

OUR TOWN SALEM

CONNECTICUT

SEPTEMBER 2013

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The next deadline is November 1 for the December issue.

First Prize Winners of the 2013 Salem Library Photography Contest (clockwise from top left):

Adult: Jennifer Seale, Salem, *Foggy Breath of Life*; **Teen, 12-14:** Drew Giegel, Salem, *Summer Harvest*; **Child, 9-11:** Rachel Yackovetsky, Bozrah, *Untitled*; **Child, 6-8:** Arleen McKiernan, Salem, *Cleveland Botanical Garden*, and; **Teen, 15-18:** Jessy Stanavage, Colchester, *Louie*

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News and Notes from . . .

OUR TOWN AND STATE

Read about what's new in Salem and learn how to become more involved in shaping the town's future



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

Dear Fellow Townspeople,

Our world renowned New England autumn is again upon us. I hope you have plenty of outdoor time to enjoy this beautiful season.

Let's review what has been going on in our Town:



Map Xpress Hosted GIS Solution on Salemct.gov

Map Xpress hosted GIS solution will soon be available on Salemct.gov. This application is tailored towards distributing municipal GIS information to our residents and town staff. Map Xpress is a complete solution focusing on the efficient delivery of information people need most: assessment information, zoning information, location of building structure, wetlands and more.

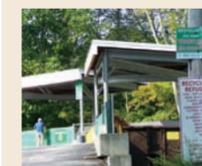
Photo: mapxpress.net



Town Budget

Through firm enforcement of our purchasing policy, strong negotiations with all vendors and fiscal responsibility by all departments, our preliminary audit figures estimate the General Government will be returning \$185,000 to the town's General Fund for fiscal year ending 06/30/2013. Thank you to all departments for this joint effort in using our town funds wisely.

Photo: Cavell L. Blood | stockxchange.com



Transfer Station

Good news at our Transfer Station. After refurbishing our old compactor we now are using it to compact our recyclables. Compacting our recyclables results in lower hauling costs, saving the Town over \$500 per month.

Photo: Bopha Smith



Prescription Drug Discount Plan-Pro Act

The Town of Salem Prescription Discount card has saved 45 residents over \$3000 last month. This is a free program sponsored by Connecticut Conference of Municipalities and the Town of Salem. For more information visit: www.ctrxdiscountcard.com or stop by the Town Clerks office.

I want to thank all of the dedicated volunteers who give so much of their time and talent to make our town of Salem a better place to live.

Enjoy the season. I hope to see you at the *Apple Festival* and *Friends of the Library Book Sale*.

Respectfully,



CONNECTICUT: STILL REVOLUTIONARY

Senator Andrea L. Stillman, 20th District

Under the banner, 'Connecticut: Still Revolutionary,' the state Department of Economic and Community Development is doing a terrific job promoting our state as a destination — not just for visitors and tourists, but for business and industry as well.

Foremost on a long list of impressive facts about Connecticut's economic outlook: if it were a sovereign nation, Connecticut would rank *sixth* most productive in terms of Gross Domestic Product per capita. I am inclined to think this has everything to do with the high quality of our state's workforce, with the third most adults holding advanced degrees and the sixth highest number of scientists and engineers.

This personnel pedigree is manifest in the local presence of top-tier employers: 14 Fortune 500 companies are based in Connecticut and our state ranks first and second as a research and development hub and insurance and financial services center, respectively. Beyond this prestigious corporate culture, Connecticut remains committed to small businesses, ranking 7th in venture capital closings and 8th in the nation in terms of patents granted for every 100,000 workers.

All these rosy numbers add up to an upbeat economic forecast. So much so, in fact, that earlier this summer the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA) acknowledged how our state is well-positioned for growth over the next three years, citing improved hiring statistics and sure signs of a rebounding real estate market.

To be sure, there is ample evidence to support such optimism. Connecticut's physical location, situated between New York and Boston, gives its companies ready access to an enviable pool for the raw materials, other supplies, technical support, and markets necessary for success.

The DECD also identified another advantage Connecticut has over most other states: within 500 miles of Connecticut — in other words, accessible in a day or two — businesses have at their disposal fully one-third of the U.S. economy and *two-thirds* of the Canadian economy. Proximity to that accumulation of capital can readily translate into bright prospects for economic prosperity.

Additional export markets are also readily obtainable by way of an under-utilized Bradley International Airport and three deep-water ports (New London, New Haven, and Bridgeport). These facilities bring European and other prospective customers within reach. Many in-state companies already cash in on this aspect of what Connecticut offers: our state ranks 10th in per capita exports.

continued on page 6



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CANDIDATES FOR 2013 ELECTION

Voter affiliation in parenthesis, party endorsement in green if different from voter affiliation

FIRST SELECTMAN



Kevin Lyden
Unaffiliated
Cross-endorsed

BOARD OF SELECTMEN



Ed Chmielewski
Republican



Robyn McKenney
Democrat



Robert Ross
Unaffiliated
Cross-endorsed

TOWN CLERK



Linda Flugrad
Republican



Diane Weston
Democrat

TOWN TREASURER



Pamela Henry
Unaffiliated
Democratic
Town Committee

TAX COLLECTOR



Photo not provided

Cheryl Philopena
Democrat
Cross-endorsed

BOARD OF FINANCE



Christopher Bennett
Unaffiliated



Dave Kennedy
Republican



Greg Preston
Republican



John Houchin
(alternate)
Unaffiliated
Democratic
Town Committee



Robert Sartori
(alternate)
Republican

BOARD OF EDUCATION



Stephen E. Buck
Republican



Pamela Munro
Republican



Therese Natoli
Democrat



Samuel C. Rindell
Democrat

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

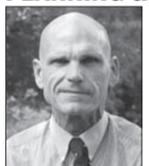


Frank Abetti
Democrat



Robert Green
Republican

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION



Joseph Duncan
Republican



Ronald LaBonte
Republican



Gloria Fogarty
Democrat



Hernan Salas
Republican



Photo not provided
Ruth Savalle
Democrat



John Gadbois
(alternate)
Republican

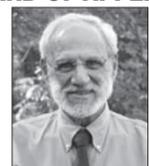


Eric Wenzel
(alternate)
Unaffiliated
Republican
Town Committee

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS



Kate Bellandese
Democrat



Ken Bondi
Republican



Photo not provided
Bernie Ferrara
Democrat



Ed Natoli
Democrat



Denise Orsini
Republican



Terri Salas
Republican



Photo not provided
Charlie Dutch
(alternate)
Unaffiliated
Democratic
Town Committee



Becky Nortz
(alternate)
Democrat

LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Susan Buck
Republican



Wendy Ortega
Unaffiliated
Republican
Town Committee



Anne Rowthorn
Democrat



Carol Traggis
Democrat

This list is accurate as of September 6, 2013. For the most up-to-date coverage — including full profiles of each candidate — get your election connection from Salem's premier online news source, **The Salem Connect**, at www.thesalemconnect.com.



OUR TOWN - SALEM . . . BY THE NUMBERS

By Athena Sartori and Peter Sielman

Democracy: If you google “democracy”, one of the definitions you get is: *a form of government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them or their elected officials under a free electoral system*. In this article, using public data that records individual registrations and who voted and who didn't vote in each election or referendum, we hold a numerical mirror up to today's Salem citizens of voting age and ask how well are we exercising this supreme power that is vested in us?

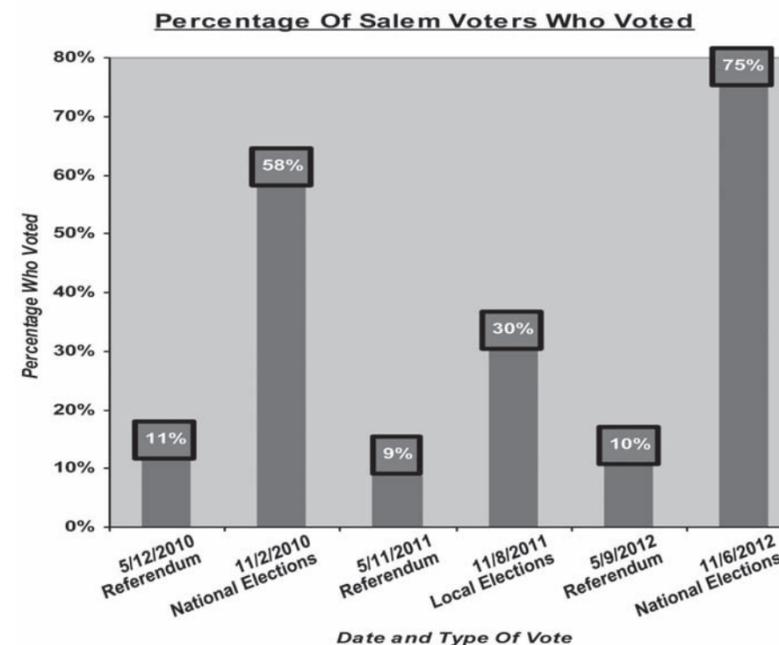
Salem is one of 169 Connecticut towns with a population (from the 2010 census) of 4151. It has a town meeting form of government which means that all of the registered voters are legislators, and the executive functions are performed by elected Boards and Commissions.

Age: the age distribution of the Salem Population is:

AGE	Over 79	70-79	60-69	50-59	40-49	30-39	18-29	Under 18
SIZE	1.7%	3.2%	11.0%	18.9%	17.8%	11.5%	10.2%	25.6%

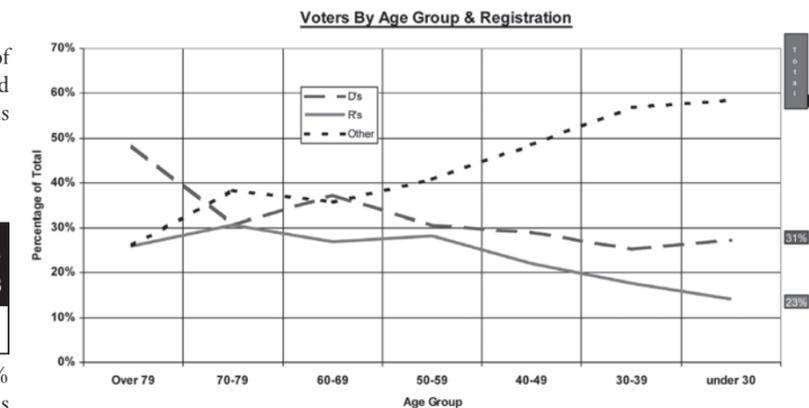
Salem residents over 17 years of age are great at registering to vote: 91% have registered. This compares favorably to the State of Connecticut which has approximately 80% registration. Part of that difference may be that the percentage of non-citizens in the State is probably higher than it is in Salem. **But, Salem registered voters are not very good at voting...with turnout progressively poorer for younger registered voters.**

Turnout: Here is where it gets interesting. How many of us actually voted in national, state and local elections and in budget referenda?



From the bar graph it is clear that the fewest of us vote in budget referenda which directly affect our property taxes. It is also clear that of all the elections of candidates, the lowest turnout is in local elections, which select the Town's Boards and Commissions who manage our town and oversee the education of our children. Yet, in the past, we have had local elections that resulted in a tie vote and Congressional elections in the past twenty years that were decided by a margin of 21 and 83 votes respectively!

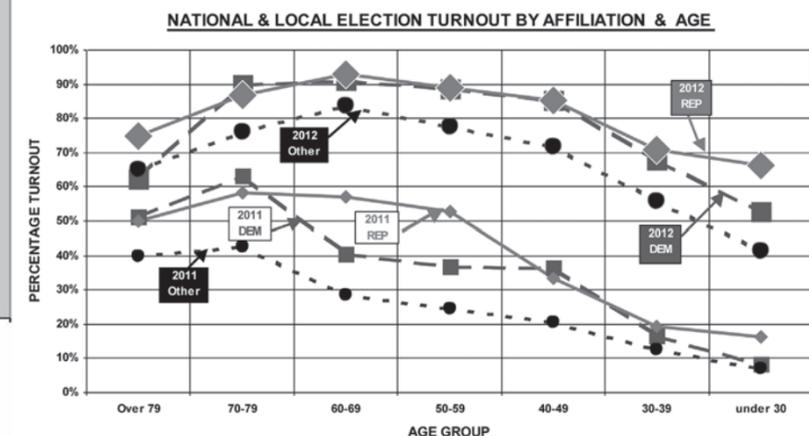
Registration: Salem voters can register as Republicans, Democrats, or “Other” (which is currently mostly Unaffiliated and a few Green Party and Independent Party registrants). Plotting the registration data by age group shows that more younger voters are registering as “Other” rather than with either of the major parties.



