

# SALADO

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**Second Quarter 2022**

**Published by Salado Village Voice**

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**Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas**

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Cover photo of 3C Cowboy Fellowship Rodeo  
by Royce Wiggin.



**Royal Street • Salado**

**May 7 at 7 p.m.**

*Central Texas Poetry & Prose*  
Featuring Thom the World Poet as host

**June 3 & 4**

*Shakespeare On The Rock*  
"As You Like It"

Directed by Kelly Parker, Director of Theater  
at McClennan Community College  
7:30 p.m. | Gate opens at 6:30 p.m.  
Adult \$10 | 12 or under \$5

**July 23, 30 and August 6**

*Salado Legends*

8:15 p.m. | Optional dinner 7:15 p.m.  
Adult \$25 | 12 or under \$5  
Dinner by reservation \$13  
[CentralTexasTickets.com](http://CentralTexasTickets.com)

**October 29 & 30**

*Tablerock's Fright Trail*

**December 2, 3, 9 & 10**

*A Christmas Carol*

**tablerock.org**

ask about group rates

**254.308.2200**

# Calendar of Events

## **Mondays**

Bikes & Brews, 6 p.m. at Barrow Brewing.

Open Mic with Ryan White, at Chupacabra, 7 p.m.

## **Tuesdays**

Tuesday Night Prix Fixe at Alexander's Craft Cocktails + Kitchen. \$16.95 for entree, dessert and glass of wine. Prix Fixe menu changes weekly.

Trivia with Rockin Rick, at Chupacabra, 7-9 p.m.

## **Wednesdays**

Guest food truck day at Barrow Brewing Co., 4-9 p.m.

Game Night at Barrow Brewing Co., 4-9 p.m. Trivia with Chad on second Wed.

Wine Down Wednesday at Alexander's Craft Cocktails & Kitchen, 5-7 p.m.

Karaoke, 7-10 p.m. at Chupacabra.

## **Thursdays**

Vinyl Nite with Shannon at Barrow Brewing Co., 5 p.m.

Run4Beer Group, 6:30 p.m., Barrow Brewing Co.

Pint night at Chupacabra, 4 p.m.-midnight.

Maxx Carter at Chupacabra, 6-10 p.m.

Family Night at The Shed, specials on beer and pizzas

## **Fridays**

Live Music at Chupacabra Craft Beers, 7-11 p.m.

Live Music at Barrow Brewing Co. 8 p.m.

## **Fridays-Sundays**

All Day Gourmet food tasting, Wild Texas Cowgirl, 642A N. Main St., Blue & White House. Open late Fri & Sat! @WildTexasCowgirl-Google Us!

## **Saturdays**

Farmers Market, at Barrow Brewing.

Bikes & Brews meetup, 8:30 a.m., Barrow Brewing Co.

Live Music at Chupacabra Craft Beer and Kitchen, 8 p.m.-midnight

Live Music at Barrow Brewing Co., 8 p.m.

## **Sundays**

Live Music at Barrow Brewing Co., 4 p.m.

Sunday Fun Day at Chupacabra: 50% off Sangria & Frozen Rose.

## **March 31-April 3**

Texas Packard gathering in Salado.

## **April 2**

Tour of Gault site. Tickets are \$10/person; kids 10 years and under are free. Order at bellcountymuseum.org.

## **April 2**

Barrow Brewing Co. Sixth Anniversary. Live music, food trucks, family events and more.

## **April 2**

Return of the Saturday Farmers Market at Barrow Brewing. Every Saturday through November.

## **April 8-9**

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

## **April 9**

Crawfish Boil, sponsored by the District 48 Masonic Lodges. \$20 for crawfish, potato and corn.

## **April 9-10**

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

## **April 14**

Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Distillery, 6:30 p.m. Reservations online through eventbrite.com. Destination South Korea.

## **April 15-16**

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

## **April 17**

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 (254) 947-5111

## **April 22**

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

## **April 22**

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

## **April 22-23**

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

## **April 23-24**

Sounds Over Salado Music Festival, featuring headliners White Denim and The Stone Foxes. Tickets are available through Ticketbud

at <https://radiomilk.ticketbud.com/sounds-over-salado-2022>

## **April 25**

Taste of Salado, Tenroc Event Center. \$30 per person. Tickets from centraltextastickets.com.

## **April 26**

Salado Community Chorus Spring Concert, 7 p.m., First Baptist Church of Salado.

## **April 29-30**

Second Annual Up in Smoke Barbecue Cook-Off at Salado Fire Station #2, FM 2484, sponsored by Salado Fire Department. <https://www.saladofire.org/events>

## **April 29-30**

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

## **May 5-8**

Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival. Concerts, displays and so much more. See schedule page 10 or visit [saladocowboypoetry.org](http://saladocowboypoetry.org).

## **May 6-7**

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

## **May 7**

Central Texas Poetry & Prose reading, featuring Thom the World Poet, 7 p.m., Tableorck Amphitheater.

## **May 8**

Mother's Day at fine dining restaurants in Salado. Book early!

- Alexander's Distillery. Reservations:(254) 947-5554.

- The Barton House, reservations, (254) 947-0441.

- Stagecoach Restaurant, reservations (254) 947-5111

## **May 12**

Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Distillery, 6:30 p.m. Reservations online through eventbrite.com. Destination Nigeria.

## **May 14-15**

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

## **May 20-21**

Blow Your Own beer mugs and whiskey sippers for Father's Day. Saladoglassworks.com.

## **May 27**

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

## **May 27**

Fourth Friday Gospel Singing 7 p.m. at First Cedar Valley Baptist

Church, FM 2843.

## **May 27-28**

Blow Your Own beer mugs and whiskey sippers for Father's Day. Saladoglassworks.com.

## **May 30**

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

## **June 1-2**

Farming for the Future workshop, Shady Villa.

## **June 3-4**

Blow Your Own beer mugs and whiskey sippers for Father's Day. Saladoglassworks.com.

## **June 3-4**

Shakespeare on the Rock: As You Like It at Tablerock. Gates open at 6:30 p.m., performance at 7:30 p.m. \$10 for adults, 12 and under \$5.

## **June 7**

Fine China Luncheon, Tenroc Ranch, sponsored by Salado Area Republican Women.

## **June 9**

Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Distillery, 6:30 p.m. Reservations online through eventbrite.com. Destination Italy.

## **June 10-11**

Blow Your Own beer mugs and whiskey sippers for Father's Day. Saladoglassworks.com.

## **June 10-11**

Second Annual 3C Revival Rodeo, 7:30 p.m., 3C Cowboy Fellowship, 16258 Gooseneck Rd. Free admission.

## **June 11**

Salado Reunion, Salado High School. Lunch is catered by Red's from Hutto, \$14.00 a plate. Contact Debbie Wigley for lunch reservations, 254-718-5037.

## **June 11-12**

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

## **June 17-18**

Blow Your Own beer mugs and whiskey sippers for Father's Day. Saladoglassworks.com.

## **June 18**

Salado Springs Beer Festival at Barrow Brewing Co.

