



Village, Library races contested, McLane, Reed re-elected to SISD

Saladoans will have full ballots for the May 3 General Election.

Seven candidates have filed for three two-year terms on the Village of Salado Board of Aldermen.

Candidates in alphabetical order are Gail Allard II, Neil Dunch, Scott Hamilton, James (Jim) Lassiter, Jesse Mondragon, JoAnn Purser and Allen Sandor. Linda Reynolds withdrew her application on Feb. 18.

Eight candidates have filed for three two-year terms on the Salado Public Library District Board of Directors. They are Becky Michelle Huppert (incumbent), Christine Lanham, Philip Ray Lindner, Robert John Macko, Jr., Jill McKinney, Barbara Morris (incumbent), Dana Rojas, and

Stephen Sequeira. Incumbent Emmy Alvarez withdrew her name from the ballot.

The ballot will include a tax rollback for the Village of Salado to roll back the property tax from \$0.4860 per \$100 valuation to the Voter Approval Rate of \$0.3612 per \$100 valuation.

Amy McLane and Jim Reed will both be re-elected to three-year terms on the Salado Independent School District Board of Trustees.

The last day to register to vote or make a change of address effective for the May 3 election is April 3.

The first day of in-person Early Voting is April 22. The last day of in-person Early Voting is April 29. Polls will be open 7 a.m.-7 p.m. May 3.



Jordan Mitchell. (COURTESY PHOTO)

Jordan Mitchell Benefit Feb. 22 at Belton VFW

The Salado community is rallying behind 10-year-old Jordan Mitchell, who has been battling against High Risk B Cell Leukemia. A benefit barbecue lunch and live auction will be held at the Belton VFW Post 4008, 2311 South IH-35 frontage road in Belton.

All proceeds will go to help her and her single mother Keri Mitchell with living expenses and medical costs.

Barbecue smoked by Sam Vaca will be sold for \$15 per plate beginning at

11 a.m.

A live auction gaveled by Jamie Elkins will begin at 1 p.m. Items donated include quilts, home decor, YETI coolers, art, and more. Visit the Jordan Mitchell Benefit page on Facebook for more details and photos of donated items.

For any donations or more information, contact one of the following: Danny McDonald, 254-541-1030; Brenda Ivey, 512-417-9342; Johnny Smith, 254-316-2458.

Land Office Archivist will speak to Salado Lions Club Feb. 26

Kevin Klaus will be a special speaker for the Salado Lions Club 11:30 a.m. Feb. 26 in the Meadows auditorium of the Salado ISD Administration building, 601 N. Main St.

Klaus is the team leader of the Archives and Records Program Area Research Room of Texas General Land Office.

A native Texan, born on the Texas coast and growing up in the Hill Country, Klaus has had an interest in Texas history since early in his life.

He served eight years in the U.S. Army and was Honorably Discharged in 1998 in New Mexico. He returned to his home in Central Texas.

He has a background in Anthropology, Archeology, and Public History from the University of New Mexico.

For the last 23 years, he has served as one of the lead researchers in the Texas General Land Office Archives and Records Program Area.

During his time at the Land Office, he has searched the early Court of Claims files, the German Collection and archival collection to learn more about the history of Texas and discover the collection of personal letters of early soldiers and pioneers who helped settle the state of Texas.



Rusty Winkstern and his crew served a special Valentine's menu. (PHOTO BY TIM FLEISCHER)



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Valentine's dates at The Stagecoach Inn restaurant are (from front to back) Tim and Marilyn Fleischer, Tammy and David Hays, and Janet and Ron Gravette.

Stagecoach Inn to reopen restaurant this week

Stagecoach Inn restaurant reopens this week, following an extensive renovation and remodeling of the historic restaurant by the ownership group headed by David Hays.

The remodel included opening the kitchen to the dining and bar area and expanding the main dining room.

Catering to travelers and locals alike, The Stagecoach Restaurant is a longstanding traveler's pit-stop and town watering hole, serving Salado locals and passersby since 1947. The restaurant, which will be led by chef Rusty Winkstern, will offer guests breakfast, lunch, and dinner fare. Rusty and his team come from Monument Cafe and El Monumento in Georgetown and have created a contemporary menu where Old Texas tradition meets modern techniques.

The Stagecoach Restaurant will keep the fan-favorite hushpuppies and offer new standout items.

A Grand Reopening will be held at a later date.

Aldermen have full Agenda Feb. 20

Village of Salado aldermen have a full agenda for their 6:30 p.m. Feb. 20 meeting.

Agenda items are these:

- An agreement between the Village and the Salado Museum and College Park for programming services.
- Stagecoach Inn's submission of the 2025 annual budget and plan in accordance with the Stagecoach economic development program.
- Release and termina-

tion of temporary turnaround easement made by Billie Hanks, Jr., trustee of the Hanks-Cabiness Christian Trust.

- Consideration of final plat of Salado Sanctuary, North Tract.

- Consideration of an amended performance agreement with Sanctuary Development Company, LLC for the Salado Sanctuary Phase 1B project with completion date of March 30 and fiscal security of

\$130,952.35.

- Consideration of ordinance granting Celts International, LLC a franchise to operate and maintain a wastewater utility system within the Village.

- Ratifying approval of The Clydesdales Parade, sponsored by Jack Hilliard Distributing Company at about 2 p.m. March 15 on Main Street.

- Request from Texas Packard Group for police escort for April 5.

- Regeust from Heart of

Texas Xorvette Club to reserve parking spaces 5-7:30 p.m. March 6.

- Acceptance of financial reports ending Jan. 31.

- Discussion on parking issues and general safety concerns on Royal Street by the Village Lift Station and at the intersection of Main St. and Royal St.

- Disapproval of petition for release of area from the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction from Glenda Hill of 5.129 acre tract of land due to a defective petition.

Sales tax rebates for February 2025 to Bell County taxing entities

Entity	Rate	February 2025	February 2024	Change	YTD 2025	YTD 2024	Change
Belton	1.500%	\$1,047,756.20	\$850,338.74	23.21%	\$1,806,370.78	\$1,604,582.49	12.57%
Harker Heights	1.500%	\$1,246,982.72	\$1,182,213.63	5.47%	\$2,145,651.05	\$2,058,917.19	4.21%
Holland	1.000%	\$29,679.83	\$16,924.75	75.36%	\$38,890.53	\$29,382.37	32.36%
Killeen	1.500%	\$3,831,057.06	\$3,447,192.41	11.13%	\$6,613,231.08	\$6,177,473.29	7.05%
LR-Academy	1.000%	\$18,473.70	\$15,451.06	19.56%	\$30,592.64	\$27,378.67	11.73%
Morgans Point	1.500%	\$47,484.37	\$36,354.66	30.61%	\$76,491.66	\$64,100.83	19.33%
Nolanville	1.500%	\$163,689.56	\$168,329.50	-2.75%	\$313,250.60	\$447,282.95	-29.96%
Rogers	1.250%	\$182,288.30	\$12,550.36	1,352.45%	\$223,968.99	\$28,098.09	697.09%
Salado	1.000%	\$125,962.34	\$96,027.43	31.17%	\$203,956.87	\$176,315.42	15.67%
Temple	1.500%	\$4,181,133.66	\$4,989,157.68	-16.19%	\$7,248,480.03	\$7,810,172.65	-7.19%
Troy	1.500%	\$109,720.98	\$85,270.13	28.67%	\$188,347.14	\$167,708.06	12.30%
Salado Library	0.500%	\$96,092.64	\$74,006.39	29.84%	\$163,192.94	\$138,579.71	17.76%
Bell	0.500%	\$4,092,845.52	\$3,354,136.46	22.02%	\$6,862,201.03	\$6,085,538.41	12.76%

Village sees 31.2% jump in sales tax

Bell County and the Village of Salado both exceeded the state in the February sales tax rebate checks that were sent out by the Comptroller last week.

The Village of Salado saw a dramatic 31.2% increase in sales tax rebates for February 2025, when compared to 2024.

The Village will receive \$125,962.34, compared to last February's payment of \$96,027.43. For the calendar year, the Village has received \$203,956.87, an increase of 15.7% over 2024 year-to-date payments of \$176,315.42.

Bell County showed a 22% increase in sales tax

revenues compared to 2024. The County's February payment is \$4.09 million, compared to \$3.35 million last February. For the year, the county is 12.8% ahead, having received \$6.86 million, compared to \$6.09 million through February 2024.

