



## Encumbrance hearing on Mustang Springs; Amendment hearing on Victory Rock

# CUWCD sets hearings May 8 for area wells

Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District will conduct a hearing on two applications for permits 1:30 p.m. May 8 in the Clearwater UWCD Board Room located at 640 Kennedy Court, Belton.

CUWCD board may grant an exception if, after notice and hearing, the Applicant provides a properly executed and recorded Encumbrance Agreement, transferring the groundwater rights attributable to the adjacent land of one or more property owner(s) to the

Applicant sufficient to attain the minimum tract size necessary to support a Non-exempt Well.

Encumbrance of acreage necessary for 20-acres as it relates to an approved drilling permit requiring tract size necessary for a Lower

Trinity well equipped with a maximum 4-inch column pipe, per District Rule 9.5.2.

On Feb. 14, CUWCD approved the drilling permit for Well #2 and Well #1 with a caveat that the applicant must return to the Board on March 13, 2024, with a prop-

erly executed groundwater reservation by encumbering the groundwater rights on the two tracts the applicant owns for the purpose of obtaining 20 acres or more for the second drilling permit for well #1.

The proposed wells are

for proposed future production of groundwater for a future public water supply entity at a combined annual quantity not to exceed 249.8 acre-feet or 81,397,580 total gallons per year at a maxi-

SEE WELLS, PAGE 4A

# Chamber recognizes businesses, citizens for work

Salado Chamber of Commerce held its annual awards banquet April 25 at The Venue, recognizing the Citizen of the Year, Business of the Year, Hall of Fame, Volunteer of the Year, Rising Star, Shooting Star and Chairman's awards.

Afterward Bill Hall gave an auction of items donated by local businesses to raise money for the Chamber.

### Citizen of the Year

The 2024 Citizen of the Year "has volunteered with numerous organizations within our community" in the 20+ years she has lived in Salado, according to Dr. Michael Novotny.

Among those:

- Hosting an interdenominational Bible study
- Serving as a Salado ISD mentor and as a mentor board member.
- Serving as a Salado Museum board member.
- Starting the Salado Escalera program to help students who were learning English.
- Serving as a Salado United Methodist Church committee member
- Helping start the Salado Senior Center and serving as a Senior Center board member
- Serving as a Bell County Emergency Services District #1 board member
- Serving as a member and the treasurer of the Salado Lions Club, including working at fundraising events like the pancake breakfasts and 5K's, conducting vision screenings for our elementary school students, and participating in highway cleanups on FM 2268.

"She served as a member of the Salado ISD school board for 15 years, which means she was elected five times as each term is three years," Dr. Novotny said. "This also puts her in a three way tie with Jeff Kelley and Darrell Street for the longest tenure as a school board member in the history of our school district."

"She served as the school board president for eight of those 15 years, which is an all-time record that no other board member in our school district has ever come close to," he said.

"She is an outstanding servant leader and is so generous with her time and her money," he said. "She truly cares about our community and residents."

"I think we sometimes take for granted how blessed we are to live in this great country, this great state,

and this great community," he added, "and Salado is an even better place because of everything this person has done, and continues to do, for our community."

He then introduced Dr. Kim Bird who accepted the award.

### Business of the Year

"From exceptional service to its clients or in contributions that the business makes to the local community and beyond," Bob Hargrove said, "the winner this year truly is extremely deserving for all the amazing things they do."

"The winner this year also holds a special place in our hearts because of the work that they do," Laura Hargrove of Bentons said of the 2023 Salado Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year. "For over 12 years now, this business and art gallery has been a staple in the Salado community."

"From community events that bring people into town to visit and shop, to helping establish the Royal Street Arts District and the Royal Street Art Walk, to donating beautiful works of art to various auctions to help raise money for charities and non-profits," Bob Hargrove said, "they do so much for everyone around them."

"Not to mention the art they make brings such joy to patrons who purchase items from their gallery or commission custom pieces from them," Laura added. "It is always one-of-a-kind, immediately recognizable, and quite literally made in one of the hottest places in Salado."

"One of the things that makes an artist truly exceptional is their passion not just for their craft but to teach others their craft," Bob said. "They do this in numerous ways from participating in the Royal Street Art Walk, Blow-Your-Own events, and having bleachers set up so folks can come and watch them create most days of the week."

One thing that makes a business "truly exceptional is how they can come through adversity with grace and increased fortitude," Laura said. "From growing pains to road construction to pandemics...this business took them in stride, pivoted, and pulled through."

Bob and Laura then presented the award to Gail Allard II, owner and artist of Salado Glassworks.

"This is pretty bad a--," Gail said in accepting the award.

### Hall of Fame

The Salado Chamber of Commerce added Chris and Karen Hale to its Hall of Fame during the annual awards banquet April 29 at The Venue.

"Chris Hale was the kind of person who believed in volunteerism," said Christy Goodfellow, owner of Christy's of Salado, which was next door to the Hales' shop Classics on Main. "In fact, he was always quick to volunteer Karen. Because Chris believed Karen could do anything, he knew her talents were limitless. With his passion and her gifts, they made a great team!"

Hale came to Salado in the late 1980s as the food and beverage manager of Mill Creek country club. "He immediately fell in love with the uniqueness of this community and the people that make it so special. Some of his first friends here were the artisans and shop owners that made Salado what it is today," Goodfellow said.

He worked for Texas author A.C. Greene and Jim and Ann Benton, owners of Bentons Jewelry.

Then, "his entrepreneurial spirit caught up with him and he launched Royal Street Provisions Bed & Breakfast in the year 2000, the same year he married Karen Rathgeber," Goodfellow said. "The Inn was a labor of love for Chris and Karen and they worked tirelessly to make it a premier lodging and event center for Salado."

They purchased Classics on Main in 2005 in the heart of Salado where they spent the next 15 years.

"Through all of his career changes, Chris remained active and faithful to the Salado Chamber of Commerce; serving on various committees, not to mention his two terms as president," Goodfellow said. "While serving as president he saw the need for Grace Jones's dream to come to fruition. He had an integral part in forming the Salado Community Foundation which began as an arm of the chamber and is now a thriving non-profit organization serving the citizens of Salado."

"Chris was an incredible shop neighbor to all of us in Salado," Kaye Coachman, owner of 21 Main, next door to Classics. "He was always willing to give others guidance based on his experiences. He was a wealth of knowledge on the history of Salado and the business community here. Customers still come in and ask about Chris (or the gentleman in

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Dr. Michael Novotny presents Dr. Kim Bird with the 2023 Citizen of the Year award during the Salado Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet April 25. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)



Bob and Laura (out of frame) Hargrove of Bentons presented Gail Allard II, owner of Salado Glassworks, with the 2023 Business of the Year award. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)



Kaye Coachman (left) and Christy Goodfellow (right) presented the Hall of Fame Award to Chris and Karen Hale (center). Chris and Karen Hale owned Classics on Main. They were also an owner of Royal Street Provisions. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

# FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas

## Comparing apples to oranges drives everyone bananas

The Markets

If ever there were a week for the market to draw back on current news, it was this one, ending on 4/26, but instead, it roared ahead, suggesting an old saying, “A bull market climbs a wall of worry.” The S&P 500 Stock Index (SPX) closed out the week at 5099.96, about as close to the psychological 5100 mark as one can get, after rising 2.67% for the week. That pleasant gain still leaves it down almost 2% in the last month but up 4.27% for the last three months and 6.92% this calendar year. It also leaves the SPX up over 22% from a year ago. As has been the norm of late, all of the 22% gain we have seen in the last three years has been in the last twelve months. Our other stock market indicator, the CRSP US Mid Cap Value Index, closed the week at 2592.95, up 1.18% for the week and 12.26% for one year.

On the other side of the market, where debt is king, the ten-year U.S. Treasury note ended the week yielding 4.67%, up from 4.62% last week. The rise in longer-term interest rates has rarely been dramatic but is far more like the fable of the frog in a slowly heating pan of water, rising gradually but no less significantly. The 10-year T-note paid out only 3.95% at the beginning of 2024, and thus, the yield has risen about 17% so far this year. The difficulty is that the market value of a bond falls when interest rates rise, so bond investors have seen some impressive losses this year. Even that is only a small part of the big picture. The Wall Street Journal’s Jason Zweig noted that long-term bond funds have lost nearly a third of their value over the past three years. Meanwhile, West Texas Intermediate crude oil (WTI) crept up about half a percent for the week to \$83.68 but about 17% higher than at the beginning of the year and 11.9% higher than a year ago.

### Market & Economic Update

by Jeffrey W. McClure



The Economy

There are many ways to see the ongoing economic status of an economy, and the popular methods sometimes seem to make little sense. For example, when it comes to Gross Domestic Product (GDP), each quarter when our beloved Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), buried deep in the bowels of the Commerce Department, announces its quarterly GDP report, the top line figure is given as an annualized number, as though it were for the whole year, thus giving us four annual growth rates each year with each one, in effect, suggesting that will be the rate for the last 12 months. But, when the same BEA releases its inflation data, known as the Personal Consumption Expenditures Price Index (PCE), or the Labor Department releases the Consumer Price Index (CPI), the news media jump on the trailing 12-month actual data. The result this week, if you just read the headlines, was that our GDP grew at a 1.6% annualized rate in the first quarter, while inflation was up 3.4%, measured by the Labor Department’s Consumer Price Index (CPI) over the last year. If that sounds to you like we are going backward, you are not alone. In fact, inflation is subtracted from the GDP before it is calculated, and to compound the issue, the inflation number that was subtracted was not the CPI but rather the PCE.

Confused? Who wouldn’t be? The result is that apples are measured against oranges to get (and drive us) bananas. First, let’s stick with one measurement tool the Fed pays attention to: the BEA’s Personal Income and Outlays report. Why? Because they calculate the GDP. Over the last 12 months, accord-

ing to the BEA, real prices in the United States have risen 2.7%, while the current nominal dollar Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has risen 5.4%. Subtracting PCE inflation from the gross, nominal GDP gives us a real, inflation-adjusted GDP growth rate of 2.4454% or rounded, about 2.45% for the last twelve months. That is, in our opinion, an important number because the infrastructure of the United States is probably at its maximum capacity at about 2.5% real, inflation-adjusted growth. Moreover, it is consistent with the very low levels of unemployment we are seeing and explains why there has been an impressive quantity of net employment growth over the last year.

As massively complicated as all that sounds, we haven’t even touched on the fact that the CPI inflation report measures one set of numbers and multipliers while the PCE measures another. The CPI is based on a largely fixed set of weights, while the PCE is adjusted for where consumers are actually spending their money.

While there is much more than can be said about the measures of economic health in these United States of America, suffice to say that despite the various and currently pessimistic readings of the mixed measurements, the overall picture remains one of health and growth. That growth rate is moderating, which is a good thing because we do not have the capacity for faster growth, but the long-anticipated recession remains out of sight. Could we get a recession this year? Of course, but that can be said of every year; it is just that the economy continues to show far more signs of a return to a healthy growth rate than a recession.

## BoA candidates: strengths, priorities, challenges

Salado Village Voice presented the candidates for Board of Aldermen of the Village of Salado with the following questions:

Question 1: What is the biggest challenge facing the Village of Salado in the next five years? How will you lead the Village through this challenge? (300 words)

Question 2: What is the greatest strength in the Village of Salado and how will you build on it? (300 words)

Question 3: What are your top three priorities in the Village general operating budget? Why? (300 words)

Below are their responses:



MICHAEL MACDONALD

**Question 1:** How to evolve our current economic base into a well-rounded and multifaceted system that not only bolsters current business partners, it also encourages new businesses and residents to call Salado home, while also cultivating an optimal tax base to further protect, preserve and enhance the Village of Salado.

By engaging with the Texas Comptroller to apply and establish the following programs:

- Economic Development Corporation: An EDC is a nonprofit created to finance new and to expand business enterprises. Salado will define projects for the EDC and adopt a specific sales tax to fund those projects. Similar to the Hot Tax Fund, voters approve the use of this sales tax in the same manner. In doing so, a portion of the net proceeds from the sales tax can be converted to eligible expenditures for current and future businesses to acquire the following: Capital Improvements, Job Creation, Land, Machinery/Equipment, and Professional Services to name a few.

Ref: <https://comptroller.texas.gov/economy/development/sales-tax/edc/>

- Chapter 380 Municipality Agreements: Local Government Code 380 authorizes municipalities to offer Loans and Grants of City Funds and/or Services at little or no cost to promote local economic development and to stimulate business and commercial activity.

Ref: <https://comptroller.texas.gov/economy/development/grants/ch380-381/#:~:text=Municipality%20Agreements,-stimulate%20business%20and%20commercial%20activity.>

Establishing an EDC is invaluable. It attracts businesses, fosters job creation, and diversifies our economy while reducing reliance on any single industry. Expanding our tax base through business growth will enable Salado to fund vital services and infrastructure improvements. The EDC will also enhance quality of life by supporting initiatives like the arts, community parks, and cultural amenities. Workforce development programs ensure our residents have

skills needed for local job opportunities. The EDC will promote entrepreneurship and innovation, driving community revitalization and cultivating a vibrant, resilient economy. Salado’s EDC will be instrumental in shaping our prosperity and well-being, extending far beyond five years.

**Question 2:** Our greatest strength is also my favorite part of Salado: the Friends and Neighbors that call the Village of Salado home. Salado maintains a treasury of heritage, history and the trailblazing of a pioneer spirit within the stories and legacy of our citizens. Our neighbors’ charm and hospitality continues to be the number one welcoming beacon of Community and Friendship for so many others seeking the same. It’s what drew our family to invest in and call Salado our forever home.

As Alderman, I will continue to build upon this legacy by fortifying strong bonds of stewardship, honoring our past, celebrating our present, and providing opportunities for a thriving future.

