

# Salado Village Voice

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50¢

## 5 vie for 2 SISD spots

Five candidates for Salado Independent School District (SISD) Board of Trustees drew for position on the May 13 ballot as follows: Barry Shilling, Jeff Kelley, Nolan L. Kinsey, Miriam Ervi and Marilyn Salisbury.

Salado Village Voice neglected to list Shilling

in the March 16 article.

The Salado Chamber of Commerce will sponsored a Candidate Forum before early voting begins. The Chamber has tentatively set the forum for 7 p.m. April 27 at the Salado Civic Center. All candidates will be invited to attend.

Early voting will begin 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. May

1 and continue weekdays through May 9 at the Salado Civic Center. May 2 and May 9, early voting will be 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Election day, the polls will be open 7 a.m.-7 p.m. May 13 at the Salado Civic Center.

April 13 is the last day to register to vote in this election.

## TransTexas opponents to hear from candidates

Three candidates for Texas governor will speak during a Blackland Coalition meeting 7-9 p.m. March 24 at the Seaton Star Hall five miles east of Temple on Highway 53. Democrat Chris Bell, Independent Carole Strayhorn and Independent Kinky Friedman have all committed to speaking at the event, which will be open to the public.

Gov. Rick Perry has not responded to an invitation to attend.

The candidates have all been invited to speak on the issues and impact of the proposed TransTexas Corridor and eminent domain. Time permitting, a limited number of written questions from the audience will be addressed.

In addition, Blackland Coalition, a group organized in opposition to the TransTexas Corridor, will present information regarding the status of the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) and the process for filing comments and objections by the public.

Seaton Star Hall SPJST will open at 5:30 p.m. with barbecue and refreshments will be sold. Meeting begins at 7 p.m.

Blackland Coalition is organized to educate, protect and defend Texans against the TransTexas

Corridor. Request for membership and donations may be sent to P.O. Box 746, Holland, TX 76534. Donations should be payable to "Blackland Coalition."

Blackland Coalition PAC is a Political Action Committee formed to provide financial and political support for candidates that oppose the TransTexas Corridor. Request for membership and donations may be sent to P.O. Box 746, Holland, Texas 76534. Donations to the PAC should be payable to "Blackland Coalition PAC."

The meeting March 24 is not one of the official public hearings that the Texas Department of Transportation will conduct on a narrowed study area and other alternatives for the TransTexas Corridor-35 will be held once work is completed on the draft environmental impact statement. TxDOT announced in February that it would conduct the official public hearings when the work on the draft environment impact study is complete.

TxDOT also announced that the environmental impact study would be available at the TransTexas Corridor website [www.keeptexasmoving.org](http://www.keeptexasmoving.org) and at community libraries in the proposed

areas of study. To date, the impact study has not been posted to the website, nor is it available at the Salado Public Library.

TxDOT will also notify elected officials, regional transportation planning groups, property owners and other interested individuals and groups of the draft statement's availability.

The Texas Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Federal Highway Administration, has identified areas in the draft statement to be expanded with additional documentation. The 4,000-page draft environmental impact statement will identify a 10-miles wide study area and include information on items such as natural and cultural resources.

"We want to do this right. It takes time to conduct a thorough analysis," said Michael Behrens, executive director of TxDOT, in February. "It's hard to predict the timing of things but we hope to have the draft statement available for public review within the next three to six weeks."

More than 50 public hearings throughout the study area are tentatively scheduled to begin in May. A list of hearings

SEE TTC, PAGE 9A



Jessie and Wilbur Foster were honored at the Salado Civic Center auction March 18 at Salado Intermediate School. According to Lloyd Parks, auction chairman, the event netted an all-time high of \$16,490. More than 200 people attended the event. (PHOTOS BY MARILYN FLEISCHER)



David Matthews displays a watermelon wagon auctioned by Bill Hall (background).

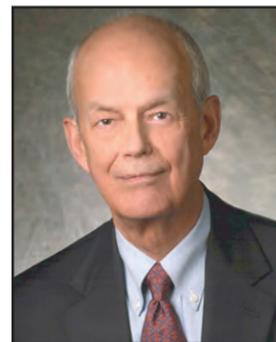
## Former NSA director Inman to speak at Salado Institute

The man who has made a career in both national intelligence and high tech business ventures will discuss America's future direction 4-6 p.m. March 26 at the Celebration Center in Salado. Former National Security Agency Director and Deputy CIA Director, Admiral Bobby Inman, will speak as part of the Deepening the American Dream spring lecture series sponsored by the Institute for the Humanities.

Retired Adm. Inman currently holds the LBJ Centennial Chair in National Policy in the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas. Most recently, he was acting Dean of that school.

Admiral Inman, USN (Ret.), served in the U.S. Navy from November 1951 to July 1982, and was the first naval intelligence officer to achieve a four-star ranking. During his career, Inman was director of naval intelligence, vice director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, director of the National Security Agency and Deputy Director of Central Intelligence.

After retirement from the Navy, he



Ret. Adm. Bobby Inman

spent four years as Chairman and CEO of the Microelectronics and Computer Technology Corporation (MCC) in Austin, one of the companies that helped shape the future of the high-tech industry in Central Texas. Admiral Inman also served as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Westmark Systems, and as Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas from 1987 through 1990.

One of Admiral Inman's primary activities since 1990 has been guiding and investing in start-up technology companies. He is a member of the Board of Directors of several public and privately held companies including San Antonio-based SBC Communications Inc. and Austin-based Temple-Inland Inc. Inman is also

managing director of Inman Ventures.

Admiral Inman graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1950, and from the National War College in 1972. He became an adjunct professor at the University of Texas at Austin in 1987. He was appointed to his current post as a tenured professor in the LBJ School of Public Affairs in August 2001.

He serves as a Trustee of the American Assembly and the California Institute of Technology. He is a Director of the Public Agenda Foundation and is an elected fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.

Through its series on Deepening the American Dream, the Institute for the Humanities is examining who we are as a nation, how we are living out the hopes and dreams of our founders and what we can do to make our country better.

The final presentation in the Deepening the American Dream series will be Dr. Patricia Limerick, who will speak on "Pride Without Vanity: Patriotism in the 21st Century."



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### Give Blood Today

Salado High School National Honor Society will host a Scott and White blood drive 9 a.m.-2 p.m. March 23. E-mail [sshobe@saladoisd.org](mailto:sshobe@saladoisd.org) to register for a time slot. All donors will receive a free t-shirt and basketball squeeze a free small #1 combo from Schlotzsky's and a chance to win a basketball party basket.

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# FORUM

## An Open Exchange of Ideas



### Will the Democrats go nativist?

In their opportunistic rage over the Dubai ports deal, Democrats might find more than a transitory political advantage. The ports controversy is a road map to something the Democrats desperately need: a politically salable, post-9/11 national-security policy.

Nattering on about how important it is to listen to the U.N. and France has been a loser. Nor has the party's incoherence on the Iraq War -- in favor of it when it seems politically expedient, sort of against it when it doesn't -- gotten it anywhere. But the successful posturing on the Dubai deal points the way toward a thematically consistent foreign policy that could be popular, even if it is tinged with isolationism and nativism.

The Democrats' chief constituency for protectionism, the unions, has been fanning the port controversy. Protectionism has usually not been a winner in American politics, but it gains punch when it is coupled with a suspicion of the Arab world.

Democrats can capitalize on this dynamic on another matter: energy independence. President Bush acknowledged the political power of this issue by making a bow to it in his State of the Union address. But Democrats are more naturally positioned to support the taxes, regulations and subsidies necessary to try to wean us off foreign oil, and then demagogue anything short of their policies as a sop to "George Bush's friends, the Saudis" -- America's most-hated ally outside of France.

Then there is Iraq. With the state of the country still chaotic, it will be more tempting now for Democrats to ask: Why are we spending blood and treasure on the welfare of people in a faraway country of which we know little -- except, perhaps, that they don't seem capable of getting along?

Put this all together and you get a national-security policy based on doing

### Rich Lowry



more to seal ourselves off from the world; spending more on homeland security, including the ports; emphasizing our independence from Gulf sheikdoms; and forswearing serious attempts to reform Arab countries.

President Bush would be left with the politically delicate task of explaining why we need to go out of our way to court some Arab allies, even if they are imperfect, and why trying to liberalize the perpetually tumultuous Middle East -- rather than turning our backs on it -- is so important. There are problems with Democrats adopting this approach. It would be irresponsible, and there are some Democrats left -- Sen. Joe Biden comes to mind -- for whom that still matters. It would reject the post-World War II Democratic tradition of internationalism, to which the party (thankfully) still has a reflexive commitment.

Finally, Democrats would inevitably mix their message. They can't be the homeland-security party and oppose the Patriot Act and the National Security Agency eavesdropping program. They can't be the hardheaded, let's-take-care-of-our-own party and still be best friends with the global elite at Turtle Bay and Davos, Switzerland.

But the Dubai controversy has to be satisfying for Democrats, and with opportunism knocking, they will be tempted to answer.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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## Special school finance session set for April 17; Court vows to close schools if lawmakers fail

Now that the "ho-hum" excitement of the recent primaries are over, Governor Rick Perry has finally set the date, and stage, for what may be the most explosive special session in decades. **April 17 will see legislators return for their fourth called session** to try and untangle the mess they've made of public school financing over the years.

They aren't returning to work out of selfless altruism, but under direct orders from the State Supreme Court to correct how schools are funded, since the current dependence on property taxes has been deemed unconstitutional.

**Hopefully "four" will be the magic number**, because if it isn't, the Court will "freeze" all state education funds, which in effect shuts down the State's 1,037 school districts, at least until the legislature eventually raises enough money to "legally" (and properly) finance our system of public education. Deadline is June 1, 2006.

### DANGER AHEAD

Should the Court be forced to close schools, the climate in Texas will become charged with political danger for all statewide office-holders, starting first with Governor Perry. It is almost certain that if he fails again this year, it'll be curtains for his dream of an historic ten year tour of duty as our chief of state. Legislators are also goosey about the upcoming session, for failure will hurt them in November, same as the Guv.

### SCHOOL FINANCE QUANDARY

The dire warning from the Supreme Court at the end of last year, came after two regular and three special sessions failed to resolve the school funding quandary. Old "Crazy Hair" Perry, with an eye on the '06 primary season, immediately pledged to call the Legislature back into action, **after the primaries ended!**

Meantime, Perry appointed a "Special Tax Reform Commission" to suggest "ways and means" of financing public schools that meets the mandated reform order from the high court.

The "Commission", chaired by Democrat (and full-time gubernatorial wannabe) John Sharp, was scheduled to present their recommendations to the Legislature this week. However, for some unexplained reason, that meeting was postponed and will be rescheduled (date and time pending).

Commissioners are expected to recommend that the maximum school property tax be reduced; that **all Texas businesses** pay their "fair" share of the franchise tax; add a buck a pack to cigarettes; and swipe a billion or more from the \$4.3 billion treasury surplus. This in addition to the \$1.9 billion "education set aside" created by the 79th Legislature.

**To meet the court mandated school finance reform plan, some six billion additional education dollars will be needed.**

Watch for a tug-of-war between all state agencies that need (or want) more funding, as each tries to grab a handful of the surplus bucks during the session.

### SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION?

Just so the public isn't left without anything to worry about during the special session - **look for a "move to consolidate many of our smaller schools."** This has always been avoided by lawmakers as a deadly "third rail," but may be used this year

### Off the Record by Ken Clapp



as a "ruse" to raise consumer taxes while "short-sheeting" the promised "fair" franchise tax.

That's an old legislative trick, much like the magician who uses "misdirection" to mystify us. Lawmakers first raise the consolidation issue (along with citizen ire), and then shoot it down - thus placating upset voters, while slugging them with something even more onerous than the property tax.

Research, by anti-tax legislative and business conservatives, has determined that the "optimal" size for school districts to be 6,000 students. What these self-promoters fail to mention is that nearly 85 percent of all Texas school districts (877 of 1037) have less than 5,000 students each. Easy to see how consolidation can create parental chaos on the home front.

### WARINESS NEEDED

Keep an eye on key special session players, including old "Rick the Reluctant" Perry who must produce or be clobbered in November (probably by Strayhorn). Also the nearly 100 anti-tax GOPers in the Legislature (led by the devious House Speaker Tom Craddick), **who care more for tax cutting than school funding.**

The latter group will weasel around and get some sort of business-protected, consumer tax passed and hope to mollify the court. **It won't work.** The courts will hold lawmaker's feet to the fire in this historically mandated special session.

**Going to be a legislative gathering worth watching - with extreme wariness!**

### SPRINT'S NEW NAME

Sprint telephone customers recently received a note reporting the company's name change. The current Sprint operation will no longer be part of the "Sprint-Nextel family of companies" and will forthwith be called "Embarq."

We called the toll free info number and found that a "new" Sprint will handle the wireless end of the business, and Embarq the home phone services. Embarq, they said, means only that they are "embarking" on a new venture.

Our only hope is that Embarq does not "venture" into what AT&T did when they re-joined Southwestern Bell and **immediately announced a phone rate hike.**

And don't try to figure out why AT&T was so monopolistic some years ago that it had to be broken into "Baby Bells," and today is allowed to consolidate into a "new" and more mammoth monopolistic corporation!

### MAGNIFICENT WORDS

We've placed in today's column a special item from outside the world of politics. It's the Special Olympics Oath and after a quick glance, followed by a some thoughtful reflection - we found it to contain words to live by regardless of creed, color, nationality, political leaning, sex, marital status, occupation - in reality, something for everyone.

Here's the pledge: **"Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."**

Whoever came up with those magnificent words needs a "Pulitzer" type award for challenging all of us to be (and do) a little bit better each day, in a world that seems bent on doing-in other groups and/or individuals - either economically, socially, politically, or even spiritually.

That's -30-

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# Progressive Envy

## Class warfare should not determine tax policy

By BYRON SCHLOMACH, Ph.D.

Envy: the desire for others' traits, status, abilities, or situation. It is one of the seven deadly sins. No one would admit to using envy as a top criterion to judge or determine public policy.

Unfortunately, envy is playing a big role in the state's tax debate through complaints that our tax system is "regressive." Every time the Texas Tax Reform Commission has met, the envy industry has been out in force, denouncing the sales tax and calling for an income tax to make others "pay their fair share" of a growing and even more bloated government.

A regressive tax is one that confiscates a greater percentage of low incomes than high incomes. A progressive tax does just the opposite, taxing a higher percentage from high incomes.

Regressivity sounds terrible. It is terrible. The problem is that taxation—and big government—is regressive by its nature, even when a tax is intended to be progressive.

Take the federal luxury tax, for example. Passed in the late 1980s during the President George H.W. Bush administration, it was supposed to tax the rich by taxing new fur coats, planes, yachts, and jewelry. The effect was the decimation of these industries. In turn, many middle and low-income luxury industry employees were thrown out of work.

By the time President Clinton took office it had become clear—even to the envy industry—that the luxury tax cost more in unemployment insurance than it gained in revenue. The people who bore the brunt of the tax were not the rich. They could buy used, shop elsewhere, or do without. Meanwhile, the low and middle-income workers in the luxury industries paid the tax in lost income.

So a tax with the appearance of being progressive was actually regressive. Even the "progressive" income tax is likely to have

regressive effects. That is because high-income individuals do save and invest a lot of their money. That translates into jobs for those with more modest incomes.

Punitive taxes on high incomes therefore cost jobs because less is saved and invested. The regressive nature of such taxes is impossible to forecast, especially when they have long existed, but easy to see after they have taken their disastrous effect on people's lives.

A consumption tax, like our state's sales tax, is alleged to be unduly regressive. It is regressive, but only because it is a tax. One reason it is regressive, though, is because low-income individuals actually do have jobs. Consumption taxes, because they do not directly penalize investment, encourage work and employment in comparison to other taxes, such as income and business taxes.

The Comptroller publishes a study of the state's taxes every two years. Taking economic effects into account, the last four studies show that the state's main business tax—the franchise tax—is more regressive than the sales tax.

And while some might think taxing business goes after the wealthy, they would be wrong. These documents from the state clearly demonstrate that low-income individuals actually bear a greater percentage of the franchise tax's weight than they do the sales tax.

Now, for class warfare profiteers in the envy industry, appearances seem to matter more than economic effects. A supposedly progressive tax will destroy jobs and be insidiously regressive in its effects.

It's time to forego the economic sin of envy and work toward a tax system that truly promotes opportunity and economic prosperity for all. Improvements to the current consumption tax will do just that.

BYRON SCHLOMACH, Ph.D., IS THE CHIEF ECONOMIST AT THE TEXAS PUBLIC POLICY FOUNDATION, A NON-PROFIT RESEARCH INSTITUTE BASED IN AUSTIN.

# FORUM



## More on polling place

Dear Editor:

I want to second everything Jean Westerberg had to say in her letter to the Editor (March 9, 2006) and add a few comments of my own.

I was one of the poll workers last November when the voting took place in the Civic Center and I can guarantee you that it was unacceptable for people to have to stand in those lines and wait over an hour - at least in some cases - to vote. The Civic Center is where I've voted ever since I've lived in Salado, but it's clear that it's no longer adequate for the kind of turnout we had in November 2005. Everyone involved was frayed at the edges by the time voting was over.

On the other hand, the Church of Christ Activities Center has much more room; more voting booths were available and there was a place for a touch screen for those who needed some assistance in marking their votes. Having survived the voting of November 2005 in the Civic Center, I whole-heartedly support using the Church of Christ Activities Center in the future.

