

Salado Village Voice

SISD Supt. to get new two-year contract

By RICHARD STONE
SPECIAL TO SALADO VILLAGE VOICE

Salado ISD Trustee President Jeff Kelley sheared most of the discussion items off the agenda to cut short the Jan. 18 school board meeting in

deference to the weather. One of the few items trustees debated was renewal of Superintendent Dr. Robin Battershell's contract. Trustee Jackie Burson moved that the district extend Battershell's contract one year.

Discussion followed to clarify the status of Battershell's current contract. Battershell pointed out her current contract ends this summer. Burson explained his motion was for a new, one-year contract to take effect at the expiration of

the current contract. Frank Carlson seconded the motion. Kelley argued against the one-year contract. "I personally feel she needs a two year contract so she ... won't have to worry about the political fall-out

of some of the decisions she has to make," he said. He added a multi-year contract was appropriate for someone with her track record and tenure with the district. Carlson said fewer and fewer districts of-

fered multi-year contracts. Trustee Miriam Ervi disputed that, saying, by her understanding, 90 percent of superintendents held multi-year contracts. Burson said he had no

SEE SALADO ISD PAGE 12



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE HOOD

Flooding and ice arrive with winter

Heavy rains sent debris and high water down Salado Creek, leaving Sirena (right) wrapped in a blanket of twigs and leaves on Jan. 14.

The Jan 15 cold front made for dangerous travel as standing water began to freeze.

Southbound I-35 traffic was diverted to the access road after a travel trailer turned over. (above) The couple from Quebec were on their way to Mission, Texas to escape the Canadian cold. No one was injured in the accident.

The application of 1000 lbs. of sand and 200 lbs. of rock salt by the Village went a long way to keep Salado streets safe. No accidents were reported on city roads according to Officer Bruno Matarazzo of the Salado Police Department.

The Village of Salado municipal building is available as an emergency shelter to anyone stranded or who might lose power during the extreme weather. The Municipal Building is located at the corner of Church and Blacksmith Streets. The facility is equipped with an emergency generator. If you lose power and need to stay at the building, bring your own blankets and pillows. Cots are not available.



PHOTO BY MARILYN FLEISCHER

Tourism's future hinges on new strategic plan

By RICHARD STONE
SPECIAL TO SALADO VILLAGE VOICE

Salado tourism officials are banking on a new vision and slogan to lure more visitors to town and to get them to stay longer once they get here.

A proposed new slogan, "Salado Opens its Doors for You," along with a new branding icon and a unified marketing vision, will be the focus of a series of public, town hall-style meetings in February designed to gather impressions from the general public about the future of tourism in Salado.

"The number one goal [of this effort] is to get people to spend the night," said Suzi Epps, Chairman of the Salado Tourism Committee.

More overnight visitors means more bed and sales tax revenue for the Village and more customers for local businesses.

To this end, tourism officials last year hired a group of consultants who

studied the issue then came up with a list of recommendations and strategies.

The committee saw the report, written by Destination Development, Inc, from Olympia, Wash., in September. Since then, it has met "a multitude of times," according to Epps, to discuss the report's findings and, in November, shared many of those findings with Village of Salado Aldermen.

The committee will meet one more time — 9 a.m., Jan. 23 — before launching the public meetings.

"This is important," said Epps. "But, for any strategic plan like this to work, everyone will have to buy into it. We all need to be part of this."

That's a major reason for the public meetings in February.

Epps said the meetings will be held at various times of the day and on some weekends to in-

SEE TOURISM, PAGE 8A

Village aldermen approve public restroom proposal

By RICHARD STONE
SPECIAL TO SALADO VILLAGE VOICE

Salado Aldermen met Jan. 15 to hear a proposal that would add a pair of public restrooms to the

south end of Main Street. Alderman Merle Stalcup said he has been talking to John Anderson of the Stagecoach Inn about the idea.

The Inn is building a

new retail building at the corner of Main and Royal. Anderson said he suggested the Inn include a pair of restrooms to the north end of the building and work

with the Village make them available to the public.

Anderson proposed that the Inn build and maintain the restrooms then lease them to the Village for \$600 a month on a seven-

year lease. The monthly rate will be adjusted each year based on the consumer price index, generally about a \$20 per month increase each year.

As part of the lease, the Inn will make sure the restrooms remain clean, stocked and in working order, even over busy holiday weekends.

SEE RESTROOM, PAGE 8A



Rooted in Salado
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Salado Lions Club hears an update on new county offices from County Judge Jon Borrows

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Salado Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet reschedules for 7:30 Jan 19

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FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas



When the Media's Right

First lady Laura Bush spoke for many conservatives when she excoriated the media's coverage of Iraq recently. She complained that "the drumbeat in the country from the media ... is discouraging," and said "there are a lot of good things happening that aren't covered."

What are those things, one wonders? One can only imagine how Mrs. Bush can figure that they outweigh the horrors in Iraq. The United Nations' High Commissioner for Refugees estimates that more than 1.6 million Iraqis have fled the country, about 7 percent of the population. But that means that an overwhelming 93 percent haven't left. Why doesn't the liberal media ever report that? About 120 Iraqis are killed per day, nearly 4,000 a month. But most are still living. Couldn't one of the morning shows do a soft feature on this heartwarming fact?

The mainstream media is biased, arrogant, prone to stultifying group-think and much more fallible than its exalted self-image allows it to admit. It also, however, can be right, and this is most confounding to conservatives.

In Iraq, the media's biases happen to fit the circumstances. Being primed to consider any military conflict a quagmire and another Vietnam is a drawback when covering a successful U.S. military intervention, but not necessarily in Iraq. Most of the pessimistic warnings from the mainstream media have turned out to be right -- that the initial invasion would be the easy part, that seeming turning points (the capture of Saddam, the elections, the killing of Zarqawi) were illusory, that the country was dissolving into a civil war.

Partly because he felt it necessary to counteract the pessimism of the media, President Bush accentuated the positive for far too long. Bush allowed himself to be cornered by his media critics. They wanted him to admit mistakes, so for the longest time, he would admit none. They wanted him to fire Defense Secretary

Rich Lowry



Donald Rumsfeld, so for too long he kept him on. They wanted him to abandon "stay the course," so he stuck to it. In so doing, he eroded his own credibility and delayed making the major strategic readjustment he needed to try to check the downward slide in Iraq.

The "good news" that conservatives have accused the media of not reporting has generally been pretty weak. The Iraqi elections were indeed major accomplishments. But the opening of schools and hospitals is not particularly newsworthy, at least not compared with American casualties and with sectarian attacks meant to bring Iraq down around everyone's heads in a full-scale civil war.

In their distrust of the mainstream media, their defensiveness over President Bush and the war, and their understandable urge to buck up the nation's will, many conservatives lost touch with reality on Iraq. They thought they were contributing to our success, but they were only helping to forestall a cold look at conditions there and the change in strategy and tactics that would be dictated by it.

Conservatives need to realize that something is not dubious just because it's reported by The New York Times, and that the media ultimately will be wrong about Iraq only if -- fully acknowledging how bad it is there -- the Bush administration takes bold steps to reverse the tide.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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2007 "Good-Bad News Year?" Iraq escalation; Craddick survives; State surplus; and \$\$\$\$ rest stops

State and national news thus far this new year can best be described with the opening words of Dickens' "Tale of Two Cities," (circa 1859): "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...."

In the first eighteen days of 2007, we have read, seen or heard massive amounts of "good and bad" news reports - several of which are noted below. Enough to give us pause to worry about what sort of year we're facing. Oh yeah, and let's not forget the palpitations that herald our annual bout with the IRS.

NATIONAL NEWS: IRAQ "PLAN B"

President Bush, on January 10, unfolded his revised plans to bring the Iraqi conflict to a conclusion, including 21,500 new troops scheduled (primarily) for Baghdad to end that city's bloody civil war raging between religious militias; Dividing Iraqi oil dollars between reconstruction and regional sects; and "Benchmarking" Iraqi leaders, to control their internal security problems by year's end. As to Bush's hinted Iran-Syria expansion of hostilities? Too Orwellian (and mind numbing) to consider.

The "great decider" is gambling that this "final" Iraqi effort will eventually prevail over a Democratic led Congress, and more than "a few" unhappy Republicans, who fear the inevitability of prolonging a lost cause.

Regardless, Bush has given the order and troops, supplies, equipment are on the move. Despite the pro-con chatter of Congress.

APROPOS OF WARS

Wise historians, over the centuries, have opined that it is a tragic mistake to put wars solely in the hands of politicians, and even worse the military. Leaving of course - life without wars. Which will never happen. Be bad for "neo-con" business ambitions and interests.

TEXAS NEWS:

CRADDICK SURVIVES

Tom Craddick (R-Midland) won a third term as Speaker of the House of Representatives 121-27, but only after quelling an uprising by unhappy Republicans (abetted by Democrats) who were tired of his dictatorial leadership "style."

The attempted coup was led by dispirited Craddick lieutenant - Jim Pitts (R-Waxahachie). Pitts, Chairman of the powerful Appropriations Committee (or was), had the backing of Senfronia Thompson (D-Houston) and her Black Caucus for a grand total of 60+ Democrats.

The revolution (needing 75 votes) failed, several hours after the 80th session convened (January 9), following a key vote which tabled a motion (80-69) to elect the Speaker by secret ballot. Craddick had demanded the "secret" procedure be defeated. Pitts surrendered and the rebellion collapsed.

SPEAKER TO PLAY NICE

Craddick promised to be a nicer guy in the future: "If in any way I fall short of your expectations and needs, please tell me, and I will do my best to correct that shortcoming."

Thompson, speaking for her followers, said she was glad to hear Craddick's promises but: "I will be convinced when I see a change. All we've heard are words and as you know - talk is cheap around here."

LEGISLATURE'S SURPLUS:

At first blush, news that Legislators had nearly \$15 billion surplus dollars

Off the Record by Ken Clapp



to spend during their new session, should have caused great joy **since spending (without raising new taxes) is the closest some of these folks will ever get to "law-making heaven."**

However, one question dampened the party: "Will these extra dollars be used to restore funds slashed during the past four years from both infrastructure and public service budgets?"

That answer was predictable (without even quizzing our Governor or GOP lawmakers) and is **included in the "Common Shibboleth" subscribed to by all good conservatives:** "The more we cut gum-mint, the less we pay in taxes. So we'll continue reducing public assistance services; privatize as much government as possible; and continue the reduction of state employees."

There's more - but you get the idea.

MILLION \$\$ REST STOPS

A sizeable number of Saladoans were shocked at the cost of the two new rest stops, currently under construction just south of the Village. On January 4 the *Salado Village Voice* had carried a front page **photo-story of the project and its \$16 million invoice.**

John Obr, TxDot's area engineer explained the price tag included cost of land, site prep, expanded parking areas, and the two restroom buildings - one on each side of I-35.

Actual cost of each facility will be \$3 million dollars. Engineer Obr noted that the "water closets" are more motorist-friendly than today's fifty year old rest stops.

WATCH OUT FOR KELSO

John Kelso, Austin American Statesman's resident "Doctor of Drollery," was taken aback when he learned about our high dollar "potty stops" and since this is a family newspaper, we'll omit his earthy barbs.

Good old John did provide us with a potentially useful tidbit. Seems that Pennsylvania names their Turnpike "comfort stations" after prominent citizens (don't you love the way bureaucrats designate things?).

We suspect Kelso, employing his usual savoir-faire, **will no doubt tag our restrooms "Golden Potties" or some other impish title that will have everyone, (except TxDot), giggling.**

NAME THE REST STOP CONTEST?

Not wanting to be a copy-cat, we have come up with a Keystone Kop type twist that might be fun. **How about a local contest to name our two "comfort-stop-overs" for Saladoans who "deserve" honoring in this fashion?**

And please - please, don't get too zany and turn in "Howdy- Doody" of "It's Howdy-Doody Time" as suggestions.

We might cajole our local branch of the International Society of "Do-No-Gooders" to serve as contest judges, thus giving them something "good" to do (for a change), other than just drink coffee (which they are still doing with alarming regularity at the Stagecoach Coffee Shop).

Give us your ideas and nominations for "Name the Rest-stop Contest" (e-mail: kclapp@saladovillagevoice.com).

We might even get this challenging effort underway in time for the winner to be "Grand Marshall" at our next Main Street parade.

That's -30-

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Jim Hightower

As anyone who has read the New Testament knows, Jesus spent most of his life among the poor and the shunned, rather than hanging out with the rich. Indeed, he frequently blasted the avarice of the wealthy elites of his day, even declaring that, “It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God.”

But, gosh, if Jesus visited our country today, surely he would feel the pain of the modern rich - wouldn't he? For example, consider the tragic agony of "wealth status." Let's take the case of some swell who's sitting on \$999,999,999. Are you aware that this poor wretch does not even make the "Forbes" list of America's 400 richest people!?!

In this year's ranking, it took a billion dollars just to be number 400 on the list. Sure, such ultra-richies as Bill Gates, Michael Dell, and all five Wal-Mart heirs easily acquired "Forbes" status, but what about Martha Stewart, Steve Case, and others whose incomes fell short his time and were unceremoniously dropped from the list? Forget about fishes and loaves for the masses - what about caviar for the "Forbes" rejectees?

