Salado

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50¢

Residents want better science on salamander

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As traffic on Highway 45 in Round Rock roared overhead, Congressman John Carter announced are likely to impact the at a June 18 press conference his plans to attach an amendment to the Interior and Environment Appropriations Bill that would strip any funding "to advance or pursue adding any of the population of blind salamanders of Salado, Jollyville Plateau, Georgetown or Austin, Texas, to the list of endangered species or as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973."

Congressman Carter was a habitat of about 100 salamanders in a small spring not much bigger than the podium set up for Carter and local Williamson County officials to speak about the Georgetown salamander.

A few hours later, hold your breath." Salado area landowners, citizens and local, county and state government officials gathered at the Stagecoach Inn conference center, just a few hundred feet from two of the six known sighting locations of the Salado salamander. They met to outline plans for a the Salado salamander year-long \$60,000 study

of the Salado Creek watershed and the water quality and water quantity of the habitat of the Salado salamander.

Neither of these efforts pending decision by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to add the Salado salamander as an Endangered species.

While Rep. Carter said he will propose the House bill amendment within a week, the Appropriations bill has many hurdles to pass. First, it has to get out of Appropriations committee (with the amendment in place) and to the House floor. If it passes A few yards behind the House, then the House version and Senate version will go to a joint committee where the differences between the bills passed by the two legislative bodies are hashed out for a bill to pass both houses.

> In other words, according to Rep. Carter, "don't

Don't hold your breath on a local effort to study the Salado salamander and its habitat to flesh out any local conservation efforts to protect the salamander and property rights any time soon either.

Major stakeholders in study met June 18 to outline the approach to the \$60,000 year-long study and to introduce the principal scientists who will be gathering data in the coming months.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is slated to announce whether the four species of salamanders in Bell, Williamson and Travis counties will be listed as endangered. The deadline for FWS to propose those species for listing is Sept. 30. The schedule for listing the salamander species is part of a settlement between USFWS and the Center for Biological Diversity to force the USFWS to consider listing 756 species as endangered, giving them federal protection. Of those 756 species, 251 have been petitioned to be listed as endangered, including the four salamander species in the central Texas

Rep. Carter, along with Texas Senators John Cornyn and Kay Bailey Hutchison wrote a letter last month asking USFWS regional director Benjamin Tuggle to refrain from listing the salamander species due to local conservation efforts already in place. "There are concerns that SEE SALAMANDER, PAGE 6A



Red and black, venom lack

Michael Foux from the Austin Reptile Shows off a Milk Snake, which has bands like a venomous Coral Snake. However, he helped the kids gathered at the Salado Public Library on June 18 for the Summer Reading Program to remember the old saying, "red and yellow kill a fellow, red and black venom lack." (Photo BY ROYCE WIGGIN)



Penny and Ron Curry.

End of an Era

Dairy Queen will close to make room for I-35

By Tim Fleischer

When they turn out the lights on June 22, the Coach Smith family will mark the end of an era of more than three decades in Salado.

every small Texas town. In Salado it has been more than that. A hangout for teenagers, a place to grab a quick

meal for families on the way from Bruce Tidwell in the other and for the last decade, to or from Little League, a coffee klatch for oldtimers who could fix all the world's problems if they could just put down the coffee, and of course a first job.

"Coach trained so many The local Dairy Queen kids," daughter Penny Curis a landmark in just about ry said. For well over two decades, Coach Smith and his brother Charles were fixtures at the Salado Dairy Queen. Coach bought it

late 70s after a coaching stint at Salado High School.

Coach and his brother hired lots of teenagers from Salado, as well as Bartlett, Jarrell and Holland. They served countless families, including the kids of kids they once served and gave on-the-job training to as teenagers.

Both men passed away within a short time of each Salado Dairy Queen has been owned and operated by Coach Smith's children (Dezri Smith, Myrta Hodge and husband Claude, Kathy Rutherford and husband Wayne and Penny Curry and husband Ron) through the Coach Smith Family LLC.

About a hundred folks converged on the Dairy

SEE DAIRY QUEEN, PAGE 12A



INSIDE

SHOPPING MAP

CALENDAR OF EVENTS CLASSIFIEDS FORUM

1C 2A **4B**

2B

Aldermen meet June 21

Salado aldermen will meet 6 p.m. June 21 to consider approving a plat for the Mill Creek Courtyard Homes Subdivision (following a public hearing), as well as possibly expending funds on an advertising proposal by local businesses. The board will also appoint a voting member of the Tourism Council and an alternate to the Council. Apldermen will meet in workshop session at 4:30 p.m. June 21.

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An Open Exchange of Ideas



bad case of national amnesia

The Declaration of Independence is a poor excuse for an obscure historical document. It's not the Magna Carta or the Peace of Augsburg. Its name is so straightwordly functional, it almost makes you wonder why the Founders weren't more imaginative.

Yet only 35 percent of American fourth-graders know the purpose of the Declaration of Independence, according to a National Assessment of Educational Progress. The findings of the test -- administered to representative samples of fourth-, eighth- and 12th-graders -- are another dreary recitation of the historical ignorance of America's students.

Only 20 percent of fourth-graders, 17 percent of eighth-graders and 12 percent of 12th-graders were proficient in history. More than half of 12th-graders were categorized as "below basic." Only 22 percent of 12th-graders knew that North Korea was allied with China during the Korean War.

These are the symptoms of a country engaged in a long process of erasing its memory. For decades, we have been congratulating ourselves for a broad-mindedness that is really a self-destructive national amnesia.

It's no accident that the teaching of American history became ascendant during the surge of national self-confidence in the wake of the Civil War. Back then, we infused the endeavor with an unabashed love for America. The historian Merle Curti writes that the schools "emphasized the importance of presenting vividly and attractively to children the glorious deeds of American heroes, the sacrifices and bravery of our soldiers and sailors in wartime, the personalities of the presidents, who might properly be regarded as symbols of the nation in the manner in which royal personages of is a strange and ominous admonition for Europe were regarded."

How passe. Today, we're lucky if students can pick their forebears out of a

Rich



The content of education began to change in the middle of the 20th century, and eventually tipped into embarrassment and self-abasement. Huntington cites a study of 22 grade-school readers published in the 1970s and 1980s. Out of 670 stories and articles in the books, only five were patriotic. All of the stories dated from prior to 1780. Four of them focused on a girl. Three of them involved the same girl, Sybil Ludington, the female Paul Revere.

As this transpired down below in the elementary schools, the professional historians worked to kill American history from above. They suffocated it first in data-driven "social history" and then in multiculturalism, until it seemed fit only for obsessives about race or gender.

The neglect of history leaves on the cutting-room floor all the entertaining, instructive and inspiring material involved in the world's most daring and (ultimately) successful experiment in self-government. Worse, it robs us of one of the most important constituent parts of our national identity.

Historian David Lowenthal says of heritage: "By means of it we tell ourselves who we are, where we came from, and to what we belong." Increasingly, we don't know and don't want to know. "Never forget" is an appropriate admonition for victims of atrocities. "Never remember" a nation somebody or other once called "the last best hope of earth."

Habitat for Salamanders and Texans

By Congressman John Carter

When Congress created the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1973, it was with noble goals in mind. We wanted to save and restore our populations of eagles, bison, and other species that were in danger of extinction.

The Act has been enormously effective. Many of the originally targeted populations have increased so dramatically that they have now been removed from the endangered species list, including the Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Grizzly Bear, and others.

But in recent years we have seen the ESA hijacked by special-interest groups using the courts to impose a radical antidevelopment, preservationist agenda on the nation. This agenda is not about saving species. It is about gradually blocking future economic development and suburban growth, and using the ESA to effectively seize control of private land.

In May 2011 USFWS signed a settlement agreement to a lawsuit filed by a group called WildEarth Guardians which forces USFWS to make endangered species determinations on at least 251 species over the next six years.

This is the agenda we now face here in Central Texas as USFWS investigates whether the Austin Blind, Salado, Jollyville Plateau, and Georgetown Salamanders in Bell, Williamson, and Travis counties are threatened or endangered and in our case, render this decision by September 30 of this year.

The Jollyville Plateau Salamander is a small, brown salamander that lives in springs in northwest Austin and southern Williamson County. Most of the known locations for this species are within lands already protected under the Austin and Travis County Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan (BCCP).

The Georgetown Salamander is a small salamander that is believed to exist only in Williamson County. It is found in springs in the forks and tributary creeks of the San Gabriel River, and wet caves. The Williamson County Conservation Foundation (WCCF), established by Williamson County Government, is developing a conservation plan for these habitats, and is in the second year of a five-year study of the species and habitat. These studies also include areas which drain into salamander habitat, as that naturally affects the water quality of the habitat.

Williamson County has purchased the Twin Springs Preserve, which is one of the known habitats of the Georgetown Salamander, and has protected a significant portion of the drainage area for Cobb Spring which hosts a salamander population. USFWS has recognized these efforts by lowering the Georgetown Salamander endangered species listing priority level from a 2 to a level 8 status.

The Salado Salamander is grayishbrown with a flat head and round snout,

and is very elusive. USFWS is not certain of whether it still exists. It has been found in the springs that feed Salado Creek in Bell County. USFWS searched for the salamander from 1991-98 and found none, while Texas Parks and Wildlife researchers found just one in weekly searches over the past three years.

The result of USFWS listing these salamanders as endangered species could be economically devastating, especially in Williamson and Bell County, which have prospered through much of this recession due to our continued growth.

Construction of new homes, schools, roads, bridges, water treatment plants, and businesses could be brought to a screeching halt in much of the area. Even additions to existing homes and businesses could be blocked if the land is determined to be part of salamander habitat – and remember that can be any land that could drain into an area with salamanders, meaning much of both counties. Not only would growth end, existing property values could drop due to the new restrictions.

Our counties are moving aggressively to prevent these salamanders from being added to the endangered species list. They are doing it the right way, by taking concrete steps to ensure these species survive, through voluntary, local habitat protection measures.

This month, I joined with our Senators John Cornyn and Kay Bailey Hutchison in asking U.S. Fish and Wildlife to refrain from listing these species in light of the preservation work underway by local government.

This past week, U.S. Fish and Wildlife acknowledged that these efforts can work. The agency formally determined that the dunes sagebrush lizard - another species under the same settlement agreement as our salamanders - does not need endangered species protections because voluntary conservation agreements now in place in New Mexico and Texas already ensures the long-term protection and recovery of the species.

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar said, "this is a great example of how states and landowners are taking early, landscape-level action to protect a creature and its habitat before it requires the protection of the Endangered Species Act ... the voluntary conservation efforts of Texas and New Mexico, oil and gas operators, private landowners and other stakeholders show that we don't have to choose between energy development and the protection our land and wildlife - we can do both."

We can - and are - doing both here in Central Texas. If we let reliable and replicable science determine our path instead of lawsuits and politics, we can create a sustainable environment for both salamanders and Texans.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEND A LETTER TO THE EDITOR, SEND IT BY MAIL TO SALADO VILLAGE VOICE, PO BOX 587, SALADO, TX 76571, VIA FAX TO 254-947-9479 OR BY EMAIL TO

NEWS@SALADOVILLAGEVOICE.COM.

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Residents on sewers, dance halls and Village politics

Your Voice

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

To begin, I am a card carrying, founding member of the "Middle Digit" political party, which makes one equally cynical of the failed Democratic and Republican political parties, which have so completely failed "US"!

Remember that recent, blubbering outcry over the federal "bailout" of General Motors and the "Big-Five", Banking Mafia (TARP), made by the ever, self-touted, Republican party of "less government, less taxes"?

A similar, local "bailout" is in the "works" for only the ever-faltering "Main Street" businesses of Salado and for the local developers currently constrained by septic systems impeding their making the remainder of Salado look like a 2012 version of Round Rock II.

This "sewer politics" is being perpetrated by a coven of elected Republicans (Bell County Voting Prec. 203-Salado- voted 95+% Republican "R", in the last and previous local elections), who have ignored their mantra of "less government, less taxes" and leaped to accommodate local "special interests", just like the Democratic TARP. Why a bailout, you say?--99+% of present Salado residences have approved septic systems that function well, but require a lot more land for lot sizes, which has allowed Salado to remain "quaint"? Recently, the few remaining "Main Street" businesses cried "wolf" and got away with self-claimed, substandard septic systems (the average homeowner has to keep theirs up to 'standard'') to then be able to latch on to taxpayer monies to fund a proposed sewer system. This system was then combined by our very Republican local government as impetus to allow local developers to pile on and to be able to develop smaller lot sizes, "Round Rock style". If you like Salado today, best get used to it being Round Rock II with a future sewer system.

THE CATCH: Only a few remaining, "Main Street" businesses and only local developers will get to use a sewer system, which will be unavailable to, but once again paid for by taxpayers, Salado property taxpayers, this time.

Again, how do you smell, TARP?

So much for that party of hypocritical, "less government, less taxes", the (R's) and the stench they have created in Salado! YOU really can't make this "stuff" up and it really smells even "under the table"...but, we, US, the taxpayers will again PAY!

T R (Tom) Pappas Salado

To the Editor:

While reading last week's Salado Village Voice in reference to Johnny's Steak House and the Village, I began immediately to feel sorry for the residents that neighbor Johnny's and will be directly impacted by the new dance hall that's coming.

