



Feb. 17 is last day to file for election

The last day to file for a place on the May 6 local ballots for Salado Independent School Board of Trustees, Salado Public Library District Board of Directors, Village of Salado Board of Aldermen is 5 p.m. Feb. 17.

Filing applications are available for the SISD Trustee election at the school administration office in the Salado Civic Center, 601 N. Main St. Three three-year terms on the SISD Board of Trustees will be on the May ballot. Those positions are currently filled by Kim Bird, Troy Smith and Savannah Hennig. As of press-time for the Feb. 16 edition, Hennig has filed for re-election. David M. Matthews and Kim Redelsheimer have filed for election to the board. Smith and Bird have both told *Salado Village Voice* that they are not filing for re-election.

Filing applications are available for the Library District Board election at the Salado Public Library, 1151 N. Main St. Three two-year

terms on the board will be on the May ballot. Those positions are currently filled by Emmy Alvarez, Joycelyn Miller and Barbara Morris. As of press-time for the Feb. 16 edition, Alvarez, Miller, Morris have filed for a place on the ballot.

Filing applications for the Alderman election are available at the Village of Salado Municipal Building, 301 N. Stagecoach Rd. Three two-year terms will be on the May ballot. Those positions are currently filled by Rodney Bell, John Cole and D. Jasen Graham. As of press-time for the Feb. 16 edition, Linda Reynolds, Lennox Alfred, D. Jasen Graham, Bert Henry, Cody Coufal, Zach Hurst and Rodney Bell have filed for a place on the ballot. John Cole told *Salado Village Voice* that he is not going to file for re-election.

The last day to register to vote in the May 6 general election is April 6. Early voting will be April 24-May 2.



Grand Champion Market Steer

Salado High School junior Jackson Husung had the Grand Champion Market Steer at the Bell County Youth Fair and Livestock Show. The steer sold for \$18,500 at the Auction on Feb. 11. Shown above are (Left to right) Stiles Patin, Justin Pistone, Legend Pistone, Jackson Bragg, Randy Eakin, Julie Gallaway, Jack Husung, Jr., Lucille Husung, Jack Husung, Sr., Jackson Husung, Frances Gonzales, Gary McGuire & Maria Husung. *Salado Village Voice* will have photos of Salado youth who made the auction and complete results for Salado competitors in next week's edition.

Tollefson returns to Salado after successful bone marrow transplant

By TIM FLEISCHER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Walt Tollefson is back home after a bone marrow transplant utilizing stem cells that were harvested from his own marrow.

He spent a month at Clinica Ruiz in Puebla, Mexico to undergo a treatment for the advance multiple sclerosis he has battled for years.

The MS advanced to the point that Walt at one point only had the use of one arm.

But since undergoing the treatment, he is now able to stand up from his wheelchair, using both arms. He was also able to walk across his hospital room with the use of a walker.

"I haven't been able to do that in years," he told me.

Walt shared his journey with friends on social me-

dia, posting photos and video of himself and three other patients going through the same treatment.

The group of four included Walt, Torri Nolte from California, Ajla Cavkic from Bosnia and Veronica Feehily from Ireland.

They were affectionately known amongst themselves and the caregivers at Clinica Ruiz as the Fantastic Four.

Walt was accompanied to Mexico by Ben Douglas, who he calls a Brother in Christ. In solidarity with Walt, Ben shaved his head when Walt lost his hair due to the chemotherapy as part of the treatment regimen.

Walt battled a few days of 104 degree temperature which was due to a reaction to the medications, but he persevered through it.

He continues to gain

strength. I was able to meet with him briefly after his return to Salado.

He took me first by his right hand, which as anyone who knows Walt, knows his grip is like a vice.

Then he reached out to me with his left hand. In the days leading up to him going to Mexico, I visited with him and he took my hand with his left hand and tried as hard as he could to squeeze it.

There was nothing there. The nerves were not firing to that ham hock of a hand of which he is possessed. That was in November.

When he reached for my hand with his left and gave it a squeeze this week, I could feel how much strength and control had returned in such a short time.

"Can you believe it?" he said with a laugh that verged

on tears at the miracle of it all.

Walt is rebuilding his immune system, so he is staying as close to isolation as he can. He is fighting a tooth infection and was scheduled to have that tooth extracted this week.

He told me that he wants to see everybody face to face to tell them how much they mean to him, but said that will have to wait until his immune system is rebuilt.

Walt says that his immune system should be completely rebuilt within six months. His nervous system should be healed as much as it can be at about 18 months, he says.

He looks forward to sharing his progress with the community that sent him to Mexico for this life-changing treatment.



Walt Tollefson and Ruby. (PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)

Sales tax rebates for February 2023 to Bell County taxing entities							
Entity	Rate	Feb. 2023	Feb. 2022	Change	YTD 2023	YTD 2022	Change
Belton	1.500%	\$922,100.43	\$829,628.46	11.14%	\$1,597,298.74	\$1,395,219.25	14.48%
Harker Heights	1.500%	\$1,189,733.55	\$1,138,580.78	4.49%	\$2,060,646.53	\$1,939,392.53	6.25%
Holland	1.000%	\$14,840.66	\$10,637.10	39.51%	\$26,319.87	\$20,215.00	30.19%
Killeen	1.500%	\$3,435,209.65	\$3,280,910.89	4.70%	\$6,110,689.74	\$5,877,850.95	3.96%
LR-Academy	1.000%	\$14,406.92	\$13,752.15	4.76%	\$25,374.08	\$24,571.06	3.26%
Morgans Point	1.500%	\$39,254.69	\$35,596.73	10.27%	\$68,009.13	\$65,933.64	3.14%
Nolanville	1.500%	\$163,111.78	\$141,248.09	15.47%	\$309,248.59	\$271,792.08	13.78%
Rogers	1.250%	\$13,825.70	\$11,007.79	25.59%	\$22,821.93	\$19,567.71	16.63%
Salado	1.000%	\$83,264.89	\$76,740.64	8.50%	\$161,974.27	\$150,190.31	7.84%
Temple	1.500%	\$3,800,614.72	\$3,052,091.64	24.52%	\$6,562,244.28	\$5,739,920.51	14.32%
Troy	1.500%	\$90,739.02	\$121,798.62	-25.50%	\$197,012.45	\$182,915.80	7.70%
Salado Library	0.500%	\$67,095.86	\$62,261.09	7.76%	\$125,347.59	\$120,737.11	3.81%
Bell	0.500%	\$3,433,036.16	\$2,956,949.74	16.10%	\$6,083,476.82	\$5,412,037.20	12.40%

County continues double digit increase in sales tax

Bell County continues to show double digit increases in sales tax revenues compared to the previous year, with all but one of the 11 cities that levy sales taxes showing increase in their February sales tax checks compared to February 2022. Six cities showed double digit percentage increases this month.

Village of Salado showed a 8.50% over last February. The Village received \$83,264.89 compared to \$76,740.64 in Feb. 2022. For the year, the Village has received \$161,974.27, which is 7.84% more than the \$150,190.31 paid through Feb. 2022,

The Village is one of three Bell County cities to levy a 1-cent sales tax, while seven other Bell County cities levy a 1.5 cent sales tax and Rogers levies a 1.25 cent sales tax.

The Salado Public Library District and Bell County each levy a half-cent sales tax.

For that half-cent tax, Salado Public Library District received a \$67,095.86 February check, which was 7.76% more than last February's payment of \$62,261.09. For the year, the Library District has received \$125,347.59, which is 3.81% more than the \$120,737.11 paid through Feb. 2022.

Bell County received \$3.43 million in February, an increase of 16.10% over the \$2.95 million paid in February 2022. For the year, Bell County has received \$6.08 million, which is 12.4% more than the \$5.41 million paid through Feb. 2022

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar sent cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$1.3 billion in local sales tax allocations for February, 9.3 percent more than in February 2022.

These allocations are based on sales made in December by businesses that report tax monthly; October, November and December sales by quarterly filers; and

2022 sales by businesses that report tax annually.

The comptroller sent rebates totaling \$855.7 million to Texas Cities, an increase of 8.4% over last February.

The comptroller sent \$280.8 million to transit systems for February, an increase of 6.6% over February 2022.

Counties received \$80.2 million in sales tax rebate checks, an increase of 14.8% over February 2022.

Special purpose districts received \$121.0 million in sales tax rebate checks for February, 13.5% more than last year.

Bell County to offer drop-off location for winter storm debris

Belton, TX –The winter storm that swept through Bell County at the end of January left many residents with yards full of downed trees and other debris. To help them cope, the Bell County Landfill, located at 11203 Landfill Road in Holland, will open to the public on Feb. 18.

The landfill will be open 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Feb. 18.

During that time, Bell County Road & Bridge staff will be on-hand to ensure that only tree limbs and

other vegetation are dropped off. A loader will be onsite throughout the event to keep debris consolidated into one pile to be burned later.

The goal of this drop-off event is to provide residents the opportunity to clear their properties of debris, while reducing the number of controlled burns being conducted around the county.

Event organizers want to be clear that only tree limbs and vegetation will be accepted. Under no circumstances should residents attempt to drop off any other

Village accepting ice storm debris at Pace Park

In response to the recent ice storm, the Village of Salado opened up the southern part of Pace Park to received storm debris.

You can drop off tree

limbs and other brush at Pace Park through Feb. 20.

The wood will be chipped and may be made available to locals or hauled away and disposed of elsewhere.

FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas

Despite tech layoffs, U.S. jobs market is continuing to grow

The Markets

The U.S. stock market, as represented by the Standard and Poor's 500 Stock Index (SPX) weaved and wandered up and down before closing out the week ending on February 10 at 4090.46, down 1.11%. That minor decline still left it 6.54% higher than when it started the year, up 14.18% since its recent low in mid-October, a still astonishing 83% higher than it was in March of 2020, and over 23% higher than it was three years ago, just before the pandemic. Of course, all that good news does not erase the fact that the SPX is down about 15% from its record high at the beginning of last year. Our other followed index, the CRSP US Mid Cap Value Index, slid 1.36% to 2483.69 for the week, but remains up 6.16% this year and is only 3.37% lower than its record high as 2022 began.

The yield on the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note rose all week to close at 3.74%, a nearly 6% increase. The driver there was the same factor that depressed stocks, a growing acceptance that the Federal Reserve was serious about increasing interest rates until the economy shows some signs of slowing to what the Board considers to be a non-inflationary rate. Last week's blockbuster jobs report generated warnings from Board members that rates might have to go as high as 6% to take the steam out of the labor market. Meanwhile the Treasury yield curve remained determinedly inverted with the 4-month, 6-month, and one-year T-bills all yielding 4.89%. West Texas Intermediate crude oil rose in price all week and reached \$79.83, up 8.2% for the week, as the market digested Russia's announcement that it would cut oil production by 5%.

The Economy

There was relatively little new news for the week,

Market & Economic Update

By Jeffrey W. McClure



but there were a host of aftershocks as pundits and corporate chiefs digested the avalanche of conflicting data that came to light last week. Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell once more warned in direct terms that he believed interest rates would likely rise higher and stay higher longer than the markets seem to think. He reemphasized that as long as the jobs market is overheating, the potential for a reignition of inflation remains a real threat and the Fed will keep on raising rates until that threat is eliminated.

