

Glory to God



King James Version: The Gospel According to St. Luke, Chapter 2

1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

2 And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.

3 And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city.

4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of

David;

5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

7 And she brought forth her first born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, lo, the angel of

the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a mul-

titude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known to us.

16 And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

17 And when they had

seen it, they made known abroad their saying which was told them concerning this child.

18 And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

19 But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

21 And when eight days were accomplished for the

circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

About the Art:

The Mystical Nativity is a painting in oil on canvas executed c. 1500–1501 by the Italian Renaissance master Sandro Botticelli, in the National Gallery in London. It is his only signed work and has an unusual iconography for a painting of the Nativity. Work is in the Public Domain. Wikicommons.org

FORUM

Buyers rush to make big ticket purchases before tariffs can drive up prices

The Markets

Our dear old S&P 500 Stock Index (SPX) had a rough week. It sank 1.99% to close at 5930.85 for the week but did remain a still astounding 24.34% higher than when the year began, up, 26.23% from last year at this time, and almost 30% higher than three years ago. Our other stock market indicator, the CRSP US Mid Cap Value Index, joined in, but with more enthusiasm, as it dropped just over 3% to close at 2807.49.

The benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note ended the week yielding 4.52%, up 2.73% from last week. Since the market price of bonds falls as yields rise, it was a generally unpleasant day on the bond market as well. On the short end of the curve, the one and two-month T-bills heavily used in Treasury money market funds, held up well, providing an annualized yield above 4.4%, while the longer-term 20-year Treasury bond yield climbed to almost 4.8%. The end result was that those holding short term Treasuries continued to smile but longer-term bond owners and those looking for mortgages were less than happy. West Texas Intermediate crude oil (WTI) felt obliged to join in the pity party by falling in price per barrel to \$69.54, down 2.45% from the end of the market day last Friday.

The Economy

The market slump came as the Federal Reserve Board (the Fed) announced through its Chairman, Jerome Powell, that it had cut interest rates another 0.25% to a 4.25%-4.50% range, as expected. The drop of the other shoe was the more significant news that "going forward... we're moving slower." He commented that we were in a "new phase" where rate reductions would likely be less frequent. He noted that current short-term rates, while higher than they had been in the last decade or so, did not seem to be restraining economic growth. Lower short-term rates are generally seen as reduced

Market & Economic Update

by Jeffrey W. McClure



costs for publicly traded companies. Thus, the market moves downward when future rates are seen as not falling as fast.

At least some of that sentiment from the Fed resulted from the Commerce Department's Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) news release earlier today. The BEA reported that personal income in the United States rose 0.3% in November, bringing the five-month moving average income growth to nearly 0.4% and an annualized growth rate of 4.66%. In the same report, the BEA found that the "core" Personal Consumer Expenditure Price Index rate was growing at an annualized rate of about 2.8% last month. That PCE inflation rate, which is the one to which the Fed pays the most attention, has stubbornly been creeping higher over the previous five months and is now 3.3% higher than a year ago. With the Fed's goal to get core inflation down to no more than 2%, an economy "stuck" at that level is reason for caution.

A basic principle of economics is that when people have a level of income rising faster than inflation and are relatively optimistic about the future, they tend to spend more money. Given a reasonably constant level of supply, that rising demand should cause prices to rise, the very definition of inflation. Thus, the Fed is becoming cautious about further short-term rate cuts. When the potential for significantly higher tariffs is added to the formula, it creates the potential for a significant rise in inflation in the intermediate future. Ironically, the Fed, recently focused on a long series of short-term interest rate reductions, could need to raise interest rates if higher

inflation occurs.

Even more worrying was the part of inflation indexes that nominally is a tiny element in the formula but tends to create an enlarged sense of inflation among consumers, such as the price of groceries. Last month, grocery prices rose 0.5%. The CPI for meat, poultry, and eggs rose 1.7% in November, mainly driven by the 8.2% rise in the cost of eggs. Egg costs have increased by 27.5% in the last year as avian flu disrupted egg production. The Fed rightfully focuses on the public's perception of inflation. If consumers conclude that higher inflation is either here to stay or likely to grow, they tend to accelerate their purchases and create a self-fulfilling prophecy as the fear of inflation creates and accelerates the thing feared.

Another factor that may have contributed to the Fed's warning that future interest rate cuts were in question was the University of Michigan's consumer sentiment index. That report noted that "Republican sentiment" appears to have generated optimism among consumers, increasing the index level from last month's 71.8 to November's 74.0. Additionally, the survey director, Jonne Hsu, said, "Buying conditions exhibited an especially strong improvement, due to a surge in consumers expecting future price increases for large purchases." as buyers, anticipating price increases from new tariffs, rushed to make purchases this year.

Once more, we find ourselves reporting that the U.S. economy is on a roll and, rather than facing the much-predicted recession, may be growing a bit too fast.

Kill non-profit killer bill

By SONALI KOLHATKAR

This fall, shortly after the election, the House passed a dangerous piece of legislation that many are calling the "non-profit killer" bill.

The bill has an incongruous title: the "Stop Terror-Financing and Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act."

Among other things, it would give the Treasury Department the authority to unilaterally accuse non-profit organizations of supporting "terrorism" — and revoke their non-profit status. Critics like the ACLU say it's a blank check for presidents to shut down organizations that criticize them.

When the bill was introduced in the spring, it was largely viewed as an effort to silence pro-Palestinian activism. At the time, dozens of House Democrats supported it alongside most Republicans. But after Donald Trump's White House win, amid fears that the incoming president would use it as a tool to bludgeon his perceived enemies, it passed with significantly less Democratic support.

But really, it should never have been introduced or passed to begin with, no matter the political winds. The bill is considered unlikely to pass the Senate this year, but could be reintroduced next year and signed by President Trump.

This would have a dangerous chilling effect on speech.

Consider the Florida woman Briana Boston, who recently said "Delay, deny, depose. You people are next," during a phone call with a health insurance representative after her cov-

erage was denied. It was a reference to what the killer of UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson wrote on bullet casings in a now-infamous targeted assassination.

Boston has no history of violence, nor does she own firearms. But she wasn't only arrested — she was charged with threatening to commit an act of terrorism.

What she was really guilty of was expressing vitriol against corporate CEOs for an inhumane business model. It's not hard to imagine such a scenario applied to non-profits in the coming years either.

Non-profits are effectively the voice of civil society in the United States. And even without HR 9495, they already have severe limits on their speech. In order to keep their non-profit status, groups have to follow strict guidelines published by the Internal Revenue Service when speaking about elections.

As a journalist who works in the non-profit world, I've seen the resulting self-censorship first hand. Many journalists and non-profit leaders feared compromising their institutions if they warned about Donald Trump's fascism, or even criticized Joe Biden over Gaza, ahead of the 2024 election.

Meanwhile, for-profit industries have enjoyed continuous and ever-growing impunity to advocate for whatever they want, no matter how destructive.

For example, the health insurance and fossil fuel industries play with people's lives by denying coverage and spewing carbon, respectively, but have been given the right to spend enormous amounts of their

ill-gotten gains in campaign contributions, putting an outside thumb on the democratic scale.

Thanks to the Supreme Court's Citizens United ruling, they have greater means to make anonymous donations to Political Action Committees to lobby government and help elect politicians.

The Supreme Court has long considered corporations to be, in a legal sense, people. In contrast to such abstract entities, we humans can be jailed, silenced, or even killed by corporate-controlled systems — and the non-profits representing our interests can be officially sanctioned for "political speech."

Today, not only do corporations have greater means to speak more freely than the rest of us do, they are increasingly grabbing political power to cement their stranglehold.

