860, Salado College was incorporated by the Legislature for twenty years with full powers to maintain the institution, grant diplomas, confer degrees and perform other corporate functions.

A temporary wooden building was erected and school began February 20, 1860, with the Rev. Levi Tenney, a Presbyterian minister, as principal.

A severe winter had slowed down building both for the school and new residents, so many of the teachers lived in tents temporarily. Sixty students were enrolled the first term.



The bell tower and entrance to Salado College can be seen in this old photograph.

Plans had already been made for a two-story stone building on the brow of the hill. On July 4, 1860, the cornerstone, the first in that part of Texas, was laid with a Masonic ceremony. Visitors came from as far away as Waco and Austin and hospitable Salado citizens served a barbecue. A great sale of lots occurred and many more families moved to Salado to educate their children. Attendance at the school gradually increased until there were over 300, including primary grades....

There were two interesting societies in old Salado College. They were literary societies organized for older students.

The Euphradian Society was promoted by Prof. J.L. Smith and Capt. A.J. Harries in 1866. Boys studied parliamentary law and improved in debate and public speaking by practice. Meetings were held weekly and officers changed monthly. Two leaders were appointed by the president who chose sides and all members took part in the debate. Speeches were limited to a few minutes.

The society made an impression upon the general tone and morale of the school as well

as on the progress and development of the students. At each commencement, some able speaker was invited to address the assembled student body.

The other society, organized by the ladies, had Mrs. Kate Alma Orgain as historian and some accurate records were kept.

Mesdames Orgain and Lucius Davis, and Misses Letitia Barbee and Sallie Young, all college teachers, wished to form a reading club for the college's young ladies and those of the town interested in such a club.

Their first meeting was held in the palatial home of Mrs. E.S.C. Robertson, Mrs. Orgain was the first president. They met weekly in some home and listened as a member read aloud from the selected author. A circulating library was formed, perhaps the first in Texas under ladies' supervision. A room at the college was soon assigned them where they kept their accumulating library.

One of the first books read was David Copperfield and a play by Dickens was given in 1876.

See Salado College, Page 42



Discover Bell County exhibit focuses on The Land, Agriculture and Ranching, Transportation and Industry, and Education and Culture of this Central Texas county.

Bell County Museum Opens New County History Exhibit to Public

The Bell County Museum opened Discover Bell County, the museum's signature permanent exhibit, to the public late last year. The exhibit is located on the first floor of the museum's historic Carnegie Library.

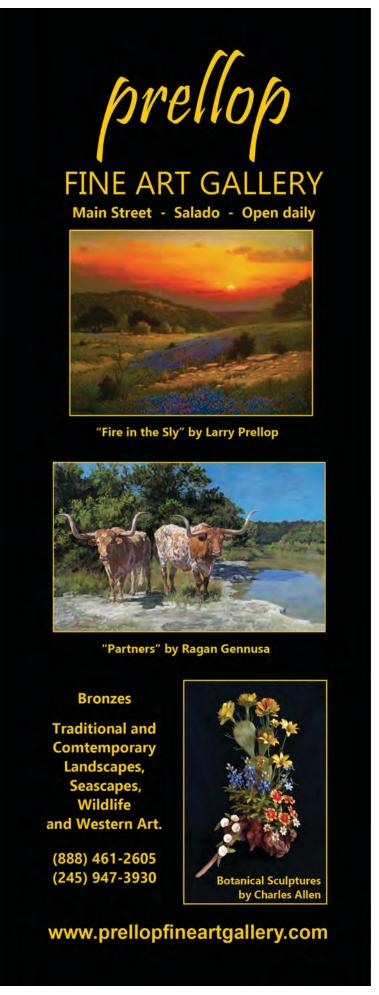
It focuses on four themes of Bell County History: The Land, Agriculture and Ranching, Transportation and Industry, and Education and Culture.

The new exhibit is the result of a years-long effort by the museum to create an updated County history exhibit that is comprehensive, inclusive, and visually appealing to visitors.

"Our staff put incredible effort into this permanent exhibit. From the beginning stages of research, writing, and editing to artifact selection, exhibit design, and installation, the process of bringing Bell County History to our visitors was deeply meaningful. Our hope is to bring that meaning and passion for history to everyone is Bell County," said Executive Director Coleman Hampton.