As if to emphasize just how hot the job market is in the United States, the Labor Department announced that new unemployment filings for the week that ended on February 4 were an unusually low 196,000. So, even with the large layoffs being announced by big tech firms across the country, relatively few people are filing for unemployment payments. Why is that? First, the mega-tech firms only employ less than 2% of the American workforce. Second, smaller businesses have such a huge number of job openings that the tech layoffs are moving directly into new jobs without the need to file for unemployment benefits. Unlike the heavy industry layoffs we saw several years ago in which most were in places like Detroit where just about all businesses were reducing their payrolls, most of the big tech companies are in cities where demand for employees is among the highest. Another odd factor in those layoffs is that most of them are targeted at college-educated, white collar and management positions. That set of workers has the lowest unemployment rate and the quickest hire rate in

our economy.

Deutsche Bank became the first major investment house to take the position that the "Fed pivot" to lower rates later in the year, is likely to be a mirage. Its official assessment was that the 10-year T-note yield would rise to 4.2% as the year progresses and would not decline from there until next year at the earliest. Both bond and stock investment firms have generally taken the position that the benchmark 10-year T-note will be yielding about 3.4% by the end of 2023. Higher interest rates for longer imply lower profits for corporations and losses in bond portfolios.

Meanwhile, Goldman Sachs published an estimate that American's have now spent about 35% of the increase in savings positions they accumulated during the pandemic. There are two ways of seeing that. One is to realize that there is still a lot of cash in peoples' checking and savings that is likely to be spent. The other is to note that the "excess" spending that has driven both our economy and inflation is not going to go on forever.

Last but certainly not least, as of Friday, February 10th, last quarter's earnings reports are in for 346 of the S&P 500 stock companies. Those earnings are down 6.2% from the same period last year, but revenues were up 5.6%. More, over 71% of reporting companies had earnings and forecasts higher than expected. Note the SPX is down 15% for the same period, and the picture begins to appear that the stock market may be in for more recovery after overreacting to expected losses in 2022. Only time will tell, but we remain reasonably optimistic, particularly for the longer term.

Heal TX rural health care

By EMILY BRIGGS, MD, MPH
TAFP PRESIDENT
AND CHRISTY FRANCIS,
TORCH BOARD CHAIR

Texas' rural health care system is in serious trouble. The numerous problems plaguing rural health are well-documented and have been described as a succession of bad situations that are getting worse. They demand the Legislature's immediate attention.

Rural Texans are older, sicker, poorer, and less likely to be insured than the average Texan. Rural hospitals, physician practices, and community clinics face significant financial distress and a constant risk of closure due to high uncompensated care costs and unsustainably low reimbursement rates.

Rural communities struggle to recruit and retain doctors, nurses, dentists, mental health providers, and other important health care workers, forcing patients to travel long distances to receive care. This lack of access to care results in higher rates of preventable poor health conditions among our neighbors, leading to increased rates of heart disease, cancer, unintentional injuries, chronic lower respiratory disease, and stroke.

According to the March of Dimes, most rural Texas communities qualify as maternity care deserts, with limited or no access to obstetrical care. Today, only 40% of rural hospitals provide obstetrical services, down from 60% just a few years ago. Is it any wonder that Texas ranks last in the nation in access to

high-quality prenatal and maternal care?

When rural Texans can't access the care they need, it's not only their health that suffers, but the entire state economy. Rural Texas is the foundation for much of our state's economic activity. More than 3 million Texans currently live and work in rural communities and are responsible for a sizable chunk of the Texas economy. Rural small businesses make up 24% of all business in the state, contributing more than 20% of the state's economic output and generating more than \$21.2 billion for the state's economy.

The continued neglect of Texas' rural health care system has implications not just for the health of rural residents, but the competitiveness of the entire state's economy. If our rural health care system deteriorates further, the consequences for all of Texas, rural and urban, will be dire.

Rural communities' ability to attract new industries and employers will stall, hobbling business and economic development. Job losses will mount, creating a ripple effect through rural communities, negatively impacting local tax bases, and shrinking available resources for schools and other public services. More patients will be transferred to distant communities, potentially delaying life-saving care, but also straining resources of urban health care safety net systems that are already stretched thin.

Is this the future our leaders want or rural Texans deserve? We have known about the problems for de-

acades, but effective policy solutions have been largely ignored, underutilized, and underfunded. The time to act and invest in our rural health infrastructure is long overdue.

A long-term, multi-pronged strategy is required to 1) address our rural health care workforce shortage, 2) improve health care coverage options, thereby reducing uncompensated care and strengthening the viability of physician practices and hospitals, and 3) create a stable financial environment by targeting Medicaid payment increases to incentivize and reward rural practice, in particular preventive care, maternal care and behavioral health services.

With an historic budget surplus, the Texas Legislature has a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to ameliorate many of our persistent rural health care challenges. Let's not waste this opportunity to stabilize, heal, and revitalize our rural health care infrastructure.

THE TEXAS ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS IS THE PREMIER MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO UNITING THE FAMILY DOCTORS OF TEXAS THROUGH ADVOCACY, EDUCATION, AND MEMBER SERVICES, AND EMPOWERING THEM TO PROVIDE A MEDICAL HOME FOR PATIENTS OF ALL AGES. IT HAS 32 LOCAL CHAPTERS AND IS A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS. VISIT WWW.TAFP.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION.

TORCH IS AN ORGANIZATION OF RURAL AND COMMUNITY HOSPITALS, CORPORATIONS AND INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS WORKING TOGETHER TO ADDRESS THE SPECIAL NEEDS AND ISSUES OF RURAL AND COMMUNITY HOSPITALS, STAFF AND PATIENTS THEY SERVE.

Stop School Bullying

By DR. GLENN MOLLETTE

Four New Jersey teenagers have been charged in connection with the attack of a 14-year-old girl who later took her own life after video of the incident was posted on social media.

One juvenile is charged with aggravated assault, two juveniles are charged with conspiracy to commit aggravated assault and one juvenile is charged with harassment. Ocean County prosecutor Bradley D. Billhimer told CBS News in an email. (cbsnews.com)

Adriana Kuch, 14, was found dead in her Bayville home on February 3, two days after the disturbing video of the attack at Central Regional High School was posted online. The video showed girls throwing a drink at the teen, then kicking and dragging her down school hallways. They pushed Adriana into red lockers lining the school hallways and one of the girls in a pink shirt punched Kuch repeatedly. (Source CBSNews.com)

When I was an elementary child riding the school bus, we had a few fights on the bus. One young man who didn't live that far from me was constantly getting into fights on the school bus. One day he had a kid down repeatedly punching him in the face. The bus driver stopped the bus and escorted both boys off the bus while still a couple of miles from their homes. We then drove off and left them on the road. I don't recall seeing the fight continue as they now had to walk or hitchhike a ride to get home. Since the one boy was being beaten so bad, I don't think the driver made the best decision since the other kid could have finished him off on the rural road we were traveling. However, it did appear the fight had stopped as we drove off. Most likely

not having a bus audience, bleeding and having to walk home changed the scenario.

In the sixties and seventies there were bad things that happened in schools that often got swept under the rug. With no social media kids usually ended up working it out or staying away from people we didn't like. Often many of us never took our school problems home because our parents had enough problems with our school fuses. Or, we were afraid we might get in trouble at home.

School children face challenges. There are ongoing pressures from bullies who must be corralled and disciplined, dismissed from school or in some cases put in a place where they can get rehabilitation and help for their psychotic issues. Locking a 14-year-old up in jail for years solves nothing. However, kids that bring about injury or death to another student need mental help and rehabilitation before being freed to invoke pain on someone again. Most likely if your family has lost a family member to a bully you want the offender locked up for life.

Even though my school era was not a perfect world Schoolteachers and principals had authority to paddle our butts. They had authority to discipline us, suspend us from school and could put bite with their bark. We knew the teachers ruled and we respected them. I can remember see paddling's that I never wanted to get and received a couple myself.

No school has the ability to patrol every corner of a school facility. Bullying, fights and bad things typically occur in unsupervised spaces. Schools can't hire enough security guards or have enough monitors to patrol every corner.

Every day in every state in America a private school

is starting or the ground work is being formulated.

Ten years from now almost every city and even small community in America will have a private or faith-based school. Some of these will only be elementary schools but many have or will develop junior and senior highs. Such schools are not free of their own issues but parents across America are desperate for safe places for their kids. Parents want a place where there is zero tolerance of bullies and an administration who means business about protecting the children. They want an environment where their children can be mentored, taught and prepared better for life, college or to move into adult jobs.

Parents don't want a school who they feel is working against them or hiding things from them.

Life is like this. The world is like a jungle most days. There are bullies in the workplaces, neighborhoods and mean people can be found all over. This is why we have the right to call 911. We can file charges against people with the police. We should have the right to carry a firearm and defend ourselves. We have to work to help each other and protect each other.

Teachers, administrators, parents and students must work together for safety and security. Children and teachers must feel safe with an environment free from bullying, hazing or intimidation. Kids should not have to wake up every day fearful of going to school. Neither should the school staff and parents.

The issue of bullying and school safety requires school boards, all staff, parents and students to work together. It's not a task for a few to accomplish but a job for us all.

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Salado Village Voice is published weekly every Thursday by Salado Village Voice, Inc., 213 Mill Creek Dr, Suite #125, PO Box 587, Salado, Texas 76571. Periodicals postage paid at Salado, Texas. Periodicals permit#02527. POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to Salado Village Voice, PO Box 587, Salado, TX 76571. Subscription Rates: \$26 per year in Bell County, \$28 per year outside of Bell County; \$38 per year outside of Texas.

Office Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays

News releases: news@saladovillagevoice.com

Display advertising: advertising@saladovillagevoice.com

Classified advertising: classifieds@saladovillagevoice.com

Deadlines: Display ads • noon Fridays Classified ads • noon Mondays

Editorial policies: Opinions on the editorial pages are those of the writer, not necessarily the owners or employees of the Salado Village Voice. All letters to the editor should be signed and have a phone number and address for verification. The editor reserves the right to reject and/or edit any letter. Letters should be limited to 300 words. We DO NOT publish poems in our Letters to the Editor.

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

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

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Rena Schroeder, founder and co-owner of Angel Wings Ranch, a 501(c)3, spoke about the organization to the Salado Ladies Community League. The Ranch is a non-profit helping youth and adults overcome challenges through equine-assisted learning. The ranch also provides a refuge for rescued horses. She referred guests to her website for more information at angelwingsranch.org.



Melanie Kirchmeier presented a program on the newly formed Salado Senior Center to open May 1. She stated the mission is to provide a safe, friendly, enriching environment for Seniors to engage with others who share the desire for independence and for a more complete community life. The Center will be held at the Youth Center of the Methodist Church two days a week, Mondays and Thursdays. Participants in the program must be 55 and older and must be independent. More information may be found at saladoseniorcenter.org for the 501 (c) 3.

HERITAGE
Country Church
Salado, Texas

“Church is not just a place you go, it’s a family you belong to”

Sun. morning services 10 am -11 am
Wed. night adult bible study 7 pm-8 pm
Wed. night youth group 6:30 pm -8 pm
Men’s Prayer Breakfast 8:30 am 3rd Sat. each month

9677 Lark Trail, Salado, Texas 76571
heritagecountrychurch@gmail.com
254-239-7106

Ladies Community League implements new process for Grant Requests

The Salado Ladies Community League (SLCL) supports numerous groups and organizations throughout our community that enhance, improve and promote the Village of Salado. Through these grants and donations, SLCL has supported many nonprofits and organizations and helped them to continue their important work in the community.

