

SALEM TOWNSHIP MESSENGER



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Dear Salem Neighbors,

I hope all is well with you and your families. It is hard to believe that Christmas is right around the corner and another year is quickly coming to a close. I hope you all had a chance to enjoy the beautiful fall season and to gather together with loved ones and celebrate Thanksgiving. The Salem Township Board and our staff have enjoyed serving you this year and look forward to working together with you in 2019. We are truly grateful for your support.

But before we wrap up 2018, let's take a look at some of the recent happenings in the Township.

On Sept. 20, 2018 the Salem Board of Trustees held a special meeting and passed the adoption of two special assessment districts. These locations are Chubb Road between 5 Mile Road and 6 Mile Road and 5 Mile Road between Chubb Road and Napier Road. These areas are located in our General Industrial zoned district.

On October 9th, there was a public hearing for both assessment districts with only one property owner submitting a written objection. Our financial and bond council are currently working on the assessments. The project is currently slated to begin in April, 2019.

If you have stopped by the Salem Township Offices recently, you may have noticed our new entrance doors. I would like to thank our Treasure, Dale Converse, for spearheading this project. In addition to replacing all the doors and glass in the lobby, we also added automatic handicap doors on the south side of the building. They are on a motion sensor and open automatically, allowing easy access for all. Replacing the doors at the Township was a project that was long overdue and now has finally been completed.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me anytime with any concerns you might have at 248-909-3200 or by email at Gary@Salem-mi.org. I am grateful for the concerns that have been brought to my attention which have allowed me the opportunity to address them and help find a solution. We would love to

have you join us for one of our Board of Trustees meetings which are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00, at the Township hall.

Lastly, I can't believe I have been Salem Township Supervisor for six years now. I would sincerely like to thank you for your support and encouragement over the years. It has been a pleasure to serve and get to know so many of you. As the holidays approach, Sherry and I wish each of you and your families a Merry Christmas, and a blessed & prosperous New Year!

Take good care,



Gary

CLERK'S COMMENTARY: FROM THE DESK OF DEL WENSLEY

November 6th General Election - Thank you to Salem Township voters! 67% Voter Turnout

A "huge thank you" to all of our election workers for a job well-done! It is a lot of work, but it is a great learning experience. Thank you again for making our township's election process run so smoothly.

It won't be long until the fall of 2019 begins the Presidential Primary activity. The tentative election date for Michigan voters will be Tuesday, March 10, 2020. Anyone, 16 years or older, who desires to learn more about the voting process and would like to work at an upcoming election, please call the Clerk's office at (248) 912-6726 or email me at dwensley@salem-mi.org. Other basic qualifications are: Must complete and file an Election Inspector Application with the clerk. Must attend a training session prior to working as an election inspector.

Please call Clerk, Del Wensley at 248.912.6726 to receive an application by mail OR stop by the Township Office and talk with Barb to pick up an application in person.



TREASURER'S UPDATE: FROM THE DESK OF DALE CONVERSE

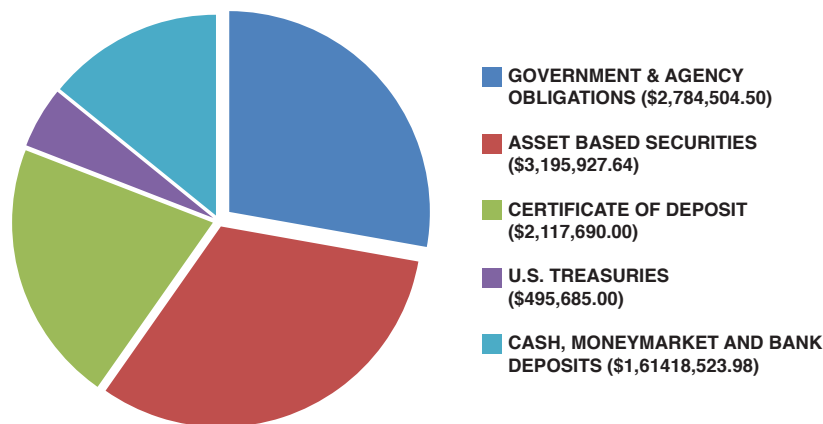
The increased amount of rain we received this fall has certainly reduced the time to enjoy the colors and outdoor activities normally associated with a typical Michigan fall season. The old axiom, the older we get the faster time goes by, has certainly been the case for me this fall. Time has flown by for me and it is hard to believe that winter is nearly here. Contributing to this feeling is that in addition to the regular duties of this office, we have been busy with the Chubb/Five Mile Road paving project and working with our engineering firm on the final design of the sewer and water system for the Urban Service District (USD). Both of these projects will require an additional amount of time going forward in the creation and coordination of the Special Assessment Districts for the road improvements and obtaining permits, bids, receiving payments from the stake holders, paying the contractors, and reporting the status of the water and sewer project to the State on Michigan. Work on the SAW grant for the Hamlet sewer system has been on hold for the past six months as our engineering firm has been busy with the USD water and sewer system design.