Trump's incoming cabinet will likely be filled with billionaires. And his proposed Treasury Secretary pick — who would ostensibly oversee the department making determinations under HR 9495 — is a long-time hedge fund investment manager named Scott Bessent. Trump has also openly promised to bend regulations for billionaire investors.

Seen within this context, HR 9495 is not only a danger to civil society's right to speech — it is a serious escalation in favor of corporations.

SONALI KOLHATKAR IS THE HOST OF "RISING UP WITH SONALI," A TELEVISION AND RADIO SHOW ON FREE SPEECH TV AND PACIFICA STATIONS. THIS OP-ED WAS DISTRIBUTED BY OTHERWORDS.ORG.

The Musk factor

It's a testament to the energy and drive of Elon Musk that he's now a key adviser to an incoming president of the United States who he helped elect this year -- and this is a side project for him. What stamp collecting is to most of us -- something we make time for when not engaged in our day jobs -- influencing the future direction of the United States government is to Musk.

This is not to minimize his significance. Far from it. The revolutionary businessman represents a distinctive and unexpected contribution to the Trump coalition.

From the perspective of a decade ago, if you had said the most visionary and wealthy entrepreneur on the planet was at the right hand of a Republican president-elect, promising to cut a couple of trillion dollars from the federal budget and bring massive innovation to the economy, you might have assumed Paul Ryan or someone in his ideological camp had gotten elected.

The former Speaker of the House and vice-presidential nominee was a relentless advocate of entrepreneurship, economic dynamism and a slimmed-down government.

Within the GOP, the rise of Trump the populist put the political squeeze on the likes of Ryan, whose business-oriented, free-market creed suddenly felt stale and out of touch.

Now, a version of that worldview has returned via Musk.

To be sure, the CEO of Tesla and SpaceX is a different animal. He has an in-your-face persona, a bit of a Silicon Valley version of Trump. He's been radical-



ized on immigration, becoming a fierce opponent of Joe Biden's open border. He's a cultural warrior seeking to destroy what he calls "the woke mind virus." And he can speak in apocalyptic tones.

All of this, and especially his acquisition of Twitter, has made him a populist hero in his own right, even as he champions an economic dynamism that would have thrilled conventional Republicans from the pre-Trump era.

Trump contains multitudes. Part of him is an inward-looking protectionist who believes, almost no matter what, that we are getting ripped off by foreign countries. Part of him is also a champion of endless possibility. Part of him is a tribune of the working class. Part of him is also inclined to make the stock market the economic measures of all things. He'll talk of American carnage, and of an American golden age.

This is a protean mix, and subject to change depending on circumstances and who is around Trump at any given point. A danger of populism is that it can succumb to pure nostalgia and become overly defensive, giving in to a distrust of technology, big companies and economic change. So long as Musk is a major player in Trump's world, there is a strong counter to this tendency.

Musk is the paladin of a future ripped from the covers of paperback science-fiction novels circa the 1950s -- rocket ships, futuristic cars, robots and giant tunnel-boring machines.

He has almost single-handedly changed Republican attitudes toward Big Tech. He's proven that you can be a Silicon Valley entrepreneur and not be woke or a cowardly fellow traveler with left-wing politics. There's still plenty of contempt of and distrust for tech companies on the Right, but now it is Democrats who talk more of ideas like repealing Section 230 to hobble social-media companies.

At the same time, Musk's Department of Government Efficiency has made seeking to cut government fashionable again on the Right, when this priority had mostly lost out to other concerns since the advent of the Trump era. The hope that DOGE will cut as much as \$2 trillion from the budget is unrealistic, but any savings and efficiencies would be welcome.

Who knows how effective Musk will be in his role as a change agent confronting government, the most difficult institution to change? Sending a man to Mars might be easier. But Musk brings a boundless optimism and can-do verve to the effort, and he's a healthy new ingredient to Trump's populist mix.

RICH LOWRY IS EDITOR OF THE NATIONAL REVIEW.

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Christmas Services in Salado

Salado churches invite you to celebrate the Birth of Christ and the New Year with them. They will be holding the following special services

First Baptist Church of Salado

First Baptist Church of Salado will hold two Christmas Eve Candlelight Services on Dec. 24, one at 4 p.m. and one at 6 p.m.

The church is located at 210 S. Main St.

Salado United Methodist Church

Salado United Methodist Church, located at 650 Royal St. will hold the following services:

Dec. 24 at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.: Candlelight Christmas Eve Services

Dec. 22 and 29: Regular services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Salado Church of Christ

Salado Church of Christ, located at 217 Stagecoach Rd. invites you to their Christmas Eve Candlelight at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 24.

First Cedar Valley Baptist Church,

First Cedar Valley Baptist Church, located at 12395 FM 2843, invites you to their Watch Night Service on New Year's Eve. Beginning at 7 p.m. Dec. 31 and continuing until past midnight, be prepared to sing special music, play instruments and some congregational singing. They will break around 10 p.m. for

pot luck meal. Then start final part of evening, couple songs, devotional and prayer to bring in the New Year.

Grace Church of Salado

Grace Church of Salado, located at 5798 FM 2484, will have two Christmas Eve Services: 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dec. 24.

Presbyterian Church of Salado

Presbyterian Church of Salado, located at 100 Salado Plaza Dr., will have the following Christmas services:

Dec. 24: Candlelight Christmas Eve service. The church will retell the story of Christ's birth reading scripture, reflecting on the readings, and singing Christmas Carols. They will have refreshments after the service.

Dec. 29: first Sunday of the Christmas Season, 10 a.m. worship. The church will reflect on the angels' message to the shepherds and their response in Luke 2:8-20. The church will

sing Christmas carols and enjoy the musical gifts of some of their congregation.

St. Stephen Catholic Church

St. Stephen Catholic Church, located at 601 FM 2268, will hold the following services:

Christmas Eve Vigil: 6 p.m. Dec. 24 in English.

Christmas Carols begin at 11:30 p.m. Dec. 24 followed by Midnight Mass in English.

Christmas Day services will be in English at 7:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. and in Spanish at 11 a.m.

New Year's Eve Mass will be at 8:30 a.m.

The Solemnity of Mary Mass will be Jan. 1 in English at 9 a.m. and in Spanish at 11 a.m.

3C Cowboy Fellowship

3C Cowboy Fellowship, located at 16258 Goose-neck Rd., will hold Christmas Eve Candlelight service at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 24.

St. Joseph's Episcopal Church

St. Joseph's Episco-

pal Church, located at 881 N Main St. invites you to worship with them.

Dec. 24: 6 p.m., Christmas Service.

Dec. 24: 11 p.m., Christmas Midnight Mass Service.

Dec. 25: 10 a.m., Christmas Morning Prayer in the Chapel.

Jan. 5: Feast of the Epiphany.

Jan. 12: 6 p.m., Ecumenical Taizé.

New Life Methodist Church

New Life Methodist Church invites you to its Christmas Eve Service at 7 p.m. Dec. 24 at the Salado Middle School.

Other upcoming services are 10 a.m. Dec. 29 and 9 a.m. Jan. 5 Bible Study followed by 10 a.m. Worship Service.

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Chamber introduces 2025 Board of Directors

The Salado Chamber of Commerce announces the 2025 Board of Directors and Officers.

Laura Hargrove of Ben-tons Jewelry will serve as Chairman of the Board, succeeding Leslie White of Centraland Title.

"The 2025 Board of Directors will continue to focus on critical issues for the Salado Chamber of Commerce membership and business community, including providing valuable resources for member businesses, keeping members informed, connected, and prosperous, advancing community excellence, and

maintaining organizational sustainability," said executive director Amanda Organ.