The League is always open to requests from worthwhile organizations requesting monetary donations. In an effort to broaden SLCL’s reach to groups in need of support, the Ladies League has created a new

process for requests. A simple, one-page grant application has been implemented as the new form of request for donations and grants. All requests will be reviewed, without any bias or prejudice and all are welcome to apply.

If your group would like to be considered for a donation, please email the Salado Ladies Community League for the form at SaladoLCL73@gmail.com. Please print and fill out the document and return to our organization by email or USPS to PO Box 161, Salado, TX 76571.

Senior Center C&W Dance held Feb. 16

The Belton Senior Activity Center will host Good ol’ Boys for a country and western dance 6:30 p.m. Feb. 16.

Attendees are asked to bring a snack dish to share. Names of those who’ve never attended will be entered into a special drawing.

The Belton Senior Activity Center is located at 842 Mitchell St. in Belton.

“Bible based with belief in the divinity & holiness of Jesus Christ our Lord & Saviour”



Sunday Schedule:
9:00 AM Bible Study / 10:00 AM Worship Service
423 S. Main St. in the Salado Museum Hall
(across from Stagecoach Inn)
www.newlifemethodistsalado.org

New Life Methodist Church of Salado

Travel Club meets in Salado Feb. 21

The February meeting of the Central Texas Travel Club will be 11 a.m. Feb. 21 at Johnny’s Steaks and Barbecue, 301 Thomas Arnold Rd.

The meeting is open to anyone interested in travel with no membership dues or requirements.

The group will be dis-

cussing upcoming trips including Tulipalooza in Waxahachie, Branson, France, Hawaii, and others.

For more information contact Peggy Stewart at centraltexasravelclub@outlook.com or like Central Texas Travel Club on Facebook.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS OF THE CLEARWATER UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT RELATED TO THE PETITION FOR ANNEXATION OF WESTERN PORTIONS OF WILLIAMSON COUNTY

March 14, March 16, and March 21, 2023, at 6:00 P.M.
Locations in Leander, Killeen, and Liberty Hill

Notice is hereby given that the Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District (“District”) Board of Directors (“Board”) will hold three (3) public hearings in accordance with Texas Water Code (“TWC”) Chapter 36.326 to receive input on the “Petition for Annexation of Western Williamson County” (“Petition”), which was delivered to the Board by the citizens of Williamson County on January 2, 2023.

The Petition, is signed by more than 50 Williamson County residents, whom the District has verified as owning land within the territory the Petition seeks to annex (the “Petition Territory”), more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the point of intersection of the west right-of-way line of Interstate Highway 35 and the northern Williamson County line; continuing south along the west right-of-way line of Interstate Highway 35 for approximately 144,940 feet (27.45 miles) to the point of intersection of the west right-of-way line of Interstate Highway 35 and the southern Williamson County line; continuing west along the southern boundary of the Williamson County line to the western boundary of the Williamson County line; continuing north along the western boundary of the Williamson County line to the northern boundary of the Williamson County line back to the Point of Beginning, and containing 503 square miles of land, more or less.

Having met the statutory criteria for an annexation petition prescribed by TWC § 36.325, the Board SHALL set the time and place of separate hearings on the Petition, and at least one hearing shall be held in the existing District boundaries and at least one hearing shall be held in the Petition Territory. At its January 11, 2023, open meeting, the Board ordered the setting of three hearings, as follows:

The prescribed three hearings will be held as follows:
March 14, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Rock Pointe Church – Leander Campus (Main Auditorium) 1070 County Rd. 177, Leander, TX 78641

March 16, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Texas A&M University – Central Texas (Warrior Hall – Bill Yowell Conference Center) 1001 Leadership Place, Killeen, TX 76549

March 21, 2023, at 6:00 pm at Rock Pointe Church – Liberty Hill Campus (Main Auditorium) 170 County Rd. 214, Liberty Hill, TX 78642

A copy of the Petition for Annexation is available 10 days prior to the public hearing at the District’s office at 700 Kennedy Court, Belton, Texas, and on the District’s website at www.cuwcd.org. Please contact the District at (254) 933-0120 for additional information.

Dated: February 15, 2023

By:
Dirk Aaron
General Manager, Assistant Secretary
Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District

St. Stephen Catholic Church

Religious Education Classes - Wednesday K thru 12th 5:30 - 8 p.m.

Mass Schedule
Tuesday - 6 p.m.
Wed & Thurs - 8:30 a.m.
Friday - Noon
Saturday - 5:30 p.m.
Confessions 4:30-5:15 p.m. or call for an appointment

Friday
Adoration (Holy Hour) 11 a.m.

Sunday
(English) 9 a.m.
(Spanish) 11 a.m.

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - Noon & 1:30 - 3 p.m.

601 FM 2268
947-8037
www.saintstephenchurch.org

St. Joseph’s Episcopal Church

Sunday Service
10 a.m.

881 North Main Street
(254) 947-3160
stjoseph@stjosephsalado.org
StJosephSalado.org

SUNDAYS at Salado Public Library

SALADO CREEK MINISTRIES

Sundays 9 AM
Bible Study & Worship

www.saladocm.org

Submit your news and community events to news@saladovillagevoice.com



Presbyterian Church of Salado

A Friendly, Small Church with a Message

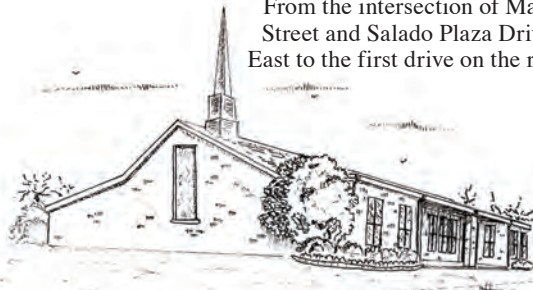
What others say about the church:

"The way church used to be."

"Old favorite hymns that are meant to be sung."

"The Message is from the Bible in context."

From the intersection of Main Street and Salado Plaza Drive, East to the first drive on the right



Sunday: Services 10 a.m.

Men's Prayer Breakfast Tues 8 a.m.

Chair Yoga: Tues 1 p.m. & Thurs 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Carl Thompson, Pastor
105 Salado Plaza Drive • (254) 308-2023
P.O. Box 865 • www.presbsalado.org

Ash Wednesday Services

Several local congregations will mark the beginning of the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday services on Feb. 22.

SALADO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Salado United Methodist Church invites anyone in the community wanting to receive the Imposition of Ashes to do so at Salado UMC with four different times on Ash Wednesday Feb. 22.

Imposition of Ashes will be done at the Historic Chapel at 7-9 a.m., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-5 p.m.

Imposition of Ashes will also be part of the Ash Wednesday Worship Service at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Salado United Methodist Church is located at 650 Royal St.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SALADO

The Presbyterian Church of Salado will be celebrating Ash Wednesday on Feb. 22 with a noon service, plus a light lunch.

The church is located at 105 Salado Plaza Dr.

ST. JOSEPH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Joseph's Episcopal Church will have two Ash Wednesday services on Feb. 22. The first will be at noon and the second will be at 6 p.m.

The church is located at 881 N. Main St.

ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Stephen Catholic Church will mark Ash Wednesday with three Mass services on Feb. 22.

English Mass will be held at 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Spanish Mass will be held at 7:30 p.m.

The church is located at 601 FM 2268.

ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH FISH FRY FRIDAYS

During the Lenten season, St. Stephen Catholic Church will mark each Friday with Lenten Fish Fry 5:30-7:30 p.m. Feb. 24-March 31.

The Lenten Fish Fry will have drive-through orders at the Church, located at 601 FM 2268 for \$14 per person. Orders of four or more should be pre-ordered via email to prolife@saintstephenchurch.org.

Dinner includes fish, french fries, high puppies, beans, cole slaw and dessert.

The St. Stephen Fish Fry is a mission dedicated to collaborating with multiple Parish Ministries in support of St. Stephen youth.



ROBERT WYLEY (BOB) DENTON

Robert Wyley (Bob) Denton was born October 23, 1946, in Galveston, Texas and passed away February 6, 2023.

In 1968 he married his high school sweetheart Becky Hamilton. They recently celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary. Together they raised three children.

Dr. Denton spent his career in education and education administration. The Dentons came to Salado after his retirement. He ended

up coming out of retirement twice to serve as interim superintendent for Salado ISD.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Wyley and Roberta Denton and his brother, Paul.

His survivors include wife, Becky, sons and daughters-in-law Robin and Jamie Denton, David and Bunny Denton, daughter and son-in-law Sarah and Jay Myers, brother and sister-in-law, Grady and Loretta Denton, sister-in-law and husband, Sally Hamilton and John Lastovica and eight grandchildren.

A service of celebration will be held at St. Stephen's Episcopal church, Wimberley, on March 4 at 3 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Wimberley Village Library or Parkinson's Voice Project.

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Salado Church of Christ

Sunday
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10AM Worship

Wednesday
6:30 PM Singing &
Bible classes for children & youth

217 N Stagecoach Rd.
www.saladochurchofchrist.com

FIRST Baptist Salado
(254) 947-5456
210 S. Main St.
fbcsalado.org | facebook.com/fbcsalado

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 AM Worship Service
10:30 AM Sunday School (All Ages)

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

5:45 PM Children's Bible Drill (4th - 6th grade)
6:00 PM Kingdom Kids (Kindergarten - 6th grade)
6:00 PM Student Midweek (7th - 12th grade)
6:00 PM Adult Bible Studies
6:00 PM ESL (Ingles Idioma Segundo)
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Call church office for additional information (254) 947-5456

Salado UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP
9:00 A.M. | TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
11:00 A.M. | BAND-LED WORSHIP
SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:00 A.M. FOR ALL AGES

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Follow events on our website calendar

Salado Village Guide

Section B • Marketplace, Dining, Overnight, Events • saladovillagevoice.com • February 16, 2023

February Spa Rituals

Chocolate Strawberry Body Bliss 115 mins \$225

- 60 min Warm Stone Massage
- Full Body Dry Brushing
- Chocolate Strawberry Massage Oil
- Strawberry Daiquiri Body Scrub
- Scent Infused Steam Towels
- Awakening Scalp Massage
- Chocolate Foot Mask

Chocolate Raspberry Glow Facial 75 mins \$165

- Foaming Milk Cleanser
- GLOW Enzyme Mask
- Milk Chocolate Mask
- Dermaplaning
- Raspberry Toner
- Scented Steam Towels
- Hand & Arm Massage

Village Spa

254-293-6600
VillageSpaSalado.com



(PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)

The Salado General Store owners Haley Volney and Katlyn Volney cut the ribbon at their Grand Opening Ribbon cutting celebration held Feb. 7. Chamber representatives were among the many family, friends and customers on hand to welcome this new store located at #1 Royal St. Open Mon - Thurs. 10-6, Fri-Sat 10-8 and Sun. Noon - 6. In the nature of a general store you can find everything from fresh chocolate and old fashioned candy, a wide variety of games and gift items, clothes and more.