On a different note, I think that we all should give a note of thanks to whoever is responsible for choosing the kind of voting machines to be used in Bell County. There are a few ways I'm uncomfortable with the machine used (note below), but when I heard from relatives and friends who voted in places like Tarrant County and in Amarillo, I decided we have a very acceptable system.

In both Tarrant County and Amarillo everyone used a touch screen machine which recorded their vote. An announcement on the machine

## Your Voice

### Letters to the Editor

screen told them they were done voting. They got no paper receipt confirming how they had voted and there was no way of knowing that what they had voted was recorded correctly. In fact, it appears that in the primary the machines in Tarrant County recorded some 100,000 more votes than were actually cast. And it took until late Wednesday before the vote count was known in Tarrant County and in Amarillo until late Thursday when the final count was announced.

Who knows if either one is correct? No voter knew what program was in the machine and what was already recorded on it or how a particular vote would be recorded. What about the other places around the state which used the touch-screen voting machines? If you want to see what kind of problems showed up in Tarrant County, go to the following web site: <http://www.dfw.com/mld/dfw/news/local/14056065.htm>. If you would like to see what kind of problems showed up in the 2004 election, go to the following web site: [www.flcx.com/texas.html](http://www.flcx.com/texas.html). Unfortunately all the biases seemed to favor one party and its candidates over the other.

In the machines used in Bell County, the voter marked the ballot and placed it into a machine which recorded that another person had voted. At the end of the day, there were seven copies of the tallies printed out by that machine and each party official got three copies. Then the machine was opened in the presence of

all officials and the paper ballots were removed and placed into a box. The first copy of the tallies was placed into a box with the paper ballots and that box was sealed and both head officials of the two parties signed the seal. In Bell County we have the paper ballots sealed in a box with seals that can't be tampered with without someone knowing it. Then the card in the machine was removed and placed in a plastic sleeve. This card is much like the one in digital cameras only larger.

The ballots and the card were then taken to the central collection (the Dome) and turned in to be kept in case they were needed. We actually knew the count of votes of precinct 203 within an hour after the polls closed.

The card is the only "fly in the ointment" as far as I'm concerned. We have no idea what was on the card to begin with or how it was programmed to record the voted. But at least if there is a question, there are always the actual paper ballots and the machine printout to check against the results from the card. Those people in Tarrant County and Amarillo and any other place that used only the touch-screen voting machines have, in my opinion, a lot to worry about. They should demand that the touch-screen voting machines be replaced with the type of voting that Bell County has wisely chosen.

Ben Liles  
Salado

## Mr. President, Greenland is melting



Jim Hightower

George Bush's mind seems to operate in a bas-sackward fashion. When there is zero evidence to warrant a presidential rush to action, he plunges dead ahead, facts be damned. Yet, when there is an abundance of evidence on an issue crying out for presidential action, he sits on his duff and does nothing.

As we now know, Iraq had no weapons of mass destruction, had no connection to al Qaida or 9/11, and posed no threat to our nation's security. But there we are, with our soldiers and country mired in Bush's bloody mess. Meanwhile, a new report shows that Greenland is melting in front of our very eyes. But the president blindly insists that global warming is not happening and, therefore the United States should merrily keep pumping out fossil fuel emissions, leaving the entire globe facing a disastrous mess.

Using satellites, a research team from NASA and the University of Kansas has discovered the alarming fact that Greenland's vast glaciers are melting more than twice as fast as they were only 10 years ago. This is no small matter - the Greenland Ice Sheet is up to two miles thick and covers an area nearly as big as Mexico. Over the last two decades, the air temperature over the country's southern glaciers has risen by 5.4 degrees, causing a larger and faster ice melt that, in turn, is causing a worrisome rise in sea levels. In 1996, Greenland lost 22 cubic miles of its ice sheet. Last year, it lost 54 cubic miles.

How much is that? Only one-fourth of a cubic mile of ice would supply all of the water that Los Angeles consumes in a year.

This melt rate mirrors the findings of researchers analyzing other ice sheets, from the Himalayas to Bolivia. This drastic change not only threatens people on seacoasts, but also means the globe will see more and bigger storms.

Would someone please take off Bush's blindfold and tell him to get his butt in gear?

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On any given day, you could talk on a Samsung cell phone, watch a Sony television, take a Bayer aspirin and eat a Nestle Crunch Bar. What do all these products have in common? They're all manufactured by companies based outside the United States. In fact, many of the goods and services you use are internationally based - which gives you an idea of how many investment possibilities there are in the wide world. Are you taking advantage of these opportunities?

If not, maybe it's time you expanded your investment horizons. After all, about half of the world's stock market is made up of non-U.S. companies. So if your portfolio lacks foreign companies, you are likely keeping out many industry leaders in a variety of market

### Financial Focus

by Allen Mantanona



segments. Many foreign companies are among the ten largest within their respective industries, which include airlines, automobiles, banks, life and health insurance, and food and commercial products.

Furthermore, international investing can help you diversify your portfolio. If we enter a recession, many American companies may go through some rough times - and this might show up in their stock prices. But you might be able to blunt the effects of an economic downturn by adding some international stocks to your

holdings. Keep in mind that not all markets move together. So, for example, when the U.S. market is down, the Pacific Rim countries may be up. In fact, foreign markets have outperformed U.S. stocks about half the time over the past 25 years.

A word of caution, however: Don't be fooled into thinking that any one area of the world will be particularly "hot" - from an investment point of view - at any given time. The fact is that any one geographical area may lead the investment world one year, only to fall far down the list the next. And it's almost impossible to predict which country will be up and which will be down. Consequently, you'll want to spread your international investment dollars among a variety of companies, industries and countries.

**Special Risks to Consider**

International investing has some benefits - but it carries some special risks, as well. Political or economic instability, along

with changes in foreign currencies and interest rates, can affect the performance of global investments. Also, foreign market practices and accounting standards can vary widely, and it may be difficult to trade or to obtain relevant information. That's why investments in foreign securities generally have higher expenses than domestic investments.

**Limit Your Holdings - and Get Some Help**

It's almost certainly a good idea to limit your foreign holdings to no more than 10 percent to 20 percent of your portfolio's total value. The exact percentage will depend on a variety of factors, including your risk tolerance, your time horizon and your long-term goals.

And before you buy any foreign stocks, get some help. Most people don't have the time or expertise to really understand all the factors that go into picking foreign investments. But a qualified investment professional can help you make the choices that are appropriate for your individual needs.

You may get to visit many different countries in the future - but your investment dollars can start traveling today. And with luck, they'll send you back more than a postcard.

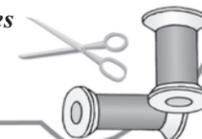
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## If trees could talk!

### Buying and Selling

by Ryan Hodge

Many buyers wisely include a satisfactory home inspection as a requirement of their purchase. However, there is another property feature that is often overlooked when making a purchase decision - the landscaping.

That's right - landscaping is more than just a neatly trimmed lawn and a few flowering bushes. It's

a window into the home's very condition. A careful look at the property around the home can yield valuable information, illustrating potential soil problems, pest infestation, drainage problems, and even structural instability.

Pay extra special attention to ponds or fountains, retaining walls, fences, decks and railings, windows and doors, and trees around and near the home. Try to imagine where all the water goes after a heavy rainfall, and look for signs of its journey around the house.

If there are mature trees in the yard, strongly consider having them professionally analyzed for their appropriateness in your climate zone, their potential age and lifespan, and any problems that may develop from their proximity to the house.

While real estate agents are perfectly capable of diligent visual inspection of a property, they don't act outside their area of expertise. An agent may help point out a potential problem, but that's no substitute for a professional landscaping analysis. The agent is there to be sure that the buyers are educated and able to make an informed decision.

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# New TAIS is unnecessary intrusion; latest form of corporate welfare

At the direction of the Texas Legislature, the Texas Animal Health Commission is trying to implement a Texas Animal Identification System, the first step of which is mandating premises registration with global positioning satellite (GPS) identification of all farms and ranches and requiring bi-annual fees.

This is only the first step. The next step is individual animal identification via radio-frequency identification chips and required reporting within 24 hours of every animal's movement off the farm for any reason (a trip to the vet, to a show, to auction, or to private sale) to a central recording database. The current position is that such central recording organization be privatized, ostensibly to avoid loopholes in Freedom of Information Act requirements. However, a private database will also permit bureaucrats and elected officials to deny responsibility when producers' private data is leaked, hacked, or otherwise compromised.

This program is not about animal health or food safety. It is corporate welfare for big producers who wish to export to Japan, the European Union, and other countries by assuring them that the USA has "disease-free" livestock, poultry, and fish. By requiring all producers to participate in this sham program, big exporters will be able to shift the cost of "proving" their animals' good health onto small producers and the American taxpayer, the latter through the creation of new bureaucracies at state and federal levels. Producers wishing to export should be allowed to set up their own testing facilities at their own expense and prove to their buyers that their products are safe.

Organic growers will be especially negatively impacted through increased costs. Amish and other religious groups will be unable to comply, since using modern electronic tools are not permitted by their religions. For goat producers, specific markets will be lost; some ethnic group buyers require goats that are "unblemished" by even so much as an eartag. The use of electronic implants will effectively kill off that market.

The USA has the safest, most abundant, and cheapest supply of food in the world. We do not have serious or imminently-serious animal health or food safety problems. Policies currently in place catch the occasional problem -- Newcastle's Disease in chickens, BSE in cattle -- and take the

## Other Voices

Commentary by Suzanne W. Gasparotto

affected animals out of the food supply. Further, the diseases being focused upon are not zoonotic -- they are not transmissible to humans but they DO have economic impacts upon producers.

Illnesses like Avian Flu are carried by wild birds which are impossible to control and are not addressed by TAIS/NAIS.

Animal health issues are more likely to appear in crowded and dirty conditions that are more likely to be found in feedlots, slaughterhouses, and restaurants than on farms and ranches of individual livestock producers. The usage of animal by-products in animal feed has been banned in the USA, making the likelihood of BSE-like diseases even more less likely to appear. Taxpayer funds would be better spent instituting improved inspections procedures at slaughterhouses, restaurants, and especially at points of entry where livestock enter the USA from other countries.

Please see Dr. Mary-Louise Zandoni's letter to the USDA. She can be contacted at mlz@slc.com or googled and easily found.

The current TAIS is a one-size-fits-all program. The same RFID chips would be used in all animals, whether they are cattle, horses, goats, or smaller animals, making the costs proportionately higher for producers of

smaller species. Flocks (turkeys, chickens) would be permitted to use flock numbers. In a flock of 100 or 1000 chickens, who could possibly identify individual birds if they were replaced? The distinct likelihood that wild animals and birds will carry disease isn't even addressed. NAIS is not well thought out and has loopholes that are rife for abuse.

TAIS is an invasion of privacy and violation of private property rights. As a goat producer, I will be told at every step what I must do with my animals in order to sell them. TAIS is the agricultural equivalent of the US Supreme Court's Kelo decision that virtually abolished private property rights.

TAIS does nothing to address the safety of imported food that Texans eat. The real threat to food safety is imported meat, fruits, and vegetables grown in foreign countries under conditions unknown to and uninspected by American officials. These products are allowed into the USA without a blink of the regulatory eye.

TAIS will unnecessarily increase the cost of food to consumers because producers cannot absorb \$15.00 (materials and labor) or more per animal without increasing prices for their products.

The proposed system simply will not work. It assumes that any health problem occurs at the animal's original point

of origin. What about contamination and sickness that may well have occurred somewhere along the animal's route to eventual consumption? There will be no way to accurately determine origination of illness or contamination.

The people pushing this program are the large livestock and poultry producers and the companies that make the RFID chips.

The Texas Animal Health Commission has had its budget cut by the Texas Legislature and has been told that it can make up lost funds by charging premises identification fees.

The current voluntary programs in place for identifying health issues in cattle, goats, and other livestock are working. Recent identification of Newcastle's Disease in chickens and BSE in cattle have been traced back to imported some illegally imported) animals and, most importantly, have been found and identified quickly.

TAIS is a program to fix something that isn't broken. It is an unnecessary and unacceptable invasion of individual privacy, personal business, and property rights. And it cannot accomplish the goal that is claimed of it. Tell the Texas Animal Health Commission's commissioners and directors that they should not adopt TAIS regulations and tell the Texas Legislature to rescind TAIS when it convenes in January 2007.

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# Eagles stand at 2-1 in district play

On March 14 the Varsity Eagle baseballers used a pair of big innings to defeat Lexington 10-5

at home. The victory gave Salado a 2-0 record in district. Lexington held a 2-0

lead in this one going into the bottom of the third. The Eagles used a two-out rally to score five runs and

take the lead. Consecutive two-out walks to Jesse Rodriguez, Justin Schiller and Kevin Jackson loaded the bases. Johnny Nix followed with a double to clear the bases and give Salado a 3-2 lead. Josh Shaw and Matt Fritsch followed with their own doubles to extend the lead to 5-2.

After Lexington closed to within one run, at 5-4, in the top of the fifth, Salado plated five more runs in the bottom half of the inning to put the game away. A hit batter and five singles accounted for the runs. Fritsch, Wes Ruth and Tanner Myers drove in runs during the inning, while Jackson knocked in two runners.

Lexington scored a single run in the top of the sixth to bring the score to its 10-5 final.

Jackson, Fritsch and Ruth all had two hits in the game. Jackson was also the winning pitcher. He allowed four hits over six innings of work.

The following day, the Eagles took the field against Troy in a nondistrict contest, winning by a final of 11-8.

Salado jumped out on top early with a two-run homer from the bat of Schiller in the top of the first.

Troy responded by tying the score in the bottom of the second. Salado's Seth Collins then led off the top of the third with a double, and eventually scored on a Troy error to give the Eagles a 3-2 lead.

After the Trojans recaptured the lead with two runs in the bottom of the third, neither team scored in the fourth.

The Eagles gave themselves a bit of breathing room by scoring four runs in the fifth. Fritsch laced a double to lead the inning off. Schiller then tied the game at four runs apiece when he singled home Fritsch. Nix then came to the plate and was promptly hit by a pitch, which set the table for a Josh Shaw homerun that gave the Eagles a 7-4 lead.

Salado added to its lead in the sixth, with Schiller blasting another ball over the left field fence for yet another two-run homer.

In the seventh, Salado pushed across two more runs. Ruth singled and eventually scored on a

passed ball, while Seth Hale also singled and scored on a Collins single.

And the Eagles would need almost all of their runs, as Troy would stage a comeback with four runs in the sixth for the 11-8 final.

Schiller went 3-5 on the day to pace the offense. Collins, Fritsch and Shaw all collected two hits.

Sam Van Hoozer tossed the first four innings to collect the win. Justin Pruitt pitched the fifth and sixth innings. Schiller came on in relief in the seventh to earn the save.

In Salado's district tilt against Florence March 17, the Eagles led the entire way but could not hang on, eventually losing by a 9-8 final.

Schiller was again the catalyst for the Eagle offense. He belted a two-run homer in the top of the first to give Salado a quick 2-0 lead.

After Florence added single runs in the first and second to tie the score, Salado scored four in the top of the fourth to jump back on top. The Eagle runs came on a couple of Florence errors, and singles by Myers, Collins, Fritsch and Rodriguez.

Florence would not give up, though, as the Buffs plated three in the bottom half of the inning to bring the score to 6-5.

Salado would post single runs in the sixth and seventh, with Col-

CONTINUED ON 8A

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## Lady Eagles rout Florence in district win

The Salado Lady Eagle softballers improved to 2-2 in district in 5-5 overall with a 20-4 pounding of Florence on the road March 14.

Though the Lady Eagles would go on to win the game in convincing fashion, Florence would actually hold an early lead. The defenses for both teams made it through the first inning without surrendering any runs, but in the second Salado put a two-spot on the board.

The inning was started when Danielle Hazzard led off with a walk. A double helped to account for the Salado runs.

In the bottom of the second, Florence was able to take advantage of four Salado walks to bring around four runs and take the lead.

In the top of the third Heather Winters lined a one-out double into right-center, which was followed by consecutive singles by Shae Janda and Lauren Culver, as well as a walk from Rachel Stemmer and a single off the bat of Goodnight led to four Lady Eagle runs, as Salado went back on top 6-4.

After Florence went three-up, three-down in the home third, Salado took control of the game with six runs in the fourth. Justine Ferrell-Raborn, Rachel Coffey, Janda, Hazzard, Goodnight and Thompson all had hits in the inning.

Salado would tack on eight more runs in the fifth, and when the Buffs went down without scoring in the home half, the game was called due to the mercy rule.

Janda was credited with the win for Salado, pitching four innings, while striking out six and giving up four earned. Janda also had a big day at the plate, going 3-3 with four runs, two RBI's, two walks and three steals. Hazzard and Goodnight also had three hits.

Previously, on March 13, the Lady Eagles suffered their second loss in district as they were defeated at home by Lexington 14-4.

Lexington broke a scoreless tie in the top of the second by plating a single run, aided by a Salado error.

In the bottom of the second, however, the Lady Eagles struck back with three runs, as Janda led off with a single, stole both second and third and made it home on a passed ball. A walk and stolen base by Ferrell-Raborn, coupled with singles off

the bats of Stemmer and Larissa Ingalsbe led to the Salado runs.

The score would remain 3-1 until the top of the fourth, when Lexington exploded for seven runs to go on top for good. A trio of Salado defensive miscues, two triples and a walk led to the Lexington runs.