Salado’s citizens are the bedrock of our village’s strength. Their passion, dedication, and sense of belonging form the very essence of what makes Salado special. To build upon this legacy, we must foster a culture of collaboration and inclusivity, where every voice is heard and valued. Encouraging civic engagement and volunteerism strengthens community bonds and empowers individuals to take ownership of their hometown’s future.

By investing in our local businesses with strategic marketing that welcomes tourism, we can grow and thrive in a rapidly evolving economy. Supporting local businesses and entrepreneurs means we can harness the innovative spirit that runs deep in our community, creating economic opportunities and driving sustainable growth.

Preserving Salado’s natural beauty and rich history honors the legacy of those who came before us while providing a foundation for present and future generations to thrive in. Through strategic planning and sustainable development, together we can ensure that Salado remains a vibrant and desirable place to live, work, and visit for years to come.

**Question 3:** Taking a proactive approach to the yearly fiscal budget is paramount in providing the services needed to maintain an accountable and equitable village government. Here are my top three priorities:

**Roads:** Increasing the yearly line-item budget to improve Salado’s roads is essential for fostering community well-being and economic growth. Creating a partnership with our County Commissioner to triage our roads will provide an attainable repair plan to our citizens. Well-maintained roads enhances access for residents and visitors, reduce vehicle maintenance costs, and attract businesses, ultimately boosting our local economy. Investing in infrastructure demonstrates a commitment to improving quality of life and enhancing mobility for everyone. While budget increases may require careful fiscal planning, the long-term benefits far outweigh the initial costs. Prioritiz-

ing road improvements reflects a proactive approach to addressing infrastructure needs and demonstrates responsible governance for the betterment of Salado and its residents.

**Services and Enforcement:** Improvements to Salado’s maintenance staff and lawn care should be considered. Additionally, hiring a building code enforcement officer for the Village is a prudent investment for community well-being. Adequate staffing and resources ensure timely maintenance of public spaces, fostering civic pride and attracting visitors. Researching and hiring a building codes enforcement officer ensures that construction meets our standards, preserves property values and prioritizes residents’ well-being. While budget increases require thoughtful consideration, focusing on these areas reflects maintaining high standards of living, enhancing Salado’s appeal and promoting sustainable growth for future generations.

**Marketing/Tourism:** Investing in a robust marketing and tourism program is vital for Salado’s growth. These programs attract visitors, boost local businesses, and promote community prosperity. By showcasing Salado’s unique attractions, community and experiences, we will preserve our reputation as a premiere destination, while cultivating a long-term economic sustainability that ultimately benefits the entire Village.



ZACH HURST

**Question 1:** The biggest challenge the Village faces in the next five years is managing growth and development. We must generate revenue through commercial businesses because simply increasing the number of rooftops won’t provide the necessary tax revenue for our growing Village. We must establish a management team that attracts commercial enterprises without resorting to excessive incentives.

Our utmost priority should be recruiting a qualified Village planner. The current situation, where the Village administrator handles this responsibility alongside his regular duties, is not sustainable. While competent, this arrangement severely limits his ability to meet the demands of his role. Past experiences have shown that inadequate staffing can lead to missed financial prospects, delays in filing the necessary paperwork, and the approval of developments that burden taxpayers, offer excessive incentives to developers, and fail to protect the village. By bringing in a qualified professional, we can ensure that these issues are effectively addressed.

Another important task should be recruiting a competent code enforcement/inspector. This position is crucial as the Village’s growth will increase the de-

SEE ALDERMEN CANDIDATES, PAGE 3A

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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](mailto: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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# Vote at Salado Civic Center 7 a.m.-7 p.m. May 4

Local voters will elect the Village of Salado Mayor, two Village aldermen and two positions on the Salado ISD Board of Trustees.

Election day, polls will be open at the Salado Civic Center, 601 N. Main St., Salado 7 a.m.-7 p.m. May 4.

Registered voters will need to bring photo ID to

vote.

Acceptable forms of photo ID are these:

Texas Driver License issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS

Texas Personal Identification Card issued by DPS

Texas Handgun License issued by DPS

United States Military Identification Card containing the person's photograph  
United States Citizenship Certificate containing the person's photograph

United States Passport (book or card)

Mayor candidates running include Michael Cog-

gin and Bert Henry.

Two two-year terms on the Board of Aldermen will be filled. Alderman candidates running include Michael MacDonald, Zach Hurst and Paul Cox.

Salado School Board Candidates are Chris Diem, Michael Apodoca and write-in candidate Cooper Gill.

## Aldermen Candidates

mand for code enforcement. It's vital that codes and ordinances are enforced to and that violations are met with appropriate fines. This approach is essential to protecting the Village without imposing additional financial burdens on taxpayers, as has been the case in the past.

We must employ a team that complements each other, providing unprejudiced, open communication that aligns with the wishes of residents and the current local businesses. By emphasizing fair and transparent management, we can reassure the audience about the Village's future and its commitment to their interests.

If elected, I will work closely with the Administration to advocate for local businesses and Village citizens, protecting our best interests while allowing for controlled growth. Having qualified individuals in crucial positions will help pave our road to success.

**Question 2:** Our greatest strength in the Village of Salado is our rich history and excellent schools. We must protect our small-town charm, improve our tourism, encourage community involvement, promote unbiased support to all our local businesses, and inspire our youth to be involved in the community.

We should increase the number of billboards near the village to better promote its historic charm and amenities. We must also have a user-friendly community calendar that provides easy access and functionality. We must encourage our local businesses to work cooperatively and come together with village leadership to brainstorm ideas to increase traffic to all Salado businesses. Community involvement is critical to our success.

While improving our schools and the costs of doing so is an unpopular topic, I firmly believe we must invest in our youth to protect our future. As new homeowners move into Salado, more tax-paying citizens will offset the tax burden. To continue to be a top-notch school, we must provide the facilities and educators to allow this. We must accept that we cannot plan for what we need today. As a growing village, we must always plan well for the future, as costs will only be higher, and the debt incurred for inevitable improvements will only increase.

If elected, I will do all I can to ensure our children have all they need to prosper, promote our history and businesses, protect our citizens and investors, encourage increased community involvement, and be a reliable, faithful representative of the Village of Salado.

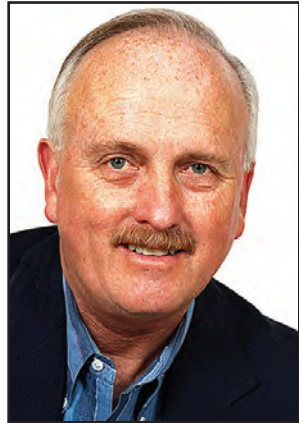
**Question 3:** My top three priorities in the Village's general operating budget include improving the streets in Salado. Many of the streets are simply old and were never built to withstand the amount of traffic that travels across them daily. Therefore, I support increasing the budget

for our streets, prioritizing the more hazardous areas, and using the most effective, economical method to ensure the longevity of our roads. We should be able to apply for future grants for improvements, and we must ensure that the monies are spent wisely.

Another crucial aspect of my plan is to bolster the Public Works department. It is unfair to expect one person to maintain all the village facilities single-handedly, keep the public streets, right of way, sidewalks, and bridges clear of debris, and manage all the village vehicles and equipment. By increasing the staff, we can ensure that these tasks are handled more efficiently, enhancing the safety and comfort of our citizens.

As I mentioned earlier, one of the biggest challenges we face is strengthening and enhancing the Administration department. We require competent and experienced management to steer our Village towards growth, shield us from future financial burdens, and ensure that all developmental projects benefit our citizens, our Village, and the developers in a balanced manner. This is a crucial step towards securing a prosperous future for Salado.

If elected, I will lead the charge in building a cohesive team focused on the goals of the village citizens, businesses, and future developments. I will champion accountability, transparency, honesty, respect, and perseverance. I will maintain open lines of communication with local business owners, homeowners, and village employees to ensure their concerns are addressed. I will dedicate my future to our future as an Alderman of the Village of Salado.



PAUL COX

**Question 1:** It has been 24 years since Salado became incorporated. In those 24 years, Salado had never experienced growth like we have seen since COVID. The structure of our Village government MUST be prepared to expand proportionally to this growth to support provided services to our community and ETJ.

We have recently hired a very experienced individual to head our Tourism Department. I believe our next step is to hire a skilled City Planner. The Planning Department would manage the day-to-day process of land development. This especially applies to new residential and commercial properties. This new department would collaborate with entrepreneurs, builders and developers interested in doing business in our community and surround-

ing ETJ. This Department would work closely with our Village Administrator, Planning & Zoning Commission and Board of Aldermen to assure streamlined processes and to maintain a high standard of construction excellence while preserving our historic legacy.

By adding this new department, our Village Administrator, Mr. DeLaRosa, would then have more time to devote to the many other duties he must oversee every day. Fortunately, Manny DeLaRosa is the right man for this job at this point for our Village. He is currently catching up on all the loose ends he inherited when he arrived and is beginning to make real progress.

As we grow, so must our Police Dept. There is a very real possibility that the need for a police substation will arise within this five-year timeframe.

These specific plans may need to be changed by the Village as growth projections change. Our target goals will be continually moving. We must also be prepared to move with them.

**Question 2:** I believe the greatest strength of our Village is the many volunteers and service organizations in our community. Some of these non-profit organizations include the Public Arts League of Salado, Community Chorus, Family Relief Fund, Historical Society, Lions Club, Museum and College Park, Friends of Salado Public Library, Senior Center plus others too numerous to mention. These organizations, and the members of these groups, are what make Salado great.

The people who volunteer and become involved in a positive way with these groups are the backbone of Salado. They have helped make this a great destination community for people throughout Texas and the nation and an even greater place to live!

Recently the Salado Community Foundation was established to promote and support organizations, events and programs which enhance the quality of life in the Salado area. This organization brings together the various non-profit groups under one umbrella to give them an opportunity to share ideas for the greater good of our Village.

I believe it is not the job of government to interfere with these organizations but to support them in any way possible. These are grass-root community efforts and that is where our strength lies.

**Question 3:** My top three priorities in the general operating budget are:

**Staffing:** Due to the growth in the Village, we are outgrowing our Village staff. A plan is being developed to budget for additional staff in key areas such as the Salado Police Dept., City Planning, Code Enforcement and others as needed.

**Infrastructure:** Road quality on many of our residential streets has been subpar since they were built. In my two terms on the Board

of Aldermen, we have repaved several heavily used roads in our Village. Royal Street is on track for a redo this next budget year. We are also getting bids to properly repair many potholes throughout the Village. As our general fund balance increases, street repair will continue to be a high priority for me.

**Tourism:** Tourism is essential to Salado's economic success. We have had to put Tourism on the back burner these last few months. That is changing!

We have hired a very experienced person to take the reins starting in May. She will be working with Mr. DeLaRosa and the Tourism Advisory Board to develop a strategic marketing plan. There will also be interaction with the Salado Chamber of Commerce, as well as with hotels, B&Bs and other short term rental properties within the Village limits. The majority of this funding will be from Hotel Tax revenue.

FROM PAGE 2A

**Broecker FUNERAL HOME**  
...serving those who love and remember

949 West Village Road, Salado  
BroeckerFuneralHome.com (254) 947-0066

**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

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**\$6**  
6 and under FREE

**7:30 - 10 A.M. ON MAY 4**  
Church of Christ Activity Center  
225 North Church Street

Sponsored by the **Salado Lions Club**  
proceeds fund Salado student scholarships and community projects

**3C COWBOY FELLOWSHIP**

**Church Service at 10 am**  
(254) 947-7211

16258 Gooseneck Road, Salado  
www.3ccowboyyfellowship.com  
Follow events on our website calendar

**ENCOUNTER GOD. BE EQUIPPED WITH TRUTH. ENGAGE THE WORLD.**

If you're looking for a church family, it would be a joy to worship with you any Sunday morning at 9:00 or 11:00am  
gracesalado.com

GRACE CHURCH SALADO

# Wells

FROM PAGE 1A

## First Cedar Valley Baptists set VBS for July

Mark your calendars now for the Great Jungle Journey Vacation Bible School, which will be 6-8:45 p.m. July 8-12 at First Cedar Valley Baptist Church. Every day, our kids are bombarded with questions: Did God really create everything? Why do bad things happen? Was Noah's ark real? Why do I need to be saved? Can I trust the Bible?

At this VBS, your kids will explore the biblical answers to these questions as they set off on an epic adventure from Genesis to Revelation. Amid sloths, butterflies, river dolphins, and dart frogs, your children will sail along on a fun jungle cruise, stopping at seven ports of call. These ports are the 7 C's of History: Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, Cross, and Consumption. Kids will discover how these events shape our world.

column pipe with a submersible pump rated at 42 gallons per minute on contiguous tracts of land totaling 394.18 acre tract located at 7090 Solana Ranch Rd.

Victory Rock Texas, LLC is requesting an operating permit to produce groundwater for a defined beneficial use to provide water for commercial sand and gravel mining operations, to wash the mined material, dust suppression, and to provide water to a concrete batch plant facility known as Five Star, Concrete, LLC on contiguous tracts of land, leased from Byron Goode

This operating permit request is to authorize production of groundwater not to exceed 67.75-ac-ft (22,076,405 gallons) per year from well #N3-24-003G completed in the Hensell Layer of Trinity Aquifer.

mum pumping rate not to exceed 320 gallons per minute per well from the Lower Trinity Aquifer (Hosston Layer)

No production was issued with this drilling permit application other than that necessary for the purpose of drilling and completing the wells and the prescribed elements of the

## Bell Democratic Women to meet on May 18

Bell County Texas Democratic Women will hold their monthly meeting on 10 a.m. May 18 in the Belton AgriLife Center, 1605 N Main St.

The group will honor and present scholarships to several deserving students. It is open to the public.

required Well Completion Reports per District Rule 6.9.2(f)(1-8) for the purpose of a future operating permit.

The proposed wells will serve as a water source for a public water supply to serve an 1,100 acre development known as Mustang Springs at Salado.

