P4 + 7 THANK YOU

Salem Township Fire Department and Salem Township Farm Preserve Thanks.

P5 DELICIOUS RECIPE

Treat your family to our Gluten Free Layer Bars. Perfect for the holidays or anytime!

P5 SALEM TWP. CALENDAR

Get involved! Meeting dates from December through February.

SALEM TOWNSHIP MESSENGER



INSIDE THIS EDITION

- Letter From The Supervisor
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- Tips From Washtenaw Co. Police Dept.

Salem South Lyon Library Winter Events

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- Salem Twp. Promise
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WINTER © 2016

LETTER FROM THE SUPERVISOR

GREETINGS FOLKS!

Well, the Holidays are upon us and the year is quickly coming to a close. I hope all of you have had a great 2015 and that you are looking forward to the new year. It is has been a good year for Salem and we at Township Hall have enjoyed serving you and we are thankful for your trust and cooperation as we move forward.

The Salem Farm Preserve is continuing toward completion.

New signs have been installed and the walking trails will be completed soon. We expect to have the grand opening of the park early next spring,

The Salem Planning Commission is continuing to update the township's Master Plan which serves as a guide for future land uses and management of growth within the township. This is a large project that involves a great deal of research and time and we are very thankful to the members of the Planning Commission for their work on the Master Plan.

I would like to give you a brief update on the pending lawsuit against the Township by the developers over some of the property in the Urban Service District. As you may recall, the previous Township Board had approved the rezoning of 91 acres along M-14 from agricultural/residential to general commercial in May of 2012. Subsequently, Salem residents submitted petitions for a referendum on the rezoning and a referendum election was held in November 2012. In the referendum election, Salem residents voted against the rezoning of the property to general commercial. The developer then brought litigation against Salem Township challenging the referendum election and claiming that it was invalid. A group called "The Concerned Citizens of Salem" intervened in the lawsuit as a defendant along with Salem Township. In June of 2014, the Washtenaw County Circuit Court ruled that the Township's referendum election was not valid because the Salem residents had not timely filed the petitions for the election. However, on September 8, 2015, the Michigan Court of Appeals reversed the ruling of the Washtenaw County Circuit Court and stated that the developer did not have legal standing to challenge the election. Based on the ruling of the Court of Appeals, Salem's referendum election overturning the rezoning was valid. The developer has now filed an Application with the Michigan Supreme Court requesting that Michigan's highest Court hear the case. In the meantime, the developer, the Concerned Citizens of Salem and the township have continued to discuss ways to possibly settle the ongoing litigation in a way that would be satisfactory to all the parties involved.

LETTER FROM THE SUPERVISOR

CONTINUED FROM COVER PAGE...

ownship and the properly owners in the USD also continue to explore the best means by which to provide public water and sewer services to the properties in the USD. One possibility is to have water supplied by Detroit Water and Sewer Department and sewer services provided by YCUA. Another possibility is to have both water and sewer services supplied to the USD by our next door neighbors, Plymouth Township. Plymouth Township has hired an engineering firm to determine if Plymouth Township has the capacity and ability to provide utilities that would service the entire USD. The developers are also continuing to explore how they will finance providing the water and sewer services to the USD.

As always, I encourage each of you to contact me if you have any questions at *gary@salem-mi.org* or by calling me on my cell phone at 248-909-3200 I also invite you to attend our monthly Township Board Meetings which are held at the Township Hall on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

Wishing you all the best for the Holidays and the new year.



TREASURER'S UPDATE

FROM THE DESK OF DALE CONVERSE

esidents should receive their 2015 Winter Taxes December 1, 2015. Payments may also be made, in addition to the previously communicated means, by contacting your financial Institution and requesting that they send the Township your payment. If you choose this method, please be aware that you must use the correct address and allow sufficient time for the payment to be delivered as we do not accept post marks.

