

SALEM TOWNSHIP MESSENGER



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Dear Salem Neighbors,

I hope this letter finds you and your family off to a good start for the New Year. Here are the latest updates:

LANDFILL

As we said in our last newsletter, Advanced Disposal has withdrawn the request to have an area for future expansion. We learned in February of this year that Advanced Disposal assumed control of the gas system. With the system now under Advanced Disposal's control, they are working with the EPA and the DQ to put in place additional improvements to the gas collection system as soon as possible. Hopefully, this will put an end to the concerns about odors.

USD (Gottfredson & M-14)

In November, the Board of Trustees approved a proposed Lease Agreement with the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority (YCUA) to reserve sewer capacity in the YCUA wastewater collection system and wastewater treatment plant. This agreement allows the Township to reserve sewer capacity with YCUA until such time as the developers actually construct the necessary sewer system for the USD. The first developer in the USD, Salem Springs (Schostak Brothers) has agreed to pay the costs of reserving the YCUA capacity from the end of this year until the developer has determined how it will finance the construction of the sewer and water utilities. By entering into this agreement, it assures that the Township will have available the necessary sewage capacity from YCUA when it is ultimately needed for the USD and it also satisfies the requirement of Township Master Plan to have public utilities service the USD area.

In addition to the Lease Agreement with YCUA, the Township engineers have also developed engineering and design standards for the utilities in the USD and these standards have been adopted by the Township. All construction costs for the infrastructure for the USD public utilities will be paid for by the developers and property owners in the USD and not by the Township.

It appears that the first major development in the Urban Service District will be the Salem Springs large residential development of 370 acres north of Joy Road between Napier and Gottfredson. The Township Board recently extended the PUD Ordinance for this



development provided that Salem Springs must have a Development Agreement acceptable to the Township approved and finalized by January 31, 2019.

The extension of the PUD Ordinance is further conditional upon Salem Springs having a plan in place to finance the public utilities for the USD and approved by December 31, 2018. An amended Area Plan for the Salem Springs residential development was submitted to the Township in January. Anyone wishing to review this plan can do so at the Township office.

In closing, please feel free to reach out to me anytime. It has been my pleasure to meet with and talk to some of you about questions or concerns you have had. I look forward to hearing from you in the future.

Take good care,



248-909-3200

TREASURER'S UPDATE

The Township, in particular the Treasurer's office, has been overwhelmed with calls regarding the substantial increase in their winter taxes in the Plymouth and Northville school districts. I regret that this explanation comes after the 2016 winter tax season has come to a close, but for those that did not contact the Township, an explanation is still required.

A two (2) mill Wayne County Regional Education Service Agency Enchantment passed on the November 8 ballot by the greater Wayne County voters. The revenue raised by the millage is being collected by the Wayne County Regional Educational Agency and will be distributed to all local Wayne County Public Schools based on pupil membership count. The 2.00 mill ad valorem tax will be imposed for six years to provide additional funds to enhance other state and local funding for the local Wayne County Schools.

The proposal was only on the ballot for the residents that reside in the Plymouth and Northville school districts. Even though the voters in those school districts rejected the proposal, residents are still required to pay the increased taxes since those school districts are in the Wayne County School system.