Yes, I said is coming, any hope that the Village Aldermen will stand up for the citizens is an illusion. This is a business that gets to sell and advertise beer right next to the Salado Elementary School and a private day care. The Salado Village Voice was absolutely correct to show the disparity between the tax revenues generated by the property owners contrasted to the sales tax revenue created by Johnny's.

My goodness, how dare residents west of IH 35 to ask for help from the Planning and Zoning, or the Village Aldermen? Don't they realize they can't compare to the great amount of sales tax revenue for the Village of Salado from selling beer next to the elementary school.

Hey, I understand. In an economy that's shaky, with a number of business' in Salado being closed for Interstate expansion, the Village Aldermen definitely need to cater to the whims and desires of one of the biggest sales tax producers left! I feel quite confident that the Aldermen will rewrite ANY THING they need to in order to cater to this business, including rezoning areas, changing the noise ordinance, or whatever it may take.

The only advice I have for the residents in the affected area would be, sell now or get ready for the Braxton Express to come through.

> Sincerely, Wayne Rutherford

FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas



Gambling dealt losing hand

By Dustin Matocha

While some might argue over who had the most success in the May 29 primary, one special interest group is languishing in defeat. A Las Vegas newspaper reports that the chances of expanding casino operations in Texas was dealt a losing hand by Lone Star State Republicans. And the prospects got even worse when the GOP gathered for their annual convention in Fort Worth.

Howard Stutz of the Las Vegas Review-Journal wrote that "casino expansion in Texas apparently took a hit." In summarizing what the primary election results mean for the gambling special interests, Stutz notes that three of pro-gambling House Speaker Joe Straus' allies - Reps. Vicki Truitt, Rob Eissler, and Tuffy Hamilton – were defeated by "anti-gaming conservatives."

Mr. Hamilton both carried gambling legislation last session and chaired the all-important Licensing committee for Speaker

As Bill Lerner of the Union Gaming Group said, "This certainly doesn't bode well for future passage of gaming expansion."

That may be a setback for big-monied special interests, but for taxpayers it will help close the floodgates of bigger government in 2013.

Proponents of expanded gambling claim it would expand liberty and bring in "new revenues." Neither is true.

Arguments about "free markets" and "letting adults gambling with their money here" are redherrings at best. Under the proposals floating around Austin, only established gambling interests with open checkbooks for legislators in charge of the licensing process would be granted authority to operate their casinos - not regular Joe's looking to start up a new business venture.

This "cronyism" has nothing at all to do with capitalism. In fact, it's the antithesis of a free market for a government-run gambling commission to have the power to pick winners and losers.

Likewise, if gambling was expanded in Texas, it would actually be a net loss in revenue. Research demonstrates that bringing in \$1 costs state and local governments \$3 in increased public safety

and social services, and lost economic productivity.

This has been the experience of every state in the nation that has expanded gambling: their economies are worse off than Texas' and their budget problems bigger.

And let's not forget about the last magic bullet for funding public education: the Texas Lottery. It only funds three days worth of public school operations in the state!

The 2012 Republican Party Platform, adopted in Fort Worth on June 9, strongly states: "We oppose the expansion of legalized gambling and encourage the repeal of the Texas State lottery. We oppose dedicating any government revenue from gambling to create or expand any government program."

Given the time-crunch for Texas' gambling interests like Retama Park (owned in part by Speaker Straus' family) to pass expanded gambling or continue losing money, taxpayers can bet the crony-casino lobby isn't yet ready to fold. Make sure your legislator is ready to call their bluff this next legislative session.

Wisconsin's Alien Seed



Jim Hightower

"Scott Walker Wins Wisconsin," screamed headlines across the country after the labor-bashing incumbent governor hung onto his job in the June 5 recall election.

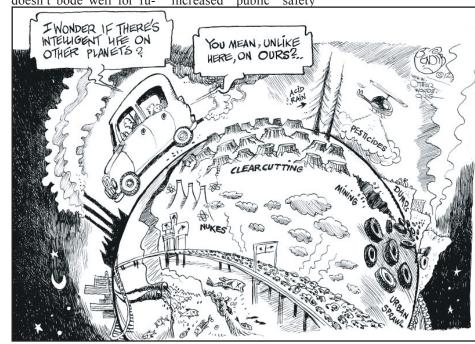
Well, yes...but no. Walker will get to stay in office for the rest of his term, but he didn't win the election — money did. This was a victory for the Citizens United edict issued two years ago by the Supreme Court's five-man corporatist majority. This anti-democratic ruling opened the door for unlimited sums of corporate cash to barge into our national, state, and local elections and take charge. Walker is the first ugly sprouting of that alien

He sacked up some \$30 million from corporate interests — nearly eight times the money that his Democratic opponent had to spend. Two-thirds of Walker's stockpile came from out of state. Bob Perry, an anti-labor, anti-government Texas tycoon, sank more than half-a-million bucks into his Wisconsin soul mate's campaign. Likewise, the far-right DeVos family pitched in with a quartermillion dollars from its Amway fortune. So did Las Vegas casino baron Sheldon Adelson, the guy who bankrolled Newt Gingrich's failed presidential bid.

Then came the insidious, secretive, "outside" campaigns that the Sugreen-lighted. premes Citizens United allowed corporations to dump mountains of their cash into elections. The multibillionaire, laissez-fairyland Koch brothers, for example, shoved at least \$3 million behind Walker - practically all of which went to negative attacks against his opponent.

Some "victory." Honest conservatives might take cheer that Walker still clings to the governor's chair, but there can be no joy in the fact that money rules. That's the lesson of this election. And that's the real fight. To join it, go to Public Citizen's grassroots rebellion: www.democracyisforpeople.org.

JIM HIGHTOWER IS A RADIO COM-MENTATOR, WRITER, AND PUBLIC SPEAK-ER. HE'S ALSO EDITOR OF THE POPULIST NEWSLETTER, THE HIGHTOWER LOW-DOWN.





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FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas

Immigrants: Lifeblood of U.S. startups

By Yuri Vanetik

In a rare moment of genuinely bipartisan lawmaking, the president recently signed the JOBS Act into law. Short for "Jumpstart Our Business Startups," JOBS will roll back some of the regulatory barriers that small and mid-sized entrepreneurial ventures face in their efforts to grow and go public.

This is a great victory for the American start-up

makers need to turn their attention to the hurdles in the way of talent acquisi-

No talent channel is more bogged down with needless and costly rules than the visa system for highly skilled immigrants. Every year, thousands of foreign citizens with advanced degrees in science and engineering apply to become permanent residents in the United States. They want to work and contribute and have valuable ideas for new businesses.

Despite these undeniable facts, many educated and motivated foreigners are turned away or granted only temporary permission to live and work here. This bureaucratic quagmire is robbing American start-ups of talent, which is severely undercutting economic growth.

A December study from the National Foundation for American Policy found that almost half of the top 50 venture-funded firms in America were founded or co-founded by an immigrant. Out of these firms, 37 had at least one immigrant in a high-level management position.

Silicon Valley is filled with hot startups founded by foreigners.

The textbook-rental service Chegg was created by Indian Aayush Phumbhra and Briton Osman Rashid. Etsy -- the incredibly successful online craft marketplace -- is the brainchild of Swiss entrepreneur Haim Schoppik. The giant web publisher Glam Media was founded by Indians Samir Arora and Raj Narayan.

The idea that these immigrants are "stealing" jobs from Americans is pure nonsense. The opposite is true. That same study found that top 50 immigrant-started companies created an average

community. Now, policy- of 150 new jobs per com-

Likewise, researchers from the American Enterprise Institute found that between 2000 and 2007, for every additional 100 foreign workers coming into this country with an advanced "STEM" degree -- science, technology, engineering, or math -- an average of 262 new jobs were created for nativeborn U.S. citizens.

It's no surprise that talented immigrants play such a vital role in the creation and expansion of American companies and the culture of entrepreneurialism battens start-ups. They have a fresh perspective. They're well positioned to find new ways to solve economic problems and create value.

But America is choking off the spigot of immigrant talent. The channel for them to enter this country legally is over-regulated, overly expensive, unpredictable, and deeply timeconsuming.

H-1B visas, the type designated for highly skilled workers, expire after just three years. They're only renewable once. The total number of H-1Bs allowed every year is capped at 66,000 (with very limited exemptions for foreigners who received a degree from an American graduate program). Moreover, the H-1B fee was recently raised by over 600 percent -- from \$320 to \$2,000.

Visa restrictions are leading to reverse brain drain. Smart, ambitions foreigners come and study at America's world-class institutions of higher education. After they graduate, they're eager to work in this country, but they can't get a permanent resiand go elsewhere, taking their talents, training,

ideas, and education with them.

Cristobal Conde is a Chile-born entrepreneur and former CEO of Sun-Gard, a Fortune 500 software company. He's said, "If I were to try to come to America today, the likelihood is I would be turned away."

We need visa reform for highly skilled workers -and fast. Republican Representative Jeff Flake just reintroduced the STAPLE Act, (H.R. 399), which would exempt foreign students with an American Ph.D. degree in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics and a job offer in the United States from visa quotas. Passing this legislation is smart policy.

Policymakers should strengthen and expand the H-1B program; create a special "Startup Visa" for immigrants looking to create new companies in the United States, and increase the number of green cards for workers with advanced degrees.

Policymakers should also extend the EB-5 Visa program (currently set to expire in September) which provides green cards to foreign nationals who invest significant money in the United States. Jared Polis (D-Colo.) has taken the lead on this important bipartisan initiative.

The JOBS Act will boost the American startup sector. However, it's just the first step. Now, lawmakers need to fix the country's talent retention problem. That process starts by reforming the immigration system for highly skilled foreigners.

YURI VANETIK IS A PRIVATE INVES-TOR AND PHILANTHROPIST. HE IS THE dence or a worker visa. TIONAL, LLC AND A NATIONAL BOARD Eventually, they give up MEMBER OF GEN NEXT (WWW.GEN-

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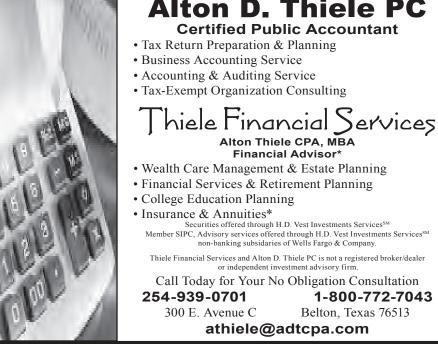


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In one of his last duties as Salado Lions Club President, David Milner presents a \$3,000 check from the local Lions Club to the Salado Civic Center Foundation. SCCF Chairman Dennis Cabaniss accepted the check during the June 13 Salado Lions meeting. The Lions meet for lunch on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month in the Meadows auditorium of the Civic Center. Every year the club makes a \$3,000 donation for the upkeep and maintenance of the Civic Center.



Salado Police Report June 11-1

June 11

4:20-4:35 p.m., NB Exit 286. Assist Other Agency, Grass Fire. Grass Fire reported in median at above exit. Provided traffic control for SVFD by shutting down Exit 286 while crews extinguished fire. Clear.

8:30-8:45 p.m., 218 Royal (Old Salado Springs). Business Alarm, office door/interior motion. Building secure ground level. No keyholder en route. Outbuildings checked and also secure. Clear.

June 12

9:15-9:20 a.m., 100 Block Salado Creek Place. Alarm (R), no one home, dogs inside, garage door open.

4:55-5:15 p.m., 1670 FM. Fire, assisted with traffic control on a grass fire- SVFD was able to put the fire out.

June 13

8:25-8:45 a.m., 600 Block Santa Clara. Criminal Mischief, someone put toilet paper in her trees and yard.

Main (Mud Pies Pottery). Concern, 94 year old the SVFD responded. Unlocked front door, no one on site, checked building, secure building left message on cell phone.

2:58-4:10 p.m., 700 Block Royal. Lost Child, subject had not returned home. Found. Was playing with friends.

4:50-5:40 p.m., Thomas Arnold and Stagecoach Rd. 10-50, Hit and Run, dispatch advised of a hit and run at location. Upon arrival witnesses advised that a black cattle trailer pulled by a silver Chevy knocked down the stop sign and then left the scene. The vehicle was located near Thomas Arnold and Brewer. Driver was identified and he received a citation for Duty upon Striking Fixture. A crash report will be completed. TXDOT was notified of the damage. Cleared.

6:10-6:20 p.m., Central Texas Area Museum. Alarm (bus.) alarm was set off by accident by an employee. Cleared.

10:50-11:05 p.m., 1300 10:15-10:28 a.m., 118 N. Block Old Mill. Welfare

white female lives alone. Her daughter was unable to make contact via telephone. I woke her mother up and advised her of her daughter's concern. It was discovered that the mother's phone was not working. Made contact with the

daughter and advised that

all is well. Cleared.

June 15

10:45-11:30 p.m., Arnold and Thomas Stagecoach Rd. Motorist Assist, motorist with a flat tire was stranded. The spare tire was put on her vehicle. One block down the road and the spare tire blew out. The motorist was transported to the Stagecoach Inn for the night. Vehicle was parked at the fire station. Cleared. June 16

12:00-12:30 a.m., 100 Block Laly Ln. Assist Other Agency, an attempted suicide call was dispatched. Responded to the call and secured the scene until BCSO deputies arrived. Scott & White and

Cleared.

8:30-8:45 a.m., 2800 Block Chisholm Trail. Residential Alarm, dispatched as master bath alarm. Made contact with residents and all is code-4. Alarm accidentally triggered. Clear.