Visitors to Discover Bell County will enjoy a fresh selection of artifacts and stories, as well as some old favorites. Newly exhibited pieces including the "Two Governors Chair", made for Ma and Pa Ferguson, and two Clovis arrow points. The museum's famed Moustache Teacup Collection and works of art by Bell County natives Marie Cronin and Ella Mewhinney are exhibited in a newly designed area. In addition, visitors will be able to view historic photographs from the museum collection on a newly installed touchscreen.

"The Bell County Commissioners Court and our Board of Trustees have been incredibly supportive of this project. Everyone understands the importance of educating and engaging our families, students, and citizenry on Bell County History. History is all around us. We are making history right now. That is what I hope people take away from Discover Bell County," Hampton said.



First Grange Store in Texas located in Salado

The following story is taken from George W. Tyler's History of Bell County, 1985 Edition, page 299-301.

Back in the seventies the farmers had a great national organization, styled the "Patrons of Husbandry." It was commonly called, "The Grange," and its members were referred to as "Grangers." The organization covered the farming district of the whole United States, and at one time its membership numbered hundreds of thousands. It comprised a National Grange, a state Grange in each state, a County Grange in each county, and local Granges in the communities.

Bell County pioneered the movement in this state. Salado Grange, No. 1, opened in the summer of 1873, was the first Grange organized in Texas. Among its charter members were A.J. Rose, O.T. Tyler, William P. Hancock, J.F. Fuller, John S. Rogers, L.A. Griffith, N.L. Norton, Wm. J. Caskey, Joe W. Love and many others.

The order soon spread rapidly over Bell County and throughout the state. County Granges were set up and then the State Grange, all in 1873. Wm. W. Lange of Marlin became the first Grand Worthy patron of the State Grange. By 1878 the membership had become so large and its political power so great that Mr. Lange became a candidate for governor before the Democratic State Convention, on the Grange or farmers' ticket. Lange resigned the leadership of the State Grange about 1882 and was succeeded by A.J. Rose, as Grand Worthy Patron. The ordered prospered for some ten or twelve years before it was largely superseded by a radical and active organization, the "Farmers Alliance."

The leading objects of the grange organization were cooperation among farmers in the marketing of produce and in the purchase of farm supplies, implements, building materials, etc.; the bringing with the "middleman;" better provisions for education especially agricultural education; the social uplift of the farmer and his family; a strong code of morals; law and order; lower taxes; and greater participation by farmers in making the laws. And during those days it was the usual stunt for politicians to cater to the Grange vote and to identify themselves with the political demands of the farmers.

The first incorporated Grange store in the State was started in Salado, whence others, too, spread all over Texas. Today, the



Salado Grange No. 1 was located in this building on South Main St. that now houses Salado Museum and College Park. The Grange Store was downstairs while meetings were held on the second story. (Photo by Royce Wiggin)

building houses the Salado Museum. It is located on South Main Street directly across the street from Stagecoach Inn restaurant. Grange stores flourished for a time, but at last with droughts and hard times, they went upon the financial rocks.

The Texas Cooperative Association, a rather ambitious enterprise, also organized and incorporated at Salado, set up its office in Galveston with Mr. John S. Rogers, of Salado, as manager. Its mission was to receive by consignment, cotton and other farm products from the farmers (through their local Grange stores) all over the state; to sell these products direct to spinners' agents and exporters; to purchase, at wholesale prices, the supplies of all kinds required by the farmers, consigning such purchase, in carload lots, to the Grange stores, where they were to be distributed among the members and customers. To pay its overhead expenses, the Association charged a small fixed commission upon all transactions. It was well planned, and for many years was a decided success. Even after the Grange was superseded by the "Alliance," the latter organization used the facilities of the Grange

Agency at Galveston.

The local Grange stores and the Texas Cooperative Association were all based theoretically upon spot cash transactions, for they had but little capital and could not extend credit. When droughts and other calamities visited the farmer they were forced back to the credit accommodations offered by the regular merchants and these cooperative enterprises, handling only cash transactions, lost a large percent of the business of even their own membership. In a one-crop country the cash or "pay as you go" system seem to be impracticable, however well managed.

