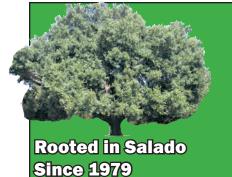
Salado Votes

Vol. XXIX, Number 32 254/947-5321 fax 254/947-9479 Thursday, December 21, 2006 50¢ www.saladovillagevoice.com Glory to God Let the story be told King James Version: The Gospel According to St. Luke, Chapter 2 1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Ceasar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. 2 And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of 5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. 6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should 7 And she brought forth her first born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. 8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over 9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. 10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the 12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. 15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known to us. 16 And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. 17 And when they had seen it, they made known abroad they saying which was told them 18 And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shep-19 But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. 20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them. 21 And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.



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FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas



Saving Grace

It hasn't been a banner year. The United States is bogged down in a dispiriting war in Iraq, and North Korea and Iran continue to flout Washington's warnings and "red lines" with seeming impunity. But here are some things to be grateful for:

- Democracy. We might be having trouble exporting it overseas, but it still works at home. If a political party becomes corrupt and ineffectual, the voters will find a way to force it from office, no matter how many institutional advantages it has stacked in its favor. The GOP just learned this lesson, and as soon as Democrats forget it, they will get a thumping of their
- Milton Friedman. The late economist was one of the 20th century's most effective advocates for freedom, helping extend free markets here at home and spread them to places like China. He was a great scourge of inflation and helped provide Ronald Reagan with the intellectual ammunition to slay it in the early 1980s. His life -- and his legacy -- is an enduring testament to the power of ideas.
- The Wounded Warrior Project. More than 20,000 U.S. soldiers have been wounded in Iraq. The Wounded Warrior Project provides services to the most grievously injured and their families to help them return to civilian life.
- Muhammad Yunus. He won the Nobel Peace Prize this year, which is not necessarily a recommendation, since the prize often goes to anti-American hucksters. But he deserved it. His idea of microcredits -- giving extremely small loans to extremely poor people to help them start businesses -- has been a revolutionary tool in fighting poverty.
- YouTube. Politicians' gaffes, latenight comics' latest bits, inspired and zany clips from amateurs the world over -- all a click or two away. Why didn't someone think of this before?

Rich Lowry



- The anti-race hustlers. Bill Cosby famously has spoken out about the cultural problems that hold African-Americans back more than racism or other structural obstacles. National Public Radio's Juan Williams has added intellectual heft to Cosby's argument with his new book, "Enough." They are brave men.
- The pope. Whatever your faith or denomination, you have to be grateful that the West has such a figure, concerned with reconciling faith and reason, and operating always in the spirit of charity and love. Given other forms of religious expression the world has witnessed recently, this is a blessing indeed.
- Mukhtaran Bibi. This young Pakistani woman was sentenced to gang-rape by her village elders after her younger brother was accused of having a relationship with a woman of another tribe. She fought back and had -- a rarity in Pakistan -- her attackers prosecuted. She now is an internationally recognized voice for the rights of Pakistani women, who are often punished for being raped.
- Marine Cpl. Jason Dunham. He was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously for falling on a grenade to save his fellow Marines from the blast. That sort of sacrifice and bravery is typical of U.S. troops in Iraq, but it is too often ignored. The New York Times didn't mention Dunham's incredible act, or his medal, even though he was from upstate New York. We should never forget.

RICH LOWRY IS EDITOR OF THE NATIONAL REVIEW. c) 2006 BY KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

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"Appropriate" gifts highlight today's political commentary

This will be the 19th Holiday Season that "Off The Record" has departed from its usual weekly frothing at the political pen, and unabashedly offered suggestions concerning "appropriate" gift-ideas for our annual "Reminder to Santa." This being just four days before Christmas, we're also keeping a cautious eye on Mr. Claus' celebrated "naughty or nice" list.

So, if you aren't down to the final items on your holiday "to-do" schedule, take a moment off and giggle through the following "special" list, for some "special" folks - all of whom need "special" help, of one kind or another.

And, as noted in this space each year: "These suggestions are offered with a dab of dryness and slyness; a sprinkling of sauciness and sassiness; and smothered with a topping of fun and fact."

FOR OUR POLITICAL SLYBOOTS

Not wanting to leave politics out altogether, we'll open with some unique gift suggestions for several political intrigants who kept us on the edge of our seats this year.

Governor "Landslide" Perry is first, and we recommend Santa bring him a handbook on our state workforce. Lists all occupations and professions, while outlining the diverseness of the State's population.

Old "Crazy Hair" might be surprised to learn there's a wide range of people and vocations in Texas, that rivals (in size and scope) the wealthy business community, (a.k.a.- the Guv's primary support-group).

We're all familiar with his "innercircle" that builds toll roads and "corridors" that eat up thousands of acres of productive land; produces electric power; operates smoke belching coal fired turbines. Also, a brigade of bankers and, of course, the powerful commercial lobby. In short the State's "Movers and Shakers."

Be interesting (actually miraculous) if Perry spent time rubbing shoulders with average Texans - 61 percent of whom voted against him last month. Might wake him up to the needs of all citizens, rather than the fortunate few whose money is currently calling the shots in Austin.

FOR NEW CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS

For the incoming Democratic Congressional leaders, we suggest a gift certificate from the Washington Protocol Store. That's so they'll learn to play nice in the congressional sandbox, together with both President Bush and his Vice President. And futuristically, help them discover an acceptable way to say "no-thanks" when invited to go dove hunting with "Dead-eye-Dick" Cheney, the Senate's top Musketeer.

Also for Harry Reid and Nancy Pelosi - we would offer a suggestion, to be used on the first day of the upcoming 110th Congressional Session. Its simple, but could have long lasting positive results. Have Senate Majority Leader Reid and Speaker Pelosi assign "permanent desk-seats" to their respective members, in alphabetical order!

It'd force GOP and Demo lawmakers to sit-work together, and hopefully end the conspiratorial shenanigans that evolves when partisan isolationism overrides what's best for the nation.

Highly recommend this new seating arrangement to a Congress that's

Off the Record
by Ken Clapp



been disgracefully operating under a permanent "Do Nothing" banner of shame.

FOR THAT "EXTRA-SPECIAL" PERSON

For readers with someone on their gift list they really don't like - why not ask St. Nicholas to send them a year's subscription to Rush Limbaugh's monthly magazine?

A DO-NO-GOODER'S XMAS TALE

To conclude this session of merry-making, we offer the following "enhanced" tale of the holiday season, as our special gift to readers - who (no doubt) are in need of a guffaw-break at this tedious time of year. Our story began last week at the local "Do-No-Gooder's" table in the Stagecoach Coffee Shop (that's right - they're still meeting there with alarming regularity).

The group was trying to figure out how to "properly" reward their waitpersons for putting up with a year's overdose of **curmudgeonly grumpiness**. Sometimes nattering about politics (local and otherwise), but more often griping about the cost of coffee and tip, that they pay each morning (after major lamentations).

In the spirit of the season (and to avoid embarrassment) we'll not mention how many cups each guy guzzles - for his niggling buck and a half.

Member Don Clayton (for sins we've not as yet discovered) was delegated to collect the **annual waitress Christmas money-gift**, plus three appropriate cards (it takes a trio of servers - since one alone would constitute "cruel and unusual" punishment).

"SCROOGE-ACT-ALIKES"

These "Scrooge-act-alikes" were not thrilled about tossing a-lot-in-the-pot, (several mentioned a dollar for starters) and so they were uneasily watching their compatriots, to see how much long-green was forthcoming - when the unthinkable happened. Someone had tossed in a twenty! Followed immediately by a tizzy-panic!!!

"Too much" moaned several members. Later - two of the gang, seated at the far end of the 12-man-table, were observed (suspiciously) fiddling with the moneybowl. Claimed they were making change, thus creating a debate that's on-going.

Next day - with a full complement of DNGers present, the collection resumed (now under compulsion of shame) and more double-sawbucks appeared. Finally, the total achieved respectability.

In any event - the amount this year was more than last and hopefully will continue to increase each year - although that's still up for grabs. One thing's certain - the DNG table-area is certain to eventually be historically memorialized as the permanent home of our Village's "Big Spenders" fraternity.

OUT OF TIME AND SPACE

As always, we're out of time and space with our work unfinished - so we'll wrap things up with a sincere "Happy Christmas" wish for each of you, and yours.

Next week's offering will include our 2007 political predictions - all of them subject to debate, dissent, and dispute on the one hand. And a modest smattering of "amens" on the other. All of which make politics, not only interesting but important, and always worth a comment (or three).

That's -30-

FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas

ACLU Nativity Scene depicts what holiday season has become

By GINA PARKER

If you stroll through the University of Texas campus over Christmas, you will see something that at a glance would seem to be standard holiday fare: a crèche scene. A closer look, however, will reveal Nancy Pelosi in the form of an angel and several other personalities that would confound most sensible Americans. What you have found is not so much an abomination as a wake-up call: it is the "ACLU Nativity Scene" of the Young Conservatives of Texas - a parody intended to show the ridiculous lengths employed by the liberal left and the antics of the ACLU in general to hijack Christmas.

A gay married couple, Gary and Joseph, take the place of the more traditional Mary and Joseph, and Stalin, Lenin, and Marx – holding a book bearing the title Child Porn – portray the three wise men. In the parody, a shepherd portrays a Muslim extremist with a bomb strapped to his chest. Jesus Himself is absent from the manger; the words "The Season" appear in His place, and the words "Nativity Scene" crossed out with the words "Solstice Barn" scribbled underneath. The parody's message is resoundingly clear: Americans have slowly but surely permitted not only Christmas, but also America to be stolen by the cranky and wayward minority.

The crèche parody is a call to action, a reminder of why passivity and pre-occupation on the part of the sensible are ruining our nation. According to YCT Executive Director Joseph Wyly: "The ACLU and other left-wing ex-

tremist groups are working diligently to destroy Americans' rights to a free expression of religion.... We've already seen in Chicago an attempt to censor the nativity by a city government this week. It's just more evidence that there is a War on Christmas being waged by the far-left in this country."

The "ACLU Nativity Scene" has received the attention of several pundits and politicians across the nation, including Brit Hume and Bill O'Reilly of FOX News. Brit Hume featured the crèche in his popular segment "The Grapevine," and Bill O'Reilly condoned the parody as "totally acceptable."

While many liberals have been quick to attack the parody scene, saying that it "fell flat" since the ACLU responded to it with "tolerance" rather than outrage, these folks have missed the point. The message is not to the ACLU so much as it is about them. The crèche is a wake-up call for Americans who have allowed the behavior depicted in the scene to go on far too long. Let us hope it wakes up the right kind of people - people who have no "tolerance" for liberal-minded absurdity whatsoever.

GINA PARKER - CEO OF DENTAL CREATIONS, A DENTAL MANUFACTURING COMPANY, AND AN ATTORNEY - IS THE NATIONAL EAGLE FORUM CHAIRMAN FOR JUDICIAL REFORM. MISS PARKER ALSO SERVED AS A BUSH AND PERRY APPOINTEE TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATION. SHE SERVES ON THE AMERICAN FAMILY RADIO ADVISORY BOARD (TEXAS), AND SHE WAS BOTH THE FORMER REPUBLICAN PARTY OF TEXAS TREASURER AND ASSOCIATE GENERAL COUNSEL. FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.GINAPARKER.





Helping all students to make the grade

Most sports seasons end, and players get time off to rest and plan for next year. In Washington, though, politics is the sport, and the season never ends.

We've just come through a congressional election, and before the new lawmakers have even taken office, some candidates are planning presidential runs in 2008.

So while pundits debate the merits of Hillary Clinton, Evan Bayh and Barack Obama vs. John McCain, Mitt Romney and Rudy Guliani, let's look forward by looking back.

In 2004, John Edwards was a relative newcomer. But the North Carolina Democrat made a big splash by claiming there were "two Americas," one for the wealthy (a small country, no doubt) and another for everyone else.

As is so often the case in politics, though, rhetoric doesn't match reality.

The Census Bureau says only about two percent of the population is chronically poor, meaning they've lived in poverty for four years or more. And many of today's poor will move up the income ladder, even as many of today's rich will move down. Between 1996 and 1999, 38 percent of households in the bottom quintile moved higher, while 34 percent of households in the top quintile moved to a lower one.

Of course, some are always left behind, and we need to change that. So the correct question becomes, "How can we help the remaining households move up?" A big part of the answer: Improve education

Heritage Forum

Edwin Feulner, President The Heritage Foundation

by giving every family school choice.

The wealthy already enjoy that. People who have good incomes can choose where to live, so they almost always pick an area with quality schools. Poor families, on the other hand, have little choice. They live wherever they can afford to, whether the schools are good or not.

So it's no surprise that, as the Department of Education has reported, one-third of all failing schools draw at least 75 percent of their students from low-income families or minority groups. Meanwhile, only 5 percent of schools with low concentrations of these groups are labeled as "failing."

