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Third Quarter 2024
Published by Salado Village Voice
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Tim and Marilyn Fleischer, and Royce Wiggin are shown above with Coco Chanel and Cicero. They were recently named Persons of the Year by the Salado Historical Society for their support of historic preservation. (Photo by Nate Potter)

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

While the *Salado Village Voice* is not the first newspaper in Salado, it has had the longest life-span since being founded in 1979. The Fleischer family bought the newspaper in 1988, marking 36 years in Salado in Spring 2024.

The first newspaper known to be published in the village was the *Salado Newsletter*. Published by E.W. Billings, the first edition came out on August 25, 1874. Only one copy of the newspaper exists at the newspaper collection of the University of Texas at Austin.

The Grange published another newspaper, *The Texas Farmer* in Salado, but it was later moved to Dallas.

Reference to a third Salado newspaper has been found on a letterhead in the Rose Papers at the University of Texas at Austin. The *Salado Sentinel* was published by A.S. Hornbeck. No copies of the *Salado Sentinel* are known to exist today.

Salado Village Voice founder Dayton Kelley was a native of Bell County, a journalist and a historian. He taught journalism at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor for 12 years before accepting a position as Director of the Texas Collection at Baylor University in Waco. After Dayton passed away, his sons Dennis and Bill ran the *Salado Village Voice*, selling it to the Fleischer family in 1988.

Since the Fleischer family purchased the newspaper, a week has not passed that the newspaper has not published. *Salado Village Voice* has published the quarterly magazine *Salado: A Jewel in the Crown of Texas* for more than 30 years.

Visit saladovillagevoice.com for breaking news, the latest Calendar of Events and information on many of the events in Salado.

Salado Village Voice was named the first Business of the Year by the Salado Chamber of Commerce in 2002. Marilyn Fleischer was named to the Hall of Fame by the Chamber for 2019.

Tim and Marilyn Fleischer and Royce Wiggin were named 2023 Persons of the Year by the Salado Historical Society for their support of historic preservation.

See You in Salado

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**Fourth Quarter 2024
 advertising deadline August 1**

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**Cover photo of Salado Creek
 by Royce Wiggin**

Calendar of Events

July 4

Annual Salado Historical Society Fourth of July Picnic, Salado High School Cafeteria, 12 noon. Bring a side dish, salad or dessert. Historical Society provides fried chicken and tea. Patriotic music by Salado Community Chorus.

July 8-12

Heritage Country Church Vacation Bible School, 8 a.m.-noon. Open to children ages four to 11. Registration opens in June to the first 100 that sign up. Church is located at 9677 Lark Trail.

July 11

Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Craft Cocktails + Kitchen, 6:30 p.m. Reservations online through eventbrite.com for \$100 (includes tax and gratuity or \$1,000 for annual passport) for five course themed dinner. This month's Destination, Austria.

July 13

Barrow Brewing Blues Festival. Wild Wren, 11 a.m., Jennifer Harold and the Resophonis, 7 p.m., Nonstop Admiral, 8:30 p.m. Others throughout the day.

July 13-14

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

July 19

William Beckman in concert at Johnny's Outback. Gates open at 6 p.m. Hayden Baker at 8 p.m. Advance tickets, \$20; day of show, \$25. Visit johnnystx.com for more information and tickets.

July 20

Salado Legends at Tablerock's Goodnight Amphitheater, 409 Royal St., Salado, TX, 76571. The gate opens at 7:15 p.m., and the performance begins at 8:15 p.m. Salado Legends tickets are \$25.00 for adults, \$10.00 for students (with ID) and \$5.00 for children 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased online at CentraTexasTickets.com.

July 26

Royal Street Art Walk.

July 26

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

July 27

Will you choose Team Cops or Team Robbers?? Cops and Robbers 5K in Salado at Barrow Brew-

ing Co. Sign up today at <https://runsignup.com/Race/TX/Salado/CopsRobbersSalado5K>. This 5K is family, stroller, and dog friendly. It is officially timed by Pro-Fit Event Services. Explore beautiful, historic, Salado, Texas then enjoy a craft beverage at the finish line.

July 20

Salado Legends at Tablerock's Goodnight Amphitheater, 409 Royal St., Salado, TX, 76571. The gate opens at 7:15 p.m., and the performance begins at 8:15 p.m. Salado Legends tickets are \$25.00 for adults, \$10.00 for students (with ID) and \$5.00 for children 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased online at CentraTexasTickets.com.

August 3

Salado Legends at Tablerock's Goodnight Amphitheater, 409 Royal St., Salado, TX, 76571. The gate opens at 7:15 p.m., and the performance begins at 8:15 p.m. Salado Legends tickets are \$25.00 for adults, \$10.00 for students (with ID) and \$5.00 for children 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased online at CentraTexasTickets.com.

August 8

Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Craft Cocktails + Kitchen, 6:30 p.m. Reservations online through eventbrite.com for \$100 (includes tax and gratuity or \$1,000 for annual passport) for five course themed dinner. This month's Destination, Athens, Greece.

August 9

Tracy Lawrence in concert at Johnny's Outback. Gates open at 6 p.m. David Adam Byrnes at 8 p.m. Advance tickets, \$46 general admission, \$76-101. Visit johnnystx.com for more information and tickets.

August 10-11

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

August 22

Pray for Peace community gathering, 6 p.m., Presbyterian Church of Salado, 101 Salado Plaza Dr. Open to all.

August 23

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

August 23

Royal Street Art Walk.

September 12

Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Craft Cocktails + Kitchen, 6:30 p.m. Reservations online through eventbrite.com for \$100 (includes tax and gratuity or \$1,000 for annual passport) for five course themed dinner. This month's Destination, Morocco.

September 14-15

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

September 27

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

September 27

Royal Street Art Walk.

October 5

Sirenafest Kids' Extravaganze, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Pace Park. This is a free event with free booth spaces for vendors/businesses/individuals who will provide kid-friendly activities in their spaces. Alcohol free, family-friendly event. Learn more at <https://www.sirenafest.org/sirena-fest-2024.html#/>

October 5

Masonic District 48 (Bell County) second annual benefit Golf Tournament October 5 at Mill Creek Country Club. To register as a single player (\$100), visit <https://bit.ly/45Wbt9B>. To register a team of four (\$350), visit <https://bit.ly/3rcYyB8>. Entry includes green fees, shared cart and 18 holes of challenging gold on the Robert Trent Jones II designed Mill Creek golf course. The Hole-in-One-Prize is \$15,000 with bonus hole-in-one prizes. Mulligans are \$5 for one or five for \$20.

