





Tim and Marilyn Fleischer, publishers of Salado Village Voice newspaper and Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas magazine.

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 35 years in Salado in Spring 2023.

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 30 years.

Visit 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

Second Quarter 2023 advertising deadline February 2

SaladoVillageVoice.com

Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas

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Cover photo of a Packard swan emblem by Tim Fleischer

Calendar of Events

January 12

Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Distillery, 6:30 p.m. Reservations online through eventbrite.com for \$84.95 for five course themed dinner. Destination Korea

January 14-15

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

January 19

Ladies Night at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Ages 21 and over for this event. \$100 per person. Book online at saladoglassworks.com.

January 20-21

Valentine's Blow-Your-Own Heart Event at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Blown Heart (\$60); Bowl (\$85). Register online at saladoglassworks.com.

January 25

Blow-Your-Own Date Night at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. \$185 per couple. Book online at saladoglassworks.com.

January 27-28

Valentine's Blow-Your-Own Heart Event at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Blown Heart (\$60); Bowl (\$85). Register online at saladoglassworks.com.

January 27

Fourth Friday Gospel Singing 7 p.m. at First Cedar Valley Baptist Church, FM 2843. Pot luck to follow. Bring a favorite dish or dessert.

January 28

Sixth Annual Australia Day at Barrow Brewing Co. Australians and Texans have a lot in common and Barrow Brewing Co. is joining in the celebration of this awesome country/continent.

February 3-4

Valentine's Blow-Your-Own Heart Event at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Blown Heart (\$60); Bowl (\$85). Register online at saladoglassworks.com.

February 9

Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Distillery, 6:30 p.m. Reservations online through eventbrite.com for \$84.95 for five course themed dinner. Destination Rome, Italy.

February 9

Blow-Your-Own Date Night at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. \$185 per couple. Book online at saladoglassworks.com.

February 10-11

Valentine's Blow-Your-Own Heart Event at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Blown Heart (\$60); Bowl (\$85). Register online at saladoglassworks.com.

February 11

Tour of Gault site. 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 https://www.bellcountymuseum.org and payment can be made over the phone with the museum at (254) 933-5243 using a credit card.

February 11-12

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

February 15

Ladies Night at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Ages 21 and over for this event. \$100 per person. Book online at saladoglassworks.com.

February 24-25

Saint Patrick's Day Blow-Your-Own Drinkware Event at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Mug, tumbler or whiskey sipper for \$85. Register online at saladoglassworks.com.

February 24

Fourth Friday Gospel Singing 7 p.m. at First Cedar Valley Baptist Church, FM 2843. Pot luck to follow. Bring a favorite dish or dessert.

February 25

Tour of Gault site. 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 https://www.bellcountymuseum.org and payment can be made over the phone with the museum at (254) 933-5243 using a credit card.

March 3-4

Saint Patrick's Day Blow-Your-Own Drinkware Event at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Mug, tumbler or whiskey sipper for \$85. Register online at saladoglassworks.com.

March 4

Texas Pizza Fest will be on the grounds of Barrow Brewing 12-4 p.m. Five Texas pizza trucks will be on site providing slices to ticket

holders. There will also be "pizza olympics" for attendees to participate in (optional). People will vote on their favorite pizza truck. Tickets go live on December 26th: https://centraltexastickets.com/events/texas-pizza-fest-3-4-2023

March 9

Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Distillery, 6:30 p.m. Reservations online through eventbrite.com for \$84.95 for five course themed dinner. Destination Republic of Georgia.

March 9

Ladies Night at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Ages 21 and over for this event. \$100 per person. Book online at saladoglassworks.com.

March 10-11

Saint Patrick's Day Blow-Your-Own Drinkware Event at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Mug, tumbler or whiskey sipper for \$85. Register online at saladoglassworks.com.

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March 15

Blow-Your-Own Date Night at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. \$185 per couple. Book online at saladoglassworks.com.

March 17-18

Saint Patrick's Day Blow-Your-Own Drinkware Event at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Mug, tumbler or whiskey sipper for \$85. Register online at saladoglassworks.com.

March 18-19

Northbound and Down music festival at Barrow Brewing Co. Follow Barrow on social media for upcoming list of performers.

March 24

Riley Green at Johnny's Outback. Gates open at 6p.m. \$35 general admission; \$65 general admission pit in front of stage, \$65 reserved lawn seating. All ages require ticket, no re-entry, no outside chairs, clear bag policy, rain or shine, cash only venue with ATMs on grounds. Advance tickets at https://johnnyssteaksandbbq.com/tickets-info/

March 24

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

March 24

Fourth Friday Gospel Singing 7 p.m. at First Cedar Valley Baptist Church, FM 2843. Pot luck to follow. Bring a favorite dish or dessert.

March 25-26

Salado Chamber of Commerce will be celebrating its 23rd Annual Wildflower Arts & Crafts Festival on the grounds of the Salado Civic Center at 601 N. Main Street.

March 30-April 2

44th annual Texas Packard Meet, Salado Holiday Inn Express. Public display of these classic cars on April 1.

