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Third Quarter 2023
Published by Salado Village Voice

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

Salado Village Voice: always independent, family-owned and hyperlocal since 1979

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.

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
CONTACT advertising@saladovillagevoice.com

Fourth Quarter 2023
advertising deadline Aug. 3

SaladoVillageVoice.com

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Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas magazine is a quarterly publication of Salado Village Voice Inc., publisher of the weekly Salado Village Voice newspaper., P.O. Box 587, Salado, Texas 76571. Distributed in Salado and all Texas Visitor Centers



**Cover photo of Ronnie and Patricia Wells
with Ronnie's sculpture of Augustus McRae
by Marilyn Fleischer**

Calendar of Events

Now through Labor Day

Folk art and student art exhibit at Salado Museum, 423 S. Main St., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays.

July 4

Salado Historical Society annual Fourth of July Celebration, noon at Salado High School Cafeteria. The Historical Society will provide chicken and drinks. Please bring sides or desserts to share. Salado Community Chorus will perform patriotic songs!

July 6

Vineyard tour with Salado Winery, 6 p.m. June Ritterbusch, the vineyard manager and wine maker, will be guiding the tour. This educational class is perfect for any home wine maker, hobbyist grower, or anyone interested in the technical side of growing grapes in Texas. \$20 per person. Tickets on Eventbrite.

July 8

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 and payment can be made over the phone with the museum using a credit card. All attendees 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. The site is 30 minutes from Belton, between Salado and Florence.

July 10

The 2nd Monday book club meets at 7 p.m. at Salado Winery.

July 10-14

Vacation Bible School, 8 a.m.-noon at Heritage Country Church. Register online at heritagecountrychurch@gmail.com.

July 13

Around the World Dinner Series, Alexander's Craft Cocktails + Kitchen, 6:30 p.m. Five course themed dinner, \$100 per person. Tickets on eventbrite.com. This month's focus is Milan, Italy.

July 13

Italian Wines curated wine tasting hosted by Hannah Hendrick 6-8 p.m. at Salado Winery, 841 N. Main St. Tickets available online through Salado Winery Eventbrite <https://bit.ly/3MLXXOA>. Call 254-947-8011 or check Facebook for more information.

July 18

Summer Fun Art Class with Salado Village Artists for kids ages 8-12, 1-3 p.m. at the Salado Village Artists building on grounds of Salado Civic Center. \$10 session includes all materials for class. Beautiful Bugs: Creating Images with Dots of Color. To register email halexand@embarqmail.com or call Helen Alexander at 254-947-1089. Include child's name, age and emergency number for registration. Space is saved with payment by check mailed to Salado Village Artists, PO Box 363, Salado, TX 76571.

July 22

Salado Legends Tablerock's Goodnight Amphitheater, 409 Royal St., Salado, TX, 76571. Dinner is at 7:15 p.m., Performance begins at 8:15 p.m. Dinner tickets, which must be purchased 24 hours in advance, are \$13. Salado Legends tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for students (with ID) and \$5 for children 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased online at CentralTexas-Tickets.com.

July 24-28

Boys Soccer Camp 1 for incoming kindergarten-second graders will be 8:30-9:30 a.m. July 24-28 at the grass fields behind Thomas Arnold Elementary. Cost is \$50. For information, call coach Jared Cruddas at 254.947.6970 or email jared.cruddas@saladoisd.org.

July 25

Summer Fun Art Class with Salado Village Artists for kids ages 8-12, 1-3 p.m. at the Salado Village Artists building on grounds of Salado Civic Center. \$10 session includes all materials for class. Red - Yellow - Blue: Making the Rainbow, Having Fun with Color. To register email halexand@embarqmail.com or call Helen Alexander at 254-947-1089. Include child's name, age and emergency number for registration. Space is saved with payment by check mailed to Salado Village Artists, PO Box 363, Salado, TX 76571.

July 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.

July 29

Salado Legends Tablerock's Goodnight Amphitheater, 409 Royal St., Salado, TX, 76571. Dinner is at 7:15 p.m., Performance begins at 8:15 p.m. Dinner tickets,

which must be purchased 24 hours in advance, are \$13. Salado Legends tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for students (with ID) and \$5 for children 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased online at CentralTexas-Tickets.com.

August 5

Salado Legends Tablerock's Goodnight Amphitheater, 409 Royal St., Salado, TX, 76571. Dinner is at 7:15 p.m., Performance begins at 8:15 p.m. Dinner tickets, which must be purchased 24 hours in advance, are \$13. Salado Legends tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for students (with ID) and \$5 for children 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased online at CentralTexas-Tickets.com.