October 5

Salado Youth Fair Boosters Annual Reverse Raffle, Tenroc Ranch Chisholm Trail center.

October 10

Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Craft Cocktails + Kitchen, 6:30 p.m. Reservations online through eventbrite.com for \$100 (includes tax and gratuity or \$1,000 for annual passport) for five course themed dinner. This month's Destination, Hamburg, Germany.

October 10-13

Texas Angus Autumn Classic Sale, Tenroc Ranch.

October 11-13

Salado Ladies Community

League 45th Christmas in October Jingle Walk. October 11-12, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. October 13, noon-4 p.m. The Jingle Walk allows participants to walk along the Salado "Magic Mile" and shop locally for lovely clothing and unique, one-of-a-kind gifts for everyone on their Christmas list. Each \$30 Passport entitles participants to collect a special gift from each of the participating businesses that are visited during the shopping days. Shoppers who visit all of the participating shops will be eligible for a gift basket with items from business in Salado. There will only be 250 Passports available for this event and may be purchased online starting September 1st. Log onto Central Texas Tickets Website, centraltexas-tickets.com and click on the Salado Christmas in October Jingle Walk event. As a 501(c)3, all proceeds are returned to the community through grants and scholarships. For more information visit our Facebook page.

October 12-13

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

October 15

Salado Chamber of Commerce 20th annual Golf Tournament, Mill Creek Country with after party at Johnny's Steaks and BBQ. Shotgun start at noon. Teams of four, \$40. Individuals, \$125. Register at salado.com.

October 19

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

October 19

Tablerock's Fright Trail, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Thrills and Chills from Classic Tales. Adults, \$10, 12 and under \$5. Tickets at centraltexas-tickets.com or at the gate.

October 26

Tablerock's Fright Trail, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Thrills and Chills from Classic Tales. Adults, \$10, 12 and under \$5. Tickets at centraltexas-tickets.com or at the gate.

October 26

Salado Education Foundation Cattlemen's Ball, Tenroc Ranch.

November 8-10

Highland Games and Scottish Gathering.

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PAGE 9

Salado Legends is having a 31st Birthday!

Performances set July 20 & 27, August 3

*By Thomas Wilson
President, Tablerock Festival of Salado*

It has been 31 years since we had the very first performance of Salado Legends!

Looking back, I am always overwhelmed by how Jackie and Denver Mills were able in 1991 to save the Tablerock Festival, a community theater with a bank balance with \$1.34 in the checkbook. A year later, after a few plays, our bank balance had increased to \$3,000. Jackie's friends at the Institute of Outdoor Theater at the University of North Carolina cautioned her to wait until she had a million dollars in the bank before starting a play. But knowing she would be dead by then, she plunged onward. What could she have been thinking of?

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

At last, the show was meshing. Under the direction of Mike Doggett, the actors, teens and small, wild children were transforming the script into an outdoor musical. The local banks sold tickets for us, all of Mill Creek came out in force and we got rave reviews from local newspapers (and Fort Worth newspapers too...thanks to A.C. Green).

Every year the money from the sale of



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

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

Approximately 5,000 people a year have attended events at Tablerock. The econom-

ic impact of Salado Legends alone was over \$227,424 in 2017 when it was last figured by Institute of Outdoor Drama guidelines.

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

See Tablerock, Page 33



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First Baptist Church

*By Charlene Ochsner Carson
First Baptist Church
with additional information from historical
article by the late Mary Belle Brown
and the late Dories Denman*

The year was 1864. President Abraham Lincoln was steering the country through the third year of the Civil War. The Confederate flag flew over Texas; and Sam Houston, the Governor of Texas, had recently been replaced for his refusal to take the oath of loyalty to the Confederacy.

On May 28th of that turbulent year a group of eleven men and women, under the leadership of Elder W. W. Harris, met in the Chapel of Salado College for the purpose of organizing a Baptist church. One of the three men present was James Lowry Smith formerly from the Independence Baptist Church of Independence, Texas.

Professor Smith had moved to Salado in 1863 to become principal of Salado College, a position he held for several years. This small group of believers named the church Salado Baptist Church of Christ. It was later named First Baptist Church. The Sunday School was organized on October 20, 1878, fourteen years after the organization of the church. Seventy-seven people enrolled on that first Sunday.

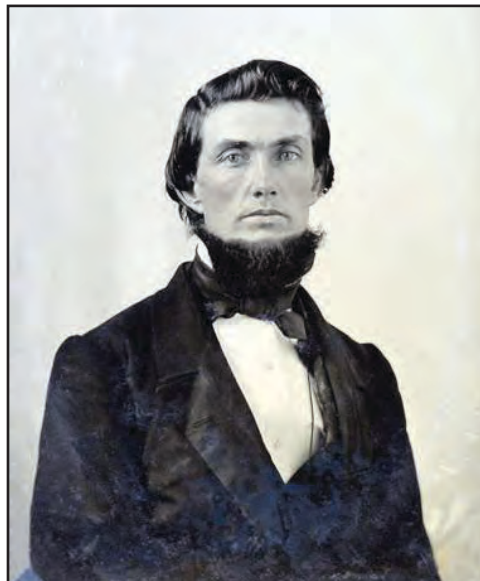
The church met in the Salado College building for a number of years. In May 1877, a committee was named for the purpose of selecting a building site for the erection of a permanent place of worship. The search ended when church member Judge O.T. Tyler donated a choice plot of ground on the north bank of Salado Creek. Another member, Dr. Welborn Barton, purchased and then donated the adjoining lot on the west. Upon the donation of those two lots, church members agreed to move the church to the corner of Salado Creek and Main Street.

A year later, 1878, the first building of Salado Baptist Church was ready for occupancy. It was a wooden, two-story building that had been built jointly by the church and the Masonic Fraternity of Salado. The lodge used the top floor as their meeting place, and the church used the bottom floor. This humble structure would be the first of three sanctuaries that the church would build.