(PHOTO BY JADE HAMMER)

A new Bourbon Club has launched at Shady Villa.

Bourbon Club launches at Shady Villa

Brand new to the Shady Villa Hotel, the Shady Villa Bourbon Club invites locals to enjoy exclusive access to a curated selection of Texas' best bourbon such as bottles from Buffalo Trace, Eagle Rare, Blantons, and Weller, among others, secret spots to imbibe, and members-only perks.

The Shady Villa Speakeasy is located on the top floor of Stagecoach Restaurant with a patio overlooking Main Street. The club is open 5-9 p.m. Thursday-Monday.

Two annual membership options include a welcome gift, access to monthly tasting events, exclusive use of the upper balcony at Stagecoach Restaurant, discount on guest rooms to spend the night, and a discounted rate for guests, while Club Select membership comes with added perks such as a complimentary guest per visit, a complimentary annual pool pass, and participation in the annual single barrel selection at a local distillery to help decide which option to bottle.

Bourbon Club membership is \$500. Club Select Membership is \$1,000.

For more information, email bourbonclub@shadyvillahotel.com.

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Wednesday: Half-priced featured Wine Bottles & Wine by the Glass
Thursday: Half-priced Gin Cocktails
Friday: Half-priced Rusty Nails
Half -Priced Specialty Cocktails until 6 p.m. Tuesday - Friday

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Village of Salado Calendar

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

Tuesdays
 Storytime with Ms. April at Salado Public Library, 11 a.m.
 Tech Tuesday at Salado Public Library, 2 p.m. Get help with technology. Appointment required. Call the Library at 254-947-9191.
 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
 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.
 Grief Share group at Grace Church Salado, 5798 FM 2484, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays.
 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.
 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 change every week.
 The Bell County Master Gardener Association holds a free monthly seminar on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, 1605 N. Main in Belton.

Fridays
 Storytime with Ms. April, Salado Public Library, 11 a.m.
 Lenten Fish Fry at St. Stephen Catholic Church in Salado, 5:30-7:30 drive through pick up of all orders. \$14 dinner includes fish, french fries, hush puppies, beans, cole slaw and dessert. Pre-order any orders larger than four plates to prolife@saintstephenchurch.org. Fridays Feb. 24-March 31.
 Live Music at Chupacabra Craft Beers, 7-11 p.m.
 Live Music at Barrow Brewing Co. 6 p.m.

Fridays-Sundays
 All Day Gourmet food tasting, Wild Texas Cowgirl, 642 N. Main St., Blue & White House. Open late Fri & Sat! @WildTexasCowgirl-Google Us!
February 16
 Pint Night at Chupacabra Craft Beer, 4 p.m.-midnight. Get a free pint glass with every purchase of the featured brewery, Shannon.

February 16
 Village of Salado Aldermen meeting, 6:30 p.m. 301 N. Stagecoach Rd. Meeting will be cast via Zoom. Link will be posted at saladotx.gov 72 hours before meeting.
February 16
 Texas Red's Name That Tune Bingo with Sweet Caroline and DJ Dale Host, 7 p.m. at Barrow Brewing Co. Featuring 75 Hit Songs. Mark your free Bingo cards to win brewery prizes.
February 17
 Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m. Wayworn Traveler.
February 18
 Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m., Union Revival.
February 19
 Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 4 p.m., Chris Beall.
February 22
 Salado Lions Club luncheon meeting, 11:30 a.m., Salado Civic Center.

February 22
 Barrow Brewing Co., guest food truck, 4-8 p.m., Check Point Germany.
February 23
 Pint Night at Chupacabra Craft Beer, 4 p.m.-midnight. Get a free pint glass with every purchase of the featured brewery, Community.
February 24
 Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m. Al Shire.
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 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 25
 Heart and Hands Ministries food distribution to those in need in the Salado, Holland, Bartlett area, 9-11 a.m., 213 Mill Creek Drive, Suite 135.
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.
February 25
 Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m., Everett Wren.
February 26
 Farewell Party for Judy Fields, 2-4 p.m. come and go at The View, 1401 Southridge Rd.
February 26
 Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 4 p.m., Eley Buck.
February 27
 Salado ISD Board of Trustees meeting, 6 p.m., Salado Civic Center.
March 1
 Salado Community Foundation Annual Meeting 1 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.
March 1-10
 Village Spa Salado Peel Packages on sale plus event bags. VillageSpaSalado.com 216 Royal St. 254-293-6600
March 2
 Pint Night at Chupacabra Craft Beer, 4 p.m.-midnight. Get a free pint glass with every purchase of the featured brewery, OHB.
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://centraltexas-tickets.com/events/texas-pizza-fest-3-4-2023>
March 6
 Salado Masonic Lodge #296 Stated Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Lodge Hall, 95 S. Church St. Dinner served at 6:30 p.m.
March 9
 Pint Night at Chupacabra Craft Beer, 4 p.m.-midnight. Get a free pint glass with every purchase of the featured brewery, Buffalo Bayou.
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.
March 11
 Heart and Hands Ministries food distribution to those in need in the Salado, Holland, Bartlett area, 9-11 a.m., 213 Mill Creek Drive, Suite 135.
March 11-12
 Salado Market Days 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Salado Antique Mall 721 Stagecoach Road. Salado's original Market Days event.
March 15
 Blow-Your-Own Date Night at Salado Glassworks, #2 Peddler's Alley. \$185 per couple. Book online at saladoglassworks.com.
March 16
 Pint Night at Chupacabra Craft Beer, 4 p.m.-midnight. Get a free pint glass with every purchase of the featured brewery, Saint Arnold.
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 23
 Pint Night at Chupacabra Craft Beer, 4 p.m.-midnight. Get a free pint glass with every purchase of the featured brewery, Whitestone.
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. Advance tickets at <https://johnnysteaksandbbq.com/tickets-info/>

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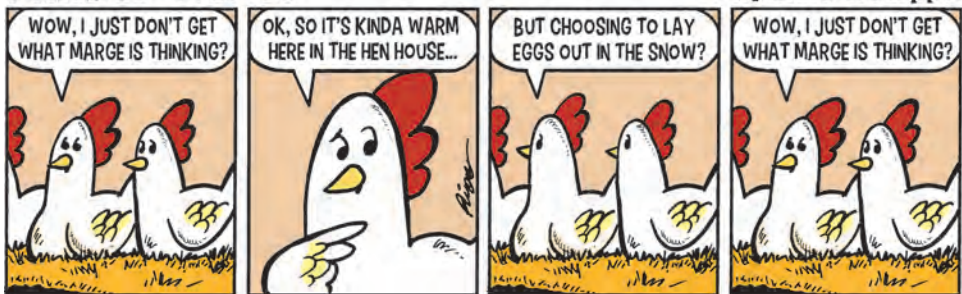
By Appt. 254-541-5659