August 10

Around the World Dinner Series, Alexander's Craft Cocktails + Kitchen, 6:30 p.m. Five course themed dinner, \$100 per person. Tickets on eventbrite.com. This month's focus is Venezuela.

August 12-13

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

August 14

The 2nd Monday book club meets at 7 pm at Salado Winery.

August 24-26

Central Texas Youth Rodeo Association rodeo at Heritage Country Church arena, 9929 Lark Trail. Thursday and Friday 7 p.m. start time. Saturday 6 p.m. start time. Order of Events: Calf Riding, Steer Riding, Poles, Straights, Goats, Barrels, Chute Dogging, Dbl Mugging, Tie Down, Ribbons, Breakaway, Team Roping. Age Groups: 6 & Under, 7-9, 10-12, 13-15, 16-19.

August 25

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.

September 8-30

Blow-Your-Own Drinkware Events at Salado Glassworks. Make your own Mug, Sipper, Tumbler for \$90. Ages 12+. Fridays 3-5 p.m. Saturdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration opens August 9 online at saladoglassworks.com

September 9-10

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

September 11

The 2nd Monday book club meets at 7 p.m. at Salado Winery.

September 14

Around the World Dinner Series, Alexander's Craft Cocktails + Kitchen, 6:30 p.m. Five course themed dinner, \$100 per person. Tickets on eventbrite.com. This month's focus is Cuba.

September 21-23

Central Texas Youth Rodeo Association rodeo at Heritage Country Church arena, 9929 Lark Trail. Thursday and Friday 7 p.m. start time. Saturday 6 p.m. start time. Order of Events: Calf Riding, Steer Riding, Poles, Straights, Goats, Barrels, Chute Dogging, Dbl Mugging, Tie Down, Ribbons, Breakaway, Team Roping. Age Groups: 6 & Under, 7-9, 10-12, 13-15, 16-19.

September 22

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.

October 10

Around the World Dinner Series, Alexander's Craft Cocktails + Kitchen, 6:30 p.m. Five course themed dinner, \$100 per person. Tickets on eventbrite.com. This month's focus is Venezuela.

October 13-15

Salado Ladies Community League annual Christmas in October Jingle Walk. community. Ticket holders will have three days to visit 20 plus retailers, receive a gift from each, and qualify for amazing door prizes. Tickets are limited to 250 and will go on sale September 1 on CentralTexasTickets.com. Salado Civic Center, 601 N. Main St., SaladoLCL.Org. Proceeds from this 501(c) fundraiser will be used for grants and scholarships in the Salado area.

October 17

Annual Salado Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament, Mill Creek Golf Club. Visit salado.com for more information and to sponsor or register as a player.

October 21

Barrow Brewing Volks Ride to benefit Salado Volunteer Fire Department. Registration at <https://www.bikereg.com/barrow-volk-ride>.

For the latest Calendar of Events, pick up a Salado Village Voice or visit saladovillagevoice.com

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Mondays

Salado Senior Center open 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays at 650 Royal St. (Salado United Methodist Church Youth Activity Center). Coffee Corner and Game Time, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Chair Yoga with Joette Grieco, 9-10 a.m. Bridge, 9:30-noon. Movie and Popcorn, 1-3 p.m.

Family Interactive Movie at Salado Public Library, 1 p.m.

Village Artists- knitters, crocheters and stitchers meet, 1-4 p.m. Salado Village Artists' red building behind the Civic Center. Barrow Cycling Club, 6 p.m. for a no-drop ride.

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., first Monday of month, Barrow Brewing Co.

Second Monday Book Club meets at 7 p.m. at Salado Winery, 841 N. Main St.

Salado Democrats meet the third Monday of each month, 7 p.m., in the conference room of Salado Public Library.

Tuesdays

Village Artists- artists and crafters meet 9:30-11:30 a.m. Salado Village Artists' red building behind the Civic Center.

Knitting Group at Salado Public Library, 10 a.m.

Storytime with Ms. Mia 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. Reservations encouraged.

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

Wednesdays

Teens Cosplay June Workshop at Salado Public Library, 1 p.m. Register at front desk.

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

Salado Senior Center open 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursdays at 650 Royal St. (Salado United Methodist Church Youth Activity Center). Coffee Corner and Game Time, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Chair Tai Chi with Rich Trautman, 10-11 a.m. Bingo, noon-1 p.m. Bridge, 12:30-3 p.m. Movie and Popcorn, 1-3 p.m.

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

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

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

Barrow Cycling Club, 6 p.m. for a no-drop ride.

Weekly curated wine tasting hosted by Hannah Hendrick 6-8 p.m. at Salado Winery, 841 N. Main St. Tickets available online through Salado Winery Eventbrite <https://bit.ly/3MLXXOA>. Call 254-947-8011 or check Facebook for more information.