In the beginning, the village of Salado



*First Baptist Church, 2001-Present. The congregation celebrated 160 years on May 26, 2024.
(Courtesy of Maurice Carson.)*



Prof. James Lowry Smith, Principal of Salado College and charter member of First Baptist Church 1864.

(Courtesy of the Smith Family.)

grew around a fine school, known as Salado College. Two well-known educators were members of First Baptist Church. They were Professor James L. Smith, a charter member, and Samuel Jones who was noted for organizing and heading Thomas Arnold High School which replaced Salado College.

Drs. Welborn Barton, J. E. Guthrie, and B. D. McKie were all beloved members of the community as well as First Baptist Church.

Major A. J. Rose was another community leader in the early history of Salado, where he founded the first Grange in the state, and in Texas where he served on the Boards of Trustees of Texas A&M College, Prairie View A&M, Baylor University, and Baylor College for women. He was a Grand Master of Masons in Texas. He was a founding member of Texas Historical Society. Major Rose served as a deacon in the First Baptist Church of Salado.

Other sanctuaries

The second sanctuary, a yellow brick building designed to seat 250 people, was constructed in 1958. The third, a large, beautiful worship center designed to seat over five hundred people, was completed in 2001.

In addition to building three worship centers, the church has also built two education buildings. The first building was completed in 1962 and the latter in the early 1990s.

In July 2013, the congregation voted to purchase the property formerly owned by
See First Baptist, Page 27



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The Salado Saloon was opened for a day in this building. Today, it houses The Nature Co. of Salado. (Photo by Royce Wiggin)

What really happened to the Saloon?

Did infamous establishment stay open just one day?

By Chris McGregor

The most beguiling thing about a legend is how truth tumbles uncertainly into place. It is, at best, an uncertainty, wedged between stacks of hearsay and outright fiction.

At worst, a poof of vapor snaking to the skies.

About legends, some would argue they're best left alone, like ancient relics too fragile to bear the stress of human inspection. Touch too hard, and the whole thing will unravel, like a bundle of yarn hurled through the air.

You can almost hear them now, drooling their dated forbearances. They would say things like "Just let sleeping dogs lie," or "Can't you leave well enough alone?"

Well, to heck with those people.

For at least 100 years, and

probably longer, this little town has carried with it a story of the most sparkling strain, like something straight out of Hollywood.

It is, to be sure, the temperance-heavy tale of the Salado Saloon. It's heroines: six righteous-minded church women bent on swabbing the village clean of iniquitous temptation. Its villain: a crusty barkeep with bad business-sense. In this day and age, that's about as simple as it gets.

For clarity purposes, a story such as this requires strict adherence to the old axiom: begin at the beginning, and so we shall.

There's just one problem with that...know one seems to know where exactly the beginning can be traced to. It's like a line with no starting and end point; an infinite thing whose continuity depends on the consistent invig-

oration of oral tradition.

And to be quite honest, no one seems to know much of anything.

Except for this, which is the generally accepted, sanitized version. At some point in the 19th century, a man rolled into Salado laden with whiskey barrels and beer kegs, with designs on opening a tavern in what is now The Nature Co. of Salado, on present-day Main St. In those days, it was the Old Military Road and stageline. A pretty happening place, for its time.

This put the town in an uproar, so a few of their resolute number drove him off in a very Mahatma Gandhi-like form of non-violent protest. Here's what they did: six women, working in shifts of two, alternated in keeping vigil right outside the saloon. They are said to have worked on their knitting and

read the Bible.

At the mere sight of these upright women, even the hardest of men were powerless to do anything but kick the dirt and try to find a drink someplace else.

Says something of the influence the fairer sex enjoys, doesn't it?

The tavern keeper's response to this skullduggery: he pulled up stakes and headed a few miles down the road, to more hospitable climes. A place that could really appreciate the benefits of his services; some say Bartlett, others Holland.

After that, we get as murky as a creek bottom. Which segues in to the big question: is the story a work of imagination, or, in this case, is truth stranger than fiction?

Depends on who you want to
Story continues on page 40

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2	St. Stephen Catholic Church	C
3	Yellow House B & B	L
5	Salado College Park	V
8	Salado Museum	V
	Salado Chamber of Commerce	\$
	Salado Visitors Center	\$
	Village of Salado Tourism Office	\$
9	Sofi's	S
10	Chupacabra Craft Beer & Kitchen	D

11	Bentons	A
12	FSG Jewelry	A
14	Salado Glassworks	A
15	Provecho	D
16	Salado General Store	S/D
16	Sirril Art Gallery (upstairs)	A
17	Barrow Brewing Company	D
21	The Venue	V
22	The Shed	D
24	Tablerock Amphitheater	V
26	Salado United Methodist Church	C
29	Alexander's Craft Cocktails & Kitchen	D
29	Inn on the Creek	L
30	First Baptist Church	C
32	First Texas Brokerage	\$
34	First Community Title	\$
36	woof	S
40	W.A. Pace Memorial Park	V
44	Prellop Fine Art Gallery	A
48	Mustang Springs of Salado office	\$
48	Nancy Best Realty	\$

49	Salado Square	S
49	21 Main	S
49	Christy's of Salado	S
49	The Local Vine	D
49	Bar 1859	D
52	Solas Gallery & Village Framer	S
58	The Shoppes on Main	S
58	The Marketplace Cafe	D
60	Salado Creek Jewelers	S
62	The Pizza Place	D
64	Griffith Fine Art Gallery	A
69	McCain's Bakery & Cafe	D
70	Wells Gallery	A
76	Salado Civic Center	\$
	Salado ISD Administration Office	\$
81	Salado Wine Seller & Salado Winery Co.	D
82	St. Joseph's Episcopal Church	C
84	Old Town Salado Shopping Center	S
84	Rose & Bee	S
84	Salado Olive Oil Company	S
84	Serendipity Salado	S
86	Village Mill Antiques	S
87	Bill Bartlett - Century 21	\$
90	Presbyterian Church of Salado	C



Residential

HISTORIC SALADO CEMETERY

Historical Markers in Salado

- 92 Salado Sculpture Garden A
- 93 Ashai Health \$
- 96 Salado Village Voice \$
- 100 Salado Public Library C
- 113 Salado Church of Christ C
- 114 Village of Salado Municipal Building \$
- 114 Village of Salado Police Department \$
- 116 Salado Creek Antiques S
- 119 Salado Antique Mall S
- Salado Market Days S
- 127 Axis Winery D
- 130 Village Spirits S
- 136 Salado Schools & Stadium C

- 139 Cedar Valley Baptist Church C
- Not Shown on the Shopping Map
- Don Ringler (Belton) \$
- Garlyn Shelton Auto Group \$
- JayPar Real Estate \$
- Strong Construction \$
- The View at the Creek V
- Thirsty Mule Winery D

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

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

Public Art in Salado

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



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Worship 10am

Wednesday

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Adults Singing 6:30pm

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www.saladochurchofchrist.com

Golf Tourney Oct. 5 benefits local lodges in community work

The Masonic Lodges (A.F. & A.M.) of Bell County are working together for their second annual benefit Golf Tournament October 5 at Mill Creek Country Club.. Registration, 8 a.m. Shotgun start 9 a.m.