Parents at all income levels understand this instinctively -- and are eager to get their children into better schools.

Back in 1999, the Children's Scholarship Fund was overwhelmed when it offered 40,000 private-school scholarships and more than one million students applied, or about 31 for each available scholarship. And these parents applied knowing that, if they won a scholarship, they'd still have to pay about \$1,000 per student, a sizeable investment for a poor family.

Or consider our nation's capital, where 1,800 students from poor families attend private schools with the support of the Washington Scholarship Fund.

Parents love the program.

"As a parent, I know that getting a quality education is very important for all kids," a father of three students says. "To give my kids that quality education would have been impossible without your help." A mother of two adds: "Had my children not been beneficiaries of the WSF, they may not have been afforded the opportunity to receive a wonderful education nor a chance at a bright future."

But this progress is in danger.

The D.C. program must be re-approved by lawmakers next year. With Congress having changed hands, it's not clear the scholarship fund, as successful and popular as it is, will be continued. In the last Congress, the House passed the measure only 205 to 203, having split largely along party lines. All but 14 Republicans voted in favor; all but four Democrats voted against. Yet what's certain is that if the program's ended, the students will be the real losers.

If politicians really want to improve lives, they'll expand -- not shut down -- the school-choice programs that are already helping students from poor families. Apparently it's never too early to start campaigning, so let's make school choice a critical factor in the 2008 elections

You'd love this darling little sweatshop



What a scream John Tierney is! I howled with laughter when I read this "New York Times" columnist's recent comic piece promoting Wal-Mart for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Yes, with perfect deadpan delivery, Tierney asserted that no one "is doing more to alleviate Third World poverty than Wal-Mart." Seriously! Not even Voltaire at his satirical best could have come up with such a farcical plot. I'd love to see John take it to the road.

The right-wing pundit playfully claims that Third-World poor folks are lucky to get \$2-aday jobs in urban sweat-shops making stuff for Wal-Mart, because this is better than the \$1-a-day drudge of working with their own families back in poor rural villages. Yes, getting poked in the eye is so much better than getting shot in the head.

Wouldn't it be fun for John to meet Ana Barahona? She's one of the lucky sweatshop workers that Tierney wrote about. The women's labor group, STITCH, brought Ana from Nicaragua to the United States recently to talk personally about how it is that Wal-Mart helps impoverished workers. "I wanted to vomit," Ana said when she visited a U.S. Wal-Mart store and saw some \$30 slacks that she'd been paid 12 cents to make.

Ms. Barahona tells of having to work with toxic chemicals without protective equipment, getting only two bathroom passes a day, sometimes forced to work 24-hour "shifts" with no overtime pay, and being subject to firing if she gets pregnant or "too fat." Oh, and that \$2 a day that Tierney heralded? Ana says the factory deducts \$1 for lunch and about 50 cents for transportation, so the women skip lunch to "have something left."

It's always helpful to have six-figure pundits like Tierney tell us how great it is for impoverished people to work in sweatshops. I say, let's put him in one for a year! Then we can all laugh with him all the way to the nearest Wal-Mart, where he can buy some of that "cheap stuff."



Look past "Outlook" for 2007

It's time for all the financial experts to make their predictions for 2007. Some will say the stock market will keep rising over the next year, while others will claim the market will fall. How about interest rates, inflation, oil prices and any number of other factors? With very little effort, you can find conflicting opinions on all these subjects. How can you base your

You can't - and you shouldn't.

an uncertain forecast?

investment strategies on such

In fact, you'll be better off if you stop asking questions that have no answers. No one can really tell you where the Dow Jones Industrial Average will be in 12 months, nor the price of a barrel of oil, nor the interest rate on a 10-year Treasury note. Even more importantly, the specifics of the financial markets over the next year are just about meaningless to you if you will be investing for another two or three decades.

Consequently, instead of pondering what lies ahead for the financial markets, ask yourself these questions:

Is my asset allocation suitable for my risk tolerance? You'll need to periodically review your portfolio to make sure your investment

Financial Focus

by Allen Mantanona



mix is still appropriate for your individual needs. You don't want to take on too much risk, but, at the same time, you don't want to invest so conservatively that you can't attain the growth you need. And, over time, some of your goals may change, along with your family situation, so you'll want to make sure your investments reflect your new circumstances.

Do I need to upgrade the quality of my investments? Year in and year out, through market volatility and political turmoil, quality investments never go out of style. Take a close look at your holdings. Do you own stocks of companies with strong management teams and competitive products? Have your bonds received high "grades" from the independent rating agencies? In any given time period, the highest rated investments may not offer the best returns, but, over the long haul, they are likely to provide you with the greatest potential for rewards.

Can I reduce my investment expenses and taxes? Most people don't realize just how much expenses and taxes can eat into investment returns. By buying -quality investments, and holding them for the long term, you can help reduce transac-

tion costs. And you can gain greater control of your tax situation by focusing on tax-advantaged vehicles, such as your 401(k), Roth or traditional IRA, fixed annuities and some types of municipal bonds

Do I own investments that can offer the potential for both reliable and rising income during retirement? This question is especially applicable if you are closing in on retirement. To supplement your Social Security and the distributions from your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan, you will need to count on income from your investment portfolio. To maintain a steady source of income that can also keep you ahead of inflation, you may want to explore a mixture of fixed-income vehicles and dividend-paying stocks. Keep in mind, though, that dividends can be increased, decreased or totally eliminated at any point without notice.

You can't predict shifting political winds, geopolitical unrest, new tax legislation and the fortunes of specific industries. But by following the steps outlined above, you can quit looking for a crystal ball - because you won't need it.

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Buying and Selling

By Ryan Hodge

You would expect that a successful real estate agent serves many clients, and offers a wide variety of listings to interest a wide variety of buyers. However, when you list your home, you also expect that yours is the most important of all those listings. After all, in your eyes, your home is the hottest property on the

market!

Let your agent know just how often you expect to hear reports about showings, but beyond that, consider some of the other hot topics of conversation to discuss while your home is on the market.

Other homes for sale can have an impact on your listing, so expect your agent to let you know about recent sales price changes, or expired listings in your neighborhood, as well as any new competition that hits the market. The agent should be able to gauge the overall activity in your area, and let you know if there is anything you can do to improve your chances of a sale.

You'll also want to hear the comments of prospective buyers who have viewed your home, as well as other real estate agents who have visited. Based on that feedback, your agent may have suggestions about improving the "showability" of your home.

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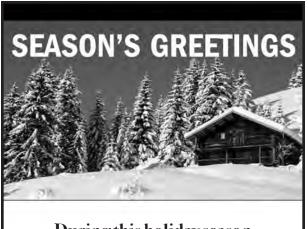


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Salado Volunteer Fire Department Incident Report for November

D.	Tr'	T
Date 11/01	Time 06:49	Type Folso clarm or folso call, other
11/01	07:01	False alarm or false call, other
11/02	20:14	Motor vehicle accident with no injuries Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/02	04:38	
		Medical assist, assist EMS crew Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/03	20:13	
11/04	10:25	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/04	18:56	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/05 11/06	03:58	Vehicle accident with injuries
	14:00 07:41	Vehicle accident with injuries
11/07	07.41	Authorized controlled burning
11/07		Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/07	12:02	Grass fire
11/08	20:29	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/09	14:42	Vehicle accident with injuries
11/10	03:13	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/10	12:07	Authorized controlled burning
11/10	12:57	False alarm or false call, other
11/10	15:38	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/10	15:48	Vehicle accident with injuries
11/10	18:45	Grass fire
11/11	10:32	Lock-out
11/11	16:58	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/14	11:18	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/15	06:25	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/15	12:11	Brush, or brush and grass mixture fire
11/15	14:20	Road freight or transport vehicle fire
11/15	15:32	Building fire
11/16	12:08	Vehicle accident with injuries
11/17	01:11	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/18	00:22	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/18	20:10	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/19	01:31	Passenger vehicle fire
11/20	11:32	Dispatched and canceled en route
11/20	11:50	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/21	14:19	False alaram or false call, other
11/22	16:10	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/23	09:58	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/24	09:01	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/24	13:29	Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle
11/24	16:23	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/24	20:30	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/25	10:52	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/26	07:12	Vehicle accident with injuries
11/26	13:54	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/26	18:48	Smoke or odor removal
11/26	22:46	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/27	08:40	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/28	13:22	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/29	20:19	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
11/30	16:52	Building fire

Justice of the Peace Pct. 2 **Monthly Report** November 2006

Judge Don Engleking, Justice of the Peace Pct. 2 Bell County reports the following activity for November 2006.

Monthly revenue for the month is reported to be \$49,888. Revenue collected is comprised of funds from criminal cases and civil cases filed in the precinct.

A total of 342 cases were filed for the month. This includes moving and non moving traffic citations, criminal cases, and civil cases filed during the month.

Over 287 cases were disposed of by the court. In addition 20 arraignments were conducted at the county jail and the judge conducted eight inquest.





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Auxiliary fundraising efforts fulfill community needs

The Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary recently presented over \$8,000 to the following as a result of the Auxiliary's annual Christmas in October proceeds. Pictured above are representatives of recipient organizations. L-R: Salado Community Chorus, Dr. Kim Van Cura; Music in Salado, Dr. John Van Cura; seated: Salado Cemetery Association, Elaine Ory; Salado Family Relief Fund, Renee Oas; Salado Volunteer Fire Dept., Chief Charles Young; PALS (Public Arts League) Vicki Kelley (seated) and Troy Kelly (standing); and Salado Historical Society, June and Ben Willingham. Representatives were not present from Tablerock Festival or the Salado Humane Society.

In addition to these organizations, two \$1,000 scholarships are awarded to Salado students each year.

President Pat Wanzor noted, "The last three years have been most successful Christmas in October fundraisers affording the opportunity for the Auxiliary to continue contributions to the community." PHOTO BY MARILYN FLEISCHER



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Salado school trustees discuss liability issues of bonds

By TIM FLEISCHER Editor-in-Chief

From a single line of tax legislation, more than 90 pages of regulations spring. Doug Pahnke, Arbitrage Compliance Systems, discussed with Salado ISD trustees at their Dec. 18 meeting the complexity of tax laws surrounding tax-free bonds issued to schools and other local governments for construction.

"When you issue tax exempt bonds for school, it falls under a federal mandate called a tax certificate," he explained. "When the district is issued a tax-exempt bond, the district gets it at an artificially low rate. When you (the school district) get it at four percent, the rest of the bond market has to pay a higher rate of six percent or so. Tax-free bonds are usually 30 percent lower than the market rate."

Because of this below-market rate, there are many stipulations on the use of the money, how the money is invested and how long the money can remain unused.

"When you receive the money, you will invest it, but if you earn more interest than the interest cost of the bond," he said, "you may have to rebate the extra interest earned back to

the federal government.

He told trustees that Salado I.S.D. was subject to rebating interest, but did not know if the district is liable to pay back inter-

Arbitrage Compliance Specialists is a company that will research an entity's history of bonds to dertermine if it is liable for paying any rebate to the federal government. He told trustees that Arbitrage would review the past 19 years of the district's bond history to determine what, if any, liability the district would have. The fee for the service would be \$500 per year.

Dr. Robin Battershell said that the district contacted Arbitrage, when asked who made first contact by trustee Lynn Renfro.

Trustees took no action regarding Arbitrage, but will contact other similar businesses to further discuss the issue.

In other business, trustees set a special called meeting for Jan. 9 to review the superintendent's contract. Frank Carlson said he was opposed to reviewing the contract until after the final report on the financial audit was completed. He questioned how he could review the contract without the complete financial picture.

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Trustees also approved a change in local policy to allow payments of \$30 for meals for overnight travel

without requiring receipts. Carlson voted against the motion for the policy because, he said, "we approved the budget based on \$25 per day and now setting it at \$30."

The board will inves-

tigate Performance Pay again in December 2007. Because of the unforeseen

SEE TRUSTEES, PAGE 16A



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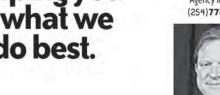
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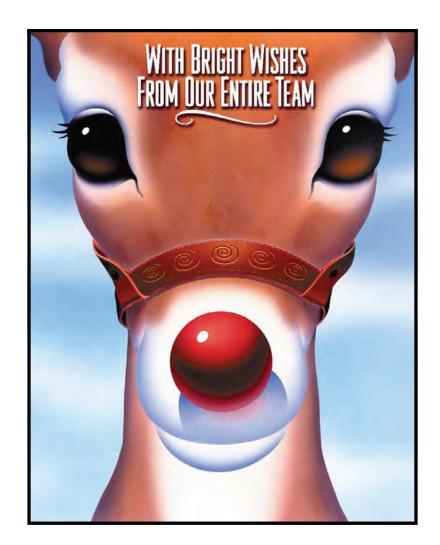


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Varsity cagers at 8-4 with district upcoming

The Salado Varsity Eagles, out to a 7-3 start, spent last week prepping for the start of play in District 25AA by taking the court against a pair of Class 3A teams - Pflugerville Connally and Cameron - and emerged with one win and one loss.