Also, what many of us ordinary riff-raff fail to understand is that while the rich have so much money, it costs them a bundle to live. Were you aware, for example, that there was a 10 percent hike last year in the price of a Sikorsky S-76C helicopter with VIP options? No, I dare say you were not. Also, the price of six-passenger Lear jets is by up to \$350,000 this year - and you don't even want to know about the cost of housing in the Hamptons!

Yes, while Jesus focused on the poor and the wretched, he also kept a wary eye on those who chose to serve mammon. And so should we. Blessed are the rich, for they will inherit the fate they so richly deserve.

JIM HIGHTOWER IS THE BEST-SELLING AUTHOR OF "THIEVES IN HIGH PLACES: THEY'VE STOLEN OUR COUNTRY AND IT'S TIME TO TAKE IT BACK," ON SALE NOW FROM VIKING PRESS.

FORUM

New approach adds up to a better way to get results

The road to hell, they say, is paved with good intentions. Frequently, so is the road to government waste. Three years ago, President Bush announced a \$15 billion initiative to fight AIDS in developing nations. Our government has spent freely since, but it's unclear how many people we've helped. The program, says a recent Associated Press report, "pushed so hard for fast results that basic record keeping and account-

Heritage Forum

**Edwin Feulner, President
The Heritage Foundation**



ability often went by the wayside, making it hard to judge the true success.”

John B. Taylor could have predicted this. In his new book, **Global Financial Warriors**, the former Treasury undersecretary

for international affairs writes that, when it comes to government aid programs, "What gets measured gets done." And he found the opposite is true: When there's no system in place to gauge results,

there are seldom (if ever)
any results to gauge.

During his four years at Treasury, Taylor got results -- in areas he'd planned to and in areas he couldn't have imagined when he was confirmed in 2001.


"I had come into government with lots of ideas and hell-bent for reform," he writes. Reforming the International Monetary Fund "was perhaps my highest priority." In his

book, he explains how he accomplished that -- and helped improve global bond markets by doing so.

One problem plaguing international lenders is that it's impossible for them to compel countries to repay money. During the 1990s, for example, Russia defaulted, sending shock waves through the bond markets.

Taylor wisely recognized that because interna-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5A



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Do You Know Where Your Investments Are?

You can lose your gloves. You can lose your keys. But you'd never lose track of your investments, would you?

Actually, you might be surprised at just how many people do forget about investments or leave them behind when they

move. Every state maintains unclaimed-property offices to deal with millions of dollars worth of stocks, bonds, bank accounts, uncashed checks, pensions, 401(k)s and IRAs.

To avoid losing track of your financial assets, follow these suggestions:

Keep records of all bank accounts and investments. It would probably take just a few minutes for you to write up a list of all your bank accounts and investments. And you don't have to go into great detail, either — just include the type of account and where it's currently held. Make sure you share this list with a family member.

Inform banks and brokers when you move or change names. Notify your bank, broker, 401(k) administrator, insurance company and any other financial-services agency you work with if you move or change your name due to marriage or divorce.

Cash checks promptly. Whenever you receive distributions from a re-

Financial Focus

by Allen Mantanona



might need. With all your account and tax statements coming from the same place, you should find it relatively easy to keep track of all your holdings.

Furthermore, by consolidating your assets at a single financial institution and working with a single financial professional who knows your needs and goals, you may actually end up improving your overall financial position. Why? Because if you maintain several accounts without a central focus or unifying philosophy, you could end up with redundant or inappropriate investments — a costly mistake. At the same time, you could pay more than is necessary for a variety of banking or money-management services spread out among several providers.

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CHECK THE HISTORY BOOKS!

Buying and Selling

By Ryan Hodge

Bubble, bubble, toil and trouble! There's no doubt that the real estate marketplace is settling down from its breakneck pace of the last few years. There's also speculation that the real estate "bubble" is going to burst, but it's nearer the truth to say that the most overheated markets are losing steam, while other markets are

reasonably readjusting.

The biggest worry swirling around the whole issue relates to mortgage interest rates, and whether we're looking at 7% rates on the horizon. Before anyone begins to panic, however, it's useful to reflect on history. During the last thirty-four years, interest rates were lower than today only four times. To review, rates were 6.79% in 1998, 5.92% in 2003, and 5.71% in 2004 and again in 2005.

The average interest rate in the 1990's was 9.8%, and in the 1980's it averaged 12.62%! Double-digit loan rates were common in the seventies and eighties. It should be pretty clear by now that real estate markets everywhere will find a way to survive interest rates rising to 7%!

Buyers have always been plentiful, and will continue to be. Buyers will still compete for homes, but the most attractive homes will be those which the sellers present in great condition and at a fair price. Consult a professional to outline your no-nonsense approach to selling in a cooling market.

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NEW APPROACH — FROM PAGE 3A

tional bonds exist beyond the reach of any government, there couldn't be a governmental solution to this problem (even though that's what the IMF wanted). Instead, he pressed lenders and borrowers alike to agree to "collective action clauses," measures written into contracts that would reduce the likelihood of default by giving both parties ways to renegotiate debt if a country's economy sours.

Thanks to Taylor's policies, the international economy is turning away from IMF bailouts. Instead, developing nations are focusing on long-term, pro-growth policies, such as maintaining a strong currency. This is helping to reduce the threat of global contagion -- the domino effect where one country's default causes interest rates to rise for other countries. "Our strategy of moving gradually and trying to signal intentions, which we hoped would let markets adjust over time to control the global contagion, had worked," he notes.

In addition to carrying out his planned agenda, Taylor also helped fight the war against terrorism. As the 9/11 Commission wrote in its "Monograph on Terrorist Financing," in the months after the attack, "The U.S. government focused, for the first time, on terrorist financing and devoted considerable energy and resources to the problem."

Taylor describes our government's successful effort to freeze terrorist financing, build a coal-

tion of countries willing to support the freeze and create an effective monitoring system to ensure countries were keeping their promises.

He also details Treasury's efforts to win the peace in Afghanistan and Iraq. By the fall of 2001, the United States had persuaded donors to provide \$4.5 billion to Afghanistan. We then helped get the country's new government running. In Iraq, Taylor helped persuade our allies to forgive some 80 percent of the country's pre-war debt.

Government success, Taylor concludes, flows from clear, understand-

able principles. "Principles provide an anchor or a guide, which is especially useful when you can be thrown off track by pressures," he says. "The more confidence you have in the principles, the better."

During his time at Treasury, Taylor certainly had confidence in his principles. That's how he got so much done. Anyone who wants to know how government can work when it's well handled should read Taylor's book -- and follow Taylor's example.

EDWIN FEULNER IS PRESIDENT OF THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION (HERITAGE.ORG), A WASHINGTON-BASED PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND CO-AUTHOR OF THE NEW BOOK GETTING AMERICA RIGHT.



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MOAA meets at noon Jan 19

The Central Texas Chapter of the Military Officers of America Association (MOAA) will meet at Noon Jan. 19, at the Yank Sing Restaurant in Killeen. Lunch starting at eleven a.m. is available prior to the noon business meeting. The Chapter Board of Directors will meet at 11 a.m.

The program will be Installation of 2007 Chapter Officers and a representation by Judge Bill Cooke, Justice of The Peace, Precinct 4, Killeen. Judge Cooke will provide a review of 2006 activities of his office and an overview for 2007.

The meeting is open to all former or present officers and widows and widowers to all Armed Services.

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SPORTS

Lady Eagles move to 4-3 with win over Rosebud

The Lady Eagle hoopsters once again pushed their district tally above the .500 mark Jan. 12, with a dominating 50-26 triumph at home against Rosebud-Lott.

Salado, now at 4-3 and 8-14 overall, took advantage of a 22-point offensive explosion in the second period to build an 18-point halftime lead, 28-10. The teams began sluggishly in the first, managing only 11 points between them. The Salado offense caught fire in the second, though, allowing the Lady Eagles to open up a comfortable lead which they would not relinquish.

Although Rosebud-Lott outscored Salado 10-7 in the third, a 15-point fourth period effort from the Lady Eagle offense insured that the double-digit lead would not be reduced.

Rosebud-Lott did not feature a single player who scored above five points in the game, and fell to 1-6 in District 25AA.

Salado, on the other hand, had two players crack double figures, led

by Danielle Hazzard, who topped all scorers with 12 points. Close behind was Brittany Gilchrest, who recorded 11 points. Maria Perez scored eight points, while Cortney Dunnahoo had six and Kristen Smith had five. Kaylan Hearne contributed five points in the win.

Previously, on Jan. 9, the Lady Eagles took the court against the Florence Lady Buffaloes, losing a low-scoring road game by a final of 34-26. The game was either team's to take heading into the fourth period of play, with Florence entering the frame nursing a slim 25-24 lead. The Lady Buffs put some distance between themselves and the Lady Eagles with a strong defensive showing, limiting Salado to only two points in the fourth. Florence, meanwhile, registered enough points - nine - to gain the win.

A total of seven Lady Eagles contributed points in the loss, though none had more than Kelsey Gobin's six. Hearne managed five points, and Hazzard and Tamra Stanish both accounted for four. Rounding out the scorers were Cortney Dunnahoo, with three, and Smith and

Gilchrest, who each had two.

Following a Jan. 16, post-presstime matchup with Academy, the Lady Eagles will confront Jarrell on the road Jan. 19 in another critical district contest.

JH boys split games with Rosebud-Lott

Salado's 8th-graders fell short against Rosebud-Lott last week, but the 7th grade teams romped over the Cougar cubs.

A nine-point third quarter helped the Cougars move past the 8th-grade Eagles 30-25. Salado built a 15-12 half-time lead but could only muster 6 points in the second. Clint Scarborough lead the Eagles with 6 points.

Koby Spears lead the 7th-grade A team with 14 points and Austin Silva add 12 more as the Eagles hammered Rosebud-Lott 51-4.

The 7th-grade B squad also had an easy time beating the Cougs 26-2. Devan Patterson, Michael Sellers and George Romfh each scored six points in the win.

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Salado's Kaylan Hearne battles for a loose ball in Salado's 50-26 win over Rosebud-Lott. (PHOTO BY MARILYN FLEISCHER)

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Sale tax dips in Salado

Salado’s first sales tax rebate for 2007 is down almost five percent compared to last year’s January payment as the Village received \$26,887.25, compared to \$28,124.55 in 2006, which is a 4.39 percent drop.

While the Village showed a decline in sales tax revenues, other cities in the county showed dramatic increases. In

fact, payments to all Bell County cities totaled \$3.1 million, or 16 percent more than the \$2.7 million paid in 2006. Temple showed a dramatic increase of 26 percent from \$1 million in 2006 to \$1.2 million in 2007.

Salado Public Library District also showed an increase in its January rebate payment. The District received \$19,571.70, which is seven percent more than

last year’s January payment of \$18,242.71. The Library District levies a half-cent sales tax within its boundaries that are equivalent to the Salado ISD boundaries.

Bell County, too, improved, receiving more than \$1 million for the half-cent it levies, compared to \$907,089.91 last year, about a 15 percent increase.

Comptroller Susan

Combs announced Jan. 12 that the state collected \$1.67 billion in sales tax revenue in December, up 6.7 percent compared to December 2005.

Combs sent cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts their first sales tax allocations of 2007. January payments to local governments total

SEE SALES TAX ON PAGE 12A

TOURISM

crease the general public’s opportunities to attend and to make suggestions. The meeting schedule will be announced during the next tourism meeting. Copies of the report will be available at the Chamber of Commerce and on it’s Website beginning Jan. 25.

The consultants’ report recommended 25 specific items as part of a comprehensive strategic tourism

plan for Salado.

Committee members approved most of the recommendations, and modified others.

Chief among those suggestions is that Salado should develop a specific identity or brand that sets it apart from other destinations, and show that there is enough to do to here justify an overnight stay.

When the consultants

first evaluated Salado’s image, especially over the Internet and through major Texas visitor information sources, the Village’s visibility wasn’t very high. Communities like Fredericksburg, New Braunfels and Waco appeared more attractive to the “secret shoppers” assigned to find a Central Texas town suitable for a weekend get-away.

Once visitors decide to stop and stay, Salado needs the civic and cultural infrastructure to make the stay enjoyable. Lack of a sewer system downtown — and, therefore, public restrooms

— is one impediment, the report noted, as are inconsistent after hours entertainment options and irregular business hours.

The report recommends that officials develop public and private signage standards that enhance Salado’s identity and upgrade tourism Websites to make them more informative, easier to navigate and easier find information on lodging and events without ‘click-thrus.’

Activity guides, better access to information for visitors and training were also prominent in the recommendations.

FROM PAGE 1A

RESTROOMS FROM PAGE 1A

Over the term of the lease, but before CPI escalations, the city will spend just over \$50,000.

“We spent almost that much on the restrooms at Pace Park,” Stalcup said, noting that the sum doesn’t include maintenance of those restrooms. “This appears to solve this problem for a long period of time.”

Alderman Michael Cooper agreed that the proposal fills an acute need but argued that other sources of funding should be explored.

“It’s imperative that we split

this up with someone,” he said, “otherwise, we’ll have people complaining that we’re spending this money on something they get no benefit from.”