March 31-April 1

Blow-Your-Own Easter Egg Event at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Egg (\$60). Register online at saladoglassworks.com.

April 1

Barrow Brewing Co. seventh anniversary. Music all day long, food trucks, events for the family, farmers market begins its season this morning.

April 5

Ladies Night at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Ages 21 and over for this event. \$100 per person. Book online at saladoglassworks.com.

April 9

Salado's fine dining restaurants will have special menus for Easter Sunday. Call Alexander's Craft Cocktails + Kitchen at 254-947-3828, The Barton House Restaurant at 254-947-0441 or The Stagecoach Restaurant at 254-947-5111 for reservations.

April 7-8

Blow-Your-Own Easter Egg Event at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. Egg (\$60). Register online at saladoglassworks.com.

April 13

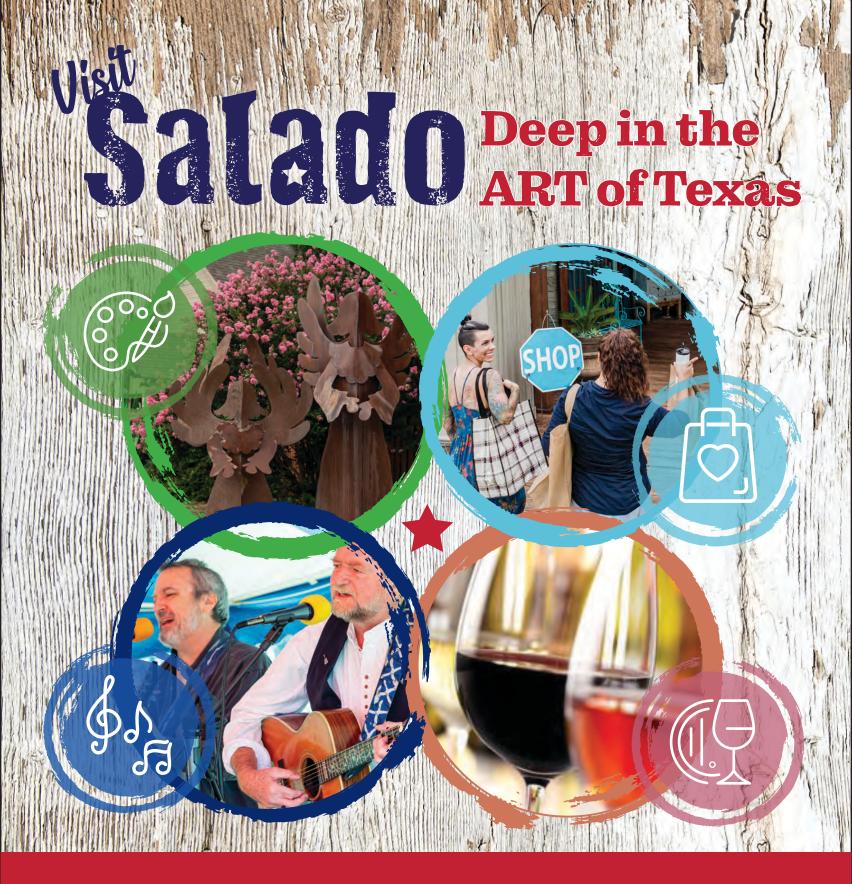
Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Distillery, 6:30 p.m. Reservations online through eventbrite.com for \$84.95 for five course themed dinner. Destination Malaysia.

April 13

Blow-Your-Own Date Night at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. \$185 per couple. Book online at saladoglassworks.com.

April 28

Fourth Friday Gospel Singing 7 p.m. at First Cedar Valley Baptist Church, FM 2843. Pot luck to follow. Bring a favorite dish or dessert.





Scan the QR code for the Visit Salado Texas app or visit www.VisitSaladoTexas.com





#VisitSaladoTX

Wildflower Fest includes arts, crafts, food trucks & live music

Salado Chamber of Commerce will be celebrating its 23rd Annual Wildflower Arts & Crafts Festival March 25-26. The festival will be held on the grounds of the Salado Civic Center at 601 N. Main Street from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 25 and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. March 26 with free admission.

Enjoy this family friendly festival by strolling through the more than 40 arts & crafts vendors selling extraordinary handcrafted items from all over the state. Shop from a large variety of talented crafters including; woodworking, jewelry, original paintings, photography, pottery, toy makers, soap makers, knitting/crochet, embroidery and more!

Wildflower will also be featuring local food trucks and vendors – so grab a blanket and eat a picnic lunch from one of their food vendors and listen to live music in the gazebo.



(Photo by Marilyn Fleischer) Wildflower art show in Salado will be March 25-26.





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Music, gatherings and more

Mondays

Floor practice at Salado Masonic Lodge #296, 95 S. Church St., 6:30 p.m. except on Stated Meeting nights.

Open Mic with Ryan White, at Ch-

upacabra, 7 p.m.
Tonkawa Chapter of Native Plant Society of Texas monthly meeting, first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at Barrow Brewing. Salado Democrats meet the third Monday of each month, 7 p.m., in the conference room of Salado Public Library.