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.

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. Mia, Salado Public Library, 11 a.m.

Live Music at Axis Winery, 3-6 p.m.

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

Live Music at Barrow Brewing Co. 7 p.m.

Saturdays

Farmers' Market, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. every Saturday, Barrow Brewing Co.

Asanas and Ales, 9 a.m. every Saturday in the taproom at Barrow Brewing Co.

Summer Storytime with Ms. Mia, Salado Public Library, 11 a.m.

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

Live Music at Barrow Brewing, 7 p.m.

Live Music at Chupacabra Craft Beer, 8 p.m.

Sundays

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

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



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PAGE 9

Salado Legends is having a 30th Birthday!

Performance set July 22 & 29, August 5

By Jackie Mills

It has been 30 years since we had the very first performance of Salado Legends!

Looking back, I am shocked at my confidence and appalled at my unmitigated gall in composing and writing Salado Legends. Taking over Tablerock in 1991 with \$1.34 in the checkbook was pure madness! A year later after a few plays, our bank balance had increased to \$3,000. My friends at the Institute of Outdoor Theater at the University of North Carolina cautioned me to wait until I had a million dollars in the bank before starting a play. But knowing I would be dead by then, I plunged onward. What was I thinking?

Having told everyone in Salado my plans for Tablerock was a mistake. Then I had to follow through. If I had kept my mouth shut, I might have given up. I started researching and writing the play, and I realized what I needed for props, actors and costumes. I deviously planned assaults and skirmishes upon unsuspecting friends. I put on my big-girl high heels and a dab of lipstick and hit the road asking for the loan of lights from the Cultural Activities Center where I served on the board of directors. Next was Baylor, where I knew people in the Theater Department and asked for a loan of costumes and props. They granted our wish, and even pitched in some ancient speakers. We cherished those old clunkers and thanked Baylor profusely. We returned the favor later by passing the speakers on to Salado High School. The chore of finding a Native American who could perform a theatrical dance was daunting. Then I heard of a Seminole in Oklahoma, who had been in few Smithsonian films. Dave Jackson played the Salado Legends scout, Tonweya, for 12 years! Finding a re-enactment group who already had weapons and uniforms led to Charlie Van Bibber who agreed to bring the Texas Volunteer Militia on board. The planning along with script and song writing plus recording the music in Wayne Gardner's garage sound room took nine months.

At last the show was meshing. Under the direction of Mike Doggett, the actors, teens and small, wild children were transforming the script into an outdoor musical. The local banks sold tickets for us, all of Mill Creek came out in force and we got rave reviews



The Legend of Sirena is told during Salado Legends. (Photo by Nancy Shepperd)

from local newspapers (and Fort Worth newspapers too...thanks to A.C. Green).

Every year the money from the sale of tickets goes to buy lights, sound equipment, scholarships and to improve the facilities of this 501c3 (non-profit) organization. Salado Legends, our once a year event at Tablerock has expanded into several events a year. Originally written for 40 people, Legends has grown to 114 in the cast and crew. Our first scholarship of \$250 has grown to over \$10,000 in up to 14 scholarships a year making a total of over \$200,000 given in scholarships from 1993 to 2023. Our college-bound cast and crew have earned degrees in accounting, education, nursing and more with Salado Legends scholarships. Many return every year as volunteers to help with Tablerock productions, and one family boasts three generations participating in Salado Legends.

Approximately 5,000 people a year have attended events at Tablerock. The economic impact of Salado Legends alone was over \$227,424 in 2017 when it was last figured by Institute of Outdoor Drama guidelines.

Tablerock's Board of Directors, now under the direction of Thom Wilson, is a board of hard working volunteers. The board is supported by many generous donors. With help from Rolly Correa, we obtained a matching grant from the Texas Parks and Wildlife to build a one-half-mile walking trail. Wayne Phillips, a local stone builder, bid the job and donated the stone tables and benches in the picnic area. Tablerock's original Greek-style amphitheater seating was upgraded with Fort Hood's donation of 422 used stadium seats. Tablerock's original seven acres has increased to 14 acres with

See Tablerock, Page 11

Meet me tonight at Tablerock

From page 10

volunteer built barns, storage buildings and fencing. When our savings for indoor bathrooms and a concession building proved insufficient, friends at CenturyLink, the Terry Crawford Family and Jerry Iley donated the remaining funds to build the hospitality room and the upstairs education room. My husband, Denver, designed and oversaw the construction. The \$125,000 building was completed and paid for with ticket money from plays and donations (no loans) just in time for Salado Legends' 20th birthday celebration.

Gracious friends and the past 30 years have been good to Tablerock, and Tablerock has been good for Salado. I'm so glad that I didn't keep my plans for an outdoor musical a secret!