The State of Michigan implemented and has been successful in assisting 9434 homeown receive property tax assistance for those residents who are unemployed, underemployed delinquent on their mortgage, property taxes, or owe more than the value of their home. Some Salem Township residents have benefited from this program. However, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) will close its Step Forward Michigan foreclosure prevention program website to new applicants on December 31,2015. All homeowners in need of assistance must register at www.stepforwardmichigan.org by December 31, 2015 and submit the complete application package by January 31, 2016 in order to be considered on a first come, first serve basis. Applications already received will continue to be actively reviewed.

FUN FACT:

Salem Township was settled in 1825 by the cousins John and Joseph Dickerson.

I had the privilege of being a part of the Fire Department Union contract negotiation committee. It was a long process, but we feel the new contract benefits both the Union as well as the Township. All members of the negotiation committee brought unique perspectives to the table, and I want to publicly thank all the members of the committee for their resolve in completing the new contract.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 8TH 2016'S

CLERK'S COMMENTARY: DEL WENSLEY

REQUESTING AN ABSENT VOTER BALLOT

Your request for an absent voter ballot must be in writing and can be submitted at Clerk's Office. For more information see

http://www.Michigan.gov/vote. Your request must include one of the six statutory reasons stated and your signature. You must request an absent voter ballot by mailing the application form obtained from State's website listed above or your local clerk's office. Requests to have an absent voter ballot mailed to you must be received by your clerk no later than 2 p.m. the Saturday before the election.

Once your request is received by the local clerk, your signature on the request will be checked against your voter registration record before a ballot is issued. You must be a registered voter to receive an absent

voter ballot. Absent voter ballots may be issued to you at your home address or any address outside of your city or township

After receiving your absent voter ballot, you have until 8 p.m. on Election Day to complete the ballot and return it to the clerk's office. Your ballot will not be counted unless your signature is on the return envelope and matches your signature on file. If you received assistance voting the ballot, then the signature of the person who helped you must also be on the return envelope. Only you, a family member or person residing in your household, a mail carrier, or election official is authorized to deliver your signed absent voter ballot to your clerk's office.

Voting is one of the most cherished and fundamental rights in our country. If you are eligible to obtain an absent voter ballot and cannot attend the polls on Election Day, use of the absent voter ballot is strongly encouraged.

of residence.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO OBTAIN **AN ABSENTEE BALLOT**

AS A REGISTERED VOTER, YOU MAY **OBTAIN AN ABSENT VOTER BALLOT IF** YOU ARE:

ELECTION INSPECTION WORKERS ARE STILL NEEDED FOR 2016

at the polls, please contact Deputy Clerk, Kim Taggart at 248.912.6725 or Clerk, Del Wensley at dwensley@salem-mi.org to request an application. You will need to attend a 4 hour training class provided by Washtenaw County usually a month before your first election.

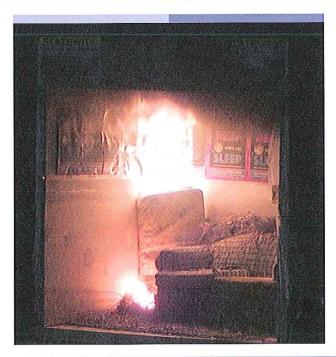
MICHIGAN STATEWIDE VOTING SYSTEM BID PROCESS

In late July 2015, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued to begin the process of establishing new state contracts and purchase plans for Michigan's next generation voting system. Bids were submitted by four vendors in early September. The bid review process is coordinated by the State's Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB) and requires the formation of a Joint Evaluation Committee (JEC). Members of the voting system JEC include State Purchasing staff, Bureau of Elections staff, and county/local election officials. Through the bid review process it became clear to the JEC that each of the bids was lacking critical information, for varying reasons. While the State Purchasing process allows for bidders to clarify the information they have submitted, providing additional supplemental information is prohibited per DTMB. For this reason, the only way to obtain the additional information needed is to reissue the RFP.