Tuesdays

Family Storytime at Salado Public Library, 6 p.m.

Adult Crafts, 6 p.m., Salado Public li-

Salado Community Chorus practice, 6

p.m. Salado Civic Center.

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

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

Wednesdays

Salado Lions Club luncheon meeting,

11:30 a.m. second and fourth Wednesday of the month, Salado Civic Center.

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., Half price on select bottles of wine, featured wine by the glass and feature cocktail specials change weekly.

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

Thursdays

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

Teen Writing Group, Salado Public Library, 6 p.m.

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

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

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

Family Night at The Shed, specials on beer and pizzas change every week.

Salado Community Ladies League meeting, second Thursday of each month. Social at 9:30 a.m. followed by business meeting

and speaker, Salado Church of Christ Activ-

ities Center, 217 N. Church St

Fridays

Storytime with Ms. April, Salado Public Library, 11 a.m.

Live Music at Chupacabra Craft Beers,

Live Music at Barrow Brewing Co. 8

Fridays-Sundays

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

Saturdays

Asanas and Ales, 9 a.m. at Barrow Brew-

Live Music at Axis Winery, 2-5 p.m.

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

Live Music at Barrow Brewing Co., 8

Sundays

Live Music at Barrow Brewing, 4 p.m.

Pick up a copy of Salado Village Voice for the Calendar of Events updated weekly.

Visit https://saladovillagevoice.com/calendar/ for the online calendar.

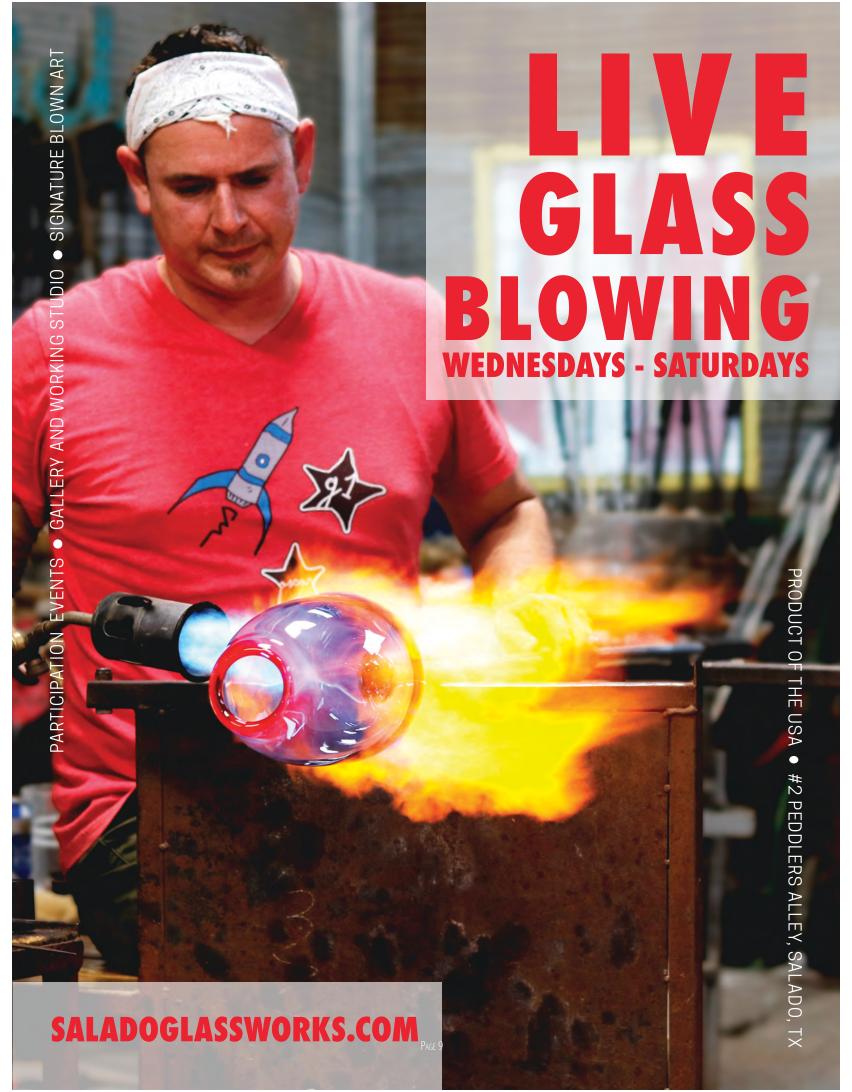




Mon-Sat 10-6 pm Sundays noon-5 pm (254)947-0561 ChristysOfSalado.com Instagram & FB @christysofsalado



21 N Main St., Suite #3



Salado Grange store was first in Texas

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. They flourished

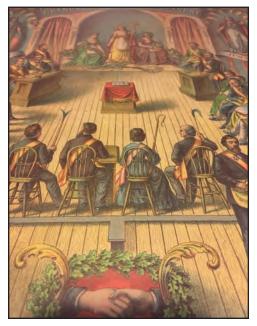
for a time, but at last with droughts and hard times, they went upon the financial rocks.