Players can now register for \$100 per player. A team of four can register for \$350. Entry includes green fees, shared cart and 18 holes of challenging gold on the Robert Trent Jones II designed Mill Creek golf course.

To register as a single player, visit <https://bit.ly/45Wbt9B>. To register a team of four, visit <https://bit.ly/3rcYyB8>. Mulligans are \$5 for one or five for \$20.

The Hole-in-One-Prize is \$15,000 with bonus hole-n-one prizes.

Sponsorships are the following: Diamond Sponsor, \$1,000; Platinum Sponsor, \$750; Gold Sponsor; \$300; Silver Sponsor, \$200 and Bronze Sponsor, \$100. For information about sponsorships, email district48glot@gmail.com.

Bell County has six Lodges operating under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas: Belton Lodge #166, chartered in 1857; Salado Lodge #296, chartered in 1867. Knob Creek Lodge #401, chartered in 1875; Zerne Lodge #615 was chartered in 1885. Killeen Lodge #1125, chartered in 1917 and King Solomon Lodge, chartered in 1971.

Tournament proceeds benefit the local lodges of Bell County in school scholarships, Fantastic Kids Fantastic Teeth club programs in local schools, and various projects of the lodges in the community.



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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	Vigil 5:30 p.m.
Sunday	9 a.m. English
	11 a.m. Spanish
Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	6 p.m.
Wednesday	8:30 a.m.
Thursday	8:30 a.m.
Friday	noon

FAITH FORMATION

Wednesday 5:30 - 8 p.m.

ADORATION (HOLY HOUR)

Friday 11 a.m.

CONFESSION

Saturday 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. or by appointment



saintstephenchurch.org

First Baptist celebrates 160 years of growth

Continue from page 14

the Salado United Methodist Church. The Methodist church had occupied this choice piece of property, located at the corner of Thomas Arnold Road and Church Street, since 1890. In 2005, the Methodist congregation moved to their new location on Royal Street, taking their historic chapel with them. In 2013, the Baptist church purchased the property and converted the buildings remaining on the property to a youth center. The First Baptist Church Youth Ministry Building provides an adequate and comfortable meeting place for the youth of the church and the community.

Parsonages

On April 13, 1909, church leaders purchased Lots 19, 20, N1/2, 18, and Block 15B from T. C. Caskey. A small cottage

Story concludes, Page 32



Salado Creek Baptism

Baptismal Service in Salado Creek, 1879. Throughout its 160-year history, First Baptist Church has held baptisms in Salado Creek. (Sophia Vickrey Ard Collection)



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SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:30 a.m. Bible Study (All ages)

WEDNESDAY

5:45 p.m. Children's Bible Drill (4th-6th graders)
6:00 p.m. Kingdom Kids (Kinder-6th graders)
6:00 p.m. Student Midweek (7th-12th graders)
6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Contact church office for further information

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The return of the historic Stagecoach Inn

The Stagecoach Inn & Restaurant in Salado originally opened in 1860 and has since become a Texas landmark. As the second oldest, continuously running hotel in the state, this iconic establishment has been a haven for travelers, whether on wagons, horses, or vehicles, for over 160 years.

After taking over management in October 2023, Austin-based management and development company Alexa MGMT, is breathing new life into The Stagecoach Inn and Restaurant, preserving its past moniker and historic charm.

“We are thrilled to be a part of The Stagecoach Inn and Restaurant’s rich history,” said Bree Carrico, Founder of Alexa MGMT. “We are committed to preserving the hospitality and charm that visitors know and love, while also introducing exciting news elements that will enhance the property and ensure it remains a cherished gathering place for generations to come.”

Catering to travelers and locals alike, The Stagecoach Restaurant is a longstanding traveler’s pit-stop and town watering hole, serving Salado locals and passersby since 1947. The restaurant, which will be led by chef Rusty Winkstern, will open in mid-summer and will offer guests breakfast, lunch, and dinner fare. Rusty and his team come from Monument Cafe and El Monumento in Georgetown and have created a contemporary menu where Old Texas tradition meets modern techniques. The Stagecoach Restaurant will keep the fan-favorite hushpuppies and offer new standout items.

The Stagecoach Inn Restaurant is on track for a soft opening in mid-August, with a rollout of the full menu and offerings by Winkstern and crew in the fall.

Named after the local legend Sirena, the mermaid, Sirena’s Cantina is the poolside bar. Guests can lie by the pool, which has provided a respite from the Texas heat since 1960, while enjoying seasonal menu items. The pool is open year-round and is heated to 68°-70° when the temperature is 40°- 50°.

The hotel will offer rooms with a king-size bed, two queen-size beds, and a suite. Each room will include complimentary Wi-Fi, an in-room coffee maker, filtered drinking water, SFERRA luxury linens, bathrobes, and a mini-bar. The hotel is also dog-friendly, so the whole family can enjoy the property.

For those seeking a unique and memorable event, The Stagecoach Inn offers a historic and natural setting that is unparalleled.



(Photo by Brittany Short)

Guests will enjoy the lush landscaping of the pool, which is open year-round, as well as Sirena’s Cantina, the poolside bar that will feature seasonal drinks and menu items.



