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Connecticut

WINTER 2016



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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

Dear Fellow Townspeople

As the Holiday Season approaches Kathleen and I wish you a safe and joyful time at all of your holiday activities. Let's look at what has been going on in our Town.

Town is in Strong Financial Shape

Our Auditors from PKF O'Connor Davies, CPA, LLP, presented the Fiscal Year 2015/2016 annual audit at the October Board of Finance Meeting. Their comments include that "Salem is one of the most Financially Stable Towns in our State." Many thanks to all of our departments, Boards and Commissions, for their careful use of our taxpayers' money.

Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Program!

Thanks to the Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Program, several homeowners in Salem qualified for needed home repairs. Needed repairs include: painting, roofing, new furnaces, electrical and plumbing.

Center of Town looking Sharp!

Our Townspeople have consistently stated that they desire an attractive, walkable Town Center area. With the installation of the sidewalk, walking trails, painting and trimming of the Old Zemko property, gazebo and granite posts, along with many improvements done by the Salem Congregational Church, our attractive and walkable Town Center is getting closer to what our Townspeople have been asking for.

Welcome Salem Librarian, Vicky Coffin!

After a substantial search for a new Librarian, we were fortunate to find our new Head Librarian, Vicky Coffin. Vicky comes to us with years of experience as a Librarian. Her previous experience includes various municipal libraries, as well as Eastern Connecticut State University and Tufts University. Please stop by and introduce yourself to Vicky.

New Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company Chief Brian Ennis

Welcome Chief Brian Ennis. Chief Ennis is well-qualified with many years of experience as a Firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician. Congratulations Chief Ennis - we offer our support, and know you will do a fine job as Chief.

Thank you Chief Jim Savalle

Thank you Chief Jim Savalle for your many years of dedicated service as Chief of Gardner Lake Fire Company. Jim, while stepping down as chief, will still remain an active member of the Gardner Lake Fire Company, as well as continue to serve as our paid Fire Fighter/EMT.

Enjoy your holiday season. *Mele Kelikimaka and Hau'oli Makahiki Hou* from the Lyden family to your family.

I am honored to be your First Selectman.

Respectfully,

Kevin Lyden, First Selectman



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HOLIDAY SEASONS ARE AGAIN UPON US

Our first Salem Lions Golf Classic was held on October 3 at Shennecossett Golf Club in Groton (please see photos on Page 6). The weather cooperated nicely. Good golf, offering of a car for the first hole in one, prizes for closest to pin, raffles, an auction, giveaways, and a lunch and dinner all led to a very successful day. A hearty thanks and job well done to Lion Elby Burr and his staff. Plans have already started for our Second Classic next fall. Watch for more details in 2017.

On October 27, Past District Governor Lion Mary Krogh installed Eugene (Gene) Maiorano and William Evanson as our two newest Salem Lions at our monthly dinner meeting. Welcome Gene and William.

Our Secret Santa project is working again this year in conjunction with other Salem programs to ensure a little extra holiday cheer to our less fortunate youngsters.

Our Lions Super Bowl Rose Fundraiser is just around the corner. Celebrate Super Bowl by giving a dozen cut roses to your spouse and friends. Advanced orders will be taken in January by all Salem Lions. Delivery will be on Thursday evening and Friday before Super Bowl.

Coming soon in the Spring, look for announcements of:

Salem Road Race in April

Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday before Palm Sunday

Seasons Greetings to all from Salem Lions!

Thank You all for supporting our projects and fundraisers; 100% of all donations and all the profits from our fundraisers are returned to our community charitable projects. Salem Lions are proud to be of service to Salem.

Submitted by Lion George Ziegra

EAST LYME HIGH SCHOOL

THE 2016 ELECTION IN THE COMMUNITY

On November 8, Salem seniors stood outside the Town Hall calling community members over to purchase freshly baked goods in order to raise money for their class.

The Class of 2017 must raise a couple thousand dollars for their senior events, such as prom, class trip, and yearbooks. From 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the Class of 2017 volunteered at their booth selling everything from muffins to brownies for \$1.00 and collecting donations. The class would like to thank the community for their support as they raised over \$600.