Facing Connally at home Dec. 12 Salado fell by a final of 57-36, but rebounded nicely to take down Cameron three days later, 57-41 in a game which was also played in Coach Smith Gym.

The Eagles got behind Connally in the early going and had difficulty playing themselves back into the game. At the conclusion of the first period Salado found itself trailing the visitors by a ninepoint margin, 16-7, and by halftime that deficit had ballooned to 30-13.

In the third period Connally increased its lead to an insurmountable level, dropping 20 points on the Eagles and allowing only eight Salado points. That pushed the Connally lead to 50-21 with one period remaining.

The fourth period saw the Eagles drop 15 points on their opponents, but by

then the final outcome was long since decided. Connally's seven fourth period points brought the game to its 57-36 final score.

No Salado player reached double-digits in points on the game, though Salado was paced by Noah Harbison, who tallied eight points. Clay Sharum and Chad Tumey both had six points in the loss, while Blake Newman accounted for four points. David Rosenau and Nick Seawood each scored three, and Justin Konzen, Stephen Quick and Tommy Schatte each contributed two points.

Salado did not allow the lopsided defeat to linger very long. The boys played host to Cameron Dec. 15, and on the strength of 78 percent free throw shooting the Eagles cruised to a comfortable 16-point, 57-41 victory.

Salado converted on an impressive 22 of 28 chances from the free throw line, which played a big role in securing the win.

The Eagles opened the game by cashing in on sixof-six chances from the charity stripe in the first, along with four buckets from the field provided by Sharum and Rosenau. Salado led 16-6 after one quarter.

In the second Salado continued to take advantage of the referee's whistle, garnering eight more opportunities from the stripe and converting on six of those en route to a 28-14 lead at the break.

Cameron attempted to mount a comeback in the third, but Salado managed 15 points to Cameron's 14 - thanks in part to seven points from Rosenau.

With the Salado advantage firmly entrenched, the fourth played out to be little more than a formality, though the Eagles did convert eight out of 10 additional opportunities

from the line, putting the finishing touches on the double-digit victory.

Rosenau led all Salado scorers on the night with 18 points. Also hitting double figures was Justin Pruitt, who had 10. Harbison scored seven, Sharum had six and Tumey registered five points. Newman scored three, and Konzen, Myers, Schatte and Stephen Quick all contributed two points in the win.

The Eagles will make the long bus ride to Sinton after Christmas to participate in a tournment Dec. 28-30 before facing district foe Lago Vista at home Jan. 2.

Junior High Results Salado 8th A - 25 Caldwell - 20

Participating in a Cameron tournament, Salado used a 16-point first half to earn a narrow victory over Class 3A Caldwell. Hunter Ward had eight points, Taylor Ruddick scored seven and Jacob Heiner had four.

Salado 8th A - 27 Manor - 47

The Eagles fell behind 24-12 in the first half and could not recover in the second half. Clint Scarborough led Salado with six points, while Ward scored five points. Ruddick and Cole Brentham

both scored four. Salado 8th A - 23 Cameron - 35

Salado allowed a 19-15 halftime lead to evaporate in the game's final two periods. The Eagles could only manage one point in the fourth in the loss. Braxton Tucker led Salado with eight points, and Brentham and Ward both recorded five points.

Salado Seventh A - 36 Caldwell - 22

Kyle Bradley scored eight points and Koby Spears had seven in Salado's 14-point triumph over

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11A

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Prioritize safety for holiday travel

Motorists traveling during this Christmas holiday season should be prepared for two things that could affect the trip -- increased travel times and winter weather condi-

TxDOT warns motorists to be prepared for increased travel time due to an increased volume of vehicles traveling roadways during the holiday season, and potential changes in weather that could affect



Royal Street Provisions owner Alice Wells gave merchants an opportunity to take a morning break to visit with one another at RSP annual open house. Alice visits with Chris Hale while her sister Shirley laughs it up with other guests. PHOTO BY MARILYN FLEISCHER

driving conditions.

TxDOT and its construction contractors cease roadway work during the major holidays. So motorists are not likely to see many workers alongside roadways. But some work zone lane closures will remain in place, where necessary.

Motorists can make a trip easier when they:

- Prepare the vehicle for winter travel. Check brakes, tires, and fluid levels.
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- Buckle up and make sure children are properly restrained.
- · Slow down and drive to conditions.
- · Drive friendly. Yield

to other drivers and be courteous.

- Maintain a safe follow-
- ing distance at all times. Look both ways before
- you enter an intersection. • Use signals at every
- turn and lane changes. • Stop at red lights and
- stop signs. · Do not drink and
- drive. Make rest stops during
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- Check area weather conditions on radios, television, or on-line at 800-452-9292 or go on-line to www.dot.state.tx.us/hcr/ main.htm.

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After rough start, Lady Eagles 2-0 to open district play

After a slow start, which had the Lady Eagles lurch out to a 2-11 opening to the season, Salado has seemingly righted the ship when it matters. The girls won their District 25AA opener over rival Academy, 38-29 Dec. 12 and followed that with a 53-31 dismantling of Jarrell at home Dec. 15.

The wins only improve Salado's overall record to 4-11, but the important number within that is the Lady Eagles are 2-0 in district play.

Playing on the road versus the Lady Bees, Salado got off to a slow start, managing just four points in the opening period. Academy, however, only scored six. In the second Salado exploded for 17 points while holding the Lady Bees to seven, which gave Salado a 21-13 halftime advantage.

In the third, each team's offense struggled again to generate points. Salado did not lose anything off its lead, though, as the Lady Eagles managed five points while Academy scored only

Both clubs equalled one another's output in the fourth, with each scoring 12, but with Academy unable to slice into the Salado lead the Lady's Eagle nine-point win was preserved.

Kelsey Gobin led the Lady Eagles with 13 points, and was the only Salado player to reach double figures. Kaylan Hearne scored six,

while Kristen Smith and Tamra Stanish both had five. Cortney Dunnahoo scored four, Danielle Hazzard had three and Brittani Gilchrest scored

Against Jarrell a few days later, the Lady Eagles finally got off to a fast start offensively, scoring 17 points in the opening quarter and earning a 12-point lead entering the second.

Salado continued to hold Jarrell in check throughout the remainder of the first half, and built a double-digit, 27-14 advantage at the break.

In the third period, the Lady Eagles put the game away. For the second time in the game Salado poured in 17 points in a period, and the Lady Eagle defense effectively stymied the Jarrell offense to the tune of just four third period points.

With the lead established at 44-18 entering the fourth, Jarrell tacked on 13 points but it was too little, too late for the Lady Cougars as Salado ran away with the 22point victory.

Cortney Dunnahoo led all scorers on the night with her 15 point effort. Smith had nine points, while Gobin and Hazzard each registed eight. Hearne scored six, Gilchrest chipped in five and Stanish record two points.

Following the Christmas break, the girls will participate in a tournament in Thorndale Dec. 28-30.

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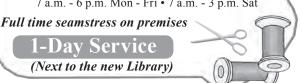


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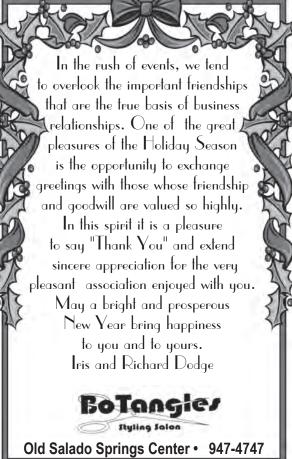
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do's 14-point triumph over Caldwell. Salado controlled the game from the opening tip, and did not allow Caldwell to score scored seven. more than eight points in any quarter.

Salado Seventh A - 34 Manor - 50

The Eagles fell behind 17-7 and a 27-9 halftime deficit proved too much to overcome. A strong second half by Salado was not enough to dent the Manor lead, though Colton Meiman scored all of his game-high 12 points in the second half. Kyle Bradley had 10 and Austin Silva

Salado 7th A - 42 Cameron - 16

Kyle Bradley led all scorers with 18 points, including 10 in the second quarter, in leading Salado to a 26-point dismantling of Class 3A Cameron. Johnny Jordan had eight, Silva five and Jada Kornegay four.





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Page 12A, December 21, 2006 SALADO Village Voice

BUSINESS REVIEW

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Carole Burgin - Owner

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In writing this 2006 Holiday Business Review of leading businesses throughout the Bell County area, we, the editors, would like to make special note of this fine grooming parlor for all breeds of dogs.

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Tad Elliott – Manager

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Where your eyes are concerned, there is no substitute for quality and you can count on them for the best. If you need a pair of fine prescription sunglasses, be sure to come in and look over their wide selection consisting of many beautiful styles. DIETZ-MCLEAN OPTICAL also has an expert repair service, and their work is fully guaranteed. Their glasses are warranted for 2 full years. Eyeglass repairs are done at no charge. We, the editors of this 2006 Holiday Business Review, highly recommend this reliable optical firm to all of our readers for their important service is unexcelled anywhere.

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When you build...build it to last forever with beautifully natural building stone from J&J STONE CO., INC. Located at 2555 CR 234 in Georgetown, phone 512-746-2558. This outstanding firm can offer you more styles, sizes and types of building stone than anyone in the area. Whether you need *all types of building, patio and landscape stone, including: rattlesnake nicotine, Rose Strip and Austin White Limestone,* or most any type, this is the only stop you'll have to make! They offer fast delivery service to your building site. They'll recommend the right type of product to do the job you want!

Contractors throughout the area rely on this established company for building stone, and beautiful examples of their products can be seen on many of the better homes in this section of the state. We, the editors of this 2006 Holiday Business Review, urge our readers to contact **J&J STONE CO., INC.** and find out about the many advantages offered by building with the best...**stone!** *Or visit their website at www.jjstone.com*

VINTAGE DAZE

"Belton's Finest Antique Mall"

Looking for the old, the unusual and the unique? Look to the VINTAGE DAZE to show you some of the really unusual values in some of the oldest and most unique antique merchandise. This well known antique mall features everything in the amazing world of antiques and other valuable and collectable items. EVELYN'S GLASS WITH CLASS (inside VINTAGE DAZE) is one favorite place to shop for glassware and a large selection of custom vintage jewelry. Located at 213 E. Central Avenue in Belton, phone (254) 939-5699, this quality-conscious firm maintains a tremendous stock of valuables from many periods of history. From art objects to furniture...from crystal to primitives...to memorabilia...to miniatures...this shop has it all!

VINTAGE DAZE AND EVELYN'S GLASS WITH CLASS have been found to be the most accommodating of shops. They're always available for information and are open at convenient times for your shopping pleasure. The editors of this 2006 Holiday Business Review suggest that you get to know these friendly, knowledgeable antique dealers...personally!

GARLYN SHELTON CADILLAC – MAZDA – NISSAN – MERCEDES – BMW – VOLVO

With so many new models similar in style, options and price flooding the market, how does the prospective new car buyer decide? The auto industry has undergone constant changes. The OnStar system can direct a driver to their destination. Night Vision helps you see ahead in the dark and project the scene onto your windshield and into your field of view. You want value, a car you can take pride in, one that fits your personality and lifestyle. The best way to buy is to compare, and the best place to compare is where there is SELECTION... GAR-LYN SHELTON IMPORTS located at 5700 S.W.H.K. Dodgen Loop in Temple, phone (254) 771-0128, GARLYN SHELTON NISSAN, located at IH 35 and Midway Drive in Temple, phone (254) 773-4828 and MERCEDES BENZ of Georgetown, located at IH 35 and Westinghouse Road in Georgetown, phone (512) 868-9711. As an authorized CADILLAC - MAZDA - NISSAN - MERCEDES - BMW - VOLVO dealer, they can help you select an automobile that will put fun back into driving. Whether it's a luxury automobile, a sporty convertible, a gas saving economy or a comfortable family sized SUV, you're sure to find what you're looking for at this prominent dealership. One of the area's largest selections, some of the very finest service along with extra special deals are just a few of the reasons why GARLYN SHELTON has so

Drop by and browse at your leisure, see what's new in automotive technology. *Take a test drive and experience why they take so much pride in their product line!* The editors of this 2006 Holiday Business Review feel that it would be

CARPET CORNER

"Locally Owned & Operated"

A world of beauty awaits you at CARPET CORNER located at 1325 IH 35 (Main St.) in Belton, phone (254) 933-3443. This quality conscious dealer features everything you need to beautifully cover your floors with a variety of durable and decorative materials. One-stop shopping and professional installation for carpeting, tile laminates and other floor coverings for your living room, bedroom, dining room...even your kitchen and bath becomes a pleasant reality at CARPET CORNER. They handle a full line of colors, styles and designs to compliment any decorating scheme and will gladly offer their assistance in helping you select the style that's just right for your home or office.