The original Greek Revival-style inn served such legends as Sam Houston and George Custer. The Restaurant will be under the direction of Rusty Winkstern from Monument Cafe and El Monumento. His team has created a contemporary menu where Old Texas tradition meets modern techniques. The Stagecoach Restaurant will keep the fan-favorite hushpuppies and offer new standout items. (Photo by Brittany Short)

Whether that be a small retreat or a grand wedding, the inn’s rich history and picturesque surroundings create an unforgettable experience. Guests staying on the property can also explore many of Salado’s nearby attractions, including restaurants, wineries, breweries, shopping and more, all within easy reach.

The Stagecoach Inn’s storied halls have witnessed the comings and goings of leg-

ends like Sam Houston and George Custer, and have welcomed generations of guests for over 160 years.

Alexa MGMT looks forward to honoring the property’s history while revitalizing it to accommodate the travelers of today.

For more information on The Stagecoach Inn and Restaurant visit the website and follow along on Facebook and Instagram at @stagecoachsalado.

Music, gatherings and more

Mondays

Salado Senior Center open 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays at 650 Royal St.

Village Artists- knitters, crocheters and stitchers meet, 1-4 p.m. Salado Village Artists' red building behind the Civic Center.

Bikes & Brews, 6:30 p.m. for a no-drop ride, Barrow Brewing Co.

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

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

Tonkawa Chapter Native Plant Society of Texas meeting, 6 p.m., first Monday of month, Barrow Brewing Co.

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

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

Tuesdays

Village Artists- artists and

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

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

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

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

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

Wednesdays

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

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

Wine Down Wednesday at Alexander's Craft Cocktails & Kitchen, 5-7 p.m., Half price on select bottles of wine, featured wine by the glass and feature cocktail specials change weekly.

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

Thursdays

Salado Senior Center open 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursdays at 650 Royal St.

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

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

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

Run Club, 6:30 p.m., Barrow Brewing Co.

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

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

Bikes & Brews, 6:30 p.m. for a no-drop ride, Barrow Brewing Co.

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

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

The Bell County Master Gardener Association holds a free monthly seminar on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, 1605 N. Main in Belton.

Fridays

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

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

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

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

Saturdays

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

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

Live Music at Barrow Brewing, 7 p.m.

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

Sundays

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



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Cops & Robbers 5K July 27

Barrow Brewing Company is hosting another beer-fueled 5K in Salado, Texas on July 27. The Cops and Robbers 5K fun run will start at 9 a.m. at the brewery and take participants up and down Main Street Salado. Runners will finish by crossing over the brewery's pedestrian bridge and running through the finish line. This fun run is open to true runners looking to break their PR, joggers, walkers, strollers, and even dogs (on leashes).

The Cops and Robbers 5K is unique in that participants will choose Team Cops or Team Robbers during registration. Each team will have a unique t-shirt (shirts are guaranteed through July 17). Team Robbers will get a head start so that Team Cops can chase them. For true competitors, actual time begins when each runner crosses the starting line. This race is officially timed by Pro-Fit Event Services.

The Cops & Robbers 5K is raising money for the Salado Police Department. Barrow Brewing Company owner and 5K organizer, KD Hill, asked Salado Police Chief Allen Fields what the Police Department needed. Fields responded that the fleet's AED defibrillators were getting old and new ones



Will you be Team Cops or Team Robbers. Pick one for the Cops and Robbers 5K fun run July 27 at Barrow Brewing Co.

for their vehicles would be useful. A portion of all race registrations will go towards the goal of purchasing new AEDs. People can also donate directly to the fundraiser on the

race registration site: <https://runsignup.com/Race/TX/Salado/CopsRobbersSalado5K>.

Expect to see a few of Salado's finest participating in the fun run on Team Cops!

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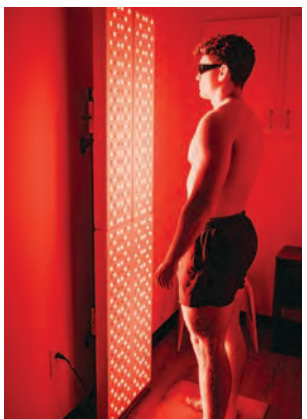

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First Baptist Church marks 160 years in the Village

FROM Page 27

located on this property located on Center Circle was used as the congregation's first parsonage. This property was sold to J. W. McDaniel on January 30, 1924.

In 1954, during the ministry of Rev. Derald Dugger, a parsonage was constructed on the southwest corner of the church property. This building continues in use today.

Church history shows that from the very beginning Salado Baptist Church has been blessed, chosen, and privileged to do God's work in Salado and around the world. During the past 160 years, the congregation has grown in membership from its original eleven members to over 800 members. The church has also grown in the ways in which it serves the community. The Sunday School began with 77 members has more than 300 people each Sunday.



When the First Baptist Church of Salado built its second sanctuary, a yellow brick building designed to seat 250 people, in 1958, the Salado Masonic Lodge #296 took the top half of the original building, built in 1878, and moved it up the hill to its current location on Church St. (Salado Masonic Lodge #296 archive)

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Meet me tonight at Tablerock

From page 10

rooms and a concession building proved insufficient, friends at CenturyLink, the Terry Crawford Family and Jerry Iley donated the remaining funds to build the hospitality room and the upstairs education room. Jackie's husband, Denver, designed and oversaw the construction. The \$125,000 building was completed and paid for with ticket money from plays and donations (no loans) just in time for Salado Legends' 20th birthday celebration. Sadly, Tablerock lost their two greatest benefactors Jackie and Denver Mills in the last few years and they are sorely missed.

Gracious friends and the past 30 years have been good to Tablerock, and Tablerock has been good for Salado. Sadly, we cannot say the same for the weather which has racked thousands of dollars in damage to the Ta-

blerock Park and Goodnight Amphitheater by damaging trees, buildings, park signage, and the auditorium seating in the last two years. If you would like to help Tablerock Festival of Salado to bring itself back to its full potential and beauty, consider a donation to the Tablerock Restoration fund by sending your donations to Tablerock Festival of Salado, P.O. Box 312 Salado, TX 76571.

Tablerock does not just need financial donations but most importantly we need you as a volunteer. Think about what role you would like in the next Tablerock production. Maybe you would like to make costumes? Control the spotlights? Sing or dance? Manage backstage, teach students, or even direct a Tablerock production. We have a place for you and your family to volunteer your talents.