Now, what role would you like in the next Tablerock production? Maybe you would like to make costumes? Control the spotlights? Sing or dance? We have a place for you and your family to volunteer your talents.

Performances of 2023 Salado Legends are July 22, July 29 and August 5 at Tablerock's Goodnight Amphitheater, 409 Royal St., Salado, TX, 76571. Dinner is at 7:15 p.m., and the performance begins at 8:15 p.m. Dinner tickets, which must be purchased 24 hours in advance, are \$13. Salado Legends tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for students (with ID) and \$5 for children 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased online at CentralTexasTickets.com.



The cast and crew of Tablerock's Salado Legends numbers more than 100 each year. Meet me tonight at Tablerock! Photo by Nancy Shepperd

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It's summertime in Salado, which means it is time to go play in Salado Creek! (Photo by Royce Wiggin)



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Shopping Map of historic Salado

North



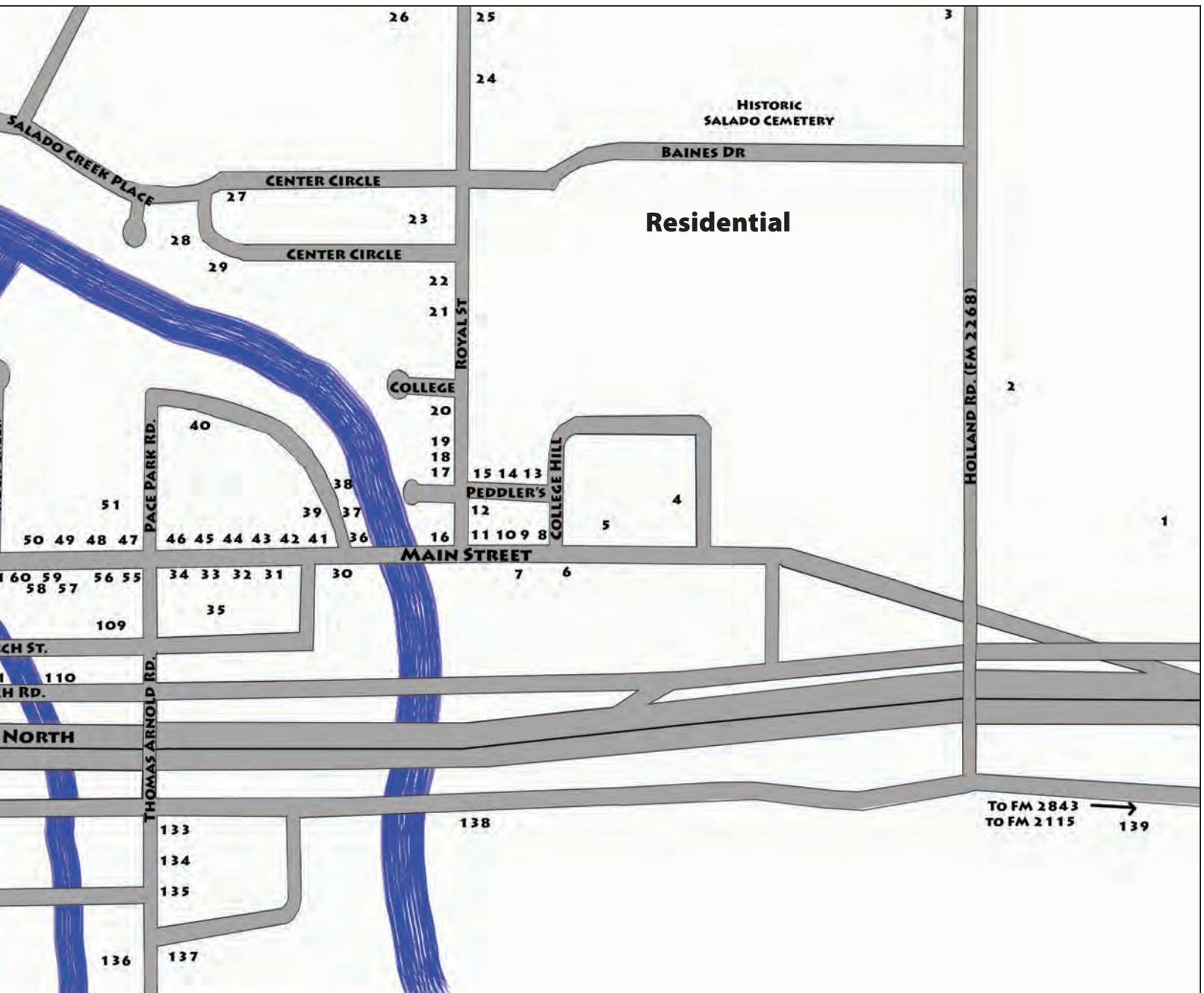
Map Legend

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

Business Name

- 2 St. Stephen Catholic Church C
- 3 Yellow House B & B L
- 5 Salado College Park V
- 3 Shady Villa L
- 7 Stagecoach Restaurant D
- 8 Salado Museum V
- Salado Chamber of Commerce \$
- Salado Visitors Center \$
- Village of Salado Tourism Office \$
- 9 Sofi's S