CARPET CORNER can save you money on floor coverings. Their volume buying policies and their remarkable low overhead are the reasons for their reasonable low prices. *Don't buy ANY carpet or floor covering until you've seen the selection and the unbelievable low prices at this floor covering store.* The editors of this 2006 Holiday Business Review want all of our readers to check with this floor material dealer...first!

YANEZ TREE SERVICE

"Professional Tree Service"

A dying or dead tree can cause considerable damage or even present a threat to life in the even of a storm. Don't let this situation threaten your property and safety. Removing dangerous trees is a specialty of YANEZ TREE SERVICE located in Temple, phone (254) 718-3814. Complete tree care is available from this firm including removal, pruning, topping, bracing, trimming, land clearing and yard maintenance. This qualified tree surgeon can do the job you need for both commercial and residential services. Estimates are given and this firm makes its' tree experts available anywhere in the Bell County area including Waco and surrounding areas. Complete equipment for every job is carried on promptly dispatched trucks.

Don't put yourself out on a limb. Compare the prices. Compare the services. Let the professionals at YANEZ TREE SERVICE do the job. The editors of this 2006 Holiday Business Review recommend this firm for complete tree care.

L&W PAINT & BODY INC.

Larry Peaslee & Wayne Foley: Owners

When you make an investment in a car or truck, it makes good sense to protect that investment. That's why L&W PAINT & BODY INC. is one name that stands out in the Bell County Community area for professional auto body work and custom painting. They are located at 1115 S. 55th St. in Temple, phone (254) 771-1180, where you'll find some of the most skilled craftsmen. If you're looking for where to take your car to have it restored to its original form, then look no further. L&W PAINT & BODY INC. is an experienced auto body and complete collision repair shop featuring state-of-the-art equipment, free estimates, insurance claims and they are I-CAR Certified.

Their accuracy allows them to provide you with the best service at an economical cost. If you've been in an accident or just need a professional custom paint job. *Don't settle for less than the best, look to L&W PAINT & BODY INC. to handle your repairs. 24 hour towing is also available call 771-1303*. The editors of this 2006 Holiday Business Review suggest that your investment will remain in tact when you have this firm handle all of your auto body work and painting.

UNION STATE BANK

Since 1928

When it comes to getting quality service with a personal touch, most people agree that dealing with local businesses is the way to go. In this area, we have a friend with a rich history of helping us with all our financial matters. This friend is UNION STATE BANK! With offices conveniently located at 1100 Williams Dr. in Georgetown (512-869-8181), 100 E. Main St. in Florence (254-793-2601), 120 N. Gray St. in Killeen (254-634-8181), 13601 W. Hwy 29 in Liberty Hill (512-515-6300), 902 Palm Valley Blvd in Round Rock (512-246-6800) and 345 E. F.M. 2410 in the Harker Heights, phone (254) 953-8181, this is one bank that has been helping the area grow from one generation to the next. Since 1928, UNION STATE BANK has been a major factor in the expansion and development of business and agriculture of the area. For decades, many have put their trust and faith in UNION STATE BANK in the efforts to build a strong and vibrant community.

Checking and savings accounts, personal and business loans, safety deposit boxes, ATMs, debit cards, IRA's and a host of other convenient services are offered with a smile by your friendly UNION STATE BANK, Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender. Don't forget to sign up for "Boot Scootin' Banking" on USB's Internet Service. the editors of this 2006 Holiday Business Review suggest that you stop in at your nearest UNION STATE BANK and discover the bank "Where People Make the Difference." www. usbanktexas.com

SALADO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Loving, Growing, Sharing

A church family for all ages that is committed to following Christ's example and caring for all people

Sunday Morning Worship

8:30 10:50 9:30

Sunday School

650 Royal Street (254) 947-5482

• Mother's Day Out Program •

Grace Baptist Church

John Warden Pastor · Jonathan Murdock, Assoc/ Youth Pastor 2 mi. West of I-35 on 1670/2484 · 254-947-5917

Worship Schedule

Sunday School • 9:45 a.m. • Worship • 11 a.m. Worship/Bible Study and Praise Kids Music • 6 p.m. Wednesday

Pot Luck Meal 6:45 pm

Praise & Prayer • Missions for children • Satisfy for youth 7:15 p.m.

First Baptist Church • Main St. at the Creek

SUNDAY Contemporary Worship/Bible Study 9:00a.m. Traditional Worship/Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship Jr. High Huddles 6:00 p.m. Sr High Huddles

5:30 p.m. Fellowship Meal Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. Youth Choir 6:00 p.m. Team Kid (Age 3 - 6th grade) Prayer Meeting

6:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:30 p.m.

www.fbcsalado.org (254) 947-5465

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and He will lift you up.

from James 4:10



Dossman **Funeral Home**

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"In Service to our fellow man..."



The Salado Church of Christ Shaped by His Cross, Sharing His truth, Showing His love.

With all the hustle and bustle of the holiday, it may be the "most wonderful time of the year," yet also to many the most tiring. The Psalmist records: "Be still, and know that I am God" (Ps. 46:10). As we seek needed rest, may that lead us to remember that it's not all about us, but about Him. Join us in our attempt to find our rest and sufficiency in Him.

- Joe Keyes, minister

Sunday

Bible Classes • 9 a.m. Worship • 10 a.m. Evening Worship • 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Classes • 6:30 p.m.

IH-35 at Blacksmith Rd.

947-5241 • www.saladochurchofchrist.org

Church and People



Wilhelmenia Friedrich, Pat Barton and Mary Hodge were honored Dec. 14 at the Ladies Auxiliary presidents' coffee. These ladies were not only among the original 39 members, but were also on the first committee to host Christmas in October in 1978. Seventeen of the original Auxiliary membership continue to be active in the

Kathryn (Kay) Baden memorial service held at First Presbyterian in Belton on Dec. 15

Kathryn (Kay) Beery Baden passed away Dec. 12, 2006 in Temple at age

She was born in Washington, IA, to Marvin and Margaret Thompson Beery on Sept. 29, 1920.

She attended Coe College, in Cedar Rapids, IA. There she was active in Alpha Xi Delta sorority,

St. Stephen

Catholic

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Religious Education

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6:30 - 7:40 p.m.

Wednesday **Mass**

Saturday • 5:30 p.m. Sunday

(Spanish) 9:30 a.m. (English) 8 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Tuesday • 6 p.m.

Wednesday • Noon

Thursday • 8 a.m.

Friday • Noon

Office Hours:

Every day

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

601 FM 2268

947-8037

ststephenchurch@earthlink.

ultimately being named to their Order of the Pearl, and as Coe's Beauty Queen by Big Band Leader Horace Heidt. While attending Coe she met Wayne Baden, whom she married on Sept. 13, 1940. They had been married 66 years at the time of her death.

The Badens relocated a number of times early in their marriage due to Wayne's medical residencies and Army service. They lived in Iowa City, IA, Houston, Dallas, San Antonio and Raymondville, before settling in the Bell County area in 1959.

Kay was a founding member of the Mill Creek

Choral Group, as well as a member of numerous other musical groups. She and Mrs. Howard K. LeBus co-founded the Scott & White Hospital Yellow Bird Service.

In addition to music she served as an Elder in the First Presbyterian Church in Belton before moving to Temple where she and her husband joined Grace Presbyterian Church in 2004. She was active in her PEO chapter in Temple and at the PEO Cotty Women's College in Nevada, MO. She was active in the Cub Scouts and Brownies.

She is survived by her

husband; three children, Karen Baden Parker, of McKinney, and husband Tom, Leland Baden, of Temple, and Gary Baden, of Frisco, and wife Sarah; three grandchildren, Kurt Liles, of Frisco, Keven Lewis of North Little Rock, AR, and Lara Baden, of Frisco; and five great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, anyone who wishes may gift their favorite church, charity, or the Music Fund at the Belton Presbyterian Church.

Temple Funeral Home handled the arrangements.

Gale Gregory interred at Salado Cemetery; passed away December 15 in Austin

Funeral services for Gale Gregory, 88, of Salado were held Dec. 19 at the Salado United Methodist Church with Rev. Grady Brittain officiating. Burial followed at the Salado Cemetery.

Gregory died Dec. 15, 2006 in an Austin hospi-

He was born September

2, 1918 in Springfield, MO, the son of Edward and Arzelia Gregory. He worked for the Veteran's Hospital in Temple. He was a member of the Salado Methodist Church.

He was also an avid

Gregory was preceded in death by his wife, on Oct. 22, 1991.

He is survived by a daughter, Bonnie Greer of Pasadena, Texas; grandchildren, Jeanene Kendrick and Bruce Kendrick; and a great-grandchild, Zoe Kendrick.

Funeral Dossman Home of Belton was in charge of arrangements.



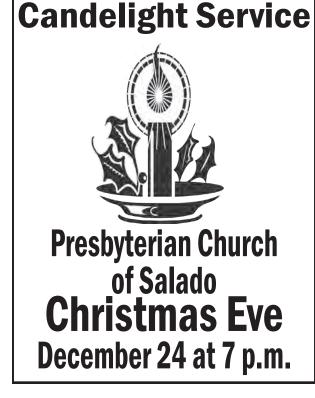
Presbyterian Church of Salado

Rev. Carl Thompson, Pastor

10 A.M. Sunday Worship



105 Salado Plaza Drive • 254-947-8106 Main & Salado Plaza Drive behind Brookshire Bros. www.presbsalado.org





St. Joseph's Episcopal Chapel



Christmas Mass Dec. 24 • 8 p.m.

All Welcome

behind Fletcher's Book Store

N. Main Street

939-1033



Christmas Services

Christmas Eve

First Baptist Church of Salado

9 a.m. Contempary Worship and Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship and Bible Study 6 p.m. Candlelights, Carols and Comunion - Christmas Eve Service

First Cedar Valley Baptist Church

10 a.m. Bible Study • 11 a.m. Morning Worship 6 p.m. Bible Study and Worship Service

Grace Baptist Church m. Sunday School • 11 a m. Wo

9:45 a.m. Sunday School • 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship / Bible Study and Praise Kids Music

Presbyterian Church of Salado

10 a.m. Worship Service 7 p.m. Candelight Service

Salado United Methodist Church

8:30 a.m. Worship Service • 10:50 a.m. Worship Service 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

The Salado Church of Christ

9 a.m. Bible Class • 10 a.m. WorshipService 6 p.m. Evening Worship

Sonterra Fellowship

 $10{:}30\ a.m.$ Candelight Christmas Eve Celebration "Why a manger?"

St. Joseph's Episcopal Chapel

8 p.m. Christmas Mass

St. Stephen Catholic Church

5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Mass Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

St. Stephen Catholic Church

8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Mass 9:30 a.m. Mass (Spanish)





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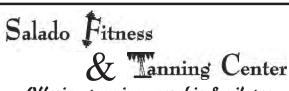
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Stephanie Lastovica, 12, Hannah Seaton, 12, and Stuart Lastovica, 4, all of Salado and shown at right, recently participated in a taping of "The Road Crew," a show produced and aired on the Nick@Nite television network. The episode depicts Brandon Zahn, a Texas A&M senior, being taught how to auction cattle by David Macedo, the current World Champion Livestock Auctioneer, from California. Taping was done at Milano Livestock Exchange in Milano, Texas, which is owned by Steven and Ronald Lastovica. Producer Ward McCarthy contacted the Livestock Marketing Assocation of Texas, looking for a cattle auction. They got in touch with the Lastovicas, who hosted the filming at their business. The filming included all aspects of a livestock auction, concluding with host Louis Ramey pretending to buy bulls owned by Steven Lastovica. The kids involved were able to see all aspects of staging and filming, and were used as extras for the production. The actual footage that took 10-12 hours to complete will result in five, one-minute segments scheduled to air on the network on Dec. 22.



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KIRK BAXLEY - 9:30 Lance Wade Thomas 11:00



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Trustees

costs of opening a new high school, trustees decided to wait a year before investigating the costs of a performance pay schedule for Salado ISD staff.

Trustees took no action on capital improvements, such as lighting at issues of the football field press box, a public address system for Thomas Arnold Elementary or a Thomas Arnold gym fire alarm system.

the football field, safety

Trustees did approve the addition of 2.5 paraprofessional positions for the remainder of the year at the Elementary school to help teachers work with students struggling to learn English and to pass the TAKS test.

Trustees also approved to begin a Sunset Review Process in which a disinterested party will investigate the efficiency and effectiveness of different programs within the school and make recommendations to the district.

Trustees set a fee schedule for non-school related groups that have students as a majority of the participants to use school facilities. "The only thing I don't want to happen," Carlson said, "is what happened last week where a school organization got bumped for a non-school related function."





At the Holiday Season, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who made our progress possible.