The Village is one of three Bell County cities to levy a 1-cent sales tax, while seven other Bell County cities levy a 1.5 cent sales tax and Rogers levies a 1.25 cent sales tax.

The Salado Public Library District and Bell County each levy a half-cent sales tax.

For that half-cent tax, Salado Public Library Dis-

trict received a \$96,092.64 February check, which was 29.8% more than last February's payment of \$74,006.39. For the year, the Library received \$163,192.94, which is 17.8% more than the \$138,579.21 paid through February 2024.

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar sent cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$1.5 billion in local sales tax allocations for February, 9.4 percent more than in February 2024.

These allocations are based on sales made in December by businesses that report tax monthly; Octo-

ber, November and December sales by quarterly filers; and 2024 sales by businesses that report tax annually.

Cities received \$936.2 million in sales tax rebate check, an increase of 8.7% over February 2024.

Counties received \$89.8 million, an increase of 13.2% over February 2024.

The comptroller sent \$311.4 million to transit systems for February, an increase of 6.1% over February 2024.

Special purpose districts received \$149.7 million for February, 19.6% more than February 2024.

FORUM

Threat of tariffs may be causing spike in prices

The Markets

Our dearly beloved, venerable, and somewhat flawed indicator of the general direction of the U.S. stock market values, the S&P 500 Stock Index (SPX), had a good week. The Index was up 1.47% for the week, closing at 6114.63, after taking a dip mid-week as traders tried to figure out whose ox would be gored by what tariff. The SPX is almost 4% higher this year, up about 22% from last year at this time, and nearly 39% higher than three years ago. The other stock index we follow, the CRSP US Mid-Cap Value Index, as it seems to us to provide a better indicator of what the mainstream U.S. stock values are doing, was up 0.11% to 2849.68 at Friday's close, 1.87% higher than when the year began, and about 15% higher than a year ago.

The benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury rate fell about half a percent to end the week at 4.47% but remains about 5% higher than last year at this time when it was yielding 4.27%, and the yield is an astonishing 126% higher from three years ago when the yield was 1.96%. Fortunately for those who own U.S. Treasury money market funds, the very short-term Treasury obligations remained around 4.4%. The Treasury yield curve remained positive, with the 20-year bond yielding 4.75%. The price of a barrel of West Texas Intermediate crude oil (WTI) showed little change for the week as the price was \$70.62 at the close of U.S. trading, but that one-week view missed the rise to \$73.61 mid-day Tuesday, and a second price spike that occurred mid-day Friday. International traders in

Market & Economic Update

by Jeffrey W. McClure



commodities are spooked.

The Economy

We have to pour over the data in some weeks to find the most relevant economic data. In other weeks, it is clear that one data point is significant. This week was one of the latter.

For the past couple of years, inflation, as measured by the Labor Department's Consumer Price Index (CPI), has gradually declined, with the annual one-year trailing rate falling to around 2.5% late last year. The release of the January 2025 report indicates a reversal in that trend. The 12-month trailing CPI rose to 3.0%, but perhaps the more alarming statistic is that the last two months have seen a substantial increase, with January's one-month CPI hitting 0.5%, an annualized increase of 6%. If we pull the highly volatile food and fuel numbers out of the tally, revealing the "core" CPI, the picture doesn't improve as the so-called "core CPI" has risen 3.3% in the last 12 months.

So what caused this, and what is it likely to mean? A lot has been and is being written about this, but it is clear that prices started to climb as soon as the election results were finalized. Why? First, it seems logical to us that if a President is elected who has promised to impose high-level tariffs, there will be a rush to purchase things that may be subject to those tariffs. The law of supply and demand states that prices will rise if there is a sudden rise in demand with no accompanying increase in supply. The problem with that explanation is that commercial goods inventories declined in January, suggesting that commercial hoarding has not occurred. If businesses were accelerating purchases to avoid tariffs, one would think that their unsold inventory would rise. Another flaw in that logic is that

the most significant price increase among commodities was a 2.2% rise in the price of used cars and small trucks.

Inflation is the prime factor in short-term interest rates because anyone loaning money wants to receive back a little more than inflation in short-term, high-quality loans. It is also a significant factor in intermediate rates for the same reason. However, inflation is primarily driven by consumer expectations, at least in the United States, and collectively, the U.S. consumer sometimes appears to be surprisingly sophisticated. For example, because of the average quantity of steel and aluminum used in a typical car or small truck, a careful analysis of what a 25% tariff on steel and aluminum would do to the price of the average car reveals that it will increase the U.S. sales price by about 3%. In the end, an import tariff is a federal sales tax. Since our experience has shown that a tariff will raise the cost of imported goods and domestic manufacturers will raise their prices by the same amount, 3% inflation suddenly looks rational. With more tariffs in the works, combined with a reduction in the number of people available to perform manual labor, we consider it very likely that inflation will continue to be higher than the Fed's target and that interest rates will remain higher than we have seen in the past couple of decades.

Meanwhile, U.S. economic growth still appears to be healthy. However, given the ongoing interest rate environment and limited infrastructure capacity in the U.S., we may be near capacity in some areas. We can confidently state that we are in uncharted territory as international trade adjusts to a new tariff regime from the world's largest purchaser.

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Vendors Chair

Works to find new vendors and recruit past vendors. Is the primary point of contact for all vendor-related questions, and maintains contact with vendors leading up to the festival. Designs and assists with setting up layout for the vendor portion of the event.

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Letters to the editor can be emailed to news@saladovillagevoice.com or mailed to Salado Village Voice, PO Box 587, Salado, TX 76571. They can be delivered to 213 Mill Creek Dr., Suite #125



Drive-thru Ash Wednesday set March 5 by New Life Methodist Church Salado

Get ready to embark on a spiritual journey this Lenten season with New Life Methodist Church Salado's unique drive-thru imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday, March 5.

"Start your day with a sacred touch of tradition as you prepare your hearts and minds for the celebration of Easter," Pastor Tom Lathen said.

"Our drive-thru tradition began in 2023 due to the absence of our permanent sanctuary," he added. "Now, even as we plan our new church building on

Williams Road, it's wonderful to keep this meaningful practice alive."

Drive-thru ashes will be available from 7-9 a.m. in the parking area next to the Salado Museum, and from 4-7 p.m. near the church property along Williams Road, close to Salado Middle School. The church continues to hold Sunday services at Salado Middle School, a location that has graciously accommodated their growing congregation.

"Our congregation has flourished at the Middle School, where we gather for Adult Education and Wor-

ship every Sunday morning," noted Lay Leader John Perry.

The Lenten season doesn't stop there. The church will have its third annual Stations of the Cross, a moving crosswalk through downtown Salado, taking place on Good Friday, April 18.

Good Friday services will be 6 p.m. inside the Salado Museum.

Easter Sunday, will be celebrated on April 20 at 10 a.m. at the Middle School.

"Everyone is welcome to join this joyous occasion," Lathen said.

Bell County Historical Commission meets Feb. 24

The Bell County Historical Commission will show a video instruction of the

Open Meetings Act. The meeting and program are Feb. 24 at 6 p.m. in the Old

Bell County Courthouse on the first floor.

The public is encouraged to attend.