## **June 24**

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

## **June 24**

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

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*A lithograph depicts a scene from As You Like It, artist unknown. Work is in the Public Doman. (commons.wikimedia.org)*

## Shakespeare on the Rock presents As You Like It

Tablerock Amphitheater presents Shakespeare on the Rock June 3-4 with a performance of As You Like It.

The play will be performed by the theater department of McClennan Community College, under the direction of Kelly Parker, MCC's Director of Theater.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for 12 and under. Gates open at 6:30 p.m. with the play starting at 7:30 p.m.

# Salado's Cowboy Poetry & Music Gathering



May 5 - 8

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*Salado Community Chorus wants you to mark your calendars for their return to performing this spring. The spring concert is slated for 7 p.m. April 26 at the First Baptist Church of Salado. "Won't you come and support us as we have worked hard to bring this concert to you," said publicity chair Marjorie Hairsto. "Guaranteed to make you feel like singing." (Photo by Marilyn Fleischer)*



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# Farming for Future workshop set June 1-2 at Shady Villa

Soil Regen, a soil health consulting and education company, expects 150 farmers and ag professionals for its two-day Farming for the Future workshop June 1-2 at the Shady Villa Hotel in Salado.

Farming for the Future provides workshop participants with a practical boots-on-the-ground educational experience. The workshop will provide actionable information about understanding ag systems to reduce inputs; weed and pest management in various operations; advanced regenerative techniques; soil testing and nutrient management; and soil carbon and microbial dynamics.

Farming for the Future begins at 8:30 a.m. June 1 at the Shady Villa Hotel with an opening address by Rick Clark, innovator and regenerative/organic farmer from Williamsport, IN. Clark uses non-GMO seeds, crop diversity, and livestock to improve soils and reduce inputs for reduced cost of production. He will set the tone of the event by describing the concept of "farming green." Attendees will then hear from regenerative farmer Adam Chappell, from Cotton Plant,

AR. Adam raises cotton, soy, corn, and rice on his and his brother's farm using reduced seeding rates, cover crops, and other regenerative management techniques to reduce inputs and increase ROI. Following lunch, Russell Hedrick, first generation farmer from North Carolina, will share his experience in regenerative farming, nutrient management, and diversifying his operations. Jimmy Emmons, regenerative rancher and farmer from Leedey, OK, will discuss ROI on his cow/calf and row crop operations.

Throughout both days, there will be farmer panels followed by "Shop Talk" sessions, where farmers can ask questions and steer the conversation to topics those in attendance want to discuss. The speakers and other regenerative ag leaders will provide transparency regarding their successes and failures to help with the details of implementing soil health practices and nutrient management on each farmer's operation.

To wrap up the day, attendees are invited to attend an exclusive networking social hour with the farmers, speakers, and soil health leaders at Barrow Brewing Company

from 4:30 to 8 p.m. June 1. Hecho en Queso will be on site for homemade Mexican Fusion food made to order.

Day two will begin with a keynote address from Rick Haney, developer of the Haney Test, former USDA-ARS researcher, and Chief Scientific Officer of Regen Ag Lab. Producers will then gain first-hand knowledge of soil testing for soil health and fertility from Lance Gunderson, owner of Regen Ag Lab. Participants then can experience the charm of Salado on their own for lunch. Following lunch, attendees will enjoy a keynote address from Rick Clark.

Operators will then experience a panel discussion regarding nutrient management, followed by more "Shop Talk" sessions. The day will conclude at 4:30 p.m.

Registration is available at [www.agsoilregen.com/events](http://www.agsoilregen.com/events). Tickets are \$150 for the two-day workshop. Sponsorships are available at varying levels for booths, meal sponsorships, and farmer scholarships.

For inquiries and sponsorships contact: Liz Haney, [liz.haney@agsoilregen.com](mailto:liz.haney@agsoilregen.com), 979-229-7538



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# Salado Cowboy Poetry & Music Gathering May 5-8

## Thursday, May 5

**7:00 p.m. Kick Off Event** Celebrating Salado's Western Heritage in "cahoots" with the Salado Cultural Arts' District. Enjoy appetizers and cowboy music and view local western art by high school students. Salado Museum & College Park, 423 S. Main St., Salado, TX.

## Friday, May 6

**7:00 p.m.** Friday Night Concert, Heritage Country Church, 9929 Lark Trail, Salado, TX. The Master of Ceremonies for this event is local KCEN TV meteorologist/cowboy Andy Andersen and Ronnie Sexton. Performers for the Friday Night concert are Chris Isaacs, Gary Allegretto, Don Cadden, Teresa Burleson, Fred Fuller, & Devon and the Outlaw. Tickets are \$30.00 per person and can be purchased at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/salados-cowboy-poetry-music-gathering-tickets-170656326667> The doors will open at 6:00 p.m. for an opportunity to browse a store featuring items by the performing musicians/poets. Ample parking provided.

## Saturday, May 7

**7:30 a.m.-4:45 p.m.** "Kit N' Caboodle" Concerts. Rotating concerts all day Saturday. Performers are sponsored by Humanities Texas. "This program was made possible in part with a grant from Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities."

Kit N' Caboodle Concerts will be held at the Salado Civic Center, the Gazebo on the grounds of the Salado Civic Center and the Historic Cabins. All are located at 601 N Main St, Salado, TX

**7:30 a.m.** Good Morning, Early Risers  
Maxdale Cowboy Church, chuck wagon coffee at the historic cabins

**8-8:45 a.m.** Mornin' Melodies and Golden Memories: Fred Fuller, Gary Allegretto, Robert Isaacs, Chris Isaacs at the historic cabins

**9-9:45 a.m.** First Thing Tomorrow Morning  
Fred Fuller, Teresa Burleson, Don Cadden, Robert Isaacs at the historic cabins

(MC) Bill Lutz, J.C. Penny, Gary Allegretto, Chris Isaacs, Don Cadden at the gazebo

Grady Lee, Teresa Burleson, Jim Cathey upstairs at the Civic Center

**10-10:45 a.m.** Good Times in Bad Weather  
Fred Fuller, Jean and Gary Prescott, Jim Cathey, Robert Isaacs at the historic cabins

Bill Lutz, Gary Allegretto, Rick Mahaffey, Don Cadden at the gazebo

(MC) Grady Lee, Salado H.S. Poets, Cal Farley Kids, Chris Isaacs, Teresa Burleson. J.C. Penny upstairs at the Civic Center

**11-11:45 a.m.** Friends Along the Trail  
Fred Fuller, Glenn Moreland, Washtub Jerry, Rick Mahaffey, Gary Allegretto at the historic cabins

Bill Lutz, Jeff Gore, Robert Isaacs, Chris Isaacs at the gazebo

Grady Lee, Kristyn Harris, Teresa Burleson, Don Cadden upstairs at the Civic Center

**12-1 p.m.** Gary Allegretto's Learn to Play Cowboy Harmonic Instantly Workshop. Join the world-famous "Harmonicowboy" and have a blast as you effortlessly learn to accurately play the West's most beloved instrument! No musical abil-



*Learn to play the harmonica with Gary Allegretto. (Photo by Royce Wiggin)*

ity or experience needed and everything is provided. Attendees are fully entertained and then receive shiny new harmonicas (that they keep) on which through Gary's award-winning no-fail method they joyfully learn to play four songs in lightning speed guaranteed or get your money back and keep the harmonica. ALL AGES. Only \$20 gets you a harmonica, music sheet booklet, and a lifelong musical talent.