Since taking office 6 years ago, I have had a personal issue requesting tax payment checks be made payable to "Dale Converse Treasurer". I finally had the issue discussed at our Washtenaw County Treasurer Association meeting and found out that there is no legal requirement stating that the Treasurer's name must be included in the "pay to the order of" space. The only suggestion was that the "pay to the order of" should include wording such that if a tax payment check be inadvertently mixed with other checks issued to the Township that it can be easily identified. Going forward, we will be requesting and including instructions on your tax statement that all tax payment checks should be made payable to "Salem Township Treasurer".

I wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Dale

SALEM TOWNSHIP INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2018



NET ASSETS IN INVESTMENTS ACCOUNT \$10,060,787.03

TOTAL ACCRUED INTEREST & DIVIDENDS 1/1/18-10/31/18	\$185,167.22
TOTAL ACCRUED INTEREST & DIVIDENDS 4/1/18-10/31/18	\$94,346.22

SALEM-SOUTH LYON LIBRARY

HOLIDAY BOOK TASTING

12/07/2018 6:00-8:00 pm

We invite you to join us at the Holiday Book Tasting. Spend the evening "sampling" great winter and holiday reads. Get great gift ideas for the reader on your shopping list at the "Gifted Titles" and "Best of 2018" tables. Please register.



LIVE: HAVE A JAZZY HOLIDAY W/ JOHN O'DONNELL

12/09/2018 2:00-3:00 pm

Deck the Halls! Join us for an afternoon of live festive Detroit Holiday Jazz, Blues and history. Light refreshments provided. DROP-IN no registration required.



NATURE AT NIGHT

Monday, January 21; 6:30-7:30; *Please register*

Limit 20 children; Parent participation required. Ages 5-10. Join us for an outdoor scavenger hunt followed by stories, snacks and suggestions for outdoor family fun. Dress for the weather and bring a flashlight! Please register.



A CHARLIE BROWN VALENTINE

Monday, February 4; 6:30PM - 7:30PM; *Please register*

Join us for a Valentine's Day celebration! A *Charlie Brown Valentine* will be playing in HD on our big screen, complete with surround sound. After the show, you will have the opportunity to make a Valentine for someone special!



STRAW BALE GARDENING

2/27/2019 7:00-8:30 pm

Learn how to garden without weeds. Use it to grow your vegetables, herbs, and flowers in a way that is great for people with mobility challenges. Registration Required.



AREA AGENCY ON AGING

A MMAP counselor will be in the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month. SR #2

The Area Agency on Aging 1-B (AAA 1-B) is a private 501(c)3 nonprofit agency that receives funding through the Older Americans Act to provide information and access to services for older adults, persons with disabilities and family caregivers. Counselors provide confidential, unbiased information. They are not connected to any insurance company. **To schedule an appointment please call: 1-800-852-7795.**



TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

January 8, 7-8 pm and February 5, 7-8 pm

Want to get involved at the library? Become a part of Salem-South Lyon District Library's Teen Advisory Board (TAB). The Teen Advisory Board is part club and part volunteer opportunity. This group will meet monthly to plan teen events, create displays, help select books for the library, and more. Through this group there will be opportunities to volunteer at other library events. **Teen Advisory Board members must be in grades 8-12.** No limit, but please register for our first meeting in the new year.