Almost half of Salem's registered voters are Unaffiliated with almost one third registered as Democrats and slightly under one quarter registered as Republicans.

Party caucuses and primary elections select the candidates that registered voters can vote for. In the state of Connecticut, only voters registered with a party can vote in the primary elections and caucuses of that party. In Salem, therefore, only a small percentage of younger voters are eligible to participate in candidate selections; the remainder of these voters can vote in the general elections, but they have no voice in choosing who is on the ballot.

Mobilization: How does party affiliation affect the turnout of eligible voters who actually come out and vote?



The major parties turn out about the same percentage of their members, but those not affiliated with one of the major parties consistently turn out in 10% lower numbers, independent of age group. One also sees that younger voters turn out less than older voters in all elections.

continued on page 6

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SALEM . . . BY THE NUMBERS *continued from page 5*

Generational Impact: If we split all registered Salem voters into two approximately equal groups: those under 50 and those 50 and older... we get the following statistics:

VOTING STATISTICS

In The 2012 Presidential Election In Salem:

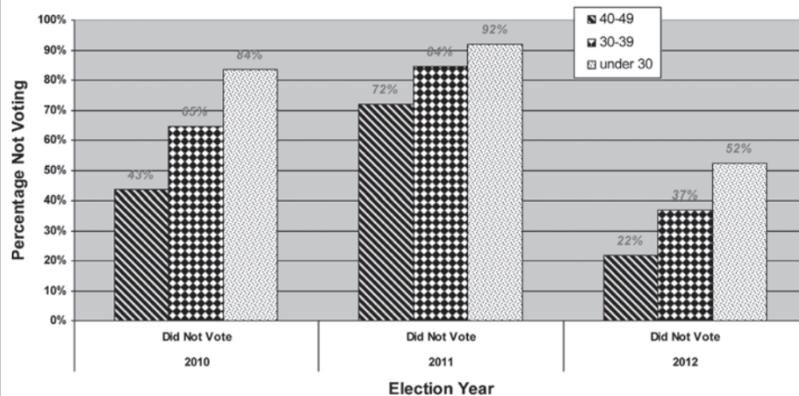
Of 2820 Registered Voters... 25% did not vote.
Of Voters 50 and older..... 15% did not vote.
Of Voters Under 50 36% did not vote.

In All Elections In The Past 3 Years In Salem:

Of 2820 Registered Voters... 21% never voted.
Of Voters 50 and older..... 11% never voted.
Of Voters Under 50 31% never voted.

And, if we further break down the under 50 age group, we find that in the past three elections "Not Voting" is more prevalent in the younger ages.

Percentages of Not Voting Versus Age



Questions:

Is this good for democracy in Salem?

In a world where many people are fighting and dying for the right to have a voice in their governance, is Salem's low level of participation (particularly among younger voters and in local contests) logical or best for the future of our town?

Is participation in elections, referenda and town affairs a **privilege**, a **right** or a **responsibility**?

We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Athena Sartori - agsartori@snet.net, Peter Sielman - apsielman@comcast.net

STILL REVOLUTIONARY *continued from page 3*

Complementing Connecticut's strategic and marketable location is the bounty available to residents within her borders. Literally, scores of colleges and universities continuously yield a first-in-the-nation average level of educational attainment and per capita income. To an ever-greater extent, these colleges and universities are working hand-in-glove with private sector interests and entrepreneurs to compete in the global marketplace with breakthroughs in manufacturing, technology applications, and advances in the emerging bioscience and healthcare fields.

All this is featured in a state where world-class cultural amenities and critical world history sites and artifacts are literally just around the corner for most residents. Sprinkle in gorgeous shoreline vistas, quintessential New England landscapes, and four-season postcard scenes each year and the result is a vibrant state with a bright future unfolding every day. Hence the DECD promise: 'Still Revolutionary.'

Andrea Stillman represents the 20th Senatorial District, which includes New London, Waterford, East Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Salem, Montville, and Bozrah.



Things to Do . . .

THE NATURAL WORLD OF SALEM

Find out what's happening in Salem

Looking at a soils map of Salem is like looking at a crazy quilt pattern. Every few feet there may be differing soil characteristics that range from clay to sand to boulders, from muck to humus, well drained to impervious, steep to flat, bare bedrock to deep topsoil, acid to alkaline.

Locating a good place for a well, a septic field or a basement is dependent on these characteristics, and guides our land use and our agriculture. You cannot put your leaching field or garden where soils are wet or in bedrock. You may not know, until you try to dig a hole, where you can build, have a proper sewer treatment, and still have safe water to drink.

Our soil maps are not produced at a scale that is useful when it comes time to build your dream house. This difficulty of locating homes, septic and well systems is at the heart of our subdivision regulations. And it is a major reason why Salem is so lightly populated. Engineers can solve many of the obstacles with blasting and filling, but it is expensive and communities elsewhere have found it much easier to build for humans.

On the other hand, this diversity of soils has provided homes for a remarkable variety of plants and wildlife that share this community with us. Each soil type tends to have its own community of associated plants and animals.

Salem's Eightmile River has been recognized with a federal Wild and Scenic River designation in part because of this diversity of native flora and fauna. But, it is not just the Eightmile River watershed where we find this rich diversity. In fact, the whole Town shares this unique geology; it has become an oasis for wildlife.

The rich tapestry of soil types thus sustains a great variety of habitats throughout the area. Backyards everywhere in Salem reveal a remarkable number of native birds and bees, butterflies and wildflowers, shrubs, ferns, mosses and lichens. Lawns, landscaping, and human importation of alien plants and animals have suppressed much of our rich native heritage. But, it still persists, and a willingness to allow more natural growth in our yards will invite a rich variety of beautiful sights and sounds, and

FROM THE LAND:



GEOLOGIC FORCES SHAPE AN OASIS FOR WILDLIFE

By David Bingham

will allow more of our native birds and butterflies to thrive.

Titanic geologic forces deposited the soils that allow this diversity. Upheavals of land due to the collision of continents in ages past were followed by mile-high glaciers that ground down the mountains. The glaciers left scattered debris that was sorted by wind and water to shape our current landscape. Valleys were filled with gravel. Ice-melt produced lakes that dropped local areas

of finer sediments like sand and clay.

Upheaval of the north side of Town produced hills formed of rocks that once were below the ocean floor, while on the south the bedrock was once a huge island, Avalonia. So even the underlying rock formations are quite different north and south of the Honey Hill Fault line, and stone walls made from local field stones differ greatly depending on where the rocks came from. Avalonia, squashed into a jumble of ridges between the continents, was then torn apart as the continents drifted away from each other. The separating continents left huge north-south cracks in the ocean floor and bedrock, which resulted in streams that generally flow from the north (the Eightmile), through the cracks in hills that tend to run east-west.

The result of this combination of forces was a patchwork of hills and valleys, rock-outcrops and wetlands, which made transportation difficult and limited the possibility of village growth. But at the same time, these same factors provided the opportunity for many different native ecological communities to persist and even thrive here.

These geologic forces are unique to this region, and are a key to understanding Connecticut's wildlife, insect and plant diversity, especially in the oasis known as Salem.

David Bingham, a Salem native, has dedicated his life to preservation of the Town's rural character and natural resources. He has served on numerous boards and committees and is the founder and former president of the Salem Land Trust. He authored "From the Land" in Our Town - Salem for over 15 years.

SALEM ROCKS

By Jackie Hemond

Within its borders, Salem is the site of two different land masses: Africa (think Morocco) and Avalonia. Around 250 million years ago, give or take 150 million years, depending upon which scientist you talk to, there was an enormous collision of three land masses: the two already mentioned, Africa and Avalonia, and also the North American continent. The collision closed the Iapetus Ocean, squashed Avalonia and created enormous mountains. The heat and pressure caused the rocks on the borders of the continents to change; they folded or metamorphosed into something different. The collision also increased the variety of rocks and soils in the area. For a little while, about 15 million years, the continents remained locked together in a super-continent known as Pangea. However, as nothing stays the same forever, the continents separated, tearing Avalonia in half. All that squashing and tearing created the Honey Hill Fault. The fault line runs from Deep River, crosses the Connecticut River and heads northeast toward Salem, intersecting the town in a line, which parallels, and is just north of Route 82. From Salem it continues east, passing Foxwoods Casino to Lantern Hill, on the border of Ledyard and North Stonington, and abruptly hikes up to Boston.

Evidence of the fault occurs at the Round Hill Recreation area in the conspicuous layering of the metamorphic rock in a northeast direction, where the fault streaked and sheared off the surrounding rocks. The fault is also visible where Route 11 ends near Route 82. Here there are two sets of near vertical faults, one in an east-west position, and the other in a north-south determination, showing how the fault hinged in its path to Deep River. One can see rocks folded by the pressure of the crash of the three continents. The high ridges of granite gneiss on the ridges are characteristic of the African continent. The schist

continued on page 9

GEOGRAPHY OF SALEM: FUN FACTS

Compiled by Edyta Wolk

We love doing water activities in Salem. However, did you know that the Salem lakes and ponds are only 2.79% or .8 square miles of Salem's total area?

Between 1917 and 1924, Frederick Rawolle Jr. purchased 2,800 acres of land in Salem. That is roughly 14.66% of Salem's total land area.

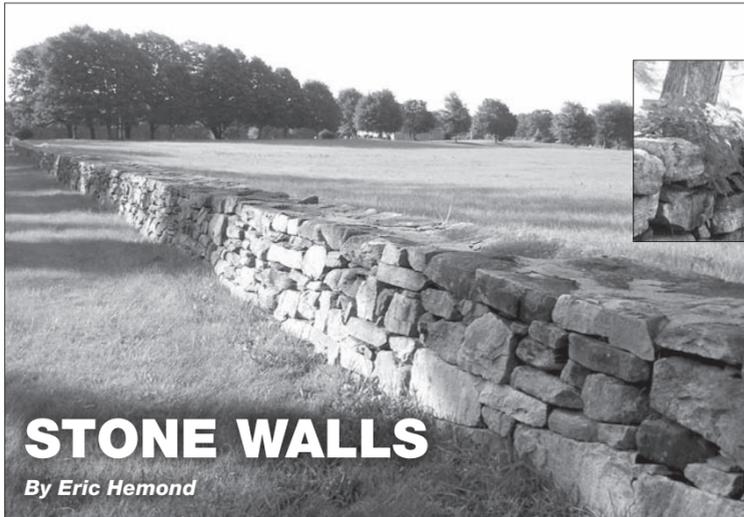
Salem (both land and water combined) is 29.8 square miles and has an elevation of 315 ft. It is a small town by Connecticut standards. However, it has many nature trails and is home to many animals.

The coordinates of Salem are 41°29'25" North and 72°16'32" West. Route 82 and Route 85 run through Salem's "four corners" and connect the town to places like Hartford. In this way, Salem's geography makes the town thrive!

Online Sources: Wikipedia, Town of Salem Connecticut

Stone walls are a common sight in New England. We see stone walls every day, whether alongside the road, or jumbled and tumbling down amidst the forest, or adding a touch of rustic class to an otherwise modern backyard. Stone walls feature prominently in regional poetry and paintings, and in many ways symbolize the region's agricultural roots. Undoubtedly, the stone wall is a central part of the New England landscape.

Strewn about the prehistoric land by the action of Ice Age glaciers, the stones that eventually made their way into New England's walls were covered by a deep soil that built up under ancient forests, and lay underground for many thousands of years before European colonization. It was only when the colonists cleared the forests to make their fields that the stones began to reappear on the surface. The newly bare ground was now subject to erosion, and, no longer protected from the cold, froze to a depth of up to 30 inches each winter. This freezing pulled stones to the surface through frost heaving, in which the tops of the stones are frozen to the earth, and dirt settles beneath them. As a result, the subterranean stones rose a few inches every year. Soon after a field was cleared of trees, each spring would yield a new "crop" of stones. This phenomenon was poorly understood during colonial and post-Revolutionary times; some ascribed the risen stones to the actions of witches or Satan.