**1-1:45 p.m.** Bad Lands & Good Folks  
Fred Fuller, Glenn Moreland, Washtub Jerry, Rick Mahaffey, Kristyn Harris at the cabins  
Bill Lutz, Jean and Gary Prescott, Jim Cathey, J.C. Penny at the gazebo

Grady Lee, Jay Snider, Straw Berry, Jeff Gore upstairs at the Civic Center

**2-2:45 p.m.** Hop-a-long Wouldn't Have Done It That Way!

Fred Fuller, Jean and Gary Prescott at the historic cabins

Bill Lutz, Kristyn Harris, Jay Snider at the gazebo

Grady Lee, Straw Berry, Glenn Moreland, Washtub Jerry, Jeff Gore upstairs at the Civic Center

**3-3:45 p.m.** Heroes or Outlaws  
Bill Lutz, Jeff Gore, Rick Mahaffey, Glenn Moreland and Washtub Jerry at the gazebo

Grady Lee, Jay Snider, Straw Berry, Jean and Gary Prescott at the Civic Center

**4-4:45 p.m.** Round-Up  
Jay Snider, Jeff Gore, Kristyn Harris, Jean and Gary Prescott at the gazebo

**7:00 p.m.** Saturday Night Concert, Heritage Country Church, 9929 Lark Trail, Salado, TX. The Master of Ceremonies for this event is local KCEN TV meteorologist/cowboy Andy Andersen. Performers for the Saturday Night concert are Strawberry, Kristyn Harris, Jeff Gore, Jay Snider, Glenn Moreland with Washtub Jerry, Gary Prescott, Jean Prescott. The doors will open at 6:00 p.m. for an opportunity to browse a store featuring items of the performing musicians/poets. Ample parking provided. Tickets are \$30.00 per person and can be purchased at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/salados-cowboy-poetry-music-gathering-tickets-170656326667>

## Sunday, May 8

**10:00 a.m.** Heritage Country Church Services with Jeff Gore 9929 Lark Trail, Salado.

**2:00 p.m.** Mother's Day Celebration, Heritage Country Church, 9929 Lark Trail, Fellowship Hall Free concert with Jeff Gore and local churches gospel singers and poetry honoring all mothers.



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# Sounds over Salado music fest April 23-24

White Denim from Austin and The Stone Foxes will headline over two nights at the first ever 'Sounds Over Salado' music festival in Salado, Texas in late April. Austin favorites, White Denim headline on April 23 and The Stone Foxes from San Francisco headline on April 24.

These are just two of 11 bands being brought together to rock the stages at Barrow Brewing Co. at 108 Royal St.

White Denim are the powerhouse Austin outfit, well known for tight, intense, eclectic, and experimental rock and roll and exhilarating live shows.

The Stone Foxes are known for their gritty, dirty, swampy, barnstorming blues. - The perfect foot stomping act on which to end the weekend.

Apart from headliners White

Denim, other artists playing April 23 are Neal Francis, Go-Fever, Lo Talker, Zach Person.

And the day kicks off with Better Strangers, the Miami band featuring Phil Collin's son Nic.

The April 24 lineup starts with Sound Bath featuring Walker Lukens, followed by Raze Regal with James Petrali, Moving Panoramas, Walker Lukens.

The Stone Foxes end the show with their gritty, sweaty, electrifying blues.

Multiple foods trucks will be on site, serving up a variety of delicious traditional and exotic fare.

Tickets are available through Ticketbud at <https://radiomilk.ticketbud.com/sounds-over-salado-2022>



*The Stone Foxes headline April 24.*



*White Denim headline April 23.*

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*The Annual Texas Packard Meet will be held March 31-April 3 in Salado. It is the oldest regional Packard meet in the country and one of the largest. This meet is sponsored by the Texas Packard Association, - comprised of the four Packard Clubs in Texas. Typically there are 40 to 70 cars and well over 100 master registrations. Participants enjoy a tour, all Packard swap meet, people's choice competition, seminars, and awards dinner. Packard lovers from all over the country compete for the long distance award. The cars will be on display April 2 at the Holiday Inn Express, the host hotel for the event. Packards were once seen as some of the most prestigious on the market. The founder of the company, James Ward Packard, was an engineer by trade and began producing automobiles as early as 1899. The first Packards were designed as luxury automobiles and were priced much higher than the competition. In 1902, the Ohio Automobile Company was renamed The Packard Motor Car Company and moved to Detroit. The last Packard came off of the assembly-line in 1958. More information can be found at the website [texaspackardmeet.com](http://texaspackardmeet.com)*

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# Remembering Van Bibbers of Salado's Stagecoach Inn

By *Tim Fleischer*  
Editor-in-Chief

Ruth Van Bibber was known -- perhaps even feared -- by the clicking of her heels.

"She wore high heels and they clicked when she walked," said Janet Gravette, Ruth's great niece. "And depending upon the frequency of the clicking of her heels, it showed how bad you did something."

The late Ruth Van Bibber and her husband Dion purchased the Shady Villa Inn in the early 1940s, restored the historic building and opened it as Stagecoach Inn on south Main (then Highway 81).

Janet began visiting her great aunt in Salado as a child. "I was six the first time we visited Aunt Ruth," Gravette recalled. "I remember sitting in the old main house

See *Van Bibbers*, Page 36



*Ruth Van Bibber in her well-known heels. (Bratton Family Collection)*



*Dion Van Bibber at Stagecoach Inn. (Bratton Family Collection)*

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# Shopping Map of historic Salado

