Written by George Browning
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Around 40 movie-goers of all ages drove out to Lake Salinda as the sun was setting on August 26 to catch a free movie and some family fun, courtesy of “Movie Night Under the Stars”. The event was originally slated for the evening of Thursday, July 26, but had to be rescheduled due to inclement weather.

The night’s feature presentation was “Mirror, Mirror”, a new take on the classic fairy tale “Snow White” starring Julia Roberts. The film originated in theaters earlier year. Salem Parks and Recreation hosted the event and provided free drinks, pop corn and bug spray to those in attendance. The Salem Public Library, WSLM Radio and the Washington County YMCA also sponsored the event.

Visitors who came to the lake early also had an opportunity to take a trek down the Veteran’s Walking Trail, a primitive walking path near the lake that opened to the public earlier this summer. This was the second “Movie Night” put on by the city according to Denise Newkirk, Director of Salem’s Parks and Recreation Department, and they are anticipating many more family-friendly events like this will take place at Lake Salinda in the future.

Fall activities

Salem’s Parks and Recreation Department has announced their schedule of activities and events that are taking place this fall.

Youth Football sign-ups for grades 3rd through 6th will be taking place on August 19 from 1 to 3 pm at Salem High School Gymnasium. Registration costs $35 and is open to all students from Salem, Eastern and West Washington schools. Drafts will begin August 20.

Flag Football for grades K through 2nd will be open for registration starting August 21. This program costs $25 at sign-up and is also open to students from all three school districts. Games for both Flag and Youth Football programs begin on September 8.

You can sign your child up for Flag Football on the following dates: August 21 and 23 from 3 to 5 pm; August 24 from 9 to 11 am; August 28 and 30 from 3 to 4:30 pm; September 5 from 9 to 11 am; and September 6 from 3 to 4:30 pm. All sign-ups take place at the Parks and Recreation Office in Salem.

The fall iteration of Friday Night on the Square takes place September 14 from 6 to 10 pm, followed by Old Settler’s Day throughout that weekend, September 15 and 16. If you would like to set up a vendor booth at either of these events, contact the Washington County Chamber of Commerce.

Girl’s Basketball Cubby Camp for grades 3rd to 6th begins looking for players on September 18. Sign-up times and dates are as follows: September 18 from 3 to 4:30 pm; September 19 from 3 to 5 pm; September 20 from 3 to 4:30 pm; September 21 and 25 from 9 to 11 am; September 26 from 2:30 to 4:30 pm; and October 2 from 3 to 5 pm.

All sign-up opportunities will take place at the Parks and Recreation Office. This program is for students attending the Salem school district only. The cost is $35.

Little Lions Boy’s Basketball Camp is also opening for registration beginning September 25. Sign-up times and dates are as follows: September 25 from 9 to 11:30 am; September 26 from 2:30 to 4:30 pm; October 2 from 3 to 5 pm; October 4 and 9 from 9 to 11 am; and October 11, 16 and 18 from 3 to 4:30 pm.

All sign-up opportunities take place at the Parks and Recreation Office. The cost is $35 and is open to Salem students only.

In addition to these great activities for your kids, don’t forget about hiking at Lake Salinda’s

Veteran's Walking Trail. The primitive walking trail winds behind the lake and is the perfect activity for an afternoon picnic, exercise or a family outing.

For more information on any of these activities, contact Salem's Parks and Recreation Department at 812-883-2895.