While this election was a controversial one and many people found themselves trying to determine the lesser of two evils, Election Day showed how valuable a small town is. While not everyone could see eye to eye on the candidates, the sense of community was not lost as people from all over town spared the cash they had on them to buy cookies and baked goods from the local Girl Scout troop and the Class of 2017. Experiencing this first hand, I think this shows the strength in our community and that we do not have to agree on everything, but as long as we support each other we can make it through the next four years.

Submitted by: Hannah Belleville

SALEM TOWN INFORMATION

www.salemct.gov

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270 Hartford Road
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Winter has arrived and the residents of Salem should take simple steps to enjoy the outdoors in a safe and healthy manner. Our friends at the Connecticut Department of Public Health shared these tips, and I now offer them to you:

- **Dress in layers.** This helps keep you insulated and lets you take off or add more layers of clothing as needed. Wear many layers of loose-fitting clothing and stay dry.

- **Cover your skin.** When the wind chill brings the temperature well below zero, be sure to cover your skin. In extreme cold, skin exposed to the cold air can get frostbite in just a few minutes. If you must go outside, you should wear:

- **Hat**
- **Scarf or knit face mask** to cover your face and mouth

- **Sleeves** that are snug at the wrist
- **Mittens** (they are warmer than gloves)
- **Water-resistant** coat and boots

- **Perform your work** during the warmest part of the day. People who work outside should do so during the warmest part of the day, if possible.

- **Avoid alcohol and caffeinated beverages.** Beverages with alcohol and caffeine make your body lose heat more quickly. Drink hot, sweetened beverages to help you stay warm.

- **Take frequent breaks from the cold.** If you must be outside, take frequent breaks in warm, dry shelters to let your body warm up.

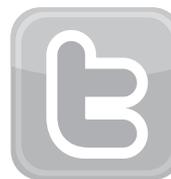
- **Know the signs of frostbite and hypothermia.** Know how to recognize cold illness and when to get medical treatment right away.

- **Make sure infants stay warm.** Infants under one year old should not sleep in cold bedrooms because they lose body heat more easily and are unable to shiver to keep themselves warm. Keep them properly clothed and indoors in warm temperatures.

- **Check on elderly neighbors and family members.** People over the age of 65 often are less active and have lower metabolisms, making them lose body heat more quickly. Make sure that the temperature in their home is adequate to keep them warm.

To learn more about the work of the Uncas Health District, please contact us at (860) 823-1189 or www.uncashd.org. The links to access us on Twitter and Facebook can be found on our website.

Submitted by: Patrick McCormack, Director of Health



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DEAR FRIENDS OF THE SALEM VOLUNTEER FIRE CO.



This past year has been a busy one for the members of the Salem Volunteer Fire Co. Besides responding to fire, medical and other emergency calls, we have been honoring our Salem Seniors.

Last December we held a lunch for the Salem Seniors. They enjoyed a turkey and ham luncheon with all the trimmings cooked and served by our members. This summer, we held a picnic at the Witch Meadow Campground for them. The Salem

Seniors is a great organization that helps our town seniors with issues that are central to them. If you would like to join, please contact Pam Henry at the Salem Town Hall, at 860-859-3873 ext. 125. But, we are not done! On Tuesday, December 13th at noon we will once again provide a Holiday Luncheon to our Salem Seniors, and this year we would also like to cordially invite any active and non-active Salem veteran and their significant other to join us at the Salem Firehouse at 424 Hartford Road for a delicious lunch. The Salem Veterans are also a very important part of our lives, Town and Nation. We are asking the veterans to please call the station at 860-859-0942 to reserve your place at our table.

During the year, we will continue with our ongoing trainings and recruitment of members. We are proud to say, that our Senior and Junior memberships are growing, but we could always use more. If you're interested in joining our Fire Company, please come by or give us a call. We also realize that not everyone can be a Fire Fighter, EMS, Fire Police, or Junior, so your financial support is also greatly appreciated.

FIRE SAFETY AT THE SALEM SCHOOL

October was Fire Safety month, but everyone needs to think about fire safety every day! The Gardner Lake and Salem Volunteer Fire Companies were hard at work educating our school-age children. From pre-school to eighth grade to the little ones at the daycares in town. The children in Salem received some very important tips and ideas on how to be safe all year round. I had to laugh when I asked a preschooler what they would do if they were having a campfire and their clothes caught on fire. Their response was that they would wash them. We then practiced to Stop, Drop and Roll. All of the students learned the importance of having working smoke alarms in their house and to change the batteries twice a year. The older students learned about the importance of sleeping with their bedroom door closed. We went outside and showed them a model of a house where the temperature, in a room on fire, was over 1000 degrees and the bedroom above the fire with the door closed, was 90 degrees.