- 10 Chupacabra Craft Beer & Kitchen D
- 11 Bentons A
- 12 FSG Jewelry A
- 14 Salado Glassworks A
- 15 Rio Salado Cocina y Cantina D
- 16 Salado General Store S/D
- 16 Sirril Art Gallery (upstairs) A
- 17 Barrow Brewery Company D
- 17 BobbyQue D
- 17 Farmers Market at Barrow Brewing Co. S
- 21 The Venue V
- 21 Village Spa \$
- 22 The Shed D
- 24 Tablerock Amphitheater V
- 26 Salado United Methodist Church C
- 29 Alexander's Craft Cocktails & Kitchen D
- 29 Inn on the Creek L
- 30 First Baptist Church C
- 32 First Texas Brokerage \$
- 34 First Community Title \$
- 36 woof \$
- 40 W.A. Pace Memorial Park V
- 43 The Strawberry Patch S
- 44 Prellop Fine Art Gallery A
- 48 Mustang Springs of Salado office \$
- 49 21 Main S
- 49 Christy's of Salado S
- 49 Lively Coffeehouse and Bistro D
- 49 Main Street Social D
- 52 Solas Gallery & Village Framer S
- 58 The Shoppes on Main S
- The Marketplace Cafe D
- 59 Vecchio Pallino Gelateria D
- 60 Salado Creek Jewelers S
- 62 The Pizza Place D
- 64 Griffith Fine Art Gallery A
- 67 The Buddy Schwab Group \$
- 69 McCain's Bakery & Cafe D
- 70 Wells Gallery A
- 75 Angelic Herbs S
- 76 Salado Civic Center \$
- 80 Axis Winery G
- 81 Salado Wine Seller & Salado Winery Co. D
- 82 St. Joseph's Episcopal Church C
- 84 Old Town Salado Shopping Center S
- 84 Pen Station S
- 84 Rose & Bee S
- 84 Salado Olive Oil Company S
- 84 Serendipity Salado S
- 84 SophistikatZ Beads & Gifts S



Residential

- 85 MAKS Merchantile S
 - 86 Village Mill Antiques S
 - 87 Bill Bartlett – Century 21 \$
 - 90 Presbyterian Church of Salado C
 - 92 Salado Sculpture Garden A
 - 96 Salado Village Voice \$
 - 100 Salado Public Library C
 - 113 Salado Church of Christ C
 - 114 Village of Salado Municipal Building \$
 - 114 Village of Salado Police Department \$
 - 116 Salado Creek Antiques S
 - 119 Salado Antique Mall S
 - Salado Market Days S
 - 130 Village Spirits S
 - 136 Salado Schools & Stadium C
 - 139 Cedar Valley Baptist Church C
- Not Shown on the Shopping Map**
- Coldwell Banker Real Estate
 - Nancy Best \$
 - Don Ringler (Belton) \$
 - Garlyn Shelton Auto Group \$
 - The View at the Creek V
 - Thirsty Mule Winery D

Historical Markers in Salado

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

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

Public Art in Salado

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



Volksride takes bicycle rider past Summer's Mill on beautiful Bell County backroads. (Photo by Tim Fleischer)

Volksride rolls October 21

The Barrow Volksride is the third Saturday in October in Salado. In 2023, it will be on October 21.

This ride supports the brave men and women of the Salado Volunteer Fire Department. Register at <https://www.bikereg.com/barrow-volk-ride>

Riders choose from 16 mile, 32 mile, 66 mile, or 100 mile routes in the scenic Central Texas hill country. Routes start and finish at Barrow Brewing Company and cover roads from Holland to Belton and Nolanville. The 66 and 100 mile routes are a challenge with 2,500 feet of climb. Routes are fully support-

ed until 1:30 p.m. Riders not back at that time are directed to a short-cut.

Partners from the SVFD and the Sheriff's office will be located at some key intersections during the ride. Riders must wear their registration bib numbers at all times.

This is a family friendly event that ends with a cold pint and a hot, fresh pretzel at the finish line.

Enjoy the Oktoberfest celebration after your ride. There is authentic German food, German music, and German games all day long.... plus incredible craft beer.