June 17

10:15-10:30 p.m., Pace Park. Suspicious Vehicles/ V.C.O., two vehicles observed in park after hours. Contact made with operators of first vehicle seen. Advised of hours and left on request. Searched area for operator of second vehicle. No one was located in park. Clear with LP info. In call if needed.

9:00-9:20 a.m., 1100 Block Mill Creek. Residential Alarm, dispatched as Panic Alarm. No keyholder contact. No contact made with a resident on scene. Residence secure ground level. Nothing suspicious observed through windows around residence. Clear.

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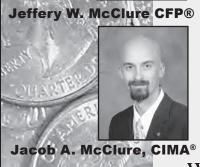
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Salamander—— FROM PAGE 1A

the current information on these species is limited," the Senators and Representative stated in the letter. "At this time, when continued economic recovery should be a top priority, any proposed listing that could be detrimental to the local economy needs careful scrutiny, and those most affected deserve ample time to be heard."

Williamson County is midway through a \$250,000 five-year study of the Georgetown salamander. "Formulating a strategy for conserving this species (Georgetown salamander) is problematic because little information is available concerning its range, life history and habitat requirements," states the Williamson County Conservation Foundation in its 250-page Regional Habitat Conservation Plan (RHCP) Environmental Impact Statement. The Georgetown salamander is included as an additional species in the Williamson County RHCP in an effort to keep the species from being listed as endangered.

"This decision is in great danger of being determined by politics and lawsuits rather than reliable and replicable scientific research," Rep. Carter told a group of citizens and reporters in Round Rock June 18. "The fact that we stand in a location with a healthy salamander population adjacent to a major highway intersection shows we are protecting our salamanders and that the salamanders are not threatened by reasonable economic development. Future plans to protect our salamander populations should be made with the research data currently being gathered on this issue, rather than through politically-motivated court orders that seek to impose regulatory restrictions not warranted by fact."

"Our monitoring results show that there are numerous populations of the species in the County. Many of these locations are already in preserved areas, but healthy populations have been found in the midst of development as well," said Williamson County Precinct 3 Commissioner Valerie Covey.

"The best available science must be used as the basis for this decision," stated Precinct 1 Commissioner Lisa Birkman, president of the Williamson County Conservation Foundation Board at the June 18 press conference. Birkman added that the WCCF is in the second year of a fiveyear study of the Georgetown salaman-

"Our research and monitoring efforts are comprehensive, current and conducted in a scientific fashion," Birkman said.

The data from the Georgetown salamander study has not yet been thoroughly analyzed in order to prepare a conservation strategy for the salamander. According to the WCCF RHCP, "At the end of the five-year research program, if the Georgetown salamander is still a candidate species, the Foundation would investigate the feasibility of developing a Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA) with Assurances."

The FWS defines a CCA as "a formal agreement between the Service and one or more parties to address the conservation needs of proposed or candidate species, or species likely to become candidates, before they become listed as endangered or threatened. Landowners voluntarily commit to conservation actions that will help stabilize or restore the species with the goal that listing will become unnecessary."

"Conservation can preclude the need for federal listing as threatened or endangered or can occur before the species status has become so dire that listing is necessary," according to the FWS. "Although a single property owner's activities may not eliminate the need to list,



The Salado salamander has been found in a handful of springs along Salado Creek. (U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICES PHOTO)

conservation, if conducted by enough property owners throughout the species' range, can eliminate the need to list.

A CCA may benefit landowners in

"If the actions preclude listing, the landowner is not regulated by the Endangered Species Act."

This was the case with the dunes sagebrush lizard which is known to exist in only four counties in west Texas and eastern New Mexico. Last week, the FWS announced that it would not list the lizard as Endangered.

In making the announcement, the FWS stated, "This withdrawal is based on our conclusion that the threats to the species as identified in the proposed rule no longer are as significant as believed at the time of the proposed rule. We base this conclusion on our analysis of current and future threats and conservation efforts. We find the best scientific and commercial data available indicate that the threats to the species and its habitat have been reduced to the point that the species does not meet the statutory definition of an endangered or threatened species."

The dunes sagebrush lizard had been listed as a "2" since its candidacy in 2001 because of the high-magnitude imminent threats to its survival as a species.

Likewise, the Salado salamander has been listed as a "2" because of the highmagnitude, imminent threats to its survival as a species.

Also like the dunes sagebrush lizard, the Salado salamander has a small range of habitat. In fact, the range of habitat is miniscule: it has been found in just a handful of springs that feed the Salado

At least three of those springs identified in the FWS Candidate Notice of Review (CNOR) are within two hundred yards of the I-35 bridge over Salado Creek. Robertson Springs on the west side of I-35 and Big Boiling Springs and Lil Bubbly springs on the east side of

Scientists working on behalf of the stakeholders in the Salado salamander study are asking private property owners in the Edwards aquifer region and the Salado Creek watershed for access to their property in order to study the characteristics of the aguifer, the flow of the creek and the habitat of the Salado sala-

According to Dr. Tony Hibbitts from Texas A&M University, there are about 18 known springs that may be habitats for the Salado salamander. Fewer than half of those springs have been examined for the existence of the rare amphibian.

The problem with identifying the habitat of the Salado salamander lies a great deal in the way the little creature lives. It exists in small springs, between the protective cover of gravel and natural crags and rock cover and the shallow springs where it feeds.

"If you ever find one in the creek itself," Dr. Hibbitts said, "it was probably

SEE SALADO CREEK, PAGE 8A

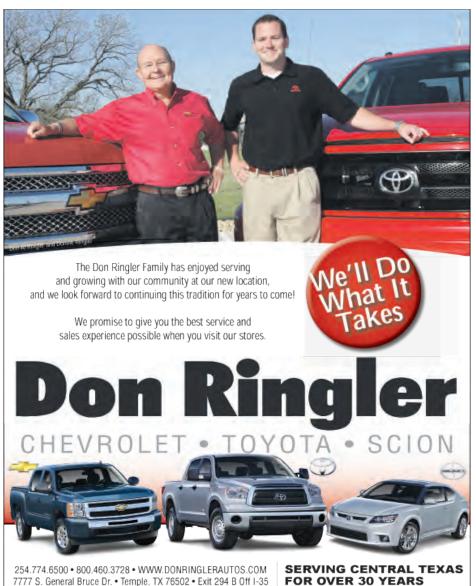


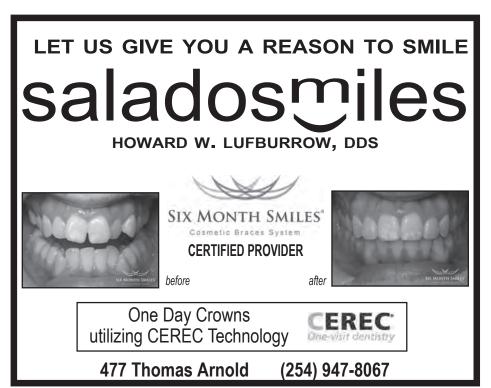


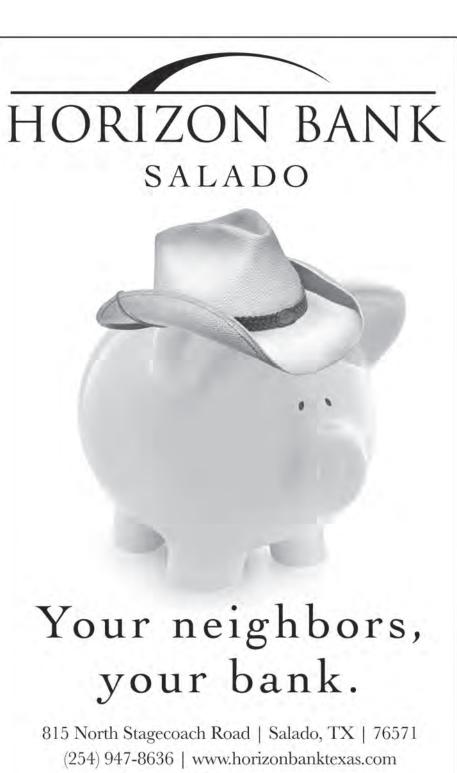


Salado kids got basic skills training this week during a Baseball Camp sponsored by Salado High School athletics. Varsity baseball coach Chad Krempin worked with campers on batting, fielding, throwing and base running during the camp. Other athletic camps continue this summer. See the Calendar of Events for information on those camps. (PHOTOS BY ROYCE WIGGIN)









FDIC

Belton Fourth of July Rodeo is 88-year Texas tradition

The Belton Area Chamber of Commerce will host its 88th Annual 4th of July Celebration and PRCA Rodeo July 2-7. The weeklong celebration is ranked among the top places to celebrate in Central Texas.

"The rich tradition of our week long celebration is an exciting time for the people of Belton and Central Texas," said Stephanie O'Banion President and CEO of the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce. "The Chamber is proud to help everyone celebrate our American freedom."

Festivities begin July 2, with the annual Kick-Off BBQ at Yettie Polk Park from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The pinnacle of the celebration is the 4th of July Parade, which made its first appearance in 1850. This year's theme "Hometown Heroes," will provide a sense of pride for those who serve our community in many capacities. More than 30,000 people will flood the streets of Belton to watch one of the most historic parades in Texas. The parade starts at 10 a.m. and will include a variety of floats, vehicles, marching bands and local celebrities. Applications are available online at the chamber.

Other activities planned for the 4th include the Festival on Nolan Creek, which begins at 11 a.m. in Yettie Polk Park. This event brings in various vendors ranging from local BBQ and snow



(PHOTO COURTESY BELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE)

The Belton Fourth of July Rodeo is a tradition in central Texas for more than 80 years.

cones to inflatable bounce thouses.

The chamber invites the community to put on their boots and cowboy hats and head down to the Bell County Expo center July 5-7 for the PRCA Rodeo. Nightly events start at 7 p.m. and will feature Lancaster and Pickett Pro Rodeo Company, All-American Cowgirl Chicks; some of the best trick riders in the industry. The Belton July 4th rodeo has been an Independence Day tradition since 1924.

Thursday, July 5, is Military Appreciation Night and all active military members will get in to the Rodeo FREE, with military I.D.

Children eight and under are invited to enter the Stick horse Grand Entry and Competition to compete for the title of Stick horse Cowgirl and Cowboy. Children entered will parade their stick horses around the rodeo arena at Family Celebration night, July 6, and prizes for the ten best decorated stick horses will be awarded and the crowning of the Stick horse Cowgirl and Cowboy.

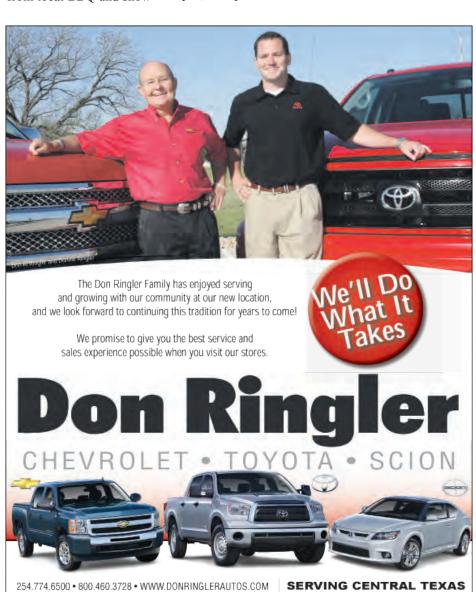
The fan favorite mutton bustin' competition, featuring children ages 4-7, takes place every night of the rodeo.

The Western Gift Show begins at 5:30 p.m. each night of the rodeo and features a variety of items including leather products, cowboy gifts, western clothing, jewelry and Belton 4th of July Rodeo souvenirs. Also coinciding with the rodeo is the Carnival at Confederate Park.

This Belton Chamber event has been a favorite year after year. The Chamber invites everyone to be a part of one of the most historical 4th of July events in Texas.

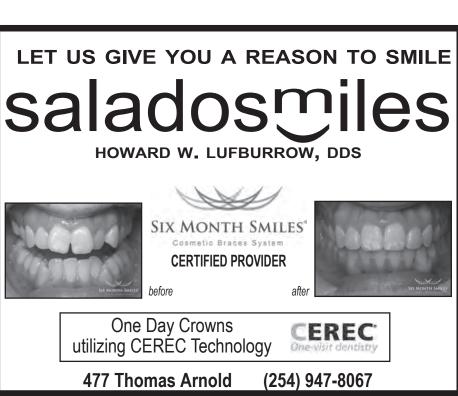
For more details including a schedule of events contact Lindsay Landrum at (254) 939-3551 or visit the 4th of July website www.rodeobelton.com.