It is in this spirit we say

THANK YOU

AND

BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAYS **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

213 Mill Creek Dr., Suite #140 Salado, Texas 76571 254.947.3922 fax 254.947.8632

www.monteithtitle.com







Salado Cicloage Cicloage Cicloage Salado Village Voice December 21, 2006 Pages Shopping, Dining, Overnight, E

Salado Silver Spur set to host New Year's Eve bash

The Salado Silver Spur Theater invites the public to ring in the New Year at the Third Annual New Year's at the Spur, featuring food, fun and frolic while counting down to

A popular and well-received event in its first two years, this year's evening will offer guests a package including dinner, live entertainment and live music, as well as a complimentary champagne toast as the clock approaches midnight.

The dinner portion of the package will be held 7-8:30 p.m. at the Stagecoach Inn. Diners will have the option of choosing between prime rib, chicken or salmon entrees.

At the conclusion of dinner, guests will make their way the short distance up Royal Street to the Silver Spur Theater,



The Salado Silver Spur will host its Third Annual New Year's Eve at the Spur on Dec. 31. Featuring the live entertainment of Penny and Grainger Esch (right) and the Texas Swing stylings of Back at the Ranch (above), the evening package will also include dinner and a champagne toast at midnight.

where they will be entertained from 9-9:45 p.m. by the Silver Spur Follies, featuring Grainger and

Penny Esch and crew.

After the Follies, guests can then kick up their heels to the Texas Swing styl-

ings of Back at the Ranch, who will take the stage at 10 p.m. and continue until 1 a.m.

Having gained a reputation for helping to revitalize the Texas Swing sound, Back at the Ranch features Clover Carroll on guitar and resophonic guitar, Rachel Carroll on upright bass and Mat-

thew Menke on the fiddle. The band's live shows have been described as an upbeat mix of humor blended seamlessly with skillful harmonies and virtuoso musicianship. Back at the Ranch boasts a polished repertoire not only of Western Swing classics, but also of traditional Cowboy tunes.

Anyone interested in attending New Year's at the Silver Spur is encouraged to reserve a spot. Price for the package is set at \$90 per person, and door prizes will also be given away.

For more information or to reserve a place call the Silver Spur at 947-3456 or visit www.saladosilverspur.com.















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Have a Salado event to list on this calendar? **Email your information to** news@saladovillagevoice.com Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's edition of the newspaper.

What's happening

DECEMBER 22-24 Salado Silver Spur Theater presents "Christmas is on the **Air,**" a special holiday show in the spirit of

old-time radio. Enjoy this "live broadcast" on WSPR, brought to you by Doohickey's Department Store. With Penny and Grainger at the mic and sound effects table, any-

thing can happen. Plenty of live music and holiday hoots. Show times: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 22 and 23 and 2 p.m. Dec. 23 and 24. Info: 947-3456 or www. saladosilverspur.com.

December 22-January 5 Salado ISD schools adjourned for Christmas and New Year's holidays. DECEMBER 31

Third Annual New Year's Eve at the Salado Silver Spur. Package includes dinner at Stagecoach Inn, the "Silver Spur Follies," with live music and entertainment followed by live music until 1 a.m. by Back at the Ranch. Complimentary champagne toast included. Cost: \$90 per person, reservations required. Call 947-3456 to reserve a spot.

2007 January 16

Teacup Tuesday meeting, 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the First Baptist Church. Program: "Women of the Bible," presented by women of the Salado United Methodist Church. Public is welcome January 16

41st Annual Salado **Chamber of Commerce** Banquet, 6:30 p.m. at Salado's Tenroc Ranch. For tickets, reservations and information call Salado Chamber of Commerce, 254-947-5040.

January 18 Salado High School Fall Athletic Banquet, 6:30 p.m. at the Salado Intermediate School cafeteria. Program will honor Salado Fall High School sports: cross country, football and volleyball. January 25

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

January 29

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

February 2-3

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 International Piano Duo and Dr. Robin Wallace, Professor of Music at Baylor University and Beethoven expert. Info: 947-5592 or www.musicinsalado.com. February 20

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

February 26

Salado Masonic Lodge #296 meeting, in the Lodge Building on Church Street.

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 Commerce, 254-947-5040. More details TBA. APRIL 2

Salado Masonic Lodge #296 meeting, in the Lodge Building on Church Street.

Grand Opening!



Bluebird Kids

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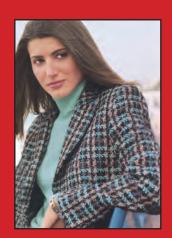
Winter Jackets...

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Donald J. Pliner

Stuart Weitzman

The Texas Tycoon Collection

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



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

The Sawmill, a division of XtraWorX, LLC, is located at 409 Salado Plaza at the entrance to Mill Creek in Salado. Call Bob at 254-947-0137.

in the Village of Salado?

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. 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.

Nov. 30-Dec. 2

Salado Historical **Society Annual Tour of** Homes. More information TBA.

Nov. 30-Dec. 2

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

DEC. 7-9 **Annual Salado**

Christmas Stroll weekend. Details announced at later date. Visit saladovillagevoice.com for information as the days draw closer.

Have a event to list on this calendar? **Email** your information to: news@saladovillagevoice.com or call 254-947-5321,





Sunday-Friday: 10-5 Saturday: 10-6





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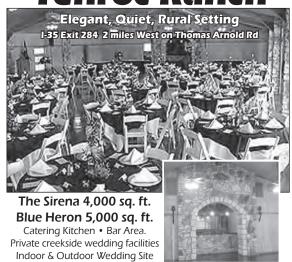




Merry Christmas

Cherry & Cindy 26 Rock Creek Drive Salado, Texas





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Don't sweat the holidays this year

If you asked me, "When is the "best time" to start a program to improve my health and fitness levels?" I would answer: "There is never a best time, as there is always going to be something going on in your life to make you think "tomorrow would be better."

Sooner or later, each of us will have to weigh the pros and cons of embarking on a lifestyle that improves our health and really determine what is best for our lives. That being said, you may find this

LIFESTYLE AND WELLNESS

By Kevin McCauley

odd, but I don't recommend you get hung up on what you are doing during the holidays concerning your nutritional regimen!

I am sure you are coming across all sorts of information on how to "eat healthy," "consume less fat," and even "burn more than you consume" during this holiday season. I want

to tell you that this holiday season and the other major holidays that make up less than a week out of the year are not the problem; our nutritional inconsistencies during the other 51 weeks are!

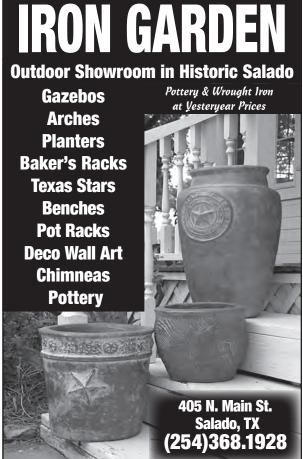
Programs can be hindered in any number of ways, and two of those hindrances are programs that are 1) too rigid and 2) lead to a feeling of deprivation. Being consistent with a workable program is one of the most important variables when success-

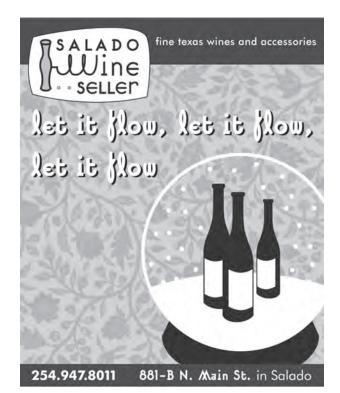
fully attaining goals. So, if you celebrate holidays with family and friends and you consume foods that would not normally be part of your nutritional regimen, don't feel guilty, enjoy it and focus on attaining your goals during the other 360 days (or so) of the year.

But just for fun, let's take a look at some of the "conventional wisdom" you may be coming across this holiday season in your favorite magazines or on your favorite talk shows:

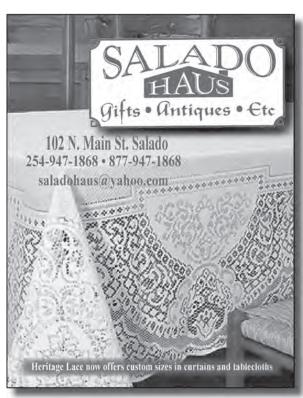
1. Conventional Wisdom: "Did you know that the average person consumes close to 3,500 calories at Christmas dinner? That equals one pound CONTINUED ON PAGE 5B















Holiday foods

in extra calories—not to mention the leftovers you will be eating days afterward!" Kevin: In America it is easy to consume 3.500 calories in a meal at breakfast, lunch and dinner everyday of the year, so this holiday enjoy a variety of foods you may not see again until the next holiday.

- 2. Conventional Wisdom: "Roasted turkey itself is considered very healthy by dieticians! White turkey meat, without skin, is a wonderful source of lean protein." Kevin: Hmmm! Roasted turkey breast is healthy if you are a Carbohydrate Type, but not so healthy if you are a Protein Type. As discussed here numerous times, Protein Types who cut the fat (to be supposedly healthy) are literally killing themselves. Yes, pass me the leg or thigh please. "One Man's food is another Man's poison."
- 3. Conventional Wisdom: "Love veggies and creamy dip? Replace your cream-based appetizers and entrees with ones that are non-fat based instead." Kevin: Are non-fat processed foods real foods? No. Do non-fat foods replace fat with sugar? Yes. Consume real foods like

butter, cream, and lard if the recipe calls for them. If you don't do well with real fat, it is because of your metabolic type or constitution, not because real fat is necessarily bad.

4. Conventional Wisdom: "Replace oil or butter in your dessert recipes with unsweetened apple sauce or pureed plums." Kevin: Please do not cook with vegetable oils and stay away from Margarine (Trans Fats will soon be banned from all restaurants in New York City!).

There are plenty of ways to destroy your cardiovascular health, cooking with poly-unsaturated oils and consuming hydrogenated oils do not need to be one

Here are a couple of ideas that I think you should definitely try to implement into your family life this holiday season:

· Consume a sit-down breakfast with the family. Make sure you have healthy fats, quality proteins and real carbohydrates available. This is

a nice way to say, "Don't starve yourself, preparing yourself for the bit eatathon," which is never a good idea.

• Take a walk with the family after your breakfast and definitely after your large meal of the day. This walk is not to burn calories, but to improve digestion and give you another opportunity to spend time together before the television takes over!

Have a great holiday

Kevin is a Lifestyle and

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4B

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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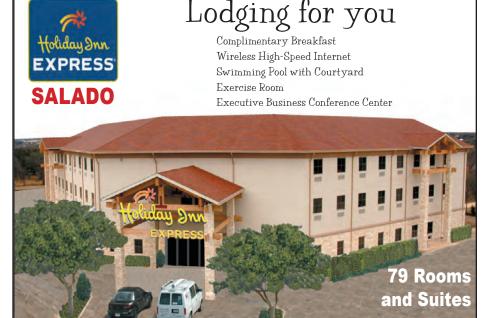
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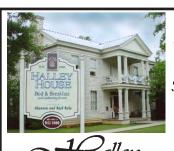


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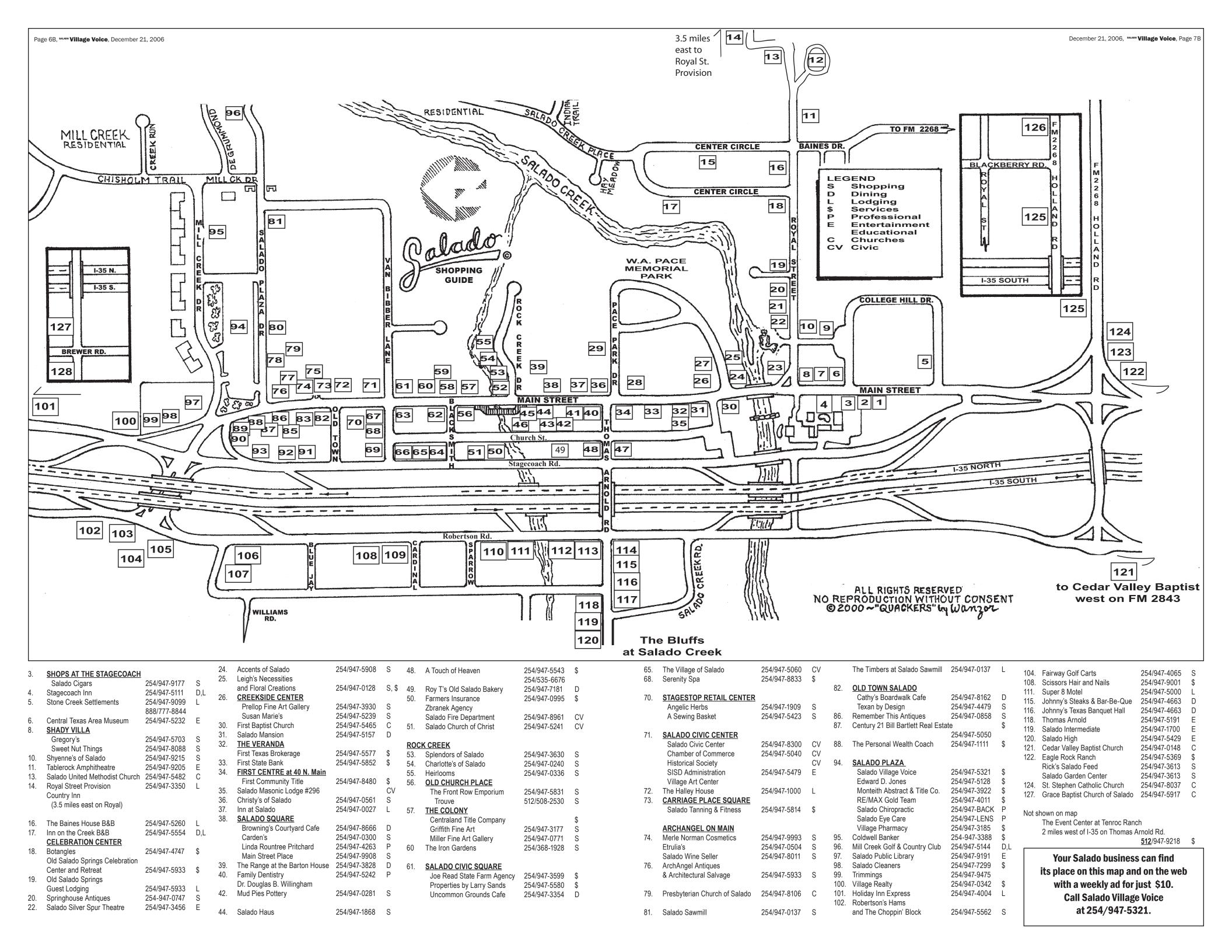
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Thomas Arnold 3rd Grade

This week, Salado Village Voice concludes its letters from Thomas Arnold Elementary third graders.