Mayor Rick Ashe noted that a village map and a rack for brochures will be mounted at the restroom’s entry so some money could come from tourism.

Before approving the proposal on a unanimous vote, Ashe and other aldermen agreed with Cooper’s notion that other funding sources are available and should be pursued.

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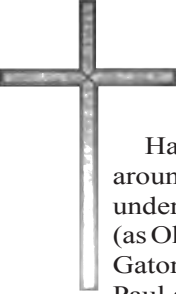
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Church and People

Mayor addresses Ladies Auxiliary

The Salado Ladies' Auxiliary had a chance to bend the ear of Mayor Rick Ashe during his presentation on the "State of Salado" at their Jan. meeting.

Mayor Ashe touched on the triumphs and challenges that have faced the village over the past few years. "We have come a long way."

The city offices, the addition of new staff and taking over the day to day operation of Pace Park, including the new rest rooms are just a few things the Mayor is proud of.

He also voiced his pride in organizations like the Auxiliary, noting the organizations long time efforts on behalf of the village.

The growing Village has brought growing challenges. Building permits



Rick Ashe, Mayor

and the fiscal future of the Village are hurdles the that still need to be overcome.

The Mayor predicted that "in 3-5 years spending is going to outpace our income."

Ending the afternoon on a positive note he encouraged the community to be involved and let their opinions on city issues be heard.

The Auxiliary announced their slate of officers for 2007 at the

meeting as well. Incoming President, Jo Glass introduced the new officers to those assembled. Sarah Beth Carruth, Secretary; LaNora Miller, Treasurer; Carol Strong, Chamber of Commerce Representative; Miriam Jordan, Publicity Chair; Linda Hill, Membership Chair; Helen Clayton, Hospitality Chair

and Greeter Coordinator; Judy Beisel, Christmas in October Chairperson; Maurine Nathanson, Community Service Chair; Joan Ray, and Robin Brey, Quilt Raffle Chairpersons, Patty Cambell, Art Fair Chairperson; Doris Denman, Sunshine Chair; Cathy Sands and Susan Terri, Historians.



2007 Salado Ladies' Auxiliary Officers.
(PHOTO BY STEPHANIE HOOD)



Young adults and children who conducted worship at the Presbyterian Church of Salado on Jan. 7 are pictured with Pastor Rev. Carl Thompson. Beginning back left are Greg Faber, Johnny Kendall, Matt Arrant, and Sara Sebt. The boys at the front from left to right, are Simon Pinkston, Luke Arner, and Brady Carlson.

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L-R Larissa Ingalsbe, Justen Farrell-Rayborn and Royce Wiggin
PHOTO BY MARILYN FLEISCHER

Salado Lions announce winners of essay contest

The Salado Lions Club scholarship essay winners received awards at the Jan. 10 gathering of Lions.

The essay competition topic assigned was "What are some positive changes made in diabetic care and research in recent years?"

Salado High School students placing in the top three positions are: first place receiving \$100, Royce Wiggin, second place receiving \$75 Larissa Ingalsbe and \$50 third place Justen Farrell-Ray-

born. The first place winner Royce Wiggin will compete at the District level essay competition, Jan 20 in Corsicana. Monetary prizes will be awarded to the top three positions.

Lion Loretta Ruth commended Salado High School speech teacher Tim Cook for his assistance and cooperation in serving as a liaison with the students participating.

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Burrows delivers update to Salado Lions

Bell County Judge Jon Burrows told the Salado Lions Club last week that the new District Courts building is complete.

One new aspect of the building is metal detectors and security guard at all entrances. He reiterated that absolutely everyone will pass through security.

In the past, before entering the courtroom, those attending made last minute trips to the rest rooms to dispose of illegal items which were later delivered by court officers to him for inspection.

Burrows said that prisoners will no longer travel the same hallways as they now have their own sally port and holding cells. The wooden doors leading to the holding cells from the court room are reinforced with a steel door entrance. Prisoners also have their own elevator as well as secure elevators for judges and staff.

He added that this building was designed with future expansion in mind.

Amid all the new office building and jail construction, Burrows reminded everyone that his office has not moved. He can still be found in the historic courthouse.

The old district courthouse is currently undergoing upgrades to bring the building up to code. Some problems being addressed are stairs, elevators and handicap facilities. As the upgrades are made this building will become a training facility for the Sheriff's office.

The first floor office is where permits, warrants and more will be issued. The second and third floor will be investigators offices. The



Bell County Judge Jon Burrows

fourth floor will be used for court functions such as child support and child protective services cases involving abuse.

The old jail remains a jail facility with a capacity of 709. New additions for the jail will begin around the end of January to be added just south of the new District Court offices. This 630 bed addition will take approximately 16-18 months to complete.

In closing, Burrows said Bell County has a strong financial rating of Triple A and is financially sound enough, to cover the unexpected, like the influx of 3,000 evacuees from Katrina that required housing. He also noted that FEMA refunded those expenditures from federal funds.

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Obituaries

Dr. Welborn Kiefer Willingham, 78, of Salado, Texas, died Saturday, Jan. 13, 2007, after a brief illness.

Willingham, known as “Will” by his many friends, patients and colleagues, was born March 12, 1928, in Fisher County, Texas. He was the son of W.B. Willingham and Madge Eason Willingham.

A 1949 graduate of Texas Tech University, Willingham received a Masters degree at The University of Texas and a Ph.D. at Tech. As an undergraduate, Willingham was sophomore class president, a member of and first pledge trainer of Saddle Tramps, Tech's spirit organization, and a member of Socii Fraternity which later became Sigma Nu.

After a brief stint as an officer in the United States Air Force, from which he retired in later years as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Reserves, Willingham spent most of his working life in academia. He was a professor in the Department of Education



at Texas Tech, an adjunct professor at Tech's medical school, and retired with the distinction of Professor Emeritus.

A practicing psychologist, Willingham founded a counseling center in Lubbock. He was an active member of the North American Society of Adlerian Psychology, in which organization he was a delegate and leader for many years. He founded that association's Graduate Student Forum and served as its director, encouraging many young people in the profession.

In recent years Willingham enjoyed his retirement, while overseeing his ranching interests in Fisher and Scurry Counties.

On Aug. 14, 1950, he

married a Lubbock native, Maxine McCollum, following a campus romance. After his Air Force tour of duty, University of Texas studies and a brief period in Hale Center, as the youngest school principal in the state at that time, they made their home in Lubbock, where they raised their family.

In 2006, they relocated to Salado, where they had built a vacation home. Willingham's ancestors were early settlers in Salado.

Will is survived by his wife of 56 years, Maxine;

his three children: Sharon Willingham Harris of Garland, Dr. Douglas B. Willingham of Salado, and Sheila Willingham McBeth of Sarasota, Florida. He is also survived by six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Private graveside services were held Jan. 15, 2007 at the Willingham Cemetery in Salado, officiated by the Rev. Thomas A. Wallace, Rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Belton.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to one's charity of choice.

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Monday 22	Breakfast Pocket	Corn Dog, Ranch Style Beans, Carrot Sticks, Applesauce	Chef Salad Hoagie	Chicken Fried Steak, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Texas Toast, Pears	Corn Dog Tater Tots
Tuesday 23	French Toast	Fried Chicken, Peas, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Roll, Fresh Fruit	Chef Salad Hoagie	Beef Stew, Corn, Peas & Carrots, Mixed Fruit, Cornbread	Hamburger Frito Lay
Wednesday 24	Biscuit and Sausage Patty	Pepperoni Pizza, Corn, Breadstick, Peaches	Yogurt & Fruit Plate Hoagie	Pepperoni Pizza, Roasted Red Potato, Corn, Breadstick, Peaches	Chicken Sandwich Baked Potato
Thursday 25	Breakfast Bagel w/Sausage	Early Release Day - No Lunch Served			
Friday 26	Breakfast on a Stick	Cheeseburger, Fries, Fruity Freeze	Chef Salad PB&J Sandwich	Hamburger, Fries, Pinto Beans, Apple Slices, Fruity Freeze	Meatball Sub
Daily	Toast & Jelly, Fresh Fruit, Cereal, Juice and choice of Milk	Choice of Milk		Pizza Hut Pizza, Chef Salad, Fresh Fruit, Jalapeno, Choice of Milk, Tea	



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SUPT. FROM PAGE 1A

qualms with Battershell's performance, he simply preferred one-year contracts.

Trustee Lynn Renfro called the question and ended debate.

The motion to approve a one-year contract failed on a 2-5 vote.

Ervi motioned that the district offer Battershell a two-year contract. Chris Seaton seconded and that motion passed 5-2.

The other item to receive significant attention regarded adoption of a board policy banning the Warbird symbol.

Carlson said he was concerned about the direction of Salado High School traditions. He proposed adding language to school district policy that would prohibit "nicknames other than the Eagle in school and school sponsored events" or the use of tax

money to produce clothing or school materials without the official school logo.

Battershell said she was confident the board's official adoption of a mascot, school colors and school song was sufficient to enforce the use of the Eagle and appropriate colors and discourage the use of alternate logos and colors.

Kelley said he preferred a less stringent response than an all-out ban. "The word 'prohibit' bothers me," he said. "If you tell kids that you are going to prohibit something, you're just setting yourself up. I want each generation to find their own identity. I feel the administration took appropriate steps to ensure that."

Again, Renfro called the question and ended debate.

The motion was defeated 1-6.

Sales Tax—from Page 8A

\$417.8 million, up 4.2 percent compared to January 2006.

"It's good news that Texas cities, counties and other local entities continue to see a healthy increase in sales tax revenue, be-

cause of strong consumer spending," Combs said. But she also expects slower sales tax growth in the next two years. "We may see factors like more moderate consumer spending, a cooling housing market and stabilizing oil and gas prices affecting sales taxes."

Comptroller Combs sent January sales tax allocations of \$282.3 million to Texas cities, up 8.5 percent compared to January 2006. Texas counties received sales tax payments of \$25.3 million, up 10.3 percent compared to last January.

Another \$12.7 million went to 115 special purpose taxing districts around the state, up 14.5 percent compared to last January. Ten local transit systems received \$97.3 million in sales tax allocations, down 8.7 percent compared to a year ago.

December state sales tax collections and January allocations to local governments represent sales that occurred in November.

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Salado

Village Guide

Shopping Map
Pages 6-7B

Section B Salado Village Voice January 18, 2007 12 Pages Shopping, Dining, Overnight, Events

Museum history traced for Salado Rotarians

Stephanie Turnham, Curator-Director of the Bell County Museum, briefed Salado Rotarians on the museum’s history and purpose at the group’s most recent meeting.

Turnham is a graduate of Baylor University with an undergraduate degree in History and a graduate degree in American Studies. She came to Belton from Sante Fe, New Mexico in 1994.

Turnham opened her discussion with a history of the Bell County Museum.

The museum was run by volunteers until the late 1980s, when it was moved

to Belton’s 102 year-old Carnegie Library building after it was completely restored in 1991.

The museum is now governed by a separate body, after a 1991 fund raising drive, the Bell County Historical Commission.

The commission has a separate county budget of about \$200,000 and an appointed Director.

Over 7,000 people have visited the museum since May.

In 2001, the Commission acquired the historic building next door, which was originally a car dealership, and raised \$1.2 mil-



Bell County Museum Curator Director Stephanie Turnham

lion to incorporate the new building into the old Carn-

egie Library facility.

The Commission raises

money for exhibits through activities such as an annual rummage sale, grants and fund raisers.

The new facility has included a space near the entrance for young people to dig and learn about archeology.

It also houses a library/research center and gift shop which includes items such as a replica of the Historic Salado United Methodist Church.

The museum has been involved in the famous Bell County Gault Archeological site which contains what is considered to be

evidence that White Caucasian Europeans occupied areas of the U.S. some 25,000 years ago.

This was prior to the ancestors of the American Indians that migrated by way of the Bering Straits, thought to have arrived on the continent about 10,000 years ago.

The site is in Bell County, near Youngsport. The Bell County museum includes Iberian Peninsula artifacts from the site.

Several major exhibits are planned including a 2009 Rembrandt-Albrecht Durer exhibit.