The Texas Farmer was launched by William P. Hancock and J.F. Fuller, of Salado, about 1880. It was devoted to the interests of the farmers generally and of the Patrons of Husbandry in particular. At first it was printed at the office of the Belton Courier in Belton, but later equipped its own print shop in Belton, where it was edited and managed by J.F. Fuller. The paper became the official organ of the State Grange, and enjoyed as a statewide circulation. Later it was moved

Please See Grange Meetings, next page

Grange meetings emulate the Lodge Plan

Continued from previous page

to Dallas and there it was edited and managed by Wm. A. Shaw, generally known as "Farmer Shaw," who made it an influential factor with the press and farmers of Texas.

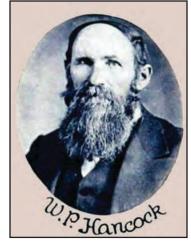
Such an organization, with an overwhelming farmer vote throughout the State, was, of course, catered to and preyed upon by politicians, within and without the membership; and what with the financial straits of the individual farmers and the arrival of a new organization, the Farmer's Alliance, the Grange gradually disappeared as an active body.

The Order still exists in other parts of the United States and still holds well attended National Grange meetings; but it no longer exists in Texas, so far as is known to this writer. (After this article first appeared

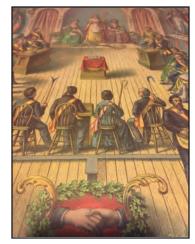
in this magazine, we have had reports that the Grange continues in parts of the country).

The membership included all members of the farmer's family - men, women, and children (above a certain age) and all of them participated in the Grange meetings held in halls or rooms prepared for the purpose. The meetings were secret and were conducted on the lodge plan, with a ritual for the initiation of new members and installation of officers. While women as well as men held office in the Grange, the more responsible active duties in that body were performed by the men of the Order.

The Grange did much to promote social intercourse among farmers and their families, brought about a more general habit of reading and investigation, especially along economic lines, and included



"The Texas Farmer" newspaper was launched by William P. Hancock (shown above) and J.F. Fuller, of Salado, about 1880. It was devoted to the interests of the Patrons of Husbandry.



While the Grange store was downstairs, meetings of Salado Grange No. 1 were likely held upstairs. Above is a Grange poster showing the layout of a meeting room.

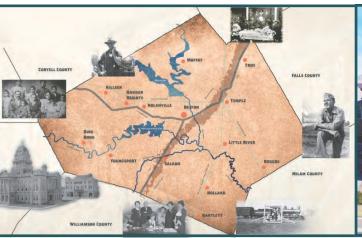
broader thinking and a more liberal attitude in the minds of a great body of citizens whose outlook had been too much limited by the hard routine of life on the farm. The Grange left its imprint, virile and lasting upon the period.



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This was the first bridge across Salado Creek, built in the late 1860s.

Bridges across Salado Creek

For several years after the town was laid out, the citizens of Salado crossed the shallow creek by stepping from rock to rock, or on logs laid across the wider places. These logs were chained to the rocks and would sink down stream during freshets and be replaced when the flood subsided. But when in 1866 a dam was thrown across the stream at the lower end of the village, the water was backed up over the rocks. Then for a time "footlogs" raised on legs standing in the water and chained to the rocks below were used; but they were narrow, rickety and unsafe, and pedestrians not infrequently tumbled off into the water. A general demand arose for a bridge. To meet this problem as well as others, it was decided to

incorporate the village. Application for incorporation was made under the general law and the county court in January 1867, authorized and election for town officers. On February 23, Judge O.T. Tyler was elected mayor and a board of aldermen was chosen. These officials appointed the other officers, among the Colonel Thos. H. Jones as treasurer. The town officials first tried to raise funds for a bridge by voluntary donations, but finding they could not raise enough by this means, on December 3, 1868, they ordered an issue of bonds...