We were able to teach them about fire behavior, show them a flashover and a backdraft.

The students were engaged and eager to learn. If your child nags you about making sure you have working smoke alarms in your house, GOOD! It is our fault and everyone needs to have them. I want to thank the staff and administration for allowing us to share with the children important messages about fire safety. Please be safe during the holiday season and practice fire safety all year round. For tips and ideas, please feel free to reach out to either Company or the Fire Marshal.

Submitted by: Chief Richard Martin

The Salem Volunteer Fire Co., Inc. is a charitable organization under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3)



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After a year of consideration and planning, a committee of Lions members, under the chairmanship of Lion Elby Burr, moved ahead to assemble and sponsor our first golf outing. The event was held on October 3 at Shennecossett Country Club in Groton. The weather could not have been better, and all who played had a wonderful time.

The day started with sign in, warm-up putting on the practice green and a box lunch. Raffle tickets and 50/50 tickets were sold. Tee-off time was scheduled at 1:00 PM with a shotgun start. Prizes were available on many holes, including: longest drive, hole-in-one for a new car and many other opportunities for golf gifts. Dinner was available after golf along with prizes for ticket winners. All players and workers received a special golf hat with the Club logo.

Golf had been a possible fundraiser for the Club for years, but didn't fit in with all the other events the Lions had scheduled. When it became clear in the Fall of 2015 that a new project was needed, we decided to move ahead with the golf program on a trial basis. Needless to say, we had a very successful outing and many thanks go to the golf committee: Gordon Gillaspie, George Householder, Zachary Adams, Skip Dickson, Skip Stangeland & Ed Lezon. All worked hard to bring in golfers, organize and run the many golf events. Thanks also goes to the Lions Club members who worked all day at the outing.

We can't say enough about the support we received from the many Salem business sponsors and individuals who provided T signs, raffle and silent auction gifts. We are planning now for next year's outing.



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The Salem Seniors would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who have helped us in the past few months. The Salem Volunteer Fire Company recently hosted a picnic at the Witch Meadow Campground that was very enjoyable. The food was good, service outstanding, and the weather cooperated. We are all looking forward to our annual Christmas party at the Firehouse. Due to repairs at the Firehouse, our September meeting was held at the Salem Town Hall, where the Firemen kindly set up tables and chairs so we wouldn't have to miss a meeting.

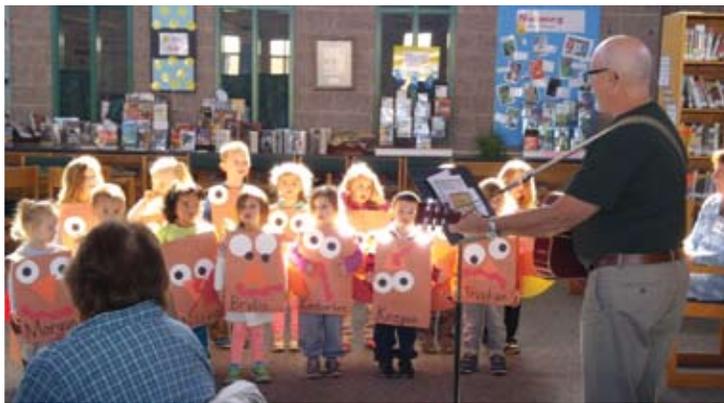
We all look forward to seeing our First Selectman Kevin Lyden at our meetings. He informs us about what is happening and going to happen in our Town. Since many of us do not attend the town meetings, his information is greatly appreciated.

We would like to thank Superintendent Joseph Onofrio and his staff for a pleasant meeting and delicious lunch at the Salem School, which hosts our November meeting every year. This year was exceptional as the pre-school and middle school singers entertained us with a very professional concert. We would also like to say a big thank you to Pam Henry, our Senior Liaison, who keeps us informed and abreast of the available amenities and services and activities offered by the Town.

We would also like to express our appreciation to The Salem Free Public Library for giving us the use of a room at the Library every Tuesday from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. During this time, socially-inclined seniors play card games and Wii Bowling. Many different card games are played, including cribbage, setback (pitch), golf and any new games someone introduces.