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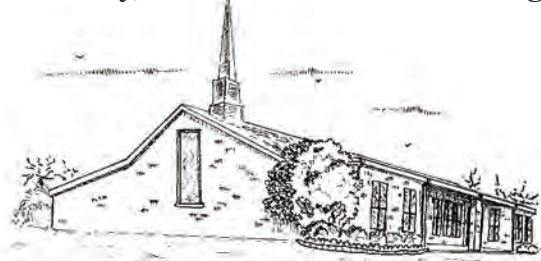
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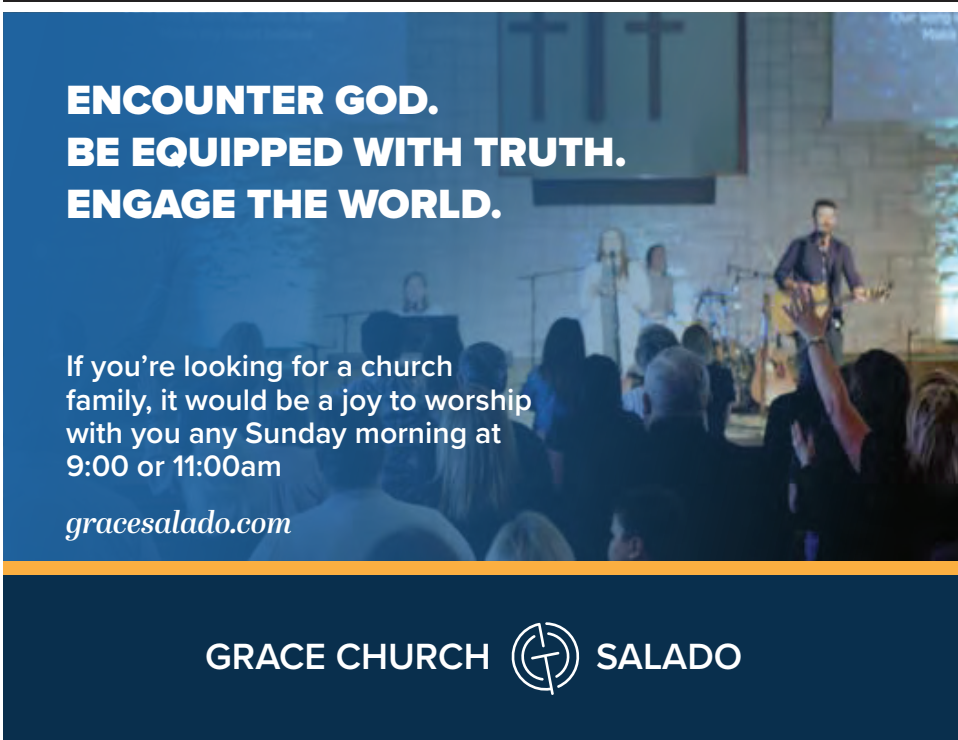
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Tickets still available for Public Arts League of Salado annual Taste of Salado

The Public Arts League of Salado (PALS) will host the annual Taste of Salado on Feb. 24 at Tenroc Ranch.

Tickets are \$30 per person and are now on sale at centraltexas tickets.com.

This event raises funds for the purchase and maintenance of sculpture in the Salado Sculpture Garden and on Main Street. The funds also go toward student scholarships that encourage the arts in our community.

Happy hour beginning at 5 p.m. will include music, libations, and a silent auction. Dinner goodies provided by area restaurants will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by a live auction.

Participating food and beverage vendors include Cowboy's Barbecue, The

Gin, Coronas De Oro, McCain's Cafe and Bakery, Napoli's Italian Restaurant, Provecho, Small Cakes, Stagecoach Inn Restaurant, That Green Trailer, Chupacabra Kitchen, Bar 1859, The Strawberry Patch, Empresario Wines, The Local Vine and Greenfield's Coffee, Cocktails, Barrels and Brew.

Live auction items include an art party with local artist Helen Alexander, Breakfast for eight served by Jill Shipman and Cathy Sands, Laughing Llama Farms experience for four, Rolley Correa Dove Hunt for four, Terry Crain Handyman Service, Jet's Quilt, Michael Alexandersson two hour performance at your local location, seasons tickets to the Temple Symphony,

a round of golf for four at Mill Creek Golf Course, and a tandem skydive with Skylark skydiving.

Contributing to the Silent Auction are Brookshire Brothers Floral Department, Yellow House B&B, 21 Main, Christy's of Salado, Salado Creek Jewelry, Serendipity Teas, Blink of Texas, Salado Cleaners, Salado Glassworks, Red Barn Hideaway, H & H Interiors, The Flower Shoppe, Iron Orchid Bodyworks, The Village Spa, Pet Portrait, Pet Sitting, The Pen Station, Village Mill Antiques, Bourbon Speaks, Scissors Hair Shop. MAKS and Salado Antique Mall.

PALS invites everyone to this annual event that supports public art in Salado.

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JORDAN MITCHELL BENEFIT

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 Live auction by Jamie Elkins

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Local historian to discuss relocation of cemeteries for Stillhouse Dam

Salado Museum and College Park will host a presentation by renowned historian Keith George in the Lucile A. Robertson Center at 10 a.m. March 1. George is a member of the Bell County Historical Commission as Vice Chair and Chairs its Preservation and Grants Committees. His talk will focus on the

Stillhouse Hollow Dam project which necessitated the relocation of cemeteries from the valley along the Lampasas River where many of Salado's early settlers were buried. The event is free and open to the public with donations welcome at the door.

"Following George's presentation, museum staff members will hold a tour of our historic Salado Museum building and the Salado College ruins on College Hill," says Lynette Jones, Museum Executive Director. "The tour will include a brief history of Texas Independence Day and the significant role Empresario Sterling Robertson played in establishing the Republic

of Texas on March 2, 1836."

In 1825, Robertson acquired lands grants from Mexico and is credited with bringing 600 families to this area, mostly of Scottish ancestry, to form the first large colony in Central Texas. In 1859 his son Col. Elijah Sterling C. Robertson donated land to a corporation formed to build a college and lay out and sell lots for a town to be called Salado. "During the tour on College Hill, attendees will view the statue of Colonel Robertson in which he is depicted in his Republic of Texas uniform," Jones adds.

Today, the mission of the Salado Museum is to promote and preserve the pioneer history of Salado

through educational and literary programs and exhibits that document the settlement and heritage of the area. The museum maintains the ruins and grounds of Salado College built in 1860 by visionary pioneers who established a co-educational facility for students grade one through two years of college based on the then unconventional belief that both men and women deserved equal access to higher education in a nondenominational setting.

Texas Independence Day is the celebration of the adoption of the Texas Declaration of Independence on March 2, 1836. With this document, signed by 59 delegates, settlers in Mexican Texas officially declared independence from Mexico and created the Republic of Texas.

The Salado Museum and College Park is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located in a historic stone building at 423 South Main Street in Salado across from the Stagecoach Inn. College Park is located just south of the museum. Donations are always welcome and volunteers are always needed to help maintain this important part of Salado's history. www.saladomuseum.org.

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Village of Salado Calendar of Special Events

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. Holly at Salado Public Library, 11 a.m.
 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
 Music Muchkins, 10 a.m., Salado Public Library.
 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.
 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

February 20
 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.
February 20-22
 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 21
 Teen Advisory Board, 4:30 p.m., Salado Public Library.
February 21
 Rossler's Blue Cord BBQ food truck, 4:30 p.m.-sold out., Bourbons Speaks, #2 Peddler's Alley.
February 21
 Live music at Axis Winery, 1420 N. Robertson Rd., 4 p.m., Dillon Lankford.
February 21
 Live music at Bar 1859, 7-10 p.m., The Caterwaulers.
February 21
 Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 6 p.m., Last Train to Clarksville.
February 21
 Live music at Chupacabra, 7 p.m., Kyle Mathis.
February 21-22
 Blow-Your-Own St. Patrick's Day Event at Salado Glassworks. Blown Mug, Sipper or Tumbler, \$90 (ages 12+). Fridays 3-5 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration opens January 23. Register online at saladoglassworks.com.
February 22
 Lions Roar 5K Run/Walk, 9 a.m., Salado Civic Center. Sign up <https://runsignup.com/Race/TX/Salado/LionsRoad5KRunWalk>.