Salado would collect its final run of the evening in the bottom of the fifth, as a one-out single by Coffey was followed by a Lexington error and a Janda single, bringing home the run.

Lexington would put the game out of reach with four runs in the sixth and two more in the top of the seventh.

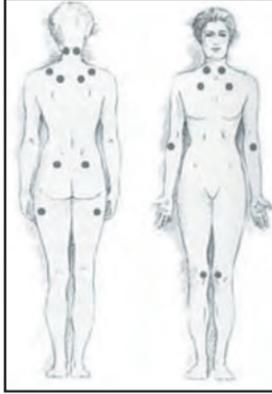
The loss was Janda's fourth of the year on the mound. She went the distance, giving up eight runs. The Lady Eagle offense was paced by Janda, who went 3-3, and Coffey, who went 2-4.

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**SHS powerlifters compete at State**

Two Salado High School girl powerlifters placed at the recent Girls State Powerlifting meet March 17 in Killeen while a boy lifter will compete this week.

Ksee Ashcraft placed third in her weight division with a total lift of 645 lbs. Denise Jasso was fourth in her weight division with a total lift of 785 lbs.

The girls qualified for the State Meet by lifting at the Girls Region 2 meet in Lampasas March

4. The team placed third overall. Girls competing were Ashcraft, Jasso, Jamie Burson and Cheli Urquiza. At the Region 2 meet, Ashcraft placed fourth qualifying with a lift total of 615 lbs. Jasso qualified for the state meet by placing second, lifting a total of 760 lbs.

Salado High Senior Cody Gobin qualified for the Boys State Meet, which will be in Houston on March 25, by placing second in the Regional Meet on March 8.

Eight SHS boys competed at the Regional Meet: Sterling Martin, Trae Liller, Kevin Goodman, Austin Smith, Chance Coe, Jared Quirk, Jesse Rodriguez, and Cody Gobin.

Rodriguez placed fifth in his weight division in the Regional Meet with a total lift of 1,255 lbs.

Gobin placed second in his weight class with a total lift of 1,385 lbs.

Gobin set a regional Dead Lift record with a lift of 560 lbs.

**Upcoming Salado sporting events**

Several Salado sports teams will be in action this week.

On March 24, the Salado Eagle baseball team, off to one of its best starts in recent years with an 11-3 record, will take the field against district rival Jarrell, on the Cougars home field. Junior Varsity games begin at 4:30 p.m., with Varsity to follow.

The Lady Eagle softballers continue their march through district on March 24 as well, as they will also face Jarrell on the road. The Varsity contest is set to begin at 7 p.m.

**Baseball**

**From 6A**

lins hitting a deep shot to lead off the sixth. Seth Hale singled and scored on a bases loaded walk issued to Rodriguez for the Salado run in the seventh.

The Buffaloes scored one and the sixth and came from behind to record three more in the home half of the seventh to secure the victory.

Fritsch led the Eagle offense, going 3-4. Collins, Rodriguez, Schiller, Hale and Ruth all collected two hits each in the game.

Brian Bates pitched the first five and two-thirds innings. Nix was saddled with the loss as he finished the game.

Salado is now 11-3 on the year and 2-1 in District 25AA.

--REPORTED BY MELVIN BATES

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will be posted on the project website as soon as it is finalized. The list was not posted as of press time.

To give the public sufficient time to review and comment on the draft statement, public hearings will be held no sooner than 45 days after it has been made available.

After the public comment period on the draft statement, comments will be addressed in the final environmental impact statement. The final document is expected to be submitted to FHWA near the end of the year.

If federally approved, the narrowed study area, approximately 10-miles wide, would serve as the study area for the route specific environmental studies.

The environmental process to identify a

narrowed study area began in February 2004. To date, 114 public meetings have been held and more than 4,400 comments have been submitted.

TTC-35, which extends from Oklahoma to Mexico, is part of the state's transportation plan to address existing and future transportation needs. A full build out of TTC-35 includes roads, rail and utilities, and will be built when it is environmentally-approved and as financing becomes available.

The proposed TTC-35 corridor generally parallels I-35. The initial study area is approximately 600 miles long, extending from north of Dallas/Forth Worth to Mexico and possibly the Gulf Coast.

Environmental Study Since Spring 2004,

TxDOT has held 117 public meetings to receive public input on possible locations for this corridor. The most recent series of meetings was held in February-March 2005. This phase of the environmental study will result in a preferred corridor no more than 10 miles wide or a no-build option. In Summer 2006, public comments will be accepted at a final series of public hearings to review the findings of the first study phase.

If a preferred corridor is selected, additional environmental studies will be needed to narrow the final alignment.

**Construction**  
No construction contracts have been awarded. In March 2005, TxDOT and Cintra-Zachry signed a comprehensive development agreement for TTC-35. This agreement authorizes a \$3.5 million planning effort only.

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For more information contact the health department's Immunization Department at 254-939-2091.



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will be posted on the project website as soon as it is finalized. The list was not posted as of press time.

To give the public sufficient time to review and comment on the draft statement, public hearings will be held no sooner than 45 days after it has been made available.

After the public comment period on the draft statement, comments will be addressed in the final environmental impact statement. The final document is expected to be submitted to FHWA near the end of the year.

If federally approved, the narrowed study area, approximately 10-miles wide, would serve as the study area for the route specific environmental studies.

The environmental process to identify a

narrowed study area began in February 2004. To date, 114 public meetings have been held and more than 4,400 comments have been submitted.

TTC-35, which extends from Oklahoma to Mexico, is part of the state's transportation plan to address existing and future transportation needs. A full build out of TTC-35 includes roads, rail and utilities, and will be built when it is environmentally-approved and as financing becomes available.

The proposed TTC-35 corridor generally parallels I-35. The initial study area is approximately 600 miles long, extending from north of Dallas/Forth Worth to Mexico and possibly the Gulf Coast.

Environmental Study Since Spring 2004,

TxDOT has held 117 public meetings to receive public input on possible locations for this corridor. The most recent series of meetings was held in February-March 2005. This phase of the environmental study will result in a preferred corridor no more than 10 miles wide or a no-build option. In Summer 2006, public comments will be accepted at a final series of public hearings to review the findings of the first study phase.

If a preferred corridor is selected, additional environmental studies will be needed to narrow the final alignment.

**Construction**  
No construction contracts have been awarded. In March 2005, TxDOT and Cintra-Zachry signed a comprehensive development agreement for TTC-35. This agreement authorizes a \$3.5 million planning effort only.

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**Free vaccines at SUMC April 1**

The Salado United Methodist Church is offering parents the opportunity to update their child's vaccinations for free, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. April 1 at the church, located at 650 Royal Street.

The event is sponsored by the Bell County Health Department.

In order for the shots to be administered, a parent or guardian must be present, and shot records will be needed.

For more information contact the health department's Immunization Department at 254-939-2091.



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**Wednesday**  
 Pot Luck Meal 6:45 pm  
 Praise & Prayer • Missions for children • Satisfy for youth 7:15 p.m.

**First Baptist Church • Main St. at the Creek**

SUNDAY		WEDNESDAY	
Contemporary Worship/Bible Study	9:00a.m.	Fellowship Meal	5:30 p.m.
Traditional Worship/Bible Study	10:30 a.m.	Celebrate Recovery	6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.	Youth Choir	6:00 p.m.
Jr. High Huddles	6:00 p.m.	Team Kid (Age 3 - 6th grade)	6:15 p.m.
Sr High Huddles	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Meeting	6:15 p.m.
		Youth Half-Time	7:30 p.m.

[www.fbcshalado.org](http://www.fbcshalado.org)  
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from Song of Solomon 1:2



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**The Salado Church of Christ**  
 welcomes you to our services this week

**Sunday Morning Service • March 26, 2006**



Today we look at the text of James 2:14-26, the passage that made Martin Luther want to throw out the letter for his impression of its stress on "works" to the neglect of the apostle Paul's stress on "faith." Join us as we see that neither are mutually exclusive of the other in the message "Faith Works!"

**Joe Keyes**  
 Minister

**Sunday**  
 Bible Class • 9 a.m. • Worship • 10 a.m.  
 Evening Worship • 6 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
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 947-5241 • [www.saladochurchofchrist.org](http://www.saladochurchofchrist.org)

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 Wednesday

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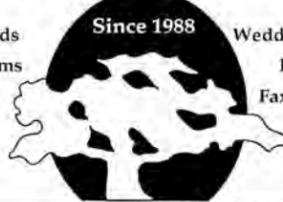
A triple March 10 birthday was celebrated in Salado by LaVerne Gore (72), her son, Jeffrey Gore (44) and her grandson, Connor Cluck (2). LaVerne and her husband, Dale, reside in Salado, and he is the pastor of Elm Grove Baptist Church in Belton. Jeffrey is in full-time Christian Cowboy entertaining and lives with his wife and daughters in Coleman. Connor resides with his family in Dallas. LaVerne's mother, Evelyn Dennis, who passed away in 1993, also had a March 10 birthday. The family gathered to celebrate the birthdays with a lunch at Castaways Restaurant in Round Rock on March 11.

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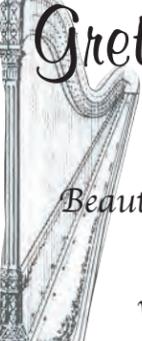
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**Community Easter Egg Hunt at Civic Center**

The Annual Salado Community Easter Egg Hunt is set for 3 p.m. April 9 at the Salado Civic Center.

All children 10 years old and under are invited. The event will include face painting, games, a visit from the Easter Bunny, and an egg-decorating contest with prizes.

Members of the Salado United Methodist Church host the event; the church members donate over 4,000 eggs each year.

Other sponsors who help provide prizes and refreshments include Brookshire Brothers, Village Pharmacy, and Cathy's Boardwalk Café.

Everyone in Salado and the surrounding area is invited, all children must be accompanied by an adult.

**Casino Night will raise funds April 22 for Catholic Building fund**

Plan to come to Casino Night 7-11 p.m. April 22 at Tenroc Ranch. The Knights of Columbus will run the Casino and the St. Stephen Women's Society will provide Heavy Hors d'oeuvres: Italian, Western, Hawaiian, and Mexican.

Tickets are \$30 and get you \$30,000 worth of chips for fun at the Casino. A cash silent auction will also be available with lots of good items. Special prizes for Casino winners.

Sponsored by St. Stephen KCs and SSWS, the casino night will raise money for the St. Stephen Building Fund.

Everyone invited to enjoy a great time. For tickets and more information, call Bobby West at 947-5761.

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Fashions from Alice's of Salado and Christy's will be shown during the April 1 ABWA style show and luncheon at Mill Creek Country Club.

## ABWA sets style show

Only a few days remain to obtain tickets to the local American Business Women's Association 11th annual style show and benefit luncheon scheduled to take place 11 a.m. April 1 at Mill Creek Country Club. Approximately 125 guests are expected. Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased at Christy's, Alice's of Salado or at the Salado Civic Center through Hulda Horton.

There are three large raffles being offered this year with many gifts donated by local merchants. Guests may buy raffle tickets for whichever raffle they are most interested in. All proceeds go toward local scholarships.

## Masons Fry Fish March 31

The Salado Masonic Lodge Annual Fish Fry will be 5-7 p.m. March 31 in the Salado Intermediate School Cafeteria.

Tickets are \$7 per person with children under 10 admitted free. They can be purchased at Salado Village Voice, Village Pharmacy, and First State Bank-Salado or at the door.

This event funds local scholarships awarded by the lodge.

## Lions Club serves almost 300 at breakfast

The Salado Lions Club held its First Annual Pancake Breakfast on March 4, and according to Chairman Don Clapp, the fund raiser was a "fantastic" success.

Clapp noted: "We fed nearly 300 people at the pancake breakfast and because of the turnout and enthusiastic comments by those who attended the 'all you can eat' pancake

and sausage meal, we've decided to repeat this event annually."

All of the "fixings" for the meal were donated, primarily by Salado's Brookshire Brothers Grocery, along with help from the Belton Wal-Mart store and Temple HEB. The pancake breakfast was held at the Salado Church of Christ's new Activity Center.

Don Clayton, President of the Salado Lions Club, expressed appreciation to those who attended and seconded the motion to repeat the fund raising event. "Fact is, we may eventually hold this popular activity twice a year if interest continues."

Funds from the successful meal along with other fund raising activities by the Salado Lions help

support a number of projects including "eye saving programs" here in Salado with free eye exams and glasses; the Lions Children's Camp near Kerrville for crippled youngsters and other programs supported by Lions International.

Anyone interested in joining the local Lions should call 947-7175.

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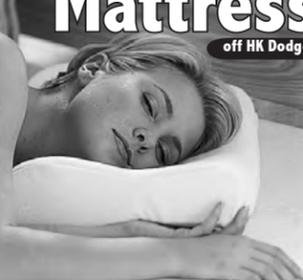
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# GOP sets county convention

Nancy Boston, San Antonio. Convention Officers include Nancy Boston, Temporary Chairman; Bob Bailon, Parliamentarian; Jackie Smith, Secretary; and Luis Cortez, Sergeant-at-Arms. The Programs Opening Ceremony features Gregory Schannep, Invocation; George Dulany, Pledges; and Welcome by State Representative Diane White Delisi. Convention Committee Chairmen include Pat Wilson, Credentials; Bob Bailon, Permanent Organization; Bill Stanford, Nominations; Michael Johnson,

Resolutions; and Dan Corbin, Rules. Bob and Annette Olson are leading Hospitality and Logistics. U.S. Rep. John Carter and State Rep. Delisi are providing welcoming center hospitality trays. Republican candidates will make available campaign materials. Convention Coordinators Bill Stanford and Bob Bailon announced Las Casas will cater Ham and Cheese, Roast Beef and Cheese or White Wing Salad lunch for \$6 per person. For information call Republican Party of Bell County Headquarters at 254-771-2923.



(PHOTO BY CHRIS MCGREGOR) More than 100 members of the 720th Military Police Division, which recently returned from its second tour of duty in Iraq, gathered in Salado last week for a day of fun and relaxation with their families. The soldiers enjoyed a round of golf at Mill Creek before a buffet dinner in the afternoon.

# 22 tons of stone unique prize for Junior Class

Salado High School Junior Class parents are selling tickets for a unique prize: 22 tons of chopped white limestone, as a fundraiser for the SHS Junior Class. Simpson Stone Company has donated 22 tons of chopped white limestone (\$1,650 value). Schwab Excavating, Inc will provide free delivery within a 50-mile radius. Each family of a Junior Class student is being asked to sell or buy 10/\$10 tickets. The drawing will be held on April 7. For more information, contact Cassie Lee, clee@saladoisd.org.

**THANKS TO THE FAMILY OF SUPPORTERS**

I want to thank all the people who supported Trenaise and I in the recent campaign for Justice of the Peace in Pct. 2. I want to thank those that made calls to their friends and neighbors on my behalf. I thank those that placed signs in their yards and those that met me at the door and shook my hand. Thanks to those who took time out of their busy schedules to vote, and those behind the scene that spoke up in support of my election.

This was my first campaign and the family of supporters that came forward was overwhelming. The financial help I received has helped to show me that there are those that truly care about our community family. The notes of encouragement that I received, the hugs and words of comfort that you shared with me have touched my heart and will not be forgotten. Thanks for your votes, thanks for your prayers, and thanks for including me as a part of your family.

Thank you and may God bless your life as he has mine.

Judge Don Engleking  
Justice of the Peace, Precinct Two

Pol. Ad. paid for by Don Engleking, PO Box 888, Salado, TX 76571

# Carson to discuss Addie Barton at Bell County Historical meeting

The Bell County Historical Commission invites all interested persons to a presentation on Salado native and Baptist missionary to Mexico, Addie Barton (1858-1921) 7 p.m. March 26 at the Bell County Courthouse in Belton. Charlene Carson, Salado historian, will deliver the program. Carson will present the story of the extraordinary career of Addie Barton, who served as a Baptist missionary in Mexico for thirty-seven years, from

1884 until 1921. Carson's presentation will include information on Barton's family history, her calling to missionary work, her training, and the work she performed at five separate locations within Mexico. Carson will also explain the influence that the Mexican Revolution had on Addie and her missionary work, and will touch on the end of Barton's career as a missionary and her return to Texas. Carson has done extensive research into



Addie Barton

the life of Addie Barton, including the reading and transcription of almost 30 letters and related materials from Addie's time in Mexico that are held at the Bell County Museum. Salado Village Voice published her account of Addie Barton in February. The Bell County Historical Commission is dedicated to the preservation and promotion of Bell County history. The commission meets on the fourth Monday of each month except for December, and the meetings are open to the public. For more information on the Bell County Historical Commission, please call 254-933-5917.

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**A Special Word of Thanks from the Salado Lions Club**

The Salado Lions Club Pancake Breakfast held March 4 was an outstanding success thanks to the nearly 300 Villagers and area friends who enjoyed the great meal in the new Church of Christ Activity Center.

The Lions Club also wants to thank the following special friends who donated the sausage and pancake fixings that were enjoyed by so many folks:

- Salado Brookshire Brothers Grocery #69 and manager Rick Strong
- Belton Wal-Mart
- Temple H-E-B

And the Salado Church of Christ for the use of their new Activity Center.

The Salado Lions Club will use the proceeds from this special project and the other fund raising events we sponsor that lend a helping hand to both young and old in Salado and across the State, Nation and World.

Again, Thank You, Salado, for your support in this and all other Lions Club project!