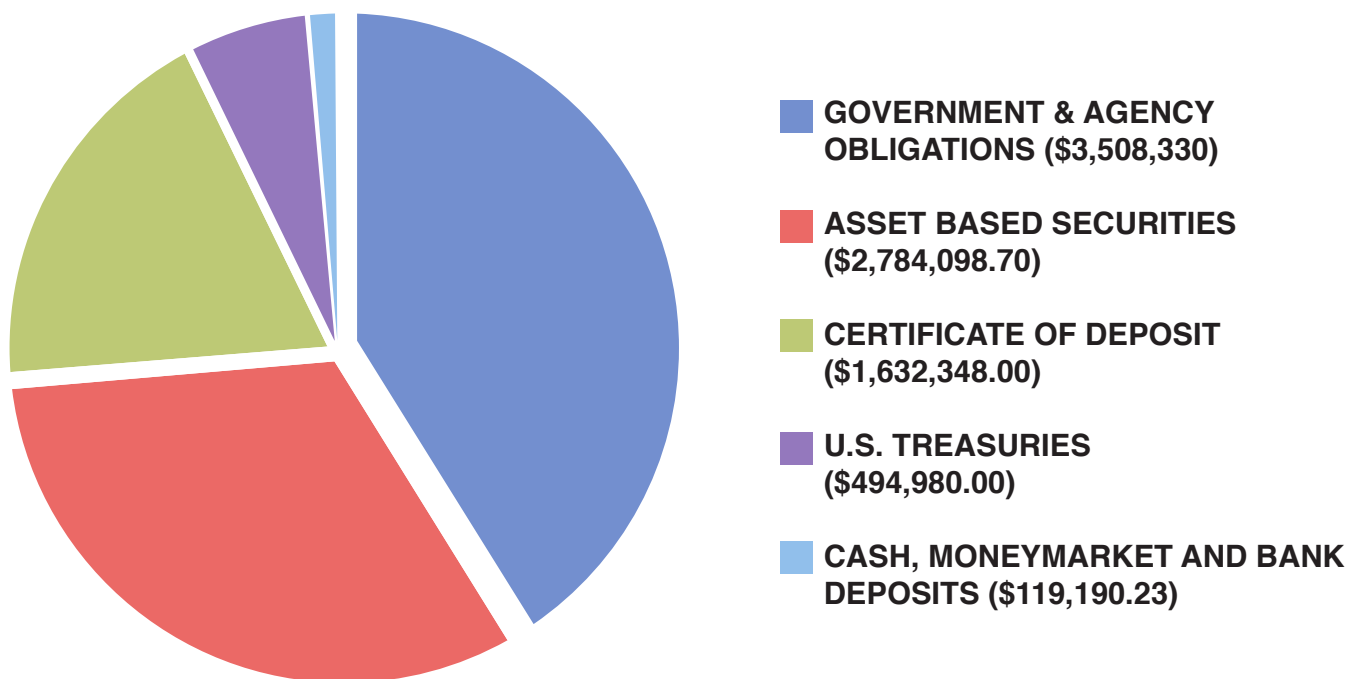
Two other November ballot proposals that were passed have some residents questioning the legality of the proposals based on several newspaper articles. This office is required by law to collect and distribute all taxes that are imposed by our taxing authorities. However, I felt it was my responsibility to obtain an explanation as to their legality and report back to all Salem residents.

Article 9, Section 31 of the Michigan Constitution states that units of government are prohibited ONLY from levying a tax not authorized by law or charter when that section of the Constitution was ratified. The two mileages were authorized by State law before this section of the Constitution was ratified and, therefore, the County may levy these mileages without the vote of the people. These mileages have been contested by the United Michigan Foundation that claimed that "a vote of the people was required" was rejected by the Court of Appeals and the case was dismissed.

The Washtenaw Board of commissioners decided to set aside the court's decision and put these mileages on the November 8 ballot. Voters approved a levy for Roads at .5 mil and for Veterans' at .1 mills. These are now voted mileages and do not have to pre-date the Michigan Constitution.

The Township has benefited from the non-vote .5 mill that was imposed for the past two years. Curtis Road was improved the first year and Six Mile road was repaved through the Hamlet last summer. The Veterans services in Washtenaw County assist veterans, survivors and dependents with a variety of services ranging from help with obtaining VA disability compensation and pensions, to securing federal and local burial benefits.

SALEM TOWNSHIP INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO AS OF JANUARY 31, 2017



NET ASSETS AS OF 1/31/2017

\$8,538,946.93

TOTAL ACCRUED INTEREST 1/1/17-1/31/17	\$11,025.97
TOTAL ACCRUED INTEREST 4/1/16-1/31/17	\$96,591.66

CLERK'S COMMENTARY: FROM THE DESK OF DEL WENSLEY

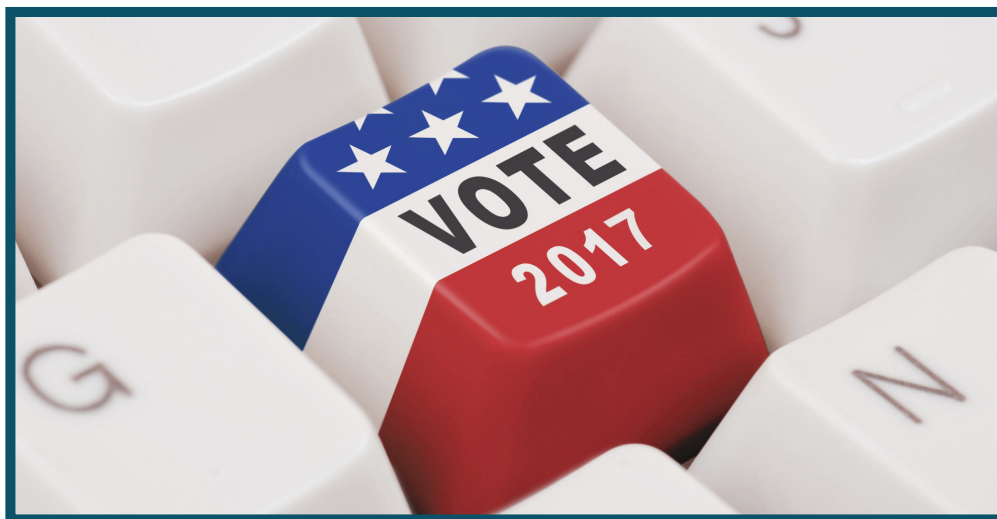
Ann Arbor School Election - Precinct Consolidated

