

SALEM WEEKLY

WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON IN SALEM?



The town of Salem.

Hangings & Accusations

Morgan B

The past few weeks have been very eventful for Salem. As the townspeople may know, the town has experienced many hangings due to accusations of witchcraft. Both men and women have been accused of having connections with the devil. They were said to be to summoning him. As many as twelve people have been hanged so far. More and more are being accused and arrested every day.

Recently the court has heard news that there was a group of girls dancing in the woods. Some say they were conjuring spirits and trying to call upon the devil. The girls said that they were just dancing, not trying to cause harm to anyone. The girls that were involved in this act of rebellion were Abigail, Betty, Tituba, Mary Warren, and Mercy Lewis. These girls were caught by Reverend Parris, Abigail's uncle. He became suspicious about them and their actions after this event.

There has been a recent tragic death of a man named Giles Corey. He was accused of witchcraft. Giles was married to Martha Corey, who was also accused of witchcraft. He was arrested and put on trial. While he was in court he was asked to tell the judges whether or not he was guilty of committing this act. Giles would not say anything. So therefore Giles was put to a slow death by getting stones pressed on top of him. They continued doing this until he died.

John Proctor has recently told the court that he has seen the devil. The court isn't quite sure what to do with him right now. Meanwhile, Proctor keeps telling the court that he has not seen anyone else with the devil. Since he has said this he is at a high risk for getting hanged.

This has been a very rough time for Salem. If you see anyone worshipping or making contact with the devil please let the court know immediately. They will appreciate the help.

Crop & Livestock Crisis

Brenna A

Recently, there has been an excessive amount of deaths of livestock, as well as crops. There has been so many people going to trial and being executed because of this witchcraft nonsense, people are leaving their crops and livestock unattended. At this rate, there will most definitely be a shortage of food next year, and our town will struggle to get our agricultural business back in order.

Some cattle have been escaping because there is no one at the farms they belong to mending fences, and they have been eating crops of other farms, lessening the total amount of food even more. The smell of the farms is becoming nearly unbearable. There is currently livestock lying dead in pastures, along roads, and in fields.

Lack of maintenance is shockingly disastrous. The outcome of these witchcraft accusations, trials, and executions have also caused crops to rot in the fields. There has been some goodly neighbors that have been trying to keep up with some citizens livestock, crops, and housework as well as their own, but it has become too much to handle.

Our small town is lucky to have thrived for the last few years in a row, but this year and the year to come is definitely going to be tough on everyone. Since our town relies mainly on agricultural business, we are going to be taking a hard blow with the great loss of crops we are experiencing. The loss of necessary livestock will just add onto that blow.

If you look into the job advertisement section of this week's newspaper, you will find that farmers everywhere, as well as some widows, are looking for farm hands to hire. If you are looking for employment, then check out this week's job advertisements. There is many to choose from, because the majority of business owners and workers in our town are otherwise occupied, or detained, in regards to the witch trials.



Giles and Martha Corey's farm property and livestock.

Problems Within the Court

Madison W

There have been many problems within the court of Salem these past few months. Many people have been accused of witchcraft and have been either hanged or threatened to be hanged. Giles Corey is refusing to confess of doing witchcraft, and if he does not confess he will be pressed.

John Proctor confessed to doing witchcraft, but he will not tell the court whole else he saw with the devil. John had the opportunity to sign a contract stating that he saw the devil, which would have prevented him from being hanged. He signed the document and then destroyed it, he said he did not want to ruin his name in the town.

Elizabeth has been accused of witchcraft, she was accused of poking a needle into a doll resembling Abigail Williams. The doll was given to Elizabeth by the Proctors maid, Mary Warren. Mary states there was never a needle in it when she gave it to Elizabeth.

Tituba has also been accused of performing witchcraft. Reverend Parris states that he saw Tituba in the woods with a bunch of young girls. One of the girls, Abigail Williams said that Tituba was summoning the devil and trying to get the girls to do the same.

Mary Warren was in court the other day to confess for Elizabeth Proctor and some interesting things went on that day. First she could not faint on command, as Reverend Parris asked her too. He saw her faint precisely and thought it may be witchcraft. Second the girls at the court seemed to be under some sort of spell, which seemed to be Mary Warren summoning the devil. The girls were unaware of their surroundings and would repeat everything Mary Warren said.

Those are some of the strange things that have been happening in the court these past few months. Next week's paper we will hopefully have more information on these topics for you.



WANTED: Abigail Williams

Morgan B

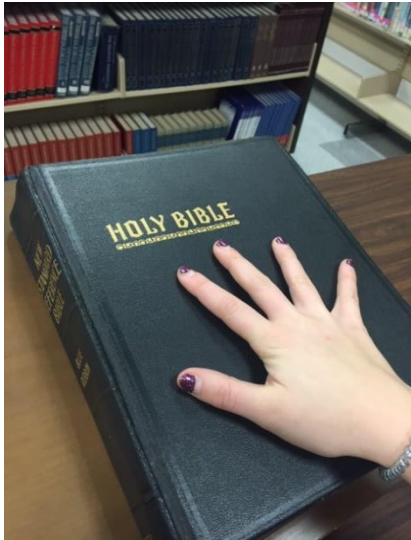
Lately there have been many things going on in Salem. Between all of the witchcraft accusations, problems within the court, and crop difficulties everyone in town is hanging on the edge.