February 22
 Live music at Bar 1859, 7-10 p.m., Ray Palousek, pianist.
February 22
 Live music at Chupacabra, 8 p.m., Dean Paul Willeford.
February 23
 Live music at Axis Winery, 1420 N. Robertson Rd., 2 p.m., Ed Kliman.
February 23
 Live music at Barrow Brewing Co., 4 p.m., Fred Fuller.
February 24
 Adults: Shamrock Burlap Banner, pre-register at front desk, 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., Salado Public Library.
February 24
 Public Arts League annual Taste of Salado, Tenroc Ranch, 5 p.m. Happy Hour, 6:30 p.m. dinner goodies provided by area restaurants. Tickets \$30 at centraltexas tickets.com.
February 26
 Salado Lions Club luncheon meeting, 11:30 a.m., Salado Civic Center.
February 26
 Barrow Brewing Co., guest food truck, 4-8 p.m., Simply Porkfection.
February 27
 Salado Chamber of Commerce coffee with Village Leadership, 8:30 a.m., Salado Museum.
February 27
 Salado Area Republican Women, 11 a.m., Salado Civic Center.
February 27
 Pint Night at Chupacabra Craft Beer, 4 p.m.-midnight. Get a free pint glass with every purchase of the featured brewery, Hop Fusion.
February 27
 Teen Crafters Workshop, pre-register at front desk, 4:30 p.m., Salado Public Library.
February 28
 Live music at Axis Winery, 1420 N. Robertson Rd., 4 p.m., Russell Weller.
February 28
 Teens Karaoke and Colosing, 4:30 p.m., Salado Public Library.
February 28
 Live music at Chupacabra, 7 p.m., Kelany Brent.
February 28-March 1
 Blow-Your-Own St. Patrick's Day Event at Salado Glassworks. Blown Mug, Sipper or Tumbler, \$90 (ages 12+). Fridays 3-5 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration opens January 23. Register online at saladoglassworks.com.
March 1
 Launch of ToneSculpt at Village Spa, 216 Royal Street. ToneSculpt is non-invasive process that slims, tones and builds muscle. Free demos and special pricing during the launch. Call 254-293-6600 to reserve your spots now!
March 1
 Historian Keith George will speak on the relocation of local cemeteries as part of the Stillhouse Hollow Dam project, 10 a.m., March 1, Salado

Museum, followed by tour of Museum and College Hill Park. Open to public and free of charge.
March 1
 Texas Pizza Festival, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Barrow Brewing Co., 108 Royal St. Adult GA tickets are \$20 and include four slices. Child GA tickets are \$10 and get them two slices. Pizza trucks participating include Barrow Brewing Company's resident truck, Happy Pizza Company, Bahler Street Pizza, Pizza Pieros, Treno Pizzeria, Nocco Pizzeria, Waco Artisan Pizza, Carter Brothers Pizza, and Scott's Pizza.
March 5
 Drive-thru Ash Wednesday, New Life Methodist Church. Two impositions of ashes: 7-9 a.m. in parking area of the Salado Museum and 4-7 p.m. near the Church property on Williams Rd.
March 6
 Pint Night at Chupacabra Craft Beer, 4 p.m.-midnight. Get a free pint glass with every purchase of the featured brewery, Locust.
March 7-8
 Blow-Your-Own St. Patrick's Day Event at Salado Glassworks. Blown Mug, Sipper or Tumbler, \$90 (ages 12+). Fridays 3-5 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration opens January 23. Register online at saladoglassworks.com.
March 7-8
 Second Annual Heritage Country Church CPRA/UPRA Rodeo, produced by Diamond Cross Rodeo Co. Gates open at 6 p.m. Rodeo starts at 7:15 pm. Free admission. There will be bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, ranch bronc riding, calf roping, team roping, women's break-a-way roping, steer dogging, barrel race, bull riding, mutton busting.
March 9
 Salado Market Days, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Salado Antique Mall, 721 Stagecoach Road. Salado's original Market Days event.
March 9
 Free prep class for Salado Starlet and Sparkler hopefuls for 2025-26 school year, 5-6:30 p.m. at Thomas Arnold Elementary 3 gym. Parent meeting at 5:30 p.m.
March 13
 Pint Night at Chupacabra Craft Beer, 4 p.m.-midnight. Get a free pint glass with every purchase of the featured brewery, St. Arnold's.
March 13
 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, Waterford, Ireland.
March 13
 Mayor Town Hall meeting, 6:30 p.m., Village of Salado Municipal Building, 301 N. Stagecoach Rd.



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Heart for the Arts benefiting Salado Cultural Arts District featured a performance by Richard Paul Thomas, an art show with proceeds from sales split between the artist and SCAD and a chance to gather with friends for wine and an Italian dinner. Above right are Tiffany Schreiner, show curator Kay Griffith, Ann Harder, Cathy Sands and Sheryl Russell.



COURTESY PHOTO



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Valentine's at The Venue

The Venue by Inn on the Creek hosted a special Valentine's Weekend concert Feb. 15. Michael Alexandersson (top left) headlined the show, performing songs from Frank Sinatra to Elvis Presley and more. Timeless Band opened the show (middle, right). A specialty small plate menu had offerings by Alexander's Craft Kitchen and Cocktails. The Evening celebrated couples. Michael and Judith Miller of Round Rock were honored as the longest married couple there. They have been married for 57 years. The Venue will host other concerts and seasonal events during the year. Last December, The Venue was the location of a Christmas market during the Christmas Stroll. Inn on the Creek properties also hosted live music throughout the Stroll weekend with performers at The Shed, Alexander's Craft Kitchen and Cocktails and The Venue. Announcements of upcoming events will be in the Salado Village Voice Calendar of Events.



(PHOTOS BY MARILYN FLEISCHER)

VFW POST 12235 SALADO, TX

CALLING ALL LOCAL MUSICIANS

Come support the VFW Post 12235
What: Music Festival
Location: Barrow Brewing Company
108 Royal Street, Salado, TX
Date: March 30, 2025 (1-7pm)

What We're Looking For

- The platform is open to bands, solo artists, etc. who would love to donate their time
- All genres of music
- Sponsors

* All artists will be featured across all social media platforms and In Veteran Lifestyle Magazine

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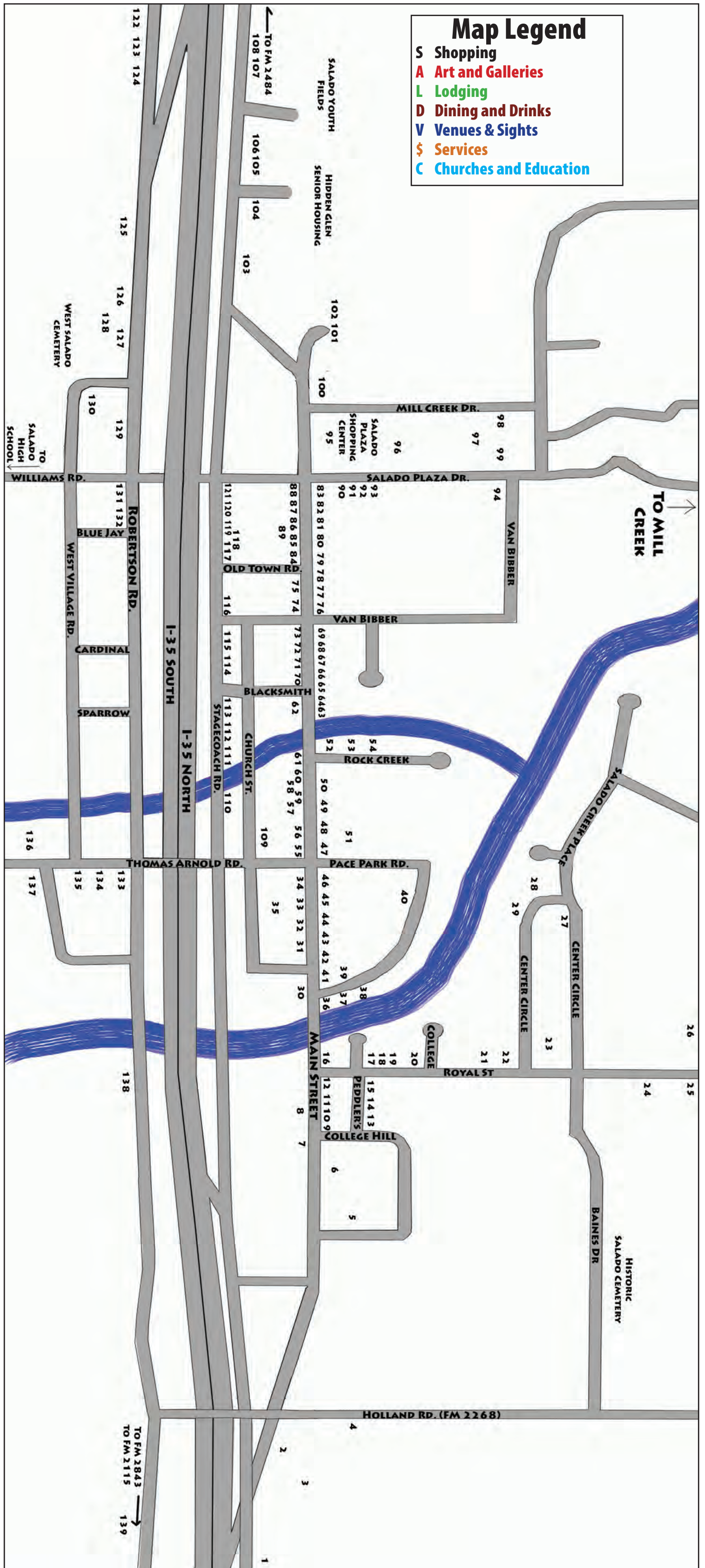
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Shopping Map of Salado

