

LET'S HEAR FROM 123

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER: VOL.2, ISSUE 4 - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023
 HOSTED BY ACVO, EDITORS: GRACE KNOX, PAM KNOX, DEE LORIS

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Who we are

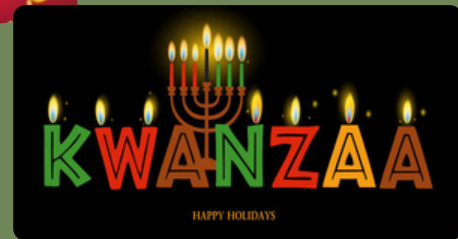
We are a TEAM of volunteers intending to bring as much information monthly to the 63123 community as is provided to us. Each issue will highlight activities from area schools, recognize the events and developments making positive changes to our community. To be effective, we need your input. So, LET'S HEAR FROM 123! visit: www.afftonvolunteers.org

Did you know...

The holiday season has many classic and beloved traditions and characters. How much do you know about Santa and Rudolph?

1. The current depiction of Santa Claus is based on images drawn in 1863. Who drew those images?
2. What poem gave the cartoonist most of the description to draw the current Santa Claus?
3. Who recorded "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" in 1949?

(Encyclopedia Britannica)



December is full of special holidays. Hanukkah is celebrated on December 8-15, Christmas on December 24-25 and Kwanzaa on December 26-January 1. Enjoy the season!

63123 in Motion

Scenes from the Affton Holiday Bazaar which was held on November 11 at Affton High School.



Upcoming Events

- Rock & Roll Bingo December 1, at Affton Elks Lodge 7-10pm
- ACIA meeting December 7, Affton Fire Station, 11am
- AHS Orchestra Concert December 8, 7pm Choir Concert December 11, 7pm
- Lancerette Mini Camp December 9, from 12-1:30pm
- Cor Jesu Christmas Concert, December 10, 3pm at Chaminade

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



Affton Fire Protection District
Station 1
 9282 Gravois Rd.
 314.631.1803
 afftonfire.com



Affton Southwest Precinct updates



Safety first this holiday season

We want everyone to enjoy the holidays, so here are some safety tips to make sure your home is fire smart.

Stay safe,
 Donald Woolem
 Battalion Chief Medical Officer

Put a FREEZE on Winter Holiday Fires

It's fun to decorate for the winter holidays, but holiday decorations can increase your risk for a home fire. As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.

- Half of the home decoration fires in December are started by candles.
- More than 1/3 of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- Christmas is the peak day for candle fires.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns.
- A dry Christmas tree can burn very hot and very fast.
- More than 1 in every 5 Christmas tree fires were caused by a heat source too close to the tree.
- Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.
- Make sure your tree is at least 3 feet away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents. Also, make sure your tree does not block exits.
- Get rid of your tree after Christmas or when it is dry.

For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/holiday.html and nfa.org/winter.

Hello, from the Affton Southwest Precinct! The holiday season is officially here, and I want to assure you that our officers will continue to be highly visible in the business corridors, as well as your residential areas, throughout the end of the year. During this time of year, several crimes like larcenies and stolen vehicles happen at a higher rate due to the opportunity for criminals. Here are a few safety tips for this time of the year:

1. Keep your doors to your homes and vehicles always locked.
2. Please remove all valuables, including electronics, jewelry, vehicle keys, and personal items from your vehicles. Or at the very least, keep them out of sight. Remove firearms from your vehicles!
3. Park your vehicles in well-lit parking lots, close to other people or vehicles in a populated area.
4. Report any suspicious activity you see, which may include people looking into vehicles, or hanging around parking lots of businesses with no intent to enter.
5. Warm-up vehicle thefts are a crime trend over the colder months, so do not warm up your vehicles unattended. This is important for both your personal home and gas stations/businesses.

As always, thank you for your interest in our community. We hope you have a great holiday season and do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your time and please remember, for emergencies, call 911. For non-emergencies, dial 636-529-8210.

-Lt. Shawn McGuire, Affton-Southwest Precinct
 (smcguire@stlouiscountymo.gov)

ACIA (Affton Community Improvement Association)

Greetings to All!

The ACIA did not meet in November due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. We hope everyone enjoyed the day with family and friends.

As we look forward to December and celebrating the Holidays we hope each day is filled with fun and good cheer.

Have a **HOLLY JOLLY** month!