--REPORTED BY GERRY REIHSEN

These Salado Shops are
open on Sunday

Accents of Salado

11:30am-5pm

All Lathered Up

10am-5:30pm

Angelic Herbs and Inspirations

11am-4pm

ArchAngel Antiques

Noon-5:30pm

B. Herd Gallery

11:30am-5pm

Bird in the Hand

Noon-5pm

Brownings Courtyard Café

11am-3pm

Carden's

Noon-5pm

Charlotte's of Salado

10:30am-5pm

Christy's

Noon-5pm

Classics on Main

1pm-5pm

Cowboy's Bar-B-Q

10am-3pm

Fletchers' Books & Antiques

10:30-6pm

FSG Fine Jewelry

11am-5pm

Gladys & Sophie's

11am-5pm

Gregory's

Noon-5pm

Heirlooms

10:30am - 5:30p

Leigh's Necessities

Noon-5pm

Linda Roundtree Pritchard

By Appointment

Magnolias

Noon-5pm

Main Street Place

Noon-5pm

Matters of the Heart

Noon-5pm

Mill Creek Pro Shop

7:30am-Dusk

Miller Fine Art

1pm - 5pm

MJ's Country Corner

Noon-5pm

Mud Pies

Noon - 5 pm

National Ropers Supply

12:30pm-5:30pm

Old Salado Springs Celebration Center

By Appointment

Prellop Gallery

Noon-5pm

Remember This

11am-5pm

Thomas Kinkade Stagecoach Gallery

11am-5pm

Roy T's Old Salado Bakery

7am-1pm

Salado Haus

Noon-5pm

Salado Mansion

11am-9pm

Salado Sawmill

By Appointment

Salado Silver Spur Theater

2pm Show

Salado Wine Seller

Noon-6pm

Southern Comforts

Noon-5pm

Splendors

11am-5pm

Springhouse Antiques

10am-5pm

Stagecoach Inn - Coffee

6:30am-8pm

Stagecoach Inn - Dining

11am-4pm & 5pm-9pm

Stanford Court

Noon-5pm

Strawberry Patch

Noon-5pm

Susan Marie's/ Scarletts

12:30am-5:00pm

Sweet Nut Things

Noon-5pm

Tenroc Ranch

By Appointment

Texan By Design

Noon-4pm

The Front Row

10am-5pm

The Sewing Basket

Noon-4:30pm

Uncommon Grounds

9am-2:30pm

Walt Tollefson

By Appointment

Wells Gallery

1pm-5pm

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Have a Salado event
to list on this calendar?
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Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday
for the following week's
edition of the newspaper.

JANUARY 18

Village of Salado
Board of Aldermen
meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the
Municipal Building, 313
Stagecoach Rd.. Meeting
is open to the public. If
you would like to make
comments to the board,
please sign up before the
meeting. Agenda posted

72 hours before the
meeting at the Municipal
Building. For informa-
tion, call 947-5060.

JANUARY 18

**Salado High School
Fall Athletic Banquet**,
6:30 p.m. at the Salado
Intermediate School caf-
eteria. Program will honor
Salado Fall High School
sports: cross country, foot-
ball and volleyball.

JANUARY 18

**Readings from Robert
Burns by Robert Simpson
of Salado** 6:30 p.m. at the
Salado Public Library. Info:
Alayne Fuller-Ramsden,
Adult Services Librarian
947-9191

JANUARY 23

**Salado Community
Chorus** begins rehearsals
for its annual Spring Con-
cert; 6 p.m. at the Salado
Civic Center.

JANUARY 25

**Meet Your County
Officials** forum spon-
sored by Salado Area
Republican Women, 6
p.m. at the Halley House.
Buffet dinner: \$20. Info:
947-3617.

JANUARY 27

**Salado Power Lift-
ing Tournament** 8:30
a.m. Salado Intermediate
School gym

JANUARY 29

**Salado Masonic
Lodge #296 meeting**,
7:30 p.m. at the Lodge
Building on Church
Street.

FEBRUARY 3-4

Beethoven Festival,
presented by Music in
Salado, at the Silver
Spur Theater. Feb. 2, 7
p.m. concert featuring
the vocal and chamber
music of Beethoven, with
baritone John Van Cura,
soprano Carole Meyer
Willingham, pianist Kim
Van Cura and strings.
Feb. 3 noon luncheon and
lecture, with the Interna-

tional Piano Duo and Dr.
Robin Wallace, Profes-
sor of Music at Baylor
University and Beethoven
expert. Info: 947-5592 or
www.musicinsalado.com.

FEBRUARY 3-4

**Auditions for Salado
Legends**, 3 p.m. both
days at Tablerock Amphi-
theater. Over 100 audi-
tions for men, women and
children actors. Not all
parts are speaking parts.
Info: Donnie Williams,
director, 947-0717 or
mr.duck@earthlink.net,
or Jackie Mills, producer,
947-9205 or tablerock1@
aol.com.

FEBRUARY 8

**Central Texas Poetry
and Prose Readings** at
Tablerock Amphitheater.
Invited Readings: 7 p.m.
Open Mic: 9 p.m. Info:
Jackie Mills, 947-9205 or
tablerock1@aol.com.

FEBRUARY 10

**Wildfire Ranch Open
to the World Roping
competition**, with
\$75,000 cash awarded to
the winning team. This is
one of the biggest roping
events in the entire coun-
try. Public is welcome.
Info: 947-0291.

FEBRUARY 13

**Salado Garden Club
meeting**, 10 a.m. at the
Salado Presbyterian
Church. Topic will focus
on rainwater harvesting.
All gardeners invited to
attend.

FEBRUARY 20

**Teacup Tuesday
meeting**, 9:30 a.m. in the
Fellowship Hall of the
First Baptist Church. Pro-
gram: "Let's Learn About
Antiques," presented by
Jimmy Murchison. Public
is welcome.

FEBRUARY 26

**Salado Masonic
Lodge #296 meeting**,
7:30 p.m. in the Lodge
Building on Church
Street.

MARCH 13

**Salado Garden Club
meeting** - field trip to
Oma's Garten Pflanzen
in Killeen; a nursery
that specializes in Texas
natives and low main-
tenance plants. Meet
at Salado Presbyterian
Church at 9:30 am to car
pool.

MARCH 16

**12th Annual Denver
Mills Golf Tournament**,
benefitting Tablerock Fes-
tival, Inc. Tourney will be
held on Mill Creek Golf
Course, with a 1 p.m.
shotgun start. \$60 entry
fee. Info: 254-534-3324 or
tablerock1@aol.com.

MARCH 19

Taste of Salado, 6-8
p.m. at Tenroc Ranch.
Sponsored by the Public
Arts League of Salado.
More information TBA.

MARCH 20

**Teacup Tuesday
meeting**, 9:30 a.m. in
the Fellowship Hall of
the First Baptist Church.
Program: A dramatic
presentation of "Esther,"
written and performed
by Judy Greene. Public is
welcome.

MARCH 24 AND 25

**Annual Wildflower
Art Show**, featuring
artists and artisans from
throughout Texas, at the
Salado Civic Center. Info:
Salado Chamber of Com-
merce, 254-947-5040.

More details TBA.

MARCH 24 AND 25

**12th Annual Gospel
Festival at Tablerock
Amphitheater**; 11 a.m.-8
p.m. March 24 and 10
a.m.-5 p.m. March 25.
Food booth, drinks, gift
booths and dessert booths
will be open both days.
Admission: \$5 for adults,
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Jackson, 254-947-5100 or
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the Village of Salado?

APRIL 2

Salado Masonic Lodge #296 meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the Lodge Building on Church Street.

APRIL 6-8

Annual Easter Pageant at Tablerock Amphitheater, presented by the First Baptist Church of Salado. 8:15 p.m. nightly, free admission. Guests encouraged to bring a lawn chair. Church groups welcome. Info: Randy Carder, event director, 254-947-5465 or www.fbcsalado.org.

APRIL 10

Salado Garden Club meeting, 10 a.m. at the Salado Presbyterian Church. Group will discuss final planning for Garden Tour. All gardeners welcome.

APRIL 17

Teacup Tuesday meeting, 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the First Baptist Church. Program: Decorating with Jill Shipman, interior designer and owner of Stonecreek Settlement bed and breakfast. Public is welcome.

APRIL 27

ABWA Benefit and Style Show, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Longhorn Room of Stagecoach Inn. Info: 254-947-3617.

APRIL 30

Salado Masonic Lodge #296 meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the Lodge Building on Church Street.

MAY 12-13

Annual Salado Yard and Garden Tour, sponsored by the Salado Garden Club. More info TBA.

MAY 24

Salado High School Class of 2006-07 commencement ceremony, at the Mayborn Center on the campus of the University of Mary Hardin Baylor.

MAY 26 AND 27

Wildfire Ranch hosts the Wildfire Truck Explosion Team Roping event. Info: 947-0291.

MAY 28

Salado Masonic Lodge #296 meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the Lodge

Building on Church Street.

JUNE 9

Annual Salado Reunion, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Salado Intermediate School Commons area. Reunion is open to Salado alumni, as well as the general public. A lunch will be served. Info: 254-939-3187 or 254-947-5783.

JUNE 12

Salado Garden Club meeting, 10 a.m. at the Salado Presbyterian Church. All gardeners invited.

JUNE 23 AND 24

Auditions for Tablerock's production of "Taming of the Shrew," 3 p.m. both days at Tablerock's backstage room. Info: David Dunlap, 254-247-0220 or email ddunlap@tablerock.org.

JUNE 25

Salado Masonic Lodge #296 meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the Lodge Building on Church Street.

JULY 21, 28 AND AUG. 4

15th Annual production of "Salado Legends" outdoor musical drama at Tablerock Amphitheater. Show times: 8:15 p.m. for each show. Dinner at 7:15 p.m. Cost for dinner is \$8 for adult or child, and reservations are required. Cost for the performance is \$17 for adults and \$5 for children. Info: 254-947-9205 or www.tablerock.org.

AUGUST 4-5

41st Annual Salado Art Fair, on the grounds of Pace Memorial Park. Featuring over 100 artists and artisans from Texas and throughout the Southwest. Hours: 8 a.m.-

5p.m. Aug. 4 and 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Aug. 5. Free parking throughout the village.

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

SEPTEMBER 11

Salado Garden Club meeting, 10 a.m. at the Salado Presbyterian Church. Program will focus on herbs. All gardeners invited to attend.

SEPTEMBER 15 AND 16

Fantasy Faire at Tablerock, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily. Characters from history, literature, mythology and imagination invite you to a world of Medieval magic. Music, storytelling, archery tournament, vendors and more. Admission: \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under, seniors, and military with ID. Info: Stephanie Hood, shood@tablerock.org or www.tablerock.org.

OCTOBER 6-7

Auditions for A Christmas Carol, 3 p.m. each day at Tablerock. Info: 947-9205.

OCTOBER 7

Tablerock's Fright Trail auditions, 5 p.m. at Tablerock. Info: 947-9205 or email tablerock1@aol.com.

OCTOBER 6, 13 AND 20

Fifth Annual Fall Shakespear Festival at Tablerock Amphitheater. The Bard's Taming of the Shrew will be presented under the stars, 7:30 p.m. each performance date. Tickets: \$10 adult, \$5 children 12 and under, student or military; available at the gate or on-line at www.tablerock.org. Info: David Dunlap, director, 254-247-0220 or email ddunlap@tablerock.org.

OCTOBER 9

Salado Garden Club meeting, 10 a.m. at the Salado Presbyterian Church. All gardeners invited.

OCTOBER 27 AND 28


Tablerock's Halloween Fright Trail, featuring thrills and chills for young and old. Open 7:30-10:30 p.m. Admission: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under. Concessions will be available. Info: Jackie Mills, 947-9205 or email tablerock1@aol.com.

NOVEMBER 13

Salado Garden Club meeting, 10 a.m. at the Salado Presbyterian Church. 10 a.m. at the Salado Civic Center. Program will be given by Norm Arnold of Houston, designer of gardens, discussing his new garden book on Glorious Texas Gardens. All gardeners invited to attend.

Nov. 30-DEC. 2

Annual Salado Christmas Stroll weekend. Details announced at later date. Visit saladovil-lagevoice.com for information as the days draw closer.



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Setting and attaining goals

LIFESTYLE AND WELLNESS

By KEVIN McCAULEY



Now that the New Year is upon us, most of us have at least mentioned the phrase "New Year's Resolutions" or "Goals for this year." But honestly, will this year be any better than last year? Do you really believe this is the year you will be successful in achieving your resolutions and goals?

Be honest, as we are approaching the month of February, have you already dumped your New Years Resolutions? If you have, I am sorry, but I am not going to let you give up on yourself so easily!

Every year do you ask yourself, not "what" are the resolutions or the goals, but "how" do I attain them this year?

Here are seven simple steps to help you achieve those "just out of your

grasp" goals:

1. Be Specific

You cannot be general here. A general goal would be, "I am going to lose weight this year" or "I am going to work on my health." A specific goal sounds like this, "I am going to lose 15 pounds" or "I am going to get my blood pressure into the healthy range."

2. Write It Down

What would you like to "Have," "Be," or "Do."

3. Set A Time

"What gets measured gets done!" Set a time so the goal is attained "on" or "before" a certain date. An example would be: "I

am going to lose 15 pounds of fat by April 1, 2006."

4. Read It Aloud

A good time for this is, once upon awakening, and once in the evening.

5. Take Action Now

This isn't the time to procrastinate. Even with the best planning in the world you cannot succeed if you don't take action.

6. Reward Yourself

Since goal setting is not a process that satisfies the desire for "instant gratification," make sure to take time to celebrate when your goals are attained.

7. Set New Goals!

Why stop now? What once seemed unattainable

may now be in your reach. Go back to step number one and improve yourself again, and again, and again.

Follow these seven simple steps and find yourself attaining the goals and resolutions that have always escaped you in the past.

Kevin is a Lifestyle and Wellness Coach/Certified Clinical Nutritionist in Salado. He is the owner/operator of Progressive Wellness Services, a Total Wellness Company. Kevin helps families instill positive lifestyle habits into their lives, including: proper nutrition, smart exercise and understanding hormonal responses.