For the upcoming May 2, 2017 Ann Arbor School election, in an effort to save taxpayer dollars, we have consolidated the precinct for this election only due to the small number of electors in this school precinct. Citizens who reside in the Ann Arbor school system will vote at the Northfield Fire Station #2. It is located at 2727 E. North Territorial Rd., Whitmore Lake, MI 48189. It is the fire station on North Territorial just west of Sutton Rd., on the North side of North Territorial.

Inside Michigan Politics - 2016 Public Acts

The Michigan Legislature introduced many new issues that were signed into law during the end of 2016. The following is a partial list of 2016 public acts that may impact townships throughout Michigan.

- **PA 25: Property Tax Assessment Rolls:** Allows assessor to maintain assessment rolls electronically.
- **PA 55: Recycling Requirements:** Creates registration and reporting requirements for recyclers of material from residential and commercial waste.
- **PA 111: Traffic Sign Vandalism:** Prohibits and prescribes graduated penalties for a person who willfully and maliciously damages, destroys or removes a traffic control device.
- **PA 236: Crimes:** Provides for the recovery of certain costs for prosecution of an intentional false report of a public threat.
- **PA 380-381: Underground Storage Tanks:** Modifies requirements for cleanups and financial responsibility of underground storage tanks and provides alternative mechanisms to protect against exposure to environmental contamination.
- **PA 437: Landfill RDDP Permit Term:** Extends authorized term for landfill research, development and demonstration projects from 12 years to 21 years.



ASSESSING OFFICE

I have been working on your 2017 property assessment. Your assessment, by State law is suppose to reflect half of what your home would have sold for on December 31, 2016. Each year the County Equalization Department looks at the sales of homes in our Township, and compares the prices with the values I put on your house for 2016. This year they have told me that my values need to increase by 8% for 2017. This doesn't mean your taxes will go up 8%, because you are now protected by the taxable value increase, which for this year is .9%.

Look for your "Notice of Assessment" in the mail. It will say "this is Not a Bill" on the top. Read over it carefully because if you feel your value is too high, the only time you can appeal it is on the days and times I have posted below. The Notice will have an estimate of how much your taxes will go up for 2017. Bring something with you that supports your opinion of your home value, maybe you had an appraisal done in the last year, or maybe you just bought it for a much lower price.

Thank you,
Bill Guenther,
Salem Township Assessor

Salem Twp. Board of Review 2017

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF SALEM TOWNSHIP

THE BOARD OF REVIEW FOR SALEM TOWNSHIP WILL MEET ON TUESDAY, MARCH 7TH AT 1:00 PM AT THE TOWNSHIP HALL FOR AN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING. **NO APPEALS HEARD AT THIS MEETING.**

THE SALEM TOWNSHIP MARCH 2017 BOARD OF REVIEW WILL MEET TO HEAR APPEALS TO THE 2017 PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS ON THE DATES AND TIMES LISTED BELOW:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15TH, 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM AND THURSDAY, MARCH 16TH, 1:00 PM TO 4:00 PM AND 6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM, AND FRIDAY, MARCH 17TH, 3:00 PM TO 8:00 PM. ALL LETTER PETITIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 15TH, 2016, MAILED TO P.O. BOX 75002, SALEM, MI 48175 **FOR AN APPOINTMENT CALL 248-349-1690 EXT. 0** **AFTER YOU RECEIVE YOUR NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT.**

LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION IS REQUIRED FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, SIGNED BY THE PROPERTY OWNER.

SALEM-SOUTH LYON LIBRARY

Carousel Acres Mobile Petting Farm at the Library

All Ages, No Limit, Please Enroll
Sunday, May 21; 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Here's a chance for kids to get up close and personal with farm animals such as a miniature horse, donkey, goat, sheep, alpaca, bunny, duck, and baby cow. When you're done, browse our collection of books to learn more about them.