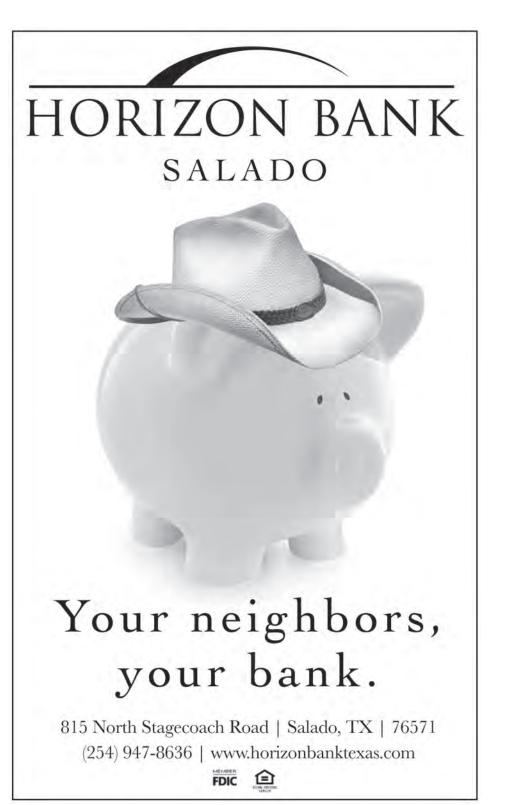
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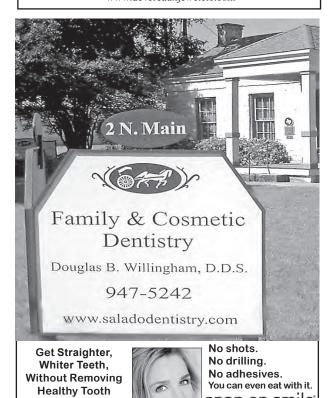
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Endangered Species Act helps lawyers, not lizards

using the possible addition of hundreds of species to the Endangered Species List as an opportunity to attack the Endangered Species Act and its application in recent year.

Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson, testifying before the U.S. House Natural Resources Committee on June 19 described what he called abuse of the Endangered Species Act by federal authorities who propose adding species to the endangered list based not on sound science, but in Patterson said. "They are response to lawsuits filed by federally funded, radical environmental groups. Taxpayers have paid more than \$15 million to these groups since 2008 to settle

Many politicians are such Endangered Species Act lawsuits.

> "The only thing endangered in this process is fiscal responsibility and American jobs," Patterson said. "Listing a species, without adequate scientific data, just to settle a lawsuit is outrageous. When a species is added to the endangered list, it usually means threatening entire sectors of our economy and putting American jobs at risk."

"The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is faced with a no-win situation," overwhelmed by environmental groups with hundreds of candidate listings that the agency cannot possibly respond to in the statutory timeline specified. They then find themselves in violation of that statute and subsequently sued by these same groups that filed to protect the species"

The Fish and Wildlife Service's 2012 budget request includes \$24.6 million for the endangered species listing program, including paying a staff of 141, according to the New York Times. That is an 11 percent increase from the previous fiscal year and a 28 percent rise since 2009. The agency estimated that in 2011 it would be able to make final listing decisions on only 4 percent of warranted petitions within one year as required by law, down from 12 percent in 2010.

"These groups create

the problem by purposely overwhelming the agency, knowing that they will be unable to respond, and then dictate an outcome because the agency settles," Patterson said. "Taxpayers shouldn't have to foot the bill for this kind of abuse of the system."

In addition to lawyers fees, from 2007 to 2011, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service gave \$680,492 in tax money to the Wild Earth Guardians, according to congressional testimony. During that same time, the Wild Earth Guardians sued U.S. Fish and Wildlife 76 times.

"Right now, the Endangered Species Act helps out the lawyers more than the lizards," Patterson said.

FROM Page 6A

fine the sensitive recharge Springs in the summer of areas of the aquifer and the flow of the creek. He will examine how water gets into the aquifer and how the aquifer then affects the springs where the Salado salamander lives.

The study could also more specifically identify risks to the water quality.

"This is not just about the salamander," said County Commissioner Tim Brown. "This is an opportunity to better understand the function of Salado Creek watershed and its relation to the aquifer. This is an opportunity to better identify any threats to the water quality of Salado Creek."

Brown said that the study is a chance for local stakeholders to have input on how to best protect what he defined as "the single best economic asset of Salado, our creek."

Salado Creek

event."

According to the FWS CNOR: "The Salado salamander (Eurycea chisholmensis) is entirely aquatic and neotenic (it does not metamorphose into a terrestrial adult). Adults are about 2 inches (5 centimeters) long. It has reduced eyes compared to other spring-dwelling Eurycea spp. in north central Texas and lacks welldefined melanophores (cells containing brown or black pigments called melanin) and iridophores (cells filled with iridescent pigments called guanine). It has a relatively long and flat head and a blunt and rounded snout. Three pairs of reddishbrown to bright red gills are located on each side of the neck behind the jaws. The upper body is generally grayish-brown with

a slight cinnamon tinge and an irregular pattern of tiny, light flecks. The underside is pale and translucent. The posterior portion of the tail generally has a well-developed dorsal fin, but the ventral tail

fin is weakly developed." Dr. Hibbitts will concentrate his efforts on locating and defining the habitats of the Salado salamander, as well as the possible threats to those habitats. Many of those possible threats are outlined in the FWS 2011 CNOR: non-point source pollution, large amounts of sedimentation in the springs, toxic spills in the small springs and manmade changes to the habitats, including dams and other changes.

The FWS stated in the CNOR that it "is also aware of habitat modification at Big Boiling 2008, when the Village of Salado covered a spring opening with gravel due to safety concerns. Although we received anecdotal information that at least one salamander was observed at the site after the gravel was dumped at Big Boiling Springs, the Service has no detailed information on how the Salado salamander was affected by this action." The science developed

from the \$60,000 study could be the basis of a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) to put in place local measures to protect the Salado salamander. While Hibbitts studies

the salamander, Hydrogeologist Dr. Joe Yelderman will study the dynamics of the Edwards aquifer and its interaction with the Salado Creek. Dr. Yelderman will try to better de-

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Aldermen

for long-term economic development. The Chamber board encouraged aldermen to vote in favor of the proposal to begin advertising Salado in the nearby markets.

She spoke about the success her business has had with billboards in nearby markets. In 2009, with a billboard in Temple, she said that her business saw a 70 percent increase in revenue.

Two years later, she said that in November 2011 -- without that billboard campaign -- she saw a decline of 46 percent.

Michael Oubre, a business owner on Main St., encouraged aldermen to act on the spending proposal now before the window of opportunity for

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safety, etc.

would take into consid-

eration the effects of an

event on local residents

and could put into place

some regulation of events

in terms of noise, traffic,

ter listening to residents,

business owners and oth-

ers in support of and in

opposition to the proposed

change, unanimously ad-

opted the proposal with-

out change. Commission-

ers present were chairman

Ronnie Tynes, Tom Mc-

Mahon and Gerald Reih-

zoning change, which in-

cluded other changes to

the manner in which the

Zoning Board of Adjust-

ment (ZBA) operates, re-

quested that Restaurant

(With Music and/or Danc-

The original proposed

Commissioners,

Permits

prominent billboards clos-

Oubre presented an extensive proposal to aldermen during a June 7 workshop. That proposal included about \$20,000 in billboard advertising over a three-month period.

After considering allocating the month to Tourism Council, the the board returned to its original proposal, which passed 3-2 with Ashe, Peters and Terry voting in favor and Fields and Fritch voting against.

Following a public hearing on the topic, aldermen voted unanimously to disapprove the proposed Mill Creek Courtyard Homes Subdivision which would lie in the ETJ of Salado off of OW Lowery.

Several Salado residents requested that the board deny the subdivision plat because of the flooding of homes on O.W. Lowery and Tallwood Circle. They said that the addition of eight

homes would exacerbate

that flooding. Village engineer John Simcik with Kasberg Patrick and Associates said that the river model for the increase of flow during a "one percent storm" that could be attributable to the new development would be and 17 cubic foot per second. He added that there were 50,000 cubic feet per second of water flowing across the entire watershed of Salado Creek during that "one percent FROM PAGE 1A

The engineer told aldermen that there were two outstanding comments left to be addressed, including a drainage analysis. He added that the developer Vaughn Homes had asked that the item be removed from the agenda at this time until those areas could be addressed.

Out of concerns that if the board of aldermen took no action then the subdivision would be considered approved by a strict reading of the ordinance concerning timelines, aldermen voted unanimously to decline approval of the subdivision.

The developer will have to reapply at a later date and will perhaps have those concerns addressed at that time.

- FROM Page 1A

However, because the use of the proposed construction would include live music, the building permit approved by Bureau Veritas (CBV 120105) was revoked by a vote of aldermen. There is no allowance in the Local Retail zoning for Dance Hall, which is the closest Land Use definition to the proposed project.

The Brattons reapplied on June 14 for a building permit for an Outdoor Catering Facility, approved on June 19 by Bureau Veritas (CBV120108). The proposed expansion would include the pavilion and bar area to allow catering.

sue Temporary Permits for ing) be allowed under events such as this, rather CUP in Office zones and than granting a blanket Permitted in Historic Dispermission to the land use. trict and Local Retail.

According to page 71 of the Zoning Ordinance, "The use of land or buildings shall be in accordance with those listed in the following Use Charts. No land or building shall hereafter be used and no building or structure shall be erected, altered, or converted other than for those uses specified in the zoning district in which it is

located." The Land Use Chart is eight pages and divided into 10 categories: Agricultural Uses, Residential Uses, Office Uses, Personal and Business Service Uses, Retail Uses, Transportation and Auto Service Uses, Amusement and Recreational Service Uses, Institutional/Governmental Uses, Commercial and Wholesale Trade Uses and Manufac**Building Permit Issued**

storm.'

Johnny's Steaks and Bar-Be-Que has been issued two building permits, the first one being revoked by the Board of Aldermen at their June 7 meeting.

The first building permit was to "construct outdoor catering/music venue" at 301 Thomas Arnold Rd. with Johnny Bratton as the General Contractor and Gary Kotrla as the Electrical Contractor. The 2700 sq. ft. proposal called for construction of a 30'X30' stage, a concrete dance floor, a 30' X 30' covered pavilion and an 18'X20' bar area. The facility would be served by portable toilets. This area would be enclosed by a cedar fence.

The stage would face away from all residences and parking could be outside of the cedar fenced-in

If the Village of Salado board of aldermen approved the recommendation of the P&Z commission, the Brattons will move forward with a building permit for the stage and dance area to allow for live music.



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Obituaries



JOEY FRAZIER

A celebration of life for Joey Frazier, 53, of Holland, was held at Scanio-Harper Funeral Home in Temple June 19, 2012. A graveside service followed at the Salado Cemetery with Rev. Butch Ikels officiating.

Frazier passed away at home with his wife on June 17, 2012.

Billy Joe (Joey) Frazier, Jr. was born on February 3, 1959 in Belton. He graduated from Salado High School in 1977 and earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Southwest Texas State University. He married Janet Williamson of New Braunfels in December 1983.

Frazier worked for the Farmers' Home Administration in Haskell and Belton, the Production Credit Association in Temple, Bartlett Bank and Eagle Bank in Jarrell. He was a farmer and owner/ operator of Sunshine Grain and Freight.

Frazier is survived by his wife, Janet; mother Kathryn Campbell of Louisiana; father and wife Billy and Norene Frazier of Salado; sisters Sherri Rene Cox and husband Alan of Belton and B.J. Williamson and husband James of Salado; and brother Bruce Frazier and wife Dixie of Belton.

Memorials may made to the Karen Roasa Foundation Scholarship Funds in care of Holland ISD (PO Box 217, Holland, TX 76534), Odyssey Hospice in Temple (2114 Birdcreek Drive, Temple, TX 76502), the Holland Volunteer Fire Department (PO Box 326, Holland, TX 76534), or the charity of your choice.

"Women and their Wealth: Things you may not know" is topic of June 28 SARW luncheon

meeting of Salado Area Republican Women scheduled at the Robertson Room of the Stagecoach Inn will focus on Women and their Wealth: Things You May Not Know.

The presenter will be Donna Campbell, UBS financial advisor from Fort Worth. The discussion will not be about stocks, bonds and investments, according to Barclay McCort, publicity chair. There will also be a report on the re-

The June 28 luncheon cently held State Republican Party Convention held in Fort Worth June 7-9. The luncheon is due to start at 11:30 a.m. The cost for the luncheon is \$15 and reservations need to be received by Monday, June 25. Mail checks to SARW, Pac; P.O. Box 373; Salado, TX 76571. Guests are welcome.

> Questions may be addressed to Ms. Gardipee at sgardipee@hot.rr.com or at (254) 939-7085.

Raw Edge Quilting offered at **Belton Senior Center**

The Belton Senior Activity Center is offering a Creative Raw Edge Quilting Class 9:30 am - 2 pm.on June 26.

Professional Quilt Instructor, Jean B. Newell will be teaching the class at the Belton Senior Activity Center located at 842 S. Mitchell Street in Belton.

The class is open to all Seniors in the area. There will be a \$8 supply fee for each class. Advance registration is required. For additional information and to sign up for the class and lunch, call the Belton Senior Activity Center at

254-939-1170 or the Activities Director at 254-718-1859.



Above) Bill Kinnison with the help of Patti Campbell presented a program on the Salado Public Library expansion plans which will provide for more room for patron activities and displays. Kinnison also explained how the public may participate to help defray the costs of the \$600,000 expansion. Ground-breaking is expected to take place within the month. Following the presentation (below) Stephanie Turnham, Director of the Bell County Museum, gave a historical review of the important events of 1968.



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SALADO VIIIage Voice, June 21, 2012, Page 9A

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Cedar **Baptist** hold **Gospel singing**

Fourth Friday Night Singing will be held 7 p.m. June 22.

Pot Luck following the singing will be held at the First Cedar Valley Baptist Church FM 2843. For more information, contact Donnie or Linda Jackson at 254-947-5100

many Churches Valley Study reveals overlook women as donors

churches are missing opportunities to involve Christian women in philanthropy, with ministry leaders too often speaking "man to man" — despite the fact that women now control more than 51 percent of personal wealth nationally, according to a 2012 national survey.