#	Business Name	Type
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	\$
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
13	Bourbon Speaks 254-308-2045	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	\$
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
116	Salado Creek Antiques 254-947-1800	S
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) 254-541-5659	\$
139	Cedar Valley Baptist Church 254-947-0148	C
Not Shown on the Map		
	New Life Methodist Church meets at Salado Middle School 3C Cowboy Fellowship 254-947-7211	C
	Grace Church 254-947-5917	C
	Heritage Country Church 254-239-7106	C
	Mill Creek Country Club	V
	Anytime Fitness Salado 254-947-1063	S



Map Legend

- S Shopping
- A Art and Galleries
- L Lodging
- D Dining and Drinks
- V Venues & Sights
- \$ Services
- C Churches and Education

Historical Markers in Salado

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	

Lady Eagles start softball 6-2

By TIM FLEISCHER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Salado Lady Eagles softball are 6-2 after competing in the Calallen Tournament Feb. 13-15 and getting wins over Lexington and China Spring.

The Lady Eagles beat last year's 6A State Champion Weslaco and 5A State Finalist Harlingen South. The two losses in the tournament were to the top two teams in 4A: #1 Calallen and #2 Liberty.

	R	H	E
CHS	6	7	0
SHS	1	5	1

Salado Lady Eagles lost 6-1 to Calallen in their final game on Feb. 15 to go 4-2 in the Calallen tournament..

Calallen scored a run in the second and fourth innings and two runs in the third and fifth innings.

Salado scored a run in the fifth inning.

Kaitlyn Weber led off the bottom of the fifth with a walk. She advanced on a stolen base and scored on a single by Giselle Salazar.

Salazar led the girls with a hit and an RBI. Weber had a hit, a walk and a run. Zoe Dodge had a double. Brooklyn Williamson and Shelby Dodge hit singles.

Kendall Trautmann pitched four innings for the loss. She allowed four runs, three of them earned. She walked six and struck out five. Aubree Zammat closed the game, with two earned runs on three hits, one walk and one strike out.

	R	H	E
WHS	1	5	1
SHS	2	5	1

Salado Lady Eagles scored two runs in the fifth with two outs in sixth to beat Weslaco 2-1 Feb. 15.

With one out and empty bases, Giselle Salazar walked and advanced on a wild pitch. Zoe Dodge flew out to center-field. Brooklyn Williamson knocked in courtesy runner Kenlee Cervenka with a double to right. She scored on a walk-off single by Toni Pugh.

Williamson had a hit, an RBI and a run to lead Salado. Pugh had a hit and an RBI. Ryley Litchfield, Shelby Dodge and Zoe Dodge each had a hit while courtesy runner Cervenka scored a run.

Ally Schauer got the win, pitching six innings. She gave up five hits and walked three, striking out six. Weslaco scored an earned run against her in the fifth on a bases-loaded walk.

	R	H	E
SHS	3	3	1
LHS	7	6	2

Salado Lady Eagles lost to Liberty 7-3 on Feb. 14.

Toni Pugh hit a solo home-run in the top of the fifth inning to tie the score at 1-1.

Liberty answered with six runs in the bottom of the frame.

Salado added two runs in the sixth. Ryley Litchfield

reached on a walk and advanced on a wild pitch. She scored on an error that allowed Giselle Salazar to reach third. Salazar scored on a single by Zoe Dodge, who was stranded.

Kendall Trautmann was issued the loss, pitching 4-1/3 innings, giving up five earned runs, walking eight and striking out four.

Aubree Zammat closed, giving up two runs and a walk.

	R	H	E
SHS	2	4	5
HSHS	1	2	0

Despite committing five errors, Salado Lady Eagles beat Harlingen South 2-1 Feb. 14.

Harlingen took a 1-0 lead in the fourth.

Salado tied it in the sixth. Ryley Litchfield led off with a walk and scored on a double by Zoe Dodge.

Giselle Salazar scored in the seventh, leading off with a walk, advancing on a sacrifice by Shelby Dodge and scoring on a single by Ally Schauer.

Also getting hits for the Lady Eagles were Brooklyn Williamson and Toni Pugh.

Ally Schauer pitched the whole game, allowing one run, walking four and striking out eight batters.

	R	H	E
LHS	1	2	5
SHS	11	12	2

Salado Lady Eagles clobbered Lyford Lady Bulldogs 11-1 in a mercy rule shortened game Feb. 13.

Ryley Litchfield scored in the first inning, leading off with a single. She scored on a fielder's choice that also allowed Shelby Dodge to reach base.

She led off the third with a double and scored on back-to-back errors that allowed Zoe Dodge to reach base and score and Brooklyn Williamson to reach base. Williamson advanced on a sacrifice by Giselle Salazar and scored on a single by Paisley Freimel to make the score 4-0.

Lyford scored in the bottom of the frame and then Salado poured on seven runs in the top of the fourth.

Kenlee Cervenka led off the inning with a single, reaching second on an error on the play. With one out, Zoe Dodge homered. Williamson singled and advanced on Salazar being hit by the pitcher, Toni Pugh knocked both runners in with a double. She scored on a single by Kendall Trautmann. Trautmann scored on a single by Litchfield.

Litchfield led Salado with three hits, an RBI and two runs.

Also contributing were Shelby Dodge, two hits, two RBI and a run; Trautmann; two hits, and RBI and a run; Zoe Dodge, one hit, two RBI, two runs; Friemel, one hit, two RBI, one run; Williamson, Pugh and Cervenka, one hit each.

Kaitlyn Weber got the win, pitching two innings with an earned run, four walks and three strikeouts. Trautmann



Kendall Trautmann throws a Lexington runner out at first in 4-0 win. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

closed, striking out four.

	R	H	E
LHS	0	4	4
SHS	9	9	1
CCVM	5	7	1

Salado Lady Eagles started off the tournament with a 9-5 win over Corpus Christi Veterans Memorial on Feb. 13.

Brooklyn Williamson gave Salado an early lead with a two-out solo homerun in the top of the first.

Corpus Christi answered with a run in the second. They took a 2-1 lead in the third.

The Lady Eagles scored six runs in the top of the fourth. Williamson led off with a triple to right, scoring on a single by Kaitlyn Weber. Toni Pugh walked. Giselle Salazar singled to plate Weber. Kenlee Cervenka walked to load the bases with two outs. Ryley Litchfield singled to deep right to score two runners. Zoe Dodge singled to deep left to score two runners before being left stranded.

Corpus Christi scored three runs in the fourth.

The Lady Eagles added two more in the fifth. Weber led off with a walk. Errors allowed Pugh to reach second and Weber third. Salazar singled to score Weber. Shelby Dodge singled to score Pugh.

Litchfield led the girls with two hits, two RBI and a run.

Also contributing were Salazar, two hits, two RBI, Williamson, two hits, one RBI, two runs; Zoe Dodge, one hit, two RBI; Weber one hit, one RBI, two runs; Shelby Dodge, one hit, one RBI; Cervenka and Trautmann, one run each.

Ally Schauer pitched the entire game. She walked three and struck out two. Corpus Christi scored four earned runs against her on seven hits.

Litchfield led the girls with two hits, two RBI and a run.

Also contributing were Salazar, two hits, two RBI, Williamson, two hits, one RBI, two runs; Zoe Dodge, one hit, two RBI; Weber one hit, one RBI, two runs; Shelby Dodge, one hit, one RBI; Cervenka and Trautmann, one run each.

Ally Schauer pitched the entire game. She walked three and struck out two. Corpus Christi scored four earned runs against her on seven hits.

Litchfield led the girls with two hits, two RBI and a run.

Also contributing were Salazar, two hits, two RBI, Williamson, two hits, one RBI, two runs; Zoe Dodge, one hit, two RBI; Weber one hit, one RBI, two runs; Shelby Dodge, one hit, one RBI; Cervenka and Trautmann, one run each.

Ally Schauer pitched the entire game. She walked three and struck out two. Corpus Christi scored four earned runs against her on seven hits.