Nicole Langenbach of Numberhub will serve as Treasurer succeeding Larry Templin of Templin Taxes. Christy Goodfellow of Christy's of Salado will serve as Secretary.

Other officers for the 2025 Board of Directors are Jennifer Abraham of The Dog Spot, Deedra Rawls of Hearthstone Group | All City, Ruth Parker of Hearthstone Group | All City, Theresa Schwab of BNT Real Estate and Kaye Coachman of 21 Main.

The four new Board members that begin serving a three-year term on Jan. 1 are Jason Bisceglia of Birdcreek Roofing- Bisceglia Team, Hudson Kennedy of Extraco Banks, Trina Lynch of Parlour at the Village, and Devin Zepeda of Terlingua.

"The purpose of the Salado Chamber of Commerce is to support the business environment in Salado and surrounding areas by actively promoting member businesses, creating opportunities for leadership development, and advocating for business growth," Organ said.



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(Spanish) 11 a.m.
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St. Joseph's Episcopal Church
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881 North Main Street
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StJosephSalado.org



Salado Family Relief Fund provided Christmas gifts to approximately 50 families and more than 125 children in the Salado school district. Salado Masonic Lodge #296 assisted in the effort by purchasing bikes and helmets for children making that request. Shown above are (from left) SFRF Secretary Kim Wren, SFRF board member Deborah Aldridge, SFRF board member Brittani Broussard and her son Braiden, Salado Lodge Past Master Paul Christian, current Salado Lodge Master Ray Lawrason, SFRF President JR Lett and SFRF Vice President Basilia Flores. Temple Commandery #41 also made a financial contribution to the effort. (PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)



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Tuesday, December 24
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services 5 & 7 P.M.
Sunday, December 29
Worship Services
9 A.M. Traditional | 11 A.M. Band-Led
10:00 A.M. | Sunday School

He is here!
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(PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)
Salado Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 12235, which meets at Barrow Brewing Co., present Salado aldermen with Christmas baskets at their Dec. 19 meeting. Shown above are (from left) Mayor Pro Tem Rodney Bell, Alderman Michael MacDonald, Salado VFW Trustee Andy Hernandez, Salado VFW Senior Vice Commander Clint Tracy, Salado VFW Commander Minnie Whitzel, Mayor Bert Henry, Alderman Jasen Graham, Alderman Zach Hurst and Salado VFW Junior Vice Commander Brian Pierce.

Aldermen freeze spending

By TIM FLEISCHER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Salado aldermen trudged their way through 17 items of business Dec. 19 during the course of three-and-a-half hours.

After a public hearing, aldermen voted unanimously to approve a Conditional Use Permit for an accessory dwelling for a guest house/pool house at 514 Indian Trail with a covenant to run with the land that the accessory building cannot be rented out for long term or short term so that the property would continue to meet zoning requirements for Single Family Residential. Mayor Pro Tem Rodney Bell made the motion, receiving a second from Alderman Jasen Graham.

Following a public hearing on the creation of the Mustang Springs Public Improvement District and a short executive session, aldermen voted unanimously to close the public hearing. Alderman Michael MacDonald made the motion, receiving a second from Bell.

Aldermen approved an amendment to the operations, maintenance and management services agreement with Operations Management International, Inc., Jacobs to clarify that paying for hauling costs of bio-solids. To-date, there have been three times that hauling has been needed at the wastewater treatment plant. The cost would be \$1,500 each time haul-off is needed to be paid by the

Village.

Graham made the motion, with a second from Bell. It passed 4-0.

Aldermen authorized Sanctuary Development Company, LLC to post a cash performance bond of \$39,124.02 for the Salado Sanctuary North Tract Project. The bond is refundable upon completion by Feb. 28, 2025. Motion was made by Bell, receiving a second by Alderman Zach Hurst, and passing 4-0.

The board also unanimously approved the final plat of Salado Sanctuary North Plat on a motion by Graham and second by Hurst contingent upon proof of conveyance of wastewater infrastructure.

Graham made a motion to authorize staff to take minutes as outlined statutorily, receiving a second from Hurst. It passed 4-0.

Aldermen approved a resolution to amend the employee handbook to adopt a social media policy and recognizing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Jan. 20) and Juneteenth (June 19) in the 2025 holiday schedule. Motion was made by Bell, receiving second by Graham and passed 4-0.

Aldermen unanimously approved the monthly financial reports on a motion by Graham and second by Bell.

Aldermen voted 3-1 to freeze employee wages for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3B

Chief Fields introduced Officer Mark Tribout



Officer Mark Tribout introduced at Dec. 19 Aldermen meeting. (PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)

Salado police chief Allen Fields introduced the newest patrol officer to Village aldermen at their Dec. 19 meeting.

Officer Mark Tribout was born and raised in St. Louis. He joined the US Army at age 18 where he was a 19D-Cav Scout. He had three major deployments (two in Iraq and one in Syria), where was awarded the Combat Action Badge. He went on to serve five years on a Counter Drug Task Force with the 19th and 20th Special Forces Group. Recently Mark retired from the military.

In June, Tribout was se-

lected to attend the Police Academy for the Village of Salado. He completed the academy on Dec. 5 and successfully passed the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) Peace Officer licensing exam on Dec. 17.

He and his wife Brittany live in the Village of Salado with their three kids: Harley, Kolbey and Rylie Jo.

"When interviewing, Mark told me after transitioning from the military, he still felt the need to continue serving and to be part of a team," Chief Fields said.

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Salado Calendar of Events



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Mondays
Salado Senior Center open 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays at 650 Royal St. (Salado United Methodist Church Youth Activity Center). Coffee Corner, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Game Time, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Pickle ball Courts open, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Chair Yoga with Joette Grieco, 9-10 a.m.; Dominoes 42, 10 a.m.-noon; Stretching (Beginner Yoga) with Gary, 10:15 a.m.; Bridge, 12-3 p.m. Quilting with Lyna, 1-2 p.m. Crochet with Joette, 1-2:30 p.m.
Village Artists- knitters, crocheters and stitchers meet, 1-4 p.m. Salado Village Artists' red building behind the Civic Center.
Bikes & Brews, 6:30 p.m. for a no-drop ride, Barrow Brewing Co.
Floor practice at Salado Masonic Lodge #296, 95 S. Church St., 6:30 p.m. except on Stated Meeting nights.
Open Mic with Ryan White, at Chupacabra, 7 p.m.
Tonkawa Chapter Native Plant Society of Texas meeting, 6 p.m., first Monday of month, Barrow Brewing Co.
Second Monday Book Club meets at 7 p.m. at Salado Winery, 841 N. Main St.
Salado Democrats meet the third Monday of each month, 7 p.m., in the conference room of Salado Public Library.
Salado American Legion, fourth Monday of the month, 7 p.m., Barrow Brewing Co.

Tuesdays
Village Artists- artists and crafters meet 9:30-11:30 a.m. Salado Village Artists' red building behind the Civic Center.
Knitting Group at Salado Public Library, 10 a.m.
Storytime with Ms. Mia at Salado Public Library, 11 a.m.
Tuesday Night Prix Fixe at Alexander's Craft Cocktails & Kitchen. \$16.95 for entree, dessert and glass of wine. Prix Fixe menu changes weekly. Visit Alexander's Facebook page for weekly updates on Prix Fixe. Reservations encouraged.
Trivia with Rockin Rick, at Chupacabra, 7-9 p.m.
Salado VFW Meeting, 7 p.m., First Tuesday of each month, Barrow Brewing Co.