Given this delay and the continuing lack of funding, it is highly unlikely that new voting systems can be implemented anywhere in 2016 While this may be disappointing news to some, note that the current lack of a full funding plan (see below) virtually guaranteed that there would be no implementation next year.

Regarding funding - note that Michigan is one of the few states with a substantial level of Federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funding available for use towards another statewide voting system purchase. (HAVA was used to cover 100% of the costs of the current system in 2004 -2008.) The available HAVA funding will only cover approximately 50% of the overall cost, however. While discussions with the State Budget Office are ongoing and exact costs are still unknown, it is highly likely that a local funding component will be needed. The Bureau of Elections recommends that local jurisdictions begin a budget planning process that would allow for \$2,000-\$4,000 per precinct to be set aside for these purposes, for use in late 2016 and 2017.

The Bureau of Elections will continue to update Michigan's election officials as key steps in this process are completed.



SALEM TWP. FIRE DEPARTMENT

WISHES TO THANK LOCAL AREA BUSINESSES FOR THIS YEAR'S SUPPORT OF THE ANNUAL HALLOWEEN EVENT

This event allows for children of all ages to share in fun and games while learning about fire safety. This year we were fortunate to have a burn room donated by Statewide Disaster Restoration. The burn room allows for citizens to understand how quickly a fire can develop and how much heat is generated by a fire. This event would not be possible without the following generous donations:

Advance Disposal
Country Fair Market
Edith's Market
Ferris Farms
Fox Hills Golf Course
Home Depot - Plymouth

Jim Rachwal
Karl's Cabin
Kimler Agency
Ron's BBQ
Salem Hills Golf Course
Three Cedars Farm

TIPS FROM WASHTENAW COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

THIS IS THE TIME OF YEAR WE START SEEING FRAUDULENT TAX RETURNS FILED WITH THE IRS.

Dease make sure you are keeping track of your tax return and always check your credit report for fraudulent activity. Checking your credit report is free once a year. You can begin that process through this website https://www.usa.gov/credit-reports Also, remember that the Sheriff's Office or any other governmental agency will not contact you asking for money or personal information over the phone. If you receive a phone call from a person posing as a government official, contact their main government telephone number and ask to be transferred to the representative that called you. If it's that important to them, they will send an official representative to your home to speak with you

For crime prevention tips and additional services, visit our website: www.washtenawsheriff.org

Going on vacation? Request a deputy to check on your home by completing the house watch form found at http://ewashtenaw.org/government/sheriff/community/house-watch-1/house-watch

Thank you and have a great week, Sgt. Keith Flores

SALEM SOUTH LYON LIBRARY WINTER EVENTS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14TH; 7:00-8:00 PM- PLEASE RSVP!

Dress for the weather and join us out in the gardens and inside the Library for a winter party! Santa and one of his reindeer will be here! There will also be a hot chocolate bar outside and you can enjoy a lighted walk on our path in the woods. Elsa and Anna will be visiting, so bring your cameras! All ages welcome for this family program!

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY 2016 FAMILY READING & SCIENCE WORKSHOPS: TIME AGES 6 - 11: THE CHILD'S "TALL" PERSON MUST ALSO ATTEND!

The workshops are presented by University of Michigan Museum of Natural History. Please register for each individual workshop. We measure and track time as it orders our day to day schedule and allows us to understand the events of the past and possibly, the future. Still, our perceptions of time can be unreliable when trying to comprehend exactly how long an eon is or how short a nanosecond. Join the U -M Museum of Natural History as we explore fun activities that help us understand and measure time!

WORKSHOP 1: THROUGH THE AGES
SATURDAY, JANUARY 16TH; 11:00AM-12:00PM
PLEASE ENROLL! (LIMIT 30) THE CHILD'S "TALL" PERSON
MUST ALSO ATTEND!

Zoom through vast stretches of history of the universe to learn about large-scale time. Starting with the Big Bang, participants will venture into topics such as how life changes through time and the development of human cultures in this "big history" workshop.