The 12 DAYS of SAFETY

1. Never use lighted candles near trees or boughs.
2. Keep poisonous plants out of reach of children and pets.
3. Keep trees away from fireplaces, radiators, and other heat sources.
4. Make sure your tree has a stable platform.
5. Choose an artificial tree that is labeled fire resistant.
6. If using a natural tree, make sure it is well watered.
7. Check holiday lights for fraying, bare spots, gaps in the insulation or excessive kinking in the wire.
8. Turn off all tree lights and decorations when not in use.
9. When putting up decorations, use a step stool or ladder to reach high places.
10. Designate a sober driver.
11. When preparing a meal, wash hands, utensils, sink and anything else that touches raw meat.
12. Reheat leftovers to at least 165°F.

Happy Holidays
 nsc.org

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



Affton Community Volunteers Organization

Greetings, Happy December to All
 We wish to thank all the people who helped make the Affton Holiday Bazaar an exciting Community Event and those who purchased items from the variety of vendors at the Bazaar, we say **Thank You!**

As we think of the last month of the year that is often called "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year", we hope it will be that for everyone.

Our suggestion to help make it just that, is to start December out by making a list of all the things you would like to do before the end of the year. Spend time with family and friends, bake, shop, thank a Veteran, sing a Christmas carol and, finish the list with the one thing you want to do most.

As the month goes by mark each accomplishment off your list. Hopefully by December 31 you will feel that this was "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year".



to All - May your days be "Merry and Bright"!



Christian Food Pantry for December

At this time of year our supplies run very low. We often times have to go out and buy shelf staple items in addition to the meat, milk, eggs we purchase every week.

As you look at the list below, the items we need do change a little from month to month. We usually try to have about 1 - 3 months supply of all of our shelf staple items (three is our goal). So we have a critical need for the items listed below.

1. Entrees, like canned chicken, spam, ham, beef stew, etc- 2 weeks
2. Meal supplements like Rice a Roni, Knorr side dishes, Hamburger Helper- 2 weeks
3. Personal Care items like soap, deodorant, shampoo, cleaning supplies- 1 week
4. Canned Fruit- 1 day
5. Mac 'n Cheese- 1 month
6. Canned and dry beans- 3 weeks
7. Chili- 3 weeks
8. Cereal- 3 weeks
9. Pasta sauce or canned tomatoes- 2 days
10. Baking goods/ mixes- 1 week
11. Detergent- 2 weeks



Ulysses S Grant National Historic Site

7400 Grant Road
 Open Daily 9am-5pm
nps.gov/ulsg

A spirited holiday past



Date: Saturday, December 2
Time: 10am-4pm
Fee: FREE
Reservations: None needed

Join Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site for A Spirited Holiday Past! President Grant's home, White Haven will be decorated for the holiday season.

Tour the home and create a holiday craft with your family.

Confluence Chamber Orchestra will perform in the parlor and Suzanne Corbett will provide 19th century baking demonstrations in the historic stone kitchen.

You can sample Grant's gingerbread and roll out gingerbread cookies.

All activities are free and no reservations are required.

Tower Tee

6727 Heege Road
 314.833.3322 towertee.com

Hours:

Monday-Sunday 11am-7pm
 Christmas Eve- 9am-5pm
 New Year's Eve-10am-4pm
 Closed Christmas & New Year's Day

- Fun for adults and kids: par 3 golf course, driving range, top tracer bays, footgolf, putting course/mini golf, batting cages and bocce ball.

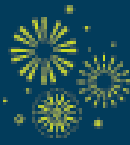


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COMMUNITY ENTERTAINMENT

GRANT'S FARM

The Dutch Family Home Since 1903



7385 Grant Road
314-843-1700
grantsfarm.com

Holiday Lights at Grant's Farm is back and brighter than ever.

With walk-through and drive-through options, VIP firepits, Breakfast with Santa, and NEW scenic carriage rides, there's a way for everyone to take in the beauty of the holiday season.

Visit grantsfarm.com to plan your Holiday Lights experience and to purchase tickets for these events!



Holiday Lights walk-through



Holiday Lights drive-through



VIP fire pit



Carriage rides

HOLIDAY LIGHTS



at GRANT'S FARM

Presented by J & J Construction & Remodeling

Rock n Roll



When: Friday, December 1

Where: Affton Elks Lodge

Time: 7:00 - 10:00pm

Join the Affton-Lemay Chamber of Commerce for a night of musical FUN! Rock and Roll Bingo is 12 rounds of bingo, but with music clips.