	R	H	E
LHS	0	4	4
SHS	4	5	0

The Lady Eagles shut out Lexington 4-0 in their first home game of the season Feb. 17.

Salado scored a run in the third. Kaitlyn Weber hit a triple to deep right and scored on a sacrifice bunt by Giselle Salazar.

The Lady Eagles added three in the fifth. With one out, Weber singled, stole second and scored on a single by Salazar. Zoe Dodge reached on an error that allowed courtesy runner Kenlee Cervenka to score. Dodge scored on an error.

Weber led the girls with two hits and two runs. Salazar had a hit and two RBI; Dodge, a hit and a run, Toni Pugh, a double.

Kendall Trautmann pitched the entire game for the shut out. She gave up four hits, walked three and struck out three. She got out of three innings with runners in scoring position.

Salado Lady Eagles started the softball season with a 19-9 win over China Spring Feb. 10, garnering 14 hits.

Ryley Litchfield had three hits (one double), three RBI and three runs to lead Salado.

Zoe Dodge had three hits, three RBI and three runs.

Also contributing were Toni Pugh, two hits, three RBI, two runs; Brooklynn Williamson, two hits, two RBI, two runs; Ally Schauer, two hits, an RBI, two runs; Giselle Salazar, one hit, one RBI, one run; Aubree Zammat, one hit; Shelby Dodge, two RBI, one run; Paisley Freimel and Kaitlyn Weber, two runs each.

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Two Salado films have reached the UIL Young Filmmakers state finals. Amanda Sqobbo and Ben Wickert are looking for a four-peat while Brooklynn Winkler made the finals in Animation. (COURTESY PHOTO)

Salado film squad sends 2 to finals

Two Salado Film Squad films reached the state finals of the UIL Young Filmmakers competition. Six films in each category made the state finals. This year 778 films were submitted.

The UIL State Film Festival will be at the University of Texas at the Hogg Auditorium on Feb. 26. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Narrative

Remember by Ben Wickert and Amanda Sqobbo (State Champions 2022, 2023, 2024)

To watch the film go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPObbWFwrFo>

Animation

The Key of Elmwood by Brooklynn Winkler

To watch the film go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rw9eEsM3qDs>

Eagles end season with win over MF

Salado varsity Eagles ended their basketball season on the road Feb. 11 with a 52-27 win over Marble Falls. The Eagles finished with a record of 13-19, 4-8 in District 24-4A play, where they finished in fifth place.

SHS	52
MFHS	27

Salado Eagles jumped out to a 9-4 first quarter lead and never looked back, beating Marble Falls 52-27. They led 16-8 at the half and 35-18 after three.

Liam Wilcox led the Eagles with 17 points, two rebounds, an assist, two steals and a block.

Griffin Self followed with 11 points, eight rebounds, three assists and a deflection.

Also scoring for the Eagles were Bryson Byers, six points, 11 rebounds, an assist and a steal; Mason Brown, six points, seven rebounds, five assists, three deflections, three steals and four blocks; Ryder Balmos, five points, three rebounds, two deflections and a steal; Korbin Konarik, four points, three rebounds, an assist, a deflection, two steals and two blocks; and Colby Ramm three points, two rebounds, two assists and a steal.

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Good Luck from your 'Home' Team

Lady Eagles beat La Grange 69-39

Salado Lady Eagles faced Hamshire-Fannett in the regional semi-finals at 6 p.m. Feb. 18 at Montgomery High School. The game was played after press deadline for this edition.

The Lady Eagles beat La Grange 69-39 Feb. 14. Salado held a slim 15-

12 first quarter lead. They led 29-26 at the half before exploding for 21 points in the third and holding La Grange to 11 points. The Lady Eagles outscored La Grange 19-2 in the fourth.

Ally Ihler led the girls with 29 points, five rebounds, two assists, four deflections, a steal and a block.

Karlee Konarik followed with 18 points, six rebounds, three assists, nine deflections, three steals and a block.

Riley Guthrie had double figures, scoring 11 points, seven rebounds, five assists, five deflections, three steals and a block.

Also contributing in the win were Brylee Craddick, five points and two rebounds; Bri Tutor, four points and seven rebounds; Kate Maedgen, four points, three rebounds, two assists, two deflections and three steals; Mack Lewis, three points; Jenna Goodman, four rebounds, two deflections, a steal and a block; and Morgan Riggs, a rebound.



Bri Tutor wins the rebound battle in Area Playoff win against La Grange. (PHOTO BY ROYCE WIGGIN)

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Salado Eagles soccer shut out opponents

Salado Eagles beat Cameron 12-0 in a district game Feb. 14.

Gabe Merriman led the Eagles in scoring with 4 goals. Also scoring for the Eagles were Owen Stone, 2 goals; Caine Cruddas 2 goals; Braden Dildine, Cole Foster, Kyler Stock, Hughston Taggart.

Hughston Taggart led the Eagles in assists with 4. Also making assists were:

Gabe Merriman, 2; Davis Kasper, Brody DeLukie, Caine Cruddas, DeMonte Foster, Kyler Stock.

Salado Eagles defeated Giddings 4-0 in a district game Feb. 12.

Caine Cruddas led the Eagles in scoring with 2 goals. DeVonte Foster and Hughston Taggart scored in the Eagles win. Assists were made by Brody DeLukie, DeVonte Foster, Caine Cruddas and DaMonte Foster.

Lady Eagles soccer win district games

Salado Lady Eagles dominated Cameron 8-0 in a district game Feb. 14. Kinleigh Fulton led the Lady Eagles in scoring with 2 goals. Also scoring for Salado were: Shelby Hollywood, Reese Lange, Sydney Lange, Cade Harris, Cassie Vargas and Izzy Blancaflor.

Salado Lady Eagles defeated a Giddings in a district game 5-0 Feb.12. Scoring for Salado were: Izzy Blancaflor, Sofia Cadenas, Shelby Hollywood, Kenadi Smith and Sydney Lange. Sydney Lange scored her 50th career goal in the game and Shelby Hollywood made her 50th career assist.

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House takes up vouchers

The first bill in Texas regarding private school vouchers/Education Savings Accounts (ESAs) was filed back in 1956. Thus, the Texas Legislature has been debating private school vouchers/ESAs for almost 70 years.

However, none of these bills have ever passed both the Texas Senate and the Texas House. That trend continued in 2023 during the regular legislative session and four additional special sessions. While the majority of the Texas Senate supported school vouchers/ESAs, the majority of the Texas House did not.

Governor Abbott posted on his Facebook page on January 4, "2025 will be the year that Texas PASSES school choice!" However, school choice has already existed for 100 years. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1925 that the right to choose a private education is protected by the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Thus, parents already have the choice to enroll their children in public school, private school, homeschool, or charter school.

Of course not all families can afford private school. If the goal of vouchers/ESAs is school choice, then the vouchers/ESAs should only be provided to economically disadvantaged families. However, if vouchers/ESAs are provided to families that can already afford private school, then they will not increase school choice and will instead use those taxpayer dollars to subsidize private school for the wealthy.

The Texas Senate approved Senate Bill 2 on February 5. This bill allocates \$1 billion for private school vouchers/ESAs.

Superintendent's Corner

by Dr. Michael Novotny



Unfortunately, the income limits set by this bill would allow wealthy families (that can already afford private school) to receive these vouchers/ESAs. Instead of using the income limits set for free or reduced meal eligibility in public schools (which 62.3% of students in Texas public schools qualify), this bill sets the income limits at FIVE TIMES the federal poverty thresholds. Thus, this bill sets the income limits at \$133,250 for a family of three, \$160,750 for a family of four, and \$188,250 for a family of five. Furthermore, these income limits would only apply to 80% of the vouchers/ESAs and the remaining 20% could go to families without any income limits.

Senate Bill 2 also does not apply adequate academic accountability to private schools that would taxpayer-funded vouchers/ESAs. By comparison, the Texas public school academic accountability system includes an A through F letter grade assigned to each school and district based on reading, mathematics, science, and social studies achievement, attendance rates, military enlistment rates, vocational certification rates, SAT/ACT scores, college dual credit completion rates, and graduation rates. For example, Salado ISD earned a score of 88 out of 100 on our most recent academic accountability rating. This information is publicly available on the Texas Education Agency website for all schools and districts. However, Senate Bill 2 does not include this

same academic accountability and transparency for private schools that accept taxpayer funded vouchers/ESAs.