Mrs. Oborski's Class

Bradley Yarbrough

Dear Santa: Have you had a good year? Ho do you raindeer fly? I have been a little good this year. Here's some of the stuff I would like this year. Some of the new packages of yugi-oh cards and surprises. Could you give Daren dimond and a psp if he doesn't have it or an Xbox 360?

Madeline Murray

Dear Santa: How are you doing? How is everybody? Can you say hi to Rudolph

and the other reindeer for me? For Christmas can I have a nintindo DS, please? Can I also have a dry earase board? Can I have a big trampoleen or a small trampoleen? For Christmas can I give all the teachers a happy holiday? And of course you too, Santa.

Samantha Oyler

Dear Santa: How is rudolph's nose? Is it still glowing? How is Mrs. Claus doing? Can you say hi to Vicksen for me? Can I please have a movie ipod and air hockey table? I would like to give Jenna a big book because she likes to read. Merry Christmas

Jenna Wagnon

Dear Santa: How are you and Mrs. Claus? How are your raindeer? How is Blitsin? Could you possibly get me a digital camra? If that's to much, you can also get a micerphone, please? A real one, also if it isen't a problem could you get me a radio/cd player conected to the micerphone. Thank you.

Eduardo Jimenez

Dear Santa: How is Mrs. Claus and you? How are the reindeer Santa Claus? Does Rudolph have anything wrong with his nose? I want an ipod for Christmas. And a laptop or computer for my next door neighbor. Have a good Christmas Mrs. and Mr. Claus.

Cheyenne Vaca

Dear Santa: This is your friend, Cheyenne. How is Rudolph doing? Is he ready for Christmas? Are the elves busy? For Christmas I want a ipod, heelys, rap music, couch and \$100.00. I would like to get my Oma a morning gown.

Daren Depoy

Dear Santa: How are you doing? How are the reindeer? How is Mrs. Clause? I want an I pod nano, a horse, a gymnastics mat, a refredgerator, and a new dog. My friend Bradley wants a yu-gi-oh card set, a new binder, and a new backpack.

Sydney Taylor

Dear Santa: How are you? How is Mrs. Cloas? Don't worry about me I'm fine. How are your elfs? Are they making good toys for kids? Can I have some Western clothes? Can I have some boots? Can I have a belt? Can I have a new bed? Can I have a horse poster? Can I get somthing else for other inportent people? Can I get some kocapeley clothes for my mom? Can I get some motor cycle clothes for my dad? Can I get a cellphone for my sister? Can I get a big bone for my dog? Can I get a cars hat for my brother? Can I get a new tv for my granny and pops?

Dear Santa: How are you doing. Hay Santa, how is Rudolph the red noes raindear? Ho is Mrs. Claus? My grama needs

Kimberly Soto

a brack from doing the dishis! OK Santa? May I have a baby set, chapter book, and a Bratz set? Oh Santa there is a boy and he is haveing a rough time. Please give him one of my chapter books.

Christian Garcia

Dear Santa: Ho is Mis. Claus? How are the raindeer? Well I'ev had a lot of bad days. What I want for Christimas is a Nitendo DS. Thank you.

Edgar Castillo

Dear Santa: How are you? Are the reindeer ok? How is Ms. Claus and the elfs? Are you ready for this christmas? I've ben a good boy. Well I want a ipod and a play station 2. And a cell phone. My mom needs a break and so dos my dad. My brother wants a football and a soccer ball.

Garrett White

Dear Santa: Has Rudolph ben doing good and Mrs. Claus? I would like a PSP for chrishmas and my uncle would like a PSP too.

Trace Chitwood

Dear Santa: I have ben good this year. I wunt cars the move, and a bord for chrismus. Please get my mom a purs. She wonts a pink purs.

Nikolas Lowrance

Dear Santa: Hos is rudolph is he ok? Are you prepared to give toys out? I like youre raindeer. Do they drink water. How are









letters to Santa Claus

your elves? I would like an I pod and a gamboy advance for christmas.

Amissa Hrometz-Jimenez

Dear Santa: How are you? Did you like my cookies I left you last year? Is Mrs. Cluas okay? Well if you cant give me a present I can understand. There are abut a million kids in the world. So if you could, I would like you to buy me a Nintindo DS with games, ipod, cellphone. I know there expesive. Mom might want a laptop for a back masoger because she uns under stress. She and all moms have a hard time watching kids and paying all those bills. So I would appreciate if you would buy my mom those things. Im way way way not stingy this year. I wanted alot of things, but I didn't need them. Ever since this year I started not to be stingy. I have learned responsibility. I started to clean up around the house. I'm going to help my mom. Everybody should get a presents for Christmas. But people are less fortune than us. So if you could give each person a toy because some kids don't know what christmas is. Thank you Santa Clause!

Mrs. Foegelle's Class

Paz Perez

Dear Santa: How is Miss Clause? How are the raindeers? How is Rudolph? Are you feeling good Santa Claus? Christmas is a very speshal day becase it is Gods birthday and we can celbrate his birthday. Dear Santa I want a basketball please and a game boy please and a new bike please and a soccer ball please. Dear Santa my little sister wants a game boy please. My little borther wants a new dog please. Can you get a dog for my family? Please get the people who don't have a house or sum money or a bed please get my freind Cole a pet lizthose people who need zard? those things.

Taylor Schoenrock

your year been? My year has been great! Ho are the reindeer doing. O.K.? That reminds me, Is Rudoluf still being teased? Is Mrs. Cluse doing good? I have been very good. I would like a art kit and a pink I-dog with a purse. And for the homeless please give them food. Have a Merry Christmas!

James Armas

Dear Santa: How is Mrs. Claus and the raindeer? This chirstmas I would like an Ipod, xbox 360, CD player, dirtbike. Santa can you give toys to my friends in Mexico and my grandpa.

Amy Coleman

Dear Santa: Hi Santa are you doing OK? How's the wether in the North Pole. Your the best! Can you get me an music pillow with an ipod? I would also like Designers World please. And can you pleas get me a bike. Thanks. Can you also get my freind a video game. Your the best!!

Jessica Bush

Dear Santa: How are all the Reindeer and Mrs. Claus? How are you doing in the toy shop? I want an Ipod and some baby toys for my little sister. And I want please a boy and a girl water baby and for my friend can you please get her an electric Scooter. Merry Christmas.

Robert Matson

Dear Santa: How are the reindeers? And how is Rudolph the red nose reindeer? I want a Nintendo DS and a Thrillville game for PS2. I want a Labtop. I want a gift to my mom of jewerly with a dimond ring in it so mom will be really happy.

Brady Alexander

Dear Santa: How are the reindeer? How is Mrs. Claus doing? Can I have a lazer? Will you please get

Lisette Chavez

Dear Santa: I hop you Dear Santa: How has are redy for chrismas.

How is Rudolph? And how are the other Randers? Santa I will like an I-pod and a pillow. I will like baby toys for my littel brother.

Xoe Arnold

Dear Santa: Hi Santa my name is Xoe. I am in the third grade and I am eight. I have been very good. Santa I really don't want to many things for Christmas. I would like a pair of Heeley, a labtop and I also want stuff from Justice. That's all I can think of. Oh, I also want a movie named Stick It. Santa for my mom and dad will you get my mom a dimond ring and will you get my dad a I-Pod. Have the greatest Christmas ever.

Michael Pinkerton

Dear Santa: Hi how is Mrs. Claus? Are your Raindeer ready for the big flight. I have been a good boy I would like to have a huver round and a plane that are remote control. I would like my friend to have a huver round also. Thank you for the toys I got last year.

Katie Rax

Dear Santa: How have you been I have been a very good girl How is Mrs. Clause? I hope she is haveing a good christmas at the north pole. I would like a pair of shock and a computer and a phone. I want a DS game calld life to Zack and Cody. I want you to please get a necklace for my mom.

Alexis Soto

Dear Santa: His Santa are you doing toys for us? Are you doing good at The North Pole? I am being good. Is Miss Claus okay? Is Rudolf being good? Tell that I want shoes and I want a toy compunter. I also whant a VCR to watch movies and I want new clothes to wear. I would like to have a game boy also. I want to get my 5 teachers presents. I want to go the north pole too and I want to ride rudolf.

Daniel Thoreson

Dear Santa: I have been good all year. My sister has been good to. How have you been doing. I would like a MP3 player. My sister would like some Barbies. I hope you have a good year.

Meagan Hill

Dear Santa: How is your year going? I hope the reindeer and Mrs. Claus are doing good. Because if they reindeer are not you will not be able to give out presents and if Mrs. Claus is not you won't get any extra cook-

For Christmas I would like three sets of earrings. The first set I would like to be medium loop. The

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11B



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Salado Chamber of Commerce welcomed Thomas Arnold Activity Center as a new member with a ribbon cutting ceremony June 23. Owner Lee Cornett is pictured holding scissors, while Director Andrea Corkran is at his left. Thomas Arnold Activity Center is located just across the street from Thomas Arnold Elementary School. They are now currently enrolling for the fall semester. Call 947-5484 or visit www.thomasarnoldactivitycenter.com for more information.





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The Salado Chamber of Commerce welcomed Roy T's Old Salado Bakery to Salado with a ribbon cutting July 31. Owner Knox Tyson, "Roy T." is shown above cutting the ribbon. Roy T's is now open, serving coffee, , Southern Maid donuts, Beignets, cakes, pies, kolaches, muffins, cupcakes, biscotti, homemade breads, iced sodas, and soft drinks.



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Super Crossword



Weekly SUDOKU

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126

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125

129

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ***

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★ HOO BOY!

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THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY

CONTRACT BRIDGE By Steve Becker

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH [S] 8 6 4 3

[S] J 2

[H] A Q 10 [D] J 10 6 [C]9 8 4 WEST

[H] 8 3 2 [D] K Q 9 8 5 [C]Q 6 3

EAST [S] 7 5 [H] K J 6

[D]

[C]A 7 5 SOUTH [S] A K Q 10 9

[H] 9 7 5 4 [D] --[C]K J 10 2

The bidding: South West North East 1 [S] Pass 2 [S] Pass

A 7 4 3 2

1 [S] Pass 2 [S] Pass 4 [S] Opening lead -- king of a

Opening lead -- king of diamonds.

A good way of improving your play is to ask yourself, after going down in a contract, whether you could have made it. This type of self-analysis helps to prevent a future error of the same kind.

Take this case where South made a mistake that cost him dearly. He ruffed the diamond lead, drew trumps, then played a heart to the ten, losing to the jack.

East returned a low club, and West won the jack with the queen. West played another heart, the queen losing to the king, and East then cashed the ace of clubs to put the contract down one.

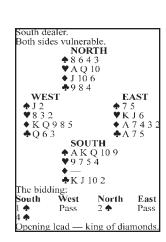
South was without question very unlucky on the deal. He tried three finesses and lost them all. He would have gotten home safely had West held the king or jack of hearts, or had East held the queen of clubs. The odds against losing all three finesses were 7-1.

Yet he should have made the contract, despite the bad lie of the cards. South overlooked a 100 percent chance that did not depend on any luck at all.

After drawing trumps, he should have attacked clubs, not hearts, by leading a club from his hand at trick four. After forcing out the A-Q, his fourth club would provide a parking place for one of dummy's hearts.

dummy's hearts.
This approach would have rendered the location of the A-Q of clubs and K-J of hearts totally irrelevant. If West took the first club and led a heart, declarer would finesse the queen and remain firmly in the saddle, regardless of what East did next.