STONE WALLS

By Eric Hemond

Above: Rock Wall on the 163 (Oakdale); Inset: Rock wall with Virginia Creeper Vine

Editor's note: New England's stone walls provide a glimpse into the region's heritage. The walls are durable, but not immortal. Already they are damaged by the plants that grow between stones, by the falling of old trees that take out sections of wall along with themselves, and by the inevitable ravages of gravity. Eventually the walls will fall apart, the stones will disperse, and be buried under new soil and organic matter. The walls are not permanent. But when they are gone, a beautiful and valuable piece of the region's history will be gone with them. And so, **Our Town** respectfully asks you to refrain from taking stones from stone walls for other purposes.

In early colonial years, when most tools and farm instruments were wielded by hand, it was easier to grow around the stones than to remove them. Later on, plows drawn by stock animals became the norm. Clearing the fields of stone became a necessary chore, to be performed once or twice a year, before and after the growing season. This was most easily done with a stone boat, or sled, but it was sometimes simply done by hand. If the stones were not needed for some other purpose (e.g., root cellars, barn foundations, etc.) they were often piled or stacked along the edges of fields. These long piles of stone were not generally sufficient fencing in and of themselves, but sometimes served as a supplement to pre-existing fencing. Wood was easy to build with and, being plentiful, was the fencing material of choice. However, as New England's deforestation progressed, wood became a scarce commodity to be reserved for fuel. With a labor surplus after the American Revolution and tons of fieldstone already recovered from the



ground, New England's inhabitants got to work building walls. Although most walls remained haphazard jumbles of stones, sometimes walls would be built or upgraded into stronger, more carefully laid structures. By more

ground, New England's inhabitants got to work building walls. Although most walls remained haphazard jumbles of stones, sometimes walls would be built or upgraded into stronger, more carefully laid structures. By more

continued on page 11

SALEM ROCKS *continued from page 7*

and gray feldspar, which interweave the granite, are the remnants of Avalonia and the long-lost Iapetus Ocean. The schist and feldspar were formed from the marine shale, sandstone and calcareous mud which accumulated on the shore of the Avalon continent. Schist is an easily split rock with parallel layers of flaky minerals. Feldspar is a crystallized form of molten rock called magma, which has a smooth and glassy luster.

So, one could say that part of Salem is Avalonia, the other part, Africa. The third continent, the original North American continent, begins in the western part of Connecticut.

The glaciers also affected the geology of Salem. About 2.5 million years ago, the glaciers hurried down from the north. Scientists believe that the ice was a mile thick in some places. When the last glacier receded about 22,000 years ago, it did not



Quartz found by Al Peret

carve out rivers and lakes, as many believe, but instead left behind debris. This debris, called till, contains soils, sand, gravel, rocks, and boulders, which added to the mixture of rocks from the three continents. The Salem Natural Resources Inventory, published in 2001, lists 53 soil types in Salem. A May 1989 report for the Greenscape Development Corporation for a proposed subdivision, west of Salem center, noted the tens of feet of sand and gravel deposited by streams of glacial meltwater in that area. In fact, sand and gravel pits are located throughout Salem.

Because of geologic forces, the rocks in Salem and the immediate region are noticeably different from other regions. They are typically darker, and better layered, having been squashed very hard. Combing through published reports by the Town of Salem, professional geologists and hobbyists, the various rocks and minerals found in Salem are:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Albite | Microcline |
| Albite-anorthite | Milky quartz |
| Amethyst | Muscovites |
| Amphibolites | Oligocase |
| Biotite | Plagioclase |
| Chlorites | Purple fluorite |
| Feldspar | Quartz |
| Fluorite | Quartzite |
| Garnets | Rutile |
| Gneiss | Scepter quartz |
| Hornblende | Schist |
| Magnetite | Silliminite |

With this list, you could say that Salem rocks. And it does! Because of the Honey Hill Fault and other faults created by the collision of the three continents, the area is unstable. Many of the fault lines in Connecticut cannot be seen; they exist deep within the earth. They are responsible for the Moodus "noises". The last recorded earthquake took place in September 2012 in Old Greenwich, but the largest

recorded earthquake occurred very close to Salem, in East Haddam on May 16, 1791.

On June 1983, tons of rock collapsed on the ridge near the unfinished portion of Route 11. The collapse was caused when fissures in the cliff opened up upon the shifting of the fault, probably due to roadwork done a decade before. Despite the collapse, many people still collect rocks and minerals in this area, although Larry Rush, a rock collector, believes that the State of Connecticut forbids it. However, some of my favorite Salem rocks, described below, are found in this area:

Quartz is the one of the most common minerals in the earth's crust. It is made from the chemical silica. At various temperatures, quartz crystallizes in different ways. This makes it a boon to scientists who want to determine the temperature conditions under which a

rock is formed. Quartz is prized as a gem and classed as a semiprecious stone. Besides its beauty, quartz can generate an electrical charge. Remember the families from the 1920's who are pictured listening to a crystal radio? A crystal of quartz, copper wire, an antenna and a capacitor can be put together to make a radio. Quartz crystals can be used to make lenses and prisms, quartz sand is used in making glass, and quartz crystal chips are used in circuit boards. The silicone chip in a credit card comes from quartz. Clearly quartz is useful, but its beauty can be breathtaking, especially when colored. The colors in quartz are due to impurities.



Amethyst Photo: Larry Rush

Amethyst is a type of quartz. The purple color in amethysts is due to traces of manganese. Amethysts are often found in geodes or gas cavities. Geodes are lumpy, egg-shaped rocks. One of the ways geodes are formed is as a bubble inside volcanic rock. Over time, water soaks through the rocky outside of the bubble and is trapped inside. When the water filters out, it leaves behind a sediment, which forms crystals.

In legend, amethyst had many useful powers. One power was to cure drunkenness. Drinking cups were sometimes made from amethyst because the purple hue of amethyst made water look like wine! Among the ailments that amethysts supposedly cure are pimples, ugliness, stomach pains, bad dreams, headaches, writer's block, stress, depression, insomnia, and nightmares.

continued on page 11

THE GEOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY OF STATE PARKS AROUND SALEM

By Martin Wolk



The interestingly named Devil's Hopyard is located in East Haddam, next to Salem. The "devil" in the name of the park is thought to come from a geological phenomenon in the park. There

are smooth, round holes located at Chapman Falls that early settlers believed were the hoof prints of the devil. Scientists believe that the holes were made when stones tumbled down the falls and spun by the water. In the park, you can find sedimentary, metamorphic, and igneous rocks. Probably the best example of the igneous rocks is the pegmatite formations found throughout the park. Rock shelters and folds can also be found in the park. In the past Indians would use these formations for shelter. Another well-known feature of the park is the cliff, which overlooks a valley that formed when Africa and Europe collided with North America.

Another park close to Salem is Day Pond State Park, located in Colchester. This park offers a beach that is good for swimming and a waterfall, as well as a pond that is popular with fishermen. As with Devil's Hopyard, you can find sedimentary, metamorphic, and igneous rocks, as well as pegmatite. Throughout the park, you can see large boulders. Day Pond State Park borders Salmon River State Forest, also in Colchester. The Blackledge River, Dickenson Stream, Fawn Brook, and Jeremy River all flow into the Salmon River, after which the park is named. Salmon River eventually runs into the Connecticut River.



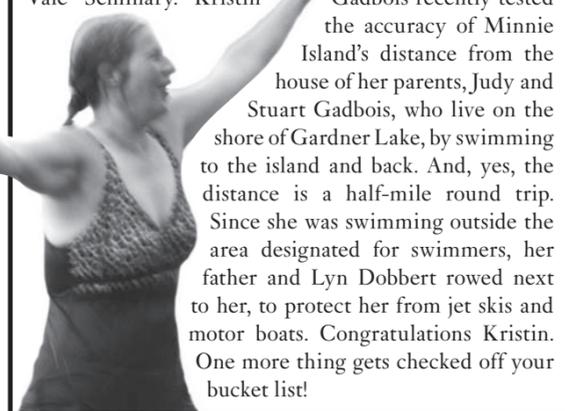
Sources:

www.ct.gov/deep/site/default.asp
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Martin Wolk is a junior at East Lyme High School. His interests include history and culture. Photos: www.ct.gov/deep

KRISTIN GADBOIS SWIMS TO MINNIE ISLAND

Near the middle of Gardner Lake is Connecticut's smallest park, Minnie Island, which is less than an acre in size and named for a niece of Oramel Whittlesey, the founder of Salem's Music Vale Seminary. Kristin Gadbois recently tested the accuracy of Minnie Island's distance from the house of her parents, Judy and Stuart Gadbois, who live on the shore of Gardner Lake, by swimming to the island and back. And, yes, the distance is a half-mile round trip. Since she was swimming outside the area designated for swimmers, her father and Lyn Dobbert rowed next to her, to protect her from jet skis and motor boats. Congratulations Kristin. One more thing gets checked off your bucket list!



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WALKING FROM GEORGIA TO MAINE IN 123 DAYS

By Anne Rowthorn

Ever since taking two-day backpacking trips with the Boy Scouts when he was 13 or 14 years old, Garrett Siebert dreamed of taking a much longer hike. At age 16, he saw a documentary, "Trek," about four people who hiked the Appalachian Trail, and it became his dream to do it himself. He has abundant stamina and perseverance. "I did cross-country and track in high school and I like to push myself through mental barriers."

The Appalachian Trail is the oldest and most renowned of the three long-distance trails in the USA. It runs from Springer Mountain in Georgia, through North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, ending at the summit of Mount Katahdin. Originally conceived by Benton MacKaye, a forester whose idea was to connect a series of farms and wilderness areas for the health and enjoyment of city-dwellers, the Trail is now 2200 miles long with 99% on public lands, at places crossing bridges and roads. It took until 1971 for the permanent route to be marked and minor changes continue to this day. Many people hike for a few days or weeks a time, sometimes taking a decade or more to complete the entire

hike. Far fewer in number are "thru-hikers," people who the stamina and determination have needed to complete the entire route in one season. Over the years some 11,000 hikers have been designated "2000 Milers," and Garrett is now in that elite company. When he started, he was the 751st thru-hiker of the season to set off. He was the 92nd to complete the hike. Only 10-11% of thru-hikers make it to the finish.

Garrett, who graduated from East Lyme High School in 2008 and Plymouth State University in 2012, with a major in adventure education, took time off from his job as an outdoor educator in San Bernardino, California to make the trip. He started with a high school friend who unfortunately was forced to quit after one week due to an Achilles heel injury. This first week was the hardest of the trip. At 30 degrees, it was much colder than he and his lightweight sleeping bag were prepared for. On the third day, with no winter clothes and ice gathered on his jacket, his relief in finally reaching the hut was soon dashed when he learned it was full, forcing him to camp out in the freezing rain. His only dry piece

of clothing was a sweatshirt. He was close to hypothermia and only began to warm up after huddling in his sleeping bag for two hours. Soon it would be time to start out on the trail again. During these adverse conditions, many others left the trail for motel rooms to await more auspicious weather, but Garrett resolved to stay on the trail, reasoning that he had to hike through rain and storms or he would never make it to Maine.

Upon reaching the next "trail town," Garrett replaced his sleeping bag and restocked his food supply. His backpack weighed from 20-25 pounds; like most thru-hikers, he was very careful to keep it light. He did this by carrying only essentials and buying dried food packets every few days at "trail towns" (towns close to the trail) and twice picking up parcels of new trail running shoes his family sent to local post offices. His cook stove was a soda can fueled by denatured alcohol. He ate many ramen noodles along with Knorr rice side dishes. He added water to dried salmon and tuna. Not exactly gourmet, but light in the pack.

While nothing was easy about this extended hike, Garrett got into a routine and gained stamina as he went. "I wasn't expecting it to be easy, but I didn't think it would be so hard. Every day my body hurt." He never gave in. "My first 15-miles almost killed me but eventually fifteen miles felt like an easy day."

Having said farewell to his high school friend after a week, Garrett was on his own, but he made many friends along the way. He met "Misery" his second day on the trail and continued walking with him for 1000 miles. Later he was joined by "Stumbles," because she stumbled a lot, and "6'7", because he was that tall. He also walked with "Mr. Frodo" and "Beacon." Garrett's trail name was "White Rushin'" to describe the way he hiked. There were also "Bubbles;" these were acquaintances that started around the same time each morning and ended up at the same huts at night. Garrett walked more or less 20 to 25 miles a day, and once he walked 35 miles. He took several "zero days" (days off the trail), one in Harper's Ferry, West Virginia where he took a train into Washington to meet his sister and parents. Another two zero days were when his parents picked him up in Kent, Connecticut and brought him back to Salem.