From all 78 members of the Salado Lions Club

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Application for Local Option Election to Legalize the sale of mixed beverages in restaurants by food and beverage certificate holders.**

La venta legal de bebidas alcoholicas mezcladas (cocteles) en restaurantes solo por los poseedores de un certificado de comidas y bebidas.

It is the hope, purpose and intent of the applicants whose signatures appear hereon to see legalized the sale of alcoholic beverages referred to in the issue set out above in the Village of Salado.

# Salado Village Guide

Shopping Map  
Pages 6-7B

Section B Salado Village Voice

March 23, 2006

12 Pages Shopping, Dining, Overnight, Events

Featuring something for all tastes

## Wildflower Art Show to be held April 1 & 2

The Sixth Annual Wildflower Art Show in the Village of Salado is just a few days away. Sponsored by the Salado Chamber of Commerce, the show will be held 9 a.m.-5 p.m. April 1 and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. April 2 on the grounds of the Salado Civic Center.

Artists and artisans from Texas and throughout the Southwest will be featured once again. Works will include mediums such as oil, acrylics, watercolors, pastels, and mix media including woodwork, sculpture, jewelry, glassworks, metal work and handmade clothing.

Returning to Salado is Tommy Thompson, of Thompson Fine Art Studio of Fort Worth. Romancing the simple treasures of our world and the interesting characters who enrich our lives, Thompson's detailed and vivid art has brought joy to many over the years. This love affair with life's beauty and the human spirit has and continues to cast its spell over this creative artist. You can hear the music awaken in the neon glow of an old jazz hall or the tune of a seasoned fiddle; enticing folks to stop at the quaint farmers market . . . and listen to the gentle song of a colorful street vendor in the shade of iron, lace and palms.

Born in Texas, he started painting and was recognized for his innate talent at an early age. He participated in numerous competitions, culminating in an arts scholarship and studied painting and fine art at Texas Christian University. For a period of time, he worked as a technical illustrator and later as a graphic designer in San Antonio.

In 1971, Tommy moved to New Orleans and painted "out on the fence" at Jackson Square, in the colorful art colony of the French Quarter. His work caught the attention of gallery owner and ebullient, dame of Royal Street, Joan Liberty, who began selling his art...creating a successful alliance which lasted over 25 years. In 1996 he received a special

proclamation from the city of New Orleans in recognition of his "art which has captured the magical charm of New Orleans..."

Also displaying his talents at the show again will be Dennis Eberwein, a potter, from Maydelle, TX. Dennis and his wife, owners of Pegasus Pottery, mix their own clay and glazes, wheel throw the pots and then hand paint each piece of stoneware pottery.

Much care is taken in mixing the clay and glazes so that they can assure their clients that there is no lead in the clay and that it is safe to use in the oven, microwave and dishwasher.

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uniqueness of each piece of Pegasus Pottery.

Admission to the Art Show is free. For more information contact the Salado Chamber of Commerce at 254-947-5040 or visit [www.salado.com](http://www.salado.com).



The work of native Texas artist Tommy Thompson is renowned for its ability to evoke the energy and color found in life, particularly in New Orleans, where Thompson has resided since the early 1970s.

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# What's happening in the

Have a Salado event to list on this calendar?  
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### MARCH 26

**Institute for the Humanities at Salado Spring Lecture Series**, featuring Admiral Bobby Inman on "Sustaining the American Dream." Lecture: 4-6 p.m. at the Celebration Center; optional dinner with speaker, 6:30 p.m. at same location. Tickets and info: 254-947-5729 or [www.salado-institute.org](http://www.salado-institute.org).

### MARCH 31

**Salado Masonic Lodge Annual Fish Fry**,

5-7 p.m. in the Salado Intermediate School Cafeteria. Tickets: \$7, children under 10 admitted free. This event funds local scholarships awarded by the lodge.

### MARCH 31-APRIL 2

**29th Annual Texas Packard Meet at the Stagecoach Inn.** Cars will be on display April 1 and the public is invited.

### APRIL 1

**Fourth Annual Smokin' Spokes Bike Ride**, benefitting the

Salado Volunteer Fire Department. Info: [www.saladospokes.com](http://www.saladospokes.com).

### APRIL 1-2

**Annual Wildflower Art Show.** Salado Public Library Book Sale to coincide, both at the Salado Civic Center.

Info: Salado Chamber of Commerce, 254-947-5040.

### APRIL 2

**Living Room Theatre presents "Murder on the Menu,"** a luncheon theatre production. Two performances, one at 12:30 p.m. and the other at 2 p.m., both at the amphitheater at Tenroc Ranch. Reservations available for non-subscribers beginning March 28. Wildflower Art Show public may attend.

### APRIL 3

**Salado Historical Society board meeting**, 7 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

### APRIL 7

**Thomas Arnold Elementary/PTO Moms**

**and Muffins morning**, 7-7:45 a.m. at the school. Info: 947-5191.

### APRIL 8

**Mill Creek MGA host a scramble at 8:30 a.m. at Mill Creek.** Funds generated will go towards the 2006 scholarships

### APRIL 8

**2006 Project Graduation fundraising dinner and silent auction**,

5-7 p.m. at the Salado Intermediate School. Tickets: \$10 for adults and children 11 and up, \$5 for 10 and under; available at Village Pharmacy, Subway, Bill Bartlett - Century 21 and the high school.

### APRIL 8

**Chisholm Trail ABWA Style Show**, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Mill Creek Restaurant. Info: 254-947-3617.

### APRIL 9

**Community Easter Egg Hunt 2-4:30 p.m. at the Civic Center** details forthcoming

### APRIL 13

**Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary meeting**, 9:30 a.m. at the Civic Center.

Program: Ronnie Wells, "The Wells Story."

### APRIL 14-16

**Easter Pageant at Tablerock Amphitheater**, presented by First Baptist Church of Salado, 8:15 p.m., bring a lawn chair. Free admission; church groups welcome. Info: 254-947-5465 or [www.fbcsalado.org](http://www.fbcsalado.org).

### APRIL 16

**Easter Sunrise Service**, 7 a.m. in Pace Park. Public is invited to attend. Bring lawn chair.

### APRIL 18

**Teacup Tuesday meeting**, Program: "History Mysteries" by author, historian and Salado-resident Charlie Turnbo, 9:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church.

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# Village of Salado?

## APRIL 18

**Village of Salado Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas meeting**, 1 p.m. in the Salado Civic Center. Members will meet 11:45 a.m. at Stagecoach Inn for lunch. Program: "The Life and Times of Edmund T. Estes," presented by Margaret Neves. Estes was a veteran of the Battle of San Jacinto.

## APRIL 22

**St. Stephen's Knights of Columbus Casino Night**, 7-11 p.m. at Tenroc Ranch. Evening will feature dinner, casino activities and a silent auction. \$30 ticket buys \$30,000 in casino chips. Proceeds to benefit St. Stephen's Women's Society.

## APRIL 22-23

**Eleventh Annual Gospel Festival at Tablerock Amphitheater**, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. April 22 and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. April 23. Food, drink, and gift vendors on-site. Admission: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under. Tickets available at gate. Info: Donnie Jackson, 254-947-5100 or email [cvmusicministry@aol.com](mailto:cvmusicministry@aol.com).

## APRIL 27

**School Board Candidate forum tentatively set at Civic Center**

## APRIL 29

**Mill Creek Community Association Spring Cleanup**, 8:30 a.m. coffee and rolls, 11:30 a.m. free hot dog lunch. More details TBA.

## MAY 1

**Salado Historical Society board meeting**, 7 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

## MAY 1

**Early voting begins at Salado Civic Center**

## MAY 6

**Institute for the Humanities at Salado Spring Lecture Series**, featuring Patricia Limerick, Ph.D. on "Pride Without Vanity: Patriotism in the 21st Century." Lecture: 5-7 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center; lunch with the speaker, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Range. Tickets and info: 254-947-5729 or [www.salado-institute.org](http://www.salado-institute.org).

## MAY 6-7

**Third Annual Salado Yard and Garden Tour**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. May 6 and 1-4 p.m. May 7. More details TBA.

## MAY 11

**Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary Spring Luncheon** at the Salado Civic Center. Program: Gwen

Morrison on "Mothers and Daughters."

## MAY 11

**Salado Community Chorus Spring Concert** 7 pm at the Salado Civic Center

## MAY 13

**Second Annual Salado Fine Art Trail**. Salado's seven galleries invite visitors to join them for an after-hours special event. There will be door prizes, drawings, refreshments and an opportunity to meet the artists in a relaxed atmosphere. Galleries will be open until 9 p.m.

## MAY 13

**Eleventh Annual Thomas Arnold Elementary Fourth Grade Play** at Tablerock Amphitheater, 7:30 p.m. Students, under the direction of Jackie Mills, write, produce, crew and act in their own melodrama. Admission: Adults, \$5; children, \$3.

## MAY 16

**Teacup Tuesday meeting**, "Tea, Talk and Togetherness" luncheon at Stagecoach Inn. Details TBA.

## MAY 17

**Mill Creek Community Association meeting**, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

## MAY 25

**Salado High School Class of 2005-06 graduation ceremony** at Bell County Expo Center. Info: Salado High School, 254-947-5429.

## JUNE 5

**Salado Historical Society board meeting**, 7 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

## JUNE 8

**Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary meeting**, 9:30 a.m. at the Civic Center. Program: Storyteller Joe Pehoski.

## JUNE 10

**Annual Salado Reunion**, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Salado Intermediate School. Info: 254-947-5783 or 254-939-3187.

## JUNE 21

**Mill Creek Community Association meeting**, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

## JUNE 24-25

**Auditions for Tablerock's production of Macbeth**, 3 p.m. both days at Tablerock. Director: David Dunlap, 254-247-0220 or [ddunlap@tablerock.org](mailto:ddunlap@tablerock.org).

## JULY 4

**Salado Historical Society Annual Picnic**, 6:30 p.m. in Pace Park.

## JULY 13

**Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary meeting**, 9:30 a.m. at the Civic Center. Program: Ruth Daw, "Women of Peru."

## JULY 19

**Mill Creek Community Association meeting**, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

## JULY 22, 29 & AUG. 5

**Tablerock's 14th Annual presentation of Salado Legends**, 8:15 p.m. Dinner: 7:15 p.m., cost \$8, reservations required. Performance tickets: \$15 adults, \$5 for children 12 and under. Info: 254-947-3205 or [www.tablerock.org](http://www.tablerock.org).

## AUGUST 5-6

**40th Annual Salado Art Fair in Pace Park**. Info: Salado Chamber of Commerce, 254-947-5040.

## AUGUST 10

**Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary meeting**, 9:30 a.m. at the Civic Center. Program: Paul Letourneau on his book "My Vietnam Experiences." Spouses invited.

## AUGUST 12

**Mill Creek Community Association Fall Social**, 6 p.m. happy hour, 7 p.m. dinner. Details TBA.

## AUGUST 16

**Mill Creek Community Association meeting**, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

## SEPTEMBER 16-17

**Tablerock's Fantasy Faire** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. both days, featuring characters from history, literature,

mythology and imagination. Enjoy music, dance, swordplay and storytelling, and shop goods from over 50 vendors. Admission: \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under, seniors and military. Info: 254-624-1008 or email [hhood@tablerock.org](mailto:hhood@tablerock.org).

## SEPTEMBER 20

**Mill Creek Community Association meeting**, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

## OCTOBER 7-8

**Auditions for Tablerock's annual A Christmas Carol production**, 3 p.m. both days. Info: 254-947-9205 or email [harrycsweet@sbcglabal.net](mailto:harrycsweet@sbcglabal.net).

## OCTOBER 7, 14 AND 21

**Tablerock's Annual Shakespeare Play**, Macbeth, under the stars, 7:30 p.m. each night. Tickets: \$10 for adults, \$5 for child, student or military. Info: 254-247-0220 or email [ddunlap@tablerock.org](mailto:ddunlap@tablerock.org).

## OCTOBER 12-14

**Annual Christmas in October event**, sponsored by the Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary. Details TBA.

## OCTOBER 18

**Mill Creek Community Association meeting**, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

## OCTOBER 21

**Salado Area Republican Women Fine China Luncheon**, noon at Mill Creek Restaurant. Info: 254-947-3433.

## OCTOBER 21

**Annual Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament**, 8 a.m. start at Mill Creek. Info: Salado Chamber, 254-947-5040.

## OCTOBER 21

**Salado Education Foundation Cattleman's Ball** at Tenroc Ranch. For tickets call 947-1958

## OCTOBER 28-29

**Tablerock's Fright Trail** 7:30-10:30 p.m. both nights. Two trails to choose from. Concessions available. Admission: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under. Info: 254-947-9205 or email [tablerock1@aol.com](mailto:tablerock1@aol.com).

## NOVEMBER 15

**Mill Creek Community Association meeting**, 5:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Creek.

## NOVEMBER 21

**Salado Historical Society annual General Meeting and Chili Supper**, 6:15 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

## DECEMBER 1, 2, 8 AND 9

**Tablerock Amphitheater's Annual presenta-**

**tion of Charles Dickens' Yuletide classic, A Christmas Carol**, 7 p.m.

each night. Tickets available at the gate beginning 6:30 p.m. Concessions open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children. Info: 254-947-9205 or [www.tablerock.org](http://www.tablerock.org).

## DECEMBER 1-3

**Salado Historical Society's Annual Christmas Tour of Homes**. More details TBA.

## DECEMBER 1-3 & 8-10

**Annual Salado Christmas Stroll event**. More details TBA.

## DECEMBER 12

**Mill Creek Community Association meeting and Christmas Dinner** at Mill Creek Restaurant. 6 p.m. happy hour, 7 p.m. dinner.

**Have a Salado event to list on this calendar? Email your information to: [news@saladovillagevoice.com](mailto:news@saladovillagevoice.com) or call 254-947-5321, or fax to 254-947-9479.**

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# Murder on the Menu promises three courses of mystery and fun

Did Leona's husband do her in? Or is he just brandishing an inappropriate butcher knife for cutting into a birthday cake?

The Living Room Theatre production of *Murder on the Menu*, a "Luncheon Theatre" is scheduled for one

performance at the new Tenroc Blue Heron Events Center 12:30 p.m. April 2. Another showing is scheduled for 2 p.m. the same day. Reservations for both performances are available by calling 254-947-8300, beginning March 27. The murder mystery melodrama is open to the public with a special invitation to folks visiting the Salado Wildflower Art Show, April 1 and 2.

There will be a tour of Tenroc's new amphitheatre following the show,

located on a creek within sight of the Blue Heron event center. Mike Cornett and his daughter, Cindy, will host the event. The show is directed by Ramon Carver.

The story features selfish Salado Socialite Leona MacBeth who will be dispatched by one of seven suspects on the occasion of her 39th birthday party - a special event she is throwing to celebrate her continued survival.

Chief among "the usual suspects" is her husband, Leon, played by Salado Alderman Merle Walker, who thinks of stabbing Leona to death the old-fashioned way - with a butcher knife.

Leona's nameless servant, played by Salado artist Jimmie Vernon, has baked a birthday cake laced with a sugar substitute, cyanide.

Crazy Cousin Kitty, a feline-esque relative played by local merchant Patsy Tynes prepares to off the soon-to-be-deceased with a box of creepy, crawly scorpions wrapped and tied with a bow.

Another suspect is Noonie, the Nosey Neighbor, played by Linda Mohlstrum of Belton, motivated to murder



Merle Stalcup will portray Leon MacBeth in the Living Room Theatre's upcoming "Murder on the Menu."

Miz MacBeth, "Bless her heart," as a means of settling a boundary dispute between properties.

Salado Alderman Curt Strong plays Ranch Foreman Bubba Billy Joe Don Bob White, who has prepared a vial of rattlesnake venom which he assures Leona will prevent her from surviving if she drinks it.

Mary Lou Setswan Chou, Widow of the Chinese Ambassador to Canada played by Salado Library retiree Patty Campbell, attending the birthday bash, insists

while using a suspiciously-contrived Asian accent that And finally, Republicrat State Senator "Bull" Hockey, played by Living Room Theatre regular Tom McGlasson, has killed enough bills in the state senate floor to know how to do the same thing to Leona, talking her to death.

Karen Walker-Stalcup chairs the three-course "Southern Living" Luncheon included in the price of admission, and she guarantees that murder will be on the Menu.

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# In fitness, quality counts

After observing thousands and thousands of people "putting in their time" at athletic clubs and gyms all across America, there is one thing that is clear. Even people who are putting out an effort are falling short of achieving their goals. Why? Well, let's consider something I will call the "Aerobic Instructor Syndrome." The fitness professional or individual whose life is beset with this syndrome looks something like this:

- Very Active and Goal Driven
  - Spends Numerous Hours at the Workout Facility
  - Trains Themselves and Others "Hard"
  - Consumes Low-Fat and Non-Fat Foods
  - Believes Results are Directly Related to Working Hard and Eating Less
  - Now, let's take a look at what kind of results that this Syndrome produces:
    - Struggles with Energy Levels
    - Constant Nagging Pains or Even Injuries
    - Not as Alert as Once Was
    - Holds Fat Around the Middle
    - Loss of Muscle Mass
- The Aerobic Instructor Syndrome shows the perfect example of

## LIFESTYLE AND WELLNESS

By **KEVIN MCCAULEY**



someone who has all of the right intentions and is even willing to put the time and effort towards their goal, but follows misinformation regarding getting fit and staying healthy.

The AIS individual focuses on "Quantity" rather than "Quality" as they endeavor to meet their fitness goals. "Quality" in everything that you do will always reap far greater rewards.