Register for this event at:

afftonchamber.com/calendar.html

Or contact Lisa Rackley 314.631.3100



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WWW.9MILEGARDEN.COM

SCHOOL UPDATES



AFFTON SCHOOL DISTRICT



Karen Karsten earns Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award

Congratulations to our very own Karen Karsten, Special School District (SSD) teacher at

Rogers Middle School, who has been named by Emerson Corporate Headquarters as a 2023 Excellence in Teaching Awards honoree!

Karsten is one of almost 100 educators across the St. Louis metropolitan region recognized this year for demonstrating excellence in education and exceptional dedication to students.

Affton Fire fights negative lunch balances

Thanks so much to the Affton Fire Protection District and Affton Firefighter Community Outreach for their generous donation to help relieve negative lunch balances. We appreciate your community partnership and support!



Congratulations to AHS boys soccer team

Not only were coach Brian Mesplay and the AHS boys soccer team District Champions who played in the State Quarterfinals, but they also broke a 38-year program record for most wins in a season at 22! Plus, it was great to have Phil Beerman, retired assistant principal and soccer coach there to celebrate his team's record being broken.



Hooray for heroes

In honor of Veterans Day, Mesnier Primary School celebrated the heroes in our community with their annual Hero Day Parade. Students invited the veterans, active military, firefighters, police officers, and first responders in their families to be special guests at school for breakfast and a parade through the halls.

Thank you for your service!



Affton Sports Schedule- December

Varsity Girls Basketball

- 12/4: Mehlville (AWAY) 6pm
- 12/7: University City (AWAY) 5:30pm
- 12/12: Jennings 6pm
- 12/13: Bayless (AWAY) 7pm
- 12/14: Notre Dame (AWAY) 6:30pm

JV Girls Basketball

- 12/4: Mehlville (AWAY) 4:30pm
- 12/7: University City (AWAY) 4pm
- 12/12: Jennings 4:30pm
- 12/13: Bayless (AWAY) 5:30pm
- 12/14: Notre Dame (AWAY) 5pm

Freshmen Girls Basketball

- 12/14: Lutheran South 4:30pm

Boys Wrestling

- 12/2: Esmond Ford Memorial Tourney 9am
- 12/6: Hazelwood Central (AWAY) 5pm
- 12/13: McCluer North (AWAY) 6pm

Girls Wrestling

- 12/1: Esmond Ford Memorial Tourney 5pm
- 12/8: Parkway West (AWAY) 4pm
- 12/13: McCluer North (AWAY) 6pm

Swimming

- 12/5: Lindbergh 4:30pm
- 12/7: Rockwood Summit (AWAY) 4:15pm
- 12/11: Parkway North 4:15pm
- 12/14: Mehlville 4:15pm

Varsity Boys Basketball

- 12/4: Maplewood (AWAY) 5:30pm
- 12/5: St. Pius (AWAY) 7pm
- 12/8: Lutheran South 7pm
- 12/12: Hancock (AWAY) 6:30pm
- 12/14: Rockwood Summit (AWAY) 7pm
- 12/15: Bayless 5:30pm
- 12/26-28: Affton Holiday Tourney

JV Boys Basketball

- 12/4: Maplewood (AWAY) 4pm
- 12/5: St. Pius (AWAY) 5:30pm
- 12/8: Lutheran South 5:30pm
- 12/12: Hancock (AWAY) 5pm
- 12/14: Rockwood Summit (AWAY) 5:30pm
- 12/15: Bayless 4pm

Freshmen Boys Basketball

- 12/8: Lutheran South 4pm
- 12/14: Rockwood Summit (AWAY) 4:15pm

SCHOOL UPDATES



Bayless alumni wins regional Emmy



Bayless High School alum Nicholas Rousseau (Class of 2009), recently won a Mid-America Regional Emmy for his work on "The Animated Works of Marlon West," a short video produced with HEC Media.

HEC is a local television station dedicated to promoting education, arts and cultural communities in the St. Louis region.

This award comes just a year after he was nominated for another project with HEC.

BHS Scholar Bowl qualifies for second national tournament



The Bayless High School Scholar Bowl team has qualified for the National Academic Quiz Tournaments National Tournament, marking the second year the team will be going. The group qualified during a November tournament at MIZZOU. BHS will compete against 47 other small schools in Chicago in 2024.

Sophomore Elmedin Karamovic has been amongst the best players in the region this fall, placing first overall individually at the Missouri Fall Academic Tournament at MIZZOU, No. 2 overall individually at a Clayton tournament and several other high placements.