**North**



**Map Legend**

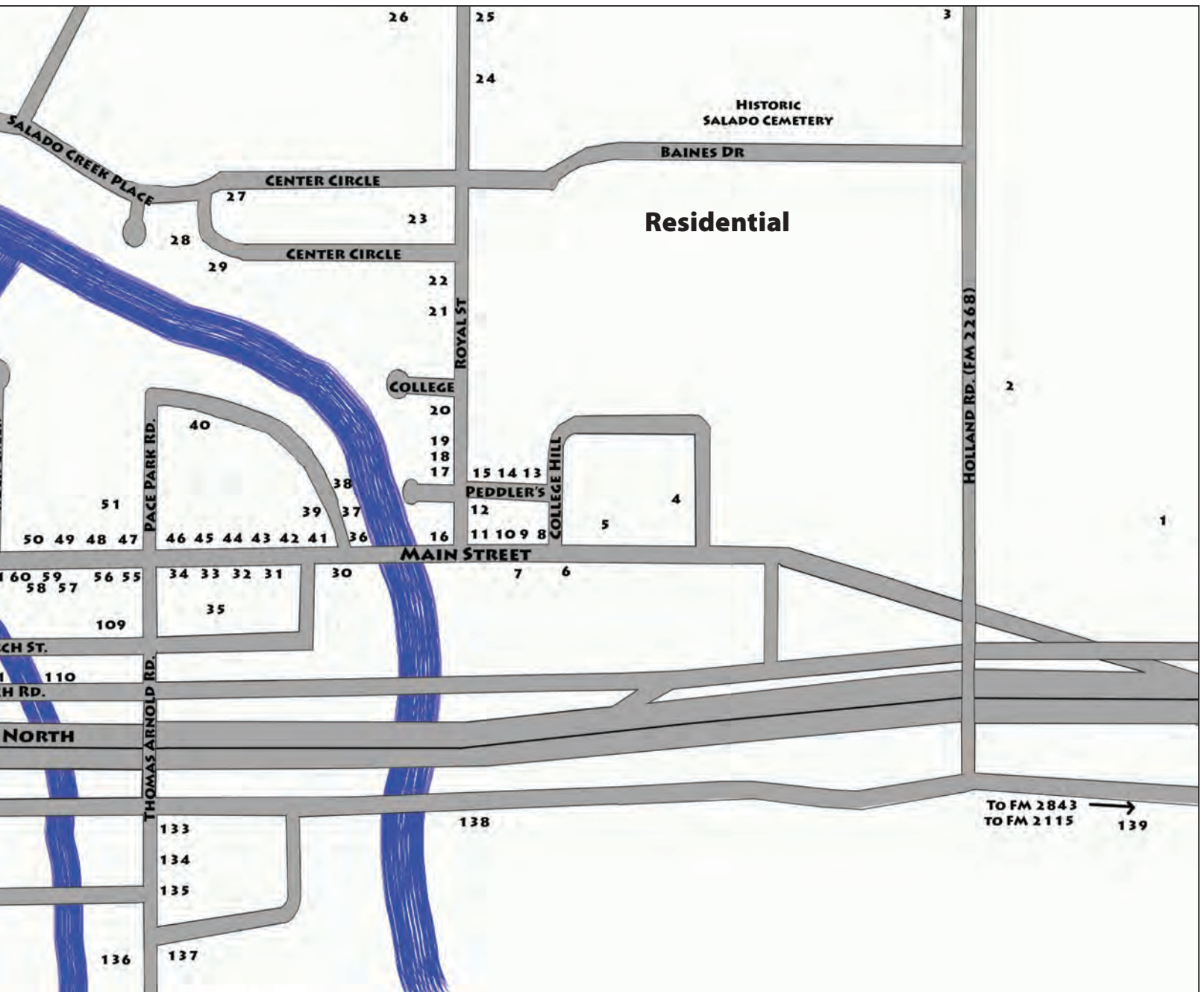
- S** Shopping
- A** Art and Galleries
- L** Lodging
- D** Dining and Drinks
- V** Venues & Sights
- \$** Services
- C** Churches and Education

| #  | Business Name                    |    |
|----|----------------------------------|----|
| 2  | St. Stephen Catholic Church      | C  |
| 3  | Yellow House B & B               | L  |
| 5  | Salado College Park              | V  |
| 7  | Stagecoach Inn                   | D  |
| 8  | Salado Museum                    | V  |
|    | Salado Chamber of Commerce       | \$ |
|    | Salado Visitors Center           | \$ |
|    | Village of Salado Tourism Office | \$ |
| 9  | Sofi's                           | S  |
| 10 | Chupacabra Craft Beer & Kitchen  | D  |
| 11 | Bentons                          | A  |

|    |                                       |     |
|----|---------------------------------------|-----|
| 12 | FSG Jewelry                           | A   |
| 14 | Salado Glassworks                     | A   |
| 15 | Rio Salado Cocina y Cantina           | D   |
| 16 | Sugar Shack                           | S/D |
|    | Sirril Art Gallery                    | A   |
| 17 | Barrow Brewery Company                | D   |
|    | Happy Pizza Co.                       | D   |
| 20 | 300 Royal                             | S   |
| 21 | The Venue                             | V   |
|    | Village Spa                           | \$  |
| 22 | The Shed                              | D   |
| 23 | Salado Creek Healing                  | \$  |
| 24 | Tablerock Amphitheater                | V   |
| 26 | Salado United Methodist Church        | C   |
| 29 | Alexander's Craft Cocktails & Kitchen | D   |
| 29 | Inn on the Creek                      | L   |
| 30 | First Baptist Church                  | C   |
| 32 | First Texas Brokerage                 | \$  |
| 34 | First Community Title                 | \$  |
| 40 | W.A. Pace Memorial Park               | V   |
| 42 | Susan Marie's                         | S   |
| 43 | The Strawberry Patch                  | S   |
| 44 | Prellop Fine Art Gallery              | A   |
| 49 | 21 Main                               | S   |
| 49 | Christy's of Salado                   | S   |
| 49 | Lively Coffeehouse and Bistro         | D   |

|    |  |    |
|----|--|----|
| 49 | Main Street Social                     | D  |
| 52 | Solas Gallery & Village Framer         | S  |
| 57 | Mud Pies Pottery                       | S  |
|    | and Sir Wigglesworth Fudge             | D  |
| 58 | The Shoppes on Main                    | S  |
|    | The Marketplace Cafe                   | D  |
| 60 | Salado Creek Jewelers                  | S  |
| 62 | The Pizza Place                        | D  |
| 64 | Griffith Fine Art Gallery              | S  |
| 67 | The Buddy Schwab Group                 | \$ |
| 69 | McCain's Bakery & Cafe                 | D  |
| 70 | Wells Gallery                          | \$ |
| 76 | Salado Civic Center                    | \$ |
| 81 | Salado Wine Seller & Salado Winery Co. | D  |
| 82 | St. Joseph's Episcopal Church          | C  |
| 84 | Old Town Salado Shopping Center        |    |
|    | Pen Station                            | S  |
|    | Salado Olive Oil Company               | S  |
|    | Serendipity Salado                     | S  |
|    | Sophistikatz Beads & Gifts             | S  |
|    | The Rose & Bee                         | S  |
| 85 | Wild Texas Cowgirl                     | S  |
|    | Salado Creek Foods                     | S  |
| 86 | Village Mill Antiques                  | S  |
| 87 | Bill Bartlett - Century 21             | \$ |





## Residential

- 90 Presbyterian Church of Salado C
- 92 Salado Sculpture Garden A
- 96 Salado Village Voice S
- 97 Brookshire Brothers S
- 100 Salado Public Library C
- 113 Salado Church of Christ C
- 114 Village of Salado Municipal Building S
- 114 Village of Salado Police Department S
- 116 Salado Creek Antiques S
- 119 Salado Antique Mall S
- Salado Market Days S
- 130 Village Spirits S
- 136 Salado Schools & Stadium C
- 139 Cedar Valley Baptist Church C
  
- Not Shown on the Shopping Map**
- Britt Heating & Air S
- Coldwell Banker Real Estate S
- Nancy Best S
- Don Ringler (Belton) S
- Garlyn Shelton Auto Group S
- Pazmino Dentistry S
- The View at the Creek V