Puzzle Challenge

Saturday, March 11; 12:00-2:00 pm Please RSVP!

Break out your competitive skills and join us for a puzzle challenge. Teams will compete to be the first to finish a 500 piece puzzle and win a prize. Register individually and teams of 4 will be assembled before the start of the challenge. If there are not 12 sign ups by Wednesday, March 1st, the event will be canceled.



Beginning Sign Language

Please RSVP

Wednesdays: March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 & April 5; 1:30-3:00 pm

*This is a six-week series.

Each week will build off the previous week.

This six-week series will teach you the basics of sign language.



LIVEMusic@thelibrary

Please RSVP

Offered the second Sunday February through
April at Salem-South Lyon Library 2:00-3:00 pm.

Upcoming dates:

March 12: Matthew Ball - The Boogie Woogie Kid
(family favorites)

April 9: Larry Smith & RJ Spangler Trio (bop & jazz)

Sponsored by the Jazz Foundation of America and the
Metro Detroit Book & Author Society
2016 James Dance Performance Grant, Michigan Humanities
Council. Light refreshments provided.



SALEM COMMUNITY EVENTS FLAG DAY

The “longest parade on the shortest route” begins in downtown Salem at 11:00 am on Saturday, June 3rd. This is followed by a selection of songs played by the South Lyon Middle School bands. There will be a brief ceremony honoring this year’s Grand Marshal Bob Horton. Bob moved to Salem Township in 1968. He and his late wife Pauline started AA Anchor Bolt in 1978. Bolts produced in Salem Township can be found in the stadiums at both the University of Michigan and Michigan State. Other bolts can be found in projects in Jamaica and the current US 23 upgrade which includes bolts that are 2” in diameter and 10’ long. Bob is a strong advocate for local businesses and the community. When he was younger, Bob was a race car driver racing at Flat Rock and Toledo.

We are always looking for Flag Day volunteers - feel free to arrive at 8:00 am June 3rd and help setup for the day’s activities. The fireworks rain date is June 10th. Crafters, nonprofits, or individuals with a product or service to sell are encouraged to participate. Space will be available on the township site for no charge. If a table is needed, please bring your own. Canopies are also welcome. Set up time starts at 9:00 am with space placement being on a first come basis. Join us, watch the parade, sell your products and take part in the fun and excitement of Flag Day! Hotdog, sausage (\$3.00) and pulled pork (\$3.50) meals will be available for purchase. Inflatables will be provided for the children’s enjoyment.

Live music will be provided by the Flat Rockers at Salem Elementary School beginning at 7:00 pm. The Flat Rockers hail from the communities of Flat Rock, Dearborn, Plymouth and Salem. Their musical repertoire includes good old time Rock with a twang, classic country, danceable blues, 50’s Rock, British Invasion and more. They are capable of playing any party or venue that requires an easy to assimilate set of music which is well known to the ears and has toe tapping spontaneity. At dusk there will be fireworks. Viewing is best from behind Salem Elementary School. The fireworks are entirely supported by the people and businesses of Salem through generous donations. Jim Melosh is sponsoring a Michigan State burst while Dan and Patty Jenkinson provide a University of Michigan burst! (Fireworks rain date is June 11, 2016.)

To check on the status of the fireworks please call 248-380-7017.



Salem Community Events has joined the social media phenomenon. Check out our updated website www.salemflagday.com or find us on Facebook under Salem Community Events. We are using these methods to update the community about our events.

We hope to see you Flag Day 2017, celebrated Saturday, June 3rd!

SALEM BIBLE CHURCH UPCOMING EVENTS

March 3, 2017 - Family Faith Video Night 7 pm
March 11, 2017 - Grand Prix & Chili Dinner 6 pm
March 31, 2017 - Dulcimer Society Concert 7 pm
April 7, 2017 - Teen Video Night 7 pm
April 14, 2017 - Good Friday Service 1 pm
April 16, 2017 - Easter Sunday 11 am
May 5, 2017 - Family Video Night 7 pm