The developer is applying for release from the Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) of the City of Georgetown.

The CUWCD board will also conduct a public hearing for an amendment to an existing permitted well owned by Victory Rock Texas, LLC.

The existing well is completed in the Hensell Layer of the Trinity Aquifer and is geographically in the CUWCD Stillhouse Hollow Management Zone.

The well (#N3-24-003G) is equipped with a 2-inch

## TC Nursing Students group establishes Natalie Aviles Memorial scholarship

The Associate Degree Nursing Student Organization (ADNSO) at Temple College is seeking community support to fund the Natalie Aviles Memorial Nursing Scholarship.

Natalie Aviles was a first semester Associate Degree Nursing student who was tragically killed in McGregor on September 29, 2022.

"During her short time in the program, she had a significant impact on her peers and instructors," according to Evelyn Waiwaiole, Vice President of Resource Development and External Relations with the Temple College Foundation. "Her kindness, positive attitude, and desire to learn inspired those around her."



Natalie Aviles

When asked what motivated her to be a nurse she wrote "Being able to make a difference in other people's lives just as medical staff have been in mine motivates me. I just want to help people and do so much good making an impact in their lives."

"We want to impact future students in the spirit that Natalie wanted to impact others," Waiwaiole said. "It will go to a deserving nursing student, in order to assist in removing financial barriers for those interested in pursuing their dream of a higher educa-

tion. With this scholarship, Natalie's light will continue to shine and inspire the next generation of nurses."

Temple College Foundation is asking for donations from community members.

If you would like to donate, visit the Temple College Foundation website (<https://foundation.temple-jc.edu/donations/>) and select the donate tab. In the dropdown box, select the Natalie Aviles Memorial Nursing Scholarship.

Temple College Foundation is a SOL(c) (3) non-profit organization and all donations are fully deductible.

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A Global Methodist Church

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We are a Bible based church with a belief in the divinity and holiness of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior  
[www.newlifemethodistsalado.org](http://www.newlifemethodistsalado.org)

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welcome

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10 AM WORSHIP

**WEDNESDAY**  
6:30 PM BIBLE CLASSES

217 N. Stagecoach Rd.  
[www.saladochurchofchrist.com](http://www.saladochurchofchrist.com)

# Mayor candidates on future challenges, successes & failures in office, top 3 priorities in budgeting process

Salado Village Voice presented the candidates for Mayor of the Village of Salado with the following questions.

**Question 1:** What is the biggest challenge facing the Village of Salado in the next five years? How will you lead the Village through this challenge? (300 words)

**Question 2:** Since you have served in an elected position in the Village, what has been your greatest success? Your greatest failure? Why? Would you do anything differently? (300 words)

**Question 3:** What are your top three priorities in the Village general operating budget? Why? (300 words)

Below are their responses:



**MICHAEL COGGIN**

**Question 1:** Growth is the biggest challenge that the Village faces! This impacts our water supply, traffic, schools, businesses, road conditions, police department, wastewater system and other critical infrastructure. Under my leadership, here are some key actions the Board of Aldermen has taken to plan for growth:

**Police Department:** I have recommended to the Board of Aldermen to build a new City Hall, primarily to house our Police Department. Our current police office does not meet our growing requirements, is inefficient and does not help in retaining our police force. Our plan is to construct a new City Hall/Police Department and sell our current office which will allow us to more quickly pay off the loan. This plan will allow Salado to improve conditions for our police team, improve retention and add space for additional officers to serve as Salado grows.

**Water:** All new developments must provide a water plan to provide service either by contracting with the Salado Water Supply Corporation, water wells or other sources. This plan is verified by our engineering team prior to approving the new development. The Board of Alderman has also approved Salado to vie for a seat on the Lone Star Regional Water Board. This will allow Salado to input into future major water supply ventures.

**Roads:** I am working with the new village administrator and the Board of Aldermen to begin a program to charge developers a Road Impact Fee. The fund generated by this fee will be used to improve traffic congestion and road conditions. If elected, I will continue to look for means to improve our roads and traffic conditions using our successful grant program, impact fees and my engineering background to efficiently manage our resources.

**Question 2:** Our Mayor - Board of Aldermen team successfully developed the

agreement. I would consider this as our greatest success. The amended agreement will save the Salado taxpayer approximately \$10 million over the life of the Sanctuary development agreement and will now have a 20-year expiration date versus a 60+ year expiration date. The Sanctuary development agreement amendments also includes return of village government authorities to inspect work, zone and other actions. Our team successfully turned the "Worst Development Agreement in History" to more resemble our other development agreements which are fair to the Salado taxpayer.

Our greatest failure as a team is to repair and improve road conditions over the entirety of the village. It has been difficult to balance the need for road improvements with the need to keep tax rates low keeping in mind that approximately 50% of our taxes are used to pay off the sewage bond. We have averaged \$300K in road repairs in each of my budgets in the past years which is not sufficient to catch up on needed road repairs. Our latest engineering street study indicated that we have over \$5 million in needed street restoration work. It is my strategy to use grant funds to cover large projects like the \$2 million Royal Street restoration and the \$5.5 million West Village Road improvements while chipping away at the smaller repairs using our yearly budget funds. Then in the future we will have options on using available funds when the sewage bond is paid off to aggressively attack street improvements! If elected, I hope to use my experience in creating and managing budgets and use my engineering experience to efficiently improve street conditions!

**Question 3:** Most cities multiply their tax rate by their total tax property values and then make their budget match this value. I do not build the Salado village budget this way. I start with a clean sheet and add required costs to accomplish the village responsibilities. This allows the Board of Aldermen to approve a "bare bones" budget. I have successfully built village budgets this way for the past four years. (I have successfully managed much larger budgets throughout my career in the Department of the Army.) My priorities are:

**Police Department:** Our emergency services and public safety are paramount in our mission critical priorities. My budget builds salaries, vehicles, fuel, supplies and other funding components to ensure our village is protected with police services. I will continue to budget funding to keep a license plate reader gate system in place to support our police team.

**Street/Traffic Improvements:** It is a very exciting time for our street projects. We have completed our Center Circle Road improvement project. We are working on the design start of Royal Street and getting ready next year to tackle the West Village road project. We are waiting on the award of the pot hole/patch contract and expect to start soon. If elected, I will continue to have street and traffic improvements as a budget priority!

**Village Services:** Our village services are wide and varied from reviewing engineering drawings to assisting with tourism events. (I am very excited about our new marketing director and building on the existing relationships that she brings to our village team!) Our village salaries are a part of this budget. Our staff continues to do amazing work for such a small workforce! Thank you for allowing me to serve and ask for your vote to continue in your service!



**BERT HENRY**

**Question 1:** The biggest challenges facing the Village of Salado over the next five years are deteriorating infrastructure and a lack of municipal services due to limited resources. Our roads and public facilities need repair and upgrades, but our small tax base makes it difficult to fund these necessary improvements.

To lead Salado through these challenges, I will focus on promoting responsible economic development and managing responsible growth. By attracting new businesses and encouraging sustainable development, we can expand our tax base and increase revenues without burdening our existing residents with higher taxes. This influx of funds can then be allocated towards upgrading our aging infrastructure and enhancing municipal services like public works, parks, and community facilities.

However, growth must be carefully managed to preserve our historic, small-town charm and avoid overcrowding or straining our resources further. I will work closely with the Village Administrator, the Board of Aldermen, developers, and residents to create a balanced growth strategy that revitalizes Salado while retaining the charming qualities that make our village so appealing. Sustainable practices, effective zoning, and a community-driven vision will guide our development efforts.

In addition, I will partner with the Village Administrator and the Board of Aldermen to proactively seek out grants and other alternative funding sources to supplement our budget for capital improvement projects. By exploring all available options, we can make the investments needed to modernize Salado's infrastructure without creating a financial burden on our citizens.

These are undoubtedly challenging times for our village, but I am confident that by promoting responsible economic growth and seeking innovative solutions, we can generate the resources required to maintain and enhance Salado's quality of life for years to come.

**Question 2:** My greatest success since being elected to the Board of Aldermen has been upholding my commitment to transparency, being a strong advocate for

the citizens and local businesses of our Village and accountability for Village government. I'm proud that I voted against measures that didn't align with the best interests of our community, such as the annexation of FM 2843, the Mustang Springs Development, and the Mayor's proposal for a \$30k pay increase for the former Village Administrator. I also voted in favor of replacing the \$200k for Street Improvement Projects, after the mayor's proposal eliminated it from the budget altogether. These votes demonstrated my dedication to fiscal responsibility and prioritizing the needs of residents over special interests. I also voted in favor of important infrastructure projects like the Royal Street and West Village Road improvements, the Center Circle project, and the Stagecoach Circle Drainage Improvement project.

Staying true to my commitment of accountability for Village government, I authored the proposal to censure the mayor for violations of the United States Constitution, specifically the First Amendment, as well as State Law, which prohibits public criticism of the governing body. That proposal was approved by the Board of Aldermen on September 21, 2023.

I am an imperfect human, but I don't believe I've had any failures at this point in my tenure on the Board of Aldermen. I'm aware I have some opposition to my stances on certain issues, but I have handled the opposition with mutual respect for views that differ from mine. Moving forward, I will continue to make open communication and inclusivity top priorities.

**Question 3:** My top three priorities for the Village's general operating budget are infrastructure improvements, additional law enforcement personnel, and an additional public works employee. These priorities are not only crucial for maintaining public safety, but they also directly impact the quality of life for our residents and the first impressions for visitors to our community.

Well-maintained residential roads are something we've been lacking for far too long. This is not only a quality-of-life issue but will also promote a positive image for those passing through. By allocating funds towards these improvements, we can avoid costly emergency repairs down the line and provide a solid foundation for future growth.

Public safety is of paramount importance, which is why hiring an additional police officer is a top priority. Our law enforcement officers play a vital role in protecting our community and ensuring that our residents feel secure. With an additional officer on staff, we can better respond to emergencies, increase patrols, and foster stronger community-police relations, while eliminating some of the burden on our current officers.

Finally, hiring an additional public works employee will bolster our ability to maintain our parks, streets, and public spaces. These dedicated individuals are responsible for keeping our Village clean, well-groomed, and visually appealing - a key fac-

tor in promoting a positive perception of our community. With an extra set of hands, we can ensure that our public areas receive the attention they deserve, enhancing both resident satisfaction and visitor experiences.

By prioritizing these three areas, we can address critical public safety con-

cerns while simultaneously improving the overall quality of life for our residents and creating a welcoming environment for visitors. It is a balanced approach that recognizes the interconnected nature of infrastructure, public safety, and community aesthetics in fostering a thriving, desirable community.

## Election Day is

7 a.m.-7 p.m. May 4

Salado Civic Center

**SUNDAYS at**  
**Salado Public Library**

**SALADO CREEK MINISTRIES**

**Sundays 9 AM**  
**Bible Study**  
**& Worship**

[www.saladocm.org](http://www.saladocm.org)

**St. Stephen Catholic Church**

**Religious Education Classes - Wednesday**  
K thru 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

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**Sunday Service**  
10 a.m.

**881 North Main Street**  
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**StJosephSalado.org**

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**Communion is Celebrated 1st Sunday of Mo.**  
**Adult Bible Study at 9:00 am Sundays**  
**Men's Prayer Breakfast at 8:00 am on Tuesdays**  
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# Chamber Awards

the shop next door) as they always enjoyed visiting with him about this Village.”

“Chris was the reason I first became a board member on the Chamber, and I will be forever grateful to him for that,” Coachman said. “He introduced me to the joy of volunteering in this community. Several years later, I enticed him to serve on the board again. When I told him we needed him to chair the board, he readily agreed with the stipulation that I would have to chair the Stroll again,” Coachman said. “He could be very convincing.”

“Of course, he also volunteered Karen to design our incredible Stroll posters and rack cards (on short notice),” Coachman added.

“One always knew where they stood with Chris,” Coachman said. “He was honest in the best way and would never mislead you. He often gave me the best business advice. On slow days, we had great



Amanda Organ and Glen Bowen.

conversations on the front sidewalk in front of Salado Square, something I miss daily. Chris Hale was a walking history book on Salado, and I feel fortunate to have known him.”

Karen Hale traveled from Tennessee to accept the reward honoring her and her late husband. She told the audience that she would soon be returning to the Village.



Deanna Whitson.



Salado Elves: Lynn Greenfield, Brandy Sandor, Ashley Lewis. (PHOTOS BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

Volunteer Excellence Award was presented to Glen Bowen for his work on the Golf Tournament and Membership committees of the Salado Chamber of Commerce.

The Salado Shooting Star Award was presented to the organizers of the Salado Elves, who raised money to decorate the street lamps on Main Street during the Christmas season. Accepting the award on behalf of the Elves were Brandy Sandor, Lynn Greenfield, and Ashley Lewis.

The Salado Rising Star Award was presented to the Salado boys soccer team, who volunteered to take down the Christmas decorations after the season was over. Accepting for the varsity boys soccer team was their Coach Jared Cruddas.

Chairman Leslie White presented her predecessor Deanna Whitson with the Chairman's Award.



Kaye Coachman and Jared Cruddas.

# RE-ELECT

## MICHAEL COGGIN

# SALADO MAYOR

## Vote May 4, 2024

## Salado Civic Center

Paid Political Ad by Michael Coggin Campaign, Melanie Kirchmeier, Treasurer

## Ladies League

### Mother's Day Tea

A Mother's Day Tea is planned for the May 9 meeting of the Salado Ladies Community League to honor and celebrate the mothers of the League members.

Individual Table Hostesses will set their tables with personal selections of china, crystal, and centerpieces. A tasty assortment of pastries, dabs of clotted cream, jams, fruit, and hot pots of fresh brewed tea will be served to all of the guests while they converse with other guests at their table. Small, framed pictures of each member's mother are requested and will adorn the tables. Please join them for this special event on May 9 from 9:30-10 a.m. for the social time, and 10-11 a.m. for the short meeting and Mother's Day Tea at the Church of Christ Activity Building, 217 N Stagecoach Road, Salado.