WORKSHOP 2: IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH; 1 1:00AM-12:00PM PLEASE ENROLL! (LIMIT 30) THE CHILD'S "TALL" PERSON MUST ALSO ATTEND!

Do you know what a nanosecond is? Have you ever held one in your hand? In this workshop, participants will explore unique ways to measure time and learn what can happen in the blink of an eye.

AUTHOR EVENT: EARLY ORGANIZED CRIME IN DETROIT: VICE, CORRUPTION AND THE RISE OF THE MAFIA THURSDAY, JANUARY 21st, 7:00-8:30 PM- PLEASE RSVP! (GRADES 6-ADULTS)

Though detectives denied it, the Italian Mafia was operating in Detroit as early as 1900, and the city was forever changed. Bootleggers controlled the Detroit River and created a national distribution network for illegal booze during Prohibition. Gangsters, cops and even celebrities fell victim to the violence. Some politicians and prominent businessmen like Henry Ford's right-hand man, Harry Bennett, collaborated closely with the Mafia, while others, such as popular radio host Gerald Buckley, fought back and lost their lives. Social scientist and crime writer James A. Buccellato explores Detroit's struggle with gang violence, public corruption and the politics of vice during the tumultuous first half of the twentieth century.

SWEET ROMANCE PARTY PLANNING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, 7:00-8:00 PM- PLEASE RSVP! (GRADES 6-ADULTS)

Join us for an evening of sweet romance! Jodie Valenti, owner of Party
Brighton, will be here to share tips on how to design and stage
very own themed dessert table. If you have an event or holiday party
planned for 2016 you won't want to miss this!

SALEM COMMUNITY EVENTS

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Do you have young children or grandchildren? Plan to attend Salen Community Events annual Children's Christmas party December 5th 1-3:00 pm at Salem Hills Golf Course. Santa will arrive at 1:15 pm and depart at 2:00 pm. Children will also enjoy games, crafts and balloor sculptures. Cookies and cider will also be available. If you would like to help, set-up begins at 11:30 am.

NEW COMMUNITY EVENT

We are looking to partner with other groups in and around Salem Township to consider sponsoring a new event. We are considering a pig roast and are seeking other community partners to be involved in this event. We are looking for organizations, associations, clubs, church groups, sewing circles, or anyone interested in partnering with us. Each partner could use the event to educate the community about their organization, recruit new members or raise funds. We are proposing the new community event be held in Fall of 2016. For more information please contact Dan Jenkinson (734.662.1183) or visit a Salem Community Events meeting held the third Saturday of each month at Salem Township hall, 11:00 am.

YEAR ROUND SUPPORT

Did you know you can help support Salem Community Events year round? Kroger has a Community Rewards Program and if you do not currently support a local organization please consider signing up and supporting Salem Community Events. Our organization I.D. is 63534. To sign up to help Salem Community Events you can register online at *krogercommunityrewards.com*

The Community Rewards Program is in addition to the other bonus programs Kroger offers. There is no cost or loss of benefits to you the individual. This is a great way to help a community program just by doing your normal shopping at Krogers.

TO HELP SALEM COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- Click on Sign In/Register (krogercommunityrewards.com)
- Click on SIGN UP TODAY in the "New Customer" box
- Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account by entering zip code, clicking on favorite store, entering your email address and creating a password, agreeing to the terms and conditions
- You will then get a message to check your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email.
- Click on My Account and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.
- Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus card number.
- Update or confirm your information.
- Enter the number, 63534 or name of organization, Salem Community Events.
- To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see our organization's name on the right side of your information page.

The members of Salem Community Events wish each one of you a happy and joyous holiday season!

SALEM AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

On Sunday, September 13th, the Salem Area Historical Society, owners of the Jarvis Stone School Local Historic District, held the South Salem Stone School Mural Dedication, which was well attended by family members of Don Riddering and Irene Lyke, past students and SAHS Members. Thanks to Lee Holland for the donation to SAHS that made the Mural possible and to Gregg Bugala, the Muralist, for the creative effort that resulted in this beautiful mural. The mural honors the school's 110 years (1857–1967) of continuous education to the community, Irene Lyke, who was instrumental in transferring ownership of the school to SAHS, and Don Riddering, who lead the school's restoration effort.