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 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 mem-



Detail from an old Patrons of Husbandry advertising poster.

bership; 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 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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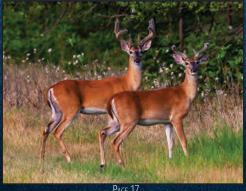
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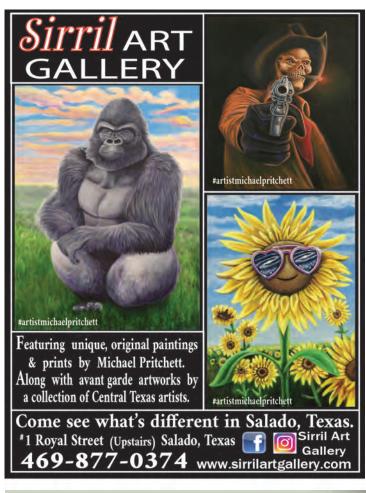
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PAGE 17







5th annual Texas Stagecoach Wine Trail

Embark on a memorable journey to the finest wineries in central Texas! Along the way, you'll drive routes that were operated by western stagecoaches for over 60 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," said June Ritterbusch, who owns Salado Winery Co. with her husband Sheldon Vickers.

As a holder of a Texas Stagecoach Wine Trail ticket you will have the opportunity to taste three complimentary wines at each winery. Tickets are \$40 for singles and \$75 for a couple. You can create a special photographic memory at each of the wineries. This package deal has a value of more than \$135.

You will have several days to visit the wineries and enjoy your tastings, January 20-30, 2023. Check with the wineries for their hours and policies. Bring ID and ticket. Check in to all of the wineries on social media, using #TxStagecoachWineTrail &



You can enjoy tastings from nine central Texas wineries, including Salado Winery Co. and Axis Winery in Salado, during the Texas Stagecoach Wine Trail January 20-30, 2023.

#TxWine

You will receive via email a discount code for the next ticketed event. Business hours vary among wineries so verify their business hours as you plan your route.

At each winery, there will be plenty of opportunities to purchase additional wine tastings, and buy cool souvenirs.

You must present your tickets to receive your tastings at each winery. Your tickets

can be shown from your smartphone via email or using the Eventbrite app.

Get your tickets at https://bit.ly/3H-QGnqM

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





at the Barrow Brewing Co Beergarden Open Thursday - Sunday







A statue of Col. E.S.C. Robertson looks out from atop of Salado College Hill over the community he founded.