Riders must register by September 30 to

receive the souvenir t-shirt. They are the softest shirts with a design you will be proud to wear year-round. All registrants will receive a pint and hot pretzel, redeemable by tags on their bib numbers. This event is rain or shine. There are no refunds but registrations can be transferred.

To learn more, visit <https://barrowbrewing.com/volksride>

To register for the Volksride, visit <https://www.bikereg.com/barrow-volk-ride> (only \$55 through July 31).

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Sit a spell with Gus McCrae

By Tim Fleischer
Editor-in-Chief

Salado's Main Street has been the Main Street of Texas forever, it seems. It was the Old Military Road and then Highway 81 before I-35 was ever conceived. It was a feeder trail on the Chisholm Trail during the cattle drives that links the image of Texas with that of the Longhorn and the Cowboy.

Now, thanks to John Barclay and Salado artist Ronnie Wells, Salado's Main Street is further connected to the mythos of Texas and the Texas cowboy.

Perhaps the most famous literary cowboy, Augustus McCrae, sits about 100 feet outside the gallery of Ronnie Wells, who has called Salado home for more than three decades and is himself famous across the state as the State Sculptor (a title awarded by the Texas Legislature annually) and the nation as a Ducks Unlimited Artist. Wells' monumental sculpture of Mallards sits outside the Ducks Unlimited headquarters in Memphis, Tennessee.

Barclay approached Wells two years ago with the idea of placing a lifesize statue of the two main characters from Larry McMurtry's Pulitzer-prize-winning novel *Lonesome Dove* at his property at 313 N. Main St. The Austinite recently purchased the property and has plans to develop it into a complex with a large covered gathering space, landscaped grounds and mixed use buildings.

Barclay is going to call it Gus Plaza.

And he admitted during a March 24 unveiling of the life-size statue of Gus McCrae that he may have gotten the cart before the horse.

Before building a pavilion or buildings or anything like that, Barclay commissioned Wells to sculpt a life-size bronze of Gus and placed it on Main St. so that visitors and locals could stop and sit down on the bench and have their pictures taken.

The land there at 313 N. Main will be developed soon enough.

Until then, Gus sits there in a welcoming way, inviting you to come and sit beside him.

And right away, people have been drawn to him.

The unveiling was attended by more than 100 people, including State Rep. Brad Buckley, with his Maroon Texas Aggie



John and Dottie Barclay pose with Augustus McCrae. (Photo by Marilyn Fleischer)

boots, who gave brief remarks to the crowd.

John and Dolly Barclay, along with their son Andy, his wife Adrienne and their nine-year-old son John and 20-month-old Grant unveiled the bronze statue for the audience.

The unveiling was highlighted by words from Robert Duvall. The 92-year-old actor will forever be connected to his role-of-a-lifetime as Gus McCrae.

Duvall recorded the video just a day before the unveiling, who recalled a well-dressed lady who came up to him during a celebration by the Texas Rangers to tell him

that "I would not let my daughter's fiancée marry into my family until he had seen *Lonesome Dove*.' That's how much it meant to her and that's how much it means to me and also to the people of Salado, Texas."

Duvall's video remarks are posted to saladovillagevoice.com along with other photos from the unveiling.

Duvall called Augustus McCrae his favorite character of all time. "May he live forever," he said.

Cast in bronze, he is almost certain to do just that.



The Barclay family unveils a lifesize bronze statue of Gus McRae sculpted by Salado artist Ronnie Wells. (Photos by Marilyn Fleischer)



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The home of William K. Hamblen (no longer existing) was built by Whiskey Jack Green. Hamblen's widow donated the land this home stood on to become the Old Red Schoolhouse on Main St. (Salado Historical Society photo)

“Whiskey Jack” Green

*By Carol Wilson
Salado Historian*

It is a tribute to many of the early residents of Salado that so many of the buildings they constructed are still standing and in use. A person who deserves considerable praise for his contribution to many of these structures, as well as a large number of the wells that serviced early residents, is a man in Salado's history known to locals as “Whiskey Jack”.

Jack Green was of Irish descent, and according to an article published in the *Southwest Review* in 1929, “was the finest stonemason in all of Central Texas in the days when a stonemason was a man of importance in the land.”¹

The article goes on to state the obvious . . . that is, that Jack had acquired the prefix to his name quite honestly as he frequently drank liquor in excess. His acceptance in Salado is rather remarkable considering at-

titudes about alcohol in early Salado were quite stern. Apparently “Whiskey Jack” had talents and a personality that earned him a measure of immunity from public scorn. At least it appears that Jack wasn't deprived the opportunity to work.