While Christian women are far more generous than the average person, the report — "Directions in Women's Giving 2012" — shows that many donors feel that church and ministry leaders neglect the role women play in charitable giving, instead addressing only husbands. The report was commissioned by Women

Doing WellTM, a Georgiabased national organization founded in 2010 to assist Christian women in stewardship.

The survey of more than 7,400 Christian women was analyzed by Baylor University's Institute for Studies of Religion (ISR) and conducted by Sagamore Institute's Center on Faith in Communities.

My sorrow is that the church isn't a more important and relevant factor," said study author Amy L. Sherman, Ph.D., a Senior Fellow in Baylor's Institute for Studies of Religion and a Senior Fellow at Sagamore Institute for Policy Research.

"We heard women lament that talking about money has been 'taboo' in the churches in which they participate and they wish this would change," Sherman said. "The significant takeaway is that women really are so frequently the decision-makers or at least equal in making decisions, and yet the fund-development world hasn't caught up to that truth yet."

Although many churches have not recognized the need to focus on women's giving, women are "extremely active in volunteering their time on behalf of both their local churches and local community organizations," the report said.

Nearly all (98 percent of women surveyed) had contributed to charity in the past year, with median giving at 10 percent of their annual income. That compares to average giving of about 3 percent among American households. More than 13 per-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11A

Wednesday

Dr. Steve Waechter, Pastor 5798 FM 2484 254-947-5917

Office: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - Noon Children's Director, Cheryl Ely **GraceBCSalado.org**

Come join us this Sunday morning as we worship Jesus together!

9:45 a.m. Bible classes for children, youth, and adults Sunday

11:00 a.m. Worship service 6:00 p.m. Prayer Service 6:00 p.m. Brown Bag Meal

6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study and prayer RAs and GAs, Mission Friends, Upstairs youth ministry

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Bible Classes • 9 a.m.

947-5241 • www.saladochurchofchrist.org

Sunday

Evening Worship • 6 p.m. Spanish Worship • 4 p.m.

Wednesday

The Salado Church of Christ

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"We invite you to worship with us at any available

opportunity. You will find

a group of sincere, God-

loving and Christ-exalting people, who will make you

feel at home with our church

-Joe Keyes, minister

Worship • 10 a.m.

truth, Showing His love.

St. Joseph's **Episcopal** Church

Holy Eucharist Sun. • 11 a.m.



behind Fletcher's Book Store 945 N. Main Street



Church Service starts at 10 a.m. Sunday

Fellowship Team Roping Saturday, June 23

Books open 6 p.m. Roping starts at 7 p.m. **Limited 250 Teams**

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Salado UMC 650 Royal St.

Vacation Bible School

The Sky's the Limit! Experiments, Games, and Adventures July 9—13 from 9am—12noon Ages 4 (as of Jan. 1, 2012) — 5th grade

Registration is open www.saladoumc.org or call 947-5482

Senior Center movie day set

The Belton Senior Activity Center will host a "Movie Day " at 12:30 p.m. on June 26.

The featured movie will be "The Memory Keeper's Daughter" released in 2008. During a blizzard in 1964, Dr. David Henry delivers his son Paul with the help of nurse Caroline. But when Henry realizes his wife is also carrying a

CHRISTIAN WOMEN

girl with Down syndrome, he hands the second child over to Caroline without his wife's knowledge. Henry's fateful decision yields grave consequences for his family over the next 20 years in this Emmynominated drama based on the Kim Edwards bestseller.

Movie Day is open to all area seniors and their drinks will be provided free of charge. For additional information, contact the Senior Activity Center at 254-939-1170 or the Activities Director at 254-718-1859. The Belton Senior Activity Center is located at 842 S. Mitchell Street, Belton.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10A

than 20 percent of their income yearly, the report "Secular researchers

will acknowledge that religious people are more generous than non-religious ones, but it is important to ask the question 'Why?" Sherman said.

In the study, Christian women report the top three influences for giving their time and money are the conviction that "God owns it all"; personal spiritual disciplines such as prayer and Bible study; and biblical teaching on stewardship.

Giving and a strong sense of calling are correlated, and those indicating that they lacked a strong sense of calling also reported that their actual giving is significantly less than their capacity for giving. Debt is the most

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9 a.m. - Noon & 1:30 - 3 p.m. 601 FM 2268 947-8037

ststephenchurch@embargmail.com

commonly cited challenge to generosity, followed by consumerism/materialism and fear that giving more would mean one's family might not have enough.

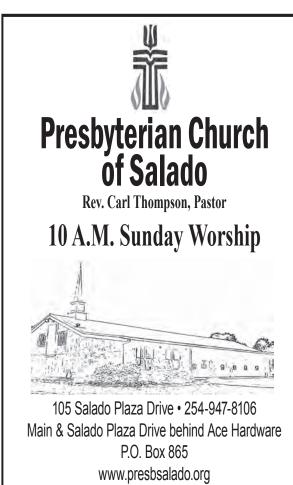
among Meanwhile, "aspiring givers," lack of financial planning and lack of a clarity of purpose are the most common challenges.

The report also showed that most women surveyed have not been reached by traditional resources, organizations and writings in the so-called "Christian generosity movement."

Survey participants responded to a 100-plus questionnaire online. In addition, Focus Groups

were held with over 100 women from six different cities and one-on-one in-depth interviews conducted with 11 female "champions in giving" because of their major donations of money and time to Christian ministries. The research project spanned 11 months.

"Christian women are generous and have told us what will help them increase in their generosity," said Pam Pugh, a partner in Women Doing Well.TM "We hope to influence the Christian culture to engage women holistically in their stewardship journey ..."





SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. 1st Service

Classic Worship

A classic blend accompanied by our pianists, orchestra members and worship choir

9:45 a.m. Small Group Bible Study 11:00 a.m. 2nd Service

> **Contemporary Worship** A contemporary mix led by our praise band

Dr. Travis Burleson, Senior Pastor

WEDNESDAY

5 p.m. Fellowship Meal

6 p.m. WEBS

(Wed. Evening Bible Study)

6 p.m. AWANAS (Age 2 – grade 6)

6 p.m. Bible Drill (grade 4 – 8)

6:30 p.m. Youth Activities

7 p.m. Worship Choir Rehearsal

ATTENTION

Church secretaries, class leaders, youth directors **Share what your** church groups are doing this summer...

Send your releases with photos tonews

@saladovillagevoice.com

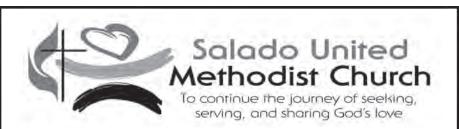
Thou didst cleave the fountain and the flood: thou driedst up mighty rivers. The day is thine, the night also is thine: thou hast prepared the light and the sun. Thou hast set all the borders of the earth: thou hast made summer and winter.



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On Center Circle

Various study and worship opportunities are available. Call our church office for more information

SUMC Annual Garage Sale **Benefitting Local Missions** Saturday, June 30th from 7 am- 1 pm

Sunday Morning (June 24)

8:30 am Worship Service (Main Sanctuary) 9:30 am Sunday School

254.947.5554

10:50 am Worship Service (Main Sanctuary) 11:00 am Glory Worship Service (YAC)

Wednesday Night (June 27)

5:15 pm Fellowship Meal 6:00 pm M &M Kids and Youth Activities

Scott and White Blood Mobile will be here on Wednesday, June 20th, from 5-7:00 pm.

Vacation Bible School will be July 9-13 Registration available online at www.saladoumc.org/ministries-child.html









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Saladoans gathered at the Dairy Queen on Father's Day for an impromptu celebration of the landmark.

(PHOTOS BY STEPHANIE HOOD)

Dairy Queen

FROM PAGE 1A

Queen on Father's Day to share memories, photos, stories, laughs and some tears. And to share their favorite DQ treat!

"We were so surprised by how many came," Curry said, "surprised and delighted. It means a lot to us to know how many people will remember Coach and the Salado Dairy Queen."

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS
PAGES 2-3B
SHOPPING MAP OF SALADO
PAGES 4-5B

Section B Salado Village Voice • June 21, 2012 • 8 Pages • Shopping, Dining, Overnight, Events



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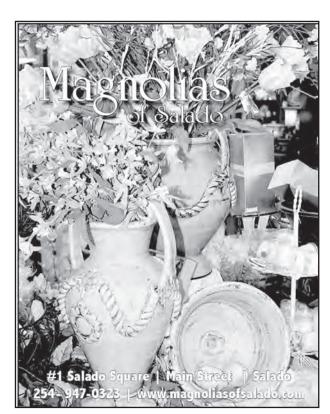
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Salado Creek Ant

'Seven Year Itch' comedy revived at Silver Spur Theatre June 22

If there is one sure antidote to a long, hot summer, it's laughter. And one of the theatre's biggest all-time comedy hits is "The Seven Year Itch" by George Axelrod, although more fans may remember the Billy Wilder-directed, 1955 movie starring sultry Marilyn Monroe and Tom Ewell.

The titular phrase, which refers to declining interest in a monogamous relationship after seven years of marriage, has been used by psychologists for years. And the film contained one of the most iconic images of the 20th century – Monroe standing on a subway grate as her white dress was blown above her knees by a passing train.

With his wife and child off to the shore for the summer, but a job that keeps him in their downtown apartment during the work week, a husband of seven years fantasizes about having a fling with a young woman who is apartment sitting in the unit above.



'Seven Year Itch' Comedy Revived at Silver Spur Theatre, Fridays, Saturdays, June 22-July 14 Richard Sherman, played by Grainger Esch, makes a pass at "the girl upstairs" (Melodee Lenz) .

"The publishing executive has an over-active imagination. The scenes in his 'summer bachelor' head combine with actual events as his fantasies and his fears merge. . . or do they?" asked Gary Askins, director.

"I'm really excited about this show," said the veteran actor-director. "This cast is brilliant and this theatrical presentation offers a rare comedic insight into our human condition," Askins noted. "You've got to see this one, even if you are unfamiliar with the play or the movie."

Saladoans Grainger Esch, Co-founder and Artistic director of the eightyear-old professional theater, portrays Richard Sherman, and Karen Ewton plays his wife. Melodee Lenz of Garland is "The Girl."

Tony Blackman of Belton is Dr. Brubaker. Rick Thomssen of Salado has the role of Tom McKenzie and Mary Bentley of Salado plays three women (Miss Morris, Elaine and Marie Whatever-Her-Name-Was) who inhabit Richard's imagination.

"Itch," runs at 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, June 22-July 14 (no matinees) at the Silver Spur Theater (108 Royal St.) in Historic Downtown Salado, a few blocks for busy IH-35 and bucolic Salado Creek and Park.

Admissions are \$18 for adults with \$15 discount tickets for seniors, military and students. Children 12 years and under are \$10. (Parental discretion is advised.) Group rates are available.

For reservations, call the box office at 254-947-3456. For directions or more info: www.saladosilverspur.com. Wine, beer, cider and expanded food choices will be available at the evening shows through The Spuradical Social Club in the lobby. (http://www.spuradicalsocialclub.net/)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8B



Village of Salado Calendar of Events

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Mondays

Salado Masonic Lodge #296 practice, 6:30 p.m. at the Lodge 90 N. Church St., except on **Stated or Called Meeting** nights.

Mondays

Village Quilters and Knitters, 1:30 p.m. at Village Art Building.

TUESDAYS

Salado Village Artists, Village Art Building. 9:30 a.m.

TUESDAYS

Salado Rotary Club, 11:30 a.m.

TUESDAYS

Salado Community Chorus practice, 6 p.m., Salado Civic Center, unless otherwise noted.

TUESDAYS

Sit & Knit Session at The Salado Yarn Co. inside Southern Comforts, 22 N Main join

fellow knitters for casual knitting. 10 - Noon. saladoyarn@gmail.com

TUESDAYS

Weekly Yoga class 6:30 p.m. at Salado Wine Seller, 841 N. Main St., info tiffyoranch@gmail.com.

TUESDAYS

Prix Fixe menu at The Range. Two entrees and adult beverage for **\$14.95.** Terrific for Date Night! Offerings change weekly. Find The Range on Facebook to see this week's menu or call 254-947-3828.

THURSDAYS

Martinis and Manicures at The Lounge at The Range. \$25 for 2 ladies night adult beverages, a manice and a selection of appetizers. Call 254-947-3828 to book your appointment. Space is limited.

FRIDAYS

Four course fine dining at Inn on the Creek, seatings from 5:30 to 8 p.m. p.m. Call for reservations, 254-947-5554. Visit www.inncreek.com for menus.

FRIDAYS

Live music at The Lounge, upstairs at The Range Restaurant on Main St., beginning at 7 p.m. Artists change weekly.

SATURDAYS

Recycling program, 9 a.m.-noon on the grounds of the Salado Arts Workshop, 113 Salado Plaza Drive.

SATURDAYS

Live Music at Rising Star Vineyards. 7-9:30 p.m.

SATURDAYS

Four course fine dining at Inn on the Creek, seatings from 5:30 to 8 p.m. . Call for reservations, 254-947-5554. Visit www.inncreek.com for menus.

SATURDAYS

Live music at The Lounge, upstairs at The Range Restaurant on Main St., beginning at 7 p.m. Artists change weekly.

SUNDAYS

Brunch at Inn on the Creek, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 254-947-5554.