As some people may know Abigail Williams has recently left town. She left a couple of days ago with Mercy Lewis. It started when they planned to spend time together, then mysteriously left shortly after. The court concluded that she had most likely went to Barbados, home of Tituba, the slave of Parris. Before she left she took some money from her uncle Reverend Parris, amounting to about thirty dollars. That would be about the equivalent to a whole years salary that Reverend Parris has earned.

As we already know, there have been many troubles in the past revolving around Abigail. She used to work for John Proctor and his family. She did a lot of household chores for them. They didn't have many issues with her. Then some things about her and Proctor started to get fishy to his wife, Elizabeth Proctor. She then fired Abigail and spread dirt on her name so no one would want to hire her to work for them. Also, John Proctor recently admitted to having an affair with Abigail. The release of this information will now put dirt on Proctor and even more dirt on Abigail.

Abigail has also caused many problems within the court. She has accused many people of witchcraft. We don't know whether these accusations are reliable or not yet. The court doesn't know if they believe her.

We need Abigail back in town to because the people she has accused may be getting hanged. The court needs her to testify against her case. So if anyone has seen Abigail please get in touch with the court. They would appreciate all of your help!



The court staying true to God's word.



The woods where the young women danced to conjure spirits.

Local Scandal

Madison W

There have been more disputes between the Proctors and Putnam's on land problem. Proctor states that he bought the land from Francis Nurse. Putnam states that the land has been willed to him from his grandfather. Currently they have not made any progress on the land situation.

Everyone knows of John and Elizabeth Proctor and how their marriage has been struggling these past few weeks. The question everyone has been asking is what caused the down fall in their marriage. Yesterday in court John Proctor admitted to having an affair with Abigail Williams. This information is still under study to see if it is true or not. If it would be true all the accusations that Abigail Williams has made will be dropped from the court. If it would be false John Proctor will be hanged for lying to the court. The court will be questioning Elizabeth to see if she knows of this affair. She was known of firing Abigail from working at for them, so she maybe know information that is useful to the court.

Elizabeth got accused of witchcraft this past week, so John Proctor may be lying just to protect his wife. He also may be telling the truth and just had the courage to tell the town now. Elizabeth was found out to be pregnant this past week, so she will not be hanged until after the child is born. The court gave her a year to deliver the child and then she will be hanged.








John and Elizabeth have been well known people around this town and it would be a shame to see them both go. It goes to show that anyone can and will be accused of witchcraft. Be kind to your neighbors and everyone around you, for that kindness may save your life.

Help Wanted

John and Elizabeth have recently let go of one of their household helpers due to complications. They are currently looking for another young woman to fill that position. They have two children so childcare experience is needed. If anyone is interested please contact the Proctor's. The pay will be determined when the position is filled.

Due to the recent death of Giles and Martha Corey, their livestock, property, and crops have all been left unattended. The townspeople of Salem are searching for someone to harvest this years' crops, and take ownership of any abandoned livestock. The house will go on the market as soon as the livestock have been claimed.

This Weeks Weather

-  Monday: Cloudy
High of 63°, Low of 58°
-  Tuesday: Cloudy
High of 61°, Low of 54°
-  Wednesday: Sunny
High of 71°, Low of 64°
-  Thursday: Sunny
High of 72°, Low of 66°
-  Friday: Cloudy, chance of storm
High of 65°, Low of 63°
-  Saturday: Cloudy
High of 73°, Low of 67°
-  Sunday: Sunny
High of 75°, Low of 69°

Weekly Word Puzzle

K V H D F K T S E R O F M S S U A A K T
 E U U P R O C T O R A A H G U W C S A N
 F J Y H N T R O E X R I S N L Z C M I R
 Z M P N D U K U T R C W W I T M U H G W
 S D F O O T T P Y S D D L G F O S H B I
 S V V C Z V F W M Y E K P N P A A S N P
 S C S E N B A C N D R V A A O B T A N H
 C I T F A R C H C T I W I H P U I L H D
 G B N H R N D I V L F F P L P T O E Y L
 I Z W E M D G E D U B D Z B E I N M G T
 Q U N F O I P F V P N O D Z T T S G U M
 B L O O D N Y W W I L Z D C V U Y C T P
 D Z D P E R A X N A L U B B P R B V Q W
 N F E E E M H B P J D A I N V U V S M M
 C F D H G M K O I S W G N N L O Q G M E
 T L C H C K M Y L G S L T J J S K G H F
 E E O H A R R E P Y A T R A H S E G W W
 L D S D S Z U D O G B I P F I I W O D E
 R R N E L Y B H S R D J L N N H G D B J
 L S X J D V L K C E O Y D P R P G I F Z

- Word Bank:**
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|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Abigail | Accusations | Blood |
| Church | Court | Devil |
| Forest | God | Hangings |
| Lechery | Livestock | Marry Warren |
| Needle | Poppet | Proctor |
| Salem | Sin | Tituba |
| Witchcraft | | |