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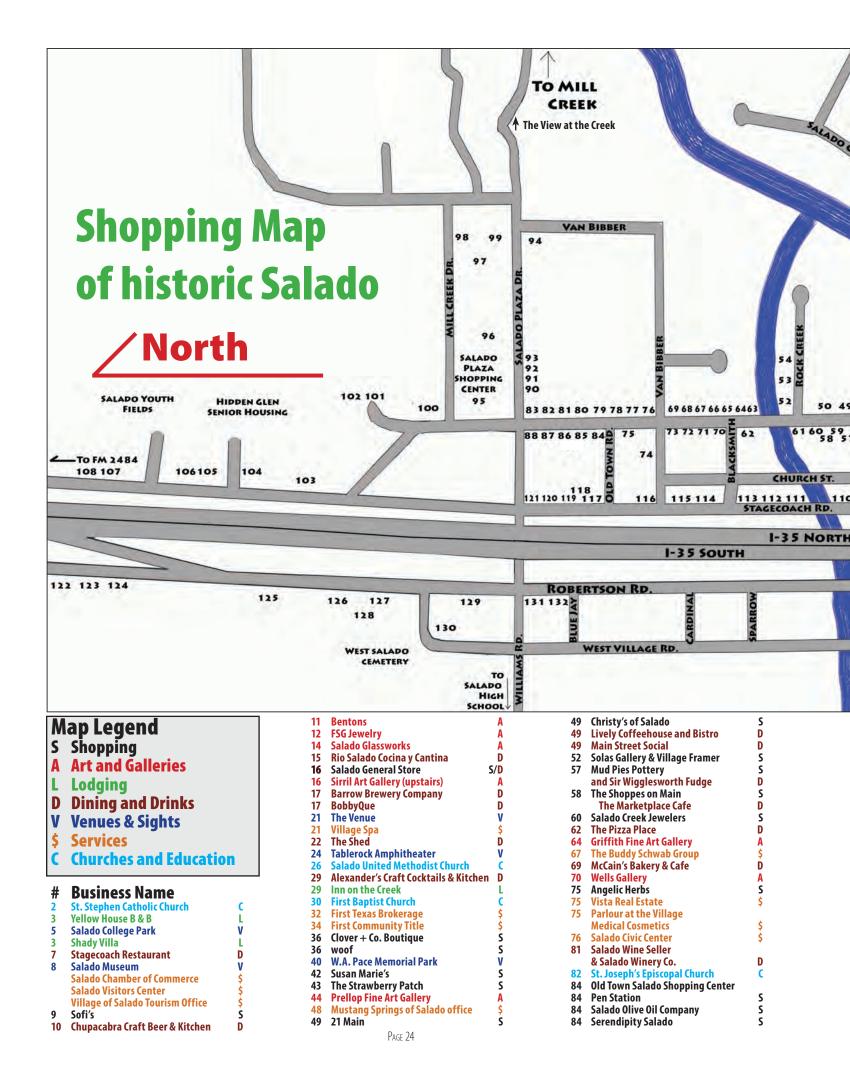
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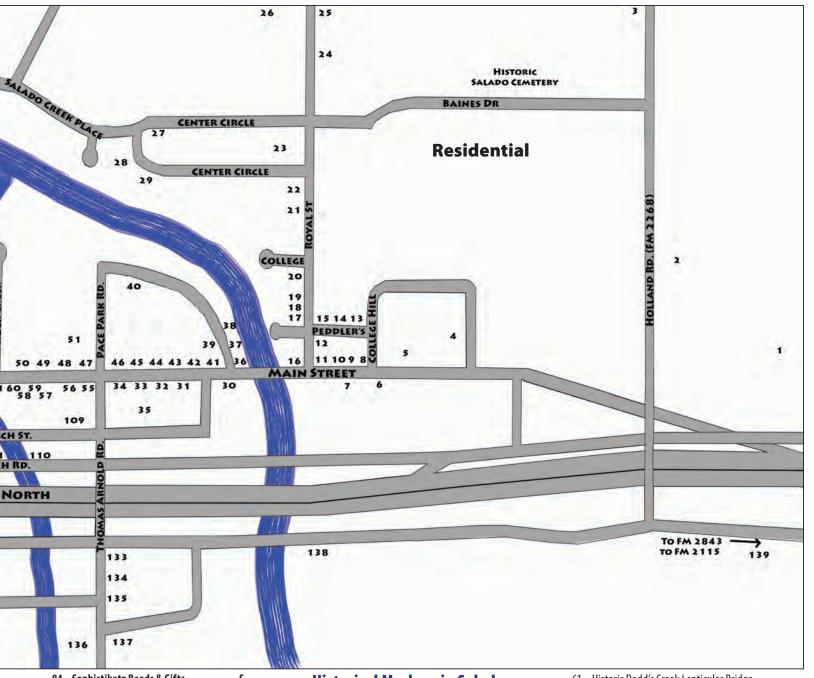
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		Salado Antique Mall	S
		Salado Market Days	S
	130	Village Spirits	S
		Salado Schools & Stadium	C
	139	Cedar Valley Baptist Church	C
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The View at the Creek

Historical Markers in Salado

- 5. Salado Historic College Hill
- Shady Villa Hotel
- Main Street Bridge 7.
- 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 Again by Troy Kelley at Civic Center
- 80. Limestone Carving
- 92. Salado Sculpture Garden
- 100. Reading by Ronnie Wells at Salado Library

Texas Pizza Fest March 4

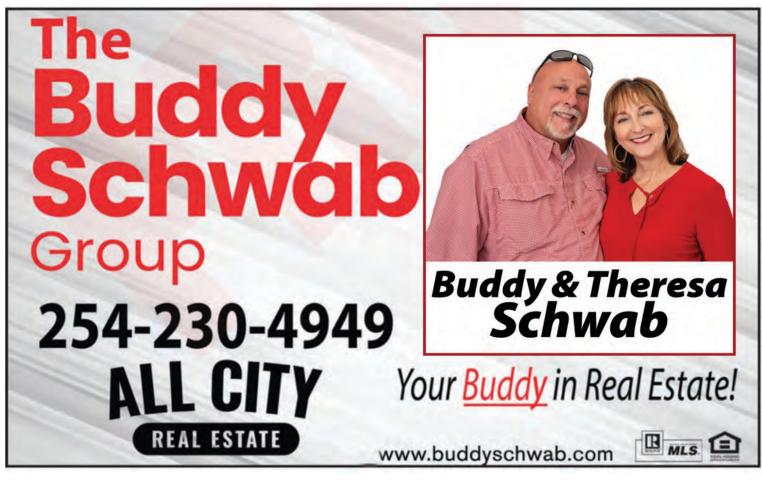
Texas Pizza Fest will be on the grounds of Barrow Brewing on March 4, 2023 12-4 p.m.

Five Texas pizza trucks will be on site providing slices: Bahler Street Pizza, Happy Pizza Company, Pizza Pieros, Treno Pizzeria, and Round the Pie Pizza.

There will also be "pizza olympics" for attendees to participate in (optional). People will vote on their favorite pizza truck.

Tickets available at https://centraltexastickets.com/events/texas-pizza-fest-3-4-2023. \$20 for adults and \$10 for children.









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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

America.

"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 38





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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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 E.S.C. 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. Hermon 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.

Plans had already been made for a twostory stone building on the brow of the hill.



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

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.