Super Crossword

ODD BIRDS

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

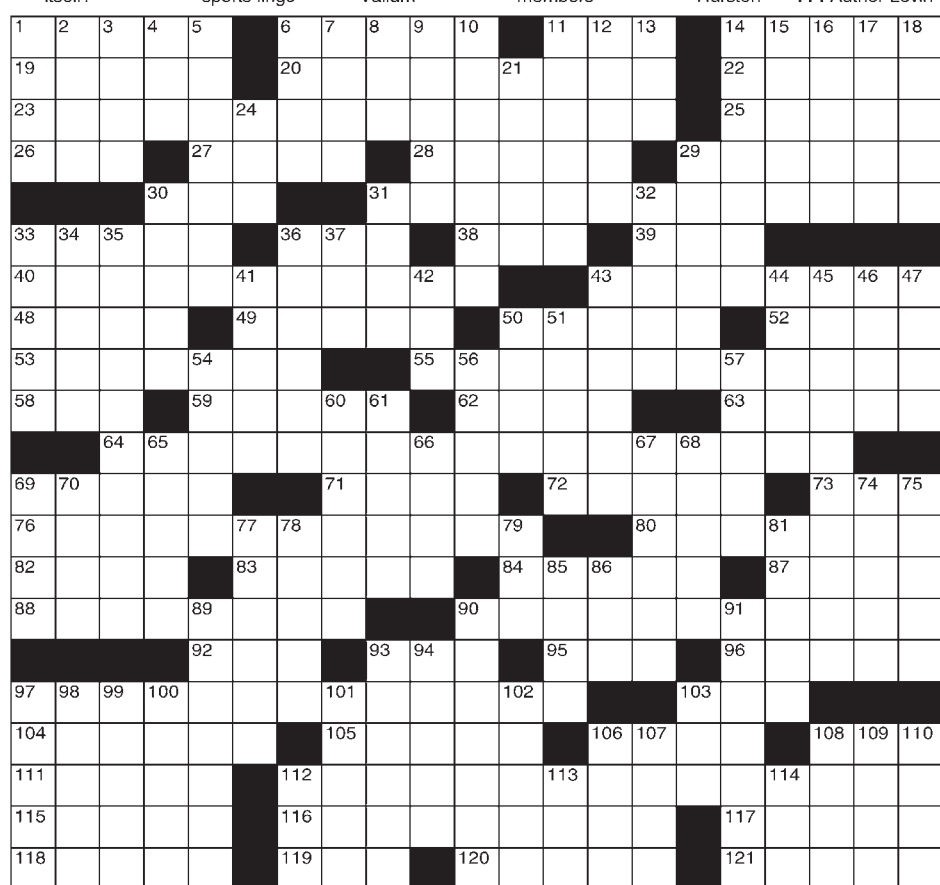


The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



- ACROSS**
- 1 Soprano's last note, perhaps
 - 6 Jordanians, e.g.
 - 11 Oscar winner Rockwell
 - 14 Mazda model
 - 19 NBA Hall of Famer — Thomas
 - 20 Tanzanian national park
 - 22 "Burnt" or "raw" color
 - 23 Bird from Richmond?
 - 25 Trident, e.g.
 - 26 Winter D.C. hrs.
 - 27 Fermented honey drink
 - 28 Fashion's Oscar de la —
 - 29 Patron associated with a "fire"
 - 30 A handful of
 - 31 Bird partially composed of element #56?
 - 33 In less peril
 - 36 Seek the affection of
 - 38 Archery asset
 - 39 Solo of sci-fi
 - 40 Bird that always keeps to itself?
 - 43 Mob member
 - 48 Adept
 - 49 "Entertaining Mr. Sloane" playwright Joe
 - 50 "Atlantic City" director Louis
 - 52 Prefix with 33-Down
 - 53 Fellow soldier
 - 55 Bird that travels to and from work?
 - 58 Notable time
 - 59 Potentially offensive, in brief
 - 62 El — (certain current)
 - 63 Stand for art
 - 64 Bird wearing a hard hat?
 - 69 Far — eye can see
 - 71 Ending for switch
 - 72 Groove for a letter-shaped bolt
 - 73 Cell material
 - 76 Bird nesting in winter
 - 80 Causes to be ashamed
 - 82 Finnish coin
 - 83 Not worth — of beans
 - 84 Not one's best effort, in sports lingo
 - 87 Some small batteries
 - 88 In — (while not present at the event)
 - 90 Bird performing under the big top?
 - 92 Abbr. of fair hiring
 - 93 Store clerk on "The Simpsons"
 - 95 Business agt.
 - 96 Peels the skin off of
 - 97 Bird that plays bebop?
 - 103 Real admirer
 - 104 German subs
 - 105 Absorb a loss
 - 106 "Sure, sign me up!"
 - 108 The Gem State: Abbr.
 - 111 Mournful song
 - 112 Bird living in the Sistine Chapel?
 - 115 Being tried, as a case
 - 116 Movies' main stories
 - 117 Rub down
 - 118 Chairs, e.g.
 - 119 Waco-to-Austin dir.
 - 120 Cary of "Saw"
 - 121 Alternative to Valium
 - 1 Bees' place
 - 2 Horned Egyptian goddess
 - 3 Surrounded with a belt
 - 4 Witch
 - 5 Mythological fire-breather
 - 6 Korea's place
 - 7 Peruse
 - 8 Brow's shape
 - 9 Catcher Yogi
 - 10 Be disdainful of
 - 11 Nose partition
 - 12 Elite squad
 - 13 1986-2001 Earth orbiter
 - 14 Feral horse
 - 15 Drive along
 - 16 "That rings —"
 - 17 "I love you," in Mexico
 - 18 Symbol on a one-way sign
 - 21 Wish-fulfilling spirits
 - 24 Innovative
 - 29 River in a Foster tune
 - 30 Flu symptom
 - 31 — chic (fashion style)
 - 32 Will, biblically
 - 33 Part of NASA
 - 34 Shady shelter
 - 35 Movie cast members
 - 36 Failed to be
 - 37 Mo. in fall
 - 41 Commotions
 - 42 Extremely old: Abbr.
 - 43 Particles believed to bind quarks together
 - 44 Kitchen wrap
 - 45 Result of backcombing
 - 46 Toledo's lake
 - 47 Pack of coins
 - 50 2,002, in Roman numerals
 - 51 Comeback to "Are too!"
 - 54 Two wives of Henry VIII
 - 56 En pointe, in ballet
 - 57 Ranch in Ferber's "Giant"
 - 60 1990-2019 Toyota minivan
 - 61 Moisturizer brand
 - 65 Melodramatic cry of sorrow
 - 66 Relative of a univ.
 - 67 Refuse to talk
 - 68 Kimonos, e.g.
 - 69 Out of port
 - 70 Rebuff rudely
 - 74 Writer Zora — Hurston
 - 75 Aides: Abbr.
 - 77 Spiteful types
 - 78 Buckeye State sch.
 - 79 Slugging stat
 - 81 The Evil One
 - 85 Mutt's threat
 - 86 Pitching star
 - 89 Fishers with seines, say
 - 90 Dead skin at the base of a fingernail
 - 91 Lycra, e.g.
 - 93 "Trainwreck" director Judd
 - 94 Word before jury or larceny
 - 97 Betrayer of Jesus
 - 98 "Take — out of crime!"
 - 99 — the Greek
 - 100 Big name in restaurant guides
 - 101 Repasts
 - 102 Web vending
 - 103 Pine's cousin
 - 106 Frozen drink treat
 - 107 Widespread
 - 108 Privy to
 - 109 Art talk
 - 110 Author Haley
 - 112 #2 execs
 - 113 Dir. 135 degrees from 119-Across
 - 114 Author Levin



Contract Bridge

THE PRACTICAL SIDE OF BRIDGE

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 7 2
♥ 9 7 5 3
♦ 6
♣ A 9 8 7 4

WEST
♠ Q 10 6 3
♥ Q 10 8
♦ J 9 3
♣ 10 5 2

EAST
♠ A J 9 5
♥ J
♦ 10 8 7 4 2
♣ K J 6

SOUTH
♠ 8 4
♥ A K 6 4 2
♦ A K Q 5
♣ Q 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 2♥ Pass

Opening lead — three of spades.

much thought, declarer played dummy's king, obviously hoping West had the ace of spades. But the direct effect of this play was that South went down one, losing two spade tricks immediately and a heart and a club later on.

Now let's suppose declarer plays low from dummy at trick one. East wins with the jack but has no effective return. Whatever he does at trick two, South is in full command.

Thus, if East cashes the ace of spades, declarer loses only two spades and a trump, with South's club loser eventually being discarded on dummy's king of spades.

If instead East shifts to a heart or a diamond, declarer is on equally firm ground. He cashes the A-K of trump and A-K-Q of diamonds, discarding the K-7 of spades from dummy, and ultimately loses only a spade, a heart and a club. No matter how you slice it, South makes four hearts -- provided he plays low from dummy on the opening spade lead.

Even if West is a player who sometimes underleads aces against suit contracts — whether from ignorance or calculated design — declarer is still best advised to play low from dummy at trick one. This one play virtually guarantees the contract against anything but a 4-0 trump division.

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by Steve Becker

It is certainly proper to make an opening lead away from an ace against a notrump contract, but it is much too risky and generally poor policy to do so against a suit contract. Most players are familiar with this rule and scrupulously abide by it on defense, but sometimes they fail to take advantage of it when they become declarer.

Consider this deal where West led a low spade against South's four-heart contract. Without giving the matter

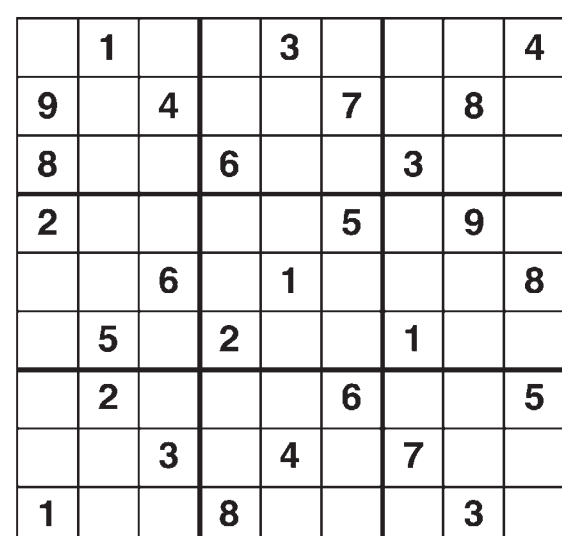
Trivia test

- by Fifi Rodriguez
- TELEVISION: What was the name of the saloon in the 1960s series "Gunsmoke"?
 - GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: To date, how many people have walked on the moon?
 - GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of the Canadian province Nova Scotia?
 - MOVIES: How many "Police Academy" movies have been produced?
 - U.S. STATES: Why is Indiana known as "The Hoosier State"?
 - FOOD & DRINK: What percentage of a cucumber is water?
 - HISTORY: Which company published its first mail-order catalog in 1872?
 - ANIMAL KINGDOM: What does the armadillo's name mean in English?
 - LITERATURE: What is author Mark Twain's real name?
 - CELEBRITIES: What is one of singer/actor Frank Sinatra's famous nicknames, based on a physical attribute?

- Answers**
- Long Branch Saloon.
 - 12.
 - Halifax.
 - Seven, including the original movie and six sequels.
 - The name became popular in the 1800s, likely from the poem "The Hoosier's Nest."
 - 96%.
 - Montgomery Ward.
 - Little armored one.
 - Samuel Langhorne Clemens.
 - Ol' Blue Eyes.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

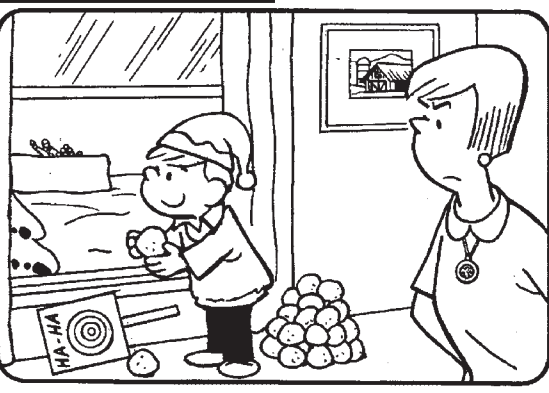
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

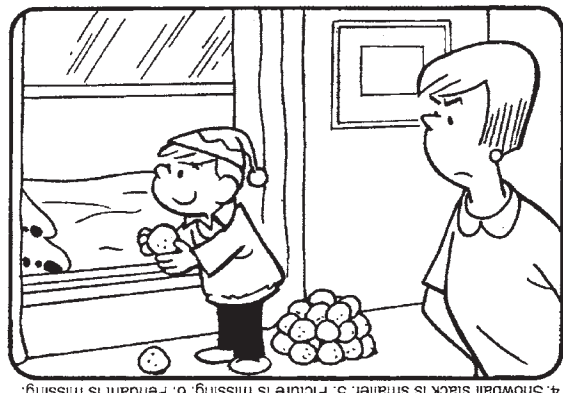
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Snow bot is missing; 2. Sign is missing; 3. Cap differs; 4. Snowball stack is smaller; 5. Picture is missing; 6. Pant is missing.

POPEYE

BY RANDY MILHOLLAND

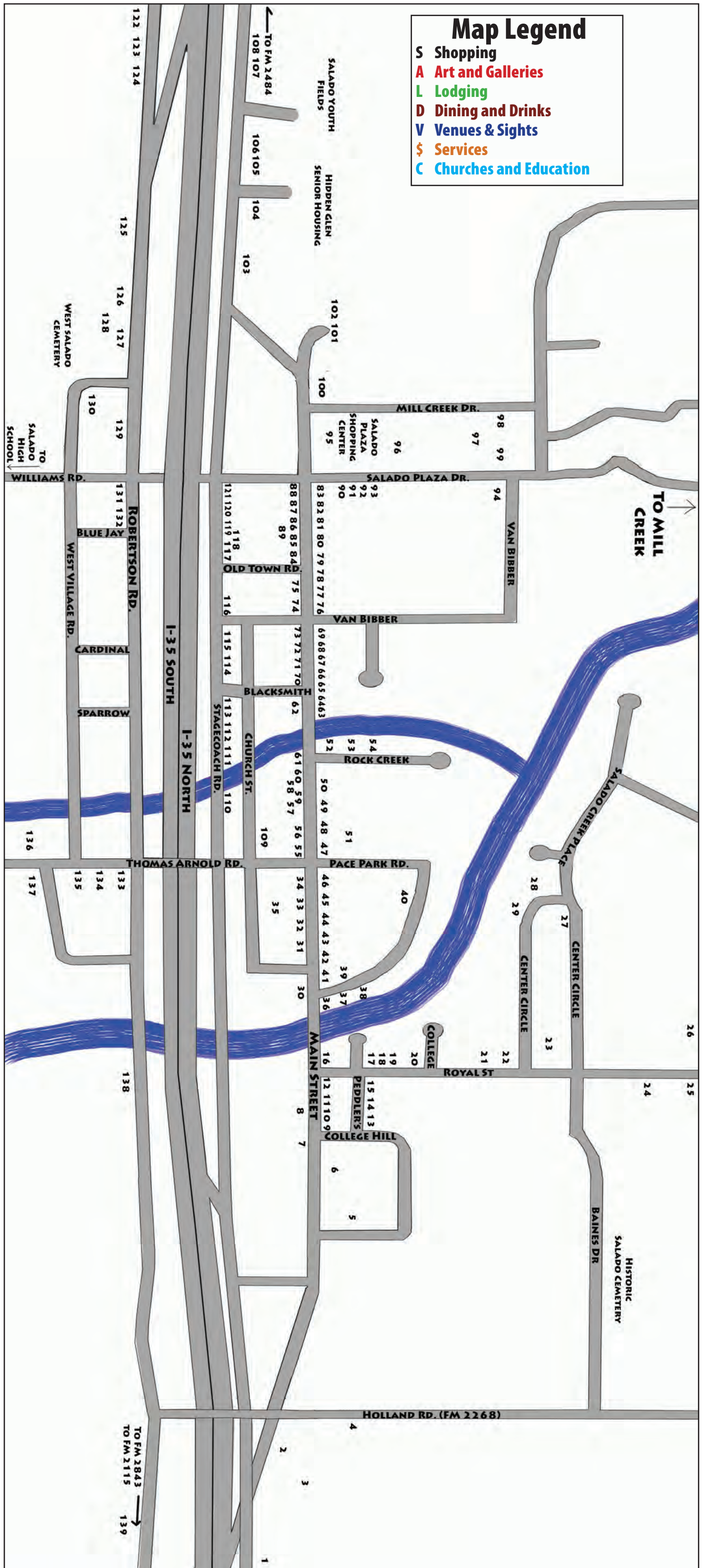


Answers

6	1	2	5	3	8	9	7	4
9	3	4	1	2	7	5	8	6
6	7	5	6	9	4	3	2	1
2	4	1	7	8	5	6	9	8
7	9	6	4	1	3	2	5	8
3	5	8	2	6	9	1	4	7
4	2	9	3	7	6	8	1	5
5	8	3	9	4	1	7	6	2
1	6	7	8	5	2	4	3	9