## Historical Markers in Salado

- 5. Salado Historic College Hill
- 6. Shady Villa Hotel
- 7. Main Street Bridge
- 16. Barber-Berry Mercantile
- 23. George Washington Baines House
- 24. Historic Dipping Vats
- 25. Archibald J. Rose Mansion
- 26. Old Methodist Chapel
- 27. Caskey-Hendricks House
- 28. Dr. B.D. McKie Place (Twelve Oaks)
- 29. Alexander's Distillery
- 30. First Baptist Church
- 31. Orville T. Tyler House
- 35. Salado Masonic Lodge #296
- 45. The Anderson House
- 46. Old Saloon
- 48. The Norton-Orgain House
- 50. Welborn Barton House
- 51. Levi Tenny House
- 55. Armstrong Adams House

- 61. Historic Dodd's Creek Lenticular Bridge
- 72. The Vickrey House
- 76. Boles-Aiken & Denman Cabins
- 77. Robert B. Halley House
- 79. William Reed Cabin
- 100. The Josiah Fowler House
- 113. Salado Church of Christ
- 125. White-Aiken House
- 138. Elijah Sterling Clack Robertson Plantation

## Public Art in Salado

- 6. Col. Robertson Statue
- 7. Sirena
- 16. Turtle limestone carving at the Creek
- 50. The Lovers
- Chisholm Trail limestone carving
- 61. The Troll at the Bridge
- 61. Tree Fairy at the Bridge (look up!)
- 70. Sculpture by Ronnie Wells
- 76. Late Agony by Troy Kelley at Civic Center
- 80. Limestone Carving
- 92. Salado Sculpture Garden
- 100. Reading by Ronnie Wells at Salado Library

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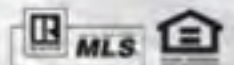
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*The Masonic Lodges of Bell County (District 48 Grand Lodge of Texas) will host a Crawfish Boil beginning at 11 a.m. April 9 at Barrow Brewing Co., 108 Royal St. in Salado. Tickets are \$20 per person and proceeds benefit the charitable and community work of the six Masonic lodges in Bell County: Belton #166, Salado #296, Knob Creek #401, Zerle #615, Killeen #1125 and King Solomon #1427.*

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# Salado Organizes Free Public School District, 1874

By Charlene Carson  
Local Historian

“Has Salado ever had a one-room school-house?” This is a question that former, long-time Salado resident and historian, Byron Bunker (1903-1992), was asked many times.

His answer was, “I doubt if we ever had a one-room school, but I know that in 1908 there was a three-room school house.”<sup>1</sup> He further explained that when he started school in 1908, he started in a three-room building that sat due west of the Tyler house.

When thinking of early Salado schools, one immediately thinks of Salado College. Indeed, while Salado College earned a well-deserved reputation of excellence and was critical to the growth of early Salado, it was not the first and only school in the Salado area.

The first school in the Salado area was established in 1849, eleven years prior to the establishment of Salado College, on the lower Salado Creek near the site of the J. Morton (Mote) Smith Mill. This school was taught by E.N. Goode in the residence formerly occupied by Abner Kuykendall. The second teacher was a man named Edrington.<sup>2</sup>

In the mid-1850s, another school was established at Prairie Dell, four or five miles south of Salado. This school would later be consolidated with the Salado schools. The Prairie Dell schoolhouse was made of raw-hide lumber and was near the home of J.C. Bonner. William Carroll Sybert of Milam County was the first teacher.<sup>3</sup>

Prior to 1854, if a community wanted a school for its children, the community had to pay the teacher's salary and provide the schoolhouse. The Common School Law of 1854, signed by Texas Governor Elisha Pease, officially launched the Texas public school system. This law provided funds for teachers' salaries, leaving the community to provide its own schoolhouse.<sup>4</sup>

In January 1874, six years before the Salado College charter expired, the College Board of Trustees, took steps to organize a free public school district for Salado and



## Salado Free Public School, 1911

*In 1911, I. G. Jones was the superintendent of the Salado Free Public School and Mrs. I.G. Jones, Miss Irene Howard, and Miss Ethel Barnet were the teachers. (Doyle, Davis K. The Bell County Democrat (Belton, Tex.) Vol. 15, No.55, Ed. 1 Tuesday, February 7, 1911. The Portal to Texas History, texashistory.unt.edu, University of North Texas Libraries.)*

vicinity. Major A. J. Rose, Judge John E. King, and Dr. D. H. Armstrong were elected trustees of the new public school district and worked closely and harmoniously with the College trustees in carrying out this purpose.<sup>5</sup>

## Location and Description of Salado's First Public School Building:

Byron Bunker once wrote the schoolhouse was located on about four acres due west of the O.T. Tyler house on the north side of the house used as the offices of the First Baptist Church. Bunker further stated that the building was very old, and made of

lumber with peeling paint.<sup>6</sup>

The original building was three rooms with a large hall connecting each of the rooms. There was one room on the north and then one room on each side of about a 12-foot-wide hallway. The entrance was at the front of the old hallway. There was also an entrance to each of the three rooms off of the hallway.

The interior hallway walls could be raised to make a large auditorium. They'd have plays and musicals like they did in the old college. The ceiling was a beaded ceiling.

Later in about 1910, they built a fourth room in front, on the south, and it was built on the side of the hill. The old, original school was almost flat on the ground, made

*See Salado's First Public School, page 34*

# Fine China Luncheon set June 7

Salado Area Republican Women have great plans to celebrate the 15th anniversary Fine China Luncheon and Fundraiser on June 7 in the Blue Heron Room 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.

There are still openings for individuals 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, they have the option of selling to as many for their table as they wish.

Classic Events of Texas will cater the meal for the event.

Information about sponsoring a table or for ticket information contact Barclay McCort, Third Vice President of Fundraising, at [barclaymccort@gmail.com](mailto:barclaymccort@gmail.com) or at 254 760-4266.

Proceeds from all SARW sponsored projects fund civic, educational, military, and political campaigns. In addition, the club awards two scholarships annually.



*Tables will be colorfully decorated for the annual Salado Area Republican Women's Association Fine China Luncheon on June 7 in the Blue Heron Room of Tenroc Ranch. (Courtesy photo)*

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# Salado Springs Beer Festival returns to



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After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the Salado Springs Beer Festival returns on June 18.

Barrow Brewing Company and their brewer buds from all over Central Texas will celebrate the brotherhood that is craft beer every Father's Day weekend. It's the perfect way to toast your pops and enjoy time with family and friends on the beautiful Salado Creek.

There will be live musical entertainment throughout the day, along with Epic Axe Throwing, Face Painting, AmuricaTX photo booth, a Dunk Booth (fundraising for the Volunteer Fire Department) and Epic Entertainment Bounce House and Slide.

For tickets and a schedule of performers and participating breweries, visit <https://barrowbrewing.com/salado-springs-beer-fest>.

Free parking with shuttle service is available at: Salado Civic Center, 601 N. Main Street; Salado Methodist Church, 650 Royal Street and Tablerock Amphitheater, 409 Royal Street.

Attendees may bring lawn chairs with you but tents, canopies, ice chests, outside food and drink will not be allowed into the festival.



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# Salado's first public school house

*Story continued from page 28*

of big heavy timbers set on cedar posts. The entrance was open so that you could go into the new part of the school for the social things of the school like box suppers and plays.