Wednesdays
Guest food truck day at Barrow Brewing Co., 4-9 p.m.
Wine Down Wednesday at

Axis Winery, 4-8 p.m., half-price glasses of wine.
Wine Down Wednesday at Alexander's Craft Cocktails & Kitchen, 5-7 p.m., Half price on select bottles of wine, featured wine by the glass and feature cocktail specials change weekly.
Not Rocket Science Trivia, 6:30 p.m., every Wednesday, Barrow Brewing Co.
Karaoke, 7-10 p.m. at Chupacabra.
Word out Wednesday every week at Provecho, 109 Royal St., featuring a different local group and non-profit each week. Most of these WOW groups need volunteers, awareness, and a little cash doesn't hurt. 10% of the daily sales will go to the group of the week. Check out social media for this week's WOW.

Thursdays
Salado Senior Center open 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursdays at 650 Royal St. (Salado United Methodist Church Youth Activity Center). Coffee Corner, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Game Time, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Exercise class with Alice Cooper, 9 a.m. Chair Tai Chi with Rich Trautman, 10-11 a.m. Learn to Play Mah Jongg, 10 a.m.-noon; Dominoes 42, 10 a.m.-noon. Mah Jongg, 12-3 p.m. Beginner or Refresher Bridge, noon-2 p.m. Bridge, 12-3 p.m. Bingo 1-2:30 p.m.
Kids eat free, 2-5 p.m. at Provecho with purchase of adult entree.
Pint night at Chupacabra, 4 p.m.-midnight.
Vinyl Nite with Shannon at Barrow Brewing Co., 5 p.m.
"Party on the Patio" 7-10 p.m. with live performer Rockin' Rick (karaoke), Axis Winery.
Teen Writing Group, Salado Public Library, 6 p.m.
Run Club, 6:30 p.m., Barrow Brewing Co.
Weekly curated wine tasting hosted by Hannah Hendrick 6-8 p.m. at Salado Winery, 841 N. Main St. Tickets available on-line through Salado Winery Eventbrite https://bit.ly/3MLXXOA. Call 254-947-8011 or check Facebook for more information.
Maxx Carter at Chupacabra, 6-10 p.m.
Run4Beer Group, 6:30 p.m., Barrow Brewing Co.
Family Night at The Shed, specials on beer and pizzas change every week.
The Bell County Master Gardener Association holds a free monthly seminar on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, 1605 N. Main in Belton.
Heart and Hands Ministries food distribution day, 4:30-6 p.m. third Thursday of each month, 213 Mill Creek Drive, Suite 135. Heart and Hands Ministries serve the Salado, Bartlett, and Holland areas. You can register by bringing a valid ID or current bill with an address in our service area. If you are in need of food, they are here to help.

Fridays
Storytime with Ms. Mia, Salado Public Library, 11 a.m.
Fajita Friday at Provecho, 109 Royal St. All you can eat fajitas for \$20.24.
Special guest performers, 5-8 p.m. at Axis Winery.
Live Music at Chupacabra Craft Beers, 7-11 p.m.
Live Music at Barrow Brewing Co. 7 p.m.

Saturdays
Asanas and Ales, 9 a.m. every Saturday in the taproom at Barrow Brewing Co.
Farmers Market, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., grounds of Barrow Brewing Co.
Live Music at Axis Winery,

5-8 p.m.
Live Music at Barrow Brewing, 7 p.m.
Live Music at Chupacabra Craft Beer, 8 p.m.
College Football at Johnny's Outback. Full bar, snow cones, BBQ, burgers and more.

Sundays
Family Fun Day at Axis Winery. Cornhole and other family activities. Live music 3-5 p.m.
NFL Football at Johnny's Outback. Full bar, snow cones, BBQ, burgers and more.
Live Music at Barrow Brewing Co., 4 p.m.

December 24
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, First Baptist Church, 210 S. Main St., 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.
December 24
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Salado United Methodist Church, 650 Royal St., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.
December 24
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Salado Church of Christ, 217 Stagecoach Rd., 5:30 p.m.
December 24
Christmas Eve Services, Grace Church of Salado, 5798 FM 2484, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.
December 24
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Presbyterian Church of Salado, 101 Salado Plaza Dr., 6 p.m.
December 24
Saint Stephen Catholic Church, 601 FM 2268, Christmas Eve Vigil, 6 p.m., English; Christmas Carols followed by Midnight Mass, 11:30 p.m.
December 24
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 3C Cowboy Fellowship, 16258 Gooseneck Rd., 5:30 p.m.
December 24
St. Joseph Catholic Church, 881 N. Main St. Christmas Eve Service, 6 p.m.; Midnight Christmas Mass, 11 p.m.
December 24
Christmas Eve Service, New Life Methodist Church, Salado Middle School, 7 p.m.
December 25
Christmas Mass, Saint Stephen Catholic Church, 601 FM 2268, in English at 7:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. and in Spanish at 11 a.m.
December 25
Christmas Morning Prayer in the Chapel, St. Joseph's Episcopal Church, 881 N. Main St., 8:30 a.m.
December 26
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m., Austin Mayse.
December 26
Trivia Thursday, 7 p.m. Bar 1859, Salado Square, 21 N. Main St.
December 27
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m., TBD.
December 27
Live music at Chupacabra, 7 p.m., Dustin Endsley.
December 28
Heart and Hands Ministries food distribution to those in need in the Salado, Holland, Bartlett area, 9-11 a.m., 213 Mill Creek Drive, Suite 135.
December 28
Live Music at Axis Winery, 1420 N. Robertson Rd., 5-8 p.m., Travis Roland.
December 28
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m., Amanda Brown.
December 28
Live music at Chupacabra, 8 p.m., Kyle Mathis.
December 29
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 4 p.m., March Charlotte Young.
December 31
Watch Night Service, First Cedar Valley Baptist Church, 12395 FM 2843, singing begins at 7 p.m., pot luck at 10 p.m., singing through midnight to bring in the New Year.
January 1-31
Annual Texas Stagecoach Wine Trail. You will have 12 days to visit eight participating wineries and enjoy your tastings. Participating wineries are 3 Texans Winery and Vineyard, Bee Ma Rosa Vineyard and Winery, Country Spring Vineyard and Wine Garden, Dancing Bee Winery, Moose & Goose Winery, Red Caboose Winery, Salado Winery Co., and Valley Mills Winery. Tickets are \$40 (\$135+ value) available eventbrite.com. Or visit stagecoachtxwinetrail.com for more information.