**Nutrition:**

- Quantity - Counts calories and consumes low-fat and non-fat foods.
- Quality - Focuses on nutritional value, frequency, and combinations.

**Workout:**

- Quantity - It is "what" you do that matters.
- Quality - It is "how" you do what you do that matters!

**Cardiovascular/Aerobic Training:**

- Quantity - Viewed as the only time to "burn" calories.
- Quality - Viewed as a time to improve hormonal responses and stress

reduction.  
**Sleep:**

- Quantity - A time to rest.
- Quality - A recuperative time for your body and essential systems, including endocrine and immune.

**Water:**

- Quantity - Drink at least 64 ounces a day.
- Quality - Drink at least 80 ounces of pure water that still has essential minerals.

**Supplements:**

- Quantity - Take a Synthetic One a Day
- Quality - Organic, Pharmaceutical Grade and Whole Food

You see, many people are not achieving desired results because of lack of effort, but because of lack of knowledge. The conventional wisdom and the politically correctness of our nation's health and fitness industry has led us astray. We need to not "work harder," but "work smarter."

*Kevin McCauley, MA, is a Lifestyle and Wellness Coach serving the greater Salado area. He has over 15 years of professional experience as a clinical nutritionist and personal trainer. He can be contacted at youbewell@earthlink.net or 254-947-8304.*

## CASA of Bell County sets April training session

CASA of Bell County (Court Appointed Special Advocates) has set its next training series beginning April 10 at 405 East Elms Road, in Killeen. The training will be from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m each day. CASA of Bell County is an organization committed to advocating for foster children in the district courts where the fate of their lives is determined.

There are over 500 children in foster care in Bell County, and this number continues to grow at an alarming rate. There are over 51 CASA programs in Texas and 900 nationwide.

Anyone interested in coming to this training and helping Bell County's abused and neglected children should contact CASA of Bell County at 254-939-1346.



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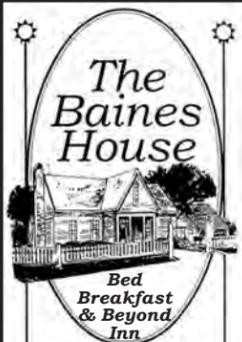
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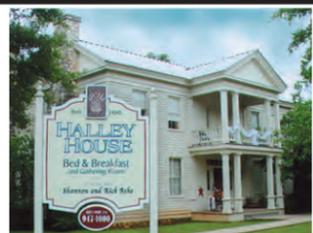


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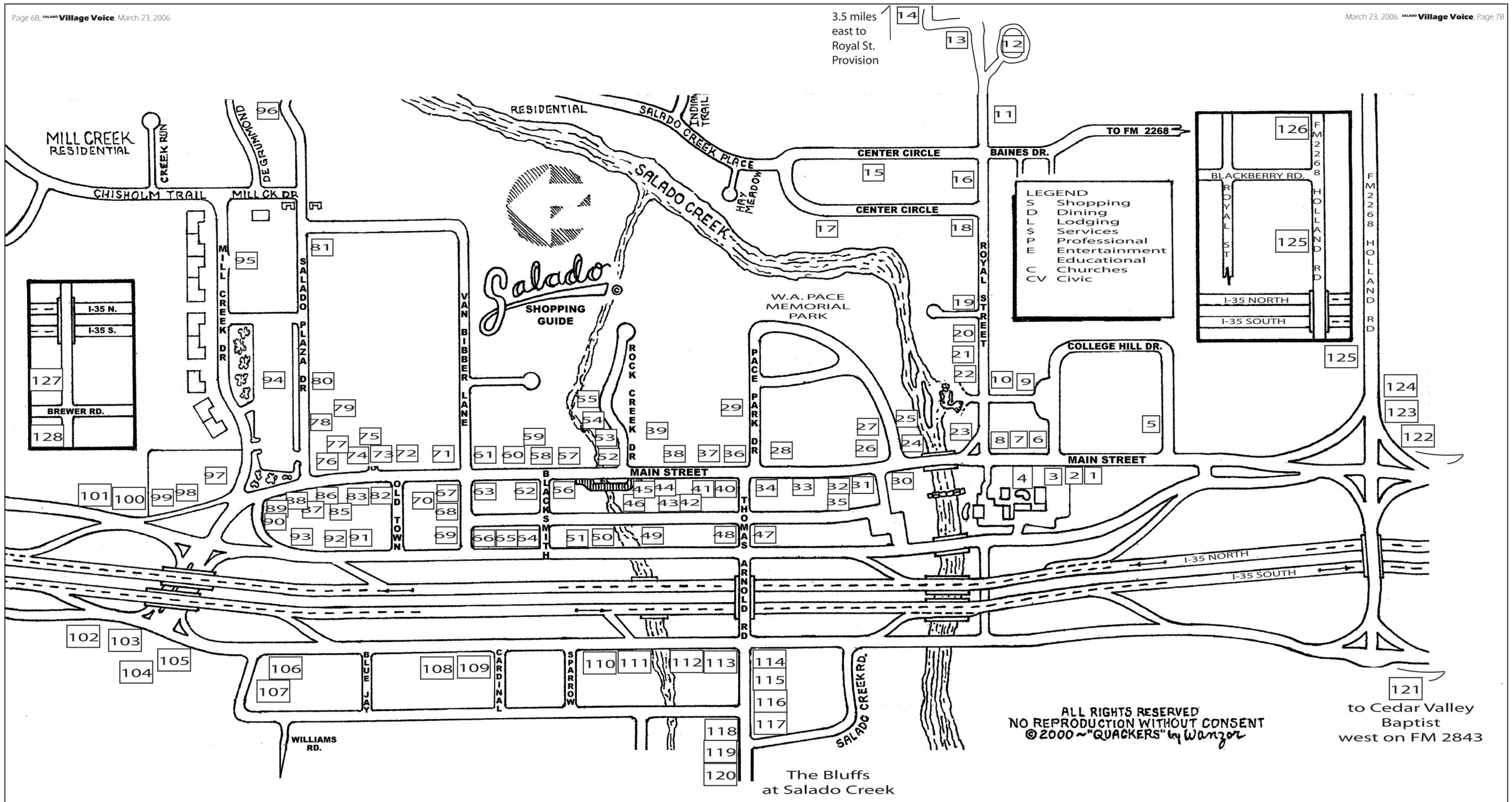
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to Cedar Valley Baptist  
 west on FM 2843

The Bluffs  
 at Salado Creek

4. Stagecoach Inn	254/947-5111	D,L	22. Salado Silver Spur Theatre	254/947-3456	E	39. The Range at the Barton House	254/947-3828	D	65. The Village of Salado	254/947-5060	CV	81. Salado Sawmill	254/947-0137	S	116. Johnny's Texas Banquet Hall	254/947-4663	D
5. Stone Creek Settlements	254/947-9099	L	24. Accents of Salado	254/947-5908	S	40. Family Dentistry	254/947-5242	P	68. Serenity Spa	254/947-8833	\$	82. The Timbers at Salado Sawmill	254/947-0137	L	117. The Barber Barn	254/421-5173	\$
6. Central Texas Area Museum	888/777-8844	E	25. Leigh's Necessities and Floral Creations	254/947-0128	S, \$	42. Dr. Douglas B. Willingham			70. STAGESTOP RETAIL CENTER			88. OLD TOWN SALADO			118. Thomas Arnold	254/947-5191	E
7. Salado Galleries	254/947-5232	S	26. CREEKSIDE CENTER			43. Leigh's Necessities and Floral Creations	254/947-0281	S	Angelic Herbs	254/947-1909	S	89. Cathy's Boardwalk Cafe	254/947-8162	D	119. Salado Intermediate	254/947-1700	E
8. SHADY VILLA	254/947-5110	S	Prelopp Fine Art Gallery	254/947-3930	S	44. Mud Pies Pottery	254/947-0595	S	The Sewing Basket	254/947-5423	S	90. Texan by Design	254/947-4479	S	120. Salado High	254/947-5429	E
Gregory's	254/947-5703	S	Susan Marie's	254/947-5239	S	45. Margrit's Shoe Chateau			71. SALADO CIVIC CENTER			91. Century 21 Bill Bartlett Real Estate			121. Cedar Valley Baptist Church	254/947-0148	C
Sweet Nut Things	254/947-8088	S	Levi Tenney House B&B	254/947-1003	L	48. Sweet Dreams	254/947-1868	S	Salado Civic Center	254/947-8300	CV	92. The Personal Wealth Coach	254/947-5050	\$	122. Eagle Rock Ranch	254/947-5369	\$
Shyenne's of Salado	254/947-9215	S	First Baptist Church	254/947-5465	C	49. A Touch of Heaven	254/947-9200	S	Chamber of Commerce	254/947-5040	CV	93. The Village of Salado	254/947-1111	\$	123. Wildfire Saddlery	254/947-8080	S
Tablerock Amphitheatre	254/947-9205	E	Salado Mansion	254/947-5157	D	50. Splendors of Salado	254/947-5543	\$	Historical Society		CV	94. SALADO PLAZA			124. St. Stephen Catholic Church	254/947-8037	C
The Rose Mansion B&B	254/947-8200	L	THE VERANDA			51. Salado Fire Department	254/535-6676		SISD Administration	254/947-5479	E	95. Salado Village Voice	254/947-5321	\$	127. Grace Baptist Church of Salado	254/947-5917	C
Salado United Methodist Church	254/947-5482	C	First Texas Brokerage	254/947-5577	\$	52. Salado Church of Christ	254/947-8961	CV	Village Art Center			96. Salado Eye Care	254/947-5128	\$	128. Janelle's	254/947-3584	S
Tennille's Place	254/947-3811	S	First State Bank	254/947-5852	\$	53. Salado Church of Christ	254/947-5241	CV	(on the grounds of Salado Civic Center)			97. Village Pharmacy	254/947-3185	\$	Not shown on map		
(1 mile east on Royal)			FIRST CENTRE at 40 N. Main			54. Charlotte's of Salado	254/947-0240	S	The Halley House	254/947-1000	L	98. Mill Creek Golf & Country Club	254/947-5144	D,L	The Event Center at Tenroc Ranch		
Royal Street Provision	254/947-3350	L	Alice's	254/947-9000	S	55. Splendors of Salado	254/947-3630	S	72. CARRIAGE PLACE SQUARE			99. Salado Public Library	254/947-9191	E	2 miles west of I-35 on Thomas Arnold Rd.		
Country Inn			Chameleon Clothier	254/947-7104	S	54. Charlotte's of Salado	254/947-0240	S	Before & After	254/947-5814	\$	100. Salado Chiropractic	254/947-BACK	P	512/947-9218	\$	
(3.5 miles east on Royal)			First Community Title	254/947-8480	\$	56. OLD CHURCH PLACE			ARCHANGEL ON MAIN			101. Salado Eye Care	254/947-LENS	P			
Friendship House B&B	254/947-3136	L	Salado Masonic Lodge #296	254/947-9000	CV	The Front Row Emporium	254/947-5831	S	Merle Norman Cosmetics	254/947-9993	S	102. Village Pharmacy	254/947-3185	\$			
The Baines House B&B	254/947-5260	L	Christy's of Salado	254/947-0561	S	57. THE COLONY			Etrulia's	254/947-0504	S	103. Robertson's Hams and The Choppin' Block	254/947-5562	S			
Inn on the Creek B&B	254/947-5554	D,L	Inn at Salado	254/947-0027	L	Griffith Fine Art	254/947-3177	S	Salado Wine Seller	254/947-8011	S	104. Fairway Golf Carts	254/947-4065	\$			
CELEBRATION CENTER			SALADO SQUARE			Lori's	254/947-3177	S	ArchAngel Antiques & Architectural Salvage	254/947-5933	S	108. Scissors Hair and Nails	254/947-9001	\$			
Botangles	254/947-4747	\$	Browning's Courtyard Cafe	254/947-8666	D	58. Watersong Massage	254/947-3599	\$	Presbyterian Church of Salado	254/947-8106	C	111. Super 8 Motel	254/947-5000	L			
Old Salado Springs Celebration Center and Retreat	254/947-5933	\$	Carden's	254/947-0300	S	59. Joe Read State Farm Agency	254/947-5580	\$				115. Johnny's Steaks & Bar-Be-Que	254/947-4663	D			
Old Salado Springs			Linda Rountree Pritchard	254/947-4263	P	Properties by Larry Sands	254/947-5580	\$									
Guest Lodging	254/947-5933	L	Main Street Place	254/947-9908	S	Uncommon Grounds Cafe	254/947-3354	D									
Springhouse Antiques	254-947-0747	S				Heirlooms	254/947-0336	S									

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# Garden Tour to feature 6 stops

At the March meeting of the Salado Garden Club, Vickie Kelley and Martha Francis, co-chairs of the 2006 Salado Yard and Garden Tour announced the six distinctive and diverse private and public gardens on this year's tour.

Featured on the Salado tour this year is the historic Baines House, owned by Rod



(PHOTOS BY MARGARET WILLIAMSON)

The cottage garden of Richard Teeler and Les McCollum, shown above and below, will be one of the gardens on the 2006 Salado Yard and Garden Tour.

and Sheryl Russell, where the garden abounds with native plants, blooming shrubs, towering trees and whimsical garden art. The private informal country cottage garden of Les McCollum and Richard Teeler that enhances the garden spirit as one strolls through the abundant flowering perennials, herbs, roses, agaves and native plants.

Barton and Jeanie Jones' private estate located at a former historic grist mill site on Salado creek with stunning natural views from the limestone cliff and with interspersed native plantings.

The park-like yard and garden of John and

Barbara Robertson with a wet weather creek, a charming potting shed, vegetable garden and delightful perennial and annual plantings.

The private yard and garden of Joe and Dottie Oliver, a woodland setting with lovely pool area decorated with pots of annuals and tropical plants.

The public Green Bridge garden where one can amble along the historical lenticular iron truss bridge and enjoy the bountiful flowering Texas natives and sculptures by Salado sculptor, Troy Kelley.

The tour, sponsored by the Garden Club and Public Arts League of



Salado, will be held 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. May 6, and 1-4 p.m. May 7.

Gardens will be self guided with volunteers helping to answer questions when needed.

Tickets are priced at \$10 and are good for both days. Maps will be available leading to each location with a description of each garden. Tours will be conducted rain or shine. Strollers and pets are not permitted. Wheelchair accessibility is limited and carpooling is encouraged.

Additional information can be found at the Salado Civic Center, 947-8300, or on the Salado Chamber website, www.Salado.com.

Proceeds will go to the beautification and promotion of the arts in the Village of Salado.

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## A different take on traditional scones, biscuits

Cherry Cardamom Scones

Serves 8

These are great just hot from the oven or split and toasted with butter the next day. You can also try flavoring with dried pineapple, dates, raisins or currants.

- 2 cups unbleached organic white flour (you may use a mixture of white and whole wheat pastry flour, if desired, to measure 2 cups)
- 1/3 cup organic natural cane sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp ground cardamom
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/4 tsp sea salt
- 6 TB unsalted, softened butter
- 1 organic egg
- 1/2 cup organic buttermilk or plain kefir
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2/3 cup dried cherries, coarsely chopped

Preheat oven to 400°F. Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper (do not spray or oil) and set aside. Combine the flour, sugar, baking powder, cardamom, baking soda and salt in a large mixing bowl.

Using a pastry blender or two knives, cut in the butter until it is well mixed and the flour resembles coarse crumbs. Set aside.

In a separate medium bowl, lightly beat the egg. Whisk in the buttermilk and vanilla. Add this to the flour and oat mixture. Stir to combine. Gently fold in the cherries.

Drop the scones into 8 rounded balls on the parchment-lined cookie sheet a couple of inches apart from one another. The scones will rise and enlarge considerably. Bake until golden brown, about 17 to 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center of a scone comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack for 5 minutes before serving.

**Nutrition Information**  
Per serving (85g-wt.): 270 calories (80 from fat), 9g total fat, 6g saturated fat, 2g dietary fiber, 5g protein, 39g carbohydrate, 50mg cholesterol, 270mg

### Peppery Sage Biscuits

Makes 12

- 1/2 cup cold whole milk
- 1 large egg
- 2 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 tsp non-aluminum baking powder



Cherry cardamom scones are great for any time of day.

- 1 tsp sea salt
- 1 TB finely chopped fresh sage
- 1/4 tsp cayenne pepper
- 1/4 tsp fresh ground black pepper
- 3/4 cup (11/2 sticks) chilled unsalted butter, cut into small pieces

Preheat oven to 425°F.

In a small bowl, whisk together milk and egg until blended. Set aside.

Blend flour, baking powder, salt, sage, cayenne and black pepper in food processor or large bowl. Add cold butter and pulse, or quickly blend with your fingertips, until mixture resembles coarse cornmeal. Add milk mixture and process just until moist clumps begin to form. Do not overmix or you'll have "rubber" biscuits!

Transfer dough to a floured surface and knead until it holds together, about 6 turns. Roll out dough to 1/2" thickness. Using a floured 2" biscuit or cookie cutter, cut out biscuits. Reroll out scraps and cut remaining biscuits.

Transfer biscuits to a large nonstick baking sheet. Bake until golden brown, about 12 minutes.

**Nutrition Info**

Per Serving (50g-wt.): 190 calories (110 from fat), 12g total fat, 8g saturated fat, less than 1g dietary fiber, 3g protein, 17g carbohydrate, 50mg cholesterol, 260mg sodium

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The Board of Directors of the Public Arts League of Salado wish to thank the food providers at this year's



for their continued help in making it such a big success.