Prof. O.H. McOmber, who had graduated from the University of Michigan in 1858 and who was principal of the McOmber Institute in Hallettsville, joined the faculty of Salado College as a teacher for the opening session of 1876.

On September 10, 1877, the trustees of Salado Free Public School engaged Prof. McOmber as President of Salado College Public Free School No. 32. The trustees also named Maj. H.A. Cousins, Mrs. M. Purdrom, Miss M.R. Burt, and E.L. Faupel as teachers. J. and W. Thompson were janitors at the school.<sup>7</sup>

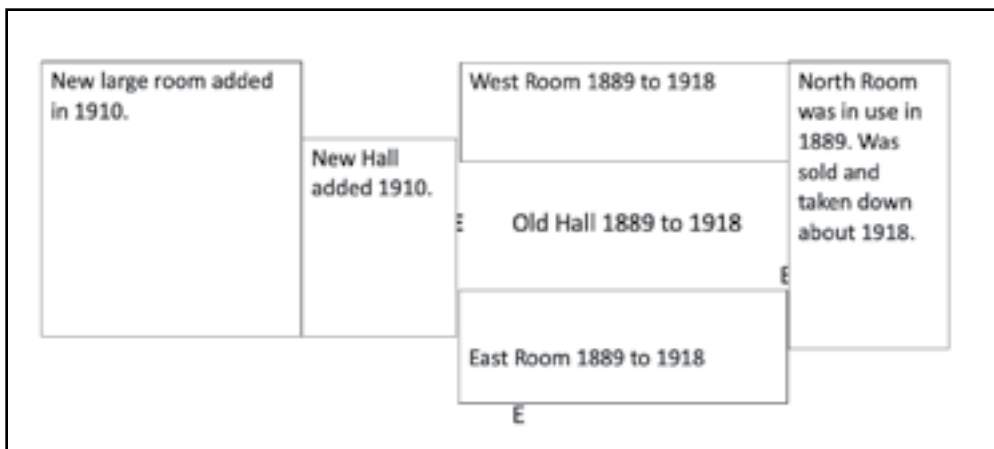
The charter for Salado College expired in February 1880. In 1882, a private corporation formed the new Salado College, and took charge of the buildings and maintained the school until 1885 when its charter expired.

Felda Davis Shanklin (1880-1962), a former Salado resident and historian, once wrote that in 1885 the property of the Salado College was turned over to the Salado public schools and was used by the public school until 1890. It was during this time that she started to school.<sup>8</sup>

## Starting School in the Salado College Building:

In 1888, children did not start to school until they were 8 years old. Miss Rosa Lou Smith, later Mrs. Frank Andrews of Houston, was Felda's first grade teacher whom she dearly loved and thought her the prettiest lady in Salado. Miss Maggie Butler was another first grade teacher. Her second-grade teacher was Miss Mary Bennett of Belton.

The College had two play grounds – one for the girls and one for the boys. Felda once said that the girls' playground was not very good, so the girls usually played in a grove of trees on the banks of Smith Branch which was usually dry. Felda also described the hill-sides as being covered with wild snap-dragons which the girls picked and popped in their hands. There were also milkweeds on which the bumblebees fed. The bees with a spot on their heads wouldn't sting so the



*This diagram shows the layout of the first Salado public school house. Created by author Charlene Carson.*

girls caught them with their cupped hands, tied a thread around their body and put a small stick on the other end of the string so they could fly in short circles. The girls staked them out on a milkweed when the bell rang and they had to go inside.

## Going to School in a Church:

Felda went to public school which was taught in the College building until 1890 when the property was leased to Dr. Samuel J. Jones, who established a private academy called Thomas Arnold High School. Dr. Jones had been principal of Salado College from 1884-1885. He had resigned to accept a position at Sam Houston College in Huntsville.

When Dr. Jones came back to Salado, he brought his bride with him. Dr. Jones, assisted by his wife, Charlotte Hallaran Jones, operated Thomas Arnold High School for the next 23 years, 1890-1913.

Salado's free public school, organized in 1874, ran concurrently with Thomas Arnold High School. Since the college building, where the public school was meeting, had been leased to Dr. Samuel Jones, the public school had to seek other quarters.

The local Church of Christ, whose minister the Rev. William K. Hamblen was a school trustee, offered the use of their church as a temporary school site while a new building was erected for the public school.

A partition was placed down the center of the church house, dividing it into two rooms. Professor Smoot was the principal and Miss Mary Bennett taught the primary students.

For several years before and after the

turn-of-the-century, male teachers were honored with the title of professor. When a school had more than one teacher the head teacher was given the title of principal, and other teachers were called assistants. The principal always taught the highest grades and the assistant or assistants taught the primary grades.<sup>9</sup>

## New School Ready for Occupancy, 1889

Work on the new schoolhouse began in earnest and by the Fall of 1889, the new Salado public schoolhouse was finished and ready for occupancy.

Felda was in the fourth grade when the new school opened. Her teacher that year was Miss Martha Barton and when she was in the intermediate grades, Miss Ada Du-board was her teacher.

When Felda completed the fifth grade, she was promoted to Professor Bainbridge's room. Everyone looked forward to being in Professor Bainbridge's class. He had a way of making learning meaningful. In the spring Professor Bainbridge taught botany and each student brought a small microscope to use in class. Professor Bainbridge brought flowers for the students to study and on one occasion they hiked up the creek and studied unusual plants. Felda once commented that it was in Bainbridge's botany class that she first learned all the parts of a flower.

The eighth grade was added to public school about this time and this brought older children into the school.

Ruth Berry Brown (1899-2000), whose parents had bought the Halley house in

*See Salado College, Page 42*

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# Van Bibbers worried about effect of I-35

Continued from page 22

eating fried chicken. Ruth tasted it and got up and said, 'that gravy needs straightening out.' Off she went to the kitchen, her heels clicking. I remember that sound and so did her employees."

Ruth straightened it out. Evidently Ruth straightened out a lot of things. Her husband Dion was the charming, smiling and flirting face of the Stagecoach Inn. "He greeted everyone who came through the door," Janet recalled. "Ruth worked her recipes in the kitchen."

Janet came that summer in 1956 with her father Bill Bratton, nephew of the Van Bibbers. "They needed help enclosing the kitchen," Janet explained. "Before that, it was a detached shed with three sides."

Janet confided to the audience why they traveled from California to central Texas every year. "My father made a promise to his mother while she was on her deathbed that he would look after and take care of her sister Ruth."

Ruth and Dion were married shortly before her sister passed away. She had owned a chain of beauty shops in the Dallas area with some success. After getting married, the Van Bibbers took a leap and moved to Salado to open the Stagecoach Inn.

"Ruth had two strong-willed men in her life who had the exact same goal -- to take care of Ruth," Janet said.

"On the surface, the Van Bibbers made it look so easy," she said, "but it was never easy for them."

Janet told the audience that from reading her father's journals, she could see that the Van Bibbers "really had to struggle to make it happen. In 1942 they bought the property and were always under-capitalized. It was if they didn't own the building, more like the building owned them."