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Santa Claus letters ———

next I would like them to be Christmasy. Last but not least I would like three sets of earrings. I would like them to be medium loop, Christmas earrings, and any kind of earrrings.

Would you be kind enouf to get a book for a homeless person.

P.S. Thanks for all the presents in the past.

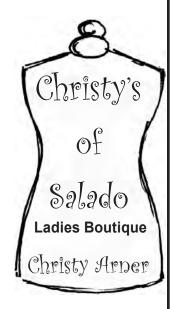
Claire Manley

Dear Santa: I have been very good this year. I have had all A's on my report card and I have been looking for things to make for someone. How was your year? How is Mrs. Claus and the reindeer? I guess you have been exercising them a lot since you to fly all around the world.

This year for Christmas I want a new puppy that will stay little, and a Nintendo DS. I also want you to give a lot of gifts to the pour. If it is o.k. I want you to bring food for them too. I hope you have a safe trip!

Andrew Mulholland

Dear Santa: How are you? How is Mrs. Claus?



Main at N. Pace Park P.O. Box 83 Salado, TX 76571 254/947-0561 Are you readdy for Christmas. May you pleas get me theese an xbox 360 and a remote controlle dirt bike. Thanks for the help.

Mrs. Marquis' Class

Tyler Fischer

Dear Santa: Hi, Santa how are doing this year? Having fun? Are the raindeer excited? Rudolph is your nose still glowing? I have been very good. I have been playing with my friends. They are very nice. I would like to give Peyton Kyburz an Aggie shirt. I would like a PSP and a laptop. Thank you for the presents last year. They are cool I like to play with them. My friends like to play with them too. You are the best!

Megan Holdampf

Dear Santa: How is Mrs. Claus doining, is she

ok. How is the reindeer doing, great! Is Rudolf okay to fly on Christmas day! Are the elf's great too! Santa Claus I really want you to get me Molly Clothes from the American Girl doll. And Candy too. Please! Santa Claus can you get my brother Matthew candy also can you get him Pokemon cards too. Can you get my sister Kathryn needs clothes and get her candy too. Can you get my mom and dad a sharpener. We need one. Thank you Santa Claus very much.

FROM 9B

Madelyn Suhling

Dear Santa: Hope you had a great year. Are the reindeer excited yet? I have been good and I would like a nentendo D.S. light. And any thing girley. My grandpa needs some warm cloth for Ohio. And my grandma needs some warm cloth too. My grandparents are coming to celebrate with me. I also whant a barbie. I hope you have a great Christmas!

Preston Payne

Dear Santa: How is rudloph? I hope you can CONTINUED ON 12B



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J. R. R. Tolkien



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TAE third grade letters to Santa

get me what I want this year. Tell Mrs. Claus I said "have a good Christmas." I have been kind of good but not a lot. This is what I want for Christmas, a nentendo DS lite, thrillville for xbox and a nerf sniper gun. Santa, I hope you can give a helpless kid a blanket and a pillow.

Madison Matsi

Dear Santa: How are Mrs. Claus and the raindeer? How have you been doing this year? Is it cold in the North Pole? Santa I want a game boy for

Angelic Herbs

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Christmas

Chrismas. A new blue bike and a real cell phone, please. I want a peacock for my mom becase she has always wanted a peacock. Thanks Santa.

Lance Spakes

Dear Santa: How's the raindeer and Mrs. Claus? I was good at school. And thank you for the presents last year. This year I want a puppy the 3 wooden crosses CD, a CD player with headphones and 4 walky talkys too. For my sister a robot horses. And my moma a robot cleaner. my dad a pet fish. Thank

Shoppers Relax •

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you for the all of the presents you are giving me and my sister Sabrina and my dad Jim and my mom Jean.

Hayley Ingleston

Dear Santa Claus: How are your reindeer? How are your elves? And how are you Miss Claus? Is Rudlof being good for you? Is his nose shining? I have been good this year? All I want for Christmas is my grandfather to get out of the hospital. And if you have time, I would some toys, and a cell phone. Thank you Santa • Claus, and Miss Claus for merry Christmas • my whole school. We can have free ice cream, flat • screen computer in every • class!

Christmas merchandise 30% off • Ryan Shilling Enjoy savings on sale merchandise

Dear Santa: How are
you doing today. Is it • cold there? How are your • reindeer doing? I want • for Christmas is a Texes Storewide Sales 20 %- 50% off Longhorn football, what a • wrestling game on Xbox, 254-947-1909 • Stage Stop • 560 N. Main • the manufess of game for xbox also. I was kinda • the mandness 07 game for

good this year. I wonted some candy from Santa then I wanted to go see Santa at the North Poll.

Jason Flynn

Dear Santa: I hope you are feeling good. I promise you some cookies and milk. Tell Rudolph hi for my. I have been as good as possible this year. I would like a x-box and if thats to much I wood like a need for speed under ground racing game for my brother. Thanks Santa.

Tabitha Mazo

Dear Santa: Is Mrs. Claus happy about christmas this year? I am too. I've been so good, well not very good but I hope I get presents from your elves. I would like to have a cd player for christmas please. Santa I always wanted one. Oh, and flip up down game boy advance. I love you Santa with all my heart and soul. My sister want's a car for Christmas. And my brother want's a cell phone and me too. I would like to give Miranda's family a present and Hayley too. She is nice to me. Clarissa she is my best friend. Thank you Santa for giving me my toys on Christmas eve.

Chase Basham

Dear Santa Clause: Are you doing good at the North Pole? I'm doing good in school. I've been very nice. Are the reindeer well? Can you get my mom a diamond necklace? I think she'll like it. Can I have a spider-man 2 PSP video and a Maruto Chronicles play station game, a cyber Dragon Yugi-oh tin and a really good baseball bat. Thank you.

Katey Ewton

Dear Santa: How is the North Pole. Is it good?

Hope it is. I really hope I get what I need! May I have a pug, a kitty doll. Pokemon ruby, pokemon leafgreen, a Nintendo gamecube, a T.V., and pokemon ranger please? May Kayla have a puppy? May all teachers have a \$100 pay raise? Thank

Grant Taylor

Dear Santa: How are you doing. How are the raindeer. I would like a Nintendo Wii, Play Station 3, and an Ipod Shuffle. My year has been very good this year. How has your's been. I hope to know how your Christmas is going to be. I want you get my big brother an Xbox 360. I want you to get my little brother the remot cantrold Scoop. My mom want's a dimod neclece. My dad need's more hunting clothes for the winter. He need's thick clothes in case it's realy cold. Thank you for the remot cantrold care that you got me last year. Thank you for everything.

Rene Fillip

Dear Santa: How are you? I'm good. So how is Mrs. Claus? I hope the raindeer are ready to fly around the world. I have been very good this year Santa and I would like a kitten and another puppy also. I would also like some toys. I think you should give the needy people a nice house and a nice life. P.S. I hope everyone gets what they want. P.S.S. Merry Christmas Santa Claus and aslo to Mrs. Claus.

Sarah Letourneau

Dear Santa: Do you really have hundreds of elves, do you one elfordo you have no elves at all? Another question do you live in the North or South

mas wish list! Nentendo DS Nentendogs pokemon rangers. (You can't get the last two if you don't get a Nentendo DS) and a Kitty

Kathryn Steck

From Page 11B

Dear Santa: Hi! How are you and Mrs. Claus? How are the reindeer? How are the elfs? How are vou this year? I have been very good this year. This vear could vou give me a kitten that looks like Taz. Also can vou give me a snow globe. Can you give my neighbor's a candy cane.

Kathryn Steck

Dear Santa: Hi! How are you and Mrs. Claus? How are the reindeer? How are the elfs? How are you this year? I have been very good this year. This year could you give me a kitten that looks like Taz. Also can vou give me a snow globe. Can you give my neighbor's a candy cane. And the poor pepole helpful stuff. Thank you for all your good deed's. Adriana Hidrogo

Dear Santa: His Santa How are you and Mrs. Claus and the reindeer? Is Rudolph sick? I don't like a Christmas without you I want to give the poor: Blankets, pillows, beds. food, homes and thats all. And I forgot to tell you all I want to give them lots of toys to play with. I want an mp3 player and thats all. Thanks for the dance mat last year.

Colton Bolton

Dear Santa: How are the elfs? I have been good this year. I want a nintedo DS and a wii nintendo and a electric dirt bike. I want to give my sister a barbie T.V. Thanks for the gifts last vear.





Deadline for Classified ads is noon Mondays

Salado

Markethla

Real Estate Services For Sale Jobs Classifieds

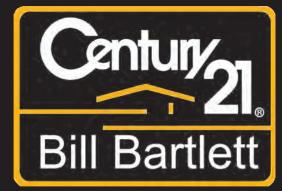
Section C

Salado Village Voice Marketplace Classifieds

December 21, 2006

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We would love to visit with you! **Bill Bartlett** 947-5050 Valerie Bourque 493-0787 Ann Carroll 760-0101 Melanie Kirchmeier 760-5855 Sue Ellen Slagel 760-3226

721-8778



\$70,000: 2802 FM 2117, Temple. 6 Acres, Great Potential! House needing extensive repair, and outbuildings.



\$118,500: 6 Mulberry Ct., Belton. \$159,900: Nicely upgraded 3 BR, 2 BA with fireplace, crown molding & deck. 2 additional lots available next door for \$14,000.



Salado. Walk to the golf course. 3 BR, 2 BA home with solar screens, tiled floors, enclosed back porch.



1501 Bishop Drive, \$199,700: 18751 Hwy 95, Holland. 4 BR home on 8.28 acres in Academy ISD, with detached 2 car carport and 20 x 40 metal building.



605 Spring Court, \$216,000: Belton. 4 BR, 2 BA with custom Covered patio.



1425 Bishop Dr., \$234,900: Salado. Mill Creek home with 2 cabinets & granite countertops. master bedrooms & amazing view of the golf course.



104 Chelsea Circle, Salado. Texas Stone home with Featuring 2 living metal roof. areas, plus study or formal dining.



\$299,900: 6082 FM 2484, Salado. Rock home on almost 5 acres nestled among oak trees. 2 car carport with storage and office.



Salado. Tile throughout living, tractor shop. dining, & kitchen.



\$339,700: 200 Carriage House, \$389,000: 21810 E. FM 487, \$430,000: 14151 Settlements Rd., \$825,000: 209 S. Main, Salado. Salado. Backs up to a wet weather Bartlett. Beautiful well-built home Salado. Spacious 5 BR home with Excellent location on Main Street, creek just minutes from downtown on over 18 acres with workshop & hot tub and inground pool, on 5 Salado. Commercial building and





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Avon available in Salado again. Contact LaVerne Gore, 947-0710. 7/6tfnb

Stevens Yard Equipment Repair/Small Gas Engine repairman Pick up and drop off available. 254-947-7249 8/3tfnb

Mendoza's Painting and House leveling. Level brick homes with concrete slabs also pier and beam house. Remodeling, addons, painting, interior and exterior, sheet rock, tape and float, texture, floors, decks, porches, plumbing and electrical. Reasonable prices. Call 254-770-4548 or cell 512-921-6970 1/12tfnb

Trees, Shrubs & Landscaping, Pruning, Removal and Hauling. Flower beds, yard work, top soil. Call Victor Marek toll free 1-888-945-3822 or residence 254-527-3822. tfnb

J&N Painting and House leveling (all homes) Interior, Exterior painting (custom, if requested). Tape & float, texture, also level mobile homes. Carpenter work if needed. Call Now, for free estimates! 254-493-8285 or 947-0455 6/2/05tfnb

Mary Kay Products 947-3159. Visit MaryKay.com/

AnneMarieHarwell. 5/11tfn

Yard Maintenance: Mow, weed eat, trim. 721-4699 Popeve or 913-4692 Herbie. tfnb

<u>Housekeeping</u>

Beware of Dust!!! Is dust carrying your business away? We're hard on DUST Call Gidley's cleaning 760-7642

Granny's House Cleaning. Free estimates/discounts. Move outs. References. Call 254-947-8533 Salado. tfn

<u>Storage</u>

Storage

Household -Commercial

Classifieds continue on PAGE 3C





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ROSEBUD HISTORICAL HOME! This home is on 7+ acres WITH LARGE SHADE TREES. PORCH WRAPS AROUND HALF OF THE HOUSE. FORMAL DIN-ING, TWO LIVING AREAS, PLUS UPSTAIRS SITTING ROOM. FOUR BEDROOMS, HORSE BARN WITH A WORKSHOP, TACK ROOM AND ROUND PEN! LOTS OF ROOM FOR HORSES! \$149,000



VILLAGE!!! OVER 5 ACRES ON VAN BIB-BER LANE. TWO SMALL RENT HOUSES WILL HELP WITH THE INVESTMENT. LOTS OF BEAUTIFUL TREES AND SO CLOSE TO MAIN STREET. \$429,000.