Garrett experienced several instances of "trail magic," unexpected kindnesses and gifts along the way. At Shenandoah National Park, a hiker spending just a few days along the trail gave him his stove, a much nicer version than Garrett's soda can version. On another occasion, he walked out to a trailhead to find a group of former Appalachian Trail hikers who were offering free iced sodas, hamburgers and hot dogs from the grill.

Garrett saw a few deer along the way but the ubiquitous creature was the mosquito! He said mosquitoes were terrible, especially in Connecticut. One day in northern Virginia was, in Garrett's words, "full of animals." He almost stepped on a copperhead and ten minutes later, he observed a black bear and her two cubs. Both were potentially dangerous, and Garrett was relieved when the cubs climbed trees and the mother wandered off. Other dangers were slippery rain-soaked rocks and roots. In many places, the trail is in poor condition and full of loose stones.

If there was any time Garrett thought about quitting, it was in Maine. Maine's 281 miles are generally considered the most difficult of all. Lakes, streams, and bogs to be crossed abound. There is one part of the trail that is a mile-long boulder scramble.

continued on page 11

SALEM WALLS *continued from page 8*

carefully stacking or laying the stones on one another, a wall could be strengthened and built higher. This took extra money and time that could usually be spent on more practical purposes, and therefore a well-built wall is often a sign that previous landowners were well-to-do, or that the wall was built on public land. In addition to marking property bounds and keeping animals out of the fields, such walls were a means of displaying wealth and status. They were often built by hired immigrant workers, and in some cases by slaves.

New England's stone walls eventually came to be a hindrance to the region's agriculture. The walls divided fields into parcels 1 to 2 acres in area, too small for the advances in large-scale farming and machinery of the mid-1800s. The problem lay in the initial labor of clearing stones from the land. It is much easier to clear several small fields than one large one, and so each property became heavily divided. This presented no difficulty in times when subsistence farming was the common method of survival, but



(top to bottom) Rock wall in front of Salem Congregational Church; Rock wall in front of Salem Town Hall
Photos by Bopha Smith

as agriculture became a business, the small fields of New England proved less efficient than the large flat plains of the country's interior. The nation was opening up, and, to many farmers, the temptations of large holdings and fertile soil, and perhaps a bit of adventure, were very persuasive. This, paired with the extra labor costs involved in clearing stone walls which had taken generations to build, served to empty many agricultural New England towns. Many farms were simply abandoned.

By the 1870s, approximately 240,000 miles of stone had been built in New England, about the average distance between the moon and Earth. Most of this wall-building took place during the relative prosperity of the late 1700s and early 1800s. Ironically, soon after this laborious, multi-generational work was completed, it proved to be in vain. The stone walls were built to last, but in doing so outlasted their purpose. New England's farming culture has now almost disappeared, but the stone walls will remain for many years as relics of the past.

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SALEM ROCKS *continued from page 9*

Scepter quartz is formed when another crystal has grown around a large central crystal rod. This is a very special stone. According to legend, it is also a very powerful tool effective in sending energy in a particular direction.

Garnets are classified as gemstones, but very few are of gem quality. Still, they are beautiful to look at. They come from a family of silicate minerals with isometric qualities, often with 12 or 24 sides or faces. They are made of calcium, magnesium, iron, aluminum, silicon and oxygen. Garnets are often found in metamorphosed rocks, rocks that have changed from their original structure or texture because of heat, extreme pressure, or permeation from fluids or gases. Garnets can be found in schist, such as mica schist or in igneous rocks that are formed by molten minerals found



Scepter Quartz
Photo: Jeff Scovil

deep below the earth's surface. Granite is an igneous rock. It is also possible to pan for garnets in rivers and streams.

All of the quartz photographed in the article were found in Salem, near Route 11. Jeff Scovil's photo of the scepter quartz was the cover for the November-December 1984 issue of *Rocks & Minerals*.

Jeff Scovil's note: I collected that quartz scepter on April 28, 1976 and it still resides in my collection. I learned of the locality after attending a mineral show in

Danbury, Connecticut and made two trips there in the spring of 1976. The quartz pictured was not the largest I found, but it was the most perfect. Larger crystals had amethyst heads. An unknown number of collectors have visited the site through the years, most in the mid-70s.

Al Peret's note: Milky quartz, crystal quartz (clear) and amethyst are "varieties" of quartz and have those names due to their color and all are found in the Route 11 road cut. The scepter is a "habit" or crystal form. The Route 11 road cut has a few different quartz habits, scepter, reverse scepter and the common hexagonal. Some species of fossils from Morocco are only found in one other place on this planet, Martha's Vineyard. And like you stated, the feldspar is also the same here and Morocco.

Larry Rush's note: "The Route 11 cut opened up a vein of very nice material. A couple of collectors from Massachusetts were the first to discover it, and cleaned it out! I visited shortly afterwards, and found only this piece. I'm sure that there is more there, but the State will not allow anyone in now."

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WALKING *continued from page 10*



Garrett on McAfee Knob in Virginia at one of the most photographed places on the Appalachian Trail

The "Hundred Mile Wilderness," the last 100 miles of the trail south of Mt. Katahdin, is particularly tough. Garrett kept going, on and on, footfall upon footfall, through rain, ice, heat and swarms of insects.

Having worn out five pairs of trail running shoes, sore but smiling, Garrett reached the summit of Mount Katahdin on August 3 at 8:30AM in mist and wind. Continuing down the trail to register his epic journey and become the newest 2000 Miler, he met his parents, Kim and Michael, on their way up the trail to greet him.

"I wanted to do the trail quickly and get back to work. I wanted to push myself physically and mentally." He succeeded—2200 miles in an amazing 123 days. *Our Town Salem* salutes 2000 Miler Garrett Siebert on this magnificent achievement.

Anne is a writer, mostly on topics of ecology and ecological spirituality. Her website is: www.anerowthorn.com.

Some factual data was obtained from: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Appalachian_Trail; and <http://www.appalachiantrail.org/about-the-trail/terrain-by-state/maine>, accessed August 14 and 15, 2013.



Triumph



(left to right) "Beacon", Garrett Siebert, and "Mr. Frodo"

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SALEM'S OLDEST HOUSE THAT BROUGHT FAME AND CULTURE TO OUR TOWN

By David H. Wordell, Founder and President of the Salem Historical Society

Salem's oldest house is a very small Cape style home located just to the South of Salem School on Route 85. Many refer to it as the Reverend John Whittlesey House. He moved in from Saybrook with his wife Sally and their three young sons after purchasing it with thirty-four acres on May 24, 1815. The house then was approximately 100 years old. So, who built this ancient house?

During the Great Depression of the 1930s, a WPA Federal Project documented old houses in many American cities and towns. In that survey, this house was designated as building #005, built in 1728 by Nathaniel Foote (possibly Nathaniel Foote III, who was born in 1682 and died in Colchester in 1774). The survey noted that Pelatiah Bliss and, then later, Reverend John Whittlesey owned the house. However, Dr. George Bates, the owner of the house at the time of the survey, and a Salem historian, said that the house was built in 1706, but did not indicate the builder. In a 1977 letter proposing a "New Historic District" for Salem, the State Historic Preservation Officer stated the house was built circa 1720.

So, what was brought to this old house in 1815 that would eventually bring fame and culture to Salem? It was the Lady Fenwick Harpsichord, the first cultured instrument brought to America around 1680 and probably made no earlier than 1660. It had been a wedding gift from Lady Fenwick to Whittlesey's grandfather, also named John Whittlesey, and his bride Ruth Dudley. It had been inherited and greatly admired by the Reverend, while it sat in the parlor of their new, but old, home in Salem.

At the time they moved to Salem in 1815, Reverend John and his wife Sally had three living children, all sons. Oramel was 14 years old, John was 9 and Henry was 3 years. The Reverend made a living for his family from his ministry as well as from an ivory cutting factory located on his farm in Salem. The finished product was then sold to a factory in Ivoryton, CT. His sons worked long hours, sawing the ivory into keys for pianofortes, an instrument then in its infancy. Perhaps it was their close association with these small parts of the keyboard that spurred their desire to study music.

The Reverend John Whittlesey was a zealous advocate of Methodism and a new sect called The New Lights. Though he preached in New York City half the year, during the other half while in Salem, he gathered about him many eminent clergymen and his home became known as the "Methodist Tavern". He undoubtedly had financial backing from these



old pianoforte apart and made a duplicate. Listening to the new product, they realized that they might further improve its quality by making another copy. By January 1826, Oramel and Charlotte were married. She became pregnant with Eliza, born on October 5, 1826. Within a month, they left with a newly improved pianoforte on the Erie Canal for Buffalo, N.Y., where later Oramel and Henry opened a factory to build pianofortes.

In a letter written in late 1834 to Reverend John Whittlesey in Salem, they stated how successful the business had become and how friendly and enthusiastic the workmen

clergymen, for on April 9, 1816, he purchased a plot of land on the South side of the then un-named road now known as Music Vale Road near the Hartford Road. The deed states: "where a Methodist Church shall be built", and it was built before 1833.

Whittlesey's wife Sally was quite accomplished at playing beautiful melodies on the harpsichord and as the boys grew, they followed their mother's interest in music. It was said that Oramel as a very small boy began to pick out tunes long before he learned to read. As soon as the boys outgrew their harpsichord, they pleaded with their strict and very tight father to buy them a pianoforte. After months of begging, he finally gave in and bought a very small pianoforte with only four or five octaves. The pedal was a brass rod at one side, operated by hand, but it was the only one for miles around and the boys were very proud of it. Their father made it very clear that they were to waste no time on such foolishness as music until they had finished their day's assigned work and chores. In order not to disturb the family, they built a shed for a music room at the rear of the house. This shed still stands today but has been enclosed as part of a long back ell to the house. Since the hours for practicing did not begin until after dark during the summer months, the last boy to practice would not get to bed until midnight.

Once each week the three boys drove by buckboard to New London for piano lessons. Leaving at nine p.m., they arrived in New London at eleven-thirty. Their lessons of one hour each were finished at two-thirty and they would drive back to Salem arriving by five a.m., just in time to start the day's chores.

Oramel followed the building of the Erie Canal during the early 1820's and yearned to follow that Gateway to the West. He and his bride-to-be, Charlotte Maconda Morgan, wanted to take the one and only pianoforte. The brothers argued and finally their Yankee ingenuity took over and they took the

were about completing one pianoforte a week. Oramel and brother Henry were running the Buffalo factory and were selling the greatly improved pianoforte for \$250.00. Their brother John was mentioned as making pianofortes in Salem. At this time Eliza was eight and staying in Salem with grandparents, while attending school. Their second child Sarah, now three, was being raised with her parents in Buffalo.

Around Christmas 1834, after a seven-year stay in Buffalo, Oramel and family all arrived back in Salem while the Buffalo factory continued to operate turning out pianofortes under the Whittlesey name. Back home to stay, the three brothers built a pianoforte factory where the Salem Firehouse now stands. In 1868, the Salem map shows Henry living in the old house just to the South on Hartford Road. Henry was an inventor, and patented a machine for winding brass strings and another for cutting and placing several wires at once on their keys. These two machines were extensively used into the 1900's. The factory made cases of rosewood and mahogany, inlaid them with mother of pearl, and cut the keys from ivory. The business grew to such proportions that many of the apprentices, whom they hired, later established factories of their own and paid the Whittleseys royalties for the privilege of using the Whittlesey name on their products.

At a later time, Eliza wrote, "As I understand it, the Reverend John had his own company. He had the financial backing, sending out Henry and John, his sons, into the territory near and far to sell pianofortes".

John, who had married a Salem girl, Marcia Williams, in 1829 moved from Salem to Ohio, probably in the 1860's, and opened a store to sell Whittlesey pianofortes. He died in 1888. Henry, who had remained in Salem to carry on the business, died in 1893. The Whittlesey pianofortes were highly prized not only in Connecticut but throughout the country. Many instruments still exist.

continued on page 15



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SALEM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By David H. Wordell, President

I would like to thank Bob Ross for his year of service as President:

- for his foresight and direction in preparing our first digital archive of over 10,000 plus items, making them more accessible;
- for his help in bringing back programs on the history of Salem's farms, and;
- for establishing an annual history award presented to a Salem student at East Lyme High School.

This past spring, Alex Gaito of Fawn Run, Salem, received a book on the history of our United States Presidents from the Historical Society for his avid interest in American history.