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*The Range at the Barton House*  
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by Dave T. Phipps



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# JERRY CRAFT



# R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



# The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



# Out on a Limb

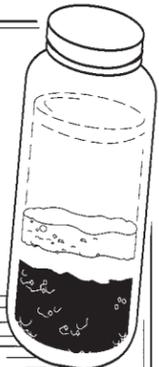
by Gary Kopervas



# The Garden Bug

## Soil testing

Fill a glass jar with 1/3 of your garden's soil and 2/3 water. Add 1 tsp. liquid soap, screw on the lid, and shake. Sand settles quickly, silt in a few hours, and clay takes days. More clay means your garden will retain water and nutrients better, but will dry out slowly. Sandy soil is less fertile than clay, but drains water faster and heats up quicker. Amend your soil as needed, and note the soil needs of anything you intend to plant.



# Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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## Novelist Pat Conroy's early writing experiences

by  
Tumbleweed  
Smith



Pat Conroy's novels are filled with lyrical prose about experiences in his home state of South Carolina. The images produced by his words are strong and clear. His command of the English language has made him one of the most respected writers in America. Among his books are *The Prince of Tides*, *Beach Music* and *The Great Santini*.

His first book was about the Citadel, South Carolina's military college where he was a student. Pat went to his commander and told him he had written a book and wanted to get it published. The commander told Pat to look in the yellow pages. He found a printer who did business cards, invitations and books. Pat was told he could have 2,000 copies of the book for \$5,000. Pat was surprised. He had heard it was hard to get a book

published. He went to his hometown banker and got a loan because the banker was excited about getting a book written about the Citadel.

The first edition was sold out before it was published. The second edition did well, too. Pat wrote another book, *The Water Is Wide*. Someone told Pat he needed an agent. Pat found New York literary agent Julian Bach and called him. After introducing himself, Pat said, "I'm from Buford, South Carolina and I've written a book I think you'll like." Julian replied, "I've never heard of South Carolina, never heard of Buford and never heard of you. Losers like you call me

every single day of my life and I'm going to fire my secretary for letting you through."

Pat wrote Julian a letter the next day. "Dear Mr. Bach: Obviously New York has withered everything fine and wonderful and lovely about your soul. Whatever your mother saw in you as a child obviously has been ruined and broken in the canyons of New York."

Julian liked the letter. He wanted Pat to rush him a manuscript of the book.

There was a problem: Pat had written the book in longhand. His wife called all their friends in Buford who came over and each took a chapter to type overnight. Because

Pat did not type, he did not know about Pica and Elite. He did not give the people typing paper. So the manuscript that was sent to New York had long yellow sheets, onionskin and Harriet Kaiserling's personal stationery. The pages were not numbered. Julian called Pat and said, "Pat, I haven't read a word. But it's the cutest thing I've ever seen."

Within a few weeks, Julian called Pat again and said he had marvelous news. "Houghton-Mifflin, the editor of Emerson, Thoreau, Edith Wharton, Emily Dickinson and other icons of American literature, has agreed to do your book. And here is the most exciting news of all. Seventy-five hundred dollars."

Pat replied, "I can get it done cheaper down here, Julian."

Julian, after a pause, said, "You do understand they do pay you."



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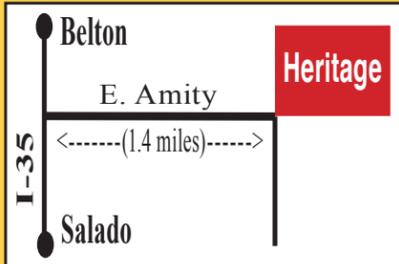


The Salado Sawmill, an artisan's workshop and gallery, has created a unique line of custom furniture: The Texas Tycoon Collection. Big, bold and as rugged as a Texas oilman, this line reflects the character and style of these demanding gentlemen. No Victorian frills here: just clean lines, chiseled features and big proportions. While the style of these pieces reflects Texas' roots, it also demonstrates a flair for the dramatic through the use of burl, bird's eye and quarter-sawn lumber. Picture here is the Executive Desk in the Tycoon Collection. This piece is made from bird's eye maple. Note the shop-made crown molding, distinctive base and towering proportions -- a showpiece for today's tycoon, oil or otherwise.

Master Craftsman Robert Pascoe makes these pieces at the Salado Sawmill, allowing the customer to specify the dimensions, wood type, color and hardware. Because Pascoe works the project from design through build and finish, you are assured of quality at every step. Just bring in a picture or sketch of something that you're interested in and Pascoe will guide you through the design process. Pascoe has several other lines, including Arts and Crafts and General Store collection.

The Sawmill, a division of XtraWorX, LLC, is located at 409 Salado Plaza at the entrance to Mill Creek in Salado.

Call Bob at 254-947-0137 or visit [www.saladosawmill.com](http://www.saladosawmill.com).



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- Member, Salado Band Boosters, 1996-Present
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- Director, TBBOR, 1999-2005
- Grievance Chairman, TBBOR, 1993-2000
- Public Relations Chairman, TBBOR, 1992-1993
- Member, TBBOR, 1992-Present
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- Secretary, Salado ISD School Board, 1998
- Director, Salado ISD School Board, 1993-1999
- Child Patient Advocate and Baby Rocker, Scott & White, 1998-1999
- Membership Chairman, Scholarship Chairman Salado Lions Club, 1993-1996
- Member Salado Lions Club, 1992-1997
- Manager/Producer, Christian Music Concerts, 1995-1998
- Chairman, Salado Bluebonnet Parade, 1993
- Chairman, Salado Family Festival, 1994-1995
- Actress, Salado Legends, 1993-1996
- Actress, A Christmas Carol, 1994-1995
- Actress, Salado Living Room Theatre, 2005
- Mentor, Salado ISD Students, 1996-1998
- Member, PTA, 1992-1998
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*This  
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3/16-4/6p

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3/9-3/23b

**Mendoza's Painting and House leveling.** Level brick homes with concrete slabs also pier and beam house. Remodeling, add-ons, painting, interior and exterior, sheet rock, tape and float, texture, floors, decks, porches, plumbing and electrical. Reasonable prices. Call 254-770-4548 or cell 512-921-6970  
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6/2/05tfnb

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8/11tfnb

CLASSIFIEDS CONTINUE ON  
PAGE 2C

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**MIKE BOWLES**  
Realtor  
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## COMMERCIAL



### 227 N. Main St.

Prime location in the historical district on Main Street. Three buildings approximately 1200 square feet each with room to expand. Call Anna Lou or Mike for more information. \$485,000



### 1617 Chaparral

Great price for this custom home. Must see inside to appreciate all the features, including views, screened-in porch, master BR balcony, open kitchen and many more! 4 generous BRs, 3 full baths, large great room, formal dining room, breakfast room and great outdoor living. \$250,000.



### 515 Indian Trail

Gorgeous stone home, landscaped with two-tiered pond in backyard. Large rooms throughout. Two great rooms, two fireplaces, plus separate formals, library. Four bedrooms and unbelievable storage. Approximately 5,000 sq. ft. \$499,000.



### 701 Indian Trail

Price reduced to \$274,000. Motivated seller will consider any reasonable offer. Secluded home on 1.3 acres in Beautiful Salado Creek Place. Rooms with soaring ceilings and large irregular room sizes. Three bedrooms and three full baths, large living area, formal dining room and a study.



### 5055 Elm Grove Rd.

Beautiful 30.03 acre Belton property that borders the Lampasas River. Huge hybrid and native pecan trees. Well-maintained home with large living room, dining room with hardwoods, den, 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms. Amenities include greenhouse, haybarn, equip shed, 6 traps and decks. Must see! \$620,000



### 900 DeGrummond

Salado's hidden treasure. Not a typical home! This totally updated 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home includes a new master suite with a private patio. There is a large great room plus a family room. Beautiful views of oak trees and a pond. A very warm and welcoming home! \$350,000



3901 Chisholm Trail #5  
Great location - close

**SOLD**

ideas. This townhome offers 3 BR/2 BA, large living, formal dining, 2 car garage. \$122,500.



### 716 Whispering Oaks

Located in Mill Creek on a beautiful treed street. One-story has 3 BRs/ 2.5 BAs, study, formal living and dining areas, large kitchen with breakfast room. Great room with wood-burning fireplace. Great floorplan, large deck, storage building, a greenhouse and a hot tub. \$249,900. Call Mike Bowles, 254-913-0469



### 2105 Smith Bluff

Immaculate native limestone

**SOLD**

dining, 3 bedrooms, two baths and a wonderful kitchen. Many updates and great drive-up appeal. Don't miss this one! \$207,577. Price Reduced to \$188,000.

## Mill Creek Homesites

Premier Half-Acre Lots in restricted Mill Creek Golf course subdivision. Underground utilities, ready for custom homes with only 2,000 sq. ft minimum. 1801 Kevlin Trail 1901 Kevlin Trail  
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Storage space in Salado 8X12, 16X24 and up. Some have drive-in doors. Salado Storage 947-5575

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## Pets & Livestock

Found: Red Heeler. On Triangle Road south of Salado. March 15th. Please call Sharon Black at 290-3537 3.23b

CKC mini Schnauzer puppies 7 weeks, shots, groomed, farm raised with kids. CALL 947-5560 3/23p

## For Sale

For Sale 2003 Ford F150 XL truck regular cab, long bed, cruise/tilt, am/fm/cd commercial turck cap with dual

ladder rack. Day 254-493-7367 evening 254-947-5032 2/23tfnb

Garden Tiller, tractor/mower, executive, secretary desk, woodwright bench w/vises, onyx, marble carving stone, window a/c, misc. Ham radio and test equipment. 254-947-0535 3/23-3/30p

## Garage & Estate Sale

Estate sale 1209 Old Mill Rd. Thursday-Friday-Sat. March 23-25. 8 a.m. This house is full of antiques passed from generation to generation. Furniture - glassware- and memorabilia Vintage adult and baby clothes. Hats and shoes. 1879 war rifle-Marsburger 20 guage pump shot gun. Salado by : Estate Mangement. 3/23p

Moving - Garage Sale 10729 Stinnet Mill Rd. Saturday Only 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. Twin bed and mattress, othe furniture, luggage, Christmas decorations, tv, lamps, kitchen items, pictures, wreaths, tools, radial arm saw, lots of miscel-laneuos. 3/23p

Sale - March 24, Friday Only 2550 Royal St. 1 1/2 mile east of tower. Electric scooteer, riding mower, tools, HO train parts 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. 947-5002 3/23p

## Employment

Seeking Nail Tech and massage therapist at Serenity Spa. Contact Fiona, call 947-8833 or come by. 3/23-3/30

Office manager/bookkeeper needed. Send resume P O Box 1044, Salado, TX 76571 tfnb

Now accepting applications for waitperson. Apply in person at Johnny's Steak and BBQ. 2/23tfnb

Part time employment Susan Marie's ladies boutique in Salado Sat. or Sun or both 947-5239 or drop by. 1/26tfnb

## Homes For Sale

2400 Sq. ft. golf home. Views, trees, Corian kitchen, jacuzzi, patios, utterly divine floors. 512-554-4987 \$234,500 2/23-3/16p

Hidden Springs. 4 BR, 2 BA, 2 Car garage on 2 acres. Fireplace., laundry-room, office. Beautiful home. \$219,000 254-760-4486 0209tfnb

Private ranch estate! Austin stone home on over 11 tree-covered acres located south-west of Salado. Thermodor appliances, hardwood floors, covered porches, 3 fireplaces. \$699,900. Call First Texas Brokerage 947-5577 0202F

Austin stone country estate on acreage is framed by large cascading oak trees. Wet weather creek runs on the back of this 8.72 acre homesite. Hardwood floors, windows from ceiling to floor in living room, great room effect, stone fireplace, gourmet kitchen, 3 BR/2-1/2 BA, library with built-ins, zoned AC. Two dining areas and spacious laundry. Barn/garage is 40' x 60' with 800 SF 1BR apartment. \$565,000. Call Village Realty 947-0342. 0202F

Belton - Spacious master suite is the highlight of this 4 BR home. Wood, tile and carpet flooring, gas log fireplace, granite countertops in kitchen and dining areas, separate shower and jetted tub in master, large covered patio. Side entry garage. Complete in early Summer. \$229,900 Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050

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CONTINUE ON PAGE 3C

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Take a step out of the city and enjoy this peaceful 2 acre setting. Granite counter tops. Huge family room and bonus room with great location. Convenient to Georgetown, Temple or Killeen. \$316,900. Call First Texas Brokerage, (254) 947-5577

Only 2 years old, this nicely landscaped brick/stone 4 BR home has 3 full bats and is walking distance to the new Mill Creek Springs golf course. Irrigated rose garden, flower garden and vegetable garden. Entertain in the large back yard with covered patio and an arbor. Extensive crown molding, stone fireplace in family room, skylight in kitchen. Large kitchen with granite countertops, island and garden window. Large walk-in pantry \$281,800 Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 tfnf

Private ranch estate! Austin stone home on over 11 tree

covered acres. located south-west of Salado. Thermador appliances, hardwood floors, covered porches. 3 fireplaces. \$725,000. Call First Texas Brokerage at 254-947-5577 tfnf.

**Grand Home on Estate Lot in Salado. 3/3/2.5.** Hardwood floors, raised ceilings, gas fireplace, spacious kitchen and large master suite. All over 2 acres. Priced at \$315,000. Call First Texas Brokerage at 254-947-5577 tfnf

**Custom home on 2.16 ac. with all the extras.** Tile entryway takes you into a wonderful living area with built-in bookshelves and fireplace. Large open kitchen with island, granite countertops, breakfast bar and under counter lighting. Master suite has a double vanity sink, garden tub, separate shower and walk-in closet. a 20' X 13" office upstairs. Four car

garage \$389,000. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050

**Land for Sale**

**30 acres for sale.** Salado Creek runs through it! 100 plus large pecans and oaks. Spring. Wildlife tax exemption. Bordered on 3 sides by large ranch. 5 miles west of Jarrell. \$139,000 254-291-8888 3/9-3/30p

**Prime location in Salado, Great investment!** Located in the historic district, can be residential or retail, lots of space w/over 2800 sf on corner lot. Lots of potential! \$170's for more details/appt's call Lorraine Goode, Realtor, Covington Real Estate 254-780-3668 2/23-3/29

**Heavily wooded 5.64 acre tract in a premiere Salado subdivision.** Lots are flat and would be easy to build on. Perfect hideaway. \$70,000. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 254-947-5050 tfnf

**The Overlook - wooded estate sized lots** with hill top golf course views. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 254-947-5050

**For sale by owner: Hidden Springs** 3.27 acres. Only \$41,500 Lot #326 254-541-5449 512-285-2563 3/3tfn

**Commercial Rental**

**Salado - No deposit, no credit check!** First month rent to move in. \$800/ month plus utilities, yard maintenance. Manufactured home on six acres, 10 miles west of IH 35 on FM 2843, at Bell/Williamson County line. 4 bedroom, 3 bats, 2 living, 2 dining, study front/back decks. Single family. Barbara Bell 512-627-7000, email bobibell@cox.net 3/23-3/30b

**For Lease: 1250 sq. ft.** 221 N. Main St. Available April 1st Call 940-383-1470

CLASSIFIEDS CONTINUE ON PAGE 4C

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**Great Neighborhood! Great Belton Schools!**  
 All brick, 4 BR/2BA homes. A number of spacious floor plans w/ 1800+ to over 2400SF. Many upgrades available. Many lots still to choose from, simply the perfect location; cul-de-sac with native trees. Mid \$130s to Mid \$180's  
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**Call Marilyn for information about advertising in the Salado Village Voice 254-947-5321**

**COVINGTON REAL ESTATE, INC.**  
**MACK PARKER, REALTOR®**  
**"The Go To Guy"**  
**254-760-1648 or 254-939-3800**  
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**We have buyers looking for rural property -- is yours available?**  
**COMMERCIAL**  
**Over 5,000 sq. ft. of free standing commercial office/warehouse space** near downtown Temple with 20 parking spaces. Very flexible space. Quick conversion to your intended use. **\$180,000.**  
**1.3 acre building site zoned C-2** on Sparta Road in Belton - west of new Super Wal-Mart. **\$215,500.**



**SALADO CREEK FRONT LOT**  
 One-of-a-kind and the last one left. Beautiful secluded 1.82 acres in Salado Creek Place. Creek runs year round.  
**\$199,900. Call 254-338-5083.**

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Some of the Salado High School Seniors of 2006 are these (from row, from left) Erin Bracken, Jonathan Hardin, Kathryn Holdampf; (back row, from left) Chris Redman, Nathan Houston, Slayt Ebeling, Brittany Dixon, Nicole Weatherly, Kate Marshall, Jeanette LaFleur. (photo courtesy of Bobbette Bell)

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## NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT TO COMPLY WITH THE SUBDIVISION AND SERVICE EXTENSION POLICY OF SALADO WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

Pursuant to Chapter 13.2502 of the Texas Water Code, Salado Water Supply Corporation hereby gives notice that any person who subdivides land by dividing any lot, tract, or parcel of land, within the service area of Water Supply Corporation, Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 10879, in Bell County, into two or more lots or sites for the purchase of sales or development, whether immediate or future, including re subdivision of land for which a plat has been filed and recorded or requests more than two water service connections on a single contiguous tract of land must comply with [title of subdivision service extension policy stated in the tariff/policy] (the "subdivision Policy") contained in Salado Water Supply Corporation's tariff.