If you have any questions e-mail Kevin at youbewell@earthlink.net.



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High school drama group needs surplus military gear

Salado High School's theatre department is producing a play for UIL One-Act this year based on experiences of American soldiers in present-day Iraq.

The troupe has already received invaluable help from members of the community who are serving, or have served, in the military, but is still looking for stage properties.

If you are willing to donate (or lend) any of these items, contact J. J. Jonas at 947-6981.

• Branch of military: U.S. Army (present day)

• Drill Sergeant hat (can be older as this is supposedly worn during a training film similar to the old Sat-

urday movie news trailers)

• Flak jacket sample (to construct feasible costume replicas)

• Ten Army helmets

• One pair of regulation Army binoculars

• Night vision goggles (do not need to be operational – costume/prop only)

• Two to three Army blankets

• Sandbags (not to exceed 40 lbs. each)

• Three 50-gallon metal barrels (will need to be painted and weld firepot baskets in these)

• Four Tires for representational/abstract Humvee

• Steering wheel for representational/abstract Humvee

• Rocking chair (for "Home Front" scene)

• Small desk or table - just big enough for a lap-top computer (for "Home Front" scene)

The troupe also needs military training weapons that do not and have never had firing mechanisms. The UIL forbids the use of any weapon such as air soft guns even if the firing mechanism has been disabled or welded shut.

"We are excited to be producing such a relevant and timely play and will be planning a public performance for our community later this spring," said Jonas. "Thank you for your support of the fine arts in Salado."

Local DAR group bound for D.C.

The Betty Martin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution with other DAR, SAR, and CAR Chapters of Central Texas will be attending the 19th annual Celebration for George

Washington's Birthday.

A tribute to the 226th Anniversary of the victory at Yorktown was George Washington's crowning achievement in the Revolutionary War.

The Luncheon is on

noon Feb. 3, at Wildflower Country Club, 4902 Wildflower Lane, Temple.

Reservation deadline is Jan. 24. Tickets are \$20.

Contact Dr. David Yeilding, 5009 Ascot Parkway, Temple, TX 76502.



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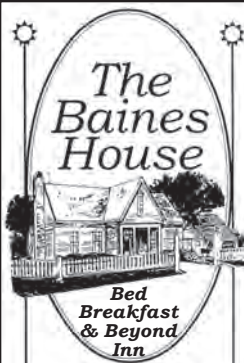


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	Salado Cigars	254/947-9177	S	25.	Leigh's Necessities 254/947-0128 S, \$			49.	Roy T's Old Salado Bakery 254/947-7181 D			68.	Serenity Spa 254/947-8833 \$						108.	Scissors Hair and Nails 254/947-9001 \$			
4.	Stagecoach Inn	254/947-5111	D, L	26.	CREEKSIDE CENTER			50.	Farmers Insurance 254/947-0995 \$			70.	STAGESTOP RETAIL CENTER			82.	OLD TOWN SALADO			110.	Super 8 Motel 254/947-5000 L		
5.	Stone Creek Settlements	254/947-9099	L		Prellow Fine Art Gallery				Zbranek Agency				Angelic Herbs 254/947-1909 S				Cathy's Boardwalk Cafe 254/947-8162 D			111.	Johnny's Steaks & Bar-Be-Que 254/947-4663 D		
		888/777-8844			Susan Marie's 254/947-5239 S				Salado Fire Department 254/947-8961 CV				A Sewing Basket 254/947-5423 S			86.	Texan by Design 254/947-4479 S			115.	Johnny's Texas Banquet Hall 254/947-4663 L		
6.	Central Texas Area Museum	254/947-5232	E	30.	First Baptist Church 254/947-5465 C			51.	Salado Church of Christ 254/947-5241 CV							87.	Remember This Antiques 254/947-0858 S			116.	Thomas Arnold 254/947-5191 E		
8.	SHADY VILLA			31.	Salado Mansion 254/947-5157 D							71.	SALADO CIVIC CENTER				Century 21 Bill Bartlett Real Estate 254/947-5050 \$			118.	Salado Intermediate 254/947-1700 E		
	Gregory's	254/947-5703	S	32.	THE VERANDA			ROCK CREEK							88.	The Personal Wealth Coach 254/947-1111 \$			119.	Salado High 254/947-5429 E			
	Sweet Nut Things	254/947-8088	S		First Texas Brokerage 254/947-5577 \$			53.	Splendors of Salado 254/947-3630 S				Salado Civic Center 254/947-8300 CV							120.	Cedar Valley Baptist Church 254/947-0148 C		
10.	Shyenne's of Salado	254/947-9215	S	33.	First State Bank 254/947-5852 \$			54.	Charlotte's of Salado 254/947-0240 S				Chamber of Commerce 254/947-5040 CV			94.	SALADO PLAZA			121.	Eagle Rock Ranch 254/947-5369 \$		
11.	Tablerock Amphitheatre	254/947-9205	E	34.	FIRST CENTRE at 40 N. Main			55.	Heirlooms 254/947-0336 S				Historical Society 254/947-5479 E				Salado Village Voice 254/947-5321 \$			122.	Rick's Salado Feed 254/947-3613 S		
13.	Salado United Methodist Church	254/947-5482	C		First Community Title 254/947-8480 \$			56.	OLD CHURCH PLACE				Village Art Center				Edward D. Jones 254/947-5128 \$				Salado Garden Center 254/947-3613 S		
14.	Royal Street Provision	254/947-3350	L	35.	Salado Masonic Lodge #296 CV				The Front Row Emporium 254/947-5831 S			72.	The Halley House 254/947-1000 L				Monteith Abstract & Title Co. 254/947-3922 \$			124.	St. Stephen Catholic Church 254/947-8037 C		
	Country Inn			36.	Christy's of Salado 254/947-0561 S				Trove 512/508-2530 S			73.	CARRIAGE PLACE SQUARE				RE/MAX Gold Team 254/947-4011 \$			127.	Grace Baptist Church of Salado 254/947-5917 C		
	(3.5 miles east on Royal)			37.	Inn at Salado 254/947-0027 L			57.	THE COLONY				Salado Tanning & Fitness 254/947-5814 \$				Salado Chiropractic 254/947-BACK P			Not shown on map			
16.	The Baines House B&B	254/947-5260	L	38.	SALADO SQUARE				Centraland Title Company \$								Salado Eye Care 254/947-LENS P			The Event Center at Tenroc Ranch			
17.	Inn on the Creek B&B	254/947-5554	D, L		Browning's Courtyard Cafe 254/947-8666 D				Griffith Fine Art 254/947-3177 S				ARCHANGEL ON MAIN				Village Pharmacy 254/947-3185 \$			2 miles west of I-35 on Thomas Arnold Rd.			
	CELEBRATION CENTER				Carden's 254/947-0300 S				Miller Fine Art Gallery 254/947-0771 S			74.	Merle Norman Cosmetics 254/947-9993 S			95.	Coldwell Banker 254-947-3388 \$			512/947-9218 \$			
18.	Botangles	254/947-4747	\$		Linda Rountree Pritchard 254/947-4263 P			60.	The Iron Gardens 254/368-1928 S				Etrulia's 254/947-0504 S			96.	Mill Creek Golf & Country Club 254/947-5144 D, L						
	Old Salado Springs Celebration Center and Retreat	254/947-5933	\$		Main Street Place 254/947-9908 P								Salado Wine Seller 254/947-8011 S			97.	Salado Public Library 254/947-9191 E						
19.	Old Salado Springs			39.	The Range at the Barton House 254/947-3828 D			61.	SALADO CIVIC SQUARE			76.	ArchAngel Antiques & Architectural Salvage 254/947-5933 S			98.	Salado Cleaners 254/947-7299 \$						
	Guest Lodging	254/947-5933	L	40.	Family Dentistry 254/947-5242 P				Joe Read State Farm Agency 254/947-3599 \$							99.	Trimmings 254/947-9475						
20.	Springhouse Antiques	254-947-0747	S	42.	Dr. Douglas B. Willingham 254/947-5580 \$				Properties by Larry Sands 254/947-5580 \$			79.	Presbyterian Church of Salado 254/947-8106 C			100.	Village Realty 254/947-0342 \$						
22.	Salado Silver Spur Theatre	254/947-3456	E		Uncommon Grounds Cafe 254/947-3354 D											101.	Holiday Inn Express 254/947-4004 L						
				44.	Salado Haus 254/947-1868 S							81.	Salado Sawmill 254/947-0137 S			102.	Robertson's Hams and The Choppin' Block 254/947-5562 S						

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Bell County museum opens new exhibit on area's musical history



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The Bell County Museum will open "Rhythm and Rhyme: Music in Central Texas" noon-5 p.m. Jan. 27. Area historian Patricia K. Benoit is guest curator for the exhibit. This highly interactive exhibit focuses on the musical diversity of Cen-

tral Texas. "Bell County is a cross-roads county in a cross-roads state," Benoit said. "It's a stew pot of cultures." From Native Peoples to those whose original tongues were English, Spanish, Czech, German and hosts of other languages, each has left indelible imprints on Central Texas music. As musical styles merged, the area became a harmonic convergence. Central Texas spawned great artists ranging from classical, jazz, rock, sacred harp, folk, country, Western swing, gospel, funk, and rap. Each artist shaped and reformed music to fit the times and tradition. Museum curator Amanda Dyer added, "Some fascinating individuals have influenced **UMHB hosts Ohio-based Carpe Diem String Quartet**

The Department of Music at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor continues its 2006-2007 season of the Hillman Visiting Artist Series with the Carpe Diem Quartet, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 18 in Hughes Recital Hall of Presser Auditorium. Together with UMHB faculty artist-in-residence and pianist, Michelle Schumann, they will perform selections by Robert Schumann and Glenn Gould, two of the most interesting and eccentric musical personalities of the 19th and 20th centuries. All performances in the Hillman Visiting Artist Series are free and open to the public. For more information call the College of Visual and Performing Arts at 254- 295-4678.

our musical traditions, such as Grammy winner Little Joe Hernandez. Woody Guthrie, Joe Tex, Jules Bledsoe, and Blind Willie Johnson are more of the many individuals featured in the exhibit who have helped shape the area's musical identity." Fun and informative hands-on areas include a stage with various instruments to explore; a touch-screen computer featuring area musicians and their work; an area dedicated to exploring sacred harp music, gospel and spirituals; and much more.

Benoit will present a gallery talk at 1 p.m. Afterward, refreshments will be served and families can enjoy a craft activity as well. Partial funding for "Rhythm and Rhyme" has been provided by a contribution from Holze Music Co. – Kim Herrington. The Bell County Museum is located at 201 N. Main Street in Belton. Admission is free and guided tours are available. For more information, call 254-933-5243.

Registration underway for Metroplex Silver Classic 5K Run & Walk

Runners and walkers from all over Central Texas are gearing up for the 21st annual Silver Classic 5K Run & Walk March 4, at Metroplex Hospital in Killeen. The race will begin at 8 a.m. in front of the hospital, at 2201 S. Clear Creek Road in Killeen. Check-in and late registration begins at 6:30 a.m. The race is a part of the CenTex Race Series, collaboration by the Killeen and Harker Heights Parks and Recreation departments and Metroplex Health System. The 3.1-mile race around Metroplex Hospital and Central Texas College promotes community wellness in Central Texas. The annual event offers runners and walkers of all ages a free health screenings, free breakfast, race shirts, goodie bags and door prizes. This year's event will include body fat composition screenings, as well as health information. Separate divisions are set up for male and female runners and walkers in age groups from 11 and under, 12-15, 16-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-55, 55-59 and 60 and up. Trophies will go to the

top overall male and female runners and walkers, as well as the top three runners and walkers in each age category. Entry fee is \$15 before Feb. 18 and \$20 from Feb. 19 through the day of the race. A feature Metroplex is offering Silver Classic participants this year is the ability to register online at www.mplex.org. Each year, numerous volunteers from the community help with the race, including the Killeen Seventh Day Adventist Church, which provides volunteers to help in registration, as race spotters along the race course, at the finish line and at the drink station. Proceeds from the race help benefit the Metroplex Community Wellness program, which offers numerous wellness activities, including health classes, screenings and programs throughout the community. These daily classes are offered free or for a nominal charge through the Metroplex Wellness Series. For more information or for a map of the race, call Metroplex Community Relations at 254-519-8200, email kristi.allison@ahss.org or visit www.mplex.org.



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Hoffman to lead watercolor course

Joan Hoffman will lead a three-day watercolor class at the Salado Village Artists Building Feb. 21-23.

Hoffman has a great deal of expertise in color mixing and glazing, and has been a popular instructor for the Salado Village Artists for several years.

Her theme for this series of classes will be "Still Lives from Life." Working at their own pace, students will receive a lesson on drawing techniques and composition. Hoffman will also instruct the class in ways to paint glass and paint white in watercolor using washes.

A resident of Salado

since 1981, Hoffman is a charter member of the Salado Village Artists. She has taken years of instruction from well-known watercolor teachers from throughout the United States, and knows how to make the beginner and intermediate student understand the intricacies of painting in watercolor.