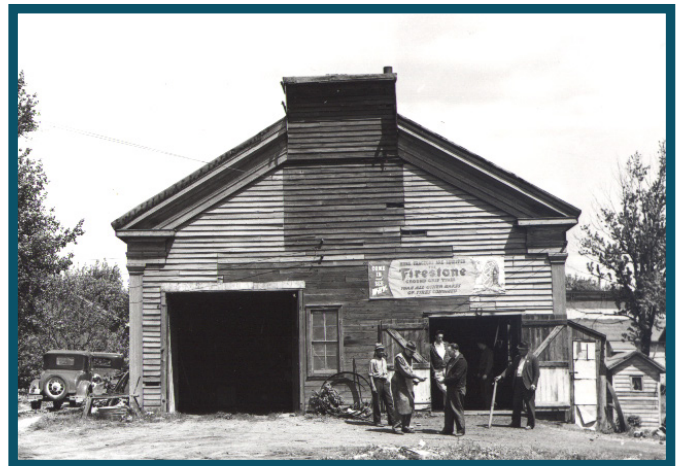
Come join us for one, or all activities. All are welcome!

9481 West Six Mile Rd.
Pastor Lance Rubringer 248-349-0674
Sbc4christ.org We Preach Christ

Remembering Those Who Have Gone Before

Presented by the Historical Cemeteries of Salem Township.

In the Salem-Walker cemetery lays an unobtrusive headstone marked "Burt Haywood, Salem's Smithy." Burt served many years as a Black Smith in Salem Township. His place of business was located in the village of Salem within the Old Baptist Church, which he had converted into a blacksmith shop.



Grave sites are available at:

Lapham Cemetery

Corner of Brooksville & Gotfredson Roads
Contact: Elaine McIntyre
Phone: 810-231-2930

Worden Cemetery

Five Mile Road, East of Pontiac Trail
Contact: Steve Roberts
Phone: 248-437-5360

SALEM AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Membership News:

Salem Area Historical Society annual Memberships expire on March 31st. If you are not a member or you want to renew your membership, please send in your membership dues. Use the form below or the one on the "Membership" page of the Salem Area Historical Society's web site, www.sahshistory.org.

April 2017 Events:

Tickets are now available for the **Salem Area Historical Society's 2017 Annual Dinner and Auction** on Saturday, **April 8th**, at 6 pm at Fox Hills' Classic Log Cabin Fox Club House. Cost of this pre-paid event is \$37 per SAHS Member and \$42 per non-SAHS Member with a \$2 discount per ticket purchased prior to March 10th. Everyone is invited. This will include a buffet dinner, a silent auction, a live auction and Fun for all. Auction items will include tickets to area attractions (i.e. Tipping Point Theatre, Meadowbrook Hall, and Williamston Theatre), national attractions (i.e. Disney World, Grand Hotel), historical items and restaurant gift certificates. All proceeds will be used to maintain the Jarvis-Stone School and the Dickenson Barn. Tickets can be purchased using the form below, via our Website's "SAHS Dinner/ Auction" Webpage (<http://www.sahshistory.org>) or via an email to Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com.

The SAHS Membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **April 26th**, at 7:30 pm in the Jarvis Stone School. A short SAHS business agenda will be followed by a presentation on **Rosie the Riveter** by Darlene Imus, Head Librarian, Yankee Air Museum Library. Admission Fee: \$2 for non-SAHS members.

May 2017 Events:

The **Salem Area Historical Society Flea Market and Yard Sale** will be held on Saturday, **May 20th**, from 9 am to 2 pm. This will be a community wide yard sale featuring flea market and resale items. You can buy a space to sell your items or you can donate items to SAHS with all proceeds from their sale going to SAHS General Fund. Clean out your attic, your garage, your house! It's time to sell your unwanted treasures or donate them to SAHS to sell. For more information, go to the SAHS Website.

The SAHS Membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **May 24th**, at 7:30 pm in the Jarvis Stone School. A short SAHS Business agenda will be followed by a presentation on **Walter Chrysler: His Company and His Life** by Russell Dore' of Dore' Productions. Admission Fee: \$2 for non-SAHS Members.

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 on our Facebook page. You can become a member or renew your membership for 2017 at any of our events or via our Website.

**For SAHS Memberships and/or Dinner/Auction Tickets make check payable to:
Salem Area Historical Society**

Mail to: SAHS, P.O. Box 75011, Salem, MI 48175

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Phone:** _____

email ID: _____

#of Tickets _____ **@ \$42 each non-member =** _____

#of Tickets _____ **@ \$37 each SAHS member =** _____

#of Tickets prior to 3/10 _____ **@ \$40 each non-member =** _____

#of Tickets prior to 3/10 _____ **@ \$42 each SAHS member =** _____

SAHS Membership _____ **(\$10 - Senior; \$15 - Individual; \$25 - Family)**

THE SALEM PROMISE

The Salem Township Promise is at a “Tipping Point”. In past years, we have acquired a base of support, enough to continue offering scholarships every year. However, if we are to fulfill our mission to provide scholarships to all our students, we must grow. To our Board, this means finding other ways such as fund raising events. But to take on an event, we need volunteers. So this is a call for you to volunteer, whether that means sitting at a registration table or doing something more physical, like setting up for an event, we would like to hear from you. The first step is to generate a list of folks who want to help, so call me at (248) 437-0012 or email me at pjcurley@compuserve.com. And if you have a special skill, that would be helpful also.