**Salado Water Supply Corporation is not required to extend retail water to a service applicant in a subdivision where the developer of the subdivision has failed to comply with the Subdivision Policy.**

Applicable elements of the Subdivision include:

Evaluation by Salado Water Supply Corporation of the impact a proposed subdivision service extension will make on Salado Water Supply Corporation's water supply and payment of the costs for this evaluation;

Payment of reasonable costs or fees by the developer for providing water supply capacity;

Payment of fees for reserving water supply;

Forfeiture of reserved water supply capacity for failure to pay applicable fees;

Payment of costs of any improvements to Salado Water Supply Corporation's system that are necessary to provide the water;

Construction according to design approved by Salado Water Supply Corporation and dedication by the developer of water facilities within the subdivision following inspection.

Salado Water Supply Corporation's tariff and a map showing Salado Water Supply Corporation's service area may be reviewed at Salado Water Supply Corporation's offices, at [410 Salado Plaza Drive]; the tariff/policy and service area map are also filed of record at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in Austin, Texas and may be reviewed by contacting the TCEQ, c/o Utility Rates and Services Section, Water Utilities Division, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711.

## Fundraiser set for Project Graduation

Salado High School Class of 2006 will hold a fundraising dinner and silent auction 5-7 p.m. April 8 at the Salado Intermediate School with proceeds benefiting the 2006 Project Graduation.

The dinner menu, consisting of hamburgers, hot dogs, side dishes, drinks and homemade desserts, will be available for carry-out as well as

dine-in. Tickets are \$10 for adults and children age 11 and up, while children under the age of 10 will be admitted for \$5.

Tickets are available for advance purchase at The Village Pharmacy, Bill Bartlett - Century 21 Real Estate and Salado High School, and can also be purchased on site the evening of the event.

Bruce and Susan

Gordon are requesting donations for the silent auction. Anyone wishing to donate an item should contact them at 254-947-5240.

### Project Graduation

Project Graduation is an all-night, alcohol- and drug-free celebration for the graduating class.

Graduates often 'party hop' in their efforts to celebrate with as many

of their classmates as possible. Project Graduation provides a safe alternative to party hopping: it keeps all of the graduates off of the roads, prevents any of them from becoming an accident statistic and allows their parents to rest easy knowing their son/daughter is safely celebrating.

**Commercial Rental for lease:** Early Texas home (Bell Co, 1850's) Beautifully restored. Ideally suited for professional, commercial or retail. Antique pine floors, two fireplaces, original wood walls. Spacious front porch. Call 254-947-5575 or 254-760-4346  
2/16tfnb

**Salado- Main St. retail outdoor space available** plus Glass House nearly 100 sq. ft., Total space garden area

over 3,500 sq. ft. Call 947-9200 tfnb

### For Rent or Lease

**For rent: 1 BR, 1B, Mill Creek Townhouse.** End unit, all new appliances, cabinets, carpets, tile floors, window treatments, granite counters. Built in w/d. All lawn maint., garbage pickup included. \$600 month unfurnished. \$675 furnished. \$500 security deposit. Call Jay: 512 577 4569

**For Rent - 1BR/1BA** completely furnished cottage with water, cable, and yard work included. \$750/month plus \$400 deposit. Now available! No pets. (254) 947-7145. TFNB

**Charming, spacious, 2/2/1, townhome for rent, \$825.** 6 closets, vaulted ceiling, w/d closet inside, Walk to shopping center. Lawn care provided. 254-338-5083. 12/15tfnb



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Best Craftsmanship**



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**254-702-6959**

**calexander@bestconstruction.com**



## Bell Democrats set March 25 convention

The Bell County Democratic Party will hold a County Convention March 25 at the former Belton Junior High, 400 N. Wall Street in Belton.

The convention will begin with registration

at 9 a.m. All Delegates and Alternates elected at Precinct Conventions March 7 are urged to attend. Delegates and Alternates to the Democratic State

Convention will be elected

from the attendees.

Resolutions will be proposed, adopted and forwarded to the State Convention.

Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

For further information call Democratic Headquarters at 933-1881. The headquarters is open on Tuesdays 10 a.m.-3 p.m. At other times, leave a message. Your call will be returned.



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Charlie Turnbo, Salado Historical Society member, received the above two photos from Adrin Fletcher, of Munday, Texas. Fletcher told Turnbo that he's sure the photos are of Thomas Arnold students and Salado families around the turn of the 20th Century. "Problem is he can't identify any of the folks in the photos," Turnbo said, adding that Fletcher is a descendent of the Skinner family from Salado and they were simply labeled "Salado" by his grandmother. "We think one of them is inside Thomas Arnold School (Old Salado College) and may be the successor organization to the Amasavourian Society," Turnbo added. "I have half a dozen I'm interested in trying to catalog." If you have any information about the photos, please contact Charlie Turnbo, 700 Ashley Court, Salado, Texas 76571, 254-947-8329, 254-466-1460, cturnbo@aol.com.

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**Justice of Peace Pct. 2 revenue hits new high**

Justice of the Peace Pct. 2 Don Engleking Reports that monthly revenue at his office in Holland have surpassed all other months since he took office in January 2005. Revenue for February 2005 were reported as being \$58,675.00. That amount is \$6,585.00 more than any other month this year. The number of cases filed decreased slightly with 366 cases being filed.

Cases filed include traffic offenses, non-traffic offenses, parks and wildlife offenses, small claims, civil claims and rental disputes.

There were 398 cases disposed of during February. The Judge also conducted nine inquests during the month and issued two felony and misdemeanor arrest warrants

**CLASSIFIED AD FORM**

Classified ads cost \$5 for the first 15 words and 20 cents for each word that follows. Classifieds running 1 time are prepaid, but monthly billing can be arranged on long term runs. Mail ad with payment to Salado Village Voice P O Box 587, Salado, TX 76571 ad can also be placed by contacting advertising@saladovillagevoice.com

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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New Listing! Salado 2003 brick home on .94 acres, large open great room with roomy kitchen, breakfast bar and dining area. Vaulted ceilings and lots of windows make this home bright. 3 BR/2 BA, attached car garage, nicely landscaped with covered patio. \$146,000.

Executive home in Timber Ridge Subdivision, Temple. Two story home that has three living rooms, four bedrooms, and three-and-a-half baths. Master suite is downstairs. Informal and formal dining. Raised ceilings, Romeo balcony, wide open spacious kitchen with lots of storage. \$398,900.



Austin stone home with brick trim. Minutes from Stillhouse Hollow Lake on .6 acres. Stone fireplace and hearth. 4BR/2BA with spectacular entrance. Dining room, living room and kitchen are open with great room effect. Large utility room. Many upgrades. Two car attached garage. \$179,995

Magnificent country dream home on 2.14 acres in Salado. Many amenities with tile throughout home. Approx. 3,588 SF with attached garage. Custom built-in shelving in kitchen and study. 3 BR/2 BA. \$435,000.



Thomas Arnold Fourth Grade playwrights are shown at the historical marker in front of Stagecoach Inn on Main Street. They are (front row, from left) Rachel Ray, Abby Simmonds, Savannah Ortiz; (middle, from left) Kindell Hill, Jordan Drake; (back, from left) Kyle Heiner, Dane Hankamer, Davis Little.

## Young playwrights visit Stagecoach

Eight young playwrights from Thomas Arnold Elementary fourth grade classes were given a tour of Stagecoach Inn facilities. Stagecoach CEO, John Anderson, conducted the tour. The tour enhanced the melodrama the young playwrights are writing about Salado Creek and the Stagecoach Inn's springs. Lunch at the Stagecoach Inn dining room, was provided by Tablerock Festival of Salado following the tour.

Salado Authors Patsy Sanford, Elizabeth Silverthorn and Jackie Mills accompanied the children on the tour. Carey Quick, fourth grade teacher, was the school chaperone. Danny Agee, SISD employee provided transportation.

The young playwrights, Kyle Heiner, Dane Hankamer, Davis Little, Morgan Hill, Jordan Drake, Rachel Ray, Abby Simmonds and Savannah

Ortiz, have chosen fourth grade students to portray the roles in the melodrama. Rehearsals began on March 20, 3:30-5:00 p.m. and continue each afternoon, at Tablerock Amphitheater.

Proceeds from the melodrama will fund the children's senior trip. While the children are learning theater from the process of writing to production, including tech, directing, stage manager, sound, lighting, costuming and make-up, art work, sets, programs and running the concessions stand, they will also be making money. This is the 11th year that Tablerock has sponsored the Fourth Grade play under the direction of Jackie Mills.

The performance of *The Mysterious Three* will be at 7:30 p.m. May 13 at Tablerock Amphitheater. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 12 years of age.

## MCCA directories ready this month; clean-up day set

Gerry Reihsen, chairman of the Mill Creek Community Association's directory for 2006, has stated the directory will be ready for distribution this month. The block captains will obtain the new directories and deliver them to the members of the Association. Any one not a member can obtain membership by sending the \$20 to P.O. Box 562, Salado, TX 76571 and thereby receive a directory.

In addition, other plans for the MCCA include the April 29 Clean-Up

Day. Anyone wishing to join the group to pick-up trash and debris on the Mill Creek streets is invited to come to the Creekside Swimming Pool area at 8 a.m. for coffee, juice and donuts, where they will be issued trash bags, gloves, etc. before undertaking the clean-up. At noon a hot-dog lunch will be offered.

"Now is a good time for all residents to get together and form a bond to keep our neighborhoods neat," says Larry Linder, MCCA president.

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Ranch-style home with lots of room and trees! Metal roof, spa, playground, fenced backyard with pet pen, two storage buildings. Updates include limestone flooring, carpet, kitchen appliances, countertops, painting and many extras. 4 BR/2 BA for \$145,000. Price reduced to \$139,900.



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\$324,900: Belton address, Salado area and schools. Custom 4 BR/3.5 BA country home on 5.5 acres. Mother-in-law plan. Awesome wood flooring in entry, living and dining. Stately custom red oak cabinetry. Lots of crown molding. Master has separate sitting area, spacious bath, jetted tub.



\$595,000: Own a piece of Salado Creek. A Darwin Britt home built in 1987 with beautiful wood floors, beams and staircase designed by a true craftsman. 1910 beams from a Galveston warehouse accent the living areas. Walk through the archway of Belgium doors as you enter the formal living and dining room. Wonderful for entertaining on banks of Salado Creek.



\$289,900: This builder never builds the same house twice, so take advantage of this one-of-a-kind truly gorgeous home. Walk in and look through the abundant windows overlooking Mill Creek golf course. Front office could be 4th BR. Pay attention to all the detail work.



\$274,900: Recently constructed home in Heritage Subdivision. 4 BR/2.5 BA. Stone/brick combination in breakfast/dining area. Beautiful view out the front door. Check out this home and subdivision. Salado schools.



\$229,900: Spacious master suite is the highlight of this 4 BR home. Wood, tile and carpet flooring, gas log fireplace, granite countertops in kitchen and dining areas, separate shower and jetted tub in Master bath, large covered patio. Complete in early summer.



\$229,000: Completely and totally updated, this home is breathtaking. Walk in on hardwood to an open living/dining area that is ideal for entertaining. Corian kitchen countertops compliment double oven. Large master bedroom. Sits on .848 acre.



\$154,500: Great country setting. Two car garage has been enclosed for 4th bedroom. This can easily be converted back to garage. Horses allowed.



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\$281,800: Only 2 years old, nicely landscaped brick/stone 4 BR home has 3 full baths and is walking distance to Mill Creek golf course. Large backyard with covered patio and an arbor. Extensive crown molding, stone fireplace in family room, skylight in large kitchen.



\$218,000: Open living area consists of family room, den, dining and kitchen. Two fireplaces. Large windows overlook beautiful backyard from family room. Two BRs & bath downstairs with bedroom, bath and loft upstairs.



\$175,000: 3 BR/2.5 BA home in Wild Rose Subdivision. 2 dining, one living, split bedrooms. Separate shower and tub in Master Bath. Fenced backyard. Open kitchen and breakfast area. Wood floors through part of home.



\$53,900: Looking for investment/rental property? This just might be what you are looking for. This home needs many updates and will need to be sold as-is. Storage unit will remain on property.



\$84,500: Commercial building on Thomas Arnold Rd. close to Salado Schools, close to IH-35. 0.278 acre with 30X36 metal building.

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- 439 acs. on FM 487, Florence. Oaks, grasslands.
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#### Woods of Salado Lots

- Live Oak Rd. Lots 21 A&B \$70,000

#### Other Lots

- Windy Hill Ranch: 2 acre lots - \$35,000-\$45,000.
- Heritage: 1 to 3 acre wooded, near Salado. Restricted.
- Hidden Springs: Lot 2, Lot 31.
- Denman's Loop: Lot 8, B 19, Sec, 2, \$18,000.
- Terra Bella: 12 estate lots in park-like setting off Armstrong Rd. \$45,000-\$110,000.
- Jeremiah's Well: 11.9 acres with pond and well.

### Commercial Property

- \$429,000: 5.66 acres commercial property off Main Street Salado.
- \$149,000: 1.6 acres with good potential for commercial near I-35 & FM 2484.
- \$84,500: Commercial building on Thomas Arnold Rd. close to Salado Schools & I-35.
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By CLAIRE ANDERSON  
MOTHER EARTH NEWS

Ready to lower your water bills and create lush lawns and gardens? Even during drought conditions, you can tap into a rich water resource: 1,000 to 1,500 gallons of "graywater" per week are shunted down the drain by an average four-person U.S. household.

Graywater is nutrient-laden wastewater



## Tap into graywater for gardening.

*This garden in Santa Barbara, Calif., is a state graywater test site.*

(PHOTO BY ART LUDWIG)



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from bathroom sinks, showers, bath tubs and clothes washers, and it can be tapped for watering gardens, lawns and fruit trees. It includes all household water except toilet wastewater (also known as blackwater), which may contain high levels of bacteria and viruses.

### Shades of Gray

Graywater systems range from the rudimentary - dishpan water used to water trees - to the complex - graywater fixtures connected to a network of pipes in your landscape. Your irrigation needs, budget, and local plumbing and health codes will guide your decision regarding which type you can install.

Graywater systems can be retrofitted to existing plumbing, although the ease with which this is accomplished depends on where your plumbing lies. Your local plumber can help you determine your home's suitability and recommend options. If replumbing below floor level is not feasible, consider tapping your clothes washer, and routing that graywater to your thirstiest trees and shrubs.

### Costs & Savings

In a household that practices no water conservation, wastewater production from sinks, washing machines and bathroom showers averages nearly 400 gallons per person per week - enough water to maintain a 400- to 800-square-foot flower garden or small orchard. A close examination of your monthly water bills (outside of the irrigation season) can give you a rough idea of how much graywater your household produces. Be sure to subtract about one-third of your total gallons to account for blackwater (if

you use a low-flow toilet, subtract one-quarter).

The simplest graywater systems can be built by a homeowner for a few hundred dollars with off-the-shelf components. More-involved, whole-household graywater systems are best incorporated during a home and landscape's design phase, when drain pipes can be sited for best accessibility and location, with irrigation areas situated downhill from graywater sources. Depending on the regulations in your area, two separate systems - one for blackwater, one for graywater - may have to be installed.

Upfront costs for legally permitted systems hinge on the complexity of the system installed. NutriCycle Systems' box trough costs \$5,000, while ReWater's subsurface drip irrigation system carries a \$2,000 to \$3,000 price tag. Graywater systems also can be considered a long-term investment in the future, when both water and energy prices are certain to rise. Steve Bilson of ReWater Systems in Chula Vista, Calif., says at least half of his system's cost can be recouped in sewage-fee savings over the 20-year life of the system. And this, he says, doesn't even factor in savings from reduced use of municipal water for landscape irrigation.

### Safety Issues

To date, no cases of disease transmission through contact with graywater have been reported, although some experts caution against using graywater to irrigate garden vegetables, especially root crops that can come in contact with the graywater.

A 1992 study on subsurface graywater irriga-

tion systems conducted by the city of Los Angeles showed "no significant increase in the number of dangerous bacteria in the soil," and concluded that the background numbers of these bacteria in the natural environment far exceed the bacteria dispersed by graywater.

Regulations governing residential graywater systems vary from state to state and from region to region. To determine what systems, if any, are permissible in your area, consult with your county health department, and your local building or plumbing authorities. Locations lacking specific graywater guidelines may permit new systems under an "experimental systems" clause.

### Should You Go Gray?

Art Ludwig, author of *Create an Oasis with Greywater*, says if a sewer is like dumping all your cast-offs in one garbage can, a graywater system is like sorting them into separate recycling bins: Properly functioning graywater systems take some owner involvement, maintenance and care. So, a graywater system is not for everyone. Folks who have small yards or poorly drained soils, and those who have no irrigation needs, may not reap the economic and ecological benefits of reusing wastewater in the landscape. But if you can tap your graywater, the rewards - a lush landscape in the midst of drought, a bounty of fresh vegetables in the middle of winter - are well worth the extra effort.