Limited to 15 people, the class will run 9 a.m.-4 p.m. each day. Call Hoffman at 947-0073 for a list of supplies, or come by the Village Artists Building on Feb. 6 or 13. The Village Artists Building is located on the grounds of the Salado Civic Center.

Lunch will be served all three days and paper



Joan Hoffman

will be available for purchase.

For information on reg-

istering call Kathleen Le-tourneau at 947-0348, or Hoffman at 947-0073, after 3 p.m. The course will cost \$165 with a discount for members.

CTAM plays host to 47th writers roundtable March 24

The Central Texas Area Museum will hold its 47th Readers and Writers Roundtable on March 24, spotlighting not only the famed coed of **Texas Women of the Cattle Trails**, edited by Sara R. Massey, but also six other Texas authors.

Massey, retiring from the Institute of Texas Cultures, where she developed and published a series of books about Texas history, 'surfing the net' to find an art school in France. Off she went, leaving Austwell - near Corpus Christi - and she has not stopped painting or traveling ever since.

Massey includes Williamson County pioneer Harriett L. "Hattie" Cluck, a member of the first class of 1860 at Salado College, as one of 16, 19th century trail driving women in her book. Cluck's biographer, Bill Stein, writes, "Hattie

Cluck actually went up the Chisholm Trail."

Much to her husband's chagrin, Hattie and her three children made the trip on the 1871 cattle drive to Abilene, KS, while expecting the couple's fourth child. She is known as the first woman to ride the Chisholm Trail.

Next, Jim Jennings, a Texas A&M graduate with a lifelong love of ranching and horses, will present his **Best Remudas**, the story of ranches and the quality of their remudas. Remudas are the horses which the wagon boss chooses to work with on the ranch each day.

Jennings will feature the Cogdell Ranch in Snyder, and the Tule Ranch in Tulia, both owned by the Cogdell family, well known for their cutting horses and ranch horses. Tule Ranch was honored in 2006, winning the

American Quarter Horse Association's Best Remuda Award.

Also, team calf roper Phil Livingston will talk about his book, **War Horse, Mounting the Cavalry with America's Finest Horses**. It studies the preservation of impressive equestrian bloodlines, which makes American and Texas horses so prized internationally.

Liz Carpenter, national celebrity and Texas favorite, will lead the Roundtable and speak about her book, **Presidential Humor**. Glenn Dromgoole, Tim McKenzie and S.E. Wolf, MD, may be among the other authors. The annual Readers and Writers Roundtable will convene 1:30 p.m. at the Central Texas Area Museum Auditorium at 423 S. Main Street. Reservations are \$5. Call 947-5232 to reserve a place.



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5 Come out of one's shell
10 King or queen
14 Tracking tool
19 "— patriae"
20 Moscow's locale
21 Clarinet kin
22 Cover story?
23 Deception
25 Gibberish
27 Detergent target
28 Roman fountain
30 British bar
31 Nut part
32 Achy
35 Civil Rights org.
37 Baseball's Kluszewski
39 "Moby-Dick" narrator
42 Canvas cover
44 Some are deviated
48 —Locka, FL
49 Equine exclamation
52 — gin fizz
53 Sufficient
55 Actress Reid

57 Misplace
58 Vane letters
60 Ring cham-pionship
61 Caribbean isle
63 Song-writers' org.
67 Idol's perch
69 Stiller's partner
72 Mediocre
73 Mohammed — Jinnah
74 Rage
75 Firms: abbr.
77 Disorderly
81 Marsh
82 Circle section
83 Damage
84 Ibsen's "— Gynt"
85 Flight segment
87 Migration
90 Remove varnish
92 — stop
95 Less available
96 Pie ingredient?
98 Holler
101 Kenton or Getz
102 Hardened
104 "— Indigo" ('31 song)
107 Sign of spring

109 Golfer's gadget
110 Islamic ruler
111 Singer
112 Climb a trellis
114 "Uh-uh!"
116 Extra book
119 Jim Morrison, for one
120 Lost
124 Tiny
126 Peter of "Casa-blanca"
128 Arizona city
131 Disorganized
134 Weak
138 Spout like Cicero
139 Close noisily
140 Richard's veep
141 Austin or Garr
142 "The — Drop Kid" ('51 film)
143 Use the VCR
144 Rocky Mountain range
145 Pile

DOWN

1 "Fie!"
2 Famous fellow?

3 Fashion's Chanel
4 Platitude
5 Cool
6 Fuss and feathers
7 Savoir-faire
8 Make butter
9 Biblical book
10 Amusing
11 — Dhabi
12 Frolic
13 Premiere
14 Scott's "The — Quartet"
15 Grad
16 — novel
17 Eban of Israel
18 Disturbance
24 Ashcan artist John
26 Too heavy
29 Puncheons
33 Rod's companion
34 Designer Fiorucci
36 Freightier front
38 Al — (cook-ing term)
39 It comes before kappa
40 Practice punching
41 Reckless
43 Foreign correspondent?

45 "Petits —"
46 Kind of confection
47 Blazing
50 Youth org.
51 "Siddhartha" author
54 Soprano
56 Presidential nickname
59 Ridges
62 Ooh's partner
64 Military unit
65 Selling point
66 Hearth hardware
68 Forgo the fudge
70 San —, Italy
71 Consterna-tion
75 Inner circle
76 Journalist Fallaci
78 Shock
79 Author Jong
80 Prison pariah
86 Taxing org.
88 Withered
89 Act like an egret
91 Norm
93 D-Day site
94 "... my banjo on my —"
97 Mount —, FL

99 Schubert song
100 Carson's successor
103 Haggard
105 Connecticut town
106 Extinct bird
108 "The Bristol —" ('61 hit)
113 Christmas decoration
115 Criminal caper
117 Director Lubitsch
118 Dais covering
120 Way off base?
121 Lassie's father
122 Jack of "Rio Lobo"
123 Choir member
125 Poet Wilcox
127 Give off
129 Hook's mate
130 Steinbeck character
132 Craving
133 Drink like a dachshund
135 Street salutation
136 Hither and —
137 Puppy protest

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OPA	NEIGH	SLOE	ENOUGH
TARA	LOSE	WNW	TITLE
ARUBA	ASCAP	PEDESTAL	
MEARA	SOSO	ALI	TIRE
COS	HELTERT	SKELTER	FEN
ARC	MAR	PEER	STAIR
DIASPORA	STRIP	TRUCK	
RARER	MUD	CALL	STAN
ENURED	MOOD	ARIES	TEE
AMEER	ARLO	ENTWINE	
NAH	ADDED	DOOR	
ASEA	WEE	LORRE	MESE
WILLYN	LILLY	NAMBY	PAMBY
ORATE	SLAM	SPIRO	TERI
LEMON	TAPE	TETON	HEAP

West dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K Q 8
♥ 9 3 2
♦ A K J 10 9
♣ 8 4

WEST
♠ 6
♥ A K J 8 5 4
♦ 5 3
♣ A J 7 6

EAST
♠ 7
♥ Q 10 7 6
♦ Q 8 7
♣ Q 10 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A J 10 9 5 4 3 2
♥ —
♦ 6 4 2
♣ K 9

The bidding:
West 1♥ 2♦ 5♥
North 2♦ 5♠
East 2♥
South 4♠

Opening lead — king of hearts.

Keeping an open mind

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

You sometimes have to make a peculiar play to accomplish your purpose. For a good illustration, consider this deal where you're declarer at five spades and West leads the king of hearts. How would you play the hand?

If you proceed with the play along normal lines, you wind up a trick short of your goal. You ruff the heart lead, draw a round of trumps and eventually either try a diamond finesse or lead the A-K and another diamond. Either way, East scores his queen of diamonds and returns a club, and down the chute you go.

But this would be the wrong way to play the hand. A far better approach is to discard a diamond from your hand at trick one, allowing West's king to hold the trick! A startling play, no doubt, but it has one enormous advantage. It virtually assures the contract, and it's hard to find a better reason than that.

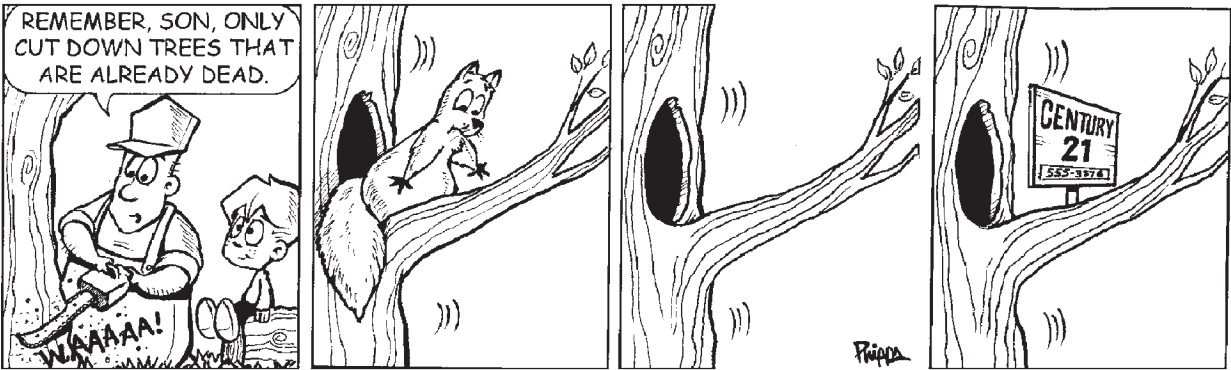
Let's see what happens after you discard at trick one. Assume West leads another heart. You ruff, lead a trump to dummy's eight, cash the A-K of diamonds, ruff a diamond and finish with an overtrick.

If the diamonds are divided 4-1 instead of 3-2, you still make the contract. Let's say West started with Q-x-x-x of diamonds. In that case, after cashing the A-K of diamonds, you ruff dummy's nine, lead a trump to the queen and ruff dummy's ten of diamonds. Next comes a trump to dummy's king and a club discard on the jack of diamonds -- making five, despite the 4-1 diamond division.

Of course, you must be on your toes to overcome the natural inclination to ruff the opening heart lead. But if a declarer is by nature a cautious player and always stops to plan the play, especially at trick one, he should conclude that it is better to lose the first trick than to win it.

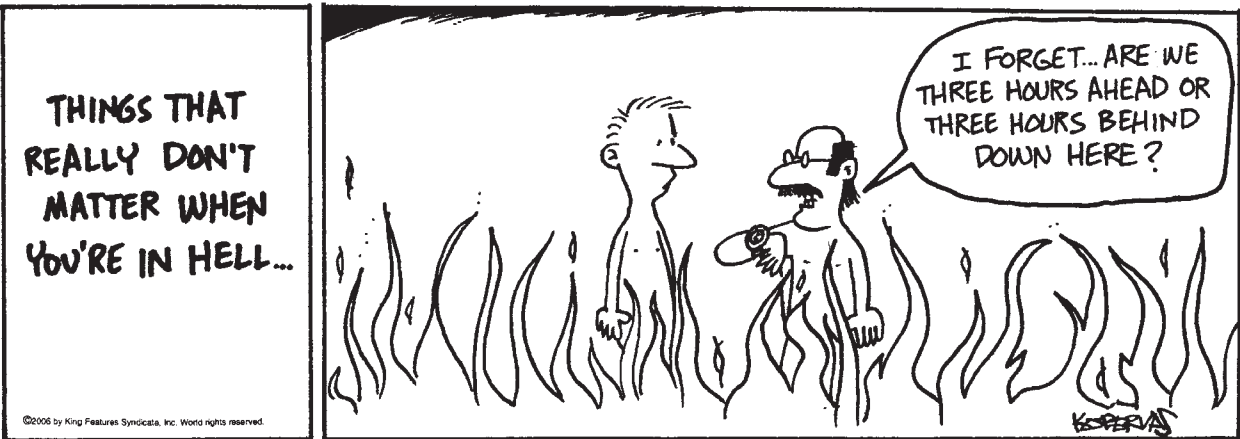
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