SALEM AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

DECEMBER 2018 EVENT:

The annual SAHS Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 2nd from 1 to 3 PM at the South Salem Stone School. Plan on attending the Member's only Christmas gathering. For details, see the November edition of SAHS's *Spirit of Salem* newsletter.

2019 MEETING TOPICS:

- Wednesday, January 23 - Pot Luck Dinner Business Meeting, South Salem Stone School Oral History Project Report, and Pioneer Family on Van Hoosen Farm
- Wednesday, February 27 - Saving Purple Martins
- Saturday, April 6 - Annual Dinner / Auction
- Wednesday, April 24 - Prisons in Plymouth & Northville
- Wednesday, May 22 - Cobblestone Farm
- Wednesday, September 25 - Dodge Brothers
- Wednesday, October 23 - Dangerous Experiment
- Sunday, December 1 - Annual Christmas Gathering

To keep current with our events, visit our Web Site at www.SAHShistory.org or the Salem Area Historical Society Facebook Page. SAHS can be contacted via email at Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com.

SAHS ANNUAL DINNER / AUCTION:

Tickets are available for the Salem Area Historical Society's 2019 Annual Dinner and Auction on Saturday, April 6th, at 6 PM at Fox Hills' Classic Log Cabin Club House. Tickets to this pre-paid event are \$37.00 per SAHS Member and \$42 per non-SAHS Member with \$2 discounts if purchased prior to March 1st. Everyone is invited. The event includes a buffet dinner, a silent auction, a live auction and Fun for all. There will be around 100 items up for auction.

SAHS MEMBERSHIPS:

The Salem Area Historical Society is offering a special membership period for those who join now. An annual membership paid in the remainder of 2018 will last through March 31, 2020. Please use the form below to join or pay at the SAHS Website through PayPal. SAHS is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and contributions to it may be tax deductible. You can also use this form to send your tax-deductible donation to the Salem Area Historical Society. You are encouraged to make copies and distribute this application form to your family and friends.

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: _____

Membership Fee: _____

+ Donation: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Membership Type:

\$10 per Senior _____ **\$15 per Individual** _____

\$25 per Family _____ **\$50 per Business/Organization** _____

\$300 Lifetime Membership per Couple _____

SALEM COMMUNITY EVENTS

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Do you have young children or grandchildren? Plan to attend Salem Community Events annual Children's Christmas party December 1st, 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 balloon sculptures. Cookies and cider will also be available. If you would like to help, set-up begins at 11:30 am or have dinner with us at the township hall November 29th at 6:30 pm and help us stuff stockings for the children. To RSVP please call Linda at 248.380.7017.



2019 SALEM FLAG DAY

2019 will be our 40th Flag Day celebration. Please share your stories and pictures from past years with us. We are seeking to identify all previous Grand Marshals. Your help is greatly appreciated. Planning for this event has already begun but will intensify January 2019. Be a part of our 40th Flag Day celebration by joining us the third Saturday of each month (beginning in January) to plan this fun filled, community day held June 1, 2019.



TO HELP SALEM COMMUNITY EVENTS FINANCIALLY

By Shopping at **Kroger**:

1. Click on Sign In/Register (krogercommunityrewards.com)
2. 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.
3. Follow Kroger's instructions entering the number, 63534 or name of organization, Salem Community Events.

By Shopping at **Amazon Smile**:

1. Visit smile.amazon.com
2. Sign in and Choose **Salem Community Events Association**
3. Select "**Salem Community Events Association.**"

After signing in, search for "Salem Community Events Association" select Salem Community Events Association to continue. Once selected, you will receive an email confirmation and you can begin shopping.

We still accept donations by check which should be mailed to Salem Community Events, PO Box 75041, Salem, MI 48175. Flag Day and the annual Christmas party would not be a reality without the generous support of the people and businesses of Salem Township.

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

LAND PRESERVATION & CONSERVATION

The Anthony & Rose Shatter Family Nature Preserve Salem Township

Legacy Land Conservation announced the creation of the Anthony & Rose Shatter Family Nature Preserve in Salem Township on September 12, 2018. The 25-acre property lies in the southwest corner of Brookville and Curtis Roads, just a quarter of a mile South of Legacy's Creekshead Nature Preserve on Curtis Road. Legacy's Seventh nature preserve was made possible through the joint efforts of the Salem Township Board of Trustees, the Salem Township Land Preservation and Conservation Board (LPCB), Washtenaw County's Natural Areas Preservation Program (NAPP), and the Ann Arbor Greenbelt.

