

### **Friends of the New Salem Public Library News**

Children are invited to celebrate the Winter Equinox on December 20 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. at the New Salem Public Library as part of our ongoing "Library for All Seasons" program. Volunteers from the "Friends" will host special activities that include making storybook lanterns or luminarias and listening to a special story about the solstice. Refreshments will also be served. Children under the age of five must be accompanied by an adult. Students coming from Swift River School will be able to take a bus directly to the library.

Come to an "Edwardian Christmas Tea" in the historic New Salem Academy building on the New Salem Town Common this Saturday, December 3 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. The building, constructed in 1908, is now the private residence of the Abbouds, who have kindly offered to open their home for this special "Friends" event. Tea and delicious snacks will be served beginning at 3:00, followed by a unique presentation by "Mrs. Gordon" describing her plans for a 1908 holiday. In addition, there will be a Holiday Book Sale and a raffle for a beautiful, tea themed basket (now on display at the library, where raffle tickets can be purchased). This event is free and no pre-registration is required. All proceeds from donations, book and raffle sales benefit the New Salem Public Library. Any questions, please call [978-544-8916](tel:978-544-8916).

The Friends of the New Salem Public Library will be having a Holiday Book Sale during the month of December. This annual event kicks off at the Edwardian Christmas Tea on December 3, where lightly used books suitable for gift giving will be for sale at very reasonable prices. The Friends offer a wide selection of titles for adults, young adults, and children, ranging from novels to non-fiction, gardening, cooking, art travel, exercise and craft books, as well as coffee table books. The books will be for sale during regular library hours after the Edwardian Christmas Tea. All proceeds help support library needs and a variety of programs for adults and children.

### **Board of Health News**

Thursday, December 8, 2016, the Board of Health office will be closed. It will be open that week on Tuesday, December 6 from 9 a.m. to noon. For information contact Donna Ballentine [dballentine@hotmail.com](mailto:dballentine@hotmail.com).

### **Selectboard Meetings**

This month the Selectboard meets Monday the 5th and 19th at 7 p.m.

### **Library News**

Lacto-fermentation: *Kraut, Kavass, and Fermented Vegetables* December 8, Thursday, at 7:00 p.m. featuring Cristina Garcia, chef at the Farm School in Orange and member of the board of directors at Quabbin Harvest Coop in Orange. Cristina has been teaching and cooking professionally for the past 10 years. Sample products and Learn the skills to make your own. Free program: for more information call: [978-544-6334](tel:978-544-6334).

The Book Discussion Group, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, January 4, Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Copies of the Harriet Beecher Stowe book are now available at The New Salem Public Library. Note the date has changed.

Are you interested in a Knitting Group? Let us know what day and time is good for you: Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday. Library phone is [978-544-6334](tel:978-544-6334).

Need some relaxing time? Come to the library on Tuesdays and use our coloring books. 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

### **New Salem COA News**

On December 9, a FRIDAY, the COA will have our Holiday Party pot luck at the Stowell Building Senior Center. We will gather at 10 for coffee and visiting with the lunch to follow at noon. Please let Hendra Reidy ([978-544-2178](tel:978-544-2178)) know what you are planning to bring. If you would like to be part of the gift swap, bring a wrapped gift (\$5-\$10) that would be good for either a man or woman.

Busy Bs: We continue to meet on Wednesday from 1:00 to 3:00 at the Stowell Building. Bring your project and join us.

### **International Human Rights Day December 10**

Join Amnesty International and thousands of people worldwide on Saturday, December 10, in writing letters in support of ten prisoners of conscience in countries all over the world. In New Salem we will be gathering at the New Salem Library from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. to write letters. Information on the prisoners and their names and addresses as well as the names and addresses of people in charge of their incarceration will be available along with letter-writing materials and tips for writing effective letters. Last year thousands of people in over 200

countries wrote 3.7 million letters and at least two of the people for whom we wrote letters are free today. For further information contact Mary-Ann Palmieri at [978-544-2611](tel:978-544-2611) or [palwoman012@gmail.com](mailto:palwoman012@gmail.com)

### **QVPM Winter Concert**

Quabbin Valley Pro Musica, resident chorus of the 1794 Meetinghouse and guest chorus of the New England Symphony, and the Quabbin Valley Chamber Orchestra will perform on Sunday, December 4th, at 3:00 p.m. at the Central Congregational Church at 93 South Main Street, Orange, MA 01364. Tickets are \$15 at the door, and are also available online at [Brown Paper Tickets: bpt.me/2722127](https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2722127).

"Fantasia on Christmas Carols" by Ralph Vaughan Williams will herald the holiday season along with selections from "Messiah" by George Frideric Handel. Charles Heffernan conducts the chorus and orchestra, which will open the concert with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Credo" Mass, K 257. A reception organized by church volunteers will follow the concert.

Members of the Chorus from New Salem include sopranos Jennifer Gray, Linda Overing, and Cathy Tyng; altos Jo-Anne Chapin, Lisa Finestone, and Mary Thurber; and tenors Boren and John DeWitt.

QVPM will also perform at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, December 17, with the New England Symphony Orchestra during its annual Holiday Pops Concert in Dukakis Performing Arts Center, Montachusett Regional Technical School, Fitchburg.

### **New Restaurant with New Salem Ties**

Brian and Silva Covell of New Salem have opened Fratelli's Italian Ristorante at 30 Boltwood Walk, Amherst, adjacent to the town Hall Clock and next to Sweetser Park. They're open 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, closed Monday. For more information, call the restaurant at [413-835-0372](tel:413-835-0372).

### **Free Weekly Playgroup**

Come and enjoy stories, songs, and craft activities with your child(ren) and other families from our community at the Swift River School on Tuesdays, 8:45 to 10:15 a.m. This Playgroup is facilitated by Emily Joseph and is intended for children 0-5 years of age. It's sponsored by the Swift River School and Union #28 Community Network for Children. The program not held during school closures.

### **Talk, Read & Play**

Talk, Read & Play is a free home-visiting program for families with children two years old and younger who live in New Salem, Wendell, Shutesbury, Leverett and Erving. Help build the foundation for your child's learning. Participants will receive free books, toys and learning materials. When children talk, read and play, they build skills that prepare them for a lifetime of success.

To participate in either of these children's programs or to ask questions, call [978-544-5157](tel:978-544-5157). Find flyer and more details at the Community Network for Children's website at: <https://sites.google.com/site/communitynetworkforchildren>

### **Recycling**

Please see the attachment from the Franklin County Solid Waste District about holiday items that are or aren't recyclable.