To our friends and neighbors in Salado

This is the most important election in the history of Salado.

Please be sure your vote counts.

Election Day  
Saturday, May 4  
7 a.m.-7 p.m.

New voting location this year!  
Salado Civic Center  
601 N. Main St.

Bring photo ID with you to vote.

(Pol. Ad. paid for by Ellen Bear, Debbie Lorenz and Jeff Wehl)



**WAYNE RAY GARNER**  
APRIL 23, 1947  
APRIL 27, 2024

Retired Captain Wayne Ray Garner of Round Rock, formerly of Salado, passed away April 27, 2024 at the Olin Teague Veterans' Medical Center, Temple, Tx. He was the youngest of 14 children, born April 23, 1947 in Shelbyville, TX to James Washington and Syble Lee (Sparks) Garner. He graduated from Danbury High school in Danbury, TX in 1965, where he played football, basketball, and ran track. Wayne was involved with Theatre Arts and the school's One Act Play. He was offered a scholarship to go to acting school in California, but instead, in 1967, joined the US Army where he went on to graduate from Aviation school to fly Huey helicopters. During Wayne's first tour in Vietnam, he served in the Infantry. He was shot in an ambush while trying to get troops out and was told to rehab to get strong enough to make the flight back to the United States. Instead, Captain Garner rehabbed enough to go back into combat. All he said was, "There were a lot more that were shot up worse than I was." After his 1st tour, he began

dating the love of his life, Mollie Marie (Lostak) Garner. They married March 16, 1968. Capt Garner did a second tour in Vietnam, this time as helicopter pilot. His responsibility was to extract troops out of the "Hot Zone" and was shot down 3 times in one day.. Yes 3!! He said that God was with him that day, because the damage sustained to the helicopters should have resulted in crashing. Instead, he somehow landed a damaged helicopter and the soldiers safely, just to get into another helicopter, returning to the Hot Zone to get more troops out.

Captain Garner was awarded a Purple Heart, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with Numeral 25 (over 25 combat missions), Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device, Army Achievement Medal with 3 Oak Clusters, four Bronze Stars and the President Valorous Unit Award. There are numerous others, however, the above have three things in common: Combat, Valor, and Heroism. He was good...DAMN GOOD!!!! He was a very well respected pilot and Officer wherever he went.

While in the military Capt. Garner was stationed at Ft Rucker, Alabama where his first daughter Charity was born in 1970. While on his 2nd tour in Vietnam, his second daughter Tera was born in Houston, Texas in 1971. Once back in the states, he was stationed in Ft Benning, Georgia, his third daughter April was born in 1974. While stationed in Ft Hood, Tx, they welcomed their

fourth daughter Mollie Kristina in 1979. Wayne loved music and played the guitar and entertained thousands in his lifetime. In 1988, he retired after 20+ years of military service and settled his family in Salado. Wayne lost his wife Mollie in 2000 to cancer. He remarried in 2013 to Inna and moved to Round Rock in 2020.

Wayne is preceded in death by his wife Mollie, his parents and 12 siblings. He is survived by his daughters Charity(spouse Larnee) Barker of Salado,Tx, Tera(Spouse Brian) Hollywood of Salado,Tx, April Hurt of Las Vegas,NV and Mollie Pederson of Orem, UT. 6 grandchildren(Whitney, Jordan, Tommie, Dillon, Jacob and Shelby), sister Tempie Emory and wife Inna of Round Rock.

Our veterans, like our Daddy, have seen things that cannot be unseen, have heard things that cannot be unheard, and have done things (not always by choice) that cannot be undone. Though many are home from combat, there are many veterans still fighting a war...with their own personal demons. There are many physical scars, but the emotional ones are the deepest. Please pray for those that are still at war, whether overseas or here at home. In remembrance of Retired Captain Wayne R. Garner's life, the family asks that any charitable donations be made to the Disabled American Veteran (DAV), PO Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301 or by phone 877-647-VETS (8387).

(Paid obituary)

# Salado Village Guide

Section B • Marketplace, Dining, Overnight, Events • [saladovillagevoice.com](http://saladovillagevoice.com) • May 2, 2024



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## SARW announces plans for June 4 Fine China Luncheon

Plans are in the works for the popular Fine China Luncheon and Fundraiser hosted by the Salado Area Republican Women. The June 4 event is the 17th such celebration. It will be held at the Blue Heron Room of Tenroc Ranch, 5471 Thomas Arnold Road, in Salado

starting at 11:30 a.m., but doors open at 10:45 a.m. to view the tables.

SARE has 26 hosts/hostesses for the event, according to Barclay McCort, Coordinator of the event.

For tickets, make out a \$40 check to SARW, PAC, and mail to Barclay Mc-

Cort, 406 Royal View Rd, Salado, TX 76571. A ticket will be mailed to you.

“Since we are a political action committee, we must report where every dollar comes from, so address and occupation need to be included with the check,” McCort said.

The deadline for tickets is May 28.

For more information contact [barclaymccort@gmail.com](mailto:barclaymccort@gmail.com) or 254 760-4266. “The money we raise goes toward helping conservative candidates in tight races in Texas,” McCort said.



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## Bell County Master Gardeners set workshops, seminars for May

Bell County Master Gardener Association has several workshops and seminars planned for the month of May. Space is limited, so pre-registration is encouraged.

### May 11

The Bell County Master Gardener Association and the Temple Public Library Garden Club presents a Special Event Seminar “Water Conservation through Rainwater Harvesting” on Saturday, May 11 at 2 p.m. at the Temple Public Library, McLane Room, 100 W. Adams, Temple.

Certified Master Gardener Teri Marceau will discuss how the lack of rain in our streams and reservoirs, that includes Lake’s Belton and Stillhouse, has impacted our gardens, trees, and lawns. Teri will be addressing the importance of water conservation and how to capture rainwater.

Register at [bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com](mailto:bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com)

### May 16

The Bell County Master Gardener Association is hosting a free monthly seminar “Native Plants Full Sun and Shade” on Thursday, May 16, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, BCMGA Learning Center, 1605 N. Main St., Belton. Certified Master Gardener Barbara Ishikawa will present an assortment of native plants that are drought tolerant for your landscape that grow well in sun or shade enabling you to conserve water.

Class Limit: 50

Please register at [bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com](mailto:bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com)

### May 18

The Bell County Master Gardener Association and Troy Chamber of

Commerce presents a Free Lunch and Learn Presentation “Drought Tolerant Plants” on Saturday, May 18, from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. at the Troy Community Center, 201 E. Main St., Troy. Certified Master Gardener Barbara Ishikawa will present an assortment of native plants that are drought tolerant for your landscape, enabling you to conserve water.

Class Limit: 50  
Register for Lunch at [hello@elevatetroy.org](mailto:hello@elevatetroy.org) or call Gaby Warlick at 254-400-7345

Walk-ins welcome without lunch based on space available.

### May 20

The Bell County Master Gardener Association and the Harker Heights Activities Center is hosting a special event seminar on “Container Vegetable Gardening” on Monday, May 20 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Harker Heights Activities Center, 400 Indian Trail, Harker Heights. Certified Master Gardener Kathy Love will feature research-based tips on how to grow your favorite veggies from tomatoes to squash in containers, even on apartment patios! The size of the containers is essential for each variety so come learn what each needs.

Class Limit: 50  
Please register at <https://bit.ly/3xqWd8t>

Registration opens on Wednesday, May 1 at 8 a.m.

Please email Kailie Gomez at [kgomez@harkerheights.gov](mailto:kgomez@harkerheights.gov) or call 254-953-5465 if you have any questions.



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# You better hurry to get your Prose and Spirits tickets

You can still get tickets for the Prose and Spirits with Jane Austen event, but you better hurry!

Friends of the Salado Public Library will conduct its second literary fundraiser on May 5, hosted by Rick and Denise Thomssen at the Chapel at Caliber Oak in Salado. "Prose and Spirits with Jane Austen" will begin at 4 p.m., with local talent appearing as Jane Austen characters.

Performers include K.D. Hill as Jane Austen, Jim Buchanan as Mr. Bennett, Becky Michele Hupert as Mrs. Bennett, Josh Kuntz as Mr. Darcy and Rachel Poe as Elizabeth Bennett. The afternoon will include cocktails, tea and Regency-era fare. Those attending are encouraged to wear Regency-inspired apparel; costumes are encouraged but optional.

VIP tickets are \$35 each. All ticket sales are final and non-refundable. Tickets may be purchased at the Salado Public Library or online at <https://www.saladolibrary.org/friends-of-the-library-jane-austen-literary-fundraiser> or at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/>



Jane Austen portrait by her sister Cassandra Austen. (Public Domain)



## Salado Cowboy Poetry, Music Gathering

The fourth annual Salado Cowboy Poetry and Music Gathering will be May 3-5 in various locations throughout the Village.

Salado Cowboy Poetry and Music Gathering brings together a group of poets, musicians, and storytellers who are doing their part to preserve the cultural heritage of the American West. This gathering will give these performers an opportunity to share their talents.

"These men and women are now, or have been in the past, a part of the working cowboy environment," founder Sharon Douglas said. "This is the fourth year that Salado has hosted this event and the hope is to make it the best in the country by offering the true 'working cowboy' culture and heritage. Cowboy poetry, music, and story telling is born in the dust of hard work.

Tickets are available at [centraltexas tickets.com](http://centraltexas tickets.com).

### Schedule

#### Friday, May 3

6:30-8:30 p.m.: "Cuisine and Chords" reception, dinner and music featuring Devon and The Outlaw and Jim Cathey, Teresa Bursleson, and others. Salado Museum, 423 S. Main St. Salado. Tickets \$50. Call 254-702-0979 for res-

ervations. Limited seating. Additional parking is available behind Shady Villa and across the street from Barrow Brewing Co.

Throughout the weekend, visit Salado Museum to view Vaquero: Genesis of the Texas Cowboy, an exhibition produced by the Wittliff Collections, Texas State University, presented in partnership with Humanities Texas, the state affiliate for the National Endowment for the Humanities. This exhibition is made possible in part by a We the People grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The exhibition features 62 digital carbon prints with bilingual narrative text that reveal the muscle, sweat and drama that went into roping a calf in thick brush or breaking a wild horse in the saddle. The exhibition will be available to the public from April 10 to May 30. For more information about viewing hours or to arrange group visits, contact Lynette Jones at 254-947-3525 or 254-718-0820.

#### Saturday, May 4

7:30-9 a.m.: Lions' Club Pancake Breakfast, tickets \$6, 217 N. Church St.

10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: Saturday Concerts at Salado Museum, 423 S. Main St.

10-10:45 a.m.: Little Britches Concert but

Grown-ups should come too. Carolyn Britt, author and Richard Paul Thomas present her new book, Wind Bandits. Also appearing, Devon and The Outlaw and Washtub Jerry. Sponsored by Salado Ladies' Community League.

11 a.m.-Noon: Rhymes and Rhythms of the Range: Straw Berry, Teresa Bursleson, Stan Mahler, Washtub Jerry, and Cal Farley Kids. Youth Cowboy Poetry Contest winners announced.

Alternate choices at Barrow Brewery's Farmers Market 108 Royal St Salado

• 11-11:45 a.m.: Devon and The Outlaw with Washtub Jerry

• 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: Stan Mahler

1-1:30 p.m.: Jim Jones presents Sarah Pierce and Russ Phillips. Open mic as time permits. Salado Museum

1:45-3 p.m.: \$15 Admission; Salado Museum Tribute to Marty Robbins with Jeff Gore and Washtub

Jerry. Also appearing are Belinda Gail, Jim Jones, George Ray Russell and Bruce Johnson.

5:30-6:30 p.m.: Inn on the Creek hosts Stan Mahler and Jim Jones. The Inn offers a variety of dinner and drink options.

7-9:30 p.m. \$25 Admission. Tablerock Amphitheater, 200 Royal St., Salado. Gates open at 6 p.m. Along the Trail with Stories and Songs featuring: Belinda Gail, Lori Beth, Jeff Gore, Jim Jones, Washtub Jerry, Straw Berry, George Ray Russell and Bruce Johnson and Stan Mahler. In case of rain, the evening event will be moved to Heritage Country Church, 9929 Lark Trail, Salado.

#### Sunday, May 5

10 a.m.: Heritage Country Church, 9929 Lark Trail, Salado. Join Heritage Country Church in worship with Jeff Gore, Jim Jones, Belinda Gail and George Ray Russell. Come early for coffee and donuts.