The bonds were purchased by the citizens of the town. With the proceeds and subscriptions amounting in all to some \$2,500, the municipal authorities proceeded to build a wire cable

suspension foot-bridge of substantial construction of unique design and graceful proportions. Two large galvanized rope-wire cables, anchored at each end in strongly built stone abutments, were carried over two double-turreted dressed-stone piers of towers. From these suspended cables wire cords extended down to catch and support the ends of sawed cedar cross bars or joists on which the plank floor was laid. It was one of the first of its kind in the Southwest and was designed, engineered and constructed entirely by home talent-Judge Tyler, Colonel Thos. H. Jones, Judge Wm. H. Garrett, Wm. A. Davis, John Hendrickson and others. It swung some twenty feet above the water and although it could be made

to sway enough from side to side to frighten timid souls--especially groups of squealing girls when mischievous boys chose this method of teasing them--it served the people well for more than thirty years. After the county built a combination wagon and foot bridge a few yards upstream the suspension bridge gradually fell into disuse. In 1913 it was finally swept away when a cloud burst in the upper water-shed of Salado Creek sent down a terrific flood that carried away the county bridge as well. The latter was promptly rebuilt, only to be carried away again in the still greater flood of September 9 and 10, 1921.

From "The History of Bell County" George W. Tyler, Third Edition Music, gatherings and more

Mondays

Salado Masonic Lodge #296 meets Monday on or before Full Moon, 7:30

p.m., 90 S. Church St.

Trivia at Chupacabra Craft Beer, shady Villa Shopping Center. Pop culture, music, TV, movies and Family Feud team play with prizes; 7-9 p.m. Also Heroes Monday with 25% off for law enforcement, first responder, military with ID.

Tuesdays

Salado Village Artists meet at the Village Art Center, 9 a.m. Bingo at Chupacabra with Chu-

Bingo at Chupacabra with Chupacabra merchandise give away, 7-10 p.m. Also Sport your Chupa logo for \$5 beers.

Tuesday Prix Fixe at Alexander's Craft Kitchen + Cocktails. \$14.95 for entree, dessert and glass of wine.

Wednesdays

Karaoke (7:30-10:30 p.m.) with Free Karaoke Glass for performing at Chupacabra. Also, Wine Down Wednesday, 25% off bottles of wine

Thursdays

Pint Nights at Chupacabra. Unlimited Free Print Glasses from spon-



Wayworn Traveler are among the many performers who play at Barrow Brewing Co. Barrow Brewing has live music and food trucks every Friday and Saturday night.

sored brewery, 4-12 p.m.

Fridays

Live Music and food trucks at Barrow Brewing, 108 Royal. Live Music at Chupacabra.

Fourth Fridays

Royal Street Art Walk at participating galleries downtown Salado.

Gospel Singing, 7-10 p.m. at Cedar Valley Baptist Church.

Saturdays

Sample over 100 varieties of gourmet foods noon - 6 p.m. at The Strawberry Patch.

Live Music and food trucks at Barrow Brewing, 108 Royal St.

Live Music at Chupacabra Craft Beer, Shady Villa Shopping Center. Live Music at Axis Winery, 831 N.

Main St., 2-5 p.m.

Sundays

Live Music at Barrow Brewing Co. Sunday Fun Day at Chupacabra with 50% off Sangria & Frozen Rose.

Check out the Sunday Brunch offerings at Alexanders Distillery; The Barton House Restaurant; Rio Salado Cocina Y Cantina and Stagecoach Innrestaurants.



Gault site southwest of Salado one of richest archeological finds in U.S.

By Tim Fleischer Editor-in-Chief

More than 2.6 million artifacts have been found at the Gault site, about 12 miles southwest of Salado off of FM 2843 (Florence Rd.), making it one of the richest archeological sites in North

"There is a stone floor there,"
D. Clark Wernecke says. "It is
12,700 years old and there are
clues to a structure being built
on top of it."

"That makes it the earliest house in North America," Dr. Wernecke added.