This society was called "The Amasovaurian." It was really a coined word, made by joining amo (Latin - I love) and savour

Story continues on Page 36





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Hills build community at Barrow

By Tim Fleischer Editor-in-Chief

It seems the glass overhead door at Barrow Brewing Co. has been open forever, but April 1 will mark just the seventh anniversary since Graydon and KD Hill opened the brewery.

Perhaps it is because Barrow Brewing began laying the foundation for its introduction into the community long before they opened in 2016. That was by intent.

The Hills laid the ground-work for the first craft brewery in Bell County by circulating a petition to call for a local option election to allow for the legal sale of beer and wine in 2014. On Nov. 4, 2014, the local option election passed 784 in favor and 229 against.

That's where 784, one of the brews available year-round, took its name. 784 is one of the original flagship brews for Barrow Brewing. A Belgian witte (white) beer, 784 has orange rind and coriander with a traditional Belgian yeast note.

Evil Catfish IPA pays homage to Troy Kelley's catfish that is part of the Legend of Sirena. It has hoppy citrus notes with an intense but round bitterness.

For those who want something light, there is the Creek Don't Rise Lager, described as "Crisp, bright, and refreshing."

Or you might try Big Bubbly Blonde. The springs on the grounds of Barrow Brewing are known as Big Bubbly which is where the newest Blonde in the Barrow lineup took its name.

My personal favorite is the Tipsy Vicar Stout. The malt balances the sweetness of the yeast.

Mystery of the Deep Double IPA packs a punch of hop. Packing 9.2%, it's not for the timid beer drinker.

Barrow adds three main seasonal brews, the Swimming Hole Honey Pilsner in spring, the Hat Tip Hefeweisen in summer and the Farm to Market Persimmon Saison in the fall.



KD Hill



Graydon Hill

They add 14 others that rotate throughout the year in the taproom. You can't get these in stores, only by the pour at Barrow and various taprooms and restaurants around Central Texas.

But it's not just the beer that brings you to Barrow. It is something that can't be concocted in giant tanks.

It's community. In addition to crafting beer, KD and Graydon have worked to create a community here in downtown Salado. Even before opening the doors on April 1, the Hills were creating community by inviting people to watch their progress on social media. On the weekend they opened in 2016, Barrow had Korean Kravings and Hecho en Queso food trucks on location.

Food and music are a big part of Barrow. Barrow hosts performers every weekend on the John Deere Stage and will have a weekend full of events to mark their seventh anniversary.





44th Texas Packard Meet in Salado

The 44th annual Texas Packard Meet will again be held in historic Salado March 30-April 2, 2023.

Salado is in the heart of the Texas Hill Country among the Bluebonnets. The Texas Packard Meet is the oldest and possibly the largest regional Packard meet in the country.

The meet features a welcoming social, early bird tour, parade, a public display of the antique autos, a swap meet, people's choice competition, seminars, banquet and awards. For schedule, registration, and lodging information, go to texaspackardmeet.org. The Texas Packard Meet is jointly sponsored by the four Texas regions of the Packard Club.

It again will be held at the Holiday Inn Express in Salado approximately 50 miles from Austin on Interstate 35.

Typically there are 40 to 70 cars and well over 100 master registrations. Being the 44th edition of this great meet will likely increase the numbers! Last year, there were more than 50 Packards on display with collectors coming from around the

state and surrounding states.
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.

Fees for registration vary according to activities selected but fees are among the most reasonable for like events.

Viewing for the public is free on Saturday morning April 1 on the grounds of the Holiday Inn Express.

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.

For more info contact meet registrar Tommye Baccaro at baccaro3@verizon.net.

Detailed information can be found at the website texaspackardmeet.com

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After fires, only ruins remain of old College

Story continued from page 30

(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 bell.

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 withstood 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 school.

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 building.

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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Gault site provides 'earliest art in the Americas'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

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 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.

Upcoming Gault Site Tours are February 11, February 25, April 8 and April 25.



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Sam Bass and Salado

By Carol Wilson Local Historian

Almost certainly outlaw Sam Bass passed through Salado on his journey from Denton to Round Rock in July 1878. Is there any credible evidence that he did more than ride through? Did he spend a night at the Salado hotel or in the cave beneath? Speculation to that effect continues to surface from time to time. Perhaps it is time to address it.

Because the information is specific to Salado, the best sources on the subject are old newspapers and the writing of early local historians/writers. There is no shortage of information about Sam Bass. Newspapers had a field day with the story in 1878, including lengthy articles that outlined Jim Murphy's account of the Bass gang's movements on their journey from Denton to Round Rock. There is no mention of Salado.

Perhaps a more persuasive piece of evidence on this subject is found in the writing (and exclusions therein) of Bell County's early historian, George W. Tyler. Tyler was an attorney, born in 1851 and spent his youth in Salado. He was also a history enthusiast and spent much of his life collecting information for a book he hoped to complete on Bell County's history. George Tyler was an eyewitness to this period of history. He was a young adult and a resident of Belton when Sam Bass made his way from Denton to Round Rock. Tyler certainly had an appreciation for the historic significance of the Bass shootout and included a paragraph about the incident in his book, History of Bell County. Tyler's reference to Bass characterized him as an outlaw "with a slight connection to Bell County." Tyler outlined the gang's movements in Bell County but the information is specific only to Belton, with no mention of Salado. Certainly George Tyler was motivated to record the story correctly while giving Bell County its fair share of publicity. Talk of a sighting of Bass in Salado would not have escaped him.