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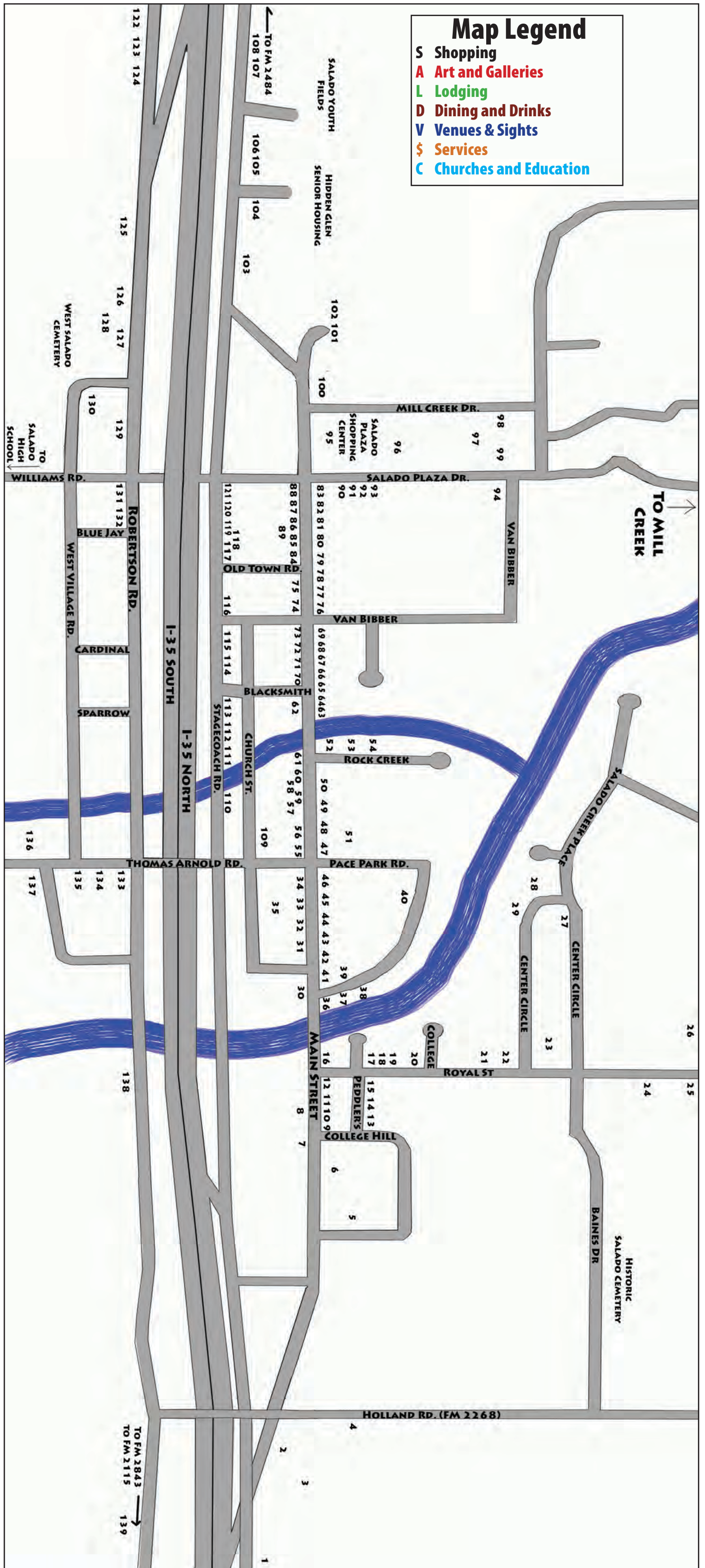
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# Shopping Map of Salado

| #                           | Business Name  | Type |
|-----------------------------|--|------|
| 4                           | St. Stephen Catholic Church                              | C    |
| 6                           | Salado College Park                                      | V    |
| 7                           | Raney & Assoc. Real Estate                               | \$   |
| 8                           | StageCoach Inn   | D    |
|                             | Shady Villa  | L    |
| 9                           | Salado Museum  | V    |
|                             | Salado Visitors Center & Tourism                         | \$   |
|                             | Salado Chamber of Commerce                               | \$   |
|                             | New Life Methodist Church                                | C    |
| 10                          | Sofi's   | S    |
| 11                          | Chupacabra Craft Beer and Winery                         | D    |
|                             | Chupacabra Kitchen                                       | D    |
| 14                          | Salado Glassworks  | A    |
| 15                          | Provecho   | D    |
| 17                          | Barrow Brewing Co.                                       | D    |
|                             | Happy Pizza  | S    |
| 19                          | TEX28 Outfitters   | S    |
| 21                          | The Venue  | V    |
|                             | Village Spa  | S    |
| 22                          | The Shed   | D    |
| 24                          | Tablerock  | V    |
| 26                          | Salado United Methodist Church                           | C    |
| 29                          | Inn on the Creek   | L    |
|                             | Alexanders Craft Cocktails & Kitchen                     | D    |
| 30                          | First Baptist Church                                     | C    |
| 32                          | First Texas Brokerage                                    | \$   |
| 34                          | Farmers Insurance  | \$   |
| 34                          | First Community Title                                    | \$   |
| 40                          | W.A. Pace Memorial Park                                  | V    |
| 48                          | Nancy Best Real Estate                                   | \$   |
| 48                          | Salado Luxury Properties                                 | \$   |
| 56                          | Salado Creek Jewelry                                     | S    |
| 62                          | The Pizza Place  | D    |
| 75                          | Stage Stop Center  | \$   |
|                             | Salado Creek Dental                                      | \$   |
| 76                          | Salado Civic Center                                      | \$   |
| 78                          | Star Nails and Spa                                       | \$   |
| 81                          | Salado Wine Seller and Salado Winery Co.                 | D    |
| 82                          | St. Joseph's Episcopal Church                            | C    |
| 84                          | Old Town Salado  | \$   |
| 85                          | Salado Post Office                                       | \$   |
| 86                          | Bill Bartlett - Century 21                               | \$   |
| 87                          | The Personal Wealth Coach                                | \$   |
| 90                          | Presbyterian Church of Salado                            | C    |
| 91                          | Troy Smith Financial Services                            | \$   |
| 92                          | Salado Sculpture Garden                                  | A    |
| 96                          | Salado Plaza   | \$   |
|                             | Ace Pest Control   | \$   |
|                             | Integrity Rehab  | \$   |
|                             | Salado's Hair Shop                                       | \$   |
|                             | Salado Village Voice                                     | \$   |
| 100                         | Salado Public Library                                    | C    |
| 107                         | Salado Creek Ministries meets at the Holiday Inn Express | C    |
| 113                         | Salado Church of Christ                                  | C    |
| 122                         | Bell County Annex  | \$   |
| 124                         | Axis Winery  | D    |
| 126                         | Cowboy's Barbecue  | D    |
| 130                         | Village Spirits  | S    |
| 132                         | Broecker Funeral Home                                    | \$   |
| 133                         | Johnny's Steaks & BBQ                                    | D    |
| 134                         | The Dog Spot   | \$   |
| 135                         | Carus Dental   | \$   |
| 136                         | Salado Schools & Stadium                                 | C    |
|                             | Village Church of Salado                                 | C    |
| 137                         | Iron Orchid Bodywork (inside Salado Fitness)             | \$   |
| 139                         | Cedar Valley Baptist Church                              | C    |
| <b>Not Shown on the Map</b> |  |      |
|                             | 3C Cowboy Fellowship                                     | C    |
|                             | Grace Church   | C    |
|                             | Heritage Country Church                                  | C    |
|                             | Mill Creek Country Club                                  | V    |
|                             | JD's Truck Stop and Grill                                | S/D  |
|                             | Anytime Fitness Salado                                   | S    |



## 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 |                                 |

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Salado One Act Play cast and crew. (COURTESY PHOTOS)

## SOAP returns to State Meet

Salado One Act Play has qualified for the UIL State Meet May 13-18 in Austin.

The team is performing an adaptation of Aaron Sorkin's The Trial of the Chicago 7 about the infamous 1968 trial that put free speech at the center view-point of a polarized nation.

Individual awards at the regional qualifying meet went to five members of the company:

All-Star Cast – Eleftherios Nikolaidis as Abbie Hoffman and Sean Murray as defense attorney William Kunstler

Honorable Mention All-

Star Cast – Andreas Nikolaidis as Attorney General John Mitchell, Uncle Sam, and Judge Julius Hoffman and Daniel Sanchez as leader of the Black Panther Party Bobby Seale.

Outstanding Technician was Laura Ball, stage manager.

Other members of the OAP team include: Harper Schreiner-Brown, Liam Baird, Gunner Peterson, Brooklynn Winkler, Daniel Sanchez, Olivia Kelley, Callum Campbell, Ian Miles, Michael Moses Dorris, Ivan Montesinos, Robert Kessler, John Montoya, Rylie Buck,

Xavier Dabney, and Alex Gruber.

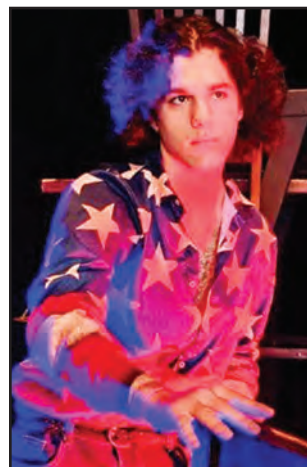
Technical Crew are Ball, Cort Bethel, May Davis, Kennedy Hewett, and Eric Soto.

Directors are J.J. Jonas, Renee Arnett, and Ellie Bragg.

Two plays advanced from each of the four regions in Texas to comprise the final eight in each conference at the state meet in May.

Salado has placed at the state finals nine times, including three state championships.

Salado will perform its



Eleftherios Nikolaidis as Abbie Hoffman.

show for the public May 2 at 7 p.m. at the Jarrell High School auditorium.

## SHS broadcasters bring home medals

UIL held its annual Interscholastic League Press Conference (ILPC) at the University of Texas on April 20.

The ILPC emphasizes student broadcasting publications as a means of teaching higher order thinking skills in students.

State contest results were announced at the conference. Salado Film Squad won five awards:

State Champion: Segiv Ethridge, Graphics.

Second Place, Silver Medal: Ben Wickert; Graphics.

Third Place, Bronze Medal: Sydney Lange; Commercials/PSA.

Third Place, Bronze Medal: Kirbee Webb; Documentary.

Honorable Mention: Segiv Ethridge, General News Story.

Honorable Mention: Emma Black, Feature Story.

Salado Film Squad is directed by Tim Cook.



State Champion Segiv Ethridge.



(COURTESY PHOTO) Laura Ball, Wesley Engleking and Krystle Vazquez medaled at the UIL Region 3 Meet.

## SHS speech team wins Region 3 championship

The Salado High School Speech and Debate Team competed at the UIL Region 3 Meet at Stephen F. Austin in Nacogdoches on April 27. Salado won the Team Speech Championship with 55 points, Carthage placed second with 47 points.

This is the 13th Speech Team Championship Salado has won since 2006.

Results are as follows:

- Laura Ball, first place in Lincoln Douglas Debate
- Laura Ball, first place in Informative Extemporaneous Speaking
- Wesley Engleking, first place in Persuasive Extemporaneous Speaking
- Krystle Vazquez, third place in Persuasive Extemporaneous Speaking

All three will participate at the UIL State Meet at the University of Texas on May 14-15.

The Salado High School Speech and Debate Team will compete next at the National Individual Events Tournament of Champions in Nebraska on May 9-12. The team is coached by Tim Cook.

## Powderpuff game May 8

The 2024 Powderpuff Football Game will be 6:30 p.m. May 8 at Eagle Stadium.

A mini-cheer clinic will be held 3:30-5 p.m. May 7 at Thomas Arnold Elementary 3 gymnasium.

To register for the clinic, visit pixieddspot.com

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Good Luck from your 'Home' Team



# SISD candidates on academics, bond, school safety

Salado Village Voice presented the candidates for Salado Independent School District Board of Trustees with the following questions:

**Question 1:** Does Salado ISD properly prepare students for academic and vocational life beyond graduation? What academic and/or vocational programs could be improved and how? (300 words)

**Question 2:** What are your thoughts on the plans, timelines and priorities for construction funded by the 2023 Bond Election? (300 words)

**Question 3:** Does Salado ISD provide a safe environment for students? Can this be improved? If so, how? (300 words)

Below are their responses:



**MICHAEL APODACA**

**Question 1:** Salado ISD does a great job of preparing students for college, as evidenced by the success of our graduates attending colleges such as Texas A&M, the University of Texas, and other premier state universities. We have also had a number of students selected to attend the Military Service Academies and even Harvard.

Salado also does a great job with the career and vocational programs the district offers. Right now that includes computer sciences, health science, floral arrangement, welding, and agriculture. The new high school will have modernized and larger facility space for all of those, allowing improvements and expansion of all of those programs. In the future it would be great to add other career and vocational programs such as cybersecurity and artificial intelligence, or automotive mechanics and paint/body. In last week's questions I mentioned these are currently beyond the fiscal ability of Salado without actively seeking business and community partnerships to support student learning in those or other careers.

I believe Salado is looking at and actively working toward improving everything in the district. I have reviewed the Salado ISD District Improvement Plan 2023-2024, which includes a mission and vision, a comprehensive needs assessment, and a student learning summary. The plan incorporates input from parent and community stakeholders. There are six problem statements that address instruction, safety, special services, career education programs, and community

involvement. Goals are established for each problem statement, and there are documented performance objectives and strategies to meet each goal. The goals, objectives, and strategies are all long-term and evaluated annually to determine whether they are accomplished, should be continued, modified, or discontinued based on a change in circumstances. The plan is comprehensive and well thought out, and this type of strategic and systematic approach will achieve great results for our schools.

**Question 2:** I am excited about the new construction funded by the 2023 bond election, and I am thankful the voters chose to invest in our students and schools by passing both of the bonds. The new facilities will not only increase the capacity of the schools to meet current and future growth, but will modernize all of our schools and greatly improve the educational environment. The community planning committee that studied the need for the bond did a thorough assessment and developed the overall plan. It is a real plus that there will not be an increase in our local tax rate to fund the new construction.

Construction will start with the new high school and stadium concurrently. The high school is the facility that has been overcrowded the longest, and by doing the stadium concurrently there will be a savings of over \$2 million dollars in construction costs by not having to stage materials and equipment twice for two separate projects, and not having to pay associated labor costs twice. The old stadium dates back to 1979 when the district had only 400 students, and does not come close to meeting current needs.

When the new high school opens it will immediately solve the overcrowding at the high school, and also solve the overcrowding at the elementary school by moving half of the students from TAE to the old high school. Having the stadium complete will also solve the problem of having high school students traveling daily to all of the TAE buildings to use the locker room and athletic spaces there because of the high school overcrowding. Since high school students won't be using the TAE campus facilities it will allow renovations at that campus to be completed much faster.

**Question 3:** Safety is a good news story in Salado ISD. Thirteen years ago, only the new high school had a vestibule and locked entrance doors, and that met the need of that time.