N. Stagecoach Rd. Meeting will be cast via Zoom. Link will be posted at saladotx.gov 72 hours before meeting.

January 2
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m., Trick Pony.
January 3
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m., Wed Perryman.
January 3
Live music at Chupacabra, 7 p.m. Ray Palousek Piano Bar.
January 4
Live Music at Axis Winery, 1420 N. Robertson Rd., 1:30 p.m. Travis Roland; 5 p.m. Sid Grimes.
January 4
Guest brunch food truck Frenchie Daddy and live music at 7 p.m at Barrow Brewing Co., Eley Buck Davis.
January 4
Celebration of the renovation of the historic Tyler House, 6-9 p.m. After five attire and reservations required. Tickets \$75 per person at centraltxastickets.com.
January 4
Live music at Chupacabra, 8 p.m., Josh Jaccard.
January 5
Feast of the Epiphany, St. Joseph's Episcopal Church, 881 N. Main St.
January 5
Live Music at Barrow Brewing Co., 4 p.m., Jayme Wade.
January 6
Tonkawa Chapter Native Plant Society of Texas meeting, 6 p.m., first Monday of month, Barrow Brewing Co.
January 7
Salado VFW Post 12335 Meeting, 7 p.m., Barrow Brewing Co.
January 8
Salado Lions Club luncheon meeting, 11:30 a.m., Salado Civic Center.
January 8
Barrow Brewing Co., guest food truck, 4-8 p.m., Lula Mae's Cajun Cuisine.
January 9-11
Central Texas Youth Rodeo Association Rodeo, Heritage Country Church, 9677 Lark Trail, Salado. Thursday starts at 7 p.m. Friday starts at 7 p.m. Saturday starts at 6 p.m. Order of Events: Poles, Straights, Goats, Barrels, Chute Dogging, Dbl Mugging, Tie Down, Ribbons, Breakaway and Team Roping.
January 10
Live Music at Axis Winery, 1420 N. Robertson Rd., 5 p.m. Colin Boutwell.
January 10
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m., Way-worn Traveler.
January 10
Live music at Chupacabra, 7 p.m., Kelany Brent.
January 11
Heart and Hands Ministries food distribution to those in need in the Salado, Holland, Bartlett area, 9-11 a.m., 213 Mill Creek Drive, Suite 135.
January 11
Live Music at Axis Winery, 1420 N. Robertson Rd., 1:30 p.m. Kristen Taylor; 5 p.m. Richard Watson.
January 11
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m., Songbird Jones.
January 11
Live music at Chupacabra, 8 p.m., Dean Paul Willeford.
January 11-12
Salado Market Days, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Salado Antique Mall, 721 Stagecoach Road. Salado's original Market Days event.
January 12
Live Music at Axis Winery, 1420 N. Robertson Rd., 2 p.m., Aiden Quick.
January 12
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 4 p.m., Earle Nelson.
January 12
Ecumenical Taizé, St. Joseph's Episcopal Church, 881 N. Main St., 6 p.m.
January 14
Second Monday Book Club meets at 7 p.m. at Salado Winery, 841 N. Main St.
January 15
Barrow Brewing Co., guest food truck, 4-8 p.m., Check Point Germany.
January 16
Heart and Hands Ministries food distribution day, 4:30-6 p.m., 213 Mill Creek Drive, Suite 135. Heart and Hands Ministries serve the Salado, Bartlett, and Hol-



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Village of Salado Aldermen meeting, 6:30 p.m. 301

land areas. You can register by bringing a valid ID or current bill with an address in our service area. If you are in need of food, they are here to help.

January 16
Around the World Dinner Series at Alexander's Distillery, 6:30 p.m. Reservations online through eventbrite.com for \$100 (includes tax and gratuity or \$1,000 for annual passport) for five course themed dinner. This month's Destination, Tokyo.

January 16
Village of Salado Aldermen meeting, 6:30 p.m. 301 N. Stagecoach Rd. Meeting will be cast via Zoom. Link will be posted at saladotx.gov 72 hours before meeting.

January 16
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m., Russell Weller.

January 17
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m., Al Shire.

January 17
Live music at Chupacabra, 7 p.m., Daniel Johnson.

January 17-February 8
Blow-Your-Own Valentines Event at Salado Glassworks. Blown Heart, \$60 (ages 3+). Blown Bowl \$90 (ages 12+). Fridays 3-4:30 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Registration now open. Register online at saladoglassworks.com.

January 18
Live Music at Axis Winery,

1420 N. Robertson Rd., 1:30 p.m., Eley Buck Davis; 5 p.m., Wayworn Traveler.

January 18
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m., Gabriel River Band.

January 18
Live music at Chupacabra, 8 p.m., Andrew Jones.

January 19
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 4 p.m., Brian Mullin.

January 22
Salado Lions Club luncheon meeting, 11:30 a.m., Salado Civic Center.

January 22
Barrow Brewing Co., guest food truck, 4-8 p.m., Simply Porkfection.

January 22-26
Cookies & Brews, ticketed event at Barrow Brewing Co. Enjoy a flight of four craft beers paired with a delicious Girl Scout cookie. Tickets at <https://centraltexastickets.com/events/cookies-brews-1-22-2025>

January 23
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 6 p.m. Zachary Burnett.

January 23-25
Central Texas Youth Rodeo Association Rodeo, Heritage Country Church, 9677 Lark Trail, Salado. Thursday starts at 7 p.m. Friday starts at 7 p.m. Saturday starts at 6 p.m. Order of Events: Poles, Straights, Goats, Barrels,

Chute Dogging, Dbl Mugging, Tie Down, Ribbons, Breakaway and Team Roping.

January 24
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 7 p.m., Everett Wren.

January 24
Live music at Chupacabra, 7 p.m., Kyle Mathis.

January 25
Heart and Hands Ministries food distribution to those in need in the Salado, Holland, Bartlett area, 9-11 a.m., 213 Mill Creek Drive, Suite 135.

January 25
Seventh Annual Australia Day at Barrow Brewing Co. Australians and Texans have a lot in common and Barrow Brewing Co. is joining in the celebration of this awesome country/continent.

January 25
Live Music at Axis Winery, 1420 N. Robertson Rd., 1:30 p.m., Noah Derrick; 5 p.m., Isabel Suarez.

January 25
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 6 p.m., James Stone

January 25
Live music at Chupacabra, 8 p.m., Steve Hamende.

January 26
Heritage Country Church Annual Chili Cook-Off, 11:15 a.m. immediately following the church service. \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids to eat. For those entering the contest, use at least 10 lbs. of meat (no beans). Categories include Regular and Game and Beans. Trophies for first, second and third in each category. Trophy for one overall winner.

January 26
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 4 p.m., Mam Ghost.

January 27
Salado American Legion Post 585, 7 p.m., Barrow Brewing Co.

January 29
Barrow Brewing Co., guest food truck, 4-8 p.m., Bahler Street Pizza.

January 30
Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 6 p.m., Andrew Blanton.

January 31
Live music at Chupacabra, 7 p.m., Erick Chase Moya.

February 6-8
Central Texas Youth Rodeo Association Rodeo, Heritage Country Church, 9677 Lark Trail, Salado. Thursday starts at 7 p.m. Friday starts at 7 p.m. Saturday starts at 6 p.m. Order of Events: Poles, Straights, Goats, Barrels, Chute Dogging, Dbl Mugging, Tie Down, Ribbons, Breakaway and Team Roping.

February 8
The Joy of Chocolate at Salado Public Library. Come and view and taste chocolate creations by amateur Salado chocolatiers. Public view and sample 2-4 p.m.

February 8-9
Salado Market Days, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Salado Antique Mall, 721 Stagecoach Road. Salado's original Market Days event.

February 13

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ALDERMEN FREEZE SPENDING

FROM PAGE 1B

2025. A pay increase was proposed in the current budget. If the rollback election fails in May, the increase could be implemented for employees. MacDonal made the motion, receiving a second from Hurst and passing 3-1 with Graham voting against.

Aldermen voted impose a hiring freeze on full time personnel for 2025. Hurst made the motion, with a second from MacDonal, passing 3-1 with Graham voting against.

Aldermen terminated property insurance for the Salado Historical Society cabins. The motion was made by Bell with a second by Graham, passing 4-0.

Aldermen Graham made the motion to terminate lease agreement and any financial obligations in connection to the sculpture garden, receiving a second from MacDonal. The motion passed 4-0.

Aldermen suspended general road maintenance repairs for 2025. MacDonal made the motion, receiving a second from Hurst and passing 3-1 with Graham voting against.

Aldermen suspended

grass mowing at a cost of \$31,000 per year for Main St., Pace Park and Sirena Park. Bell made the motion to authorize Village administrator Manny De La Rosa to pause grass mowing activities, receiving a second from MacDonal. It passed 3-1 with Graham voting against.