Bayless senior named offensive player of the year

Broncho striker Elmin Lemes earned a final prestigious award to cap off a stellar senior season — he was named MSHSAA Class 2 Co-Offensive Player of the Year. Lemes was a force on the pitch this year, often demanding multiple defenders cover him.



Bayless Sports Schedule- December

Varsity Boys Basketball

- 12/5: St. Paul Lutheran 6:30pm
- 12/8: TBA
- 12/11: Coll. School of Med. & Bio. 7pm
- 12/15: Affton (AWAY) 5:30pm
- 12/19: St. Louis Priory 7pm

JV Boys Basketball

- 12/5: St. Paul Lutheran 5pm
- 12/15: Affton (AWAY) 4pm
- 12/19: St. Louis Priory 5:30pm



Varsity Girls Basketball

- 12/5: Ursuline (AWAY) 6pm
- 12/7: Principia (AWAY) 5:30pm
- 12/8: TBA
- 12/11: Coll. School of Med. & Bio. 5:30pm
- 12/13: Affton 7pm
- 12/15: Lutheran North 5:30pm

JV Girls Basketball

- 12/5: Ursuline (AWAY) 4:30pm
- 12/7: Principia (AWAY) 4pm
- 12/13: Affton 5:30pm

SCHOOL UPDATES



Congratulations!

Missouri All-State Choir



Abby Geldmacher '24

Congratulations to Abby Geldmacher ('24) on being selected for the Missouri All-State Choir.



Upcoming Events

Breakfast With Santa

Saturday, December 2

Cor Jesu Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 10

3pm at Chaminade

Cor Jesu Auction

Saturday, February 3

Congratulations to Cor Jesu's five senior athletes for signing letters of intent to play their sports in College!

Maddie Fowler: Track and Field at Bucknell University

Lauren Knox: Soccer at Grand Canyon University

Grace Killion: Volleyball at High Point University

Bridget Sisul: Crew at University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Mattea Vest: Field Hockey at Longwood University



Members of the CJA community traveled to the border in El Paso, Texas and Juarez, Mexico to celebrate mass at the border with hundreds of other Catholics.



Cor Jesu was honored to welcome John O'Leary to their campus as a guest speaker.



Cor Jesu hired Brittany Peek Seabaugh ('04), as Director of Alumnae Engagement.



Many CJA Chargers participated in the 2023 Missouri YMCA Youth & Government Conference last month.

Cor Jesu Sports

Congratulations to Charger Cross Country for placing 7th overall at the State Meet!



December Winter Sports Schedule

Varsity Basketball

- 12/4: Lindbergh (AWAY) 7pm
- 12/8: Visitation Academy 6pm
- 12/12: Webster (AWAY) 6pm

Freshman Basketball

- 12/4: Lindbergh (AWAY) 4pm
- 12/7: Nerinx Hall (AWAY) 4:30pm
- 12/12: Eureka 4:30pm

JV Basketball

- 12/4: Lindbergh (AWAY) 5:30pm
- 12/5: John Burroughs 5pm
- 12/7: Lutheran South 5pm
- 12/8: Visitation Academy 4:30pm
- 12/12: Webster (AWAY) 4:30pm

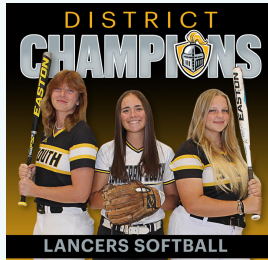
Varsity Swimming

- 12/2: Cape Girardeau (AWAY) 9am
- 12/7: Nerinx Hall (AWAY) 4pm
- 12/8: Mehlville (AWAY) 4:15pm
- 12/9: Incarnate Word (AWAY) 3:30pm
- 12/14: Lutheran South (AWAY) 4:30pm

SCHOOL UPDATES



**LUTHERAN
HIGH SCHOOL
SOUTH**



The Lady Lancers were District Champs and advanced to the State Quarterfinals in softball!



Two seniors signed to continue their athletic careers in college! Ella Arbeiter will swim in the Big Ten at Rutgers University. Savannah Butterfield will play basketball for the Bulldogs at Concordia University Nebraska.



Senior Kamron Schlesselman was selected to the 2023 American Cancer Society All-Star Game! Kam was one of 80 football players from 35 area schools chosen to compete in the game on Saturday, December 9 at Missouri Baptist University.

Senior Reese Schelp medaled at the State Cross Country meet, making the All-State team. She ran an impressive 19:23, placing 20th out of 156 runners. Schelp now holds the record for LuSo's third-fastest 5K.