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

Performances of 2024 Salado Legends are July 20, July 27 and August 3 at Tablerock's Goodnight Amphitheater, 409 Royal St., Salado. The gate opens at 7:15 p.m., and the performance

begins at 8:15 p.m. Salado Legends tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for students (with ID) and \$5 for children 12 and under.

Tickets can be purchased at CentralTexasTickets.com.

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Designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr., Mill Creek is suitable for all levels of play. (File photo)

20th Annual Salado Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament tees off Oct. 15 at Mill Creek

Registration is now open for the 20th Annual Salado Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament. The tournament will be held on October 15, at the Mill Creek Country Club in Salado, with the after party at Johnnys Steaks and BBQ.

A portion of the proceeds of the tournament will be donated to the Salado Education Foundation, an organization committed to helping Salado high school students pursue higher education through various scholarships.

“We are pleased to announce The Platinum Title sponsor, R&R Roofing, Belton, Texas, and Silver Sponsor, Heights Lumber and Supply, Harker Heights, Texas,” said Chamber Executive Director Amanda Orgin.

The event will kick off with the popular Helicopter Ball Drop, sponsored by Horizon Bank, Salado. Kachemak Bay Flying Services will soar above the greens, releasing over 1,000 numbered golf balls. The ball landing nearest to hole will

hold the winning number and a grand prize of \$1,000. Ticket sales are open to the public and can be purchased at salado.com or at the event. The cost is \$10 per ticket or \$20 for five tickets. Flyover and ball drop will be at 11:30 a.m. on the day of the tournament.

The tournament includes a Hole-In-One challenge, sponsored by Don Ringler Automotive in Temple, offering a chance to win \$20,000 towards the purchase of a new vehicle.

The tournament will begin

with a shotgun start at noon immediately following the Helicopter Ball Drop. Teams of four can register for \$440, and individual player registration is set at \$125.

Food and drink will be provided throughout the day by the Hospitality and Beverage sponsors, First Community Title, Jack Hillard Distributing and various tee-box hosts.

Lunch will be provided by Nancy Best Realty.

To become an Exclusive Tee-See *Golf Tourney*, Page 36

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Sand and water are at play on most of the holes of the Robert Trent Jones, Jr. designed Mill Creek Golf Course. (file photo)

Golf journey

Story continued from Page 34

To become an Exclusive Tee-Box sponsor please visit the events page at salado.com.

Post-tournament, players, sponsors and ticket holders are invited to unwind at Johnny's Steaks & BBQ for an after-party sponsored by R-Bank and Temple Tax, featuring dinner and prizes. This after party event is also open to the public and tickets can be purchased online at salado.com.

About Mill Creek Golf Course

Mill Creek Golf Course is a 27 hole course in Salado, Texas, designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr., with incredible views including tree-lined fairways and Salado Creek. The course is suitable for all levels of play.

About Salado Education Foundation

Salado Education Foundation emerged from a pursuit to inspire and support the Salado ISD community and a desire for actions to speak louder than words. Established in 1999, they are an organization driven by bold actions and a strong foundation of support and passion

for the students and educators at Salado ISD. They provide scholarships for Salado High School students through donations from local donors and the annual Cattleman's Ball each October.

About The Village of Salado

Nestled on Interstate I-35 between Waco and Austin, Salado, Texas, was an original stagecoach stop and the site of the first co-educational college in the State. Founded in 1859, the village was established by Scottish settlers attracted by its abundant springs and fertile land. Today, Salado is renowned for its vibrant arts community and serves as a hub for unique shopping, dining, and lodging experiences.

About Salado Chamber of Commerce

The Salado Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to enhancing the business landscape in Salado and its surrounding areas. It actively promotes member businesses, fosters leadership development, and advocates for business growth.

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Blues Festival features local talent July 13

Barrow Brewing is hosting their first Blues Festival featuring Central Texas Blues musicians on July 13.

Nate Biddy, Barrow Beertender and a musician himself, has spearheaded the event. He hopes guests will be inspired by the rich talent of Blues musicians. "Blues is something everyone can enjoy and fits with the family-friendly vibe of Barrow," Biddy said.

The first Band will take the Don Ringer Stage at 11 a.m. during the Salado Farmers Market. Wild Wren is an Alternative Blues Rock Band hailing from Austin. They are a tour de force with their stage presence, bravado, sophisticated yet aggressive song-writing style, soaring vocal melodies, and searing fuzz guitar work.

The music will shift into the taproom during the heat of the day with two performances TBD. Once the sun goes down, Jennifer Harrold and the Resophonics return to the stage at 7 p.m. This is a heavy hitter steeped in Texas Blues Standards with a powerful stage presence. Harrold is known for her heart gripping originals.



Wild Wren will take the stage at 11 a.m. July 13 during the Salado Farmers Market. They are an alternative blues rock band from Austin. (Courtesy photo)

The final band will take the stage at 8:30 p.m. Nonstop Admiral is an Alternative Blues/Indie Rock band that creatively navigates the two styles. Led by Craig Kierce and his passion filled lyrics, this is a show you do not want to miss.

The Blues Festival at Barrow Brewing is free to attend. There will be food trucks on site. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets to spread out on the beautiful brewery grounds.

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The Salado Saloon That Didn't Stay

Story continued from page 22

believe. First to the writers, and in particular, the one that bears the most credit for sculpting the story's features into their definitive form. Her name was Kate Alma-Orgain, a one-time professor at Salado College.

In 1901, she published a "A Waif From Texas," a collection of short stories that deal primarily with Salado's past. Most of the stories are quite easy to pass over.

All but one. Titled "The Saloon That Didn't Stay," it is the most thorough account of the saloon incident. All later stories that reference the saloon - and there have been several - draw heavily on Orgain's work as their source. That's not necessarily a good thing.

"The town had always been for temperance and no one would ever think of trying to put up a saloon there, anyway," Orgain writes. But before anyone knew

it, Salado was "declared 'wet,' and the man with [the] saloon had come."

Although she doesn't give her story a specific date, the reference to the county being declared wet does help. After 1867, it was made legal for alcohol to be sold within the borders of Bell County. Orgain herself joined the Salado College faculty no later than 1868, but was likely on board some years before then.

Now's the perfect time for a little more history. Salado College opened its doors in 1860, operating on a 20-year charter. At the time its board of regents, all men who figure prominently in Salado's early development, wrote a letter to the Texas Legislature requesting a special act making it illegal to sell alcohol within six miles of the college.