Furthermore, Senate Bill 2 does not apply financial accountability to private schools. All Texas public schools receive a Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) score annually based on 21 different financial indicators and resulting in a score from 0 to 100. Salado ISD earned a score of 98 out of 100 on our most recent financial accountability rating. Senate Bill 2 would not apply this financial accountability to private schools receiving taxpayer funded vouchers/ESAs.

Senate Bill 2 will now be considered by the Texas House. If the Texas House does approve this bill, hopefully they will include amendments regarding more appropriate income limits and academic and financial accountability. Those guardrails could ensure that vouchers/ESAs will only be provided to families that can't afford private school and that there is a good return on investment of that \$1 billion of our taxpayer dollars.

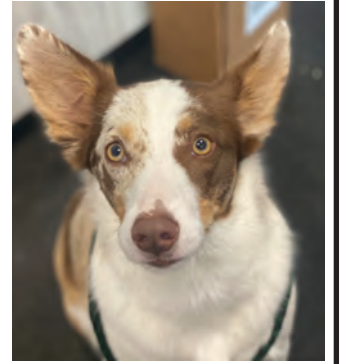
Anyone interested in sharing their opinion regarding Senate Bill 2 should contact our state legislators: Representative Brad Buckley, Texas House District 54, (512) 463-0684 or (254) 947-5026

Senator Pete Flores, Texas Senate District 24, (512) 463-0124 or (254) 939-3854

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National FFA Week gives every FFA member in every chapter the opportunity to join voices in raising awareness of FFA and advocating for agriculture in our communities and across the country.



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Bekah Sutton, Madeline Rakowitz, Dalynes Marrero, Hannah Lane, & Kaci Atchison received their Lone Star FFA Degree at the 96th Annual State Convention in Houston!



The Salado FFA officer team having a blast at the Area 12 Leadership Convention.



Chloe Rose, Pictured with her Grand champion Stock horse and Buckle!



Luke Bingham, Owen Piatt, And Richard McCain showing their Ag Mech project at the Fort Worth stock Show.



Ag Mechanics students exhibit projects at the Bell County Youth Fair!



Ag Product ID teams compete at the State Fair of Texas!



Landon Bufkin, competing in the Houston Archery contest!



Maddie Casper, and Savanna Carol Showing their Rabbits at Bell county Youth fair!



The officer team doing a gift exchange with the Troy FFA officer team at the opening night football game!



Owen Piatt, competing in the torch contest in San Angelo stock show!



Avery Sutton at the annual Trunk - OR - Treat!



Members ride on the annual Salado Stroll Christmas Parade float!



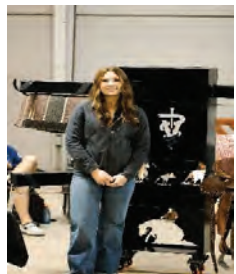
Vet Science team ready to compete!



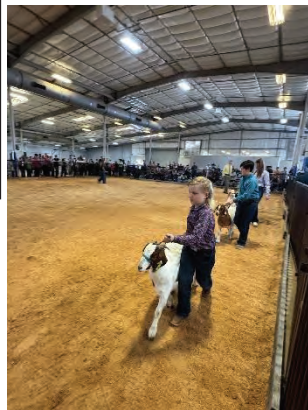
Landon Crum showing his breeding rabbit at the Bell County Youth Fair!



Millye Edwards showing her Sheep at the Bell County Youth Fair



Katelynn Palousek exhibits her Saddle Rack at the Bell County Youth Fair!



Brynlee Myers showing her AG Mech project at the Bell County Youth Fair!



Brooke Foster showing her chickens at the Bell County Youth Fair!



Kolton Dyess shows his breeding doe at the Bell County Youth Fair!



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Owen Piatt, & Landon Bufkin at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo archery

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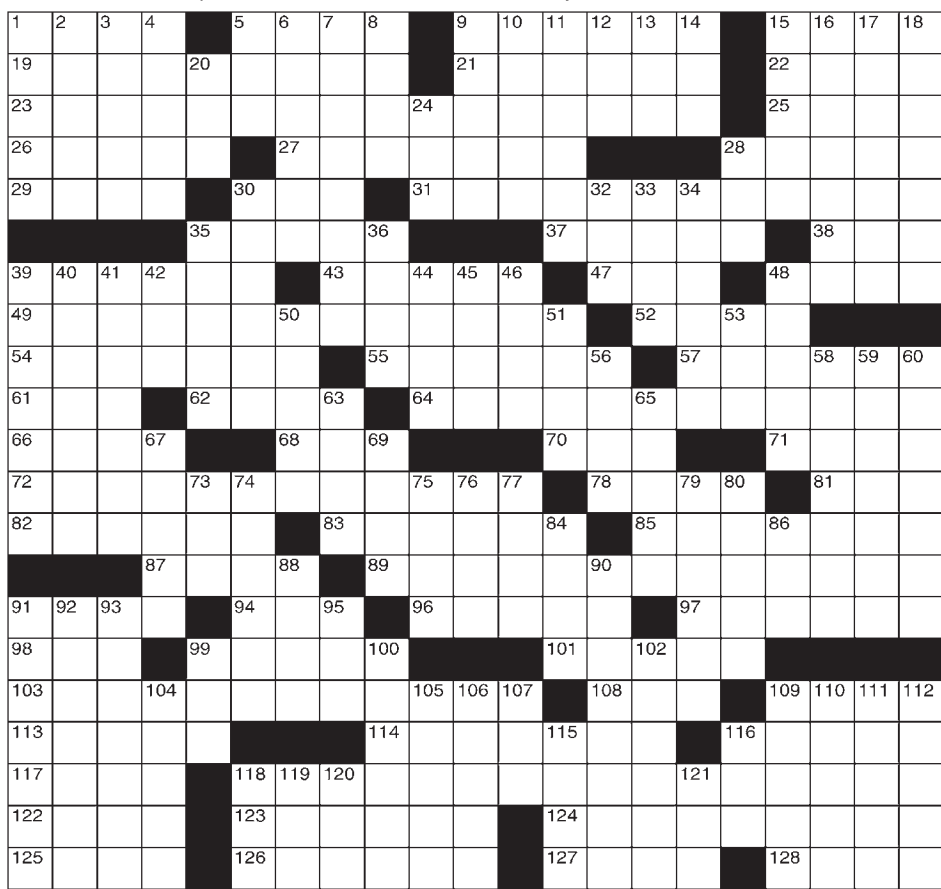
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| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Brief ad</p> <p>5 Resistance units</p> <p>9 Circular paths</p> <p>15 Imprison</p> <p>19 Starch-yielding plant</p> <p>21 They may disturb sleep</p> <p>22 — Seltzer</p> <p>23 Nut acquired with great effort?</p> <p>25 Nail salon job, in brief</p> <p>26 — box (TV)</p> <p>27 Cathedral in London</p> <p>28 R&B's Brown</p> <p>29 Prohibits</p> <p>30 Erfurt article</p> <p>31 Sprinkle sofa shams with water drops?</p> <p>35 Calf-roping event</p> <p>37 Link with</p> <p>38 Casino cube</p> <p>39 "Boo!" shouter</p> <p>43 French city on the Rhone</p> <p>47 Tax org.</p> <p>48 Stan of jazz saxophone</p> <p>49 Catholic dignitary's vigorous strength?</p> <p>52 West African country</p> <p>54 Juneau native</p> | <p>55 Directives</p> <p>57 Like Stoker's "Dracula"</p> <p>61 Steal from</p> <p>62 Liking a lot</p> <p>64 Overtly crooked?</p> <p>66 Quite dry</p> <p>68 Stock debut, for short</p> <p>70 "Nope"</p> <p>71 Often-twisted cookie</p> <p>72 Long-billed wading bird that loves perching on flexed arm muscles?</p> <p>78 Testing stage</p> <p>81 Early 1960s atty. gen.</p> <p>82 Navy engineer</p> <p>83 Made airtight, say</p> <p>85 Liken (to)</p> <p>87 Joan of folk</p> <p>89 Climate that promotes the growth of powdery fungus?</p> <p>91 Pale-looking "Get 'em, Fido!"</p> <p>96 Model X carmaker</p> <p>97 Runs after</p> <p>98 Aussie leaper</p> <p>99 Grand house</p> <p>101 "You're — pall!"</p> | <p>103 Class teaching the techniques of Civil War photographer Brady?</p> <p>108 Marcel Marceau's clown</p> <p>109 —Cherry (Ocean Spray flavor)</p> <p>113 Pretty good grade</p> <p>114 Antennae and tentacles</p> <p>116 Chicago airport</p> <p>117 Unlatch, e.g.</p> <p>118 Baseballer Rod when not using a chauffeur?</p> <p>122 Indian bread</p> <p>123 Literary afterthought</p> <p>124 Great skill</p> <p>125 Small vortex</p> <p>126 Literary journalist Gay</p> <p>127 Syringe fluids</p> <p>128 "Iliad" city</p> | <p>4 Big fusses</p> <p>5 "... Mac — PC?"</p> <p>6 Goofed (around)</p> <p>7 Quebec city</p> <p>8 Stair unit</p> <p>9 At just the right time</p> <p>10 Author Dahl</p> <p>11 Actress Jacqueline</p> <p>12 "Kinda sorta"</p> <p>13 Golf peg</p> <p>14 Detroit-to-Memphis dir.</p> <p>15 Crawford of the NBA</p> <p>16 In style</p> <p>17 "Told ya so!"</p> <p>18 — faire</p> <p>20 Soggy</p> <p>24 Pat gently</p> <p>28 "Let's Get Loud" singer, familiarly</p> <p>30 1996 presidential candidate Bob</p> <p>32 2006 Nintendo debut</p> <p>33 Salon service</p> <p>34 "We have the OK"</p> <p>35 Japanese "energy healing"</p> <p>36 Thereabouts</p> <p>39 Egyptian beetles</p> <p>40 Dietary unit</p> | <p>41 Coffee type</p> <p>42 Ave. crossers</p> <p>44 Old Italian money</p> <p>45 Stops</p> <p>46 Look for</p> <p>48 U.S. naval base in Cuba, for short</p> <p>50 Crazy caper</p> <p>51 Small bird</p> <p>53 Lav. to Brits</p> <p>56 Sailor's mop</p> <p>58 Victory cries</p> <p>59 Lacking frost</p> <p>60 Snug-fitting necklaces</p> <p>63 Artistic work</p> <p>65 "Riverdale" network</p> <p>67 "You Light Up My Life" singer Boone</p> <p>69 City in Utah</p> <p>73 Stir-fry tidbit</p> <p>74 Teeter-totter</p> <p>75 Café au —</p> <p>76 Macpherson or Fanning</p> <p>77 Gets hitched</p> <p>79 Protective shoe tip</p> <p>80 "— and the Night Visitors"</p> <p>84 Oscar — Hoya</p> <p>86 School org.</p> <p>88 Galvanizing element</p> <p>90 Cary Grant played a male one in 1949</p> <p>91 Radius or ulna</p> <p>92 S.O.S or Brillo product</p> <p>93 Very helpful tip, informally</p> <p>95 Pigeon sound</p> <p>99 "Bonjour, — amis!"</p> <p>100 Fashion frill</p> <p>102 Michael formerly of Disney</p> <p>104 Word on Winnie-the-Pooh's pot</p> <p>105 Total overhauls</p> <p>106 Suit fabric</p> <p>107 Wallach of film</p> <p>109 Intone</p> <p>110 Less typical</p> <p>111 "Am not!" retort</p> <p>112 Full of the latest info</p> <p>115 Spacewalks, in NASA lingo</p> <p>116 Mo. #10</p> <p>118 Tennis unit</p> <p>119 Air quality gp.</p> <p>120 — Mama (rapper)</p> <p>121 School stat</p> |
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Answers