Aldermen paused the three capital improvement projects listed below on a motion by Bell, receiving a second from Hurst and passing 4-0.

- Mill Creek Rd. sidewalk.
- Royal Street overlay.
- Williams Rd. sidewalks.

"The moment you received that petition, you cannot issue debt because no creditor would handle it," De La Rosa said. Aldermen were considering certificates of obligation to fund the Village share of the three projects.

After an hour-long executive session, aldermen opened up management of Pace Park pavilion and the bridal suite to an open public bid process on a motion by MacDonal and second by Hurst. The motion passed 4-0.

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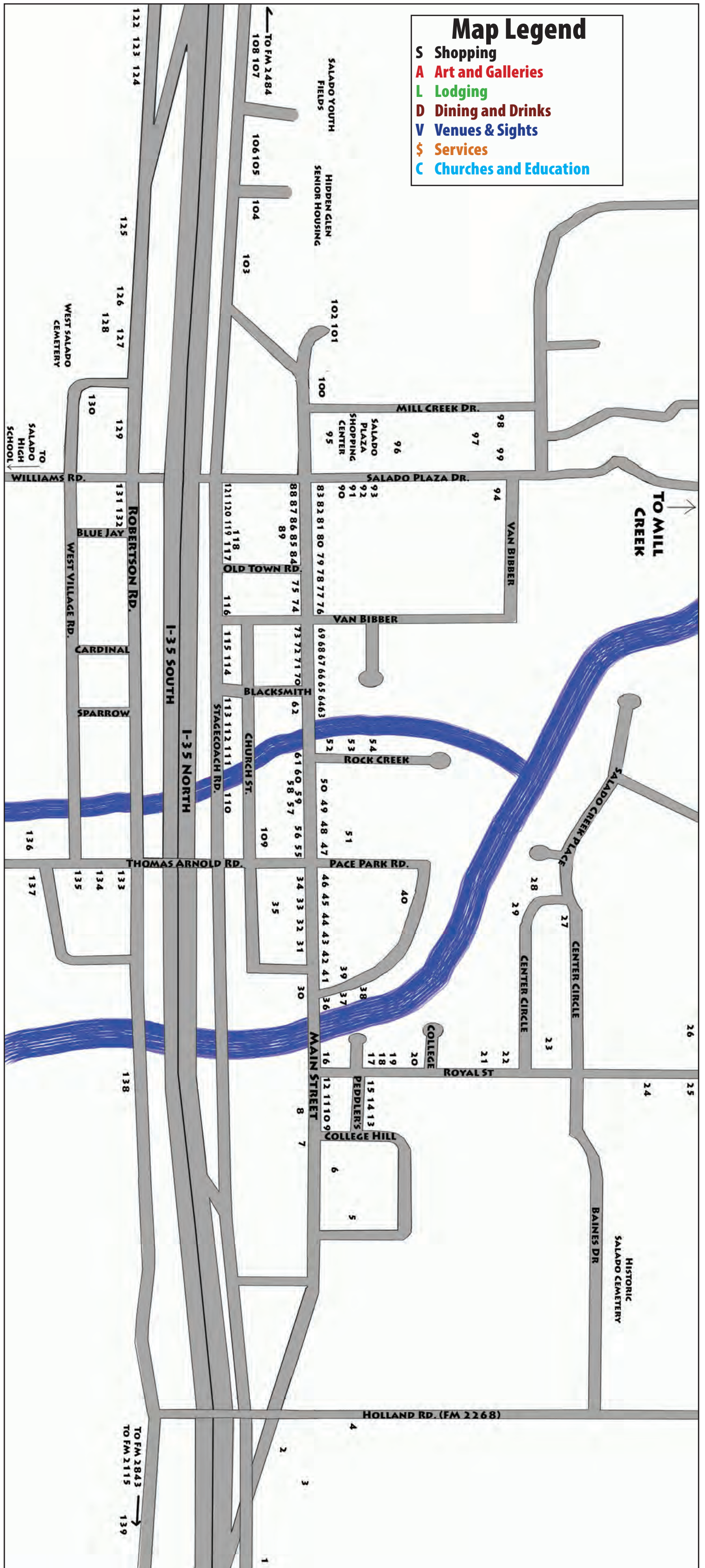
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MILL CREEK Country Club

Shopping Map of Salado

#	Business Name	Type
1	JD's Travel Center 254-947-5228	S
1	Salado Collision Center 254-947-0380	\$
4	St. Stephen Catholic Church 254-947-8037	C
6	Salado College Park	V
7	Raney & Assoc. Real Estate 254-913-1215	\$
8	StageCoach Inn 254-947-5111	D/L
9	Salado Museum 254-947-5232	V
	Salado Visitors Center & Tourism 254-947-8634	\$
	Salado Chamber of Commerce 254-947-5040	\$
10	Sofi's 254-947-4336	S
11	Chupacabra Craft Beer and Winery (254) 308-2019	D
	Chupacabra Kitchen (254) 308-2220	D
14	Salado Glassworks 254-947-0339	A
15	Provecho 254-308-2098	D
17	Barrow Brewing Co. 254-947-3544	D
	Happy Pizza 254-226-1684	S
19	TEX28 Outfitters 254-545-9978	S
21	The Venue 254-947-5554	V
	Village Spa 254-293-6600	S
22	The Shed 254-947-1960	D
24	Tablerock	V
26	Salado United Methodist Church 254-947-5482	C
29	Inn on the Creek 254-947-5554	L
	Alexanders Craft Cocktails & Kitchen 254-947-3828	D
30	First Baptist Church 254-947-546	C
32	First Texas Brokerage 254-947-5577	\$
34	Farmers Insurance 254-947-0995	\$
34	First Community Title 254-947-8480	\$
40	W.A. Pace Memorial Park 254-947-5060	V
48	Nancy Best Real Estate 512-571-1259	\$
48	Salado Luxury Properties 254-526-6611	\$
50	Bar 1859	D
56	Salado Creek Jewelry 254-855-5538	S
62	The Pizza Place 254-947-0222	D
75	Stage Stop Center Salado Creek Dental 254-308-2027	\$
76	Salado Civic Center 254-947-5479	\$
78	Star Nails and Spa 254-308-2084	\$
81	Salado Wine Seller and Salado Winery Co. 254-947-8011	D
82	St. Joseph's Episcopal Church 254-947-3160	C
84	Old Town Salado	
85	Salado Post Office 254-947-5322	\$
86	Bill Bartlett - Century 21 254-947-5050	\$
87	The Personal Wealth Coach 254-947-1111	\$
90	Presbyterian Church of Salado 254-308-2023	C
91	Troy Smith Financial Services 254-947-0376	\$
92	Salado Sculpture Garden	A
96	Salado Plaza Ace Pest Control 254-947-4222	\$
	Integrity Rehab 254-699-3933	\$
	Salado's Hair Shop 254-421-5173	\$
	Salado Village Voice 254-947-5321	\$
100	Salado Public Library 254-947-9191	C
100	Salado Creek Ministries meets at the Salado Public Library	C
113	Salado Church of Christ 254-947-5241	C
122	Bell County Annex	\$
124	Axis Winery 254-308-2016	D
126	Cowboy's Barbecue 254-947-5700	D
130	Village Spirits 254-947-7117	S
132	Broecker Funeral Home 254-947-0066	\$
133	Johnny's Steaks & BBQ 254-947-4663	D
134	The Dog Spot 254-947-3647	\$
135	Carus Dental 254-947-8067	\$
136	Salado Schools & Stadium	C
137	Iron Orchid Bodywork (inside Salado Fitness)	\$
139	Cedar Valley Baptist Church 254-947-0148	C
Not Shown on the Map		
	New Life Methodist Church meets at Salado Middle School	C
	3C Cowboy Fellowship 254-947-7211	C
	Grace Church 254-947-5917	C
	Heritage Country Church 254-239-7106	C
	Mill Creek Country Club 254-947-5698	V
	Anytime Fitness Salado 254-947-1063	S