Weekends Thru July 21

Salado Legends Rehearsal. Call director Donnie Williams at 254-947-0717.

JUNE 21

Salado Chamber of Commerce board of directors meeting, 8:30 a.m. at the Salado Tourism and Visitors center. **JUNE 21**

Village of Salado **Board of Aldermen** meeting, 6 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 301 N. Stagecoach Inn. Public meeting.

JUNE 21

Corks and Creations, 6 p.m. at Salado Wine Seller, 841 N. Main St. Join Angela Patrick as she leads you step by step through creating a painted masterpiece of your own. Please call Angela Patrick for reservation at 254-681-1416. Cost \$45 includes all materials and a glass of wine.

JUNE 21-23

TABC Skills Camp for nine year olds through Junior High Players. Information at www.tabccampofchamps.com

JUNE 22

Zooniversity wildlife education group will be visiting Salado Public Library at 11:30 a.m. Zooniversity presents conservation-based programs that give participants the opportunity to interact with exotic animals such as Mira, the baby genet and others from the 50 species of unusual animals they care for. This program is open to both children and adults.

JUNE 22

Fourth Friday Gospel Singing at Cedar Valley **Baptist Church, FM** 2843, 7 p.m. Potluck at 10 p.m.

JUNE 22

Paul Cox plays 7-10 p.m. at The Lounge, upstairs at The Range. WEEKENDS

JUNE 22 - JULY 14

The Seven Year Itch - by George Axelrod at Salado Silver Spur Theater. A publishing exec, trapped in the city while his family vacations, finds his fantasies colliding with reality in one of theatre's all-time

hits. Curtain for this revived show's eight performances is 7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday (no matinees). Admissions are \$18 for adults; \$15 for senior citizens, military personnel and students with ID. Children age 12 and under are \$10. (Parental Discretion Advised.) Group rates are available. For information, visit www.thesaladosilverspur. com or call the box office at 254-947-3456.

JUNE 23

(no relation) performs 6-9 p.m. at Salado Creek Winery, 227 N. Main St.

JUNE 25

Salado Public Library Summer Reading Program "Get a Clue" at 11 a.m. This week's theme is Bonzo Crunch. One free book will be given out to every child in attendance.

JUNE 25-28

Soccer camp, \$50 each. Session 1 for third-sixth graders, 8:30-10 a.m. Session 2 for seventh-ninth graders, 10:30 a.m.-noon. Email michael.goos@saladoisd. org.

JUNE 27

Salado Lions Club, 11:30 a.m. at Salado Civic Center.

JUNE 28

Luncheon meeting of Salado Area Republican Women, at 11:30 a.m. in the Robertson Room of Stagecoach Inn. "Women and their Wealth: Things You May Not Know" program by Donna Campbell. Cost is \$15. Reservations by June 25 to SARW Pac; P.O. Box 373; Salado, TX 76571. Info at sgardipee@hot.rr.com or at (254) 939-7085.

JUNE 29

Joe Berg plays 7-10 p.m. at The Lounge, upstairs at The Range. **JUNE 30**

Salado United Methodist Church Garage Sale, 7 a.m.-1 p.m. at the church on Royal St. Proceeds will benefit local missions of the church.

June 30

Hannah Prestridge performs 6-9 p.m. at Salado Creek Winery, 227 N. Main St.

June 30

Gene Snow and Paula Reid play 7-10 p.m. at The Lounge, upstairs at The Range.

JULY 2

Salado Masonic Lodge #296 Stated Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Masons Hall, 90 N. **Church St. Installation** of Officers.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 2B

NOW PLAYING The Seven Year Itch ~ by George Axelrod



Picture Show Vaudeville Stage Live Music & Fun for

any age



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254-947-5239 210 N. Main Salado, Texas Mon - Sat 10 - 5:30 Sun. 12:30 - 5



Calendar

JULY 4

Salado Historic
Society Old Fashioned
4th of July Picnic 6 p.m. at Salado Intermediate School. The National
Sojourners from Austin will present a program on the history of the American Flag and the Salado Community Chorus will perform some patriotic songs under the directions of Jakie Shirley. Bring side or dessert.

JULY 5

Village of Salado Board of Aldermen meeting, 6 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 301 N. Stagecoach Rd.

JULY 5

Chisholm Trail American Business Woman's Association meeting, 6:15 p.m. at McCain's Deli.

July 5

Sit & Knit Session at The Salado Yarn Co. inside Southern Comforts, 22 N Main. Join fellow knitters for casual knitting. 6 p.m. saladoyarn@ gmail.com.

JULY 5

Corks and Creations, 6 p.m. at Salado Wine Seller, 841 N. Main St. Join Angela Patrick as she leads you step by step through creating a painted masterpiece of your own with a patriotic theme. Please call Angela Patrick for reservation at 254-681-1416. Cost \$45 includes all materials and a glass of wine.

JULY 6

Gene Snow and Paula Reid play 7-10 p.m. at The Lounge, upstairs at The Range.

JULY 7

Jammin' on the Lawn, 4-7 p.m. at Salado Wine Seller, 841 N.

Main St. An evening of live music by The Sons of Leisure. Bring friends, family, food, and a thirst for good Texas Wine! If the weather is nice it will be outside!

July 7

Stefanie Fix performs 6-9 p.m. at Salado Creek Winery, 227 N. Main St.

JULY 7

Paul Cox plays 7-10 p.m. at The Lounge, upstairs at The Range. JULY 9-13

Vacation Bible School at Salado United Methodist Church, 9 a.m.-noon daily. Call 254-947-5482 for more information.

JULY 10

Community Emergency Responders of Salado (CERTS) meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 301 N. Stagecoach Rd. Volunteers encouraged



The Salado Civic Center will be one of the historic buildings featured on the Salado Historical Society Christmas Tour of Homes Nov. 30, Dec. 1-2.

to come and learn more. July 12

Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary meeting, 9:30 a.m. at the Robertson Room of Stagecoach Inn Conference Center.

JULY 12

Yoga and Wine at Salado Wine Seller. \$18 per person/\$30 per couple. Questions email Tiffany at tiffyoranch@ gmail.com.

JULY **13**

Byrd & Street play 7-10 p.m. at The Lounge, upstairs at The Range. JULY 14

Jammin' on the Lawn, 4-7 p.m. at Salado Wine Seller, 841 N. Main St. An evening of live music by Serrenada Hill. Bring friends, family, food, and a thirst for good Texas Wine! If the

weather is nice it will be

outside!

July 14

Salado Swirl will feature the wines of seven wineries, 6-9 p.m. Located at various shops in Salado. Call Salado Tourism at 254-947-8634 for details.

JULY 14

Dimlit Daylight performs 6-9 p.m. at Salado Creek Winery, 227 N. Main St.

July 14

Summer Wine Dinner at The Range. Visit www.therangerestaurant.com for details.

JULY 14

RpT plays 7-10 p.m. at The Lounge, upstairs at The Range.

JULY 16-19

Football camp, \$50 per camper. Session 1 for third-sixth graders, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Session 2 for seventh-ninth graders, noon-2 p.m. Email gtalbott@saladoisd.org.

July 20

Joe Berg plays 7-10

p.m. at The Lounge, upstairs at The Range.

JULY **21**

Jamie Thomas performs 6-9 p.m. at Salado Creek Winery, 227 N. Main St.

JULY **21**

The Judith Miller Band plays 7-10 p.m. at The Lounge, upstairs at The Range.

JULY 21, 28 & Aug. 4 20th Annual Salado Legends. Dinner reservations required. Dinner 7:15 p.m. \$8 adult or child. Show 8:15 p.m., \$17 Adult, \$5 child under 12. Tickets: www. tablerock.org or call 254-947-9205. Ticket office, concession opens at 6:30

JULY 22-29

p.m.

Tablerock Theater Camp includes: classes, food, lodging and trips. More information 254-947-9205 or e-mail tablerock1@aol.com or visit www.tablerock.org.

JULY 23-26

Girls basketball camp for third-ninth graders, \$50 each. Session 1 for third-sixth graders, 9-11 a.m., Session 2 for seventh-ninth graders, noon-2 p.m.

July 27 - August 18
Ballot Box Bedlam!
Or The Millionaire
Mountebank's Mayoral
Machination. Annual
melodrama performances
every weekend at the
Salado Silver Spur Theater. For information, visit
www.thesaladosilverspur.
com or call the box office
at 254-947-3456.

JULY 27

Paul Cox plays 7-10 p.m. at The Lounge, upstairs at The Range.

JULY 28

(no relation) performs 6-9 p.m. at Salado Creek Winery, 227 N. Main St. JULY 28

Byrd & Street plays

7-10 p.m. at The Lounge, upstairs at The Range.

JULY 30-AUGUST 2

Summer Volleyball Camp for Girls who will be in fifth through sixth grade. Volleyball from 9-11 a.m. at the High School The cost will be \$50.

August 2

Sit & Knit Session at The Salado Yarn Co. inside Southern Comforts, 22 N Main. Join fellow knitters for casual knitting. 6 p.m. saladoyarn@ gmail.com

August 3

Midnight Madness down Main Street, sponsored by Salado Chamber of Commerce. Visit www.salado.com for more information.

August 6-9

Salado Junior Cheerleader Summer Camp for Pre-Kindergarten through sixth grade, 9-11 a.m. at Salado Intermediate School. Cost is \$55 per camper and include T-shirt and snacks each day. For more information call Salado Cheer Coach Charla Kelley at 254-718-1725 or Betty Peralta at 512-746-2016.

Salado I.S.D. New

Student Registration

for grades nine-12.

August 7

8:30 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m. at the Salado **High School Library** (1880 Williams Rd.). Please bring the following required documentation at time of registration: birth certificate, social security card, immunization record, proof residency (two proofs needed: deed or lease agreement and a utility bill), current driver license and any previous school records including TAKS test results. For more information contact Registrar Bettty Peralta at 254-947-6974 or betty. peralta@saladoisd.org.

AUGUST 24
Salado ISD Annual

Health and Benefits Fair 9 - 11 a.m. at Salado Intermediate School.

Aug 31 - Sept 22 Nunsense II: The Second Coming – by **Dan Goggin.** Weekend performances at Salado Silver Spur Theater. For information, visit www. thesaladosilverspur.com or call the box office at 254-947-3456.

SEPTEMBER 6

Sit & Knit Session at The Salado Yarn Co. inside Southern Comforts, 22 N Main. Join fellow knitters for casual knitting. 6 p.m. saladoyarn@ gmail.com.

SEPTEMBER 28

Annual Salado Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament. Call 254-947-5040.

October 4

Sit & Knit Session at The Salado Yarn Co. inside Southern Comforts, 22 N Main. Join fellow knitters for casual knitting. 6 p.m. saladoyarn@ gmail.com

OCTOBER **5** - **27**

The Mystery of Irma Vep – This definitive spoof of Gothic melodramas, recently revived Off-Broadway to raves, is a quick change marathon in which two actors play all the roles. Weekend performances at the Salado Silver Spur Theater. For information, visit www.thesaladosilverspur. com or call the box office at 254-947-3456.

OCTOBER 6 & 7

A Christmas Carol & Fright Trail Auditions at Tablerock. Call 254-947-9205.

OCTOBER **12-13**

Christmas in October at Stagecoach Inn Conference Center, sponsored by the Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary.

Остовек **27-28**

Annual Salado Art Fair, sponsored by Salado Chamber of Commerce. Call 254-947-5040 or visit www. salado.com.

OCTOBER 27 & 28

Tablerock's Fright Trail, 6:30-10 p.m. \$5
Adults and \$3 for children 12 and under. Information 947-9205.

NOVEMBER 1
Sit & Knit Session

at The Salado Yarn Co. inside Southern Comforts, 22 N Main. Join fellow knitters for casual knitting. 6 p.m. saladoyarn@ gmail.com

November 5

Salado Historical Society Fall Chili Supper, 6 p.m. at Salado Church of Christ Activity Center. Bring salad, cornbread or dessert.

November 10-12

Fifty-first Annual Salado Scottish Clan Gathering and Highland Games on the grounds of Salado Civic Center, sponsored by the Central Texas Area Museum.

November 29

Christmas Stroll Parade. Salado Chamber of Commerce. Details to come.

Nov. 30, Dec. 1-2 Christmas Stroll, sponsored by Salado Chamber of Commerce. Details to come.

Nov. 30, DEC 1, 7, 8
20th Annual - A
Christmas Carol. Performances 7 p.m. each night.
Adult \$10, Student \$5,
Child \$3 (12 and under)
Call 947-9205.

Nov. 30, DEC. 1-2
Salado Historical Society Christmas Tour of Homes. Tickets at Salado Tourism office on Main street. www.saladohistoricalsociety.org for more

DECEMBER 1 - 22

Christmas Is On the Air annual holiday show weekends at the Salado Silver Spur. For information, visit www. thesaladosilverspur.com or call the box office at 254-947-3456.

December 6

Sit & Knit Session at The Salado Yarn Co. inside Southern Comforts, 22 N Main. Join fellow knitters for casual knitting. 6 p.m. saladoyarn@ gmail.com.

DECEMBER 7-9

Christmas Stroll, sponsored by Salado Chamber of Commerce. Details to come.