Today the story is so much different. Each campus has a security vestibule, and all other doors are locked. We have a badge entry system to limit access control for protection of students and staff. Volunteers, once screened via a third-party contractor, are now screened through the Texas DPS. The district employees are screened through a live state system, meaning the district is immediately notified when something is reported about an employee. SISD's website has instructions for anonymously reporting anything unsafe on-line, by voice, or by text. The district hired three school resource officers, and there are an undisclosed number of marshals that completed safety training that meets police standards.

The district has also taken other measures to

ensure a safe environment. Where there was once only one nurse there are now four. The district has eight counselors to include one mental health counselor. Each campus has a Threat Assessment Committee, and there is a district Safety and Security Committee that includes school staff and SROs, plus the local sheriff, Salado Police, and Bell County Constables. All doors are checked weekly to ensure they are mechanically sound and locked. All district emergency plans were recently voluntarily reviewed by the TEA. Finally, thanks to the recent bond, a bi-directional amplifier is being installed to cover dead zones for first responder radios. I am very confident the district takes this seriously, and every appropriate measure is being taken to ensure our schools are safe and secure.



**CHRIS DIEM**

**Question 1:** The metrics tell us what so many of us already know- Salado ISD does an excellent job preparing our students for life after high school, especially when it comes to those who desire to attend college. Our on-time graduation rate of nearly 99% far outpaces the state average as does our college readiness rates in math and reading. The number of students who pass an AP examination outpaces the state average by 23%, and the average score on the SAT far outpaces the state average. Students are given multiple avenues to earn college credit, ranging from AP exams to the Texas Biosciences Institute, and the number of courses offered within the endorsement cohorts continues to grow. Salado ISD continues to show the results, and every teacher in the school district, from Pre-K through 12th grade, should be proud of and commended for the success that is revealed in these results!

As with everything, we must do what we can to ensure that these results continue and the students coming through the pipeline can have even more opportunities. This includes looking at that data at all grade levels and striving to increase the number of students performing at a mastery level on state exams. It also means looking at programming offered within our district; with a new high school coming on-line that will include more space for vocational programs, I hope to see more offerings that lead to certifications upon graduation. Since my time as a principal in Salado ISD, I have wanted to explore the addition of a JROTC program; not only does this provide a pathway for students to enter the military or a ROTC program upon graduation, but the leadership and character development that is part of that program is truly exceptional.

**Question 2:** I am deeply grateful to the voters of Salado ISD for their support of both Proposition A and B this past November. The \$270 million in bonds will allow the school district to address space con-

cerns, fund improvements on campuses, and address needed infrastructure upgrades. Having attended every Long-Range Planning meeting leading up to the bond and serving on the school board at the same time, I have seen the plan come together from the initial idea to the final wording that went on the ballot and have since watched as the implementation of the bond has begun.

As such, I have been able to develop my priorities for the bond and its implementation. Throughout the process, I have wanted to prioritize academic projects and my votes on the board have reflected as such. I also understand that the implementation of these projects is multi-faceted and involves cost considerations, securing labor, and ensuring that a timeline can be met that allows for the most students and teachers to be positively impacted in as short of a time as possible. To that end, we have always known that the new high school would need to be built first, and it is on track to open in August 2026. When it does, the current high school will be updated and can come on-line as additional space for our elementary school, potentially as an intermediate school campus for grades 3-5. That will then allow for fewer students to occupy the current TAE campus, allow for a significant remodel and expansion of the TAE-2 campus, take the two older buildings off-line, and ensure that each campus has what it needs to meet its student needs.

**Question 3:** Of all the areas addressed in my two years on the school board, this is the one that has seen the most improvement and the one I am most proud of. On the day I was elected, Salado ISD had one School Resource Officer (SRO) through a shared contract with Salado PD. This was a very common setup, and I am glad we at least had that in place. It was later that May that the tragedy in Uvalde occurred, which magnified why school safety was a top priority. That summer, we added two SROs, giving us one per campus, and later in the fall, I helped lead that effort that resulted in Salado ISD adopting the School Marshall Program. By the end of that year, in large part due to the leadership of Dr. Novotny, we established our own Salado ISD police department. These changes were made at the same time we thoroughly reviewed and upgraded the physical setup of our campuses, ranging from fixing gates to installing new badge readers on our older campuses, and improved communication with parents when a challenging, safety-related situation needed to be addressed. Coupled with teachers and staff whom I have personally watched implement best practices on our campuses, I am confident this is something that has been addressed and will remain a top priority.

All of this was done before any state mandates and with the sole intent of protecting our students and staff on a daily basis. While we must always remain vigilant and aware of new and best practices related to school safety, I am thankful that I can confidently take my two boys to school every morning, pick them up in the afternoon, and know that they will be protected and taken care of in between.

SEE SISD CANDIDATES, PAGE 3A

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# SISD Candidates FROM PAGE 2C



**WRITE-IN CANDIDATE  
COOPER GILL**

**Question 1:** Learning about the impressive performance of our high school was one of the great parts of participating in the long range planning committee. I believe we are providing a great academic and vocational education at the high school and the results are seen in our impressive graduation rates and our career college and military readiness (CCMR) ratings. This performance was made all the more impressive given the impact of facility constraints upon every academic and vocational program. The capabilities of our Ag Tech, phlebotomy and floral programs particularly stood out and are one of the many reasons Salado High School has earned an A rating. With the addition of much needed space we will be able to better serve our outstanding Film team that continues to bring awards at UIL competition with their own dedicated space for the first time. Additionally, the expansion in career and technical education areas will offer the community opportunity to give feedback on the programs that parents, students and community desire to prepare students for life after graduation. One area that we were not able to adequately

address facility constraints was the inclusion of a performing arts center at the high school in the current phase of construction, however we did provide a location for the future construction once additional bond funding is available and should be a priority in future facility investments.

**Question 2:** I am proud to have been an active and vocal member of the long term facility planning committee that worked on putting the original bond timeline in place. I voted for the original timeline that prioritized academic investments such as the new high school and renovations to TAE and current high school. The bond addressed a huge need in academic facilities and Prop A will absolutely benefit all students and educators of Salado in a massive and necessary way. At a February 12, 2024 special board meeting, a change in timeline was proposed by administration that would reallocate 21 million dollars from our bond sale to Prop B allowing the field house and stadium construction to be funded before any TAE renovations would be funded. As an active participant in the facility planning committee, it was overwhelmingly chosen to prioritize academic facilities over the stadium complex. As a parent, I feel that this change in timeline goes against what was sold to the public and had I been a school board trustee at the time of this vote, I would have voted against the change along with the one other dissenting vote.

**Question 3:** Threats at Salado schools fall into two categories, either internal or external. For external threats, we have responded to state requirements for hardened campuses and

utilized funding opportunities to establish the Salado ISD Police Department. The SISD Police Department is an amazing tool that was put into place last year and gives the schools dedicated resources to address both internal and external incidents. Having dedicated officers at every campus provides an additional layer of security and protection while also reassuring the community that safety is the number one priority for the school district. For internal threats, the challenges present every day and require administrators to remain diligent and focused on keeping all students and educators safe. During the 2022-23 school year, I strongly advocated to administration and to the school board for a significant safety change when I became aware of an area that needed improvement in providing a safer environment at the elementary school. The resulting change in policy led to an environment that was not only safer for students but also provided a more enriching learning and teaching environment for several classrooms. It is of the utmost importance that our schools have a culture where both students and teachers feel safe and know that no amount of violence or bullying is acceptable. Internal safety can be fluid and changes in protocol may need to be made based on the situations at hand. I believe it is extremely important to have transparency and open communication with parents, teachers, and campus administrators to address the need for additional intervention when necessary.

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Will face La Grange

# Lady Eagles sweep Jarrell

Salado Lady Eagles face the La Grange Lady Leopards in the Area Round of the UIL 4A softball playoffs after sweeping Jarrell last week.

Game 1 will be 5 p.m. May 2 at Thrall High School. Game 2 will be 30 minutes after Game 1. Game 3, if necessary, will be 6 p.m. May 3 at Thrall.

|     | R  | H | E |
|-----|----|---|---|
| SHS | 12 | 9 | 1 |
| JHS | 3  | 4 | 1 |

Jarrell Lady Cougars had a short lead of 2-1 in the third inning, before Salado Lady Eagles tied in the fourth and added five runs in the fifth and four in the seven for a dominating 12-3 win April 24.

Lexi Ducezka led off the game with a walk. She stole second, advanced on a ground out by Brooklyn Williamson and scored on a ground out by Ryley Litchfield.

In the fourth, Shelby Dodge reached when she was hit by the pitcher. Ducezka reached on a walk. Williamson singled to score Dodge and Litchfield singled to score Ducezka.

Walks to Toni Pugh, Dodge and Giselle Salazar and singles by Ducezka, Williamson, Litchfield and Bri Waters resulted in a five-run fifth inning.

Williamson and Mazzy Johnson walked and Litchfield and Bri Tutor were hit by the pitcher in the seventh. Waters had a 2 RBI single and Salazar had a single in the four-run inning.

Litchfield led the girls with 3 hits, 3 RBIs and a run. Waters followed with 2 hits, 3 RBIs while Williamson had 2 hits, 2 RBIs and 2 runs. Ducezka had a hit, 2 RBIS and 3 runs. Salazar had a hit and a run. Dodge had an RBI and a run. Tutor, Pugh, Johnson and Aubree Zamat each had a run.

Ally Schauer got the win, pitching the entire 7 innings. She allowed 4 hits, 3 runs (2 earned) and 4 walks while striking out 8 batters.

|     | R | H | E |
|-----|---|---|---|
| JHS | 3 | 8 | 2 |
| SHS | 7 | 8 | 4 |

Salado Lady Eagles beat Jarrell 7-3 April 25 in a home game to sweep the Lady Cougars in their best-of-three series.

Salado scored two runs in the bottom of the first. Lexi Ducezka led off with a walk. Brooklyn Williamson was hit by the pitcher. Ryley Litchfield singled and Ducezka scored on an error. Williamson went to third and scored on wild pitches.

Williamson led off the third with a single. Ryley Litchfield singled, but an error by Jarrell allowed Williamson to score and Litchfield to reach third.

Salado added three in the fourth. Giselle Salazar led off the frame with a single. She advanced on a single by Ducezka. A walk to Litchfield loaded the bases before a double to deep left scored all three runners.

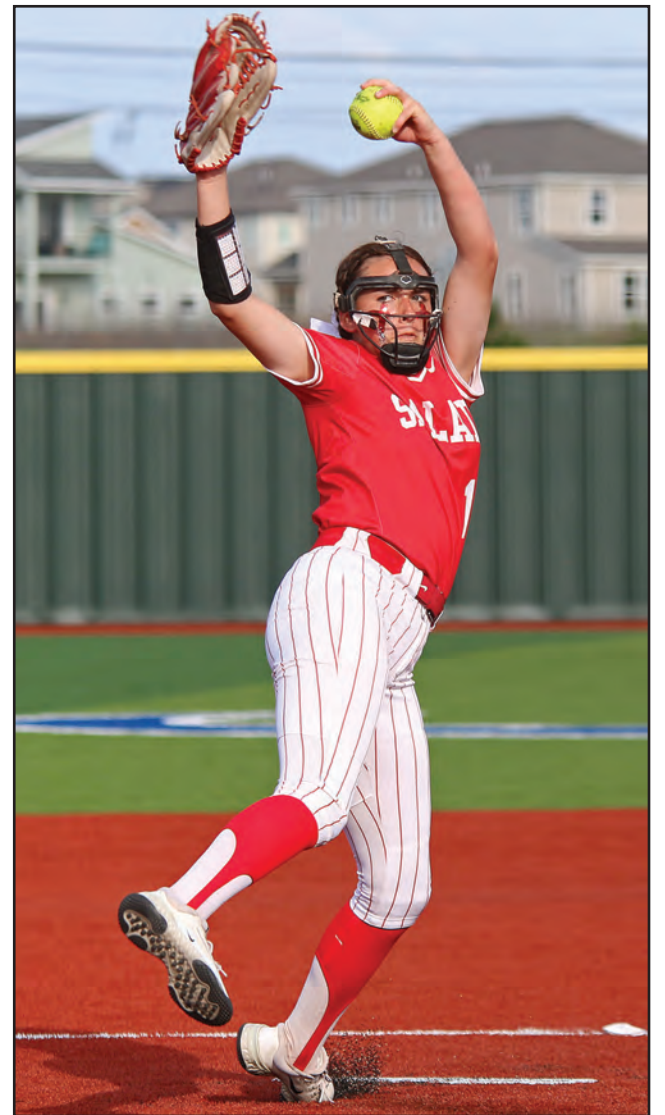
Toni Pugh singled in the fifth, advanced on a wild pitch and a sacrifice bunt by Salazar and scored on a sac fly to left by Ducezka to make the score 7-3. Salado did not allow a Lady Cougar to reach base in their final two at-bats.

Ryley Litchfield led the Lady Eagles with 2 hits, an RBI and a run. Also getting on the scoreboard were Lexi Ducezka, Bri Tutor and Ally Schauer, 1 hit and 1 RBI each, Mazzy Johnson, 1 hit and 1 run. Giselle Salazar, 1 hit, Aubree Zamat and Paisley Friemel, 1 run each.

|      | R | H | E |
|------|---|---|---|
| SHS  | 4 | 8 | 0 |
| VRHS | 1 | 4 | 4 |

Salado Lady Eagles beat Vista Ridge Lady Rangers 4-1 in a warm-up game April 22.

Ryley Litchfield led Salado with 2 hits, 1 RBI and 1 run. Also getting on the board were Lexi Ducezka, Bri Tutor and Ally Schauer, 1 hit, 1 RBI each, Mazzy Johnson, 1 hit and 1 run, Bri Waters and Giselle Salazar, 1 hit each, and Aubree



Ally Schauer pitches in the Lady Eagles 12-3 win over Jarrell April 24. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)



Shelby Dodge lays down a bunt against Jarrell. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

PHOTO GALLERY OF GAME AT SALADOVILLAGEVOICE.COM

Zamat, 1 run. 5. Ally Schauer closed the game, allowing an earned run on 2 hits and a walk and striking out 2 batters.