"Their employees became their family," Janet said, recalling the close relationships between the Van Bibbers and Marilyn Ragsdale and Geneva Aiken. "They remember the sounds of those heels clicking, too!"

In the 50s, the Van Bibbers sold the property to a couple from Waco, a story recently told by Carol Wilson in the Salado Village Voice and the current edition of "Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas."

"They came back in as managers of the property and eventually bought it back," she said.

And then I-35 came along in the mid-



*The Stagecoach Inn Kitchen Crew from 1957 is shown above. With the help of Marilyn Ragsdale, Dennis Cabaniss and Janet Gravette, we have identified most of these smiling faces from the past. From left to right: Ruthene Arnold Warrick, Opal Brooks, Geraldine Evans, Unknown, Naomi Wolff, Virgie, Unknown, Eulala Copeland, Emma Fielder. If you know of any of these missing names, or have corrections, please call Salado Village Voice at 254.947.5321.*

50s. "Dion was worried that it would by-pass Salado, ruin the town and kill the Stagecoach Inn," she said.

But where Dion saw disaster, Bratton saw opportunity. "It's located midway between San Antonio and Dallas, between Waco and Austin," she said. "He saw opportunity there."

"My dad found investors and took out loans to build the hotel," she said.

Stagecoach Inn passed out of the Van Bibber and Bratton family in 1999 when it was sold to Morris Foster.

"Ruth and Van were the most interesting couple I have ever known," Gravette said.

Salado was dry. Really dry. As in you can't buy booze anywhere at that time. But Dion kept some stashed away in the basement. According to the obituary that appeared in Salado Village Voice at the time of Dion's death in 1985: "Right after World War II, my friend and others would stop in Salado regularly for a meal at the Inn. If the hour was past 5, and Mr. Van knew the party, he would mix up a pitcher of his incomparable Martinis and bring it to the table.

'It's against the law,' he would say, 'for me to sell these drinks. But there's no law to prevent me from serving my friends a complimentary cocktail before dinner.'"

Janet remembers afternoon teas when she visited Salado. "I had tea with Grace Jones, Thelma Fletcher, Mrs. de Grummond," she said, "because that is what you did when you visited Ruth."



*Bill Bratton with a construction foreman during the building of the motel complex at Stagecoach Inn. (Bratton family collection)*

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# Earth Day Celebration & Plant Sale

**April 16, 10:00am**  
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- Native Plants, Shrubs, & Tree Sale
- Native Plant Society of Texas Speakers
- Samples of organic soil & mulch
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- Birds, Bees, Butterflies ● Kids Activities
- Monarch Migration

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## SVFD goes up in smoke

Salado Volunteer Fire Department 2nd Annual Up in Smoke Bar-B-Que Cookoff will be held on the grounds of Fire Station #2, 3520 FM 2484, Salado on April 29-30.

The Bar-B-Que cook-off has a 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. 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 29 at 8 p.m.

Beans judging will be at 11 a.m. April 30.

There will be Cornhole tournaments on the grounds beginning at 7:15 p.m. April 29 with \$25 entry. First place wins 50% of the cash. Landon Heights will perform at 7 p.m. April 29.

Bloody Mary judging will kick off early at 8:10 a.m. April 30. Beans judging at 11 a.m., Chicken at 12 noon, Ribs at 1:30 p.m., Brisket at 3 p.m. and Awards presentation at 5:30 p.m.

Raffle tickets will be available for \$20 each or six for \$100. Guns to be raffled off include a Glock19 5 9 mm pistol, Stoeger Camo 20 ga. pump shotgun, RUGER American 300 Blk, KelTe PMR30 .22WMR Pistol and a S&W 642-2 .38spl+p Revolver. The guns will be raffled on May 2.

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

# Mud Pies Pottery

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# Taste of Salado April 25 at Tenroc

The Public Arts League of Salado is holding its annual "Taste of Salado" event on April 25, 6:30 pm at Tenroc Ranch.

Salado restaurants will be sharing some of their special dishes. Salado wineries and the brewery will be offering unique wines and beers to taste. Participating in the event are these local businesses: Restaurants: Mel's Gourmet Delights & Pastries, Stagecoach Restaurant, Rio Salado, Greenfield's, Chupacabra Kitchen, Strawberry Patch, Market Place Cafe, McCain's Bakery and Cafe, The Barton House Restaurant, MC3 Catering at Summer's Mill, Barrow Brewing Company and Axis Winery

There will be a silent auction of local talent and items as well as a live auction of outstanding events and destinations.

A \$30 ticket includes a drawing, food, wine, beer and one glass of wine.

Come join the fun and support local public art.

The Taste of Salado will also have a Silent Auction and a Live Auction gavelled by County Commissioner Bobby Whitson.

Among the items to be sold at the Live Auction are these: Passes to The Vanishing River Cruise out of Buchanan Lake; season passes to Temple Symphony; Tandem Sky Dive from Sky Dive Temple; tickets to Zachary Scott theatre production of Sound of Music; 2 session of dance from Aurthur Murray Dance studio; 4 tickets to Round Rock Express game; 8 tickets to Cultural Arts Center music series; Catered Breakfast for 8; Guided fishing trip for 2; Paint-a-long for 6; Llama walk at the Llama Farm in Troy.



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### **3C Revival Rodeo June 10-11**

The Cowboys and Cowgirls are coming to Salado for the Second Annual 3C Revival Rodeo June 10-11 at the 3C Cowboy Fellowship arena, 16258 Gooseneck Rd.

Events for the two-day rodeo revival will begin at 7:30 p.m. Gates open at 5:30 p.m.

Cadillac Rodeo Company is providing the stock for the rodeo, which is a CPRA/UPRA event.

Events will include Team Roping, Tie-Down Roping, Bull Riding, Steer Wrestling, Saddle Bronc Riding, Bareback Riding, Barrel Racing, Ranch Bronc Riding and Mutton Busting (for the kids).

Admission is free and there will be revival speakers both nights.

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# Public school housed in old Salado College

*Story continued from Page 34*

1909 or the later part of 1908 once stated that the old three-room school was where she and her sister Naomi started to school in September of 1908.<sup>10</sup> She was 9 years old and her sister was a year younger, and that they went there for several years. She said that Miss May McDonald and Miss Minnie Bargas (Vargas?) were the teachers and Professor Stubblefield was the superintendent or principal.

Among Ruth's girl friends were Edna May Cawthon, Rozelle Russell, Frances Bunker, Athena Vickrey, and Leland Hunter. This group of friends, as well as others, walked from the Halley House to school every morning and then walked home together in the afternoon.

School started at 8:00 o'clock. When the teacher walked into the room, the students stood and said the pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag. After a prayer was said aloud, usually by the teacher, the students sat at their desks and the lessons for the day began. There was a 10:00 o'clock recess to get water and go to the outhouse and then lunch. At 2:00 o'clock there was another recess and school dismissed about 3:30 in the afternoon.

Children brought their own lunch which they carried in little tin lunch boxes. Since Ruth's father worked as the bookkeeper for her grandfather Berry's mercantile store, Ruth and her sister usually carried their lunch in the little boxes that things would come in to the store.