The Board of Directors is pursuing several new projects:

- Bill Schultz, our new Vice President, is developing, with the aid of the Curator, a binder of historical information on unlabeled prints and paintings, which are hanging in the Historical Society, to aid the docents.
- Building and Grounds Chairman Bob Neddo is purchasing safe, automatically timed battery powered candles to be placed in the windows during the holiday season.
- Ed Chmielewski, Director at Large, is supervising an Eagle Scout who is repairing the Hearst House next to the Museum. The Town of Salem is receiving bids on a new wood-shingled roof.
- Virginia Vesnaver, our new membership chairperson, has signed up many new life and regular members while at the Community Connections held at the Church Community Center. She can be reached at virginia@vesnaver.com

Schedule of Events at the Salem Towne House Museum

October 17, 2013, 7:30 p.m.
"History of the Avery Farm 1866 to present" with Les and Bob Avery

October 26, 2013, beginning at 9:00 a.m.
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HENRY HARRISON BINGHAM AT GETTYSBURG

By William T. Endicott

Editor's note: William T. Endicott is married to Abigail Bingham, who grew up in Salem. On July 3, 2013, at a ceremony marking the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, Abigail was asked to sing a song she wrote about a Bingham relative, Henry Harrison Bingham, who played a part in the tragic aftermath of Pickett's charge in the Battle of Gettysburg.



Masonic Friend to Friend Memorial at Gettysburg
Photo: Donaldecho | commons.wikimedia.org

The Bingham involvement in the battle of Gettysburg is unusual. It concerns Henry Harrison Bingham who even has a statue commemorating him at Gettysburg. Henry later went on to be in other battles, was wounded in more than one of them, and in the Battle of the Wilderness, he won the Congressional Medal of Honor, this nation's highest award for valor in combat. After that, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives where he served 33 years, at that time the longest any Member had served in the House.

Doug Bingham, the Bingham family historian, has verified that Henry is indeed a descendant of Thomas Bingham and thus a cousin of the Hiram Bingham. In fact, Doug has found that Henry is a first cousin, once removed from Hiram Bingham III. This is important because Doug says there are at least two unrelated Bingham lines in America and maybe more.

You can read about Henry's extraordinary story in the Wikipedia article under his name. However, I want to say a few words about a part of it here. After two days of fighting at Gettysburg, Confederate General Robert E. Lee ordered Pickett's Charge, right at the center of the Union position atop Cemetery Ridge.

General Lewis Armistead, who served under Pickett, led that charge, with his hat raised in the air on the tip of his sword. He reached the Union lines, and appeared for a moment to break through, which historians say was "the high water mark of the Confederacy." Then he fell with two wounds and his forces were thrown back with half of them casualties. The South never recovered from Gettysburg psychologically and thereafter was usually on the defensive in the war.

Anyway, as Armistead lay wounded, Henry Bingham, Captain of Company G of the 140th Pennsylvania Regiment, found him. Armistead asked Bingham to take some of Armistead's belongings to Armistead's friend on the Union side, General Winfield Scott Hancock, under whose command Bingham served and Bingham complied.

Armistead died two days later on July 5. Thus, Henry Harrison Bingham was right at the most important place of the most important battle of the Civil War and ministered to the most important Confederate leader.

There is more. Armistead, Bingham and Hancock were all Masons and that may be why, according to legend, Bingham was so anxious to help. Whether or not that is the case, the fact remains that in 1870, James Walker did a painting of the incident and in 1993, the Masons placed a statue at Gettysburg, showing Bingham attending to the wounded General Armistead who is lying on the ground.

SALEM'S OLDEST HOUSE *continued from page 13*

The Salem Historical Society Museum has two John Whittlesey pianofortes, one from the Yale University Collection of Musical Instruments and another displayed at Slater Museum in Norwich. The only Oramel labeled pianoforte is housed at the Connecticut Historical Society in Hartford.

The Lady Fenwick Harpsichord, later moved to Oramel's Grand Lobby of Music Vale Seminary, built in 1839, where its keys were graced by many famous artists of their day. It was saved from the great fire of 1868 that destroyed the building. It was again featured in the lobby of an even grander and larger building that was erected that same year. When Music Vale closed, the contents were sold but fortunately, the Griswold family of Old Lyme saved the Lady Fenwick Harpsichord and it now resides in the Yale Collection.

The manufacturing of Whittlesey pianofortes brought fame and culture to the Whittleseys and to our town. In the next issue of *Our Town-Salem*, I will tell how Oramel's teaching ability led to an even greater fame for our town, Salem, Connecticut.

P.S. The Salem Historical Society is currently pursuing a plan to purchase this ancient house of the Reverend John Whittlesey, with the help of a Whittlesey descendant and the MacArthur Foundation. We plan to restore and renovate it to become a museum for the Seminary artifacts, pianofortes and, possibly, the Lady Fenwick Harpsichord, which started it all.

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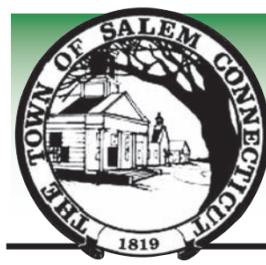


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Residents share their stories in columns related to various aspects of Salem life

2013 SALEM LIBRARY PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST PRIZEWINNERS

First Prize Winners:

(pictured on cover)

Adult: Jennifer Seale, Salem, *Foggy Breath of Life*
 Teen, 15-18: Jessy Stanavage, Colchester, *Louie*
 Teen, 12-14: Drew Giegel, Salem, *Summer Harvest*
 Child, 9-11: Rachel Yackovetsky, Bozrah, *Untitled*
 Child, 6-8: Arleen McKiernan, Salem, *Cleveland Botanical Garden*



Third Prize Winners (left to right):

Adult: Harcourt Davis, Old Lyme, *Common Tern*
 Teen, 15-18: Laura Pianka, Bozrah, *Evening Calm*
 Teen, 12-14: Rebecca Johnson, Colchester, *Starburst*
 Child, 6-8: Jack Jensen, Salem, *Islands in the Sky*



Honorable Mention (left to right):

Adult: Peter Morrissey, East Hampton, *Blue Bird*
 Teen, 12-14: Anne Look, Salem, CT, *Yosemite National Park*



EAGLE SCOUT WINS AWARD

Mark E. Chmielewski, of Salem, was named The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year for 2013.

Chmielewski, 16, an East Lyme High School student, earned the award and a \$10,000 college scholarship for his practical citizenship at school, scouting and his passion and commitment to community service.

For his Eagle Scout project, Chmielewski helped restore the 100-year-old historic Dolbeare Dam site off Old Colchester Road site and created an adjacent public park. Working with the Salem first selectman and the Salem Historical Society, he led more than 50 volunteers in removing brush and debris, wood and dead trees.

Chmielewski also volunteered for more than three years at the Habitat for Humanity Re-Store and at the Connecticut Veterans Home. He is currently the junior vice commander of the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 128.

"Service to my community, to my country and to our military is part of who I am," Chmielewski said. "I come from a family that has gravitated to public and military service."

Reprint from <http://www.theday.com/article/20130520/NWS09/130519668/-1/zip06>



Second Prize Winners:

(top, left to right)
 Adult: Jonathan Washburn, Salem, *No Passage*
 Teen, 12-14: Demetrios Yackovetsky, Bozrah, *Shadow Girl*
 Child, 6-8: Kayleigh Jensen, Salem, *Cotton Balls*

(bottom, left to right)
 Teen, 15-18: Brianna Weaver, Salem, *Luminescence*
 Child, 9-11: Kendall L. Turney, Oakdale, *Tilted*

SALEM/BOZRAH 12U BASEBALL ALLSTARS REPRESENT DISTRICT 6 IN STATE TOURNAMENT

By Vern Vesey

The Salem/Bozrah 12U Baseball Allstars earned the right to represent District 6 in the 2013 Cal Ripken State Allstars Tournament with a come from behind win over Marlborough. Led by catcher Pierce Mulholland, with strong pitching from starters Kyle Huebner, Galen Donovan, and Jared Small, solid infielding by Ian Small, Kevin Pomroy, Joey Andrews and Tristan Smith, and exceptional outfielding by Justin Allen, Spencer Winakor and Ryan Johnson, the Salem/Bozrah team found themselves one game away from going to the State Tournament...a must win against Marlborough!

Marlborough played well and Salem/Bozrah went to bat in the bottom of the 6th inning with Marlborough leading 5 - 0. Lead off hitter, Kyle Huebner, started a



Back Row, left to right: Kyle Hubner, Coach Vern Vesey, Galen Donovan, Ian Small, Joey Andrews, Coach JC Small, Jared Small, Justin Allen, Kevin Pomroy, Manager Chris Pomroy
 Front Row, left to right: Pierce Mulholland, Spencer Winakor, Tristan Smith, Ryan Johnson

6th inning rally with a solo home run to left field. The team followed his lead and batted their way through the order to make the score 5 - 5, and send the game into extra innings. Marlborough scored a run in the top of the 7th forcing Salem/Bozrah to come from behind once again in order to win. Huebner, shortstop Kevin Pomroy and catcher Tristan Smith accepted the challenge. Pomroy lead off the bottom of the 7th with a single, and stole his way to third. Huebner followed with a single to score Pomroy, and tie the game again, and then stole second to put the winning run in scoring position. Smith iced the game with a single to left field to send Huebner home for the win. The Salem/Bozrah 12U Allstars were going to the State Tournament for the first time in 11 seasons!



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9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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Photo: Anthony Ruggiero/stock.xchng.com

EAST LYME REGIONAL THEATER

By Pat Aldrich



Left to right: Natalie Andrews, Olivia Bernier, Emily Velidow (ELHS Juniors), Megan Aldrich (ELHS Freshman) Front Middle: Ian Aldrich (Salem School 7th grader)

This summer a group of students from East Lyme Regional Theater's (ELRT) production of "Once on This Island". They spent many days and nights traveling to East Lyme for rehearsals. Sponsored by The East Lyme Park & Recreation Department, ELRT is a collaborative effort between Producer Cheryl Whipple, Director/Choreographer/Producer Erin Sousa Stanley and Musical Director Chris Stanley. This amazing show, starring many adults and children from Southeastern Connecticut, was their 4th summer production. For more information visit the ELRT website: <http://www.eastlyme-regionaltheater.com/index.html>

Nathaniel desired a peaceable kingdom. His wished for a peaceable kingdom of the home — a couch of restoration, a television of respite, a bed of tranquility. He conjured a serene and happy place, where he might live with his wife and children, free from the haunts of want and fear. But mostly, Nathaniel wished to be free of the anxiety that someday, some unknown beast would someday scale the parapet and, in the dark, steal the peace away from him.

On Monday he woke from dreams of paintings — of pastoral Connecticut greens stretching from the frothy sea to the hay fields of the river bank, of men at work dragging oyster carts through the damp sand, of husking bees and children whirling at crack-the-whip. He woke from blindness, his fingers reading the impasto, whipped heavy like the waves, his palms pressing to test the tension of the canvas. He woke to lose the glint of varnish in the yellow, Luminist sun. He woke from his other, inward self, a man who wished to paint his life in layers, to quiet the voices that said more green, more ochre, more umber, whose brush had perhaps wandered from the earth. He woke to be a man who suspected he knew little of the art of living, who did not make paintings, but bought and sold them instead. He was, in his daily transactions, a more casual sketch of his dreaming self.

And on that morning in particular, he woke to the realization that he'd been pissed on. Virginia, strawberry curls matted to her cheek, slept between Nathaniel and his wife, Mary. Nat held his breath and cast his legs out of bed. He slid off the mattress onto the floor and crouched with his fingers gripping the nearby windowsill for support. He pulled himself upright, his back snapping and barking along the way, so loud he worried the cracks might wake Mary and his daughter. This did not happen in his twenties, this symphony of waking, but once standing, he liked to believe he was himself again, enjoying the immortal period of his life, where aging had been something that came before and would, someday, come after. But for the moment, his arms were the same arms that had pulled him through high school and college, his legs, strong, could run, and in his mind he stood everyday on the fifty

PAUGWONK

Excerpt from Chapter One

By Joe Newman



Photo: jfnewman.com

yard line of his high school football field and whispered to himself, I will make myself, I will make myself, I will make myself great.