There is much mystery surrounding Whiskey Jack. According to the 1870 census, he lived with (or on the premises of) the town blacksmith, C. H. Stewart. At that time Green was 49 years old and listed his occupation as stonemason. He is credited with playing a large part in building several homes and businesses in Salado to include the Hamblen and Barton houses and with digging the well at the (then) Salado House Hotel (now Stagecoach Inn) that led to the discovery of the caves beneath. It appears that Jack Green's work was significant enough that it caught the attention of some men who later studied and greatly appreciated the Texas artisans of his day.

In 1949, Wayne Gard, a Texas historian/

author, wrote an article in the *Dallas Morning News* about the influence of ranch style homes in which he included references to the work of Whiskey Jack Green. The publication of that article promoted C. H. Hamblen (a son of the well-known Hamblen family of Salado) to respond with this remembrance:

“I have just read Wayne Gard's article on Texas ranch houses and am much interested in it, especially the mention of my old friend Whiskey Jack Green, whom I knew when I was a boy. I think he was in Salado when I was born there seventy-five years ago. Whiskey Jack helped to build my father's house, which was a two-story rock building. This house was torn down about eighteen years ago to make room for a new school building. There are now standing several old homes, still good and comfortable, which he helped to build.”²

See Whiskey Jack Green, Page 40



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Folk art by the late Wilbur Foster and other local folk artists is on display at Salado Museum. The exhibit is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays-Fridays through Labor Day.

Salado Museum showcases local folk & student artists

Salado Museum and College Park presents a new exhibit, The Folk Art of Salado, featuring the works of Wilbur Foster, Virginia Kinnison Matthews and other Salado artists, on display 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., Mondays through Saturdays through Labor Day at 423 South Main in Salado. Also on display are entries in the museum's recent Student Art Contest and Fundraiser.

Wilbur Foster is known for his charming carvings of stagecoaches, wagons and other horse-drawn transportation. "While the museum houses some of Mr. Foster's creations in its collection, we hope that this exhibit will encourage others to add their Foster pieces to our collection through donation or on loan," says Lynette McCain Jones, Museum Executive Director. "We are also very pleased to showcase the delightful paintings-on-wood and textile creations of Ms. Matthews during this special event."

To participate in the Student Art Contest, Salado students were invited to embellish black-and-white illustrations of the original museum building using paint, markers, crayons, collage, or mixed media. The resulting creations are both imaginative and creative in as many different ways as there are students who submitted them. "Our thanks to Salado artist Michael Pritchett and the Salado General Store for donating prizes for the winning students," says McCain-Jones.

For more information on the exhibit and other museum programs, contact the museum staff at 254-947-5232, email director@saladomuseum.org, or visit www.saladomuseum.org.

The Salado Museum and College Park, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Its mission is to promote and preserve the pioneer history of Salado, Texas, through educational programs and exhibits.



Salado students created multi-media art from a print of a pen drawing of the original Central Texas Area Museum found in the archives of Salado Museum. (Photo by Royce Wiggin)

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Jenny Campbell, mom, grandmother, and veteran, is the 2023 Official Mermaid for Sirena's Creekside Carnival on October 7. Photo by Triton's Daughters Photography.

Mermaids take over Salado

On the first weekend of October every year, mermaids take over Salado. Sirena's Creekside Carnival, hosted by Legacy Salado Inc., a local 501c3 nonprofit, honors the beloved tale of Sirena by bringing together the community and beyond on Saturday, October 7 at Pace Park for a promenade that celebrates the crowning of the Creekside Carnival Princess and Catfish King, along with a host of fun, free activities for families. This year, attendees can expect live music, live mermaids, vendors, food trucks, a zoo show, petting zoo, storytime, performances by Native American dancers, and so much more. The promenade starts at 9:30 a.m., and the festival will be 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

The Tonkawa Legend of Sirena is a story near and dear to Saladoans young and old

alike. The legend, featuring a young Native American woman named Sirena being tricked into becoming a mermaid by a magical catfish, was brought to life by local artist and sculptor Troy Kelley, who created a bronze sculpture that honors the tale his Native American grandmother told him as a young child.

Each year, Legacy Salado Inc. selects a project that improves and enhances the Village of Salado's public spaces or community members.

Last year alone, Legacy Salado Inc. donated \$48,705 towards Salado's all-abilities playground.

Since the Village of Salado considers the playground project fully funded and construction is slated to begin soon, Legacy

Salado has found a new project this year. Driven by a passion to make a difference, the 2023 project will be constructing Little Food Pantries in the Village. Salado ISD Superintendent Dr. Michael Novotny has agreed to the first Little Food Pantry being placed at the Salado Civic Center site, with more locations planned around Salado soon. A non-perishable food drive will also be held at Sirena's Creekside Carnival to keep the pantries, and Salado families, full for years to come.

For more information about Salado's Creekside Carnival, visit www.sirenafest.org, email sirenafestsalado@gmail.com, or visit "Sirena's Creekside Carnival" on Facebook.