The LPCB approached Legacy in April 2017 after learning that the Shatter Family had put up the undeveloped land up for sale. With its high-quality beech-maple and oak-hickory woodlands, and buttonbush swamp, the property was identified as a priority area for future public access by the township's Board.

"We had been working with Legacy Land Conservancy to look at new ways of protecting property in Salem Township," Says Susan Bejin, Chair of the Salem Township Land Preservation and Conservation Board. "This property showcases beautiful wetlands, abundant wildflowers, and a wide variety of trees. It's in near pristine condition."

The Preserve is Legacy's first created in response to a community request. Legacy's other six preserves were initiated and donated by landowners.

Inspired by Salem Townships' enthusiasm for the property, the Ann Arbor Greenbelt and Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission pooled their resources so the land could be purchased and transferred to Legacy's care.

Salem Township paid the administrative fees for the sale and is working with Legacy on parking solutions for public accessibility. Legacy covered closing costs, and will shoulder the responsibility of maintaining the property in perpetuity.

As part of the purchase agreement, Legacy will create the "Tony & Rosie Trail" to honor the property's former owners, the late Anthony and Rose Shatter. "Our parents wanted the land to be their legacy; it is our great honor to have the nature preserve named after them," Says Patricia Akmon, the eldest Shatter daughter. "Our parents were always open and welcoming, so having the trailhead that welcomes people to the preserve named in their honor is fitting." The preserve is scheduled to be open to the public early summer of 2019.

Bejin notes that because it's located on one of Salem Township's busier roads, "the new preserve will be a nice spot for people to stop and enjoy what Michigan was like before being developed."



NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR'S DESK

I just received the inflation multiplier from the State Tax Commission. They have calculated a **2.1%** increase in your Taxable Value for 2019. You can take last year's value and multiply it by 1.021 to get an estimate of the amount you will pay taxes on for 2019. This is assuming that you didn't make any changes on your property during 2018. You can get more information on how the State calculations are made on line at this link: [Bulletin+16+of+2018+-+Inflation+Rate+Multiplier+for+2019.pdf](#)

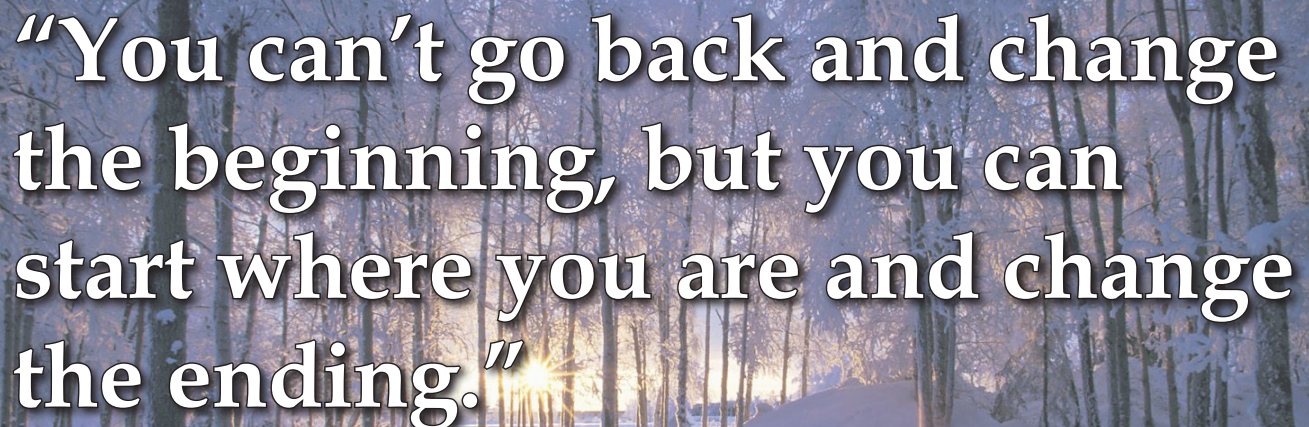
I will be sending out your assessment notices by the end of February. Please watch for it and if you don't agree with my value, please call and make an appointment to visit the Board of Review. Appointments will be available in March. I will be driving throughout the Township during December, January, and February to look at new construction, so if you see a black Ford Escape driving around in your neighborhood, please feel free to come out and ask me any questions you might have.