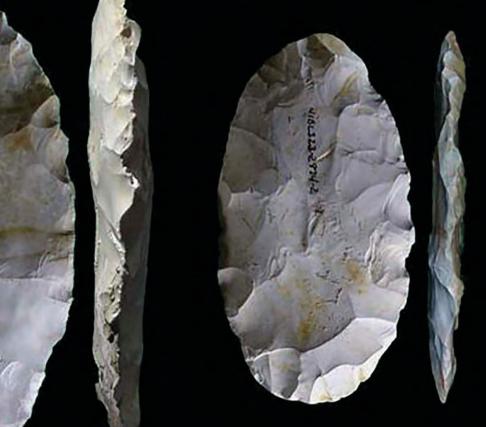
The Gault site has been known for its artifacts for almost a century. In 1929, the first anthropologists from the University of Texas were able to excavate the site, named after the owner of the property at that time, for about eight weeks.

A burnt-rock midden produced Clovis-era tools two years before the Blackwater find in New Mexico.

Over the years, the property changed hands several times and fell victim to archeological looting. In fact, at one point, people could pay just \$10 to dig all the artifacts they would want to dig in a day.

Despite this damage to the original site, there remained an archeological record that may prove that the Americas were
PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 40





Bifacial tools found at the Gault site 12 miles southwest of Salado are shown above. At top of the page are adzes and just above are knives. Tours of the Gault site are offered by the Bell County Museum several times a year.

(Photo courtesy of Gault School of Archeological Research, Texas State University)





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Gault site provides 'earliest art in the Americas'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 38

populated much earlier than scientists have originally hypothesized.

In 1998, the lower jaw of a juvenile mammoth and ancient horse bones surrounded by a large number of Clovis artifacts were discovered.

Archeologists, Dr. Wernecke said, discovered a great deal of chert, some of it engraved in what he described as "the earliest art in the Americas."

The University of Texas was able to secure a three-year lease, during which time more than 1.2 million artifacts were recovered. About half of those artifacts were from the Clovis era.

In fact, about 85 percent of all Clovis-era artifacts that have been recovered in the Americas come from the Gault site.

Volunteers, students and archeologists have carefully made their way through more than 48 cubic meters of the site down to the Comanche Peak bedrock. Wernecke explained that whenever a chert is found, it is

carefully noted where exactly it was found. Each piece is highly documented, resulting in a catalog of paleo-Indian America that has not been seen in any other location.

Wernecke explained that one section measuring measuring 10 centimeters in depth and one meter squared resulted in finding 16,629 flakes.. "If it was larger than a quarter, we know exactly where in the earth it was taken," Wernecke said.

Pieces have been examined at the microscopic level to determine how it was made and how it was used, whether it was for cutting bone, hide, plants or for some other use, according to Wernecke.

"We would like to use our favorite tools out there, which is the trowel," Wernecke said, "except chert comes from the rock in the Edwards Plateau and is stronger than steel. Hand trowels would just leave a big silver and gray scar."

So instead, they carefully scrape away the layers millimeter by millimeter, centimeter by centimeter with chopsticks. "Out-

side of a prison escape movie," he said, "I have never heard of that much earth moved with such small tools.... the chopsticks."

While the excavation work is complete, the Gault School partners with the Bell County Museum to offer half-day tours. Space is limited to 30 persons. The site is 30 minutes from Belton, between Salado and Florence. It is a full guided three-hour tour across the 2.5 miles long site. Learn about the many artifacts excavated and the Paleoindian culture found right here in Bell County. All participants are asked to meet at the site at 8:30 a.m. The tour will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. Maps will be provided a few days prior to the scheduled tour date. Tickets are \$10 per person, payable by debit or credit card only. Payment must be received within 5 days of registration to guarantee tickets. Register online at bellcountymuseum.org. Please call the museum at 254-933-5243 to make a payment.

Remaining 2021 Gault tour dates are: April 3, June 12, August 28, October 9, December 11.



The Oak Ridge Boys are William Lee Golden, Joe Bonsall, Duane Allen and Richard Sterban. (Courtesy photo)

Oak Ridge Boys coming to Johnny's Outback

The Oak Ridge Boys are coming to Salado and they will be celebrating 40 years since their biggest hit "Elvira" was first released.

The Oak Ridge Boys are scheduled to perform in concert at Johnny's Outback on May 22. Tickets are available online through johnnyssteaksandbbq.com. Advance tickets are \$30 per person. Reserved lawn seating tickets available in advance for \$50 per person. Reserved Table Pricing: First Row, \$750; Second Row, \$600; Third Row, \$500. Day of show, tickets will be \$50 per person, if available. Gates open at 6 p.m. Music starts at 7:30 p.m.