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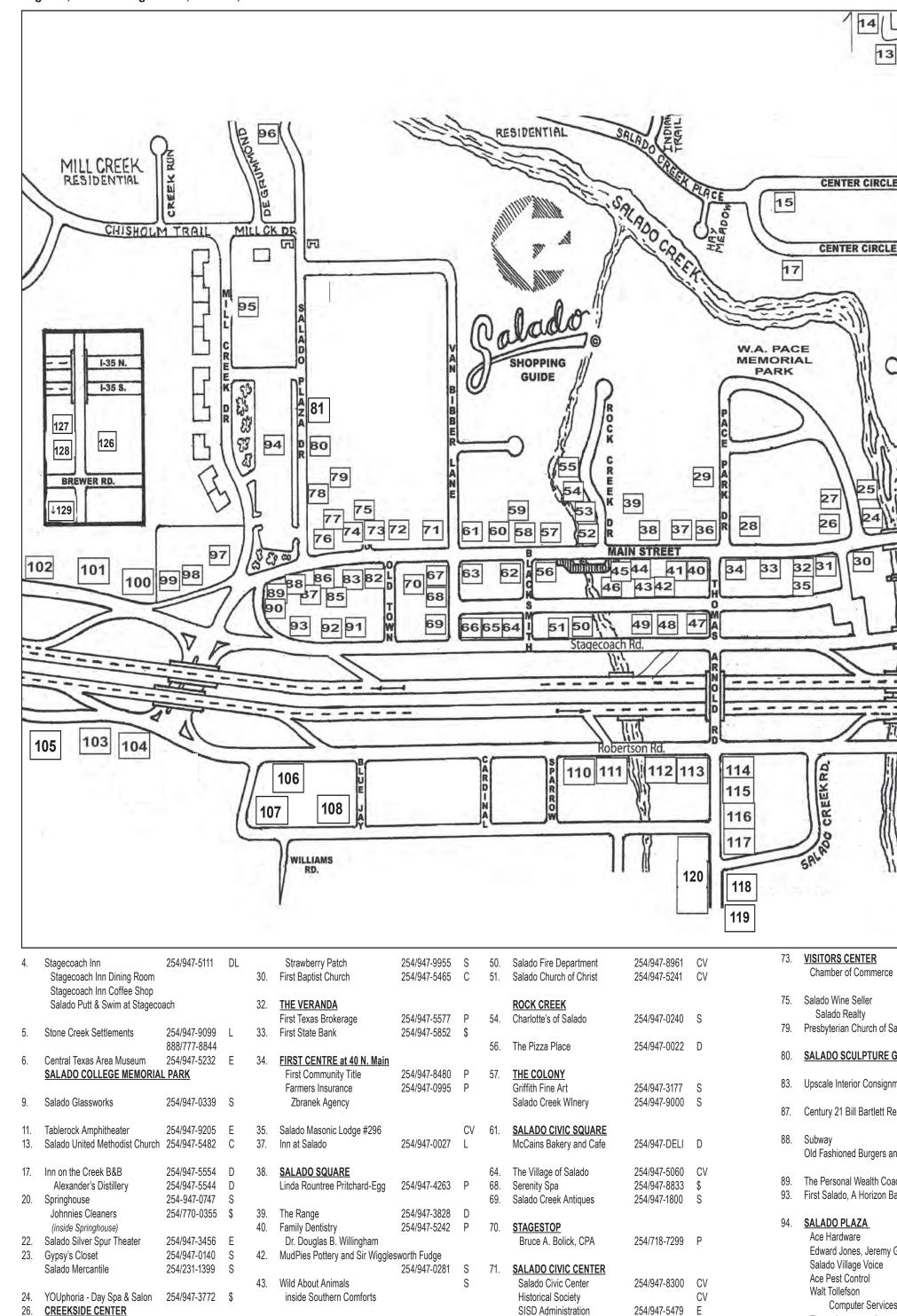
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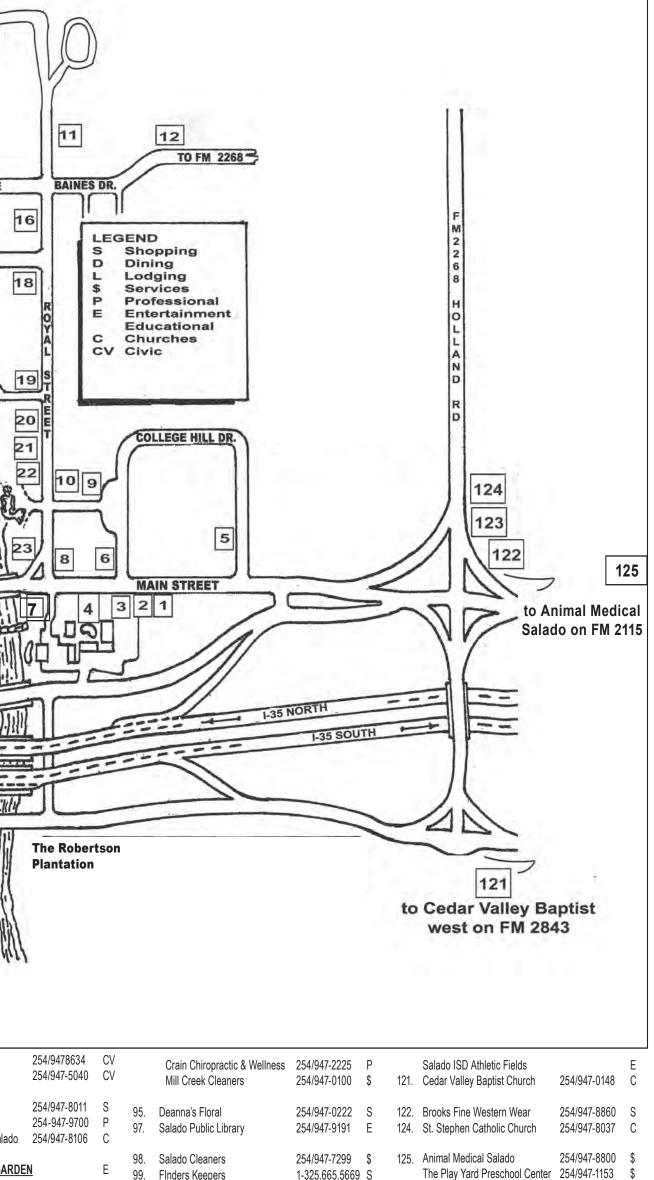
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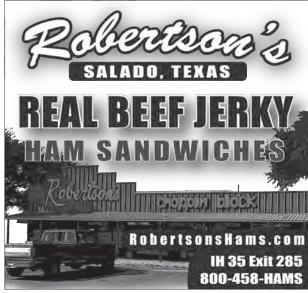
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King Crossword

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ACROSS

- 1 Restroom, for short
- Upper limit
- Common ailments
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- Greatest" 13 Flamenco
- cheer 14 Refuge
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Weekly **SUDOKU**

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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- 40 City boss
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- form
- 43 Ohio city 44 Alphabetical
- listing 45 Help a hood
- 46 Sought damages
- 48 Ovine
- comment 49 Canadian
- pol. party
- 50 G8 member
- 51 Sprite

I usually shut down my bird garden before I leave for vacation. I don't want bacteria growing in dirty birdbath water, and I especially don't want to come home to wet, moldy seed in feeders. Birds are not dependent on us for food. When I return, they

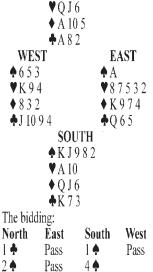
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Answers

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Answer



North dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH $\bullet 01074$

The race against time Contract Bridge

Opening lead — jack of clubs.

By Steve Becker

Good timing is extremely important in the play of many hands. When declarer has several different things to do, the order in which he does them frequently makes the difference between success and failure.

Consider this deal where West leads a club against four spades. How should South proceed? Let's say he starts by winning the club with the king and returns a trump. East takes the ace and plays another club. South must now go down one, losing a trick in each suit, since the diamond and heart finesses both lose when they are attempted.

The outcome is surely unlucky, but it can be traced to a wrong choice of plays. Declarer should not stake his chances on either of the red-suit finesses working when there is a more promising approach available.

When dummy comes down, he should realize that there is more urgent business to attend to than tackling trumps at once. An early trump lead gives the defense time to establish a club trick. Instead, declarer should win the club lead with the king and play the A-10 of hearts, deliberately rejecting the heart finesse in order to establish an immediate heart trick in dum-

If South plays in this fashion, he winds up losing only a spade, a heart and a diamond, and so makes the contract. West can take his king of hearts and return a club, but South wins with dummy's ace and discards his remaining club on the queen of hearts.

By attacking hearts first, South wins the crucial race against time. He develops a heart trick before the defense can develop a club trick. If declarer leads the wrong suit at trick two, he loses a vital tempo and goes down one.

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E-mail: birdingbits@cfl.rr.com

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— King Crossword —

Meekiy Sudoku –

Cool off with summer melons

Watermelon Granita

Serves 8

This icy treat makes the most of rich ripe watermelon. Melons can vary in flavor quite a bit, so taste the mixture before freezing and add more honey or lime if desired.

Ingredients

8 cups seedless watermelon chunks, divided 2 tablespoons honey 2 tablespoons lime juice 1/4 cup chopped fresh mint or basil (optional)

Place half of watermelon in a food processor and process until smooth. Pour into a 9x13-inch glass baking dish. Add remaining watermelon to the processor along with



honey and lime juice and process until smooth. Pour into the baking dish, stir until combined, and place uncovered in the freezer. Freeze until ice begins to form around edges of pan, about 30 minutes. Rake with a fork to break up large ice clumps; return to freezer; continue stirring about every 30 minutes until all liquid is crystalized, about 3 hours total.

Using a large fork, flake granita into bowls or into an airtight container to freeze up to 1 week. Serve garnished with mint or basil, if desired. Nutrition

Per serving: 60 calories (0 from fat), 0g total fat, 0g saturated fat, 0mg cholesterol, 0mg sodium, 16g total carbohydrate (1g dietary fiber, 14g sugar), 1g protein

Melon Ambrosia

Serves 6 to 8

Fresh summer cantaloupe and honevdew melons put a delightful spin on a classic fruit salad in this version that is deliciously creamy without cream!

Ingredients

2/3 cup canned 365 Everyday Value Organic Coconut Milk

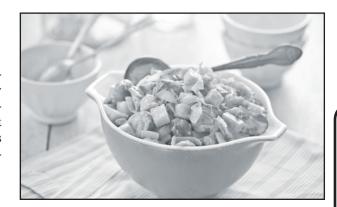
1/2 banana

3 cups 1/2-inch cubes cantaloupe and honeydew melon

1 cup seedless red grapes, halved

1/2 cup chopped pecans, toasted

2 (4 ounce) cups 365



Everyday Value Mandarin Oranges, drained 1/2 cup unsweetened coconut flakes, toasted

Purée coconut milk and banana in a blender until smooth; transfer to a large bowl. Add melon, grapes, pecans and oranges; toss to combine. Cover and

chill for at least 1 hour, top with toasted coconut and serve. Nutrition

Per serving: 190 calories (110 from fat), 12g total fat, 6g saturated fat, 0mg cholesterol, 20mg sodium, 19g total carbohydrate (3g dietary fiber, 15g sugar), 2g protein

Strawberry Melon Gazpacho

Serves 8

Traditionally made tomatoes, refreshing twist on an old favorite can be served as a dessert soup at the end of a hearty meal or as part of a brunch buffet.

Ingredients

2 cups (1-inch cubes) cantaloupe

2 cups (1-inch cubes) seedless watermelon

cucumber, peeled, seeded and chopped 1 pound organic strawberries, hulled, divided

1 tablespoon fresh lime juice



cantaloupe, Place cucumber, watermelon, half of strawberries, and lime juice in a food processor and blend until puréed. Chop remaining strawberries and stir into the soup. Refrigerate until chilled.

Nutrition

Per serving: 45 calories (5 from fat), 0g total fat, 0g saturated fat, 0mg cholesterol, 5mg sodium, 11g total carbohydrate (2g dietary fiber, 8g sugar),1g protein

Smellin' the melon

How does one choose a good melon? Sniff it out. One of the best ways to choose a good melon is by the smell. If it smells will be sweet. Sniff at the blossom end - press your finger at this end, and the melon should give slightly.

sweet and "perfumy", it Choose a good melon by selecting one that is heavy for its size

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Recipes and photos courtesy of Whole Foods Markets, Inc. For more recipes and ideas, visit www.wholefoodsmarkets.com.

Buffalo Gourd



GARY F. SLANGA
CENTRAL TEXAS MASTER GARDENER

I was asked recently about a vining plant growing native here in Central Texas that was producing gourds the size of baseballs but was colored like mini-watermelons. That plant is a member of the Cucurbitaceae or Squash family. Its scientific name is Cucurbita foetidissima. Its most common name is buffalo gourd and is native to the southwest. It is also known as wild pumpkin, wild gourd, Missouri gourd, Coyote gourd, or fetid gourd. The last name derived from the fetid odor produced by the leaves

when they are crushed

Buffalo gourd is a fast growing perennial that is very drought tolerant. It sends out long vines from a large underground tuberous root that can be as large as 16 inches in diameter at the ground level and which usually splits into two descending roots that can go as deep a three feet. From this tuber, the long vines can extend for hundreds of feet along which large triangular green/gray leaves are produced. The gourd itself is usually 3-4 inched in diameter.