On Wednesday, October 29th, the Dickerson Barn Mural Dedication was held. This second mural, also made possible by the donation from Lee Holland and the artistry of Gregg Bugala, consists of four panels recalling the 1824 to 1900 era of Salem and honors Meroë Allen Kaericher who led the acquisition of the Dickerson Barn by The Salem Area Historical Society in 1997 and Gilbert Terry, who led the team that relocated the barn to SAHS's property in 2007–2008. The panels depict the Salem Train Depot, the Salem Hotel, the Salem churches, the Salem schools and the Dickerson Barn.



DECEMBER 2015 EVENTS:

The annual SAHS Christmas Party will be hosted by Marcia Van Fossen and Woody London at their home on December 6th from 1 to 4 PM. Plan on attending the Member's only Christmas gathering. For details, see the SAHS's Website or Facebook page.

A trip by the SAHS is planned for Wednesday, December 9th to The Governor Warner Museum, a Victorian Italianate structure built in 1867 by P. D. Warner, the Governor's father. It is furnished in late Victorian style and will be decorated for Christmas. The cost is \$3 per person. We will be meeting at 12:30 PM. Contact **Terry** at **Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com** to reserve your spot.

The SAHS hopes that we can capture your interest in our goal of preserving the past for the future and to see you at our events. More information can be found at the Salem Area Historical Society's Website (www.sahshistory.org) or via an email request to Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com. You can become a member or renew your membership for 2015 at any of our events or via our Website.



SALEM TOWNSHIP FARM PRESERVE

THE LAND PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION BOARD WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY VOLUNTEERS WHO BUILT AND INSTALLED THE SIGNS ON THE SALEM TOWNSHIP FARM PRESERVE ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2015.

Pictured:

Brian Kysia

Ion Roberts

Chetan Pate

Lee Davis

Greg Fadanelli

Rick Bauer

Mark Boxey

Steven Shafer

SALEM ELEMENTARY BLUE RIBBON AWARD

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Salem Township, we would like to extend enthusiastic congratulations to Principal Ray Metcalf, the amazing teachers, students, staff and families of Salem Elementary on their impressive Blue Ribbon School Award. This is an outstanding accomplishment. This nationally recognized award exemplifies high academic achievement and significant gains made in narrowing the achievement gap. It is wonderful for the one school in our township to gain national recognition for excellence. We are truly grateful for all of their combined efforts to provide excellent education to the children of Salem Township.

We wish them continued success as they work together to keep up this standard of excellence. We have a wonderful community here in Salem. The announcement of this accomplishment is something we can all celebrate. We are delighted with their success.

SALEM BIBLE CHURCH UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 2ND

Christmas Cantata 11:00 a.m. Message will be in song.

DECEMBER 11TH

Christmas party at *Northville Crossing* 6:00–8:00 p.m. 6800 Bloomsbury Circle Northville, Mi. 48167

For information call 248-349-0674
Santa will be there, dinner will be served and every child gets a present. *There is no charge for this outreach.

DECEMBER 24TH

7:00 p.m. Your favorite Christmas songs will be sung by candle light.

COME JOIN US!

For more info, call Pastor Rubringer at 248-349-0674 or check out our website Sbc4christ.org

THE SALEM TOWNSHIP PROMISE

A hearty "Thank You" to the many individuals who have contributed to our success and especially our corporate donors. We received grants from ITC, the high voltage transmission line company, and the DUL Foundation (Fox Hills Golf Course). I have yet to hear from DTE Energy and Consumers Energy. I expect to hear shortly as quarterly reviews are common. Also, local businesses that donated were Country Market, Advanced Disposal, The Corner General Store, and Stante Excavating. We also are expecting a matching fund donation from IBM Corp., courtesy of Juanita's cousin. We'll keep working hard and the successes will come.