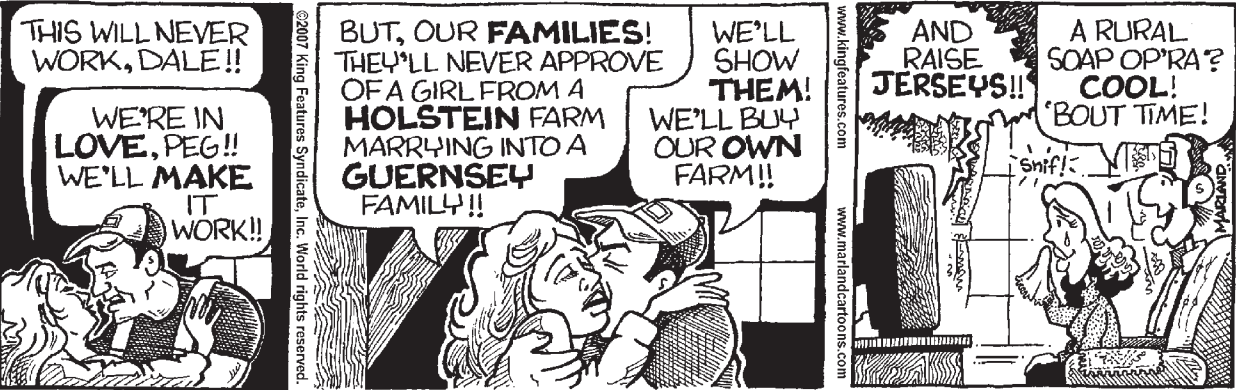
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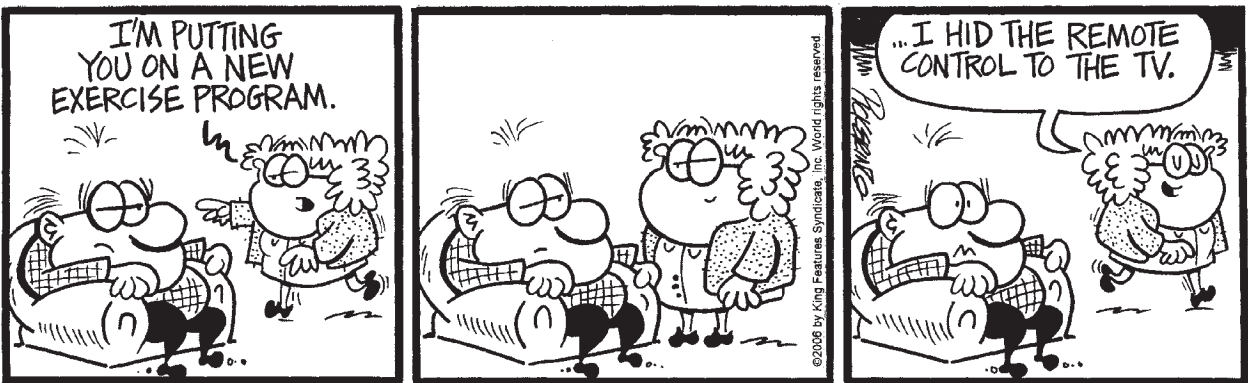
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

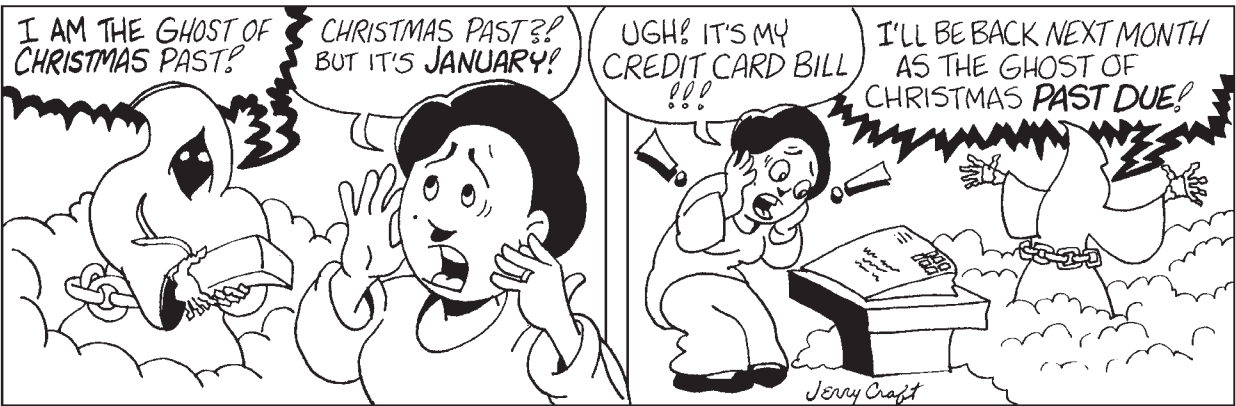
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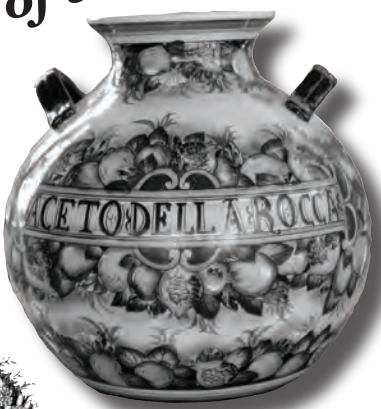
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Cross Plains a year later

Last year on my way back from spending the holidays with my son and his family I stopped in Cross Plains. The city was heavily damaged by a fire that started apparently from a cigarette that some careless driver tossed out. The blaze was fanned by strong winds and destroyed about 25 percent of the homes in the city (population 1,068). Two people died. Others suffered respiratory problems.

I developed a strong feeling toward Cross Plains when I spoke at the chamber banquet there a

few months prior to the fire. I was concerned about some friends there. When I spoke to them, their spirits were high. They personally had no damage and were busy helping others. As we drove around the town, the images of burned out houses and scorched vacant lots looked like a war scene. The smell of smoke was still in the air a week after the fire, which occurred two days after Christmas, 2005.

I interviewed half a dozen victims of the fire that day, both children and adults. Instead of the expected tears and sadness, they were full of adrenalin, thinking about rebuilding and getting on with their lives. I wondered if they were still in shock. I had a profound experience that day and left with a sincere sense of admiration for the people of Cross Plains.

In January of 2006 my documentary class at The University of Texas of the Permian Basin in Odessa was just beginning. I gave the students a list of possible topics. One was the Cross Plains fire. They started asking questions about it and chose that as their semester project. In

by
**Tumbleweed
Smith**



February we boarded a university van and went to Cross Plains to do some interviews. The students set up recorders in Sunday School classrooms at the First Baptist Church, which was headquarters for dealing with the fire's aftermath. The interviews revealed some dramatic stories:

“Evil-looking clouds of black smoke approached the city from the west just after noon. Funnels of fire danced around town. It was an ocean of flames. The sky was brown, green, the sun was blood red. It was very eerie. You could hear explosions every few seconds from gas tanks, paint cans and houses. The fire was coming faster than a horse could run. I saw about 30 deer running, five or 10 of them on fire. A squirrel was on fire and it ran

along setting other fires. Our appliances melted. Things were just powder and ash.”

One hundred-sixteen homes were destroyed. Thirty-six more were damaged. The cost to rebuild is estimated to be 10 million dollars. In the midst of the devastation, there was an outpouring of love. People from out of town donated \$640,000 to a disaster fund and brought in truckloads of food and clothing.

Many of the lots were cleared within days. New homes are being built. My students learned a lot more than just how to produce a documentary. They learned a lot about the human spirit. Exactly one year after the fire, the citizens of Cross Plains got together for a barbeque. Mostly it was a counting of blessings.

Scrapbooking and Invitation business opens

Rick and Meschill Billington have recently

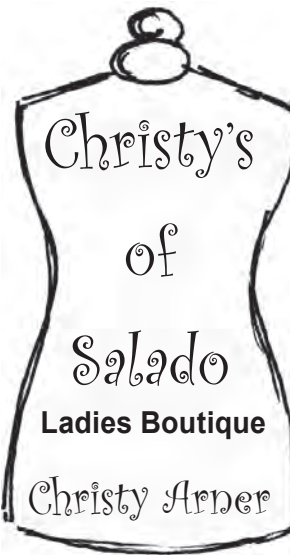
started a home-based scrapbook business, designed for people who want to help preserve their photos and memories for future generations.

They can take pictures out of shoeboxes, drawers and envelopes and make them into a one of a kind archival safe album that will last a lifetime. They can also create a unique gift for any occasion, a pre-designed album where all the recipient needs to do is add their pictures. It makes an ideal baby

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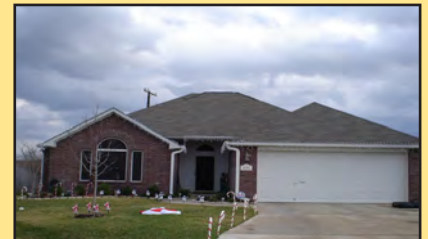
\$118,500: 6 Mulberry Ct., Belton. Nicely upgraded 3 BR, 2 BA with fire-place, crown molding & deck. 2 additional lots next door available for \$14,000.



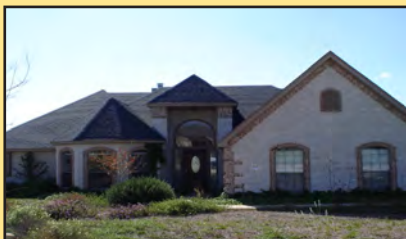
\$125,000: 2708 CR 423, Bartlett. 10 acres with 3 BR mobile home, barn and pens. Ready for horses.



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\$149,300: 1017 Neuberry Cliffe, Temple. Nice 3 BR, 2 BA with large back yard in gated community. Belton schools.



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12/21tfnb

Gorgeous executive 3300+ sq ft custom

home in Mill Creek. This stunner has it all: 4 BR, 3.5 Ba, 3+ Car garage. Central vac, intercom system, 2 heat/air systems, pool, deck, screened porch off MBR, completely sprinkled. Located on quiet cul-d-sac overlooking Mill Creek golf course. Many more extras. For info and showing call **George Dentry - Prudential Synergy Realtors**

January 18, 2007 SALADO **Village Voice, Page 3C**
@ 254-718-6447.
11/23tfnb

CLASSIFIEDS
CONTINUE ON PAGE 4C

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Choice Commercial Property in the heart of Salado's historic district. Three buildings with net rentable space of 5,592 square feet. The site is .63 acres at the corner of Thomas Arnold and Church Street. Easy access to I-35 and Salado's Main Street. \$575,000.



5055 Elm Grove Rd.
Great buy, price reduced! 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, hay barn, equip shed, 6 traps and decks. Must see! \$595,000.



1910 Old Mill Rd. #4
Rare opportunity to own a townhouse with views of golf course and Salado Creek. Close to pro shop, this beautiful home has a formal dining room and large living area with gorgeous hardwood floors, a wood burning fireplace and lots of windows. There are three bedrooms and 2-1/2 BAs, kitchen with granite countertops, new appliances and tile floor, plus a two-car garage. You will love this one.
Reduced \$245,000.



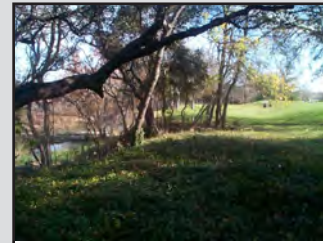
1209 Old Mill Road
Great location in Mill Creek. Custom-built, one owner home in need of updating. Nice floor plan with large great room, three bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths, large study with built-ins. Lots of storage. Pretty, private backyard. ~~\$245,000~~. Priced reduced to \$192,400.



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.



1 Jones Circle
Expansive views of Mill Creek 2 Golf Course #6. Large covered patio complete with fountain and grill. This beautiful home offers 4 bedrooms, 2 and a half baths, great room approx. 27'x20' with a WBFP, formal dining, and an oversized garage. Over 3,000 sq ft of luxury living. \$369,000.



2014 Old Mill Road
Fabulous lot with many trees and a bluff overlooking Salado Creek. The lot abuts the golf course, Mill Creek One, hole one, across from the Mill Creek Golf Course Pro Shop. Bring your creative ideas for this unusual building site. \$29,000.

Mill Creek Homesites

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40 acres on FM 487 east of Bartlett, some woods, good frontage, water available, will divide.
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130 acres between Holland-Salado, coastal grass, pond, road two sides, well priced.
151 acres, great view, some trees, south of Salado, two sides road frontage.
215 acres on I35 near Salado, road three sides, good elevation, excellent location, unlimited possibilities.

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One acre golf lot with 2400 sq ft. custom home. Private, wooded, can be divided \$325,000 512-554-4987 11/2tfnb

New listing! Easy living in this townhome within walking distance to the Pro Shop and the swimming pool. 2,522 s.f. 3/3 with an office, a sun room and a flex room Outstanding value at \$149,800. Call Remax Gold Team /Rita Oden 718-7956

Wooded lot on the Mill Creek Golf Course. 3 BR and an office, formals, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, 2 car plus golf cart garage, workshop. On cul-de-sac \$385,800. Call Remax Gold Team /Rita Oden 718-7956

New Elegant Estate 4/3/3+ on 3 tree-covered acres. Inviting entrance, high ceilings, crown molding, beautiful kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite counter tops, large fireplace, 3+ car garage and much more. **\$399,000.** Call First Texas Brokerage 947-5577 0202F

Separate office/studio. Old Chicago brick show-case home with extensive detailed woodwork. Granite countertops, SS appliances, large live oaks, decks, large game room. \$274,800. Call Remax Gold Team /Rita Oden 718-7956

Definitely Salado! Highly sought-after location, great curb appeal, large

trees with wet weather creek. 3 BR, 2.5 BA, 2 dining. Beautiful wood floors in all bedrooms, rock fireplace flanked by built-ins, granite in kitchen & utility. Game room upstairs with great granite countertops & storage. Zoned a/c, circulating loop hot water heater, tornado shelter, solar shield in attic, beautiful yard. \$289,900. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 0104tfnf

Wonderful neighborhood close to downtown Salado. 4 BR, 2 living, 2 dining, 2.5 BA. Master bedroom downstairs with three bedrooms upstairs. Open kitchen, breakfast, living areas. Formal dining with separate breakfast room. \$299,000. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 0104tfnf

Eight foot porches span front & rear living areas. All windows are double paned & energy efficient. 3 BR, 2.5 BA, den, living room, dining room, pantry, utility room, two bonus rooms. Sound proof master bedroom. Nine foot ceilings throughout first floor with grand ceilings in den. Large kitchen with granite countertops, lots of working space. Dual level deck. Home is located on two lots with an adjacent lot available. \$334,900. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050

Beautiful Larry Lilly built home, on over 18 acres with deer, turkey and post oaks. 30 x 24

Horse property 4/3 with Barn, Storage and Arena nestled on 30 acres with scattered oaks. Home has Pool, Hot Tub and Pipe Fencing.