This plant has a long history dating back an estimated 5000 years as evidenced by seeds found in archeological digs at Hinds Cave historic site near the Pecos River. Native Americans for a variety of uses valued this plant. The root was used for medicinal purposes, the seeds are edible, and the dried gourd, which turns yellow when mature, was used as a rattle in rituals. The fetid odor of the crushed leaves is said to act as an insect repellent and insecticide. The oil can be used in cosmetics, and the root, which is rich

Buffalo Gourd stands out with its mini-watermelon colored fruit. Virtually every part of the gourd has a use from insecticide to laundry soap.

in a combination of saponins, steroids, and sugars will foam when water is added and was used as a shampoo and as hand and laundry soap.

A word of caution is in order. The fruit and roots contain high levels of a group of triterpenoid glycosides that can be poisonous in high concentrations. All members of the domestic squash family produce these chemicals, but not in the high concentrations found in this native plant. So keep the children and pets from chewing or tasting them to a great extent.

An expanded list of uses for this interesting and ancient plant, along with some recipes for its use, can be found at the New Mexico State University web site http://medplant.nmsu.edu/buffalo.shtm

Have any questions about gardening in Cen-

Center. She performed

as a child at Disneyland,

Disney World and Six

The "blonde bomb-

shell" continued in various

TV-radio commercials as

well as theatrical touring

shows: "Will Rogers' Fol-

lies," "Anything Goes,"

"Cabaret" and many more.

From 1996 to 2009, Melo-

dee was a voice actor in

many of the highest rated

shows on the Cartoon Net-

work, "The Kidd Kradd-

ick in the Morning Show"

and many Sony PS2/PS3

Flags Theme Parks.

- continued from page $1\mathsf{B}$

tral Texas? Contact ask. bcmga@gmail.com

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SILVER SPUR THEATER

Askins, a retired "Master Teacher" of Math and Theatre Arts at Salado High School, has appeared in more than 50 stage productions as an actor in California and Texas. He has directed numerous plays at the Silver Spur Theatre, including "The 39 Steps" last year. He has once again authored the upcoming Summer Melodrama at the Spur.

"Axelrod's script excels better than most at having the lead character talk to himself in order to explain the plot to the audience," Askins explained. "This alternation between reality and fantasy is plausible because we can know just what this man is thinking: he verbalizes everything. It's a writers dream, but can be an actor's nightmare. Fortunately, Grainger Esch can pull it off."

Seasoned Cast

Esch and co-lead Lenz have a common experience, but at different times. Both have toured with the Ringling Broth-



Is the apartment-sitting cutie real or imagined?

ers and Barnum & Bailey Circus, performing as clowns in the "The Greatest Show on Earth."

He has been sharing the gift of laughter for 23 years as a professional entertainer in theater, television, movies, circus and street performances.

Lenz's entertainment career started in the 1980s as an actor/singer and professional tap dancer by the age of six. She was featured in 15 national commercials by age 11, gaining the attention of and eventually training with Gregory Hines and The Broadway Dance

video games.

She received a Telly
Award and a Children's
Emmy Award for her role
on the BBC/PBS shows
"Camp AOK" and "Science A-Go Go!" and was
featured on many episodes
of "Barney & Friends."
She is now playing the role
of Detective Ange in the

new web series, "Bailout". Bentley, who teaches English at Salado H.S., has acted in and directed more than 20 shows, most recently directing "...Charlie Brown" and "Nunsense" at the Spur. She earned her B.S. degree in English and drama from the University of Mary Hardin Baylor, her M.A. in Literature from Texas State University San Marcos, and her doctorate in Education and Curriculum

Thomssen makes his Spuradical Players debut as Sherman's presumed rival for his wife's affection. He's played Ebenezer Scrooge in Salado Tablerock amphitheater's annual production of "A Christmas Carol." He's also Executive Director of the Temple Symphony Orchestra.

Ewton's stage credits include authoring and appearing as the heroine in summer melodramas. Ewton and Bentley were both in the Spur shows "Steel Magnolias" and "Bell, Book and Candle" and "The 39 Steps."

Blackman is the theater's longtime-Technical Director and a Spuradical since 2004, having appeared in more than 25 productions, most notably in "The Foreigner" in 2008. He has appeared in film and television projects for The Disney Channel and Arkansas Educational Television Network.

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1201 Yellow Rose Salado \$234,521



8373 FM 2843 on 5.58 ac., Salado \$215,721



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By Samantha Mazzotta

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fertilizer recommended

for the types of plants in

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tems that often are already

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taking up residence.

the garden.

This is a Hammer

cals and fertilizers.

--Visit a local co-op, com-

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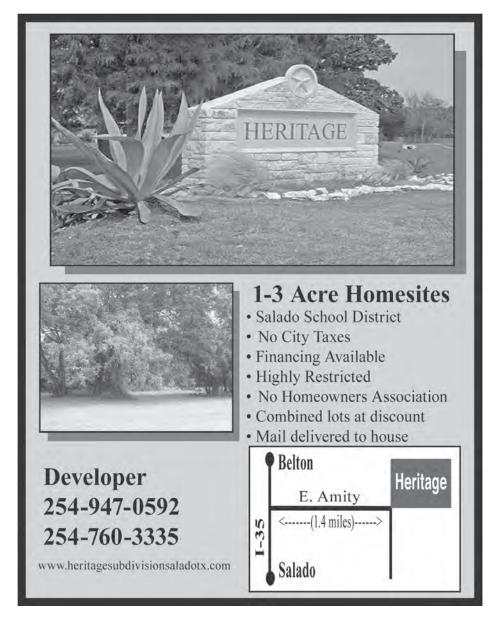
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Defining "sustainable communities"/Curbing pollution from power plants

Dear EarthTalk: The term "sustainable communities" gets bantered around quite a bit today. Could you define it for me? -- Holly Parker Mechanicsburg, PA

Kaid Benfield, Sustainable Communities program director at the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), uses the term "sustainable communities" to describe places "where use of resources and emissions of greenhouse gases and other pollutants are going down, not up; where the air and waterways are accessible and clean; where land is used efficiently and shared parks and public spaces are plentiful and easily visited; where people of different ages, income levels and cultural backgrounds share equally in environmental. social and cultural benefits; where many needs of daily life can be met within a 20-minute walk and all may be met within a 20-minute transit ride; where industry and economic opportunity emphasize healthy, environmentally sound practices."

In his March 2011 NRDC 'Switchboard' blog post entitled "A Trip to Sustainaville," Benfield lays out his vision for what a model of sustainable communities could look like, with neighborhoods sporting healthy amounts of green space and shared vegetable gardens; mass transit, biking and walking replacing the majority of automobile traffic; and mixed use communities where schools, residences and commercial spaces are near each other and are powered by solar panels, geothermal heat pumps or windmills.

According to the Vermont-based Institute for Sustainable Communities (ISC), sustainable communities are "economically, environmentally and socially healthy and resilient" and meet "challenges through integrated solutions rather than through fragmented approaches." And perhaps more important: Sustainable communities take a long-term perspective, focusing on "both the present and future, well beyond the next budget or election cycle" so that the needs of the current as well as future generations are met with adequate resources. ISC adds that the success of a community's efforts to be sustainable depends on its members' commitment and involvement as well as leadership that is inspiring, effective and responsive.

Some of the ways ISC has worked to further its goals include helping teach leaders from low income U.S. communities along the Gulf of Mexico

Questions & Answers About Our Environment ton, DC-based non-profit CONCERN Inc. Those looking to learn more about sustainable communities and what makes them tick should be sure to check out sustainable.org. Sustainable Communities Online's informationpacked website.

CONTACTS: NRDC Sustainable Communities, www.nrdc.org/sustainable-communities/; Institute for Sustainable Communities, www.iscvt.org; Sustainable Communities Online, www.sustainable. org.

Dear EarthTalk: I understand the Environmental Protection Agency recently took steps to limit pollution from power plants. What are



Green groups are optimistic that the EPA's recent proposal to limit carbon dioxide emissions from new coal- and gas-burning power plants will become a rule and will help take a significant bite out of U.S. greenhouse gas pollution.

how energy efficiency and ecological restoration can revitalize their otherwise economies; struggling developing community initiatives sustainability throughout

war-ravaged parts of Kosovo, Serbia and Macedonia; installing green Chinese city of Shenzen as a pilot project to show how such "technologies" can yield significant carbon sequestration and other environmental benefits, and many more.

Key to any consideration of what makes a community sustainable is the acknowledgement that there is no such thing as perfection. "Sustainability is a process of continuous improvement so communities constantly evolve and make changes to accomplish their goals," reports Sustainable Communities Online, a web-based information and networking clearinghouse started in the 1990s by a broad coalition of sustainabilityoriented organizations and managed by the Washing-

the details?

-- Maddie Samberg, via

In March 2012 the U.S. **Environmental Protection** Agency (EPA) proposed the first nationwide emission standards to limit carbon dioxide emissions roofs on residences in the from new coal- and gasburning power plants. And while the operative word here is "new"—the standards would not apply to plants currently in operation or those that begin construction over the next year—they would effectively cut carbon emissions in half over the lifetime of a new power plant. According to the EPA, the standards reflect the ongoing trend in the power sector toward cleaner plants deploying the latest in American-made pollution minimizing technologies.

> "The nation's electricity comes from diverse and largely domestic energy sources, including fossil

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5C

EARTHTALK FROM PAGE 4C

fuels, nuclear, hydro and, increasingly, renewable energy sources," reports the EPA. "The proposed standard would not change this fact, and EPA put a focus on ensuring this standard provides a pathway forward for a range of important domestic resources, including coal with technologies that reduce carbon emissions."

New plants could still choose to burn any fossil fuel to generate electricity as long as modern carbon reduction technologies are employed.

Environmentalists are cheering the EPA's move given that power plants are the largest individual sources of carbon pollution in the U.S., responsible for some 40 percent of our overall greenhouse gas emissions. Despite this huge pollution burden, currently there are no uniform national limits on the amount of carbon pollution that future power plants will be able to emit.

"The Supreme Court has found in two landmark cases, Massachusetts v. EPA and American Electric Power v. Connecticut, that it is the EPA's job under the Clean Air Act to protect the American people from dangerous carbon pollution, including the carbon pollution from the nation's fleet of new and existing power plants," reports David Doniger of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), another leading environmental non-profit backing stronger pollution standards. "EPA's 'new source performance standard' for new power plants...is a critical step to-

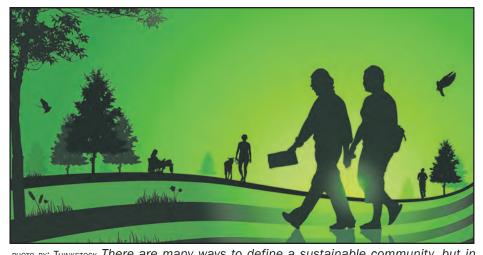


PHOTO BY: THINKSTOCK There are many ways to define a sustainable community, but in general they sport healthy amounts of green space and shared vegetable gardens; mass transit, biking and walking replacing the majority of automobile traffic; and mixed use communities where schools, residences and commercial spaces are near each other and are powered by clean, renewable energy sources.

wards providing that protection."

Greens are optimistic that the proposal will become a rule. In concert with clean car standards the EPA announced in 2010—mobile sources contribute some 30 percent to our overall carbon emissions-the new power plant standards should help take a significant bite out of U.S. greenhouse gas pollution.

"These standards will help further the progress we are making towards a cleaner, more secure future for energy in America," says Fred Krupp, president of the non-profit Environmental Defense Fund (EDF). "We will use our nation' electricity resources more efficiently to cut energy costs for families and businesses, mobilize 'Made in the USA' technologies and fuels for cleaner energy generation, and ensure that America will lead the global race to a clean energy economy."

CONTACTS: **EPA** "Carbon Pollution Standard for Power Plants," epa.gov/carbonpollutionstandard; NRDC, www. nrdc.org; EDF, www.edf.

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viding extra protection for those individuals on the side of the road doing their jobs, as well as the people on the roadside with them," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "Thanks to this new provision, tow truck drivers, who are usually helping motorists in dis-

During the 2011 Legis-

DANIEL RANEY

tress, now have additional

protection under the law so

they can do their jobs in a

safer environment."

lative session, tow trucks were added to the existing law, which already applied to police, fire, and EMS vehicles stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated. Motorists are required to vacate the lane closest to the stopped vehicle (if there is more than one available lane in the same direction of travel) or slow to 20 miles below the speed limit.

DPS urges drivers to move over,

slow down for Tow Trucks

This week the Texas De-

partment of Public Safety

(DPS) will place special en-

forcement emphasis on the

addition of tow trucks to

the Move Over/Slow Down

law, which requires motor-

ists to move over or slow

down when certain vehicles are stopped on the side of

the road with emergency

lights activated. To remind

the public of this important

safety measure, the Texas

Department of Transpor-

tation (TxDOT) will acti-

vate electronic signs this

week, which will read: If

Tow Truck Stopped Ahead,

Move Over or Slow Down,

"This law is about pro-

It's The Law.

"Last year, the Texas Legislature amended the Move Over/Slow Down law to now require motorists to slow down or move over when passing a tow truck displaying emergency lights," said Carol Rawson, TxDOT Traffic Operations director. "At TxDOT, we believe this is an important step toward improving safety for all emergency personnel, including tow truck operators, who routinely work in dangerous conditions along Texas highways."

DPS issued more than 17,000 warning and citations last year for violation of the Move Over/Slow Down law and another 6,000 through the first five months of this year. Violation of this law could result in fines up to \$200. The punishment is more severe if there is property damage, and jail time is possible if someone is injured.

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ting yet close to the Vil-

lage of Salado

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