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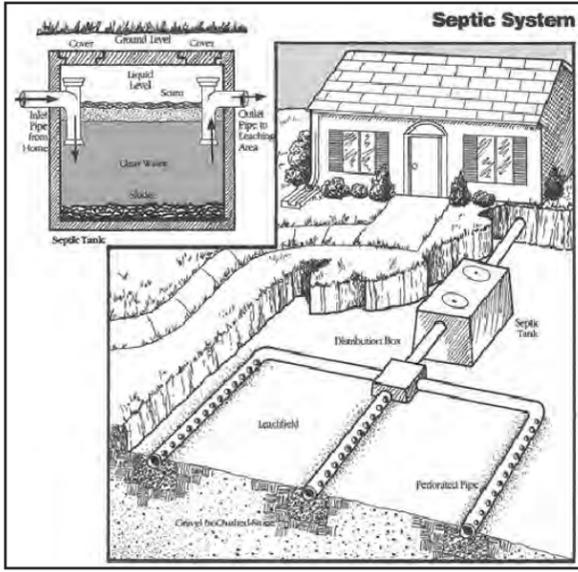
# Septic system basics

By CAROL STEINFELD  
MOTHER EARTH NEWS

David Hayward came home one summer day to find brown, swampy puddles in his front yard. As he puzzled over the brown ooze, his neighbor strolled over and identified the problem: "Looks like your septic system went." Until that day, David didn't know septic systems died - he thought of his system as a simple underground tank that just made wastewater disappear.

His local septic contractor pumped the system out - twice. The diagnosis: Clogged leach field. The recommendation: Replace the entire leach field to the tune of \$12,000.

While city dwellers connected to a public sewer typically flush and forget about it, homesteaders living outside of the municipal sewage system are forced to face their waste and are required to have their own wastewater treatment system, typically a septic system. And septic systems commonly fail, says Joe Brown, who operates Septic Sage, a septic pumping and consulting business in Newburyport, Massachusetts. "A septic system is more than a disposal system - it's a living ecosystem. You wouldn't feed your pet something it couldn't digest, nor would you give it more than it could eat or drink at one sitting. Yet we do that to septic



Typical design of a septic system.

systems all the time, and then wonder why they suffer from backups or clogged arteries and fail." To get the maximum life from your septic system, Joe says, install a good system in an appropriate place and monitor what goes into it.

In a poorly sited or malfunctioning septic system, disease-causing organisms and toxic chemicals can move into groundwater sources. A faulty system can leach nitrogen nutrients from urine into drinking water, causing a variety of problems. When ingested, nitrogen interferes with the blood's ability to carry oxygen, a condition known as methemoglobinemia, or blue baby syndrome, which can be fatal to infants. Nutrients also can make their way into surface waters, such as lakes and streams, resulting in excessive growth of plants. As the

plants die and decompose, they consume oxygen in the water, further choking off other aquatic life. And if you don't have a well-functioning septic system, you might be cited by local authorities and required to upgrade your system, often for a price tag of thousands of dollars

### Soil Absorption Systems

A common misconception is that the key component of a septic system is the septic tank. "The soil absorption system, or leach field, is where the real treatment occurs," Joe says.

After the septic tank has settled out solids, clarified wastewater is dispersed through perforated pipes into the soil. In Septic Tank Practices, Peter Warshall says soil is the key to clean water. It acts as a "physical strainer, chemical renovator and a biological recycler" for the wastewater passing

through it. Your soil absorption system may be called a leach field, leach bed, soil absorption field, seepage bed or mound, but all act similarly.

Beneath and to the sides of the pipes, a black, jellylike mat or biomat forms. This thin layer of anaerobic organisms helps regulate the flow of wastewater to the soil and preys on potentially pathogenic bacteria, viruses and parasites. It also converts nutrients into a form that can be used by plants or releases nutrients into the atmosphere as gases. The biomat also is a common trouble spot for clogging, as it has low permeability. Failing to pump out your septic system or discharging too much wastewater down the drain can lead to a buildup of organic material, which causes the biomat to grow too thick.

Your leach field may be a series of trenches into which wastewater flows by gravity. If your system is older, your leach field may be buried five feet deep. More modern leach fields use drip-irrigation lines, usually buried only six to eight inches under the surface to keep wastewater in the zone of microbiological activity and within the root zones of plants. Some septic owners use alternating fields: a shallow leach field in summer, when plants can use wastewater nutrients; and a deeper leach field in winter,

SEE SEPTIC, PAGE 11C

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# Earth Day projects for kids

*Dear EarthTalk: I'm looking for projects for my son's elementary school to do for Earth Day this year. Do you know of any that can teach children about taking care of our environment? -- Meryl Greenfield, Williston Park, NY*

Earth Day is April 22 this year and there's no time like the present to start preparing activities that will teach young people about the importance of protecting the planet. The Seattle-based Earth Day Network, founded by the organizers of the first Earth Day in 1970, offers a wide range of resources to help parents and teachers plan events and direct appropriate discussions on current topics. This year, the organization is focusing efforts on raising awareness about environmental problems associated with global warming.

Parents and teachers can register with Earth Day Network and receive free materials including lesson plans,

## EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers  
About Our Environment

information on how to get students engaged in local environmental activities, suggestions for hands-on and outdoor activities--even an environmentally-themed "Jeopardy" game.

Some other free resources offered by Earth Day Network include: an "Ecological Footprint Quiz," whereby kids can find out how much impact they personally have on the environment as determined by how they eat, live and travel; a series of informative fact sheets on climate change and alternative energy sources; and links on their website to other reputable information sources online. And if you're looking for Earth Day events to attend in your area, Earth Day Network's website allows you to simply type in your locale and get a continuously updated calendar of events local to you.

Meanwhile, Kaboose.com, an educational website for kids and families, features Earth Day pages with green-themed online games, suggestions for recycling everyday items into Earth-friendly crafts, and kid-oriented eco-discussion topics. And Education World offers lesson plans and activities covering a wide range of topics including here-and-now issues like in-school recycling and minimizing lunchroom wastes.

Another interesting way to educate kids and the public alike is the Earth Day Groceries Project: Parents or teachers borrow grocery bags from local supermarkets to be decorated with environmental messages and artwork by students. The bags are then returned to the store and used for bagging groceries on April 22.

For those looking to get real local, the Heartland All Species Project offers a free, web-based "Earth Day in Your Neighborhood" guide outlining ways kids can bring neighbors together to celebrate the Earth and commit to greener living. The concise and illustrated guide details ways to get composting,

tree planting, energy efficiency and recycling projects going on a street-by-street basis.

For additional ideas, consider perusing the posts on the Earth Day/Ecology Projects Chatboard on Teachers.net. Several teachers have posted ideas for Earth Day projects and activities, from putting on a play based on Dr. Seuss' Lorax, to raising money for school by recycling inkjet cartridges.

**C O N T A C T S :**  
Earth Day Network, [www.earthday.net](http://www.earthday.net); Kaboose.com, [www.kaboose.com](http://www.kaboose.com); [www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/earthday](http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/earthday); Earth Day Groceries Project, [www.earthdaybags.org](http://www.earthdaybags.org); Heartland All Species Project, [www.allspecies.org/neighbor/blocka.htm](http://www.allspecies.org/neighbor/blocka.htm); Education World, [www.education-world.com/holidays/archives/earthday.shtml](http://www.education-world.com/holidays/archives/earthday.shtml); Teachers.net, [www.teachers.net/projects/earthday](http://www.teachers.net/projects/earthday).

*Dear EarthTalk: Is it true that some foods we buy contain genetically engineered ingredients known to cause health problems? -- George Kaye, New York, NY*

First made available in the U.S. during the mid-1990s, genetically modified (GM) foods have become staples of American agriculture, though most consumers are unaware of this. According to the non-profit Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology, the majority of corn, soy and cotton grown by American farmers today are from seeds genetically engineered to repel pests without the need for spraying pesticides or herbicides. GM versions of canola, squash and papaya are also coming on strong in the U.S.

As is the case with so many scientific controversies, the jury is still out regarding the potential health effects of GM food products. But while conclusive results have been hard to come by, some of the few studies conducted on animals fed diets consisting of GM foods have generated some disturbing results.

In one study, potatoes engineered to contain an insect-repelling gene to improve agricultural yield caused intestinal damage in the test subjects--some lab mice. While the mice did not die from eating the altered food,

lesions that formed in their digestive tracts gave researchers pause enough to recommend more thorough testing of the "transgenic potatoes" before marketing them to humans.

In another study, mice were fed so-called "Flavr Savr" Tomatoes--tomatoes developed in the early 90s by Calgene that were "optimized for flavor retention." Similar lesions arose in the intestines of the mice, causing reviewers from the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) to conclude that "the data fall short of 'a demonstration of safety,'" adding, "unresolved questions still remain." Yet later, yielding to the pressure of industry lobbyists, the FDA not only approved the Flavr Savr for mass human consumption, but also claimed that all safety issues had been satisfactorily resolved.

According to Belinda Martineau, a Calgene researcher who later published the tell-all book, *First Fruit: The Creation of the Flavr Savr Tomato and the Birth of Biotech Foods*, when the Flavr Savr hit store shelves consumers were not particularly impressed with its taste. Also, farmers were coping with disease problems and low yields, the very problems the technology sought to address in the first place. Eventually the FlavrSavr--or "Franken tomato," as some cynics dubbed it--was abandoned altogether.

Its legacy lives on, however. Many environmental advocates feel that the FDA's nod on the Flavr Savr set the bar particularly low for approval of other GM foods that may or may not cause health problems. Further, it remains to be seen what effects these hybridized species might have on the environment at large, reason enough to delay the mass release of GM foods into the market until more is known.

Meanwhile, European countries have remained steadfast against allowing GM crops to be grown on their own farms for fear of widespread environmental contamination. And whether or not to allow GM food imports into Europe is a matter of great debate right now within the European Union.

**CONTACTS:** Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology, [www.pewagbiotech.org](http://www.pewagbiotech.org); First Fruit, [www.books.mcgraw-hill.com](http://www.books.mcgraw-hill.com).

**GOT AN ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTION?** Send it to: EarthTalk, c/o E/The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; or e-mail: [earthtalk@emagazine.com](mailto:earthtalk@emagazine.com).

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when plants are dormant. A diverter valve switches the flow.

Leach fields work best when the soil surrounding them is well-drained. Don't do anything that could compact the soil, such as driving heavy trucks over it (a lawn mower is fine). Grass planted over your leach field helps keep the soil aerated. Don't plant trees with deep roots, especially invasive species such as willows.

If your property does not have permeable soils or the soil is too permeable for filtering, your leach field may need to be built up with sand to create a mound system. Instead of distributing wastewater underneath the soil surface, wastewater is pumped up onto the mound, where it percolates through a layer of sand before contacting native soil.

**What About Additives?**

Beware of septic-additive products that claim to eliminate the need for septic tank pump-outs. The bacteria that help break down organic matter in your septic tank are naturally occurring; you should not need to add more. Studies consistently show most septic-additive products have little effect on septic systems, according to Michael Hoover at the Department of Soil Science, North Carolina State University. Although septic additives do contain biologically-based materials like bacteria, enzymes and yeast, they also can contain harmful solvents. Some additives, which claim to degrease your system, may damage your drain field, contaminate your soil and groundwater, and in some states, be illegal.

Subterranean Mysteries Revealed  
The Septic System Owner's Manual by Lloyd

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Kahn, Blair Allen and Julie Jones (\$14.95 on Mother's Bookshelf, Page 103) is a fun, easy-to-read book with fantastic information about maintaining your system. Full of excellent illustrations, the authors tackle this notoriously odoriferous issue with verve and simplicity. They lead the reader through the fundamentals of septic systems and explicitly, but gently, reveal their anaerobic innards and workings in layperson's terms. Includes a detailed chart to map your septic system and record routine

maintenance.

**Pumping It**

"A few times a year, I'll be called out to pump a system, and the homeowner doesn't know where it is," Joe says. "After a little probing, we'll find it under their new house addition or a driveway! When you buy a house, locate the septic system. Better yet, check out the system before you buy the house."

If you're unsure where your septic system's inspection or clean-out hatch is located, go into your basement and find your wastewater line - it's usually the largest-diameter pipe, made of plastic or cast iron - and follow its general direction outside. Probe the soil as far out as 15 feet. Look for raised or sunken spots in your yard, or areas where plants are growing particularly well. Once you find it, make a map.

"Some people will tell you that they've never pumped out their systems," Joe says. "In warmer climates and back when we didn't use so much water, toxics and nonbiodegradable products, this might have

worked. But these days, going long periods without pump-outs is asking for trouble."

After a new home is built, have the system pumped within the next six to 12 months, especially if toxic chemical finishing agents were rinsed into it. Most states offer convenient folders and charts on which you can calculate pumping frequency and keep accurate maintenance records.

A septic system must be pumped out periodically to remove both floating scum and the sludge on the bottom. Failure to do this can result in an expensive repair or even replacement of the entire system. Experts recommend pumping your septic tank every two to three years, unless you use grease traps and particle filters.

Next week: Septic care

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Enjoy morning coffee in a private sunroom overlooking the golf course. This spacious 2810 sq. ft. Mill Creek town home is great for entertaining. The oversized living room has a wet bar and built-in bookcases. A gourmet kitchen includes a butcher block island and is open to another living area with a fireplace! The master bedroom is oversized and boasts of a dressing room with vanity, many closets and more. If you like to entertain then this is a great place for you to be in Mill Creek. **Price reduced to 169,900!**  
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**TOP OF THE HILL, WHAT A VIEW!!** This lovely Mill Creek home is situated on 2 lots overlooking a private pond & comes with an additional wooded lot. **Antique** doors, sinks, cabinets, are just some of the extras. A spacious workshop comes with this special home!!

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**East of Salado, this 3/2.5/2 custom home** is fully landscaped. Granite countertops, large master bath, gutters and more. Study could be used as 4th bedroom. **\$247,500.**



**Enjoy the peaceful setting** of this tree-covered lot. 3/2/2 that is close in Salado all for just ~~\$179,900~~. **Price Reduced to \$169,900.**



**Large live oaks** make this 10 acre tract the perfect place for your home! Only 3 tracts available. Act now for First Choice! Prices from **\$125,000.**



**Great location!** 3/2 manufactured home with excellent location in Salado overlooking Salado Creek. Priced at **\$99,900.**



**Clean and Neat** on private street. 3/2/2 with open floor plan and fenced yard. **\$144,900.**



**Spacious Home on Quiet Street:** 6/6/1, the possibilities are endless with over 3,500 sq. ft. on approximately 1.4 acres. Home or business. Reduced **\$229,900.**



**Private ranch estate!** Austin stone home on over 11 tree-covered acres located southwest of Salado. Thermador appliances, hardwood floors, covered porches, 3 fireplaces. **\$699,900.**



**320 Acres** with ranch style house west of Jarrell. Call today for more details!

**Still available:** 230 Hill Country acres priced at **\$2,750** per acre.



**Century-old live oaks** surround this 4/2.5 home on over 22 acres. Beautifully updated, 12 ft. ceilings, 2 living areas, over 800 ft. of patios, well and water meter. Northwest of Salado. **\$324,900.**



**Beautifully restored railroad depot on 16+ acres.** Master suite, country kitchen, large suite for guests/children. Garage with lots of storage areas that could be extra living. Horse stables, everything you could ask for in a convenient home on the range. **\$525,000.**



**Excellent location in Salado!** 3 BR/3 BA home on over 6 acres surrounded by large live oak and pecan trees. Tall ceilings, open floor plan, hardwood floors, etc. Simply a must-see! **Priced at \$400,000.**



**4/2.5/2 - Escape to the Country** in this Austin Stone home on 2 tree-covered acres! Open & spacious floor plan, large kitchen, stainless steel appliances, beautifully landscaped, & much more! **\$282,900**

## Acreage/Lots

300 ac **UNDER CONTRACT**, \$2,500/acre.

340 acres southeast of Salado.

550 acres Hill Country with house west of Jarrell. Excellent commercial rock property.

Lots w/ sewage & water on Shady Lane.

145 acres northwest of Salado. Backs up to Corps of Engineers property. \$3,500 per acre.

7 acres oak trees, electricity & well, **\$85,000.**

5 acres in Hidden Springs, lot #271, **\$46,900.**

5 acres in Hidden Springs, lot #265, **\$49,900.**

2.7 acres fronting FM 2843. **\$29,900.**

3.018 acres on FM 2843. Large pecans & live water. **\$35,000.**

44 acres off of Firefly Road between Salado and Florence. Great Trees Will divide.

10 Acre Home Sites starting from

\$99,900. Live Oak Trees and Views!

Lot 290 Hidden Springs, \$49,000.

Lot 71 Hidden Springs creek front, \$69,950.

Lot overlooking Salado Creek, - ~~\$50,000~~ - reduced to **\$29,900!**

Beautiful treed lot, 178' deep, 1219 Indian Trail, Mill Creek, **\$36,000.**

Lot in **UNDER CONTRACT** Creek, \$45,000.

Royal **UNDER CONTRACT**, \$900.

Indian Trail at Blaylock, lg corner lot, 90x188 - **\$40,000.**

Indian Trail - 90x188 - **\$38,000.**

## Commercial

1.32 acre fronting I-35 with home, **\$350,000**

30 acres fronting I-35, 1 mile south of Stagecoach Inn.

.87 acres off N. Stagecoach Rd. **\$147,408.**

3 acres fronting I-35, Phase 3. **\$120,000.**

Approx 3.5 acres off College Hill with small home for **\$300,000.**

B&B: Great chance to live in Salado.

## Bell County

5+ acres fronting SH 190 and Boxer Road. Great commercial location.

Belton city water available. **\$299,000.**

2+ acres at **ccSOLD** of FM 1670 and HWY 190.

Exit 305 North of Temple. .54 acres with existing station. Excellent business opportunity.

**Come by our office located in The Veranda  
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