Ruth explained that during lunch the children would sit in groups out under the trees. On one occasion she said, "I remember sitting out there with Miss May McDonald. When Mr. Ad Humphries, one of the professors at the College, came calling on Miss McDonald, we would all get so tickled and giggly in the school room because he was really tall and he would walk from the old college down to town and up to the school. We knew that he was coming to see Miss May McDonald whom he later married. And he'd come and he'd knock on the door and she'd go, she had seen him coming up the hill and we all thought it was so funny that Mr. Ab was coming to see the teacher. And he'd make his dates."<sup>11</sup>

## Back at the College Building:

Felda Davis enrolled in Thomas Arnold High School in the fall of 1894. The school enjoyed an excellent reputation, due large-

ly to the leadership and philosophies of Dr. Jones. Like the old Salado College, Thomas Arnold High School attracted families to Salado to educate their children.

Felda Davis graduated from Thomas Arnold High School in May of 1898. Graduating with her were classmates Emma Hamblen, Edith Russell, Charles Ramsdell, Con Foster, Albert Williamson, Clarence Porter, and Marcus Witt.

Felda began her teaching career on January 2, 1898 at Gooseneck. On May 16, 1900 she was elected to teach the Primary Department of the Salado Public Free School District. She had come full circle.

Classes were held at the public school building until 1918. At that time, the public school moved back into the College building. The old weathered, wooden building was torn down and sold for lumber to individuals. Charles Robinson bought the new larger room and lived in it at the school location until his death in 1945. Mrs. Emma Blaylock Berry bought the school property and willed it to her daughter, Ruth Berry Brown. Ruth sold it to Bill and Zelma Stevens around 1981.

*See Old Red School, Page 44*

## Public Arts League of Salado

# Taste of Salado

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6:30PM Tenroc Ranch

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- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
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# Salado's Old Red Schoolhouse built in 1924

Story continued from Page 42

During the tenure of Dr. Jones, the old college building burned twice, in 1901 and again in 1902. After each of these fires, the people of Salado rebuilt the school building and once again, Thomas Arnold High School was back in business.

Dr. Jones retired in 1913 and a few attempts were made by others to keep the private high school going to no avail. On January 18, 1919, at a meeting of the Salado College stockholders, it was resolved to donate the ground and buildings to the public free schools of Salado and the trustees were instructed to convey the property to the County Judge of Bell County and his successors in office, which was accordingly done.

So, once again, in 1919, Salado's free public school moved into the old College building and school was held there until the summer of 1924 when after two fires, the structure was inspected and deemed unsafe.

At this point, Carl Aiken, a member of the Board of Trustees, approached his mother-in-law Mrs. Alice (Gray) Hamblen and suggested that she donate the Hamblen five-acre homeplace, located at the northeast corner of Main Street and Van Bibber Road, present site of the Civic Center, to the Salado free public school.<sup>12</sup>

On the property was the Hamblen cemetery, which was established as a burial place for Vesta, one of the Hamblen's daughters upon her death in 1899, and the two-story family home that had been vacant for several years. Mrs. Hamblen, knowing the value her late husband placed on education, graciously agreed to her son-in-law's suggestion with the stipulation that the land be used for educational purposes, and the land was to revert to the Hamblen family when or if it ceased

to be used for the school.

Mr. Aiken agreed to demolish the old home place himself, and he did. He later remarked that if he'd known how hard it was to tear down the substantial old rock house he might not have so readily agreed.

A handwritten copy of what appeared to be Mrs. Hamblen's deed of the five acres to the school board was found in the old Rose house, unsigned, but notarized and signed by W.S. Rose, and this document was dated June 14, 1924. About two weeks later, on June 30, a Sunday around midnight, the old College building suffered a third fire. The fire, however, did not stop or alter the plans for building a new school building on the Hamblen property. The 1924-1925 school year was fast approaching.

The transfer of deed for this land was never recorded, and when the building was temporarily unused for classrooms in the early 1980s, there were legal maneuverings for the school to retain title to the land. In February 1985, the transfer of deed was made from Charles H. Aiken, Susan Aiken, Jimmy Aiken, Carl H. Aiken III and Robert W. Barton, all heirs of William K. Hamblen, to the Salado Independent School District.<sup>13</sup>

The two-story red brick school building, built in 1924, still stands at its original location, the northeast corner of Main St. and Van Bibber Road, and is currently used as the administration offices for the Salado School District.

The Salado Free Public School, which was first organized in 1874 with one building, two teachers and a superintendent is nearing its 150th year of educating the children in what is now called the Salado Independent School District.<sup>14</sup> The school district was first referred to as the Independent School District of Salado in the May 16, 1900 school board minutes.



(Photo by Tim Fleischer)

The old red schoolhouse on Main St. served students for five decades. Today, it serves as administration office for Salado ISD.

It appears that Salado never had a little one-room school house like many other towns, other than a temporary building that was used during the construction of Salado College, but then, as Byron Bunker once said, "Salado has always been a little different."<sup>15</sup>

Editor's Note:

If anyone has a photo of Charles Robinson's house or the original three-room school, please contact the Village Voice at news@saladovillagevoice.com or Salado Village Voice, PO Box 587, Salado, TX 76571.

Footnotes:

1 Bunker, Byron. Handwritten notes regarding Salado's early public school. Located in the archives of the Salado Historical Society at the Salado Public Library.

2 Story of Bell County, Texas Volume I, Bell County Historical Commission, Eakin Press, 1988.

3 Ibid.

4 Persky James R. and Dague, John, Country Schools Around Holland, Ronnie M. Pesky, Publisher, Utica, Kentucky, 1991.

5 Tyler, George W., The History of Bell County, The Naylor Company, San Antonio, 1936.

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cal Society at the Salado Public Library.

7 Kelsey, Michael W., Kelsey, Nancy Graff, Parsons, Ginny Guinn, Empresario's Son: E.S.C. Robertson of Salado, Prairie Queen Publications, Belton, 2017.

8 Shanklin, Felda Davis, Salado, Texas It's History and People. Peter Hansbrough Bell Press, Belton, 1960.

9 Persky James R. and Dague, John, Country Schools Around Holland, Ronnie M. Pesky, Publisher, Utica, Kentucky, 1991.

10 The University of Texas Institute of Texan Cultures, San Antonio, Oral History Program. Interview with Ruth Berry Brown by Patricia L. Barton, November 3, 1987.

11 Ibid.

12 Mankins, Joe Lee, "Educational History of Salado Fascinating," Salado Village Voice, Undated.

13 Barton, Pat, "Salado Schools" Unpublished manuscript. Located in the archives of the Salado Historical Society at the Salado Public Library.

14 Berry, Athena, "Old schoolhouse just 3 rooms," Salado Village Voice, undated.

15 Bunker, Byron. Handwritten notes regarding Salado's early public school. Located in the archives of the Salado Historical Society at the Salado Public Library.

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The Native Plant Society of Texas Central Texas chapter will celebrate Earth Day 10 a.m. April 16 on the grounds of Barrow Brewing Co. with a native plant sale, educational speakers, and kids activities.

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