The Oak Ridge Boys have sold over 41 million units worldwide and are synonymous with "America, apple pie, baseball, and country music."

In addition to their awards and accolades in the country music field, the Oaks have garnered five Grammy® Awards, nine GMA Dove Awards, and two American Music Awards.

The group—Joe Bonsall, Duane Allen, William Lee Golden, and Richard Sterban, members of the prestigious Country Music Hall of Fame (2015 Inductees) and the Grand Ole Opry (since 2011)—is known worldwide as one of recording history's most extraordinary musical successes.

They have charted single after single and album after album, celebrating two double-platinum albums and more than 30 Top 10 hits, including No. 1 chart-toppers "Elvira," "Bobbie Sue," "Thank God For Kids," "American Made," and "Y'All Come Back Saloon," among dozens more.

The Oak Ridge Boys are celebrating the 40th anniversary of their Grammy-winning song "Elvira" which was originally released in 1981. While written in 1966 by Dallas Frazier, The Oak Ridge Boys decided to record the song for their album, Fancy Free. The song went on to reach number one on Hot Country Songs for Billboard and reached number 5 for Billboard Hot 100.

"The first time we performed 'Elvira' in front of an audience was at an afternoon rehearsal for The Tonight Show. We were not set to perform it on the show that night, but we had just recorded it and decided to sing it for a soundcheck," shares Duane Allen. "By the time we got halfway through the song, the producer, assistants, secretaries, sound and light crew, and all of the people who could hear us, came running over and freaking out. The Tonight Show gave us the first 'reading' of how 'Elvira' was going to be received."



Salado College survives fires over the years

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This society was called "The Amasovaurian." It was really a coined word, made by joining amo (Latin - I love) and savour (French - to know) together, meaning "Love of Knowing."

This society is said by Mrs. Tyler to have accomplished much in elevating the standard of womanly refinement and literary culture both in the college and in the community.

The Salado College Band was a famous musical organization of the 70s. It played at the State Fair in Austin several times, for inaugural balls, at the Bell and Lampasas County fairs and on other occasions.

The first college bell was the regular old-fashioned hand affair, but in 1866 the citizens bought a real college bell for \$200. It was hung in a scaffolding on the roof of the college building and had a rope hanging over the side roof and down the south wall to the ground.

For years, this bell also summoned town people to Sunday School, prayer meeting and all public gatherings held in the college chapel.

That first small college bell was later given to the new public school building. When the annex to the college was completed in 1871, a large imposing belfry was erected over the main south entrance and Dr. W.R. Alexander gave the college a new and larger

In the first fire in 1901, the new bell was partially melted and fell and broke into fragments, many of which were collected for souvenirs, as were the metal keys of the piano.

For the new building, Maj. A.J. Rose donated a bell which with-

stood the fire of 1902, but not the one in 1924. There was no fire department in Salado and the citizens were helpless. They could not rebuild the college the last time it burned.

The expense of building the annex put the college in debt to the contractor who threatened foreclosure. Again Colonel Robertson saved the situation by buying the property in 1877 and Salado College continued as usual until his death in 1879. However, in 1880, the 20-year charter expired. In 1882, a new organization which bought from the Robertson heirs the seven acres of land on which the college building stood, was formed and the institution continued as Salado College until 1885.

From 1885 to 1890, the property was controlled by the board of trustees of the local public school and operated as a public free

Salado College had been like a magnet, drawing many of the best people of the state who desired to educate their children in a cultural and religious atmosphere.

Advanced subjects offered were elocution, philosophy, chemistry, political economy, mathematics, surveying, history, English, science and the classics. Latin and Greek were emphasized in the curriculum and art and music were taught by private teachers in the build-

The trustees announced that "Only the best teachers will be hired, and students will be prepared alike for advanced studies in the ancient and modern languages, mathematics, etc., and for the use of the humble primer, cutting off all necessity for going or sending abroad for thorough education."



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61. Historic Lenticular Bridge

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