Felda Davis Shanklin, another writer of Salado's history and one familiar with Salado's historic hotel and cave, has several references to the property in her book, Salado, Texas, It's History and People. These include information about Ed Buckles, the man who owned the hotel in 1878.² Shanklin is silent on the subject of Sam Bass.

E. S. C. Robertson, the man who founded Salado, kept a journal during his life where he recorded the goings-on in Salado both large and small. It is inconceivable that he would not have mentioned a visit from the Bass gang. He too is silent on the subject.

When did rumors of a connection between Sam Bass and Salado first surface? We can only substantiate written accounts. The earliest published reference I found was 1955, in a book titled Ghost Towns of Texas. The author exercised some caution when mentioning Bass, saying, "Legend has it that Sam Bass, notorious outlaw and southwestern Robin Hood, used this cave as a hideout just before he went to Round Rock for a fatal rendezvous with rangers."

The following year, 1956, a book titled Early Homes of Texas was less cautious, writing: "Close to the Inn is the entrance to a cave containing a flowing spring, the water from which is now piped into the building. In the wilder days of Texas the cave, with its supply of good water, is reputed to have been used as a refuge by Sam Bass and others who did not want their pres-



The photo above shows (left to right) Jim Murphy, Sam Bass and Seaborn Barnes. This widely circulated photo is from the collection titled, Abilene Photograph Collection and was provided to the Portal to Texas History by Hardin-Simmons University Library.

ence widely known. The cave is said to have been furnished at one time with sleeping facilities for these exceptional guests."

The two books listed above provided no footnote or other specific source but both acknowledge contributions by the Van Bibbers who owned the Salado hotel property at that time. In a 1950 interview with a Waco newspaper, Dion Van Bibber admitted that he enjoyed telling tales about the Inn, adding that the information had come to him "from local residents, and records and letters from pioneer Texas families."3 But on the subject of Sam Bass and stories linking the outlaw to the cave, even Dion Van Bibber later reversed his stance.

On July 27, 1968, the Dallas

Morning News contained this as part of an article about the many unsubstantiated claims about Bass treasure: "Sam Bass has such a reputation as a caveman that my friend, Dion Van Bibber of the Stagecoach Inn in Salado claims he owns the only cave in Bell County in which, according to the yarn spinners, old Sam never visited."

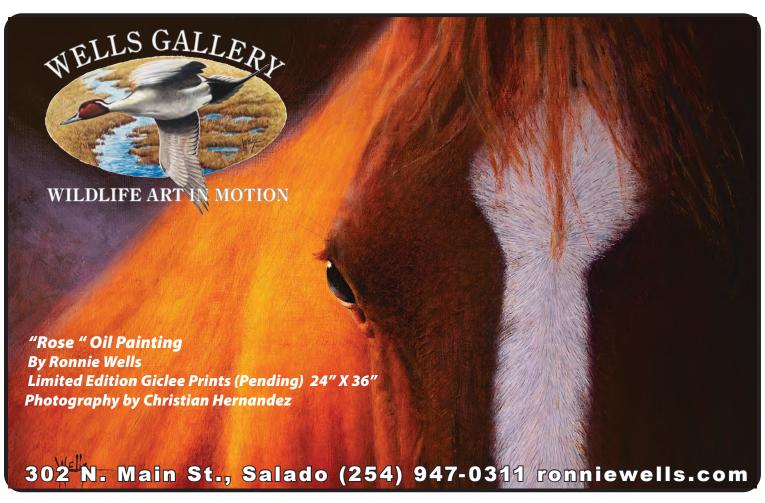
Perhaps this came in response to a rash of treasure hunting that occurred in Central Texas in the 1960s that became a real nuisance. Or had Mr. Van Bibber just been "pulling our leg" all along?

Even putting aside the points in evidence laid out above, the Bass story has a hard time passing a simply test of reasonable-

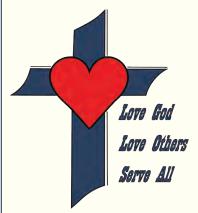
See Sam Bass, Page 44







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



This photograph shows the first iron top wagon bridge (1892–1913) and the old foot bridge that was destroyed in 1900. (Photos courtesy Salado Historical Society)



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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



Sam Bass: did outlaw spend night in the Stagecoach cave?

Story continued from page 40 ness. Consider these points:

* The Bass gang's spree of criminal behavior, at least in Texas, lasted only a few months and was confined to the northeastern portion of the state. There was little opportunity or need for Bass to bury treasure in Central Texas.

* Having spent at least one night in Belton before continuing their journey southward, the Bass gang would not have been looking for a place to sleep after traveling only 11 miles. A bank or saloon might have tempted them. Salado had neither.