The Salem Seniors meet the second Tuesday of every month from March to December at the Salem Volunteer Firehouse. In January and February, we meet informally, as weather permits. The meetings start at 10:30 a.m. and lunch is served. Every Tuesday afternoon, weather permitting, we work on the Spring Plant and Book Sale, under the direction of Elizabeth Lane, to benefit the Library. New people are always welcome to participate. Refreshments are served.

Submitted by: Irene Jarvis



Salem School provides seniors with entertainment

Our annual Flu Shot Clinic was a success. Salem Health Mart reported a 50% participation increase over last year.

On November 1, 2016 we met at Salem School. The Pre-K class sang turkey themed songs. Later the Middle School Chorus sang "Circle Of Life", "Can You Feel The Love Tonight" and other beautiful songs from "The Lion King". Thank you to Salem School for providing an outstanding Thanksgiving Luncheon and Chris Hebert for the entertainment during our November meeting.

Municipal Medical Transportation Services for our Salem Seniors are now available. Would you like more info? Then please leave a message for me at (860) 859-3873, ext. 125 or stop by the Town Hall Monday or Wednesday for an application. Your cost for the year is \$12 which allows up to 36 one-way trips from your home (to or from) your medical appointments within New London County.

We're anticipating our December 13, 2016 Holiday Luncheon provided by the Salem Volunteer Firehouse. Wear your ugly or silly Christmas or Chanukah sweaters. This is our last meeting of 2016. We'll continue to meet informally both January and February on the 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 10:30am for Mind Aerobics (weather permitting). Official Meetings will resume in March 2017. \$5 annual dues are all that's required for your yearly membership. We have Board of Director positions vacant. Join and bring us your ideas. We welcome new members monthly and encourage all of our Town's Senior Citizens to see what we're all about.

Submitted by: Pam Henry

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HOLIDAY CRAFTS BENEFIT THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

When you visit the Library between now and Christmas you will find beautiful hand-crafted items for sale. These items are produced by the Salem Library Knitters and the Charitable Committee of the Clamshell Quilters. Profits from these sales are used to support the Library.

A LITTLE MORE ABOUT THE KNITTERS AND QUILTERS

The Knitters are an informal group of people who enjoy needlework and conversation. They gather in the Library Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. until noon. Everyone is

welcome, whether you knit (or crochet), would like to learn, or simply want to see what it is all about. If you cannot join them on Thursday, but want to donate knitted items to be included in their sale, you can drop them off at the circulation desk to the attention of Jane Grilly.

Like the knitters, the Charity Committee of the Clamshell Quilters gathers in the Library to pursue their craft. They create many different items which are offered for sale and once again, the profits go to the Friends to support the library. The items for sale include table runners, tote bags, pillowcases, small zippered purses and more.



12TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW SALEM LIBRARY OPENING

It is hard to believe that the new Salem Library opened its doors 12 years ago. The Library has grown from simply a collection of books to a community gathering place offering many kinds of knowledge and enjoyment. The new Salem Library offers access to electronic media, a 3D printer, programs for all ages, and a place where patrons can meet, talk, learn, and have fun. To celebrate, the Eight Mile River Band returned for the 12th time on December 3rd at 2:30p.m. Coffee and cake were served and much fun was had by all!

SUCCESSFUL USED BOOK SALE

The Friends of Salem Library held their Annual Used Book Sale on October 28th and 29th at the Salem School Gym. The sale grossed over \$7,500 which will be used to support our Library's programs, the collections, and Summer Reading. Many thanks go to Salem School for hosting the sale and providing necessary support.

This year we tried a couple new ideas, both of which worked well. First, as kickoff to their holiday sale, we displayed and sold goods from the Salem Knitters. Their presence at the book sale allowed the Knitters to reach an audience they might not normally see.

For the second innovation, we started accepting credit cards and many of our customers reacted positively to this change. Credit Card sales accounted for approximately 18% of our gross sales. A special "Thank You" goes to Mary Cikatz, who took on the credit card project and made it work.

Each year, I am amazed at the number of volunteers who show up and make the sale a success. If you would like to join our volunteers, please e-mail me your contact information and any limitations you have and we will notify you as volunteer opportunities occur throughout the year.