Shopping Map of Salado

#	Business Name	Type
4	St. Stephen Catholic Church 254-947-8037	C
6	Salado College Park	V
7	Raney & Assoc. Real Estate 254-913-1215	\$
8	StageCoach Inn Shady Villa 254-947-5111	D
9	Salado Museum 254-947-5232 Salado Visitors Center 254-947-8634 Salado Chamber of Commerce 254-947-5040 Village of Salado Tourism Office 254-947-8634 New Life Methodist Church	C
10	Sofi's 254-947-4336	S
11	Chupacabra Craft Beer and Winery (254) 308-2019 Chupacabra Kitchen (254) 308-2220	D
14	Salado Glassworks 254-947-0339	A
15	Rio Salado Cocina y Cantina 254-308-2044	D
17	Barrow Brewing Co. 254-947-3544 Happy Pizza 254-226-1684	D
21	The Venue 254-947-5554 Village Spa 254-293-6600	V
22	The Shed 254-947-1960	D
24	Tablerock 254-947-9205	V
26	Salado United Methodist Church 254-947-5482	C
29	Inn on the Creek 254-947-5554 Alexanders Craft Cocktails & Kitchen 254-947-3828	L
30	First Baptist Church 254-947-546	C
32	First Texas Brokerage 254-947-5577	\$
34	First Community Title 254-947-8480	\$
36	Woof.salado 254-500-6865	\$
40	W.A. Pace Memorial Park 254-947-5060	V
41	Susan Marie's 254-947-5239	S
49	Lively Coffeehouse & Bistro 254-947-3688	D
52	Wristy Business 254-899-9218	S
56	Salado Creek Jewelry 254-855-5538	S
62	The Pizza Place 254-947-0222	D
75	Stage Stop Center Salado Creek Dental 254-308-2027	\$
76	Salado Civic Center 254-947-5479	\$
81	Salado Wine Seller and Salado Winery Co. 254-947-8011	D
82	St. Joseph's Episcopal Church 254-947-3160	C
84	Old Town Salado Salado Post Office 254-947-5322	\$
86	Bill Bartlett - Century 21 254-947-5050	\$
87	The Personal Wealth Coach 254-947-1111	\$
90	Presbyterian Church of Salado 254-308-2023	C
91	Troy Smith Financial Services 254-947-0376	\$
92	Salado Sculpture Garden	A
96	Salado Plaza Ace Pest Control 254-947-4222 Anytime Fitness Salado 254-947-1063 Integrity Rehab 254-699-3933 Salado's Hair Shop 254-421-5173 Salado Village Voice 254-947-5321	\$
100	Salado Public Library 254-947-9191	C
107	Salado Creek Ministries meets at the Holiday Inn Express	C
113	Salado Church of Christ 254-947-5241	C
126	Cowboy's Barbecue 254-947-5700	D
130	Village Spirits 254-947-7117	S
132	Broecker Funeral Home 254-947-0066	\$
134	The Dog Spot 254-947-3647	\$
135	Carus Dental 254-947-8067	\$
136	Salado Schools & Stadium Village Church of Salado 972-978-2239	C
137	Iron Orchid Bodywork (inside Salado Fitness) 254-541-5659	\$
139	Cedar Valley Baptist Church 254-947-0148	C
Not Shown on the Shopping Map		
	3C Cowboy Fellowship 254-947-7211	C
	Grace Church 254-947-5917	C
	Mill Creek Country Club 254-947-5698	V
	JD's Truck Stop and Grill 254-947-5228	S/D



Historical Markers in Salado

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

Lady Eagles blow out Lampasas to reach Area

Salado Lady Eagles will face the winner of the bi-district playoff between Worthing and Smithville in the area round of the UIL 4A girls basketball playoffs.

The Worthing-Smithville playoff game was after press time for this edition.

Worthing is the District Champion in District 21-4A with a 20-5 overall record, 13-1 in district play. Smithville is the fourth place team in District 22-4A with a 16-16 overall record, 6-6 in District play.

The Lady Eagles trounced the Lampasas Lady Badgers, the second place team in District 24-4A 69-41 at Belton High School Feb. 13.

The game was never in question as Salado rattled off 10 straight points to go up 13-2 in the opening minutes. The girls led by 10 at the end of the first, 18-8.

Giselle Salazar hit a three-pointer, assisted by Harley Droulliard to put Salado up 33-20 at the half.

Salado ended the third with another three-pointer, this one by Karlee Konarik, also assisted by Droulliard to extended the lead to 51-29.

Ally Ihler put the finishing touch on the game hitting both free throws after Droulliard stole the ball and fed her the ball. With 1:30 left to play, the Lady Eagles held onto their 69-41 lead to launch them to the Area round of the playoffs.

Ihler hit eight of 14 shots and four of eight free throws to lead Salado with 23 points. She added 3 rebounds, 4 deflections and a steal.

Elsie Law followed, dominating the boards with 19 rebounds and 15 points for a double double. She grabbed 13 defensive boards, adding an assist, 2 deflections and 4 steals



Elsie Law goes for a layup against Lampasas



Lorali Bookout puts up a shot in Bi-district win.

(PHOTOS BY ROYCE WIGGIN) PHOTO GALLERY AT SALADOVILLAGEVOICE.COM

SEE BASKETBALL, PAGE 2C

SHS UIL wins Pflugerville Hendrickson Invitational

Salado High UIL team won the Pflugerville Hendrickson Invitational Meet on Feb. 11, competing against larger schools in the Austin area.

Salado won the meet with 121 points. Rouse was second with 108 points. Vendegrift was third with 96 points.

Academics

Editorial Writing: Evian Magoulick, fifth place.

Headline Writing: Evian Magoulick, fifth place.

News Writing: Evian Magoulick, fourth place.

Number Sense: Luke

Drigalla, fourth place. (Varsity Division); Jack Cabaniss, third place. (Novice Division).

Calculator: first place team (Fariss, Castro, Glossup):Paige Fariss, first place. (Varsity Division); Morgan Glossup, sixth place. (Varsity Division); Ty Castro, first place. (Novice Division)

Mathematics: second place, team (Drigalla, Fariss, Self); Luke Drigalla, first place (Varsity Division); Paige Fariss, sixth place (Varsity Division); Elliot Self, fourth

place. (Novice Division) Spelling: first place. Team (Sunshine, Rine, Bureson): Ethan Sunshine, first place, Jeb Rine, second place, Lydia Bureson, third place, Elsie Mescher, fifth place.

Current Issues and Events: Jeb Rine, second place.

Speech and Debate

Varsity LD Debate: James Tipton, fifth place.

Poetry Interpretation: Grey Madsen, third place.



(PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

Salado wrestlers are state qualifier Keagan Sieracki, state alternate Nathan Rechtfertig, state alternate Cavahn Wilson and state qualifier London Woods.

SHS sends two wrestlers, two alternates to State

Two Salado High School wrestlers, Freshman Keagan Sieracki and Sophomore London Woods, won first place in their respective weight divisions at the UIL Region Three 5-A Tournament in Anna Feb. 9-10.

They will both compete in the State Tournament at the Berry Center in Cypress on Feb. 16-17.

Sieracki (106 lb. weight class) pinned a senior from

Friendswood High School in the Championship Finals. Sieracki also defeated opponents from Carrollton Turner, A&M Consolidated and Humble Kingwood Park High Schools.

Sophomore London Woods (132 lbs.) pinned a senior from Carrollton Creekview in the Finals. She also had wins over College Station, Whitesboro, and Richmond Foster High

Schools.

Sophomore Nathan Rechtfertig (126 lbs.) and Senior Cavahn Wilson (215 lbs.) earned Alternate spots to the State Tournament by finishing fifth in their 16-man brackets.

Also adding team points with wins were Connor Lynch (113 lbs.), Daniel Fisher (120 lbs.), Zack Manthie (144 lbs.) and Kelly Villafranco (165 lbs.).

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Free children's walk-in clinic Feb. 25 at SHS

Feed My Sheep free children's walk-in clinic for uninsured or homeless children will have four sessions in 2023, including one at Salado High School.

Services offered during the walk-in clinics include free vaccines (as available at the time), well/sick children's visits, spots physicals, vision tests, hearing tests, dental screenings, care packages and sessions with counselors.

Low co-pay prescriptions will be covered for eligible children.

All sessions will be 9 a.m.-noon on the following Saturday mornings:

Feb. 25, 9 a.m.-12 noon: Salado High School, 1880

Williams Rd., Salado.

First Blessings Ministry will be present at the Salado free health clinic to provide shoes to students in need! Feed My Sheep will need families to sign up in advance. That link and additional information can be found here: <https://www.firstblessing.org/upcoming-events/jim-hornsby-feed-my-sheep>

April 22, 9 a.m.-noon: Harker Heights Activities Center, 400 Indian Trail Dr., Salado.

July 29, 9 a.m.-noon: Chilton High School, 905 Durango Ave., Chilton.

Aug. 12, 9 a.m.-noon: New Day Fellowship, 510 East Ave J, Temple.

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Leyla Peralta passes the ball back to Reese Lange.



Madlyn Serna defends against Brownwood.

Lady Eagles #2 in state soccer

Salado Lady Eagles are ranked #2 in state after two more wins against District 5-4A opponents last week.

The girls played Stephenville, with whom they were tied at first with 4-0 District records, on Feb. 14 in a game after presstime.

Salado has home matches on Feb. 17 against Gatesville and Feb. 21 against China Spring.

The Lady Eagles shut out the visiting Lampasas Lady Badgers 6-0 on Feb. 10.

Goals were scored by Haley Piatak, who had two, Sydney Lange, two with assists from Cassie Vargas and Reese Lange, Maddy Schulz, one and Reese Lange who was assisted by Shelby Hollywood.

Taylor Dabney and Fran Blancaflor shared the shut-

out in goal.