The piss stain, acrid and traced with ammonia, reached nearly to Mary's thigh. With one knee on the bed, he held back his wife's bottom — white and luminous, an orb of miracles, firm when in motion,

soft with comfort and welcome when lying close — and lifted Ginny, soaked like she'd been hit by a water balloon, into the crook of his arm. He managed to tuck the sheet over the wet spot so Mary, sleeping still, would not roll onto it. The sunlight came in slits through the blinds. In cradled arms, he carried his zonked-out youngest daughter to the bathroom.

It was there he found Sarah, their eldest, reading on the toilet.

"Dad," she said. "I need a wipe."

"My arms are a little full, honey."

Sarah regarded her floppy-headed sister with a look that said, it's not my fault the kid can't hold her water.

"Ginny is still learning," Nat said. "She's not big like you. Which is why I know you can wipe yourself."

Sarah closed her book. "Charlotte's gonna get it, isn't she?" she said. "That's what Kevin says at school. That Charlotte's gonna get it. He means she's gonna get dead."

Before Ginny had been born, Nat and Mary had painted the walls of their only full bathroom a pale green. The sample card had said white lime, which Nat found ridiculous, because the green was the color of sea glass on the sand the morning after a storm. Still, they had agreed it was a tranquil color, and the towels were white and trimmed with green, and the shower curtain green with ribbons of pink, the sconces and hardware platinum, the windows frosted and translucent like ice. Nat and Mary had painted and selected and hung so that only serenity would enter their bathroom. With Ginny dripping with urine, his immortal arms tiring, and the smell of Gabby's vile production creeping through the air, he was unprepared to respond to a seven year-old's emergent notions of death and sacrifice. More than anything, Nat wanted to wash his hands.

"Sarah," he said, placing Ginny on her red potty, "moms or dads will

continued on page 20

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SALEM SCHOOL RENOVATED

By Elbert M. Burr



The Salem School renovation project started three-and-a-half years ago and eventually involved two hard-working committees, two sets of architects, three school superintendents, the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Education and the Board of Finance, and a town referendum to spend \$6,200,000. From the beginning, we needed state approvals for the design, bids and for all areas of construction services. Then there were meetings and more meetings. Just keeping track of all the working members was a job. However, the school is finished and it is beautiful. It was worth all the hard work.

Improvements include a roof guaranteed for twenty-five years, new boilers and a heating system, and air-handling units bringing fresh, tempered air to all rooms. All new insulated exterior doors and windows were installed. New ceilings, floor tiles, pull-down shades and upgraded lighting in the classrooms were also added. There are new state approved ADA bathrooms and many classrooms have new cabinets and sinks. Last, but not least, we installed state-of-the-art locking security systems for all classrooms.

Some interesting problems arose during the course of setting up for construction. The Salem Community Garden, located behind the old library, was moved to make room for the construction trailer and equipment. The Garden was first moved to the Salem Pavilion-Community Park, then uprooted, and moved to the newly purchased Zemko property.

Another similar interruption came when we had to decide whether to remove four trees in front of the school building. This was needed to make room for renovation dumpsters, which later contained all of the school's old front windows, siding and roof. There was much discussion about the removal of these trees. At first only three trees were removed. We tried to work around the fourth tree, which was donated by the graduating class of 1972. However, in the end, it was removed also.

As the renovation work progressed, things got a bit messy and many who visited the site began to wonder if we would ever get it back together again. Thanks to the general contractor, the architect, the tireless efforts of the school custodians and all the groups that supported the working crew, we pushed through to the finish line. September 3 came and the children arrived to start their 2013-14 school year. My hat is off to everyone for the gigantic effort.

salemct.gov

OUR TOWN SALEM

SEPTEMBER 2013 19



A Note from the Sandbox

BAKING UP FALL FUN WITH YOUR KIDS

By Sarah Bernhardtson

Fall is the reason I know I could never live anywhere but New England. The crisp, sunny days, the cool nights that smell of wood smoke the brightly colored back roads as the leaves turn colors, local farms selling apples and pumpkins...fall is easily my favorite season. There are seemingly endless ways to enjoy this time of year with your family, but by far, fall baking tops my list.

Baking with children is something I love to do. Not only do I think it is wonderful to pass on the life skill of knowing how to cook for yourself and others, but also there is great educational value in learning to bake. There are the science lessons of why oil and water don't mix, how baking soda helps add air into baked goods, and how heat can melt solid things into liquids. There are certainly countless math lessons in measuring and counting ingredients. Children can practice their reading skills as they read the steps of the recipe and practice following the written instructions. The cooler days of fall certainly lend themselves to spending evenings and weekends in the kitchen with your children. The following are some of my favorite fall recipes to share with my children. Enjoy, and have fun sharing this season with your family!

Soft Pumpkin Cookies (from Libby's Pumpkin)

2 ½ cups of all-purpose flour	½ teaspoon ground nutmeg	1 cup of canned pumpkin
1 teaspoon baking soda	½ teaspoon salt	1 egg
1 teaspoon baking powder	1 ½ cups of granulated sugar	1 teaspoon vanilla
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon	½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened	Glaze (recipe follows)

Preheat oven to 350° F. Grease baking sheets.

Combine flour, baking soda, baking powder, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt in medium bowl. Beat sugar and butter in large bowl until well blended. Beat in pumpkin, egg and vanilla until smooth. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Drop by rounded tablespoon onto greased baking sheets.

Bake for 15 to 18 minutes or until edges are firm. Cool on baking sheets for 2 minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely. Drizzle glaze (recipe follows) over cookies.

To Make the Glaze:

Combine 2 cups sifted powdered sugar, 3 tablespoons milk, 1 tablespoon melted butter and 1 teaspoon vanilla extract in small bowl until smooth.

Easy Apple Crisp Modified from Betty Crocker's recipe

4 medium tart cooking apples (I use Macouns)	1/3 cup of butter, softened
¾ cup packed brown sugar	1 teaspoon cinnamon
½ cup all-purpose flour	1 teaspoon nutmeg
½ cup old-fashioned oats	½ teaspoon ground ginger

Heat oven to 375 degrees. Grease bottom and sides of an 8-inch glass baking dish with butter.

Core and thinly slice apples. Spread apple slices in the bottom of the glass baking dish. Mix remaining ingredients in a medium bowl. Sprinkle evenly over apples.

Bake 25-30 minutes or until topping is golden brown and apples are tender. Serve warm, topped with vanilla ice cream.

Pumpkin Spice Bread Family recipe

1 can pumpkin	1 cup sugar	1 teaspoon ground ginger
2 eggs	½ teaspoon salt	½ teaspoon ground cloves
2 cups of flour	1 teaspoon baking soda	
½ cup oil	1 teaspoon cinnamon	

Optional: 1 cup of chocolate chips, 1 cup white chocolate chips, or 1 cup of chopped walnuts

Heat oven to 325 degrees. Grease either one large loaf pan or two smaller loaf pans.

Combine pumpkin, oil, eggs and sugar in a medium bowl. In a separate bowl, mix flour with baking soda, salt, and spices. Gently mix dry ingredients into wet ingredients using a spoon (not beaters). Mix just until well blended, adding optional ingredients if desired. Batter will be thick. Pour batter into greased pan(s). Bake for 50 minutes or until knife inserted into the middle of the loaf comes out clean. Delicious with cream cheese!

Sarah Bernhardtson is a Salem resident and mother of two young boys. She writes a weekly column entitled "Wisdom Wednesdays" about parenting and education for the website www.CTWorkingMoms.com.

PAUGWONK continued from page 19

do anything to protect their children. Because we love you."

Sarah flipped her book onto the floor and shrugged. "Whatever, Dad. It's your job to love us. I don't think that's going to help Charlotte."

"Who made you?" he said, nudging her in the shoulder, but also wondering whether that little monstrosity would maybe knife them all in their sleep. "And holy cats, what did your mother feed you? Cabbage?"

"Really, Dad," Sarah said, shifting off the toilet. "Nobody eats cabbage."

While Sarah finished up, Nat cleaned Ginny with wet wipes. She was awake, but groggy and upset with herself for having wet the bed. It's okay, he told her, it's okay it's okay it's okay. He stood, and Ginny scampered out, promising to dress herself, bare buns shutting for her bedroom.

Soon Nat heard a thump and poked his head in. The piss forgotten, she stood on the edge of her pink, quilted bedspread. "Watch!" she shouted, and leapt, innocent and naked and fearless, into the air. She landed knees and elbows in a jumble of stuffed animals — lions, sharks, husky dogs, alligators, bears, kittens, camels, and a turtle — her citizens, soft and plushy, waiting to receive her in comfort. Ginny extracted herself from their limbs and red felt tongues and climbed the bed to jump again.

From the bathroom Sarah demanded the soap, which she claimed she couldn't reach, though Nat knew she could. "You left me just standing here," Sarah said, her hip cocked and her voice straining for an adult's disappointment. "Does that even make sense? The soap at the back of the sink? Really, Dad. I am only seven years old. Clean doesn't just happen."

Nat had reached the point in the morning where behavior that had begun as amusing had sidled toward frustration and he was about to say something sharp, when Mary padded beside him. She dropped her arm on his hip and curled her fingers, tenderly and without judgment, into the softness of his middle. In their twenties, she had done the same, and would struggle to gather a scant band of skin from across a stomach kept taut from running, from pick-up basketball, from tennis, from twilights spent outdoors before bedtimes and stories. The chubbiness started with Sarah. After Ginny, Mary had stopped teasing him, her resting fingers a gesture of love and familiarity.

"About Charlotte," Mary said, "what Daddy means to say is that you should read the book for yourself rather than worry about what the other kids say. And you can always ask us questions if there's something you don't understand."

Sarah rinsed the soap from her pink fingers. "Just did that. Can we have bacon for breakfast?" She patted her hands dry on Nat's sweatpants, punched Mary in the thigh, and followed Ginny into their bedroom.

"You know she's going to kill us all, right?" Nat said.

"Don't be a monster," Mary said, thumping her husband in the shoulder. "She's just providing us with greater opportunities to love her."

"So much violence," he said, rubbing his shoulder and weighing a smile, weary with the knowledge that the beasts were already inside the walls.

Joe Newman is the author of *The Freeman's Oath* and is currently working on his new novel, *Paugwonk*. He is also the managing director of *Treasure Hill Farm* in Salem.

SALEM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY 2013 SURVEY

The Salem Free Public Library is seeking input from residents of Salem and Bozrah and library patrons from other towns regarding the services of the library. Our aim is to find answers to questions such as:

- Are the library's hours convenient for our patrons?
- Should the library's staff include a children's manager who would provide more services to children?
- Are there ways the library can improve?

Your participation will help us greatly to better meet the needs of our community. *Please do not do more than one survey.*

Additional copies of the survey are available at the Salem Free Public Library and on-line at the library website located at salemct.gov, in the September issue of *Our Town* newspaper.

Please return your completed survey to: The Salem Free Public Library, 264 Hartford Road, Salem, CT 06420. Att: Surveys.

Instructions: Please select the answers which best describe your opinion by circling the question alternative you find appropriate. Answers to some questions may require more than one response.

Section A. Use of the Library

1. Do you use the Salem Free Public Library? YES NO
2. If you never use the Salem Free Public Library, why not? *Select all that apply.*
 - a. I use another Library. Please list the name of the library
 - b. I buy my own books, magazines and music.
 - c. The location is not convenient.
 - d. I don't have transportation. *Do you know that the library has a Homebound Service to deliver library materials to people who are unable to come to the library because of disabilities or injuries?*
 - e. The hours are inconvenient.
 - f. Other: _____

If you do not use the library, we thank you for your response. You do not need to complete any more of the survey. However, if you have suggestions on how the Salem Free Public Library could improve or have other comments, your input is appreciated.

3. How often do you visit the Salem Free Public Library?
 - a. Weekly
 - b. Monthly
 - c. Less than Monthly
4. Do you use the library's website and catalog? YES NO
5. Do you use any of these on-line services provided by the library? *Select all that apply.*
 - a. E-Books
 - b. Downloadable audio books
 - c. JobNow – a one-on-one job interview skills and resume help
 - d. Learning Express – school & career tests
 - e. Universal Class – 500 free courses for careers, computer help and hobbies
 - f. ICONN.org – a service provided by the Connecticut State Library containing full-text magazine articles, reference books newspaper articles, images, downloadable audio books and a catalog of Connecticut's academic and public libraries.
 - g. None of the above.