On April 13, three Salado baton twirlers from Central Texas Twirling Company participated in the Fort Worth NBTA Spring Fling contest where they represented Salado well by bringing home numerous awards from this well attended contest. Twirlers are preparing for the Texas State NBTA contest set for June in Dallas. Shown above (from left) Emily Smith, fourth place Best Costume; Sawyer Roach, first Solo, second X-Strut, third Spring Fling Pageant, third in 2-Baton, third UIL Solo; Audrey Smith, first Best Costume and fourth Best Appearing Twirlers train in Salado at Central Texas Twirling Company by Coach Debra Faulkner and Coach Macy Wolf. (Courtesy photo)

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# Eagles beat top-ranked China Spring, 3-1

Salado varsity boys baseball team beat the top-ranked China Spring Cougars 3-1 in the Eagles' final home district game April 26.

Salado will face Gateway College Preparatory in the bi-district round of the UIL 4A playoffs in a best-of-three series. Game 1 will be 7 p.m. May 2 at Gateway. Game 2 will be 7 p.m. May 3 at home. Game 3, if necessary, will be 1 p.m. May 4 at Gateway.

|     | R | H | E |
|-----|---|---|---|
| CHS | 1 | 5 | 1 |
| SHS | 3 | 7 | 0 |

Logan Flores was able to get out of a loaded bases situation in the sixth inning as Salado held on to beat the #1 China Spring Cougars 3-1 April 26.

The Eagles scored a run in the first. Jacob Preston singled and stole second. He went to third on a ground-out by Brody Naegele and scored on a double to left by Flores.

Salado added two in the fourth. Jace Light led off the bottom of the frame with a double to left. He scored on a play that resulted in two errors by China Spring and allowed Kase Maedgen to reach second base. Maedgen went to third on a passed ball. Maedgen scored when the Cougar catcher Camden Todaro dropped a third strike and threw Kannon Baird out at first.

China Spring scored a run in the top of the sixth after JC Hughes singled to left. Greyson Brooks and Garrett Maddox singled to load the bases. Dillon Bowers walked to push a run across the plate before Flores struck out Jackson Fetters to get out of the inning with a 3-1 lead.

Flores struck out the final three batters for China Spring to get the win on the mound for Salado. He pitched all seven innings, allowing 1 hit, an earned

run and two walks, while striking out 13 batters.

Light led the batters with 2 hits and a run. Flores followed with a run and an RBI.

Also getting hits for the Eagles were Preston and Maedgen, 1 hit and 1 run each and Naegele and Brody Cole, 1 hit.

|     | R | H | E |
|-----|---|---|---|
| SHS | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| CHS | 3 | 6 | 1 |

Salado Eagles lost to China Spring 3-1 on the road April 23.

The Eagles scored in the third inning. With one out, Owen Curtis singled to center. He advanced when Brody Cole was hit by the pitcher. Brody Naegele singled to load the bases. Logan Flores singled to left to score Curtis and keep the bases loaded before Cage McCloud struck out the next two batters to get out of the jam with a 2-1 lead. The Cougars added a run in the bottom of the frame

China Spring allowed only two baserunners in the final four innings, one on a walk and another on an error.

Flores led Salado with a hit and an RBI. Also getting hits were Curtis, a hit and a run, and Naegele Jace Light, a hit each.

|     | R | H | E |
|-----|---|---|---|
| CHS | 0 | 5 | 2 |
| JVR | 4 | 6 | 0 |

Salado JV Red beat China Spring 4-0 on April 26.

Getting hits for Salado were Trey Waters, 2 hits and an RBI; Aezea Martinez, Hunter Roesbaum Collin Strickland and Ethan Robledo, a hit and an RBI each.

Martinez got the win on the mound, pitching six innings and allowing 5 hits, no runs, 2 walks and striking out 6.

Salado JV Red beat China Spring 6-1 on April 22, but no books were kept for the game.

SEE EAGLES, PAGE 6C



Logan Flores pitches in 3-1 win over China Spring April 26. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)


PHOTO GALLERY OF THE GAME AT SALADOVILLAGEVOICE.COM

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Rylee, Lily and Khushi working on creating paper mache pinatas.



### SHS Students visit Nursing Home

Salado High School HOSA Future Health Professionals students went to the nursing home in Temple recently to visit with the residents there. The students volunteered to spend some time with the residents creating paper mache pinatas, to be decorated later on by the residents in preparation for Cinco de Mayo celebrations.

(at left) Valente helping a resident create their very own paper mache pinata.

## Jr. High track athletes set new school records

Congratulations to the following junior high school track athletes and coaches Melvin Bates, Scott Bates, Tracy Brantley, Blaine Koester, Jada Kornegay, Anissa Peralta, and Jenna Perkins for breaking the following school records this year.
Girls
100M Dash: Malaysia Phillips, 12.46.
200M Dash: Malaysia Phillips, 27.15.
800M Run: Annalee Bryant, 2:24.42.
4X100M Relay: Emma Harrell, Zoe Dodge, Presley Ortega and Kendall Trautmann, 53.01.
4X200M Relay: Brylynn Beavers, Zoe Dodge, Kend-

## Superintendent's Corner

by Dr. Michael Novotny



all Trautmann and Annalee Bryant, 1:51.17.
4X400M Relay: Emma Harrell, Hayden Griesmer, Brylynn Beavers, Annalee Bryant and McCall Boyd, 4:19.18.
Pole Vault: Annalee Bryant, 9'3".
Shot Put: Zoe Dodge, 33'1".
Boys
200M Dash: Brody Schiller, 23.68.
400M Dash: Owen Gunter, 54.45.
1600M Run: Seth An-

derson, 4:45.44.
110M High Hurdles: Chase Adams, 18.14.
4X200M Relay: Owen Gunter, Cooper Lepsis, Griffen Self and Brody Schiller: 1:38.00.
High Jump: Griffen Self, 5' 6".
Pole Vault: Carter Morris, 10'.
Discus: Owen Gunter, 135' 8".

Answers grid for the crossword puzzle.

Baseball score table for CHS vs JV W.

Salado JV White lost to China Spring 8-3 on April 22.

Reed Myers led the boys with 2 hits and 2 RBI. Hays Ramsey had 2 hits and a run. Hunter Fulfer had a hit and a run.

Chance Carlson pitched 3 innings for the loss, allowing 7 hits, 6 runs (1 earned), 3 walks and striking out 3. Ramsey closed with an inning, 2 hits, 2 earned runs, 2 walks and 2 strike outs.

Baseball score table for CHS vs JV W.

Chance Carlson had a hit and the JV White Eagles' only run in their 9-1 loss to China Spring. Colt Norman also had a hit in the game for Salado.

Reed Myers pitched 5 innings, allowing 5 hits, 5 runs (4 earned), 5 walks and striking out 3. Norman closed with 3 hits, 3 runs (1 earned), 3 walks.

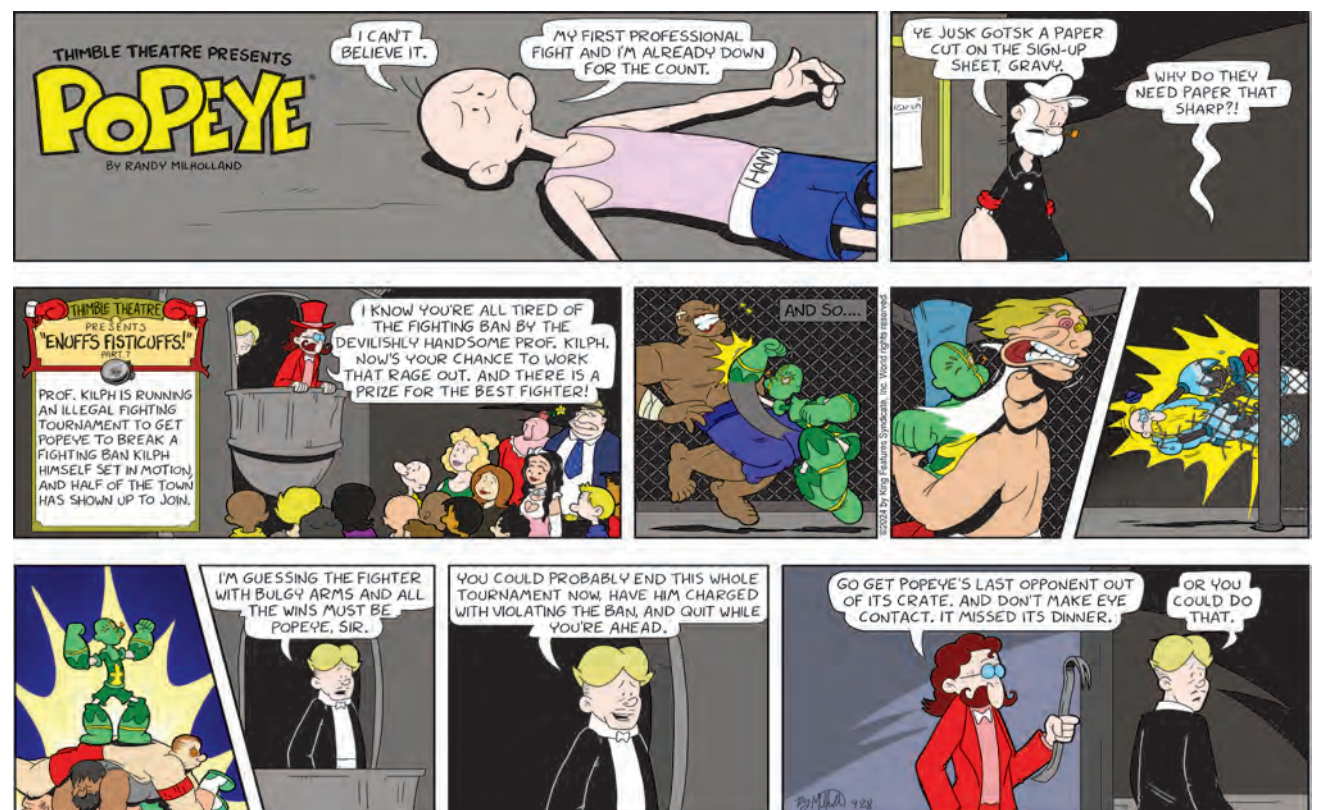
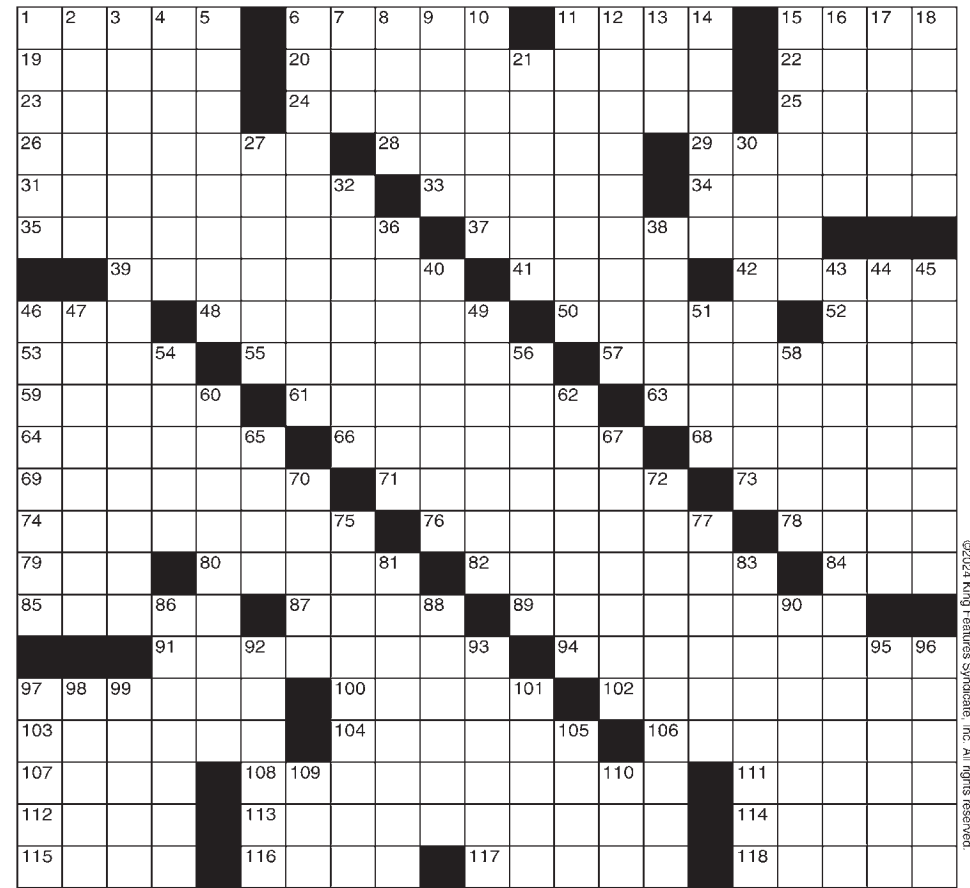


Kase Maedgen beats the throw to first base and advances to second base on a China Spring error. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