The JV girls beat Lampasas 6-0 Feb. 10. Goals came from Cade Harris, three, Penelope Anderson, Payton Cunningham, Britany Hernandez, Sofia Cadenas, and Mady Rosamond.

Cambry Edmondson chalked up another shutout in goal.

The Varsity Lady Eagles beat Brownwood by a score of 2-1 on Feb. 8. Both goals came from the Lange sisters.

Sydney Lange scored the first goal of the game after receiving a through ball from Lexi Rice.

Reese Lange's goal was a header off of a corner kick from Mady Serna.

The JV Lady Eagles fought Brownwood to a 0-0 tie in their earlier match.



Jillian Taylor plays the ball. (PHOTOS BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

Basketball

FROM PAGE 1C

to her output. Konarik also had double figures with 11 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 5 deflections and 3 steals.

Also scoring for the Lady Eagles were Drouillard, 9 points, 3 rebounds, 6 assists,

3 deflections and 4 steals; Elly Wade, 6 points and a block, Salazar, 3 points and a rebound, Lorali Bookout, 2 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 deflections and a steal, Ariel Cebreco, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 deflections and a steal, and Brooke McLaurin, 2 rebounds and a deflection.

Lady Eagles 38
China Spring 45

The Lady Eagles fell to China Spring on the road, 45-38, in the final game of district play Feb. 7.

China Spring had a slim 22-20 lead at the end of the first half, extending it to 36-31 after three.

Ally Ihler led the girls with 12 points, 5 rebounds, 3 deflections and a block.

Harley Drouillard followed with 11 points, an assist and 3 steals.

Also scoring for the Lady Eagles were Elsie Law, 7 points, 3 rebounds and an assist; Ariel Cebreco 5 points, 7 rebounds, 2 deflections and 3 steals; Brooke McLaurin, 2 points and an assist; Lorali Bookout, a

point, 3 rebounds, 2 assists and a deflection; Karlee Konarik, 2 rebounds, 3 assists, a deflection, a steal and a block; Elly Wade, a rebound, a deflection and a steal.

JV Red 46
China Spring JV 30

Salado JV Red traveled to China Spring Feb. 7 to finish District 23-4A basketball with a 46-30 win, improving to 7-2 in district and 15-11 overall.

"This team showed a lot of grit this season. This was a young team with half of them being freshmen," said coach Jodee Preston. "Some were asked to play different positions which took them out of their comfort zone-but despite that they worked hard and showed improvement each game. I'm very proud of all of them."

Ainsleigh Liebig led the girls with 18 points. Lola Haas followed with 12 points.

Also scoring were Mechell Estrada, 7 points, Abigail Klein, 6 points, and Brianna Tutor, 3 points.



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Boys win SHS powerlifting, girls place third in meet

Salado High School boys powerlifting team placed first overall and the girls powerlifting team placed third overall in the Salado Powerlifting Meet Feb. 9.

Following are the boys individual results:

Noah Stephens, first and totaled 900 lbs.

Alejandro Delima, fourth and totaled 890 lbs.

Brayden Dildine, fifth and totaled 760 lbs.

Drew Carter, second and totaled 1,145 lbs.

Michael Edmondson, fifth and totaled 780 lbs.

Ethan Munoz, totaled 500 lbs.

Lucas Beyer, fourth and totaled 1,015 lbs.

Nolan Miller, second and totaled 1,090 lbs.

Luke Bauser, fourth and totaled 930 lbs.

Dylan Wigley, second and totaled 1,350 lbs.

Lane Heath, third and totaled 1,170 lbs.

Dusty Rhiddlehoover, fifth and totaled 1,140 lbs.

Brooks McLane, third and totaled 1,150 lbs.

Trey Waters, fourth and totaled 1,055 lbs.

Dray McLane, first and totaled 1,530 lbs.

William Tracy, fifth and totaled 850 lbs.

Following are the girls individual results:

Jade Oliver, first and totaled 770 lbs.

Addison Matthews, second and totaled 535 lbs.

Jordan Schaub, second and totaled 785 lbs.

Maddie Casper, fourth and totaled 660 lbs.



Noah Stephens placed first in his weight class with a total lift of 900 lbs. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)



Jade Oliver placed first in her weight class with a total lift of 770 lbs. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

Jolee Lindsey, totaled 575 lbs.	and totaled 645 lbs.
Olivia Walrath, third and totaled 780 lbs.	Kirbee Webb, second and totaled 635 lbs.
Allison Alcozer, fourth	Lindsay Sula, second and totaled 690 lbs.

Happy Birthday Jordan!

Last Friday, February 10, the employees and students at Thomas Arnold Elementary School held a "reverse parade" to celebrate Jordan Mitchell's birthday. Jordan is our 3rd grade student that is courageously battling leukemia. It was a "reverse parade" because there was only one float – Jordan and her mom in a Salado red convertible – being cheered on by the elementary school students and employees holding birthday cards and signs.

The elementary school is selling Jordan Mitchell t-shirts to raise money for the Mitchell family. They are \$15 each and there are ten different sizes, ranging from youth small to adult 3XL. You can place an order at the Thomas Arnold Elementary School office.

Superintendent's Corner

by Dr. Michael Novotny



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Eagles fall to China Spring, La Vega in district basketball

Salado varsity Eagles fell to China Spring and La Vega last week in District 23-4A basketball.

Eagles 54
La Vega 68

Salado Eagles lost to the visiting La Vega Pirates, 68-54, in their final home game of the season.

The Pirates took an early 15-8 lead in the first, but the Eagles battled back to narrow the Pirates' lead to two at the half, 24-22.

Salado took a 37-36 lead after three, but it was all Pirates in the fourth as they outscored Salado 31-18 for the 68-54 win.

Levi Ball hit all eight of his shots from the field to lead the Eagles with 18 points. He also had 6 rebounds, an assist and a block.

Luke Law followed, scoring 16 points, 9 rebounds, 2 assists, a deflection and 3 blocks.

Also scoring for the Eagles were Noah Self, 6 points, 2 rebounds, a deflection and a block; Owen Pitcock, 6 points, a rebound, a deflection and a steal; Colby Ramm, 5 points and a rebound; Ethan Lobregat, 2 points and a rebound; Kase Maedgen, a point, 3 rebounds and an assist.

Eagles 46
China Spring 63

China Spring outscored Salado 16-7 in the second quarter to take a commanding 35-24 lead, extending it in the second half to beat the visiting Eagles 63-46 on Feb. 7.

Noah Self hit six of seven free throws on his way to a team-leading 16 points. Self also had 2 rebounds.



Noah Self fights La Vega's Stephon Nickerson in a rebound battle during the Eagles final home game of the season. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

Luke Law followed with 12 points, 8 rebounds, a deflection and a block.

Also scoring for the Eagles were Darius Wilson, 8 points, 4 rebounds and an assist; Owen Pitcock, 4 points, 2 rebounds, an assist, a deflection and a steal; Levi Ball, 3 points, 4 rebounds, an assist and a block; Kase Maedgen, 2 points, Colby Ramm, a point, Nolan Miller, 2 rebounds, a deflection and a steal and Josh Gilpin,

2 rebounds and an assist.
JV Eagles 64
La Vega JV 42

Salado JV Eagles beat La Vega 64-42 on Feb. 10.

Grayson Lomeli led the Eagles with 16 points.

Brandon English followed with 13 points.

Also scoring for the JV Eagles were Korbin Konarik, 9 points, Chevy Adkisson, 7 points, Jack Ingram, 7 points, Dawson Barksdale, 4 points.

JV Eagles 53
China Spring 42

Salado JV Eagles lost on the road to China Spring, 53-42 on Feb. 7.

Grayson Lomeli led the Eagles with 19 points. Dawson Barksdale also had double figures with 10 points.

Also scoring for the Eagles were Brandon English, 4 points, Mason Brown, 3 points, Jack Ingram, Chevy Adkisson, and Korbin Konarik, 2 points each.

Eagles 4-0 in District 5-4A, face 4-0 Stephenville

Salado Eagles share the leaderboard in District 5-4A soccer with Stephenville after beating Lampasas and Brownwood last week.

Salado faced Stephenville on the road Feb. 14 in

a match played after press time for this edition. Both teams were 4-0 in District 5-4A. For the year, Salado was 9-3-2 as of press time while Stephenville had an overall record of 9-0-2.

The Eagles shut out the

Lampasas Badgers, 4-0, on the road Feb. 10.

Thanddeus Heckman recorded the hat trick with three goals for the Eagles. He also had an assist. Luke Anderson recorded a goal and an assist. Owen Stone had an assist for Salado.

Goalkeeper Hughston Taggart recorded the shut out for the Eagles, his third of the season.

The Eagles beat the Brownwood Lions, 2-1, on Feb. 7.

Thaddeus Heckman scored two goals. Luke Anderson gave an assist in the match.

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Marketplace

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504 Amber Ln, Jarrell

\$265,000
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AVAILABLE

8651 Rita Bend Rd, Salado

\$589,000
4 BR, 2.5 BA | 2,201 SQFT



AVAILABLE

4905 Sunflower Ln, Temple

\$125,000
Residential Lot | 0.447 Acres



AVAILABLE

928 Hackberry Rd, Salado

\$475,000
Acreage Homesite | 6.997 Acres



AVAILABLE

1214 Dogwood Blvd, Killeen

\$219,000
Commercial Lot | 5 Acres



AVAILABLE

7212 McGregor Park Rd, Temple

\$2,480,000
Land | 122.63 Acres



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\$100,000
Residential Lot | 2.335 Acres



AVAILABLE

Lot 2 Hwy 36, Flat

\$55,500
Residential Lot | 1.4 Acres



PENDING

2771 FM 2268, Salado

\$1,650,000
Land | 466 Acres



PENDING

2501 Twin Ridge Ct, Belton

\$495,000
4 BR, 3 BA | 2,708 SQFT



PENDING

710 Silver Stone Dr, Temple

\$259,000
3 BR, 2 BA | 1,525 SQFT



PENDING

1211 Yellow Rose Dr, Salado

\$599,999
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Classified ads due Monday noon 15 words for \$7, (.25 per word after) prepaid contact classifieds@saladovillagevoice.com

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FOOD & DRINK Alexander's Craft Cocktails & Kitchen- 254-947-3828. www.inncreek.com/alexanders

Chupacabra Kitchen- Lunch, Dinner, Late Night, 401 S. Main, Corner of Royal and Main. 254-208-2220.

Cowboys Bar-B-Q- Exit 285 - 1300 Robertson Rd. 254-947-5700.