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Whiskey Jack Green

FROM Page 30

C. H. Henry was born in 1874. This suggests that Whiskey Jack lived in Salado for more than a decade, beginning in or before 1870 and lasting until C. H. Hamblen was old enough to develop a friendship with him.

Whiskey Jack's name has also surfaced in the recently published writings of architect O'Neil Ford (1905-1982). Ford had a fascination with the architectural history of Texas, which he studied throughout his life. His notes related to his studies of that subject include this reference to Salado:

"We have found in surprising numbers as far west as Jones County and in the general direction of the source of the Brazos, charming wellheads carved from single slabs of stone and frequently carrying beautifully carved running ornaments around the edges. In Salado there are several of them, all carved by "Whiskey Jack" Green. Mr. Rigsby at the charming old Shady Villa hotel in Salado can tell you much about "Whiskey Jack" and will show you the wellhead there with a chicken trough ingeniously carved from the same block of stone."³

It would have been a gift to historians had any of these men told us more about stone mason extraordinaire Jack Green. We are left to wonder his fate, but even with this limited information, we should carve out a space in local history to acknowledge his sizable contribution.

1. Southwest Review, 1929 edition, Volume 14, page 72-3.
2. Dallas Morning News, March 9, 1949.
3. O'Neil Ford on Architecture, pg. 59.



This stone trough, long a fixture on the grounds of the Stagecoach Inn, is likely the work of Whiskey Jack. Photo courtesy of Bill Kinnison.

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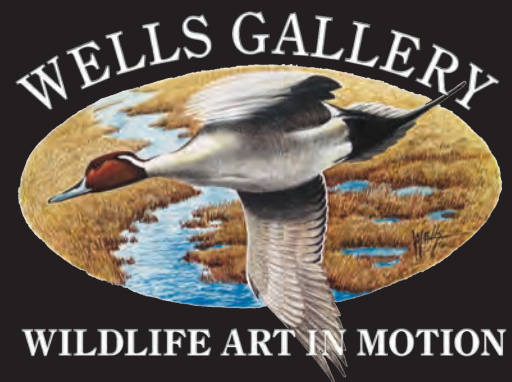
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This was the first bridge across Salado Creek, built in the late 1860s.



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 "foot-logs" 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



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Roll the dice and raise funds for Taylor's Bears on July 16

Bryan and Stacy Rugh along with the Chapel at Caliber Oak are hosting a charity event for Taylor Bears on Sunday, July 16. This event will be held at the Chapel (5235 Royal Street, Salado) starting at 2:30 pm. We will be playing LCR which is a really fun dice game. The first game is a \$5 dollar game (\$15 total) which is the minimum for entry for the event. Proceeding games will be played with various table minimums. The winner of each game will get half the pot with the other half going to Taylor Bears. Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Information on Taylor Bears and the young lady that started this charity is found below. You can also see more by checking out the website at www.taylorbears.com.

Taylor has a passion for helping kids. She organizes teddy bear drives and raise money to buy bears for children who are sick and in need. Around the neck of each bear, she attaches a tag with a message to each child about how special and loved they are. Taylor Bears is currently supporting two organizations. Cook Children's Hospital in Fort Worth gives a teddy bear to every child admitted and is always in need of more bears. GRACE's Christmas Cottage donates teddy bears to less fortunate children at Christmas. "As we grow, we hope to support even more organizations. Taylor Bears is also proud to announce that we have recently become an official ministry partner with Covenant Christian Academy in Colleyville," Taylor said.

RSVP by text Denise Thomssen 254-760-1590 or email at DeniseCaliber@gmail.com



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Third annual Jingle Walk on Salado's Magic Mile

The Salado Ladies Community League is in high gear planning their third Annual Jingle Walk, as part of the "Christmas in October" celebration. This year the event will cover three days, Friday, October 13, Saturday, October 14, from 10-6 p.m. both days. Sunday October 15 hours will be from 12-4 p.m.

The Jingle Walk allows participants to walk along the Salado "Magic Mile" and shop locally for lovely clothing and unique, one-of-a-kind gifts for everyone on their Christmas list. You will need all three days to see everything the shops have to offer. Each \$30 Passport entitles participants to collect a special gift from each of the participating businesses that are visited during the shopping day(s). Shoppers who visit the participating shops will be eligible to be entered for the drawing of a door prize.

There will only be 250 Passports available for this event and may be purchased online starting September 1. Log onto Central Texas Tickets Website, centraltexas tickets.com and click on the Salado Christmas in October Jingle Walk event. As a 501(c)3, all proceeds are returned to the community through grants and scholarships. For more information and deals on local lodging visit us on Facebook the web site at WWW.SaladoLCL.org.



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