## Super Crossword

STEEP STAIRWAY

- ACROSS: 1 Offer hush money to... 6 Strip of gear, as a ship... 11 Weight unit for a druggist... 15 'I am at your — and call'... 19 'Elementary' actor Quinn... 20 Sonata, often... 22 Many a cruise stopover... 23 Unconcealed... 24 Customized for... 25 Lee of Marvel Comics... 26 Like a swine... 28 Also-rans... 29 Like a diluted drink... 31 Parceled out... 33 'Haven't — before?'... 34 Shout of discovery... 35 Having two hues... 37 'It could go either way'... 39 Rival of Delta or United... 41 Urgent... 42 Fire residue... 46 Taxpayer's ID... 48 Dedicates... 50 Fender guitar, for short... 52 Ltd. cousin... 53 Pot toppers... 55 Edits for publication... 57 Conflict... 59 Sad paper notices... 61 Say a different way... 63 Michael who co-hosted 'Live' with Kelly Ripa... 64 Gets broader... 66 'No outlet' street... 68 Always, in music scores... 69 Keyboard instrument... 71 One of three womb-sharers... 73 Florida's Key —... 74 Charges for not paying on time... 76 Decongestant brand... 78 Legal claim on property... 79 Broke a fast... 80 Filmflam... 82 Non-PC person?... 84 Suffix with Taiwan... 85 Bothersome types, for short... 87 Boring type... 89 Relax after working hard... 91 Red-tinged jewelry alloy... 94 Removes hair from... 97 Second-to-last king of Egypt... 100 Greeting sent online... 102 Emily Dickinson's 'Much Madness is — Sense'... 103 Tropical rabbit lookalike... 104 Shrink back... 106 Brings about... 107 Finger-paint... 108 The Northwest's 'City of Trees'... 111 Like many allergy sprays... 112 Robbie Knieval's father... 113 Remark from the sharp-eared... 114 1950s-'70s baseballer Boyer... 115 Actress Russo... 116 Deck crew officer, in brief... 117 Puts in order... 118 City on the Ruhr... 16 Lauder of fragrances... 17 Lois' partner... 18 Its capital is Nairobi... 21 Aspiring doc's major... 27 Person stashing stuff... 30 In the buff... 32 Cracked, as a cryptogram... 36 Info group to be input... 38 'Dagnabbit!'... 40 Bee-luring fluids... 43 Chief female officers in sacred rites... 44 Gets bigger... 45 First division of a 13-Down... 46 Sparse start of some rounds of applause... 47 Utter with a hissing sound... 49 Arena relative... 51 Crafts' counterparts... 54 Apple's Jobs... 56 Pop in a blended family... 58 Egypt's Nasser... 60 Detects like a dog... 62 Intertwined... 65 Crystal ball gazer, e.g... 67 Neutralized, as a bomb... 70 'The Cloister and the Hearth' novelist Charles... 72 Planes' first fliers, often... 75 Operations... 77 Infer (from)... 81 Like a district bishop's jurisdiction... 83 Faith... 86 Difficulty... 88 Finisher just under the winner... 90 Beach footwear... 92 Overalls for hitting the slopes... 93 Sci-fi automations... 95 Grand home... 96 Purlined... 97 Soundboard control knob... 98 Mojave plant... 99 Northern French city... 101 Inflicted upon... 105 Actor Bert... 109 'Well well!'... 110 Fedora, e.g.





# Marketplace

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**Salado Creek Dental-** Tom H Trinh, DDS General Dentist, 560 N. Main St., Suite 3., drtrinh@saladocreekdental.com (254)308-2027

### EMPLOYMENT

**OPPORTUNITY**  
**SUMC has an open position for Sound Technician.** We need someone willing to work with the audio/visual and worship team to create a seamless worship experience for our congregation. Previous sound mixing/sound system experience preferred, but will provide the training needed for those with a good ear for music. Time Required: Sundays 8:15 am to 1 pm. Additional hours are required during some church seasons (Easter, Christmas, special events). If you are interested, please contact the office at 254-947-5482 or email sumc@saladoumc.org.

**FINANCIAL**  
**The Personal Wealth Coach®:** SEC registered investment advisor, highly personalized portfolio design and management, 254-947-1111.

**Troy L Smith Financial:** Personal investment solutions. 254-947-0376, Troylsmith.com.

### GARAGE SALE

**Garage Sale-** 1325 Brody Way, Salado, Saturday May 4, 8 a.m.- 2 p.m. Antiques, garden items, old tools, furniture and more.

### GARBAGE

**Clawson Disposal:** Competitive pricing for great garbage service; containers, too. 512-746-2000.

### HAIR, NAIL, SPA

**Salado's Hair Shop-** Beauty, Barber, Massage Facial, Manicure,

Pedicure. 213 Mill Creek Dr., Suite 160. Schanna, 254-421-5173.

**Stars Nails & Spa,** Tues-Sat 9:30 a.m.- 7:30 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.- 5 p.m. 805 N. Main St. #B, 254-308-2084.

**Village Spa -** Permanent Cosmetics, Luxury Skin Treatments, Lashes, Massage Therapy, Chemical Peels, Microneedling and more. 216 Royal St., Salado. 254-293-6600.

### HEALTH/FITNESS

**Anytime Fitness:** 24 hour access. 701 Williams Rd., New Location across from Salado Middle School. Locally owned and operated 254-947-1063. saladotx@anytimefitness.com

**American Hearing Center-** complimentary hearing consultation, preview of latest hearing technology. americanhearingcenter.com Temple- 254-774-7727, Killeen 254-680-3444.

**Iron Orchid Bodywork-** Kristin Love, licensed Massage Therapist. 605 Thomas Arnold Rd. By Appt. 254-541-5659  
**Proud Heart Yoga-** Classes, private lessons by appointment. proudheartyyoga.com, 1-512-818-5167.

**Integrity: Rehab & Home Health** Physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, in-home skilled nursing. integrityrehab.net, 254-699-3933.

### HOME SERVICES

**CLEANING**  
**Streamline Interior Designs-** Design, decorating, staging consultations. visit streamlineinteriordesigns.com or call 512-900-9396.

**Window Washing Wonders** Fully insured Window cleaning, Power Washing Service, Solar panel & Gutter cleaning. Call or text Zack Tumlinson 281-682-0142

### INSURANCE

**Farmers Insurance-** Auto, Home, Life. Ashley Nicole Sosa- your local agent License #2490201. 254-947-0995 or email asosa1@farmersagent.com

### JEWELERS

**Devereaux's Jewelers:** Quality crafted custom work, jewelry repair, appraisals, watch repair, stone setting, diamond sales, photo design. 254-771-1260.

**Lastovica Jewelers:** in-store jewelry repairs, diamond sales, setting and appraisal, custom design, watch repair, 254-773-5772.

**Salado Creek Jewelers by Kiki Creations:** 106 North Main St. 254-855-5538, private showings.

**LANDSCAPING, HOME, LAWN-WORK & TREE**  
**Miller's Tree Service-** Trimming & Removal, Roof Clearing, Pruning. Salado Owned & Operated, 1-512-869-1012.

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## Combating forever chemicals

Texas A&M AgriLife Research scientists are looking for a better way to remove or degrade stubborn pollutants, also called forever chemicals, from waste before they impact human and animal health.

Eunsung Kan, Ph.D., associate professor and AgriLife Research biological engineer in the Texas A&M Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, published a study focusing on the fundamental understanding for biological treatment of waste containing per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, which are difficult to degrade through biological means. PFAS are found in a variety of synthetic chemicals used across a range of industries that produce countless products including appliances, foams, textiles and food packaging.

"We believe this study helps address basic questions about pollutants that are difficult to remove or degrade," Kan said. "PFAS present a challenge that could impact long-term sustainability and health. That makes this type of

research incredibly important and impactful." Dealing with difficult PFAS

Kan's study, "Effects of perfluorooctanoic acid and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid on microbial community structure during anaerobic digestion," appears in Bioresource Technology, a top peer-reviewed biological engineering journal. The major experiments were conducted by Kan's post-doctorate researcher Gyucheol Choi, Ph.D., in Kan's lab.

Because PFAS are difficult to degrade, there are great concerns that accumulation of toxic PFAS compounds could impact soil and water quality and subsequently human, plant and animal health. Current physical and chemical techniques used for PFAS treatment in wastewater and solid waste require high levels of energy and chemicals. These treatment methods are costly and do not completely degrade PFAS.

Kan said this lack of PFAS degradation is a serious problem for existing systems, which produce a sludge con-

taining PFAS compounds. The sludge is then taken to landfills, but there is concern that these pollutants might enter the surrounding environment or watershed by a runoff rain event.

Most solid waste and wastewater sludge is treated through biological means called anaerobic digestion, or AD. Complex microbial communities in AD systems break down and transform solid waste into biogas while undigested sludge is disposed of or applied to land. The study showed how two commonly known and difficult-to-degrade PFAS compounds — perfluorooctanoic acid, PFOA, and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, PFOS — are degraded by AD systems. The researchers also sought to understand the effects of the chemicals on the microbial communities.

Kan believes the study will help guide designs for AD systems that use various technologies to holistically deal with stubborn PFAS.

## Classifieds

**Salado Landscaping** - residential landscaping, masonry and concrete services. Locally owned and operated (254) 247-7339.

**PARKING LOT STRIPING**

**G-Force - Parking lot striping.** 222 W Veterans Memorial Blvd. Killeen. 254-833-4007.

**PEST CONTROL**

**Ace Pest Control:** Customer satisfaction guaranteed, free estimates, TPCL #12512; David Preston. 254-947-4222

**PLUMBING**

**Moffat & Daughters Plumbing:** Tankless Water heater Service, repair, remodeling, Rinnai authorized service provider. 254-289-5986 (local) Master LIC # M017002

**Salado Plumbing.** In-home repairs, 254-947-5800. Master LIC M 16892

**REAL ESTATE SERVICES**

**Century 21 Bill Bartlett-** 860 N. Main St., Salado. c21bb.com, 254-947-5050.

**First Community Title,** branches in Salado, Temple, Killeen and Gatesville. 40 N. Main Street, Salado 254-947-8480. tfnd

**Nancy Best Realty-** 1-512-571-1259.

**Raney Real Estate-** Anna Lou Raney (Broker), (254)913-1215. RaneyRealEstate.net , 520 S Main St.

**All City Real Estate-** Amber Young, Facebook.com/RealEstateAgentAmber 912-663-6552.

**Salado Luxury Properties-** 7 N. Main,

Suite K, Salado. 254-526-6611. SaladoLuxury.com

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## VILLAGE OF SALADO PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that the Planning and Zoning Commission of the Village of Salado, Texas, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. and the Village Board of Aldermen will also hold a public hearing on Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 6:30p.m. at the Municipal Building , located at 301 N Stagecoach Road, Salado, Texas 76571. At such time, the Planning and Zoning Commission and Village Board of Aldermen will conduct a Public Hearing on a zoning variance application to allow construction of sign on property zoned commercial located at SW corner of IH-35 and Salado Center Dr, Salado, Texas 76571

### NOTICE of Federal Program Planning for Salado ISD

The Salado Independent School District is currently in the planning process for the **2024-2025 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Consolidated Federal Application** for the following programs:

- Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs
- Title I, Part C – Migrant Education
- Title II, Part A – Supporting Effective Instruction
- Title III, Part A – English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Enrichment
- Title IV, Part A – Student Support and Academic Enrichment

Campus eligibility for Title I, Part A is based on low income data and academic need. **Private Nonprofit Schools and/or Homeschools with government nonprofit status** that serve students living within Salado ISD boundaries and that are interested in receiving program information on participation and/or providing input into program planning for services for eligible students may contact Kelli Rhiddlehoover, Director of Finance, at 254-947-6904 or 601 North Main Street, Salado, Texas, 76571 by **May 31, 2024.**

Salado ISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs, activities, or hiring practices. Inquiries regarding Title IX policies should be directed to Beth Aycock, Assistant Superintendent, at 254-947-6900.

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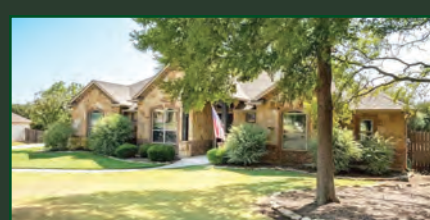
**5919 Crows Ranch Tract 1 Road**  
Are you looking to build in Salado on your own Texas Hill County Retreat? Come look at this 10 tree covered acres in Salado ISD off Crows Ranch Road. Nice square property with good depth to width ratio.  
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**4055 Integrity Lane**  
Another stunning home by Creekside Custom Homes! The home has custom cabinets with, storage bench and cabinets in the laundry room, lots of storage in each bathroom and closet, and a walk-in pantry. Other accent items are outdoor kitchen, large covered back porch, huge master closet, and more.  
\$625,000



**12007 Callie Christina Ct**  
Come see this stunning home in the highly desired Salado ISD with NO HOA! This open concept with high-end finishes throughout!  
\$799,900



**1120 Dove's Landing**  
Welcome to this beautiful Randy Taylor built home in Dove's Landing, Salado! The minute you enter this 5-bedroom home you will feel at home!  
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**5348 Taylors Bnd**  
Stunning new construction home by Randy Taylor Custom Builders. This house features a split floorpan 4 bedroom, 2.5 baths, with breakfast and formal dining room.  
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**4012 Aerie St**  
**1% OF LOAN AMOUNT INCENTIVE FROM PREFERRED LENDER. Another stunning home by Creekside Custom Homes!**  
\$599,900



**11168 Golden Eagle Ave**  
Talk about Location! Another beautiful project from White River Homes only minutes from Salado ISD Schools and I-35!  
\$609,900



**5412 Hollow Ranch Ct,**  
Don't miss your chance to see this stunning brand new home by Randy Taylor! Boasting 5 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms, this spacious home sits on a large lot, offering ample space for the next lucky homeowner.  
\$599,900



**2011 Misty Meadow Cir**  
Looking for an absolutely stunning home in Salado that's close to I35 and downtown? Look no further than this amazing property!  
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**9809 Southshore Dr**  
A spacious lot with a view in an established neighborhood in the coveted Salado ISD. Great central location to Salado, Fort Cavazos, Belton and Temple.  
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**1224 Brody Way**  
Talk about Location! Another beautiful project from White River Homes within golf cart range of downtown Salado!  
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**4006 Aerie St**  
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