In those days, apparently, lawmaking took a good deal of time, for it wasn't until Septem-

ber 26, 1866 that the Legislature acquiesced to the request of the board of regents. Interestingly, the law also prohibited billiards rooms and ten-pin alleys, both of which were thought to be detrimental to character. Violations carried a \$50 to \$100 fine, a weighty sum for the day.

Col. E.S.C. Robertson, the man who founded Salado in 1859, included in every sale of land a clause that stated if spirits were to be sold in quantities of less than a quart, then the property would return to its original owner, i.e. Robertson. That the little town did not want anything to do with alcohol is abundantly clear.

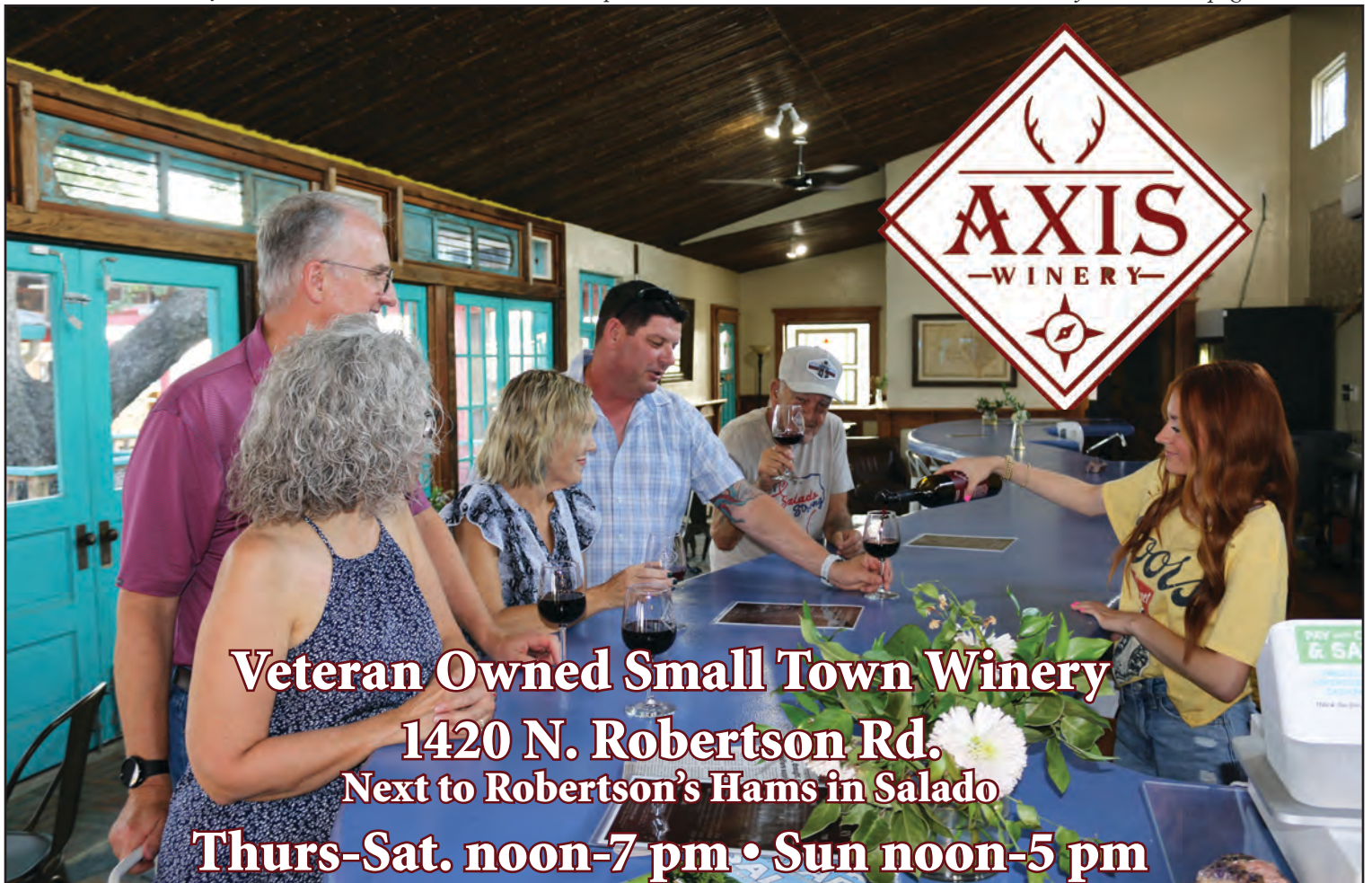
Records of the time show that Salado's population in 1867 could have numbered around 600, with the stagecoach making three stops a week. With that much activity, it would have made a sumptuous location for a tavern, whether the locals

wanted one there or not.

Which was exactly the saloon-keeper's logic. Orgain continues by saying that, despite the exhortations of the locals, the man would not be dissuaded from his plans. They even called a town meeting, with the express purpose of demonstrating their opposition, which was done. Still, the saloon-keeper refused to waiver, for as Orgain writes, "he had the lawful right to do it, and who could stop him?"

Apparently six determined church women could. On his very first day of business, the women performed their sit-in. Not a single soul entered the saloon. The man knew he had lost, and conceding defeat, closed up shop and went elsewhere. Out of spite, he is said to have reopened his tavern in a not so subtle jibe at the ascetic village which had drummed him out, dubbing his establishment

Story continues on page 42



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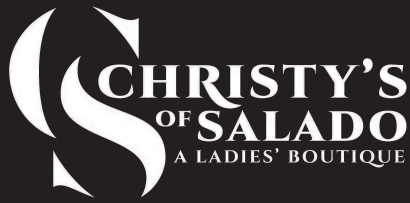
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Salado Saloon moves to Holland

Continued from page 40

"The Salado Saloon."

OK, enough of Orgain. We move now to E.M. Hutchens, another writer of Salado antiquity. He, almost out of obligation it seems, also gives his version of the saloon incident in his book "Tales of Old Salado." Hutchens was a trained journalist, having attended the University of Texas. Born in Bartlett, he resided in Salado from 1921 until his death in 1979, collecting stories for his book from old-timers all those years.