Submitted by: Carl Nawrocki, President

SPECIAL THANKS

The Friends of the Salem Library wish to thank the many people who volunteer their time and energy to make the Annual Used Book Sale a success.

From Girls Scouts, as young as fourth grade, to our senior citizens, people of all ages participated. Individuals and entire families contributed their time and muscle power.

Special thanks to those truck owners who helped us collect books throughout the year, and then move ninety tables and over 20,000 books in a single afternoon to start the sale, and then did it again the next day at the end of the sale.

In all, over eighty people volunteered time to make the Annual Used Book Sale a success.

WHAT A GREAT 2016 TRICK OR TRUNK AT THE SALEM PAVILION THIS YEAR!



The Salem Recreation Commission thanks all the Salem Families, Salem PTO, Salem MOMs Club, The Fire Departments, Salem Pharmacy, Salem Trading Post, and Apple Rehab of Colchester for their donations, and participation in the event. The trunks were amazing, and we can't wait to see the trunk themes next year!

The Salem Recreation Commission wants to welcome new member Teri Natoli. We know Teri will bring lots of enthusiasm and great ideas.

If you're looking to start your New Year's resolution, get ready because we are bringing FIT4MOMs Body Back and Nutrition Program to Salem. This 8-week program works with you to create a food diary and healthy meal plans, along with result-based workouts. As soon as this class becomes available registration information will be on our salemct.gov Recreation page, and Town of Salem Recreation Facebook page.

For more information on Salem Recreation events, programs, workshops and classes visit salemct.gov. Don't forget while visiting our page to sign up for our Recreation e-mail blasts! Please contact Salem Recreation Program Coordinator Vanessa Bunnell if there is a program or activity that you would like to see come to Salem. We love hearing from residents!



RESIDENT STATE TROOPER

Greetings from your Salem Resident Troopers. As we head into the cold winter months there's nothing better than wrapping your hands around a nice hot coffee. That being said, Resident Trooper Pariseau and Resident Trooper LaRue plan on hosting a "Coffee with a Cop" event at the local Corner Cupboard located at the Salem Marketplace. "Coffee with a Cop" is a great way for us to meet and interact with the citizens of Salem while enjoying a nice hot cup of joe. We anticipate the event being held in the near future (December/January 2017 time frame). Further details regarding the date and time will be available on the Town of Salem webpage (www.salemct.gov) or by calling the Salem Resident Trooper office at (860) 859-2507. As always please stay safe and we hope to see you at the event!

*Submitted by:
Your Resident State Troopers,
Trooper Pariseau and Trooper LaRue*

The Salem Land Trust (SLT) is pleased to announce the recent purchase of 20 acres of land on Rattlesnake Ledge Road, just east of Whittlesley Swamp, at the headwaters of the East Branch of the Eightmile River. This land will become part of SLT's Zemko Sawmill Preserve and will enlarge the Preserve to 92 acres. The property was purchased with a large grant from Audubon Connecticut's "In-Lieu Fee Grant Program", along with generous donations from the people of Salem, and a number of donors from other Connecticut towns.

SLT volunteers are working to get the new property ready for the public. This involves trash pick-up, and boundary and trail marking. SLT wants to be certain that hikers do not mistakenly wander off SLT land onto surrounding private land.

The Zemko Sawmill Preserve surrounds the lower section of Whittlesley Swamp, which flows under and is across the road from Salem's transfer station. The newly acquired 20 acres is comprised of the steep hillside that rises above the Swamp to the east. This hillside is characterized by varied topography, with several microhabitats present including upland hardwood forest on steep slopes with rocky outcrops, forested wetlands, mixed hardwood/hemlock forest, brushy openings with early succession forest, and a cold-water 1st order stream. This stream drains into Whittlesley Swamp.

Audubon Connecticut found the new acreage essential for the preservation of the swamp and a wonderful example of great bird habitat, as it is part of a very large forested block. This larger area is included in National Audubon's "Lyme Important Bird Area." Audubon states that their "Important Bird Areas" (IBA) are part of "a global effort to identify and protect habitat that will protect sustainable populations of birds." Bird species recorded in this forest IBA include Cerulean and Worm-eating Warblers, Wood Thrush, Scarlet Tanager, Acadian Flycatcher, Saw Whet Owl, Red-shouldered Hawk and Common Raven.