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Rio Salado Cocina y Cantina- 109 Royal St., www.riosaladotexmex.com

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The Pizza Place- 230 North Main St. 254-947-0022. PizzaPlaceSalado.com

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Salado Police Department Report Jan. 30- Feb. 5

Feb. 6
 9:22 a.m.; N. Stagecoach Rd. N. Stagecoach Rd., Holiday Inn Express. Call for Service, Medical.
 4:14 p.m.; Offense Report, SPD230028
 5:06 p.m.; Salado Plaza and N. Main. Call for Service, Crash.
 5:30 p.m.; Offense Report, SPD230028
 6:07 p.m.; Offense Report, SPD230028
 7:11 p.m.; Logan Blvd. Call for Service, Area Check.
 7:30 p.m.; West Village. Call for Service, Area Check.
 7:50 p.m.; Pace Park Rd. (Park Bathrooms) Security Check.
 9:06 p.m.; Offense Report, SPD230028
 10:53 p.m.; All Salado School Buildings/Property. Security Check.
 11:02 p.m.; Pace Park Rd. (Park Bathrooms) Security Check.
 11:08 p.m.; Brody Way. Call for Service, Area Check.
 11:20 p.m.; West Village. Call for Service, Area Check.
 Feb. 7
 12:07 p.m.; Traffic Stop.
 12:36 p.m.; Robertson and Williams. Call for Service, Crash.
 5:22 p.m.; Offense Report, SPD22205275
 6:10 p.m.; IH-35 at 284 SB. Call for Service, Crash.
 7:49 p.m.; All Salado School Buildings/Property. Security Check.
 7:50 p.m.; Pace Park Rd. (Park Bathrooms) Security Check.
 10:17 p.m.; S. Main St. (Sofi's). Call for Service, Alarm Business.
 Feb. 8
 3:54 p.m.; Mill Creek Dr. Call for Service, Suspicious Circumstance.
 4:22 p.m.; N. Robertson Rd. (Sonic). Call for Service, Civil Matter.
 6:12 p.m.; N. Main St. (PNC Bank). Call for Service, Suspicious Circumstance.
 10:26 p.m.; Stagecoach and FM 2484. Call for Service, Stranded Motorist.
 10:29 p.m. N. Main St. (Maks Mercantile). Call for Service, Open Door.
 10:52 p.m.; Pace Park Rd. (Park Bathrooms) Security Check.
 1:03 a.m.; West Village. Call for Service, Area Check.
 1:16 a.m.; Mill Creek (Brookshire Bros). Call for Service, Area Check.
 1:29 a.m.; All Salado School Buildings/Property. Security Check.
 1:34 a.m.; Logan Blvd. Call for Service, Area Check.
 1:11 p.m.; Logan Blvd. Call for Service, Area Check.
 1:31 p.m.; Pace Park Rd. (Park Bathrooms) Security Check.
 1:32 p.m.; West Village. Call for Service, Area Check.
 2:29 p.m.; Center Circle. Call for Service, Theft.
 4:25 p.m.; Chisholm Trail. Call for Service, Alarm Residential.
 6:37 p.m.; Salado PD. Call for Service, Citizen Contact.
 7:35 p.m.; Brody Way. Call for Service, Area Check.
 7:46 p.m.; West Village. Call for Service, Area Check.
 8:28 p.m.; All Salado School Buildings/Property. Security Check.
 8:37 p.m.; Pace Park Rd. (Park Bathrooms) Security Check.
 Stranded Motorist.
 1:41 a.m.; Logan Blvd. Call for Service, Area Check.
 2:01 a.m.; West Village. Call for Service, Area Check.
 2:15 a.m.; All Salado School Buildings/Property. Security Check.
 2:23 a.m.; Pace Park Rd. (Park Bathrooms) Security Check.
 9:04 a.m.; TA1, TA2, TA3. Call for Service, Alarm Business.
 1:59 p.m.; Williams Rd. Call for Service, Canine School Search.
 5:51 p.m.; Pace Park Rd. (Park Bathrooms) Security Check.
 7:45 p.m.; Logan Blvd. Call for Service, Area Check.
 8:21 p.m.; West Village. Call for Service, Area Check.
 8:42 p.m.; Pace Park Rd. (Park Bathrooms) Security Check.
 Feb. 11
 12:20 a.m.; All Salado School Buildings/Property. Security Check.
 1:47 a.m.; Brody Way. Call for Service, Area Check.
 2:01 a.m.; Pace Park Rd. (Park Bathrooms) Security Check.
 10:56 p.m.; All Salado School Buildings/Property. Security Check.
 Feb. 9
 10:07 a.m.; Thomas Arnold Rd. TAE-3. Call for Service, Escort.
 12:42 p.m.; Offense Report, SPD230033
 4:11 p.m.; Offense Report, SPD230033
 7:05 p.m.; Offense Report, SPD230030
 7:07 p.m.; Offense Report, SPD230028
 8:02 p.m.; Offense Report, SPD230033
 8:45 p.m.; West Village. Call for Service, Area Check.
 8:50 p.m.; Pace Park Rd. (Park Bathrooms) Security Check.
 9:03 p.m.; Logan Blvd. Call for Service, Area Check.
 11:38 p.m.; Guess Dr. Call for Service, Residential Alarm.
 11:45 p.m.; Arrowhead Dr. Call for Service, Residential Alarm.
 Feb. 10
 12:08 a.m.; IH-35 NB at MM 284. Call for Service,

State Senators debate new electric market structure

By RICHARD LEE
 SENATE NEWS SERVICE

A new framework adopted by the Public Utility Commission that would significantly change the way that electric companies buy and sell electricity was met with skepticism by members at last week's hearing of the Senate Business and Commerce Committee. Following the near collapse of the state electric grid on Valentine's Day 2021, the Legislature passed a number of measures not only to reduce the chance that extreme weather could damage critical energy infrastructure, but also to make the energy market on which generators and retail electric providers buy and sell energy more robust and to entice more new

power plants into the state. Senators at Tuesday's hearing, however, questioned PUC chairman Peter Lake's assurance that the new plan would accomplish those goals. "It's very novel," Weatherford Senator Phil King said about the proposed plan. "I'll admit to you that the words 'novel' and 'electricity' in the same sentence are always kind of scary." Senator Robert Nichols of Jacksonville explained to the committee that because federal tax incentives have made renewable power like wind and solar generation more attractive to the private sector, Texas has seen an explosion in renewable capacity, while the share of the state energy portfolio consisting of thermal gener-

ation sources like natural gas or coal plants has dwindled. While renewables tend to be cheaper for consumers on most days, they are subject to weather conditions. Thermal generation, while more expensive to build and maintain, is what is called dispatchable energy - it is energy that can be turned on and off at need. Many state lawmakers have called for extensive expansion in thermal dispatchable generation in the form of new natural gas power plants, and Nichols expressed concern that absent change, that won't happen. "We're continuing to lose dispatchable power, no one is building anything new," he said. The electricity market run by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT)

operates on a supply and demand model: as demand rises so too does the wholesale price that generators charge to electric retail providers - those power companies that provide residential power. During 2021's storm, as nearly half of the state's generation capacity was iced over, the price of a megawatt/hour of electricity shot up to the statutory cap of \$9,000, an astonishingly high price compared to the \$20 to \$30 for the same amount typical of a normal day in Texas. Prices stayed at that cap for 30 hours, resulting in billions of dollars in overcharges. One of the major reforms enacted by the Legislature last session was lowering that price cap to \$5,000. The PUC plan calls for a new market that operates alongside existing ERCOT markets where generators could sell a promise in the form of a "performance credit" that guarantees that a specific amount of power would be available on certain dates where demand is

predicted to be very high. If they can't to meet that promise, they would face penalties. Senators questioned, however, how this plan would incentivize the type of dispatchable generation the Legislature demanded through last session's reforms. In the face of pushback from the Legislature, Lake has said he will put further planning on hold as lawmakers mull the PUC proposal. It is within their authority to reject, amend, or accept this plan. The stakes here are very high. While it wasn't related to state grid perfor-

mance, the winter storm that knocked out power for hundreds of thousands of households in central Texas last week was a reminder of what a few days without power during February in Texas is like. Given the tenor of Tuesday's meeting, it's clear supporters of the PUC plan will have to work hard to ease lawmakers' uncertainties. "This is the first of its kind before, sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't," said Brenham Senator Lois Kolkhorst. "We cannot miss on this. It's critical."

Salado Volunteer Fire Department Report Feb. 5-11

Date	Address	Incident Type
02/05	I-35 South @ FM 2484, Salado	Dispatched & canceled en route
02/05	MARY LN, Bell	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/05	ROYAL ST, Salado	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/06	N STAGECOACH RD, Salado	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/06	FM 2268, Bell	Arcing, shorted electrical equipment
02/06	Scenic Lakeview Drive, Bell	False alarm or false call, other
02/06	FM 1670, Bell	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/07	CHISHOLM TRL, Salado	Assist invalid
02/07	FM 2484 @ I-35South, Salado	Dispatched & canceled en route
02/07	TH JONES MILL WAY, Salado	EMS call, exclud. MVA with injury
02/07	FOX RD, Bell	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/07	PARK PLACE RD, Salado	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/08	I35, Salado	Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.
02/08	Interstate 35, Salado	Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.
02/08	MISSION TRL, BELL	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/09	Stinnett Mill RD, Bell	Power line down
02/09	S MAIN ST, Salado	Alarm system activation, no fire Medical
02/09	S IH 35 SERVICE RD, Bell	assist, assist EMS crew
02/09	BLACKBERRY RD, Bell	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/10	HODGE CANYON DR, Bell	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/10	S IH 35 SERVICE RD, Salado	Authorized controlled burning
02/11	MILL CREEK DR, Salado	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/11	S IH 35 SERVICE RD, BELL	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/11	W VILLAGE RD, Salado	Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill
02/11	CENTER CIR, Salado	Building fire

Bell County Master Gardener events listed

February 16

The Bell County Master Gardener Association will host "Honeybees and Native Bees" presented by Master Beekeeper, Greg Oermann, at 6:30 p.m. Feb 16, at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office Learning Center; 1605 N. Main St., Belton. The seminar is free but limited to the first 50 people to

sign-up. Donations will be accepted to support continuing education opportunities in Bell County. Register at bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com

February 18

The Bell County Master Gardener Association will be at the Harker Heights Activities Center Outdoor & Science Expo, from 9 a.m.

1 p.m., Feb 18, 400 Indian Trail, Harker Heights. Activities will include presentations by Master Gardeners, Ask A Master Gardener, Kids' Zone, and Seed Table.

February 23

The Bell County Master Gardener Association will host "Spring Gardening Starts Now" presented by Wayne Schirner, at 6 p.m. Feb 23, at Christ Episcopal Church; 300 N. Main St., Temple. The seminar is free but is limited to the first 100 people to sign up. Donations will be accepted to support the Community

Garden. Register at bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com. Parking available on the West side of church.

February 25

The Bell County Master Gardener Association will host "Spring Gardening Starts Now" presented by Wayne Schirner, at 10:00 a.m., Feb 25, at the Salado Museum; 423 S. Main St., Salado. The seminar is free but is limited to the first 40 people to sign up. Donations will be accepted to support the Salado Museum and College Park. Register by calling 254-718-0820.

Parking located behind the museum.

February 25

The Bell County Master Gardener Association will be at the Bell County Home & Garden Show, Feb 25, 10 a.m. 301 West Loop 121, Belton. Activities will include presentations by Master Gardeners, Ask A Master Gardener, Kids' Zone, and Seed Table.

March 4

The Bell County Master Gardener Association will host a "Bee Box Workshop" on Saturday, March 4, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., at

the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, 1605 N. Main St., Belton. The workshop will be conducted by Erik and Cheryl Robertson, Owner's, Raw-Bee's, LLC in Lorena. Erik and Cheryl will teach you how to construct a honeybee deep/brood box and show you additional items needed to set up in your apiary. Class Limit 10. Fee is \$30 per person. Register at bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com Payment instructions will be provided upon registering for class.

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