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Wonderful home in Salado ISD. 4 BR, 2 BA, white rock with metal roof and cedar trim/front porch. Rock fireplace, granite countertops. jetted tub in master, carpet and tile floors. Great access to I-35. \$226,900. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050
Land for Sale

Lot for sale - Great Oak Dr. 2.7 acres in Salado. 512-819-9432 or 254-624-1776
1/18tfnb
Three 10 plus acre tracts with large live oaks, creeks, hilltop views, quality restrictions, private, gated community with a common area lake. Starting at \$129,800. Call Remax Gold Team /Rita Oden 718-4011

Salado Creek Front 3+Acres. Beautifully

cleared parcel in the peaceful, upscale community of Hidden Springs: Paved streets, large parcels, lovely homes and a community park on Salado Creek with tennis!! Priced to sell-build your dream home! Easy commute to Austin: West on FM 2843 off I-35 about 4.5 miles. Must sell - Great land with Great neighbors! Lot 71 on Creekview Dr. Call owner for details: (936)597-5284, (936)203-2766.

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

Commercial Rental
For Rent Storage building in downtown Salado. Approx. 850 SF. ft. Call 254-947-5577 First Texas Brokerage 101206tfnb
Old Church Place (office Space) Two private offices with full bath and large reception/secretary area. Wonderful kitchenette area.

1000 sq.. ft. \$800 mo. Call Properties by Larry Sands at 254-913-5467 for showing and more information 6/29tfnb


For Rent or Lease
Relax in shaded fenced backyard. 3BR/2BA town house in Mill Creek. Just minutes from playing golf. 2 Car garage. Fireplace. No smokers or cats. Small dog will be considered. \$1200/mo; \$1200/SD Village Realty 947-0342 0118tfnb

Charming country stone home on 5 acres, 3-2 with garage, super clean, No smokers or inside pets. \$975/mo \$500 deposit. Horses okay. Richard agent 512-848-9576 01/04-2/1b

For Rent: Duplex 2/2/1 very nice. \$800 month. Call 254-947-8834 for appointment. 1/0407p

For Lease in Mill Creek \$1,100 mo. Call Rita Oden, Remax Gold Team 718-7956

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10301 BLACKBERRY



3,152 SF HOME with 5 BRS, 3 BAs on 1.35 wooded acres. Excellent location near Sulphur Wells. Corner Jacuzzi tub, formals and family room. **\$295,800.**

902 Mill Creek Drive



NEW LISTING! The Mill Creek logo tree house. A fantastic huge live oak in the front yard of this 3/2/2 with large deck in the wooded back yard. European style guest bath, large master bath, vaulted ceilings. **\$219,800**

2100 Indian Trail



NEW LISTING! Are you ready for a redecorating project? A nice home on a wooded lot in Mill Creek in need of updating. 3/2/2 with golf cart garage and workshop. Great price at **\$175,800**

1635 Hidden Springs



NEW LISTING! Quiet cul-de-sac location with two year old brick home. Pretty windows and large family room. 2.29 Acre lot with 3/2/2 with covered back porch. Family room open to the dining and kitchen. **\$237,800**



Rita Oden
THE Salado Specialist
254-718-7956



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DearEarthTalk: What kinds of home improvements could I do that would make my house healthier and more environmentally friendly?
-- Elizabeth Bram, via e-mail

Most homes are not lacking in ways they can be healthier for family and kinder to the environment. For one, indoor air quality is a serious problem affecting millions of homes.



Studies show that air within homes can be more seriously polluted than the air outdoors--even in the largest and most industrialized cities.
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Annual Meeting
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Upstairs
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Officers up for re-election are
Bruce Bolick, Sam Miguel
and Bill Heath

Copies of the Audited Financials, 2006 minutes and the 2006-2007 Budget are available to the public at the SWSC Corporate Office, 410 Salado Plaza Drive, Salado, TX 76571.

LIKE BRAND NEW, BUT BETTER:

A chef's kitchen with granite countertops in this custom built 4BR, 2.5BA brick home. Spacious master suite w/sitting area. Nice sunroom w/ a great view. Gorgeous hardwood floors. Sprinkler system, security system, central vacuum, patio, 2 A/C units. Salado schools, \$385, 000.

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Texas Style white stone, 4BR, 3BA, 2 living areas in Salado. Enjoy the peace & quite and beauty of the butterfly garden. Security system, water softener system, covered patio & fenced backyard. Large utility room, sink & freezer space. \$239,900.

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radio show on home repair, as our homes and apartments have become more energy efficient and airtight, "humidity levels from cooking and breathing tend to increase, causing mold and mildew." Harmful chemicals, he says, from construction materials, insulation, furniture, carpeting, padding, paints, solvents and household cleaners, drawn by this moist atmosphere, combine to contaminate the indoor air which then stays trapped inside.

The first step in remedying this problem is to test your indoor air. Pure Air and Envirologix, among others, sell inexpensive and easy-to-use indoor-air quality testing kits. Once you get an idea of the contaminants floating around your home, you can get to work replacing the offending sources accordingly. Green superstores such as the Environmental Home Center, Green Building Supply and Oikos offer a wealth of greener and healthier building supplies and materials. Also, BuildingGreen.com offers a free online "GreenSpec" database with detailed listings for over 2,000 environmentally preferable building products.

Materials outside the home can also contribute to health problems. One example is pressure-treated lumber, which contains a form of cyanide to keep pests away. Kids who play on backyard jungle gyms and decks made of such material can develop rashes and skin infections. Cedar wood is a naturally pest-resistant alternative that, while more expensive, is a kinder-gentler option that will stand the test of time.

Other ways to green-up the home include replacing traditional incandescent light bulbs with more energy-efficient compact fluorescents, as well as switching out conventional hot water heaters in favor of solar or on-demand tankless versions. And for saving on water, replacing traditional showerheads and toilets with pressurized low-flow alternatives can save gallons per day while generating cost savings on utility bills. Likewise, capturing rainwater and shower "gray-water" to irrigate the garden is another smart move.

Do-it-yourselfers can find hundreds of websites offering tips on green building and repair. Glenn Haege's MasterHandyman.com and NaturalHandyMan.com both offer a plethora of articles and links and are good resources if you're looking to improve your own

handy skills while staying true to your green ideals. Two helpful books are: Green Remodeling by David Johnston and Kim Master; and Green Building Materials: A Guide to Product Selection and Specification by Ross Spiegel and Dru Meadows. For less handy homeowners, finding a handyman well versed in green building issues might be a better way to go. The Natural Handyman Network offers a free online search tool that should offer some

promising leads.

CONTACTS: MasterHandyman.com, www.masterhandyman.com; BuildingGreen.com, www.buildinggreen.com; Envirologix, www.envirologix.com; Environmental Home Center, www.environmental-homecenter.com; Green Building Supply, www.greenbuildingsupply.com; Oikos, www.oikos.com; The Natural Handyman Network, www.naturalhandyman.com.

Public Notice

The Central Texas Council of Governments' Solid Waste Advisory Committee will hold a meeting on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2007 at 9:30 at the CTCOG offices located at 2180 North Main Street in Belton.

The meeting will be held in Boardroom D-10. The household hazardous waste collection projects for fiscal year 2007 will be discussed and there will be a guest speaker from Fort Hood Environmental Services.

The public is invited to attend.



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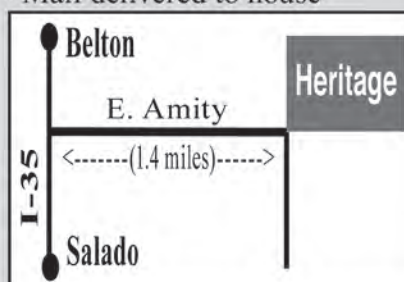


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Fresh Paint and New Flooring makes this traditional home in Mill Creek ready for you. 3 BR/2.5 BA/ 2 GA. **\$219,000.**



Unbelievable Kitchen! Stainless steel propane cooktop, custom cabinets and granite countertops. All on over 2 tree-covered acres. **\$269,900.**



Spectacular Texas ranch-style home highlighted by its extravagant wood craftsmanship. Granite counters and exposed beams make this 4 BR/3.5BA/2GA a must-see! **\$489,900.**



Absolutely beautiful traditional home in Mill Creek. Extra large bedrooms, 2 fireplaces, sun room, game room, large covered porches and patios, etc. Priced at **\$297,500.** Call for more info.



Updated Spanish Hacienda. Features include central vac and intercom systems, hardwood floors, spacious master suite, wood beams, stone pillars, granite counters, indoor, outdoor fireplaces. **\$539,900.**



Family sized 4 bedroom 2 1/2 bath home. Home includes 3 living areas with both formal and informal dining. Nearly 4000 sq ft. **Priced at \$299,900**



Open and spacious! Great location in Mill Creek. Features marble and pergo flooring, nice master suite, fenced backyard with covered patio. 3 BR/2BA/2GA Priced at **\$174,900.**



New Austin Stone Home located just west of Salado in Salado school district. This 3 BR/2BA/2GA is convenient to Harker Heights and Stillhouse Hollow Lake. Energy Star rating! Priced at **\$199,900.**



Beautiful home on over 40 acres with horse barn. Gorgeous in ground swimming pool with rock waterfall. Covered patio with outdoor rock fireplace. **\$649,900.**



Outstanding view from this one of a kind Texas Design Estate. Stainless Steel Kitchen Aid Appliances, Granite Counters Throughout, & Much More!!! 5BR/3.5BA **\$424,900.**



Granite Countertops and open floor plan make this new Texas ranch style a must see. This 3 BR/2BA/2GA is minutes away Harker Heights and Stillhouse Lake, but still in Salado ISD. Energy Star rating. **\$209,900.**



62 Acres: Beautiful homesite with outstanding view. Large live oaks on part of property. Perfect for a horse farm. Just west of Salado off of FM 2843. Property joins Eagle Rock Ranch. **\$500,000.**

Lots

Beautiful treed lot in Mill Creek on South Ridge Road. \$49,900
Beautiful mobile home in the country, excellent location, lived in one week, brand new condition, on .709 acre. Double carport with attached storage shed, 15 X 30 enclosed shop. Convenient to Taylor, Georgetown, Austin, minutes from Granger Lake. \$87,500
Lot overlooking Salado Creek. Behind Club House in Mill Creek \$50,000 reduced to \$29,000
Indian Trail at Blaylock, large corner lot. 90x188 \$40,000
Lot 231 and 232 Hidden Springs. Over 8 gorgeous tree covered acres with Willingham creek frontage. \$200,000.

Under 10 Acres

4.35 acre lot. Easy access to IH 35. On Smith Dairy Road. \$45,000.
5 lots on Sam Neil Lane, three 5-acre lots, two 1.2 acre lots. Priced from \$26,500 to \$59,900.
River track south side of Lampasas River between Belton and Salado. 1.9 acre \$53,900
10 acre lot on 2484. **SOLD** trees. Septic and well on site. \$130,000.

10 to 100 Acres

Over 30 acres in Bartlett. Good development property, well located with frontage on Bell Street and Harold Clark road. \$106,170
Nearly 50 acres on Hwy 95 and CR 355. Excellent location for development. Level to rolling highly productive Black land. \$174,300
33.2 acres Great Home site. Southeast of Salado on FM 2115. \$182,600
Beautiful 40 acre Hill Country Ranch with road frontage, live oak, cedar, artesian spring, barn, cabin, elevation, building sites, and wildlife. On FM 2843. \$328,000
62 rolling acres. Beautiful home site with outstanding view. Large oaks on property. Perfect for a horse farm. Just west of Salado off of 2843. Entrance to property is through Eagle Rock. \$500,000
44 acres off of Firefly Road between Salado and Florence. Great Trees. Will Divide. \$5,000/acre.

Over 100 Acres

100+ acre ranch. The perfect weekend retreat or horse operation. Rolling ranch land includes stock tank, creek and hay barn. \$499,000
147 acres east of Academy on Reeds Lake Road. Beautiful rolling hill country with outstanding coastal. Property has draw running through middle with 3 small tanks with excellent opportunity to enlarge. Possible gravel reserve as well. \$3,450 per acre.
Beautiful Hill Country land with mix of Live Oak, Pecan, Elm, and some cedar. Live creek, Artesian spring, two stock tanks, elevation with beautiful views and building sites. Caves, rock quarry, good grass for horses or livestock, wildlife, might divide, possible owner financing, on paved road with easy access to surrounding cities. 102 acres on FM 2843. \$765,000.

Commercial

30 acres fronting IH 35, 1 mile south of Stagecoach Inn.
Jackson's Smokehouse Restaurant, building land and equipment, excellent location. Great business opportunity. Holland. \$58,000.

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