6. Would you ever use the library's Homebound Service which delivers library materials to people who are unable to come to the library because of injuries or disabilities? YES NO
7. How do you use the Salem Free Public Library? Select all that apply.
 - a. Borrow materials (books, films, music, etc.) from Childrens ____ Teens____ Adult____
 - b. Do research/get information/study
 - c. Borrow museum passes
 - d. Sit and read for pleasure
 - e. Attend programs: Children ____ Teen____ Adult____
 - f. Use computers____ Use wireless for your own devices ____
 - g. Get income tax forms
 - h. Community Meetings
 - i. Fax or Copier
 - j. Interlibrary Loan

8. How do you find out about activities at the library? *Select all that apply.*
 - a. Newspapers
 - b. Radio
 - c. Library Website
 - d. Library bulletin board/Door posters
 - e. Library Events Calendar
 - f. Word of Mouth
 - g. Library email alert
 - h. This Week in Bozrah (The TWIB)
 - i. Salem Connect

I would like to be added to the email alert.

My email address is: _____

Section B. Please Rate Current Library Services

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1. The library is open at convenient times for me.					

If you would like a change in the library hours, please list the days and hours the library should be open:

	Current Hours of Operation	Proposed Hours of Operation
Sunday	Not Open	
Monday	Noon-7:30 p.m.	
Tuesday	Noon-7:30 p.m.	
Wednesday	Noon-7:30 p.m.	
Thursday	10:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.	
Friday	10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.	
Saturday	10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. July-August	

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
2. The library is clean and comfortable.					
3. I/We usually find what we are looking for.					
4. The library staff is available, courteous, knowledgeable and helpful.					
5. Parking is easy.					

Comments: _____

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LIBRARY SURVEY

continued from page 21

Section C: How Can the Library Improve?

1. Do you think the library needs more programs? YES NO
If YES, then who for: Children Teens Adults Senior Citizens
2. Do you think the library needs a better collection of library materials? YES NO
If YES, then who for: Children Teens Adults Senior Citizens
If YES, then what materials: Books Films Movies Other _____
3. How else can we improve? _____

4. What do you like best about the library? _____

5. What do you like least about the library? _____

FOR YOUR SPECIFIC CONSIDERATION:

SHOULD THE LIBRARY ADD A MANAGER OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES?

A Manager of Children's Services would plan, promote and implement more frequent programs for children. A staff position with hours specifically dedicated to children's services would be able to:

- Provide infant/toddler, after school and teen programs
- Provide school vacation programs
- Provide homework help
- Provide readers advisory service
- Provide outreach programs to area daycare centers and homeschooled children
- Write grants for children's activities
- Coordinate with the schools
- Network with other area libraries' Manager of Children's Services.

A Manager of Children's Services would work 29 hours per week, with no benefits, at \$15.61 per hour for an additional cost of \$23,540 per year. Of the ten libraries in Southeastern Connecticut comparable in size to the Salem Free Library seven employ a person to manage children's services.

- Do you think the Salem Free Public Library needs a Children's Manager?
- Yes. Why? _____
- No. Why? _____
- No Opinion.

Section D: Tell Us about Your Household

1. My household consists of:
 - a. Pre-Kindergarten Children
 - b. Elementary Aged Children
 - c. Teens
 - d. Adults
2. Where do you reside?
 - a. Salem
 - b. Bozrah
 - c. Colchester
 - d. Montville (Oakdale, Uncasville)
 - e. Other _____
3. Does anyone in your household have a library card? YES NO
4. Is your family a member of The Friends of Salem Library? YES NO

Please return your completed survey to:

The Salem Free Public Library
264 Hartford Road
Salem, CT 06420

Att: Surveys

The Friends of Salem Library is an independent organization which, in addition to the Town of Salem, monetarily supports the library through funds provided from their dues and activities such as book sales. For instance all of the programs at the library, including summer reading, are paid for by The Friends.

Thank you for participating in the survey!



Things to Do . . .

AROUND TOWN

Find out what's happening in Salem

ADDRESS SIGNS

The Salem Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. would once again like to remind the residents of Salem that they can still order the 911 reflective address signs from us. An emergency "911" reflective address sign may save your life or that of a loved one. These signs make it easier for emergency responders

to find your home or property at any time of day or night.

If emergency responders cannot find you, we cannot help you! Minutes and seconds count in an emergency.

The aluminum signs are 6" X 18" and laminated in reflective vinyl. The numbers are 4" wide on both sides and available in green or blue. The sign mount either horizontally or vertically on to mailboxes. If you do not have a mailbox, it can be mounted on a post. The cost for the signs is \$15.00

Order forms are available at the Salem Fire House at 424 Hartford Road (Rte. 85), at the Town Clerk's office or call 860-859-0942 to have it mailed.



SALEM VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

By Chief Eugene R. Maiorano

The Salem Volunteer Fire Co., Inc. would like to take this opportunity to thank fellow townspeople for their support of our recent Ribs and Chicken Dinner fundraiser. The show of support from the town, as well as others, was overwhelming and we hope you will mark your calendar for August 23, 2014 when our next dinner will be held. Tickets are advance sales only so if you would like, call the station at 860-859-0942 and ask to be put on the list for next year's dinner and we will call and remind you. If you would like, check out our website at www.salemfireco.com and you can order your tickets online. Hope to see you there!



SALEM RECREATION DEPARTMENT

By Diane Weston

The summer months have flown by! It is hard to believe school has started and the leaves will be falling.

The programs that were offered over the months of July and August were very successful. We offered a limited number of programs due to the renovation work at the school. The Recreation Commission would like to thank the Gardner Lake and Salem Volunteer Fire

continued on page 24



NEWS FROM GARDNER LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

By Chief James Savalle

On the 7th of August, The Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company hosted the New London County Fire Chiefs Association for their Monthly meeting. Representing the 64 associated fire departments were 161 members and affiliates. Gardner Lake members, 27 strong, provided a pulled pork dinner with the guidance of President Cheryl Philopena. Also in attendance were State Representative Ed Jutilla, State Representative Linda Orange, and Salem First Selectman Kevin Lyden. Representing Congressman Courtney's office was past Colchester First Selectman Jenny Contois.

The NLCFCA speakers for the meeting were Kevin McManus Colchester Emergency Communications Center and Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company Deputy Chief Joe Danao. Provided for display, were the Regional Communication Trailers, our resource



State Representative Ed Jutilla addresses the County Chiefs on Legislative Issues

used in shuttling water to the emergency scene. The Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company also recognized State Troopers Coit, Hawes and Seery for their part in protecting all Fire and Emergency Medical personnel on the scene.

American Ambulance provided a welcomed guest, Mr. Brendan McGuirk, a company long time friend and 42 year veteran career Firefighter/EMT City of New London.



SALEM SENIORS

By Irene Jarvis

The Salem Seniors have enjoyed a variety of meetings this spring. The May meeting was held at the Salem School with a guest speaker from Burnett's Country Gardens. Linda Turner gave an informative talk and demonstration on easier ways for seniors to plant and maintain small gardens.

The June meeting featured speakers from Three Rivers explaining the spring and fall classes, which are offered to Seniors. The classes are about a variety of subjects and no homework is involved.

Our July outing at PaPa Z's was a great success and we are looking forward to having our Christmas Party there.

As a rule, we do not meet in August but made an exception in order to have Mildred Devine from The Dime Savings Bank speak to us about the legal pros and cons about Estate Planning. We had a great turnout for this most informative meeting.

We would like to thank everyone who worked on the Community Get Together, which was held on August 13 in the beautiful new building of the Salem Congre-

gational Church. It gave us a chance to let more people know we exist and what we offer at our meetings.

Salem Seniors is open to anyone 50 or older. The meetings are held at 10:30 a.m., on the second Tuesday of the month, March through December, in the Salem Volunteer Firehouse, unless designated elsewhere. Lunch is served following the meeting.

An informal group meets every Tuesday afternoon 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Salem Free Public library. A huge thank you to the Recreation Commission.

Thanks to them for providing us with Wii, cards and other games. We are in our fourth year of getting together. Our numbers have increased, our choice of card games has increased and friendly competition bowling WII has increased. We will all miss our two snowbirds who bowl with us every year but have left to go back to Florida.

Everyone who attends these two activities is thankful to the people who provide the opportunity for seniors to get out, learn more about the town and make new friendships.

Seniors: neovain, flickr.com

Companies for the use of their space to make our programs a success.

Chris Hebert from Salem School offered Music Lessons for the fourth year. Sam and Tiffany Rindell volunteered to do "10 and Under Tennis". Dan Williamson, along with other parent volunteers, offered "Outdoor Floor Hockey". The Performing Arts, from Hartford, held classes for acting and dance with a performance at the end of the week. Good fun was had by all!

The annual baseball game motor coach trip took place on August 17. New York Yankees at Boston Red Sox was the game this year. Fenway is such an historic park and the weather was perfect for the game.

Be on the lookout for After-School programs starting in October. We hope to offer art classes and film making along with other programs to the students.

The Recreation Basketball program will start in November. Vanessa Bunnell is heading the program this year. The program will have instruction and playing time. A basketball clinic run by Valley Basketball Club head coach John Dickson will be offered for Salem and East Lyme boys, grades 8th thru 12th, starting in October on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00pm. There is no fee for this program. Please contact Vanessa at 860-941-0325 or email vanessabunnell@yahoo.com for more information on the basketball programs.

Did you know a group of Salem Seniors meet every Tuesday from 12:00 to 4:00pm at the Salem Library? The Recreation sponsored program offers Wii bowling, card games, dominoes, or whatever may be the interest for the afternoon. Please feel free to join in, a good time is usually had by all!

There are several bus trips that will be offered in the coming months.

- Oct. 5 – New York City**
- Oct. 13 – Stormville Flea Market**
- Oct. 26 – New England's Autumn Splendor**
- Nov. 16 – Holiday Shopping in the Pioneer Valley of Massachusetts**
- Dec. 7 – New York City**

Please go to http://www.salemct.gov/Pages/SalemCT_Recreation/index for all the information on the trips.

You should plan a fall walk on Salem's Multi-Purpose Path. Park at the lot on Music Vale Road and enjoy the trail. Justin Anello completed his Eagle Scout project on the trail. You could sit at a picnic table and enjoy nature alongside Harris Brook.

Mark your calendars! The Annual Tree Lighting and Carol Sing-a-long at the Salem Town Green will be on Saturday December 7. Join in for singing, a cup of hot chocolate and good old-fashioned fun! You may bring a small environmentally friendly ornament for the tree.

The best way to stay informed on the programs that are offered is to go to www.salemct.gov. You may sign up for email blasts on recreation news.

Lastly, if you are interested in becoming an instructor for a program or know of someone who might be interested, please have him or her contact Diane Weston at 860-859-3873x252 or email Diane.Weston@salemct.gov.



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SALEM

By Rev. Tim Dubeau

The Congregational Church of Salem is located on the Salem Green, Route 85, about 1½ miles north of the roundabout at the intersection of routes 82 and 85). Call 860-859-1211 or email us at salemcongregate@sbcglobal.net for more information. Visitors are always welcome. Check out our website and *CrossLinks* newsletter at www.congregationalchurchsalem.org and follow us on Facebook.

WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

All are welcome to attend any of the following activities:

Sunday Worship: Our schedule from Sept. 15, 2013 through May 2014 is as follows:
Worship services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Adult Sunday School and Bible Zone for children and youth – 9:45 a.m.

UPCOMING 2013 EVENTS AND SPECIAL SERVICES

44RD ANNUAL APPLE FESTIVAL • SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

We welcome your participation in preparing for the Apple Festival. You will have a lot of fun and make many new friends. You will also earn credits towards discounted pies and will be an invited guest to our **Apple Festival Appreciation Supper on Sunday, November 10 at 5:30 in the Christian Community Center.**

Saturday, Oct. 5, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. • Crumby Day (when we make all our crumb topping)

Mondays, September 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21 from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00
 we are **making pies** and **peeling apples**

Tuesdays, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22 from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00
 we are **making pies** and **peeling apples**

Wednesday, Sept. 25, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23 from 8:30 a.m. to noon
 we are **making pies** and **peeling apples**

For all who come on the day of the Apple Festival, we encourage you to bring clean winter coats in good repair and canned food to donate. All donations will be distributed by our church to the Salem Free Public Library and Care & Share of East Lyme.