To anyone in the Township that is operating a business, if you have less than \$80,000 in personal business property, please don't forget to file the **"Affidavit to Claim Small Business Tax Exemption"** with my office by February 10, 2019. You must file this form every year. If you are no longer in business as of December 31, 2018, let me know by returning the form with **"No longer in Business"** written on it and I'll take you off the Tax Roll. If you didn't receive your form by February, either come and get one at the office, or on line at [michigan.gov](#), the State Treasury Department.

I hope you all have a joyful holiday season.

Respectfully,

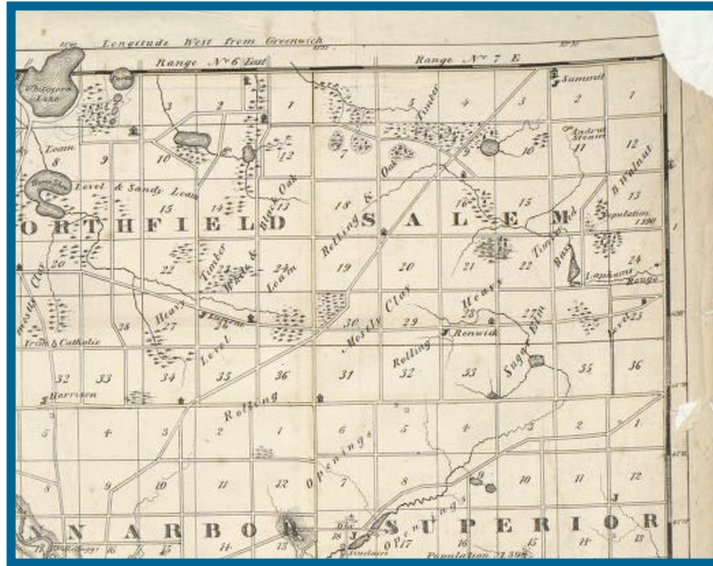
Bill Guenther
Salem Township Assessor



"You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending."

~ C.S. Lewis

SALEM MEMORIES



Washtenaw County Map 1843

In our last newsletter we discussed the village of Summit. I received feedback from Ferman Rohraff regarding the location of the town. Ferman told me that as a young man he used to go dancing near the home of Dean and Wanda Hardesty. Their home is a little south of the Wash-Oak Schoolhouse's former location. He said that the dances were not in the schoolhouse but another building nearby. This must have been the former church of Summit. Does anyone else have similar memories of dances/parties/gatherings on Currie Road, north of Seven Mile Road?

Another interesting feature that has come up regarding the village of Summit is the map above. It is the Salem Township portion of a map of Washtenaw County from 1843. You will notice on the map from a location where the village of Worden would be built (the intersection of Five Mile Road and Pontiac Trail) a road traverses the map to the North-east ending near the location of Summit (West of the intersection of Currie and Eight Mile Roads). Does anyone have anomalies in their property lines or recollections that might support this actually being an early routing for Pontiac Trail? If you have answers to any of these questions please email me at the address below.

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

Presented by: *The Historical Community Cemeteries of Salem Township* – **remembering** those who have gone before. If you have a memory you would like to submit of a Salem ancestor, notable, business or place, please email Steve Roberts at lilacridge@charter.net.