Lutheran South received the Mike Winkelmann Spirit of the Game Award for field hockey. Officials and coaches of area teams nominate schools whose teams exemplify sportsmanship, respect for their opponents, officials, each other, and a love for the game. LuSo's field hockey team experienced a rebuilding season. With just four returning players, Coach Chris Wilson encouraged other students to play.

By mid-season, the team had grown to more than 20 players, who were holding their own in a competitive schedule. Despite 50 percent of the team having never played field hockey before, they worked diligently to learn and be competitive. Courage and character were on the field daily, and opponents recognized the hard work and sportsmanship of the LuSo squad.



Join the Lutheran South Lancerettes for a basketball halftime performance! Lancerette Mini Camp is on Saturday, December 9 from 12- 1:30 pm in the Kuhlmann Center. Girls in grades K-8 are invited to learn a routine to perform at halftime of the varsity home game on Friday, December 15 at 7 pm. The cost is \$25 and includes a T-shirt to wear for the big performance. Register at LSlancers.org/events



Friday, January 12

Lutheran South bands will host *Big Band Swing* on Friday, January 12 from 6-10pm. The night will feature the local professional big band "The Ambassadors of Swing." Tickets are available for \$30 each and include beer, wine, and hors d'oeuvres. Free swing dance lessons will be offered at 6:30 p.m. It is sure to be a fun evening as we raise money for the band to go on tour this spring! Get your tickets at LSlancers.org/events

Lutheran South Sports Schedule - December

Varsity Girls Basketball

- 12/1: Rockwood Summit 7pm
- 12/4-8: Herculeaneum Tourney (AWAY) TBA
- 12/12: Parkway West 6pm
- 12/15: Westminster 5:30pm
- 12/27: Kelso High (AWAY) 2pm

JV Girls Basketball

- 12/1: Rockwood Summit 5:30pm
- 12/5: Principia 4:15pm
- 12/7: Cor Jesu 5pm
- 12/12: Parkway West 4:30pm
- 12/15: Westminster 4:15pm
- 12/28-30: Incarnate Word/Cor Jesu Tourney TBA

Freshmen Girls Basketball

- 12/8: Webster Groves 4:15pm
- 12/12: Fox (AWAY) 4:15pm
- 12/14: Affton (AWAY) 4:30pm

Girls Swimming

- 12/5: Notre Dame (AWAY) 5:30pm
- 12/8: DuBourg/Visitation @ Affton 5pm
- 12/12: DuBourg/Visitation @ Affton 5pm
- 12/14: Marquette/Cor Jesu (AWAY) @ Marquette 4:30pm

Varsity Boys Basketball

- 12/5: Valley Park (AWAY) 6:30pm
- 12/8: Affton (AWAY) 7pm
- 12/12: Duchesne (AWAY) 7pm
- 12/15: Westminster 7pm
- 12/27-30: Tourney @ Maryville Univ. TBA

JV Boys Basketball

- 12/1: Ft. Zumwalt East Tourney (AWAY)
- 12/5: Valley Park (AWAY) 5pm
- 12/8: Affton (AWAY) 5:30pm
- 12/12: Duchesne (AWAY) 5:45pm
- 12/14: Westminster 7pm

Freshmen Boys Basketball

- 12/2: Metro League Tourney @ MICDS
- 12/5: Fox (AWAY) 4:15pm
- 12/8: Affton (AWAY) 4pm
- 12/14: Westminster 5:30pm

SCHOOL UPDATES



SALEM LUTHERAN
CHURCH AND SCHOOL

5025 Lakewood Avenue
St. Louis, MO. 63123
314-353-9242 - www.slcas.org



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ages 2 years - 8th

12:1 student/teacher ratio

Financial aid available

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students

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enrichment programs

Before & after school care

Summer camp

In-house resource teacher, counselor &
speech-language pathologist

Proud to provide excellence in education to
Affton, Lemay & surrounding communities for over 100 years!