Thrivent Choice is a charitable grant program of Thrivent Financial that gives eligible members the power to recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable funds each year through their Thrivent Choice charitable Choice Dollars grant program.

By directing Choice Dollars, eligible Thrivent members can recommend which nonprofit organizations they feel should receive charitable grant funding from Thrivent. If you are an eligible member, please consider us when directing your Choice Dollars.

And of special notice, this year the scholarship application has been put online. Students no longer have to copy, fill out with pen and USPS mail to us. Each school has the digital application which may be completed and submitted electronically. Students should check their schools Financial Aid Website or contact their counselor or the Salem Township office for additional information. As always, please consider making a donation. Send your check to:

The Salem Township Promise
PO Box 75319
Salem, Michigan 48175

A special thanks to Linda Hamilton who has agreed to tape our monthly Board of Trustees Meetings so we can post them on our Salem Township website. We would love to have you join us for our monthly meetings, but if you can't make it, feel free to keep updated through our website, Salem-mi.org.



SALEM TOWNSHIP CALENDAR

March

- 14 Board of Trustees Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 20 Planning Commission Meeting - 7:30 pm
- 21 Land Preservation/Conservation Meeting - 7:00 pm

April

- 11 Board of Trustees Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 14 Good Friday - Office Closed at Noon.
- 17 Planning Commission Meeting - 7:30 pm
- 18 Land Preservation/Conservation Meeting - 7:00 pm

May

- 9 Board of Trustees Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 15 Planning Commission Meeting - 7:30 pm
- 16 Land Preservation/Conservation Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 29 Memorial Day - Office Closed

Salem Compost Day

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 6th. Compost will be available to Salem Township residents on Six Mile Rd. between Chubb Rd. and the railroad tracks. It will be available from 8:30 am until it's gone.



Easter Brunch Casserole

Ingredients

- 4 cups frozen shredded hash brown potatoes, thawed
- 1 pound bulk pork sausage, cooked and drained
- 1/2 pound bacon strips, cooked and crumbled
- 2 cups (8 ounces) shredded cheddar cheese, divided
- 1 cup biscuit/baking mix
- 1 medium green pepper, chopped
- 1 green onion, chopped
- 4 large eggs
- 3 cups 2% milk
- 1/2 teaspoon Lawry's Seasoned Salt

Directions

1. In a large bowl, combine the potatoes, sausage, bacon, green pepper and onion; stir in 1 cup cheese. Transfer to a greased 13x9-in. baking dish
2. In another bowl, whisk eggs, milk, baking mix and salt until blended; pour over top. Sprinkle with remaining cheese. Refrigerate, covered, overnight.
3. Preheat oven to 375°. Remove casserole from refrigerator while oven heats. Bake, uncovered, 30-35 minutes or until a knife inserted near the center comes out clean. Let stand 10 minutes before cutting. Makes 12 servings

Salem Township
9600 Six Mile
P.O. Box 75002
Salem, MI 48175



Salem Township Board of Trustees

Supervisor, Gary Whittaker	gary@saalem-mi.org
Clerk, Del Wensley	dwensley@saalem-mi.org
Treasurer, Dale Converse	dconverse@saalem-mi.org
Trustee, TJ McLaughlin	tj@saalem-mi.org
Trustee, Reggie DeLuca	reggie@saalem-mi.org
Trustee, David Trent	david@saalem-mi.org
Trustee, John Daniel	john@saalem-mi.org

Township Contact Info

Fire Chief, Jim Rachwal
firechief@saalem-mi.org

Deputy Treasurer, Janice Radatz
jradatz@saalem-mi.org

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

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

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Website: www.salem-mi.org

Township phone: 248-349-1690
Fax: 248-349-9350

Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency: 734-994-2911

Landfill

Phone: 888-443-1717

Hours Open

Monday - Friday 6 am - 5 pm
Saturday 7 am - 12 pm
Closed Sunday and Holidays