And remember, as you plan your year end charitable giving; please consider sending a check to the Salem Township Promise P.O. Box 75319, Salem, Michigan 48175

Thank you all for your continued support.

Pat Curley
The Salem Township Promise



DILLON IMPULLITTI

OUR 2015 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

illon is attending Schoolcraft College studying psychology. His dream is to become a Doctor of Psychology from the University of Michigan. Dillon also is an excellent speaker and trained singer with a Tenor voice.

ZOE MAKI

ONE OF THE 2015 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

he is a talented musician, song writer, and singer. She is studying Sound Recording Technology at Schoolcraft College and plans on completing an Associates Degree in Audio Engineering.



SALEM TOWNSHIP CALENDAR

D MBER

8th Board of Trustees Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

15th Land Preservation/Conservation Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

21st Planning Commission Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

24th Christmas Eve - Office Closed

25th Merry Christmas - Office Closed

IANUARY

1st Happy New Year - Office Closed

12th Board of Trustees Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

25th Planning Commission Meeting - 7:30 p.m. **

19th Land Preservation/Conservation Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

and

Martin Luther King Day - Office Closed

FEBRUARY

9th Board of Trustees Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

22nd Planning Commission Meeting - 7:30 p.m. **

16th Land Preservation/Conservation Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

and

President's Day - Office Closed

**The regular meeting date has been changed because of a holiday or scheduling conflict.



DELICIOUS GLUTEN FREE LAYER BARS

INGREDIENTS

1 box Betty Crocker's gluten free choc chip cookie mix

1 egg

1/2 cup of softened butter

1 can sweetened condensed milk (14 oz)

1 cup semisweet chocolate chips

1 cup butterscotch chips

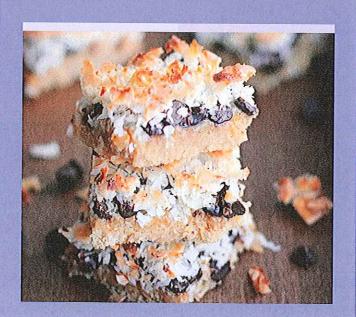
1 cup flaked coconut

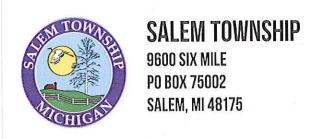
1 cup chopped walnuts

DIRECTIONS

- Heat oven to 350°. Spray bottom of 9x13 pan. In a large bowl mix cookie mix, butter and egg until crumbly, soft dough forms. Using fingers, press dough into bottom of pan. Bake for 10 mi.
- Drizzle condensed milk all over the crust. Layer evenly chocolate chips, butterscotch chips, coconut and walnuts.
- Bake 35 minutes, until light golden brown. Cool for a least one hour before cutting into bars.

Eniov!







SALEM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Supervisor, Gary Whittaker

Clerk, Del Wensley

Treasurer, Dale Converse

Trustee, TJ McLaughin

Trustee, Reggie DeLuca

Trustee, David Trent

gary@salem-mi.org

dwensley@salem-mi.org

dconverse@salem-mi.org

tj@salem-mi.org

reggie@salem-mi.org

david@salem-mi.org

TOWNSHIP CONTACT INFO

Fire Chief, Jim Rachwal Firechief@salem-mi.org

Deputy Treasurer, Jance Radatz iradatz@salem-mi.org

Deputy Clerk, Kim Taggart deputyclerk@salem-mi.org

Building Department, Anne Alexander
aalexander@salem-mi.org

Zoning Administrator, Donna Krips donnak@salem-mi.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday

9:00am - 4:30pm

WEBSITE:

www.salem-mi.org

Phone: 248-349-1690

Fax: 248-349-9350

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency: 734-994-2911

LANDFILL

888-443-1717

Hours Open

Mon – Fri 6:00am – 5:00pm

Sat 7:00am - 12:00pm

Closed Sunday