Super Crossword

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A O R I L V A R E S E S E T A T Y D D E
S S E N T P E D V G O T I A F E N V A P O
M E R V O G N I L I A B D F T E S N E A F O
E R V H O S R E T E E F S N T P B
N V R C P I B E S R N O C M E H L V W
S E S V H C V T S E J C I S A H S V
E H I V E M M E D T I W Z E V B
E R V P W O C D E T V E S E E B V E S
K F H V L E B M E T R U C S P C O I B
O E R O H V N O P I O D I R V
H C U W O O T M E K S V O L N I B O R
C I H L O G S R E D R O N V K S V T V
I T V W M E N I S T V N I D R V O
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E I D O L E I T O E D O R
S M O T L I P M D E B E R D E S N V B
S E W V J S T U V A P T S L O I D I
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V K T V S E S I O N L O O R M O R V
L I L J A V I T S O R B S M W O T O H S
    
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Salado Volunteer Fire Dept. Report Feb. 9-15

Date	Location	Call
02/09	WOODLAND BEND RD, Bell	Dispatched & canceled en route
02/09	IH-35 NB @ Exit 283, Salado	Vehicle accident, general cleanup
02/09	ELMER KING RD, Bell	Power line down
02/09	ELMER KING RD, Bell	Assist invalid
02/09	IH-35 NB @ Exit 285, Salado	Dispatched & canceled en route
02/10	CHISHOLM TRL, Salado	Assist invalid
02/11	IH-35 NB, Salado	Motor vehicle accident with injuries
02/11	IH-35 NB, Bell	Motor vehicle accident, no injuries.
02/11	IH-35 NB MM-279 HWY, Bell	Motor vehicle accident, no injuries.
02/11	N MAIN ST, Salado	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/12	IH-35, Salado	Motor vehicle accident, no injuries.
02/12	IH-35 near NB rest area, Salado	Motor vehicle accident, no injuries.
02/12	ELMER KING RD, Bell	Assist invalid
02/12	S Robertson RD, Salado	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/12	S IH 35 SERVICE RD, Bell	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/13	PADDY HAMILTON RD, Nolanville	Building fire
02/14	FM 2115, Bell	Motor vehicle accident with injuries
02/14	VAN BIBBER RD, Salado	Dispatched & canceled en route
02/14	EAGLE ROCK RD, Bell	EMS call, exclud. MVA with injuries
02/14	S IH 35 SERVICE RD, Bell	Motor vehicle accident with injuries
02/14	DECKER RD, Bell	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/14	WALKER CIR, Salado	EMS call, exclud. MVA with injuries
02/14	YELLOW ROSE DR, Bell	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/15	FM 2115 RD, Bell	Dispatched & canceled en route
02/15	FM 2484, Salado	EMS call, exclud. MVA with injuries
02/15	Chisholm Trail, Salado	Medical assist, assist EMS crew
02/15	THOMAS ARNOLD RD, Salado	Dispatched & canceled en route
02/15	FM 2843, Salado	Public service assistance, other

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Eagles start baseball with loss

Salado Eagles started their baseball season with a 5-4 loss on the road to Thrall.

	R	H	E
SHS	4	9	2
THS	5	5	2

Thrall scored four runs in the bottom of the sixth and held off the Salado Eagles in the seventh for a 5-4 win Feb. 17.

Thrall took a 1-0 lead in the third.

The Eagles scored two runs in the fifth. Brayden Naegele led off the frame with a single and advanced on a fielder's choice that allowed Jace Light to reach first. Ethan Robledo laid down a sacrifice bunt to put runners in scoring position. Landen Noske hit a sacrifice fly to plate Naegele. Kannon Baird singled to put

runners at the corner and Light scored on an error. Baird was left on second.

The Eagles scored two runs in the sixth. With one out recorded, Trey Waters walked. Aezza Martinez doubled to knock in the run and reached third on an error. He scored on a single by Naegele. A single by Light put runners at the corners. Thrall got out of trouble with a double play to end the frame.

Baird pitched 5-2/3 innings and went out with a 4-2 lead. He allowed five hits and a walk and struck out five batters. Waters allowed two earned runs with two walks. Collin Strickland allowed a run on two walks. Robledo got the final out for Salado. Naegele had three hits,

an RBI and a run; Martinez, a hit, and RBI and a run; Noske, a hit and an RBI, Light, a hit and a run; and Baird, Robledo and Owen Curtis, a hit each.

	R	H	E
SJVR	8	11	0
TJV	1	2	2

Salado JV Red started their baseball season with an 8-1 road win against Thrall Feb. 18.

Zach Adcox led Salado with three hits, three RBI and a run. Colt Norman, Jayden Sifuentes and Alex Martinez each had a hit and an RBI. Mason Olson and Ryder Balmos each had a hit and two runs, Owen Gunter and Garrett Light each had had a hit and a run. Reed Myers had a hit and Hays Ramsey had a run.

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