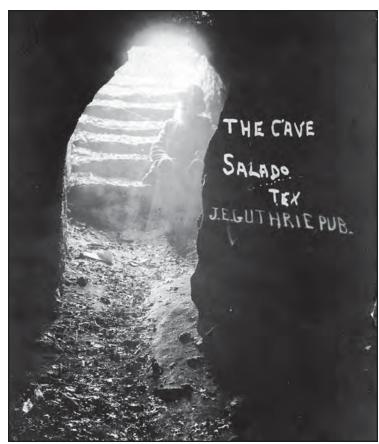
* By 1878 the college at Salado had been in operation for almost two decades, sitting on a hill that overlooked the hotel and the entrance to the cave. The hotel and cave were popular spots with locals and located near several other business establishments —a most impractical hiding place.

* The entrance to the cave is steep and slippery, there being no stairs in 1878. The Bass gang was known for camping in wooded areas where they could not be waylaid as they slept and could maintain easy access to their horses.

* Jim Murphy told authorities that Sam had used his last gold coin at a saloon in Waco. He was desperate to rob a bank because he was out of funds. This strongly suggests that there was no hidden treasure.

Did Sam Bass spend a night in Salado? We should rarely, if ever, speak about this kind of thing in absolutes, but the evidence strongly suggests that he did not. Does it matter? Guarding the historical truth is tantamount to guarding our reputations as serious students of history and trustworthy conveyers. For that reason, it matters.

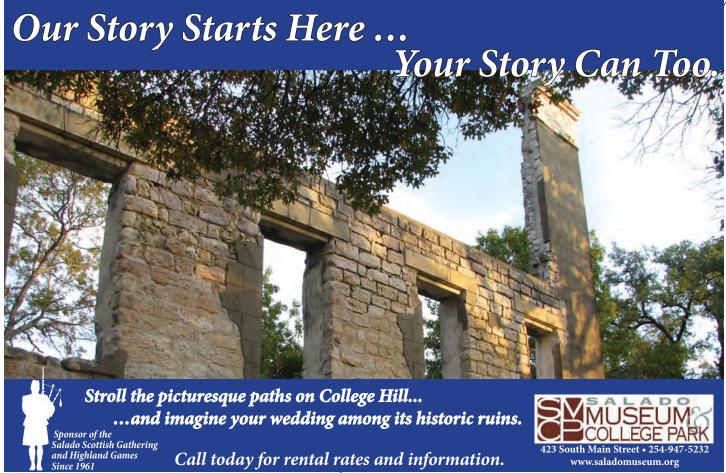
This article first appeared in the Aug. 11, 2022 Salado Village



The Stagecoach Cave. (Historical Society JE Guthrie Collection)

Voice newspaper.
1. Tyler, George W., History of Bell County, 303.

Texas, It's History and People, 4. 3. Waco Tribune-Herald, Oct 29, 1950









MARCH 25 & 26

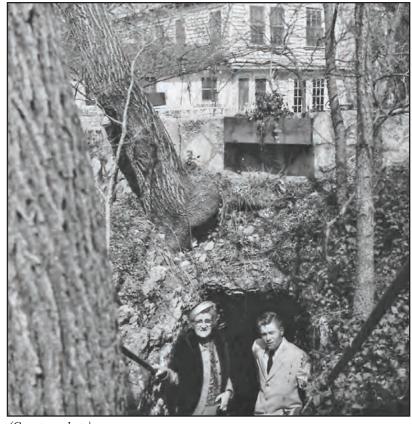
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(Courtesy photo)
This photo belonging to Ben Rehder shows his father Helmut Rehder, Jr. of Oak
Hill and his great grandmother Minnie Brockmann Kruse of Jerseyville, Illinois
emerging from the cave at the historic Stagecoach Inn back in 1959.

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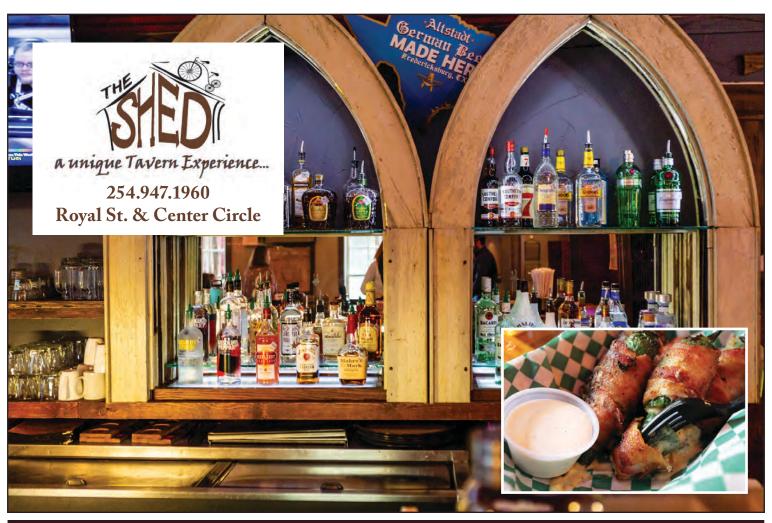
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