Forest and wetland mammals seen in this ecosystem, of which Zemko Sawmill Preserve is a part, include beaver, gray fox, otter, weasel, fisher, and bobcat. Amphibians seen include Spotted Mud, Box, and Wood Turtles, Spotted and Marbled Salamanders, and Ribbon Snakes.

The Salem Land Trust invites you to hike the Zemko Sawmill Preserve! Or maybe volunteer? For trail maps for all of our public Preserves please write to: Linda Schroeder, lschroeder@snet.net.

Submitted by: Linda Schroeder



Rocky outcroppings on newly preserved land above Whittlesley Swamp

GARDNER LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY SHARES HOLIDAY COOKING SAFETY TIPS

Thanksgiving is the Peak Day for Home Cooking Fires, Followed by Christmas and Christmas Eve

According to the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA), cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries. In 2013, Thanksgiving was the peak day for home cooking fires, with 230% more fires than the average day. Christmas and Christmas Eve were the second and third biggest home fire days with 58 and 54 percent more fires (respectively) than the daily average. The Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company wishes everyone a safe and joyous holiday season, and offers the following cooking safety information.

"It's imperative that we make fire safety a priority in the kitchen, especially during the holidays," says former Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company Chief James Savalle. "As the heart of the home, the kitchen can quickly become a very active and chaotic space when you're planning a family feast. For those in charge of the cooking, it's easy to get distracted by people coming in and out of the kitchen, tasting dishes, and offering assistance with preparations."

Unattended cooking was the leading contributing factor in cooking fires and fire deaths in 2013. Cooking equipment was the leading cause of home structure fires and the third leading cause of home fire deaths.

Avoid Home Cooking Fires

- Stay alert. If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, don't use the stove or stovetop.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, boiling or broiling food.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the kitchen while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.
- Keep children at least three feet away from the stove.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks, or bags.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are less than 10 years old and working. Check the date of manufacture and test them by pushing the test button.

If You Have A Cooking Fire

- Just get out. When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number after you leave.
- If you try to fight the fire, be sure others are getting out and you have a clear way out.
- Keep a lid nearby when you're cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

(continued on Page 11)

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(continued from Page 10)



THE NFPA'S WEBSITE SHARES THESE 2009-2013 AVERAGES:

- Cooking equipment was the leading cause of home fires and fire injuries, causing 46 percent of home fires that resulted in 19 percent of the home fire deaths and 44 percent of the injuries.
- Two-thirds of home cooking fires started with the ignition of food or other cooking materials.
- Clothing was the item first ignited in less than one percent of these fires, but these incidents accounted for 18 percent of the cooking fire deaths.
- Ranges or cooktops accounted for the majority (61 percent) of home cooking fire incidents. Ovens accounted for 13 percent.
- More than half (54 percent) of reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves.
- Frying poses the greatest risk of fire.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company is currently participating in Everyday Hero CT, a program dedicated to increasing the number of volunteer firefighters throughout the state. Eighty percent of all fire personnel in Connecticut are volunteers, and the majority of fire departments throughout the state are experiencing a volunteer shortage. Local fire departments need volunteers of all skill levels and abilities, people willing and able to respond to emergencies whenever called upon. "The skills and experience gained as a volunteer firefighter are invaluable and have a positive and lasting impact on the lives of others," says Chief Fred Dudek, Everyday Hero CT program manager. "Those who join their local fire departments sign up for one of the most rewarding opportunities they'll ever have."

ABOUT THE GARDNER LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

Staffed by both career and volunteer firefighters, the GLVFC prides itself on the selflessness and dedication of its members. The Company operates at 429 Old Colchester Road and has six pieces of apparatus, including a rescue, an engine, a boat, an ambulance, a tanker, a forestry vehicle, a support vehicle, and a Polaris UTV. Anyone interested in learning more about the GLVFC should call (860) 859-1743, visit <http://www.gardnerlakevolfireco.org/>, connect on Facebook at GLVFC and Twitter @GlakeFire, or stop by the fire house located at 429 Old Colchester Road in Salem, days 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