Although he states in the beginning of his work that he writes "after the Herodotean Method," meaning the stories are completely reliant on first-hand accounts, his tales tend to bear the stamp of sensation. Departing a bit from Orgain, Hutchens dates the saloon incident as 1882, saying at that time "the fact that the town was protected by law from such acts was all but forgotten."

And he might be right. Robertson, a man who left his fingerprints on every aspect of Salado's development from its founding until his death, passed away in 1879. Ultimate control of college land was diverted to his estate, and it is possible that, although a particular law was on the books, its enforcement might have been, at best, a bit lax. Also, in 1882, a corporation of Saladoans formed and purchased seven acres of college land from the Robertson heirs, which could have rendered null the legislature's earlier ban, the original charter having expired two years prior.

Aside from the discrepancy in dates, the stories of Hutchens and Orgain are basically the same, both sticking to an identical set of details.

Hutchens, though, goes one step further. He writes of earlier saloons operating in the 1860s, one named Noah's Ark and the other Tam's Teepee. These stories could be the result of some mischievous old-timer indulging an eager journalist flat itching for a good story. But then again, they might also be true, for, as Hutchens says, in the first decade of Salado's founding, "rule of rum and whiskey was rampant."

Two less-publicized scraps of evidence also seem to support the

existence of a saloon. One comes from a lady named Maggie Abercrombie, who published a short, informative story in 1880 titled "A Sketch of Bell County." She doesn't devote too much space to Salado, but she does say this: "Salado has five flourishing business houses, one saloon, blacksmith shops, seven mills, one fine stone college building and many handsome dwellings." Can't get much more clear than that.

The old colonel, the ubiquitous Robertson himself, contributes the other source. Writing home to his wife while serving in the Civil War in October 1863, Robertson states that he has heard through the grapevine that "Armstrong had closed his tavern in Salado," because he no longer trusted Southern currency. The "Armstrong" he refers to was W.B. Armstrong, who owned land where Stagecoach Inn sits.

Sound contradictory? Well, it is, in every sense of the word. The fact that the man who was single-handedly responsible for the prohibition of alcohol in Salado is documented referencing a drinking house - in a fashion that almost was lamenting - is nothing if not a conundrum.

The late Dr. Malcolm McLean, a direct descendant of Col. Robertson and a man who spent decades archiving his life, said that growing up, he had always heard the saloon story from his family, but was not acquainted with any of the particulars. Everyone in town just assumed it was true.

He did, however, say that research done into the Robertson family papers by his wife, Margaret Stoner McLean, did not turn up any evidence of property ever reverting back to Robertson because the owner had sold alcohol on it. Perhaps in this respect, Robertson operated on a type of nod-nod, wink-wink arrangement.

But as everyone knows, you can't have the affirmative without the contrary, so here it is. In an oft-reproduced quote from a U.S. soldier in July 1869, Salado is referred to as being "impressed upon my mind as being the first teetotal, 'sure enough,' 'total abstinence' village that I ever visited." It is also widely reported that if a soldier's radar

Story concludes page 46



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

Volksride rolls October 19

The Barrow Volksride is the third Saturday in October in Salado. In 2024, it will be on October 19.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Riders must register by September 30 to receive the souvenir t-shirt. They are the softest shirts with a design you will be proud to wear year-round. All registrants will receive a pint and hot pretzel, redeemable by tags on their bib numbers. This event is rain or shine. There are no refunds but registrations can be transferred.

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

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



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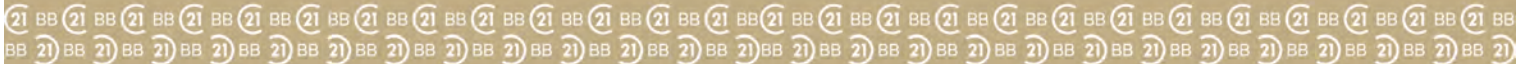
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Salado: a tee-total town in 1869

Story continued from Page 42

can't detect alcohol, it simply isn't there.

The thing that most condemns the legend is not something that was written, but, conversely, something that wasn't written. George W. Tyler, son of Salado's first mayor, O.T. Tyler, spent years writing a comprehensive history of Bell County, which was not published until 1936, long after he had died. He spares no detail in his history, and speaks of Salado extensively.

Not a single pen-stroke, however, is committed to mentioning the saloon incident, which, had it happened, Tyler undoubtedly would have been aware of. So why didn't he include such a conversation-generating tidbit in his history? There are two possible explanations. Being a Saladoan from the early days,

Tyler understandably speaks very highly of his hometown, and, in a bit of historic editorializing, he might have seen fit to omit anything that could reflect poorly on the village in the eyes of posterity.

Or it could be that the whole caboodle is nothing but an imaginative contrivance, completely unharnessed from fact.

"Personally, I think it probably did happen," says Karen Kinnison, whose family owned old stone building for 60 years.

Charlene Carson, who recently published a book detailing the history of the First Baptist Church of Salado, sifted through stacks of church documents, and uncovered references to a lady's prayer group in the 1880s. But, she says, "There was no mention of the saloon story in the records. I really was kind of looking for it, and had

I found anything, it would have been in the book."

Salado was not without its wild-and-woolly aspects, however. In 1925, third generation Saladoan "Archie" Willingham gave an interview to the Dallas Morning News, relating the early days of Salado. He tells of the apprehension of the women and children when "wild gangs of frontiersmen came to town." He goes on to say that, "Let me tell you how wild Salado was then...I remember a fight which occurred right here...on the main street...I saw Wild Tom bite off a man's ear and spit it in the street..."

By all indications, this event probably took place somewhere between 1875-1887, when Willingham was a young man. Sufficient to say that people don't go biting off one another's appendages when they're stone-cold

sober. Food for thought.

This much is certain: if there ever was a saloon incident, it probably took place prior to the 1890s, in what would have been Salado's hay-day. The village's regional importance plummeted precipitously in the 20th century, mainly due to the closing of the college in 1885, and the death knell: being passed over by the railroad. It simply would not make much sense for a man to open a bar in a town that was drying up in more than one respect.

Outside of that, the whole thing is open to interpretation. Like any great legend, it's like clay, its shape can represent whatever it needs to, facts or no facts.

And like any legend, its permanence rests in its blurry details, like a giant fog. Don't look for it to lift anytime soon.



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