Photo: Lena Povrzenic | stock.xchng.com

OTHER EVENTS/STUDIES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- 1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month** from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.: Bible Study and Prayer at the Parsonage
- Saturdays at 7:30 a.m. beginning Sept. 28** in the Christian Community Center: Men's study group will read/discuss the book *Radical*, by David Platt.
- Sunday, Oct. 20 at 5:30 p.m.** in the **Christian Community Center:** *Knees to the Earth* live concert. Do not miss this talented Christian band. Donations will help fund a new missionary preparing to go overseas. Please bring one or more cans of food for us to contribute to local feeding programs.
- Saturday, Dec. 14 at 6:00 p.m.** in the **Christian Community Center:** The *Eight Mile River Band* will conduct their 4th annual Bluegrass Gospel Christmas Concert. Donations will help offset expenses for the Christian Community Center.
- Sunday, Dec. 22 at 5:00 p.m.** at **Maegog Farm** (corner of 82 and 354 in Salem): Live Nativity with group singing of Christmas carols and individuals reading from the Bible.
- Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 7:00 p.m.** at the **Church:** Service of Carols and Candles – this is a family candlelight service for all ages.



CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CENTER

The use of this building is taking off! Since early summer, it has hosted two community breakfast fundraisers, (one for the church and the other for the Salem Mom's club), our annual Tag, Rummage and Bake Sale, three funeral receptions, a birthday party, a wedding, several brunches, a live concert and the Salem Community Connections event that brought together over 20 of Salem's organizations and clubs for the public to visit.

Now that landscaping is nearly complete, the final major exterior improvements include the installation of railings alongside the staircases and two additional pole lamps to light our way. Several minor interior improvements are still underway but neither these or the exterior projects hamper the use of the building.

The Christian Community Center features a large commercial kitchen; one large (2,400 sq. ft.) air-conditioned banquet/assembly room, a smaller (625 sq. ft.) air-conditioned meeting room and enough tables (round or rectangular) and chairs to outfit both fully. All areas of the building are handicapped accessible.

The CC Center (as it has come to be called) is available to rent for private functions, including meetings (corporate, business, etc), weddings, receptions, showers, birthday parties and other family events. Go to our church website to see a copy of our application and fee structures for rental of any of the public buildings on our campus. Any questions? Do not hesitate to call! 860-859-1211.



LIONS TALES

By Lion George Ziegler

At our June 27th meeting, past district governor Lion Julie Shilosky installed our new officers for the coming year: president Lion Skip Dickson, vice presidents Lions Len Giambra and George Householder, secretary Lion Dan Holle, treasurer Lion Skip Stangeland, and membership chairman Lion Jim Fogarty. Congratulations to all the new officers; a big thanks to Lion Julie for performing the installation, and to all outgoing officers for their work this past year.

Again this year, Salem Lions proudly awarded two scholarships to graduating Salem senior class students. Both recipients and their parents were our dinner guests at the June 27th meeting. Lion president Skip Dickson presented the scholarships to Michaela Ryan and Jessica Griffin. Congratulations to both young women for your outstanding academic achievements. Good luck to both of you at your respective colleges.

At Salem School Awards Assembly, Lion Kevin Lyden presented the Salem Lions Civics Awards to: 5th grader Riley Morrow; 6th grader Ian Aldrich; and 7th grader Emily Rogers. Also, at the Salem School Graduation, Lion Kevin presented the Salem Lions Grange Award to 8th grader Piper Baine. Congratulations – Riley, Ian, Emily, and Piper.

Our annual Tag Sale day, Saturday, June 29, dawned bright and sunny. With the exception of about 30 raindrops during midmorning, the tag sale was a great success. Most items were sold out



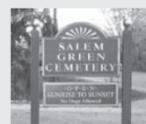
Scholarship winners Michaela Ryan (left) and Jessica Griffin (right) with Lion Skip Dickson (center)

go toward our community charitable projects. See you all next year, same place: June 28, 2014.

You should have all received your 2013 – 2014 Salem Community Calendar. They were delivered to each house with a mailbox or newspaper tube prior to September 1st. A few extra calendars are available at the Town Office and the Library or call a member of the Lions Club to receive one. Thank you to all our advertisers. Please support these merchants; they are important to all of us in Salem.

Have you ever considered being a Lion? Salem Lions is one small piece of Lions International, the largest civic service organization in the world. Interested? Contact membership chairman Lion Jim Fogarty (860-859-0108), or any other Salem Lion. We would love to answer your questions — no strings attached.

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.



SALEM GREEN CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Submitted by Rev. Tim Dubeau, Sexton

For the period April 29 to August 29, 2013 there have been two interments/inurnments:

Name	Date Inurned/Interred	Location
Ellen D. Duffy	6/29/2013	Section I Row D Plot 24+
Allyn R. Miller Sr.	8/05/2013	Section I Row D Plot 08

Of the 330 plots in Section I, only about 30 remain available and some of these are single plots with deeded plots on either side. Those full size plots remaining in Section I can be purchased at \$550/plot. All 103 available plots in Section IV are currently being offered at \$700/plot.

A reminder to all plot owners: Artificial flowers and containers are permitted from October 15, 2013 thru April 15, 2014. Spent holiday decorations along with tattered flags will be removed at the discretion of the sexton.

Contact the SGCA sexton, Rev. Tim Dubeau at 860-859-1925 with questions or if interested in purchasing full sized or smaller cremation plots. Maps of the cemetery sections by plot, interment/inurnment records by name/plot, plot pricing and contact information are all posted on the information board located near the first row of plots.

The SGCA is still developing plans for tree replacement. In addition, the SGCA is considering planting a groundcover in the memory garden. Finally, the SGCA has requested that the Town level the unsightly soil storage area, so that we can proceed to outline a smaller section with a smaller vehicular opening with a live barrier of deer resistant shrubs.



FRIENDS OF SALEM LIBRARY

By Gloria Fogarty, Secretary

As Fall approaches, the Friends enter their final quarter of preparations for their primary fund raiser, the **Annual Book Sale**. Each year, a very large assortment of books are offered with topics ranging from (but not limited to) animals, art, archeology, cooking, hobbies, history, psychology, travel, true crime, etc. Beginning **Friday, October 25th**, the sale opens at **6 PM for members of the Friends** and opens to the **general public from 7-9 PM**. On **Saturday, October 26th**, all are welcome to browse/shop from **9AM to 3PM**, with the added attraction that in the afternoon, books can be purchased in "all-you-can-fit" grocery-sized paper bags for \$5/bag.

The book sale project requires a HUGE amount of volunteer time and effort, beginning with the year-long collection/storage of suitable books. Next, comes the sorting process which typically needs 6 volunteers working at least three times/week, from Spring to Fall. Subsequently, the books are moved again to storage until the Friday of the Sale weekend. On that day, multiple drivers, Scout volunteers, Friends with pickups, vans, etc. move the 20,000 books to the school gym for presentation and sale. All this effort to hopefully raise approximately \$10,000 to support our beautiful library... We need your support and humbly request that you save some time to enjoy this wonderful event.

Through the dedicated efforts of the library staff and funding (\$4,225) provided by the Friends of the Library, a total of 44 programs and workshops were offered to townspeople during the summer months. Many different opportunities were presented, including Mah Jongg classes, Kindermusik, Watercolor Journaling, Crafting of Hemp bracelets, Dance Movement classes, Open Mike night, a Poetry contest, even Snakes Alive! In total, 2382 individuals took part in these activities.

With the town librarian's guidance, our Salem Library has truly become a pivotal piece of our community. Many Salem citizens (& even some non-residents) have responded to the creative atmosphere and found unusual ways to support the library. For example, when Shirley Diamond recently celebrated her 90th birthday, one individual suggested we establish a fund to purchase 90 books honoring Shirley's 90 years of life. It was done. (Shirley also supports the Poetry programs for the library.) Another group, the Propbusters, an AMA sanctioned Model Airplane Club who fly their planes in Salem, has annually donated funds to purchase books dealing with aeronautics, planes and flying – And many of them don't even live in Salem! It just gets done. This year, Kevin Lyden, aware of the challenge to find storage space for sellable books, offered the Friends access to a building on the newly purchased Town-owned Zemko property. The centralized location close to the school saves time, lowers transportation costs, and will greatly aid the overall coordination efforts on the day of the Sale. Thank you, Kevin, Jackie Hemond, members of the Salem Library Board and all the individuals who work to ensure the viability of Salem Library.

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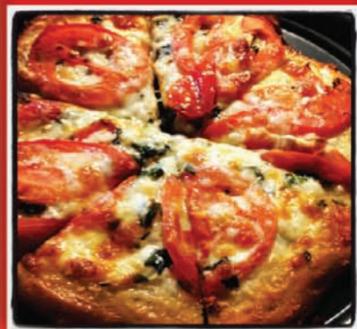
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SALEM TOWN INFORMATION

www.salemct.gov

Salem Town Offices

270 Hartford Road
Phone: (860) 859-3873

Office Hours: First Selectman, Town Clerk,
Assessor & Tax Collector

Mon. – Wed.: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thurs.: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Fri.: Closed for routine business

(elected officials available for urgent matters)

Salem Free Public Library

264 Hartford Road
Phone/Fax: (860) 859-1130

Hours: Mon. – Wed.: Noon to 7:30 p.m.
Thurs.: 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Fri.: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sat.: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
(June & July: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

Salem School District

200 Hartford Road
Phone: (860) 892-1223 | Fax: (860) 859-2130
www.salemschools.org

Salem School: (860) 859-0267
Special Education Office: (860) 859-3988

Salem Police

(860) 859-3873, ext. 200 or 210

EMERGENCY 911

Salem Transfer Station

189 Rattlesnake Ledge Rd.
(860) 859-2964

Wed., Sat., Sun.: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Permits required – can be obtained by
Salem residents at transfer station only

Animal Control Officer

(860) 917-0567

State Senator 20th District

Andrea Stillman (860) 443-8568
www.senatedems.ct.gov/Stillman.html

State Representative 37th District

Ed Jutila (860) 739-7730
www.housedems.ct.gov/Jutila

U.S. Senators & Representatives

Richard Blumenthal (860) 258-6940 (*Hartford*)
www.blumenthal.senate.gov

Chris Murphy (860) 549-8463 (*Hartford*)
www.murphy.senate.gov

Joe Courtney (860) 886-0139 (*Norwich*)
courtney.house.gov

Town of Salem Live TV

Salem Board and Commission meetings held at the TOB are broadcast live on Comcast Channel 12 and webcast on www.salemct.org. Webcast hearings are available ON DEMAND at any time on www.salemct.org.

Board of Education Airing on Channel 12

The Salem Board of Education Meetings air on Channel 12 (Educational Access) on the second and third Wednesdays of every month at 7:30 p.m.

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OUR TOWN SALEM

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Our Town – Salem (OTS) is a magazine published quarterly to enhance the lives of Salem residents through articles that inform, encourage and celebrate the people, activities, businesses and organizations in town. OTS is produced entirely by volunteers and is distributed free of charge thanks to the businesses, organizations and individuals that place their ads! OTS producers feel strongly that:

At its best, OTS features the people of Salem. We need your participation to be successful. We need YOU to:

- Send us a photo and caption, write a story, or give us leads on stories one of our volunteers could write!
- Take out a personal ad to recognize birthdays, anniversaries, graduations and other achievements!
- Give us leads for businesses that would like to be featured in and/or advertise in OTS.

Contact Jackie Hemond at ourtownsalemct@gmail.com or 860-859-2621.

The next deadline is **November 1** for the December issue.



Volunteers Needed!

Our Town – Salem is looking for a volunteer to carry out the following function:

Advertising Volunteer

Responsible for securing the advertising that supports the publication of *Our Town – Salem* and for carrying out related bookkeeping functions.

Main responsibilities include:

- Building relationships with advertisers by mail, telephone and/or personal visits.
- Maintaining a detailed spreadsheet of all advertisers and revenue.

Please contact **Jackie Hemond**, ourtownsalemct@gmail.com to find out more about the position.



OUR TOWN SALEM 2013

CONNECTICUT

All articles submitted for publication must be accompanied by the writer's name, address, and phone number so that the submission can be verified. The chairperson and her/his designee must sign articles submitted by town committees.

Our Town – Salem reserves the right to reject any articles and ads, including those of a political or partisan character; it reserves the right to edit all articles for grammar, clarity, brevity, and taste. All articles will be checked for factual content, and articles containing unattributed statements will not be accepted. *Our Town – Salem* is published quarterly by volunteer residents of the town of Salem. Your participation is welcomed!

Volunteer Staff

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Shirley Diamond
Peter Sielman

Photographer
Bopha Smith
Layout Designer
Agnes T. Miyuki

All-around Helper
Susan George Ivey