Historical Markers in Salado

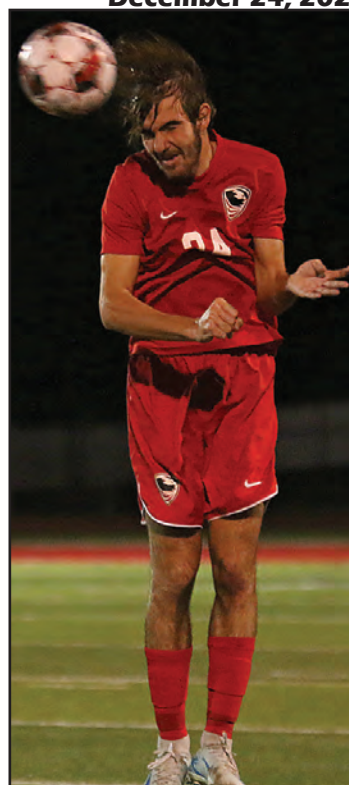
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|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 6. Salado Historic College Hill | 25. The A.J. Rose Mansion | 35. Salado Masonic Lodge #296 | 61. Historic Lenticular Bridge |
| 8. Shady Villa Hotel (Stagecoach Inn) | 26. Old Methodist Chapel | 45. The Anderson House | 49. The Vickrey House |
| 8. Main Street Bridge | 27. Caskey-Hendricks House | 46. Old Saloon | 76. Boles-Aiken & Denman Cabins |
| 16. Barber-Berry Mercantile | 28. Dr. McKie Place (Twelve Oaks) | 48. The Norton-Orgain House | 77. The Robert B. Halley House |
| 23. The Baines House | 29. Alexander's Distillery | 50. The Barton House | 79. The Reed Cabin |
| 24. Historic Dipping Vats | 30. First Baptist Church | 51. The Levi Tenney House | 100. The Josiah Fowler House |
| | 31. The Tyler House | 55. The Armstrong Adams House | |



Brodie Delukie fights for possession against Killeen Chaparrel in 2-0 soccer scrimmage win Dec. 17.



Daniel Anderson steals the ball from Killeen Chaparrel. (PHOTOS BY ROYCE WIGGIN)



Luke Munson heads the ball.



Oscar Arango heads the ball.



Salado Middle School students construct gingerbread houses during Winter Fest Dec. 20 at Salado Middle School. Students had a day full of activities including Christmas Trivia and a Christmas Escape room. (PHOTOS BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

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Eagles fall to Gateway

	1	2	3	4	F
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Going into the Christmas break, the Salado Eagles lost 53-50 on the road to Gateway College Prep Dec. 20.

Griffin Self led the Eagles with 13 points, three rebounds and an assist.

Also scoring were Colby Ramm, nine points, three rebounds and a steal; Mason Brown, eight points, 11 rebounds, a deflection, a steal and three blocks; Bryson Byers, seven points, eight rebounds, three assists and three steals; Korbin Konarik, seven points, a rebound, two assists, two deflections, two steals and a block; Derrick Smith, three points, two rebounds, an assist, a deflection and two steals; Liam Wilcox, one point and one rebound.

Morris All-District First Team

Senior Macy Morris was named to the First Team All-District 23-4A volleyball squad.

She had 37 aces, 199 kills, 28 solo blocks, 89 block assists, 20 assists and 100 digs.

All-District Honorable Mention football

Two Salado Eagles football players' names were omitted from the All-District announcement.

Receiving Honorable Mention for District 13-4A-2 were junior Defensive Back Mason Olson and Senior Tight End Brady Heber.



Shelby Hollywood signed to play soccer at Division 1 Abilene Christian University on Dec. 20. In her career as a Salado Lady Eagle, she has scored 57 goals and 45 assists. She was a 20 and 20 award winner her sophomore and junior years, scoring 24 goals and 25 assists in 2023 and 33 goals and 20 assists in 2024. She holds the following school records: most goals in a season, 33; most goals in a playoff run, seven; most points in a single season, 85; most points in a playoff run. She was named to the TASCO All State team in both 2023 and 2024 and Academic All-District in 2023 and 2024. She was named to the 5-4A first team All District and earned the 5-4A Silver Boot Award in 2024 for the most assists (15). She earned first team All District in 2024 and was the 5-4A Offensive MVP in 2024. Hollywood was named to the 2024 UIL State All-Tournament Team. She is shown above with her parents Tera Hollywood (left) and Brian Hollywood (right). (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)



Lexi Rice signed to play soccer with Division III Howard Payne University on Dec. 20. She has scored 55 goals and 28 assists in her career. She is a 10 & 10 Award Winner for 10 goals and 10 assists in the same season for 2024 when she had 20 goals and 12 assists. She was named to the TGCA All State Team in 2023 and 2024. She earned Academic All District in 2022, 2023 and 2024. She was named to 5-4A first team All District in 2023 and 2024. She is shown above with her parents Kim Rice (left) and Chris Rice (right). (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

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Ryley Litchfield, a three-year letterman in softball at Salado, will play softball at Temple College next year. Her career stats include a .448 batting average with 30 doubles, 28 triples and 20 home runs, as well as earning 134 bases on balls. She has a .959 fielding percentage. She was named to the first team All District squad in 2024. She is shown above with her parents Stacey Ross (left) and David Litchfield (right). (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)



Ally Schauer, a two-year varsity letterman softball player, will play softball at McLennan Community College. As a Lady Eagle, Schauer has had a .322 batting average with 14 doubles, five triples and a home run. She has a 26-4 win-loss record and has pitched 186.2 innings. She has a 2.13 ERA and has recorded 232 strikeouts and issued 50 walks. She is shown above with her parents Chris Schauer (left) and Samantha Schauer (right) and Paisley. She was named the All-District Pitcher of the Year

SHS hosts speech meet

The Salado High School Speech and Debate Team hosted the Salado NIETOC/UIL Meet on Dec. 14, where 22 students competed in extemporaneous speaking. The top three speakers earned bids to the prestigious National Individual Events Tournament of Champions.

Results are: Wesley Engleking, first; Sydney Engleking, third; Krystle Vazquez, fourth; Stephanie Zhang Lee, fifth.

Wesley Engleking and Sydney Engleking earned a NIETOC bid. Students need two bids to qualify to the 2025 National Individual Events Tournament (NIETOC) to be held in



Sydney Engleking and Wesley Engleking.

Kansas City, Missouri on May 16-18. Wesley Engleking now has two bids and is fully qualified. Both Sydney Engleking and Krystle Vazquez have one bid. They will compete at the Lindale TFA/NIETOC Tournament on Dec.20-21 to try and get their second bid.



(PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

Ally Ihler, a four-year varsity Lady Eagle, signed a letter of intent on Dec. 20 to play basketball at Lubbock Christian University. She has scored more than 1,000 points as a Lady Eagle. Ihler was named to the First Team All District the previous three years. She was named to the TABS All State Team her sophomore year. She is shown above with her brother Parker Ihler (left), her father Alex Ihler, and mother Kelly Ihler.