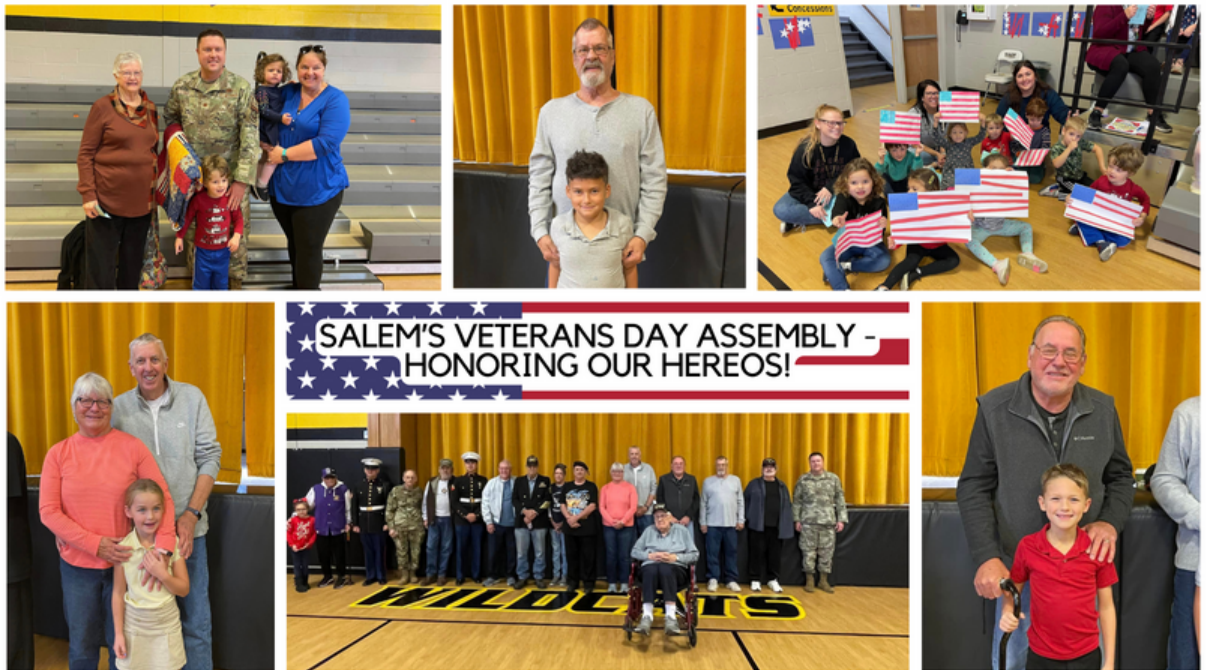
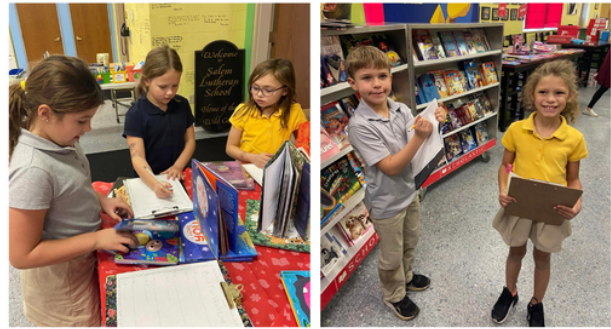
Find Your School Home at Salem!



5025 Lakewood Avenue Affton, Missouri 63123 SLCAS.ORG enrollment@slcas.org (314) 353-9242

BOOK FAIR FUN!

The Scholastic Book Fair came to Salem in November! Our students had a fantastic time creating wish lists, exploring literature, and growing their love for reading!



SALEM'S VETERANS DAY ASSEMBLY -
HONORING OUR HEREOS!



Holy Cross Academy
8874 Pardee - St. Louis, MO 63123
Intermediate Campus
7748 Mackenzie Road St. Louis, MO 65123
Early Education Center

COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT



**DO YOU
HAVE A QUESTION FOR
YOUR ELECTED
REPRESENTATIVE?**

**CHECK BELOW FOR YOUR
REPRESENTATIVES INFORMATION**

Governor Mike Parsons
P.O. Box 720
Jefferson City, MO 65102
573-751-3222

US Senator Josh Hawley
111 South 10th Street, Suite 23.360
St. Louis, MO 63102
314-354-7060

US Senator Eric Schmidt
Thomas F. Eagleton US Courthouse
111 South 10th Street, Suite 23.305
St. Louis, MO 63102
314-230-7263

MO State Senator (District 1)
Doug Beck
201 West Capitol Avenue
Room 328
Jefferson City, MO 65109
(573) 751-0220
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Thank you

Our thanks to all who participated in making the December issue of **LET'S HEAR FROM 123**. We wish all of you and your loved ones a very happy and special holiday season. See you next month!



Merry Christmas
And
Happy New Year



Answers to Did You Know:
1) Thomas Nast 2) *Twas the Night Before Christmas* 3) Gene Autry