ABOUT EVERYDAY HERO CT

A partnership of the Connecticut Fire Chiefs Association (CFCA) and the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), the Everyday Hero CT campaign is a two-year Volunteer Workforce Solutions (VWS) initiative designed to address the shortage of volunteer firefighters in Connecticut. It is helping achieve a viable and sustainable volunteer firefighter workforce for 15 Connecticut fire departments: Broad Brook Volunteer Fire Department, Cromwell Fire and EMS Department, Gales Ferry Volunteer Fire Company, Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. (Salem), Greenwich Fire Department, Killingworth Volunteer Fire Department, Middlefield Volunteer Fire Company, Old Mystic Fire Department, Rocky Hill Fire Department, Somers Fire Department, Stamford Volunteer Firefighters Association, Trumbull Volunteer Fire Services, Westfield Fire Department (Middletown), Windsor Volunteer Fire Department, Wolcott Fire Department. Everyday Hero CT is funded by a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant awarded to the CFCA by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to develop a model to enhance the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters. For more information, visit www.EverydayHeroCT.org.

Submitted by:
Chief Brian Ennis
Assistant Chief Nicholas Tripp

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SALEM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S 2017 WINTER EVENTS CALENDAR

Winter Story Time — Held the first Friday of the month at 11:00 a.m for ages 2-5, limit 10. The session begins in January. The 2017 dates are: January 6, February 3, March 3, April 7 and May 5. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

The Bobcat: Connecticut's Secretive Wild Cat — Wednesday, January 18, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m. PowerPoint presentation on the natural history of bobcats in CT, their habitat, diet, behavior, reproduction & current research efforts, as well as artifacts. The program will be presented by Bob Colburn, Master Wildlife Conservationist. Limit 40 teens & adults. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Adult Winter Reading — Thursday, February 2, 2017 (Groundhog Day) to Monday, March 20, 2017 (first day of spring!). Cure cabin fever by escaping with a good book! Please register beginning February 2, 2017 to receive your reading log. For every book read, receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win a prize. Drawing will be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2017.

Take your Child to the Library Day — Saturday, February 4, 2017. *April's Balloon Creations* will entertain us with her balloon sculptures from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. For ages 4 & up. Limit 30 children. Call 860-859-1130 to register. Take your Child to the Library Day bookmarks and stickers will be handed out all day.

Valentine Card Making — Saturday, February 11, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. Make Valentine cards with staff member, Susan Nye. All materials provided. Program is for ages 12 to adult. Limit 15. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Embossed Card Making Workshop — Saturday, March 18, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. Make cards using calligraphy and embossing techniques. The program is presented by the *Mysticalligraphers*. Limit 18 teens/adults. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

All programs sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Library.
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Date: First Wednesday of the Month

Time: 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

SALEM SCHOOL NEWS

Introduction

We have enjoyed a very successful beginning to the 2016 – 2017 school year at Salem School. With the support of the community, teachers, and staff we are able to provide a positive educational experience for all of our students. I would like to share some of our students' accomplishments and experiences that have transpired so far this school year.

On Wednesday, October 19th, Salem School participated in Unity Day. Unity Day is a national campaign to prevent bullying in our schools and communities. We asked all students and staff to wear orange on this day to stand in unity against bullying. We also invited all parents and the community to attend a coffee "talk" from 11:00 am — 12:00 pm in our library. Our school social worker, Tanya Wenke and assistant principal, Kim Fentress hosted a discussion on how, as a community, we can unite against bullying. At the end of the day the students and staff met on the track outside to join hands in unity against bullying. Without our Salem parents and community this would not have been such a success!! Be sure to talk to your children about what they learned and how they can stand united every day with their peers.

We invited our local Senior Citizens for lunch and entertainment for their November meeting. The Salem School Preschool performed for the Senior Citizens. The students were all dressed up in turkey costumes that they made themselves. They sang songs about leaves, November, and turkeys. Our Salem School chorus also performed songs from *The Lion King* which they will be performing as a musical in the spring.

On Fire Prevention Day, students watched an eye-opening video showing how sleeping with their bedroom doors closed could save their lives. Using a miniature wooden house, the fire fighters demonstrated how fires burn and how they extinguish them. The students also enjoyed the opportunity to spray a fire fighter's hose.