LYNETTE McCai

REALTOR

NEW HOME IN GREAT LOCA-TION. MINUTES TO 1-35 AND EASY ACCESS TO KILLEEN, TEMPLE, AND BELTON. 5 MIN-UTES TO BOAT RAMP. GOURMET KITCHEN WITH LARGE ISLAND, PANTRY AND CABINETS WITH MANY FEATURES. CEILING FANS AND PLANTATION BLINDS THROUGHOUT. SALADO ISD. 4 BR, 2 BA. \$168,300.



Properties By Lairry Sainds



1213 Indian Trail Just remodeled & Ready for Occupancy!! NEW wood floors, FRESH interior paint thru-out. STYLISH ceramic floors & appliances in kitchen!! Tremendous big TREES & privacy fenced yard. Reduced \$219,900.

P. B Properties By Larry Sands (254) 947-5580



This lovely Salado Landmark can be your new Business address!! The historic Vickrey House at 402 North Main Street, presently home of Seasons of Salado, with 150' frontage on Main and Church Street, is NOW available for your retail shop, tea room, or gallery. Call us for a professional after-

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tfnb

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Pets & Livestock

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Vehicles

Great Xmas Gift Fassst. Fun and Flirty. 2001 **Ducati monster 750.**Only 6100 miles.Rides great. Custom paint job orange with black strip. Needs cover for tachometer. Moving North for school.Will let go at \$4000. L/M 947-0296 12/21b

1998 Jaguar XK8 convertible blue sapphire/white leather 75K miles; 254-947-3478 11/3006tfn

For Sale

\$125 Queen Pillowtop Mattress set. Brand new w/warranty. 512-963-0796

King Pillowtop Mattress Set - \$175 Brand new w/ warranty. 512-963-0796

Brand new full size mattress set \$75. Still packaged 512-963-0796

\$299 New Queen Cherry Sleigh bed w/mattress set 512-963-0796 12/28p

Business Opportunity

Rare opportunity to own an 11 year established enterprise in the center of Salado. Turn-key Baby Gift and Apparel Shop. Purchase price of \$210,000 includes retail inventory, trade fixtures, desireable lease terms and training. Rita Oden, Re/Max Gold Team 718-7956 10/19tfnb

Turn-key restaurant. on Main Street Salado. Established clientele. Uncommon Grounds Cafe 254-624-5647 5/25tfnb

Employment

Waitstaff needed. Apply in person at Johnny's Barbecue at 301 Thomas Arnold 947-4663 10/5tfnb

T's **Bakery** Roy immediately hiring bakers, cashiers, baristas. Apply in person at 100 N. Church Salado or call 254-947-7181 8/24tfnb

Now Hiring. Tues-Friday 9:30-2:30 Old Mill Pizza 947-0700

Homes For Sale For sale by owner -Bartlett, older house nice large lot. \$38,000. Ready to move in. Call Victor for appt. 512-818-3822

For Sale by Owner -Bartlett, 100 year old house, 2 story, 12 ft. ceilings, hardwood floors. Very Sound. Corner lot. \$79,000. Call Victor for appt. 512-818-3822

For sale by owner -Bartlett 2 nice large lots. Water, sewer, electricity and gas. \$17,500 and \$19,500 Call Victor 512-818-3822

Will sell all above, approximately 1 plus acre for \$149,000 or reasonable offer Call Victor at 512-818-3822 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 @ 254-718-6447. 11/23tfnb

1999 **Solitaire Manfac**tured Home 18 X 80 for Sale by Orginal Owner Upgrades, very clean, new flooring, dishwasher and hot water heater 3bd/ 2ba Paid \$60,000.00 will take Payoff \$37,000.00 Move or leave in park, 20 minutes from Salado 512-656-3288 1123tfnb

One acre golf lot with 2400 sq ft. custom home.

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 718-4011

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 718-4011

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

Private, wooded, can be divided \$325,000 512-

Separate office/studio. Old Chicago brick showcase home with extensive detailed woodwork. Granite countertops, SS appliances, large live oaks, decks, large game room. \$274,800. Call Remax Gold Team /Rita Oden 718-4011

A wonderful home with ample space! Great floor plan with 2 living areas and 2 dining areas. Private

wing with 4th BR and 3 BA (with great shower) and totally handicapped accessible. Nice covered back patio. Large kitchen has island and lots of cabinets. \$244,500 Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 0831tfnf

CLASSIFIEDS **CONTINUE** ON PAGE 5C



December 21, 2006 SALADO Village Voice, Page 3C

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Bartlett

4 acres, East of Academy, great home site, community water, \$50,000.

14 acres, all woods, deer, secluded, Milam-Bell county line.

18.5 acres, Davilla, 2300 + SF Larry lilly Home. Every amenity, shop, beautiful trees. \$389,000 20 acres directly across Blackberry from Mill Creek Golf Course. Tank, scattered trees.

25 acres on FM 2115, South of Salado, Seasonal creek, community water available

40 acres on FM 487 east of Bartlett, some woods, good frontage, water available, will divide.

53 acres on I35 in Belton, all utilities, excellent location, good road frontage

64 acres, NE loop 363 Temple, woods, creek, owner finance, very scenic and well located, \$3,950 per acre

64 acres near Academy on Hwy 95, very scenic, some woods, good road frontage, city water.

75 acres south of Salado, good road frontage, lovely views

94 acres all coastal grass, good fences, pond, Academy schools.

105 acres, excellent location, ponds, water meter, beautiful terrain, near Salado.

151 acres, great view, some trees, south of Salado, two sides road frontage.

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1107 INDIAN TRAIL



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10301 BLACKBERRY



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LAND & INVESTMENTS

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Great 3 BR,2 BA home in Jarrell, built in 1997. Custom cabinets with **pull-out drawers** in kitchen with island, ceiling fans in every room, new roof in 2005. Refrigerator and stove recently purchased will convey, washer and dryer to convey. Mueller 24 by 24 workshop built-in 1998 with metal roof and concrete foundation. 9 foot ceilings in living room. Motor home hook up. Call office for showing instructions. All measurements are approx. \$155,000 .Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050

New home in Mill Creek **Springs**. Custom craftsmanship seen throughout this 3 BR/2 BA/2 car garage home. Spacious kitchen with Granite counters. Take the virtual tour at www.salado.net. Priced at **\$259,900.** Call First Texas Brokerage, (254) 947-5577

Golf Course Living in Mill Creek! 4/2.5/2 home has granite counter tops, hardwood floors and high ceilings. This is a must-see home. \$269,900. Call First Texas Brokerage at 254-947-5577 tfnf

3/2.5/2 - Beautiful Traditional Home in Salado. Hardwood Floors, High Ceilings, Granite Counter tops, Large Kitchen, and much more! Priced at **\$344,900.** Call First Texas Brokerage at 254-947-5577 tfnf

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

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 Beautifully 3+Acres. 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

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



Call for appointment Dorothy Collier, Broker (254) 415-5592

Collier Country Realty

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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.

TWO WOODED ACRES & WORKSHOP:

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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joancwright@msn.com Joan Mikeska Realty 1915 W. Ave. M Temple, TX 76504

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Call Properties By Larry Sands, 947-5580 for LEASING information.

Commercial Rental

For Rent Storage **building** in downtown Salado. Approx. 850 SF. ft. Call 254-947-5577 First Classifieds continue on Texas Brokerage 101206tfnb

PAGE 6C



Thomas Arnold and Church Street

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.





<u>5055 Elm Grove Rd.</u>

Great buy, price reduced! Beautiful 30.03 acre Belton property that borders the Lampasas River. Huge hybrid and native pecan trees. Wellmaintained 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. Custombuilt, 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. \$215,000. Priced reduced to \$192,400.



<u>515 Indian Trail</u>

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.



254-913-1215 **MIKE BOWLES** Realtor 254-913-0469



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For Rent or Lease For Rent: Duplex 2/2/1 very nice. \$800 mo. Call

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

2 bed, 2 bath, \$795 rent, \$10 water, Call 254-716-6135.

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For Rent: Cute home on

Prairie Lane, Salado ISD,

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Max gold Team 718-7956

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Business classes set in Killeen

The Central Texas Business Resource Center offers or sponsors workshops and special events for the small business community. The BRC workshop and event schedule follows.

BEING YOUR OWN BOSS: This course will discuss the fundamentals of starting your own business and how to prepare for selfemployment. Conducted at no charge to customers. Jan. 4, 10 a.m.-noon; Jan. 9, 5:30-7 p.m.

BUSINESS PLAN BA-SICS: This course covers a thorough overview of busi-

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ness planning, with a Q&A session. This is class one in a four-class series: Jan. 11, 10 a.m.-noon; Jan. 16, 5:30-7

BUSINESS O&A FO-RUM: How to Conduct Market Research. Learn how to use the Internet to research your markets, increase profits and lower overhead expenses. Any local merchant, new entrepreneur and/or prospective business owner wanting to know how to build a better business plan should attend. Jan. 18, 10 a.m.-noon; Jan. 23, 5:30-7 p.m.

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discuss the fundamentals and requirements involved

in starting a child day care

business. Jan. 25, 10 a.m-

noon; Jan. 30, 5:30-7 p.m.

POOL DOCTOR

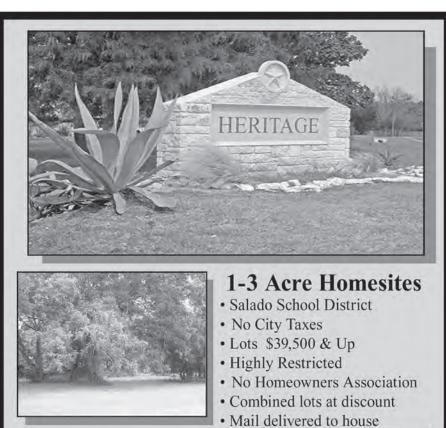
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR OPERATING PERMIT FROM **CLEARWATER UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Kirk Michaux, President of Solana Ranch Company, has made application to the Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District (CUWCD) on December 27, 2006, for an operating permit to authorize withdrawal from an existing well in the Edwards BFZ aquifer with a 2-inch column pipe at 5750 Solan Ranch Rd. in the Hardy Farm/Grid #58-04-8, Latitude 3854.118, Longitude 97033.965 near the intersection of Exit 280 in Prairie Dell, Texas, 3 miles south of Salado, Texas on I-35 to produce water for the expansion of I-35 project for a water source for that construction for an estimated 33-month construction period to produce in a proposed annual quantity of 11,404,785 gallons annually or 35-acre feet.

This application will be set for hearing before the CUWCD upon notice posted at the Bell County Courthouse Annex and at the CUWCD Office. If you would like to support, protect, or provide comments on this application, you must appear at the hearing and comply with District Rule 8.10. For additional information about this application or the permitting process, please contact the CUWCD at 2180 N. Main Street, Belton, Texas 76513, 254-933-0120. The applicant may be contacted at P.O. Box 1199, Salado, Texas 76571-1199, 254-947-9138.

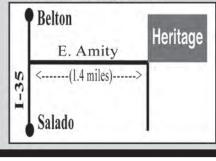


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Exceptional 4-bedroom split floorplan with great location, open living/dining, breakfast room, large laundry with sink, all on over 1/2 acre with bonus sunroom. Great home to start the new year in. \$234,400.

Call Suzanne @ 254-721-3605



Three bedroom, 2 bath for sale on over half and acre in Salado Lots of updates, large covered front porch, dining room etc. Great prop erty. Call to see this one. \$149,900



Peggy Bush - Owner/Agent 254-624-4070 Suzanne Payne - Owner/Agent 254-721-3605 Cindy Humphries -Agent 254-760-2387



Large 3/2/2 townhome in Mill Creek with large beautifully landscaped back yard. Great loca-



Large lots with views available in Highland Estates near Belton schools and just 5 minutes from the lake Call Cindy at 254-760-2387.

Austin stone ranch style home. 10 acres, huge barn, riding arena, coastal. Good area. Spanish tile and gorgeous plank flooring. Immaculate in and out. \$340,000.

Come build your home in the country. Salado 25-40 acres planted in coastal, hardwood trees, wonderful homesite. \$3,800 per acre.

13.25 acres and 96 Doublewide Mobile, Unrestricted, Salado Schools, Water and Electric for 2nd Mobile and water, septic and electric for a third, or live in DW and build your own home. Nice homes in area. Possible owner finance. \$164,500. Call Peggy



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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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



Kitchen Aid Appliances, Granite Counters Throughout, & Much More!!! 5BR/3.5BA \$424,900.



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



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.



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!



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.

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

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

River track south side of Lampasas River between Belton and Salado. 1.9 acre \$53,900

10 acunder CONTRACT 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.

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 Stage-coach Inn.

Jackson's Smokehouse Restaurant, building land and equipment, excellent location. Great business opportunity. Holland. \$58,000.



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.

Ryan Hodge

254-541-2255