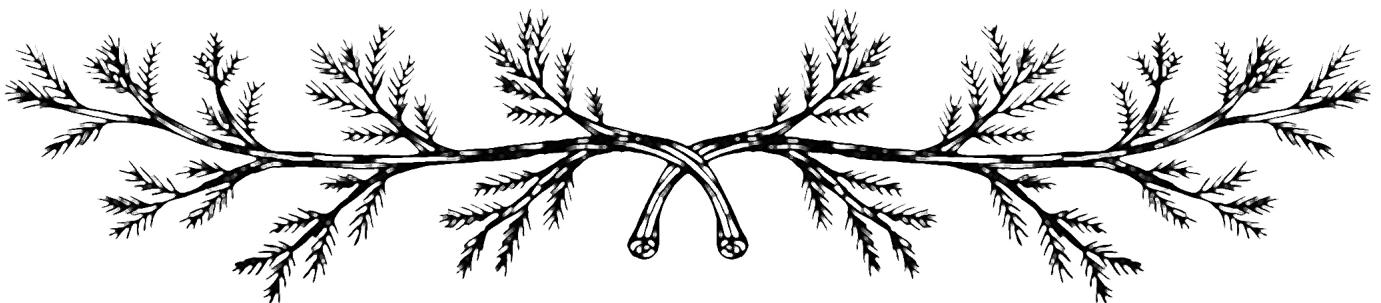
SALEM TOWNSHIP CIVIL WAR VETERANS HONORED SALEM-WALKER CEMETERY



The Salem-Walker Cemetery in Salem Township was selected by Camp 180, Carpenter-Welch, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) to identify and honor those Veterans from Salem Township who served in the Civil War. The Civil War Veterans of Worden and Brookville Cemeteries will be honored next year. The mission of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is to keep alive the memories of the Veterans at the Salem-Walker Cemetery who were born between 1810 and 1850. One Veteran had a Civil War Military Tombstone. Two others had inscriptions on their family tombstone noting their service in the Civil War. A generous camp member donated the flags, staff holders and USA flags for 12 Civil War Veterans who did not have flags on their gravesites on Memorial Day.

There was a Dedication Ceremony on Saturday, September 15, 2018 at 11am for the placement of the flags conducted by Camp 180, Carpenter-Welch, (SUVCW). Commander Robert Payne lead with his explanation of the ceremony which concluded with a 3-gun salute by the 14th Michigan Infantry reenactors and Taps.

Local Members of the local DAR, Commanders of several SUVCW Camps and interested parties attended.



SALEM TOWNSHIP CALENDAR

DECEMBER

- 11 Board of Trustees Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 17 Planning Commission Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 18 Land Preservation/Conservation Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 24 Office Closed – Christmas Holiday
- 25 Office Closed – Christmas Holiday

JANUARY

- 1 Happy New Year – Office Closed
- 8 Board of Trustees Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Land Preservation/Conservation Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Office Closed
- 28 Planning Commission Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

- 8 Board of Trustees Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Land Preservation/Conservation Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Presidents' Day – Office Closed
- 25 Planning Commission Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

Salem Township Land Preservation and Conservation Board would like to thank Advance Disposal Arbor Hills for mowing the trails at the Salem Township Farm Preserve this year. The consistent upkeep of the walking trails has been appreciated by all of us that visit the beautiful Preserve.

Thank you!



Christmas Morning Eggs Benedict Casserole

Ingredients

- cooking spray
- 8 large eggs
- 3 cups milk
- 3 green onions, chopped
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ¾ pound Canadian bacon, cut into ½ inch dice
- 6 English muffins, cut into ½ inch dice
- ½ teaspoon paprika
- 1 pkg. McCormick Sauce Mix
- ¼ cup margarine

Directions

1. Spray 9x13-inch baking dish with cooking spray.
2. Whisk together eggs, 2 cups milk, green onions, onion powder, and salt together in a large bowl until well mixed.
3. Spread half of the Canadian bacon in the prepared baking dish. Layer English muffins over meat and cover with remaining Canadian bacon. Pour egg mixture over casserole. Cover baking dish with plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight.
4. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C).
5. Sprinkle casserole with paprika; cover with aluminum foil.
6. Bake in preheated oven until eggs are almost set, (about 30 minutes) and remove foil. Continue baking about 15 more minutes, until eggs are totally set.
7. Whisk hollandaise sauce mix with 1 cup milk in a saucepan. Add margarine and bring to a boil, stirring frequently. Reduce heat to medium-low, simmer, and stir until thickened, about 1 minute. Drizzle sauce over casserole to serve.

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



PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS
MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SALINE, MI
PERMIT NO. 11



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, Lori Copland
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: 248-504-2527

Hours Open

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