Sports

The Salem Middle School Coed Soccer team just wrapped up a memorable season. They defeated Sterling 2-0 in the Championship game which concluded a 15-0 season. The team consisted of many players who thrived consistently utilizing teamwork. With captains Cooper Pazzaglia, Karena Kung, Owen Brown, Christian Rianhard and Morgan Vane leading the way for our younger athletes, it was clear that this season would end successfully. Owen Brown as the goal-keeper, only allowed one goal to go by him throughout the whole season. Marcus Orsini, Cooper Pazzaglia, Jesse Oloski, Zach Bourgeois, Margaret Dunne and Abbie Belleville were key offensive players while Morgan Vane, Wes Williamson, Johnny Limburg and Ella Freed did a sensational job preventing any opposing offensive opportunities. Congratulations team. Job well done!

Our cross country team endured 36 degree temperatures and freezing rain during their championship meet against IDCS, Franklin, Lisbon, and Preston at Mohegan Park. Our varsity girls Izzy Pazzaglia, Julia Geigel, and Jordyn Sylveira all secured medals for being in the top fifteen runners, along with Mary Haburay, Sydney Arustei and Hanna Dubrava who fought hard and earned a second place plaque for Salem School.

Cross country varsity boys Ben Sartori, Ted Bergman, Colin Bunkley, John Bureau, Dean Palermo all earned medals for finishing in the top fifteen. The boys' Captain, Ben Sartori was the first place finisher, as he crossed the finish line before any other varsity runner. David Stankowski and Clark Flickinger also ran a solid race. During the award presentation we learned that Ben also broke their course record! Our boys were presented with a second place plaque.

Our cross-country JV boys and girls competed. Again, Salem boys crossed the finish line first and second out of all five teams. RJ Cummings and Ben Caron flew through the course taking first and second place overall. Right behind them were Ian Bee, Clayton Litchfield and Aiden Rogers. All four finished in the top ten and received awards. Our girls Captain Mikayla Smith, Rosemary Barba, and Delaney Libby all captured awards for finishing within the top 10 runners.

Activities and Clubs

The Salem Cares about Animals Club had their first meeting on October 12, 2016. There are sixteen students enrolled in this after school activity. The students have had numerous experiences interacting with animals. To date the students have had a dog trainer come to speak with them about the benefits of being a responsible pet parent and training one's dog. They have met with a representative from Friday's Rescue, a local rescue organization/pet shelter, about the importance of rescue organizations and have also had a visit from the Waterford Country School's Mobile Farm where the students were introduced and learned about chinchillas, ferrets, chickens, turtles, rabbits, doves, and other animals that the school rehabilitates.

The students will be working on a "Coins for Critters" coin drive in November and all proceeds will go to Friday's Rescue. The students are making bandanas, pet blankets and pet beds to donate to the shelter. The students will also host a Pet Drive in December to collect food and items for the animals in the shelter.

The students are exposed each week to a new animal and new information on how to be a responsible pet parent. The students are really excited about this fun new club.

Our young science enthusiasts in grades sixth through eighth are applying their science and engineering skills with other like-minded students. Mrs. Runkle and Mr. Swan lead our Science Olympiad group to promote science education. The emphasis is on active, hands-on group participation in events that range from building the strongest bridge to conducting an original experiment.

Once a week during their lunch many sixth through eighth grade students can be found meeting with Mrs. Carlone for Math Counts. Math Counts is a program where students have an opportunity to be mathematically challenged. This program combines coaching and competition in math achievement, where students compete similar to athletes. Students are called "mathletes", and they will have the opportunity compete at the school, area, state, and national levels.

Kindergarten

The Superintendent and School Administration presented information to the Board of Education regarding the increasing Kindergarten enrollment. This has been an issue that has been closely monitored by the Administration since school began. It was noted that the current Kindergarten enrollment is 46 students in two sections. The Administration highlighted the current support services for these students, interventions taken to date, financial implications of increasing to a third section, and the recommended plan of action. The Administration discussed this with the Board and the Board supported adding a third section of Kindergarten to begin on November 28th. The Administration is working with the staff and parents/guardians regarding the reorganization of the two Kindergarten classes into three classes.

Submitted by: Joan Phillips, Principal of Salem School



Salem School Cares About Animals Club



Salem School Unity Day 2016



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OTS may occasionally provide an opportunity for residents to contribute to the content of OTS.

Such contributions are limited to photos and/or stories to inform, encourage and celebrate the people, activities, businesses and organizations in the Town of Salem.

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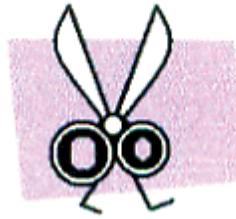
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