Kannon Baird signed a letter of intent on Dec. 20 to play baseball at Hardin Simmons University. Baird has been a two-year varsity letterman. He has a .275 career batting average with an on base percentage of .375. He has 22 hits, a home run and 14 stolen bases. Baird has pitched 79 innings as a varsity Salado Eagle, allowing 20 earned runs for a 1.70 ERA. He has thrown 110 strikeouts to only 26 walks. He is shown above with his parents Corey Baird (left) and Paul Baird (right). (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)



Brody Cole signed a letter of intent on Dec. 20 to play baseball at Temple College. Last year, Cole had a .337 batting average, an on-base percentage of .444. He had 35 hits and two home runs. He stole 16 bases last year. He is shown above with his parents Denver Cole (left) and Lori Cole (right). (Photo by Royce Wiggin)

SISD approves KTMO sidewalk work

The Salado ISD School Board met on Monday, December 16. The following is a summary of that meeting:

- Salado Middle School student Landon Crum led the pledge to the United States flag and the pledge to the state flag.
- Salado Middle School students Max Tonkinson and Wylie Cornett and boy scout leader and Salado ISD parent Jason Tonkinson were recognized for their participation in boy scouts and attendance at the meeting to earn a citizenship badge.
- The Board the hiring of Katrina Glenn as an elementary school teacher.
- The Board reviewed the monthly financial reports.
- The Board reviewed the monthly enrollment report. Our current enrollment is

Superintendent's Corner



by Dr. Michael Novotny

2,391 students as compared to 2,306 students in December 2022 and 2,329 students in December 2023.

- The Board approved the minutes from the November 18 school board meeting.
- Texas House District 54 Representative and Texas House Public Education Committee Chair, Dr. Brad Buckley discussed the upcoming 2025 Texas legislative session with the Board.
- The Board discussed the design and construction of the bond projects.
- The Board approved

an agreement with the Village of Salado regarding a Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and Killeen-Temple Metropolitan Planning Organization (KTMO) sidewalk grant, contingent upon the execution of a performance bond.

If you have any questions regarding this information or our school district, you are welcome to contact me at michael.novotny@saladoisd.org or 254-947-6905. The Salado ISD School Board's next regular meeting will be 6 p.m. Jan. 27 at the Salado ISD Administration Building 601 N. Main.

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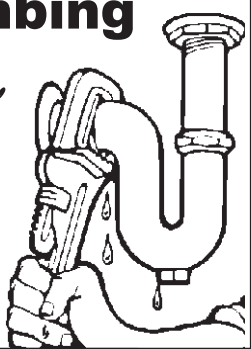
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The Bell County Master Gardener events in January

Herb Study Group

The Bell County Master Gardener Association will be holding its monthly Herb Study Group 7:30 p.m. Jan. 9 at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, 1605 N. Main St., Belton. This month's topic is "Herb of the Year: Chamomile." There will be a round table discussion (structured conversation where a group of people explore a topic or issue). BCMGA encourages you to research and join in the discussion. No registration required. The public is welcome to attend.

Firewise Landscaping

BCMGA and Troy Chamber of Commerce Lunch and Learn presents "Firewise Landscaping with Native Plants" noon-1 p.m. Jan. 10 at the Troy Community Center, 201 E. Main St., Troy. Certified Master Gardener, Pat Johnson will present information on how to prepare and use fire wise plants in your landscape. Learn to select native plants that will accent your environment and make

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Herb Study Group

BCMGA will be holding its monthly Herb Study Group on 10 a.m.-noon Jan. 15 at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, 1605 N. Main St., Belton. This month's topic is "Herb of the Year- Chamomile". No registration required. The public is welcome to join us.

Growing Spring Vegetables

BCMGA is hosting a free monthly seminar "Growing Spring Vegetables in Central Texas" 6-7:30 p.m. Jan. 16 at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, BCMGA Learning Center, 1605 N. Main St., Belton. Certified Master Gardener, Dave Slaughter will teach you how to overcome the challenges of growing a spring vegetable garden in Central Texas. Come learn how to overcome the challenges,

what seeds to plant, and best time to plant.

Class Limit: 50

Please register at bcmga-speakers@gmail.com

Seed Starting

MCGMA presents a hands-on workshop "Seed Starting" on 9 a.m.-noon at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, BCMGA Learning Center, 1605 N. Main St., Belton. Certified Master Gardener Wayne Schirner will discuss the requirements for seed germination and how to grow seedlings. You will receive information on when to start seeds to have transplants at the proper time. Wayne will discuss dense seed planting as well as optional things that can assist in seed starting. You will plant seeds that you will be able to take home to germinate and plant in your spring vegetable garden.

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 A gorgeous home awaits you in the prestigious and highly coveted The Creeks of Salado neighborhood. Upon entering this home you will instantly be greeted by the seamless flow of the open floor plan, accentuated by soaring ceilings and an abundance of natural light.
\$1,090,000



1284 Peaceable Kingdom Road
 Beautiful rolling hills topography with large century old live oak trees scattered through out the 583 acres with over 2 miles of road frontage. Ranch is located just 25 to 30 minutes from Georgetown. Range Management The Ranch grazing management is controlled with 15 primary pastures for rotaton.
\$8,995,000



1074 Doves Landing Ct
 Discover comfort and convenience in this lovely 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home on oversized lot with trees. Featuring a split floor plan with open and spacious great room including high ceilings, large fireplace, and adjoining office.
\$599,870 - \$5



5401 Hollow Ranch Court
 S&G Ventures does it again with this beautiful home in Hollow Ranch! Once you step inside, you'll immediately feel the warmth and see the detailed customization that went into the designing of this home.
\$549,900



4042 Aerie
 Come check out this new Hill County Home built by Randy Taylor Custom Builder's 4 bedroom, 3 bath room home with a large lot!
\$599,900



1246 Indian Pass
 Come enjoy this Texas Hill Country dream on over 3 acres with seasonal creek! Inside there are wood floors, and custom wood beams, to create warm welcoming spaces.
\$1,100,000



Under Contract
11174 Golden Eagle Avenue
 White River Homes has done it again! Located only minutes from Salado ISD Schools and I-35. The Rosedale floor plan includes 4 beds + Office, 3 bathrooms, 3 car garage and a spacious open concept main area / kitchen with 12' ceilings.
\$589,900



1711 Old Mill Rd
 Great opportunity to own a home in the desirable Mill Creek neighborhood. Jump in your golf cart for a minute drive to the Mill Creek Clubhouse, Mill Creek Golf Course, or a short cart ride to downtown Salado for lots of dining and shopping options!
\$337,500



1470 Trails End
 This is a beautiful home...all the time. The large covered front porch is great for greeting guest and enjoying the beautiful neighborhood.
\$991,000



4049 Aerie Street
 Another beautiful project from White River Homes only minutes from Salado ISD Schools and I-35! The Midland floor plan includes 4 beds + Office, 3 bathrooms, 3 car garage, and a spacious open concept main area / kitchen with 12' ceilings.
\$639,900



3000 W Amity Rd
 Come relax on your front porch overlooking your own 13 acre estate, conveniently located just one minute from I-35 or a couple of minutes to Salado schools! Enter through your private entrance gate being greeted by your own pond with water feature.
\$1,200,000



4037 Aerie Street
 Another beautiful project from White River Homes only minutes from Salado ISD Schools and I-35!
\$595,000



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DRAKE'S LANDING

Phase II homes now available from the \$370's




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Salado Homes Starting in the \$600's
 Multiple Homes Available

ACREAGE

79 Acres - TBD Fm 2268 Dr	20 Acres - 15919 Crows Ranch Rd
73 Acres - 19374 Pennington Branch Road	10.98 Acres - TBD S Main St
67 Acres - 1934 Live Oak Cemetery Road	9.2 Acres - 3484 W Amity Rd

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